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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

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe enjoy Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival of PBANRDA Ministry

YANGON, 15 April— Chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe arrived at Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Pandal of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs in Union National Races Village near Thanlyin Bridge in Thakayta Township at 12.30 pm today.

The Prime Minister and wife were welcomed there by Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt and wife, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Tun and Col Tin Ngwe, departmental heads, staff families, and cultural troupe members of border areas — Jiangphaw national races of Sumprabum region of Kachin State, Rawam national races of Nagmon region, Kokang national races of Laukkai and Kongyan regions of Shan State (North), Wa national races of Pangsan region, Akha national races of Kengtung region of Shan State (East), Yun national races of Pahlyo and Kenglat regions, Shan national races of Kengtawng and Kengkham regions of Shan State (South), Pa-O national races of Kyauktalon region, Kayah national races of Moebye region of Kayah State, Kayin national races of Mawchi region, Mon national races of southern part of Ye region of Mon State, Kayin national races of Hlaingbwe region of Kayin State, Mon national races of Chaungchi region of Taninthayi Division, Thet national races of Maungtaung region of Rakhine State, Chin national races of Thantlang region of Chin State, Kadu national races of Pinlebu-Banmauk region of Sagaing Division and Naga national races of Nanyun-Panhsaung region invited by Chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Next, the Prime Minister and wife doused water on the cultural troupe members with eugenia sprigs.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt and wife, ministers and their wives, deputy ministers, departmental heads and staff families.

Damsels of the yein troupe of the Ministry for PBANRDA, Kayin national races of Hlaingbwe region,



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt dousing water on the national races from border areas at PBANRDA Pandal. — MNA

Rawan national races of Nagmon region, Wa national races of Pangsan region, Mon, Kayah, Kayin and Rawan national races, Pa-O national race of Kyauktalon region, Kayah national races of Moebye region, Chin national races of Narein region of Chin State, Akha, Shan, Yun and Pa-O national races presented dances to the audiences.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister presented gifts to the dance troupes. Similarly, respective national race groups presented cash prizes to them.

Next, the Prime Minister and wife and guests enjoyed the water festival together with Minister Col Thein Nyunt and wife, the deputy ministers, departmental heads, staff families and the cultural troupes.

The Prime Minister and wife and party left the Union National Races Village in the afternoon. — MNA

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and guests enjoy dances of the national races from border areas at PBANRDA Pandal. — MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 16 April, 2004

For successful realization of the projects implemented by the State

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, on 7 April, inspected Yeywa Hydel Power Project being implemented near Mandalay and construction of Dokhtawady Bridge (Nawngkhio) on Yaksawk-Nawngkhio motor road and left guidance to the officials.

With four generators that will generate 780 megawatt, Yeywa Hydel Power Project is being implemented on Dokhtawady River or Myitnge River and it is the biggest of its kind in Myanmar.

At the construction site of Dokhtawady Bridge (Nawngkhio), the Head of State gave guidance to the officials saying that Yaksawk-Nawngkhio motor road is an important one for Shan State (South) and Shan State (North) and for that reason, strenuous efforts are to be made for renovation of the road and timely completion of the bridge meeting the set standard.

On 8 April morning, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and party inspected upgrading of Anisakhan Airfield in PyinOoLwin Township and gave guidance to the officials.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe also inspected new PyinOoLwin Pharmaceutical Factory of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries under the Ministry of Industry-1.

As regards the new factory, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance saying that integrated and well-coordinated efforts are to be made for production of potent and widely used medicines; lesser-known medicines should not be produced any longer; and efforts are to be made to run the factory on self-reliant basis; that it is required to conduct research to be able to produce raw materials.

With the emergence of PyinOoLwin Pharmaceutical Factory medicines and medical equipment will be distributed to central and upper Myanmar more rapidly and easily and import of medicines could be reduced.

We would like to urge officials concerned in respective fields to make earnest efforts for realization of the projects upholding the guidance given by the Head of State.

ကုသကာကွယ် မူးယစ်အန္တရာယ်

- ၁။ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲလျှင် အသန္တီးရောင်အသားဝါရောဂါ၊ အသန္တီးခြောက်ရောဂါ၊ အသန္တီးကင်ဆာရောဂါ၊ သွေးဆိပ်တက်ခြင်းနှင့် နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ အဆုတ်ရောဂါများ၊ ခုခံအားကျဆင်းမှုရောဂါ (AIDS) နှင့် စိတ်ပိုင်းဆိုင်ရာရောဂါများ စသည်တို့ ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သည့်အပြင် စီးပွားရေးနှင့် လူမှုရေးများထိခိုက်ပျက်ပြားခြင်း၊ ဥပဒေအရ အရေးယူခံရခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်နိုင်သည်။
- ၂။ ထို့ကြောင့် အဆိုပါဒုက္ခများမှ ကင်းဝေးစေရန် မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးကို လုံးဝရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- ၃။ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲသူများသည် သတ်မှတ်ဆေးရုံများတွင် မှတ်ပုံတင်၍ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

People's Desire

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



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives China Central Television-CCTV Producer Ms Wang Xian and party.— MNA

Minister for Information receives staff of CCTV

YANGON, 15 April — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received the three-member Chinese group led by Producer Ms Wang Xian of the China Central Television-CCTV at his office on Theinbyu Road in Batahtaung Township this afternoon.

The CCTV members are on a visit here to shoot

a documentary film on the Myanmar Water Festival.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the ministry, the head of office, and officials from the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar. — MNA



A pandal being crowded with revellers in glee on Saya San Road, Yangon, on 15-4-2004.— MNA

Chinese cultural troupe enjoys Thingyan festival

YANGON, 15 April — The visiting 34-member Chinese cultural troupe led by Mr Yang Jianmin comprising Xipsaungpana vocalists and dancers of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China enjoyed themselves in the Thingyan festival at Rakhine Thingyan pandal in Mingala Taungnyunt Township here this morning.

They were welcomed there by Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Director of the Department of Cultural Institute of the Ministry of Culture Daw Nu Mra Zan and departmental officials. The visiting Chinese cultural troupe was entertained with Rakhine traditional dances to the accompaniment of songs. The Chinese cultural troupe also presented entertainment with their traditional 'peacock dance'. They also took part in the festival happily.

At 12 noon, the Chinese cultural troupe arrived at Yangon Mayor's Pandal, where they enjoyed the lunch hosted by Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin. At the pandal, Myanmar damsels entertained the Chinese guests with Thingyan mass dances. The Chinese cultural troupe also entertained with their traditional 'peacock dance'. On the occasion, the mayor presented K 100,000 to the Chinese cultural troupe and then joyfully took part in the festival together with them to mark the relations between the two countries. — MNA

Tourists, revellers take part in water festival in Mandalay

YANGON, 15 April — For ensuring promotion of the tourism industry in Myanmar, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism opened its pandal of Myanma Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival in front of Inwa Hotel, the opposite to the moat of Mandalay.

On 14 April and Akyat Day, tourists who stay in

Mandalay and Thingyan revellers joyfully participated in the Maha Thingyan festival.

Damsels of Myanmar Hoteliers Association (Mandalay) together with film stars and vocalists performed entertainment to the accompaniment of 747 modern music band at the pandal.—MNA

Say No to drugs

လက်ထပ်သောလူနာများနှင့် ဆွေမျိုးသူငယ်ချင်းများ ကာကွယ်ပိတ်ဆို့မှုများနှင့် လက်ထပ်သောလူနာများကို သွေးသောလူနာများကြိုပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ဆေးသုတေသနဦးစီးဌာန၊ အမှတ်(၅) ဝိသကလမ်း၊ ဘဟိုမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ (ဧည့်သည်ဆုများ တောင်းခံခွင့်မရှိပါ။)

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အိမ်တိုင်းမှာသစ်ပင်
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မြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း။

Al Jazeera says US "threatening" media in Iraq

DUBAI, 15 April — Arabic-language satellite TV channel Al Jazeera on Tuesday accused US-led coalition officials in Iraq of threatening the media over their coverage of US troops battling Iraqi rebels.

US Army chief spokesman, Brigadier-General Mark Kimmitt, on Monday called Qatar-based Al Jazeera, Dubai-based Al Arabiya and other Arab media outlets the "anti-coalition media" and advised viewers to "change the channel".—MNA/Reuters

Philippines may withdraw troops from Iraq

MANILA, 15 April— President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo said Wednesday that mounting violence in Iraq had prompted her government to study whether to withdraw its 100 troops from the Mideast nation.

"The decision on whether or not to withdraw our peacekeeping forces will depend on the security situation in Iraq in the days to come," said Arroyo, a staunch support of the war on terror.

The Philippine contingent of military and civilian personnel in central Iraq has suffered no fatalities. Military spokesman Col. Daniel Lucero said the deployment has been open-ended with no date set for withdrawal.

"We stand shoulder to shoulder with the international community in this commitment and that is why we are not making any rush decisions," Arroyo said in a statement.

She said while the government remains committed to helping rebuild Iraq, "the safety of our peacekeeping forces in Iraq is still our utmost concern."

Filipino peacekeepers are serving under Polish command—Internet

ထုတ်ဖန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်

US military deaths rises to 686

BAGHDAD, 15 April—As of Wednesday, April 14, 2004, 686 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Department of Defense. Of those, 492 died as a result of hostile action and 194 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 58 deaths; Italy, 17; Spain, eight; Bulgaria, five; Ukraine, four; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia and Poland have reported one each.

Since May 1, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 548 US soldiers have died — 383 as a result of hostile action and 165 of non-hostile causes, according to the military.—Internet



An unidentified injured US soldier is carried on a stretcher into an ambulance on the US Airbase of Ramstein, southern Germany, on 14 April, 2004. — INTERNET

87 US troops killed in Iraq in April

WASHINGTON, 15 April— For American forces in Iraq, these are the deadliest days of the war. At least 87 US troops have been killed in action so far this month, with the most recent death announced on Tuesday. Also this month, more than 560 have been wounded and two soldiers were declared missing. At least four American civilians were killed, one contractor was captured by gunmen and six others were missing and feared abducted.

The number wounded so far in April exceeds the total for any other full month of the war by more than 220.

Even the opening days of the conflict, while deadly and tense, were not as costly in American blood. In the first 13 days after invading US and British forces crossed the Kuwaiti border into southern Iraq on March 20, 2003, a total of 77 US troops were killed in action and 10 more died from non-hostile causes.

The toll keeps climbing. Central Command reported Tuesday that one soldier of the 1st Infantry Division was killed and another was wounded in a roadside bomb attack south of Baghdad. It is difficult to get

a clear picture of the number of US deaths over the past several days, in part because of the military's complex reporting channels and its system of next-of-kin notification.

All 87 of the confirmed US deaths so far this month were caused by hostile action, mainly attacks on road convoys, firefights in the Sunni strongholds of Fallujah and Ramadi and battles in and around Baghdad.

Iraqis also are dying—in their case, by the hundreds, particularly in Fallujah. About 880 Iraqis have been killed since April 5, according to an AP count based on statements by Iraqi hospital officials, the US military and Iraqi police.

Internet

Ukrainian FM urges citizens to evacuate from Iraq

KIEV, 15 April — Ukrainian citizens should evacuate from Iraq because of the heightened tension in that country, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko said on Tuesday shortly after the release of five Ukrainians and three Russians kidnapped in Baghdad.

Gryshchenko made the remarks at a Press conference after meeting his visiting Russian counterpart, Sergey Lavrov, according to the Interfax-Ukraine news agency.

Considering the evacuation "reasonable", Gryshchenko shared the view with Lavrov that the issue would be decided by the related companies and employees.

Lavrov said that Russia "will help experts from Ukraine and other countries working for Russian companies... it's up to the companies to decide."

The five Ukrainians and three Russians who were seized Monday evening work for the Russian company Internergoservis. They were abducted from the company's compound in Baghdad and were freed on Tuesday.

The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has advised its citizens to avoid travelling to Iraq where, according to the US-led coalition's announcement on Tuesday, guerrillas have kidnapped an estimated 40 people from the United States and 11 from other countries in Europe and Asia.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia to evacuate over 800 from Iraq

MOSCOW, 15 April — Moscow said on Wednesday it would airlift over 800 Russians and citizens of ex-Soviet states out of Iraq this week despite the safe release of Russian and Ukrainian hostages in Baghdad.

"Seven flights will be made from Kuwait and Baghdad to fly out 553 Russians and 263 citizens of the Commonwealth of Independent States working in Iraq," a Russian Emergencies Ministry spokesman said, but gave no further details.

Planes will be sent on Thursday and Friday for the evacuation.

Unidentified gunmen seized three Russians and five Ukrainians on Monday working on building a power

plant in Baghdad.

The hostages were released within 24 hours after the kidnappers learned some of them were from Russia, which opposes the US-led occupation of Iraq. Ukraine has sent troops to join the coalition. Most Russian companies working in Iraq are involved in projects to rebuild the energy network destroyed by the U.S. military operation last year. Some of them hire nationals from former Soviet states.

During the hostage crisis President Vladimir Putin (news - websites)'s advisory body, the Security Council, urged Russians to leave Iraq, but Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov later said it was up to companies to decide whether to remove their staff.

Several Russian companies have announced plans to evacuate their employees, including the biggest, Tekhpromexport, with 370 staff in Iraq.

Internet

About 10 Bulgarian soldiers ask to leave Iraq

SOFA, 15 April — About 10 Bulgarian soldiers based in the flashpoint city of Kerbala in southern Iraq have asked if they can go home, officials said on Tuesday, the latest example of the troops' unhappiness with conditions in Iraq.

On Monday, soldiers' parents appealed to President Georgi Parvanov to have Bulgaria's 450-strong battalion withdrawn from the city, where it came under repeated attack last week from militiamen loyal to Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr.

"Around 10 servicemen of the Bulgarian contingent in Kerbala have asked to be relieved," Defence Ministry spokeswoman Roumyana Strugarova said.

The conditions facing the new NATO member's troops in Iraq have become a sensitive issue in this Balkan country since last week's attacks, but had already caused concern previously.

More than 60 soldiers quit the battalion before it left home for Iraq to replace the original peacekeeping unit, although the government had increased the troops' Iraq pay by about one-third because of the risks of serving there.—MNA/Reuters

More Japanese citizens sue against SDF dispatch to Iraq

TOKYO, 15 April — A group of 1,101 citizens Wednesday joined a suit filed with the Nagoya District Court earlier this year against Japan's dispatch of Self-Defence Forces (SDF) troops to Iraq. Kyodo News reported.

