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Thursday, 20 April, 2006

Efforts to be made for emergence of peaceful, modern and developed nation upholding Union Spirit

Senior General Than Shwe inspects Thahtay Hydel Power Project in Thandwe



Senior General Than Shwe inspects construction of the dam of Thahtay Hydel Power Project with the use of heavy machinery. —MNA

YANGON, 19 April — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and party met officers, other ranks and family members of regiments and units in Kyaukpyu Station at Thadoe Maha Bandoola Hall of the local regiment in Kyaukpyu after attending the opening ceremony of Yangon-Kyaukpyu Highway held in Kyaukpyu of Rakhine State on 17 April morning.

At the meeting, Member of the State Peace and Development (See page 16)



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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 20 April, 2006

Work for greater peace and development

Development of a nation or a region mainly depends on its transport infrastructure and therefore the government has given top priority to improvement of the transport infrastructure for harmonious development of all regions across the Union.

With the emergence of new motor roads, railroads and bridges all over the nation, national people in different regions can go from one place to another and often visit each other easily, thus forging a friendly relationship among them and cementing national unity.

The opening of Mawlamyine Railway Station and Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) rail bridge was held in Mawlamyine in Mon State on 17 April. Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), with the 2-mile-long motor road and the 4-mile-long railroad, is the longest in Myanmar and it is especially important for the political, economic and social sectors of the nation.

Due to this new bridge, people in Mon and Kayin States and Taninthayi, Bago and Yangon Divisions can now trade their local products easily. Not only that, national people in Putao in the northern part of Myanmar can go by car to Kawthoung in the southern part and those living in Myitkyina, Kachin State, can go direct by train to Dawei, Taninthayi Division.

Local people in Mon State can now enjoy the fruits of easy and smooth transport as new roads and bridges are being built all over the nation. Thanks to the roads linking villages and towns, there has been a good flow of goods among more than 1,000 villages in 10 townships in Mon State. As a result, rural people have been enjoying higher socio-economic status.

There has been development in the health, education, economic and social sectors of the nation and it is because of national unity, community peace and the rule of law. The onus is on everyone to maintain peace and momentum of development already achieved in all sectors.

Economic, education, health and transport infrastructures are being built in all regions of the Union with the correct leadership of the government, enthusiastic participation of the people and efforts of government employees. We would like to call on the entire national people to work for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democracy by enhancing their national spirit, consolidating their national unity and maintaining peace and development.



U Thein Htoo, Daw Thin Thazin Thuang and family of Lanmadaw Township recently donated K 100,000 to the funds of Hninzigone Home for the Aged through Joint-Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi 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

CASH DONATED:
Minister for Culture
Maj-Gen Kyi Aung-
wife Daw Khin Khin
Lay and family
donated K 200,000
to the funds of
Jivitadana Sangha
Hospital on 17
April. An official of
the hospital accepts
cash donations.

CULTURE



Min Naing secures champion in Thingyan Gold Cup Golf Championship

YANGON, 19 April — The fourth and final round of the 48th Thingyan Gold Cup Golf Championship 2006, co-organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and PyinOoLwin Golf Club, was held at PyinOoLwin Golf Club in PyinOoLwin on 18 April afternoon.

After the fourth round, Commander of PyinOoLwin Station and Rector of Defence Services Academy Brig-Gen Nyi Tun presented the first prize to Min Naing (Srixon) who shot 286 strokes in the professional golfers division, the second prize to Aung Hsan Win (Srixon) 289, and the third prize to Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) 291.

Executive of MPGA and MGF U Ko Ko Lay gave prizes to Aung Win (Forestry) who stood first by firing 288 strokes in total in the amateur golfers division, Naing Naing Lin (YGN) who stood second by shooting 297 strokes, and Bo Bo (YCDC) who stood third by scoring 305 strokes.

KM Golf Centre Managing Director U Maung Maung Myint presented the first prize to Than Naing Oo (For-



Forestry Team reacts after winning the trophy of 48th Thingyan Gold Cup Golf Championship. — pcc

estry), and the second prize to Win Tun Thein (Customs) in the gold level singles event.

Commander of PyinOoLwin Station and Rector of Defence Services Academy Brig-Gen Nyi Tun awarded the first prize to Forestry Team led by U Thein Myint that scored 453 strokes, and the second prize to KM Team led by U Maung Maung Myint that fired 455.

Deputy Commandant Col Zaw Myint of Defence Services Technological Academy presented joint first prize to Sai Khin Zaw

(PyinOoLwin) and Tin Htut (PyinOoLwin) in the silver level singles event. Commandant of Defence Services Administration School Col Zarni Win awarded the first prize to Monywa Team led by U Aung Win with 496 strokes and the second prize to PyinOoLwin (B) Team led by Lt-Col Soe Win with 496 strokes in the silver level team event.

Rector of DSTA Brig-Gen Win Myint presented the first prize to Customs Team led by U Nay Myo Thuang with 506 strokes, and the second prize to PyinOoLwin

Team led by U Soe Naing with 507 strokes in the bronze level team event, the best scorer award to Min Naing (Srixon) in the professional golfers event, and prizes to daily best scorers.

The golf championship was co-sponsored by Air Bagan Ltd, KM Co Ltd, Mandalay Golf Association, AK Group, KBZ Bank, Srixon, MK Fashion Shop, Hotel PyinOoLwin, and PyinOoLwin Golf Club. PyinOoLwin Golf Club and Han Event Management performed functions of the competitions.

MNA

S Korea not to sign unbalanced FTA with US

SEOUL, 18 April— South Korean Trade Minister Kim Hyun-chong said Monday that his country will not accept a free trade agreement (FTA) with the United States without a balance of interests for both sides.

"It will be very difficult for either country to receive the necessary domestic approval unless the overall package achieves a balance of interests which considers the concerns of the two countries," Kim said at a meeting with foreign correspondents here. South Korea and the United States agreed on 2 February to

formally start full-fledged negotiations in June to reach a FTA by early next year.

The minister's comments came as South Korea chief negotiator for the FTA with US Kim Jong-hoon started a second round of preparatory meeting with US officials over the trade pact in Washington on Monday.

"I can't sign an agreement

which does not meet our negotiating objectives simply because time is ticking away," Kim said, while stressing the importance of such a pact.

Before leaving for Washington, Kim Jong-hoon told Yonhap news agency that South Korea's public services such as electricity, water, gas and railways will not be subject to the talks.

South Korea and the United States recorded 72 billion US dollars in trade in 2004. The Korea Institute for International Economic Policy said in a report that Korea's exports to the United States could gain as much as 15.1 per cent, or 7.1 billion US dollars, while imports from the United States would rise as much as 39.4 per cent, or 12.2 billion US dollars, if the free trade deal goes into effect.—MNA/Xinhua



South Korean farmers shout slogans during an anti-government rally denouncing the South Korean government's move to forge a free trade deal with the United States in downtown Seoul, on 15 April, 2006. —INTERNET

ထုတ်တုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ကြ



Wipe out : A Brazilian surfer flies off a wave at Leblon beach in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. —INTERNET

Construction starts on power station on China's Yellow River

BEIJING, 16 April— China has begun work on a 1.79 billion dollar hydroelectric project which will become the biggest dam on the Yellow River, state media reported. Work began on the Laxiwa Hydroelectric Station in the remote northwestern province of Qinghai, Xinhua news agency reported Sunday.

The 250 metre-high (825 foot) dam, the highest on the Yellow River, is

expected to have 4,200 megawatts of installed generation capacity and will be able to produce 10.22 billion kilowatt hours annually, the report said. It is situated between the Longyang and Qingtong Gorges in the upper reaches.

The first generating units are scheduled to go into operation in 2008 and the dam will be completed in 2010, it said.

Despite growing

opposition from environmentalists, China appears eager to speed up construction of dams in an effort to tap into huge hydroelectric energy potential.

The lower reaches of the Yellow River have repeatedly dried up in recent years due to huge population pressures along the watercourse and an increasingly feeble ecosystem in its headwaters.—Internet



A vendor displays a violin made of glass at a shopping centre in Beijing, on 18 April, 2006. INTERNET

Eleven die of traffic accidents in Zimbabwe

HARARE, 18 April — A total of 11 people have been killed while 161 others injured in 132 road accidents reported countrywide in Zimbabwe since the beginning of the Easter holiday, local media reported on Monday.

Police spokesman Inspector Andrew Phiri said on Sunday that Masvingo Province had the highest number of casualties with three deaths while the provinces of Mashonaland East, Matabeleland North and Midlands recorded two accident-related fatalities each. Manicaland and Bulawayo both had a single death. Phiri said most of the accidents were attributed to speeding, tyre bursts and negligent pedestrians. He also said last year, 29 people were killed while 447 others were injured in 406 accidents reported countrywide. He attributed the decline in the number of accidents this year to heavy police presence on the country's major roads and road safety campaigns by the police and the Zimbabwe Traffic Safety Board.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

Foreign countries urged not to interfere in Nigeria's affairs

LAGOS, 18 April — A high-ranking Nigerian official on Monday urged foreign countries not to interfere in the country's ongoing constitutional amendment aimed at paving the way for incumbent President Olusegun Obasanjo for the third term presidency.

