

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects agricultural and development tasks in Taunggyi Township

NAY PYI TAW, 11 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, accompanied by SPDC Secretary-1 Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and officials, helicoptered to Taunggyi from Bahtoo Tatmyo in Shan State

(South) this morning.

On arrival at Kyaukni Multi-purpose Farm of Eastern Command in Konlon Village-tract in Taunggyi Township, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party were welcomed by Deputy Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, senior military officers and departmental officials. At the briefing hall, Chair-

man of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint reported on background history and objectives of the camp, cultivation of perennial trees such as Seintalon mango, Thitseint, lychee, orange and rubber and the targeted cultivation acreage of physic nut in Shan State (South), Kayah State and the units

and regiments under the Eastern Command.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye instructed the officials to grow physic nut in a village of every township in the state, to practically demonstrate the running of machines with the use of bio-diesel produced from physic nut, to grow thousands of acres of physic nut on virgin and fallow land and to conduct research. After that, he inspected the cultivation of physic nut and mangoes and storage of water. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party grew physic nut plants at the farm.

Afterwards, they went to the Eastern Command by helicopter where they were welcomed by Col Win



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye watering a physic nut plant in Kyaukni Multi-purpose Farm. — MNA

Officials urged to grow physic nut in a village of every township in the state, to practically demonstrate the running of machines with the use of bio-diesel produced from physic nut, to grow thousands of acres of physic nut on virgin and fallow land and to conduct research.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects physic nut nurseries in Kyaukni Multi-purpose Farm. — MNA

Hlaing of the command, Shan State PDC Secretary Lt-Col Ye Tun Sein and departmental officials. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party viewed the development of Taunggyi and went to Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Tatmadaw aircraft at 1.45 pm.

Joint Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister Col Zaw Min and Secretariat member Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, who accompanied Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, on 9 April evening met the members of Yaksawk Township USDA at its office and urged them to strive for the successful implementation of the association's future work programmes and to cooperate with the national people in nation building tasks. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 12 April, 2006

Brilliantly discharge national defence duty

Myanmar is a land where the forefathers have set up farms and granaries for years countable by the thousand. The nation is blessed with mountain ranges and vast plains where four main rivers and a large number of other water-courses flow. With those natural gifts, rice, beans and pulses, cotton and other crops and valuable forests thrive well.

The national brethren have been living in the nation through thick and thin since yore. Hence, true patriotism is based on firm Union Spirit.

The patriotic Tatmadaw, which came into being during the period of independence struggle, has been upholding Union Spirit—non-disintegration of Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity—for perpetuation of sovereignty. And it continues serving the interest of the State and the people.

The graduation parade of the 109th intake of the Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School took place on the parade ground of the school in Bahtoo Tatmyo on 10 April. Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, delivered an address on the occasion.

In his address, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said: Good discipline, obedience and camaraderie spirit have further strengthened the Tatmadaw's unity. It has been standing as a noble Tatmadaw because of the truth—a pledge made by every member to sacrifice even the life for the nation, the people and the Tatmadaw. Therefore, he said, all will have to continuously uphold the 12 fine traditions.

Being a patriotic one, the Tatmadaw hand in hand with the people safeguarded the State, risking the lives whenever the nation is put in danger. At present also, the Tatmadaw is striving together with the people for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Since its birth, the Tatmadaw has been well-disciplined. Discipline serves the main pillar of the Tatmadaw. The Tatmadaw members strictly abide by the military laws, discipline and codes of conduct as well as the civilian law.

Such being so, we firmly believe that the junior officers who have completed the course will be able to brilliantly discharge the national defence duty while upholding the fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.



Joint Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi of Hninzigon Home for the Aged Administrative Board accepts K 100,000 donated recently by Daw Nan San Sai and family of Kengtung.

MNA

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

Ayeyawady Division's title recipient Sayadaws honoured

YANGON, 11 April — Honorary certificates were conferred on twenty-one religious title recipient Sayadaws in Ayeyawady Division on 6 April at a ceremony to offer provisions to the Sayadaws held in Pathein.

It was attended by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Tint Swe, senior military officers, departmental officials and wellwishers.

At the ceremony, Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung presented honorary certificates to 21 Sayadaws and



Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and wife Daw Than Than Nwe offer alms to Sayadaw—MNA

two persons.

Afterwards, the commander and wife and wellwishers offered provisions to Sayadaws—seven from Pathein Dis-

trict, five from Hinthada District, one from Myaungmya District, four from Maubin District and four from Pyapon District.

After the ceremony, Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung offered soon (a day meal) to Sayadaws.

MNA

Upgraded Road opens in Pyapon

YANGON, 11 April — An upgraded road in Pyapon, Ayeyawady Division, was opened on 9 April in the presence of Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt.

The road was constructed by Pyapon Township Development Affairs Department at a cost of over 31.5 million. It is 3,475 ft long and 22 ft wide.

During his tour of inspection of Ayeyawady Division, Central Executive Committee Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister Col Thein Nyunt met with members of Pyapon District and Township USDA, Dedaye Town-

ship USDA and members of social organizations at Pyapon and Dedaye.

At the meetings, the minister attended to the needs for regional development tasks. The minister also went to

Kungyangon Township, Yangon Division, and inspected construction of the concrete water tank with a capacity of 12,000 gallons and another water tank with a capacity of 30,000 gallons. Upon completion, the two tanks

will supply drinking water to Kungyangon.

At the meeting with staff of Kawhmu Township Development Affairs Department, Minister Col Thein Nyunt fulfilled the requirements for the staff.

MNA



Minister Col Thein Nyunt attends the opening ceremony of tarred road in Pyapon Township.—MNA

Finance Dy Minister attends 7th ASEM

YANGON, 11 April — Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe participated in the 7th Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) of Finance Ministers of EU and Asian countries in Vienna, Austria, on 8-9 April and arrived back here yesterday.

The participants

from 25 EU member states, 13 Asian countries, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, Asian Development Bank and the Central Bank of Europe, exchanged views on topics in the spheres of the global economy and globalization.

Finance ministers of the Asia-Europe Meet-

ing also cautioned against "downside risks" for the global economy from instability and high-flying crude oil prices and avian flu outbreak.

They also stressed the importance of developing appropriate policy approaches to address these challenges and of removing protectionism.

MNA

Corrigendum

Please read Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win in the news under the title "Foreign Affairs Minister receives Chinese guests" which appeared in the fifth and sixth columns on page 11 of the New Light of Myanmar 11-4-2006 issue. Error is regretted. Ed

Chavez threatens to kick out US ambassador

CARACAS (Venezuela), 10 April—Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez on Sunday threatened to expel the US ambassador after accusing him of provoking tensions in a warning that will further strain diplomatic ties.

The threat came two days after pro-Chavez demonstrators lobbed eggs, fruit and vegetables at the ambassador's car and the US State Department warned Venezuela it could face consequences if it did not protect the US envoy.

Chavez, an ally of Cuba who often charges Washington with trying to topple him, said US Ambassador William Brownfield had stirred up Friday's protest and warned he would declare him persona non grata if he provoked more incidents.

"Start packing your bags mister, if you keep

on provoking us, start packing your bags, because I'll kick you out of here," Chavez said on his regular television programme.

"If Washington takes any measure against Venezuela because of your provocations, you will be responsible and you will have to leave here, we'll declare you persona non grata in Venezuela," he said. Chavez and Washington are locked in a fierce dispute over his close ties to Havana and Teheran. Chavez, who says his socialist revolution fights poverty, earlier this

year expelled a US naval attache he accused of spying. Washington responded with the expulsion of a Venezuelan embassy official.

The protest erupted when Brownfield visited a poor Caracas neighbourhood to donate baseball equipment. US officials say municipal representatives ordered them out before Chavez supporters chased the embassy convoy on motorbikes.

MNA/Reuters

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A Kazakh girl in a national costume welcomes US astronaut Bill McArthur (C) as Russian cosmonaut Valery Tokarev watches during their arrival in Kustanay, Kazakhstan on 9 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Bird flu could kill 100,000 British children

LONDON, 11 April—A bird flu pandemic among humans could kill 100,000 children in Britain, said a government health adviser who recommended schools draw up plans to close in the event of an outbreak, a newspaper reported on Sunday.

The Sunday Times quoted government health adviser Liam Donaldson as saying in a confidential letter to the schools minister that if the virus was particularly severe, deaths among school-age children "could be as high as 100,000".

"This would mean that potentially 50,000 deaths might be prevented by school closures," Donaldson was quoted as

saying. "For this reason, I would recommend that schools should be planning on the basis that they may have to close for part or all of the pandemic," he said.

The overall death toll in Britain in a severe outbreak of the disease could be as high as 700,000, the Sunday Times quoted Donaldson as writing.