The number of plaintiffs in the suit thus swelled to 2,363 people, each demanding 10,000 yen (95 US dollars) in consolation money from the government over what they say is an unconstitutional act. According to Kyodo, the first group of 1,262 citizens filed the suit in February. Another group is planning to join the suit in June.

Representing the plaintiffs, Yoshinori Ikezumi, who leads a non-governmental organization, was quoted by Kyodo as saying that the suit is significant as more than 2,300 Japanese citizens have complained about the SDF dispatch.

MNA/Xinhua



US armoured vehicles take off for a patrol on the outskirts of Najaf, Iraq, on 14 April, 2004. —INTERNET

Iraq more damaging to Bush future than 9/11 memo

WASHINGTON, 15 April — The deteriorating situation in Iraq poses much more of a threat for President George W Bush's reelection hopes than the tempest caused by release of an August 2001 briefing paper on the al-Qaeda threat, political consultants and analysts said on Monday.

The Bush White House was placed on the defensive after releasing the classified document on Saturday upon the demand of the commission investigating the attacks of September 11, 2001.

Some Democrats seized on the presidential briefing paper as evidence that the Bush Administration failed to react with sufficient urgency to non-specific information about the possibility of an al-Qaeda attack on the United States.

Republicans said the document would not change any minds. However several expressed concern that events in Iraq, with rebellions in several towns and some of the bloodiest fighting since the fall of Saddam Hussein, posed a far graver threat to Bush.

"If you are, as I am, pro-Bush, I don't see anything in there that was actionable. If you are a Bush-hater, it mentions hijackings and explosives and it's a great rhetorical tool to score points," said Gary Bauer, a former Republican presidential candidate who now strongly supports Bush.

"Events on the Iraqi battlefield are much more likely to

have an effect. To the extent that we look as if we are bogged down and unable to deal with what's happening, that will hurt the president," Bauer said.

The intelligence document of August 6, 2001, said al-Qaeda members were in the United States and the FBI had detected suspicious activity "consistent with preparations for hijackings or other types of attacks".

Bush himself said it was too vague for him to take action that might have headed off the September 11 attacks. "It said Osama bin Laden had designs on America. Well, I knew that," Bush told reporters Sunday.

KB Forbes, a Republican operative who has worked on the presidential campaigns of Pat Buchanan and Steve Forbes, said most undecided voters would make up their minds on the election in September and October, by which time the memo would be a footnote.

"I don't think it's politically damaging. What is hurting Bush much more than this is the quagmire in Iraq," he said.

MNA/Reuters



Iraqis look at the remains of a US Army vehicle which was attacked by guerillas on the Baghdad-Fallujah highway, Iraq, on 14 April, 2004. —INTERNET

Australia under pressure to explain Iraq exit plan

SYDNEY, 15 April — Australian war veterans called on Tuesday for the country's conservative government to make public its exit strategy for Australian troops in Iraq.

"There is no obvious exit strategy," said retired Major-General Bill Crews, president of the Returned & Services League which represents serving troops and ex-defence force members.

"If they have an exit strategy, the point I'm making is that they've not made it clear to people," Crews told local media.

Prime Minister John Howard has refused to state precisely when Australian troops would be withdrawn from Iraq, saying only they would end their assignment once "the job was done", despite a wave of kidnappings in Iraq.

"It's an impossible question to answer. You can't say exactly when you may be in a position to say the job has been completed," Howard said on Tuesday.

Australia's opposition Labour Party is committed to bringing troops home by Christmas if it wins an ex-

pected election later this year. Labour leads Howard's coalition in opinion polls.

"We need an exit strategy because what has happened is similar to the situation in the Vietnam War where the military occupation becomes more the problem than the solution," Labour leader Mark Latham told local radio on Tuesday.

"You need a strategy to return Iraq to the Iraqi people."

Howard is one of Washington's most vocal supporters and sent 2,000 military personnel to the US-led invasion of Iraq last year. No Australian troops have been killed in Iraq and about 850 personnel remain in and around the country.

Of these, about 540 troops are in Iraq and are involved in security for diplomats, assigned to coalition headquarters, aerial surveillance, training of air traffic controllers in Baghdad and training

the Iraqi Army and Navy.

Eleven Russian civilians were the latest foreigners reported kidnapped in Iraq and three Japanese were still missing on Tuesday.

MNA/Reuters

UNSG calls for release of kidnapped civilians in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, 15 April — United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Tuesday called for release of all kidnapped civilians in Iraq, saying that kidnapping is unacceptable.

"It's unfortunate that civilians and some of them who have gone in to offer assistance were being mishandled and kidnapped in such a way," Annan told reporters upon his arrival at the UN Headquarters in New York.

"I think it's unacceptable that these civilians should be mistreated in the way that they are now," he said. "I would want to see all of them released and allowed to go about, return to their countries or go about their business."

The US-led coalition announced on Tuesday that an estimated 40 people from the United States and 11 other countries in Europe and Asia are believed to have been kidnapped by guerillas in Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်စွမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှာ

One Iraqi killed in Baghdad mortar attack

BAGHDAD, 15 April — A mortar bomb landed in a busy Baghdad street on Tuesday, killing one Iraqi driver and gouging a deep crater in the middle of the road, witnesses said. "I was driving my car and suddenly there was a big explosion behind me and shrapnel fell on my car," Mohammed al-Nimr told Reuters.

The driver of the car behind him was hit by shrapnel, lost control of the vehicle and smashed into a lamp-post. Police-men at the scene said he was dead.

Several ambulances raced to treat passersby injured by shrapnel and flying debris. It was not immediately clear if the mortar had been aimed at the area or had missed its intended target. The offices of two political parties are not far from where the mortar round struck.

Earlier blasts echoed across Baghdad and sirens sounded in the headquarters of the US Administration, but there were no reports of any injuries or damage in the heavily defended area, known as the "Green Zone".

The street where the Iraqi was killed was about 2/3 miles or more away from the Green Zone. — MNA/Reuters

Probe needed into US action in Fallujah

BAGHDAD, 15 April — A US military offensive in Fallujah last week in which 600 Iraqis may have died has raised concerns about excessive use of force and needs immediate investigation, a leading human rights group said on Tuesday.

Civilians who fled the fighting described the streets of Fallujah as being littered with bodies, including women and children, and Iraqi politicians have accused US forces of meting out collective punishment on the city's residents.

"The questions being asked are very legitimate. When you cordon off a town and hear many stories that are very worrisome about civilians being killed it needs to be examined," said Hania Mufti, a senior researcher for Human Rights Watch, a New York-based rights group.

"There is enough from the footage we've seen and from what has been said about what went on in Fallujah to warrant a very serious investigation. We are deeply concerned about the consistent reports we are getting about women, children and unarmed civilians being killed," Mufti told Reuters.

She stressed that most of

the information received so far was anecdotal and said no conclusions could be drawn until a full investigation could be conducted.

"I can't say whether any crimes have been committed... but we'll certainly be looking into whether there was excessive use of force and whether the methods used by the military were acceptable," she said. "We would call on the US military to be as cooperative as possible with our investigation."

US Marines launched an offensive against Fallujah, a city of about 300,000 people 32 miles west of Baghdad, eight days ago to crack down

on guerillas and find those responsible for killing and burning four US security guards on March 31.

The fighting was some of the fiercest Iraq has seen since US-led forces launched the war that overthrew Saddam Hussein more than a year ago. For the past three days, Fallujah has been under a tenuous truce.

The director of Fallujah's general hospital has said more than 600 Iraqis died and some 1,200 were wounded in the battle. US forces also suffered a heavy toll, with at least 70 soldiers killed in the past 12 days, many in Fallujah.

MNA/Reuters



A US convoy drives past a burning US truck after it was attacked by guerillas on the highway leading Baghdad's International Airport to the Iraqi capital on 14 April, 2004. — INTERNET

Arroyo says safety of peacekeeping force in Iraq utmost concern

MANILA, 15 April—Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo said Wednesday the safety of Philippine peacekeeping forces in Iraq is still the government's utmost concern amid calls for the withdrawal of the contingent.

"While the Philippine Government is determined to help the Iraqi people in rebuilding their nation, the safety of our peacekeeping forces in Iraq is still our utmost concern," Arroyo said in a statement.

Annan cautious about sending UN back to Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, 15 April—UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan was cautious on Tuesday about a return of the United Nations to Iraq, saying violence in the country was a major constraint in the foreseeable future.

Annan told reporters at UN Headquarters that even the small team now in the country, led by top adviser Lakhdar Brahimi, has been hampered in helping form an interim government and eventual elections.

"Of course given the deteriorating situation and the violence on the ground, even that task has been rather difficult," Annan said.

"For the foreseeable future, insecurity is going to be a major constraint for us. And so I cannot say right now that I am going to be sending in a large UN team," Annan said.

MNA/Reuters

France tells its citizens to leave Iraq

PARIS, 15 April—France is strongly advising its citizens to leave Iraq and warning people not to travel there, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Tuesday following a spate of kidnappings in the country.

"I draw your attention to the fact that, since the end of last week, we are strongly advising all French in Iraq to leave and all those who want to go there, to postpone their trip," Herve Ladsous told a news briefing.

"It is clear that the situation is worrying," he said, adding just under 100 French people were in Iraq at the moment.

Dozens of foreigners have been kidnapped in Iraq in recent days. Five Ukrainians and three Russians were freed on Tuesday, a day after they were seized.

"France unconditionally renews its condemnation of the taking hostage of foreign civilians in Iraq, which is totally unacceptable and which should be stopped immediately and without condition," Ladsous said.

MNA/Reuters

"The government will take all precautionary measures to ensure the safety of our contingent," Arroyo added. As to whether or not to withdraw the Philippine peacekeeping forces, Arroyo said the decision will depend on the security situation in Iraq in the days to come.

"But our commitment to democracy in Iraq and to the

progress of the Iraqi people is unsullied," she added.

"We stand shoulder to shoulder with the international community in this commitment and that is why we are not making any rush decisions," she said.

In an interview with the ABS-CBN news channel, Philippine Presidential spokesman Ignacio Bunye said Wednesday the Philip-

pine Government would like to review its policy on Iraq, without elaborating.

Pressure for the Philippine Government to pull out Filipino peacekeepers from Iraq has increased as lawmakers and a youth group called for Manila to withdraw the contingent after about 40 foreign hostages have been held in Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua



Marines taking cover after being shot at during a patrol near Fallujah on 14 April, 2004. —INTERNET

Iraqis show Italian hostages, want Italy out

DUBAI, 15 April—Al Jazeera television showed a tape on Tuesday of four men described as Italian hostages being held by an Iraqi Islamist group which demanded that Italy withdraw its forces from Iraq.

The four men in civilian clothes were shown seated on the ground and holding up their passports, surrounded by gunmen whose faces were covered by traditional Arab headscarves.

"The Italian Government...should vow and give guarantees to withdraw its forces from Iraq and give a time schedule and to free Mus-

lim clerics in Iraq," a voice on the film said, adding the men were captured in the Sunni Muslim city of Fallujah.

"If the Italian Government agrees to these demands, we will inform them which party to negotiate with for their release," the man said, adding that the abductors were a unit of a group the station said was calling itself the Mujahedin

Brigades.

The name appeared to be new.

Italian state RAI television said earlier that four Italians working for a private security firm in Iraq had gone missing and could be the same men whom a group of guerrillas claimed last week to have kidnapped. —MNA/Reuters

Russia's top Iraq contractor to pull out

MOSCOW, 15 April—Russia's top contractor in Iraq, Tekhpromexport, is to pull its 370 staff out of Iraq because of rising violence, the company said on Tuesday.

The state-owned company, which employed most of the 500 Russian nationals working to rebuild the country, was building a power station about 40 miles outside Baghdad.

"The decision about the evacuation of Tekhpromexport's workers was taken yesterday morning," a statement quoted company head Sergei Molozhavy as saying.

"The question of the security of our personnel is the prime duty of Tekhpromexport's manage-

ment. Even before our specialists were sent there, they studied the political situation in the country. On the basis of this information they drew up an (evacuation) plan."

Earlier, eight workers of a Russian engineering firm were reported released after being kidnapped on Monday in Baghdad. The Foreign Ministry earlier said it had prepared plans for the evacuation of all Russians from Iraq, where the US-led occupying forces are coming under continuous attacks from guerrillas. —MNA/Reuters



US army builds up force round Najaf

BAGHDAD, 15 April — The US military has moved "significant" forces to the holy Iraqi city of Najaf in preparation for a possible offensive to retake the city from Shiite militants and capture or kill their leader.

Brigadier-General Mark Kimmitt, deputy director of operations for the US military in Iraq, said the force was being built up for operations that could range from combat to humanitarian assistance.

"It is clear that we are repositioning forces in this country where they are needed," Kimmitt told a news conference when asked about a build-up of troops around Najaf, where radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr is believed to be holed up.

"Currently we see a significant threat in the vicinity of Najaf by the name of Moqtada al-Sadr and his militia.

"We will get the forces to the place, at the time when it is necessary, to go after him and his militia to end this violence — it is that simple," Kimmitt said.

Asked how big the force was, Kimmitt said it was significant and was still being bolstered.

"...The force being built up in that region is powerful and it will be disciplined and it will be capable of conducting the full spectrum of military operations, which could range from full combat operations...to humanitarian activities," he said.

Sadr, a young radical Shiite cleric with a strong following among the urban poor, launched an uprising earlier this month by his militia, known as the Mehdi Army, estimated at 5,000 men.

In a broad insurrection, the militia seized government buildings and police stations in Shiite neighbourhoods of Baghdad and in several towns and cities throughout Shiite-dominated southern Iraq.

Though driven out of some towns, the militia is still holding out in Najaf and Kerbala, two holy cities south of Baghdad, and has skirmished with US-led coalition forces in the cities of Kut and Amara. —MNA/Reuters

Iraq security eating chunks of contractors' costs

LONDON, 15 April—Spiralling violence in Iraq has driven costs sky high for foreign firms working on the billions of dollars in reconstruction contracts, with the price of insuring some workers doubling in the past week.

Contractors in Iraq are spending more than half their total operating costs insuring and protecting staff who have

become targets of guerilla and prey to kidnappers, according to insurance giant Aon Corp.

"High risk workers saw insurance rates nearly double towards the end of last week," Claire Heneghan of London-based insurance broker Heath Lambert said. For example, the annual premium to insure around 100 staff doubled to 16,000 dollars per worker last week for an individual policy worth 200,000 dollars, Heneghan said.

