

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to United Kingdom

YANGON, 21 April — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on the occasion of Her Majesty's Birthday, which falls on 21 April 2004. — MNA

## From 2000 to date, Myanmar National Olympic Council alone has spent over K 300 million on promoting nation's soccer standard Prime Minister addresses meeting No 1/2004 of Myanmar National Olympic Council

YANGON, 20 April — The Myanmar National Olympic Council held its meeting No 1/2004 at the National Indoor Stadium (1) on Waizayanta Street in Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the MNOC Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were member of the MNOC Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, members of the MNOC ministers, the Yangon mayor, deputy ministers, members of Myanmar Olympic Committee, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, presidents of Myanmar sports federations and distinguished guests.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that now the government has been providing encouragement and assistance unprecedentedly for promotion of Myanmar's sports standard, so have the

private companies and the people wholeheartedly.

Upholding the lofty aim "Myanmar sports, the world to conquer", the State has rendered necessary assistance for uplift of the nation's sports standard for a long time. However, success has not been achieved to a certain degree yet, he noted.

There are still weak points and so the Myanmar Football Federation had to be reorganized for ensuring a rebound in soccer, he said.

As a result, Myanmar secured the trophy in the U-18 BIMST-EC soccer tournament. However, continuous efforts are to be made to maintain the present achievement as well as for greater success, he said. Respective officials and sports federations are to be well aware that other nations are also making endeavours for betterment in the sports events, he said. Thus, officials concerned are to work hard with added momentum, he said.

A wide range of systematic reviews are to be carried out to find out why harmonious success has not been achieved yet in the sports sector although a great deal of funds have been

spent on the sector, he pointed out.

The State and the Myanmar National Olympic Council have been providing cash, sports gear and other necessary assistance for the four Myanmar selected soccer teams as well as coaches and the managers monthly for promotion of the nation's soccer standard, he said.

Moreover, necessary assistance is rendered to the Myanmar selected soccer teams whenever they go abroad to take part in respective soccer tournaments. From 2000 to date, the MNOC alone has spent over K 300 million on promoting the nation's soccer standard, while systematic measures are being taken under the arrangements of the State, he said.

At the same time, a huge sum of money is also being spent on other sports events, he said.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister called on officials at all levels to make integrated efforts in unison for raising the nation's sports standard and respective athletes, to make sustained endeavours to win medals in international sports to be-

### 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

come ones who can bring honour to the motherland.

Afterwards, Secretary of the MNOC Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint reported on signing of the MoU on sports between Myanmar and Thailand, holding of ASEAN-India Car Rally, holding of 2004 Olympic Day Run to be jointly organized by Myanmar and Thai Olym-

pic committees, Myanmar's signing of the agreement for membership of the World Anti-doping Agency, management courses on sports to be conducted under the solidarity programme of the International Olympic Committee, participation of Myanmar in the World Olympic to be held in Athens in 2004 and (See page 9)

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22,678



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses the meeting No 1/2004 of the Myanmar National Olympic Council. — MNA



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





# US troops' deaths in Iraq rise to 706

**BAGHDAD, 20 April**— 706 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Department of Defence. Of those, 509 died as a result of hostile action and 197 died of non-hostile causes.

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

Since May 1, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 566 US soldiers have died — 398 as a result of hostile action and 168 of non-hostile causes.

The latest deaths reported by the US Central Command:

-A 1st Infantry Division soldier was killed by an anti-tank mine on Friday near Tikrit, Iraq.

-A 1st Infantry Division soldier was electrocuted Saturday while working on a generator at a base near Samarra, Iraq.

-A soldier was killed Sunday in Iraq's Anbar province.

The latest identifications reported by the Pentagon:

-Marine Staff Sgt Jimmy J Arroyave, 30, Woodland, Calif.; died Thursday in a non-combat vehicle accident northeast of Ar Ramadi, Iraq; assigned to Combat Service Support Battalion 1, Combat Service Support Group 11, 1st Force Service Support Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force; Camp Pendleton, Calif.

-Army Spc Marvin A Camposites, 25, Austell, Ga; electrocuted Saturday in Samarra, Iraq, while doing

maintenance on a generator; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division; Schweinfurt, Germany.

-Army Sgt Jonathan N Hartman, 27, Jacksonville, Fla; killed Saturday when his convoy was attacked near Diwaniyah, Iraq; assigned to 2nd Battalion, 37th Armoured Regiment, 1st Armoured Division, Friedburg, Germany.

-Army 1st Lt Robert Henderson II, 33, Alvaton, Ky; killed Saturday when his convoy was attacked near Diwaniyah, Iraq; assigned to Detachment I, 2123rd Transportation Company; Owensboro, Ky.

-Army Pfc Clayton W Henson, 20, Stanton, Texas; killed Saturday when his convoy was ambushed in Diwaniyah, Iraq; assigned to the 1st Squadron, 2nd Armoured Cavalry Regiment; Fort Polk, La.

-Army Spc Michael A McGlothlin, 21, Milwaukee, Wis; killed by an explosive Saturday in Baghdad, Iraq; assigned to the 115th Forward Support Battalion, Division Support Command, 1st Cavalry Division; Fort Hood, Texas.

-Army Sgt Brian M Wood, 21, Torrance, Calif; killed Friday in Tikrit, Iraq, apparently by a land mine; assigned to 9th Engineer Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division; Schweinfurt, Germany. — *Internet*

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*Al-Sadr urges his followers to stop attacking Spanish troops after Madrid announced their upcoming withdrawal from Iraq. — INTERNET*

## Al-Sadr: Leave the Spanish alone

**NAJAF (Iraq), 20 April**— Shia leader Muqtada al-Sadr has urged his followers to stop attacking Spanish troops after Madrid announced their upcoming withdrawal from Iraq.

In the holy city of Najaf, Qais al-Khazali, a spokesman for al-Sadr, said on Monday: "We call (on al-Sadr's followers) to ensure the security of Spanish troops until their departure as long as these forces do not perpetrate aggressions against the Iraqi people.

"Other countries which assign troops to the coalition in Iraq are urged to follow the example of Spain and to withdraw their forces to save the lives of their soldiers," he added. You can find this article at.

*Internet*

## Chinese Vice-Premier urges revitalization of equipment industry

**DALIAN, 20 April**— Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan has called on China's traditional industrial bases to give full play to their superiority, deepen reforms, and accelerate technological progress in developing key equipment.

China has built a complete equipment industry system and marked progress has been made in equipment development and production in power, shipping, petrochemical and track transport industries in recent years, Zeng said at a symposium held Friday and Saturday in Dalian, a port city in northeast China's Liaoning Province.

However, much key equipment has to be imported from abroad as Chinese enterprises lack competitiveness on account of an irrational structure and weak product development ability, added, Zeng, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## China's top software company looks to HK for global growth

**HONG KONG, 20 April**— Kingdee International Software Group Co Ltd, China's top enterprise software applications provider, is expanding its Asia Pacific headquarters in Hong Kong.

The Shenzhen-based firm plans to use Hong Kong as its springboard for a major push into the global enterprise software market and to expand overseas, according to a new report of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council.

Kingdee's Chairman and CEO Robert Xu said the company intends to leverage Hong Kong's advantages as a window to the world.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Spain begins pulling troops out of Iraq

**MADRID, 20 April**— Spain started the process of pulling its forces out of Iraq on Monday, and Defence Minister Jose Bono said the withdrawal of all 1,300 troops would be completed in less than six weeks.

"They'll be coming back very soon and safely," Bono told a press conference.

"It would be imprudent to talk of six to eight weeks because it's going to be less," he said of the time frame, and later specified the withdrawal would be complete within six weeks.

Bono spoke a day after newly elected Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero announced he would fulfill his campaign promise to bring home troops unless the United Nations takes control of the occupation of Iraq by June 30.

Zapatero said he had determined that condition would not be met by the deadline, which is when the Spanish troops mandate expires.

A detachment of 194 Spanish troops left on Monday for Iraq, designated mostly to help with the planned withdrawal.

The troops were initially supposed to go for a regular rotation; and 50 fewer soldiers than planned were sent.

In Iraq, radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr called for a halt in attacks on Spanish troops in Iraq after the announced withdrawal.

Al-Sadr's office urged Iraqis to "maintain the safety of the Spanish forces until their return home" and urged "the governments of the other armies taking part in Iraq's occupation to follow the Spanish government's example."

Spanish troops are mostly stationed in south-central Iraq with responsibility for Diwaniyah and the Shiite holy city of Najaf. Eleven Spaniards have died since August, including seven intelligence agents killed in a highway ambush in November.

*Internet*

## Honduras to pull troops soon from Iraq

**TEGUCIGALPA, 20 April**— In a blow to President Bush and his coalition partners in Iraq, Honduras on Monday followed Spain in announcing it will pull its troops out of the country.

"I have told the coalition countries that the troops are going to return from Iraq," Maduro said in a speech on national television and radio.

"I have ordered... the carrying out of the decision taken in the shortest possible time and under safe conditions for our troops."

Soldiers from Honduras, a strong US ally in Central America, were sent to Iraq last summer as peacekeepers only and have been clearing mines and providing medical care in central Iraq.

They had previously been set to leave when their mandate expires in July.