Britain reported its first case of the lethal H5N1 strain in a wild bird when a mute swan was found dead in Cellardyke harbour in eastern Scotland last week.

While mainly affecting animals, scientists fear the disease could mutate into a form that could pass between humans, causing a pandemic.

British Government

advisers say the chances of that happening are very low, although the government is preparing for the possibility.

According to the World Health Organization, the virus has killed 109 people, almost all of them in Asia and involving people who had close contact with infected birds.

MNA/Reuters

Danube levels in Serbia near historic high

BELGRADE, 10 April—Belgrade was bracing for floods on Sunday as the water level in the Serbian section of the river Danube rose to 7.3 metres (24 feet), the second highest since records began in 1888.

Some 400 riverside homes, mostly holiday cottages, have been destroyed in Serbia's northern Vojvodina Province. Military units were reinforcing flood defences and some homes

had been evacuated as a precaution. In the Serbian capital Belgrade, which lies at the confluence of the rivers Danube and Sava, a main boulevard running close to the Sava was partly flooded and had to be closed off. Riverside promenades disappeared and the city's famous "splavovi", floating restaurants and cafes, were cut off from the shore by rising water.

MNA/Reuters



Rescue workers carry out an injured passenger from the Toppo-4 ferry (behind R) at Yamakawa Port in Ibusuki, southern Japan on 9 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Germany culls 30,000 domestic birds

BERLIN, 10 April—German authorities said on Sunday that they had finished culling 30,000 domestic birds in the area where the first bird flu case on a commercial poultry farm was found.

A spokesman for the state of Saxony said a commercial poultry farm in the town of Wernsdorf and a slaughterhouse nearby would be thoroughly cleansed to rid them of any traces of H5N1 bird flu virus.

Scientists at the Friedrich Loeffler Institute of animal health confirmed on Wednesday that the H5N1 strain of avian flu virus had been found on the farm. However, they added that further tests were being carried out to see if it is the highly pathogenic Asian variety, which has killed more than 20 people this year. An exclusion zone has been set up covering a radius of three kilometres around the infected site, and an observation area of a 10-kilometre radius has been established.—MNA/Xinhua

Yoga's growing US popularity attracts cash

CHICAGO, 10 April—Yoga, the ancient practice of postures, breathing and meditation, is gaining a lot of attention from the material world that its serious practitioners are trying to escape.

And no wonder. Americans who practice yoga are often well-educated, have higher-than-average household income, and are willing to spend a bit more on so-called "green" purchases seen as benefiting the environment or society.

"It's kind of growing out of the crunchy stage of yoga to the Starbucks stage," said Bill Harper, publisher of Yoga Journal. "From the videos and the clothes and the toe socks ... people are pursuing this market with a vengeance."

A glance through recent issues of his monthly magazine, whose readership has doubled in the past four years to 325,000, illustrates the point. There are four-color ads from the likes of Asics athletic shoes, Eileen Fisher apparel and Ford Motor Company. Yoga Journal is now licensing a Russian edition and preparing to expand in other

international markets.

Americans spend some \$2.95 billion a year on yoga classes, equipment, clothing, vacations, videos and more, according to a study commissioned by the magazine, fueled in part by aging baby boomers seeking less aggressive ways to stay fit.

Roughly 16.5 million people were practicing yoga in the United States early last year, either in studios, gyms or at home, up 43 percent from 2002, the study found.—Internet



Yoga, the ancient practice of postures, breathing and meditation, is gaining a lot of attention from the material world that its serious practitioners are trying to escape.—INTERNET



A crowd stands on a rock pool wall as huge waves break in front of them at Sydney's Dee Why Beach on 9 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Fire kills more than 100 at north India trade fair

MEERUT, 10 April—At least 100 people, most of them women and children, perished in a fire that swept through tents packed with shoppers at a trade fair in northern India, police said.

Dozens of charred bodies were discovered strewn in the remains of the tents, where people had gone to seek refuge from searing summer temperatures, and a state minister said the toll could be much higher.

"At least 100 people are dead," said Rajiv Sabarwal chief of police in the city of Meerut 80 kilometres (50 miles) north of New Delhi.

Yaqoob Qureshi, minister for minority welfare in the Uttar Pradesh state government

told private TV networks: "There are reports that up to 200 people may have died, but we have no confirmation."

Shoppers flocked to the three air-conditioned tents at the electronics fair to escape the heat outside but became trapped inside once the fire started, witnesses said.

Initial reports said a short circuit may have sparked the fire, which spread quickly through the three-storey-tall tents made of synthetic cloth with wooden floors,

witnesses said.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh expressed shock at the incident and conveyed his condolences to the relatives of those killed, his office said.

"So far, 52 bodies have been brought to the mortuary. More are still coming in," said CB Palliwal, a doctor at the city's government hospital.

He said more than 150 people, many with serious burns and other injuries, had been taken to hospitals.—*Internet*



Smoke billows from the venue of a consumer fair after a fire broke out in the northern Indian city of Meerut, on 10 April, 2006. —INTERNET

At least 14 killed in Kenya plane crash

NAIROBI, 11 April—At least 14 were killed early Monday when a Kenyan military aircraft carrying 17 passengers, including several members of Parliament, crashed in the northern part of the east African nation.

One of the four severely injured passengers who were rescued from the crash site near the northern town of Marsabit succumbed to injuries on arrival at Wilson Airport in Nairobi.

The lawmakers in the ill-fated aircraft included Mirugi Kariuki, assistant

minister in the Office of the President, and lawmakers from Marsabit and Isiolo — Godana Bonaya, Titus Ngyoni, Abdi Sasura and Guracha Galgalo, said a military official. The lawmakers were travelling to Marsabit, 450 kilometres north-east of the Kenya's

capital Nairobi, to mediate in a quarrel between rival communities.

The plane crashed into a hill as it approached the airstrip during a heavy downpour and the foggy weather could have contributed to the crash, said government officials.

MNA/Xinhua

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WHO says donors must back anti-bird flu work in Vietnam

HANOI, 10 April—International donor commitment to Vietnam should be sustained to build on its success in controlling avian flu after it was hit hardest by the disease, the United Nations bird flu coordinator said on Saturday.

David Nabarro said that if donors moved money to other parts of the world, the Southeast Asian country could be "squeezed" in its longer-term efforts to contain the disease that has killed 109 worldwide, 42 of them in

Vietnam.

"I think that would be a bad thing because the success here in Vietnam so far is not just good for Vietnam, it is good for the world," Nabarro told reporters during a two-day visit to Hanoi.

The highly pathogenic H5N1 avian flu virus struck poultry and people in Vietnam in late 2003. After nearly two years of using mainly culling to control its spread, the Communist-ruled country last year adopted a combination of mass poultry vaccination, disinfecting, culling, information campaigns and bans on live poultry in cities.

There has not been a human case in Vietnam since November but this week the country reported bird flu in poultry for the

first time since December on its northern border with China.

Hans Troedsson, World Health Organization representative in Hanoi, said at the same news conference Vietnam was working on medium and longer term approaches to containing the disease.

"If you want to contain an outbreak before it becomes a pandemic it is important to have the capacity not just at the global or national level but at the provincial level," he said.

The virus has spread to at least 30 new countries this year. Cambodia and China, Vietnam's neighbours, have also reported infections in people and poultry in recent weeks.

MNA/Reuters

Two security members killed in mine explosion in Turkey

ANKARA, 10 April—Two members of Turkish security forces were killed when a remote-controlled mine exploded in Turkey's eastern province of Elazig on Saturday, state-run TRT television reported.

According to a written statement released by Elazig Governor's Office, one Lieutenant-Colonel and a soldier were killed and two others injured when their car drove over a mine planted on a road

in Aricak Town of Elazig at 1:30 pm local time (1130 GMT).

The mine attack came after a previous operation against the outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) in the southeastern province of Sirnak, in which six PKK members were killed.

Also on Saturday, security forces killed one PKK member during an operation in Besiri Town in the southeastern province of Batman.

MNA/Xinhua



A woman from Miao ethnic minority group, wearing traditional dress and silver ornaments, takes part in an annual sisterhood festival in Taijiang county, southeast China's Guizhou Province, on 10 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Malaysia to raid companies in bid to combat software piracy

KUALA LUMPUR, 10 April—Malaysia pledged to take an aggressive stance on companies using pirated software, with surprise raids on private offices as part of the crackdown.



A Malaysian woman holds a sample of pirated software in Kuala Lumpur in 2001. Malaysia pledged to take an aggressive stance on companies using pirated software, with surprise raids on private offices.—INTERNET

“Let me warn recalcitrant companies not to treat this lightly as ... you will be caught and be brought to court to face the full penalty of the law,” said Roslan Mahayudin from the domestic trade and consumer affairs ministry.

