

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Wednesday, 19 April, 2006

## Bridges, roads not for economic profit, but for regional development

### Mawlamyine Railway Station, Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) rail bridge open



*Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party see off passengers as the maiden trip of Mawlamyine-Yangon train starts from Mawlamyine Railway Station. — MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 18 April — The opening ceremony of Mawlamyine Railway Station and Thanlwin River Rail Bridge (Mawlamyine) took place at the pandal near the station in Mawlamyine yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Deputy Ministers for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaug Lwin and U Pe Than, Chairman of Kayin State PDC Col Khin Kyu, senior military officers, officials of State Peace and Development Council Office, members of Mon State PDC, departmental personnel at state, district

and township levels, engineers and staff of Public Works and Myanma Railways, national races, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, Women's Affairs Organization,

Maternal and Child Welfare Association, War Veterans Organization, Red Cross Brigade and Auxiliary Fire Brigade, teachers and students, nurses, traditional cultural troupe numbering

over 5,500. At the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo unveiled the stone plaque of Mawlamyine Station and delivered an address. He said that the nation's longest motor road bridge was opened

on 5 February 2005, attended by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. As the approach structures for the rail bridge are completed on either bank of Thanlwin river, trains as well as cars

can use the bridge smoothly. The rail bridge and the Mawlamyine Railway Station can be opened one year after the completion of the road bridge.

*(See page 16)*



*A train crossing over Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) at the opening day of the rail bridge. — MNA*

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

# PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 19 April, 2006

## Cultivate Union Spirit and work in concert for regional and national development

The government of the Union of Myanmar is making every endeavour on all fronts for parallel development of all the regions across the Union. With the purpose of strengthening national economy, all the necessary steps are being taken for the development of the agriculture sector, the main pillar of the national economy. At the same time constant efforts are being made for establishment of modern factories in the industrial sector and for progress of the education, health and social sectors.

Needless to say, progress of the transport sector is the sine qua non for all-round national development. This being the case, all the requirements are being fulfilled for easy and smooth transport in order that people living in various regions of the Union can go from one place to another easily.

The Yangon-Kyaukpadaung Highway and the Minkyaung Creek Bridge constructed by Public Works under the Ministry of Construction were inaugurated on 17 April and Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe himself graced the opening ceremony with his attendance and extended greetings to local people on the occasion.

In his address to national people in the region, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe exhorted the locals as well as all the national people of the Union to work in concert, cultivate Union Spirit and serve the Union.

Rakhine State is rich in natural resources and has great potential for economic development. As the government is rendering all the necessary assistance and creating favourable environment for the development of the region, local people on their part are required to work hard for economic development of their region by making the most of transport and economic infrastructure.

In the past, people in Rakhine State had to rely on travel by air or by water. But now, thanks to the emergence of Yangon-An-Sittway, Yangon-Taungup-Kyaukpadaung and Yangon-Ngathaingchaung-Gwa-Thandwe highways, people in Rakhine State can travel to other states and divisions easily by road. The 2700-foot Minkyaung Creek Bridge is one of the bridges on the Yangon-Kyaukpadaung Union Highway.

Due to the emergence of the Yangon-Kyaukpadaung highway and bridges on it, 300,000 people in Kyaukpadaung, Yanbye and 480 villages on Yanbye Island can easily travel by land and work for their higher socio-economic status. And we would like to call on the national people in Rakhine State as well as in the rest of the Union to cultivate Union Spirit and work in concert for regional and national development and perpetuation of the Union.



U Ohn Kyi, Daw Thein Hla and family of Sangyoung Township recently donated K 100,000 to the funds of Hninzigone Home for the Aged through Treasurer U Aung Than of the home. —H

## 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

## Commander inspects irrigation facilities, paddy and crop cultivation in NyaungU, Kyaukpadaung Townships



Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspects Myakan greening tasks carried out in NyaungU Township.—MNA

YANGON, 18 April — Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, accompanied by Magway Division PDC Chairman Col Phone Maw Shwe and officials, visited Lawkananda river-water pumping project site in NyaungU Township on 12 April morning.

At the briefing hall, the commander was reported on targeted acreage of summer and monsoon paddy cultivation, cultivation of other crops and supply of irrigation water within the project area. Next he instructed the officials to extend crop items. He inspected the thriving plantations of physic nut, cultivation of summer paddy and green gram and scattering of fertilizers. The commander and party next went to Mya Kantha greening project site near Nyaungto village in NyaungU Township. At the briefing hall, officials reported to the commander on construction tasks of the project.

On arrival at field No 2270 in Magyitaing village in Kyaukpadaung Township in the afternoon, the commander and party viewed cultivation of Shwe Myanmar summer paddy strains and broadcasting of fertilizers. During his visit to Kyetmauktaung Dam, the commander gave instructions to officials on boosting cultivation of summer and monsoon paddy as the dam was able to store more water through the project of supporting dam. The dam's capacity of water storage reached 27,125 acre feet this year compared with 12,810 last year. In 2005-2006, the region cultivated 7,870 acres of summer paddy and has planned to cultivate up to 12,000 acres of monsoon paddy in 2006-2007.

Later, the commander and party inspected the thriving plantations of summer paddy in Taguntaing village, Kyaukdaga Dam in Natmauk Township, and cultivation of physic nut plants on Meiktila-Kyaukpadaung Road in Meiktila Township. — MNA

## Culture Minister inspects National Library

YANGON, 18 April—Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung today went to the construction of National Library in Tamwe Township to assist the officials with the construction tasks.

First, the minister inspected the construction of the library including inner decoration of it.

During his inspection, Minister Maj-Gen Kyi

Aung held a meeting with Deputy Director-General Daw Nandar Hmun of the Fine Arts Department and officials and discussed matters related to construction tasks.

After hearing reports, the minister attended to the needs.

MNA

## သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ကာကွယ်ရေးနည်းဆော်ချက်

၁။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါသည် အသက်(၃)နှစ်မှ(၁၄)နှစ်အထိ ကလေးငယ်များတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်ပါသည်။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါဖြစ်လျှင် ရင်သွေးငယ်များ အသက်ဆုံးပါးရသည်အထိ ဖြစ်နိုင်သဖြင့် မိမိတို့၏ ရင်သွေးများ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

၂။ သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါသည် ရေကြည်ရေသန့်တွင် ပေါက်ပွားသော ခြင်ပုန်း၊ ခြင်ကျား အကိုက်ခဲခြင်းကြောင့် ကူးစက်ပါသည်။ သို့ဖြစ်၍ ခြင်ပုန်း၊ ခြင်ကျား မပေါက်ပွားစေရန်နှင့် မိမိတို့၏ရင်သွေးများ ခြင်ကိုက်ခဲရစေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

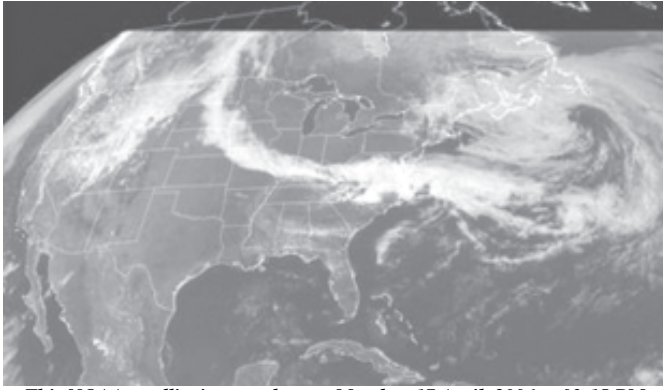
- သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါမှ ကာကွယ်ရန်
- (က) ရေစည်ရေအိုးများကို လုံခြုံစွာ ဖုံးအုပ်ထားပါ။
- (ခ) ရေအိုး၊ ညောင်ရေအိုးတို့မှရေကို နေ့စဉ်လဲလှယ်ပေးပါ။
- (ဂ) ရေစည်၊ ရေအိုးများရှိ ပိုးလောက်လန်းများ ရေစစ်ဖြင့် ခပ်ထုတ်ပစ်ပါ။
- (ဃ) ပိုးရေတင်နိုင်သော ဘူးနွဲ့၊ ပုံးနွဲ့၊ တာယာစုတ်၊ အိုးခြမ်းပဲ စသည်တို့ကို ဖယ်ရှားရှင်းလင်းပါ။
- (င) အလင်းရောင်ရရှိရန် တံခါးများကို နေ့ခင်းပိုင်းတွင် ဖွင့်ထားပါ။
- (စ) အိမ်တွင်း၊ အိမ်ပြင် သန့်ရှင်းစွာထားပါ။
- (ဆ) ကလေးများအိပ်ခန်းတွင် ခြင်ထောင်ဖြင့်သိပ်ပါ။
- (ဇ) အိမ်ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ရှိ ရေပင်နိုင်သော မြေနီမြဲများကို မြေဖို့ပါ။
- (ဈ) မိမိတို့အိမ်ရှေ့၊ အိမ်နောက်တို့မှ ရေပြောင်းများကို ရေစီးရေလာကောင်းအောင်ရှင်းလင်းပါ။

လုံအပ်ပါက စည်ပင်သာယာရေးအဖွဲ့၏ အကူအညီကိုယူပါ။

၃။ ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့် ပူးပေါင်းပြီး ခြင်များမပေါက်ပွားစေရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း၊ အသိပညာပေးခြင်း၊ ကာကွယ်တားဆီးခြင်း လုပ်ငန်းများကို ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါရန်နှင့် သွေးလွန်တုပ်ကွေးဖြစ်ပွားသည်ဟု သိသယူရှိသော ကလေးများကို ဆေးပေးခန်း၊ ဆေးရုံများသို့ အချိန်မီ ပို့ဆောင်ကြပါရန် တိုက်တွန်းနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ထုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း



This NOAA satellite image taken on Monday, 17 April, 2006 at 03:15 PM EDT shows a wide band of clouds in association with a frontal system stretching from the Mid-Atlantic westward through parts of Ohio and Tennessee Valley and then northwestward across the Central Plains. A storm system in the northwestern Atlantic produces widespread clouds over the New England.—INTERNET

## US yacht attacked by pirates off Yemen

ROME, 17 April—A US-flagged yacht with three people aboard was attacked by pirates wielding rocket launchers off the coast of Yemen, the Italian Coast Guard said on Sunday after an Italian freight ship reported a distress call.

