

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Sunday, 9 April, 2006

### 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 Chief of Staff of the Russian Federation First Vice-Minister for Defence General YN Baluevsky

YANGON, 8 April — The Myanmar goodwill delegation led by 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 wife Daw Mya Mya San held a discussion with Chief of Staff of the Russian Federation First Vice-Minister for Defence General YN Baluevsky at the Russian Ministry of Defence in Moscow in the Russian Federation at 12.30 pm local time on 4 April.

Also present at the discussion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Member of the State Peace and Development Council 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, and Military Attaché Brig-Gen Tun Tun.

The Chief of Staff of the Russian Federation First Vice-Minister for Defence General YN Baluevsky was accompanied by senior military officers of the Russian Federation.

They cordially discussed matters related to friendly

*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Chief of Staff of the Russian Federation First Vice-Minister for Defence General YN Baluevsky exchange souvenirs.*

\*MNA



relationship between armed forces of the two countries.

After the discussions, Vice-Senior General Maung

Aye and General YN Baluevsky exchanged souvenirs.

MNA



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Chief of Staff of the Russian Federation First Vice-Minister for Defence General YN Baluevsky holding discussions in Moscow. — \*MNA*

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

**PERSPECTIVES**

Sunday, 9 April, 2006

**Enhance cooperation in all spheres between Myanmar and Russian Federation**

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 paid a goodwill visit to the Russian Federation from 2 to 7 April at the invitation of Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mr Mikhail Fradkov.

During his visit, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met with Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov in Moscow on 3 April.

At the meeting, they 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 affairs.

After the meeting, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Fradkov held a press conference. The prime minister at the press conference expressed belief that the discussions will enhance cooperation in economic, trade and education sectors of the two countries. The two countries have agreed to cooperate in ending international terrorism. There are plans to extend cooperation between the ministries of the two countries, he disclosed.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that the goodwill visit is to open a new chapter of bilateral relations for further cementing the existing friendly ties between the governments, the peoples and the Tatmadaws of the two nations.

Although the two nations are far away from one another, they have been dealing with one another out of a sense of neighbourliness. 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 year 2000 and an agreement to hold formal meetings signed in 1999 have proved to be a sound foundation for cementing bilateral relations.

The goodwill visit of Myanmar delegation to the Russian Federation has produced such fruitful results that the two nations were able to sign a string of agreements and MoU.

All in all, we firmly believe that the goodwill visit of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye to the Russian Federation will be able to further cement the existing friendly ties and enhance cooperation in all spheres of the two nations.

**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

**USDA members receive journalistic skills**



USDA CEC member U Aung Min addressing the concluding ceremony of 4th basic journalism course of USDA. — MNA

YANGON, 7 April — Union Solidarity and Development Association concluded its 4th basic journalism course today at the headquarters of the association here.

As part of an effort to teach USDA members mass media, national politics, propaganda and rebuttal of rumours in media, the USDA conducted the basic journalism course, and trainees are to carry out public welfare tasks with the knowledge gained at the course, said Central Executive Committee Member of USDA U Aung Min in his concluding remarks.

Since its birth, Union Solidarity and Development Association has been carrying out public welfare activities and has conducted training courses for human resource development paving the way for the emergence of future's democratic State, he added. Having laid foundations for peace and stability of the State joining hands with people and the Tatmadaw, the Government has also implemented development tasks in border and rural areas and 24 development zones, U Aung Min said.

He continued to say that five rural area development tasks as well as power supply task and growing of physic nut plantation are being undertaken in

rural areas.

In conclusion, he called on the trainees to preserve the Union Spirit and to participate in development tasks in line with the 12 objectives of the State.

CEC Member U Aung Min awarded prizes to the first, second and third prize winners of the course and completion certificates to all the trainees.

The concluding ceremony was also attended by CEC Members of USDA U Thein Sein, Thura U Myint Maung and U Maung Pa, course instructors and trainees. — MNA

**ရေခဲထုပ်၊ ရေပူဖောင်း**

**ဆပ်ပြာရည်တစ်ဘူးဖြင့် ကစားက**

၁။ လက်ဝယ်တွေသူ - ထောင် (၁) နှစ်

၂။ ကစားသူ - ထောင် (၃) နှစ်

၃။ ထုတ်လုပ်ရောင်းချသူ - ထောင် (၅) နှစ် နှင့် ပစ္စည်းကိုင်ဆိုင်

**ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မီတီ**

**YCDC to meet with Energy in final**

YANGON, 8 April — The second semifinal of the Myanmar League Closing Cup Knockout Football Tournament was held at Aung San Stadium this afternoon.

YCDC's Hla Aye Htwe scored the winning goal into the net of Home Affairs.

In the final match to be held on 11 April afternoon, Energy will meet with YCDC at Aung San Stadium. — NLM



Chit Ko Ko of Home Affairs and Aung Myint Aye of YCDC fighting for the ball. — NLM

**Chief Executive of Asian Cricket Council leaves for home**



Officials of Myanmar Cricket Federation see off Chief Executive Mr Syed Ashrafal Huq of Asian Cricket Council at the airport. — MCF

YANGON, 8 April — Chief Executive Mr Syed Ashrafal Huq of Asian Cricket Council departed for home yesterday.

Mr Syed Ashrafal Huq was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Vice-President of Myanmar Cricket Federation U Kyaw Kyaw, General Secretary Daw Swe Zin Htaik, Advisor U Kyee Myint and executives.

While in Myanmar, he discussed promotion of cricket in the country, coach for Myanmar Cricket team and supply of sports gear with the officials of MCF. — MNA

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်  
မော်တော်ယာဉ် မသုံးစွဲရနေ့**

လစဉ် လ၏ဒုတိယပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်၊ ဧပြီလအတွက်

(၉-၄-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့

နှင့်

(၃၀-၄-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့



# Hu pledges closer trade, energy links with Yemen

**BEIJING, 7 April** — Chinese President Hu Jintao said here on Thursday China will further its trade and energy cooperation with Yemen in an effort to lift bilateral relations to a new height.

"China supports and welcomes the enterprises to increase their investment in the two countries, and is willing to expand cooperation with Yemen in such areas as energy, infrastructure and fishery," said Hu while meeting with visiting Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Saleh arrived in Beijing on Wednesday, kicking off his six-day state visit to China.

In reply to Hu's call for further economic and trade

cooperation, Saleh said the Yemeni Government is pleased with the sound development of bilateral relations and trade ties.

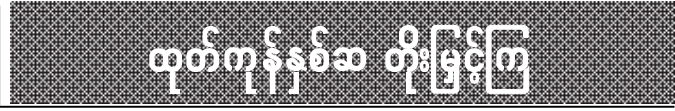
The friendly cooperation between Yemen and China has seen stable development and trade cooperation has achieved much progress since the two countries forged diplomatic ties 50 years ago, said Saleh, adding that trade volume hit 3.5 billion US dollars in 2005.

Hu urged the two countries to continue to step

up exchanges at various levels and strengthen coordination in international and regional affairs.

On the situations in the Middle East and Gulf region, Hu said China has always engaged itself in easing and stabilizing the situations in the region, and opposes any move to intensify regional tension. China insists that parties concerned increase dialogue, conduct consultations equally and solve disputes through peaceful negotiation in line with relevant UN resolutions, said Hu.

MNA/Xinhua



*Chinese President Hu Jintao (R) shakes hands with visiting Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh during a welcoming ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China, on 6 April, 2006. Saleh arrived in Beijing on Wednesday, kicking off his six-day state visit to China.—INTERNET*



*A man of Fargo, North Dakota, walks outside a wedding chapel, which is more than 100 years old, flooded by the Red and Buffalo Rivers north of Kragnes, Minnesota on 6 April, 2006.—INTERNET*

## Bush admits mistakes in Iraq, prods Baghdad

**CHARLOTTE (North Carolina), 7 April** — President George W Bush admitted on Thursday the US military made mistakes in Iraq but defended his domestic eavesdropping programme, insisting to a hostile questioner he had no reason to apologize for it.

Beset by low approval ratings dragged down by pessimism over Iraq, Bush also signalled impatience with Iraqi leaders and urged them to break their deadlock and form a national unity government seen as crucial to averting sectarian civil war.

