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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents gifts to a cultural troupe member of border regions.—MNA

## National race leaders with farsightedness assembled on Panglong soil and restored the fine tradition of national unity Prime Minister hosts dinner in honour of cultural troupes of border regions

YANGON, 18 April—Chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt hosted a dinner in honour of cultural troupe members of border areas — Jiangphaw national race of Sumprabum region in Kachin State, Rawan national race of Nagmon region, Kokang national race of Laukkai and Kongyan regions in Shan State (North), Wa national

race of Pangsan region, Akha national race of Kengtung region in Shan State (East), Yun national race of Pahlyo and Kenglat regions, Shan national race of Kengtaw and Kengkham regions in Shan State (South), Pa-O national race of Kyauktalon region, Kayah national race of Moebye region in Kayah State, Kayin national race of Mawchi region, Mon national race of southern part of Ye region in Mon State,

Kayin national race of Hlaingbwe region of Kayin State, Mon national race of Chaungchi region in Taninthayi Division, Thet national race of Maungdaw region in Rakhine State, Chin national race of Thantlang region in Chin State, Kadu national race of Pinlebu-Banmauk region in Sagaing Division and Naga national race of Nanyun-Panhsaung who took part in Yangon Maha Thingyan Festival 2004, at Mya Yeik

Nyo Hotel this evening.

Present at the dinner were Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of Chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Vice-Chairmen of the Work Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint,

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the ministers, the deputy ministers, members of the Work Committee, officials of the SPDC Office, heads of departments, cultural troupe members of border areas and guests.

At 7 pm, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt arrived at the hotel and cordially greeted the national races of border regions. At the dinner, the Prime Minister delivered an address. He said: (See page 8)

### Four political objectives

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

### Four economic objectives

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

### Four social objectives

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

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivers an address at the dinner in honour of cultural troupes of border regions.—MNA







# Two remaining Japanese freed in Iraq as three compatriots prepare to go home

**BAGHDAD, 18 April**—Two Japanese hostages in Iraq were freed as three compatriots, released two days earlier after a week in captivity under threat of execution, prepared to return home after a brief rest in Dubai.

The release of freelance journalist Junpei Yasuda, 30, and peace activist Nobutaka Watanabe, 36, brought a peaceful end to the hostage crisis which had gripped Japan.

Japanese diplomats in Dubai said late Saturday it appeared unlikely that the pair would also be flown to the Gulf emirate, but would not say what plans had been made for them.

The possibility that they would be brought to Dubai had been raised after news of their release. But the diplomats said Japanese Senior Vice-Foreign Minister Ichiro Aisawa, who headed a hostage crisis cell in Amman, was sticking to plans to fly back to Japan on the overnight flight taking the woman and two men freed on Thursday.

"It's good news," Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi told reporters in Tokyo of the release of Yasuda and Watanabe. "The families must be relieved."

Foreign Minister Yoriko Kawaguchi echoed Koizumi's sentiments. "I am glad both incidents were resolved," she said. "I am very much pleased and I express my heartfelt delight for their families."

"The two were released, they are next to me," Sheikh Abdul Salam Kubaissi, an official at the Committee of Muslim Scholars, told *AFP* in the Iraqi capital. "They are in very good health."

Yasuda and Watanabe disappeared Wednesday but their "likely" kidnapping was only confirmed by the Japanese government earlier Saturday.

Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kinjo Nakagun told *AFP* "the two were safely taken into the protection of Japanese embassy staff in Baghdad" at about 0830 GMT.

*Internet*

## Whitehall warns UK firms to stop sending workers to Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 18 April**—British businesses hoping to win lucrative deals in Iraq have been told to scrap their plans to travel there because of the escalating violence against Westerners.

In an embarrassing about-face for the Government, trade officials have warned British companies to postpone all visits to Iraq for at least a month after a sudden rise in kidnappings and killings of foreign workers by insurgents. The deliberate targeting of foreigners, culminating in the murder last Wednesday of an Italian security guard, Fabrizio Quattrocchi, has put the Government's strategy of getting British firms into Iraq under severe pressure.

The families of three other abducted Italians issued an emotional plea on the Arabic station al-Jazeera asking for the men to be released. In Baghdad, meanwhile, two Japanese hostages were set free, less than a day after another Arabic television station broadcast footage of a kidnapped US serviceman being paraded in front of cameras.

The largest security firms are now upgrading their plans for the mass evacuation of foreign workers, if the situation worsens. The BBC and ITN have admitted they are also closely monitoring the escalating violence and could withdraw their journalists.

The new warnings come three weeks after Trade Minister, Mike O'Brien, hosted an investment conference for companies keen to bid for a share of the £10bn-worth of reconstruction contracts being handed out to non-US firms in Iraq. One security expert said the Pentagon had made it clear to British bidders that "if you aren't in Iraq, you aren't going to get any work".

But, after the Foreign Office strengthened its advice against going to Iraq last Wednesday, Whitehall officials and diplomats in Baghdad began quietly calling British firms to suggest they postpone travelling there.

The move is a serious setback to attempts to prove the country is being rebuilt, in the run-up to the handover of power on 30 June. — *Internet*

## Iraq 'more serious' than Vietnam

**TULLAMORE (Irish Republic), 18 April**—The Iraq conflict could become "much more serious" than the Vietnam war, EU Commissioner for External Affairs Chris Patten has said.

As renewed violence and a spate of kidnappings brought fresh controversy to the situation, he warned that if relations continued to deteriorate the long-term consequences would be immense.

Speaking at a conference of EU foreign ministers in Tullamore, Co Offaly in the Irish Republic, Mr Patten said: "The comparison that Iraq could become as difficult an issue as Vietnam is misplaced because I think it is arguably much more serious. 'If things go wrong in Iraq we will be living with the consequences for a very, very long time.'"

Brian Cowen, Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs, said the UN's participation in the political transition process was essential.

"We believe that a UN

resolution may well be a very helpful and welcome method and mechanism of increasing the orderly transfer of sovereignty to the people of Iraq," he said.

"The elements and details of that resolution is a matter for the Security Council members themselves.

"We are agreed that a strong UN role is an essential element for a successful political transition process.

"The EU looks forward to the UN playing a growing role, endorsed by the United Nations Security Council, in the run-up to the transfer of sovereignty."

Mr Cowen condemned the recent surge of violence and said ministers at the informal conference had discussed the deteriorating security situation. — *Internet*

## US holding 200 Iraqi troops who mutinied

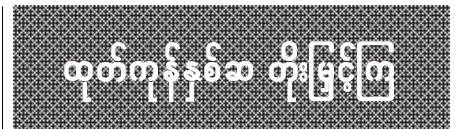
**BAGHDAD, 18 April** — US forces have detained around 200 Iraqi paramilitary soldiers who refused to take part in a US offensive against the Sunni Muslim city of Fallujah, their

former comrades said on Friday.

The US military declined to confirm whether the men were being held. Senior officers play down the significance of such incidents but, asked about reports of mutiny among Iraqi troops, have acknowledged a "command failure" took place during the Fallujah offensive.

Soldiers from the Baghdad-based 36th Security Brigade, part of the Iraqi Civil Defence Corps (ICDC), told *Reuters* that last week US commanders took them at night to Fallujah, west of the capital, where US forces were massing to crush a growing unrest.

"They told us to attack the city and we were astonished. How could an Iraqi fight an Iraqi like this? This meant that nothing had changed from the Saddam Hussein days. We refused en masse," said Ali al-Shamari.



Turkish protesters hold up banners as they stage an anti-US protest in Istanbul recently. Banners read in Turkish 'Bush! Don't Come', and refer to the US President's visit to Turkey during a NATO summit this summer, while another banner reads as 'End to Invasion in Iraq'. — *INTERNET*

## Blasts in Iraq's Kufa

**KUFA (Iraq), 18 April**—A series of blasts shook Iraq's holy Shiite town of Kufa on Friday and witnesses saw dozens of armed militiamen rushing to the outskirts where there were reports of clashes with foreign troops.

At least four pickups full of armed members of the Mehdi Army, the militia of radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, headed for the eastern fringes of Kufa, a town close to Najaf where the cleric is hiding from US troops vowing to kill or capture him.

Others, carrying assault

rifles and rocket-propelled grenades, went on foot. Moments later dozens retreated, crossing a bridge over the Euphrates and heading back into town.

Militia members said an earlier attack on a US convoy had been successful, but that now occupying forces were attacking back. There was no immediate comment from the US military.

"We were preparing an ambush and attacked them," said one man, wearing the Mehdi Army's customary black, a grenade belt strapped to his waist. "I saw at least two Humvees (trucks) on fire and we also attacked armoured personnel carriers."

"We attacked them again but then they started mortaring our position so we had to retreat." Several columns of smoke rose after the blasts. Militiamen were trying to evacuate at least two wounded colleagues across the bridge. US troops have reinforced Spanish and Polish soldiers in the area around Najaf, preparing for a possible campaign to root out Sadr and his militia, which they have promised to destroy.

The Mehdi Army took control of parts of Najaf after clashes with foreign troops earlier this month.

*MNA/Reuters*



A US Humvee infantry vehicle lies on a highway at the entrance to Fallujah in early April, 2004. — *INTERNET*

*MNA/Reuters*

## Iran distances itself from mediation between US and Iraqis

TEHERAN, 18 April — Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazi Friday rejected as “baseless speculations” that Iran would mediate between the United States and the Iraqis to resolve crisis in the country, the official IRNA news agency reported.

“How can one mediate between the Iraqi people and the occupiers?” Kharazi was quoted as questioning in a statement.

The statement said “the legitimate demand of the Iraqi people is that occupation forces quickly withdraw from Iraq. The best thing that the occupation forces can do is transferring power to the Iraqi people as soon as possible”.

Kharazi announced on Wednesday that Washington had asked Teheran to help ease tension in Iraq, saying that Teheran and Washington had “many correspondence” through the Swiss Embassy to Iran which takes care of US interests here, and Iran would spare no effort to help improve the situation in Iraq.

On the same day, Iran dispatched a five-member diplomatic delegation, headed by Foreign Ministry Director General for Persian Gulf Affairs Hossein Sadeqi, to Baghdad to meet with senior Iraqi religious authorities, members of the Iraqi Governing Council and political leaders to find solutions to the current crisis there.

Kharazi said the delegation had been sent to Iraq at Iran’s initiative and was on a fact-finding mission, and Iran could not be indifferent toward Iraqi developments as well as the instability and the killings of the Iraqi people. He added that the delegation would debate the crisis with Iraq’s religious and political officials, and would also caution the coalition forces about continuing the occupation. — MNA/Xinhua

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## Denmark fears businessman held in Iraq

COPENHAGEN, 18 April — A Danish businessman has been kidnapped in Iraq, Danish Broadcasting News said on Friday, and the government confirmed one person was missing.

“A Danish citizen in all probability has been detained in Iraq. No Iraqis or Iraqi groups have contacted the Danish authorities,” the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Danish Broadcasting News said the man in his 30s was kidnapped during a highway robbery, probably late on Tuesday, in the town of Taji outside Baghdad — not near Basra as it said earlier. He was in Iraq to set up a sewerage business.

Denmark supported the US-led invasion of Iraq and now has around 500 troops in the country. — MNA/Reuters

## Singapore's non-oil exports grow 17.1% in March

SINGAPORE, 18 April — Singapore's non-oil domestic exports (NODX) climbed by 17.1 per cent to about 6.68 billion US dollars in March, according to a statement by the International Enterprise Singapore (IE Singapore) on Friday.

Electronics exports grew 8.7 per cent, mainly contributed by a 43-per cent increase in shipments of telecommunications equipment and a 34-per cent rise for integrated circuits.

Non-electronics exports soared 27 per cent, driven by the strong performances of pharmaceuticals and petrochemicals.

The total trade in March climbed 22 per cent to about 29.2 billion US dollars.

NODX to all the top 10 markets, except South Korea, recorded positive growth in March. In particular, NODX to China, the European Union (EU), and Japan reported healthy double-digit gains.

MNA/Xinhua

## Volcker to lead UN Iraq oil-for-food probe

UNITED NATIONS, 18 April — Paul Volcker, the former US Federal Reserve chairman, will head a three-person UN probe into the scandal-ridden and now-defunct Iraq oil-for-food programme, the United Nations said on Friday.

Volcker and the two other investigators would like the 15-nation Security Council to adopt a resolution endorsing the inquiry and urging governments to cooperate, a UN spokeswoman said, to put the probe on a sounder political footing. “They (the panel members) have indicated that a security council resolution would be extremely helpful,” said UN spokeswoman Marie Okabe.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who has led the move to set up an inquiry into the oil-for-food programme, supports the idea of a resolution.

But Russia, a leading player in the 67-billion-US-dollar humanitarian programme that shut down last year, believes the resolution is unnecessary, as the Council has already written a letter backing the investigation, a Russian diplomat said.

The Russian diplomat said Moscow would not decide whether it would stand in the way of a resolution until it had seen a text. Council members are already working on the

text which could move forward in the next few days, other Council diplomats said.

The two other members of the panel are Judge Richard Goldstone, who served as the first prosecutor on the UN Balkan war crimes tribunal, and Swiss lawyer Mark Pieth, an expert on international bribery and money laundering.

The UN oil-for-food programme, which began in December 1996 and was shut down after the US-led invasion of Iraq, enabled Iraq to sell oil and buy civilian goods to ease the impact of 1991 Gulf War sanctions, including a ban on oil sales. While most of Iraq’s oil went through the programme, a considerable amount was smuggled.

Allegations of payoffs, favouritism and surcharges on oil were reported to a divided Security Council for years and sometimes resulted in action. But lists of those who received the payoffs have emerged since the fall of Saddam Hussein and include politicians and businesses around the world.

MNA/Reuters



Russians get ready to board an Il-62 passenger jet belonging to the Russian Emergency Situations, at Baghdad International Airport in Baghdad, Iraq on 15 April, 2004, starting a massive effort to evacuate hundreds of Russian companies' employees from Iraq following a wave of kidnappings. — INTERNET

## Czech Foreign Minister Svoboda injured in crash

PRAGUE, 18 April — Czech Foreign Minister Cyril Svoboda, a key force in the country's membership of the European Union, suffered a neck injury when his car crashed near the eastern city of Brno, doctors said on Friday.