Julius Ihonvbere, special adviser to President Obasanjo on Project Monitoring and

Implementation, said the process was "strictly an internal affair" and no foreign nations were allowed to interfere in his hometown Avbosi in Nigeria's southern state of Edo. The constitutional amendment, he added, was not new to democratic practice and that various countries had carried out similar exercises when they were necessary.

"No one should begin to cry wolf since the phenomenon accords with the basic tenets of democratic practice, especially when such mandate is exercised by the nation's legislatures," he said. Any extension of tenure by the National Assembly would not affect President Olusegun Obasanjo alone, he explained. —MNA/Xinhua

Taleban commander killed in raid in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 19 April — Taleban's senior commander Mohamad Haleem was killed and two other insurgents captured in a raid in the southern Afghan province of Zabul Monday night, a police officer said on Tuesday.

"Police launched the raid after they got information from locals that Mohamad Haleem and his followers were to attack Qalat, the capital of Zabul," Mohamad Nadem Mullkhel, police chief of Zabul, told Xinhua. Mohamad Haleem, who was behind many attacks targeting government officials and schools in the province, was surrounded by the police near the Qalat City. He was shot dead in the clash while two guerillas were captured at the site, the police chief added.

MNA/Xinhua



An old villager uses a plastic cover to protect herself from the rain in the flooded village of Rast, 300 km southeast of Bucharest. Thousands of Romanians prepared to flee homes threatened by floodwaters from the rising River Danube, as emergency crews desperately sought to reinforce damaged river dykes. —INTERNET



Chinese villagers fish in a polluted river. Worsening environmental problems are threatening social stability in China as aggrieved residents resort to protests to make their voices heard.

INTERNET

စက်မှုဦးအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

India refuses US proposal to stop nuclear test

NEW DELHI, 18 April—India has refused to include a ban on nuclear test in a draft civil nuclear cooperation pact with the United States, the Indian Ministry of External Affairs said on Monday.

India is continuing its commitment to a unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing, said Navtej Sarna, the spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs, in a briefing.

The US side had shared

with India some weeks ago a preliminary draft agreement on India-US civil nuclear cooperation under Article 123 of the US Atomic Energy Act, he said.

In the draft pact the US side suggested that India discontinue nuclear test, he added.

“In preliminary discussions on these elements, India has already conveyed to the US that such a provision has no place in the proposed bilateral agreement,” Sarna said.

“India’s position on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is

well known and continues to remain valid,” he said.

New Delhi has refused to sign the CTBT, claiming that it is discriminatory and tends to divide the world into nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states. Instead, it advocates universal nuclear disarmament.

India conducted its first nuclear test in 1974 and the latest one took place in 1998.

India is bound only by the joint statement issued by the two countries in July last year when Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh visited Washington, Sarna said.

MNA/Xinhua

US military deaths rise in Iraq after 5-month fall

WASHINGTON, 18 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.

Many of the deaths

again occurred in Anbar Province, one of the hotbeds of the insurgency led primarily by the Sunni Muslim Arab minority who had controlled the country under deposed president Saddam Hussein.

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.

Lieutenant-Colonel Barry Johnson, a senior US military spokesman in Iraq, said there currently was “a high tempo of operations” against guerillas. Johnson noted that US commanders had raised by about 3,700 the number of American-trained Iraqi Government security forces and US troops in Baghdad for

increased patrols.

“We’re not prepared to attribute this to any changing trend that’s occurred over the past two weeks. Each incident stands on its own,” Johnson said by e-mail, referring to the increase in US deaths in April.

“I really believe it is premature for anybody to be talking about trends regarding incidents that have occurred over a two-week period,” Johnson said. — MNA/Reuters



Rescue personnel help commuters trapped in a cable car of the Roosevelt Island Tram into a rescue basket in New York, on 18 April, 2006.—INTERNET

Small plane crash kills three in Florida

WASHINGTON, 18 April — A small plane crashed into a sport utility vehicle parked outside an airport in Florida and hurled it through a terminal wall, killing three people in the plane, officials said.

The twin-engine Beech B-60 crashed in the Gainesville Regional Airport terminal on Sunday, triggering a fire behind the airport’s commercial baggage claim area.

About 100 to 150 people were inside the airport terminal when the

crash occurred. But no injuries were reported on the ground. The plane took off from the north Florida airport and circled several times before attempting to land. It did not send distress calls.

The plane’s destination was not known for the time being. The terminal was immediately evacuated and would remain closed until late Monday.

MNA/Xinhua

Bone drug cuts risk of breast cancer

New York, 18 April—A widely used osteoporosis drug is safer and just as effective reducing invasive breast cancer risk as tamoxifen, the only drug now approved for that use, say long-awaited data released Monday from a trial of nearly 20,000 women.

After an average of four years of treatment, both raloxifene and tamoxifen cut the risk by about 50%, say researchers with the Study of Tamoxifen and Raloxifene, or STAR.

Q&A: Which is the right drug for you?

But there were 36% fewer uterine cancers and 29% fewer blood clots among women who took raloxifene compared with those on tamoxifen.

Women on raloxi-

fene also had 21% fewer cataracts than those on tamoxifen.

“It’s clear that we feel that raloxifene is the winner of this trial,” Lawrence Wickerham, associate chair of the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP), which ran the trial, said at a Press briefing. STAR randomly assigned 19,747 postmenopausal women considered at increased risk of breast cancer to take either tamoxifen or raloxifene for five years.

Internet



A policeman views the destruction after a powerful bomb blast in Baghdad’s Adhamiya district, on 18 April, 2006.—INTERNET

British animal charity saves 200 dogs from horror house

LONDON, 18 April — A British animal charity appealed on Monday for help finding homes for 200 Yorkshire terriers and 37 cats rescued at the weekend from what it called a “house of horror”.

Celia Hammond, a former top fashion model turned animal saviour, said her charity found the

animals in appalling conditions at a house in West Sussex in southern England after the son of the deceased owner called them in.

“They are in a disgusting state, filthy, neglected and starving,” she told Reuters. “I have been doing this work for 30 years and I have never seen anything

like it before.”

The dogs had been kept in faeces-filled pet carriers — some crammed three or four to a box — she said, describing the place as a “house of horror”.

“Several puppies were dead and some had been partly eaten by the others,” she said. “It was awful.”

MNA/Reuters

Former Illinois governor guilty of fraud, corruption

CHICAGO, 18 April— Former Illinois Governor George Ryan, praised by death penalty foes for halting executions but accused of using public office to enrich friends and family, was found guilty on Monday of fraud, racketeering, tax evasion and other charges.

The federal court jury verdict, which similarly found Ryan's friend and co-defendant Larry Warner guilty of all counts against him, is a stern warning that no one in public office is above the law, officials said after the decision.

The jury convicted Ryan, 72, of all 18 felony counts against him, including racketeering

conspiracy, mail fraud, tax fraud and making false statements to the FBI.

He had steadfastly denied any guilt for the alleged offenses that took place when he was governor, and before that secretary of state.

Each count carried maximum prison sentences of between three and 20 years, plus fines, and prosecutors said they will

seek three million US dollars in restitution from Ryan and Warner. They will be sentenced in August.

Warner, 67, a businessman who won lucrative state lobbying deals while Ryan was in office, was found guilty of racketeering, mail fraud, attempted ex-tortion, money laundering and making unlawful currency

withdrawals.

The bulk of the case involved a web of leases and contracts that benefited friends of Ryan, who prosecutors said had hung a "for sale" sign on his office.

Prosecutors portrayed him as a big-spender who accepted free vacations, tickets to events and gifts to his family from friends who brokered deals with the state with Ryan's backing. — MNA/Reuters



Visitors look at the jelly fish at the newly-opened exhibition hall titled 'Sea Jelly Spectacular' inside the Ocean Park aquarium-amusement park complex in Hong Kong on 18 April, 2006. — INTERNET

PSA PEUGEOT CITROËN



A car leaves the PSA Peugeot Citroen Ryton plant in Coventry, central England, on 18 April, 2006. — INTERNET

Iraq, US troops under fire as rebels exploit power vacuum

BAGHDAD, 18 April— Iraq guerillas have staged fresh bomb attacks and battled US forces in a wave of violence that has seen the US military suffer one of its deadliest months since the 2003 invasion, as the country's protracted power vacuum dragged on.

Bickering politicians warned that talk of forming a government of national unity that have already dragged on for four months could take another month amid new differences between rival factions.

Six people were killed in attacks on Tuesday, including four in a roadside bombing near a restaurant in north Baghdad.

Iraqi troops meanwhile launched a massive search operation in Baghdad's Sunni district of Adhamiyah after fierce exchanges with guerillas on Monday.

Five rebels were killed and seven captured in the seven-hour firefight but dozens more were believed to have melted away, the US military said.

US troops also came under massive attack in the western city of Ramadi Monday, with several car

bombs being driven at the heavily fortified government building that houses a marine base and provincial government offices.

The marines came under fire from a nearby mosque, the military said, adding that it was the

fourth time in a month that the place of worship had been abused by the rebels.