Honduras said earlier Monday it was considering the withdrawal due to spiraling violence and pressure created by Spain's decision to pull its forces out.

Many Hondurans have questioned why their troops should remain in Iraq now that Spain was withdrawing and congressional leaders had voiced concern for the troops' safety. — *Internet*

## Bangladeshi PM assures help for storm victims

**DHAKA, 20 April** — The Bangladesh Government was doing all it could to help victims of Wednesday night's storm that battered part of the north, killing at least 66 people and injuring

around 2,000 more, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said on Sunday.

"The government and Army have distributed cooked food, dry food, water, medicine and tents to the survivors. The injured are being treated in hospitals," she told a meeting of editors and senior journalists.

"I myself — along with three ministers — had flown to the areas devastated. By the time I arrived there (on Thursday), rescue operations were going on in full swing and relief and medical operations also started to roll out," she said. "We cannot rebuild homes for all victims overnight but we are giving them help to rebuild their lives soon," she said.

Officials and relief operators said most of the deaths were caused by houses collapsing. Others were crushed under uprooted trees or were hit by flying debris.

*MNA/Reuters*



*Cpl Will McDermott from Phoenix, Az, provides security as Marines from the 1st Battalion 5th Marines break down a door while searching buildings for weapons in Fallujah, Iraq, on Monday, 19 April, 2004. — INTERNET*

## Rocket strikes Swedish Embassy in Baghdad

STOCKHOLM, 20 April—No Swedes were working at the Swedish Embassy in Baghdad, which was reportedly hit by a rocket on Monday, the Swedish foreign ministry said.

'We have no Swedish employees there now. There is one local caretaker at the embassy,' foreign ministry spokesman Henning Envall said, adding that the caretaker's name was Ibrahim Ali Suza.

He could not confirm that an explosion had taken place. Iraqi police officers, however, said that the embassy grounds

at least had been hit by a mortar round.

'The mortar round exploded on the embassy grounds, destroying a wooden shack, but causing no injuries,' said Police Colonel Ihsan Gahtan, outside the Swedish mission in central Baghdad.

Earlier another police officer, Mr Abdallah Jabbar Bidane, reported an explosion

inside the embassy.

Mr Envall said that no Swedes had worked at the embassy since 1991 following the first Gulf War.

Internet

### Iraqi cleric calls for end to attacks on Spanish troops

BAGHDAD, 20 April — Radical Iraqi Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr on Monday called for a halt to attacks on Spanish troops in Iraq because Spain was pulling out of the US-led occupying coalition.

The attacks on Spanish troops should be stopped since they are returning to their country and as long as they don't carry out aggressions against the Iraqi people," said a statement from Sadr's office in the southern city of Najaf.

Sadr's Mehdi Army militia has clashed with foreign troops in several Iraqi cities in recent weeks, including Spanish forces based around Najaf. Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero announced on Sunday that Madrid would withdraw its 1,400 troops from Iraq as soon as possible, fulfilling a pledge he made before his election last month. — MNA/Reuters

### German FM urges immediate handover of sovereignty to Iraq

PARIS, 20 April — It is important to hand over sovereignty to the Iraqi people as soon as possible, visiting German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer said here on Sunday.

"It is important to end the occupation as soon as possible, without leaving a security vacuum," he told a news conference after meeting with UN special envoy to Iraq Lakhdar Brahimi, in the presence of French Foreign Minister Michel Barnier. Fischer said at the occasion that "an immediate withdrawal of the coalition troops would lead to a permanent chaos", adding that "Germany and France have always recommended UN's leading role in the power transfer process and support Brahimi's proposal".

"I believe that the proposal will be included in the United Nations Security Council's next resolution on Iraq," Fischer said, "everything is to be done in order that the terrorism would not take root in the region and neither run out of the region." Brahimi said Wednesday that an Iraqi interim government would be established in May as previewed and suggested holding a nationwide conference that can represent all Iraqi people. He also noted that it is important to organize the scheduled elections in January 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

## Mugabe says no return to Commonwealth for Zimbabwe

HARARE, 20 April — The Commonwealth is an "evil" organization and Zimbabwe will never return to it, President Robert Mugabe told cheering supporters on Sunday.

Mugabe took Zimbabwe out of the group of 54 mostly ex-British colonies after they decided to extend a suspension of the southern African nation's membership during a December summit in Nigeria.

"Our membership to...organizations outside our continent and to the United Nations, is strictly on principles of equality and mutual respect. We will never allow our membership of these organizations to be used against the interest of our people," Mugabe said in an address broadcast nationally.

Commonwealth nations extended Zimbabwe's suspension after Mugabe — who

has been president since Zimbabwe's independence in 1980 — won a fresh term in disputed 2002 elections.

"This is why we opted out of the Commonwealth. We shall never go back to this evil organization," Mugabe said to cheers from thousands gathered at a sports stadium in the capital to mark the 24th anniversary of independence from Britain.

Zimbabwe's suspension dominated the December summit and caused a rift along racial lines in the Commonwealth, with several African countries including South Africa lobbying for its re-admission.

MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi man searches through the rubble of his bombed out house in Fallujah, Iraq, on Monday, 19, April 2004. — INTERNET

## ဝက်ကုမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား



A US soldier stands guard in front of the Swedish embassy in Baghdad after it was attacked by a mortar round, causing no casualties. The Sunni and Shiite Muslim rebellions. — INTERNET

## Dutch troops exchange fire in Iraq

AMSTERDAM, 20 April— Dutch troops exchanged fire with Iraqis on Saturday near the southern Iraqi town of Samawa where they and Japanese forces are based, wounding one Iraqi but no Dutch soldiers, the Dutch military said on Sunday.

"There has been an exchange of fire and Dutch soldiers were involved but no Dutch soldiers were wounded. One Iraqi person was wounded. He has been moved to the Dutch field hospital," a Dutch military spokesman said.

The spokesman said the incident occurred in or around Samawa but not near the headquarters of the some 1,200 Dutch troops serving in Iraq, nor near the camp where some 550 Japanese ground troops are based in the town.

The spokesman declined to give further details of the incident which he said Dutch

military police were investigating.

The Dutch troops based in the mainly Shiite town have not been the targets of any major incidents and locals have said they welcome the Japanese forces, who are on a non-combat mission focused on reconstruction and humanitarian work.

A majority of Dutch still support the deployment of their troops in Iraq, but the kidnap of Japanese civilians in Iraq this month fired new public criticism over Japan's biggest and most dangerous overseas troop deployment since World War II.

MNA/Reuters

## Poll shows British parents lie to get kids into good schools

LONDON, 20 April — More than a quarter of British parents are willing to lie to get their children into good state-run schools, a survey has found.

Pretending to have religious beliefs, using false addresses or even trying to bribe headteachers are some of the tactics parents are prepared to employ, according to a YouGov poll reported by newspapers on Monday.

Of the 1,232 parents questioned by YouGov, 29 per cent said they would definitely or probably consider stooping to dishonesty if unhappy with the nearest state school.

Although education is free in Britain some schools are better academically than others. Since parents are allowed to choose which school they would like their child to attend, the better performing institutions are oversubscribed.

Sought after schools get to choose their student intake while less popular schools often struggle to attract pupils.

One in 10 couples would pretend to be divorced in order to claim one parent lived in the school's catchment area and one per cent would consider offering a bribe, *The Guardian* said. The poll was commissioned for Monday evening's Tonight programme on ITV. In the programme a headteacher is shown visiting flats she believes are used for fake addresses.

While underhand tactics would be an option for many parents, most — 59 per cent — said the preferred way of securing a place in a desired school would be to move house. Estate agents report that being in the catchment area of a popular school can add thousands of pounds to a property's price. — MNA/Reuters

## UAE's Dolphin awards sealines contract to Italian company

ABU DHABI, 20 April — Dolphin Energy Limited of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) awarded a 115-million-US-dollar sealines contract to an Italian company, the official WAM news agency reported Saturday.

The project covers the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) of two 36-inch diameter concrete-coated sealines offshore in northeast of Qatar.

Saipem, the successful bidder, also won the EPC contract for Dolphin's main export pipeline.

When commissioned in 2006, the sealines will transport Dolphin's production stream of unprocessed natural gas and hydrocarbon liquids some 80 kilometres from its two offshore platforms in the North Field, for delivery to the company's processing plant in Qatar's Ras Laffan Industrial City.

MNA/Xinhua



## Patten says Iraq could be more serious than Vietnam

TULLAMORE (Ireland), 20 April — The conflict in Iraq could become “much more serious” than the war in Vietnam and any comparison between the two is misplaced, the European Union’s external relations commissioner said on Saturday.

“The comparison...that Iraq could become as difficult an issue as Vietnam is misplaced, because I think it is arguably much more serious,” Chris Patten told a news conference after an informal meeting of EU foreign ministers in Ireland.

“If things go wrong in Iraq we will be living with the consequences for a very, very long time,” he added.

An upsurge of violence in Iraq and a spate of hostage takings have prompted comparisons in the United States between the situation in Iraq and the Vietnam War.

US Democrat Senator Edward Kennedy has called the US occupation of Iraq President “George Bush’s Vietnam”, tapping into the painful memories of the American people.