Insuring fewer workers is much more expensive, Heneghan added.

Foreign firms employ tens of thousands of staff in Iraq working on reconstruction, funded mostly by 18.6 billion US dollars in US contracts being overseen by the Coalition Provisional Authority.

Texas firm Halliburton, the US military's biggest contractor in Iraq, says about 30 of its staff and sub-contractors for subsidiary Kellogg Brown and Root have been killed in Iraq and seven workers are missing. —MNA/Reuters



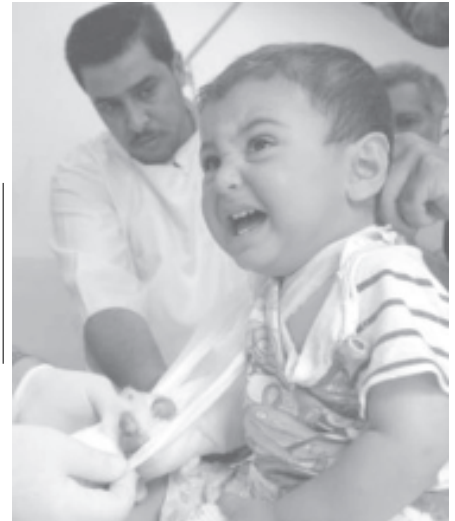
Iraqi boys chant near a burning US Army truck, after it came under attack on Baghdad's airport highway, on 14 April, 2004. —INTERNET

Iraq devoid of sovereignty under foreign occupation

Images which help you discern the hard facts



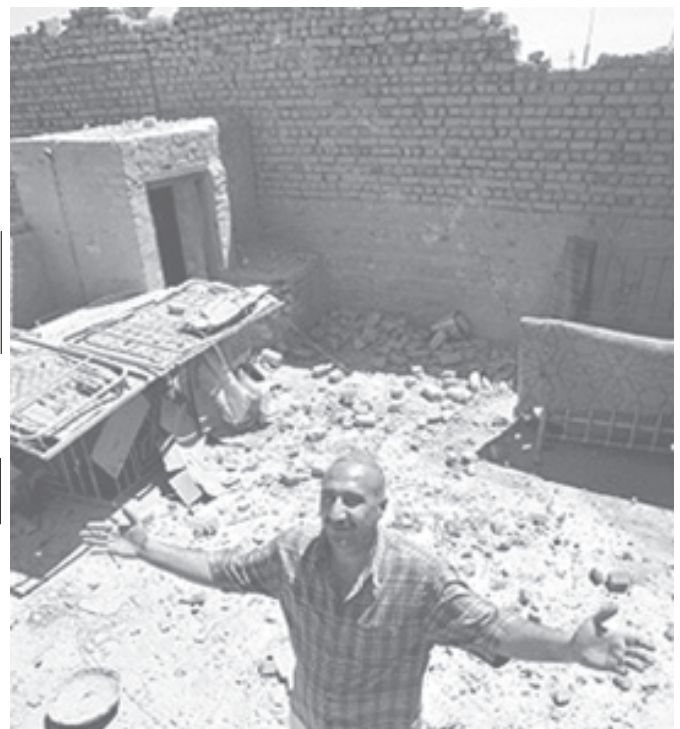
An Iraqi man was detained, then taken in for questioning after Marines found a high powered sniper rifle behind a seat in his car in northwest Fallujah, Iraq on 14 April, 2004.



Wounded one and a half year old Iraqi baby Qusay Issam, who was shot in the arm in the besieged town of Fallujah, is treated in Baghdad's al-Nouman hospital, on 13 April, 2004.



An Iraqi man who was injured in clashes between US Marines and Iraqi guerillas is treated in the besieged town of Fallujah, on 13 April, 2004.



An Iraqi man gestures at the ruins of home after it was hit by a US missile overnight, in the central Iraqi city of Kut on 9 April 2004.



A resident inspects a badly damaged house following clashes between militiamen of radical Shiite cleric Moqtada Al-Sadr and Ukrainian coalition soldiers recently in Kut, Iraq, 112 miles south of Baghdad.



A young girl lies in a hospital after she was injured in clashes in Fallujah, on 10 April, 2004.

The people joyfully take part in Myanmar Traditional Thingyan Festival in peaceful and pleasant Myanmar



Thingyan revellers participate in water festival on Anawrahta Street on second Akyat day.—NLM



West Race Course in Bahan Township being crowded with people enjoying Maha Thingyan Festival on Akyat day. — MNA



A Thingyan pandal on Pyay Road packed with vehicles with revellers on board on Akyat day.— NLM



A decorated float of silver swan which represents Myoma Music Troupe seen in Mandalay on 13 April. — MNA



Pre-Primary schoolchildren of Dagon Myothit (North) Township present dances to audience at Yangon City Mayor's Pandal on second Akyat day.— NLM

***Happy Thingyan Merry Thingyan
Auspicious Thingyan***



Damsels perform a dance at the Thingyan pandal on second Akyat day. — MNA



Revellers seeking shelter under the shower of water hoses in Latha Township on second Akyat day. — NLM

Drug — a boon or a curse

Professor Dr Paing Soe

Introduction

Now-a-days a large segment of the population consumes drugs for health purposes even though majority of the people did not have adequate knowledge on the drugs that they take. The present article was aimed to overcome the problem of irrational drug use out of ignorance or lack of adequate knowledge. Pharmacology is a subject that deals with drugs. Knowledge on drugs is largely based on its chemical structure, biological activity and therapeutic usefulness in controlling or curing of disease.

Drugs are usually administered orally or by injection, but sometimes by topical application or inhalation. In fact, drugs do not literally cure the disease, but causes beneficial effects through reversing or controlling the factors that cause the disease process. For example, drugs do not directly affect the infected wound to heal, but rather through killing off the organisms that cause the infection, and thus helping the natural healing process of the body to do its job.

A Boon - Beneficial effects of drugs on disease

In a disease, drugs can affect the body in three main ways:

- (1) Curative effect — where the ultimate outcome is freedom from disease (e.g. antimalarial drugs, by killing the malaria parasite, can result in cure from fever and chills due to malaria).
- (2) Suppressive/Palliative effect — where ultimate outcome is freedom from the symptoms of a disease even though it may not result in cure from disease (e.g. relieving headache or tummy ache, temporarily).
- (3) Psychological effect — making the patient feel better psychologically.

Over the years of drug-use by men, medicine has developed gradually and at the same time improving the health status and the quality of life and prolonging the life span of the people. Since benefits and risks go hand in hand, it is important to be made aware and well informed about the potential problems of drug use. For this reason the Food and Drug Authority (FDA) has urged that the prescription leaflets or package inserts should contain all the unbiased and uncontroversial information about the drug and should be made available to all consumers before they actually take the medicine. Such information should include:

- (1) Chemical constituents, their origin (e.g. plants, synthetic or semisynthetic) and chemical structure,
- (2) Pharmacological action on what the drug does to the body, or changes it's function to affect a cure,
- (3) Pharmacokinetics on what the body does to the drug, affecting its absorption, distribution into the tissues, metabolism, and finally, elimination from the body. As the liver is an important organ for converting a drug into a harmless non-toxic substance, and kidney being important for elimination to outside of the body, adverse effects of drugs are more prone to occur in patients with liver and kidney diseases. For this reason people with liver and kidneys should take drugs strictly under supervision of a doctor. Additional information should be elaborated for such high risk groups and also for use in neonates and children, pregnant mothers and elderly.
- (4) Indication, dose and regime, on how to take, or not take, the drug,
- (5) Potential side effects that can occur when taking the drug, either in therapeutic doses, or higher (toxic doses),
- (6) Contraindications and cautions to be taken in the high risk groups mentioned above,
- (7) Drug interactions that can occur when drugs are taken together (e.g. Waferin and cimetidine can interact with many drugs when given together, which may result in adverse consequences).

On the other hand, knowledge of drugs based solely on the prescription leaflets cannot be considered sufficient, since it may contain misleading and controversial promotion information claimed by the manufacturers. Evidence-based medicine must be supported by hard data from research, and currently, pharmacopoeias (USP, BP, IP, Martindale, etc.) or National Formularies (British National Formulary, Myanmar National Formulary, etc.) and *Materia Medica* (for traditional medicine) are the only internationally accepted source of drug information that is

considered reliable by scientists, WHO and FDA. For example, even though metronidazole was found to be effective for amoebiasis, the drug was not included in western pharmacopoeias for many years until sufficient information has accumulated by years of research which was enough to overrule the benefit-risk of its teratogenic potential.

It has been mentioned that:

“All substances are poison; there is none which is not a poison. The right dose differentiates a poison and a remedy.”

Paracelsus (1493-1541)

Thus, consumers should have sufficient knowledge to avoid the adverse effects of drugs. To produce a therapeutic effect, it is necessary that sufficient amount of drug is administered and reach the site of action. Thus, the following should be taken into consideration:

- (1) Dose — should be optimal to produce maximum effect with minimal toxicity. If the dose is low (subtherapeutic dose), sufficient response may not occur. On the other hand, if the dose is high, adverse effects (toxic dose) or death (lethal dose) can occur.
- (2) Regimen — a drug must also complete its course to affect a cure, which includes the number of times taken per day for an optimal duration of treatment.
- (3) Mode of administration — when and how to take, morning (e.g. diuretics), night (e.g. sedatives), with food (e.g. analgesics) or without food (e.g. antibiotics).
- (4) Co-administration with other drugs — on whether interactions can occur with other drugs.

For this reason sufficient research and information should be available before a drug can be considered safe for consumption/administration and released into the market. Currently, in Myanmar, many of the drugs and traditional medicine, produced, imported and sold by the private sector do not contain sufficient information mentioned above, nor they are included in the accepted literature like pharmacopoeias and formularies. Most are based on empirical, hear-say and historical evidence and sufficient research has never been scientifically conducted. Information leaflets either do not contain sufficient information, or may contain biased and controversial information claimed and promoted by the manufacturer.

A Curse - Potential adverse effects of drugs

The disadvantages of drug use rest mainly on three pillars:

- (1) Adverse effects which are unavoidable, and seen at therapeutic dose. For example, feeling of drowsiness after taking anti-allergic drugs. However, most side effects are mild and well tolerated by majority of the people.
- (2) Toxic effects — which are avoidable, and can occur if the drug is not taken as directed.

Bad effects of drugs frequently result from the following:

- (a) Wrong ingredients — often seen in substandard and counterfeit drugs produced by local, cottage industries or imported by substandard companies.
- (b) Wrong medicine — given for a particular ailment or disease. One should neither use a drug based solely on information or claims in the package inserts, nor they be used if their pharmacological action or benefit is questionable.
- (c) Wrong mode of administration — when dosage and regime is not fully understood for optimal efficacy. This needs a sound knowledge on drug pharmacokinetics.
- (d) Lack of knowledge on adverse drug reactions and toxicity limits — may result in overuse, underuse and misuse. All drugs should be tested for acute, subacute and chronic toxicity on animal models and through post-marketing surveillance in humans.
- (e) Lack of knowledge on contraindications and cautions to be taken in high-risk groups.
- (f) Lack of knowledge of likely interactions — between drug-drug and drug-food.
- (3) Allergy and Idiosyncrasy — which are unpredictable and abnormal effect of drugs, which are not dose related and occur exclusively in certain individuals, and which may even result in drastic consequences like penicillin hypersensitivity.

(To be continued)

Prof Dr Paing Soe is the Director-General of the Department of Medical Research (Lower Myanmar)

သတိပေးနူးဆော်ချက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော် စည်ပင်သာယာနယ်နိမိတ်အတွင်း ခရီးသည် တင်ယာဉ်(ဘတ်စ်ကား)များ အား ထိရောက်စွာအရေးယူဆောင်ရွက် ခဲ့သဖြင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှု၊ ယာဉ်တိမ်းမှောက်မှုများ လျော့နည်း ကျဆင်းသွားသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ ယခုအခါတွင် ဌာနဆိုင်ရာ ယာဉ်များနှင့် တက္ကစီအဖွဲ့အစည်းများမှလည်း ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ လျော့နည်း ကျဆင်းလာသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ ကိုယ်ပိုင်ယာဉ် များမှာမူ ယာဉ်တိုက်မှု လျော့နည်းကျဆင်းလာမှု မရှိသေးကြောင်း တွေ့ရှိရပါသဖြင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုမဖြစ်အောင် ထိန်းသိမ်း မောင်းနှင်ကြရန်နှင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြစ်ဒဏ်သတ် မှတ်ချက်များအား မည်သည့်နည်းနှင့်မျှ ကင်းလွတ်ခွင့်ပြုမည် မဟုတ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနူးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးဦးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

သတိပြုရန်

- မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု မဟာသင်္ကြန်ကာလအတွင်း ယာဉ်မောင်းသူများ လိုက်နာရန်
- မူးယစ်သောက်စား၍ယာဉ်မမောင်းရ။
- အဖျော်လွန်ကျူး စည်းကမ်းမဲ့ ပြိုင်/လှမောင်းရ။
- မော်တော်ယာဉ်၊ မော်တော်ဆိုင်ကယ်များတွင် အိတ်စော့ပိုက်ဖြုတ်မမောင်းရ။
- ယာဉ်နံပါတ်ပြားမပါရှိဘဲ မမောင်းရ။
- ယာဉ်နံပါတ်အတုများ၊ အခြားယာဉ်နံပါတ်များကပ်ခြင်းမပြုရ။
- ယာဉ်၏ဘေးတစ်ပါးများ၊ နောက်ဖုများဖြုတ်၍ မမောင်းရ။
- ယာဉ်မောင်းလိုင်းစင်၊ ယာဉ်မှတ်ပုံတင်မပါဘဲ မမောင်းရ။
- ဖျက်သိမ်းယာဉ်အိုး/ဟောင်းများ၊ ပြုပြင်ဆင်ယာဉ်များ မမောင်းရ။
- နိုင်ငံတကာအလံများ ယာဉ်တွင်တပ်ဆင်၍ မမောင်းရ။
- ဟွန်းသံကင် ခဲနုများအတွင်း ဟွန်းလုံးဝမတီးရ။
- ကျူးလွန်ပါက တည်ဆဲဥပဒေအရ ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူမည်။
- “သင့်ကြောင့် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု မဟာသင်္ကြန်ကို အကျဉ်းတန် မညစ်နွမ်းပါစေနင့်”

