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Saturday, 8 April, 2006

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing welcome back Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San on their return from Russian Federation

NAYPYIDAW CITY, 7 April — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San arrived back at Naypyidaw Airport in Naypyidaw City at 10.50 am today after paying a goodwill visit to the Russian Federation at the invitation of Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mr Mikhail Fradkov.

The Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San was welcomed back at the airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence and their wives, ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads.

Members of the delegation — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence,

Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife Daw Myint Myint Soe, Min-

ister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaug, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and departmental heads — also arrived back at Naypyidaw City. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Vice-Senior General Maung Aye at Naypyidaw Airport in Naypyidaw City. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing welcome back Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San at Naypyidaw Airport in Naypyidaw City. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 8 April, 2006

Towards strong national economy

Nowadays, systematic steps are being taken for strengthening national economy and improvement of the living standard of rural people.

Agricultural sector constitutes 41.2 per cent of national economy and 11 per cent of export. Hence, efforts are being made for extended reclamation of land, boosting the per acre yield and extended cultivation of a variety of crops.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence on 3 April inspected Kyauktaing Coffee Farm (branch) of Myanma Farm Enterprise in Toungoo Township.

Altogether 753 acres in Toungoo District, Bago Division and 7,327 acres in Thandaung Township, Kayin State were put under coffee in 2005-2006. Arrangements have been made to put 184 acres in Toungoo Township and 696 acres in Thandaung and Thandaunggyi Townships under coffee. In addition, over 20,000 physic nut seeds and grafts were cultivated.

In 2005-2006, the farm was able to produce 89.41 viss of day lingzhi mushrooms and 2,497.97 viss of another edible mushrooms. And it has cultivated 141,200 one-year old Katimoe coffee saplings.

The Bago Division cultivated 1,402 acres of coffee and Kayin State 7,327 acres of coffee in 2005-2006. And over 140,000 Katimo coffee saplings have been planted for 2006-2007 coffee cultivation season.

As far as rubber is concerned, 51,931 saplings were cultivated in 2005-2006. Moreover, a total of 5 million rubber saplings were nurtured this year, and work is well under way to put 23,800 acres under rubber in 2006-2007. Steps have been taken for extended cultivation of pepper and perennial crops.

Meanwhile, over 10,000 acres were put under physic nut saplings. It is targeted that the division will put 500,000 acres under physic nut plants in three years. And 1,700 acres of pepper were grown in 2005-2006 and measures have been taken to cultivate up to 2,500 acres of pepper in 2006-2007.

As virgin and fallow land has been reclaimed coupled with other agricultural facilities, the net sown acreage in the nation has increased to 26.89 million acres, up from 19.52 million acres in 1988-1989. At the same time, the cultivable land has increased to 43 million acres in 2005-2006 fiscal year, up from 23.80 million acres in 1988-1989 fiscal year.

Therefore, officials concerned and local people are to strive together for successful realization of the agricultural projects to be able to strengthen the national economy.

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်
မော်တော်ယာဉ် မသုံးစွဲရနေ့**

လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ ဖြစ်သည်။

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People's Desire

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

**Appointment of
Ambassador agreed on**

YANGON, 8 April— The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Juan Jose Gomez Camacho, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Mexican States to the Union of Myanmar.

Mr Juan Jose Gomez Camacho is accredited to the Union of Myanmar with residence in Singapore. — MNA



U Than Win-Daw Thida and family of 356, Maha Bandoola Street, Kyauktada Township, recently presented K 100,000 to members of Sule Pagoda Board of Trustees for offering gold foils to the pagoda. — H

World Health Day observed



Director-General Dr Tin Win Maung of Health Department reads out the message sent by the Minister for Health at the ceremony to mark World Health Day 2006. — MNA

YANGON, 7 April—The Department of Health under the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization jointly observed World Health Day (2006) at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road here this morning.

Director-General of the department Dr Tin Win Maung read out the message of the Minister for Health. In the message, the minister said that the theme of this year's World Health Day is "Working

the health standard of Myanmar year after year.

In conclusion of the message, the minister urged health staff to strive for the development of the health sector.

WHO Resident Representative Professor Adik Wibowo read out the message sent by the WHO Director to ASEAN Region.

The officials and the guests viewed the documentary photos of activities to mark the World Health Day. — MNA



WHO Resident Representative Professor Adik Wibowo reads out the message sent by WHO SEA Regional Director Dr Samlee Plianbongchang. — MNA

**Workshop on regulations
for sale of medicines
concludes**

YANGON, 7 April —The No 6 workshop on regulations for the sale of medicines of Myanmar Pharmaceuticals and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association concluded at Myanmar Accountants Society's Building of No 91/93 on 49th Street in Pazundaung Township this morning.

Chairman of MPMEEA Dr Maung Maung Lay made an opening speech and Pro-rector of the Institute of Medicine-2 Dr Aung Gyi extended greetings. Afterwards, officials presented gifts to the doctors who gave lectures to the trainees at the workshop and Course Instructor Dr Mi Mi Ko made a speech. Next, U Lin Myint expressed thanks on behalf of trainees and the ceremony ended with the concluding remarks by Vice-Chairman of the association U Nyunt Tin. Altogether 78 trainees attended the 17-week workshop.

MNA

Together for Health".

The government has been opening more and more medical institutes, nursing institutes, and medical institutions and scaling up production of human resources in the health field.

Under the leadership of the National Health Committee, cooperation of the Ministry of Health and relevant ministries and active participation of social organizations and the people have helped raise

China explores new oil shipping route with Mekong partners

KUNMING, 6 April—China has reached a landmark agreement with its Southeast Asian neighbours on oil shipping along the Mekong River. The agreement with Laos, Myanmar and Thailand will see a trial programme of processed oil shipping from May to December, said a maritime affairs official of southwest China's Yunnan Province.

Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and flows through China, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam to the South China Sea. It is called Lancang River in China. The cooperation framework for the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) allows a monthly quota of 1,200 tons of oil to be shipped on the river, said Qiao Xinmin, director of the Maritime Affairs Bureau of the Lancang River.

The agreement is expected to provide China with an alternative to the Strait of Malacca as a route for oil shipping, he said.

China and Thailand will set up a joint emergency response team to ensure safety on the river. The four countries also agreed to implement uniform charges on cargo vessels. The agreement describes the Mekong River as a link of peace and friendship by strengthening joint security mechanism to safeguard oil shipping and the lives and property of maritime workers.

It is expected to boost transport cooperation on the Mekong, which opened to commercial navigation 16 years ago, said Qiao.

The river became a tourist route and major channel for ore, fruits and commodities between China and the ASEAN countries after the GMS partners began to explore its potential in the early 1990s.—MNA/Xinhua



Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej, 78, pays his respect at the Rama I monument in honour of the start of the Chakri dynasty in Bangkok on 6 April, 2006. The start of the Chakri dynasty, which has ruled Thailand for more than 200 years, is celebrated as a national holiday.—INTERNET



A mobile phone, SGH-T509, made by South Korea's Samsung Electronics, is seen in this photo released in Seoul on 6 April, 2006. The 9.8 mm thick mobile phone will be launched in the market in the second quarter of this year and the price is still undecided, according to Samsung Electronics.—INTERNET

Manila suspends number coding as traffic control scheme

MANILA, 6 April—All automobile vehicles, regardless of the last digit of their licence plates, can now run here on the streets seven days a week without apprehension until 2 June, before the start of a new school year, the authority said on Wednesday.

Starting Thursday, the Unified Vehicular Volume Reduction Programme (UVVRP), or Number Coding Scheme, is temporarily suspended on most major and secondary streets in the metropolis consist of 17 cities and municipalities, the Metropolitan Manila

Development Authority (MMDA) announced in a statement. "We have gathered more than the majority of the (city) mayors to back the temporary lifting of the number coding scheme. This is implementation with consensus," MMDA Chairman Bayani Fernando said. Majority of Metro Manila mayors have approved the resolution, which gives them the option to request for the re-implementation of the UVVRP, the chairman said. Fernando recommended last Thursday the temporary suspension of the number coding as recent surveys conducted by the MMDA's traffic engineering centre on five major thoroughfares showed that traffic volume has been reduced by an average of 32.23 per cent, a common trend during the school break.—MNA/Xinhua



Pakistani officials investigate at the site of bomb explosion in Karachi, Pakistan, on 6 April, 2006.—INTERNET

Iran test-fires two more new missiles

TEHERAN, 6 April—Iran has successfully test-fired two more new missiles as the ongoing military manoeuvre in the south of the country was approaching its end, official media reported on Wednesday.

The state television said the Islamic Republic tested a new air-to-sea-and-ground missile with the capability of resisting electronic jamming systems and dodging anti-missile missiles.

The report defined the missile, dubbed *Nour*, as a secret weapon marking a breakthrough in Iran's development of missiles.