“Around 9:45 am (0745 GMT) an Italian

container ship, the *Jolly Platino* called to say it had heard an SOS message from an American sailing vessel, the *Tir Na Nog*,” an official from the Rome headquarters of the Coast Guard told *Reuters*.

The Italians informed US authorities in the region of the incident which happened some 25 miles (40 kilometres) off the Yemen coast. The official said two US and one Dutch military vessel in the area had been told of the attack but he did not know how any rescue attempts were progressing.

Commander Jeff Breslau, a spokesman for

the US Navy’s Fifth Fleet based in Bahrain, said: “Coalition forces are investigating the incident.” He gave no further details.

In Aden, an official at Yemen’s Coast Guard said he did not have any information about the incident, adding that it had occurred outside the Arab country’s territorial waters. Yemen shares territorial waters with Somalia, whose coastal waters have become among the world’s most dangerous in the 14 years the country has lacked a central government.

MNA/Reuters

## Danube at century high

BUCHAREST, 17 April—The Danube rose to its highest level in more than a century on Saturday, but the breaching of a dam in Romania eased pressure on towns and villages struggling to hold back the floods, officials said.

Rivers fed by heavy rain and melting snow crept higher across the Balkans for the fourth

straight day, driving people from their homes and swamping low-lying farmland and ports.

Waters rose to an 111-year high in the Romanian town of Bazias, near the Serbian border, flooding around 5,000 hectares (12,355 acres) of farmland on the Danube’s northern bank.

The river also flooded

the small port of Bechet, while soldiers and civil defence workers scrambled to reinforce dykes and build sand bag barriers on both sides of the river.

Romania’s government started controlled flooding to divert water, flowing near a record 15,800 cubic metres per second, away from low-lying villages and was

helped by the collapse of a dam in southwestern Romania which flooded farmland.

“The water flow has fallen by 200 cubic metres per second. This is a success,” Beatrice Popescu, of the Environment Ministry, told *Reuters*.

In all, Romania plans to submerge about 90,000 hectares of fertile soil on a 400-kilometre (250-mile) stretch on the Danube’s northern bank, a major area for wheat and maize farming.

The Balkans are still recovering from devastating floods last summer, which killed scores of people and caused hundreds of millions of euros in damage to farmland and infrastructure.

This time, floods have submerged hundreds of houses, leaving thousands homeless and leaving tens of thousands more at risk.

MNA/Reuters



Chinese construction workers work at a construction site at the central business district amid heavy dust and smog in China’s capital Beijing, on 18 April, 2006. Dusty conditions will continue to prevail in many parts of northern China today and in the few days ahead, meteorologists warn, China Daily reported.—INTERNET

## Car bomb explodes near US post in Iraq

RAMADI, 17 April—A car apparently driven by a suicide bomber exploded Tuesday in front of a US observation post in central Iraq, sending up a huge fireball and damaging buildings

and cars on a main road. There were no reports of US casualties.

The front end and two wheels were all that remained of the car, which appeared to have been driven by a suicide

bomber, officials said.

The bombing was part of a coordinated attack by guerillas, who fired mortars and rocket-propelled grenades at several sites occupied by Marines in the centre of the city, which is 70 miles west of Baghdad.

The Marines fired back, and a US Army tank blew off chunks of a mosque minaret, where gunmen were believed to be holed up. Fighting lasted about 90 minutes.

Internet

## Death toll reaches 476 during Thai Songkran festival

BANGKOK, 17 April -- The death toll from road accidents in Thailand during the ten-day watch out period related to Songkran festival holidays topped at 476, caretaker Interior Minister Kongsak Wantana said here on Monday.

On Sunday, the last day of the ten-day watch out period, 386 road accidents occurred and 35 people killed, raising the death toll to 476, he said.

Kongsak said 5,327 road accidents happened during the ten-day period and 5,985 people were injured.

Thailand’s long Songkran holiday is widely known for its high casualties from road accidents as a large number of Thais, particularly those who work in the capital, Bangkok, usually travel to reunite with their families upcountry to celebrate the water festival.

Kongsak said drunken driving remained the number one cause of

the accidents, followed by excessive speed.

Internet



US soldiers view a car destroyed during a gun battle between the Iraqi Army and guerillas in the western Iraqi town of Falluja, 50 km (30 miles) west of Baghdad, on 15 April, 2006.—INTERNET

## Pigs, bulls in Vietnam contract foot-and-mouth disease

HANOI, 17 April—Over 1,000 pigs and bulls in Vietnam’s central highlands Lam Dong Province have been infected with foot-and-mouth disease in recent days, local newspaper *Labour* reported on Monday.

Most of the infected animals are in Duc Trong District. By 16 April, some 1,000 pigs in the district have contracted the disease, and more than 400 of them died, the paper quoted Pham Ngoc Thiep, head of the Lam Dong Veterinary Bureau, as saying.

Relevant agencies are assessing the disease situation in Duc Trong, and tightening management over the transport of cattle, and operation of meat shops and slaughterhouses, so that infected pigs are not slaughtered or transported to the nearby resort city of Da Lat in Lam Dong, he said, noting that the province may have to announce an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in its territory in the coming days.

Lam Dong currently has 669 poultry-and cattle-trading bases, nearly 500 of which operate without licence, the newspaper said.—MNA/Xinhua

# Beijing turns yellowish as sand rains down

**BEIJING, 17 April** — Most Beijingers woke up on Monday to find, to their surprise, that a “yellow blanket” has covered up everything in the open air: from window sills, cars and the ground to every single leaf on the trees.

“As if the desert has crawled to Beijing overnight,” said Zhang Rui, a citizen in Chaoyang District in eastern Beijing.

He was not exaggerating — Zhang said he spent at least 15 minutes dusting the sand off his Jetta sedan.

A sandstorm hitting the China-Mongolia border on Saturday and Sunday started to affect Beijing at midnight on Sunday and by daybreak, the city had turned yellowish.

“Unlike the particulate matter that often exists

in Beijing’s air, the suspending granules hitting the city today are bigger, though still less than 100 microns in diameter,” said Wang Xiaoming, an official with the municipal environment protection bureau. “That’s why we feel sand is raining down.”

The particulate matter that often hovers over Beijing is mostly less than 10 microns in diameter, he added.

Wang said this is the eighth, as well as the worst, sandy weather that attacks

from outside Beijing this year.

The bureau forecast at 9:00 am that the city’s air quality will be level V or hazardous on Monday, with pollution reading over 301.

The municipal government launched a pollution control scheme Sunday night hoping to lessen the impact of the sandy weather. The city has sent sprinklers to wash urban roads and construction sites have been told to halt earthwork.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်မှုင်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်ဖွား



Workers clean up the glass roof of the China World Trade Center after a dust storm deposits its layer of dust across Beijing on Tuesday, 18 April, 2006. Beijing was preparing on Tuesday to use artificial rain-making to clear the air after a choking dust storm coated China’s capital in yellow grit, prompting a health warning to keep children indoors, state media said.—INTERNET



A boat sails on the Wujiang River around the small town on 11 April, 2006 in Gongtan Township of Youyang County, Chongqing Municipality, China. Gongtan Township is an ancient town with a history of over 1,700 years and abundant in cultural heritages.—INTERNET

## Kalashnikov says Iraq shows his gun is still best

**Moscow, 17 April**— Mikhail Kalashnikov, designer of the world’s most popular assault rifle, says that US soldiers in Iraq are using his invention in preference to their own weapons, proving that his gun is still the best.

“Even after lying in a swamp you can pick up this rifle, aim it and shoot. That’s the best job description there is for a gun. Real soldiers know that and understand it,” the 86-year-old gunmaker told a weekend news conference in Moscow.

“In Vietnam, American soldiers threw away their M-16 rifles and used (Kalashnikov) AK-47s from dead Vietnamese

soldiers, with bullets they captured. That was because the climate is different to America, where M-16s may work properly,” he said.

“Look what’s happening now: every day on television we see that the Americans in Iraq have my machine guns and assault rifles in their armoured

vehicles. Even there American rifles don’t work properly.”

Some US troops in Iraq have reportedly taken to using AK-47s in preference to the standard-issue M-16. The Cold War-era gun, renowned for its durability and easy handling, is plentiful in Iraq.—Internet

## Zambia confiscates 242 kilos of game meat

**LUSAKA, 17 April** — The Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) has confiscated 242 kilos of game meat after an operation in Chongwe District of Lusaka Province, ZAWA Public Relations Officer Maureen Mwape confirmed in Lusaka on Saturday.

ZAWA also confiscated six muzzle loading guns, one shot gun and one live baboon during the same operation.

Mwape said ZAWA in a joint operation with the paramilitary officers conducted the operation between 31 March to 10 April and 27 people were arrested, including five women who are illegal game meat traders.

MNA/Xinhua

**2,378 US troops killed in Iraq**

**WASHINGTON, 17 April**— US military deaths in Iraq have risen sharply in April — after five straight months of decline — amid warnings by American officials that the failure to form a new Iraqi government has helped perpetuate violence.

Last month, there were 31 US military fatalities, the fewest since 20 died in February 2004 in the lowest monthly toll of the 3-year-old war. So far this month, which is a bit more than half over, there have been at least 48 American fatalities, according to a count of military death announcements.