MNA/Reuters

## French FM insists on real power transfer in Iraq

PARIS, 20 April — French Foreign Minister Michel Barnier on Sunday insisted on a real power transfer to the Iraqi people, ensured by a resolution of United Nations Security Council.

There should be a government that represents all Iraqi political forces and is respected by them, the French minister told French radio Europe 1.

He said he supported the proposal of UN special envoy to Iraq, Lakhdar Brahimi, to organize a nationwide conference in Iraq with the participation of all sides to consolidate the preparation phase for the scheduled election in January 2005.

To him, in order to end the violence escalation in Iraq, there should be a political negotiation with UN’s supervision. “Our conviction is based on the management of the United Nations,” he said. Preparation should be made for June 30, the scheduled date for the power transfer, to hear and show respect to the opinion of the three major Iraqi communities: Shiite, Sunni and the Kurds, he said.

He confirmed that the Security Council’s resolution is under discussion.

MNA/Xinhua



## Prodi says EU favours greater UN role in Iraq

ROME, 20 April — The European Union (EU) is in favour of a greater role for the United Nations to play in Iraq’s postwar reconstruction, European Commission President Romano Prodi said Sunday in central Italy’s Bologna.

The European Commission supports the idea of greater involvement by the United Nations in rebuilding Iraq, Prodi said after talks with the UN special envoy on Iraq, Lakhdar Brahimi.

The recent upsurge of violence in Iraq shows it is necessary for the United Nations to play a clearer role in the country, Prodi said.

MNA/Xinhua



A US Marine hits a door with a hammer during a raid searching for weapons in an industrial area of Fallujah as two other Marines provide cover. — INTERNET

## Iraqi oil production not affected by foreigners’ departure

BAGHDAD, 20 April — An official in the Iraqi Ministry of Oil emphasized Saturday that departure of foreign workers would not affect the country’s oil production, local newspaper *Al Sabah* reported on Saturday.

“The departure of the foreign cadres working in the oil sector has no effect on the pace of work in this field,” Asim Jihad, the media consultant of the ministry, told the newspaper which is very close to the coalition authority.

Jihad noted that the ministry was able to rehabilitate the damaged oil institutions, after the end of military operations, by depending on merely Iraqi efforts of the engineers and technicians.

Iraq has some technical and engineering potentials that enables it to preserve the continuity of work in the oil sector and production without depending on foreign workers, he added.

The official emphasized that production of Iraqi oil had reached the average out-

put before the war, specifically in the southern fields where production has reached two million barrels a day.

The Iraqi oil industry was severely damaged during the US-led war on Iraq, which caused great damages in the oil institutions and greater ones in other Iraqi institutions.

MNA/Xinhua

## Foreign demand for Vietnamese coal, iron ores soars

HANOI, 20 April — Demand of many countries for minerals such as coal and iron ores is increasing, which creates both opportunities for Vietnamese exporters and challenges for the country’s several industries including power and metallurgy.

Foreign demand for Vietnamese coal is predicted to climb to 12 million tons this year, but the Vietnam Coal Corporation is able to export some nine million tons, local newspaper *Investment* quoted Doan Van Kien, general director of the country’s major coal exporter, as saying on Monday.

China is emerging as the corporation’s biggest customer, he said, adding that the country’s demand for coal produced by the corporation may rise several times this year from three million tons last year.

This year, the corporation targets to produce around 20 million tons of coal, a year-on-year increases of 10 per cent.

However, Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung has recently instructed it not to increase exportation of coal in order to sufficiently

supply the product to local industries such as energy and cement.

Besides coal, China has great demand for Vietnamese iron ores, an official at the Vietnamese Ministry of Industry said, adding that the country could buy up all iron ores exploited in the Quy Xa Mine in the northern province of Lao Cai Province, which has a reserve of some two million tons.

MNA/Xinhua

## Malaysian PM concerned over US support for Israeli plan

KUALA LUMPUR, 20 April — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has expressed his deep concern over the support which US President George W Bush had extended to the disengagement plan proposed by Israel.

Abdullah’s concern was voiced in his separate letters dated April 16, 2004 to Bush, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, French President Jacques Chirac, Russian President Vladimir Putin and United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, said a statement released by the Prime Minister’s Department on Saturday.

Bush rendered his support to the disengagement plan during Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon’s recent visit to Washington.

Abdullah said that such support would only encourage Israel to continue ignoring Palestinian concerns and would not help in the fulfilment of the objective of “the roadmap” plan.

The Israeli plan did not address the core issue of the conflict and might even cause the entire peace process to be disrupted, he added.

Abdullah also expressed his support for the efforts of the Quartet members including the United States to achieve the objective of bringing into being a

Palestine state that is viable, sovereign and independent.

He also stressed that the Palestinians must be included in the discussions because the whole matter concerned them directly.

Abdullah appealed to the United Nations to play a bigger role with the deployment of a UN Peacekeeping Force or the placement of an international monitoring mechanism to monitor the implementation of the roadmap for peace in the Middle East.

MNA/Xinhua

## Venezuela’s President applauds Spanish Iraq pullout

CARACAS (Venezuela), 20 April — Venezuela’s President Hugo Chavez, a fierce critic of the US-led war in Iraq, on Sunday applauded as “a big league decision” Spain’s move to pull its troops out of the country.

Chavez, a leftist former Army officer who often spars with Washington over its policies, last week backed Iraqis fighting the US “imperialist aggressor” and blamed President George W Bush for the recent surge in Iraq violence.

“This can be called a big league decision, a sovereign decision, a courageous one,” Chavez said in his Sunday television programme after reading a bulletin on Spain’s decision to withdraw its 1,300 troops from Iraq.

“This shows there are reasons to be optimistic,” Chavez said. — MNA/Reuters



Iraqi children set a captured US Army Humvee vehicle on fire in Kufa, 160 kilometres (100 miles) south of Baghdad, Iraq, on Monday, 19 April 2004.

INTERNET



*A blood stained wheelchair, brought out to show reporters, lies in the ruins of a destroyed house after an air strike in the Baghdad's suburb of Al-Doura on 18 April, 2004.*



*Residents of Kut, Iraq, 180 kms south of Baghdad, inspect a charred house following clashes between militiamen of radical Shiite cleric Moqtada Al-Sadr and Ukranian coalition soldiers on 7 April, 2004.*



*An Iraqi woman, viewed through a shattered wall, stands outside her house which was destroyed after an overnight air strike in the Baghdad's suburb of Al-Doura on 18 April, 2004.*



*An Iraqi man stands inside a house destroyed by an air attack in Fallujah, on 13 April, 2004. A US military offensive in Fallujah has raised concerns about excessive use of force.*

## Images of Iraq



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



## New and fast developments throughout Myanmar



**SHWE HLAY SLUICE GATE IN KAWA TOWNSHIP:** Shwe Hlay sluice gate will benefit 20,000 acres of farmland in Kawa Township and 15,000 acres of farmland in Kayan Township totalling 35,000 in the two townships in Bago Division.— MNA



*The Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University in Meiktila. — MNA*



*The new Specialist Hospital in Kyaukse.— MNA*



*The Myanmar Maritime University in Thilawa, Thanlyin township, Yangon South District . — MNA*



*Lying on the 842-mile Union Highway linking Yangon and Kawthoung in the southern tip of the nation via Myeik, Dawei and Mawlamyine, the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) will be 11,575 feet or over two miles long. The rail-cum-road bridge can bear up to 60-ton loads.*

# From a granary to an industrial zone

Tekkatho Tin Kha



Aerial view of Hsinmin-2 Cement Plant in Kyaukse.

It is obvious that the tour of Kyaukse region by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe reflects his goodwill towards the growth of mills and factories in Ahnyar region (upper Myanmar) and boosting production. Myanmar is rich in natural resources. Myanma land and water resources seem inexhaustible. If there is appropriate innovation and initiative the resources can be tapped. All need to act. Hence, it can be said that nature serves the interest of Myanmar.

Land and water resources of Myanmar are abundant. There are 45 million acres of land plus rivers and creeks in Myanmar. The annual flow of water in the rivers and creeks in Myanmar is about 876 million acre feet. Natural resources of Myanmar have been in existence together with Myanma history. Being an agro-based country, Myanmar has the fine tradition of paying attention to self-sufficiency in rice of the people.

In the course of Myanmar history, Myanmar people have been able to establish the first Myanmar Empire in the time of King Anawrahta. There was ample reason to do so. The king himself was fully equipped with mental faculty and martial prowess and farsightedness; there were courageous heroes and highly qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia plus abundant supply of rice and paddy in Myittha and Kyaukse regions. Since then, the Myanmar kings in different parts of the country came to the regions close to Myittha and Kyaukse and established their kingdoms there. In other words, they settled down in the regions close to nine farming districts where there have been rice and paddy in abundance.

In Myanmar history, successive Myanmar kings in Bagan, Pinya, Inwa, Sagaing, Taungoo and Konbaung dynasties including Amarapura and Yadanabon Naypyidaw Mandalay had to rely on the nine farming districts in the central Myanmar where new farmlands have emerged together with dams and reservoirs built by King Anawrahta based on Ayeyawady river for years.