Misaq and *Nour* were the Islamic Republic's fourth and fifth missile test-firing during the week-long war game in the Gulf which started on 31 March and will last till Thursday.—MNA/Xinhua

Family gets dog back after nearly five years

SOUTH BEND, 5 April—A couple says they are thrilled to have their dog back nearly five years after it disappeared. Holly and Troy Webb said they thought the worst when Gidget, their Lhasa apso, ran away in 2001. "We thought maybe she got hurt or something, but nobody called or anything like that," Holly Webb told WNDU-TV.

But the South Bend Animal Control officials called the Webbs last week, saying they found the dog, still wearing the collar and tags she had on when she disappeared. The dog was found tied to animal control's front door, the Webbs were told.

"When I saw her, it was like seeing a ghost," Troy Webb said. Gidget, missing for four years and seven months, is now 12 or 13 years old. She came home with matted fur and moves a bit slower but was otherwise all right, the Webbs said.—INTERNET



Gunmen kill two Iraqi workers, kidnap two others in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 6 April — Unknown gunmen in military uniforms killed two Iraqi workers in the Egypt-owned mobile phone company of Iraqna in western Baghdad and kidnapped two others on Wednesday, an Interior Ministry source told

Xinhua. "Unknown armed men in military vehicles and uniforms stormed the headquarters of Iraqna Company, which provides service in central Iraq, and killed two Iraqi workers, wounding two others before they kidnapped them along with a private car," the source said on condition of anonymity.

Violence has continued infesting Iraq as gunmen frequently carry out killings, lootings, kidnappings while demanding large ransoms.

A baby gorilla looks out from its mother's arms at the Bronx Zoo on 5 April, 2006 in New York.—INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

China-Russia High-tech Products Fair to be held in August

Нонһот, 6 April — The third China-Russia Science and Technology Exhibition and High-tech Products Fair will be held from 28 to 30 August this year in Manzhouli, a leading inland port in Inner Mongolia autonomous region in north China.

Manzhouli Mayor Yun Guangzhong said the fair would provide a stage to showcase a great variety of products in areas like information technology, new materials and agriculture.

Yun added that the fair would offer more than 1,000 booths covering around 20,000 square metres.

High-tech firms, colleges and research academies from China, Russia, Mongolia, Japan and the Republic of Korea will attend the fair, said Chen Shuanghai, director of the local science

and technology bureau.

Officials held that the fair will provide a platform for exchanges and cooperation between China and Russia in science and technology, thus optimizing science resources and promoting the transformation of scientific results into productivity.

The fair is sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology, the China Academy of Science and the Inner Mongolia autonomous regional government.

MNA/Xinhua

Merkel says bird flu situation in Germany serious

BERLIN, 6 April — German Chancellor Angela Merkel expressed here concern on Wednesday over the bird flu situation in her country after the virus was detected in a commercial turkey farm in eastern Germany.

Scientists at the Friedrich Loeffler Institute of animal health confirmed earlier on the day the H5N1 strain of the avian flu virus was found in the state of Saxony.

"It is a serious situation," Merkel told a Press conference, expressing concern that the no previous bird flu cases had been reported in the state.

German authorities planned on Wednesday to cull 16,000 birds, including 8,000 turkeys, 5,000 geese

and 3,000 chickens to stop the spread of the disease. An exclusion zone imposed over a radius of three kilometres around the site of the infection.

This was the first case of

bird flu at a commercial poultry farm in Germany, where hundreds of wild birds and three domestic cats have died of the virus since it was discovered in early February.—MNA/Xinhua



A volunteer brings sandbags to houses surrounded by the floods of the river Elbe in Hitzacker, northern Germany, on 6 April, 2006. INTERNET

Russia develops three vaccines against bird flu

Moscow, 6 April — Russia has developed three special vaccines against bird flu and will test them on human body soon, Health and Social Development Minister Mikhail Zurabov said on Wednesday.

The vaccines are based on the H5N1 strain, which may be dangerous for

people, and can be used for making necessary vaccine within five weeks, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported.

According to Zurabov, the vaccines had passed pre-clinical tests. The ministry's ethics committee decided to clinically test them on volunteers last week.

Russia makes up to eight million doses of vaccine against bird flu every month. In case of a pandemic, it will be necessary to vaccinate 20-30 per cent of the population, Zurabov said.

"The source of a bird flu pandemic will be outside Russia," the minister said, adding that

Russia will need four to five months to prepare necessary vaccine and build stocks of antiviral medicines.

"If the threat of a pandemic arises, the state will act adequately and concretely," he said.

According to the World Health Organization, over 100 cases of bird flu among people have been registered in the past three years. Most of these people died.

MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier kicks a door as he conducts a search in a building in the northern Iraqi town of Tal Afar, on

2 April 2006.

INTERNET

ဝတ်မှုစွမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud (L) shakes hands with Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi after the signature of foreign policy agreements between the two countries, at the Prime Minister's residence in Tokyo on 6 April, 2006.
INTERNET



Indonesia's foreign exchange reserves reaches record high

JAKARTA, 6 April — Indonesia's foreign

exchange reserves during the first three months of this year reached 41.1 billion US dollars, a figure never recorded before, Bank Indonesia (BI) Governor Burhanuddin Abdullah said here on Wednesday.

"This is the highest figure ever recorded since the founding of the republic of Indonesia," Antara news agency quoted Abdulah as saying when presenting the bank's first quarter evaluation.

The country's payment account performance in the period also

improved as reflected by a higher surplus in its current as well as capital account, he said.

However, he warned that the surplus in the payment account had to be continuously monitored considering that the surplus was more the result of a slowdown in non-oil imports, especially imports of raw materials needed to support Indonesia's exports so far which could affect export performance in the next period.

MNA/Xinhua

Ancient pyramid discovered in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 6 April—Archeologists said Wednesday they have discovered a massive 6th-century Indian pyramid beneath the site of a centuries-old re-enactment of the crucifixion of Christ.

Built on a hillside by the mysterious Teotihuacan culture, the pyramid was abandoned almost 1,000 years before Catholics began re-enacting the Crucifixion there in the 1800s, unaware they were celebrating one of the holiest moments of their faith on a site originally dedicated to gods of earth, wind and rain.

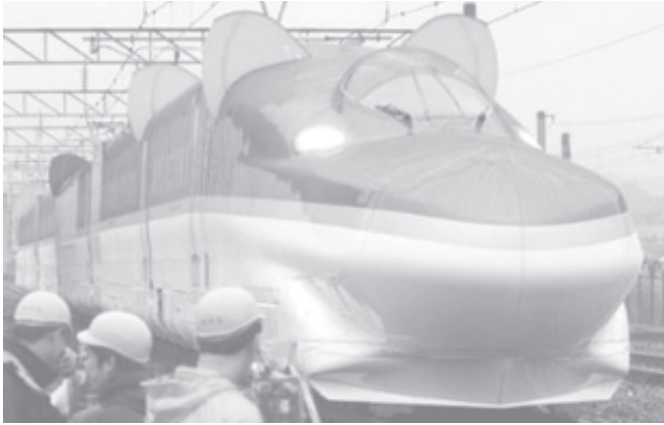
While residents around the hillside in Iztapalapa, on the east side of Mexico City, express pride at the discovery, it illustrates the difficulty of preserving the many layers of Mexican history: archeologists have decided not to fully excavate the site so as to avoid disturbing the Christian rites.

"When they first saw us digging there, the local people just couldn't believe there was a pyramid there," said archaeologist Jesus Sanchez. "It was only when the slopes and shapes of the pyramid, the floors with altars were found, that the finally believed us."

"The majority of the people now feel happy and proud, and have helped out a lot" in protecting the relics, Sanchez said.

The people of Iztapalapa — now a low-income neighborhood plagued by squatter settlements — began re-enacting the Passion of Christ in 1833, to give thanks for divine protection during a cholera epidemic.

Internet



The new Fastech 360Z train, with ear-like retractable steel plates for increasing air resistance to shorten braking distance in an emergency, prepares for test runs in Rifu, southwestern Japan on 5 April, 2006. The new model will be used on Yamagata and Akita Shinkansen lines of East Japan Railway Co and is expected to operate at a maximum speed of 360 kph. —INTERNET

China, New Zealand sign multiple agreements, documents

WELLINGTON, 6 April—The governments of China and New Zealand on Thursday signed a number of agreements and documents aimed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in areas such as legal assistance, cultural exchanges, and education and training.

These included a treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, a cultural agreement, a protocol on veterinary and sanitary

requirements for edible deer products to be exported from New Zealand to China, and a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in education and training between the two countries.

Visiting Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark, who held talks earlier Thursday, were present on the occasion.

The following

decisions were also made public on Thursday:

(1) Air New Zealand will open a direct air line between Auckland of New Zealand and Shanghai of China.

(2) New Zealand would participate in the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai.

(3) China and New Zealand will strengthen cooperation in fighting organized cross-border crimes.