Trying to rally sagging US support for the war, Bush went to a Republican Southern stronghold for the latest in a series of speeches meant to convince an increasingly skeptical public that he has a winning strategy in Iraq.

In some of his frankest language so far, Bush responded to a question on what he could have done differently in Iraq by acknowledging the United States could have moved faster in training Iraqi troops and police.

He said Iraqi security forces were originally trained to handle external threats but instead the threat came from inside the country, from al-Qaeda leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. "In retrospect, we could've done better," Bush said. But he insisted the overall US strategy in Iraq had been correct.

Bush said he was "just as disappointed as everybody else was" about erroneous pre-war US intelligence on Iraq. US officials had said they had evidence that Saddam Hussein was developing weapons of mass destruction but none were found.

Bush also said the abuse of prisoners at Abu Ghraib Prison "hurt us in the international arena particularly in the Muslim world".—MNA/Reuters



*Bollywood actress Shilpa Shetty presents a creation of Indian designer Tarun Tahiliani at a fashion show on the third day of India Fashion Week in New Delhi on 7 April, 2006.—INTERNET*

## Health tip: keep your home poison-proof

**WASHINGTON, 7 April** — About 1.2 million children under age 6 accidentally ingest poison each year. This often occurs at home when parents are not paying attention, or when children mistakenly receive an incorrect dosage of an otherwise safe medication. Everyday substances that are potentially harmful to children include cleaning products, kerosene, gasoline, anti-freeze, pesticides, windshield wiper fluid and furniture polish.

The American Academy of Pediatrics suggests storing these and other potential poisons in locked drawers or cabinets that are out of children's reach.

Childproof safety latches should be installed on any storage units.

All medications should have childproof safety caps,

and any unused medications should be thrown away where children cannot reach them. You should never store

medications or toxic substances in regular food or drink containers, or in other containers that are not properly labeled.—Internet



*An Audi TT Coupe car of the latest generation is set up next to a huge sculpture in Berlin on 6 April, 2006. German carmaker Audi on Thursday presented the new generation of its sports car to the media.—INTERNET*

## Woman tricks herself out of reward

**BERLIN, 8 April** — When a German woman found a wallet containing 1,000 euros (696 pounds) she decided it was better to get a reward from the owner than to keep the money—even if that meant resorting to extortion, police said on Friday.

"It was a bit stupid. She could just have kept the wallet," said a spokeswoman for police in the southwestern city of Darmstadt. "But she wanted the finder's reward—and might have got one anyway. But she opted to extort it instead."

Police said the 47-year-old found the owner's phone number in the wallet and told the pensioner she could only have it back for 100 euros "plus 20 euros travel costs". The owner agreed to the terms, and tipped off police, who arrested the woman with the wallet at the handover point.—Internet

# Russian FM accuses EU of trying to isolate Belarus

PRAGUE, 7 April — Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Wednesday renewed Moscow's accusations that the European Union (EU) was trying to isolate Belarus since the reelection of President Alexander Lukashenko last month.

"We are convinced that if the EU has questions concerning the activities of a country's government, these questions should be addressed in a dialogue, and not through attempts to isolate the country," Lavrov told a news conference in the Slovak capital Bratislava.

However, his Slovak counterpart Eduard Kukan expressed full support to the EU sanctions against Belarus, including a visa ban on six key Belarus leaders. EU foreign ministers due to meet on April 10 are expected to keep up pressure on Belarus. The March 19 election in Belarus, which saw Lukashenko reelected for a third term with 83 per

cent of the vote, was branded by the EU and the United States as being rigged.

On the contrary, Russia

said the presidential election in Belarus had been fair and was legitimate.

MNA/Xinhua

## Better method found on detecting mutation of bird flu virus

TOKYO, 7 April — Genetic mutations in bird flu viruses could be monitored by a simple and inexpensive method using natto, or fermented soybeans, a Japanese research team announced on Tuesday.

Takashi Suzuki, a professor from the Shizuoka University's School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, said his research team jointly developed with its partners a new method to detect signals of the viruses' mutation into potentially new forms that could be transmitted from human to human.

In their experiment, adhesive substances in natto were used to fix cells from birds and humans on the surface of test plates, and viruses were then placed on the cells to check whether the form of the viruses has changed, the newspaper *Yomiuri Shimbun* reported on Wednesday. The method boasts higher sensitivity than conventional ones, Suzuki said. — MNA/Xinhua

## ဝက်ပစ္စည်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



A robot is removing a suspected explosive object. On 6 April, A large-scale joint anti-terrorism drill was held in Jinyang district of Guiyang, capital city of Southwest China's Guizhou Province. —INTERNET

## Lawmakers want junk food out of schools

WASHINGTON, 7 April — Trying to shrink the growing waistlines of children, lawmakers want to expel soda, candy bars, chips and other junk food from the nation's schools.

Dangerous weight is on the rise in kids. This week, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the rate of obese and overweight kids has climbed to 18 percent

of boys and 16 percent of girls. Four years ago, the number was 14 percent.

Lawmakers blame high-fat, high-sugar snacks that compete with nutritious meals in schools.

"Junk food sales in schools are out of control," Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, senior Democrat on the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, said Thursday. "It undercuts our investment in school meal programs and steers kids toward a future of obesity and diet-related disease."

Harkin and a bipartisan group of lawmakers introduced a bill to have the Agriculture Department set new nutritional standards for all food sold in schools. The goal is to restrict junk food sales in schools.

The department sets

standards for breakfasts and lunches in federal school meal programs, which reimburse public and nonprofit private schools for giving free or reduced-price meals to kids. Those meals must follow federal dietary guidelines, which call for more fruits, vegetables and whole grains and less calories, fat, added sugars and sodium.

But the standards don't apply to a la carte lines in cafeterias, vending machines or school stores.

The Agriculture Department has tried to restrict junk food before, but a 1983 federal court ruling, in a lawsuit by the National Soft Drink Association, said the limits could only apply to cafeterias during meals, not for the entire day throughout campus.

Internet



A Frenchman displays an electrical tricycle during an invention exhibition in Geneva, Switzerland, on 5 April, 2006. The 34th Geneva International Exhibition of Inventions, attracting some 700 manufacturers with more than 1,000 inventions from 45 countries and regions, inaugurated on Wednesday. INTERNET

## New species of parrot, mouse found in Philippines

MANILA, April 7 — A brightly plumaged parrot and a long-tailed forest mouse unique to the Philippines have been discovered in the vanishing rainforest of a tiny tropical island, US-based researchers said on Thursday.

Camiguin, a volcanic island in the southern Philippines, is a treasure trove for fauna, and already had an endemic species of rodent and frog before the

discovery of the rusty brown mouse and the green hanging parrot, known among locals as "Colasisi".

But Camiguin's wildlife was at risk from deforestation, researchers, writing in *Fieldiana: Zoology*, a scientific journal published by the Chicago-based Field Museum of Natural History, warned.

"Knowing that at least 54 species of birds and at least 24 species of mammals live on Camiguin and that some of these animals are found nowhere else on earth, makes us realize how important this island is," said Lawrence Heaney, curator of mammals at the Field Museum.

"For these animals to survive, we've got to save the dwindling forests where they live."

A diverse archipelago of more than 7,000 islands, the Philippines hosts a wealth of endemic flora and fauna but more than 70 per cent of its original forests have been destroyed.

Camiguin was once almost entirely covered by rain forest but by 2001, only 18 per cent was still forested due to logging, agriculture and human settlement. Half of the island, a popular diving destination, is covered with coconut plantations.

MNA/Reuters



An undated handout photo shows a brightly plumaged parrot in captivity sitting on a branch of a tree on the island of Camiguin, a volcanic island in southern Philippines. —INTERNET

## Midlife obesity raises risk of Alzheimer's disease

SAN DIEGO, 7 April — Being overweight during one's early 40s increases the risk of Alzheimer's disease decades later, new research shows.

"We originally thought that once we took into account diabetes and cardiovascular disease, that there would be no effect of overweight on Alzheimer's disease, but that turned out not to be the case," Dr Rachel A Whitmer said at a Press briefing held at the American Academy of Neurology's annual meeting here in San Diego.

Whitmer, from the Kaiser Permanente Foundation Research Institute in Oakland, California, and her colleagues studied data on nearly 9000 men and women who were between the ages of 40 and 45 years old when they were first examined between 1964 and 1973. Body fat was measured in the back and arms using special calipers.