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးဦးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

သတိ

- လေပေါင်(၁၀၀)မှ(၁၅၀)အထိ အတင်အချပ်လုပ်၍ရသည့် ကွန်ပရက်ဆာပန်များဖြင့် ရေပတ်ကစားခြင်းကြောင့်ရေစွဲအား ဖြင့်လွန်၍ရေပတ်ခရေသွတ် အသားအရေများပွန်းပဲ့စုတ်ထွက် နိုင်ခြင်း၊ ဖျက်စီး နားများအထိမိပါကဖျက်လုံး၊ နားကန်း နိုင်ခြင်း၊ အန္တရာယ်ဖြစ်စေနိုင်ပါသဖြင့် ရေကစားမဏ္ဍပ်များ၊ ရေပတ်ခံကားများတွင် ကွန်ပရက်ဆာပန်များသုံး၍ရေပတ်ရန် တားမြစ်ပါသည်။
- သင်္ကြန်ရေပတ်ကစားခြင်းအားသင်္ကြန်ရက်များအတွင်းနေ့စဉ် နံနက်(၇)နာရီမှညနေ(၆)နာရီအတွင်းသာ ရေပတ်ကစား ကြရန်နှင့် ည(၆)နာရီနောက်ပိုင်းရေပတ်ကစားခြင်းမပြုရန် တားမြစ်ပါသည်။
- တားမြစ်ချက်အားဖောက်ဖျက်ပါက ထိရောက်စွာအရေးယူ ခံရမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မတီ

မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသင်္ကြန်

- * အမျိုးသားယဉ်ကျေးမှုကို ထိန်းသိမ်းပါ။
- * သရုပ်ဖျက်ယဉ်ကျေးမှုကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- * အမျိုးဂုဏ်၊ ဇာတိဂုဏ်ကို မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသင်္ကြန်ဖြင့် မြှင့်တင်ပါ။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မတီ

ရေခဲထုပ်၊ ရေပူဖောင်း၊ ဆပ်ပြာရည်ကပ်တီးဘူးဖြင့်ကစားက

- ၁။ လက်ဝယ်ထွေသွေ - ထောင် (၁)နှစ်
- ၂။ ကစားသူ - ထောင် (၃)နှစ်
- ၃။ ထုတ်လုပ်ရောင်းချသူ - ထောင် (၅)နှစ်နှင့်ပစ္စည်းကိုသိမ်း

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မတီ

မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု မဟာသင်္ကြန်ဆင်နွှဲသူများ လိုက်နာရန် တိုက်တွန်းနူးဆော်ချက်

- (က)မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှုလေ့စရိုက်နှင့်မီလာဆန်ကျင့်ပြီး မြန်မာလူမျိုးများ၏အမြင်တွင် မတင် တယ် သည် ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်မှု ပြုမူပြောဆိုမှုများ မပြုလုပ်ရန်၊
- (ခ) ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအဆုံးအမနှင့် မီလာဆန်ကျင့်သည့် အပြုအမူ၊ ပြောဆိုမှုများ မပြုလုပ်ရန်၊
- (ဂ) အချင်းချင်းဒဏ်ရာအနာတရဖြစ်စေပြီး အန္တရာယ်ဖြစ်စေသည့် ကြမ်းတမ်းသည့် ရေကစားမှုများ မပြုလုပ်ရန်၊
- (ဃ) တိုင်းရင်းသားစည်းလုံးညီညွတ်မှုကို ဖျက်ပြားစေပြီး အူမူမှုကို ဖြစ်စေနိုင်သည့် လူ့ဆော်ဖန်တီးပြုမူပြောဆို ကြိုးပမ်းမှုများကို မပြုလုပ်ရန်။

မဟာသင်္ကြန်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ

Minister inspects maintenance of press

YANGON, 15 April— Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan went to Myanmar Alin Daily this afternoon and inspected maintenance of the press being carried out by workers on the holidays during the period of Maha Thingyan Festival.

The minister gave necessary instructions to officials and met with the staff. Accompanied by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein and directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry, the minister arrived at Myanmar Alin Daily on Natmauk Lane-1, Bahan Township, at 3.30 pm.

The minister and party were welcomed there by Managing Director Col Soe Win of News and Periodicals Enterprise, Director (Admin) U Soe Win, Chief Editor U Ye Myint Pe, Manager U Zaw Win and officials. At the press room of the daily, the minister saw over cleaning of inking rollers, substitution and adjustment of ball bearings at ink form roller and water form roller, adjustment and cleaning of blankets and plate cylinders. Managing Director Col Soe Win and Chief Editor U Ye Myint Pe conducted the minister round the press. Next, the minister gave instructions on systematic repair of machines, keeping of spare machinery parts for emergency cases and efforts to be made for ensuring better impression and good printing quality. Afterwards, the minister looked into collection of spare parts, fire preventive measures, construction of water tank for use in outbreak of fire, safety of electric wire installation and sanitation works and left there in the evening.

During the period of Maha Thingyan Festival, the Myanmar Alin, the Kyemon and the New Light of Myanmar dailies are being published alternatively. Workers of the New Light of Myanmar and the Kyemon dailies performed maintenance tasks of the machines on 12, 13 and 14 April, the holidays of the dailies. Similarly, seven sub-printing houses in States and Divisions took holidays in turn and servicing and repair works were carried out there. On 15, 16 and 17 April, delivery of the Myanmar Alin Daily will be stopped temporarily for undertaking maintenance tasks of its press. MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspects maintenance of the press of Myanmar Alin Daily.—MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents gift to national race cultural troupe at the pandal of Ministry for PBANRDA. (News on page 1)—MNA

POEM:

New Year Greetings

- * Because 'tis Tagu in summer
Golden 'payit' buds are ready to bloom
Due to the fickle wind they turn their heads
A new and novel scene.
- * In all nine directions that were grey
To see the sky light up
As the balmy breeze opens up
The new golden padauk buds
Bloom to make us happy.
- * In the region above the river
Two birds exchange vows of love
Wings held close, they feed each other
Twittering as if breaking into song
A good sign of things to come.
- * In good weather
This month, this period
Myanmar land blessed with good harvest
With high quality rubies, other jewels
They're all pretty, full to the brim
To splash "Atar" water all around
For Myanmar to be pleasant, blessed
To all citizens, I extend these greetings.

Tekkatho Tin Kha (Trs)

Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 15 April— The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh 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 Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 02-54657).

MNA

Yangonites joyfully celebrate Water Festival on 2nd Akyat Day

YANGON, 15 April — With the adequate water supply of the Yangon City Development Committee, close supervision of the Maha Thingyan Discipline Enforcement Committee and necessary assistance of the Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and organizations at different levels, Yangonites could enjoy revelry wholeheartedly and peacefully from Maha Thingyan Akyo Day until today, Maha Thingyan Akyat (second) Day.

Today, the townships of Yangon West District were teeming with crowds of motorized revellers and Thingyan pandals under the close supervision of district and respective township Peace and Development Councils.

In Yangon West District, there are 129 large Thingyan pandals, 74 medium pandals and 301 small pandals and the number was 76 more than that of last year. There are 95 Thingyan pandals in Kamayut Township, 84 in Bahan Township, 27 in Hline Township, 22 in Mayangon Township, 14

in Lanmadaw Township, 15 in Sangyoung Township, five in Latha Township, six in Kyauktada Township, seven in Ahlon Township, six in Kyimyindine Township, nine in Dagon Township, two in Seikkan Township and nine in Pabedan Township. Chairman of Yangon West District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and members, and members of District Maha Thingyan Discipline Enforcement Committee gave close supervision on the pandals.

Along the Inya Road in Kamayut Township made up of 39 large

Thingyan pandals; University Avenue in Bahan Township, 22 large pandals; Pyay Road, 16 pandals; U Chit Maung Street, 23 pandals; Tekkatho Yeiktha Lanthit Street, 10 large pandals and Bayintnaung Street in Hline Township, several large pandals were crowded with motorized revellers, merry-makers, fun-seekers and Thingyan lovers.

Similarly, the dwellers of 10 townships in Yangon South District especially Thanlyin and Kyauktan townships, and eight townships in Yangon North District especially Insein, Hlaingthaya and

Shwepyitha townships joyfully took part in the Water Festival in accordance with the traditions of the Thingyan Festival.

In the afternoon, the revellers took a rest and relaxation at the parks of the YCDC Parks and Playgrounds Department. And in the late afternoon, they continued to enjoy the Water Festival.

It is learnt that the Thingyan lovers are making arrangements to enjoy themselves in the festival with might and main on Maha Thingyan Atet Day, the last day of the Water Festival.

MNA



A crowd of Thingyan revellers seen on Saya San Road on second Akyat Day.—MNA

**Donate
blood**

Indonesia vows to implement Chemical Weapons Convention

JAKARTA, 15 April — Indonesia is committed to fully implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), said a senior official at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"Indonesia, which is in the process of full democratization, will be in a better position to fully implement the Chemical Weapons Convention," Makmur Widodo, Director-General for multilateral political, social and security affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was quoted Wednesday by *The Jakarta Post* as saying.

Makmur said Indonesia, which signed the CWC on January 13, 1993 and ratified it on September 30, 1998 and enacted it into the Law No 6/1998, is committed to fully implementing the CWC.

"As a party to the CWC, Indonesia is legally bound to fully implement the provisions of the convention. Indeed, Indonesia is now in the process of doing just that," Makmur said.

The CWC, which came into force on April 29, 1997, is an international treaty

that bans the use of chemical weapons and aims to eliminate chemical weapons everywhere in the world forever.

Even after more than five years since the ratification of the CWC, Indonesia is still trying to implement it fully.

The problems, according to Makmur, are mainly two: the establishment of a permanent national authority and passing of "a unified robust national legislation" to cover and govern all aspects of the use of chemical substances.

Indonesia currently has a temporary national authority under the coordination of the directorate for international peace and disarmament at the Foreign Ministry. Under the CWC, the member countries must make it part of its national legislation before 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia calls for cooperation with Philippines to stop kidnapping

KUALA LUMPUR, 15 April — Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar said here that cooperation with Manila must be enhanced to stop kidnapping incidents.

"It is important that we get total cooperation from the Filipinos to ensure that this type of activity can be totally eradicated," he told reporters in Putrajaya, the Federal Administrative Centre near here.

A group of some 10 gunmen reportedly stormed a tugboat towing a barge in the Sulu Sea on Sunday night before fleeing with three of the 10 crew members to one of the numer-

ous islands in the southern Philippines.

He also expressed the hope that the three people, including two Malaysians and an Indonesian, kidnapped in Philippine waters would not be harmed.

He said it was his understanding that security in the vicinity of the Malaysian and Philippine maritime borders had been beefed up.

"In order to ensure that

our efforts are successful, there is a need to work very closely with the Philippine side because these (the perpetrators) are all mostly a spillover from Philippine terrorist groups or Philippine criminals," Syed Hamid said.

Syed Hamid said the government was taking all the necessary measures to guarantee the safety of visitors to the many beautiful islands off Sabah.

It is the fourth such abduction in waters off Sabah after the kidnappings on Sipadan Island in April and on Pandanan in September 2000, carried out by the Abu Sayaff militants from Southern Philippines.

The last incident occurred in October last year when a group of gunmen kidnapped six foreign workers (three Filipinos and three Indonesians) from a beach resort in Sabah.

MNA/Xinhua

Spanish police arrest two more suspects in train bombing

MADRID, 15 April — Spanish police have arrested at least two more Moroccans in connection with the March 11 train bombings that killed 191 people, a court official said on Tuesday.

It raises to 23 the number of people detained over the attack, believed to have been the first carried out by al-Qaeda in the West since the September 11, 2001 strikes on New York and Washington. Of the total, 19 are of Moroccan origin.

One was arrested on Monday and the other on Tuesday after police searched one of their homes, the court official said. The arrests were made in or near the city of Malaga on Spain's southern coast. — MNA/Reuters

အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကာကွယ်ရေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ယခုအခါတွင် ရွှေ့ပြောင်းလုပ်သားများနှင့် ရာသီဥတု ပြောင်းလဲလာခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထိုအပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ရွှေ့ပြောင်းလုပ်သားများ နေရာကွယ်အတွင်းရှိ ရေနှင့်ခါတ်ဆားများ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများပြားပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် မိတ်နွယ်ယားများထွက်လာခြင်း၊ ပင်ပန်း နှမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ မူးမောခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ ရွှေ့ပြောင်းလုပ်သားများ ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့အပြင် အသက်အန္တရာယ် စိုးရိမ်ရသော အခြေအနေအထားဖြစ်တတ်ပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် မလွဲလားအပ်သောအကျိုးဆက်များ မဖြစ်ပေါ်စေရန် အောက်ပါအချက်အလက်များကို လိုက်နာ ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) နံနက် (၁၀)နာရီမှ ညနေ (၅)နာရီအတွင်း လွှတ်တံ၊ ခေါင်ပြင်၊ မြစ်ကမ်းနား၊ ရေဆိပ်စသည့်တို့တွင် ရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်၍ အရိပ်ရ အေးမြသောနေရာများတွင် နေပါ။
- (၂) နေပူထဲမှပြန်လာပြီး ချက်ချင်းရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၃) နေပူထဲတွင်ပြင်ထန်သောကိရိယာလက်လှုပ်ရာများ မပြုလုပ်သင့်ပါ။
- (၄) အရက်သောက်ခြင်းသည် အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကို ပြင်းပေါ်လွယ်လွယ်စေခြင်းနှင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပါသော ပြင်းထန်စွာ ခံစားရခြင်းကြောင့် ရှောင်ကြဉ်သင့်ပါသည်။