Svoboda, 47, Deputy Prime Minister in the centre-left government, suffered a break to the sixth neck vertebrae, doctors said.

“His condition is quite satisfactory, but will require a number of days in bed,” said Brno hospital chief Petr Zelnicke where Svoboda is being treated.

Svoboda's absence from Parliament could be a problem for the government on Tuesday when the Lower House of Parliament votes

on a presidential veto of a new VAT law — a key piece of legislation in Prague's EU accession on May 1.

Svoboda's car went off the road on Thursday night and hit a concrete water collector, the CTK news agency said. The minister was asleep on the back seat of the car at the time of the crash, about 140 miles east of Prague, CTK said. The driver and another passenger were slightly injured. — MNA/Reuters

## Chinese people to have better diets in 21st Century

SANYA (Hainan), 17 April — China, with its world-class technologies in super hybrid rice breeding, will be capable of providing higher-quality diets for its people in this century, said some rice breeding specialists at the ongoing exhibition of new hybrid rice varieties held here in south China's Hainan Province.

The most populous country in the world, China has always listed food security as one of its top concerns throughout history.

Over the past two decades or so, agriculture was the pride of the nation. A popular saying was that “China had supported 22 per cent of the world population with only 7 per cent of the world's total area of arable land”.

However, China has suffered from a reduction of grain output over the past few years, driving it towards

the international market for enough food.

The decreasing grain output partly stemmed from a shrinkage in the acreage under rice, which remained the top staple food of the Chinese people. The rice growing area went down from 36.5 million hectares in 1975 to 30.5 million hectares in 2000.

China has taken the lead in cross breeding of rice. According to Professor Cheng Shihua, director of the China Research Institute of Rice, there are now

thousands of scientists and technicians specializing in breeding new strains of hybrid rice boasting higher yields and higher quality. This will help the country to maintain its grain security, he said.

China's super hybrid rice is expected to realize a per-mu (one mu equals about 0.0667 hectares) yield of more than 900 kilos, said Yuan Longping, a forerunner in hybrid rice breeding in the nation at the three-day rice show.

MNA/Xinhua



Protesters stand outside US embassy at a rally against US Vice President Dick Cheney's Seoul visit in Seoul, South Korea on 15 April, 2004. Cheney is here for a two-day visit as part of a weeklong Asian tour. The placard reads 'Iraq War Criminal, you are not welcome here.' — INTERNET



# Jazeera airs tape of US soldier captive in Iraq

DUBAI, 18 April— Arabic television station Al Jazeera aired on Friday a video tape that appeared to show a US soldier held by masked gunmen after being captured in an attack on a convoy last week.

The unidentified guerilla group holding him said he was in good health and they were willing to exchange him for Iraqi prisoners held captive by the US-led occupation forces.

The poor-quality tape showed a white male dressed in military fatigues sitting on the floor surrounded by masked gunmen. The man identified himself as Keith Matthew Maupin and said he was a US soldier.

A US defence official in Washington said the US military in Iraq had received a copy of what appeared to be the same tape and was examining it.

Two US soldiers are currently listed as missing in Iraq after an attack on a fuel convoy near Baghdad last week. The two are Private Keith Maupin, 20, of Batavia, Ohio, and Sergeant. Elmer Krause, 40, of Greensboro, North Carolina.

"A group of Mujahedin (holy fighters) has succeeded in taking an American soldier prisoner... and he will be treated in the Islamic tradition of treating prisoners and he is in good health," the masked gunman said.

"We are willing to exchange him for Iraqis held by the American enemy... he was ambushed in his Hum-

mer and he surrendered to us. This is the fate of all American soldiers in Iraq," the gunman added.

Some parts of the brief tape were inaudible. The tape which Jazeera aired had an Arabic translation voiced over Maupin's comments. The translation said he had come to Iraq to liberate it and that he wanted to go home to his family, which included a 10-month-old son.

There was no immediate indication whether any demand had been made in connection with the videotape. The United States has an avowed policy of not negotiating for the release of cap-

tives.

More than 40 foreigners, including journalists, missionaries, reconstruction and aid workers, have been taken hostage in Iraq this month. Their captors have demanded that Japan, Italy and other countries withdraw their military forces from the US-led coalition occupying Iraq. — MNA/Reuters

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## Iraqi wounded in Baghdad blast aimed at US patrol

BAGHDAD, 18 April — A bomb apparently aimed at a US patrol exploded in central Baghdad on Saturday and police said an Iraqi civilian had been wounded.

Small-arms fire crackled after the explosion, which went off in a narrow street near the St. Raphael Hospital.

"According to our information, American vehicles were passing by. The bomb went off and then they fired," an Iraqi policeman told Reuters at the scene.

Witnesses said the bomb had been placed under a pile of bricks across the street from a pharmacy. — MNA/Reuters

## Iraqi group says US, allies targets of abduction

DUBAI, 18 April — An Iraqi group holding three Japanese hostages said in a statement broadcast on an Arab TV station on Thursday that the main targets of abduction would be Americans and nationals of other occupation forces in Iraq.

Saraya al-Mujahedin delivered the message in a handwritten letter given to a French journalist the group freed on Wednesday.

He was released three days after being seized near Baghdad, after the group made sure he did "not represent the American occupation".

"The first targets of kidnappings by armed Iraqis should be Americans or nationals of countries participating in the occupation, secondly supporters of the occupation and thirdly those participating in or aiding the occupation," Dubai-based Al Arabiya channel quoted the letter as saying.

"Saraya al-Mujahedin announces that it has released Alex Jourdanov after it was sure of his identity and that he does not represent the American occupa-

tion and does not participate in it, and also in response to a request by the Muslim scholars authority to release him," said the statement written in Arabic.

France, which led opposition to the US-led war in Iraq and has no troops serv-

ing alongside US forces there, said Jourdanov was now safe. The Iraqi group said in a tape last Thursday it would kill the Japanese hostages if Japan did not withdraw troops from Iraq by a deadline on April 11.

MNA/Reuters



US soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division search a local Iraqi at a traffic checkpoint on the outskirts of Najaf, Iraq, on 16 April, 2004. — INTERNET

## Kerry hits back at White House, defends patriotism

PITTSBURGH, 18 April — Democratic presidential challenger John Kerry, lashing out at the White House's "twisted sense of ethics and morality," accused Republicans on Friday of distorting his record and attacking his patriotism.

Kerry, at an outdoor rally on the University of Pittsburgh campus, used an American flag and the national anthem to fire back at Republicans who say he is weak on defence for voting against some weapons systems and an 87-billion-US-dollar bill to pay for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Kerry, a decorated Vietnam War veteran, pointed

out that Vice-President Dick Cheney and political adviser Karl Rove did not serve in the military.

"I'm tired of Karl Rove and Dick Cheney and a bunch of people who went out of their way to avoid their chance to serve when they had the chance," the Massachusetts senator said. "I'm not going to listen to them

talk to me about patriotism."

"I've seen how these people in the White House today, in their twisted sense of ethics and morality, don't think twice about challenging John McCain and what happened to him as a prisoner of war," he said in reference to attacks by President George W Bush in 2000 on his Republican primary rival McCain, an Arizona senator.

Kerry, who has tried to make his military experience a centerpiece of his campaign, is in a tight battle with Bush for the White House more than seven months before the November election.

Steve Schmidt, a Bush campaign spokesman, said Kerry's judgment in his voting record on defence and security was in question, not his patriotism.

He called the Rove and Cheney comments "outrageous."

Cheney received a student and family deferment from military service, and Rove had a student deferment and later drew a low draft number but was never called.

MNA/Reuters

## Japan welcomes Iraq hostage release, debate goes on

TOKYO, 18 April — Japan rejoiced on Friday at the release of three Japanese civilians held hostage in Iraq, but the fate of two others remained unclear and debate over Tokyo's military mission in the increasingly violent country raged on.

Photographs of the three — Noriaki Imai, 18, freelance journalist Soichiro Koriyama, 32, and aid worker Nahoko Takato, 34 — after their release were plastered over daily newspapers.

The three civilians, who were taken to the Japanese Embassy in Baghdad on Thursday evening, were to travel to Dubai and receive medical checks there before returning to Japan, possibly on Saturday. Television news programmes showed the three looking tired but healthy in a meeting with the Muslim cleric who helped arrange their release.

"I will continue," said a tearful Takato, when asked whether she planned to keep on with her aid work.

"Right now I'm tired and I have had a lot of shocks, but I will not hate the Iraqi people," she said.

Japan had been on tenterhooks since Thursday last week when an armed group took the three civilians hostage and threatened to kill them if Tokyo did not withdraw its troops from Iraq.

Prime Minister Junichiro

Koizumi — a staunch supporter of the United States in Iraq — has repeatedly said he would not pull out the 550 Japanese soldiers engaged in a reconstruction and humanitarian mission in Samawa, southern Iraq, despite the militants' threats.

"I think the people of Iraq understand sufficiently that Japan wants, through its reconstruction work, to support them in rebuilding their splendid country," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yasuo Fukuda told a news conference on Friday morning.

The news of the three hostages' release is a boon for Koizumi and his ruling camp ahead of parliamentary elections later this month.

But there were no fresh clues on the whereabouts of two missing Japanese civilians, freelance journalist Jumpei Yasuda, 30, and Nobutaka Watanabe, 36, a former member of the Japanese military with ties to a civic group.

"We do not know what situation they are in. We are trying to confirm the facts," was all Fukuda could say.

MNA/Reuters



Resistance to US occupation continues to grow steadily in Fallujah on 16 April, 2004. — INTERNET

## Russia winding up two-day evacuation operation

Moscow, 18 April — A Russian plane carrying 117 employees working in companies in Iraq returned to Moscow on Friday evening, winding up the two-day evacuation operation after the recent hostage-taking event in Baghdad.

The Il-62 plane belonging to the Russian Emergency Situations Ministry took back 17 Ukrainians and 100 Russians, including one who was wounded in Iraq on Thursday and two others that need medical aid, ITAR-TASS news agency reported.

Russian citizen Sergei Brazhnikov had a bullet removed from his body in an operation at an American hospital in Iraq. His condition is not critical.

"All those who wished to leave Iraq were evacuated from Baghdad by Emergency Situations Ministry planes," said Deputy Minister Yuriy Brazhnikov, adding that no more such flights are planned in the near future.

But he noted that the ministry is ready to send extra flights to Iraq if the situation there deteriorates.

Russia launched the evacuation mission on Thursday morning, following three Russians and five Ukrainians working for a Russian energy firm were abducted in Iraq on Monday but were released unharmed the next day.

Some 816 Russians and citizens of other former Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) had been working in Iraq.

So far, 483 Russian and CIS nationals have been evacuated from Iraq, including the 366 specialists airlifted back on Thursday.

Four flights had originally been arranged for Friday's evacuation, but they were cut to only one because some 300 people preferred to stay in Iraq after being warned of the dangers they might face.

MNA/Xinhua



US occupation troops have faced fierce resistance in Fallujah on 16 April, 2004.  
INTERNET

## China to further enhance trade, economic ties with Kenya

NAIROBI, 18 April — China and Kenya have been enjoying good relations in the trade and economic field, and such relations are bound to be further enhanced through joint efforts of both sides, a senior Chinese diplomat said here Friday.

"China and Kenya are friendly countries with cordial relations in political, economic and social fields since the independence of the Republic of Kenya. We are happy to witness the even closer cooperation in the trade and economic sectors ever since the new Kenyan Government took over at the beginning of last year," Zhu Xiaochuan, economic and commercial counsellor of the Chinese Embassy to Kenya, told reporters at a Press conference.

He said that China is one of the major trade partners of Kenya. In 2003, the bilateral trade volume reached a historical high of more than 250 million US dollars, registering an increase of 34 per cent over the year 2002, according to statistics from the Administration of Customs of China.

The exports to Kenya from China include machinery, electronics,

telecommunication products, housewares, textiles, chemicals, pharmaceutical products, which are worth 241.7 million US dollars, while the exports to China from Kenya include chemicals, sisal, pyrethrum, hides and skins, macadamia nuts, handicrafts, tea and coffee, which are worth 8.74 million dollars, Zhu said.

"We estimate that a further increase of trade volume of the two countries

will be seen in the year 2004," he added.

Besides the trade sector, Zhu said that the two countries have also been enjoying good relations in the field of investment, economic aids and construction. Meanwhile, the counsellor admitted that "there is a trade imbalance in favour of China due to the structural differences of the two countries".

MNA/Xinhua

## Minister says Portugal might withdraw police from Iraq

LISBON, 18 April — Portugal's Interior Minister Antonio Figueredo Lopes said Friday that the military police deployed in Iraq might be withdrawn if the "conflict escalates".

"If we consider the hypothesis that the conflict escalates and the National Republican Guard (policemen with military capacity) lacks the conditions to fulfil its mission, the only thing we can do is to pull out that contingent," Figueredo Lopes said in an interview with the state-run Antena Uno radio.

The minister said he kept "the expectation that the GNR might fulfil its mission".

MNA/Xinhua

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## Israel officially confirms killing of Rantisi

JERUSALEM, 18 April — Israeli Defence Forces on Saturday officially confirmed Hamas leader Abdel Aziz Rantisi was killed by an Israeli security operation earlier the day in the northern Gaza Strip.

"This evening, in a security forces operation in the northern Gaza Strip, the IDF targeted a car carrying the leader of Hamas, Abdel Aziz Rantisi," said an IDF's announcement.

MNA/Xinhua

## Indonesia calls for end of military approach in Iraq

JAKARTA, 18 April — Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim majority country, called on Thursday for an immediate end to the military approach of the US-led coalition in Iraq, where more than 700 Iraqis and 83 American troops have died in the past two weeks.

"It is our belief that the coalition countries can put their efforts into the political dialogue process rather than the use of force in Iraq," Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman Marty A. Natalegawa was quoted Friday by The Jakarta Post as saying.

He was responding to a question about US President George W. Bush's statement on Tuesday that more US troops might be needed to stop the violence in Iraq.

Marty also expressed confidence the handover of power to Iraqis would take place as scheduled on June 30.