Kyaukse region is not only the granary of the country but also a region of political significance. Although the successive kingdoms were established in Bagan or Inwa, in this regard, the chapter on socio-economic sector in Bagan Era of History of Union of Myanmar compiled by Dr Kyaw Thet it was stated as follows:

"The surrounding areas of Bagan and Inwa had been the important regions as they were under the influence of the kings. But the regions had to rely mainly on those like Kyaukse region in which the people were engaged in irrigation and agricultural undertakings. Accordingly, in the course of Myanmar history, Myittha and Kyaukse region had developed as a granary for self-sufficiency in rice".

"In the successive eras of Bagan, Pinya, Inwa, Taungoo and Konbaung, the kings had to place emphasis on agricultural undertakings relying on nine farming districts for socio-economic development of the State".

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and party on 27 November 2001

inspected the industrial zone of the Ministry of Industry-1 being implemented six miles east of Kyaukse, Mandalay Division, Hsinmin cement plant project being implemented eight miles east of Kyaukse and Farming Equipment Factory No 2 of Agriculture Mechanization Department in Ingon Village, Kyaukse Township, Mandalay Division and gave guidance to officials.

In his guidance given at the briefing hall of Farming Equipment Factory No 2 of Agriculture Mechanization Department in Ingon Village, Kyaukse Township, Senior General Than Shwe said that the Ingon farming equipment factory project is an agrobased industry based in Upper Myanmar, adding that the factory will produce other farming equipment in addition to accessories being produced. It is important to produce farming equipment to be able to satisfy the customers.

The farming equipment are to be of high quality meeting the international level. Arrangements are to be made to upgrade the industry from the import-substitute level to the export level in future, he stressed. Plastic factory project, bicycle factory project, firebrick factory project, sewing machine factory project, footwear factory project, vest factory project and sweet factory project are being implemented in Kyaukse industrial zone of the Ministry of Industry-1.

The Ingon farming equipment factory project is an agrobased industry based in Upper Myanmar and is overhauling tractors and accessories and farming equipment of No 2 Main Workshop in Ingon Village. In addition, the factory is nurturing and producing the skilled workers. It is also learnt that the factory is test-producing the new farming equipment.

(To be continued)

(Translation: TS)

- \* 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

## သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော် စည်ပင်သာယာနယ်နိမိတ်အတွင်း ခရီးသည်တင်ယာဉ်(တစ်စီးကား)များအား ထိရောက်စွာအရေးယူဆောင်ရွက်ခဲ့သဖြင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှု၊ ယာဉ်တိမ်းမှောက်မှုများ လျော့နည်းကျဆင်းသွားသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ ယခုအခါတွင် ဌာနဆိုင်ရာယာဉ်များနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်ယာဉ်များမှာလည်း ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများလျော့နည်းကျဆင်းလာသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ ကိုယ်ပိုင်ယာဉ်များမှာမူ ယာဉ်တိုက်မှု လျော့နည်းကျဆင်းလာမှု မရှိသေးကြောင်း တွေ့ရှိရပါသဖြင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုမဖြစ်စေရန် ထိန်းသိမ်းမောင်းနှင်ကြရန်နှင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြစ်ဒဏ်သတ်မှတ်ချက်များအား မည်သည့်နည်းနှင့်မျှ တင်းလှပ်ခွင့်ပြုမည် မဟုတ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

## အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကာကွယ်ရေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ယခုအခါတွင် နွေရာသီရောက်လာပြီဖြစ်သဖြင့် ရာသီဥတု ပူပြင်းလာပြီ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထိုအပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ရွေးထွက်လွန်ပြီ နွေကုန်အတွင်းရှိ ရေနံဓာတ်ဆာများ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများပြားပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် မိတ်နှင့်ယားဖုများထွက်လာခြင်း၊ ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ မူးမောခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ ရွေးခြောက်ခြင်း ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့အပြင် အသက်အန္တရာယ် ဖိုရိုရီသော အခြေအနေအထိ ဖြစ်တတ်ပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် မလိုလားအပ်သော အကျိုးဆက်များမဖြစ်ပေါ်စေရန် အောက်ပါအချက်အလက်များကို လိုက်နာ ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) နံနက် (၁၀)နာရီမှ ညနေ (၅)နာရီအတွင်း လွင်တီးခေါင်ပြင်း ဖြစ်ကမ်းနား၊ ရေဆိပ်စသည်တို့တွင် ရေချိုးခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်၍ အရိပ်ရအေးမြသောနေရာများတွင် နေပါ။
- (၂) နေပူထဲမှပြန်လာပြီး ချက်ချင်းရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၃) နေပူထဲတွင် ပြင်းထန်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုများ မပြုလုပ်သင့်ပါ။
- (၄) အရက်သောက်ခြင်းသည် အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်လွယ်စေခြင်းနှင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြင်းထန်စွာ ခံစားရခြင်းကြောင့် ရှောင်ကြဉ်သင့်ပါသည်။

- (၅) နေ့ခင်းတက် အပြင်ထွက်သည့်အခါတိုင်း အရိပ်လုံလောက်စွာ ရရှိနိုင်သည့် ထီး၊ ဦးထုပ်များ ဆောင်းပါ။
- (၆) အလင်းရောင်ပြန်သော အဖြူရောင် သို့မဟုတ် အရောင်မျောမျော အဝတ်အထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၇) ဥပချောင်းချောင်း ချည်ထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၈) ရွေးထွက်လွန်ပါက ကိုယ်တွင်းရှိရေနံဓာတ်ဆာများ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကို ပြန်လည်ဖြည့်တင်းနိုင်ရန် ဓာတ်ဆာရည်သောက်ပါ။
- (၉) ကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ပါက ရေအေးဖတ် နှိပ်နိုင်တိုက်ပါ။
- (၁၀) ဆီးချိုရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေးတိုးရောဂါအခံရှိသူများ၊ ကလေးသူငယ်များနှင့် သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများအနေဖြင့် နေ့လယ်နေ့ခင်းတွင် အရိပ်ရုံလုံလောက်လေထွက်ကောင်းသော နေရာမျိုး၌ နားနေပါ။
- (၁၁) မိတ်ဖု၊ ယားနားများထွက်ပါက ရေအေးဝတ်ကပ်ခြင်း၊ သနပ်ခါးလိမ်းခြင်းတို့ကို ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းနှင့် အတက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် ပြသပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



## Commander attends tree-planting ceremony of Mingladon Station

YANGON, 20 April—Under the arrangement of Yangon Command, a tree-planting ceremony of Mingladon Station was held at the local battalion in Mingladon Township this morning, attended by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay.

Also present at the ceremony were senior military officers of Mingladon Station, No 1 Military Region Commander Col Tun Kyi, station commanders, commanding officers, officers and the rank and file and their families and guests.

First, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe said under

the guidance of the Head of State, greening tasks of the 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport are being implemented. So, priority should be given to planting of trees on manageable and commercial scales at the regiments and battalions of Yangon Command under the close supervision of respective stations. He also stressed the need of holding tree-planting ceremonies at every station.

Next, Mingladon Station Commander Col Win Naung reported on arrangements for holding the ceremony and growing of plants and trees at local battalions and regiments. Deputy Director of Yangon Division Forest Department U Than Myint also reported on step-

by-step tree-planting process. Then, the commander and wife and party viewed round the booths of the Forest Department and Myanmar Agriculture Service and planted saplings of teak trees and star flower trees. Afterwards, the commander, wife and party looked into growing of pepper, planting of tree saplings by officers and soldiers and their families. The commander, wife and party then planted *Gangaw* (Mesua Ferrea) and star flower trees hailing the ceremony.

At the ceremony, 60405 saplings such as neem, tamarrind, toddy palm, Thitseint, teak, Pyingadode, star flower tree, Mau and Kokko will be planted in Mingladon Township. —MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe plants a sapling. — PUPR

## Indian Navy gets its third frigate

BALTIISK NAVAL BASE (Russia), 20 April — The Indian Navy on Monday added to its naval fleet the third stealth frigate the *INS Tabar* at a colourful ceremony here.

The commissioning function was attended by Indian Ambassador to Russia Krishnan Raghunath and Vice-Admiral Madanjit Singh, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command. *INS Tabar*, named the Bat-

le Ax by its Russian builders, is the third in the series of three Krivak class stealth frigates of Project 11356 built on India's orders by St. Petersburg-based Baltiysky Zavod shipyard.

Last year Russia had delivered *INS Talwar* and *INS Trishul* in a one billion US dollars deal signed with Russia in 1997 for the development of three new generation stealth frigates for the Navy on the basis of Krivak project.

The frigates, with a displacement of 4,035 tons, are armed with the latest hardware including *Club-N* anti-ship cruise missiles, medium range *Shital-1* air defence system and powerful anti-aircraft gun *A-190E Puma*.

Stealth frigates, used for a wide range of tasks, including air defence, anti-submarine warfare, are to be armed with *BrahMos* cruise missiles jointly developed and produced by Russia and India. —MNA/PTI

## Environment award for Indian women fighting for Bhopal victims

SAN FRANCISCO, 20 April — Two women — Rashida Bee and Champa Devi Shukla — who have been fighting for the last 20 years for compensation for victims of Bhopal gas tragedy, one of the biggest industrial disasters ever, have been awarded this year's Goldman Environmental Prize, described as the Nobel Prize for environment.