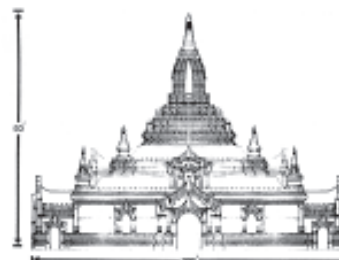
- (၅) နေ့ခင်းဘက် အပြင်ထွက်သည့်အခါတိုင်း အရိပ် လုံလောက်စွာ ရရှိနိုင်သည့် ထီး၊ ဦးတုပ်များ ဆောင်းပါ။
- (၆) အလင်းရောင်ပြန်သော အမျိုးမျိုးသို့ မဟုတ် အရောင်ဖျော့ဖျော့ အဝတ်အထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၇) ပွပျော့ရောင်ရောင် ချည်ထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၈) ရွှေ့ပြောင်းလုပ်သားများ ကိုယ်တွင်းရှိရေနှင့်ဓာတ်ဆားဆုံးရှုံးမှုကို ပြန်လည်ဖြည့်တင်းနိုင်ရန် ဓာတ်ဆားရည်သောက်ပါ။
- (၉) ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ပါက ရေအေးဖတ်နိုင်နိုင်တတ်ပါ။
- (၁၀) ဆီချိုရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေးတိုးရောဂါ အစရှိသူများက ဘေးသွေးယိုယွင်းမှုများနှင့် သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများအနေဖြင့် နေ့လယ်နေ့ခင်းတွင် အရိပ်ရ၍ လေဝင်လေထွက်ကောင်းသော နေရာမျိုး၌ နားနေပါ။
- (၁၁) မိတ်ဖျား၊ ယားနားများထွက်ပါက ရေအေးဝတ်ဆင်ခြင်း၊ သနပ်ခါး လိမ်းခြင်းတို့ကို ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနှမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းနှင့် အတက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် ပြသပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

တကောင်းမြို့ ဧရာဝတီလေးမမြို့နယ်နယ်နိမိတ် ဖြစ်လာခဲ့သည့်အတွက် ကုသိုလ်ယူ ဝါသနာပါ နှိုးဆော်



အေဒီ (၁၀)ရာစု အစမှစ၍တကောင်းမြို့နယ်အတွင်းတွင် ဖြစ်လာခဲ့သော ဧရာဝတီလေးမမြို့နယ်နယ်နိမိတ် ဖြစ်လာခဲ့သည့်အတွက် ကုသိုလ်ယူ ဝါသနာပါ နှိုးဆော်ခြင်းဖြစ်ပါသည်။



အုတ်တစ်ချပ် (၁၂ x ၉ x ၃) - ၄၆/-
တိလင်းမြေတစ်အိတ် - ၄၀၀/-
သစ်တစ်ချပ် - ၆၀၀/-
မြစ်ကျောက် (အစေး) တစ်ချပ် - ၂၀၀/-
သစ် (တစ်အိတ်) - ၁၀၀/-
သစ်ကျောက်ပြား တစ်ချပ် (၁၂ x ၁၂) - ၅၀/-

ယဉ်ကျေးမှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန (ဝန်ကြီးရုံး)

ဧရာဝတီလေးမမြို့နယ်နယ်နိမိတ် (ရုံးချုပ်)

ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအမွေအနှစ်ဝန်ကြီးဌာန (မန္တလေး)

တကောင်းမြို့ ဧရာဝတီလေးမမြို့နယ်နယ်နိမိတ်

ပုဒ်၊ ၅၄၂၃၇၇ ၅၄၂၃၇၇

ပုဒ်၊ ၅၁၂၃၇၁ ၅၁၂၃၇၁

ပုဒ်၊ ၁၂ - ၃၆၃၆၅၅ ၁၂ - ၃၆၃၆၅၆

Bomb explodes near US-Afghan base, police wounded

KANDAHAR (Afghanistan), 15 April — A bomb exploded near a US military base in Afghanistan's turbulent southern Kandahar Province on Wednesday, wounding a senior Afghan police official and two of his bodyguards, witnesses said.

The explosion ripped through a car carrying General Salim Khan on a road in front of a base of the US military's Provincial Reconstruction Team in Kandahar City, they said. Khan blamed the attack on remnants of the Taliban militia that were ousted by US-led forces in late 2001.

"The Taliban did it," he told *Reuters* from a hospital where he was treated for face and hand injuries.

The Taliban and their al-Qaeda allies have declared a Jihad, or holy war, on foreign and Afghan Government troops and aid organizations. Wednesday's blast is the first in several months in Kandahar, a former Taliban stronghold, and follows sporadic rocket attacks over the past three nights around Kandahar Province which caused minor damage but no casualties.

MNA/Reuters

China to recruit 6,000 volunteer graduates to western regions

BEIJING, 15 April — China will recruit a second group of 6,000 volunteer graduates to help develop impoverished western regions in 2004, the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China (CYLC) and the Ministry of Education jointly announced Tuesday.

With 4,000 still working in the western regions,

the total number of volunteer graduates will reach 10,000 in 2004, said Zhao Yong, a member of the Secretariat of the CYLC Central Committee.

The Chinese Government launched the "Go West" programme last year, which calls for college graduates to provide volunteer service in the western regions, where they are most needed. Under the programme, volunteer graduates are annually recruited and selected to work in the western regions, mainly in the fields of education, health, agricultural sciences, poverty reduction, and youth work management, for one to two years after passing the required exams. In addition to extra allowances for living expenses and other preferential employment policies, the volunteer graduates can enjoy new special poli-

cies during civil service recruitment, said Zhao Yong, also director of the office in charge of the programme.

The people and governments of the western regions highly praised the work of the volunteer graduates, which has benefited both the local society and volunteers themselves, said Zhao.

The 6,000 new volunteers will first be selected from those graduates who major in agriculture, forestry, hydraulics engineering, law, medical science and software, those from western regions and those who prefer to work for two years. Though rich in natural resources, China's western regions are badly in need of human resources, as professionals there account for only 15.5 per cent of the national total, while the population accounts for 28.8 per cent of China's population.

MNA/Xinhua

NGOs to play important role in China's "AIDS" prevention

BEIJING, 15 April— China is now forming a new AIDS prevention and control mechanism, in which non-governmental organizations (NGOs) will play an important role, Hao Yang, an official with the Disease Control Department of the Health Ministry, said .

Speaking at the launch meeting of the Global AIDS Programme, Hao said that the new mechanism is under the leadership of the government, with the cooperation of all departments and the participation of society as a whole.

According to statistics from the Health Ministry, China currently has around 840,000 HIV-carriers. However, experts warn that the number will grow to 10 million by 2010 unless effective measures are taken.

The Chinese Government will strengthen communication and co-operation with NGOs, making them play an important role in China's AIDS prevention and control, said the official.

The flexibility of NGOs will make it easier for them to carry out AIDS-related activities like voluntary publicity, free education and condom distribution, Hao said. The central government will provide more financial support for China's NGOs,

he said, and will invite public bidding for certain projects, encouraging more NGOs to participate in AIDS prevention and control work.

Henk Bekedam, the World Health Organization's (WHO) representative in China, said NGOs in China should learn from their Western counterparts to make every effort for AIDS-related publicity under the strong support of the government, earning fame for themselves while winning the recognition and

respect of society. The WHO always supports China's AIDS prevention and care," said Bekedam. "And we shall also pay close attention to NGOs working in this field and give out our help as much as possible." The WHO will help establish a complete database of China's HIV-carriers, said Bekedam, not only including all the information about them, but also following up on their treatment and the protection of their rights.

MNA/Xinhua

HSBC group to set up call centre in Philippines

MANILA, 15 April — British financial giant HSBC (Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation) Group is to establish its Philippine call centre for global operations to handle processing and customer service.

The call centre will be set up at the Northgate Cyberzone on the southern outskirts of Manila, with the project involving the investment of "several million" US dollars, the ABS-CBN on-line news Wednesday quoted bank officials as saying. "Our decision to open a group service centre in Manila reflects our long standing commitment to the country and our confidence in its prospects," HSBC Philippines chief executive officer Warner Manning said.

"High quality telecommunications infrastructure and excellent English-language skills are the building blocks of this business, and both are freely available in the Philippines," he added. HSBC will initially hire 500 people for the Philippine operation, the report said.

Philippine Central Bank governor Rafael Buenaventura welcomed HSBC's move, saying "We were somewhat delayed by the political uncertainties, but, as we get comfortable, we should see unlimited potential in financial services." HSBC already has group service centres in India, Malaysia, and China. — MNA/Xinhua

China, Vietnam sign MoU on combating border crimes

HANOI, 15 April — The ministries of public securities of China and Vietnam signed here Wednesday a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on dealing with crimes and ensuring security in the two countries' border areas.

The MoU was inked at the first meeting on the issues, which concluded on Wednesday afternoon with the participation of the Chinese delegation led by Zhao Yongji, Deputy Minister of Public Security of China, and Vietnamese delegation led by Nguyen Khanh Toan, Deputy Minister of Public Security of Vietnam.

Under the MoU, the two public security delegations to the one-day meeting agreed to take practical measures to prevent trafficking of women, children, drugs and counterfeit money, and crimes relating to weapons and explosives via the borders.

The two sides also

reached consensus on tightening management over entry-exit activities to prevent illegal immigration, and holding meetings on a regular basis at both central and local levels.

They agreed that the two ministries will take turns to hold a meeting on fighting crimes and ensuring security and social order on a biannual basis. Besides, police of bordering provinces and autonomous regions of China and Vietnam are to meet annually, and police of bordering districts and towns are to gather regularly and irregularly according to their work. Specifically, the two ministries agreed that the next meeting will be held in China's Beijing in 2006.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam encourages investment in hi-tech zones

HANOI, 15 April — The Vietnamese Government has decided to offer incentives to both local and foreign investors in hi-tech zones, Vietnam News Agency reported Wednesday.

Accordingly, investors in hi-tech zones have to pay a corporate income tax of 10 per cent, instead of the common rate of 28 per cent. They are exempt from the tax for four years of making profits, and enjoy a 50-per cent reduction in the tax over nine following years.

They are also eligible for medium- or long-term preferential loans, and borrowing money from credit institutions, and permitted to mortgage their land-use rights and assets on the land to access loans of credit organizations.

A one-tier pricing policy is applied to those who

lease land directly from hi-tech zone management boards. Those who carry out projects on developing or training hi-tech workers are exempted from land rentals.

Foreigners and overseas Vietnamese who work in high-tech zones as well as their families are granted multi-entry visas, and enabled to rent or purchase houses at zones where they are working.

Besides, Vietnamese individuals and overseas Vietnamese who work in hi-tech zones are to pay the same personal income taxes as applied to foreigners.

MNA/Xinhua

“သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်”

ဧရိယာသည် မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ အားဖြင့် တွင်းသို့ ခရီးသည် ဝိုင်းဆောင်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် သတ်မှတ်ခေါက်ရောင်းအညီ စက်သုံး ဆီ ထုတ်ပေးထားပြီးဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယာဉ်စီးခများအားလည်း သတ်မှတ်နှုန်းထားများအတိုင်း တောင်းခံရန် ညွှန်ကြားထားရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အချို့ယာဉ်လိုင်းများမှ ယာဉ်မောင်းနှင့် ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်တို့သည် ယာဉ်စီးခများကို ညပိုင်းတွင် ပိုမိုတောင်းယူနေကြောင်း သိရှိပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ ပိုမိုတောင်းခံပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူနိုင်ရန် အောက်ပါနည်းများကို တိုင်ကြားနိုင်ပါသည်။

(၁) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့၊ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း (ဖုန်း ၁၉၉၉)

(၂) ကြီးကြပ်ရေးနှင့်ဆိုင်ရာဝန်ကြီးဌာန (ဖုန်း ၉၅၁၉၀၅/၉၅၁၉၀၆)

(၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်လုပ်ငန်းပေါင်းစုံဖော်ပြချက်၊ ဖုန်း ၉၅၁၉၀၅/၉၅၁၉၀၆

ယာဉ်စီးခနှိုးဆော်ချက်

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည့်ရောဂါများ

အရက်ကိုလွန်ကျွံစားသုံးစွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သောရောဂါများမှာ အသည်းရောင်ခြင်း၊ အသည်းခြောက်ခြင်း၊ သွေးအန်ခြင်း၊ အစာအိမ်ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ ဦးနှောက်နှင့်အာရုံကြောထိခိုက်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ရောဂါများဖြစ်ခြင်း စသည်တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

- အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ -
- ၁။ ကယောင့်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors)၊ ကြောက်လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ ခန့်မှန်းနိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများမြင်ရခြင်း၊ အသံဗလများ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ပိုမိုများစွာကွယ်ဝေါ် ရွံ့ရှင်သွားသလို ခံစားရခြင်း၊ လက်တုန့်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။
- ၂။ အရက်အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်းကြောင့် လူမရှိတဲ့ နားထွက် ခေါ်သံများ၊ ခြိမ်းခြောက်သံများ၊ ခေါ်ကားမော်ကားသံများ ကြားနေရတတ်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Hallucinations)။
- ၃။ အတက်ကြီးရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits) (ဝက်ရုပ်မြန်ရောဂါကဲ့သို့ တက်ခြင်း)။
- ၄။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ကျရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Depressive Illness)။
- ၅။ စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Psychosis)။
- ၆။ ဦးနှောက်ချို့ယွင်းခြင်း။
- ၇။ အရက်နှင့်မတည့်သောသူများသည် အရက်အနည်းငယ်သောက် ရုံဖြင့် ရုတ်တရက် စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်တတ်ခြင်း (Pathological Drunkenness)။
- ၈။ မိမိ၏ဇနီးကို အထင်အမြင်လွဲမှားခြင်းများဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Morbid Jealousy)။
- ၉။ အရက်ကြောင့် ရာဇဝတ်မှုကျူးလွန်သည့်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။
- အထက်ပါဆိုကျိုးများကို မခံစားရစေရန် အရက်သောက် သုံးခြင်း၊ အထူးသဖြင့် အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အရက်ကို စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန်တိုက်တွန်းအပ်ပါသည်။ အရက်စွဲရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေးဆေးရုံနှင့် ကုသရေး ဌာနများတွင် စနစ်တကျကုသမှုခံယူရန် အသိပေးနှိုးဆော် အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