"We continue to remain concerned over the increasing violence in Iraq, but we also welcome the visit by the special

UN envoy to Iraq as an indication that sovereignty can be handed over on the June 30 deadline," Marty said.

Marty was referring to United Nations special envoy Lakhdar Brahimi, who is in Iraq to study the situation ahead of the June 30 deadline, and to prepare the grounds for a free and fair election under the auspices of the UN.

A UN election assistance team under the leadership of Karina Parelli is also in Iraq to develop plans for next January's election.

Indonesia has criticized Washington over last year's invasion of Iraq and the ensuing occupation, saying it would stoke militant radicalism in the Islamic world.

MNA/Xinhua

## UN says Asia, Pacific economies leading world growth

UNITED NATIONS, 18 April — The economies of the developing countries in Asia and the Pacific region grew faster than those of other developing country groups and faster than the global economy itself, according to a UN study released in New York.

The average growth rate of the countries covered by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) reached nearly 6 per cent in 2002 and 2003, the commission said in its new report, The Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2004.

"From a regional perspective, growth was broad-based, with all sub-regions but one experiencing higher growth, and was not affected significantly by the war in Iraq and the SARS crisis,"

a 16-page summary of the report said.

China's economy, with its gross domestic product (GDP) expanding by just under a quarter between 2001 and 2003, plays a leading role as group growth is increasingly driven by regional trade and domestic demand, according to the report.

China is now the fourth-largest trading nation in the world and helps to stimulate output growth across a broad regional front, it added.

India, the largest

economy in South and Southwest Asia, improved its GDP growth rate in 2003 to 7.5 percentage points, more than 3 per cent over the 2002 rate of 4.3. The rate is projected to ease in 2004 to a still respectable 6 per cent, it said.

The report concluded that rigorous growth in the region shows not only an impressive turnaround after the global 2001 slowdown, but also indicates that the process is becoming less dependent on global economic trends.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi boy walks on 14 April, 2004 on the rubble of a house that was destroyed on 12 April by Iraqi resistance in Samarra, 90 kms north of Baghdad, Iraq. —INTERNET

# Tourism industry and air transport

Aung Si Hein

Tourism industry denotes international tourism and domestic tourism. A nation can earn a great deal of foreign exchange through tourism industry, which is also called smokeless industry. Tourism industry covers services of transport, hotel, entertainment, communication, banking, business, pilgrimage, history and research, fine arts, gardening on recreation, sports, exhibition, trade fair and diplomacy. So, it can be said that tourism industry is the widest industry in the world.

Historical background of tourism industry is interesting. According to the experiences, knowledge and records of the adventurers who travelled by land or by sea from Mediterranean countries to other parts of the world in the distant past, beautiful islands in the seas or oceans, beaches, large lakes, glaciers, ancient artifacts, gems lands and civilized cities were attractions for enthusiasts. During the period from 1850 to 1914, Egypt, Greece, Rome, France and Switzerland could draw a large number of tourists. At that time, travellers and tourists had to hold no visas, there were no restrictions on currency and commodities. In 1919, Italy, Britain and the United States of America established respective national level organizations on tourism industry. In the early 1930s, tourism industry evolved into a profitable business. In 1938, Canada, Germany, Belgium, Austria, Britain, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Argentina, Australia and South Africa became tourist attractions. After the World War II, tourism industry made progress in many countries especially those practising market-oriented economic system.

The area of tourism industry is greatly wide and it needs a huge amount of investment. The world nations' income from tourism industry totalled about 9 billion US\$ in 1960, 20 billion US\$ in 1970, 104 billion US\$ in 1980, 265 billion US\$ in 1990 and 477 billion US\$ in 2000. The amount was nearly equivalent to the world's total agricultural turnover. It is learnt that there were several causes which helped sharply develop the tourism industry in 40 years in the world, and the main cause was rapid development of air transport of cheap "tourist class". In the late 20th century, a handful of rich powers owned 70 per cent of world's airlines and could earn 80 per cent of income from the world's tourism industry.

In the 21st century, the Boeing Co of the USA and the Airbus Co of the Europe laid down plans upgrading the airplanes. Under the plans, they will replace all the propeller airplanes with jets, produce jets that can directly fly for a long distance with a speed 20 per cent faster than the present ones, and fly in navigable airway higher than present ones for ensuring more safety and comfort of the passengers. France, Germany and Britain will carry out test running of Airbus A 380 in 2005. If successful, the biggest modern super jet will be able to carry 555 passengers but consume fuel at minimum rate. Japan is planning to replace MD 11 and DC 10 aircraft with Boeing 767 and Boeing 777 from 2006 to 2008.

According to the data collected in 2000-2001, the busiest airports in the world were Heathrow, Charles de Gaulle, Frankfurt and Hong Kong airports. Among them,

Heathrow Airport was the busiest one with a record of 57 million passengers in a year. And the airports where goods were loaded or unloaded most in the world were Hong Kong, Narita and Singapore airports, and Hong Kong Airport set a record with 1.9 metric tons in a year.

The nations whose people are adventurers or those who regularly make travels around the world can make progress. They gained knowledge of the Earth earlier than other countries. Therefore, they could take one jump ahead of other nations in military, industrial and trade affairs. The nations that lagged behind in world knowledge encountered various kinds of troubles, hardships and problems concerned with ideology, subjugation, debt, invasion, economic domination and military threats of the big powers. Some countries were worthy of praise as they could build up developed nations after acquiring world knowledge. Thus, there is a lesson to be learnt that the results of tourism industry can decide the fate of a nation.

The following table shows tourism industry development of some Asian nations during the period from 1987 to 2000.

	Tourists (million)		Income (US million)	
	1987	2000	1987	2000
China	10.60	31.229	1845	16231
Hong Kong	4.502	13.059	-	7886
Thailand	3.483	9.509	1947	7119
South Korea	1.875	5.322	2299	6609
Singapore	3.373	7.691	2216	6370
Indonesia	0.900	5.064	803	5046
Japan	1.939	4.757	2097	3374
India	1.484	2.641	1455	3296
Philippines	0.781	2.171	459	2534

With regard to the tourism industry of Myanmar, over 48,000 tourists visited the nation in 1988. After the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism was established in 1992, national entrepreneurs could grasp the opportunity to run hotels and tourism industry in conformity with the rules and regulations. As a result, the number of tourists who visited the nation increased to 211,191 in 2000-2001 from 62,547 in 1993-94. Myanmar already has tourist attractions such as ancient historic sites, natural beauties and resources, traditions, customs and culture of national races, and meditation centres. So, with development of air transport, Myanmar's tourism industry will further develop definitely. Air transport plays a key role in the tourism industry. Attraction, accessibility, accommodation and administration are also important foundations, which help develop adventure tourism, village tourism, rural tourism, eco-tourism, cultural tourism and trekking and camping tourism.

The more a nation can develop its tourism industry, the greater benefits it can gain. At the same time, it is important to conserve environment with high level of knowledge and technical know-how. And it is also important to prevent the infiltration of alien decadent culture, excessive consumption of alcohol and abuse of narcotic drugs, spread of infectious diseases and infiltration

## Efficient use of electricity

- \* Use daylight as the main source of light
- \* Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- \* Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- \* Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

## Efficient use of fuel

- \* Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- \* Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US\$ 5.5 million in a year
- \* The amount, US \$ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

## All this needs to be known

- \* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- \* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- \* Do not be softened whenever appeased

of pornographic materials, video tapes and VCDs. Therefore, all the national people must have wider knowledge to conserve the natural resources and to preserve own traditions, customs and culture. Respective local administrative bodies and national entrepreneurs are needed to act in cooperation in abiding by rules and regulations concerned. In this way, Myanmar's tourism industry will develop properly and certainly.

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(Translation: MS)

## သတိပေးနူးဆော်ချက်

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

ယာဉ်ညှိုးကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုဌာနမှ

## အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကာကွယ်ရေးနူးဆော်ချက်

ယခုအခါတွင် နွေရာသီရောက်လာပြီဖြစ်သဖြင့် ရာသီဥတု ပူပြင်းလာပြီ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထိုအပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ရွေးထွက်လွန်ပြီ ခန္ဓာကိုယ်အတွင်းရှိ ရေနှင့်ခါတ်ဆားများ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများပြားပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် မိတ်နှင့်ယားဖျားထွက်လာခြင်း၊ ပင်ပန်း နှမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ မူးမောခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ ရွေးခြောက်ပြီး ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့အပြင် အသက်အန္တရာယ် ရှိရိရသောအခြေအနေအထိ ဖြစ်တတ်ပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် မလိုလားအပ်သော အကျိုး ဆက်များမဖြစ်ပေါ်စေရန် အောက်ပါအချက်အလက်များကို လိုက်နာ ကြပါရန် နူးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) နံနက် (၁၀)နာရီမှ ညနေ (၅)နာရီအတွင်း လွင်တီးခေါင်ပြင်း မြစ်ကမ်းနား၊ ရေဆိပ်စသည်တို့တွင် ရေချိုးခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်၍ အရိပ်ရသောအခြေအနေများတွင် နေပါ။
- (၂) နေပူထဲမှပြန်လာပြီး ချက်ချင်းရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၃) နေပူထဲတွင် ပြင်းထန်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုများ မပြုလုပ် သင့်ပါ။
- (၄) အရက်သောက်ခြင်းသည် အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကို ပိုမိုဖြစ်ပေါ်လွယ်စေခြင်းနှင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြင်းထန်စွာ ခံစားရခြင်းကြောင့် ရှောင်ကြဉ်သင့်ပါသည်။

- (၅) နေ့ခင်းဘက် အပြင်ထွက်သည်အခါတိုင်း အရိပ်လုံလောက်စွာ ရရှိနိုင်သည့် ထီး၊ ဦးထုပ်များ ဆောင်းပါ။
- (၆) အလင်းရောင်ပြန်သော အဖြူရောင် သို့မဟုတ် အရောင်ဖျော့ဖျော့ အဝတ်အထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၇) ပွပျော့ရောင်ချောင်း ချည်ထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၈) ရွေးထွက်လွန်ပါက ကိုယ်တွင်းရှိရေနှင့်ဆာဆာဆုံးရှုံးမှုကို ပြန်လည်ဖြည့်တင်းနိုင်ရန် ဓာတ်ဆားရည်သောက်ပါ။
- (၉) ကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ပါက ရေအေးဖတ် နိုင်နိုင်တိုက်ပါ။
- (၁၀) ဆီးချိုရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေတိုးရောဂါအခံရသူများ၊ ကလေးသူငယ်များနှင့် သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများအနေဖြင့် နေ့လယ်နေ့ခင်းတွင် အရိပ်ရ၍ လေဝင်လေထွက်ကောင်းသော နေရာမျိုး၌ နားနေပါ။
- (၁၁) မိတ်ဖျား ယားနာဖျားထွက်ပါက ရေအေးဝတ်ကပ်ခြင်း၊ သနပ်ခါး လိမ်းခြင်းတို့ကို ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနှမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းနှင့် အတက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် ပြသပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



## National race leaders ...

(from page 1)

The dinner was hosted as a get-together for the national brethren who live the length and breadth of the nation and arrived here to take part in Maha Thingyan Festival before their departure for home.

The national brethren have been living in the same land and partaking water from the same source sharing weal or woe for years countable by the thousand.

The national races who have been residing in the Union since time immemorial are not those who have migrated from other lands but were born in the Myanmar territory. There have been historical evidences that the national races originated from Myanmar with the passage of time.

Therefore, it is a fine tradition bestowed by the history that the national races have been living in unity in Union in successive eras.

In the course of history, there had been the national unity that was able to establish the strong nations such as the First Myanmar Empire, the Second Myanmar Empire and the Third Myanmar Empire.

In the third Myanmar, the colonialists invaded and occupied Myanmar and drove a wedge among the national races applying divide-and-rule policy. As a result, there emerged suspicions among the national races.

That was why the national race leaders with far-sightedness assembled on Panglong soil and restored the fine tradition of national unity. As a result, the Union made up of states and divisions was conceived and born along with the independence.

Hence, in the time of the Tatmadaw government, projects for development of



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt poses for documentary photos together with teachers, students and wellwisher at Nyaungbintha Village BEPS in Kyaunggon Township. (News on page 16) — MNA

border areas and national races have been laid down and are being implemented while making efforts for bringing about harmonious and equitable development across the nation and restoring the national unity.

Therefore, there has now been better transport in border areas, thereby contributing to development of education, health and social sectors and further strengthening friendship among the national races.

The concept of living in the Union in unity has become stronger with national solidarity and development of border areas and peace and tranquillity has also prevailed in those areas. Closer relationship has been forged among the national races who lived far from each other for some time in history. He said the government made arrangements for national people to understand culture and customs of a region and to strengthen goodwill during the Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival.

He said the national races came to Yangon wearing their traditional costumes. When they wore

uniforms, their appearances and personalities became the same. It is the fact that they are members of the same family born in the same land though they have different costumes. He said he was very pleased to see that all the national races stayed in Yangon happily like family members during the Thingyan festival in accord with noble traditions existed in the history.

He said he believed that they would meet the next time and they are always to safeguard the concept of "Whoever tries to break up us, we will be ever remain united." The Prime Minister urged them to continue to safeguard goodwill relations without losing the contact. He said the dinner was hosted for making it memorable and inspiring the hope to meet again.

He urged them to convey the already-achieved friendship and noble traditions to the respective regions and as the ambassadors of the Union to take part in the efforts to strengthen national solidarity spirit among the national races and the concept — "Whoever tries to break up us, we will be ever remain united".

main united".

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presented gifts to cultural troupes including Jingphaw national race of Sumprabum region of Kachin State, Rawam national races of Nawnngmon region, Kayin national race of Mawchee region of Kayah State, Kayan national race of Moebye region and Kayin national race of Hlaingbwe region of Kayin State.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win also presented gifts to cultural troupes — Chin national race of Thantlang region of Chin State, Kudu national race of Pinleub-Banmauk region of Sagaing Division and Mon

region of Shan State (South) and Shan national race of Kengtaw region, the Yun national race of Pahlyo/Kenglat region of Shan State (East) and Wa national race of Pangsan region of Shan State (North), Akha national race of Kengtung region of Shan State (East) and Kokang national race of Laukkai region of Shan State (North).