Roslan said Malaysia had succeeded in lowering the piracy rate in private businesses from around 70 percent a few years ago to 61 percent in 2004, but that the battle was “far from over”.

“We are aggressive in fighting piracy to ensure that the piracy rate is as low as possible,” said the ministry’s acting director general. In a campaign launched last year, enforcement authorities have been targetting the senior management of companies caught using unlicensed software.

Firms have until April 30 to stop using pirated programmes, after which enforcement officers working with global watchdog Business Software Alliance (BSA) will conduct raids on their offices.

“The ministry and the BSA’s representatives will be making surprise random visits to companies around the country,” Roslan said.—*Internet*



Workers from the Belarussian radiation ecology reserve plant ash-trees in a field near the village of Babchin, near the 30 km (19 miles) exclusion zone around the Chernobyl nuclear reactor, some 350 km (217 miles) southeast of Minsk on 9 April, 2006.—INTERNET

Two Iraqi soldiers killed in western Iraq

FALLUJAH (Iraq), 10 April—Two Iraqi soldiers were killed and three others wounded in fierce battle between guerillas and Iraqi security forces in western Iraq on Saturday, witnesses said.

“Fierce clashes erupted in the afternoon between Iraqi military forces and guerillas in the Nazzal neighbourhood in southern Fallujah and in the centre area of the city, killing two soldiers and wounding three others,” local witnesses told *Xinhua* by telephone.

In Ramadi, some 110 kilometres west of Baghdad, guerillas clashed with US troops in the centre of the city for several hours in the morning, local resident said.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Robbie Williams takes new step into digital music

BERLIN, 10 April — A new mobile phone that includes a link into Robbie Williams’ website and plays his songs is another step in a “digital revolution” that the recording industry must take advantage of, not spurn, his manager said.

Williams, one of Europe’s most successful entertainers, has angered music industry executives in the past by praising Internet piracy, once even calling it a “great idea”. In an interview ahead of the British pop singer’s world tour, which starts on Monday, his manager Tim Clark said the industry should classify digital music seekers as customers, not criminals. Defending the piracy comments, Clark said: “The recording companies are taking a big stick to people who are not criminals at all.

“What Williams



Singer Robbie Williams

means is that if we can’t provide the fans with the wherewithal to do it (download) legally, frankly it’s our fault and not theirs. If they’re not providing the carrots, they’re leaving it to others who will.”

Clark said Williams, who in October live-streamed a Berlin concert to 100,000 mobile phones, wanted to push the “digital revolution” further.

He said the new phone made with T-Mobile and Sony Ericsson was just another step toward that aim. “Digital sales are a reality — it’s clear that the physical sales (of music) are dropping at double-digit percentage rates,” said Clark, one of Williams’ two managers, when asked why the star was teaming up with firms outside the recording industry.

—*MNA/Reuters*



A Chinese man is cheered on as he tries to overturn a 400 kilogramme (880 pounds) tyre during a Kung Fu festival in Hangzhou, east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 9 April, 2006. China has a long tradition of martial arts, a fact increasingly employed to promote tourism.—INTERNET

At least 30 dead in stampede in Karachi

ISLAMABAD, 10 April — At least 30 women and children died Sunday following a stampede during a female’s weekly gathering in Faizan-E-Madina near old Sabzi Mandi of Pakistani port city of Karachi, the Geo TV reported. Emergency declared in all hospitals of the city, provincial health minister Shabbir Quaimkhani said.

The stampede occurred as a result of disorderliness when thousands of women were leaving for home after the religious gathering ended, the GEO TV reports said.

—*MNA/Xinhua*

Seven killed, over 1,000 injured as tornado hits Bangladesh

DHAKA, 10 April— Seven persons were killed and over 1,000 others injured as tornado and tropical storm hit parts of western, northern and central Bangladesh on Saturday, officials and local reporters said Sunday.

Officials reached by telephone said three persons were killed, and several hundreds were injured as a tornado ripped through Bhuapur sub-district of northern Tangail District, 96 kilometres from Dhaka, Saturday evening.

The officials said many houses were flattened by the short-lived tornado that lashed the sub-district. The tornado badly damaged crops on land, they said, adding “we cannot give you the extent actual damage.” —*MNA/Xinhua*

Three killed in Russian dormitory fire

Moscow, 10 April— Three people were killed and three others injured on Saturday in a dormitory fire in a city in Russia’s Ural Mountains region, the Emergency Situations Ministry said.

The blaze broke out in a four-storey dormitory building in Yekaterinburg at about 12:00 Moscow Time (0800 GMT), quickly spread over 150 square metres and gutted almost a tenth of the building. It took firefighters nearly three hours to put out the fire.

Three people died in the blaze while 97 others were rescued, the Emergency Situations Ministry was quoted by the *ITAR-TASS* news agency as saying. Two people suffering burns were taken to hospital, and a third injured was treated at the site.

—*MNA/Xinhua*

49 injured as Japanese ferry collides with marine animal

Tokyo, 10 April— Forty-nine people were injured on Sunday, 13 seriously, when a high-speed ferry collided with a large marine animal off the coast of the southern Japanese island of Kyushu, *Kyodo* news reported.

The *Topy 4* ferry with 103 passengers onboard was heading from Yaku Island to the city of Kagoshima when the accident occurred off Cape Sata, the southernmost point of the four main Japanese islands, *Kyodo* reported citing the Japan Coast Guard.

One of the boats crew members was quoted as saying the ferry “collided with a whale-like marine animal”.

Hydrofoil boats travel on foils or “wings” that raise the hull above the water reducing drag and allowing the vessel to travel at very high speeds.

—*MNA/Reuters*

Thingyan – a festival for all to enjoy

Min Kyaw Min

In Myanmar, we have a merry-go-round of religious and social festivals which are traditionally identified with each month of the calendar.

The first festival on the Myanmar calendar or rather the festival that brings in the New Year is the merriest on the merrygoround of festivals we in Myanmar enjoy.

The month of Tagu when trees shed leaves and the country roads get dustier than ever, everybody needs a cooling down. And that's what Thingyan is all about.

Thingyan comes but once a year, and when it does it brings good cheer.

To understand Thingyan, you have to enjoy it, experience it. You have to swing into it, swing along with others. Once you get the mood, you're in for a happy time.

If someone comes up from behind with a bowl of water and douses you, or children squirt water at you and jump for joy to see you startled and wet, you are not offended. For that is the spirit of Thingyan when even strangers jostle and joke with each other like long-lost brothers. That is the way it has always been and that is the way it will be forever.

For three days, or sometimes four, the people of this nation go dousing, drenching, or in a more polite manner, sprinkling with eugenia leaves, with teenage girls garlanded and dressed up for the occasion adding to the daintiness of the festivities. Decorated floats also make their rounds in competition.

It is not uncommon in Yangon, Mandalay and Mawlamyine to see rough play, although revellers are cautioned. There are the water-throwers, pandals full of revellers ready to give ample dousing for those who ask for it, and there are the motorised revellers who hop from pandal to pandal on main streets, to shout and jeer in good cheer, no matter how wet they get.

Symbolic

Water symbolises coolness, cleanness and cleansing, perhaps the reason it is used aplenty to cleanse the grit and grime of the past year before ushering in the New Year which is always preceded by the water festival.

While the younger set is about town making merry, the older generation repairs to the pagodas

and monasteries offering alms to monks and keeping sabbath.

Monastic life

Invitations are sent out well in advance for initiation of boys twelve and above into temporary novicehood in the Order of the Holy One, and adults into temporary monkhood in the tradition of getting all of them to better understand life at the monastery and the way of the Buddha, forgoing dinner and studying scriptures. Many repeat the rites, year after year.

Such initiations are not only for Thingyan tide. They precede and follow the festival, for it is summer holiday throughout the nation, and the boys have much time for themselves. Even young girls enter temporary nunhood for a short period for such appreciation helps them contribute toward perpetuation of religion.

As a prelude to the arrival of the Myanmar New Year, Thingyan is a theme of harmony. The padauk (*pteroctopus*), the mildly fragrant golden hued flower is in full bloom, made more prominent by the deep green of the leaves. Girls with padauk lavished in their hair, each pandal festooned with padauk branches, boasting teams of girls in matching clothes dancing, singing and throwing water, or hosing down the young men out for clean fun, with Thingyan music in abundance make merry-making more complete.

There are always crowds at the pandals to enjoy the revelry of others, many singing along with the loud music provided there.

Wet though they may be, and sometimes chilled to the bone by iced water thrown at them, the revellers are far from getting sick, dried by the scorching summer sun intermittently while moving between water-throwing points.