MNA/Reuters



## Venezuela to investigate American Airlines' route permits

CARACAS, 6 April—Venezuela said on Tuesday that it would investigate the authorizations for two of the Miami-Caracas flights of American Airlines.

Venezuela's National Civil Aeronautic Institute said in a statement that it has opened an investigation to determine responsibility for the "irregular situation" of the two daily flights.

The two flights, 902 and 903, have been operated by American Airlines on its Miami-Caracas, Caracas-Miami route.

The company suspended Flight 903 on Monday, as it did not have authorization from Venezuela.

Venezuelan firms are only permitted to operate international flights in the United States, and internal air routes have always been shut away from them.

MNA/Xinhua

## Putin invites Brazilian President to attend G-8 summit

BRASILIA, 6 April— Russian President Vladimir Putin has invited Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva to attend the Group of Eight (G-8) summit, which is to be held in St Petersburg on 15-17 July.

Visiting Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov conveyed Putin's invitation letter to Lula on Tuesday, according to the Brazilian Foreign Ministry.

International energy security, infectious disease prevention and

education development are included in the agenda of the upcoming G-8 summit, Putin said in the letter.

Putin also said that he believed Brazil could offer help in drafting the G-8 initiative, which would be released in 2006.

Russia, as the host of the G-8 this year, would like to make efforts along with other member countries to promote discussions on global issues, Putin added.

Lula expressed his thanks for Putin's invitation, saying he would study it seriously and with interest.

Fradkov, who arrived in Brazil for a three-day official visit, will also tour Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro along with a group of Russian entrepreneurs.

MNA/Xinhua



An injured man is treated in a hospital after being wounded in a suicide bombing in central Baghdad on 7 April, 2006. —INTERNET



A Chinese woman walks past a luxury watch advertisement in Shanghai on 6 April, 2006.

INTERNET

## Let China, Pacific island countries create dynamic partnership

NADI (Fiji), 6 April— Fiji Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase on Wednesday called on the Pacific Island countries and China to work together to create dynamic partnership for a new Pacific.

"Let China and our countries create dynamic

partnership for a new Pacific," said the Fiji Prime Minister at the opening ceremony of the First Ministerial Meeting of the China-Pacific Island Economic Development and Cooperation Forum.

The Prime Minister said, "and we say, welcome China! We ask you to join with us shaping relationship for the 21st Century."

He said China is already a valued provider of aid and development assistance, adding that "we are grateful for the commitment".

He said the forum would give the island countries a chance to come together with China to turn on a new page in the region's history.

The Prime Minister said there is a common desire for increased cooperation, commerce and investment.

"The key to the higher

growth and related prosperity we seek is increased international trade," he said.

He said, "We look now for new markets, where there is flexibility of entry and a readiness to meet the export needs of small, isolated island countries".

He explained "that is what we would like to engage with China, as we increasingly look North for the answers to our trade and investment aspirations".

The Prime Minister said, Fiji hoped that from this landmark conference at Nadi will become regular summit meetings with China at the highest level. The two-day forum meeting is jointly sponsored by China's Ministry of Commerce and Fiji Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade.

MNA/Xinhua



Veterinary workers wearing protective suits, arrive at a large poultry farm where preliminary tests showed the presence of the H5N1 virus, in the eastern German village of Wermsdorf, north of Dresden on 6 April, 2006.

INTERNET

## Norway aims to reduce Microsoft dependence

OSLO (Norway), 7 April— The Norwegian government said Friday it will increase its use of freely shared, open-source software to reduce its dependency on large computer companies like Microsoft Corp.

"It should no longer be necessary to use software from the major, international computer companies to gain access to electronic information in the public sector," the government said in a statement. "Now that dependency will be broken."

The Ministry of Government Administration and Reform said measures to increase use of open-source programs include a specialist panel to set standards for public information.

The government statement said the project will also set standards to allow various operating systems to communicate with one another.

Several countries, including Brazil, China, France, Germany, Japan and South Korea, have been actively moving toward open-source alternatives.

Proponents say open source results in quicker development of software because vast numbers of

people can study, update and adapt programs without having to pay licensing fees.—Internet

## Two killed, over 50 injured in storm in southern Bangladesh

DHAKA, 7 April— Two persons were killed and over 50 others injured in cyclonic storm that lashed the southern Jhalokati District of Bangladesh early hours on Thursday, officials contacted by telephone said.

They said the storm swept through the district when people were sleeping. A couple in a village of the district died following a house collapse during the hour-long storm that flattened around 200 houses.

The officials said the storm damaged coproads heavily, but immediately could not assess total damage.

MNA/Xinhua



A Serbian man in a boat checks if the phone works in a phone booth on the overflowing Sava River in Belgrade on 6 April, 2006.—INTERNET

# I'll tell you with a tap on the shoulder

*Mann Pauk Pauk*

I was born and brought up in Mandalay. When I was young, I often boasted that even my belly was stuck with gold foils of the palace posts. As I am so inquisitive, I know every incident that occurs in the city. Recently, a group of foreigners arrived in the city. They could be seen visiting this or that place in the city by car, causing some public annoyance. First, I assumed them to be tourists. But I came to notice later that they were different. Other tourists usually visited Maha Muni Buddha Image, Mandalay Hill, PyinOoLwin or Zegyo Market. But they met the chairman of the organizing committee and executives of the Mandalay Division National League for Democracy, asked about a national race couple, saw some persons of drama and literary field, who once faced legal action, invited students of Mandalay to a meeting without any permission from authorities, and made arrangements to show the uncensored movie "Crash". They became an eyesore to the people.

When I inquired about them, I came to know that those White people were not tourists, but the staff of the American embassy. If said precisely, they were the charge d' affairs, the first secretary, the military attaché and staff of the embassy. First, I thought that what they were doing did not concern us. But when I listened to the VOA on 2 March 2006, I was surprised and angry, because people from the so-called civilized country dared make brazen lies. So, I wrote this article to counter media with media.

What the VOA said was that the staff of Yangon-based American embassy and American centre visited Mandalay on 27 February for teaching local youths and students English; that the group led by the charge d' affairs went to the city as Myanmar students needed help to learn English; that they started to implement their education programme only after meeting with authorities; and that unknown groups distributed anonymous letters to authorities, warning people against the meddling of Americans in the city.

**Americans who are shouting "press freedom" are now lying the world with false news, while withholding the truth. They are flagrantly violating the journalism ethics. But it is not strange. Have any of the successive American administrations ever taken a sincere stance towards Myanmar?**

During the parliamentary democracy era, the US government organized and used even the persons of literary and journalism worlds, students, ordinary persons of the religious field and monks with assistance from Ford Foundation and Asia Foundation claiming that no strings were attached. I still remember a publishing house and a journal on Mandalay Hill running pro-American news reports and articles and advertisements. Some dailies were bribed to feature embassy advertisements as well as articles criticizing countries opposed to the US.

CIA operatives were meddling in the affairs

of the nation during the Revolutionary Council government and the Burma Socialist Programme Party government. When the 1988 unrest erupted, persons including the US ambassador and some senators interfered in Myanmar's internal affairs. All in all, the American government has been interfering in the nation's affairs and putting pressures on her since 18 September 1988 to this date. I have kept the dailies of the successive eras. There is also a saying, which goes, "Newspapers tell the history". We can take a lot of lessons and will feel embittered if we read the dailies of successive eras available at the Mandalay University Library and Yangon National Library.

Now, I will tell the readers about the American Centre to the extent of my knowledge. There was the USIS or the American information department at the US embassy in the past. The USIS published a large number of books on propaganda. It

**During the parliamentary democracy era, the US government organized and used even the persons of literary and journalism worlds, students, ordinary persons of the religious field and monks with assistance from Ford Foundation and Asia Foundation claiming that no strings were attached.**

also organized some private publishing houses by providing cash to them and published books to help run the propaganda machine, on behalf of the US embassy. Aged persons know well the names of the persons and publishing houses who got involved in the job. The embassy also opened a USIS library. But it was an effort to organize local people to think highly of the US, with the library as a tool. Now, the USIS has become the American centre. But nothing has changed, only the name.