On behalf of the national races, Kayin national Ma Nant Aye Aye Moe of Hlaingbwe region of Kayah State thanked officials for their arrangements to pay homage to Shwedagon Pagoda as well as famous pagodas and go sightseeing in downtown Yangon. She

At present, the border areas witnessed better transport and socio-economic infrastructures and development of agriculture, livestock breeding, communications, industries, trade and tourism sectors have been achieved in the border areas, she said. She continued to say that border areas today have developed like other major towns, and all the national brethren are enjoying fruits of peace.

Later, she confirmed that they will make concerted efforts for development of their respective regions based on experience and knowledge gained in the excursion.

Next, the artists of Fine



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win presents gifts to cultural troupe members at the dinner. — MNA

national race of southern region of Ye, Mon State; and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented gifts to Mon national race of Chaungchi region of Taninthayi Division, Naga national race of Nanyun-Panhsaung region of Sagaing Division and Thet national race of Maungdaw region of Rakhine State.

Similarly, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented gifts to Pa-O national race of Kyauktalon

said that all the cultural troupe members could observe development of the State in the sightseeing. In the past, the border areas where they live had faced with transport difficulties in the successive eras and they lagged behind in development, she added.

Arts Department and Karaweik Palace performed Myanmar traditional dances to guests and the national races of border regions.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister hosted a dinner to the guests and national races of border areas.

MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents gifts to cultural troupe members at the dinner. — MNA

အိမ်တိုင်းမှာသစ်ပင် ရွာစဉ်မှာတောတန်း  
တစ်တောင်တစ်တောင်တက်  
မြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း။





Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt supplicates on religious affairs at the ceremony to hoist Htada atop Mokoetaung Pagoda in Kyaikto on 17-4-2004. (News reported)— MMA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt offers 'soon' to Sayadaws at the prayer hall of Kyaikhtyoe Pagoda on 17-4-2004. (News reported)— MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt offers 'soon' to Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image on 17-4-2004. (News reported) — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets departmental officials and social organizations at Dhammayon of Kyaikhtyoe Pagoda on 17-4-2004. (News ported) — MNA



## Making all-out efforts for development of respective regions ...

(from page 16)

The commander presented a computer set and Pathein District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Hla Thwin a TV set to the TEO.

After attending to their needs, the Prime Minister delivered an address, saying that it was his third inspection tour of Kyaunggon Township. All the inspection tours were related to assistance provided by wellwisher Guardian U Sein Win to the education sector of the township. Similarly, he fulfilled requirements of education, health, social and economic sectors of the township.

He said that he had attended to requirements of development tasks including education, health and transport sectors of the township according to the reports of township level officials and his inspections.

Nowadays, Kyaunggon Township achieves progress normally. So, all departmental officials at district and township levels are to strive with diligence and goodwill for gaining more development in the township.

As the government, on its part, has been striving for development of education, health and social infrastructures including roads, bridges and dams spending a large amount of money for ensuring development of Ayeyawady Division, it can be seen that progress has been achieved in almost all the townships of Ayeyawady Division rapidly.

In addition, roads have been constructed as a network among all major towns in Ayeyawady Division. During the period of the present government, Ayeyawady Division has the longest length of new roads.

Likewise, bridges were built crossing a number of rivers and creeks to link among the roads in Ayeyawady Division. The present government could construct 39 bridges which are 180 feet and above long in complete.

As the two bridges under construction will complete soon, Ayeyawady Division will have 41 bridges in total. Therefore, Ayeyawady Division will be the region where the government built the largest number of bridges.

He said now Yangon-Pathein Road is being upgraded to a tarred road and progress of transport brings about regional development. He spoke of the need for departmental officials in the region to make concerted efforts for development of town-to-town roads, town-to-village roads and village-to-village roads.

He said officials concerned are to provide assistance to development of economy such as agriculture, livestock breeding, production and trade in the region while organizing the local people with correct leadership.

He said Ayeyawady Division is a granary of Myanmar and arrangements are to be made for boosting production of paddy and reclamation of farmlands. By doing so, the division needs to keep the position of being a granary of Myanmar. Systematic plans are to be implemented for boosting production of crops meeting the targets set by the state, he added.

Regarding education and health sectors, he said, the government with lofty aims is laying emphasis on them according to its priority level. The government is making arrangements for every township level hospital to become 25-bed one and opening of station hospitals and rural health

care centres at important places, he said.

He spoke at length on systematic arrangements for upgrading affiliated schools to formal schools and schools (branch), regional development, forming of villages and population, opening of basic education schools wherever necessary.

He said at a time when the government is implementing the tasks for harmonious development in the region all departmental heads at division, district and township levels are to make all-out efforts for the development of the region.

Rural regions are the most basic ones in the development of the regions and so five rural development tasks are being implemented. In this context, officials concerned are to make field trips to the grassroots levels and fulfill the requirements of the rural people, he said. He urged departmental officials to make harmonious efforts for development of respective regions and to make use of effective power of social organizations for greater progress of the region. The Prime Minister and party went to the People's Hospital in Kyaunggon Township and inspected the hospital. The Prime Minister visited the patients there.

The Prime Minister then gave instructions. They arrived back here in the afternoon. —MNA

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

## EU presidency says unilateral attempt will not bring M-E peace

DUBLIN (Ireland), 18 April — The Irish EU presidency said Friday any attempt to resolve the Middle East conflict unilaterally would not bring lasting peace in the region, stressing that Israel had to reach agreement with Palestine to achieve security.

"The fact remains that, in order to achieve lasting peace and security, Israel still has to reach agreement with the Palestinian people and its other Arab neighbours. It remains the case that Israel has to make peace with its enemies, not its friends," Irish Foreign Minister Brian Cowen, whose country currently holds the rotating EU presidency, told a news conference before an informal EU foreign ministers meeting in Tullamore, a city in central Ireland.

"Everyone knows that any attempt to solve the conflict unilaterally will not bring lasting peace. Any viable, long-term settlement needs to be both agreed and inclusive. We have learned that here in Ireland and there will be

no escaping that reality in the Middle East," Cowen told reporters.

Stressing that he welcomed Bush's remarks that "the United States remains committed to the vision of two states living side by side in peace and security, and its implementation as described in the roadmap," Cowen told reporters that there were other US points on which the EU has a different approach.

The Foreign Minister also said that he was confident that the European Union, the United States, Russia and the United Nations would continue to work together in the "Quartet" to secure an inclusive agreement between the parties on the basis of the roadmap, a Middle East peace plan

crafted by the "Quartet" that laid out steps towards an independent Palestinian state and a final settlement by 2005.

EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana, who was also attending the Tullamore meeting, told reporters on Friday that a Quartet meeting on the roadmap was likely to be held in Berlin around April 28, stressing that the roadmap which envisages negotiations with the Palestinians remained the basic framework for reaching a final settlement in the Middle East.

Foreign ministers from the current 15 EU countries and its 10 new member states were gathering in Tullamore for a two-day informal session during the Irish EU presidency.

MNA/Xinhua

## US industrial production fell 0.2% in March

WASHINGTON, 18 April — Industrial production in the United States fell 0.2 per cent in March after two months of large gains, the Federal Reserve reported Friday.

In January and February, the output at the nation's factories, mines and utilities rose by 0.7 per cent and 0.8 per cent respectively.

March's industrial production was 3.4 per cent above its level in the same period of 2003. For the first quarter as a whole, production rose at an annual rate of 6.6 per cent. In the fourth quarter of 2003, it increased at an upwardly revised annual rate of 5.6 per cent.

In March, manufactur-

ing output was unchanged while it registered a 1.1-per cent surge in February. Mining output was down 0.3 per cent in the month, following a 0.1-per cent rise in February. The output at utilities in March dropped 2.3 per cent, the sharpest decline in a year, reflecting a decrease in demand because of unseasonably warm weather. In February, output in utilities declined by 0.8 per cent.

The rate of capacity

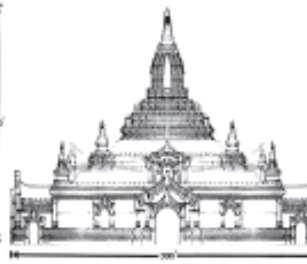
utilization for total industry in March declined 0.2 percentage point to 76.5 per cent. "It shows what every manufacturer knows, business is volatile, growing in spurts, not in a smooth pattern," said Daniel Meckstroth, chief economist at the Manufacturers Alliance/MAPI, a research group. "The report should be seen as a temporary pause in the context of a solid industrial expansion."

MNA/Xinhua

## တကောင်းမြို့ ရှေးဟောင်း လေးမျက်နှာတရားကြီး ပြန်လည်ပြုပြင် တည်ဆောက်ရာတွင် ကုသိုလ်ယူ ဝါဝင်လှူဒါန်းနိုင်



အေဒီ (၁၁)ရာစု အနောက်တောင်အာရှတိုက်ရှိ ကောင်းမြို့တော် ဖြစ်သော လေးမျက်နှာတရားကြီး သည် ဝါဝင်လှူဒါန်း ရာသီ ခုနှစ် ဝါဆို၊ ဧပြီလ ၁၅ ရက်နေ့ ဖြစ်ပြီး နှစ်ပေါင်းများစွာ တောကြွေးအုပ်များလျက် အုတ်ကျန်ခဲ့ပြီး တာဝန်ရောက်ခဲ့ရသည့် ကုသိုလ်ယူ ဝါဝင်လှူဒါန်း ကြိုးကြပ်မှုဖြင့် တကောင်းမြို့ဟောင်းတွင် ပြန်လည်ပြုပြင် တည်ဆောက်ပါမည်။  
ဧပြီလ ၁၅ ရက်နေ့တွင် ကုသိုလ်ယူ ဝါဝင်လှူဒါန်း ကုသိုလ်ယူ ဝါဝင်လှူဒါန်း နေ့ဖြစ်ပါမည်။



အုတ်တစ်ချပ် (၁၂ x ၉ x ၃) - ၄၆/-  
တိလပ်မြေတစ်ခဲတံ - ၄၀၀/-  
သဲတစ်ကျပ် - ၆၀၀/-  
မြစ်ကျောက် (အခမဲ့) တစ်ကျပ် - ၂၀၀/-  
သုံး (တစ်ခဲတံ) - ၁၀၀/-  
သဲကျောက်ပြား တစ်ချပ် (၁၂ x ၁၂) - ၅၀/-

ယဉ်ကျေးမှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန (ဝန်ကြီးရုံး) ဖုန်း ၅၄၂၃၇၅၊ ၅၄၂၃၇၆  
ရှေးဟောင်းသုတေသနဦးစီးဌာန (ရုံးချုပ်) ဖုန်း ၅၁၂၀၄၀၊ ၅၁၂၀၃၇  
ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအမွေအနှစ်ဝေသည့်မှု (ဗဟိုဌာန) ဖုန်း ၁၂-၃၆၇၅၅၊ ၁၂-၃၇၀၅၆  
တကောင်းမြို့ ရှေးဟောင်း လေးမျက်နှာတရားကြီး ပြန်လည်ပြုပြင်

## Brazilian Govt to promote programme against famine

RIO DE JANEIRO, 18 April — The Brazilian Government announced on Friday that it will put forward a major programme in an effort to fight famine and increase the number of beneficiary families to 8.5 million next year.

The objective for the Family Package Programme was set by the authorities in the Budget Guidelines Law sent to the National Congress.

Planning Minister Guido Mantega said in the document that 1.6 billion reals (549 million US dollars) will be channelled to the programme which is aimed at fighting famine and poverty and providing health, food, educational and social assistance to the poorest families.

A total of 4.5 million families will receive support from the programme this year. Along with the Family Package, the Brazilian Government also said in the bill that it has made agrarian reform one of the priorities for next year.

Mantega added that the aim for 2005 is the same as that of 2004 and efforts will be made to improve the situation of 115,000 farm households. They need 2.5 billion reals (859 million US dollars) to achieve the targets. — MNA/Xinhua

## FAO calls for urgent global commitment to fight hunger

MONTEVIDEO, 18 April — Visiting Director-General Jacques Diouf of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) called on Friday for an urgent global political commitment to fighting hunger and poverty.

As the world population reaches six billion, it is ever more necessary to worry about the food problem, Diouf said in Uruguay's capital Montevideo after meeting with Uruguayan Cattle, Agriculture and Fishing Minister Martin Aguirrezabal.

That is why it is necessary that the 188 FAO member states should adopt a "real political commitment" to contribute to the fight against hunger and poverty, he said.

The last world food summit in 1996 decided to work in every country to reduce by half the number of starving people in the world by 2015. However, international aid for agricultural development plummeted by 50 per cent

between 1990 and 2000, he said.

During the meeting with Diouf, the Uruguayan minister promised to send technicians to Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo to help develop local agriculture.

MNA/Xinhua

## Iranian vast northeastern province divided into three

TEHERAN, 18 April — Iran's Majlis (Parliament) has approved on Saturday a plan to divide the vast northeastern province of Khorassan into three smaller ones, the official IRNA news agency reported. The three new provinces will be Northern Khorassan with the northeastern city of Bojnourd as the capital, Southern Khorassan with the eastern city of Birjand as the capital and Razavi Khorassan with Mashhad, the present provincial capital, to be its capital. The Parliament has been debating the plan for a long time. The approval of it will increase the number of Iran's provinces to 30. The Khorassan Province is located from the northeast to the east of Iran, bordering Turkmenistan and Afghanistan. It is presently the largest province of the country in area. — MNA/Xinhua

## Paper reports Kuwait security on red alert

KUWAIT CITY, 18 April — All commanders of the Kuwaiti Ministry of Interior have been instructed to raise emergency readiness standards all over the country in response to the current serious security situation in Iraq, daily newspaper Kuwait Times reported Saturday. As part of the plan, more checkpoints are to be placed all over Kuwait, particularly in the northern areas, and the number of staff on

annual leave will be restricted, as the situation might demand. All senior commanders of the ministry were summoned to headquarters on Thursday, where they were directed to ensure that their staff was in full uniform at their stations and intensify training as part of readiness to deal with emergencies. Kuwait reinforced its security safeguard amid the increasing tension in southern Iraqi cities, particularly the standoff between the US-led coalition forces and radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr's Mehdi army in Najaf. The amount of people who entered Kuwait from Iraq has fallen from 200 to about 50 per day during past several days. Meanwhile, the on-going battle between Saudi security forces and the al-Qaeda-linked militants also increased Kuwait's worry about its security situation.