Nearly 50 US troops have been killed across Iraq since 1 April, marking one of the bloodiest periods for the military since the invasion.

Internet

S Korea, China to build maritime logistics centres

SEOUL, 18 April — South Korean officials said Monday that South Korea and China have agreed to build maritime logistics centres to boost bilateral trade and exchanges, the *Yonhap News Agency* reported.

According to a memorandum of understanding signed on Sunday, the two nations agreed to open a logistics centre in South Korea's western port city of Incheon and another in China's northeastern city of Qingdao.

The logistics centres will be jointly operated and they are tasked with dealing with storage and shipment of products being traded between the two cities, *Yonhap* quoted South Korean officials as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

Bus-train collision kills one, injures 22 in N-E China

SHENYANG, 18 April — One was killed and 22 others injured Monday in a bus-train collision at a railway-road cross in northeast China's Liaoning Province, local railway officials said.

The accident occurred at 7:17 am on Monday when a bus that was to pass the cross collided with a running cargo train at Shuijiatun in the Hunnan New District of the provincial capital Shenyang, said the railway officials. — MNA/Xinhua

Nine survive plane crash landing in N Tanzania

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 18 April — Nine people have survived the crash landing of their light airplane in northern Tanzania where torrential rains and gushing winds forced the plane almost 400 kilometres off its destination airport to land amid sisal plants. The nine people on board the eventful *Cessna Caravan* were medical collaborators heading for Moshi in northern Tanzania for a conference, according to local English newspaper *Sunday News*. — MNA/Xinhua

Mexican bus crashes down ravine, 63 dead

MEXICO CITY, 18 April — A tour bus veered off a mountain road, crashed through the metal barrier and plummeted hundreds of feet down a ravine in eastern Mexico on Monday, killing 63 people, police said.

The accident, on a steep stretch of highway linking the capital with the Gulf of Mexico port city of Veracruz, was one of the worst traffic crashes in Mexico in recent years.

At least 10 children were among the dead. "It broke the barrier and went down a ravine," civil protection official Ranulfo Marquez said.

MNA/Reuters

FELCN seizes seven tons of marijuana, over 129 kilos of cocaine

LIMA, 18 April — Bolivia's Special Anti-Narcotics Force (FELCN) had seized more than 7 tons of marijuana and 129 kilos of cocaine in a massive crackdown on drug trafficking, reports from Bolivia said on Monday.

The operation hit 129 locations and led to 74 arrests. Colonel Miguel Vazquez, head of FELCN, was quoted as saying. He said in one important bust they found cocaine hidden in handicrafts destined for Spain and other parts of Europe. — MNA/Xinhua

Hong Kong model Lisa Selesner displays a 5.34 carat oval-shaped blue diamond ring (top L), a 9.25 carat cushion-shaped Myanmar ruby and diamond ring (top R) and a 13.53 carat pear-shaped 'Golconda' diamond, during a preview at an auction house in Hong Kong on 18 April, 2006.
INTERNET



ASEAN-China ICT business forum opens in Malaysia

GEORGE TOWN (Malaysia), 19 April — As part of the second ASEAN-China Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Business Week, the ASEAN-China ICT Business Forum opened Tuesday here, providing a platform for industry players to discuss issues of common interest in this field.

About 100 delegates from China and member countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) involved in the ICT industry attended the forum held in George Town, capital city of Penang State in northern Malaysia.

During the two-day forum, delegates are expected to exchange views on a wide range of issues covering ICT investment, foreign trade policies, ICT technology standards, human resources development and capacity building.

Secretary-General of China Association of Communication Enterprises Zhang Chunlin made remarks at the opening ceremony on behalf of the Chinese companies, research institutions and associations which sent representatives for the

forum. Ever since the ICT field was established as one of the five major fields of cooperation between China and ASEAN in the year 2001, bilateral exchanges and cooperation in the ICT industry have leapfrogged, said Zhang, who also expressed his belief this business forum will further strengthen the ties and promote common development and prosperity of China and ASEAN.

The Chinese delegation comprises of representatives from many leading companies in the ICT industry, including China Telecom, Huawei Technology and Datang Telecom Technology and Industry Group Corporation, to name just a few.

During the second business week themed "Strategic Regional ICT

Cooperation for Growth and Prosperity," other programmes coming on the agenda include ASEAN-China ICT Senior Officials and Business Forum Consultative Meetings, ASEAN-China ICT Ministerial Dialogue with Business Forum and ASEAN-China ICT Ministerial Forum.

MNA/Xinhua



The four candidates hoping to become the first Malaysian to blast off into space (clockwise) S Vanajah Siva Subramaniam, Faiz Khaleed, Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor and Mohammed Faiz Kamaluddin. Malaysia's National Space Agency is holding a conference to consider such questions as the country prepares to send its first citizen into orbit.—INTERNET

Chinese diners lay off the exotic animals

BEIJING, 19 April — Normally adventurous Chinese diners are eating fewer owls, civets and other wildlife due to fears of SARS and bird flu, according to a survey released Tuesday by US and Chinese conservation groups.

The survey of 24,000 people in 16 cities found that nearly 72 percent had

not eaten wild animals in the past year, up from 51 percent in a similar 1999 survey, said San Francisco-based WildAid and the official China Wildlife Conservation Association. "Although not everybody believed that civets were to blame for

SARS, the market still has been shrinking. Fewer and fewer people consume civets," Yin Feng, a researcher for the Chinese group, said at a news conference.

Wild animals have long been delicacies in China, where they are served at

banquets to show off the host's wealth. Rare species also are used in traditional medicine, which prescribes deer horn, snake blood and other products for a wide range of ailments.

Severe acute respiratory syndrome, which first emerged in China's south in late 2002, was believed to have jumped to humans from civets, an animal sometimes served in restaurants. China also has suffered dozens of outbreaks of bird flu, which experts say might originate in migrating ducks and other wild birds.—Internet

At least 13 killed in Kenya's cattle rustling

NAIROBI, 19 April — A renewed wave of cattle rustling has claimed at least 13 lives in central and northern parts of Kenya in the past week as tension remains tense over raids by armed bandits, local media reported on Monday.

At least seven people were killed in Samburu District of northern Kenya, five in Baringo and one in Laikipia, northwest of Nairobi.

Besides the deaths, armed rustlers have left in their wake a trail of devastation and loss of hundreds of animals which were stolen during the raids.

Residents of the affected areas said the resurgence of cattle rustling was aimed at

restocking the animals which died during the just-ended drought.

The East African nation has been experiencing one of the worst droughts in recent years due to consecutive failure of rains.

Local lawmakers have called on the government to beef up security in the areas before violence escalates and many more people killed.

"We want Internal Security Minister John

Michuki to send security forces to protect the people in Samburu," said Samburu West lawmaker Simeon Lesrima.

Some residents have fled the area for fear of being attacked during the raids.

Lesrima said the latest attacks in Samburu took place on Saturday at Merti near Bargo where the raiders attacked several manyattas before stealing herds of cattle.

MNA/Xinhua



Contestants in the Pantene Miss Egypt 2006 pageant walk on stage during the competition in Cairo on 18 April, 2006.—INTERNET

Death toll of rainstorm rises to 76 in Colombia

BOGOTA, 19 April — The death toll in Colombia's winter rainstorms rose to 76, with 170 people injured and 24 others missing, the Colombian Red Cross said on Tuesday.

The winter weather, which began in March, have affected 50,000 people in 17 of the 32 departments of the country, rescue director of the Colombian Red Cross Walter Cote said.

Thousands of hectares of arable land have been flooded, and many bridges, houses and roads destroyed, he noted. With worsening weather in April, rainstorms hit the southwestern department of Valle del Cauca hard, leaving 31 people dead and around 10 missing, he said. The Hydrology, Meteorology and Environment Ministry has warned that the bad weather could last until June.—MNA/Xinhua

Soaring temperatures in Texas lead to power blackouts

WASHINGTON, 19 April — Unseasonably hot temperatures in Texas forced power utilities to conduct rolling blackouts on Monday, in response to the rocketing demand for electricity.

With temperatures hitting 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius), the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), which runs the state's electricity grid, has declared an emergency situation and ordered the blackouts because of the lack of electricity around the state.

ERCOT said it made the decision after concluding there was insufficient generating capacity in the region to reliably serve the public's electricity demand.

It has urged customers across the state to reduce electricity usage as much as possible, including requesting that they set their thermostats at 78 degrees Fahrenheit (25 degrees Celsius) or higher and cut the use of electric lighting, appliances or equipment unless absolutely necessary for health or safety.

MNA/Xinhua



Panasonic employee Eriko Fujikawa shows off the world's largest plasma display panel with 1080p (progressive) HDTV resolution at FineTech Japan FPD (flat panel display) exhibition in Tokyo on 19 April, 2006.—INTERNET

China to issue world's first statistical method for e-commerce

BEIJING, 19 April — The world's first official method to guide the statistical work of the e-commerce industry will soon be in use, Chinese Vice-Minister of Commerce Liao Xiaoqi announced on Monday.