However, its intention has remained unchanged. The US Center has been equipped with a library, and there a film show is presented weekly. The pictures include newsreels that feature how the US presidential elections are held democratically and fairly, episodes of appetizing US lifestyle, and political movies like "Crash". The US Center also conducts English language courses. Today, it is encouraging that Myanmar youths pursue foreign languages such as Japanese, Russian, German, Spanish, Korean and Thai. Among them is English. In reality, English is not a British language, but an international language or communicative language between different peoples. Fully taking advantage of this point, the US Center does organizing work through various English language courses. That is its concern. But, the course on English for journalism is like a sugar-coated course for young journalists from the Myanmar journalism sphere, and so it can be called poisonous media. The class is open in the morning,

as well as in the afternoon for those who are busy in the morning. In particular, the course targets novice journalists to stuff them with its ideas.

Naturally, youths are open-minded, curious to know everything and mentally and physically active and hate unfairness without pretence. The Ministry of Information has granted permission to almost all those who wanted to publish magazines and journalists. So, more than 200 magazines and journals are in circulation in Myanmar and the number is unprecedented. That calls for many editors and reporters but there is no journalism course to train them. So, they have to study journalism through books on journalism and approach veteran journalists for the subject. Surely, they will be qualified one day through experience. Meanwhile, the US Center launched the course on English for Journalism that was good news for such novice journalists. Every kind of course is beneficial to the trainees. But such a course with particular intention poses grave dangers. To my knowledge, over one hundred youths must have completed the course by now. The course graduates are now serving for respective magazines and journals. I have close relationship with many youth journalists. I happened to bluntly ask some of them if their English improved much especially in writing after the course. They gave me the same answer "no". You readers may inquire such youths who have completed the course to find out if they know how to present a news story simply and briefly. Then, you should ask what the American course instructors taught them in the term of three months and if the text included journalists' ethics or journalists' writing. In fact, the course instructors teach the trainees journalism just a little and hunt a lot of information about education, health and social sectors of Myanmar from the latter. I do not think such artless youth trainees are aware of the fact that their generosity and sincerity have been exploited cleverly. The instructors are organizing the youths. For instance, they choose some with whom they get along (who seem to dance their tune) out of the trainees and sent them to some foreign nations such as Thailand and Cambodia. They also keep three or four senior Myanmar youth journalists by sending them to some big countries including America four or five times each. So, they can organize local youths through such followers. Many of dollar-earning Myanmar nationals in some embassies and international organizations in Myanmar are such kinds of persons who were punished under law or who were sacked by government departments and their children. So, it is obvious that such employees are getting along with some media to feed information. I wholeheartedly encourage and support some folks of Mandalay who are shouldering national duty by sending warnings in writing to certain American diplomats and US Embassy staff who violated diplomatic ethics and are interfering in the internal affairs of Myanmar.

**Translation: TMT + MS**

*Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 8-4-2006*





Deputy Governor Mr Lobko of St. Petersburg presents a souvenir to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye. —MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially shakes hands with Chief of Staff of the Russian Federation First Vice-Minister for Defence General YN Baluevsky. (News on page 1) —MNA

**Vice-Senior General Maung Aye...**

(from page 16)

Myanmar Ambassador U Tin Soe.

Deputy Governor of St. Petersburg Mr Lobko was accompanied by First Vice-Chairman of Mr Petruk of Foreign Relations Committee in St. Petersburg, Mr Arseshevsky of Foreign Relations Committee and Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Oleg V Kabanov.

Issues on economy and investment were cordially discussed. After the talks, Deputy Governor of St Petersburg Mr Lobko presented gifts to Vice-Senior

General Maung Aye.

Daw Mya Mya San, wife of 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, accompanied by Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Daw Khin Saw Hnin, wife of member of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Daw Myint Myint Soe, wife of

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Daw Myint Myint Thein, wife of Myanmar Ambassador U Tin Soe and officials, arrived at the Office of the Governor of St. Petersburg.

They were welcomed there by Information and Public Relations Officer Ms Svetlana Matveeva and officials.

Daw Mya Mya San and party visited women's boarding school founded by Empress Catherine, Tzar dynasty of Russia and the house where Lenin and his wife lived during the October Revolution. They were conducted round the museum by officials.—MNA



Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, and party view documentary pictures at the house where Lenin and his wife lived during the October Revolution. —MNA

**Ceremony to pay respects to former teachers on 1 May**

YANGON, 6 April — A ceremony to pay respects to the former teachers of No 2 Basic Education Middle School in Dagon Township and a get-together will be held at the school on 1 May (Workers Day). The former students, whether the invitation cards are received or not, may attend it.

Any students may donate cash and contact Headmistress Daw San Tint, Tel (379178), Thitagu Ko Naing Oo—Tel (591999, 590590), Daw San San Wai—Tel (558168), Ko Than Win—Tel (382235, 242310) and Ko Nyein Chan Oo—Tel (098024072).— MYANMA ALIN

**Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects cultivation of physic nut and rubber in Kachin State**

YANGON, 8 April —State Peace and Development Council Member Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence together with Kachin State PDC Chairman Northern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and departmental officials, met with military officers and other ranks and their families at Myitkyina Station Hall on 5 April and gave instructions on growing physic nut and rubber plants to meet the target, cooperation in regional development tasks, attending to the educational, health, social and welfare requirements

of family members and carrying out breeding tasks. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party attended the ceremony to grow physic nut plants, heard a report on completion of growing physic nut plants and left instructions. Next, grafts and seeds of physic nut were distributed to the departmental officials and social organizations.

On arrival at physic nut plantation of Kachin State Development Affairs Committee, Shadaung Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party presented grafts and bags of physic nut seeds and viewed round the plantations.

At Myitkyina Station, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Commander Ohn Myint distributed the physic nut seeds to units regiments of the Station and participated in growing plants.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to the honey orange farm of Kachin State USDA and inspected the nurturing of the 6,000 grafts and 94,000 saplings at the honey orange farm.

When they arrived at the 3,000 acres of rubber plantation of Northern Command, they inspected the thriving rubber plants. On arrival at the briefing hall, Lt-Gen

Ye Myint heard reports on the construction of Myitkyina-Sinbo-Myohla No 3 district-to-district Road and left necessary instructions.

At Sinbo Township local battalion, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with military officers, other ranks and their families and cordially greeted them.

When they arrived

at Township Administrative Office, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on regional developments and gave instructions to the officials.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the people's hospital, BEHS and market in Sinbo. At Amatgyigon Village in Shwegu Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint

gave a speech and attended to the needs.

Later, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with departmental officials at Shwegu Township local battalion and left instructions on growing physic nut plants. At Shweli Bridge (Nga-O), Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on durability of the bridge. — MNA

**မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသင်္ကြန်**

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

ရန်ကင်းတိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San arrive in St. Petersburg

YANGON, 8 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 and wife Daw Mya Mya San, together with Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, and Member of the State Peace and Development Council 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 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, sen-



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



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

ior military officers, Myanmar Ambassador to the Russian Federation U Tin Soe and wife Daw Myint Myint Thein, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Tun Tun, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, and departmental heads, accompanied by Russian Ambassador Mr Oleg V Kabanov, arrived at Vnukovo-2 Airport in Moscow at 9 am local time on 5 April to continue their goodwill visit in the Russian Federation.

After taking the salute, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Mr AY Alekseev inspected the Guard of Honour. At that time, the State Band played the national anthems of the Union of Myanmar and the Russian Federation.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greeted high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation who saw off the Myanmar goodwill delegation.

Likewise, the Russian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs greeted members of the Myanmar

goodwill delegation.

The Guard of Honour marched past Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Mr AY Alekseev.

A Russian woman presented a bouquet to Daw Mya Mya San at the ramp of the aircraft.

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Mr AY Alekseev saw off Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Daw Mya Mya San at the ramp of the aircraft.

The aircraft carrying the Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San landed at Pulkovo-I Airport Zone A in St Petersburg of the Russian Federation at 11.10 am local time.

They were welcomed at the airport by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Governor's Office of St Petersburg.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party proceeded to Hotel Astoria in St Petersburg. — MNA



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San being welcomed by officials of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and Office of Governor of St. Petersburg. — MNA*



## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San meet staff, families of Myanmar Embassy, Military Attaché's Office



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye meets staff and families of Myanmar Embassy and office of military attache in Moscow. — MNA*

YANGON, 8 April — The Myanmar goodwill delegation led by 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 wife Daw Mya Mya San arrived at the Myanmar Embassy in Moscow of the Russian Federation at 6.55 pm local time on 4 April.