MNA/Xinhua

## ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင် ဘဝတစ်ခွင်

ကျန်းမာခြင်းဆိုသည်မှာ - ရောဂါဘယကင်းရှင်းစွာ သာမက၊ ကိုယ်၏ကျန်းမာခြင်းနှင့် စိတ်ချမ်းသာခြင်းနှင့် လူမှုရေးသုတေသနဖြင့် ကိုယ်ချမ်းသာခြင်း။

ဘဝတစ်ခွင် ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင်စေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

- (၁) တစ်ကိုယ်ရည်သန့်ရှင်းမှုကိုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၂) အန္တရာယ်ကင်းစွာ အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအသောက်များကိုစားသုံးပါ။
- (၃) ပိုမိုကောင်းစင်၍ သန့်ရှင်းသောရေကို သောက်သုံးပါ။
- (၄) ရာသီဥတုနှင့် လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်နေထိုင်ပါ။
- (၅) အသက်အရွယ်နှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာ သင့်တော်သော ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုကို မှန်မှန်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၆) နေ့စဉ်လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်တာများ ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်းကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်မှုကိုပြေပျောက်စေရန် အနားယူပါ။
- (၇) ခြင်္သေ့ရယ်မှကာကွယ်ရန် ခြင်္သေ့အိပ်ပါ။
- (၈) ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့်ညီညွတ်သော ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအတိုင်းစားသုံးပါ။
- (၉) အရက်သောက်ခြင်း၊ ဆေးလိပ်ဆေးရွက် သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ ကွမ်းစားခြင်းတို့ကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၀) မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးနှင့် စိတ်တိုမြှင့်လှောင်ဆေးဝါးများ သုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၁) အပျော်အပါးလိုက်စားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) ရေ၊ မြေ၊ လေ သဘာဝတိရစ္ဆာန်များနှင့် နေထိုင်မှု၊ အသက်မွေးမှုတိရစ္ဆာန်များအား ညီညွတ်စေသည့် အပြုအမူများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



## Int'l community urged to help solve Mideast crisis

GENEVA, 18 April — The United Nations International Meeting on the Impact of the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Including In and Around East Jerusalem, concluded its two-day session Friday afternoon with participants urging the international community to help solve this crisis.

A final document issued by the meeting said participants expressed deep concern over the dangerous current and potential humanitarian consequences of the construction of the wall, noting that it would bring further dispossession for a significant number of Palestinians.

They also noted that by destroying, confiscating and putting off limits Palestinian agricultural lands and water sources in the process of the wall construction, Israel dealt another devastating blow to the Palestinian economy, which was on the verge of collapse after three years of destruction and restrictions

imposed by the occupying power.

The final document said participants further noted that the protracted and complete lack of dialogue between the parties necessitated an active involvement of the international community.

They reaffirmed the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with respect to all the aspects of the question of Palestine, until it was resolved in conformity with relevant UN resolutions and norms of International Law, and until the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people were fully realized.

MNA/Xinhua

## Israel's withdrawal initiative must be consistent with roadmap

Moscow, 18 April — Israel's decision to withdraw from the Gaza Strip will prove effective if carried out in full conformity with the internationally accepted roadmap peace plan, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Friday.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's plan of "unilateral disengagement" from the area is no substitute for the roadmap, but "an important and positive first step on the road to a

comprehensive settlement including creation of an independent Palestine existing in peace with Israel," Lavrov was quoted by the ITAR-TASS news agency as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

### တိဘီတေဂါကကွယ်နိုင်နင်းရေး

- (က) ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားသူစက်ပုံ  
ဤရောဂါသည်တိဘီတေဂါကကွယ်နိုင်သော ကူးစက်ရောဂါဖြစ်သည်။  
ဝေဒနာရှင် ရောဂါဆိုးခြင်း၊ နှာချေခြင်း၊ သလိပ်တံတွေးမှ တစ်ဆင့် ရောဂါပိုးများလေထဲတွင်ပျံ့နှံ့၍ ကူးစက်သည်။
- အသက်အရွယ်မရွေး လူတိုင်းတွင်ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သည်။
  - အဆုတ်တွင်အများဆုံးဖြစ်ပွားပြီး ကိုယ်ခန္ဓာအနှံ့အပြားတွင်လည်း ဖြစ်နိုင်သည်။
  - ဆီးချိုရောဂါ၊ ခုခံအားကျဆင်းမှု၊ ကူးစက်ရောဂါနှင့် အာဟာရ ချို့တဲ့မှုရှိသူများတွင် အဖြစ်များသည်။
- (ခ) ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများ
- ရက်ရှည်ချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း (ရက်သတ္တပတ် (၃) ပတ်နှင့်အထက်)။
  - ချောင်းဆိုးသွေးပါခြင်း။
  - သလိပ်တွင်သွေးပါခြင်း။
  - အဖျားတာရှည်ခြင်း။
  - ခံတွင်းပျက်ခြင်း၊ မောပန်းလွယ်ခြင်း။
  - ကိုယ်အလေးချိန်လျော့နည်းပိန်ချိုခြင်း။
  - ကျောရင်အောင်ခြင်း။
- (ဂ) ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ခြင်း
- ရင်သွေးငယ်များအား ကာကွယ်ဆေး(ဘီစီဂျီ)ကိုမပျက်မကွက် ထိုးပေးပါ။
  - အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအစာများကိုစားသုံးပါ။
  - သင့်တင့်လျောက်ပတ်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုပြုလုပ်ပါ။
  - ချောင်းဆိုးခြင်း၊ နှာချေလျှင် လက်ကိုင်းဝါကို အသုံးပြုပါ။
  - သလိပ်နှင့်တံတွေးကိုစည်းကမ်းမဲ့ထွေးခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
  - ဆေးလိပ်သောက်ခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (ဃ) ကုသမှုယူခြင်း
- တိုက်ရိုက်ကြည့်ရှုအချိန်တိုနှင့်တူနည်းဖြင့် ရောဂါကင်းသည်အထိ ကုသမှုခံယူပါ။
  - ကုသမှုခံယူခြင်းသည် အခြားသူများသို့ကူးစက်စေခြင်းမှ အကောင်းဆုံးကာကွယ်ခြင်းဖြစ်သည်။
- တိဘီတေဂါသံသယရှိလျှင် နီးစပ်ရာကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် စစ်ဆေး၍ တိဘီတေဂါရှိပါက အစွမ်းထက်သောတီဘီဆေးဝါးများဖြင့် အစမဲကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

## Malaysian Premier writes to Bush ahead of ICO meet

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 April—Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi said on Saturday he has written to US President George W Bush and key world leaders ahead of a meeting of Islamic countries to discuss violence in Iraq and Palestinian territories.

"I've sent letters to President Bush and to leaders of the Permanent Five of the United Nations on the subject of Iraq," Abdullah told reporters after attending a public function.

"I have also sent letters to President Bush and others that make up the Group of Four responsible for the Palestinian 'roadmap' or peace plan," he added.

Malaysia, which chairs the 57-nation Organization of the Islamic Conference, said on Friday it has brought forward a meeting of ICO foreign ministers to April 22 from May 4 at the request of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Malaysia became the ICO chair last year, taking leadership of a body that reflects the views of the world's 1.3 billion Muslims but has been largely ignored by Washington and Israel due to its scant means or lack of an institutional framework for action.

Abdullah declined to comment on whether his message would be taken seriously.

"We'll see whether they want to keep ignoring us or not," he said. "I don't want to say much because I've already said in my letters quite a lot of things." — MNA/Reuters

## Strong quake jolts Indonesia's Bengkulu

JAKARTA, 18 April—A powerful earthquake measuring 6.4 on the Richter Scale rocked Indonesia's Bengkulu Province early Saturday, said an official.

The epicentre of the quake, which occurred at 04:57 am local time (21:57 GMT Friday), was located 70 kilometres under the sea level at the Indonesian ocean, some 140 kilometres northwest of Bengkulu, local meteorology and geophysics office head Hatta was quoted as saying by the official Antara news agency.

There has been no immediate report of casualties or infrastructure damage so far, said the report.

At least 85 mild tremors have been detected in the province recently but only two of them were felt by local residents, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

## Malaysian manufacturing sales value up in February

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 April — Sales value of Malaysia's manufacturing sector recorded 29.4 billion ringgit (7.73 billion US dollars) in February 2004, up 13.5 per cent over the same month last year, official statistics indicated on Friday.

For the first two months of 2004, the manufacturing sector registered a cumulative sales value of 58.9 billion ringgit (15.5 billion US dollars), an increase of 11.8 per cent over the same period last year, according to the statistics issued by the Statistics Department in a Press release.

However, the statistics revealed the sales value of the month under review was 0.7 per cent lower from the sales value of 29.6 billion ringgit (7.79 billion US dollars) reported in January this year.

The statistics also showed the number of employees engaged in manufacturing at the end of February 2004 was 1,008,143 persons, an increase of 3.5 per cent as compared with 974,394 persons at the end of February 2003.

But there was a drop of 0.4 per cent when compared with the January 2004 figure of 1,012,682 persons, according to the statistics.

Total salaries and wages paid out to employees in manufacturing in the first two months of 2004 rose by 9.7 per cent to 3.4 billion (894.73 million US dollars) from 3.1 billion ringgit (815.78 million US dollars) disbursed during the corresponding period of last year, it said.

The export value of the manufacturing sector, the mainstay of Malaysian economy, accounts for over 50 per cent of the country's total export value. — MNA/Xinhua

## 7 killed in fire in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 18 April — Seven people in one family were killed in a fire earlier Friday morning in one of Phnom Penh's busiest streets Monivong, police said Friday. "Seven people died," Phan Pheng, Police Chief of Phnom Penh's Daun Penh District where the fire took place, told Xinhua by telephone.

"It happened at around 2 am earlier Friday morning," Phan Pheng said. Witnesses said the seven people could not escape from inside the building when the fire broke out. — MNA/Xinhua

### “သတိပေးနိုးဆော်ချက်”

ခရီးသည်တင်မော်တော်ယာဉ်များအား ဖြို့တွင်းသို့ နေ့/ည ခရီးသည်ပို့ဆောင်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် သတိပေးခေါ်ဝေါ်ရေးနှင့်အညီ စက်သုံးဆီထုတ်ပေးထားပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယာဉ်စီမံများအားလည်း သတိမှတ်နှုန်းထားများအတိုင်းတောင်းခံရန် ညွှန်ကြားထားရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် အချို့ယာဉ်လိုင်းများမှ ယာဉ်မောင်းနှင့် ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်တို့သည် ယာဉ်စီမံများကို ညပိုင်းတွင် ပိုမိုတောင်းယူနေကြောင်း သိရပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ပိုမိုတောင်းခံပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူနိုင်ရန် အောက်ပါနိပါတ်များသို့ တိုင်ကြားနိုင်ပါသည်။

(၁) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့၊ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း (ဖုန်း ၁၉၉)

(၂) မြို့မကြေးနန်းနှင့်ယာဉ်ထိန်းတပ်ဖွဲ့ချုပ် (ဖုန်း ၂၅၁၂၅၀/၂၅၁၂၅၁)

(၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်လုပ်ငန်းပေါင်းစုထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ (ဖုန်း ၅၄၁၉၀၅/၅၄၁၉၀၄)

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

### အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည့်ရောဂါများ

အရက်ကိုလွန်ကဲစွာနှင့် စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သောရောဂါများမှာ အသည်းရောင်ခြင်း၊ အသည်းခြောက်ခြင်း၊ သွေးအန်ခြင်း၊ အစာအိမ်ရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ ဦးနှောက်နှင့်အာရုံကြောထိခိုက်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ရောဂါများဖြစ်ခြင်း စသည်တို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

အရက်ကြောင့်ဖြစ်တတ်သော စိတ်ရောဂါများမှာ —

၁။ ကယောင့်ကတမ်းဖြစ်ခြင်း (Delirium Tremors)၊ ကြောက်လန့်ခြင်း၊ အချိန်၊ နာရီ၊ နေရာ၊ လူ ခန့်မှန်းနိုင်စွမ်း မရှိခြင်း၊ ကြောက်စရာလန့်စရာများမြင်ရခြင်း၊ အသံဗလများ ကြားရခြင်း၊ ပိုမိုများစွာကိုယ်ပေါ် ရုစိတ်သွားသလိုခံစားရခြင်း၊ လက်တုန့်ရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။

၂။ အရက်အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်းကြောင့် လူမရှိတဲ့ နားထွက် ခေါ်သံများ၊ ခြိမ်းခြောက်သံများ၊ ခော်ကားမော်ကားသံများ ကြားနေရတတ်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Hallucinations)။

၃။ အတက်ကြီးရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Rum Fits) (ဝက်ရုပ်မြန်ရောဂါကဲ့သို့ တတ်ခြင်း)။

၄။ စိတ်ဓာတ်ကျရောဂါဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Depressive Illness)။

၅။ စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်ခြင်း (Alcoholic Psychosis)။

၆။ ဦးနှောက်ချို့ယွင်းခြင်း။

၇။ အရက်နှင့်မတည့်သောသူများသည် အရက်အနည်းငယ်သောက် ရခြင်း ရုတ်တရက် စိတ်ဖောက်ပြန်တတ်ခြင်း (Pathological Drunkenness)။

၈။ မိမိ၏ဇနီးကို အထင်အမြင်လွဲမှားခြင်းများ ဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း (Morbid Jealousy)။

၉။ အရက်ကြောင့် ရာဇဝတ်မှုကျူးလွန်သည်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်ခြင်း။

အထက်ပါဆိုကျိုးများကို မခံစားရစေရန် အရက်သောက် သုံးခြင်း၊ အထူးသဖြင့် အလွန်အကျွံသောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ အရက်ကို စွဲလမ်းစွာသောက်သုံးခြင်းတို့မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ရန် တိုက်တွန်းအပ်ပါသည်။ အရက်စွဲရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေးဆေးရုံနှင့် ကုသရေး ဌာနများတွင် စနစ်တကျကုသမှုခံယူရန် အသိပေးနှိုးဆော် အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

### Nursery Market Festival continues

YANGON, 18 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. Modern and scientific poultry farming as well as fish and prawn breeding are also exhibited at the Nursery Market Festival.