The award, which was founded by a US insurance executive, Richard Goldman in 1990 and carries 1,25,000 US dollars, have been given to them for their "courage and tenacity" in fighting for compensation to the victims of the 1984 poisonous gas leak from Union Carbide factory that left hundreds of people dead in the central Indian city of Bhopal.

Forty-eight-year-old Bee, who along with 52-year-old Shukla, have arrived here from Bhopal to receive the honour, said "this award is a victory for all the survivors of the Bhopal disaster. We may be poor and illiterate, but that does not mean that a US multinational can get away with murder". She said, "the progress in the legal case is so slow that sometimes one feels like giving up, then an award like this teaches us to keep our spirits up. We have to get Dow Chemicals to clean up Bhopal's groundwater".

The citation said, "despite their poverty and poor health due to toxic gas exposure, Bee and Shukla have emerged as leaders in the global fight to hold Dow Chemicals accountable for the infamous 1984 Union Carbide gas leak". It said "together, they have made the struggle for justice for survivors of Bhopal a powerful validation of women's role on the frontlines of India's civil society". —MNA/PTI



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivers an address at the meeting. — PUPR

## Measures for upgrading Yangon City co-ordinated

YANGON, 20 April — The work committee for beautifying the Yangon City held its meeting at the Yangon City Development Committee this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of the work committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of YCDC Major Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, members of the work committee deputy ministers, the deputy mayor, military region commanders, departmental heads, local authorities and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Maj-Gen Myint Swe

said that measures are being taken for turning Yangon City into a world class garden city under the close supervision of the Prime Minister in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. He called for timely completion of the tasks. Appropriate rules and regulations on the city have been introduced and so organizational and enforcement measures are to be taken, he urged. Only then, will Yangon be turned into a modern city. He also called for completion of all the tasks by the end of 2005.

The mayor reported on tasks being taken by the YCDC for upgrading

Yangon City; Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, on work progress, future plans and stockpiling of construction materials.

Regarding the reports, the commander dealt with providing necessary materials for the tasks through co-ordination with respective ministries.

Next, officials of committees reported on progress of work, tasks being carried out and future tasks committee-wise. The departmental heads made a general round of discussions.

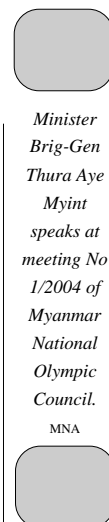
Afterwards, Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended to the needs. —MNA

## From 2000 to date, the Myanmar...

(from page 1)

the XXIII SEA Games to be held in the Philippines in 2005, Myanmar's taking part in the international sports games and tasks on sports carried out in the first four-month period of the year 2004, arrangements for selecting Miss ASEAN Culture (Myanmar) for the Miss ASEAN Culture (2004) to be held in the Republic of Indonesia in October 2004, training the new generation youths, conducting summer sports courses, sports grounds being upgraded in Yangon Division and financial statements.

The mayor also gave an account of providing assistance for promotion of the nation's sports standard; and Secretary of the Com-



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint speaks at meeting No 1/2004 of Myanmar National Olympic Council. MNA



mittee for Ensuring Success in Sports Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Thauung Htaik, on the funds for the selected Myanmar athletes being camped by

the committee. Those present also gave suggestions.

The Prime Minister fulfilled the requirements and made concluding remarks. —MNA

## 2 killed in Philippine light plane explosion

MANILA, 20 April — Two persons were killed as a light *Cessna* aircraft used for police training exploded in the northern Philippines on Monday.

Central Luzon regional police director Vidal Querol told a local radio

that local police were trying to retrieve the bodies of the pilot and his trainee after the airplane blew up shortly after it took off from an airport in Bulacan Province.

Querol said that the initial investigation showed

"unfamiliar sounds probably from the engine" were heard as the plane took off.

A few minutes later, the plane exploded and crashed in the vicinity of the airport, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Private sector will see sustainable...

(from page 16)

All the needed infrastructures have been built to reach this end. Some large hydel power projects will be completed in 2004, while others will be completed in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. **The electricity needed for industrial development has been generated.** During the current economic plan, the Government has been giving priority to the development of the electric power sector in accord with the extension of the industrial sector. Discussions will have to be made to materialize the motto — leapfrog with the might of industrial power.

At present, 6,830 private industries are located in the industrial zones, while about 37,500 are outside the zones. There are over 101,000 private industries in the nation at present. Roughly, they can be divided into 13 categories, and most of them are foodstuff producers. There is still weakness in the farm machinery, industrial machinery and auto production. The industrial sector is the main driving force behind the modernization of the socio-economy of the nation. Moreover, it will enable the nation to catch up with others. Thus, industries that are gaining momentum for development will have to be promoted. At present the world nations are producing quality goods with the application of advanced technologies and techniques. In this regard, Myanmar will have to shape her industrial sector with pragmatic ideas. The nation will see a bright future only if the industrial sector can be development with highest acceleration.

He said only when the industrial sector develops will there be a modern developed nation. Regarding this fact, it is necessary to combine the future of the State and the great role of industrialists, he said. It is time for both private and State sectors to lay emphasis on development of Myanmar industrial sector through technology, innovation, perseverance, diligence, industry and cooperation of individuals or organizations. It is a great task to build a modern developed nation through the industrial sector. That was the basic concept, he said.

Regarding the part of the work, he said, arrangements have been made for establishment of foundry plant, press shop, forging shop, heat treatment shop and machine shop in Mandalay, Monywa and Ayethaya industrial zones with the assistance of the State. This is the great turning point for the industrial zones. Based on these workshops, what kind of products are to be manufactured must be sought practically. If modern factories manufacture the products according to their

orders only, it is not a long-term objective but a short-term method, he said.

The government is establishing heavy industries and workshops that those from private sector cannot afford to do so because of technical know-how and investment. Efforts are to be made for development of private industrial sector based on technological and production process experiences. He spoke of the need to manufacture necessary machinery in the country as there is a wide local market.

He said there are some weaknesses in manufacturing of farm machineries, machines for industrial purpose and transport vehicles in the private industrial sector.

It is true that the industrial zones have developed considerably in 8 or 9 years due to the continuous encouragement and guidance of the Head of State and close supervision of industrial development committees at different levels, zone in-charges and local authorities. Strenuous efforts are to be made for better future of the zones.

He said in the industrial sector, emphasis should be placed on production of farm equipment, industrial equipment, transport vehicles and import substitute industry. Efforts are to be made for production of high quality products with the use of modern machines. Therefore, tasks on industry can be implemented in accord with industrial guidance of the Head of State.

**He said if quality farm equipment such as power tillers, harvesting machine, threshers, dryers, seeders, water pumps, teeth of a harrow, ploughshare and small hydel power turbines can be produced a great deal as quick as possible, there will be plenty of farm implements in the market and mechanized farming will emerge firmly.**

The industrial zones are to follow the way to make mass production of high quality farm equipment after surveying the market demand, he said.

Today, the government gave encouragement on production of transport vehicles with the aim of disseminating technology, creating job opportunities and developing the regions. There is a market demand and light vehicles, buses and trucks are badly needed in the country. If the industrialists undertake their tasks employing short cut methods, they will both tarnish the image of the industrial zone and this leads to negligence of their noble and heavy duty.

It is necessary to hold discussions for production of quality parts after establishing efficient industrial zones for national development. **By doing so, the objective to**

**establish agro-based industries and other necessary industries can be implemented for emergence of an industrialized nation.**

He said his report includes two parts— basic concept and work for development of industrial sector. If the concept is correct, progress will be made. Correct path is also needed for establishment of industries. In building essential industries for the country cooperation of small and medium private entrepreneurs is also needed. There must be a link between the private sector and the State sector and this satisfies the transfer of technology, producing highly skilled labour and semi skilled labour, wider market, mode of production and modernization.

He said based on his clarifications, those present are to discuss the turning point of development of the industrial sector. By doing so future tasks can also be laid down.

Next, Secretary of Industrial Development Committee Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung spoke. He said that Industrial Development plays a key role in building a modern and developed nation, adding that the State Peace and Development Council designated the 2004-2005 as development year of industrial sector.

It is incumbent upon ministries, industrial producer co-operative societies, industrial zones, industrialists for industrial development. Therefore, they are to make integrated and well-coordinated efforts for the successful realization of the objectives.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and State level officials frequently inspected the industrial zones and gave encouragement and fulfilled the requirements to officials concerned.

The minister called on official concerned to establish industries that produce farming machinery, to boost the production of quality items, to extend new lines of production and to reduce the rate of import step by step.

Next, Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Work Committee Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin reported on assistance provided by the ministry in production of automobiles in industrial zones, steps being taken for construction of Foundry Plant, Press Shop, Forging Shop, Heat Treatment Shop, and measures being taken for obtaining of skilled workers, training for skilled workers.

Afterwards, Secretary of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-



Minister U Aung Thaung speaks at Work Coordination Meeting No 1/2004 on Myanmar Industrial Development. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin speaks at Work Coordination Meeting No 1/2004 on Myanmar Industrial Development. — MNA

Gen Kyaw Win reported on work being carried out for purchasing of engines and accessories in order to produce buses and lorries.