Staff and families of the Myanmar Embassy and the Military Attaché's Office welcomed them.

First, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye extended greetings to staff and families of the Myanmar Embassy and the Military Attaché's Office.

On behalf of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein explained matters related to the goodwill visit 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 to the Russian Federation beginning 2 April, the traditional relationship between the Union of Myanmar and the Russian Federation and promotion of friendship between them, matters concerning the shifting of military units and ministries to Naypyitaw City, the programmes to build a modern, developed, discipline-flourishing democratic nation in line with the seven-step Road Map, and convening of the National Convention, which is the first step of the Road Map, to lay down the basic principles and detailed basic principles for formulating the new constitution, matters related to prevailing peace and stability of the State, ensuring food sufficiency and uplift of the education standard of the people for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation, endeavours of the Government to fulfill the requirements while wiping out dangers

posed by internal and external destructionists, and implementation of the border area and national races development plan, the 24-special-development region plan, and five rural development tasks for development of the nation.

The Secretary-1 stressed the need for staff of the Myanmar Embassy and the Military Attaché's Office to discharge their respective duties conscientiously.

Next, staff and families of the Myanmar Embassy and the Military Attaché's Office paid respects to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

On behalf of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye,

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented gifts to staff and families of the Myanmar Embassy through Ambassador U Tin Soe, and gifts to those of the Military Attaché's Office through Military Attaché Brig-Gen Tun Tun.

The Myanmar Ambassador and wife hosted a dinner in honour of the Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

After the dinner, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San and party went back to President Hotel.

MNA



*Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets staff and families of Myanmar Embassy and office of military attache in Moscow. — MNA*



*Opening of Minbaw Village gravel road in Maubin Township in progress. — MNA*

## Rural roads inaugurated

YANGON, 8 April— The Hsutaungpyae-Einme gravel road was inaugurated in Pantanaw Township, Ayeyawady Division this morning.

Officials formally opened the facility that was undertaken with contributions of K 33.88 million by Pantanaw Township Development Committee.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein

Nyunt inspected the 3 miles and 4.5 furlongs long and ten feet wide road linking Hsutaungpyae Village with Einme. That will benefit more than 36,550 local people.

CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Col Thein Nyunt briefed executives of division, district and township USDAs on tasks being carried out for regional development.

The minister attended the opening of rural gravel road linking Minbaw Village and Maubin-Kyaiklatt Road. The 9,440-foot-long road was constructed with cash assistance of K 32.1 million and it will benefit over 6,000 local folks.

He also attended the opening of Toe Myitta tarred road in Ward 12 in Maubin and inspected it.

MNA

## Regional development undertakings supervised in Shan State (East)

NAYPYITAW, 8 April —Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (East) PDC Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Brig-Gen Win Aung of Mongphyat Station and senior military officers, held a meeting with Tatmadaw members and families at local regiment of Mongphyat on 6 April morning.

Together with Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and senior military officers, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win from helicopter inspected Mongphyat-Mongyawng-Mongyu road, summer paddy fields and rubber plantations along the road.

Later that morning, he met departmental personnel at the township assembly hall. Deputy Head of Mongyu General Administration



*Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gives instructions to Tatmadawmen and families of regiments and units in Mongyawng Station.*

MNA

Department U Min Aung Naing reported on progress of cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy and other crops and physic nut.

In response, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win provided assistance, calling on departmental personnel to cooperate harmoniously with local people for ensuring food security, submit progress of agricultural sector of the region and make efforts with goodwill for regional development.

Mongyu Region has

17,112 acres of farmland, 337,210 acres of virgin and fallow lands, 259,227 acres of forests, 44,160 acres of reserved forests, and other 214,842 acres of other lands. In 2005-2006, the region put 15,619 acres under monsoon paddy with per acre yield of 66.86 baskets. So far, it has cultivated 402 acres of summer paddy, grown 193,253 physic nut saplings, and nurtured 220,300 physic nut seedlings and grafts.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win

and party visited Mongyu People's Hospital where they were conducted by Medical Superintendent Dr Min Thein around the wards and medical store. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party also visited Mongyu BEHS and gave necessary instructions to officials. Next, they proceeded to Nampan region rubber and summer paddy plantations of Shan State (East) Special Region-4, inspected the plantations and cordially greeted local farmers.

On arrival at Mongyawng, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met servicemen and their families at the local battalion. Again in meeting with departmental personnel at the Mongyawng Township PDC office, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win heard a report by the council chairman on the area, location and population of the township, cultivation of summer and monsoon paddy, ten major crops, rubber and physic nut plants and plans to ensure regional food-suffi-

ciency. In response to the report, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win fulfilled the requirements and called for concerted efforts for boosting cultivation of rubber, a raw industrial product. Mongyawng Township has cultivated 31,895 acres of monsoon paddy in 2005-2006, yielding 71.23 baskets of paddy per acre. Besides, 964,271 acres have been put under summer paddy in the township.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party visited Kengtung Government Technological College in the afternoon. Principal Dr Zaw Naing reported on the conducting of courses, number of students, strength of staff. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win left necessary instructions. Later, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party visited the Government Computer College (Kengtung) and left necessary instructions there.

MNA



*Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects thriving summer paddy plantations in Nampan region of Shan State (East) Special Region-4.*

MNA

### Prizes of ASEAN radio quiz awarded

YANGON, 8 April — ASEAN in Action project has been implemented from radio programme of MRTV and the salient points of ASEAN countries are being broadcast at 9.45 am on Saturdays.

The radio quiz of ASEAN for March took place at MRTV on 5 April morning and Ma Chaw Ei Phyu Soe of Kawthaung stood first, Maung Kyaw Min Tun of Bago, second, Ma Aye Chan Myint of Mingalar Taungnyunt, third and Ma Nan Si Htaung of Kengtung, consolation prize.

The prizes were awarded to the winners.

Those wishing to take part in the ASEAN radio quiz may enlist at MRTV on Pyay Road regardless of age and qualification.

MNA

### Summer Course on Swimming concludes

YANGON, 8 April — A Summer Course on Swimming of Kokkaing Swimming Club concluded at the club this morning. It was attended by Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint.

The minister made a speech and the officials presented completion certificates to the trainees.

Vice-chairman of the club U Han Tun Aung presented gifts to the coaches and Dr Khin Shwe, President of Myanmar Swimming Federation spoke words of thanks. It was followed by a lucky draw programme.

NLM



*Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint speaking at the conclusion ceremony of summer swimming course of Kokkaing Swimming Club. — NLM*





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**Norway listed as world leader in foreign aid**

**STOCKHOLM, 7 April**— The nations in the **Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)** set a new record for aid contributions in 2005, and Norway topped the donor list, said reports reaching here from Oslo on Wednesday.

Minister of International Development Erik Solheim has his sights set even higher for aid efforts, according to Aftenposten.

OECD members gave 106 billion US dollars in aid to the third world last year, 31.4 per cent more than in 2004.

Norway topped the list with gifts worth 0.93 per cent — 2.77 billion US dollars — of its gross national income, just ahead of Sweden with 0.92 per cent.

Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Denmark filled out the top five, and were the only countries in 2005 to exceed the United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of GNP for rich nations.

"Sweden has said that they will reach 1 per cent (of GNP) and then so must we. I don't have a budget now, but I am of course working hard so that we can come even further," Solheim told Aftenposten.

MNA/Xinhua

**Elephants destroy fields in Zimbabwe**

**HARARE, 7 April**— Despite the prospects of a good farming season this year in Zimbabwe's perennially drought-prone Matabeleland, local farmers are set to realize low yields as a result of elephants which have invaded the areas.

Most parts of Zimbabwe, including some semi-arid areas, this year received normal to above-normal rainfall.

But prospects of a bumper harvest in the area were fading each day following the invasions by the elephants, local media reported on Thursday.

Chief of the area, Romano Senga Nekatambe, was quoted by *The Daily Mirror* as saying that elephants were wrecking havoc in the fields.

"This year, everyone was expecting a bumper harvest in my area, but it appears all hope has been lost because of elephants which have turned the lives of many people upside down.

People are literally sleeping in their fields in a desperate attempt to protect their crops," said Nekatambe. He described the elephants as daring and aggressive.