တိဘီရောဂါ ကာကွယ်နှိမ်နင်းရေး

- (က) ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားမှုစက်ပုံ
- ဤရောဂါသည်တိဘီကြောင့်ဖြစ်သော ကူးစက်ရောဂါဖြစ်သည်။ ဝေဒနာရှင် ချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း၊ နှာချေလျှင်၊ သလိပ်တံတွေးမှ တစ်ဆင့် ရောဂါပိုးများ လေထဲတွင် ပျံ့နှံ့၍ ကူးစက်သည်။
- အသက်အရွယ်မရွေး လူတိုင်းတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သည်။
 - အဆုတ်တွင်အများဆုံးဖြစ်ပွားပြီး ကိုယ်ခန္ဓာအနှံ့အပြားတွင်လည်း ဖြစ်နိုင်သည်။
 - ဆီချိုရောဂါ၊ ခုခံအားကျဆင်းမှု၊ စက်ရောဂါနှင့် အာဟာရ ချို့တဲ့မှုရှိသူများတွင် အမြဲဖြစ်ပွားသည်။
- (ခ) ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများ
- ရက်ရှည်ချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း (ရက်သတ္တပတ် (၃) ပတ်နှင့်အထက်)။
 - ချောင်းဆိုးသွေးပါခြင်း။
 - သလိပ်တွင် သွေးပါခြင်း။
 - အဖျားတာရှည်ခြင်း။
 - ခံတွင်းပျက်ခြင်း၊ မေပခန်းလွယ်ခြင်း။
 - ကိုယ်အလေးချိန်လျော့နည်း ပိန်ချိုခြင်း။
 - ကျောရင်အောင့်ခြင်း။
- (ဂ) ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ခြင်း
- ရင်သွေးငယ်များအား ကာကွယ်ဆေး(ဘီစီဂျီ) ကို မပျက်မကွက်ထိုးပေးပါ။
 - အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအစာများကို စားသုံးပါ။
 - သင့်တင့်လျောက်ပတ်သောကိုယ်လက်လုပ်ရုံးမှုပြုလုပ်ပါ။
 - ချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း၊ နှာချေလျှင် လက်တိုင်ပုတ်ကို အသုံးပြုပါ။
 - သလိပ်နှင့်တံတွေးကိုစည်းကမ်းမဲ့ထွေးခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
 - ဆေးလိပ်သောက်ခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (ဃ) ကုသမှုယူခြင်း
- တိုက်ရိုက်ကြည့်ရှုအချိန်တိုနှင့်ကုန်သွင်းခြင်း ရောဂါကင်းသည့်အထိ ကုသမှု ခံယူပါ။
 - ကုသမှုခံယူခြင်းသည်အခြားသူများသို့ ကူးစက်စေခြင်းမှ အကောင်အထူးကာကွယ်ခြင်း ဖြစ်သည်။
- တိဘီရောဂါသံသယရှိလျှင် နီးစပ်ရာကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် စစ်ဆေး၍ တိဘီရောဂါရှိပါက အစွမ်းထက်သော တိဘီဆေးဝါးများဖြင့် အခမဲ့ကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

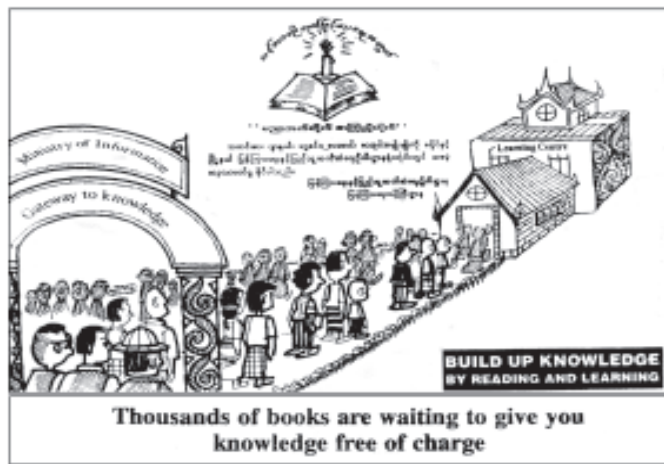
ရှောင်လေဝေဝေဝေ

မူးယစ်ဆေး

Nursery Market Festival continues

YANGON, 15 April — The Nursery Market Festival continued at Myay Padetha Park in Bahan Township here today with the aim of providing necessary assistance to growers and attracting the public to be interested in agriculture, horticulture, livestock breeding and vegetable farming.

Kitchen crops, fruits and saplings of herbal plants are being shown at the festival. Poultry farming and fish breeding are also exhibited there. Booklets and pamphlets on utilization of fertilizers are also available there. MNA



NEWS OF THE WORLD

Mubarak presses Bush for free trade pact

WASHINGTON, 15 April — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak pressed President George W Bush on Monday for a free trade pact between their two countries.

"I briefed the president on our economic reform programme and stated the importance of free trade with the United States in attaining our economic objectives," Mubarak said in a televised news conference with Bush in Crawford, Texas, after the two leaders met at Bush's ranch.

Egypt, with a population of about 70 million, is one of the biggest markets for US goods in the Middle East and key to Bush's goal of crafting a regional free trade agreement stretching from

Morocco to Iran by 2013.

But Cairo has been left on the sidelines while Washington has pursued free trade talks with three smaller countries in the region — Jordan, Morocco and Bahrain.

Trade relations between the United States and Egypt soured last year when Cairo suddenly reversed position and refused to support a US complaint at the World Trade Organization against European Union policies that block imports of genetically modified crops.

US officials said at a

Senate hearing last month that Egypt needed to show a greater commitment to open markets before the two countries could begin free trade talks.

Bush, at the joint Press conference, called Egypt "a strategic partner of the United States" and praised Mubarak's support for the US war on terror.

However, he gave no indication of a change in US policy that would lead to free trade negotiations in the near future between the two countries. — MNA/Reuters

Beijing completes capital communication development programme

BEIJING, 15 April — The Beijing Communications Committee has completed the capital communication development programme, which will be implemented this year.

The Beijing Communications Committee based the programme on studies of the municipality's traffic situation in past years, which was appraised by academicians of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, said an official with the committee.

The official said that communication planning in Beijing did not coordinate

with the city layout and was not suitable for fast pace of development, which gave rise to the traffic congestion in Beijing.

According to the programme, Beijing will build a new communication system with advanced management by 2010. The new system would comprehensively enhance the capital's traffic

capacity, alleviating the traffic congestion to a large extent, the official said.

Beijing will invest more in road transportation while boosting the railway system, according to the plan. At the same time, the controlling system for traffic lights will be improved.

Beijing will also adjust the city layout, accelerating the development of the eastern part. — MNA/Xinhua

UAE population surged by 7.6% in 2003 to top 4 million

ABU DHABI, 15 April — The population of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) surged by 7.6 per cent in 2003 to top four million, maintaining its position as having one of the world's highest population growth rates, the *Gulf News* daily reported.

Figures released by the Ministry of Planning showed the country's total population stood at 4.041 million at the end of 2003, the second largest population among the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries after Saudi Arabia.

Males were more than double the females, standing at 2.745 million against a female population of 1.296 million, the report showed.

The overall growth rate in 2003 was equivalent to the 2002 population increase of 7.6 per cent, but growth in the male population was higher than that of females. The population stood at 3.754 million at the end of 2002 and 3.488 million at the end of 2001.

The figures showed Abu Dhabi remained the most populous emirate in the UAE, with 1.591 million at the end of 2003. — MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်လှူအားပေးပါ

Uruguayan President highlights eco cooperation with China

MONTEVIDEO, 15 April — Uruguayan President Jorge Batlle Ibanez on Monday expressed his hope for further development of trade and economic ties with China.

Meeting with Zhao Boya, chief executive of the China National Textiles Import & Export Corp., who was invited by the President during his trip to China in 2002, Jorge said he wishes more Chinese enterprises could invest in his country.

The President told Zhao that he was pleased to witness the fast development of the Chinese economy and the smooth cooperation between the two countries.

The two nations have great potential for trade and economic cooperation, said Jorge, adding that the Uruguayan Government looks forward to further cooperation with China.

He said South American countries such as Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay are becoming grain-producing places in the world and the Montevideo port has drawn attention all over the world due to its good conditions.

He expected Chinese businessmen to put more investment in the Montevideo port, through which trade and economic ties could be strengthened.

Trade relations between Uruguay and China have been fast developing in the last years, with trade amounting to more than 200 million US dollars in 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

IMF says Portuguese companies most indebted in Euro Zone

LISBON, 15 April — Portuguese companies are the most heavily-indebted in the Euro Zone and must therefore develop more businesses to alleviate the burden, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said Monday.

A survey by the IMF revealed that Portuguese companies hold debts accounting for up to 105 per cent of their assets, while the average stands at 80 per cent in Finland, Belgium, Italy, France, Spain and Germany.

The debt buildup began in 1999 after successive slumps in the interest rates and on the eve of the launching of the euro.

The report blamed the heavy debt burden for the fall in private investments and the "enigma" over the delayed economic revival of the country in southwestern Europe, local Press reported. Economists say actions should be taken to foster the development of more businesses and to increase incomes.

MNA/Xinhua

12 Chinese crew rescued, 5 missing after ship sinks off West Bengal

NEW DELHI, 15 April — Twelve Chinese crew members have been rescued but five are still missing after a Malaysian cargo ship sank in rough seas in the Bay of Bengal Tuesday afternoon, a Chinese Embassy official said here early Wednesday morning.

The embassy's Press of-

ficer Yang Shuying said Indian Coast Guard vessels rescued 12 of the 17 Chinese crew members of *MV Genius Star-VI*, which sank in the high seas off the West Bengal coast about 190 kilometres southeast of Haldia Town.

The rescued sailors were brought to Haldia.

They were said to be in good health. The Indian Coast Guard is still searching on the sea in hopes of finding the missing sailors, Yang said.

The Malaysian ship was carrying a consignment of logs from Malaysia to Kolkata.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing bans ads in Tiananmen Square

BEIJING, 15 April — Beijing is expected to continue a ban on advertising at Tiananmen Square and areas along Chang'an Avenue, but not to ban begging at subway stations, the city's municipal government announced Monday.

The ban would become

official as it has been written into a piece of draft legislation, which called for public submissions in September and October last year, reported the *China Daily* Tuesday. Beijing began to remove advertising in the area and has forbidden vehicles with ads from passing since

1999, when the capital city celebrated the 50th anniversary of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

Tiananmen Square, the biggest square in the world, holds a special place in contemporary Chinese history, as it witnessed the founding of the PRC and many important political activities in the country. Chang'an Avenue passes the square. — MNA/Xinhua

Ecuador's energy minister resigns

QUITO (Ecuador), 15 April — Ecuador's Energy Minister, Carlos Arboleda, resigned on Monday amid criticism of his handling of a bid aimed at luring private investment to raise crude output in the oil-rich nation.

"President Lucio Gutierrez Borbua on Monday accepted the resignation of Colonel Carlos Arboleda, who was working as Energy Minister," the presidency said in a statement, adding that he had resigned for "personal reasons". — MNA/Reuters



Female tiger Dima (L) rests on male lion Kaser at Jordan's Zoo near Amman on 13 April, 2004. The Amman Zoo director said on Tuesday that after more than a year in one cage Dima still refused to mate with Kaser. — INTERNET

မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဆဲ

Cheney took in \$178,437 from Halliburton in 2003

WASHINGTON, 14 April — Vice-President Dick Cheney received 178,437 US dollars in deferred pay last year from Halliburton, the Texas oil-field services company he once headed that has received billion-dollar government contracts in Iraq.

The White House on Tuesday released the 2003 income tax returns for both Cheney and his wife, Lynne, and President George W. Bush and his wife, Laura.

Cheney's office said the income from Halliburton — which was close to his salary as vice-president — was in no way linked to the financial health of the company. A Halliburton subsidiary is under investigation for possibly overcharging the US military for fuel supplies in Iraq.

The Bushes' taxable income was virtually unchanged from 2002. It was reported at 727,083 US dollars, after deductions of 95,043 US dollars. Their income included his salary earned as President — 397,264 US dollars — and investment income from the trusts in which their assets are held.

The Bushes reported paying a total of 227,490 US dollars in federal income taxes. They contributed

68,360 US dollars to churches and charitable organizations.

The Cheneys reported taxable income of 813,226 US dollars in 2003. They paid 258,779 US dollars in taxes in withholding and estimated tax payments, but only owed 253,067 US dollars and thus were eligible for a 5,712-US-dollar refund but decided to apply that to their 2004 taxes.

Cheney reported 198,600 US dollars in vice-presiden-

tial salary for the year. In addition, his tax return reported the payment of 178,437 US dollars in deferred compensation from Halliburton Co.

The deferred pay is based on a 1998 agreement in which Cheney elected to defer compensation earned in 1999 for his services as chief executive officer of Halliburton.

This amount is to be paid in annual installments, with interest, over the five years after Cheney's retirement from Halliburton.

MNA/Reuters

Uganda becomes model for Bangladesh in preventing "AIDS"

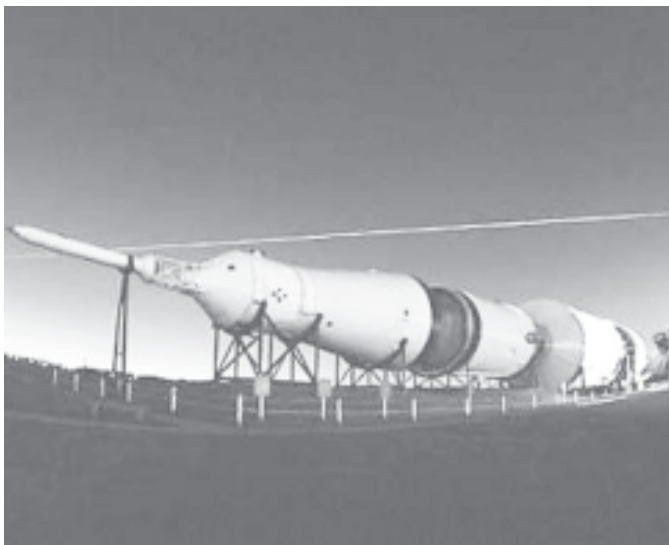
DHAKA, 15 April — Uganda, which has become a model for HIV/AIDS prevention in Africa, can be an example for Bangladesh to prevent the deadly disease that has still a low prevalence rate in the country, said a study released here Tuesday by the official news agency BSS.

The study, conducted by a five member Bangladesh delegation that visited Uganda recently said strong political support, youth volunteerism and active support from religious leaders brought the success in Uganda.

"In fact, the political will is the magic that made Uganda different from other African countries in preventing HIV/AIDS," the study noted.

HIV/AIDS had been addressed at all levels including from primary schools to universities in Uganda, the study said, adding that the government in Bangladesh is also trying to fight HIV, but it requires active supports from other political parties in an integrated manner.