MNA/Xinhua

Egypt reports ninth human case of bird flu

CAIRO, 6 April—Egypt has found its ninth case of human bird flu, a government minister said on Wednesday.

Health and Population Minister Hatem el-Gabali, quoted by the official MENA news agency, said the latest case was a girl aged 16 months from a province in southern Egypt. The deadly H5N1 strain has so far killed two

Egyptians. "This case was discovered on Tuesday and tests carried out ... showed that the case was positive," Gabali said, adding that she was in a stable condition after receiving treatment.

The government says nine Egyptians have now been infected by bird flu. The World Health Organization has verified that four Egyptians have

caught the deadly H5N1 strain, including the two who it killed.

Gabali said the girl, whose father raised birds in his home, started feeling unwell on Friday and was admitted on Sunday to a hospital. The family was being checked for infection.

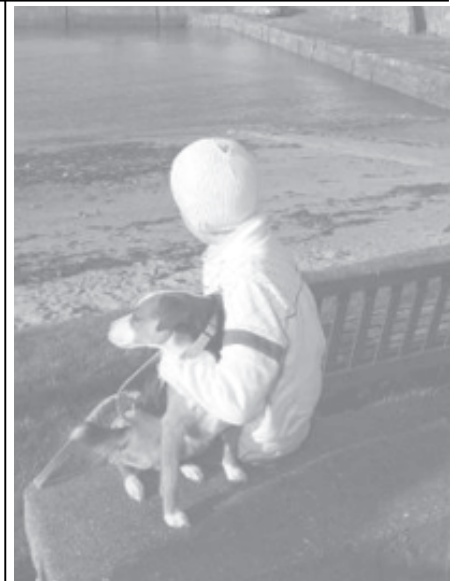
The avian flu virus has so far not been transmitted from human to human, but

can be caught from infected birds. The government said on Sunday two sisters aged 18 months and six years were the most recent human cases of the virus.

The disease, which has killed at least 108 people worldwide, was first detected in birds in Egypt in February and has since devastated the poultry industry.

The government has banned domestic rearing of fowl. But many Egyptians are ignoring the ban because they are too poor to slaughter their birds. Although difficult for humans to catch, scientists fear bird flu could mutate into a form that can pass easily between humans, causing a pandemic.

MNA/Reuters



A boy sits with his dog looking at the harbour beach where a swan was found dead in Cellardyke, Fife, eastern Scotland on 6 April, 2006. The results of tests on the dead swan showed on Thursday that the bird was carrying the H5N1 strain, which can be lethal to humans. —INTERNET

Local men stand on a wall to view the destruction after a powerful car bomb exploded in the holy Iraqi city of Najaf, 160 km (99 miles) south of Baghdad, on 6 April, 2006.



INTERNET

Famous one-eyed kitten to go on display

NEW YORK, 5 April—The one-eyed, noseless kitten that inspired an international debate last year over whether it was a hoax is coming to a new museum of oddities in central New York.

The museum founder, who believes in creationism, said the kitten is meant to launch another debate about how science and religion intersect.

The Oregon woman who owned the kitten said she turned down Ripley's Believe it or Not! and sold the remains to John Adolphi of Granby because she liked his religious reasons for wanting them.

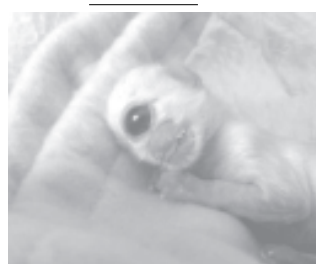
"We didn't want Cy becoming a joke or part of a personal collection," Traci Allen said. "But John was so heartfelt, you could tell he was genuine and sincere."

Adolphi would not say how much he paid for the kitten, named Cy, for Cyclops. He said he plans to have it embalmed Wednesday at a local funeral home.

The kitten died in December, a day after being born. Veterinarians in Oregon said it suffered from a rare disorder called holoprosencephaly.

Cy will be displayed in a glass jar in the Lost World Museum, which Adolphi hopes to open in nearby Phoenix this fall.

Internet



Cy, short for Cyclops, a kitten born with only one eye and no nose, is shown in this photo provided by its owner in Redmond, Oregon.

INTERNET

Pakistani fighter aircraft crashes, pilot dies

ISLAMABAD, 6 April—A pilot of Pakistan Air Force (PAF) was killed when a fighter plane crashed in eastern Punjab Province on Wednesday, a PAF statement said.

The F-7 fighter aircraft

was on a routine operational training mission, when it crashed near the town of Dhok Pathan, some 80 kilometres northwest of Islamabad, the statement said. No loss of civilian

life or property has been reported on ground, it said.

A board of inquiry has been ordered by Air Headquarters to determine the cause of accident, the statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

S'pore schools promote e-learning in case of emergency closure

SINGAPORE, 6 April—Some schools in Singapore have adopted an e-learning system to keep up with lessons for their students in the event of a flu pandemic, according to Channel NewsAsia report on Wednesday. In case of an emergency closure, teachers in these schools may upload lesson slides, set homework for their students, track whether the homework is done, and even conduct tests online.

Students can discuss study topics with each other and post questions to their teachers all day long by way of

online forums.

However, the e-learning system is inapplicable to some neighbourhood schools as its operation costs at least 20,000 Singapore dollars (about 12,000 US dollars a year and some of their students do not have broadband access at home. The report quoted the Education Ministry as saying that it will facilitate free-to-air television broadcast services to ensure that all students can continue with their lessons once the schools are shut. — MNA/Xinhua

Choose the practical way

Chan Mya Thaw

As usual, the National League for Democracy held its annual Union Day ceremony at the headquarters in Shwegondine, Yangon, and issued a press release, read it out and distributed the copies. The guests at NLD's 59th anniversary Union Day ceremony were interested in the press release, which the NLD said was a special announcement. **The persons who were interested most were the diplomats who took the front seats on the ground floor of the headquarters, the venue of the ceremony. Included in the diplomats were the persons who always participated in NLD-held ceremonies, while staying away from attending the State and national functions.**

Those persons in reality are acknowledged and permitted by the government as the diplomats to serve duties in Myanmar. The dailies in Myanmar always carry the news on the government's agreement on the assignment of new foreign ambassadors and the Head of State accepting the credentials of the newly accredited ambassadors to Myanmar.

When we study the news reports, we find two clear facts. The first is that the diplomats serve duties with the formal permission of the receiving country; and the second, as they have recognized the government of the host nation, they observe and act according to the diplomatic ethics. **It is crystal clear that they as the diplomats have violated the ethics by shunning the State functions, while openly attending the ceremonies held by the organizations that are always against the government. Objective assessment will clearly reveal their wish and intention to raise minions.**

But let it be. The NLD distributed the copies of its special announcement at the ceremonies. I heard one of the guests saying that the announcement would be nothing more than a usual demand to acknowledge the election results, unconditionally release all political prisoners including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and hold a dialogue.

I read the announcement without much interest. Superficially, it seemed to be different from the previous ones. When I read the NLD announcement 1/02/2006, I found the facts the party would like to mention, which said that the Tatmadaw government should call the Hluttaw with the participation of the elected persons in the 1990 election; that the Hluttaw should proclaim the existing government as a de jure government; that if the Hluttaw did not do so, the existing government could not be a legitimate government but a de facto one; that the government should take the duty of a government in transition; that the NLD and the government should coordinate to fix the term of the transitional government; that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi should be released without any condition and should be permitted to participate in the dialogue; that if a go-between was required, a leader of a certain ASEAN nation was to be chosen for the job; and that the government was to implement the plan by 17 April, Myanmar New Year Day.

I have heard certain internal and external organizations always blindly supporting all the NLD's acts and some media and radio stations acting as tools for the organizations welcoming and supporting the announcement, saying that it was a flexible announcement and so on.

But if we thoroughly read the NLD announcement, we can see that its demands are nothing more than those of the previous ones. The so-called new demands are based on the party's old demands. The announcement is just a trick. Like a child always asking pastries from parents, the NLD has been always demanding the call of the Hluttaw, the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the holding of a dialogue.

What's more, those are not pragmatic but just written according to their wish. What is impractical on the NLD's side? Whether the government is said to be a ruling council or any other institution, it has been governing the nation for 18 years. Since its assumption of the State duties, it has been sending representatives

to the UN and international meetings. Leaders of foreign nations have been visiting the nation at the invitation of the present government. The Tatmadaw government is taking part in the regional organizations including ASEAN, BIMSTEC and Greater Mekong Subregion Countries forums. **It is more practical to say it as a legitimate government acknowledged by the international community and the neighbouring countries, than a de facto or a de jure government.**

Is the Tatmadaw government, which is already a legitimate government, going to listen to the words of NLD proclaiming it to be a de jure government at the Hluttaw, being called as a de facto government in the past? Would the NLD do the same, if it were the ruling government? There is another question for NLD. Can the government become a de jure government only with the NLD's announcement? Here we have found the NLD's weakness in thinking power and its fantasies. The Myanmar people are still far away from a democratic nation, they wish, as the NLD has been far from practical realization in the politics since 1988. All the persons who study national politics understand that unnecessary delays have occurred to reach the goal.

