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Sunday, 23 April, 2006

Introducing of democracy without discipline can incite mob rule and anarchy

Priority given to development of the roads after Roads Year was designated



Senior General Than Shwe inspects progress in building Twantay Bridge. —MNA

YANGON, 22 April — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspected the site to build Kyungon Bridge and Pyapon Bridge in Ayeyawady Division and

Twantay Bridge in Yangon Division today.

Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by SPDC Members General Thura Shwe Mann, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Ad-

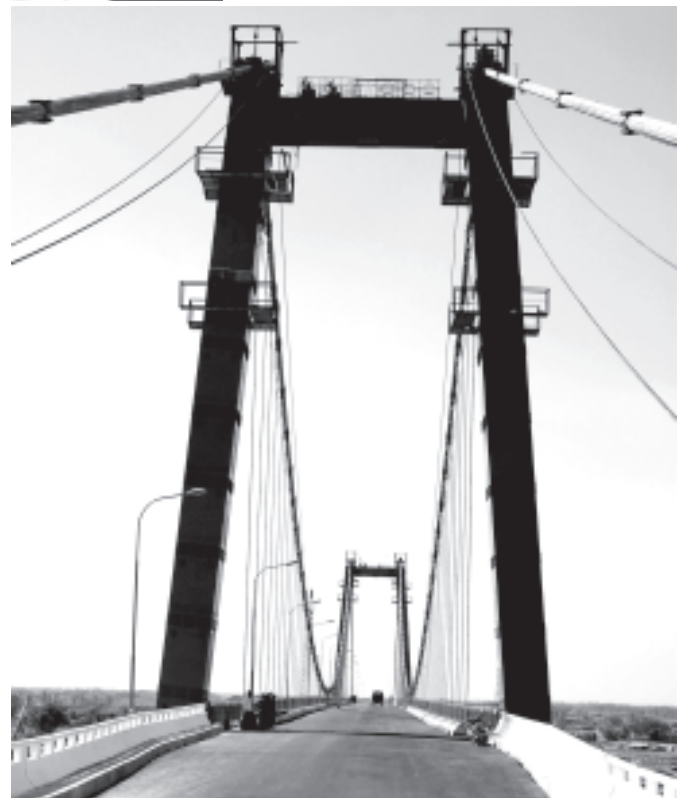
miral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, the ministers and departmental heads, arrived at Kyungon village in Wakema Township by helicopter this morning.

At the briefing hall of Kyungon Bridge Construction Project site, Senior General Than Shwe and party heard the reports by Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun on the four possible sites for the bridge and No 2 site chosen for building of the bridge and by Deputy Chief-Engineer (Bridges) of Public Works U Tin Maung Oo on the data of the bridge. The Senior General gave guidance on requirements and inspected the map showing the place chosen for construction of the bridge. The Senior General and party were conducted round the site by

Ayeyawady Division PDC Chairman South-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and officials.

The Kyungon Bridge is on Wakema-Kyungon-Myinkaseik-Pathein Road and it will be built across Pyanmalot River between Wakema Township and Eimme Township. The one-way bridge is a bailey-type suspension one with 500 feet in length and 14 feet in width.

There are three roads from Wakema to Pathein—9.2-mile Wakema-Kyonkanaung-Kangalay-Pathein Road. (See page 16)



Excerpts from Senior General Than Shwe's guidance

- * **The first requirement is to restore peace and stability and ensure prevalence of law and order across the nation including border areas.**
- * **The second requirement is to have good foundations for economic development with strong national economy.**
- * **The third one is for the people to have high intellectual and reasoning power.**

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 23 April, 2006

Strive for timely completion of factories and mills

Giving priority to strengthening the national economy, the government is enlisting the strength of the people and is tapping natural resources for national development.

Meanwhile, it has laid down projects at different levels for the emergence of economic, social and development infrastructures in its efforts to build a modern and developed nation.

At present, efforts are being made in all seriousness for the development of State-run industries as well as private industries. Regarding this, more import substitute factories and mills are being constructed while striving for boosting the capacity of State-run industries.