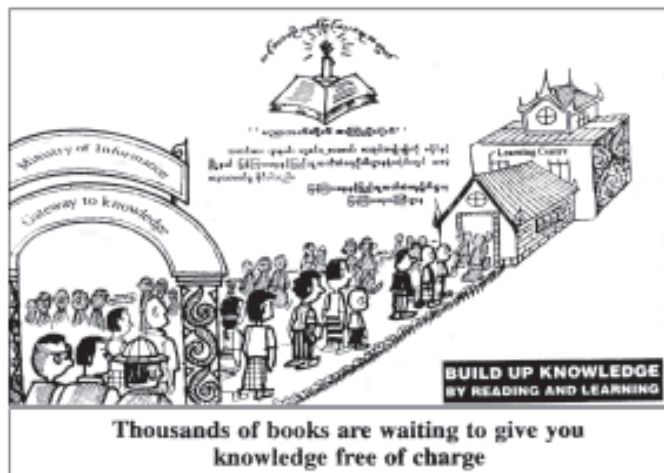
Pamphlets and booklets on scientific cultivation of crops, mechanized farming, utilization of natural and chemical fertilizers are also available there.

The Nursery Market Festival is drawing more and more visitors and attracting people to get interested in agriculture and livestock breeding works.

MNA

ရှောင်လေဝေးဝေး

မူးယစ်ဆေး



## ADVERTISEMENTS

### Chinese Proficiency Test (HSK)

Host Institutions : University of Foreign Languages, Yangon;  
Embassy of the People's Republic of China  
Sponsor : The State Commission of Chinese Proficiency Test  
Date : May 15, 2004 (Saturday)  
Place : University of Foreign Languages, Yangon  
University of Foreign Languages, Mandalay  
Application period : From April 6, 2004 (Tuesday) to April 30, 2004 (Friday)

The TEST has three different levels; the examinee can choose the level that best matches his or her ability and training.

Further information may be obtained from University of Foreign Languages, Yangon, 119-131 University Avenue, Yangon (Telephone: 513198) and University of Foreign Languages, Mandalay (Telephone: 32330).

HSK Guide Books may be purchased at the Cultural Section of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China: No-94, Kha Yae Pin Rd, Dagon Township, Yangon and Office of the Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China: Yadanar Lane, Yangyi Aung Road, 35th Street (Between 65th and 66th Streets), Mandalay.

### China reduces restrictions on foreign-invested companies

**BEIJING, 18 April—** The Chinese Ministry of Commerce issued a new regulation on commercial enterprises with foreign investment here Friday, reducing restrictions on these enterprises.

The new regulation will take effect 1 June, when the regulation on experiments of commercial enterprises with foreign investment jointly issued by the former State Economic and Trade Commission and former Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation in 1999 will be abolished.

There are two major changes in the new regulation from the old one. One is that the concept "experiments" has been abandoned, and the other is that restrictions on the number, stock holdings and business scope of these enterprises have been reduced.

The ministry said the new law added the commitments that China made in its access to the World Trade Organization. With the new regulation, it becomes easier for enterprises to enter the market and examining and approving procedures are also simplified.

According to the new regulation, after 11 December, commercial enterprises with foreign investment en-

gaged in wholesale can do business relating to medicine and agricultural chemicals and plastic films. Besides these products, commercial enterprises with foreign investment engaged in retail can also do business related to refined oil.

After 11 February, 2006, commercial enterprises with foreign investment engaged in wholesale can do business related to chemical fertilizer, refined oil and raw oil. Commercial enterprises with foreign investment engaged in retail can do business related to chemical fertilizer after 11 December, 2006.

The regulation still does not permit these enterprises to engage in tobacco business.

According to the new regulation, commercial enterprises completely foreign invested will be permitted to be set up from 11 December. And also from this day, commercial enterprises with foreign investment engaged in retail will no longer be limited in provincial capital.

MNA/Xinhua

### Bangladeshi state-run telecom giant enters mobile market

**DHAKA, 18 April—** The Bangladeshi Government has decided to sign contracts with two foreign companies to pave the way for introducing the much-awaited state-run mobile phone service within this year.

Under the first phase of about 138 million US dollars mobile phone project of the state-run Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board, the contracts for procuring equipment worth 79 million dollars will be signed with the Siemens of Germany and China's Huawei within the next two months, *The Financial Express* reported Friday.

The duo will have to initially make 250,000 mobile phones operational within six months of signing the contracts. One million mobile phones will be marketed in phases under the government-financed project.

MNA/Xinhua

### Students design air bag to help bedridden patients turn over

**GUANGZHOU, 18 April—** Two schoolgirls in the southern metropolis Guangzhou have won first prize in a national technological contest for school children with an air bag system that helps bedridden patients turn over.

The automatic air bag system has two primary bags that can be filled with gas to help the patient turn over to avoid bedsores.

Attached to the primary bags are smaller ones that can be filled with or discharged of gas to avoid overheating underneath the patient's back.

The processes can be adjusted to make the patients feel more comfortable, said Lin Jia, a senior high student with the No 47 High School in Guangzhou.

Lin said the idea to invent an automatic air bag system occurred to her after her mother, a charge nurse with a local hospital, told her how hard it was to help patients change positions.

"It's a tough job and has to be done many times a day," said Lin. "My mom said she's got to be very careful, too, to avoid causing more pain to the patients. She's always exhausted after a day of work."

Lin discussed the idea with her best friend and schoolmate Sun Yangxu and

the two soon worked out a design, which they submitted to their science teacher Zhang Minli.

"Since the air bags would be made of rubber, Zhang said prolonged contact with them could also be harmful to the patient's skin," noted Lin. "That's why we included the smaller bags to our original design."

She said the air bag system was portable, easy to operate and economical because most parts could be replaced. "It will be a blessing to bed-confined patients and nurses alike if it's put into mass production."

Zhang said the girls' invention had been selected to represent China in an international children's invention show in Tokyo, Japan this August.

"We'll try to talk a local rubber plant into making a sample product so that their invention will be more convincing and impressive on the international occasion," said Zhang. "I hope they will stand out again in Tokyo."

MNA/Xinhua

## ပြည်တွင်းပြန်လှန်အားပေးပါ

### India to record 6% economy growth

**NEW DELHI, 18 April—** India's economy is expected to record a lower 6-per-cent growth in 2004-05 as against 8.1 per cent in the previous fiscal, says a new UN report released Friday.

The annual Economic and Social Survey of Asia and Pacific 2004 states that "assuming no major internal or external shocks, India should be able to sustain real gross domestic product (GDP) growth rates in the region of 6 to 7 per cent in 2004-06."

The survey has been published in a report on the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) region, which

groups 62 economies, including some developed nations like Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

In 2003-04 India recorded 8.1-per-cent growth as against a low 4-per-cent growth in the previous fiscal. This was largely due to the "rebound of agricultural output, growing by 9.5 per cent on the back of bumper food grain harvests. The industrial sector also sustained its strong performance."

In 2004-05, "India's agriculture sector is expected to slow somewhat after its impressive performance in 2003," leading to a lower GDP growth of 6 per cent.

Nagesh Kumar, Director-General of Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries, presented the report.

He, however, says the 6-per-cent growth forecast for 2004-05 is a "rather con-

servative estimation, given that India's economy is showing good growth momentum".

Disagreeing with the forecast, Kumar expects India to clock a higher growth in 2004-05, with the manufacturing sector continuing the momentum alongside agriculture with another good southwest monsoon forecast in 2004.

The report states: "The high growth in India is in keeping with the trend of strong, broad-based growth in the 2003-04 fiscal, combined with low inflation in the Asia and Pacific Region."

Focusing on "sustaining growth and tackling poverty", the report says that developing countries in the ESCAP region as a group are "growing faster than the global economy as well as other groups of developing countries".

MNA/Xinhua

### Australian Air Force to buy European refuelling aircraft

**CANBERRA, 18 April—** The Australian Air Force has selected Europe's A330 aircraft to replace its ageing Boeing 707 air-to-air refuelling fleet in a 1.48-billion-US-dollar project.

The European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company (EADS) teamed with Australia's Qantas Defence Services has won the project with the EADS A330 Multi-Role Tanker Transport Aircraft, said Defence Minister Robert Hill in a statement.

The five new aircraft will be capable of refuelling F/A-18, F-111, Airborne Early Warning and Control and Joint Strike Fighter aircraft, Hill said.

They will also have a significant strategic air lift capacity when not engaged in aerial refuelling tasks, including the ability to carry 293 passengers and a significant amount of cargo, ac-

cording to the Defence Minister.

"The acquisition of an additional aircraft will provide a big boost to (the Air Force's) operational capabilities," he said.

The basic aircraft will be constructed in Europe, with four of the five having refuelling modifications installed and integrated by Qantas in Brisbane. Qantas Defence Services will also conduct through life support of the aircraft in Australia.

Hill said that all the aircraft would be fitted with an Electronic Warfare Self Protection suite for defence against shoulder fired surface to air missiles.

MNA/Xinhua

### Navy helicopter crashes in S Korea, killing one

**SEOUL, 18 April—** A helicopter of South Korean Navy crashed on Friday afternoon, killing one soldier, reported local TV news station YTN.

YTN said the helicopter crashed around 3:00 pm (0600 GMT) Friday in Pohang City, some 300 kilometres southeast to Seoul, when it was on the way to support fire controlling work of a blaze in a near mountain.

Television footage shows that the plane crashed into ruin except of the afterbody, and smoke rose from the wreckage. Local police has blocked the scene.

One soldier was confirmed dead, but other three also on board the chopper were still missing, said YTN. Rescuing work and investigation of the incident are undergoing.

MNA/Xinhua

## AIDS is a national concern.



# ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဆက်ရေးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## “Atlas” rocket carries Japanese commercial satellite Aloft

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 18 April—An Atlas 2 rocket carrying a Japanese communications satellite made a picture-perfect night time launch from Cape Canaveral on Thursday, lighting the Atlantic seaboard in central Florida like a shimmering torch.

The 8:45 pm. EDT (0045 GMT Friday) liftoff followed a perfect countdown and extended the string of successful launches by Lockheed Martin's Atlas to 71, dating back to 1993.

This was the fourth launch of the year for International Launch Services, a partnership between Lockheed Martin and the Khrunichev State Research Centre in Russia, according to International Launch Services.

The 3.5-ton Superbird 6 satellite separated from the Atlas upper stage about 30 minutes after liftoff. It will be operated by Space Communications Corp of Tokyo and provide home and business video and data services to Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan, Korea and

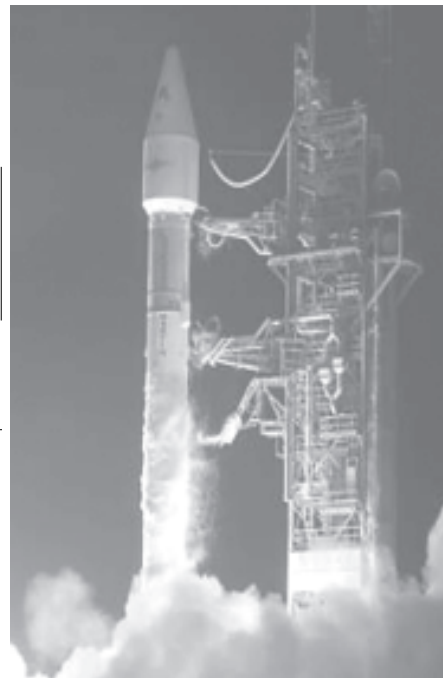
Hawaii. The satellite was built by Boeing Satellite Systems, a subsidiary of Boeing Co <BA.N>.

Boeing Satellite President Dave Ryan told Reuters that while commercial satellite customers make up a shrinking share of the company's business, following a glut of launches in the late 1990s, the US Government is more than making up for that drop-off.

Ryan said satellites serving the US Armed Forces and intelligence agencies will grow from seven billion US dollars in business in 2003 to about 17 billion US dollars a year in the next decade. “As we've seen in the Middle East and Afghanistan, when you need communications quickly, you

also need a lot of it,” said Ryan. The government is reaching the point where every military radio will be able capable of contact with every other military radio on the planet, not only for audio communications but also for data and streaming video, he said. —MNA/Reuters

A Lockheed Martin Atlas 2AS rocket lifts off carrying the Japanese Superbird 6 spacecraft designed to relay television and provide Internet services across the Asia-Pacific region from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Cape Canaveral, Florida on 15 April, 2004. —INTERNET



## Minister says Russian video piracy finances terrorism

Moscow, 18 April—Russia's huge illegal software and music market is financing terrorism, Russia's Science Minister said on Friday.

Market stalls and kiosks across Russia sell pirated software, compact discs and videos — often selling films long before they open in Russian cinemas. Industry estimates say around three-quarters of the Russian market is illegal.

“In buying a pirated disc, a person is not only breaking the law of property and is financing not only crooks,” Science Minister Andrei Fursenko told President Vladimir Putin.

“(He is financing) via the back door the economy which leads to terrorism.”

Last year, more than 300 people were killed in Russia in suicide bombings that the Kremlin blamed on Chechen separatists it sees as a part of an international terror network and allies of al-Qaeda.

But Putin made clear that government efforts to support legal producers would be useless while official discs were so much more expensive than pirated versions. Fake compact discs cost as little as two US dollars.

MNA/Reuters

## Singapore researchers develop dissolving heart stent

SINGAPORE, 18 April — A team of researchers from Singapore has made a completely biodegradable heart stent aimed at improving patient recovery and reducing infections, the city state's Nanyang Technological University said on Friday.

Stents are small tube-like devices surgically implanted into patients to address blockages such as clogged arteries.

Currently permanently inserted metal stents are used which can cause blood clots and re-blockage of blood vessels. Patients need to take several drugs to prevent these problems.