Nekatambe said he would soon approach the Department of Wildlife and National Parks over the issue.

The Senator for the area, Grace Dube, also echoed the traditional leader's concern. "We really have a problem here. The government had done all it could to assist farmers, but it seems the elephants are letting us down," she said. Dube said some villagers have resorted to prematurely harvesting their crops due to the problem. —MNA/Xinhua



A citizen walks with an umbrella against snowfall in Panjin City, northeast China's Liaoning Province, on 6 April, 2006. Sleet and slight snowfall hit many cities of the province Thursday.—INTERNET

**Study shows Tirana noisiest city in Europe**

**TIRANA, 7 April**— Albania is the most heavily noise-polluted country in Europe, and Tirana is the noisiest capital in the region, according to a study published on Wednesday.

The study, conducted by the Albanian Institute of Public Health in eight major towns, found that the level of noise measured in Tirana in the daytime could reach up to 80 dB, whereas the average noise in other European

countries is 50 dB.

Even at night, the noise level in Tirana could reach up to 60 dB, as opposed to the average 40 dB in other European countries.

Experts pointed out that leading causes of the noise pollution are the huge flux

of worn-out vehicles and the decrepit road infrastructure.

Albania has around 300,000 vehicles on the road, and over 100,000 vehicles circulate in Tirana every day, according to statistics.—MNA/Xinhua

**Scientists find new ring around Uranus is blue**

**WASHINGTON, 7 April**— The newly discovered outer ring of Uranus is bright blue, for the same reason the Earth's sky is blue — it is made up of tiny particles, astronomers said on Thursday.

It is "strikingly similar" to Saturn's outer ring, which astronomers last month confirmed was probably generated by one of the planet's moons, Enceladus.

Like Saturn's ring, the Uranus ring also has a small moon in it, called Mab. But Mab is too small and too cold to be spewing a geyser of ice that contributes to the ring as Enceladus is now believed to be doing.

"The outer ring of

Saturn is blue and has Enceladus right smack at its brightest spot, and Uranus is strikingly similar, with its blue ring right on top of Mab's orbit," said Imke de Pater, a professor of astronomy at the University of California Berkeley, who helped lead the study.

"I think there is no chance that the blue ring is caused by geyser activity," added de Pater, whose report is published in Friday's issue of the

journal *Science*.

"We don't know what the composition of the particles is." Mab is probably covered with water ice, like the other moons of Uranus, but that has nothing to do with the ring's colour, said de Pater.

"They are blue because they are tiny particles," De Pater said in a telephone interview. "That is same reason why the sky is blue. You have little particles that scatter light as blue light." —MNA/Reuters



ပညာရေးနှင့် ဓာတ်သိပ္ပံ ဦးတိုးတတ်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

### Deficiency in Vitamin C accelerates aging process

TOKYO, 7 April— The deficiency in Vitamin C definitely accelerates the aging process, Japanese researchers found in their experiments on genetically engineered mice, a local newspaper reported on Thursday.

The research team, headed by experts from Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Gerontology and Tokyo Medical and Dental University, first created through genetic engineering mice that lost their natural ability to create Vitamin C internally, then fed them with less than the normal

daily requirement of Vitamin C.

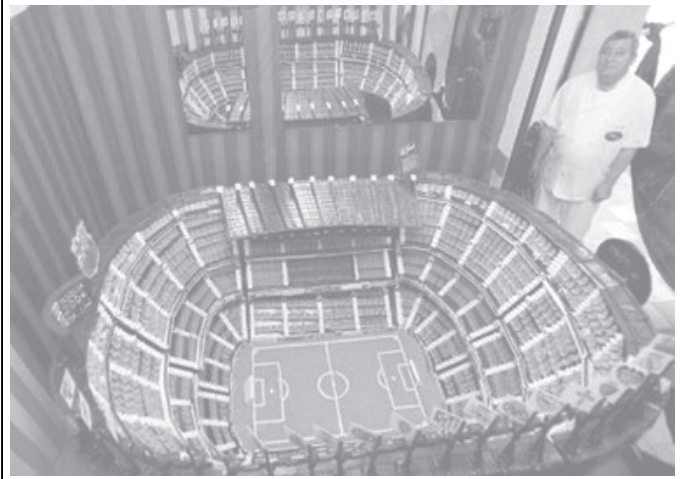
It took just six months for half of the engineered mice to die of old age, only a quarter of the lifespan of another control group's normal mice, researchers said.

The researchers also set up a group of engineered mice and

deprived them of Vitamin C. Those mice developed a scurvy, a disease that arises in humans deficient in Vitamin C, and all died in about six months, the daily *Asahi Shimbun* said.

The researchers boast their finding's contribution to studies on the mechanism behind aging.

MNA/Xinhua



*Pastry maker Bosch, poses next to his chocolate sculpture of FC Barcelona's Stadium, Camp Nou Stadium, at Bosch Pastry Shop in Pineda de Mar, near Barcelona on 7 April, 2006. The chocolate works feature uses some 700kg of chocolate. —INTERNET*

### NASA says planets may rise around dead star

LOS ANGELES, 7 April— NASA's *Spitzer* space telescope has uncovered evidence that planets may form out of a dead star's ashes, astronomers reported on Wednesday.

While the infrared telescope surveying the scene around a pulsar, the remnant of an exploded star, it found a rotating disk made up of debris.

The dusty rubble in the disk might ultimately stick together to form planets, according to the astronomers. This is the first time scientists have detected

planet-building materials around a dead star.

"We're amazed that the planet-formation process seems to be so universal," said Deepto Chakrabarty of

the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), principal investigator of the new study.

Pulsars emit a tremendous amount of high energy radiation, he said, yet within such a harsh environment they found a disk that looks "a lot like those around young stars where planets are formed".

The findings were published in the April 6 issue of British journal *Nature*.

Lead author of the paper, Zhongxiang Wang, is a post-doctorate researcher at MIT from China.

MNA/Xinhua



*A NASA image of the constellation Cassiopeia, in which scientists have spied a disk around a pulsar about 13,000 light-years from Earth, taken by the Spitzer Space Telescope. INTERNET*

### "Karate kids" rescued after Japan mountain quest

TOKYO, 7 April — Three Singaporeans were found safe on Thursday after getting lost on what they said was a mission to find a legendary karate expert on a snowy mountainside in Japan.

One of the three men told police in Hirosaki, near the northern tip of Japan's main island, that they had come to Japan after his dying father, a martial arts expert, had ordered them to seek out the karate teacher, TV Asahi said on its website.

"Japan looked so small on the world map that we thought we would be able to find him straight away," one of the group, aged between 25 and 50, was quoted as saying.

All three were dressed in light clothing and huddling in an abandoned car when they were rescued from the slopes of 1,600-metre (5,249-foot) Mount Iwaki in the early hours of the morning after calling for help on a mobile phone, a police spokesman said. "Neither police nor local people know of anyone running karate classes in this area," the spokesman added. — MNA/Reuters

### Australian Mint worker admits theft of coins

CANBERRA, 7 April — An Australian man has pleaded guilty to stealing more than 100,000 Australian dollars (71,000 US dollars) in new two Australian dollars coins from the Royal Australian Mint in Canberra, a court official said on Thursday.

Australian Federal Police had accused the man of stealing the coins by hiding them in his work boots and lunch box over a 10-month period and then storing them in plastic buckets and shopping bags in the garage at his mother's house.

"He would take the coins from the trays they were placed in after stamping and conceal the coins in his pocket," said a police statement to the court, *Australian Associated Press* (AAP) reported.

"He would then go to a toilet cubicle and transfer the coins from his pockets to his boots and walk out through security."

"He stole about 600 Australian dollars in two Australian dollars coins each

time he did this."

The man managed to avoid scrutiny because most workers at the mint wore steel-capped shoes, which set off metal detectors, and they were not required to remove them during random screening. On several occasions the contract worker also hid coins in his lunchbox, holding it high near his chin while he was swept with a hand-held screening device, the police statement said.

He was arrested in southern Victoria state two months ago trying to change a large number of coins into notes.

The Royal Australian Mint has since upgraded security.

The 48-year-old man will be sentenced at a later date.