A ceremony to drive stakes for construction of the Pulp Factory capable of manufacturing 50 tons of products per day, and the Brown Paper Factory (Yeni) capable of manufacturing 80 tons of products per day to be built in the compound of No 2 Paper Factory in Yeni, Yedashe Township, was held at the site for the new factory on 21 April.

The Pulp Factory capable of manufacturing 50 tons of products daily will be built by the Ministry of Industry-1 and Chengda Engineering Corporation of China. On completion, the pulp factory will supply 30 tons of pulp to Newsprint Recycling Factory of Paleik for producing quality newsprint.

Similarly, on completion of the Brown Paper Factory (Yeni), it will supply adequate amount of packing brown paper to the cement plants under Myanma Economic Corporation and the Ministry of Industry-1.

The Ministry of Industry-1 will build the factories with the aim of satisfying local paper demand, of reducing import of paper, of earning foreign exchange by exporting paper products, of sharing modern technologies, and of creating job opportunities for uplift of the living standard of local people.

Nowadays, the Pulp Factory and the Brown Paper Factory (Yeni) soon to be built plus the existing 200-ton Pulp Factory at Thabaung in Ayeyawady Division will surely be able to satisfy local paper demand.

At a time when efforts are being made for construction of new factories and mills for the development of State-run industries, officials at different levels are to make relentless efforts for timely completion of those facilities.

Rare photos to be rent to YMBA

YANGON, 22 April — The Young Men's Buddhist Association that was set up on 10 May 1906 will hold its centennial at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street in Dagon Township on 9 May and the similar ceremony at the YMBA Building at 77, Yegyaw Road in Pazundaung Township, on 10 May.

Officials of the State will open the YMBA Centennial Celebration at the National Theatre, and present prizes to outstanding students in the Mangala Desana Examination.

If there are some documentaries, treatises, records, newspaper cuttings and rare photos concerning YMBA, the association requests renting them temporarily for the exhibition of its Centennial Celebration. — MNA

Oppose those Destroying

- * 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

Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills opens



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win speaking at opening ceremony of Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills. — MNA

YANGON, 22 April — A ceremony to open the Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills (BDS 15/2006) was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this morning.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win delivered a keynote address.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general of departments under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar Ambassadors, departmental

officials, senior diplomats, faculty members of universities and course instructors.

Knowledgeable subjects on international conferencing, international etiquette, protocol, international correspondence, international law, and negotiation techniques will be emphasized in the course.

A total of 160 trainees are attending the 12-week course. — MNA

Workshop on Management Effectiveness Program commences

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 April — Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo delivered an address at the opening of the Orientation Workshop on Management Effectiveness Program for Extended Six Townships at Nay Pyi Taw City Hospital (300-bed) on 20 April.

He said that the management effectiveness programme was launched in 2004, covering six townships in six states and divisions, adding that this year the programme will cover six more townships. Concern-

ing the health management, post-graduate courses on health management for heads of district health departments from states and divisions have been conducted since 1997-98 in consonance with the guidance of the Head of State, he said.

In managing the health care services, success can be achieved only when there is cooperation among health departments as well as between health departments and social organizations and the people. The purpose of the workshop is to enable the leaders of the health care services to effectively utilize human resources, technologies and investments, he said.

Also present on the occasion were heads of department under the Ministry of Health, deputy heads of state/division and township Health Departments, doctors in-charge of functions on TB, malaria, reproductive health care and extended vaccination works, faculty members of medical institutes are attending the three-day workshop. — MNA

Road to Germany for World Cup 2006 introduced

YANGON, 22 April — Yangon Entertainment will present the programme on Road to Germany for the FIFA World Cup 2006 Germany at Myawady TV.

Yangon Entertainment Co Ltd held a meeting with journalists at its office of 40, 67th Street, Botahtaung Township, this afternoon.