NTU said in a statement the new stent can carry multiple layers of drugs that can be released into a patient's body at various rates over a sustained period of time from

days to several months.

After that, the stent will completely dissolve in the body as lactic acid.

The product, which took two and a half years to develop, will enable doctors to tailor prescriptions for different patients for optimal treatment, said a spokesperson from NTU.

According to the statement, the stents can be used in coronary arteries, the brain, the lungs, the urinary tract, and any part in the body where fluid flow is disrupted.

MNA/Reuters

## At least 43 killed in Congo ferry disaster

KINSHASA, 18 April—At least 43 people, mostly children, died and 10 were reported missing after a boat capsized last week off the shore of Lake Tanganyika in a remote corner of eastern Congo, a UN spokeswoman said on Thursday.

The spokeswoman, quoting survivors, said the bodies of 25 children, 17 women and one man had been recovered while local fishermen rescued 53 people clinging to plastic containers and took them to shore.

The 15-ton wooden ferry was transporting goods and passengers north from Tembwe to Kalemie, 44 miles up the lake when it capsized off the village of Obola.

“Half an hour after the boat left, water started pouring in as the boat was overloaded and probably in bad condition,” Eva Gilliam said by phone from Congo's trading town of Kalemie, where most of the survivors began to gather several days after the April 8 tragedy.

She said the exact number of passengers was not known as the boat's official manifest only had 32 people on board, but at least 10 people were unaccounted for.

MNA/Reuters

## Bulgaria seizes hundreds of fake foreign passports

SOFIA, 18 April—Bulgarian police seized nearly 1,000 fake French, Greek and Spanish blank passports as they were about to be smuggled out of the country, an official said.

Customs officers seized the 946 false passports hidden in a truck and arrested two Bulgarians at the country's Kalotina border crossing with Serbia, Interior Min-

istry Chief Secretary Boiko Borisov told Reuters.

Borisov said police knew when and where the smugglers would try to move the passports out of the country and had waited to seize them at the border, as under Bulgarian law printing false documents is not a crime, but smuggling them is.

MNA/Reuters

## Boat carrying 100 feared lost off Malta

VALLETTA, 18 April—Maltese rescue teams and NATO warships called off a search on Friday for a boat in difficulty with about 100 people aboard, possibly illegal migrants, officials said.

Search operations were halted because of very rough weather in the central Mediterranean and “the lack of possibility of survival,” a spokesman for the rescue coordination centre in Malta said.

The alarm was raised on Thursday night after somebody in the 40-foot boat with 96 people on board contacted a third party in Italy using a satellite phone, said the Rescue Coordination Centre of the Maltese Armed Forces.

The vessel was reported to be

at the time some 100 nautical miles southwest of Malta. The spokesman could not confirm that the boat was ferrying illegal migrants to Europe.

He said four NATO warships — from Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and the United States — and two aircraft, from Italy and the United States, had taken part in the search.

Illegal migrants pass near Malta on their way across the Mediterranean from North Africa to Italy. Scores have

died in recent years when overcrowded boats capsized or sank.

MNA/Reuters

## Arab countries rich in resources but poor in trade

ABU DHABI, 18 April — The Arab world's share of the global economy falls far short of its share of oil wealth, mainly because it has failed to attract investment, the local English daily *Khaleej Times* reported Friday.

A report released by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia of the United Nations on Thursday said that Arab countries accounted for 4.8 per cent of the world's population but only 2.3 per cent of its gross domestic product (GDP) and 3.2 per cent of total world trade.

“The share of the Arab world in the world economy is not commensurate with its human and natural resources endowment,” the annual report said.

“Among the factors that have contributed to these modest shares are the relatively low levels of investment and use of advanced technology,” it said.

In 2002, the Arab world attracted just 0.7 per cent of world foreign direct investment (FDI) flows and its information and communication infrastructure was below average.

According to the report, the level of trade among Arab countries was “disappointing” despite moves toward a regional economic bloc. Intra-Arab trade accounted for 8.1 per cent of total Arab trade in 2002, far below levels within other regional blocs, although the figure rises to a more typical 19 per cent if oil exports are excluded, it said.

Investment flows among Arab countries between 1985 and 2001 averaged one billion US dollars a year, the region is in dire need to increase not only intra-investment flows, but also FDI flows in general, the report added.

MNA/Xinhua

## Seven Turkish children die after train hits bus

ANKARA, 18 April — At least seven high school children died on Friday when a train hit their school minibus on a level crossing in central Turkey, railway officials said.

“We fear the death toll will rise,” railway spokesman Mehmet Ayçi told Reuters, adding that 13 children had been injured.

The accident happened as the children were going to school in the town of Polatli, about 60 miles southwest of the capital Ankara.

The Anatolian state news

agency said the driver survived the crash and was taken to hospital. His son was among the injured children, NTV television reported.

It was not clear why the accident happened.

Also on Friday, 11 people were killed when a truck collided with a bus in the town of Amasya near the Black Sea.

Reckless driving is common in Turkey, which has one of the highest road mortality rates in the world.

MNA/Reuters

## SPORTS

## Henry hailed as world's best striker by Wenger

LONDON, 17 April — Thierry Henry was hailed as the world's best striker by Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger on Friday after he scored four goals in the league leaders' 5-0 rout of relegation-haunted Leeds United.

Henry is the first Arsenal player for 53 years to score hat tricks in successive games at Highbury — he scored three in the 4-2 defeat of Liverpool last Friday — and the first to score four goals in a game for the club since Ian Wright in 1991.

The win put Arsenal 10 points clear at the top with just five games remaining and Wenger labelled his side's finishing as "perfect".

Asked whether there was a better striker than Henry in world soccer, he said: "I don't think so. I am not the most objective person but personally — no, I don't think so."

"His finishing gets better and when he breaks through no one can catch him. It's not only his pace, it's his power and his clinical finishing. 'It's difficult to find new words for Thierry, the best is just to watch him.' — MNA/Reuters

## Determined Sochaux seek League Cup reward

SOCHAUX (France), 17 April — Sochaux seek their first trophy for 66 years when they tackle knockout specialists Nantes in the French League Cup final on Saturday.

Victory for either side at the Stade de France will be a first, with neither having won the competition before.

Sochaux's hunger is probably the greater, however. Thrashed 4-1 in the final by Monaco last year, the club from eastern France have not won a major prize since securing the second of their two French league titles in 1938.

Victory would also bring with it a guaranteed place in the UEFA Cup next season.

The game offers probably the last chance of glory in a Sochaux shirt for a generation of players who took the club back to the top flight in 2002 and up to their current position of fourth in Ligue 1. Players like France midfielder Benoit Pedretti, striker Pierre-Alain Frau, defender Jeremy Mathieu or Brazilian-born Tunisian striker Santos could all leave at the end of the season.

"The backbone of the team has been the same for the past four of five years and it's really our last chance to win something with Sochaux," said Pedretti.

"A lot of players will be leaving the boat at the end of the season. That's why we want to do well and take the club to the UEFA Cup," he added.

Last year Sochaux's dreams were shattered when they were outclassed by

Monaco and they will be doubly determined against Nantes.

"We've been together for several great seasons and it would be a perfect celebration to bring the League Cup back home."

"We came close last year. We have another chance and we cannot miss it because it's probably the last," said Frau.

Pedretti said in training this week there was only a "five-per-cent chance" of him staying next season and Frau is in advanced talks with Olympique Marseille.

Santos, who was joint top goalscorer in this year's African Nations Cup, and others like Nigeria's Wilson Oruma are also expected to move. If they are to depart with a winner's medal in their pockets, Sochaux's players will have to beat the best cup team in France of the past decade.

Despite up and down results at league level, Nantes won the French Cup in 1999 and 2000 and are still on course for an unprecedented double of League and French Cup triumphs this season.

The Canaries, who are seventh in Ligue 1, host Paris St. Germain in the French Cup semifinals on April 28.

Like Sochaux, Nantes are benefitting from a promising generation of young players, led by goalkeeper

Mickaël Landreau, who at 24 has already won one Ligue 1 title, two cups and played in a Champions League semifinal.

"We've always respected our opponents even those from lower divisions," said defender Nicolas Gillet, commenting on Nantes' recent Cup success.

Defender Mathieu Berson has another theory. "Maybe we're not as consistent at league level as previous great Nantes teams and as a result, we grab everything we can put our hands on (in the cup competitions)," he said.

MNA/Reuters

## Four-goal Henry sinks sad Leeds

LONDON, 17 April — Irresistible Thierry Henry scored four times as Premier League leaders Arsenal walloped struggling Leeds United 5-0 on Friday.

With five games left, Arsenal moved within touching distance of the title on 81 points from 33 matches, 10 clear of second-placed Chelsea and 13 ahead of Manchester United. Leeds were the last team to beat Arsenal in the league when they suppered the Gunners' title bid last season in a 3-2 win

A week ago the Frenchman scored three goals in a 4-2 win over Liverpool and he has now scored five hat-tricks for Arsenal. His fourth goal was his 150th for the club since he joined in 1999.

Henry has raced clear in the leading scorers list in the Premier League and now stands on 29, eight ahead of

Arsenal have moved on to a record 33-match undefeated league run in a single season but Leeds remain deep in relegation trouble in 18th place, still two points behind Portsmouth who have two games in hand.

On Saturday, Portsmouth are at home to Manchester United. Chelsea host mid-table Everton.

Pires provided the first course of Friday's feast running on to a fine pass from Dennis Bergkamp and beating Paul Robinson from 18 metres.

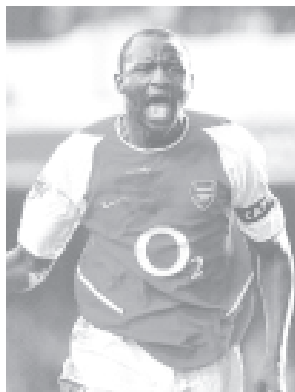
Leeds battled but Gilberto's flicked pass put Henry through on 27 minutes and Robinson had no chance. Henry made it 3-0 from the penalty spot six minutes later after Michael Duberry handled inside the area and the Frenchman completed his hat-trick five minutes into the second half with

Gilberto again the provider.

Leeds' misery was complete 17 minutes later when Henry sped clear of four defenders to net his fourth.

Leeds manager Eddie Gray told SkySports: "When you catch them on a night like that you are going to struggle."

MNA/Reuters



Arsenal can open up a ten point gap at the top of the English Premiership with a victory over relegation-haunted Leeds with skipper Patrick Vieira insisting the Gunners' team spirit will carry them through to the title.

INTERNET

on 4 May.

However, it was obvious as soon as Robert Pires opened the scoring in the sixth minute there would be no repeat on Friday.

Henry followed up with three superb finishes and a delightfully taken penalty between the 27th and 67th minutes.

Newcastle United's Alan Shearer.

Asked about his four goals, Henry told SkySports: "I just played some great balls (that had been put through) for me and the other was a penalty."

"It's always a pleasure to have quality players alongside."



Andy Roddick eyes the ball before returning it to Jurgen Melzer of Austria during a US Men's Clay Court Championships match on 16 April, 2004, at Westside Tennis Club in Houston. Roddick won 7-5, 7-6 to advance to the semifinals. —INTERNET

## Argentine duo set pace in Spain

SEVILLE (Spain), 17 April — Argentine players Cesar Monasterio and Ricardo Gonzalez dominated the Seville Open leaderboard early in the second round on Friday, with Monasterio edging into the lead by a stroke.

Gonzalez set the morning target of eight-under-par 136 with a six-under 66, before Monasterio, playing his first full season on tour at the age of 40, went past him by a stroke with a 67.

Leader Monasterio included a run of six threes and eight birdies to head Gonzalez, who was joined later in second place by Italy's Emanuele Canonica and Severiano Ballesteros' nephew Raul Ballesteros.

Monasterio, on the advice of role-model and fellow former caddie Eduardo Romero, tried to qualify for the European Tour in 1998 but it was not until last year, after seven wins in South America, that he settled in Europe.

He just failed in 2003 to make his full card from the Challenge Tour, finishing in 16th place on the rankings, a place away from qualifying, but he bounced back by winning his card at the tour school.

With a 36th and 67th place and two missed cuts from four starts this campaign, Monasterio's form hardly predicted his early lead on Friday but now he has the chance to ensure he keeps his card for a second season.

MNA/Reuters

## Ferguson hits out at FA over Scholes hearing

MANCHESTER (England), 17 April — Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has criticized the Football Association before next week's disciplinary hearing involving United midfielder Paul Scholes.

Scholes is due to face the FA on Monday to answer a charge of violent conduct relating to an incident in United's 3-2 home defeat by Middlesbrough on 11 February.

The England international is facing a three-match ban if the case is proved and Ferguson is predicting a "difficult hearing" for the 29-year-old.

"You know the FA with Manchester United. It's a different scenario for every other club in the county apart from us, so we expect him probably to have a difficult hearing."

"I don't think he will get the same hearing that other players get, but we will just have to wait and see," Ferguson told a news conference on Friday.

In December Ferguson and United were forced to issue an apology after Ferguson suggested the FA and Arsenal struck a deal over the Highbury club's punishment for the ugly fracas at the United-Arsenal game on 21 September.

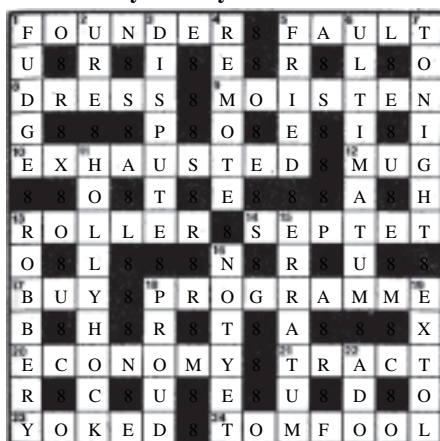
Scholes was involved in a clash with Middlesbrough's Brazilian midfielder Deriva. The FA have charged him after viewing television footage as the incident was missed by referee Paul Durkin.