Another demand of the announcement is the dia-

It can be deduced that the Tatmadaw Government concentrates on evolution, while opposition groups including NLD on revolution in democratic transition. It is required to accept that the seven-step Road Map is phases of evolution. They should have realized that no ruling governments have a passion for revolution.

logue. Since from the beginning there have been differences in defining the word, dialogue, between the government and some opponents including the NLD. As for the **Tatmadaw government, dialogue does not mean holding meetings with an individual person or organization, but a conference with people of all classes and all walks of life. It sees the National Convention as the most basic meeting of the people. On the other hand, the NLD's doctrine is that the dialogue is a face-to-face meeting between Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the Tatmadaw leaders.**

If we recount the past press meets as well as interviews between the State leaders and the international media, we can see that the **Tatmadaw government has clearly told the NLD that National Convention is the dialogue; and that from that stage, the nation's future will be discussed.** However, the NLD is still demanding a dialogue with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. **The latest announcement is also the same old song of the NLD.**

The NLD would not leave the National Convention in 1966 if it had a vision based on practical work. It would even set 'speedy completion of the Convention' as its goal. A new constitution will come into force only after the successful completion of the Convention. Only then, will a civilian democratic government emerge in accord with the constitution. It is a goal, the people wish to reach. If the Convention were not adjourned and the NLD were not causing obstructions, the nation would have seen at least two civilian governments within a period of ten years we have passed since 1996.

The Tatmadaw government announced the seven-point Road Map in August 2003 and seven steps for democracy transition. The National Convention has resumed. But the NLD is playing the same old tune.

However, the government complied with some of its demands. Clinging on to its extreme policy that it wanted all its demands fulfilled, and otherwise it would not take any advantages, and arrogantly, NLD turned its back on the National Convention again. It was intoxi-

cated with the applaud of certain elements.

Without NLD, the National Convention is going on, and so far, the majority of basic principles have been adopted. And it can be guessed when the NC will be completed. **Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and Tatmadaw and State level dignitaries have already pledged international community to transform the nation into a modern and developed democratic one. And they have publicly announced that no other means are better than the ongoing seven-step Road Map.**

Since it took up State duties, the Tatmadaw Government has tackled a wide-ranging trials and tribulations. Myanmar started to be under economic sanctions imposed by the West bloc when it had to take over the situations of economic crisis of the nation from the Socialist Programme Party. **Even in such a miserable situation, the Tatmadaw Government managed to pave its way for the emergence of an enduring State constitution, and building a democratic nation in accordance with the new State Constitution. It is obvious that up to now, it has been able to protect the nation from deviating from the goal.**

I mean the Tatmadaw Government has managed to handle its policies even in the times of hardships, and so it is out of the question that it is planning to quit the implementation of its policies in such a time when the entire nation is enjoying fruitful results and good prospects in abundance. It is a great pity that the organizations that are anxious to be in power are not able to assess such an easy point. And I wonder if they are unable to see that point owing to their falling completely under the spell of instigation.

Here it can be deduced that the Tatmadaw Government concentrates on evolution, while opposition groups including NLD on revolution in democratic transition. It is required to accept that the seven-step Road Map is phases of evolution. They should have realized that no ruling governments have a passion for revolution.

The point stated in the announcement that **"to implement the plan by Myanmar New Year Day (17 April)" is like an ultimatum and that was devoid of organizing skills and diplomacy.** A government is an organization made up of human beings. So, they should take into consideration possible emotional response of human beings of whatever government. The ruling government is well capable of surmounting any forms of coercion. There have been many evidences that the more it is coerced, the farther it will be from complying with the demands.

So, it can be deduced from the points mentioned in the special announcement of NLD on Union Day that it is just an issue that is not in conformity with prevailing conditions and developments and is similar to old ones. It is like the singing of an old song with a new tune to make it strange to the people.

They will have to choose the most pragmatic and appropriate way giving up personality cult and animosity if they really want to put in the fore the interests of the nation and the people. The most pragmatic and appropriate way is the seven-step Road Map for democratic transition to which the Tatmadaw Government will always adhere whatever conditions it is facing. Therefore, like the majority of the people taking part in the national democratic transition, NLD should take invaluable lessons from the past events and contribute towards the drive for successful completion of the National Convention being held by representatives from all walks of life and various political parties including the groups that have returned to the legal fold, under the leadership of the Tatmadaw Government, emergence of an enduring State constitution, and emergence of a new government in accordance with the new State Constitution. If so, there will be a win-win situation.

Translation: TMT + MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 7-4-2006

Russian Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov hosts dinner in honour of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye

YANGON, 7 April — Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mr Mikhail Fradkov hosted a dinner in honour of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye at the Reception Hall on the 3rd Floor of the Government House in Moscow of the Russian Federation at 5.45 pm local time on 3 April.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye was accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat

Hein, the ministers, Ambassador of the Union of Myanmar to the Russian Federation U Tin Soe, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and departmental heads.

Also present at the dinner were Deputy Minister for Industry and Energy Mr Andrey G Reus, Assistant to the Prime Minister Mr Sergey Yu Vinokurov, Head of the International Relations Department Mr Tatyana D Valouaya, Chairman of the Federal Service of the Russian Federation on Narcotics Traffic Control Mr Victor Cherkosov, Vice-Chairman of the Russian Federal Security Department Mr Smirnov, Director-General of JSC Co Mr Nikolay Tokarev, Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Oleg V Kabanov and high-ranking officials.

After the dinner, the Myanmar delegation led by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye returned to the President Hotel in Moscow. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greets Russian Federation Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye lays a wreath at memorial to fallen heroes in Moscow



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye lays a wreath at memorial to fallen heroes in Moscow. — MNA

YANGON, 7 April — Vice Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye on 3 April laid a wreath at the memorial to fallen heroes at Alexandrovsky Garden in Moscow, Russia and saluted them.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen

Myat Hein, ministers, senior military officers, Ambassador of Myanmar to Russia U Tin Soe, Director-General of the office of the State Peace and Development Council Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, departmental officials, Military Attaché to Russia Brig-Gen Tun Tun, Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Oleg V Kabanov and Deputy Director of the Foreign Ministry of Russia Mr A G Sviridov.

National anthems of Myanmar and Russia were played on the occasion by the Russian military band.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye took the salute of the guard of honour and left there.

MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye...

(from page 16)

Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaug, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Ambassador of the Union of Myanmar to the Russian Federation U Tin Soe and Director-General U Nyan Lin of the Political Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Prime Minister of the Russian Federation was accompanied by Deputy Minister for Industry and Energy Mr Andrey G Reus, Assistant to the Prime Minister Mr Sergey Yu Vinokurov, Head of the International Relations Department Mr Tatyana D Valouaya, Chairman of the Federal Service of the Russian Federation on Narcotics Traffic Control Mr Victor Cherkosov, Vice-Chairman of the Russian Federal Security Department Mr Smirnov, Director-General of JSC Co Mr Nikolay Tokarev, Russian



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye pays a salute at the memorial to fallen heroes. — MNA

Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Oleg V Kabanov and high-ranking officials.

At the discussions, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye explained sector-wise progress of Myanmar.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Russian Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov cor-

dially exchanged views on promotion of sector-wise cooperation including trade and economy between the two countries, combating terrorist acts, and control of narcotic drugs in cooperation with international communities, and current international situation.

MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San arrive in Moscow of the Russian Federation

YANGON, 7 April — At the invitation of Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mr Mikhail Fradkov, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Minister for Science and Technol-

ogy U Thaung, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife Daw Myint Myint Soe, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, senior military officers, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, left Mandalay International Airport at 10 am on 2 April to pay a goodwill visit to the Russian Federation, and arrived at Vnukovo-2 Airport in Moscow of the Russian Federation at 5 pm local time.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San were welcomed by Ambassador of the Union of Myanmar to the Russian

Federation U Tin Soe and Deputy Director Mr AG Sviridov of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on board the aircraft.

A Russian woman presented a bouquet to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Russian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr AY Alekseev and Russian Ambassador Mr Oleg V. Kabanov and officials welcomed Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

The State Band played the national anthems of the Union of Myanmar and the Russian Federation while Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Russian Deputy Minister Mr AY Alekseev inspected the Guard of Honour.

The Russian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs introduced high-ranking officials of



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye being welcomed by Myanmar Ambassador U Tin Soe, Russian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr AY Alekseev and Russian Ambassador Oleg V Kabanov. — MNA

the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs who also welcomed the Myanmar delegation to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Next, a Myanmar

boy and Myanmar girl presented bouquets to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye intro-

duced his entourage to the Russian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party were welcomed by Daw Myint Myint Thein, wife of the Myanmar Ambassador, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Tun Tun and wife Daw Khin Thau Nwe, staff of the Myanmar Embassy and the Military Attaché's Office and families.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Russian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr AY Alekseev took the salute of the Guard of Honour.