"This unprecedented method will provide uniform standards for the data collection and allow decision makers in governments, academia and the general public to have a better understanding of China's robust e-commerce industry," said Liao at the Press conference for the issue of the 2004-2005 China e-Commerce Report.

Gao Xinmin, executive deputy director-general of the China Information Association, said the lack of uniform statistical methods had caused a data deficiency, which in turn stemmed scholars and government from making concrete conclusions on the country's e-commerce industry.

While the 2004-2005 report was being drafted, Gao said that a comprehensive survey was launched at the request of the Ministry of Commerce to collect first-hand statistics.

More than 2,000 companies in textile, coal mining, petroleum, petrochemi-

cal, construction, medicine and electronic sectors from 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities have been covered, which made this report very objective, he acknowledged.

In comparison with the first report issued by the Ministry of Commerce in 2003, experts said the new report had provided a wide-ranging view of the growth of China's e-commerce industry.

The report also touches upon the future trends of China's e-commerce industry and includes special reports on the e-commerce in foreign trade, logistics, small and medium-sized companies and on-line retailing.

Liao claimed that the report represented the highest achievements of Chinese academia.

Gregory T Shea, President of the United States Information Technology Office in Beijing, hailed the report as "very comprehensive and substantial".

MNA/Xinhua

Singapore minister says 3 ways to strengthen ASEAN SMEs

SINGAPORE, 19 April — There are three ways to strengthen the small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), said Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang on Tuesday.

Speaking at an ASEAN SME Forum held in the city state, Lim stressed that the development of SMEs in ASEAN is critical to the region's growth as they account for over 90 per cent of all private sector firms in the region and employ 75 per cent to 90 per cent of the domestic workforce.

"I strongly believe that SMEs have immense potential and promoting them would yield wide-ranging benefits for ASEAN countries, both individually and as a regional group," Lim noted. The three ways to strengthen SMEs in the re-

gion include equipping them with capabilities to expand overseas, matching them with international buyers and suppliers as well as facilitating collaboration opportunities for them.

Governments in the region should actively extend their free trade networks to provide SMEs with increased access to overseas markets and should help SMEs build up their branding capabilities, according to Lim. The Internet can serve as a strong medium for securing new businesses and deal flows, Lim said, adding that "ASEAN has identified e-commerce as one of the cornerstones of the e-ASEAN framework". —MNA/Xinhua

Trade officials say Sino-Indian trade to top \$20b this year

BEIJING, 19 April — The bilateral trade between China and its neighbour India is expected to exceed 20 billion US dollars this year, and the figure may reach 100 billion dollars in six years, trade officials said on Monday.

Addressing Sino-Indian Business Forum in Beijing, Wan Jifei, chairman of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), said the Sino-Indian trade totalled 18.7 billion US dollars last year, up 37.5 per cent.

India has become China's biggest trade partner in South Asia, while China is the second biggest trade partner of India.

MNA/Xinhua



Daryl Boyington, centre, Toby Day, left, and Larry Doucette, paddle in the rain at the start of the 40th annual Kenduskeag Stream Canoe Race, on Saturday, 15 April, 2006, in Kenduskeag, Maine. This was the 21st year the Gumby team competed. 'If you can't be fast be funny,' said Boyington.
INTERNET

Nigeria records fresh bird flu outbreak

LAGOS, 19 April — Fresh outbreak of bird flu that has killed 200 birds has been recorded in Bakori in Nigeria's northern state of Katsina, the official News Agency of Nigeria reported on Monday.

Alhaji Halliru Atiku, head of the agriculture department of the Bakori local government was quoted as saying that the disease was discovered in Bakori and Jargaba towns, about 280 kilometres north from the Nigerian capital Abuja.

He said the local governments had taken measures including aggressive enlightenment campaigns to prevent the spread of the disease to other parts.

MNA/Xinhua

China, Philippines pledge to further strategic cooperation

BEIJING, 19 April — Chinese and Philippine leaders said here on Monday that ties between the two countries are at a "golden period" and they pledged to make more efforts to enhance bilateral strategic cooperation.

"Our relationship is at its highest level in history and in its golden period," Philippine Senate President Franklin Drilon said in a meeting with senior Chinese leader Jia Qinglin.

Jia, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), echoed with Drilon, saying that the China-Philippines ties have developed comprehensively and profoundly over the past 31 years and brought about concrete benefits to the two peoples.

He referred to their cooperation in jointly exploring resources in the South China Sea, saying that the agreement had made historical contribution in terms of turning the water area into a field of friendship and cooperation.

He also expressed China's appreciation to the Philippine Senate for its firm adherence to the one-China policy.

Jia hopes the two sides would join efforts to safeguard regional peace and stability. —MNA/Xinhua

Iran says Army to make any attacker regret action

TEHERAN, 19 April — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said during an Armed Forces parade on Tuesday that any aggressor would regret attacking the Islamic Republic, which is embroiled in a nuclear dispute with the West.

The President declared Iran a nuclear power last week after he said it had successfully enriched uranium to the level used in power stations. Iran insists its programme is civilian despite accusations by the West that it wants atomic bombs.

The United States has said it wants a diplomatic solution to the standoff but has not ruled out a military option.

"Today, Iran's Army is one of the most powerful armies in the world and it will powerfully defend the country's political borders and the nation," Ahmadinejad said in a brief speech before troops and small missiles were paraded past.

"It will cut off the hands of any aggressors and will make any aggressor regret it," he added.

Ahmadinejad took the salute of thousands of Army, Navy and Air Force troops goose-stepping passed. Tanks were towed passed on large trucks and helicopters flew in formation overhead. Parachutists trailing ribbons sailed down from the sky. —MNA/Reuters



Tamiflu tablets on display at a pharmacy in Hanoi. Swiss pharmaceutical giant Roche says it has finished building a stockpile of three million courses of the antiviral drug Tamiflu for the World Health Organization. —INTERNET



Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance to officers, other ranks and family members of regiments and units in Taungup Station. —MNA

Thahtay Hydel Power Project linked up with the national power grid is being implemented with the aim of supplying power not only to regions of Rakhine State but also to other areas. The dam is also being built for the prevention of floods in the region.



Three 34-megawatt turbines will be installed to generate 102 megawatts....



Senior General Than Shwe hears reports on implementation of Thahtay Hydel Power Project by Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint. — MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann gives instructions to Tatmadawmen at Thadoe Maha Bandoola Hall of the local regiment in Kyaukpyu Station. —MNA

(from page 16)
the Senior General on tasks in connection with hydel power projects and dam projects. In response to the reports, Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance saying that officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and the Ministry of Electric Power are to collaborate in their tasks by applying appropriate technology for timely completion of the projects without delay.
Senior General Than Shwe and party

inspected samples of rock extracted from the project, the site chosen for construction of the dam, and construction tasks being carried out with the use of heavy machinery.
Thahtay Hydel Power Project linked up with the national power grid is being implemented with the aim of supplying power not only to regions of Rakhine State but also to other areas. The dam is also being built for the prevention of floods in the

region. In implementing the project, a dam measuring 1,740 feet by 280 feet will be built. At the hydel power project, three 34-megawatt turbines will be installed to generate 102 megawatts.
After inspecting regions of Rakhine State from 12 April to date and attending the opening ceremony of Yangon-Kyaukpyu Highway, Senior General Than Shwe arrived in Yangon from Thandwe by air this morning. —MNA

FM leaves for Indonesia to attend AMM Retreat



Foreign Affairs Minister U Nyan Win seen at the airport before departure for Indonesia to participate in ASEAN Ministerial Meeting Retreat. — MNA

YANGON, 19 April — At the invitation of Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr N Hassan Wirajuda, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win left for Bali, Indonesia, by air yesterday evening, to attend ASEAN Ministerial Meeting Retreat to be held in Ubud, Bali, Indonesia on

19 and 20 April.

The foreign minister was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, officials of the Indonesian Embassy, and those from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador of the Union of Myanmar to the

Republic of Indonesia U Khin Zaw Win, Director-General of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Nyan Lynn and Deputy Director of the Department of ASEAN Affairs U Aung Htoo will also be participate in the Retreat.

MNA

Winners in AIDS quiz awarded

YANGON, 19 April — The AIDS quiz organized by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Information took place at MRTV here yesterday morning and the enthusiasts took part in it.

In the quiz, Maung Myint Swe of Dalla Town-

ship won first prize, Maung Zeya Than Htut of Kungyangon Township, second, Ma Aye Thanda of Dalla Township third and Maung Aung Myo Htet of Kungyangon Township, consolation prize. Prizes were awarded to the winners by the offi-

cial.

With a view to disseminating the knowledge on AIDS to people, the AIDS quiz programme is being broadcast through radio programme at 5 pm on Saturdays and 4 pm on Sundays in last week of every month. — MNA

Myanmar hosts JICA-ASEAN meeting

YANGON, 19 April — Myanmar hosted the 5th JICA-ASEAN Regional Cooperation Meeting at Traders Hotel here this afternoon.

Director-General Daw Myo Nwe of Foreign Economic Relations Department of the Minis-

try of National Planning and Economic Development and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nobutake Odano gave speeches.