MNA/Reuters



Ben Curtis hits out of the trap on the eighth green during the second round of the MCI Heritage on 16 April, 2004, at Harbour Town Golf Links on Hilton Head Island, SC. Curtis finished the round with a 66 and an 8-under total of 134. —INTERNET

## Answer for yesterday's Crossword Puzzle





**MRTV-3**
**19-4-2004 (Monday)  
(Programme Schedule)  
Morning Transmission  
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune  
Greeting  
9:02 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanmar Pano-  
rama & Myanmar Sen-  
timent"  
9:06 Phaung Daw Oo Pa-  
goda Festival  
**9:10** **Headline News**  
9:12 U Pain Bridge  
**9:15** **National News**  
9:20 Wonderful Swiftles  
Dwelling in House  
9:25 The Unforgettable  
Bonfire Dance  
**9:30** **National News**  
9:35 Lacquerware in Bagan  
9:40 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Blue Moon"  
**9:45** **National News**  
9:50 Leisurely Cruise Along  
The Coast (Yangon to  
Mawlamyaing)  
9:58 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**19-4-2004 (Monday)  
Regular Programmes for  
Viewers from Abroad  
Evening Transmission  
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting  
15:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
15:36 Phaung Daw Oo Pa-  
goda Festival  
**15:40** **Headline News**  
15:42 U Pain Bridge  
**15:45** **National News**  
15:50 Wonderful Swiftles  
Dwelling in House  
15:55 The Unforgettable  
Bonfire Dance  
**16:00** **National News**  
16:05 Lacquerware in Bagan

- 16:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Blue Moon"  
**16:15** **National News**  
16:20 Leisurely Cruise Along  
The Coast (Yangon to  
Mawlamyaing)  
16:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanmar  
Panorama & Myanmar  
Sentiment"  
**16:30** **National News**  
16:35 Development Centre  
for Rubber Techno-  
logy  
16:40 Kachin Traditional  
New Crop Feast &  
Drum Dance  
**16:45** **National News**  
16:50 Marine Products in  
Myeik  
16:55 Dance of the Oil  
Lamps  
**17:00** **National News**  
17:05 Unforgettable Tradi-  
tions of PaO National  
Song "Aristocratic  
Beauty"  
17:10 Tour In Myanmar  
"Yangon"  
**17:15** **National News**  
17:20 Child Art Competition  
Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

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

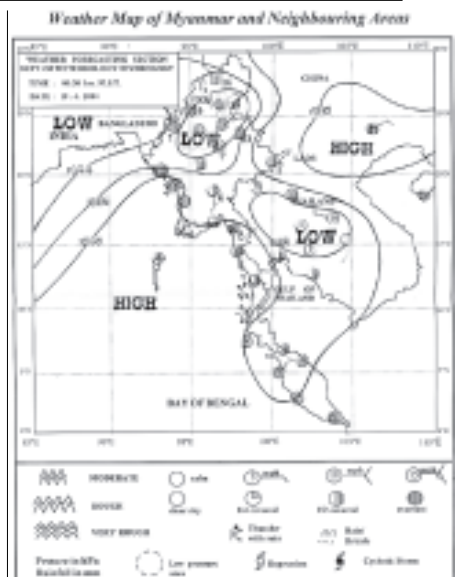
- 19:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting  
19:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanmar Pano-  
rama & Myanmar Sen-  
timent"  
19:36 A Journey to Research  
Taron Race  
**19:40** **Headline News**  
19:42 Lumber Buffaloes  
**19:45** **National News**  
19:50 Decoration of Myan-  
mar Lacquerware  
19:55 Kayin Dance (We Bu  
(or) Paddy Winnowing  
Dance)  
**20:00** **National News**  
20:05 Hot Springs in Lashio  
and Nam-Kham  
20:10 Song "Summertime"  
**20:15** **National News**  
20:20 Fantastic Scenic Sun-

- sets of Myanmar  
20:25 Song "Hakha"  
**20:30** **National News**  
20:35 The Thrones of  
Myanmar Sovereigns  
Myanmar Traditional  
Folk Song  
**20:45** **National News**  
20:50 Myanmar Seafood  
20:55 Pakhanthar Myin Nyo  
Shin  
**21:00** **National News**  
21:05 Gold Honey, Honey  
Gold  
21:10 Song "To a Silvery  
Seagull"  
**21:15** **National News**  
21:20 Travelling on the Chin  
Mountain Ranges  
21:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
21:35 Phaung Daw Oo Pa-  
goda Festival  
**21:40** **Headline News**  
21:42 U Pain Bridge  
**21:45** **National News**  
21:50 Wonderful Swiftles  
Dwelling in House  
21:55 The Unforgettable  
Bonfire Dance  
**22:00** **National News**  
22:05 Lacquerware in Bagan  
22:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Blue Moon"  
**22:15** **National News**  
22:20 Leisurely Cruise Along  
The Coast (Yangon to  
Mawlamyaing)  
22:25 Songs On Screen  
"A Diamond-studded  
Songs"  
**22:30** **National News**  
22:35 Development Centre  
for Rubber Techno-  
logy  
22:40 Kachin Traditional  
New Crop Feast &  
Drum Dance  
**22:45** **National News**  
22:50 Marine Products in  
Myeik  
22:55 Dance of the Oil  
Lamps  
**23:00** **National News**  
23:05 Unforgettable Tradi-  
tions of PaO National  
Song "Aristocratic  
Beauty"  
23:10 Song "Aristocratic  
Beauty"  
23:12 Tour In Myanmar  
"Yangon"  
**23:15** **National News**  
23:20 Child Art Competition

- 23:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**19-4-2004 (Monday) &  
20-4-2004 (Tuesday)  
Evening & Morning  
Transmission  
(23:30 - 1:30)**

- 23:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting  
23:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
23:36 Phaung Daw Oo Pa-  
goda Festival  
**23:40** **Headline News**  
23:42 U Pain Bridge  
**23:45** **National News**  
23:50 Wonderful Swiftles  
Dwelling in House  
23:55 The Unforgettable  
Bonfire Dance  
**24:00** **National News**  
00:05 Lacquerware in Bagan  
00:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Blue Moon"  
**00:15** **National News**  
00:20 Leisurely Cruise Along  
The Coast (Yangon to  
Mawlamyaing)  
00:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanmar Pano-  
rama & Myanmar Sen-  
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Lamps  
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tions of PaO National  
Song "Aristocratic  
Beauty"  
01:12 Tour In Myanmar  
"Yangon"  
**01:15** **National News**  
01:20 Child Art Competition  
Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**WEATHER**

Sunday, 18 April, 2004

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:**

During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing, Magway, Yangon, Ayeeyawady, Taninthayi Divisions, and rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin, Shan States, upper Sagaing Division and isolated in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Myitkyina (1.74) inches, Hkamti (1.65) inches. The day temperatures were (8°C) to (10°C) below normal in Kachin, Shan States, upper Sagaing Division, (5°C) below normal in Mon State, (7°C) above normal in Ayeeyawady Division, (3°C) above normal in Rakhine State and Magway Division and about normal in the remaining areas. Significant day temperature was (41°C) at Magway.

Maximum temperature on 17-4-2004 was 37.5°C (96°F). Minimum temperature on 18-4-2004 was 22.0°C (72°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 18-4-2004 was 71%. Total sunshine hours on 17-4-2004 was (10.7) hours approx. Rainfall on 18-4-2004 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 10 mph from Southwest at (16:30) hours MST on 17-4-2004.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 19-4-2004:** Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Shan States, Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy 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 isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in upper Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 19-4-2004:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 19-4-2004:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**ASLEEP IN JESUS  
Mr. H.R. Millar (Ronnie)  
Age 65**

Eldest son of (Mr. H.E. Millar-Mrs. L.C. Millar) and son-in-law of (U Boreh-Mrs Ruth Boreh); beloved husband of Sayama Naw Elizabeth-Boreh; and eldest brother of Daw Sheila Tun Aye-U Tun Aye, (U Glenn Millar)-Sayama Naw Grace Chan Tha, Daw Patsy, U Gabriel Aye Min, fell asleep in Jesus on 18-4-04 (Sunday) at 7.35 pm.

Funeral service will be held at the residence of U Tun Aye-Daw Sheila Tun Aye, No 463, Ward (20), Meitabala Street, Tougoo at 9 am on 20-4-04 (Tuesday) and thence for burial at west cemetery, Christian Burial Grounds.

**Bereaved family**
**Monday, April 19  
View today:**

7:00 am

1. စော့ဖျံ့ရင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံယောဇဉ်တော်အဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်တို့၏ အသံစေတနာရှင်တို့၊ အသံစေတနာသဘာဝတော်၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မသဘာဝတော်၊ ဆရာတော် အာဒိစ္စဝိဇ္ဇာသာရာဝံသံဃိ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
2. To be healthy exercise
3. Morning news
4. Nice and sweet song
5. Song of national races
6. Cute little dancers

8:10 am

7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

8. ကော့ကံတစ်ခု၊ ရေကူးရေကူးတစ်ခု

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Let's Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in Reading

4:45 pm

4. Musical programme

5:00 pm

5. အစောင့်တော့သို့လှည့်လာရန်

5:15 pm

6. Dance variety

5:30 pm

7. Musical programme

5:45 pm

8. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား

6:00 pm

9. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

6:10 pm

10. Song and dance of

6:20 pm

national races

6:30 pm

11. Discovery

6:45 pm

12. Evening news

6:50 pm

13. Weather report

7:00 pm

14. တရုတ်ပြည်နယ် မိုးကောင်းတော်

7:15 pm

15. မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ နှစ်သစ်ကူး

8:00 pm

16. News

8:15 pm

17. International news

8:30 pm

18. Weather report

8:45 pm

19. "နိုင်ငံခြားစာတော်လမ်းကွေ့"

8:55 pm

20. The next day's programme


**Monday, April 19  
Tune in today:**

- 8.30 am** Brief news  
**8.35 am** Music  
**8.40 am** Perspectives  
**8.45 am** Music  
**8.50 am** National news/Slogan  
**9.00 am** Music  
**9.05 am** International news  
**9.10 am** Music  
**1.30 pm** News/Slogan  
**1.40 pm** Lunch time music  
-I just wanna be with you (N' sync)  
-Love (Moffatts)  
I believe I can fly (R Kelly)  
-You & me (Alice Cooper)  
**9.00 pm** Spotlight on the star (Jessica Simpson)  
**9.15 pm** Article  
**9.25 pm** Women's affairs  
MWF dutifully preserving traditional cultural heritage  
**9.35 pm** Vocal gems  
-End of the world (Skeeter)  
-Bernadine (Pat Boone)  
-Zip-pa-di-doo-dab (Connie Francis)  
**9.45 pm** News/Slogan  
**10.00 pm** PEL

## Making all-out efforts for development of respective regions stressed

### Prime Minister attends opening of school building of Nyaungthaya BEPS in Kyaunggon

YANGON, 18 April— Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by ministers, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, this morning arrived in Mezali Village, Nyaungdon Township, where they were welcomed by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials.

Next, the Prime Minister and party went to Kyaunggon, Ayeyawady Division. They were welcomed there by departmental officials of Patheingyi District and Kyaunggon Township, social organizations and local people.

Afterwards, Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the opening ceremony of the new building at Basic Education Primary School in Nyaungthaya Village, Ywathagon Village-tract, Kyaunggon Township. Also present were Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, the ministers, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, local authorities, the wellwisher, members of the School Board of Trustees, Parent-Teacher Association, teachers, students and local people.

At the ceremony, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Deputy Minister for Education Col Aung Myo Min and Wellwisher Guardian U Sein Win formally opened the school building.

Wellwisher Guardian U Sein Win explained the purpose of the donations and handed over documents related to the building to Ayeyawady Division Education Officer U Maung Maung.

Next, General Khin Nyunt presented K 1 million, 150 dozens of exercise books and 50 dozens of pencils for the school to the TEO.

Afterwards, officials accepted K 500,000 donated



National Health Committee Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects Kyaunggon Hospital.—MNA

by the commander, exercise books and teaching aid by Col Aung Myo Min, K 300,000 by Chairman of Patheingyi District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Hla Thwin and a cassette and sports gear by Divisional Education Officer U Maung Maung.

Later, the General and party posed for documentary photos together with teachers, students and the wellwisher.

The building was constructed at a cost of K 9.5 million by wellwisher Guardian U Sein Win. It is a concrete building, 70 feet long and 30 feet wide. The

wellwisher has built school buildings for Kyaunggon BEHS No 2 and Myinlangon Village BEPS.

Next, the Prime Minister met with local authorities and officials of social organizations at the township office. The Prime Minister heard reports on matters related to the township and departmental tasks by Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Kyi San and officials. The Prime Minister presented a TV set, a VCR and a computer set each to Kyaunggon BEHS No 1 and No 2.

(See page 9)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets departmental officials and social organization members in Kyaunggon.—MNA

## Work Committee for Upgrading Environs of Kandawgyi Gardens & Zoological Gardens (Yangon) meets

YANGON, 18 April— The Work Committee for Upgrading the Environs of Yangon Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoological Gardens (Yangon) held the coordination meeting at the briefing hall of Water Plaza construction site of Central Forest Zone this afternoon, attended by Chairman of the Work Committee Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe said that it is necessary to add momentum for carrying out some tasks though remaining tasks have completed in upgrading the environs of Yangon City

Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoological Gardens (Yangon). If the tasks are complete earlier than scheduled, the people can enjoy the benefits sooner. Officials are to make efforts for upgrading the tasks to enable the area to be a tourist attraction. Emphasis is to be laid on supply of water for agricultural purpose, storage capacity of water in Kandawgyi Lake, systematic carrying out of waste water treatment and quality control of tasks.

Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Deputy Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye

Myint Kyu and Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Nyi Hla Nge reported their respective sectors.

Next, Chairman of Myanmar Hoteliers Association U Khin Shwe

and officials reported on construction of the zones.

Afterwards, the commander fulfilled the requirements of construction tasks and gave instructions on laying of 12 feet wide tarred roads

in Kandawgyi Gardens.

After the meeting, the commander and party inspected construction of the entrance and car park in Central Forest Zone, progress in building the Fresh Water Fish Garden

in Education Zone and upgrading of the Agricultural Museum and the Swimming Pool. The commander gave instructions on timely completion of the tasks.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses the meeting to upgrade Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens' Environs and Zoological Gardens (Yangon). YGN CMMD