Later, the Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San stayed at the President Hotel in Moscow. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Russian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr AY Alekseev inspect the Guard of Honour. — MNA

Main aim of goodwill visit...

(from page 16) constructive. Three agreements and MoU were signed on 3 April. Federations of chambers of commerce and industry of the two nations will also sign an agreement on 4 April. Russia has interest in extending economic cooperation with Asia and Southeast Asia. Mr Mikhail Fradkov firmly said that the results of the discussions are satisfactory.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye expressed pleasure to have the opportunity to visit Russian Federation. He said, since Myanmar regained her independence, she has good relations with Russia. The main aim of the goodwill visit is to open a new chapter of bilateral relations in further cementing the existing friendly relations between the governments, the people and the

Tatmadaws of the two nations.

Although the two countries are far away from one another, they have similarities. Myanmar always gives priority to extending friendly relations with Russia, which is a good friend of Myanmar.

Since the establishment of bilateral relations, officials at different levels have exchanged visits to further strengthen bilateral relations. The joint declaration signed by the two countries in 2000 has been a sound foundation for cementing bilateral relations.

The Foreign Affairs Ministries of the two countries signed an agreement in 1999 to hold formal meetings. Thanks to the agreement, the two countries can make coordination at the UN and international forums.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Russian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr AY Alekseev take the salute of the Guard of Honour. — MNA



Myanmar fully understands Russia's stance in the UN reforms. It is believed that the two countries can cooperate in the matters concerning the UN reforms. Myanmar is glad to see bilateral economic opportunities between the two nations.

Myanmar encourages the private sector cooperation in addition to government-to-government cooperation. Myanmar also invites and welcomes Russian entrepreneurs to invest in Myanmar. As Myanmar has business opportunities in agricul-

tural and oil and gas sectors in addition to rice trade, she welcomes and invites investments and technology.

The discussions with the Russian prime minister are very fruitful. Myanmar and Russia have common stand

views in analyzing the international situation. It is satisfactory to note that four agreements on bilateral cooperation were reached during the visit. He hoped the visit is a success towards cementing bilateral relations.

MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Russian Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov attend ceremony to sign two agreements, one MoU between Myanmar and Russian Federation

YANGON, 7 April — A ceremony to sign two agreements and an MoU between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the Russian Federation was held at the Meeting Hall on the 5th Floor of the Government House in Moscow of the Russian Federation at 5 pm local time on 3 April after the discussions between Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mr Mikhail Fradkov.

Present on the occasion together with Vice-Senior General Maung Aye were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, ministers, Myanmar Ambassador to the Russian Federation U Tin Soe, Director of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Maj-Gen Aye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, and Director-General U Nyan Lin of the Political Department under the



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov at the signing of an MoU by Ambassador U Tin Soe and Director-General of JSC Co Mr Nikolay Takarev. — MNA

Ambassador of the Union of Myanmar to the Russian Federation U Tin Soe and Director-General of JSC Co Mr Nikolay Takarev signed the Memorandum

of Understanding on Strategic Cooperation in Petroleum Sector between Ministry of Energy of the Union of Myanmar and JSC Zarubezhneft the State Company of Russian Federation, and they exchanged the documents.

Next, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control of the Union of Myanmar Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Chairman of the Federal Service of the Russian Federation on Narcotics Traffic Control Mr Victor Cherkesov signed the Agreement between the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control of the Union of Myanmar and the Federal Service of the Russian Federation on Narcotics Traffic Control on Cooperation in Combating Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors, and exchanged the notes.

Afterwards, Director of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Maj-Gen Aye Myint of the Ministry of Defence of the Union of Myanmar and Vice-Chairman of the Russian Federal Security Department Mr Smirnov inked the Agreement between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the Russian Federation on the Mutual Protection of Classified Information, and they exchanged notes.

MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov attend the ceremony to sign the agreement on Narcotics Traffic Control on Cooperation in Combating Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors. — MNA

Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Prime Minister of the Russian Federation was accompanied by Deputy Minister for Industry and Energy Mr Andrey G Reus, Assistant to the Prime Minister Mr Sergey Yu Vinokurov, Head of the International Relations Department Mr Tatyana D Valouaya, Chairman of the Federal Service of the Russian Federation on Narcotics Traffic Control Mr Victor Cherkesov, Vice-Chairman of the Russian Federal Security Department Mr Smirnov, Director-General of JSC Co Mr Nikolay Takarev, Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Oleg V Kabanov and high-ranking officials.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov attend the ceremony to sign the agreement on the Mutual Protection of Classified Information. — MNA

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

Energy set aim to secure closing cup champion

YANGON, 7 April — The Myanmar League Closing Cup Knockout Football Tournament reached the semifinal at Aung San Stadium this afternoon.

In the first semifinal, Energy that is favorite to secure champion in the tournament beat Transport with a 1-0 result. By showing the brilliant and superb skills, Energy had swept victories one after another in playing against powerhouse teams in the knockout matches. Similarly, Energy blanked out Transport in today's match and the former advanced into the final. Today's match was handled by Referee U Soe Moe Kyaw.

In the fixture of the second semifinal match, YCDC, one of the powerhouse teams in the Myanmar League, is to play against Home Affairs in the second semifinal match tomorrow afternoon (8 April).

NLM



Htet Aung of Transport trying to block attacks of striker Sai Than Aung of Energy.

NLM

9 houses destroyed in Hline fire

YANGON, 7 April—Hline Township in Yangon Division saw a fire at 9.40 am today, leaving nine houses burnt down, one house partially burned and 103 people of 17 households homeless with a total loss of some K 3 million.

The fire started from the home of U San Ni of No 59 in 52nd Lane, Thukha Street, Ward 6, in the township, while the hot plate was kept live.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, the deputy commander, the vice mayor, the officer on special duty of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the director-general of the Fire Services Department and officials supervised the fire-fighting work.

The victims were provided with relief aid and temporary accommodation at the Basic Education High School No 4 in the township. — MNA

မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသင်္ကြန်

- * အမျိုးသားယဉ်ကျေးမှုကို ထိန်းသိမ်းပါ။
- * သရုပ်ပျက်ယဉ်ကျေးမှုကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- * အမျိုးဂုဏ်၊ ဇာတိဂုဏ်ကို မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှု သင်္ကြန်ဖြင့် မြှင့်တင်ပါ။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း အေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

Information Minister receives guest

YANGON, 7 April — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan this afternoon received South East Asia Regional Director Mr Nuthapong Temsiripong of Shin Satellite Public Company Limited at Myanmar Radio and Television on Pyay Road, here.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein and departmental heads.

MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives South East Asia Regional Director Mr Nuthapong Temsiripong of Shin Satellite Public Co Ltd. — MNA

Meeting on upgrading curricula, syllabuses in higher education sector opens

YANGON, 7 April — Ministry of Education started a meeting on upgrading curricula and syllabuses in higher education sector and a seminar on national education promotion at the Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road in Kamayut Township here this afternoon.

On the occasion, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein delivered an address and Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt explained the submission of papers at the meeting and seminar. Later, the minister cordially greeted those present at the meeting which will last up to 10 April. — MNA

WFP plans food aid to Philippines

MANILA, 7 April — The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) announced on Thursday that it will provide food aid to Mindanao in the southern Philippines in support of the government's effort to end the long-standing conflict on the island.

Plans are underway to start a food aid operation worth 27 million US dollars to assist more than two million local people from poor communities, especially families displaced by the violence, former combatants, poor women and children, the WFP said in a statement to the Press.

"The WFP looks forward to assisting the government of the Philippines and the people of Mindanao in bringing food security, improved health and nutrition and other tangible benefits of peace to the communities hit by conflict," said Anthony Banbury, WFP Regional Director for Asia.

The operation will be carried out in cooperation with the Government of the Philippines in the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and adjacent provinces, according to

the statement. The aid will support the peace process between the Philippine Government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) by providing tangible assistance to civilians in the areas affected by the conflict, it added.—MNA/Xinhua

Cooperation between Myanmar & Indonesian businessmen discussed

YANGON, 7 April— General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of the Commerce and Industry, on 4 April, met with Indonesian Ambassador Mr Wyoso Prodjowarsito and Commercial Attaché Mr Johannes Surtpto and discussed matters on joint commission meeting focusing on economic development of private sector to be held in Bali, Indonesia, this month.

The two sides also discussed arrangements made for a meeting between Myanmar and Indonesian businessmen to be held in May. — MNA

UMFCCI General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing meets Indonesian Ambassador Mr Wyoso Prodjowarsito and party. UMFCCI



Malaysia to create arts academy

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 April — Malaysia will set up its own arts academy specialized in arts, culture and heritage education, local media reported on Thursday.