Next, Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Production of Farming Machinery Managing Director Col Myo Tint of Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Industries, Chairman of the Sub-Committee for handing over Technology and Industrial Information Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein, Chairman of Standardizing Sub-Committee Director General of Myanmar Science and Technology Research Department U Tin Htut, Chairman of Regional Technology Cooperation Sub-Committee Director General of Directorate of Myanmar Industrial Planning U Khin Maung, Chairman of Industrial Law Drafting Sub-Committee Director-General of Attorney-General's Office U Mya Nyein and Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Development of Private Industries Director-General of Cottage Industries Department U Sein Than reported on work being carried out sub-committee-wise.

Later, Incharge of Thakayta and South Okkalapa Industrial Zones Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Incharge

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Win speaks at Work Coordination Meeting on Myanmar Industrial Development. — MNA



of Yangon West District Industrial Zone and Mingalardon Industrial Zone Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Incharge of Monywa Industrial Zone Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Incharge of Taunggyi/Ayethaya Industrial Zone Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Incharge of Myeik Industrial Zone Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and Incharge of Pakokku Industrial Zone Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Nyi Hla Nge reported on measures being taken for development of industrial zones and requirements.

Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut reported on matters related to power supply.

Supervisors of Mandalay Industrial Zone, Meiktila Industrial Zone, Taunggyi/Ayethaya Industrial Zone, Monywa Industrial Zone, South Dagon Industrial Zone and Shwepyitha Industrial Zone and industrialists reported on measures being taken industrial zone-wise and requirements.

In response to the reports, Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win gave necessary instructions and the meeting ended in the evening. — MNA

## Health minister views tenth renal transplant at YGH

YANGON, 20 April — Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, accompanied by Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, directors-general of departments under the ministry and officials, watched the tenth renal transplant operation at Yangon General Hospital at noon today.

At 9.20 am this morning, the renal transplant operation was conducted on U Maung Maung Lwin, the 26th patient who underwent the kidney transplant under the joint surgical programme of new Yangon General Hospital and Yangon General Hospital. Similarly, renal transplant operation will be conducted on U Kyaw Mon Yi tomorrow, on U Thein Aung on 22 April, and on Daw Tun Yin on 23 April.

The surgical operation was successfully performed by renal surgeons and anaesthetists from Yangon People's Hospital, Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital, Thingangyun Sanpya General Hospital and Yangon Intensive Care Unit under the leadership of Prof U Paing Soe, Director-General of the Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar).

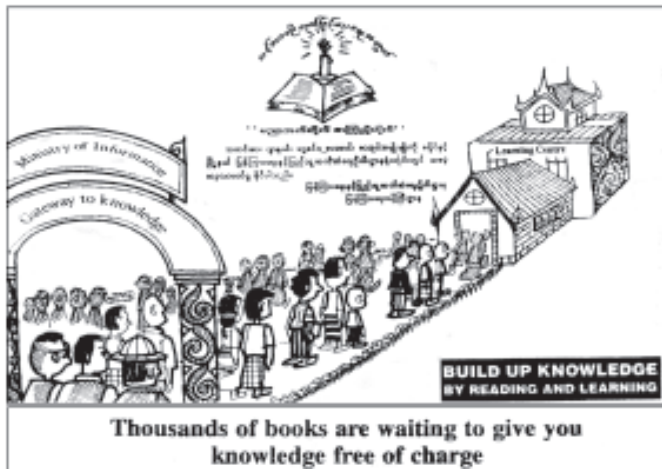
Headed by Yangon General Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr Aung Htut, a team of health staff from respective units of Yangon People's Hospital and Yangon General Hospital also rendered assistance in the surgical operation.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint and party later met with professors and specialists engaging in the renal transplant operation at the surgical theatre of Yangon General Hospital. The minister also gave instructions and attended to the requirements.

The success of kidney transplant operation is an enormous achievement of Myanmar medical professionals in the world of Myanmar medicines and a prestigious milestone for the Ministry of Health in all-round development of Myanmar medicines. — MNA







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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: QUENBY VENTURES LTD.  
KOREA**

Phone No: 256924/256914

### Chilean Army to ship humanitarian aid to Haiti

SANTIAGO, 20 April — The Chilean Army is to send food and medical materials in humanitarian aid to Haiti as part of a programme for the solidarity between the two countries, local media reported.

The aid materials began to be stockpiled Saturday morning in the Army's 2nd Bellavista Logistic Battalion.

Major Juan Antonio Gonzalez said some 40 tons of food, 12 tons of medical materials and 4 tons of mineral water would be shipped. — MNA/Xinhua

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**Win Mu Tin,  
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L  
for THE B.V.D.  
LICENSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 21 April 2004

### Russian boss of Chelsea tops British rich list

LONDON, 20 April — Russian tycoon and soccer club owner Roman Abramovich's multi-millions may not have secured England's Premiership title for Chelsea — but they have made him the richest man in Britain, according to a new list.

The 37-year-old embodiment of "new" money took the top spot in the annual *Sunday Times* Rich List from the "old" fortune of aristocrat the Duke of Westminster, whose property empire had made him the wealthiest man in Britain for the past three years.

The *Sunday Times* said Abramovich was worth 7.5 billion pounds (13.39 billion US dollars), mainly due to oil investments, compared to the duke's five billion pounds.

MNA/Reuters

## ပြည်တွင်းပြင်ပအသေးစား

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**U KYI WIN,  
B.Com., B.L.,  
for NEEDLE INDUSTRIES (INDIA) LIMITED,  
by its Attorneys  
REMFREY & SAGAR  
INDIA**  
Dated: 21st April 2004

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV FRATERNITY WISDOM VOY NO (6)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRATERNITY WISDOM Voy No (6) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21-4-04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the bylaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINER CO LTD,  
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Phone No: 256924/256914

## AIDS is a national concern.

### Canon aims for bigger Niche in China market

SHANGHAI, 20 April — Canon will increase its investment in Asia, particularly in China, to get a bigger niche in local market, a senior Canon official has announced.

Canon's largest factory, equipped with the most state-of-the-art technologies, went into operation on April 9 in Suzhou, an economically-developed city in east China's Jiangsu Province, said Fujio Mitarai, Canon global president, while attending a recent Canon products expo in Shanghai.

Covering an area of about 87,000 square metres, the 100-million-US-dollar factory is designed to mainly manufacture colour digital compounding machines.

Asia is the major production base for Canon, which has set up 15 factories in China, Thailand and Vietnam. Products of these factories include digital cameras, digital multi-functional office system and printers, and their total output makes up 37 per cent of Canon's global total.

China's fast economic development, the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games and the 2010 Shanghai World Expo, as well as rapid growth in the fields of architecture, real estate, information technology and tourism have provided tremendous business opportunities, said Yoroku Adachi, Canon China president, adding that Canon was well-prepared to compete with other multinational firms for these opportunities.

MNA/Xinhua

### Cambodian PM starts visit to China

PHNOM PENH, 20 April — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen left here Monday for Shanghai, kicking off a week-long official visit to China at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart Wen Jiabao.

The Premier led a high delegation, including Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, Minister of Council of Ministers Sok An and Co-Minister of Defence Tea Banh, as well as the ministers from industry, agriculture and water resources. Moreover, an 11-member business delegation was also among Hun Sen's entourage, aiming to promote trade and economic cooperation with China. Hun Sen and the delegation will also visit Shanghai, Chongqing, and meet top Chinese leaders, according to Cambodia's Foreign Ministry. — MNA/Xinhua



# မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## Philippines to host ASEAN energy security meeting in June

MANILA, 20 April — The energy ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) will meet in Manila from June 7 to 10 to discuss how to ensure security of supply in the energy sector and avoid hurting further some of the region's economies, a local newspaper reported Monday.

The Department of Energy told *Manila Bulletin* that energy security and sustaining reliable supply would top the agenda of the ASEAN Energy Ministers Meeting.

The meeting will address problems of the energy sub-sectors of oil and power, primarily issues of pricing and supply reliability, the department said.

The department said that it had

been designated to initiate an ASEAN Plan of Action which will define the parameters of ensuring security of supply in the energy sector over the next five years. Energy Secretary Vincent S Perez was quoted by the newspaper as saying that the key focus of the energy plan would be on the development of renewable energy resources in the region.

The report said some ambitious goals will be set on renewable energy development on heightened calls on countries to help in mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. For its own domestic trouble in the power sector, the Philippine energy department is carrying out a "government-private sector partnership" plan to address power supply shortage coming in the next two to three years. — MNA/Xinhua

## China to ban violent shows during prime time

BEIJING, 20 April — China will soon ban all TV stations from broadcasting films and teleplays that feature violence and murder during prime time in an effort to build a "sound" growing environment for the country's youth.

"Select programmes suitable for a young audience will be shown," the vice-director of the state administration of radio, film and television, Zhao Shi said. Zhao said his administration is expected to soon issue a circular to that end.

The decision was made on the basis of comments by parents and also a major part of an administration move to clean the content of programmes, Zhao said while pointing out that programmes with violence and murder scenes are not forbidden in non-prime time. — MNA/PTI

## UAE banks withdraw reserves to cover bad debts

ABU DHABI, 20 April — The National and foreign banks operating in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have recently withdrawn the bulk of their reserves with the UAE Central Bank to face bad debts and unpaid profits, said the UAE Central Bank on Sunday.