If all parties take HIV/AIDS prevention as a national agenda like Uganda, Bangladesh can also be a model for other Asian countries, the study said. — MNA/Xinhua



One of the last of the giant Apollo moonshot Saturn V rockets is in disrepair after more than a quarter century on outdoor display at NASA's Johnson Space Centre (JSC), a Smithsonian curator said on 12 April, 2004. The 363-foot-long rocket, which never got off the ground because NASA cancelled the Apollo programme, is sprouting plants and mold and its corroded structure is home to an assortment of creatures, including a nesting owl. The Saturn V is seen on display at JSC in Houston as the Space Shuttle Columbia streaks overhead on 27 July, 1999. —INTERNET

New Zealand ready to help storm-ravaged Fiji

WELLINGTON, 15 April — The New Zealand Government has indicated it is ready to help storm-ravaged Fiji once a specific request for aid is made.

Earlier Tuesday, a spokesman for Fiji's National Disaster Management Council said the New Zealand High Commissioner to Suva had telephoned with an offer of help, which would be considered.

New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade spokesman Jonathan Schwass confirmed to reporters Tuesday that New Zealand's High Commission in Suva had indicated New Zealand's willingness to help the relief effort, made in a telephone call at the weekend.

"What was said to the Fijians over the weekend was that we, New Zealand, stands by and is ready to help if needed," he said. New Zealand would consider its formal response once a specific request for help had been made, he said.

Fiji's National Disaster Management Council (NDMC), made up of government and agency officials, met in Suva Tuesday morning to assess the damage wreaked by a vicious rainstorm that left hundreds of people homeless and devastated crops and villages, according to New Zealand National Radio.

Sili Lomalagi, head of the NDMC, was quoted as saying that 10 people had been killed by flooding and nine were still missing, including five fishermen lost off the Yasawa Islands, west of Fiji's main island of Viti Levu. —MNA/Xinhua

Thai first subway system opens test runs

BANGKOK, 15 April — Thai first subway system started Tuesday for a week-long test runs.

More than 100,000 people will travel underground free for the first time for 20 kilometres from Hua Lamphong railway station to Bang Sue in Bangkok.

The free rides are part of a plan to let users get familiar with the new system and for operators to test its readiness before the official opening, expected in July or August to celebrate the 72nd birthday of the Queen.

Transport Minister Suriya Jungkrungreangkit was quoted by local newspaper *Bangkok Post* as saying that the subway system was designed and built in line with the National Fire Protection Association 130, the standard set by the United States, which ensures that fires will not reach the commuters for the first few hours.

MNA/Xinhua

Power lost briefly at Los Angeles Int'l Airport

LOS ANGELES, 15 April — Power was briefly cut across Los Angeles International Airport on Monday, including its control tower, causing flight delays, a spokesman said.

The cause of the 10-second power outage, which darkened several buildings at the sprawling airport complex, was not immediately clear, a spokeswoman for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) said. "It's a line that serves approximately 26 industrial

customer sites that included the LAX administration building and control tower and a number of other industrial sites," LADWP spokeswoman Carol Tucker said. An FBI spokesman said there was no indication of foul play.

Power was cut to the air traffic control tower at the airport, LAX spokesman Harold Johnson said, which meant that controllers were briefly unable to communicate with aircraft.

MNA/Reuters

Missouri author, named Miss USA

LOS ANGELES, 15 April — Miss Missouri, Shandi Finnessey, a 25-year-old graduate student who has published a children's book, was crowned Miss USA at the 52nd annual pageant on Monday.

Finnessey succeeds former Miss Massachusetts, Susie Castillo, and will compete for the Miss Universe crown on June 1 in Quito, Ecuador.

The first runner-up was Miss South Carolina, Amanda Helen Pennekamp,

and the second-runner-up Miss North Carolina, Ashley Rachel Puleo.

Finnessey, a statuesque 5-foot-11 blonde from St Louis, wrote a book called *The Furrtails*, as part of her aim to integrate mentally retarded children into regular classrooms. She has a master's degree in counselling and also plays piano and violin.

During the final question category, she was asked what serves her better in life — experience or education. She immediately chose the

former, saying "You can have all the book knowledge in the world, but to have the knowledge from experience. ... I think that teaches you more knowledge than anything you could possibly read in a book."

The 51 contestants — from the 50 states and the District of Columbia — were narrowed beforehand to 15 for the evening gown competition, but the results were not revealed until the national broadcast on NBC.

MNA/Reuters

US man pleads guilty to Oscar screener tapes piracy

LOS ANGELES, 15 April — A US man pleaded guilty Monday to pirating Oscar screener tapes belonging to a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Russell William Sprague, 51, entered his plea to one count of criminal copyright infringement before US District Judge George King.

Sprague admitted in his plea agreement that he copied screener tapes sent to veteran character actor and 22-year Academy member Carmine Caridi, and that he was also

sent screeners by another Academy member, the late actor Nicky Blair.

Sprague became involved with Caridi in about 2001 — several years after Blair died — when Caridi contacted him to request that he duplicate screener tapes the actor received, the agreement states.

He acknowledged that between about November 2002 and this January, Caridi sent him screeners of about 200 movies, including last year's hits such as "Kill Bill", "Seabiscuit", "Master and Commander" and "Mystic River". — MNA/Xinhua

EAC to invest \$600m in Lake Victoria Basin

KAMPALA, 15 April — The East African Community (EAC) will invest 600 million US dollars in Lake Victoria Basin to help improve its fishing, develop its tourism and transport, local newspaper *The New Vision* reported Monday.

It quoted Permanent Secretary of Uganda Water, Lands and Environment Ministry Bezalel Kabanda as saying that the basin has been declared an economic zone and has a potential of bringing in about 400 million dollars to the region, which could be doubled if the economic activities are promoted.

MNA/Xinhua

Japanese bird flu outbreak officially over

TOKYO, 15 April — A local government in western Japan declared an end on Tuesday to the country's two most recent bird flu cases, marking the official conclusion of the outbreak of the disease in Japan three months after it was first reported.

Last week a panel of experts concluded that a ban restricting movement of poultry and eggs from an area where Japan's third and fourth bird flu cases were discovered could be lifted. Kyoto Prefecture Governor Keiji Yamada lifted all restrictions on the area on Tuesday, as scheduled.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Beckhams call in lawyers over infidelity claims

LONDON, 15 April — David and Victoria Beckham said on Monday they had called in lawyers over tabloid newspaper allegations that the England soccer captain had been unfaithful to his pop star wife. In a brief statement, the celebrity couple dismissed what they called "absurd and unsubstantiated claims".

On Sunday, a newspaper printed allegations from a second woman who claimed to have had an affair with Beckham.

Beckham had already dismissed as "ludicrous" claims from his former personal secretary Rebecca Loos that she had had sex with the 28-year-old midfielder in Madrid.

A spokeswoman for the Beckhams said: "This weekend a series of even more absurd and unsubstantiated claims have been published about David and Victoria Beckham."

In the statement released through Britain's Press Association news agency, she added: "The couple continue to dismiss these stories and they will not be commenting upon them further at this time. — MNA/Reuters



Juan Carlos Franco of Paraguay's Olimpia (C) clears the ball away from Pablo Andres Sanchez of Argentina's Rosario Central (R), while Olimpia's David Raul Villalba looks on, during their Libertadores Cup soccer match in Rosario, 310 km north of Buenos Aires, on 13 April, 2004. — INTERNET

Former goalkeeper Fossati named Uruguay coach

MONTEVIDEO, 15 April — Former goalkeeper Jorge Fossati has been named as Uruguay coach, replacing Juan Ramon Carrasco who was sacked last week after a 3-0 home defeat by Venezuela in a World Cup qualifier.

"Fossati's the chosen man," Uruguayan Football Association (UAF) president Eugenio Figueredo told reporters on Tuesday. Fossati has been coaching Liga de Quito, who he led to the Ecuadorean championship title last year.

He has also taken them to the brink of a place in the last 16 of this year's South American Libertadores Cup.

"The minimum I'm going to demand is love and respect for the national team," Fossati said in a radio interview from Quito.

"If we can offer that, we will be 100 per cent Uruguayans and we can achieve many things." The much-travelled 51-year-old played in goal for Penarol, Rampla Juniors, Central Espanol and Bella Vista in his homeland, Independiente and Rosario Central in Argentina, Millonarios in Colombia, Olimpia in Paraguay and Coritiba in Brazil.

He retired in 1990 and has since coached Penarol, River Plate and Danubio in Uruguay, Cerro Porteno in Paraguay and Colon in Argentina. Uruguay, winners of the 1930 and 1950 World Cups, made a good start to the qualifiers for the 2006 World Cup but came unstuck two weeks ago when they were hammered 3-0 by Venezuela in Montevideo. The defeat was the end of Carrasco's bold attempt to replace Uruguay's traditional game of dour defence and gamesmanship with all-out attack.

Carrasco even implemented an extravagant policy of substituting players who were booked for bad fouls or dissent.

Victims included Manchester United's Diego Forlan, who was taken off at halftime in the World Cup qualifier against Chile for indiscipline.

Carrasco left Uruguay sixth in the South American qualifying group with seven points from five games. They have the best attacking record with 11 goals and the second-worst defensive record with the same number conceded. — MNA/Reuters

Fighting cuts short Polish Cup semifinal

BIALYSTOK (Poland), 15 April — A Polish Cup semifinal between Legia Warsaw and Jagiellonia Bialystok was called off in the second half after fighting broke out between supporters and police on Tuesday.

The Polish soccer association PZPN said the match, to be played over two legs, had been interrupted twice because of crowd trouble. "The match was first halted in the 21st minute. Jagiellonia's fans rushed on to the pitch and started to throw stones and firecrackers at the police," it said on its website, adding more trouble had flared in the 79th minute.

PZPN will have to decide whether to allow the result to stand — Legia were leading 2-0 against their Second Division opponents — or demand a replay. Marek Saganowski scored the first goal in the ninth minute with Tomasz Sokolowski netting after 39 in front of a 9,000 crowd. Dospel Katowice and Lech Poznan are in the other semifinal. — MNA/Reuters

Robson's Newcastle rely on Euro experience

NEWCASTLE (England), 15 April — Newcastle manager Bobby Robson says his players will draw on their European know-how when they seek to negotiate a "precipice" against PSV Eindhoven in the UEFA Cup on Wednesday.

"We gathered great experience in the Champions League last season and you cannot beat experience in whatever you do," Robson told reporters on Tuesday ahead of their quarterfinal second leg.

"We had an inner strength and the players are better for that experience. We played the big teams and were never outclassed."

His side held their nerve to secure a place in the second group phase of the Champions League last season by beating Feyenoord in Holland and Robson is banking on a repeat at St. James' Park after drawing the first leg 1-1.

"We have to be focused on one game. If you are professional it is not hard," Robson

added. "A heavyweight boxer does not think of the next fight. He might get knocked out."

"The game is on a precipice but hopefully we can dismiss one of my former clubs from the competition."

Robson insisted Newcastle would not sit back and hope to get through on their away goal.

"We were almost faultless against Arsenal when we drew 0-0 on Sunday and one of the best teams in Europe did not score against us," Robson added.

"But at 0-0 in the last five minutes you could go out of this competition. It would be like being a cat on a hot tin roof. The first goal will be very important."

Robson said England international Kieron Dyer was in contention after missing the first leg with a hamstring strain.

"Kieron is much better and has put himself up for selection. We have no other injuries." — MNA/Reuters

Genclerbirli's Yanal appointed Turkey coach

ISTANBUL, 15 April — Ersun Yanal, coach of Turkish club Genclerbirli, has been appointed to lead the national team in a four-year deal agreed with the Turkish Football Federation on Tuesday.

Yanal will have the task of reviving Turkey's fortunes after it rose to prominence by coming third in the 2002 World Cup only to fall rapidly from grace by failing to qualify for Euro 2004.

Federation chairman Haluk Ulusoy announced the deal after two days of talks with Yanal, who steered his unfancied Ankara side to the fourth round of the UEFA Cup last month where they lost to Valencia.

Yanal's first priority will be to make sure Turkey qualifies for the next World Cup in Germany. "The 2006 World Cup in particular is important for us... We will put the national side where it belongs on the global stage," Yanal said in a joint news conference with Ulusoy.

Yanal replaces Senol Gunes, sacked last month in the wake of the team's shock defeat by Latvia in the playoffs for the European

Championship. Turkey had come second in its group behind England.

"I decided that coach Ersun Yanal can do a four-year stint with the national team. We will do our duty together... we agreed with him on every subject," Ulusoy said.

However, the federation chairman said Yanal still needed to hold talks with Genclerbirli on the deal. Media reports have pointed to a possible dispute over the issue of compensation sought by the club for releasing Yanal from his contract.

"Ersun must speak with his own club... I believe he will agree in every way with his club," Ulusoy said.

Yanal caught the eye of football authorities this season as Genclerbirli advanced in the UEFA Cup, beating Blackburn Rovers, Sporting Lisbon and Parma. They also defeated Valencia at home but were knocked out 2-1 on aggregate. The coach was expected to stay with Genclerbirli, currently eighth in the Turkish First Division, until the end of the season. — MNA/Reuters

Bruges battle for draw at lowly Charleroi

BRUSSELS, 15 April — Club Bruges left it late to draw 1-1 at lowly Charleroi on Monday and remain 11 points adrift of leaders Anderlecht in the Belgian First Division.

Anderlecht also drew 1-1 on Friday after coming from behind at third-placed Standard Liege, following Emile Mpenza's early goal for the home side.

Aruna Dindane levelled for Anderlecht in the 26th minute when he got on the end of a rebound from Oleg Iachtchouk's shot.

Anderlecht now have 70 points, Club Bruges are on 59 and Standard Liege on 55, with five games remaining.

Odekanmi Olufade gave Charleroi the lead

when he tapped in after Gregory Dufer's shot was fumbled by Bruges keeper Tomislav Butina. Bruges left it late before replying when substitute Rune Lange's shot was deflected into the net by defender Michael Ciani.

The result left Charleroi second from bottom with 26 points, level with third-from-bottom Royal Antwerp, who were 2-1 winners at Cercle Bruges on Sunday. Manchester United's Chinese forward Dong Fangzhuo, on loan at Antwerp, scored the winning goal.