Malaysian Culture, Arts and Heritage Minister Rais Yatim on Thursday submitted a bill to the Parliament for the establishment of such an academy, which will offer studies, courses and training

in fine arts, cinematography or film production, choreography, drama, stage management and music. Other subjects proposed include photography, designing, creative

arts, dance, screenplay, script writing, television production or electronic media. Rais said that the bill is expected to win the support from the Parliament. —MNA/Xinhua



Bird flu brought under control in Shwebo, KhinU Townships and Mandalay District
Press release on measures undertaken in central Myanmar



Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries issued a press release on death of chicken in central Myanmar.

1. Death of chicken: The LBVD carried out restriction and control measures on prevention and control of disease regarding the death of chicken and quails in Shwebo District, Sagaing Division from the first week of February 2006 to 26-3-2006 and Mandalay District, Mandalay Division from 8-3-2006 to 26-3-2006.

(A) Death of chicken/those destroyed

Out of 60,929 fowls at 93 poultry farms 6,731 died in Shwebo District (Shwebo, KhinU, Kanbalu and YeU) from the time of chicken death to 26-3-2006, altogether 24,836 fowls were culled and buried. In Mandalay District (Pyigyidagun, Amarapura, Chanmyathazi, Chanayethazan, Maha Aungmye and Aungmyethazan) 2,060 fowls died at 99 poultry farms where 111,919 were kept and 96,159 were destroyed. Therefore, 8,791 fowls died and 120,995 fowls and 560 eggs were destroyed and buried in those districts.

(B) Death of quails and those destroyed

Altogether 1,941 quails at two quail farms in Shwebo District and 115,650 quails in 44 quail farms in Mandalay District and 50,515 eggs were killed/destroyed. Therefore, 117,591 quails and 50,515 quail eggs were killed/destroyed and buried.

(C) Finding of bird flu virus

After the initial outbreaks in the cull zone in Kanbalu, KhinU, YeU, Pyigyidagun, Amarapura, Chanmyathazi, Chanayethazan, Maha Aungmye and Aungmyethazan Townships, investigation was made at 47 poultry farms. A total of 433 samples (blood, inner organs of the chicken and trachea) were collected and examined through rapid test and HA, HI and PCR processes. The H5N1 virus was detected in 26 samples of 35 chicken farms.

2. Control of disease: Under the supervision of local authorities the LBVD is taking measures on disease control in the cull zones in cooperation with Health Department, Development Affairs Departments, Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation and breeders and with the assistance of disease control experts from international organizations. All the fowls in the farms from one kilometre radius of the farm where the virus was found were culled for

risk prevention. The destruction included 120,995, fowls, 112,414 quails, 50,515 quail eggs and 560 eggs.

The farms and other materials were sprayed with pesticides. The ban on sale and transport of animals and their products was imposed after the control and restricted and control areas were designated between 3 kilometres and 7 kilometres from the infected farm. It was found that there was no evidence of human and other animal infections from the H5N1. The situation is now under control in affected townships of Mandalay Division.

3. The latest condition up to 26-3-2006: The disease has been brought under control in Shwebo, KhinU except in Kaboe Village in Kanbalu Township and Mandalay District; control measures continue at Kaboe Village.

4. Cooperation with international organizations: Regional Coordinator of FAO Dr K Watanabe and Regional Coordinator of USAID of the United States Dr John MacArthur in cooperation with the LBVD made a field trip to the affected areas in Mandalay and Shwebo Districts and took emergency measures on control of the disease. Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein received the FAO and WHO resident representatives to Myanmar and discussed bird flu control programmes. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and a regional laboratory in Australia provided educative posters and laboratory equipment. Myanmar received protective gear, testing kits and others worth about US \$ 100,000 provided by FAO, JICA and the regional laboratory in Australia. Three experts from FAO, JICA and DLD of Thailand together with Dr K Watanabe will conduct disease control in Mandalay and Shwebo for two weeks beginning 28-3-2006.

5. Rehabilitation: Under the programme of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the Myanmar Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Development Bank and the Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation will jointly take measures for rehabilitation of the affected chicken runs.

6. Regions that have not been infected: To ensure normal rate of consumption and trade of domestic chickens and chicken products in such regions, State/Division Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Departments will hold coordination meetings and issue animal health certificates to livestock breeders and traders to distribute products with the permission of respective local authorities.

**Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department
 Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries**

ပြတိုက်တိုက်သွေးဆောင်ပြုပြင်မှုအစီအစဉ် ဆောင်ရွက်ရန်အချက်များ
INSTRUCTION FOR THE PREVENTION & CONTROL OF HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA

The poster is divided into several sections with illustrations:

- Do as follows:**
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a mask and gloves, and a person washing hands.
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
- Don't do as follows:**
 - Illustrations of a person touching their face, a person coughing into their hand, and a person sneezing into their hand.
 - Illustrations of a person touching their face, a person coughing into their hand, and a person sneezing into their hand.
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 - Illustrations of a person touching their face, a person coughing into their hand, and a person sneezing into their hand.
- Prevention of Avian Influenza to Humans in suspected case:**
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
 - Illustrations of a person wearing a hat and a person wearing a face mask.
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Public awareness poster for the village level

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(For. Domnem Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)

Dated: 8 April 2006

Shanghai has 600 centenarians

SHANGHAI, 6 April— The number of centenarians in Shanghai had climbed to 600 by the end of 2005, up 52 on the previous year, the Shanghai Research Centre of Aging said on Wednesday.

Of the total, 468, or 78 per cent, are women, and 132, or 22 per cent, are men. The oldest centenarian is a female named Hu Amei, who was born in January 1895 and now lives in Pudong New Area.— *MNA/Xinhua*

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Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto 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.

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Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CARAKA JAYA NIAGA III 32 VOYNO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CARAKA JAYA NIAGA III 32 VOYNO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.4.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T . 3 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto 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.

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Sr.No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
1.	1/MR/(MCI) 2006-2007	1. Rolled Steel Locomotive Steel Tyre (Rough Turn) 2. Tyre Retaining Ring for Locomotive Steel Tyre	20-Nos 20-Nos

Closing Date. -22.5.2006 (Monday) (12:00) Hours

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 7.4.2006 (also available during Thingyan Festival holiday) during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982, 291985, 201555(Ext-602,605,612)
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 Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung Yangon

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1.	12(T)6/MR/(ML) 2006-2007	(1100 PS x 2) In Service Diesel Locomotive	2-Nos

Closing Date. -8.5.2006 (Monday) (12:00) Hours

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 7.4.2006 (also available during Thingyan Festival holiday) during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982, 291985, 201555(Ext-602,605,612)
 Deputy General Manager
 Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung Yangon

False alarms scrub Space Station airlock camp out

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 6 April — Two US astronauts spending the night in an airlock aboard the International Space Station had to call off their outing after a software glitch sent off a series of false alarms. Camping out in the slightly depressurized airlock was intended to test a new technique that would shave hours off the time it takes to prepare for a spacewalk. Astronauts Bill McArthur and Jeffrey Williams retired to the US airlock module Monday night for what was expected to be an undisturbed night. But loud alarms rang out twice during the night due to a software glitch that falsely detected low levels of carbon dioxide. NASA cancelled the camp out at 12:43 am EDT (0443 GMT), said spokesman Kyle Herring. Before a spacewalk, astronauts must breathe pure oxygen to purge nitrogen from their bloodstreams. The nitrogen could cause a dangerous condition known as "the bends", which commonly afflicts divers who surface too quickly.— *MNA/Reuters*

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 ချစ်ခင်တဲ့လူမျိုး
 သစ်ပင်ကို
 နှစ်ဦးစိုက်
 ရွှေတိုက်ကိုစိုင်း။

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Nepali mountaineer set to scale Mt Everest for record 16th time

KATHMANDU, 6 April — Nepali mountaineer Apa Sherpa is all set to scale Mt Everest for the 16th time and break his own record of maximum ascents, president of the Nepal Mountaineering Association said here Wednesday.

According to Ang Tshering Sherpa, this year will again see some famous mountaineers attempting peaks from Nepali side.

Junko Tabei, the first woman Mt Everest

mountaineer, is expected to climb Mt Manaslu, which will be her first attempt on the 8,163-metre-high peak, the president said.

The golden jubilee will be observed on 9 May for

the mountain.

The 67-year old Japanese mountaineer Tabei is expected to arrive in Kathmandu on 15 April.

"Her successful ascent of the peak will definitely

bring Nepal the much-needed international publicity, especially when the country's tourism is going downhill," he said.

Meanwhile, 75-year old Japanese woman Toshiko Uchida, who aims to scale the world's highest peak, flew to Lukla, the Base Camp Tuesday.

"If she succeeds, she will be the oldest person and not just the oldest woman to have scaled the summit," Ang said.

Uchida is a member of a nine-member expedition comprising climbers from South Korea, India, Japan and Nepal, according to Ang.