Officials of FERD, JICA head office in Tokyo and JICA resident representative office in

Yangon and representatives of Cambodia, Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Timor Leste are taking part in the meeting that continues till 21 April.

MNA

Commander attends opening ceremony of luxury hotel, honours mountaineers

YANGON, 18 April — A ceremony to open eight-storey Two Dragons Luxury Hotel in Myoma Ward, Myitkyina, Kachin State was held in front of the hotel on 12 April evening. The hotel has 53 rooms.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and wife, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Tun, senior military officers, Secretary of

Kachin State PDC Lt-Col Maung Myo, departmental officials, members of social organizations, hotelier U Aik San and wife, hotel staff and guests.

First, the commander formally unveiled the signboard of the hotel and he viewed round it. Next, the commander delivered an address on the occasion and the ceremony came to an end.

Afterwards, the commander attended a ceremony to honour mountaineers of Union Solidarity and Develop-

ment Association who successfully scaled Phonkanrazi ice-capped mountain in Putao District, Kachin State, at the hotel. Next, leader of the mountaineering group Dr Khin Maung explained the experiences gained during their mountaineering trip to the commander and those present.

After that, well-wishers presented K 3.6 million through Dr Khin Maung and the commander hosted dinner to the mountaineers.

MNA

MWAF welcomes New Year with deeds of merit



Aged women at Pyinmana Home for the Aged being shampooed on Myanmar New Year Day. — MNA

YANGON, 19 April — The Working Group for Rehabilitation and Reintegration under the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Pyinmana Township Women's Affairs Organization and Social Welfare Department welcomed the New

Year with shampooing, bathing and manicuring of the aged at the Home for the Aged in Pyinmana on 17 April, the Myanmar New Year Day.

The members of social organizations also provided cash assistance amounting to K 224,000

and medicines to the aged. Well-wishers also donated cash for a day meal at the home.

It was attended by Leader of the Working Group for Rehabilitation and Reintegration Daw Khin Aye, leader of the Sub-working Group for Rehabilitation and Reintegration Daw Kyi Kyi Mya, leader of the working group for prevention of human trafficking Daw Khin May Soe and members, Director-General of the Social Welfare Department U Sit Myaing and members of Pyinmana Township Women's Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Union Solidarity and Development Association.

MNA



5th JICA-ASEAN Regional Co-operation Meeting in progress. — MNA

Minister meets UNICEF representative

YANGON, 19 April — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Sein Htwa met with UNICEF resident representative Ms Corroll C

Long, who had completed her tour of duty, at Population Department here this morning. Present at the meeting were Officer on Special Duty at SWRR Ministry Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thuang, Director-

General of Fire Services Department U Myint Tun, Deputy Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Aung Tun Khaing, Director of PD Daw Soe Aung and officials. — MNA



UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Corroll C Long calls on Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa. — MNA

Myanmar delegation leaves for PRC

YANGON, 19 April— At the invitation of Mr Chen Jian, Deputy Minister for Commerce of the People's Republic of China, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu left here by air for the People's Republic of China this afternoon to attend the Myanmar-China Deputy Minister level consulta-

tion on cooperation in timber, mining and bilateral trade. The Myanmar delegation led by the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs was seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials from the Ministries concerned, and Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan Mu and officials from the Embassy of the

People's Republic of China in Yangon. The Deputy Minister was accompanied by senior officials from the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Forestry, the Ministry of Mines, the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Home Affairs. — MNA

Chinese language contest held in Cairo

CAIRO, 19 April — A Chinese-speaking contest was held in Cairo on Monday to promote language skills of Egyptian college students.

All participants were top Chinese-learning students from universities of Cairo, Al-Azhar and Ain Shams which have run Chinese courses. The competitors displayed their skills in speaking and performance. Three contestants from Al-Azhar University won a travel award that will help them attend further contests and cultural activities in China. Xu Zhiguo, director of the Chinese Cultural Center in Cairo, said that the contest will help promote the ability of Egyptian college students in Chinese-

learning and enhance people-to-people contacts between the two countries. Abd El Aziz Hamdi, director of Chinese-language faculty of Al-Azhar University, told *Xinhua* after the competition that he was satisfied with the excellent performance of his students who had made tremendous efforts to prepare for the event. He added that thanks to increased exchanges between Egypt and China, more Egyptian universities, like universities of Alexandria and Minya, will introduce Chinese courses in the coming years. — MNA/Xinhua

Survey shows English proficiency of Filipinos down

MANILA, 19 April — The number of Filipinos who can read, write, speak and think in English dropped, results of the latest Social Weather Stations survey revealed on Tuesday.

The survey indicated that only 68 per cent of the respondents can read English, lower than the 76 per cent recorded in the year 2000. The survey said 48 per cent of the respondents said they can write in English, down from 61 per cent six years ago. The number of Filipinos who can speak English also went down to 32 per cent compared to 54 per cent in the

last survey. The number of Filipinos who can think in the English language also dropped to 27 per cent from 44 per cent in 2000. The survey showed that Filipinos who cannot totally understand English doubled from 7 per cent in 2000 to 14 per cent this year. The survey utilized 1,200 respondents nationwide and was conducted from March 8 to March 14 of this year. — MNA/Xinhua

Myanmar Buddhist delegation back from World Buddhist Conference

YANGON, 19 April — A Myanmar Buddhist delegation led by Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy on Sagaing Hill Ovadacariya Sayadaw Emeritus Professor of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Maha Dhammakahatika Bahujanahitadhara Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Dr Ashin Ñanissara, D Litt, arrived back here yesterday after attending the World Buddhist Conference held in Hangzhou and Zhoushan in Zhejiang Province, the People's Republic of China.

The delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Pro-rector (Admin) of ITBMU Dr Myint Kyi, officials of the Ministry



Dr Ashin Ñanissara (D Litt) and party being welcomed back at the airport. — MNA

of Religious Affairs, Cultural Attaché of the embassy of the PRC Mr Wang Ruiqing and disciples. Members of the delegation Rector of ITBMU Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Dr Nandamalabhivamsa,

Professor of SIBA Dr Punnobhasa, Director-General of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana Dr Myo Myint and executive of YMBADr Kan Nyunt also arrived back on the same flight. The conference was held from 13 to 16 April. — MNA

Officials to attend ASEAN-China ICT Forum

YANGON, 19 April — Member of Civil Service Selection and Training Board and Vice-Chairman of e-National Task Force U Aung Myint will attend the ASEAN-China ICT Ministerial Forum in Penang, Malaysia, on 20 and 21

April. Accompanied by Assistant Director U Naing Lin of Directorate of Telecommunications of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, U Aung Myint left here by air for Penang today. — MNA



Amy Carlsen feeds daughter Abby a bottle while she rubs daughter Belle's head at the Mayo Clinic's children's hospital in Rochester, Minn. — INTERNET

Air Macao opens new route to Mainland city

MACAO, 19 April — Air Macao, the flag-ship air carrier in the special administrative region of China, launched a new route to Changsha City of central-south China's Hunan Province here on Monday.

The release issued by the airline said the Macao-Changsha route will offer a service of two flights every week on Tuesday and Thursday. Fei Hongjun, general manager of the airline, told the opening ceremony that the new airflight is hopefully to help

boost the tourist flow from the Hunan Province to Macao. Residents of the province from May 1 will be covered in the Individual Tourist Scheme, which permits Mainland tourists to travel to Hong Kong and Macao on personal planning. — MNA/Xinhua

Bird flu under control in Myanmar

LBVD issues reminder on regular flow of fowls and eggs and safe consumption

Myanmar has put avian influenza under control in bird flu-infected townships in Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions.

Continued observation on disease control and detection is being conducted in the rest of poultry farms.

The LBVD also issued a reminder regarding regular flow of fowls and ducks and their eggs and quail eggs and safe consumption.

From the first week of March 2006 the bird flu occurred in Myanmar and it spread to 13 townships in Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions.

The bird flu is now under control in those townships. Duration of the outbreak of the disease is between seven days and 20 days.

In bird flu-free townships, measures on transport of fowls and their eggs are to be taken with the support of the township livestock breeding and veterinary department and Bird Flu control Committee comprising

LBVD, Health Department, Development Affairs Committee and Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation.

In disease control townships arrangements are being made for transport, sale of chickens, ducks and quails with the permission of local authorities and safe consumption.

Regarding the rehabilitation, arrangements are to be made for raising of new fowls, training and holding talks on disease control.

The reminder also includes detailed instructions for breeders and producers, transport, buying and selling of fowls and fowl eggs and safe consumption.