There have been 2,378 US military deaths in the war, the Pentagon said, with another 17,549 US troops wounded in action. The average monthly US military death toll in the war has been 65.—Internet



Tigers play in a pond at the Tiger Temple in Kanchanaburi Province, 120 km (74 miles) northwest of Bangkok, on 17 April, 2006. The temple now has sixteen tigers which are looked after by the Buddhist monks.—INTERNET

**Chinese actress Zhang Jing Chu reacts after she received the best actress award for the film ‘Peacock’ in the Sixth Chinese Film Media Awards in Hong Kong on 17 April, 2006.**  
INTERNET



## Light plane crash kills two in western Canada

**OTTAWA, 17 April** — Two men died when a light plane crashed Saturday on Vancouver Island in Canada’s western British Columbia province, Canadian Press reported on Sunday.

Rescuers located the wreckage west of nearby Home Lake on the island after an overnight search.

The 59-year-old pilot and 56-year-old passenger were dead at the scene. The four-seat Cessna, which was owned by the Alberni Valley Flying Club, was on a return flight from Sechelt on the mainland to Port Alberni on Vancouver Island. Captain Steve Eyre of Joint Rescue Coordination Centre in provincial capital Victoria said crew spent all night searching for the aircraft and finally located it at 6 am local time Sunday morning. — MNA/Xinhua

## HK shoppers dump plastic bags for "No Plastic Bag Day"

HONG KONG, 17 April — Up to 90 per cent of shoppers at Hong Kong's biggest supermarket chains used their won carrier bags on Saturday while Hong Kong was launching the "No Plastic Bag Day", according to a report by *South China Morning Post* on Sunday.

A majority of Saturday shoppers took part in the day-long experiment by environmental activists to push home the message that plastic is not fantastic, the English daily said.

The English daily quoted Angus Ho Hon-wai, chairman of the Green Student Council, who campaigned for the event involving more than 1,200 retail stores, as saying that he could not expected better.

He said citizens from 80-year-old grannies to

domestic helpers went shopping with their own bags. His council was greatly encouraged that the event was a success.

At Parkshop and Welcome chain stores, the two major groups for daily goods selling in Hong Kong, more than 80 per cent of shoppers either had reusable bags or old shopping bags, or gladly paid 50 cents per bag as a donation to Oxfam, a local charity organization.

To minimize complaints, Mannings and

Wing On Department Store had sales assistants warm customers by informing customers Saturday was a no plastic bag day.

More than 1,000 shops and supermarkets in Hong Kong joined "No Plastic Bag Day" on Saturday in a move to persuade shoppers out of excessive use of environmentally-unfriendly plastic bags.

MNA/Xinhua



The cruise ship "Freedom of the Seas", one of the world's largest cruise liners, manoeuvres on the river Elbe while docking in at Blohm + Voss shipyard in Hamburg, on 17 April, 2006. The 1,112 feet (339m) long 18-deck ship by Royal Caribbean International was built at the Aker Finnyards drydock in Turku, Finland and will accommodate 4,370 passengers served by 1,360 crew.—INTERNET

## Bomb blast wounds 31 in Istanbul street

ISTANBUL, 17 April — A bomb explosion on a busy pedestrian street on the outskirts of Istanbul wounded 31 people on Sunday, police said, in the latest violence to strike Turkey in recent weeks.

Istanbul's police chief Celalettin Cerrah said two civilians were in critical but not life-threatening condition and had been rushed to hospital for emergency surgery. He told reporters at the scene two plainclothed policemen, patrolling the area, had been injured from broken glass.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Istanbul — a popular tourism destination — has been struck by a series of bombings in recent weeks amid the worst street riots in more than a decade in

Turkey's mainly Kurdish southeast, which left 16 dead. Scores of soldiers and rebels of the separatist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) have also been killed in separate clashes.

The bomb had been placed in a garbage bin in front of shops, cafes and kiosks in the busiest part of the pedestrian street in the Bakirkoy District on the European side of Turkey's largest city and near the international airport.

The blast blew out windows of stores in the street. The street was closed off and forensic experts were examining the area.

"Our friends are working. An assessment will be made according to the information received," Cerrah said.

Police fired into the air to disperse angry residents who initially thought a person taken in by the police was a bomber. Police said the person was a witness.

The Kurdistan Liberation Hawks (TAK), a shadowy group which has ties to the PKK, has claimed responsibility for a series of deadly bomb blasts in Istanbul. TAK, formed by former PKK guerillas, has warned of further attacks. Militant groups, including Kurdish separatists, Islamists and ultra-leftists, have carried out attacks on civilians, security and military targets in Turkey in the past.—MNA/Reuters



A gold bar is seen in an undated photo. Gold traded to a fresh 25-year high of \$617.60/\$618.40 an ounce on Tuesday as rising oil prices resurrected fears of inflation.—INTERNET

## HK Airport handles more flights

HONG KONG, 17 April — Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department on Saturday said that the HK airport handled 870 flight movements on Friday, a daily record high.

The figure represents a 13.4-per-cent surge compared with the daily average of 767 movements, breaking the previous single-day record of 853 flight movements on 27 January.

Friday also saw 403 flight movements operating through the city's flight information region, representing an 8.6-per-cent rise compared with an average of 371 movements a day.

The new record has reinforced Hong Kong's status as an international and regional aviation hub, said an official of the department.

MNA/Xinhua

## Canada confirms new case of mad cow disease

OTTAWA, 17 April — Canada confirmed on Sunday the existence of mad cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), in a British Columbia dairy cow.

It is the country's fifth case of mad cow disease since 2003.

The national BSE surveillance programme identified the cow on a farm in British Columbia's Fraser Valley, but initial screening tests proved inconclusive.

Samples were sent to the National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease in Winnipeg for further testing last week.

However, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) said Canadian beef is still safe. "Tissues in which BSE is known to concentrate in infected animals

are removed from all cattle slaughtered in Canada for domestic and international human consumption," the CFIA said in a statement Sunday afternoon local time.

"No part of this animal entered the human food or animal feed systems."

The animal was a six-year-old dairy cow. It developed mad cow disease after Canada's feed ban was implemented, but the CFIA claimed "similar situations are common to almost all BSE-affected countries that have introduced feed controls". — MNA/Xinhua

## City Hall robbers crack open ATMs for Easter

RIO DE JANEIRO, 17 April — In Rio de Janeiro, the City Hall is not immune from robberies, not even on Easter.

Police said on Monday that a group of between 10 and 15 armed masked people raided the lobby of one of the City Hall complex buildings the previous day, taking some 35 people hostage as they opened several automatic teller machines and then fled with an unspecified sum in cash.

The assailants took 15 guards and over 20 maintenance workers hostage during the raid that lasted about 40 minutes. Rio's municipal guards carry no firearms. The assailants also stole one of the guards' motorcycles. That was the second attack on the complex in two months. In February, an armed guard from a cash transporting company was killed and three people were wounded in an intense shootout outside City Hall when a gang tried to hold up a cash truck.—Internet



A destroyed motor scooter and broken chairs lie on the sidewalk after a car bomb attack near a restaurant in Baghdad on 15 April, 2006.—INTERNET



Residents perform a dragon dance to celebrate the upcoming 23rd Weifang International Kite Festival in Weifang, China's Shandong Province on 18 April, 2006. The 23rd Weifang International Kite Festival will be held in Weifang on 20 April, 2006.—INTERNET

## S Korea President says to further develop ties with China

SEOUL, 18 April— South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun said Monday that his country will continue to push forward bilateral ties with China and make positive efforts to maintain regional peace and stability.

In a meeting with Chinese Defence Minister Cao Gangchuan, Roh said the bilateral relations between the two nations sees a smooth development as South Korea attaches importance to the friendly cooperation with China.

He highly commended China's role in resolving the nuclear issues on the Korean Peninsula as well as other international issues.

Cao, who is also vice chairman of the Central Military Commission of China and a State Councillor, expressed regards of Chinese President Hu Jintao to Roh during the meeting.

He said the two countries have seen frequent exchange of high-level visits; a fast-growing economic cooperation; increasingly active exchanges in culture, education, science and technology since the diplomatic relations were established 13 years ago.

The military cooperation between the two neighbours is also developing steadily, he added.

Cao said China is willing to join efforts with South Korea to develop long-term and stable bilateral ties.

He reiterated China's sustained stance on issues concerning the Korean Peninsula and said China will continue to cooperate with parties concerned to maintain regional peace and stability and promote a common development.

MNA/Xinhua

## 5.4-magnitude earthquake jolts Greek Islands

ATHENS, 18 April— A 5.4-magnitude undersea earthquake hit Greece's western Ionian Islands Sunday, but no damage or injuries were immediately reported, the Athens News Agency reported.

The earthquake occurred at 12:15 am (1015 GMT), with its epicenter 240 kilometres west of the Greek capital Athens, but close to the island of Zakynthos. The Zakynthos Island has been jolted by a series of earthquakes

measuring from 4.8 to 5.7 on the Richter Scale since 3 April. The region is one of the most earthquake-prone in Greece, which is considered one of the most seismically active countries in the world.

MNA/Xinhua

## "Forbes" to issue Indonesian edition

JAKARTA, 18 April— Forbes magazine, which targets readers of middle and entrepreneurial classes, plans to publish the local version in Indonesia, a newspaper reported on Monday.

Forbes Asia confirmed that it has given a license for the publication of Forbes Indonesia to the Investor Group, a local media group that also

publishes *Investor Daily* and *Suara Pembaruan* newspapers, reported *The Jakarta Post*.

The local version of *Forbes* will hit the newsstands in September.

William Adamopoulos, the publisher of *Forbes Asia*, said in the statement that the dynamic business climate and fast growing middle and entrepreneurial classes had made Indonesia a prospective market for *Forbes*. — MNA/Xinhua

## Five Egyptians killed in car crash

CAIRO, 18 April— Five people were killed and five others injured in a car crash in Behera governorate, 130 kilometres north of Cairo, on Sunday, the official MENA news agency reported.