At noon, revellers seek refuge in the shade of trees in parks and at lakeside. The mid-summer sun leaves more than a tan on the merry-makers. More often, the three-day revelry leaves the young and young-at-heart sun burned, and hoarse from having strained their vocal chords excessively.

Myth and legend

Myth and legend are woven around the origin of Thingyan. When we speak of it, we borrow perennially from a scholar who has put it this way:

"... When the Sun enters the constellation Aswini in the sign Aries, the Thingyan period begins, and continues for three days. The popular belief is that

during the Thingyan period, the Thingamin (who is the same as the Vedic deity Indra) descends to make his annual visit to the realms of the earth. He brings with him a golden book wherein he inscribes the names of those who did good deeds and he has also with him another book made of dog's skin wherein he puts down the names of those who did wicked deeds.

"The story, however, goes that once upon a time a dispute arose in the abode of the Celestial Beings between the Thagyamin and a certain Bramah concerning certain mathematical calculations. The dispute lasted a long time. Neither party would give in and at last the disputants each wagered his head as to being in the right. The Thagyamin won and delighted as he was at having cut off the bramah's head, a new perplexity beset him. How was he to dispose of the head? To throw it down to earth would mean conflagration in the abode of the human beings, to cast it into the sea would make the water boil, to throw it up into sky would burn the firmament. He solved his difficulty, however, by handing it over to the keeping of several nat-maidens, and, once a year, when the head of this vanquished mathematician changed hands, the Thagyamin finds it convenient to make a short excursion and a sojourn in our midst.

"And Astrologers, Myanmars and ponnas, putting their heads together calculate with almost precision the actual hour, minute and second of the arrival and the actual time of departure to the nat abode.

"These astrologers too can foretell how the Thagyamin would come, whether he would be riding a bull or a serpent, whether he would bear in his hand a water pot or a spear, a staff or a torch; and from such signs and portents as these they proceed to predict a year of good or bad harvest, plentiful or scanty rain, peace and prosperity or strife and turmoil. The astrological forecasts for the year called Thingyansar are printed and find ready buyers."

Logical explanation

With a good story to tell, the elders warn the young not to get angry when others splash water on them, or even let them know they are angry, for Thagyamin would put their names down in the dog's hide book.

The story of Thagyamin the victor is a good story for the young, chiding them when they got cross.

However, a more logical explanation is offered in which the Thingyan tradition which had its origin in the royalty of ancient Myanmar, like the kings of Bagan, going to the Ayeyawady River with the royal families to have a hair-wash and bath around New Year eve and splashing water for fun, ministers and attendants following suit.

As time passes, they were said to enjoy the waterfest in the palace grounds and the city itself, with citizens enjoying likewise.

Of course, the story of the Thagyamin coming down is more appealing. Whatever the myth or truth, at the time of the year when mercury hits its peak and people have to find some solution at least for a short reprieve, three or four days of waterfest is the biggest bargain one can come across.

Among food and drink that are offered at Thingyan, we have Shwe-yin-aye and moant-let-hsaung. There is also Thingyan htamin or Thingyan rice. Clean fun is not to be marred by throwing of ice-packs or water-balloons which are harmful, nor with the use of high-power hoses for the use of other harmful gadgets.

The three-day water festival ushers in the New Year's day when there is freeing of fish or other life, round up off merriment with meritorious deeds reflecting Myanmar tradition and lifestyle.



Thingyan revellers participating in the water festival.

Information Minister attends books donation ceremony

YANGON, 11 April—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended the ceremony to donate books to the village libraries organized by those from the literary world at the Yuzana Garden Hotel on Alanpya Pagoda Road here yesterday afternoon and made a speech on the occasion.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry, officials concerned, those from the literary world, guests and others.

In his address, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan expressed his thanks to the donors, adding that he was pleased to attend such a ceremony sponsored by those from the literary world. The minister called for more donation of books as such donation amounted to fulfilling the requirements of rural people.

Only when both urban and rural people are

imbued with knowledge and education will human resources develop. And this will contribute to national development, he disclosed.

The minister said that there have been nine book donation ceremonies including the present one in which over 1.8 million publications worth K 115.7 million plus K 53.7 million has been realized.

Next, Dr Tin Tun Oo of Thuta Swezon Magazine House expressed thanks.

Afterwards, Actress Nandar Hlaing, on behalf

of those from the literary world, presented K 1 million donated by those from the literary world to the minister.

Later, Dr Thar Tun Oo of Today Life Style Magazine, on behalf of those from the literary world, presented 17,738 publications worth over K 4.9 million to the minister.

Next, a dinner was hosted to those present on the occasion.

After the ceremony, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan cordially greeted those present.

MNA



Dr Thar Tun Oo presents publications to Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers a speech at the ceremony to donate publications to self-reliant rural libraries. — MNA

The country that is blatantly violating human rights

Maung Shwe Lin

The US recently issued an annual report on human rights violations. As usual, the US State Department report slanders other nations and governments as violating human rights in this or that way. The so-called report pointed a finger at others who were just developing themselves in accord with their own appropriate way, while putting aside the unjust acts of the US. Hence, all the nations, that were slandered, rebutted the US soon after the release of the report.

The nations that were criticized by the report slammed the US, saying that America was slandering others, while it was detaining people whom it accused as terrorists for a long time at Guantanamo prison camp, without trial; that innocent civilians were killed and injured when it in-

vaded Iraq and Afghanistan, using its superior firepower; and that the US itself was violating human rights.

Now I would like to present a mock trial against the US president, British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who is in hospital at present, for their human rights violations.

The mock trial was held at the Bar Council in Cairo, Egypt. But it was just a demonstration, and not a real hearing. However, one interesting point was that the person who acted as chairman of the court where the politicians were put on trial was Dr Mahathir Mohammad, the former prime minister of Malaysia.

A lot of evidences concerning the human rights

violations of President Bush and his allied leaders were presented at the mock hearing. There were film documentaries concerning the accusations and hearing.

As the evidences were firm, the jury of the court gave a verdict saying that the leaders of America, Britain and Israel were guilty of human rights violations. Dr Mahathir Mohammad also said that the court found the accused as real human rights violators. He said that the accused leaders were the persons who bombed homes, hospitals and schools, imposed sanctions to prevent medicines and foods from reaching the people, destroyed the water and power supplies in Iraq, Palestine and other regions, arrested innocent persons and tortured them. For the said crimes, those persons should be ostracized for life, he said. Although the mock trial could not summon the accused to appear in person before the court, it did make the global people know the sufferings of the civilians resulting from the armed invasions of the US and its allies.

Those who are refuting the US report are pointing out the fact that the US while slandering others, itself is a human rights violator.

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin: 11-4-2006

The nations that were criticized by the report slammed the US, saying that America was slandering others, while it was detaining people whom it accused as terrorists for a long time at Guantanamo prison camp, without trial; that innocent civilians were killed and injured when it invaded Iraq and Afghanistan, using its superior firepower; and that the US itself was violating human rights.

Service personnel should strive to produce surplus rice, extend perennial farms



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets with departmental personnel, social organizations, and locals at Yathawady Hall of Yaksawk. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April — Included as a member in the inspection tour 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 member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for

and Development Council Office, the Secretary-1 arrived at the hospital and was welcomed by Commandant of the hospital Maj Kyaw Soe and staff.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspected the wards and the operation theatre, and visited the warded Tatmadawmen and family members.

In the afternoon, he visited the patients at Yaksawk People's Hospital after inspecting the X-ray room and medical store.

At Yathawady Hall of the town, he met with departmental personnel, social organizations, and locals, explaining the nation's political and economic changes and developments, and the need to strengthen national unity and regional peace and stability.

He urged service personnel to strive for producing surplus rice and extending perennial farms.

A local authority also reported to him on salient points of the township, monsoon paddy cultivation, food sufficiency, growing of 4,750 acres of physic nut against the target of 5,510 acres, and education, health and social conditions.

Lt-Gen Thein Sein, who is also the Chairman of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee, met with the chairman of Yaksawk Township War Veterans Organization and members at Bahtoo Station Hall.

Also present were Patron of Shan State WVO Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, members of Myanmar WVOCOC and others.

The Secretary-1 urged them to strive for development of welfare programmes and work in harmony with the people.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein visits patients at the military hospital (100-bed) in Bahtoo Tatmyo. — MNA

Chairman of National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein visited the military hospital (100-bed) in Bahtoo Tatmyo in Shan State (South) on 9 April.

Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min, senior military officers and officials of the State Peace



Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets with the chairman and members of Yaksawk Township War Veterans Organization at Bahtoo Station Hall. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects dam projects in Sagaing, Magway Divisions

YANGON, 11 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut arrived at Yazagyo Dam Multi-purpose Project site near Yazagyo Village in Kalay Township in Sagaing Division on 7 April.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on implementation of the project for Myittha valley development, irrigation and generation of power.

Director U Victor of Construction-4 of Irrigation Department reported on construction of diaphragm wall and Director General U Kyaw San Win gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the commander and the ministers inspected construction of the dam. The earth dam, 4,745 feet long and 165 feet high, is situated on Nayyinsara Creek. Water storage capacity at full brim



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Myittha Dam project in Gangaw Township in Magway Division. — MNA

is 52,000 acre feet. It can supply water to 6,500 acres and two Kaplan-type turbines will generate 21 million kwh annually.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to Manipura Dam Multi-purpose Project site in Kalay Township by helicopter. Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on the project and Director U Victor on observation, the main dam, location of diversion tunnel.

The Manipura gravel-filled dam is 2,444 feet long and 527 feet high. Water storage capacity at full brim is 1.26 million acre feet. Four 95-megawatt turbines generate 1,903 million kwh annually.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Myittha Dam project site near Pynthavillage in Gangaw Township where they were welcomed by Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe. Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on the purpose of the project, progress of work and generation of hydro-electric power.

The dam, 29,750 feet long and 205 feet high, can store 377,600 acre feet of water at full brim. It can irrigate 12,000 acres of land and generate 170 million kwh annually.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to Buywa Dam Project site in Sedokara

Township. Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on the project being implemented and officials on construction of 1,100 feet diaphragm wall, slopes and the diversion tunnel.

The earth Buywa Dam is 6,040 feet long and 243 feet high and can store 740,000 acre feet of water. It is a supporting dam to Mon Creek Dam and Kyee-on-Kyee-wa Dam. The three 20-megawatt turbines generate 320 million kwh annually.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to Kyee-on-Kyee-wa Dam project site in Pwintbyu Township and inspected construction of the main dam.

The Kyee-on-Kyee-wa

Dam is 3,280 feet long and 164 feet high. Water storage capacity at full brim is 463,000 acre feet. It can supply water to 69,777 acres of farmland and

74,007 acres of summer paddy fields. Two 35-megawatt turbines generate 330 million kwh annually.

MNA

Energy Minister inspects gas pipe laying

YANGON, 11 April — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, together with Deputy Commander of the South-West Command Brig-Gen Tint Swe, Secretary of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Thein Hlaing and officials, on 9 April inspected the laying of gas pipe linking Nyaungdon and Thabaung pulp factory on his inspection tour of Ayeyawady Division and called for completion of the project before the rainy season.

At the construction site, an official of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise reported on tasks carried out for the laying of gas pipe. On his inspection tour, the minister urged the officials concerned to complete the project timely. He also urged that laying of gas pipe across Ngawun River should be given priority over all other tasks. — MNA

African catfish not to be released

YANGON, 11 April — The Fisheries Department has issued a notification, banning the raising, releasing, saving, transporting, propagating and helping propagate catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*) as domestic fish species can be extinct if the exotic fish is common in the waters of the nation.

Action is taken against those who violate the notification.

Now, Thingyan Festival (Water Festival) is drawing near and it is a Myanmar tradition that in the festival, fish is set free into the lakes in the compounds of pagodas and monasteries. So, if such species of fish with excessively predatory nature is released into the lakes, other species of fish will be extinct.

The Fisheries Department will open sales centres to distribute fingerlings at respective departments dealing with the public. Those wishing to release catfish may contact the department. — MNA

Gold foils to be offered to Shwezigon Pagoda

YANGON, 11 April — Gold foils worth more than K 165 million will be offered to the historic Shwezigon Pagoda, built by King Anawrahta in 421 Myanmar Era in NyaungU.

Those who wish to offer gold foils may contact NyaungU District Peace and Development Council (Tel: 061-60261) and the pagoda board of trustees (Tel: 061-60825). — MNA

Wellwishers donate books, wheelchair to MWF

YANGON, 11 April — A writer donated 200 copies of his work worth K 420,000 and a wellwisher donated a wheelchair yesterday to Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation in Bahan Township here.

At the donation ceremony held at the federation in Bahan Township, Vice President of MWF Daw Khin Thet Htay accepted the donation presented by Writer U San Tin Aung (Shwe Bo) and Dr Aye Ko, Chairman of Myanmar Disabled Persons Association. Daw Khin Thet Htay spoke words of thanks and presented certificates of honour to wellwishers. — MNA



Myanmar Disabled Persons Association Chairman Dr Aye Ko donates a wheelchair to MWF Vice President Daw Khin Thet Htay. — MNA

Funfair of Kokkaing Swimming Club

YANGON, 11 April — Members of the Kokkaing Swimming Club which has turned 102 years will organize a funfair along with Satuditha (free foods) at

the club on Sayasan Road in Bahan Township here from 5 to 8 pm on 13 April 2006 (Thingyan Akyo Day), it is learnt. — NLM

Fingerlings to be sold

YANGON, 11 April — The Yangon Division Fisheries Camps (Laydauntkan and Hlawga) of the Fisheries Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries will sell fingerlings at Mingalar Lake in Kaba Aye Hill, Thadugan Pagoda in Shwepyitha Township, Shwedagon Pagoda

(Thwesay Lake) in Bahan Township, and Kandawgyi Fresh Water Aquarium on 17 April (Myanmar New Year's Day) for the people to release them.

Those wishing to place an order of at least 3,000 fingerlings may dial Tel: 708519, 635196, 611120 and 555613).

MNA

Shan State (East) enjoys fruits of collaborative efforts

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win calls for more efforts for development in Shan State (East)



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win meets Monghsat District and Township level departmental officials and members of social organizations. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 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) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, on 7 April met with officers and other ranks of Kengtung and Mongkun

Stations in Shan State (East) at the command and departmental officials and members of social organizations in the state at the town hall in Kengtung. At the meeting with departmental officials, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win called for the extended cultivation of paddy in the summer and rainy seasons for the sufficient supply of food in the region.

He also urged officials to carry out cultivation of rubber and physic nut plants on a large scale in the region joining hands with local people. He also said that he was delighted as he witnessed the development of the state during his tour. It was the fruit of the collaborative efforts of local people and the departments, and people should take pride in it, he added. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win also urged departmental officials and local people to step up efforts for regional development tasks. He continued to say that Kengtung Degree College, Government Technological College, Government Computer College have been estab-

lished in Shan State (East) with the aim of producing technocrats from the region. According to the report of Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting, out of 294,371 acres of paddy cultivated in 2005-2006 in the region, 16,033 acres yielded over 100 baskets per acre. As summer paddy acreage reached 26,117 in 2004-2005 and It is expected that the number of summer paddy acres will reach 5,000 in 2005-2006, rice is in surplus in Shan State (East). Shan State (East) set its target of 400,000 acres of paddy. Regarding the rubber cultivation, there are a total of 7,363 acres in town-

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends graduation ...

(from page 16)

members Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Quartermaster General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Shan State PDC Chairman Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and Bahtoo Station, officials of the SPDC Office and parents and relatives of the graduate officers. First, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greeted the graduate officers individually. Next, dinner was hosted to those present.

After dinner, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party were entertained with songs and dances presented by artists.

MNA

Energy emerge champions



Mr Alvin Law of Accel Int'l Co presents the best player award for the year to Zaw Htet Aung. — NLM

YANGON, 11 April—The final of the Myanmar League Closing Cup Knockout Football Tournament for 2005-06 took place at Aung San Stadium this afternoon.

Energy-2

(Kyaw Myo Han in 78th minute, Wai Yan Maung in 80th minute)

YCDC-1

(Zaw Naing Tun in 12th minute)

Energy was led with 0-1 result in the first half, but roared back to beat YCDC 2-1 in the second half.

NLM

Man hangs himself in police lock-up

YANGON, 11 April — Cpl Hla Myo of Mandalay Zeyo Development Committee police force and his team while conducting an early morning patrol at 1 am on 25 March in Mandalay found a person loitering in the street. The patrol took the person, Wai Phyo Naung (a) Naung Naung, 19, son of U Win Shwe, of Plot No 208, Thirimalar West Ward, Aungmyethazan Township, to No 6 Police Station through the Thirihema East Ward Peace and Development Council.

He was taken into police custody under Police Act 35 (b), and he was alone in the lock-up. At the sentry changing time of the police station at about 2 pm on 26 March, constable Myo Myint Win, before changing duty with another constable, saw the lone prisoner, Wai Phyo Naung (a) Naung Naung, trying to hang himself with his own nether garment which he twisted as a robe, and tied to an iron bar at the ceiling of the lock-up.