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

ပြတိုက်တိုင်းတွင်ဆေးထုတ်ပေးပြီးပြန်ပြီးမှသာ ဓာတ်ခွဲခန်းသို့ ရောက်အပ်ရန် အချက်များ
INSTRUCTION FOR THE PREVENTION & CONTROL OF HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA

လုပ်ရန်အား ခံယူရန် Do as follows :-
ဆေးထုတ်ပြီးမှ ဖျားရင်ဆိုင်ရာ ဝယ်ယူသုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ခြင်း (Biosafety measures)
- နေရာမှလွှဲမောင်းခြင်း၊ ကမ်းခြေလှည့်ခြင်းများ
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- အခြားလမ်းကင်းသို့ ချွေးထွန်းမှုများ ပြုလုပ်ခြင်း
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- နေရာမှလွှဲမောင်းခြင်း၊ ကမ်းခြေလှည့်ခြင်းများ
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Prevention of Avian Influenza to Humans in suspected case
- နေရာမှလွှဲမောင်းခြင်း၊ ကမ်းခြေလှည့်ခြင်းများ
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Thai King wins UNDP Award

BANGKOK, 19 April — Bhumibol Adulyadej, the King of Thailand, has won this year's United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Award for his decades-long dedication to the country's development through royal works and many royally initiated projects. The United Nations

Secretary-General Kofi Annan has requested an audience with the King Bhumibol Adulyadej to present the award, Government Spokesman Surapong Suebwonglee said Tuesday.

He said Annan would visit Thailand between May 25 and May 27. King Bhumibol Adulyadej is the world's

longest reigning monarch.

Thailand is now preparing to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the King's ascension to the throne.

MNA/Xinhua

Officials said California not ready for flu crisis

LOS ANGELES, 19 April — Health officials in California said the state have nowhere near the capacity to treat the hundreds of thousands of

people who might need medical care should a pandemic flu strike, a report said on Monday.

Officials are only beginning to work out how they would find the extra hospital beds, health workers and equipment needed in such a crisis, according to the *Los Angeles Times* report.

It said local and state health authorities even

had no idea about how many ventilators might be on hand to keep ill people breathing.

"No one, and I repeat no one, is prepared for a pandemic that starts tomorrow," Dr Howard Backer, an official with the California Department of Health Services, was quoted as saying by the newspaper.

Three flu pandemics occurred in California in

the 20th century in 1918, 1957 and 1968, and another one could come any time, experts said.

They said that no one knows when or if the avian flu virus that has killed millions of birds, mostly in Asia, and more than 100 people will ever mutate into a strain that would spread easily among humans.

MNA/Xinhua

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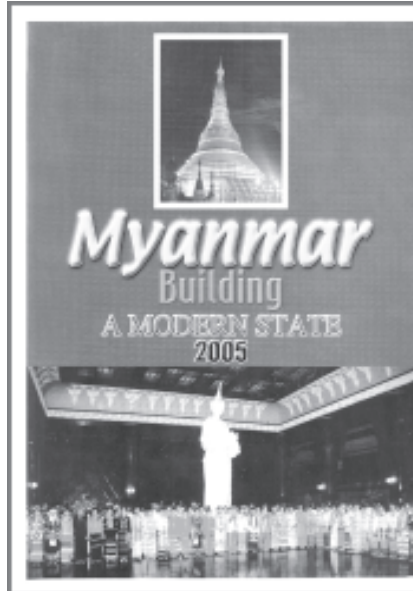
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China sees rapid growth in trademark registration

BEIJING, 18 April—China's trademark applications grew on an

average of 25.2 per cent a year in the first five years of the decade, more than double the growth rate of the country's gross domestic product.

By the end of 2005, 132 countries and regions had filed a total of 2.499 million trademark applications in China, of which 442,000 applications came from other countries, according to official statistics released here Monday from the China Achievements Exhibition for Intellectual Property Protection (IPR).

The exhibition, the first in China highlighting intellectual property, opened on Sunday at the Military Museum of the Chinese People's

Revolution in Beijing.

China has ranked first in the world in the number of trademark applications for the past four years, according to the exhibition organized by China's 11 IPR-related governmental organizations which include the Ministry of Commerce, State Administration of Industry and Commerce, State Administration of Customs and the Bureau of Public Securities.

Trademark registration was first implemented in China in 1981.

In the first 14 years trademark applications averaged 100,000 a year. Last year that number reached 400,000.

MNA/Xinhua

Singapore, Qatar to set up high level Joint Committee

SINGAPORE, 18 April — Singapore and Qatar have agreed to set up a high level Joint Committee to promote bilateral relations, according to a joint statement issued by the two governments on Monday.

"The purpose of this Joint Committee is to lay down the basis for the promotion of bilateral relations in the fields of economics, culture, scientific, technical, ICT (information and communication technology) and education," the statement said.

The committee will be headed by Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister

and Minister for Home Affairs Wong Kan Seng, and Sheik Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, heir apparent of the State of Qatar.

The statement was issued during Qatari First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheik Hamad Bin Jassim Bin Jabr Al-Thani's three-day official visit to Singapore, which started on Sunday.

The visiting Qatari First Deputy Prime Minister on Monday called on Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew to discuss bilateral and regional matters at the Istana, the President's official residence.

He also exchanged views on potential areas of cooperation with Singapore's Foreign Minister George Yeo.

MNA/Xinhua

ပလတ်စတစ်ကြမ်းနှင့်ဆပ်ပြာကြမ်းအမျိုးမျိုး အဝယ်တင်ခါ

၁။ ဝယ်ယူပစ္စည်းများ - ပလတ်စတစ်ကြမ်းနှင့် ဆပ်ပြာကြမ်းအမျိုးမျိုး

၂။ တင်ခါဝင်ရက် - (၂၆-၄-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့

၃။ အချိန် - (၀၄၀၀) နာရီ

တင်ခါပုံစံနှင့်တင်ခါစည်းကမ်းအသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက် များကို အောက်ဖော်ပြပါဌာနများတွင်စုံစမ်းမေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာ့အေးချမ်းရေးအဖွဲ့အစည်းများအဖွဲ့ချုပ် (ရုံးချုပ်) အမှတ်(၁၉၂)ကမ္ဘာ့အေးချမ်းရေးလမ်း၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊ တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ်-၅၆၀၃၉၁၊ ၅၆၆၃၀၆

Singapore stresses talent, innovation, R&D in chemicals industry

SINGAPORE, 18 April — Singapore must focus on talent, innovation and research and development (R&D) to maintain the competitiveness in its chemicals industry, a senior government official said here on Monday.

The city state has set up the Institute of Chemical and Engineering Sciences (ICES) and the Chemical Process Technology Centre to boost the industry, said Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports Vivian Balakrishnan at the Singapore International Symposium.

"Going forward, Singapore would be allocating more resources to research and innovation, in order to transform our economy into one that competes on knowledge, innovation and talent, over and above cost-effectiveness and efficiency," he noted.

He reiterated that the city state will earmark 7.5 billion Singapore dollars (about 4.7 billion US dollars) during the next five years to sustain its innovation-driven growth under the Science and Technology Plan 2010 with an emphasis on strengthening private sector R&D.

Singapore has been regarding the chemicals industry as a strategic cluster since the early 1980s, which is now the third largest manufacturing sector after electronics and biomedical sciences in the city state.

The industry's output has nearly quadrupled in the past decade to reach 66.5 billion Singapore dollars (about 41.4 billion US dollars) last year, accounting for 32 per cent of the country's total manufacturing output.

MNA/Xinhua

TCB invites tender for sugar import to stabilize volatile market

DHAKA, 18 April—The Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) has again invited international

tender for importing sugar to rein in its galloping price in the local markets after scrapping the earlier one, local daily *The Financial Express* reported on Tuesday. TCB sources hinted that they are eager to procure 25,000 tons of sugar within a very short time as its prices is rising sharply, causing hardship to the fixed income and lower income groups.

Of this amount, the bids for 15,000 tons will be opened on 22 April and for the remaining 10,000 tons on 29 April, according to sources from TCB, the

autonomous state trading organization under the Ministry of Commerce.

"We'll dispatch details about the tender and the lowest quotation to the Ministry of Commerce (MoC) for necessary approval on the same day of its opening," a senior TCB official said.

Earlier, the TCB invited international tender in March. As many as four bidders participated in the tender and the lowest bidder quoted price at 478.85 US dollars per ton.