At the meeting hall, responsible personnel of Yangon Entertainment explained facts about 32 national football teams that will take part in the World Cup 2006 and replied to the questions raised by the journalists.

The Road to Germany Programme will be

presented at Myawady TV in early May. Entrepreneurs may contact Yangon Entertainment for their advertisement matters. — MNA



Introduction to Road to Germany Programme for FIFA World Cup 2006 Germany in progress. — MNA

Russia rejects US call to quit Iran power plant

Moscow, 21 April — Russia on Thursday rejected a request from the United States for its engineers to halt work on Iran's Bushehr nuclear power station.

Russia's state atomic energy agency is contracted to help Iran build the one-billion-US-dollar reactor. A senior US official said on Wednesday that a Russian withdrawal would help persuade Iran to abandon a separate uranium enrichment programme.

"Every country has the right to decide for itself with whom and in what way it cooperates with other states," Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Kamynin said in

a comment posted on the official website www.mid.ru.

Only the United Nations Security Council has the power to require a state to halt cooperation and the UN body has never made any such ruling on Bushehr, Kamynin said.

The Bushehr power station is being built in compliance with all international rules and under the supervision of the UN's nuclear watchdog, he said.

Washington and other major powers believe the uranium Iran is enriching, mainly at a research site in Natanz, could be used to build a nuclear bomb.

Speaking in Moscow on Wednesday, US Undersecretary of State Nicholas Burns said:

"We believe that it would be appropriate for some countries to stop cooperation with Iran on civilian nuclear issues, including Bushehr."

MNA/Reuters

ထုတ်တုန့်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ကြ



Chinese President Hu Jintao (C) shows Yale University students (R) some of the gifts of Chinese books to the University as Yale University President Richard C Levin (2nd L) watches in New Haven, Connecticut, on 21 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Cambodia rejects US request for troops in Iraq

PHNOM PENH, 21 April — Cambodia has turned down a US approach on sending troops to Iraq and Afghanistan, Prime Minister Hun Sen said on Friday.

"We will not send our armed forces to Iraq because the issue there is not in the hands of the United Nations," Hun Sen told reporters.

But even if the UN were in command, Cambodia would still not send troops to Iraq or Afghanistan, he said following a meeting last week with US Ambassador Joseph A Mussumeli, who asked him to consider sending troops. "Every day we have seen people get killed and taken hostage" in Iraq, Hun Sen said.

"So I will not let my people, who went through 30 years of suffering from war, see more horrible days of separation and suffering from the continued terrorist activities of decapitating hostages in Iraq," he said.

Cambodia, heavily mined itself and

still emerging from three decades of bloody civil war and the Khmer Rouge "Killing Fields" in which an estimated 1.7 million people died, is sending soldiers to Sudan to help clear mines.

Internet



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen

Four Afghans working for US firm hurt in blast

KANDAHAR (Afghanistan), 21 April — Four Afghans working for a private US security firm were wounded in a suicide car-bomb attack on Thursday, a company official said, the latest in a wave of militant bomb attacks.

Government officials in the southern province of Kandahar blamed Taliban guerillas for the attack, in which the bomber rammed his vehicle into the security company car.

"A driver and three guards from USPI were wounded," company official Rohullah told Reuters in Kandahar. The bomber was killed,

he said.

Two foreigners working for the company, which provides protection for road and other projects, were among five people

killed in a roadside blast in a western province last month. The Taleban claimed responsibility for that attack.

MNA/Reuters



Workers from the Korean Federation of Clerical & Financial Labour Unions chant slogans at a protest in Seoul on 21 April, 2006. Hundreds of workers rallied on Friday to demand government cancel the free trade agreement (FTA) deal with US. —INTERNET

Stocks fall as oil ends above \$75 a barrel

NEW YORK, 21 April — US stocks declined on Friday, with the Nasdaq down more than 1 percent, as crude oil prices rose

above \$75 a barrel, increasing concerns about higher energy costs and overshadowing optimism about earnings.