Myo Myint Win shouted at him to stop committing suicide, and others for help. While a group of sentries under the command of their leader were trying to open the lock-up, Wai Phyo Naung (a) Naung Naung hanged himself.

The sentries while trying to save Wai Phyo Naung (a) Naung Naung's life through first aid rushed him to hospital by car. But according to the report of the hospital doctors, Wai Phyo Naung (a) Naung Naung was already dead on arriving at the hospital.

Hence, the police members reported the case to the magistrate. An autopsy was carried out by doctor Myo Win. According to the autopsy report, there was no any other injury on the body except the one on his neck that killed him.

Wai Phyo Naung (a) Naung Naung had previous records of loitering at night at No 5 and No 6 police stations.

His body was tattooed and he seemed to be on drugs.

His brothers told police that he was a bad youth, never listened to his parents, and used to be on alcohol.

MNA

First Buddha Pujaniya of Cakkja Shin Pagoda held

YANGON, 11 April—The first Buddha Pujaniya of the Cakkja Shin Pagoda in the compound of Pantabwinttaury Tawya in Taikkyi Township, Yangon Division, was held in the precinct of the pagoda on 9 and 10 April. Joss sticks and lights were offered on 9 April evening and alms food, on 10 April morning to the Cakkja Shin Pagoda and other pagodas in the compound.

Pantabwinttaury Sayadaw Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Panñasara delivered a sermon. — MNA

သတိပေးနိုးဆော်ချက်

မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှုဗဟုသုတပြန့်ပွားရေးအဖွဲ့သည် ယဉ်မောင်းသူများ မူးယစ်သောက်စားပါက အရက်မူးတိုင်း တိရိစ္ဆာန်ဖြင့် တိုင်းတာစစ်ဆေး အရေးယူဆောင်ရွက်မည် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယဉ်မောင်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုဌာနမှတစ်ဆင့်



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

Public awareness poster for the village level. Title: INSTRUCTION FOR THE PREVENTION & CONTROL OF HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA. Includes Burmese and English text, diagrams of farm layouts, and illustrations of various activities like bird catching, cooking, and transport.

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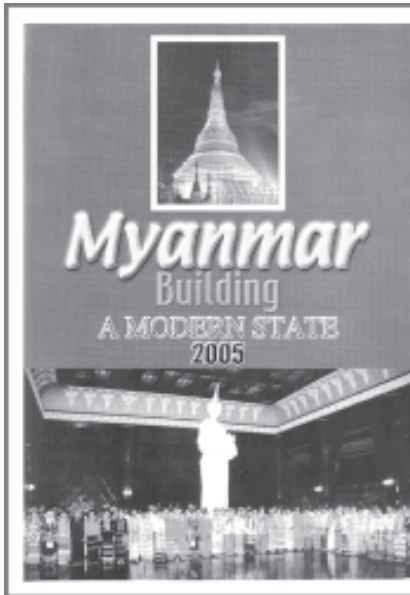
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ရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့

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TRADE MARK CAUTION Calvin Klein Trademark Trust, a Delaware Business Trust, c/o Wilmington Trust Co., Rodney Square North, 1100 North Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19809, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-



Reg. No. 921/1994 in respect of "Fragrances, non-medicated toiletry and bath articles, soaps, talc, body lotions and creams; personal deodorants and anti-perspirants; hair care preparations; and suntan preparations all for men and women". Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law. Win Ma Tin M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L. for Calvin Klein Trademark Trust P. O. Box 60, Yangon Dated: 12 April 2006

DON'T SMOKE

Ministers predict hot world economic growth in 2006

VIENNA, 10 April— Finance ministers from Asia and Europe predicted another bumper year of global economic growth on Sunday despite persistently high oil prices. At talks involving 25 European and 13 Asian countries, the Europeans also urged China to allow its currency exchange rate to rise in the name of fairer competition in world trade, but they were careful not to be seen to be bullying. The ministers predicted a 4.5-per-cent expansion of global economic output this year, their Vienna meeting host, Austrian Finance Minister Karl-Heinz Grasser, told a news conference. That compared to 4.3-per-cent growth in 2005, which was the best in decades and driven to a significant extent by rapidly developing economies such as China and India, where growth is three or four times faster than in industrialized countries. MNA/Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOYNO (099)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOYNO (099) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.4.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P. 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 up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Second Colombian boy dies after Bogota bus blasts

BOGOTA (Colombia), 10 April — A 10-year-old boy who died of severe burns on Saturday became the second fatality of a fire bomb attack on two Bogota buses that is being blamed on Marxist rebels, hospital officials said. Thursday's bombings of the packed buses in a working-class district of the capital also killed an 11-year-old boy and injured more than 20 people, many of them children. MNA/Reuters

Prison official punished over "Brokeback" screening

BOSTON, 10 April— A Massachusetts correctional officer is being disciplined for showing the gay cowboy movie "Brokeback Mountain" to inmates at the state's largest prison because his boss determined that the film includes content inappropriate for a prison setting. A Massachusetts Department of Correction spokeswoman Diane Wiffin said Saturday that the action was not related to the critically acclaimed film's plot involving a gay love affair. "It was not the subject matter. It was the graphic nature of sexually explicit scenes," Wiffin said. MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ပြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခံ့

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ် ဧပြီလ ၁၀ ရက်

ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ၏ လုပ်ငန်းသုံးအတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါပစ္စည်းများကို ဌာနအရောက် ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူရန် ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာများ ဖိတ်ခေါ်ပါသည်။

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ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာပိတ်ရက်မှာ (၂၈-၄-၂၀၀၆)ရက်နေ့ (၁၆:၀၀)နာရီ ဖြစ်ပြီး ဈေးနှုန်းတင်သွင်းလွှာပုံစံတစ်ရပ်လျှင် ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင် တိတိ)နှုန်းဖြင့် ဘတ်ဂျက်နှင့် ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေး ဌာနမှတစ်ဆင့် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ် အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ်-၃၈၈၇၃၂ သို့ ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following stores which will be purchased in US Dollar, Euro and JY: -

Srl. No	Tender No.	Description	Items
1.	12(T)/MRML/2006-2007	Spare Parts for Diesel Electric & Diesel Hydraulic Locomotives	(543) Items

Closing Date 12. 5. 2006 (Friday) (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 12-4-2006 (also available during 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.

Argentina pledges to support Russia's bid for WTO membership

BUENOS AIRES, 10 April— Argentine President Nestor Kirchner said that his country would expand cooperation with Russia and back Russia's bid to join the World Trade Organization (WTO) during his meeting with visiting Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov here recently.

During their meeting in the Casa Rosad a governmental palace, Kirchner exchanged views with Fradkov on a range of common political and economic issues and expressed the Argentine Government's wish to further strengthen ties with Russia in various fields.

Fradkov, who is in Argentina as part of a Latin American tour, also met with his Argentine counterpart Jorge Taiana. During Fradkov's visit, the two countries signed three agreements, in which the Argentine Government pledged support for Russia's bid for WTO membership, and Russia recognized the continued validity of 11 agreements between Argentina and the former Soviet Government.—MNA/Xinhua

Shop worker finds cocaine instead of bananas

MUNICH, 10 April — A supermarket worker's discovery of 20 kilogrammes (44 lb) of cocaine hidden in a case of fruit had German police going bananas.

A spokesman for Bavarian state police said officers dug through 4,600 cartons of bananas after a man working at a Munich grocery store found the

drugs in a shipment of fruit from Colombia.

"A worker unloading a case saw that there weren't any bananas under the first layer," a spokesman for Bavarian state police said on Monday. In their place, he said was 20 kilograms of drugs.

Around 30 police officers were set to search through the remainder of the shipment but found no more suspicious packages. The bananas originally came from Colombia and were shipped through the Belgian port of Antwerp before being trucked into Germany. The investigation is under way.

Internet

Eucalyptus blamed for worsening drought

BEIJING, 10 April — Forestry specialists have started to investigate whether eucalyptus trees have damaged the environment. Special task forces that consist of forestry officials and experts have been sent to the cities of Yunfu, Zhaoqing and Meizhou in south China's Guangdong Province, where many eucalyptus trees are being planted for field investigations. The findings will hopefully be published before the end of April.

The investigation was initiated after local deputies to the Guangdong Provincial People's Congress and members of Guangdong Provincial Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) put forward their observations about the damage caused by eucalyptus trees to the province's ecological environment.

MNA/Xinhua



Beijing opera performers perform during the opening ceremony of the 'London Experience' exhibition in Beijing, on 10 April, 2006. The exhibition showcases the sights and sounds of London which provides Chinese visitors with an experience of the city.—INTERNET

China to launch "Shenzhou-7" spacecraft in 2008

BEIJING, 10 April— Programme, told China Central Television that production of the rocket carrier for the launch of Shenzhou-7 spaceship in 2008, a senior project official has announced.