But inordinate delay in approving the tender by the MoC officials foiled the import initiative, TCB sources said, adding that such official inertia is

pushing up the prices of sugar further in the local markets.—MNA/Xinhua



A Shih-tzu dog wears hair curlers during the Zoo Russia International Cat and Dog Exhibition in Moscow on 16 April, 2006. —INTERNET

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်စိမ်းပြိုစီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခုံ

List of 2006 Pulitzer Prize winners

NEW YORK, 18 April — The following 2006 Pulitzer Prize winners in Journalism and Letters, Drama and Music were announced on Monday at New York's Columbia University:

— Public Service — Two prizes: The Sun Herald of Biloxi, Mississippi, for its valorous and comprehensive coverage of Hurricane Katrina and The Times-Picayune of New Orleans, for its heroic, multifaceted coverage of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath even after evacuation of its newspaper plant. — Breaking News — The staff of The Times-Picayune of New Orleans, for its coverage of Hurricane Katrina, overcoming desperate conditions facing the city and the newspaper. — Investigative Reporting — The Washington Post's Susan Schmidt, James V Grimaldi and R Jeffrey Smith for their probe of Washington lobbyist Jack Abramoff, which exposed congressional corruption and produced reform efforts. — Beatreporting — The Washington Post's Dana Priest for her reports on secret "black site" prisons

and other controversial features of the Bush Administration's counterterrorism campaign. — National reporting — Two prizes: The New York Times' James Risen and Eric Lichtblau for stories on secret domestic eavesdropping, and the staffs of The San Diego Union-Tribune and Copley News Service, with notable work by Marcus Stern and Jerry Kammer, for their disclosure of bribe-taking that sent former Representative Randy Cunningham to prison. — International Reporting — The New York Times' Joseph Kahn and Jim Yardley for stories on ragged justice in China as the booming nation's legal system evolves. — Feature writing — The Rocky Mountain News' Jim Sheeler for his story on a Marine major who helps the families of comrades killed in Iraq cope with their loss and honour their sacrifice.—

— Commentary — The New York Times' Nicholas Kristof for columns that focused attention on genocide in Darfur. — Criticism — The Washington Post's Robin Givhan for her fashion criticism. — Editorial Writing — The Oregonian's Rick Attig and Doug Bates for editorials on abuses inside a forgotten Oregon mental hospital. MNA/Reuters



A Chinese worker perched precariously over a gigantic hole construction as the foundation of another building project in Beijing, China on 17 April, 2006. President Hu Jintao announced Sunday that the economy grew 10.2 percent in the first quarter — more than 2 percentage points above the official target. — INTERNET

Indonesia prepares to evacuate villages as volcano trembles

JAKARTA, 18 April — Indonesia prepared to evacuate thousands of villagers on Monday after a massive volcano in the heart of densely populated Java Island started spewing thick clouds of smoke and hot lava, officials said.

Authorities have placed Mount Merapi, which overlooks the ancient city of Jogjakarta, on Orange Code, or the second highest alert level, following fears of an eruption due to an increase in the number of tremors. "Due to a high level of tremor activities and the spewing of the lava, Mount Merapi is now on alert status," Dali Ahmad, a volcanologist from the Directorate of Volcanology

and Geological Hazard Mitigation, told Reuters by telephone. Officials said the military had deployed more than 200 trucks and buses to evacuate villagers living on the slopes of Merapi near Jogjakarta, 460 kilometres (285 miles) west of the capital, Jakarta. "We have conducted an evacuation drill and it appears that villagers have grown used to it," said Sriyanto, a police official.

Mount Merapi's increased volcanic activity prompted President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono to order preparations for evacuation. Merapi's last major eruption was in 1994 when more than 60 people were killed. One of its most destructive eruptions was in 1930, when 1,300 people were killed.

Indonesia sits astride the geologically active Pacific "Ring of Fire" and has more than 100 active volcanoes. Thousands of villagers were evacuated in January 1997 when Merapi became more active, just months before the Asian financial crisis struck. MNA/Reuters

China, Italy combine to boost SMEs cooperation

BEIJING, 18 April — China and Italy will jointly hold the Sino-Italian Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Fair in September in southern China's Guangdong Province in a bid to boost cooperation between the SMEs of the two countries.

It will provide opportunities for SMEs in both countries to further cooperate, said Tong Xing, the executive director of the fair's organizing committee. China and Italy signed a letter of intent in 2005, agreeing that the cooperation of SMEs was priority of bilateral

economic cooperation. The fair is expected to give Italian SMEs more chances to develop in China, said Meng Kaidi, the ambassador of Italy. Tong said that most Chinese SMEs are trying to exploit the international market and the fair will meet their needs in this regard.— MNA/Xinhua

Zambian music educator calls for uplifting gospel, secular music

LUSAKA, 18 April — A Kenya-based Zambian music educator has called for uplifting of gospel and secular music in Zambia, according to the Times of Zambia newspaper on Monday.

John Mwesa, the chairman of the music department of the Eastern Africa Baraton University, was quoted as telling the on-going

musical workshop held in Ndola in northern Zambia on Sunday that there is need to uplift and establish music at the academic level in order to develop the industry.

"We need to uplift both gospel and secular music in the country. Establishing better standards of music in Zambia will promote development in Africa," he said. Mwesa said that his return from Kenya after 10 years came at a right time when Zambian people need to improve in music and his vision is to set up a musical department in Lusaka and Monze in Southern province to cater for all students in secondary college and university education. MNA/Xinhua



A keeper holds a naked mole-rat while it's being transferred from a holding cage at the Knoxville Zoo.—INTERNET



Indian hawkers selling fish on the street. India counts an estimated 10 million hawkers who sell anything from south Indian savoury pancakes to toys at prices far cheaper than restaurants and shops.—INTERNET

HK seizes smuggled cars, spare parts

HONG KONG, 18 April — Hong Kong Customs has seized a smuggled cargo of 45 dismantled private cars and spare parts worth 900,000 Hong Kong dollars (116,129 US dollars), the authorities said on Monday. The vessel carrying the smuggled goods was intercepted on the sea west of Hong Kong Island on Sunday night, said a statement posted Monday on the website of the government of the

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR). A crew of four men aged between 25 and 29 were arrested for the cargo without any export manifest. It is the second time in one month that the smuggled cargo of dismantled private cars was seized in Hong Kong. In mid-March, the Hong Kong Customs seized 50 dismantled cars from a vessel without an export manifest.—MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS



Wigan Athletic's Jimmy Bullard outjumps Aston Villa's Gareth Barry, front, during their English Premier League soccer match at the JJB Stadium, Wigan, England, on 18 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Camara double hands Wigan 3-2 win over Aston Villa

LONDON, 19 April— Two goals in five minutes by Henri Camara secured Wigan Athletic a 3-2 home win over Aston Villa in the Premier League on Tuesday.

It was 1-1 when Camara struck for the first time in the 56th minute, Juan Pablo Angel having equalized three minutes earlier for Villa following Jimmy Bullard's first half goal for Wigan.

Camara fired home from the middle of the area to net right back Pascal Chimbonda's cross and on the hour the pair repeated the action for the striker's second.

Wigan climbed two places to eight while Villa, who pulled a goal back through Liam Ridgeway in the 67th minute, remain 15th and are still not totally safe from relegation. —MNA/Reuters

Giuly strike gives Barca advantage over Milan

MILAN, 19 April— Barcelona took a step towards the Champions League final when a Ludovic Giuly goal earned them a 1-0 win over AC Milan at the San Siro stadium in their semifinal, first-leg match on Tuesday.

Frenchman Giuly's strike in the 57th minute — with a sharp finish after he raced on to a superb pass from Brazilian Ronaldinho — snapped a 13-match unbeaten home run for Milan in Europe.

Milan had three times gone close to an opener with Alberto Gilardino hitting the post, while Andriy Shevchenko had a header parried before Gilardino wasted another chance in the 51st minute.

Barca could have come away with an even better result, Ronaldinho hitting the post at the end of a swift counter-attack. Milan wasted another chance when substitute Massimo Ambrosini screwed a shot wide in the 81st minute.

"It was a good win against a great team," Ronaldinho told Canal Plus TV in Spain.

"We played a very good first half and then made use of the extra space

in the second. But this tie is far from over and there are still 90 very tough minutes to come."

Milan have been clinical in their finishing throughout the competition this season but they missed the sharpness in front of goal of their striker Filippo Inzaghi, who was sidelined due to a virus.

The result gives the Catalan club a great chance for the second-leg on April 26 as they seek to add to their solitary European Cup success.

Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti left captain Paolo Maldini and Brazilian Cafu on the bench with Dutchman Jaap Stam and Brazilian Serginho operating in the full-back roles.

The Italian side, playing in their third Champions League semifinal in four years, dominated the early exchanges in front of a passionate 76,000 capacity crowd.

Gilardino, who replaced Inzaghi

Golden ball will be used in World Cup final

BERLIN, 19 April— A golden ball will be used at the World Cup final on 9 July, organizing committee president Franz Beckenbauer said on Tuesday.

"It only surprises me that no one thought of it before," he told Beckenbauer said at a bizarre ceremony at Berlin's Brandenburg Gate, where he removed a golden ball with help from gold-painted Greek warriors.

"The final is such a special occasion for the players, the coaches and the fans around the world.

"Creating a special ball for this match, the most important match every four years, was a great idea."

Adidas chairman Herbert Hainer said the golden ball would be identical to those used throughout the month-long tournament in Germany except six of the 14 panels would be coloured gold.

"We would definitely like to

see this as the start of a new tradition for the final match," he told Reuters. "We'll do this again but try to come up with something special for each final."

The sets of 15 balls for each match at the tournament that runs from June 9 to July 9 will for the first time have the names of the teams, venue, date and kickoff time.

They will all be made in Thailand, with the exception of the 15 balls for the final which will be produced in Germany.

Hainer denied a newspaper report the World Cup winners would be entitled to play with gold balls for the next four years.

All 32 sides in the finals will receive a pre-tournament shipment of 20 balls for training purposes.—MNA/Reuters



Sacramento Kings forward Shareef Abdur-Rahim, right, goes up for the shot over Seattle SuperSonics forward Nick Collison during the third quarter of an NBA basketball game in Sacramento, Calif, on 18 April, 2006. The Kings won 111-105. INTERNET

Dissident director says Real Madrid is falling apart

MADRID, 19 April— Real Madrid is in a desperate situation and it is time to call a presidential election, says club director Ramon Calderon.