The risk management reserves kept in the central bank amounted to nine billion US dollars as per the latest statistics issued by the monetary authorities, an official from UAE Central Bank was quoted by Khaleej web site as saying on Sunday.

The total allocations and reserves represent around 17 per cent of credit extended to UAE citizens and 15 per cent of the loans offered to the expatriate residents and non-residents.

MNA/Xinhua



This is Shriek, a 10-year-old sheep with six years' worth of wool on it. Found in Central Otago, New Zealand, on Friday. Shriek is believed to have escaped the annual shearing by hiding in rock caves 5,000 ft above its usual habitat. It was shorn at a charity function on Friday. — INTERNET

## Greenpeace battles gene-modified food in Australia

SYDNEY, 20 April — Greenpeace protesters used magnets to attach themselves to a cargo ship in Australia on Monday and painted the words "Stop GE imports" on the hull as part of a campaign against genetically engineered food. Greenpeace activists dressed as chickens and holding banners protesting against genetically modified food also demonstrated outside a conference of the poultry industry on Queensland's Gold Coast.

"Up to 300,000 tons of GE soy are imported into Australia each year; most of that goes into chicken feed and most of that ends up on our dinner plates," Greenpeace campaigner Jeremy Tager said in a statement.

"Our action today sends a clear message to the poultry industry that they can't get away with sneaking GE into the Australian chain." Three Greenpeace activists climbed onto the side of the cargo ship, the *Rhein*, in Brisbane Port and used rollers to paint on a protest against genetically modified foods in large white letters. Greenpeace said the ship was carrying 13,000 tons of genetically modified soy meal from the United States.

MNA/Reuters

## Mother becomes addicted to Internet, elopes with cyber boyfriend

CHONGQING, 20 April — A mother in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality became addicted to making friends on the Internet and eloped with her netizen boyfriend, her daughter said.

Xiao Na, the alias for the teenager daughter, used to surf on the Internet, and her resultant under-achievement alerted her mother, whose name was not given.

The mother decided to try the Internet and hoped to "play an exemplary role" to set an example for the daughter, a 14-year-old junior middle school student.

Unfortunately the mother, in her mid 30s, learned to chat online and became addicted to the Internet, usually staying at Internet cafes for half a day or even around the clock, according to the daughter.

Xiao Na said her mother finally "fell in love" with one of her male cyber friends, and

eloped with him after the two had a face-to-face meeting. Xiao Na has suspended her schooling to look for her mother, whose whereabouts remained unknown. Xiao Na's father became depressed after wife's disappearance.

The widespread use of the Internet in China has caused many new social problems unheard of before. Many children have become addicted to online games and chatting, and neglected their study. In a recent tragedy in the same city two junior middle school students were crushed to death by a train, when they fell asleep on the track after they played online games non-stop for 48 hours in a local unlicensed Internet bar. — MNA/Xinhua



The Korean actor Bae Yong Jun's said his character is closer to that of Joon Sang in *Winter Sonata*, but slyly adds that he does resemble Jo Won, his character in *Untold Scandal*, in certain ways. — INTERNET

## "Soyuz" blasts off with new crew for space station

BAIKONUR, 20 April — A US-Russian mission to the *International Space Station* blasted off from Russia's Baikonur cosmodrome on Monday to relieve the current *ISS* crew after a six-month stint in orbit, mission control said.

The *Soyuz TMA-4* rocket lifted off at 0318 GMT from the space centre in the vast barren steppe that Russia rents from Kazakhstan. Carrying a Russian, an American and a Dutchman, it is expected to dock on Wednesday at the orbiting station being built by 16 nations.

"The spaceship has now entered orbit. Everything is fine and just according to plan," a spokesman for mission control told *Reuters* after the first 600 seconds — the most critical time of the launch — elapsed. Russia has launched all manned and cargo missions to the space station for more than a year since the United States grounded its flights after the *Columbia* shuttle disintegrated on re-entry over Texas, killing the seven astronauts on board.

Russian commander Gennady Padalka and his US flight engineer Michael Fincke will spend around six months in space. Dutchman Andre Kuipers, from the European Space Agency, is accompanying them for an 11-day

mission to conduct experiments. He will return to Earth with American Michael Foale and Russian Alexander Kaleri, who have manned the station since October.

Russia, bearing the financial burden of being the sole lifeline to the *ISS* since the United States withdrew its shuttles, says now there is no choice but to extend astronauts' missions to save money.

Extending mission times to one year from six months would free up places for eight-day missions by space tourists — who pay 20 million US dollars a go, the cost of a single-use *Soyuz* craft. So far two space tourists have made the trip and a third, US businessman Gregory Olsen, is scheduled to lift off next year. The Russian plan for longer missions would allow up to four tourist trips a year.

But US space agency NASA has said that before accepting the Russian proposal it will have to look into the medical and psychological effects of longer missions.

MNA/Reuters

## New Zealand aid to Fiji reaches remote disaster areas

WELLINGTON, 20 April — New Zealand aid supplies have been dropped off to the interior parts of Fiji's main island Viti Levu where villages remain cut off by landslides following devastating floods last week, Radio New Zealand reported Monday.

NZ Aid's Communications Manager Josie Pagani told the radio that they funded the flight of a helicopter which delivered basic foodstuffs to keep 600 people supplied for a week.

She also said they chartered a plane for the first flight over the Lau and Lomaiviti islands, which were directly in the path of the storm and had been out of contact. The NZ Aid people on the flights told Pagani the interior had been worse hit than the smaller islands.

"There's quite a bit of damage there. I mean, in some cases, they flew over some areas where there was 80 per cent of crop damage. So, although the smaller islands in the path of the storm are looking okay, some of the interior that's still cut off from landslides has some pretty major damage — 80 per cent in some places of crop damage is quite alarming," Pagani was quoted as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

## SPORTS

## Sporting defeat sends Porto closer to title

LISBON, 20 April— Nine-man Sporting suffered a 2-1 defeat away to Boavista on Saturday to leave reigning champions Porto needing just four points from the same number of games to win the Portuguese title.

Porto, who host Deportivo Coruna in the opening leg of their Champions League semifinal on Wednesday, lead the standings with 75 points from 30 games, followed by Sporting with 70 from 31. Benfica are third on 67 points from 31 games.

Starting with an away match against Beira Mar on Sunday, Porto can guarantee a successful title defence with just a win and a draw from their last four games.

The champions only need to finish the season level on points with Sporting thanks to their better head-to-head record.

Sporting took the lead against Braga on the hour mark, when Brazilian striker Liedson latched onto a pass from compatriot Tinga and converted for his 15th goal of the season.

MNA/Reuters

## Porto move closer to title after draw at Beira Mar

LISBON, 20 April— Porto edged closer to a successful defence of their Portuguese league title with a goalless draw away to Beira Mar on Sunday.

The result, coupled with Sporting's 2-1 defeat at Boavista on Saturday, leaves Champions League semifinalists needing just three points from their last three

matches to clinch the title.

After 31 games, Porto lead the standings with 76 points, followed by Sporting on 70 and Benfica, who won 3-0 at Braga on Saturday, with 67.

Porto only need to finish level on points with Sporting to win the league, thanks to their better head-to-head record.

That means a victory at home to lowly Alverca next week would be enough to give them a 20th league title.

Porto take on Deportivo Coruna of Spain in the first leg of their Champions League semifinal on Wednesday and Jose coach Mourinho opted to field a weakened side against Beira Mar.

"I gave the non-regulars a chance to play and I'm happy with their work," said Mourinho. "I hope we can celebrate the title next weekend."

Sporting's defeat leaves them only three points clear of Benfica in the race for the second Champions League qualification slot.

MNA/Reuters



FC Porto's Brazilian player Maciel Cunha, right, escapes from Beira Mar's Jorge Gamboa, at Aveiro stadium, during their Portuguese SuperLeague match, Sunday, April 18, 2004, in Aveiro, northern Portugal. FC Porto will play against RC Deportivo La Coruna at the Dragao stadium, in a UEFA Champions League semifinal first leg soccer match next Wednesday, April 21.—INTERNET

## Indian star pair to reunite for Athens Olympics

NEW DELHI, 20 April— Indian tennis stars Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi will reunite to compete at this year's Olympic Games in Athens.

"We want to pair up again and are planning to play some tournaments before the Olympics," Paes said Saturday on his return here after a Davis Cup tie in New Zealand.

former world number one pair, have parted company twice in the past and agreed to a similar reunion before the last Olympics at Sydney in 2000.

"We have been playing together in the Davis Cup

and it was natural to have another go at the Olympics," said Paes, a former Wimbledon junior champion.

The pair have not won a doubles medal at the Olympics in two previous attempts, although Paes won a singles bronze at the Atlanta Olympics in 1996.

They lost to the Australian pair of Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde in the second round on both occasions.

The Indian pair enjoyed a successful run in 1999 when they made the finals of all four Grand Slam events. But they broke up soon after due to differences over a coach before reuniting just prior to the Sydney Games.