Four of the victims were identified and the wounded were rushed to a nearby hospital, said the report.

In a separate accident, six were wounded when two vehicles collided head-on near Damanhur, the capital city of Behera governorate.

MNA/Xinhua

## ADB to help Philippines improve local government units

MANILA, 18 April— The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will help the Philippine Government improve the work of local government units (LGUs) through a technical assistance grant of 1.8 million US dollars, the ADB said on Monday in a statement.

The grant, provided in response to a request from the Philippine Government, will address three key aspects of local governance, including legal framework for decentralization of government operations, budget management and better mobilizing of resources, the ADB said.

LGUs in around three

provinces will be selected for participation in the project based on their prospects for accessing credit markets and commitment to improved governance, among others.

The total cost of the technical assistance is estimated at 2.575 million US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

## Minister says Uganda, Rwanda in good relations

KAMPALA, 18 April— Uganda's relations with Rwanda are healthy despite contrary Press reports, a senior Ugandan Government official said on Monday.

Henry Okello Oryem, the minister of state for international affairs, was quoted by local Press on Monday as describing the relations between the two neighbouring countries as cordial.

"Uganda and Rwanda continue to enjoy very cordial relations despite Press speculation and wishful thinking in some quarters. Common sense and pragmatism will guide us through any strains of the relations," Oryem said.—MNA/Xinhua



A Japanese shop clerk displays the official World Cup 'Teamegeist' soccer ball for sale at the 2006 FIFA World Cup Official Shop operated under licence by FamilyMart in Tokyo on 18 April, 2006.—INTERNET

## UN to launch global alliance for "ICT", development

UNITED NATIONS, 18 April— United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan has approved the launch of a global alliance for information and communication technologies (ICT) and development, the world body said Monday.

As stressed by the 2005 World Summit and the World Summit on the Information Society, information and communication technology must be effectively integrated into development activities if the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are to be achieved within the agreed time frame, the UN

public information department said in a Press release.

The mission of the global alliance will be to facilitate and promote such integration by providing a platform for an open, inclusive, multi-stakeholder cross-sectoral policy dialogue on the role of information and communication technology in development, the department said.—MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis assess the damage after a powerful bomb blast in Baghdad on 18 April, 2006. Four civilians were killed and 22 people were wounded, including two policemen, when a roadside bomb exploded near a police patrol in northern Baghdad, police said.—INTERNET

# Let's contribute more

*Chit Naing (Psychology)*

There are more than 300 townships in the nation. But the number of villages is over 60,000. Thus, on average, one township has over 200 villages. Some townships have 50 to 100 villages each, and some have 600 or 700 villages each. Townships are different from one another in area and population and have different types of socio-economies. A few villages even don't know Myanmar language and literature. Anyhow, thanks to the restoration of peace, the education system has reached most parts of the nation. The nation now has over 40,000 basic education schools including primary ones. The educa-

tion development is satisfactory. School age children can now attend classes with convenience. The campaign to open rural self-reliant libraries has helped open libraries in over 40,000 villages out of the total of 60,000 in two years, 2004 and 2005. The Information Ministry has been able to open such a large number of rural libraries because of the public ardour, local authorities' assistance and donors' contribution. The ministry pursuing the target of opening self-reliant libraries in all villages of the nation by the year 2006. Up to the previous month, it has opened over 50,000 rural libraries. But we still need enough books and

journals for the libraries to fully act as public knowledge centres. The task of opening and running village libraries is a continuous work we should not lose momentum in carrying it out. We have not reached the goal yet. We invite everyone's contribution of books to village libraries. I have heard that even in a country like developed Japan, people donate books they have already read for others to read. They leave books and periodicals at the seats in railway stations. In the economically developed countries, wider knowledge is the foundation of better efficiency. Human resources

development is important. Human knowledge development project is not a short-term task. It needs patience and zeal for long-term development of human knowledge. Today's developed countries are enjoying the fruits of the trees they have grown 100 or 200 years ago. Thanks to the globalization, we have the opportunity to gain greater success in a short period. Army Major Anderson, a famous person during the American Revolution, set up a public library. His library was a great assistance to the people of surrounding areas wishing to seek knowledge. Some youths came to the Major Anderson Library daily. One of them

came to the library every Saturday morning, reading books and noting down important and useful facts the whole day. He was a Scot. He thanked the library as he gained much knowledge from it. Twenty years later, he became the richest person in America. He was Andrew Carnegie. When he became a millionaire, he realized the importance of enhancing public knowledge to develop everything from socio-economy to public financial power. He set up Carnegie Public Libraries in the whole US. Although they never revealed the fact, many people were able to enjoy better lifestyles thanks to the libraries.

Library in Htanaunggon village, and Bahuthuta Library in Shardaw village. He, who became a good guy from a bad one, believed that libraries gave light of knowledge to the people. Literature awakes many youths. It opens the door for the light of knowledge to enter youths' mind. Books and literature have helped increase the number of intellectuals and intelligentsia in the nation. Whether it is an evolution or a rapid development, the main players and leaders throughout the successive eras have been the intellectuals and intelligentsia. We can see the important roles of intellectuals and intelligentsia in the industrial revolution, democracy and human rights activities, the national independence struggles and development of human history. The leadership with less knowledge ends up in a failure. Knowledge is power. Lack of knowledge is like a chronic disease that creates only the hardships. If the people lack knowledge, and intelligence at this age, they may be tricked, abused and crushed by the powerful media. It is a grave danger to the nation. Long-term development and success of the over 50,000 libraries and youths is a challenging task for us all. We all should understand the power of contribution and the importance of self-reliant rural libraries to make more donations. We should give more water to the main roots for national interest. All should take part in the setting up and maintaining of libraries as a national task.

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## သက်ရည်ကျန်းမာဖို့ လမ်းလျှောက်ကြစို့

ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှု နည်းပါးခြင်းကြောင့် အလွန်ရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေးတိုးရောဂါ၊ ဆီးချိုရောဂါ နှင့် အရိုးအဆစ်များ နာကျင်ရောင်ရမ်းခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်ပါသည်။

### လမ်းလျှောက်ခြင်းသည် -

- ၁။ သွေးတိုးကျစေသည်။
  - ၂။ နှလုံးရောဂါကို ကာကွယ်နိုင်သည်။
  - ၃။ စိတ်ပျော်ရွှင်ကျန်းမာစေသည်။
  - ၄။ အရိုးများကြံ့ခိုင်သန်စွမ်းစေသည်။
  - ၅။ အဝလွန်အောင်ထိန်းသိမ်းနိုင်သည်။
  - ၆။ ကြွက်သားများ သန်စွမ်းဖြတ်လတ်စေသည်။
  - ၇။ သွေးအတွင်းမှ အဆီကျစေသည်။
  - ၈။ သွေးအတွင်းမှ သကြားဓာတ် ကျစေသည်။
  - ၉။ အသက်အရွယ်မရွေး/လူတန်းစားမရွေး ဆောင်ရွက်နိုင်သည်။
- ရောဂါဘယများကင်း၍ အသက်ရှည်ကျန်းမာကြစေရန် မိသားစုတစ်စုလုံး နေ့စဉ် နာရီဝက်ခန့် ပုံမှန် လမ်းလျှောက်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

The Scot millionaire who read books at a library when he was a youth made the most significant accomplishment. He helped produce 43 millionaires at a time when millionaires were rare. But we don't need to look far as countries as America. If we asked men or letters in their seventies or eighties, they will tell us about the importance of the information libraries. What the eminent monks, successful physicians, engineers, and military leaders will recount is that they gain much knowledge from books, or in other words, their second mother who fed them milk of energy for success. Thanks to prison warden U Maung Lay, a bad guy by the name of Maung Ohn Pe, who was put in prison for three times, became a bookworm at the prison library. His life changed to good and he became a writer. He used a large amount of money to set up the U Ohn Pe Library in Pakokku, Athipynnaya

Library in Htanaunggon village, and Bahuthuta Library in Shardaw village. He, who became a good guy from a bad one, believed that libraries gave light of knowledge to the people. Literature awakes many youths. It opens the door for the light of knowledge to enter youths' mind. Books and literature have helped increase the number of intellectuals and intelligentsia in the nation. Whether it is an evolution or a rapid development, the main players and leaders throughout the successive eras have been the intellectuals and intelligentsia. We can see the important roles of intellectuals and intelligentsia in the industrial revolution, democracy and human rights activities, the national independence struggles and development of human history. The leadership with less knowledge ends up in a failure. Knowledge is power. Lack of knowledge is like a chronic disease that creates only the hardships. If the people lack knowledge, and intelligence at this age, they may be tricked, abused and crushed by the powerful media. It is a grave danger to the nation. Long-term development and success of the over 50,000 libraries and youths is a challenging task for us all. We all should understand the power of contribution and the importance of self-reliant rural libraries to make more donations. We should give more water to the main roots for national interest. All should take part in the setting up and maintaining of libraries as a national task. (Translation:TMT)



*Lt-Gen Maung Bo formally opens the stone inscription of Mawlamyine Railway Station. — MNA*

**Bridges, roads not for economic profit, ...**

*(from page 16)*

As all the national races living in the 14 states and divisions of the nation are brothers and sisters, the government has been sharing the wealth among them and catering for their health. It shows no discrimination against any national race at all. Like the parents, it wishes to see all the nation's sons and daughters enjoying prosperity and prestige. Bridges and roads are not for economic profits, albeit the cost, they are for regional development. The aim of building the facilities is to develop the locals facing various sufferings caused by insurgency."

In addition to engineers of Public Works, engineers of Military Engineers and Myanma Railways and other related organizations are being trained to build bridges. The nation now has over 58,000 miles of roads and over 3,000 miles of railroads, up from 21,000 miles and about 2,000 miles respec-

tively in 1988. The government also built Aungban-Loikaw, Nyaungshwe-Taunggyi-Namhsan-Mongnai railroads in the rough terrain. In Mon State also, it has built a number of bridges, some linking the state with its neighbouring Kayin State. In addition to a network of roads, it has built irrigation facilities and industrial estates.