"Madrid is gradually falling apart and now is the moment to call an election," Calderon told sports daily

AS on Tuesday. "Two months have passed since the new president took charge and he still hasn't called the board together.

"We are in a desperate situation. He said he would secure the board's agreement to important decisions and he has not done that."

Fernando Martin was appointed Real president at the end of February after Florentino Perez resigned when it became clear the club would end a third successive season without silverware. Martin has said he has no immediate plans to call an election.

He issued a statement on the Real website on Tuesday calling for unity and asking for the support of the directors.

"Now is the time for everyone connected with Real Madrid to remain calm, united and responsible so that we can defend the interests of the club and construct a solid future."

When he took charge Martin said he would get tough with the club's players and said those not committed to the cause would be offloaded.

He also promised to appoint a new coach by the end of March. Although he named a seven-man target list, no announcement has been made about the future boss.

AC Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti is reported by the Spanish media to be the club's first choice, with England manager Sven-Goran Eriksson as a possible back-up option.

Calderon said the board has not been informed of any progress in the appointment of a new coach.

"We know nothing about it," he said. "We seem to be at the mercy of the gut reactions of the president.

MNA/Reuters



Carlos Moya of Spain returns the ball to Fernando Gonzalez of Chile during their first-round match of the Monte Carlo Open tennis tournament in Monaco. Fernando Gonzalez beat Carlos Moya 6-3, 3-6, 6-1.—INTERNET

Texas Rangers' Akinori Otsuka works against the Seattle Mariners during the eighth inning of their Major League Baseball game in Seattle, on 18 April, 2006. INTERNET



Japanese scientists unveil world's oldest ice block

TOKYO, 19 April — A million-year-old ice sample drilled from three kilometres under the Antarctic and unveiled in Tokyo on Tuesday could yield vital clues on climate change, Japanese scientists said.

Researchers, showing off the cylindrical samples of what they said was the oldest ice ever to be retrieved, said studying air trapped inside "core" samples taken from various depths under ground could also help predict how the Earth's weather patterns will change in the future.

"The ice core is

made up of snow that fell in the distant past," said project leader Hideaki Motoyama of the National Institute of Polar Research, dressed snugly in a parka after unveiling the gleaming ice in a room kept at minus 20 degrees Celsius (minus 4 Fahrenheit). "You can use it to examine changes in temperature, levels of carbon

dioxide and methane over time, information that is only available from the core," he said.

Researchers at the Dome Fuji base in the eastern Antarctic spent more than two years on the delicate operation of drilling into the ice sheet, coming up with the million-year-old samples in January and shipping

them to Japan on an ice-breaker.

Research based on a previous study of Antarctic ice and published by *Nature* magazine last year said concentrations of carbon dioxide and methane were far higher now than at any time in the last 650,000 years.

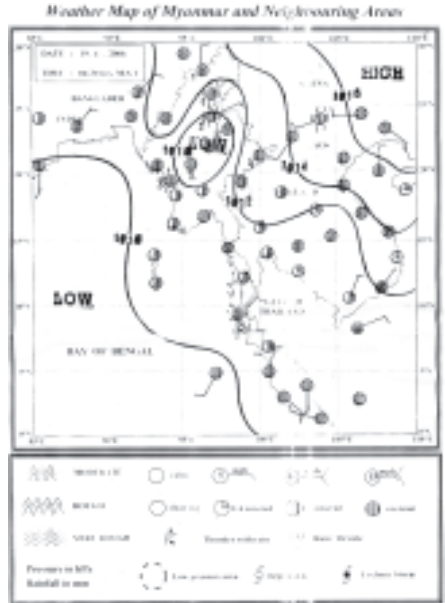
The Japanese team will look farther into the past and are also hoping the ice samples will yield opportunities to study the evolution of tiny organisms trapped in the ice.

"The environment there is very harsh, with temperatures about minus 45 degrees, so we don't know if life can be sustained," Motoyama said. "But we believe we will find organisms."

The researchers believe they can dig about another 20 metres into the ice at the Antarctic site before reaching base rock.—MNA/Reuters



Hideaki Motoyama, project leader of the National Institute of Polar Research, holds a million-year-old ice sample in Tokyo on 18 April, 2006. — INTERNET



WEATHER

Wednesday, 19 April, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin and Shan States, scattered in Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, isolated in lower Sagaing, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Mon State, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Kachin and Kayin States and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Minbu, Magway and Aunglan (40°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Namhsam (0.98) inch, Kawthoung (0.95) inch, Thaton (0.71) inch, Machanbaw (0.55) inch, Kyaukpadaung (0.39) inch, Maungdaw (0.35) inch, and Yamethin (0.32) inch.

Maximum temperature on 18-4-2006 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 19-4-2006 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 19-4-2006 was (71%). Total sunshine hours on 18-4-2006 was (7.4) hours approx. Rainfalls on 19-4-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from South-west at (13:50) hours MST on 18-4-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 20-4-2006: Rain or thundershowers are likely isolated in Kachin State, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Bago and Yangon Divisions, scattered in Kayin, Mon and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Slight decrease of day temperatures are likely in the lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw City and neighbouring areas for 20-4-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 20-4-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 20-4-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Radio Myanmar

Thursday, 20 April
Tune in today

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: -Reality
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: -Dub I dub
- 8.50 am National news / Slogan
- 9.00 am Music: -Together forever
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music: -Doctor Jones
- 1.30 pm News / Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch time music: -Dream baby
- 9.00 pm Aspects of Myanmar
- 9.10 pm Article
- 9.20 pm Pouri
- 9.30 pm Favourite songs chosen by music lovers: -Always on my mind
- 9.45 pm News / Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL



Thursday, 20 April
View on today

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>7:00 am</p> <p>1.ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မေဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မေဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိကာ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိမိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:50 am</p> <p>5. Dance of National races</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:05 am</p> <p>7. Dance variety</p> | <p>8:15 am</p> <p>8. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>9. ကံတင်ဘီးလင်းရေလှောင်တမခ</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>10. International news</p> <p>8:45 am</p> <p>11. Let's Go</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. English for Everyday Use</p> <p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. Musical programme</p> <p>4:55 pm</p> <p>5. အစေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -ခုတ်ယခုန် (စာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (စာတုဗေဒ)</p> <p>5:10 pm</p> <p>6. Cute little dancers</p> <p>5:20 pm</p> <p>7. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး</p> <p>5:30 pm</p> <p>8. Musical programme</p> <p>5:40 pm</p> <p>9. "မနိုင်သောအဖွဲ့" (ဟက်ကတ်၊ ဓဇ်ရဲလတ်၊ နိုင်သင်းကြည်)</p> | <p>(ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်လှမျိုး)</p> <p>5:50 pm</p> <p>10. နိုင်ငံအဝန်း သစ်တောစွမ်းမြင် စိမ်းလန်းရေးမည်</p> <p>6:00 pm</p> <p>11. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>12. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm</p> <p>13. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>6:50 pm</p> <p>14. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဝန်ပန်းလှလှ" (အပိုင်း-၁)</p> <p>7:45 pm</p> <p>16. မြန်မာ့ပန်းဆယ်မျိုး (ပန်းတော)</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>17. News</p> <p>18. International news</p> <p>19. Weather report</p> <p>20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နှင်းဆီအိပ်မက်" (အပိုင်း-၂၃)</p> <p>21. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ ဦးဝိမိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရုပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ ဓမ္မဏှာ ဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်း တရားတော်</p> <p>22. The next day's programme</p> |
|--|--|---|

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

Three 34-megawatt turbines will be installed to generate 102 megawatts

(from page 1) Council General Thura Shwe Mann gave necessary instructions.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance to those present and cordially

Shwe and party went back to Thandwe by helicopter.

Yesterday morning, Senior General Than Shwe and party flew to Taungup from Thandwe by helicopter. First, they

officers, other ranks and family members of regiments and units of the station.

General Thura Shwe Mann explained construction of the nation and build-up of the



Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance to officers and other ranks of local regiments and units and their families in Kyaukpyu Station. — MNA

INSIDE

There has been development in the health, education, economic and social sectors of the nation and it is because of national unity, community peace and the rule of law. The onus is on everyone to maintain peace and momentum of development already achieved in all sectors.

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greeted officers, other ranks and family members. After the meeting, Senior General Than

viewed development of Taungup by car.

At the hall of Taungup Station, they met

Tatmadaw.

Senior General Than Shwe stressed the need to strive for becoming a

reliable Tatmadaw and efforts to be made for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed

nation upholding the Union Spirit.

The Senior General cordially greeted

those present.

At 11.30 am, the Senior General and party arrived at the site of Thahtay Creek Hydrel Power Project being implemented on Thahtay Creek, 12 miles from Thandwe by Hydro-electronic Power Department under the Ministry of Electric Power.

At the briefing hall, Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint reported to the Senior General on aims of the project, feasibility survey works, the site for construction of the main embankment, future tasks and facts about the project.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo briefed

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Senior General Than Shwe cordially greets officers and other ranks of local regiments and units and their family members in Kyaukpyu Station. — MNA