Jing Muchun, chief designer of the launch vehicle system of China's Manned Space

Programme, told China Central Television that procurement and production of the parts for the rocket carrier had commenced. Jing said better quality parts would be used for the rocket carrier and scientists would upgrade sections to improve its

reliability.

They also considering adding more cameras, he told a news programme.

Under the manned space programme, Chinese astronauts will conduct space walks and rendezvous in space during the second stage of the programme starting with Shenzhou-7.

The targets for the second stage will be reached during the country's 11th Five-Year Programme period (2006-2011). Two Chinese astronauts made a five-day space journey last October.

China's first astronaut, Yang Liwei, made a 21-hour orbital tour aboard Shenzhou-5 in October 2003, making China the third country after the United States and former Soviet Union to travel into space.

MNA/Xinhua

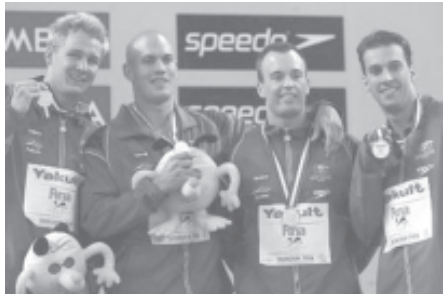


An 82-inch Samsung electronics LCD panel, in Seoul, 2005. South Korea's Samsung Electronics and Japan's Sony sealed a two billion dollar deal to produce a new generation of liquid crystal displays (LCDs) at their joint plant.—INTERNET



A model presents a creation by Indian designer Satya Paul at a fashion show on the last day of India fashion week in New Delhi on 9 April, 2006.—INTERNET

SPORTS



Australia's swimmers (L-R) Brenton Rickard, Ashley Callus, Adam Pine and Matthew Welsh pose with their medals during the award ceremony for the men's 4x100 metres medley relay at the 8th FINA World Short Course Swimming Championships in Shanghai on 9 April, 2006.—INTERNET

Steaua draw with rivals Dinamo after injury time goal

BUCHAREST, 11 April—Substitute Vasilica Cristoceca scored in injury time to secure Steaua Bucharest a 1-1 away draw at city rivals Dinamo Bucharest on Sunday in a bad-tempered Romanian first division match.

Italian referee Pasquale Rodomonti sent off two players and showed eight yellow cards.

Steaua right back George Ogararu was given a red card for a foul on Iannis Zicu in the 36th minute while Dinamo midfielder Andrei Margaritescu went in the 45th for two bookable offences.

Cristoceca's goal, after Dinamo striker Claudiu Niculescu had opened the scoring in the 37th minute, kept UEFA Cup semifinalists Steaua in the fight for the league title. Steaua are three points behind leaders Dinamo but with a game in hand.—MNA/Reuters



Lourdes Dominguez Lino of Spain returns a serve from Viktoriya Kutuzova of Ukraine during their first round match at the 2006 Family Circle Cup tennis tournament in Charleston, South Carolina, on 10 April, 2006.—INTERNET

PSV retain Dutch title, Ajax beat Alkmaar

AMSTERDAM, 11 April—PSV Eindhoven retained the Dutch league title on Sunday with a 1-1 draw at home to Groningen, moving on to 80 points with two games left to play. Second-placed AZ Alkmaar lost 1-0 at fifth-placed Ajax Amsterdam and remain on 70 points, also with two matches left. PSV coach Guus Hiddink, who is leaving the club at the end of the season, told Tele 2 TV: "This is a beautiful championship, especially because nobody, including ourselves, considered us candidates for the title."

"If I consider how my team has played this season, I have to pay my respects to them." PSV made a struggling start against Groningen, who are still chasing a playoff spot, and went 1-0 down when Erik Nevland struck four minutes before the interval.—MNA/Reuters

Kallstrom double fires Rennes to third place in Ligue 1

PARIS, 11 April—Two goals from Sweden midfielder Kim Kallstrom led Stade Rennes to their eighth consecutive win when they beat struggling Sochaux 2-1 in Ligue 1 on Sunday.

Rennes moved up to third place with 56 points, 19 behind leaders Olympique Lyon and one ahead of fourth placed Lille, who were held to a goalless draw at Nancy on Saturday. With four games remaining, Laszlo Boloni's side are now in the driving seat to clinch a Champions League qualifiers' spot.

The top two clubs directly qualify for the Champions League while the third-placed team play the competition's third qualifying round. Sochaux

remain 16th on 36 points, nine above the relegation zone. Olivier Monterrubio set up Kallstrom for Rennes' opener after four minutes.

Sochaux cancelled the advantage when striker Souleymane Diawara headed home from a Jeremy Menez free kick. Both sides were settling

for a draw when Sochaux defender Jean Calve was shown a straight red card on 79 minutes for hand ball on his goal line.

MNA/Reuters

Hiddink set to become Russia's coach

AMSTERDAM, 11 April—Dutchman Guus Hiddink says he is almost certain to take over as coach of Russia after the World Cup.

"We are working out the minor details of the contract and when that is finished I will join them," Australia and PSV Eindhoven coach Hiddink told the Holland Sport TV

programme on Monday.

His agent Cees van Nieuwenhuizen told Dutch TV the contract will last two years with an option for two more. Hiddink is expected to be named as Russia coach within the next eight days.

Russia failed to qualify for the World Cup in Germany, which runs from 9 June to 9 July.

If he agrees his four-year deal with the Russian Football Union (RFU), Hiddink will be in charge until the 2010 World Cup in South Africa. Hiddink is part-time coach of Australia, who qualified for the World Cup for the first time since 1974.

John Boulton, head of high performance for the Football Federation of Australia, said his organization had known for a while that Hiddink would be leaving the job.

"Guus informed us some time ago that he was looking at several offers for after the World Cup," Boulton said in a state-

ment. "We have known for some time that it was not going to work after the World Cup and have put steps in place for the future."

"However, our focus and Guus's is squarely on the next three months, he is in constant contact with us about the detailed planning for the World Cup campaign and he is Aussie Guus rather than Ruski Guus for a few months yet."

Hiddink announced last month that he would end a four-year spell at PSV by leaving the Dutch club at the end of this season.

On Sunday, PSV clinched their 19th league title and sixth under Hiddink, who also managed the team in the late 1980s.

Since his arrival in Eindhoven in 2002, PSV have won the title in 2003 and the double two years later, when they also reached the Champions League semi-finals.

MNA/Reuters



Jose Miguel Cotto, right, takes a left from Juan Diaz during the 12th round of their WBA lightweight championship boxing match at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas on 8 April, 2006. Diaz won by unanimous decision.—INTERNET

Colombia leads 2-1 over Paraguay in Davis Cup Tennis

BOGOTA, 11 April—Colombia led Paraguay 2-1 in their Davis Cup match on Sunday after a controversial victory in the doubles ruled by Ecuadorian referee Carlos Niemes following an alleged insult from the Paraguayans.

Colombia's Alejandro Falla and Carlos Salamanca played the third set against Paraguay's Ramon Delgado and Francisco Rodriguez early on Sunday, after bad light stopped play on Saturday evening, leaving the score 7-5 to Colombia in the first set and 6-3 to Paraguay in the second.

Referee Niemes said that Delgado offended him in an argument over a bad service, when Colombia was 4-2 ahead, with Paraguay serving. After Paraguay's Rodriguez served and Colombia's Salamanca returned,

Niemes declared the serve a foul, following a Colombian protest, and consulting with the line judge.

The offense took place when a Paraguay delegation, led by captain Victor Pecci, was trying to persuade Niemes that the point was valid. In the first two singles of the Americas Group Two Davis Cup match which began on Friday, Delgado beat Colombia's Santiago Giraldo 2-6, 4-6, 7-6 (1), 7-6 (4) and 10-8, before Colombia's Alejandro Falla downed Emilio Baez-Britez 6-2, 5-7, 6-0 and 6-3.—MNA/Xinhua

Celtic give Kilmarnock a Sunday roasting

GLASGOW, 11 April—Newly-crowned champions Celtic restored their 20 points lead over Hearts in the Scottish Premier League with an emphatic 4-1 win at Kilmarnock on Sunday.

Two goals from Japanese midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura, another from Welsh striker John Hartson plus a fourth from substitute Dion Dublin earned the points. Kilmarnock were denied a goal just before halftime at 1-0 with a controversial offside decision.

Celtic now have 85 points while Hearts, who romped to a 4-0 home win over Dunfermline on Saturday, remain second on 65.