The State, after designating special development regions, is taking measures to develop education and health sectors of those regions. Moreover, steps are being taken for the development of rural as well as border regions to ensure the equitable development of all parts of the Union. In doing so, the government is striving its utmost on a self-reliant basis enlisting the strength of the people plus the innovation of service personnel in order to build a modern developed State, said Lt-Gen Maung Bo. All in

all, the government hand in hand with the people and the Tatmadaw is trying to improve the incomes of the people and service personnel and

State a number of facilities such as universities, colleges and modern hospitals, compared with the previous eras. In addition, the state has seen significant progress in

ing for development of industrial and fish and meat sectors. Therefore, Mon State will become economically reliable for the country if the state strives its utmost by mak-

law, to cultivate the sense of national unity and to help the local authorities enforce the rule of law and community peace and tranquillity.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo



*Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party, guests and engineers pose for a documentary photo at the inauguration of Mawlamyine Station and Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) rail bridge. — MNA*

education and health of all citizens in the country.

As a result, there has now emerged in Mon

agricultural and transport sectors with dams, sluice gates and bridges across rivers and creeks. Likewise, Mon State is head-

ing use of already achieved fruitful results. It is necessary for the people of the region to work within the framework of

said it is natural that everyone who values their region and patriotic spirit always wants to see the development of all the regions of the country. It is the duty of all citizens to maintain the development momentum, and cooperation of the people is needed in building a peaceful modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. That is why all the people are urged to work hard in their respective fields reciprocating the goodwill of the State.

With poverty, low education and lack of community peace and tranquillity, a country cannot see transition to democracy. Therefore, all national people are to make good use of the development facilities (See page 9)



*Mawlamyine Station put into commission on Myanmar New Year Day (17-4-2006). — MNA*



## Bridges, roads not for economic profit, ...

(from page 8)

built by the State, to guard against all forms of dangers in cooperation with the Tatmadaw and to cultivate Union Spirit.

Speaking on the occasion, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing said Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) is the longest one in Myanmar and its motor road is over two miles long and railroad is over four miles long.

As a gesture of hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day, the main bridge and approach roads to the motor road of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) were opened on 5 February, 2005 in the presence of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe.

The commander quoted Senior General

Mon State has increased from 988 miles in 1988 to over 2615 miles in 2006 while the length of railroads reached 293 miles from 276 miles.

Moreover, a bridge which will also contribute towards the development of Mon State, Kayin State and Taninthayi Division is now under construction near Sittaung Bridge.

The construction of the 101.36-mile long Ye-Dawei railroad began in 1994 and was completed on 26 March, 1998. The 850-foot long Ye River crossing bridge on Ye-Dawei road was inaugurated on 25 November 2003 and thus, the Union Highway linking Mon State and Taninthayi Division has emerged.

The Government



Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing. — MNA

Than Shwe as giving guidance that as the economy of the country has grown and the engineering technique has improved a lot, the Government constructed the bridge which would make a valuable contribution towards improvement of the local people's living standard.

The completion of the bridge and Mawlamyine Railway Station is the fruits of the efforts of Ministry of Construction and Ministry of Rail Transportation. The rail-cum-road bridge is the pride of the nation.

In the past, the travellers had to cross Thanlwin River by ferry. Although there was a lot of troubles to cross the bridge, now those have become things of the past.

Thanks to the bridge, it will be easy to travel from the northernmost part of Myanmar to the southernmost part by train and by car.

Regarding the transportation sector in Mon State, the length of roads in

constructed Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) and Mawlamyine Railway Station and it could lead to the development of economic, education and health sectors of the region. In conclusion, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing thanked the Government saying that the region owed the Government a great debt of gratitude and shall maintain the bridge.

Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min also made a speech. He said that the government is building a peaceful, modern and developed nation with the aim of enabling the nation to keep abreast of the world community, of strengthening the national economy and of enhancing the socio-economic life of the people. And the Ministry of Rail Transportation is taking part in the process for ensuring better transport and development of the passenger and commodity transport sector.

The minister quoted the guidance of Head of



Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min and Deputy Minister U Tint Swe cutting the ribbon to open Thanlwin River Rail Bridge (Mawlamyine). — MNA

State Senior General Than Shwe as saying that better transport is imperative for national development; and that roads and bridges were built to bring about equitable development nationwide and ensure national solidarity.

The rail bridge opened today is the longest facility in Myanmar. In the past, people can travel from Mawlamyine to Dawei on Mawlamyine side, and from Mottama to Yangon on Mottama side by train. And the Thanlwin River made Mawlamyine

road on Mawlamyine side. Earth work, laying of rail road and construction of new Mawlamyine railway station were carried out by the Ministry of Rail Transportation and the main bridge and the approach roads were built by the Ministry of Construction.

The Head of State has given guidance that infrastructures for national development are to be built on a self-reliance basis, using own resources. In accord with the guidance, the two ministries implemented the task on a self-

mile-long ChaungU-Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay railroad, the 4.66 mile-long new railroad for Hantawady Airport, the 3.33 mile-long Okphosu-Thanyin railroad, the five-mile long Kyini-Chauk railroad, the 141.8 mile-long Pyin mana-Myohaung Dwe railroad, 3.90 mile-long Thazi-Kongyano railroad and the 24 mile-long Myitkyo-DaikU railroad are under construction.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Lwin gave a speech. Next, a local people expressed his thanks for opening of Mawlamyine station and Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) rail bridge.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented cash prizes to staff from Public Works and Myanma Rail-

of the station and sprinkled scented water on it and so did Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Ministers Maj-Gen Aung Min and Brig-Gen Ohn Myint.

After opening the station, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party viewed round the station.

Later, the opening ceremony of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) rail bridge followed and Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party took positions at the archway on the platform of the station.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party formally opened Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) rail bridge. Afterwards, they together with engineers and guests posed for documentary.

After that, Lt-Gen Maung Bo cordially



Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min. — MNA

and Mottama to be apart.

With the emergence of the rail bridge, Mawlamyine and Mottama turned out to be contiguous and access can be made from Dawei in southern part of Myanmar to Myitkyina in northern part of Myanmar by train.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, the bridge was built by the Ministry of Rail Transportation and the Ministry of Construction. The project began on 27 April 2003 and was completed on 17 April 2006.

The rail bridge is 1.46 miles with the 2.72 mile-long approach road on Mottama side and the 2.30 mile-long approach

reliance basis, and as a result, the rail bridge plus new railway station have emerged.

The Ministry of Rail Transportation is upgrading railroads, building new rail roads for ensuring smooth and secure transport in the railway sector. Before 1988, the length of railroads in Myanmar was 1,976.35 miles and now, it is 3,074.89 miles with an increase of 1,098.54 miles. Before 1988, there were 487 railway stations in the nation and there are now 787 railway stations. Before 1988, there were 5,650 bridges large and small and there are now 9,380 with an increase of 3,730.

Moreover, the 26



Deputy Minister U Tint Swe. — MNA

ways who participated in the construction of Mawlamyine Station and Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) rail bridge and cordially greeted those present.

After that, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, ministers, deputy ministers and guests took positions in front of the station to unveil the stone plaque of the station.

At the auspicious time, Lt-Gen Maung Bo unveiled the stone plaque

greeted the passengers who were taking a Mawlamyine-Yangon Express Train which left Mawlamyine Station.

The length of the main Thanlwin rail bridge is 1.46 miles. The approach structure on Mottama bank is 2.72 miles, and on Mawlamyine bank is 2.03 miles. The two-storey Mawlamyine Railway Station is 290 feet long and 110 feet wide. Total floor area is 638,000 square feet.

MNA

# Roads in four townships upgraded

YANGON, 18 April —Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected upgrading of roads here, this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and party inspected upgrading of West Race Course Road in Tamway Township, Anawrahta Road in Kyauktada Township, Ahlon Road in Dagon Township and Strand Road in

Kyimyindine Township and an outlet conduit to Hline River. The YCDC is taking measures to prevent floods in Yangon City during the monsoon, and efforts are being made to complete the outlet conduits to Yangon River, Bago River and Ngamoeyeik Creek by the rainy season.—MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspect the laying of asphalt on West Race Course Road in Tamway Township. — MNA

# Meritorious deeds done across Mandalay City on New Year Day

YANGON, 18 April— People performed meritorious deeds throughout Mandalay City yesterday, Myanmar New Year's Day from dawn until evening.

At 4.30 am, the wut association led by

Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Panñavamsa cleansed the face of Maha Muni Buddha Image, and offered Shwethingan (robe), alms food and water to it. Lay persons also offered Shwethingan, alms food, flowers, lights and water to the image, cleansed the Buddha images and released fish and birds.

Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and Development Association organized a ceremony to set free fish into the Mandalay moat in Aungmyethazan Township at 8 am. Patron of Mandalay Division USDA Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and wife Daw Khin Pyone Win, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and wife, local authorities, USDA members, officials and members of social organizations released fish into the moat.

Mandalay Division USDA also organized its 13rd ceremony to pay respects to elderly persons. Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and wife, the Mandalay mayor and wife presented gifts to 70 persons aged 75 and above.

The USDA members at-

tended to the manicure of the elders and shampooed their hair in accordance with Myanmar traditions.

At 9 am, the commander and wife, the mayor and wife, officials and MCDC staff attended the ceremony to recite parittas in front of MCDC office on 26th Street and released 30,000 fingerlings into the moat.

In the afternoon, Mandalay Division USDA organized a ceremony to pay respects to the aged in Mandalay District at the Central Command. Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and the congregation paid respects and presented gifts worth K 8,334,000 to 74 aged persons.

Later in the afternoon, the Central Command held the releasing of fish at the Mingalar Bridge on the southern Mandalay moat. The commander and wife, the mayor, Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court (Upper Myanmar) U Khin Maung Latt and wife, Deputy Attorney-General U Han Shein, local authorities, Tatmadaw members and their family members released 101,500 fingerlings into the moat.