Bottom club Heusden-Zolder have 24 points after their 3-1 win at Germinal Beerschot on Saturday. — MNA/Reuters



Brazil's Coritiba Reginaldo Nascimento, left, fights for the ball against Peru's Sporting Cristal Luis Alberto Bonnet, during a Libertadores de America Cup soccer game at the Couto Pereira Stadium in Curitiba, Brazil, on 13 April, 2004. — INTERNET

MRTV-3
**16-4-2004 (Friday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 9:06 Ancient City Mrauk-U
- 9:10** **Headline News**
- 9:12 Happy and Gay the
Thingyan Season wel-
comes all with Dances
- 9:15** **National News**
- 9:20 Travel & Description
(Mandalay to Lashio)
- 9:25 Happy and Gay the
Thingyan Season wel-
comes all with Dances
- 9:30** **National News**
- 9:35 Thabotseik Village on
Seaside
- 9:40 Song "Emerald Lake
(Taking Retreat at
Mandalay Hill)"
- 9:45** **National News**
- 9:50 Significant Month of
Dagu (Part -II)
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**16-4-2004 (Friday)
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 "Mingalabar"
- 15:36 The Ancient City
Mrauk U
- 15:40** **Headline News**
- 15:42 Happy and Gay the
Thingyan Season wel-
comes all with Dances
- 15:45** **National News**
- 15:55 Travel & Description
(Mandalay to Lashio)

- 15:58 Happy and Gay the
Thingyan Season wel-
comes all with Dances
- 16:00** **National News**
- 16:05 Thabotseik Village on
Seaside
- 16:10 Song "Emerald Lake
(Taking Retreat at
Mandalay Hill)"
- 16:15** **National News**
- 16:20 Significant Month of
Dagu (Part -II)
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 16:30** **National News**
- 16:35 Myanmar Traditional
Handiwork of Casting
The Zingyike Water-
fall
- 16:40** **National News**
- 16:50 Myanmar Movies Im-
pact
- 16:55 A Rural Village
- 17:00** **National News**
- 17:05 The Art of Making
Pennant
- 17:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Blessed
Myanmar"
- 17:15** **National News**
- 17:20 The King of Musical
Instrument
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

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

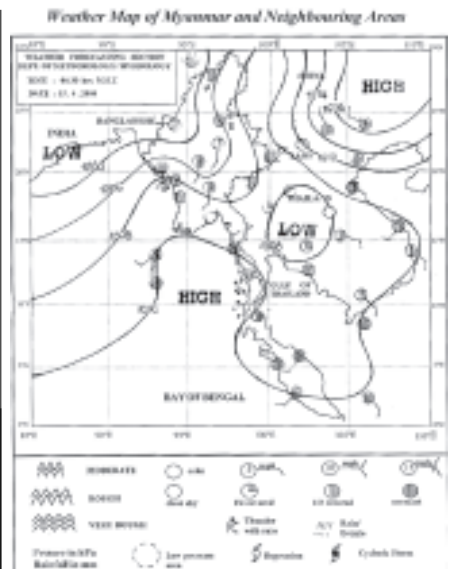
- 19:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 19:36 Mandalay, A close dis-
tance
- 19:40** **Headline News**
- 19:42 Architecture of Great
Ananda
- 19:45** **National News**
- 19:50 Myanmar Movies Im-
pact
- 20:00** **National News**
- 20:05 Happy and Gay the
Thingyan Season wel-
comes all with Dances
- 20:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Saying with the

- Eyes!"
- 20:15** **National News**
- 20:20 Significant Month of
Dagu (Part-I)
- 20:25 Song "Love Slave"
- 20:30** **National News**
- 20:35 Border Towns in
Northern Shan State
- 20:40 Making Myanmar
Marionette
- 20:45** **National News**
- 20:50 Myanmar Traditional
Fan
- 20:55 Dance of the
Konbaung Era
- 21:00** **National News**
- 21:05 Naga Traditional
Handicrafts
- 21:10 Song "Beautiful Shan
Land, Hospitable Peo-
ple"
- 21:12 Tour In Myanmar
"Sagaing, Mingun"
- 21:15** **National News**
- 21:20 Precious Myanmar
Lacquerware
- 21:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 21:35 The Ancient City
Mrauk U
- 21:40** **Headline News**
- 21:42 Happy and Gay the
Thingyan Season wel-
comes all with Dances
- 21:45** **National News**
- 21:50 Travel & Description
(Mandalay to Lashio)
- 21:55 Happy and Gay the
Thingyan Season wel-
comes all with Dances
- 22:00** **National News**
- 22:05 Thabotseik Village on
Seaside
- 22:10 Song "Emerald Lake
(Taking Retreat at
Mandalay Hill)"
- 22:15** **National News**
- 22:20 Significant Month of
Dagu (Part -II)
- 22:25 Song "Predestination"
- 22:30** **National News**
- 22:35 Myanmar Traditional
Handiwork of Casting
The Zingyike Waterfall
- 22:45** **National News**
- 22:50 Myanmar Movies Im-
pact
- 23:00** **National News**
- 23:05 The Art of Making
Pennant
- 23:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Blessed
Myanmar"

- 23:15** **National News**
- 23:20 The King of Musical
Instrument
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**16-4-2004 (Friday) &
17-4-2004 (Saturday)
Evening & Morning
Transmission
(23:30 - 1:30)**

- 23:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 23:36 The Ancient City
Mrauk U
- 23:40** **Headline News**
- 23:42 Happy and Gay the
Thingyan Season wel-
comes all with Dances
- 23:45** **National News**
- 23:55 Travel & Description
(Mandalay to Lashio)
- 23:58 Happy and Gay the
Thingyan Season wel-
comes all with Dances
- 24:00** **National News**
- 00:05 Thabotseik Village on
Seaside
- 00:10 Song "Emerald Lake
(Taking Retreat at
Mandalay Hill)"
- 00:15** **National News**
- 00:20 Significant Month of
Dagu (Part -II)
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
- 00:30** **National News**
- 00:35 Myanmar Traditional
Handiwork of Casting
The Zingyike Waterfall
- 00:40** **National News**
- 00:50 Myanmar Movies Im-
pact
- 00:55 A Rural Village
- 01:00** **National News**
- 01:05 The Art of Making
Pennant
- 01:10 Myanmar Modern
Song
"Blessed Myanmar"
- 01:15** **National News**
- 01:20 The King of Musical
Instrument
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**WEATHER**

Thursday, 15 April, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin State, scattered in upper Sagaing Division, isolated in Chin State and lower Sagaing Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kayin State, Yangon, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, (4°C) below normal in lower Sagaing Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. Significant day temperatures were (42°C) each in Minbu, Magway and Aungmye. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Myitkyna (2.47) inches, Homalin (1.57) inches.

Maximum temperature on 14-4-2004 was 38.2°C (101°F). Minimum temperature on 15-4-2004 was 21.5°C (71°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 15-4-2004 was 65%. Total sunshine hours on 14-4-2004 was (10.2) hours approx. Rainfall on 15-4-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 5 mm (0.20 inch) at Yangon Airport and 12 mm (0.47 inch) at Kaba-Aye and 3 mm (0.12 inch) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 15 mph from South-west at (18:15) hours MST on 14-4-2004.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 16-4-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin, Shan States, Mandalay Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Kayin, Kayah States, Yangon, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers are likely in Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 16-4-2004: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 16-4-2004: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

New Rainfall Record

(Issued at 09:30hrs MST on 15th April, 2004)
The amount of rainfall 40 mm (1.57 inches) observed at (09:30) hrs MST today at Homalin is the new maximum (24) hours rainfall record of the station for the Month of April during the last (39) years.

Hazrat Maulana Allama Habibul Bashir Khairi**(Kyauck Taw)**

B.A (Yangon), M.M (Dacca)

Mumtazul Muhaddiz, Muphissarul Kuran

Wa aye zay, Saharurul Bayan, Shaikhul Hadeez,

Ashikay Rasul (Nakshah Bandiya, Muja dadiya)

Age (71) years

The eldest son of Maulana Habibul Rahman and Daw Kamalu Nisa, the beloved husband of Daw Shabira Khatoun, the elder brother of U Ba Cho (Daw Nyunt), U Shwe Tha-Daw Amina, U Tin Maung (Daw Thein Nyunt), father of U Chit Ko Ko Tun-Daw Nu Nu Han, Daw Ni Ni Han, Daw Mya Mya Han, Daw Hla Hla Han (Bio-tutor), Ko Thi Han, Ma Nyunt Nyunt Han, Ma Moe Moe Han, Ma Thin Thin Han, Ma Yu Yu Han, grandfather of Maung Min Khant Ko, passed away at 4.30 pm on 15-4-2004 (Thursday) at No. 232, Bo Aung Gyaung Road, Yangon. The Janaza Namaaz will be performed on 16-4-2004 (Friday) at Alijan Mosque, Bogalay Zay Street, Yangon after the Jumma prayer and the funeral ceremony will be held at Thanlyin Darga Cemetery.

Bereaved family
**Friday, April 16
View today:**
7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by
Missionary Sayadaw U
Ottamathara

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. ဩဇာညွှန့်ပွားများစွာ
မျှော်လင့်တော်မူကော

7:50 am

5. Nice and sweet song

8:00 am

6. ခါးသြဇာအဆိုးအကုန်

8:15 am

7. လုပ်ကိုင်ပျော်စရာတေးများ

8:25 am

8. မင်္ဂလာသေတော်မူ

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. ခါးသြဇာအဆိုးအကုန်

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold
National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in Reading

4:45 pm

4. ခါးသြဇာအဆိုးအကုန်

5:00 pm

5. အဆာသင်တန်းသင်တန်းများ
လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်ရွက်ရန်
(အထူးပြုအားလုံး) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)

5:15 pm

6. Song of national races

5:30 pm

7. ချစ်ခင်စေတော်မူအားကစားအစီအစဉ်

5:40 pm

8. Song for yesteryears

5:50 pm

9. ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်မြောက်ဘက်

6:00 pm

10. ခါးသြဇာအဆိုးအကုန်

6:15 pm

11. Discovery

6:30 pm

12. Evening news

7:00 pm

13. Weather report

7:05 pm

14. ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်မြောက်ဘက်
မင်္ဂလာသေတော်မူ (၄-၄-၉၉)

7:40 pm

15. ခါးသြဇာအဆိုးအကုန်

8:00 pm

16. News

17. International news

18. Weather report

19. Myanmar movie:
"မနုဿိကဗျူဟာ" (အပိုင်း-၂)

- ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်မြောက်ဘက်

- အိန္ဒိယနိုင်ငံ

- ခါးသြဇာအဆိုးအကုန်

20. The next day's
programme

**Friday, April 16****Tune in today:**

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music: All that I need
(Boy Zone)
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music: Get over it
(Eagles)
- 8:50 am** National news/
Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music : Love you
more (Steps)
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Music: Fame
(Models)
- 1:30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Lunch time music
-Song sung blue
(Neil Diamond)
-All the love in the
world (The Corrs)
- 9:00 pm** Radio play: Loyalty
of Patau
- 9:15 pm** Article/ Music
- 9:25 pm** Music at your
request: Close to you
(Carpenters)
-Don't go breaking
my heart (Elton John)
- 9:45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

Ministry of Home Affairs pandal continues Maha Thingyan Festival

YANGON, 15 April— The entertainment programme of the Ministry of Home Affairs continues for the third day at the pandal of the Ministry of the Home Affairs at the corner of Saya San Street and Setmu Street-1 this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing and wife Daw Khin Hla Hla, Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi and wife, departmental heads under the Ministry of Home Affairs, resident representatives of UN agencies, international organizations, staff families and yein troupes.

First, Brig-Gen Khin Yi extended greetings. Next, yein troupes of MPF, General Administration Department, Bureau of Special Investigation and Prisons Department and children of Pre-Primary Schools presented entertainment to the audience.



Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing and wife, resident representatives of UN agencies and officials of international organizations enjoy entertainment programmes at the pandal of Ministry of Home Affairs.— MNA



The minister also extended greetings. Daw Khin Hla Hla, wife of the minister, and party together with the guests sang the song entitled, Come and see Myanmar.

Later, the third-day of Maha Thingyan festival programmes ended with the song Mantaung Yeikkho.

MNA

Yangon Mayor's Thingyan Pandal teeming with Thingyan lovers

YANGON, 15 April — Yangon Mayor's 1365 ME Maha Thingyan Pandal was packed with revellers today, Maha Thingyan Akyat (second) Day.

At the pandal, film stars, artists and families

of the Yangon City Development Committee entertained the audience with traditional Thingyan dances and songs from the morning until evening.

Accompanied by officials of the Fine Arts De-

partment, members of the cultural troupes of Xipsaungpana of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China arrived at the pandal at 11.30 am.

Chairman of the YCDC

Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin hosted a luncheon to the Chinese guests. The mayor also presented gifts to them.

The members of the cultural troupes of Xipsaungpana presented traditional dances and songs at the pandal, and then received the cash awards of the mayor and wife Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe.

The mayor and YCDC members and Xipsaungpana cultural troupe members enjoyed themselves joyfully participating in the Water Festival.

In the evening, vocalists entertained the audience with songs to the accompaniment of Empire Music Band.

MNA



Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and party view dances at Yangon City Mayor's Pandal on Akyat Day.— MNA

Thingyan festival in Mandalay attracts revellers

YANGON, 15 April — Thingyan revellers in Mandalay Division joyfully celebrated the Thingyan Festival yesterday, first Akyat day, enjoying themselves by going round towns in cars while pious people performed meritorious deeds at pagodas, monasteries and religious places as it is close to usher in the Myanmar New Year.

Communal ordination and novitiation ceremonies were held and Thingyan sermon centres opened in all of the wards in the division.

Departmental and private water-throwing pavilions were packed with a stream of revellers. The air was filled with Thingyan songs. At some pandals, famous vocalists and artists as well as damsels entertained the public with songs and group dances in a cheerful manner.

Serving all the passers-by with food free of charge at pavilions was a pleasant sight for beholders. In the

afternoon, revellers visited U Pein Bridge in Taungthaman Lake to take a rest.

In the evening, Deputy Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Nay

Win, wife Daw Nan Aye Mya and party visited Nanmyothu pandal south of the moat and enjoyed Thingyan mass dances.

Mandalay City Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein and

wife Daw Yin Yin Shwe, Brig-Gen Nay Win and wife Daw Nan Aye Mya and party also enjoyed the entertainment at Lupyo-doh-ywa pandal.

MNA

Water festival held at Family Maha Thingyan Pandal

YANGON, 15 April — Family Maha Thingyan Pandal held the water festival Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning. Thingyan songs and dances were presented by dance troupes and vocalists at the pandal. Thingyan revellers and members of the pandal enjoyed the Maha Thingyan Festival. — MNA



Thingyan revellers on board the vehicles seen at the pandal in Mandalay on first Akyat Day.— MNA