Rangers kept the pressure on Hearts for the second Champions League slot with a 1-0 win over Motherwell and sit third on 62.—MNA/Reuters



Dallas Mavericks Dirk Nowitzki (C) of Germany shoots to score the game winning basket over the defense of Los Angeles Clippers Shaun Livingston (L) and Chris Kaman in the final seconds of NBA basketball action in Los Angeles, on 10 April, 2006.—INTERNET

ရေခဲထုပ်၊ ရေပူဖောင်း၊ ဆပ်ပြာရည်ဂတ်စ်ဘူးဖြင့် ကစားက

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

နှင့် ပစ္စည်းကိုသိမ်းရန် ကျန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

U Tin Hlaing

(Age, 70 years)

Deputy Minister (Retired)

Chairman of Academy of Myanmar Agriculture, Forests, Livestock and Fishery Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (Patron, Association of Mawlamyinegyun Township)

Son of (U Than Ka Lar and Daw Ngwe Nyunt) residing at No 139-A, University Avenue and son-in-law of (Galonmin U Tin Maung and Daw Myint) residing at No 162-C), Pathama Thiri Yeik Tha in Alone Township, husband of Daw Khin Aye Kyi, young brother of (Daw Kyi and U Hla Thaw), brother of Daw Khin San Win, Dr U Win Maung, Galonmin U Tint Aung and Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Thein, father of Daw Khin Oo Hlaing (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Geneva), Daw Toe Toe Hlaing and U Nay Chi Win (Nay Chi wear shop), grandfather of Kaung Myat Win (Grade 4G, TTC), Kyaw Zin Thant (K II-PIEC) passed away at 1.00 pm, 11-4-2006. Funereal service will be held at the Yayway Cemetery at 9.00 am, 15-4-2006. Buses will leave No 139-A, University Avenue at 7.30 am.

For the memory of U Tin Hlaing, relatives and colleagues are kindly invited to No 139-A, University Avenue and the donation of alms bowl will be held on Sunday, at 7.00-10.00 am, (16-4-2006).

Breaved family

Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf Championship 2006 concludes



YANGON, 11 April — The final round of Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf Championship 2006, mainly sponsored by International Beverages Trading Co, took place at Panhlaing Golf Club in Hlinethaya Township yesterday afternoon.

After the final match, Sports and Physical Education Department Director U Naw Taung, Production Director of IBTC U Zaw Htaik, General Secretary of Myanmar Golf Fed-

eration U Aung Kyi and IBTC Director U Tint Oo awarded the winners.

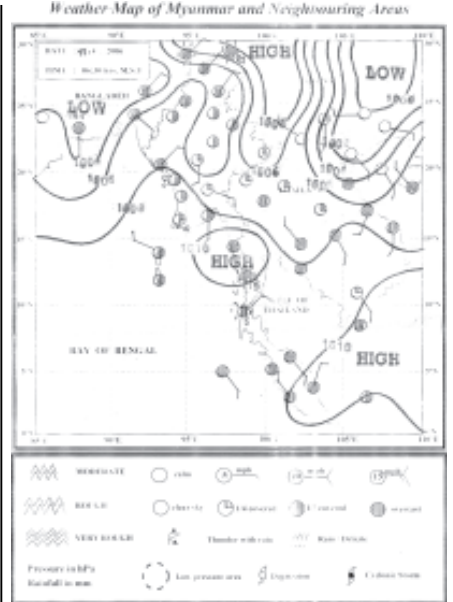
U Tint Oo presented a souvenir for Panhlaing Golf Club to Managing Director of SPA Group U Kyaw Paing. Later, IBTC hosted a dinner to those present and presented an entertainment programme.

The championship was co-sponsored by Air Mandalay, Grand Plaza Park Royal Hotel, Srixon, Crusher Club Soda. The final round of the championship was mainly organized by Han Event Management.

MNA



IBTC Director U Tint Oo presents a gold medal to Than Win who won the first in the golf championship. — MGF



WEATHER

Tuesday, 11 April, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, isolated in upper Sagaing Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan, Chin and Kayah States, Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Minbu and Magway (44°C) each, Myingyin, NyaungU and Chauk (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (0.94) inch, Myeik and Kawthong (0.20) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 10-4-2006 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 11-4-2006 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 11-4-2006 was (75%). Total sunshine hours on 10-4-2006 was (10.0) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 11-4-2006 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 (12) mph from Southwest at (00:15) hours MST on 11-4-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 12-4-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Northern Shan, Chin and Mon States and Yangon 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 isolated rain or thundershowers in the northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw City and neighbouring areas for 12-4-2006: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 12-4-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 12-4-2006: Generally fair weather.



Wednesday, 12 April View on today

- 7:00 am**
- 1. ဂျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကျွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ဓမ္မာနာယကအဖွဲ့အင်္ဂုဏ်တော် ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာပညာရှင် ဝုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မာအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ ဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မဘာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am**
- 2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မဘာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ သိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ဓမ္မာဆရာတော်) ဓမ္မာကြားတော်မူသော ဥပ္ပါယ် သန္တပိဋတော်
- 7:25 am**
- 3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
- 4. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
- 5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am**
- 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:05 am**
- 7. ဆပ်သွားတံတား
- 8:10 am**
- 8. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am**
- 9. ခါးကြိတ်အဆိုအကများ
- 8:30 am**
- 10. International news
- 8:45 am**
- 11. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm**
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
- 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
- 3. Practice in Reading
- 4:40 pm**
- 4. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ချစ်မြင်သောကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (စုပေးအထူးမြို့) (စုပေး)
- 4:55 pm**
- 5. Song of national races
- 5:10 pm**
- 6. မြန်မာစာမြန်မာစကား
- 5:25 pm**
- 7. Classical songs
- 5:35 pm**
- 8. "ချစ်သောရေ ချစ်သောမြေ" (ရာဇာနောင်၊ နိုင်နှင်းဝေ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့မူ)
- 5:45 pm**
- 9. ခါးကြိတ်အဆိုအကများ

- 5:50 pm**
- 10. ရွှေသံလွင် အသံသီအစီအစဉ်
- 6:00 pm**
- 11. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
- 12. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
- 13. သုတနိဂုံး ရွှေညက်ရှင်
- 7:00 pm**
- 14. "လောကသုံးထစ်ဆင်းတဲ့အခါ" (အရိုင်း၊ မင်းသူ၊ အေးသီတာ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သိန်းဟန်-ဖိုးနွဲ့)
- 7:10 pm**
- 15. ခါးကြိတ်အဆိုအကများ
- 7:15 pm**
- 16. ကြားမြင်သုတ ပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ
- 7:35 pm**
- 17. ခါးကြိတ်အဆိုအကများ
- 8:00 pm**
- 18. News
- 19. International news
- 20. Weather report
- 21. ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ တော်လှန်ရေးအကြိမ် (အကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့နိုင်ငံတော်အဖွဲ့အဆိုအကအရေးအတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ "ဝိရုဇာတ်တော်ကြီး" (မေတ္တလိမ်း) (အရိုင်း-၁)
- 22. မင်းကျွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ် အယ်မျက်နှာ ဓမ္မဘာဏ္ဍာ ဖွားဖျားမြင်းတရားတော်
- 23. The next day's programme



Wednesday, 12 April Tune in today

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music: -I'll survive
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music: -Funky Town
- 8:50 am** National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music: -Boogie Night
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Music: -I'm every woman
- 1:30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Lunch time music -Take a bow
- 9:00 pm** Variations on a tune -From a distance
- 9:15 pm** Article
- 9:25 pm** Music at your request -One of us
- 9:45 pm** News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

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 Tatmadaw officers of Bahtoo Station



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye delivers an address in meeting with military officers in Bahtoo Tatmyo.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 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 held a meeting with senior military officers of Bahtoo Station, and officers and cadets of Tatmadaw officers training schools in Bahtoo at Tatmadaw (Army) Officers Training School in Bahtoo, Yaksawk Township, this morning.

Also present on the occasion were SPDC Secretary-1 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Members of SPDC Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-

Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Shan State PDC Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, the ministers, senior military officers, officials of SPDC Office and Commander of Bahtoo Station Brig-Gen Zaw Win.

The Secretary-1 briefed those present on facts about the State.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye delivered a speech, calling on Tatmadaw members to make efforts with might and main hand in hand with national people in the drive for building a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing democracy.

After the meeting, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greeted the Tatmadaw officers. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends graduation dinner of 109th Intake of Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School

NAY PYI TAW, 11 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 attended the graduation dinner of the 109th Intake of the Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School held at the school in Bahtoo Tatmyo in Yaksawk Township yesterday evening.

The graduation dinner was also attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, SPDC
(See page 10)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greets officers of the 109th Intake of the Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School. —MNA