The famous pagodas in Mandalay City were teeming with pilgrims doing meritorious deeds on that day.

MNA

# USDA CEC member meets secretaries, executives at state, district, township levels

YANGON, 18 April — Mon State In-Charge CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint met with secretaries and executives at state, district and township levels yesterday.

During the meeting, the secretaries of

Mon State, Mawlamyine District and Township USDA presented reports on organizational set-up, rural development tasks and free medical treatment.

Next, CEC Member Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint gave instructions on presentation of reports on measures to be taken in Mon State, im-

plementation of the development tasks, participation in the building of a peaceful modern developed nation with added momentum, cooperative measures with the combination of the people as the association is vital for the State, measures to be taken for realization of National Convention and the interest of the people,

efforts for electricity generation in rural areas, growing of physic nut plants, organizational tasks to be carried out in universities and colleges, field trips to grassroot level, opening of rural libraries, conducting courses and participation in the realization of seven-point Road Map.

MNA

# US Ambassador to Venezeula agrees to report activity plans

CARACAS, 18 April — US Ambassador to Venezuela William Brownfield has agreed to inform the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry of his public activity plans in Venezuela after experiencing repeated harassment here, a government official said on Sunday

Information Minister William Lara said that Brownfield and Venezuela's Deputy Foreign Minister for North America Mari Pili Hernandez met on Wednesday to discuss plans for security coordination and that Hernandez had insisted that Brownfield give the Foreign Ministry a written notice of his public engagements in advance.

Lara explained that the purpose of the measure was to allow the nation to offer him security, whilst still allowing

Venezuelans to demonstrate peacefully and democratically either in their support for or disapproval of Brownfield's presence.

"At last Mr Brownfield has understood that this is a sovereign nation, ...and that the aim of the government is to offer him the security to which he is entitled," Lara said.

He added that Brownfield had used Wednesday's meeting to give notice of his two public engagements.

MNA/Xinhua

# Discipline enforced during Thingyan

## Few traffic accidents occurred

YANGON, 18 April — Thanks to the systematic enforcement of traffic rules, there were only few road accidents, in which 11 died and 27 were injured, during the Maha Thingyan Festival from 13 to 16 April 2006.

The number of death and injury was few as people merrily took part in the water festival in accord with Myanmar traditions, and the respective authorities on their part issued rules, announcements, restrictions and reminders well before the advent of the Thingyan festival. In addition there were also systematic enforcement of rules during the festival. — MNA

# UMFCCI General Secretary leaves for Indonesia

YANGON, 18 April — To attend the 13th Meeting of AMEICC Working Group on Human Resource Development (HRD-WG) to be held in Bali, Indonesia, on 19 and 20 April, General Secretary of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Sein Win Hlaing left here for Indonesia today. He was seen off at the airport by Vice-President of UMFCCI U Aung Lwin and officials.—MNA

ကျေးဇူးတင်တောင်းဆိုမှုများကို ဝန်ဆောင်ခံရခြင်း၊ စာကြည့်တိုက်များ ဝန်ဆောင်ခံရခြင်း၊ ဝန်ထမ်းများကို ဝန်ဆောင်ခံရခြင်း၊

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ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန



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**CORRECTION**  
 In the Cautionary Notice dated 09 April, 2006, Owners of Trademark "MILKMAID" AND DEVICE should appear in print as "Société des Produits Nestlé S.A".

**Traffic accidents on rise in Zanzibar**

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 17 April— A total of 218 traffic accidents have been reported in Zanzibar between January and early April this year to post a slight increase on the corresponding period from the last year, according to reports reaching here on Sunday.

Eighteen people have lost their lives in these accidents whereas 13 people died out of 216 traffic accidents between January and early April last year, Mohammed Aboud, Deputy Minister for Public Safety and National Security, was quoted as saying in Zanzibar on Sunday.

Most of the 331 injured people were pedestrians, he said.

In comparison, 274 people got injured between January and early April last year. In the United Republic of Tanzania as a whole, more traffic accidents occurred last year to claim more lives, according to official statistics.

Mohammed Aboud said that a total of 2,149 road accidents had taken place in 2005 countrywide causing 2,509 deaths and 17,434 injuries.

MNA/Xinhua

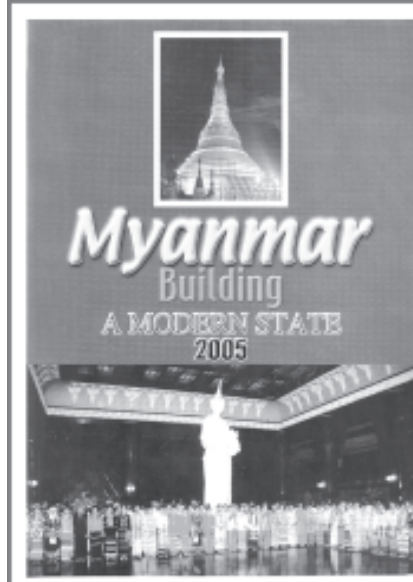
**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SRIMONGKOL VOY NO (445)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SRIMONGKOL VOY NO (445) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 18.4.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T 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.

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BANG PA KAEW VOY NO (141)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG PA KAEW VOY NO (141) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 18.4.2006 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.

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**Chinese Mainland's GDP grows by 10.2% in 1st quarter**

BEIJING, 17 April— The Chinese Mainland scored a 10.2-per-cent growth in its gross domestic product in first quarter of this year, said Hu Jintao, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, here Sunday.

The Mainland also achieved a 25-per-cent growth in import and export in the three months, said Hu at a meeting with Lien Chan, honorary chairman of the Taiwan-based Kuomintang party.

The rapid economic growth and the big market of the Mainland have

created favourable conditions for further economic and trade cooperation across the Straits, along with opportunities for Taiwan compatriots to give full play to the talent, said Hu. "Frankly speaking, we do not want to pursue excessively rapid economic growth. What we are seeking is efficiency and quality of development, the change in the economic growth mode, resources conservation, environmental protection and improvement of people's livelihood," Hu said.

MNA/Xinhua

**Hu Jintao pledges to further boost Cross-Strait relations**

BEIJING, 17 April— Hu Jintao, General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee said Sunday the Mainland would take substantial steps to expand economic and trade relations with Taiwan.

Commenting on a package of new policies announced Saturday to boost Cross-Strait economic and trade ties, Hu said the Mainland will actively push forward Cross-Strait exchanges in the fields of agriculture

and education and provide Taiwan people with more job opportunities in the Mainland.

The CPC leader made the remark Sunday during a meeting with Taiwan delegates who attended the Cross-Strait Economic and Trade Forum in Beijing.

Hu emphasized that a mutually complementary and beneficial relationship is the effective way for realizing peaceful development across the Taiwan Strait.

MNA/Xinhua

**Four killed in car bomb attack in eastern Baghdad**

BAGHDAD, 17 April— Four people were killed and six others wounded in a car bomb blast in eastern Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

"An explosive-laden car parking near the Kamaliyah mosque detonated shortly before 11:00 am (0700 GMT), killing four civilians and wounding six others," the source said on condition of anonymity.

Separately, a roadside bomb struck a US patrol in the busy Athoriyin Market in Baghdad's southern district of Dora, the source said.

"We know there is casualties among American soldiers and Iraqi civilians, but we can't give numbers as the US troops cordoned off the area and prevented people and Iraqi police from approaching the scene," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

**Seven workers killed by gunmen in northern Iraq**

BAGHDAD, 17 April— Seven workers were killed and three others wounded by unidentified gunmen in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul on Sunday, a police source said.

A group of labourers who worked for the police department on the rebuilding of a police station in Mosul came under attack by unknown gunmen while on their

way back home in a car, said the source.

Mosul, about 360 kilometres northwest of Baghdad, has been infested with violence. Guerillas have mounted attacks

against workers and contractors working for the US forces and the US-backed Iraqi Government, accusing them of being collaborators.

MNA/Xinhua

**DRIVE WITH CARE**

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဒ်တိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခုံ

Venezuelan Cardon oil refinery resumes production

CARACAS, 17 April — Venezuela's Cardon oil refinery, which had been paralyzed by a major electrical fault for two days, resumed production on Sunday. Media reports said that a fault in the electrical system had halted operations in the refinery early Friday morning, fortunately without any injury to personnel, significant

material damage, or environmental effect.

The refinery activated its emergency plan immediately and stopped all operations. It then initially restored vapor and electrical systems based on its safety-startup programme, and then resumed operations step by step in different units.

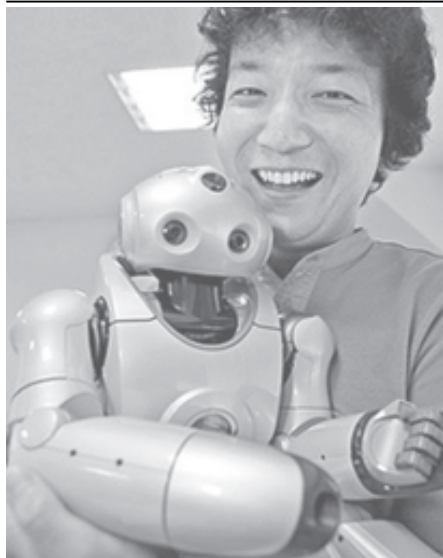
Petroleos de Venezuela SA said in a statement that

oil shipments would not be affected because there were enough inventories to guarantee supplies. The company has organized a committee to investigate the incident. The Cardon refinery produces about 305,000 barrels a day. It is part of the Paraguana refining complex in eastern Venezuela which produces 940,000 barrels a day and is Venezuela's main source of gasoline exports.