MNA/Xinhua



Mt Everest

ရန်ကုန်ပညာရေးတက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးဘွဲ့စာပေးစာယူသင်တန်း

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ပညာရေးဘွဲ့စာပေးစာယူသင်တန်း
ရန်ကုန်ပညာရေးတက္ကသိုလ်

Australian koalas to settle down in south China

GUANGZHOU, 6 April — Residents in Guangzhou, capital of South China's Guangdong Province, will soon be treated to the sight of koalas when several settle down in the city before the end of April.

A source close to the Guangzhou-based Xiangjiang Safari Park said Australia's environmental protection

authorities have signed the permit for koala exports and the six selected koalas are undergoing quarantine procedures. "The six koalas are expected to arrive in Guangzhou by the end of April," the source said.

The six koalas will be donated by a wildlife park in the State of Queensland, Australia, according to Nanfang Daily.

Xiangjiang safari park boasts various species of animals imported from around the world, such as giraffes from Africa, anteaters from South America, polar bears from Russia and white tigers from Sweden.

Workers at the Xiangjiang safari park are skillful in conducting artificial breeding of animals. They have successfully bred a black rhinoceros, lions and a hippopotamus.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese workers make leather shoes at a shop in Xiangfan, central China's Hubei Province on 6 April, 2006.
INTERNET



Study shows what women look for in a man

LONDON, 6 April — The old adage that women look for wealth in a man appears to be under threat after research on Wednesday showed women are starting to put physical attractiveness above solvency.

The shift is occurring because women have been freed from the constraints that previously dictated how they chose a mate as they increasingly control their own finances, the study said.

"We are seeing that women who have control over their finances are less concerned with the fiscal status of their potential mates and look more as to how attractive they may be," said one of the authors, Fhionna Moore from Scotland's University of St Andrews.

The findings, to be published in *Evolution and Human Behaviour* journal, showed, however, that women who had low levels of financial independence still tended to rate a man's fiscal status above attractiveness.

Moore, a research student, found that as a woman's level of "resource control" changed, so did her preferences.

"It is the control and the independence the money gives rather than the absolute income level that appears to be the key predicting variable," she told Reuters.

An analysis of questionnaires returned by 1,851 heterosexual women aged between 18 and 35 showed women were able to change their attitudes relatively quickly in reaction to their changed financial status.

MNA/Reuters



Built in Liao Dynasty, the leaning tower in Huludao, northeast China's Liaonin Province is now 10 metres high and inclines 12 degrees to the northeast. —INTERNET

Yangtze River banks continue to collapse in central China

CHANGSHA, 6 April — The banks of the Yangtze River, China's longest waterway, continue to collapse inside Hunan Province, and the operation to stabilize them has been slow due to bad weather and a desperate lack of funds.

The collapse is occurring in seven places, with the most serious being Tianzi Yihao or the No 1 heavenly code, where the eroded stretch extends for 600 metres, just 60 metres away from the main protective embankment, said an official from the Hunan Provincial Bureau of Water Resources.

Workers have been taking turns to work around the clock, positioning boulders along the falling banks of the river since 1 April, but the stormy weather has made the rescue efforts seem futile, said Chen Nianping, who is in charge of the headquarters of the protection of Yangtze

River embankments inside Huarong County, where the No.1 heavenly code section is situated.

"Our 11 ships used for moving the big stones had to be moored, and soil kept falling into the river as the raging waters pounding against the banks," Chen recalled.

Water control special-

lists warn that if the reparation work is not finished before the rainy season which often begins late April and ends in early May, it would be very difficult for the main embankments of the Yangtze River to survive this summer's flood season safely.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS



Juventus' David Trezeguet, right, of France fails to take a scoring chance watched by Arsenal's Philippe Senderos, left, of Switzerland during their Champions League quarterfinal second leg soccer match at Stadio delle Alpi in Turin, Italy, on 5 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Middlesbrough stun Basel to seal UEFA semis slot

LONDON, 7 April — Middlesbrough pulled off an astonishing fightback to rival Liverpool's Champions League resurrection last season to stun Basel and reach the UEFA Cup semifinals on Thursday.

Italian substitute Massimo Maccarone's strike a minute from time gave the Premier League side the goal they needed to progress, sealing a 4-1 victory and putting them through 4-3 on aggregate and into a meeting with Steaua Bucharest.

Basel, 2-0 up from the first leg, went further ahead with Eduardo's goal on 23 minutes to leave Boro needing to score four.

Australian Mark Viduka got two back and then after Basel were reduced to 10 men after Swedish defender Daniel Majstorovic was sent off, Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink rifled in a third before Maccarone calmly slotted in a rebound to cue wild celebrations at the Riverside.

"It was a monumental display to come through this," said Middlesbrough manager Steve McClaren.

"I've got a happy dressing room and



Brazil's Kaio Almeida starts in the men's 100 meters Butterfly at the FINA World Short Course Swimming Championships in Shanghai, China on 6 April, 2006. Almeida won in a time of 51.07.

INTERNET

deservedly so.

"We felt the last 20 minutes would be ours with the energy they expended in the first hour, once we got the second goal we felt we could get two more.

"It's a historic night, there is no better way to win a game than how we've just won that."

Former European champions Steaua edged past city rivals Rapid on away goals after a goalless draw at the Liu Manoliu Stadium left the tie all-square at 1-1 on aggregate.

MNA/Reuters

Egypt wins African ladies golf tournament

LUSAKA, 7 April — Egypt won the All Africa Ladies Golf Challenge Tournament which wound up Wednesday in Zambia's capital Lusaka.

Egypt caught up from behind and grabbed the trophy from Zambia which had been leading the tournament in the first two days.

Egypt fired a total of 484 strokes over 54 holes spread over three days leaving Zambia in second place with 485.

Zambia, with four-stroke lead against their closest rivals Egypt at the beginning of final day, slipped into second place after Egypt's El Attar Naela put up a brilliant performance with 76 while her teammate Donila Scarello scooped 83.

Defending champion South Africa, who were five strokes behind Zambia after the second day, rallied on the final day to equal Zambia with a gross of 485.

El Attar Naela's performance also saw her win the best individual overall score grossing 234, six shots ahead of Betty Mokoena from South Africa.

Zambia's team captain Hilda Edwards attributed the loss of the squad to the errors they have made.

"We started very well but in the end it was not good enough. We made too many errors and gave away our lead," Edwards said. — MNA/Xinhua

Sevilla ease through to UEFA Cup semis

ST PETERSBURG (Russia), 7 April — Sevilla booked a place in the UEFA Cup semifinals on Thursday after holding Zenit St. Petersburg to a 1-1 draw in a feisty second leg in which both sides finished with 10 men. The Spaniards went through 5-2 on aggregate and now play Schalke 04 or Levski Sofia in the last four.

In difficult conditions after heavy snowfall rendered the pitch boggy, Zenit did most of the pressing but found no way past Andres Palop in the first half.

Zenit captain Vladislav Radimov set up Alexander Kerzhakov but Palop kept out his effort and Pavel Mares headed wide.

The hosts were rewarded for persistence when Korean Hyun Young-Min, the first player from his country to join a Russian top-flight team when he joined from Ulsan in January, scored six minutes after halftime following a goalmouth scramble.

They continued to look threatening until Sevilla's Daniel won possession after a Zenit corner, swept up the right wing and found substitute Kepa with a neat cross which he slipped past keeper Vyacheslav Malafeev to level on 63 minutes.

Kepa was sent off for arguing soon after before Zenit's Ivica Krizanac was red-carded for a bad challenge on defender Enzo Maresca. — MNA/Reuters

Comfortable draw sends Schalke through to semis

FRANKFURT, 7 April — Schalke 04 made it safely through to the semi-finals of the UEFA Cup on Thursday, a 1-1 against Levski Sofia in Gelsenkirchen sealing a 4-2 aggregate victory.

The German side, leading 3-1 from the first game in Sofia, fell behind in the 25th minute when Emil Angelov tapped in but that still left the visitors needing two goals.

Kevin Kuranyi and Soren Larsen missed good chances before Lincoln pounced on a loose ball in the area to level in the 58th minute.

Schalke, UEFA Cup winners in 1997, now face Sevilla in the semifinals.

MNA/Reuters



Australia's Matthew Welsh, second left, celebrates his win in the Men's 100 meters Backstroke final with second placed Markus Rogan, left, of Austria, and equal third placed Randall Bal, of the USA, second right, and Helge Meeuw, right, of Germany at the FINA World Short Course Swimming Championships in Shanghai, China on 6 April, 2006. Welsh won in a time of 51.09. —INTERNET

Steaua reach UEFA Cup semis with 0-0 draw

BUCHAREST, 7 April — A goalless draw was enough to send Steaua Bucharest through to the UEFA Cup semifinals at the expense of city rivals Rapid Bucharest on Thursday.

Steaua won the tie on the away goal rule after last week's first leg finished 1-1.

"It's the first time in my life I'm happy with a 0-0 draw," Steaua coach Cosmin Olaroiu said.