MNA/Reuters



*Mainland China's actress Su Yan speaks during an interview as she is one of the nominees of the Best Supporting Actress of her movie 'Everlasting Regret' in the upcoming Hong Kong film awards in Hong Kong on 7 April, 2006. The 25th Hong Kong Film Awards will be hold on 8 April. INTERNET*

### Disabled Nepali plans to scale Mt Cho-oyu

KATHMANDU, 7 April — Nawang Sherpa, a disabled Nepali, has announced his plan to scale the 8,200 metres high Mount Cho-oyu, state-run Radio Nepal reported here Wednesday.

"Sherpa, 35, announced his plan at a function organized to bid farewell to him by Mt Everest Summiters Association, a non-government organization," the radio said.

Sherpa has already made his mark in mountaineering by setting foot atop Mt Everest for the first time in 2004 despite his disability. After Sherpa met with accident, an American named Steve Seredo provided him with an artificial leg, Sherpa noted, adding, "It encourages me to climb mountains." Nepali State Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Yankila Sherpa, at the function, congratulated him for his courage and bravery and declared the mountaineers as the ambassadors of tourism sector.

"The disabled should be given moral and social encouragement, Minister Sherpa said, adding, "More so in case of Nawang as he has been actively involved in promoting Nepalese tourism abroad."

MNA/Xinhua

# SPORTS



**Kate Ziegler of the USA, center, Australia's Bronte Barratt, left, and Italy's Federica Pellegrini, right, show their medals during the award ceremony for the Women's 400 Meters Freestyle at the FINA World Short Course Swimming Championships in Shanghai, China on 7 April, 2006. Ziegler won in a time of 4.01.79 for the gold. Barratt won the silver and Pellegrini won the bronze.—INTERNET**

## Van Hooijdonk salvages a point for Feyenoord

AMSTERDAM, 8 April—Pierre van Hooijdonk struck 11 minutes from time to salvage a point for Feyenoord at Heerenveen in the Dutch First Division on Friday.

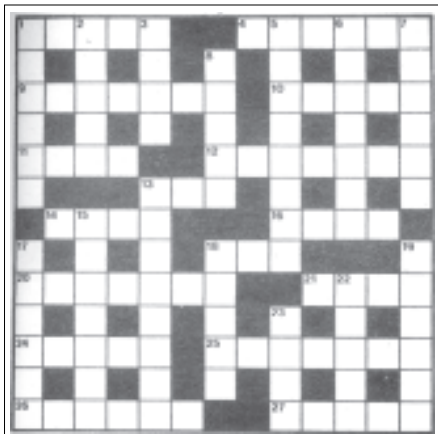
Feyenoord dominated the first half but squandered their chances and the home side broke the deadlock four minutes into the second half.

Arnold Bruggink set up Niklas Tarvajarvi for the goal but a defence splitting combination from Feyenoord's Dirk Kuijt and van Hooijdonk levelled the scores.

Feyenoord remain third with 67 points and two matches remaining. Heerenveen are seventh with 50 points and lost ground in their bid for a UEFA Cup spot. PSV are top with 79 points and only need a draw on Sunday against Groningen to clinch their 19th title.

Alkmaar are second nine points behind and travel to fifth placed Ajax Amsterdam. —MNA/Reuters

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

- 1 Got up
- 4 Danger (anag.)
- 9 Plunder
- 10 Stiff
- 11 Headland
- 12 Sorrow
- 13 Sever
- 14 Bill of fare
- 16 Simple
- 18 Cushion
- 20 Energetic person
- 21 Milk-white gem
- 24 Survival from past
- 25 Crying
- 26 Norwegian explorer
- 27 Sugary

### DOWN

- 1 View
- 2 Primula
- 3 Dash
- 5 Shortened
- 6 Deviate
- 7 Naturalist
- 8 Animal
- 13 Decorative twist
- 15 Greek letter
- 17 Styx ferryman
- 18 Move stealthily
- 19 Slender
- 22 Cost
- 23 Minus

## Holders Croatia tied at 1-1 with Argentina

ZAGREB, 8 April — Davis Cup holders Croatia were level at 1-1 with Argentina after wins for Ivan Ljubicic and David Nalbandian in the opening singles rubbers of their quarterfinal on Friday.

Ljubicic rallied from two sets down to beat Agustin Calleri 6-7, 5-7, 7-6, 6-1, 6-2 before Argentine world number three Nalbandian brushed aside teenager Marin Cilic 6-1, 6-1, 6-2.

Cilic was a last minute replacement for Mario Ancic, who was ruled unfit to play after failing to recover from a back injury.

Ljubicic, Croatia's top-ranked player and also their team captain, was staring at defeat after going two sets and 4-1 down in the third set tiebreak before clawing his way back.

"I knew it would be a tough match against Calleri and I had to dig very deep not to put us in a very difficult position on the opening day," Ljubicic told reporters.

"We knew Nalbandian would be too strong for Cilic so I think it's a good result on the opening day with so many things going wrong for us."

Ljubicic broke Calleri

to take a 5-3 lead in the first set but it all went wrong for the Croatian after he served a double fault to allow Calleri to break back and then snatch a see-saw tiebreaker 9-7.

Games went with serve in the second set until Calleri broke Ljubicic to

take it 7-5, delighting the vociferous Argentina fans who at one point had to be calmed down by security officials after they ignored the umpire's plea for quiet.

Ljubicic, who recovered from abdominal problems just in time for the opening rubber, needed

treatment for a twisted ankle and was on the verge of defeat when he fell 4-1 down in the third set tiebreak.

The world number five, though, won five consecutive points before taking it 8-6 to deny Calleri.

MNA/Reuters

## Chile's Gonzalez stuns Blake in Davis Cup

RANCHO MIRAGE, 8 April— Chile's Fernando Gonzalez recovered from two sets down to stun American James Blake 6-7, 0-6, 7-6, 6-4, 10-8 in the opening rubber of their Davis Cup quarterfinal on Friday. The 25-year-old Gonzalez staged an extraordinary comeback from 3-5 down in the third set as he seized control of the match from Blake, whipping over huge forehands and looking comfortable around the net on the dry grass court.

The pair played out a tremendous fifth set with Blake squandering a 4-1 lead and Gonzalez then failing to serve out the match at 6-5 when Blake came up with a forehand winner. The Chilean got into a series of arguments with the chair umpire over questionable over-rules but held his nerve and won the gripping four-hour, 19-minute contest on his second match point when he crushed an ace down the middle.—MNA/Reuters



**Oliver Kahn (R) goalkeeper and team captain of Bayern Munich shake hands with Arsenal's German goalkeeper Jens Lehmann. Coach Juergen Klinsmann named Jens Lehmann on 7 April, 2006, as Germany's first choice goalkeeper for the 2006 World Cup, leaving former captain Oliver Kahn to consider his international future.—INTERNET**

## Couples makes 22nd successive cut at Augusta

AUGUSTA, 8 April— Former champion Fred Couples made the US Masters cut for the 22nd consecutive time after firing a two-under-par 70 in Friday's second round.

The 46-year-old American, winner at Augusta National in 1992, finished on three-under 141, three strokes adrift of tournament leader Chad Campbell.

Couples, who made his Masters debut in 1983, moved into second place in the all-time list for successive cuts. His run of 22 is the longest active streak.

Three-times champion Gary Player of South Africa made 23 consecutive cuts at Augusta between 1959 and 1982. Twice winner Tom Watson lies third, with 21 cuts in a row from 1975 to 1995. —MNA/Reuters



**Go Soeda of Japan hits a shot to Thailand's Danai Udomchoke at their Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Group One, second round tennis match in Bangkok on 7 April, 2006. —INTERNET**

## Els, Mickelson in perfect harmony

AUGUSTA (Georgia), 8 April— Phil Mickelson and Ernie Els played the first two rounds of the US Masters in the same group and matched each other shot for shot to finish on two-under-par 142.

American Mickelson, the 2004 champion, birdied all four par-fives on Friday but four bogeys including one at the last gave him an even-par 72 in the second round at Augusta National.

South African Els also experienced a roller-coaster afternoon on the sun-baked course, mixing four birdies with a bogey and a double-bogey on the par-four 10th to return his second successive one-under 71.

"It's two good rounds, two solid rounds, I had it going there for a while," world No. 5 Els told reporters after finishing four strokes adrift of leader Chad Campbell.