MNA/Xinhua



Hong Kong actor Tony Leung Ka Fai reacts after he received the best actor award for the movie 'Election' in the Sixth Chinese Film Media Awards in Hong Kong on 17 April, 2006.—INTERNET



Japanese electronics giant Sony researcher Fumihide Tanaka shows his humanoid robot Qrio during an interview with AFP at the company's Intelligence Dynamics Laboratories in Tokyo recently.—INTERNET

Battle in Afghanistan kills 41 Talebans

KANDAHAR (Afghanistan), 17 April—Forty-one Taliban fighters and six Afghan policemen were killed in a fierce battle in southern Afghanistan, a provincial governor said on Saturday.

There were no foreign casualties in Friday's battle between Taliban fighters and Afghan and foreign forces in the Zare Dasht District of Kandahar Province, Kandahar Governor Assadullah Khalid said.

"Forty-one Taliban were killed in the fighting, mostly as a result of air bombing. Six policemen, including the Zare Dasht police chief, were also killed," Khalid told a news conference in Kandahar City. A number of Taliban bodies had been recovered. Afghanistan has seen a surge in attacks on Afghan and foreign forces since the Taliban announced last month they had launched a spring

offensive.

Khalid said the fighting, some of the heaviest in weeks, erupted after foreign and Afghan forces came under attack during a search operation for Taliban hiding in the area.

He said the foreign forces retaliated by bombing Taliban positions. Nine Afghan troops were also wounded in the battle and Afghan soldiers arrested 13 Taliban guerillas, Khalid added.

But a senior provincial official who declined to be named said government forces had suffered high casualties as several bombs mistakenly hit them.—MNA/Reuters

Indonesian hostages moved to safer area in Somalia

JAKARTA, 17 April—The nine Indonesian citizens taken hostage by armed groups in Somalia were already moved to a safer area in Mudug Province of the country, Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

"After a series of phone calls between the company and the captors, it was said that all the hostages were in a good health. They were all safe," Antara news agency Monday quoted spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, Desra Percaya, as saying. The spokesman said he had met

with the relatives (of the hostages) in Indonesia to inform them of the hostages-taking while seeking a negotiation for the release of the hostages. The agent which had sent the nine Indonesians was PT Berjaya. On 11 April, Somalian Prime Minister Ali Mohamed Gedi also

took part in efforts for the release of the 25 crew members, including nine Indonesians, of a South Korean vessel.

The South Korean fishing vessel Dong Won 628 was highjacked about 200 kilometres off the Somalian coast on 4 April. According to a report, the

eight hijackers demanded a ransom of 400,000 US dollars. This was not the first such incident in Somalia. On 15 August, 2005, around 14 Indonesian citizens employed by a Taiwanese ship owner were taken hostage in Somalia.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese universities hold education exhibition in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 17 April — The two-day China Education Exhibition 2006 kicked off here Sunday in a bid to provide information for the Nepalese students willing to study in China.

As many as 25 universities from various parts of China including Communication University of China, Sun Yat-Sen University, Fudan University, Tongji University, are participating in the event, the forth of its kind in Nepal. The exhibition is jointly organized by China Scholarship Council under Chinese Education Ministry, the Chinese Embassy to Nepal and the Araniko Society, a Sino-Nepal friendship organization.

The major objective of the exhibition is to impart first-hand knowledge and information to prospective Nepalese students and families about the Chinese education system, individual universities and courses they offer. At the opening ceremony of the exhibition, Nepalese Minister for Education and Sports Radha Krishina Mainali said: "Nepal and

China maintain friendly relationships in various fields, which can be further strengthened through this exhibition."

Chinese education system is at the international level, and it is suitable for Nepalese students, Mainali noted.

MNA/Xinhua

Thailand to conduct tests on stem cells

BANGKOK, 17 April — Thailand will carry out an experiment on the efficacy and safety of stem cell technology in curing heart disease, the first-ever official test on stem cell treatment on humans, local media reported on Sunday.

The programme, to be conducted on 40 patients with heart symptoms, will be joined by the Department of Medical Sciences, Mahidol University and the Cardiac Institute of Thailand.

Pongpan Vongmanee, deputy chief of the Medical Sciences Department, said Thailand has no official report about possible consequences from this new medical technology. The test results will be a concrete guideline for drawing up an effective plan for stem cell development.

MNA/Xinhua



Wachi Hiroshi of Japan competes in the wheelchair division of the Boston Marathon, rolling through Newton, Mass, on 17 April, 2006. —INTERNET

## SPORTS

## CSF ponders sanctions after Libertadores brawl

ASUNCION, 18 April— Palmeiras and Cerro Porteno could face disciplinary action after their players were involved in a huge brawl during a Libertadores Cup tie last week, the South American confederation (CSF) said on Monday.

The fight, involving nearly all the players on the field, delayed the start of last Thursday's tie in Sao Paulo for nearly 10 minutes.

"It was all very unfortunate and, of course, the Confederation deprecates this sort of anti-sporting conduct," CSF general secretary Francisco Figueredo told reporters.

"Cerro and Palmeiras do not have matches this week which gives us more time to consider sanctions, which could be against the players or against the clubs."

Paraguayan champions Cerro won 3-2 but still failed to qualify for the last 16. Brazil's Palmeiras had already qualified.—MNA/Reuters



*New York Mets pitcher Pedro Martinez, throws a pitch to the Atlanta Braves in the second inning in New York on 17 April, 2006. Martinez won his 200th career game as the Mets won 4-3.—INTERNET*

## Zhang Yimou to direct Beijing Games ceremonies

BEIJING, 17 April— Internationally acclaimed Chinese film maker Zhang Yimou will direct the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, organizers announced on Sunday.

Multi-Oscar winning Hollywood director Steven Spielberg, who was also present at Sunday's announcement in Beijing, will be part of Zhang's team as an artistic adviser.

A member of China's "Fifth generation" of directors, Zhang is best known in the West for his 1991 film "Raise the Red Lantern" and his 2004 title "House of Flying Daggers", both of which were nominated for Oscars.

"I'm very honoured to become executive director of the ceremonies," Zhang, 54, said at a ceremony at the headquarters of the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games (BOCOG).

"I thank BOCOG for trusting me with this huge task. To complete it will require the efforts of the whole team and the advisers from home and abroad."—MNA/Reuters

## Lyon celebrate title with 1-0 away win over PSG

PARIS, 17 April— Olympique Lyon celebrated their record fifth consecutive Ligue 1 title with a commanding 1-0 away victory over Paris St Germain on Sunday.

Brazilian striker Fred struck midway through the first half to send Lyon 17 points clear in the standings on 78 points with three games remaining.

Gerard Houllier's side were handed the title on Saturday after second-placed Girondins Bordeaux lost 3-2 at Lille.

Lyon, who have not lost in Ligue 1 since a 1-0 defeat at Caen on March 4, 2005, have equalled St Etienne's and Olympique Marseille's record of 12 away wins in a season.

They are now one point shy of the record they set last season when they finished with 79 points.

PSG are eighth on 50 points.

"I think we deserved to win by a bigger margin," Houllier told French television channel Canal Plus.

"We dominated the game, we were solid. Actually, there was no alcohol yesterday," he added.

"We now have to play like champions. We must not let anything go until the end of the season. It's our duty."

Lyon's France winger Florent Malouda said: "It was a little bit tough as we went to bed late yesterday. But we were strong from a psychological point of view."

MNA/Reuters



*Charlton Athletic's Chris Powell, right, challenges Portsmouth's Gary O'Neill, centre, for the ball during their English Premiership soccer match at The Valley, London, on 17 April, 2006.—INTERNET*

## Mourinho plays down Man United title clash

LONDON, 18 April— Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho has played down the prospect of winning a second successive Premier League title in their clash with arch rivals Manchester United.

After Saturday's 3-0 defeat of Everton, Chelsea are nine points in front of second-placed United with three league games left. With an FA Cup semi-final against Liverpool on Saturday, their next league match is against Alex Ferguson's United at Stamford Bridge on 29 April.

"If it were Blackburn or Newcastle, our desire would be the same. I just want to be champions," Mourinho told a news conference after Monday's win.

"Some people would prefer it at home, some away. The next match is against Man Utd. That is a match we want to win to be champions. For me, the important thing is to finish in front of them. The best team are the champions. It's not about luck, not about the referees, it's not about the ball hitting the post.

"The season is over 10 months and the best team wins." Mourinho said Chelsea, 1-0 up at halftime after a goal by England midfielder Frank Lampard, were always in control of the game and that a red card for Everton's Lee Carsley early in the second half for a tackle on Didier Drogba had no effect.

Everton manager David Moyes said he felt referees were sometimes "star-struck" when officiating Chelsea matches and felt the sending off was harsh.

MNA/Reuters



*Los Angeles Kings Luc Robitaille skates in the third period of an NHL hockey game against the San Jose Sharks on 17 April, 2006, in San Jose, Calif. It was Robitaille's last game of his career.—INTERNET*

## Tajikistan beat Sri Lanka to lift AFC Challenge Cup

DHAKA, 17 April— Tajikistan lifted the inaugural AFC Challenge Cup with a 4-0 win over Sri Lanka in the final on Sunday.

Striker Dzhomikhon Mukhidinov scored twice, while Khurshed Makhmudov and Numondzhon Hakimov completed the rout.

Sri Lanka were awarded the fair play trophy. The event was contested by 16 Asian nations at the lower end of the FIFA world rankings.—MNA/Reuters

## Chelsea win but Rooney spoils the party

LONDON, 18 April— Chelsea swaggered to a 3-0 victory over 10-man Everton on Monday but were denied the chance to celebrate a second consecutive Premier League title by Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney.

Chelsea now only need one point from their remaining three league games to pop the champagne, having restored a nine-point lead at the top with three games left to play.

Ivory Coast forward Didier Drogba scored one and made another for Frank Lampard before Michael Essien thundered home Chelsea's third at Stamford Bridge. Lee Carsley was dismissed for Everton two minutes after the restart with Chelsea 1-0 up.