The Dow industrials and S&P 500 indexes had held higher for much of the session, boosted by encouraging quarterly

results from companies including manufacturer 3M Co and Google Inc. until the oil price rise induced selling.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 16.71 points, or 0.15 percent, at 11,326.18. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 4.15 points, or 0.32 percent, at 1,307.31.

The Nasdaq Composite Index was down 26.73 points, or 1.13 percent, at 2,335.82.

"It's definitely oil. We're closer to \$80 (a barrel) than to \$70, and that's kind of discouraging," said Larry Peruzzi, senior equity trader at The Boston

Company Asset Management, a Mellon subsidiary. "The bigger it gets, the more noticeable it is," he said, noting that the more oil rises, the more it cuts into consumer spending.

Supply worries pushed US crude futures to all-time highs. Crude for June delivery settled up \$1.48 at \$75.17, after trading as high as \$75.35, the highest for front-month crude since the New York Mercantile Exchange started trading oil futures in 1983.

Shares of Google were up 5.4 percent at \$437.48, while shares of 3M were up 3.2 percent at \$85.21.

Internet

Five bodies found in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 21 April — Iraqi police found five bodies in the pools of a major sewage water treatment facility in Rustamiya area in southern Baghdad on Wednesday, a police source said.

The bodies seem to be tortured before shot in the head and the chest with their hands tied behind their backs, Captain Ahmed Abdullah told Xinhua.

Meanwhile, a roadside bomb struck a US patrol in eastern Baghdad on Wednesday, wounding two people, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



A customer fills his tank at a Shell station as Gas prices in the Southern California area have reached record highs, costing drivers over \$3.00 a gallon on 21 April, 2006, in Brea, Calif. Oil prices rose to record highs on Friday topping \$75 per barrel. —INTERNET

Official says China-ASEAN ICT cooperation sees broad prospect

PINANG, 21 April — Cooperation in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) between China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) has a broad prospect, a senior Chinese official said here on Thursday.

China and ASEAN embrace a total population of 1.8 billion, which generates the ever-increasing market demand stimulated by the rapid growth of economy, said Wang Xudong, Minister of Information of China.

China and ASEAN each have their own strengths in developing ICT and the strengths are highly complementary to each other, Wang told a forum of ASEAN-China ministerial dialogue with business held here in conjunction with the Second China-ASEAN ICT Week.

This lays a solid foundation for mutual-benefit cooperation and unfolds a broad prospect for the cooperation ahead, Wang said.

The Chinese Government has all along attached priority to the ICT cooperation of mutual benefits with ASEAN and it will continue to enhance the dialogue and exchanges among the administrations, while actively involving all the related sectors like businesses,

trade associations, academic and research institutes to further enhance the partnership between the two sides, he said.

The Chinese minister also raised some proposals to strengthen China-ASEAN cooperation further, including creating a better trade and investment environment for bilateral cooperation, actively promoting the mutual recognition of the IT products, jointly developing and promoting

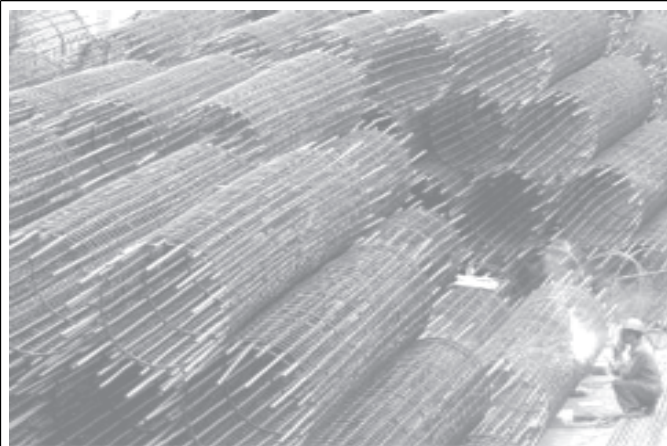
the applicable technologies for the communications in rural and remote areas, and actively promote the cooperation in human resource development.