"Steaua got qualification, but both teams deserved to go further."

"I want to thank my players and my

predecessors at the helm of the team. All of them had a contribution to the success of this wonderful team," he added.

The start of the first half was evenly balanced. Players from both sides appeared to be affected by the tension of the match and made lots of errors.

Home striker Nicolae Dica headed against the crossbar from a poor clearance by Rapid's Valentin Badoi in the fourth minute.

Banel Nicolita's raids on Steaua's left flank were the main danger for Rapid and livened up the match.

In the 31st minute, Rapid's Mugurel Buga failed to net Daniel Niculae's low cross from six metres with the goal in front of him.

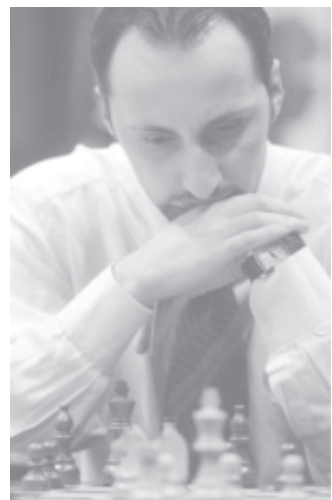
The 1986 European Cup winners Steaua Bucharest played with more confidence after the break and put the Rapid goal under pressure.

Only two minutes into the second half, Dica fired in a powerful, well-placed free kick from some 25 metres, but the wall deflected the ball away from the right post.

Rapid desperately tried to score on the counter-attack while Steaua's coach fielded three defensive players in a bid to keep the match goalless.

Rapid substitute Emil Dica wasted an opportunity two minutes from time when his three-metre shot was deflected by defender Mihai Nesu.

MNA/Reuters



Bulgarian World chess champion Veselin Topalov ponders his next move against European title holder Romanian Liviu Nisipeanu during an exhibition game in Bucharest on 6 April, 2006. —INTERNET



Microsoft Corp's Japan unit Xbox division general manager Takashi Sensui speaks next to a screen projecting images from Xbox's new game title 'FIFA World Cup Germany 2006' during a news conference in Tokyo on 6 April, 2006. — INTERNET

Floodwaters recede in Central Europe, but danger remains

PRAGUE, 7 April — Floodwaters in Central Europe began to recede Wednesday after claiming more than a dozen lives over the last week, but authorities have warned of remaining danger.

The water level in the east German city of Dresden receded one centimeter to 7.42 metres on Wednesday, with predictions that it would continue to drop slowly before the danger passes in the weekend.

However, the risk of further threat to life and property has actually increased in areas near the Elbe River further north. The water levels were three times higher than normal in the cities of Torgau and Magdebur which the river passes through on its way to the North Sea.

In Hungary, the level of the Danube fell 10 centimeters by Wednesday morning, down from its peak of a record high,

8.61 metres, measured at midnight Tuesday in Budapest.

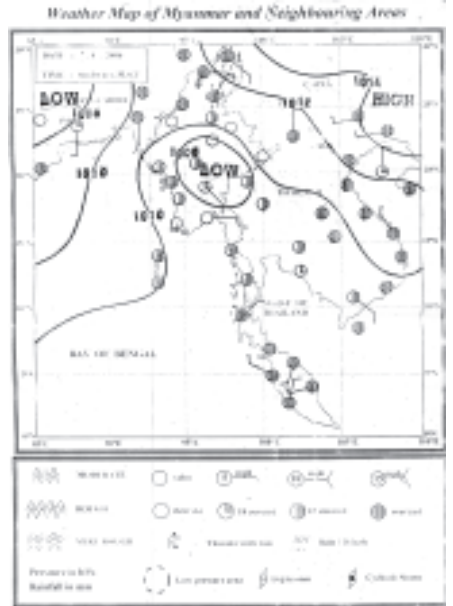
But a state of emergency remained in the Hungarian capital as authorities expect it will take at least a week before the Danube retreats to its normal level.

In the Czech Republic, the government announced an extension of the state of emergency, declared on April 2 in seven of the country's 14 regions, by another nine days.

Authorities have warned that Wednesday afternoon and evening would be critical for the flood situation as possible rain and a meltdown of snow in the eastern mountains could transform ebbing rivers into torrents.

In all, river levels fell slightly across most of the Czech Republic for the second day on Wednesday, with level three flood alerts remaining in 23 locations.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Friday, 7 April, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and weather has been partly cloudy in Chin and Shan States and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (4°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperature was Minbu (41°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Homalin (0.35) inch.

Maximum temperature on 6-4-2006 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 7-4-2006 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 7-4-2006 was (71%). Total sunshine hours on 6-4-2006 was (9.8) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 7-4-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (7) mph from Northwest at (14:30) hours MST on 6-4-2006.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in Andaman Sea and fair in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 8-4-2006: Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and weather will be partly cloudy in northern Shan, Mon States and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated light rain or thundershowers in northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Naypyidaw City and neighbouring areas for 8-4-2006: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 8-4-2006: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 8-4-2006: Generally fair weather.

Weather outlook for second weekend of April 2006: During the coming weekend, weather will be partly cloudy in Naypyidaw City, Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.

ရေခဲထုပ်၊ ရေပူဖောင်း ဆပ်ပြာရည်ဂတ်စ်ဘူးဖြင့် ကစားက

- ၁။ လက်ဝယ်တွေ့သူ - ထောင် (၁) နှစ်
- ၂။ ကစားသူ - ထောင် (၃) နှစ်
- ၃။ ထုတ်လုပ်ရောင်းချသူ - ထောင် (၅) နှစ် နှင့် ပစ္စည်းကိုင်သိမ်း

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ



Saturday, 8 April
View on today

7:00 am

- 1.ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကျွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုဏ် အဘိဓမ္မမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဓေတီက၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မဗျာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercises

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:00 am

6. ခေါင်းစည်းအင်အား ဧရာဝတီ ဖြစ်ကူးတံတားများ

8:10 am

7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

8. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Grammar made easy

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:15 am

2. Musical programme

11:30 am

3. News

11:45 am

4. Games for children

12:15 pm

5. နိုင်ငံခြားကားကွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "Doraemon"

12:35 pm

6. ကြားမြင်သူတ ဖြည့်ပရောဇာစာပဒေသာ

12:45 pm

7. Teleplay: "ကြည့်နဲ့ရိပ်"

1:25 pm

8. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ (ရိုင်စော့ထွန်း၊ ကြည်လဲ့လဲ့ဦး၊ (ခါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်)

1:40 pm

9. စွန်ချောင်းရေလှောင်တံ

1:50 pm

10. Dance of national races

2:05 pm

11. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:15 pm

12. "နင်းကြည့်စမ်းပါ" (မင်းအုပ်စိုး၊ ညီဘွား၊ ခင်စိုးဦး၊ (ခါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)

2:25 pm

13. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:40 pm

14. မအီချောင်းတံတား

2:45 pm

15. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Musical programme

4:40 pm

4. အစားသင့်တတ္ကုသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရှုက္ခမေး၊ သတ္တမေး) (ရက္ခမေး)

4:55 pm

5. ဆိုင်းအဖွဲ့ချုပ်ပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:10 pm

6. Musical programme

5:35 pm

7. ခါသင်္ကြန် အဆိုအကများ

5:35 pm

8. Games for children

6:00 pm

9. Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report

6:35 pm

11. Discovery

6:50 pm

12. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:00 pm

13. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

7:15 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကံကောင်းမြင်းဆိပ်မတ်" (အပိုင်း-၅)

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. Myanmar movie:

- "ဗောဓိတရားတော် တစ်စုံတစ်ရာ က သမာဓိပါပ" (အပိုင်း-၁) (ကျော်သူ၊ ရန်အောင်၊ လွင်မိုး၊ မိုးမိုးမြင့်အောင်၊ ဗေသာဠာဦး၊ ဒိုင်သင်းကြည်) (ခါရိုက်တာ-မောင်မျိုးမင်း)

19. The next day's programme

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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye meets Russian Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov

YANGON, 7 April — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mr Mikhail Fradkov at the Meeting Hall on the 5th floor of the Government House in Moscow of the Russian Federation at 4 pm local time on 3 April.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council (See page 7)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye holds discussions with Russian Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov. — MNA

Main aim of goodwill visit is to open new chapter in bilateral relations

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye

Results of the discussions satisfactory

Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov

YANGON, 7 April — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Prime Minister of Russian Federation Mr Mikhail Fradkov held a press conference at 5 pm local time

on 3 April in Avan Hall of the Government House in Moscow after their meeting.

Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov said, thorough discussions were made on bilateral relations and cooperation. He expressed belief that the discussions will enhance economic, trade and educa-

tion cooperation between the two nations. The two countries have agreed to cooperate in ending international terrorism. There are plans to extend cooperation between the ministries of the two countries. The discussions between the two nations are (See page 8)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Russian Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov hold a press conference in Moscow.—MNA