Known as the Indian Express, Paes and Bhupathi broke up once again in 2002 but have been pairing up regularly in the Davis Cup.

MNA/Xinhua

## Totti strike keeps alive Roma's slim hopes

MILAN, 20 April— Roma captain Francesco Totti kept alive his side's slim title hopes with his 55th-minute goal at Modena earning a 1-0 victory to keep them within nine points of leaders AC Milan.

Second placed Roma are on 66 points with Milan on 75 points after their 2-1 win at Siena on Saturday.

Milan have four games remaining but Roma have a match in hand — the rearranged derby against Lazio which will be played on Wednesday.

Roma were without their key midfielders Frenchman Olivier Dacourt and Brazilian Emerson but still managed to be on top throughout against a determined Modena.

The breakthrough came 10 minutes after the break when Totti smashed home a free-kick with the outside of his right foot. "We have to keep believing until the end and we have to keep on battling and playing well as we did here," said Roma coach Fabio Capello. —MNA/Reuters

## Maradona in intensive care

BUENOS AIRES, 20 April— Diego Maradona is heavily sedated in intensive care following a crisis of hypertension or high blood pressure, his doctors said on Sunday after the Argentine soccer great was taken ill and admitted to a clinic.

Maradona, who has long been in therapy to battle a drug addiction that has left him a bloated shadow of his former self, was breathing with the help of a respirator and his condition was "reserved", the doctors said in a statement.

"Diego Armando Maradona has been admitted to intensive care

... because of a crisis of hypertension related to miocardium," said the statement issued to reporters outside the clinic.

"He also had respiratory difficulties and so is aided by a respirator, as a result of which he is permanently sedated."

"His initial haemodynamic reaction is moderately favourable," the statement added.

Maradona's family doctor Alfredo Cahe refused to comment on media reports that the former soccer star had taken a cocaine overdose, saying an update on his condition would be issued on Monday.

Family, friends and well-wishers flooded to the Suizo-Argentina clinic on Sunday evening as news of the 43-year-old's condition spread.

One teary-eyed fan held aloft a photo-

graph of Maradona in his soccer-playing prime. A banner read "Diego, Argentina loves you", while passing cars honked their horns.

Television channel Todo Noticias said Maradona had fallen ill after taking a drug overdose but gave no source for the report.

MNA/Reuters



Argentine former soccer star Diego Maradona gestures during the match between Boca Juniors and Nueva Chicago in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Sunday, April 18, 2004. According to media reports Maradona was hospitalized Sunday afternoon.—INTERNET

## Invincible Jubilo go seven points clear in Japan

TOKYO, 20 April— Brazilian striker Rodrigo Gral scored twice as all-conquering Jubilo Iwata beat visiting FC Tokyo 2-0 on Saturday to open a seven-point lead at the top of the J-League.

Jubilo have now won six out of six matches in the J-League and 15 straight in all competitions including the Asian Champions League.

The three-times former Japanese champions have 18 points in the J-League first stage, while Yokohama F-Marineros climbed to second on 11 points after a 2-1 win at home to Gamba Osaka.

Victory came at a price for champions Yokohama, however, as Japan defender

Yuji Nakazawa dislocated his shoulder in a physical battle at International Stadium.

Third-placed JEF United Ichihara can reduce Iwata's lead to five points if they beat promoted Albirex Niigata at home on Sunday.

Elsewhere, erratic Kashima Antlers struggled again, crashing 1-0 at struggling Cerezo Osaka, who moved off the bottom of the First Division with their first win of the 2004 campaign.

Four-times champions

Kashima slipped to seventh on eight points.

Vissel Kobe, still without injured Turkey striker Ilhan Mansiz, won 2-0 at home to Kashiwa Reysol to go fifth with nine points, behind Gamba on goal difference.

In other matches Nagoya Grampus Eight drew 2-2 at home with Shimizu S-Pulse while Tokyo Verdy were held to a goalless draw by visiting Sanfrecce Hiroshima. —MNA/Reuters

## Valencia back on top after last-gasp draw

MADRID, 20 April— Valencia reclaimed the leadership of the Primera Liga by the skin of their teeth on Sunday after a last-gasp strike by leading scorer Mista earned them a priceless 2-2 draw at home to Real Sociedad.

Trailing 2-0 to the visitors midway through the second half, Valencia drew on all their reserves of strength to claw their way back into the match and clinch the draw that allowed them to return to the top ahead

of Real Madrid.

With five games to go Valencia and Real both have 70 points, but Rafa Benitez' side lead the table by virtue of their better head-to-head record against the reigning champions.

Deportivo Coruna, who drew 1-1 at home to Valladolid on Saturday, follow in a distant third place on 61 points, one ahead of Barcelona, who host Malaga in Sunday's late match.

MNA/Reuters



Valencia's Miguel Angel Mista, left, is fouled by Real Sociedad's goalkeeper Alberto Lopez Fernandez during a Spanish League soccer match at the Mestalla stadium in Valencia, Spain, Sunday, April 18, 2004. The game ended a 2-2 draw.—INTERNET







Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe watch performances of Arzarni San San Circus. — MNA

## Private sector will see sustainable development if its small, medium industries can be promoted

### Work Coordination Meeting No 1/2004 on Myanmar Industrial Development held

YANGON, 20 April—The Work Coordination Meeting No 1/2004 on Myanmar Industrial Development was held at the training hall of the Ministry of Industry-1 on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here this afternoon, attended by Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, members of Industrial Development Committee ministers, the Yangon Mayor, members of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee and the Work Committee deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department, the Chairman of Industrial Zone Supervisory Committee and members, the Chairman of Industrial Zone Management Committee and members, the President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and officials, industrialists, guests.

Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win made a speech. In his address, the Secretary-1 said

that the nation saw a 9.0 per cent annual average rise in the industrial sector during the first four-year national economic plan from 1992-93 to 1995-96; 10.7 per cent annual average growth during the second five-year plan from 1996-97 to 2000-2001. And during the current third five-year plan, the industrial sector development was 21.8 per cent in fiscal 2001-2002; 26.8 per cent in 2002-2003; and 22.6 per cent in 2003-2004.

The industrial sector is the largest economy of the nation after the agricultural sector. Over 100,000 private factories are employing over 2 million workers. **Ninety per cent of the private sector's industries are small or medium industries. The private sector will see sustainable development if its small and medium industries can be promoted.** Only then, will the ratio of industrial sector's participation in the GDP rise from about 13 per cent; **and will the nation be able to fully and speedily develop from an agro-based one to an agro-based industrial nation.** At present the production volume of the agricultural sector is over K 1,500 billion, while that of the industrial sector is over K 350 billion.

**Until 1995, the industrial sector development was not stable. The indus-**

**trial sector started to develop significantly after the Head of State laid down the five policies and formed the Myanmar Industrial Development Committee in 1995. Now, it has been eight or nine years since the sector has been developing systematically. Nineteen industrial zones have been set up for the harmonious progress of the private industries, and the nation's industrial sector has reached a new phase.** In 2004-05, the State has already laid down plans for the industrial sector to develop with high acceleration. The State Peace and Development Council has given priority to the cent per cent development of the infrastructures in agricultural, transport, human resources, health and education sectors. The nation now has infrastructures that may effectively shape the nation's development. The Government has made efforts to set up satellite data broadcasting system, e-learning centres and computer network connecting various institutions. The instant communication and instant information technology is controlling the production, services and social dealing sectors of the world nations.

The industrial revolution that changed the world 300 years ago is now entering the

## Prime Minister and wife watch performances of Arzarni San San Circus

YANGON, 20 April — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe this evening watched the performances of Arzarni San San Circus (Dip in Circus, Russia) of U Maung Maung Circus, organized by Myanmar Artistes and Artisans Asiayon (Central) at Padonma Theatre in Sanyoung Township here.

Also among the audience were the ministers and their wives, the Yangon mayor and wife, the deputy ministers and their wives, the director-general and of-

officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, the chairman of Myanmar Artistes and Artisans Asiayon, officials of social organizations and specially invited guests.

First, the circus members entertained those present with 'Saya Thakhin Kadawpansin' as a gesture paying respects to U Maung Maung, leader of the circus.

Next, the circus members entertained the audience with their various skilled performances.

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## Thai delegation arrives

YANGON, 20 April — A Thai technical cooperation delegation led by Mr Piamsak Milin-tachinda,

information and communication age. The words including globalization period, information age and knowledge-based economy are popular in the world at present. From small industries to the large ones that are dominating the global economy, all are intensively using the information technology. In that situation, the nation will have to move with the speed fourfold or fivefold higher than others. The nation should not be content with the 10 or 20 per cent annual rise in the industrial sector. Efforts will have to be made to advance with higher acceptance.

The nation's goal is to raise the industrial production at high pace beginning the current five-year plan; and to markedly increase its participation in the national economy.

(See page 10)

Director-General of the Department of Technical Cooperation (DTEC) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand arrived here this morning by air.

The delegation was welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by Director-General of the International Organizations and

Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Win Mra and officials as well as embassy staff.

During their stay in Yangon, the delegation members will discuss matters on technical cooperation between the two countries.

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Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win delivers a speech at the Work Coordination Meeting No 1/2004 on Myanmar Industrial Development. — MNA