"Conditions are quite tough today. I've got a chance on Saturday and Sunday. I haven't quite been in the lead here yet through two rounds but I think I'm going to be in pretty good shape.

"I've just got to try and sneak something into the 60s over the weekend and see what happens."

Els and Mickelson arrived here in contrasting form.

The South African's major championship pedigree, which includes two US Open wins and one British Open victory, marked him out as a threat even though he has been below his best this year.—MNA/Reuters



**Candice Parker of the United States women's basketball team drives past China's Chen Nan, left, during their World Challenge Series match in Cairns, Australia, on 7 April, 2006. The US team won the match 85 - 77.—INTERNET**



# Official says passenger decline hits Air Zimbabwe

**HARARE, 8 April** — Negative perceptions about the safety of travelling on Air Zimbabwe coupled with problems the national airline is facing have resulted in a drastic decrease in the number of passengers using it from one million per year in 1999 to 230,000 last year, a senior official has said.

Air Zimbabwe acting chief executive officer Captain Oscar Madombwe told the parliamentary portfolio committee on Mines, Environment and Tourism on Thursday that there was a negative perception by both the local and foreign travelling public about the airline.

He was giving oral evidence on the operations of Air Zimbabwe and some of the problems it faced, local media reported on Friday.

Madombwe said that passengers were concerned about their safety when travelling on Air Zimbabwe because the airline's planes were old.

He said although the national airline had an

aged fleet with some planes now 30 years old such as the Boeing 737, it must be noted that they were flying for about three hours a day instead of the industrial standard usage of eight hours.

Air Zimbabwe had plans to buy five cargo and passenger planes with a view to replacing some of its ageing fleet,

he disclosed.

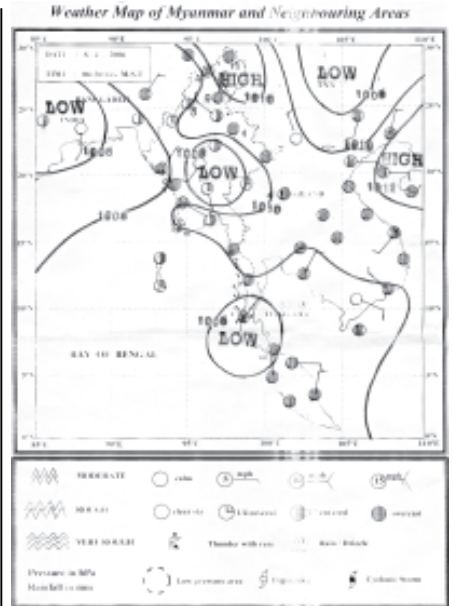
Currently, the airline has a fleet of eight cargo and passenger planes.

Some of the problems facing Air Zimbabwe were of a political nature as the national airline was associated with the government, he said.

He said 93 airlines had been banned from flying to the European Union but fortunately Air Zimbabwe was not one of them as this could have generated interest in the media.

The acting Air Zimbabwe boss said the majority of the airlines that used to fly into Harare had pulled out because of reduced business mainly resulting from the travel warnings issued by some European countries discouraging their nationals from travelling to Zimbabwe.

MNA/Xinhua



**Aerial view of the Bosphorus bridge spanning the Bosphorus Straits in Istanbul, Turkey, on 7 April, 2006.**  
INTERNET



**Sunday, 9 April**  
**View on today**

- 7:00 am**  
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionay Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am**  
2. To be healthy exercises
- 7:30 am**  
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am**  
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am**  
5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ(၃၈)ပြာမင်္ဂလာ
- 8:00 am**  
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:05 am**  
7. ကပ်တဲလ်ကြီးတံတား
- 8:10 am**  
8. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am**  
9. ခါသကြိမ်အဆိုအကများ
- 8:30 am**  
10. International news
- 8:45 am**  
11. Say it in English
- 11:00 am**  
1. Martial song
- 11:10 am**  
2. ခါသကြိမ်အဆိုအကများ

- 11:25 am**  
3. Round up of the week's International news
- 11:40 am**  
4. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "Doraemon"
- 11:55 am**  
5. သံလွင်မြစ်နံ့ လက်ရုပ်သံစေ့
- 12:10 pm**  
6. Myanmar video feature: "မတော်တဆ" (နိုင်ငံခြား၊ ကြည့်လေ့ရှိ) ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်မောင်ဦး (စန်းစိုက်)
- 2:05 pm**  
7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:10 pm**  
8. ခါသကြိမ်အဆိုအကများ
- 2:20 pm**  
9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:30 pm**  
10. "ယွန်းသံ" (ဧရာဒွင် ယာဉ်ထိန်းရဲ့တစ်ခွဲဝင်များ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်)
- 2:35 pm**  
11. ကွန်ရက်ရှင်းရေးလှောင်တစ်
- 2:45 pm**  
12. International news
- 4:00 pm**  
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**  
2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**  
3. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - တတိယနှစ် (တော့ဆေးအထူးပြု) (တော့ဆေး)

- 4:45 pm**  
4. Song of national races
- 4:55 pm**  
5. Musical programme
- 5:10 pm**  
6. ခါသကြိမ် အဆိုအကများ
- 5:20 pm**  
7. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm**  
8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**  
9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**  
10. Discovery
- 6:50 pm**  
11. ခါသကြိမ်အဆိုအကများ
- 7:05 pm**  
12. Agricultural source of country's development
- 7:15 pm**  
13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကံကောင်းခြင်းမိမိမကံ" (အပိုင်း-၆)
- 8:00 pm**  
14. News
- 15:00 pm**  
15. International news
- 16:00 pm**  
16. Weather report
- 17:00 pm**  
17. Myanmar movie: "ယာဉ်မောင်းတာ တစ်ခါတုန်းက သမင်္ဂါပီ" (အပိုင်း-၂) (ကျော်သူ၊ ရန်အောင်၊ လွင်မိုး၊ မိုးမိုးမြင့်အောင်၊ မေသောဦး၊ မိုးမိုးသန်းကြည်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်မျိုးမင်း)
- 18:00 pm**  
18. The next day's programme



**Sunday, 9 April**  
**Tune in today**

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music: -Time has come today
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music: -Lovin' you
- 8:50 am** National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music: -Travelin' band
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Cultural images of Myanmar
- 9:20 am** Music: -Angel eyes
- 1:30 pm** News & Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Children's delight -Story for children -Songs for children
- 9:00 pm** Weekly news review
- 9:10 pm** Article
- 9:20 pm** Music: -Heart mender -New love
- 9:45 pm** News & Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

## WEATHER

**Saturday, 8 April, 2006**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin and Shan States, isolated in Sagaing Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah, Kayin, Mon States and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (6°C) below normal in Kachin State, (3°C) below normal in upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Chin State, lower Sagaing, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions and (5°C) above normal in Ayeyarwady Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Minbu and Magway (42°C) each and Monywa (41°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Thipaw (0.91) inch, Putao (0.51) inch and Myitkyina (0.35) inch.

Maximum temperature on 7-4-2006 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 8-4-2006 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 8-4-2006 was (65%). Total sunshine hours on 7-4-2006 was (9.9) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 8-4-2006 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 (5) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 7-4-2006.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 9-4-2006:** Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States 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 slight increase of day temperatures in the central Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Naypyitaw City and neighbouring areas for 9-4-2006:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 9-4-2006:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 9-4-2006:** Generally fair weather.

## Chairman of Tyazhprom Export of the Russian Federation hosts luncheon to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San

YANGON, 8 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 and wife Daw Mya Mya San attended a luncheon hosted by Chairman Mr Ulyanov of Tyazhprom Export of the Russian Federation at the Floating Restaurant near Kremlin Palace in Moscow of the Russian Federation at 1.30 pm local time on 4 April.

Also present at the luncheon were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, and Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence,



*Mr Ulyanov hosts a luncheon to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party. — MNA*

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 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, Myanmar Ambassador to

the Russian Federation U Tin Soe, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Tun Tun, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, and departmental

heads. After the luncheon, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party visited the museums of Kremlin Palace in Moscow. — MNA

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Deputy Governor of St. Petersburg hold talks



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Deputy Governor Mr Lobko holding talks. — MNA*

YANGON, 8 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 Deputy Governor of St. Petersburg Mr Lobko held discussions at the Office of the Governor of St. Petersburg in the Russian Federation on 5 April.

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 and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and

*(See page 7)*