Jose Mourinho's men had known before kickoff the title would not be theirs on the day after Rooney's brace had earlier given United a 2-1 victory at Tottenham Hotspur.

Still firmly on course for the title, Chelsea have 88 points from 35 games, with United lying second on 79 points and Liverpool third on 73.

With an FA Cup semi-final looming against Liverpool on Saturday, Chelsea's next chance

of winning the league will be a much-awaited showdown against United at Stamford Bridge on April 29.

Down at the other end of the table, Portsmouth's fine run ended on Monday with a 2-1 defeat at Charlton Athletic that will revive fears of relegation.

Middlesbrough beat West Ham United 2-0, Newcastle United came from behind to beat relegated Sunderland 4-1 in the northeast derby and relegation strugglers West Bromwich Albion were facing Bolton Wanderers in the day's late kickoff.

Manchester United's victory failed to dent Mourinho's optimism about the title. "It is not easy for us to lose the three matches, it is not easy for Manchester United to win the three matches and it is not easy for them to turn around the goal difference (of 12).

MNA/Reuters



*Golden State Warriors' Ike Diogu (9) gives his shoes to Jevon Ross, 10, of Richmond, Calif, after the Warriors' final home basketball game of the year on 17 April, 2006, in Oakland, Calif. Left of Diogu is Warriors' Andris Biedrins of Latvia.—INTERNET*

# Rocker urges Bush impeachment on protest album

LOS ANGELES, 18 April — Veteran rocker Neil Young has recorded a protest album featuring an anti-Iraq war track with “a holy vow to never kill again” and a song titled “Let’s Impeach the President,” the singer said on Monday.

The 10-track set, called “Living with War,” was recorded this month by a “power trio” — electric guitar, bass and drums — plus trumpet and a 100-member choir, the 60-year-old Canadian-born musician announced on his website.

Young’s longtime manager, Elliot Roberts, told Reuters the album,

which has been the subject of Internet buzz for several days, will be played for executives at his label, Warner Music Group’s Reprise Records, on Tuesday.

Reprise spokesman Bill Bentley said Young’s latest effort, which he spent about three days recording, came as a surprise. “We didn’t know he was

making a record,” Bentley said.

Young is the latest in a string of recording stars to take musical aim at US President George W Bush and his conduct of the war in the Iraq. Others have included Steve Earle, Willie Nelson and the Rolling Stones.

In a message crawl along the bottom of his

website, www.neilyoung.com, Young drew parallels to two of the leading protest singers of the 1960s, saying of his new record: “I think it is a metal version of Phil Ochs and Bob Dylan... metal folk protest?”

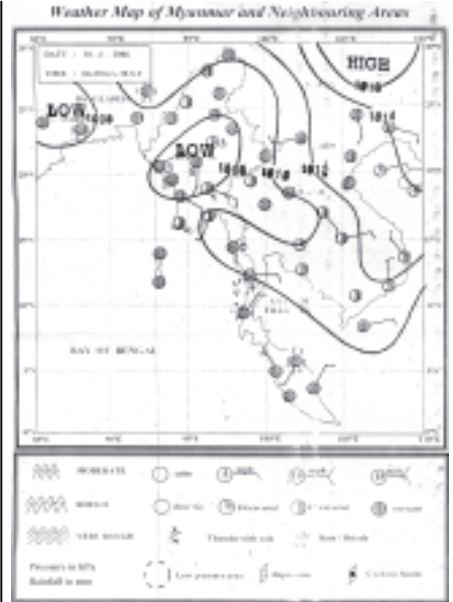
The crawl goes on to reveal the lyrics of the album’s title track, with such lines as: “I raise my hand in peace ... I never hold up the laws of the thought police ... I take a holy vow ... to never kill again ...

“In the big hotels ... in the mosques and the doors of the old museum ... I take a holy vow ... to never kill again.”

Roberts confirmed that a separate song on the album is titled “Let’s Impeach the President.”

According to some online reports, that song accuses Bush of “lying” and features a rap with the President’s voice set against a choir singing “flip-flop.”

MNA/Reuters



## WEATHER

Tuesday, 18 April, 2006

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Yangon Division, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Chin, Mon States, upper Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavy falls in lower Sagaing Division. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin and Chin States, Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Ayeyawady Division and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Minbu (42°C) and Monywa (41°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Monywa (2.75) inches, Sagaing (2.56) inches, Thaton (1.81) inches, Mawlamyine (1.58) inches and Hpa-an (0.87) inch.

Maximum temperature on 17-4-2006 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 18-4-2006 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 18-4-2006 was (75%). Total sunshine hours on 17-4-2006 was (8.7) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 18-4-2006 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 (18) mph from Southwest at (16:10) hours MST on 17-4-2006.

**Bay inference:** Weather is cloudy in the Southwest Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 19-4-2006:** Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers in Kachin, Chin and Shan States, Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

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

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw City and neighbouring areas for 19-4-2006:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%)

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 19-4-2006:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%)

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 19-4-2006:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%)

### New Rainfall Record

(Issued at 10:30 hours MST on 18th April 2006)  
The amount of rainfall 70 mm (2.75 inches) observed at (09:30) hours MST on 18th April 2006 in Monywa is the 24 hours new maximum rainfall record of the station for the month of April during last (42) years. The former record was 46 mm (1.81 inches) on 12th April 1972.



A worker walks past steel bars at a construction site in Nanjing, capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province on 18 April 2006. Chinese investment and industrial output data for March are likely to strengthen the case for steps to cool an economy that grew at a sizzling 10.2 percent pace in the first quarter.

INTERNET



Wednesday, 19 April  
View on today

7:00 am

1.ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ပုံ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာဝုဠဂုဏ် အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိကံ တီပိဋကဓရမ္မတက္ကသိုလ်ရိက္ခာ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5.အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:05 am

6. မြန်မာ့ကြွေ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:15 am

7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

8. ပဗ္ဗတီတံတား(မြင်းကစိပ်)

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Let’s Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in Reading

4:45 pm

4. Musical programme

5:00 pm

5. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ

5:15 pm

-ပထမနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)

5:25 pm

6. Song of national races

5:35 pm

7. မြန်မာစား မြန်မာစကား

5:45 pm

8. Song of yesteryears

9. “အန္တရာယ်ဆိုတာ လက်

တစ်ကမ်းမှာ”

(နိုးသူ၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောဇွန်လှိုင်)

5:50 pm

10. ရွှေလင်္ကာ အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်

6:00 pm

11. Evening news

6:30 pm

12. Weather report

6:35 pm

13. အရေးကြိမ်ပွဲ

6:45 pm

14. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:00 pm

15. Musical programme

7:15 pm

16. ကြားမြင်သူတပြည် ဝေဓရာ

7:25 pm

17. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:40 pm

18. မြန်မာ့ပန်းဆယ်ချိုး(ပန်းတဦး)

8:00 pm

19. News

20. International news

21. Weather report

22. (၂၀၀၅ ရုရှ် တေရုသမ

အကြိမ်(၁၃ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ

ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊

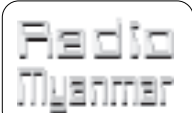
အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ “ပီစုရ

ဓာတ်တော် ကြီး”(မေတ္တ-တိုင်း)

(အပိုင်း-၂)

23. The next day’s

programme



Wednesday, 19 April  
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music:

-If I told you that

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music:

-Let’s go childish

8:50 am National news / Slogan

9:00 am Music:

-The best thing

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music

-I see you

1:30 pm News / Slogan

1:40pm Lunch time music

-When I need you

9:00pm Variations on a tune

-Unchained melody

9:15 pm Article

9:25 pm Music at your request

-All I want is you

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

# Bridges, roads not for economic profit, but for regional development



(from page 1)

The approach structure on the rail bridge on Mawlamyine bank is 1.22 miles long, and on Mottama bank is 1.42 miles long. The total length of the rail bridge is 4.75 miles long. Myanmar engineers made great innovative efforts to build the bridge. It is a politically, economically and socially important bridge for the nation.

Thanks to the bridges in Taninthayi Division and the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), transport between Kawthoung and Yangon has become easier.

Concerning the transport sector, Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance, saying, "The government wishes to see the development of all regions of the Union. In this

regard, the government has been extending motor roads and railroads, the basic requirement for national and regional development.

(See page 8)

**The approach structure on the rail bridge on Mawlamyine bank is 1.22 miles long, and on Mottama bank is 1.42 miles long. The total length of the rail bridge is 4.75 miles long. Myanmar engineers made great innovative efforts to build the bridge.**



Lt-Gen Maung Bo addresses the inauguration of Mawlamyine Railways Station and Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) rail bridge. — MNA

## Minister assists in rubber, oil palm production in Taungup, Thandwe

YANGON, 18 April — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung yesterday went to Taungup and Thandwe in Rakhine State to assist in the region's rubber and palm oil production.

First, the minister inspected the cultivation and production of rubber in the farm in Taungup. Farm Manager U Myint Thwin reported on facts about the farm. After meeting with officials and workers of the farm, Minister U Aung Thaung fulfilled the requirements of the farm.

Afterwards, the minister proceeded to the oil palm farm in Thandwe

and inspected the cultivation of oil palm. Altogether 4,532 oil palm trees are grown on the 89-acre farm and over 4,300 oil palms

are bearing fruits. After hearing reports at the farm, the minister gave instructions.

During his inspection

tour, Minister U Aung Thaung also visited the rubber plantations in Thandwe.

MNA

### INSIDE

*When he became a millionaire, he realized the importance of enhancing public knowledge to develop everything from socio-economy to public financial power. He set up Carnegie Public Libraries in the whole US. Although they never revealed the fact, many people were able to enjoy better lifestyles thanks to the libraries.*

PAGE 7

CHIT NAING (PSYCHOLOGY)



Minister U Aung Thaung inspects the rubber farm (Taungup). — INDUSTRY-1