He believed that the joint efforts by the two sides would bring more dynamics for "ASEAN-China partnership for common development in the ICT sector" and contribute more to the common prosperity of ICT industry in both ASEAN and China.

MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese soldier flies a kite during the 23rd Weifang International Kite Festival in Weifang, China's Shandong Province, on 21 April, 2006. The internationally acclaimed event has been hosted since 1984, attracting representatives from over 20 countries and thousands of visitors from the region every year. —INTERNET



A Chinese worker welds steel rebar at a construction site in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 21 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Thailand continues to lobby for UN top post

BANGKOK, 21 April — Thailand will continue to lobby for the top post of the United Nations, as the election of the new UN Secretary-General will take place late this year, Caretaker Deputy Prime Minister said here Thursday.

Caretaker Deputy Prime Minister Surakiart Sathirathai, who represents the Thai kingdom and other member countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in bidding for the UN top job, told journalists that he would continue to try his best — despite some constraints — to contest for the honorable post.

Surakiart conceded that he had deferred his overseas trips to lobby for the UN top post over the past couple of months due to the country's political turmoil. — MNA/Xinhua



The SEADRILL 3, the first of four oil rigs that Keppel FELS is building for the same customer, is seen during its christening ceremony in Singapore on 21 April, 2006. INTERNET

51 die in bus accident in N-E India

NEW DELHI, 21 April — At least 51 passengers were killed and 10 others injured on Thursday morning when a bus skidded off a highway and fell into a pond in northeast India's Assam, *Indo-Asian News Service* reported.

The bus driver lost control of the vehicle while trying to negotiate a sharp bend around 01:00 am local time Thursday near a village named Goumari in Assam, the local police said.

"It was raining and the bus probably swerved off

the highway and plunged deep into the pond," a police official said.

The bus was carrying about 70 people from Raha in eastern Assam to Goumari Village for a wedding, the official added.

"We have recovered 51 bodies. There could be

some more in the pond and divers are at work," the official said, adding that most victims died of asphyxiation unable to get out of the bus after it fell in the pond.

At least 10 people were seriously injured and they were sent to hospital. —MNA/Xinhua

Colombian police train rats to find mines

BOGOTA (Colombia), 21 April— Watch out Fido, your days on the force may be numbered. Police in Colombia are training Lola and Espejo, two whiskered, red-eyed rats, to sniff out bombs and land mines.

The rodents are part of an experimental six-rat squadron that police

are preparing for dangerous missions to defuse the more than 100,000 land mines that litter Colombia's countryside after four decades of war between the government and leftist rebels.

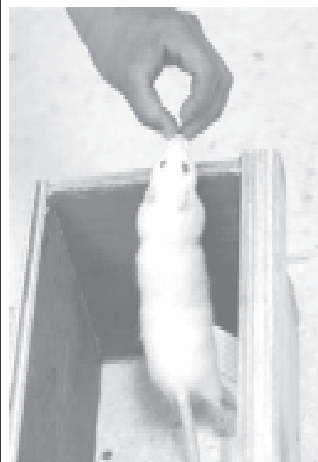
Unlike dogs, rats weighing less than half a pound each and "don't

trigger any explosions when they walk on a mine," said Col Javier Cifuentes, director of the Sibate police academy, where basic training is taking place.

To earn their stripes, the rats have spent the past year undergoing a daily training regimen in which they are placed in a maze with C-4 explosives and other bomb-making materials. When they detect the target, they're rewarded with a cracker.

Trainers estimate it could be six months before the rats are pressed into active duty.

Cifuentes said he believes Colombia is the first country to use rats to conduct police work, though larger rodents are being employed for similar purposes in Sudan, he said.



An anti-explosive rat is fed by a police officer after it found an explosive during training at the police station in Sibate south of Bogota, Colombia, on 19 April, 2006. INTERNET

Internet



Iranian Defence Minister Mostafa Mohammad Najjar gestures after a wreath laying ceremony in Baku on 20 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Iranian Defence Minister dismisses US threat

Moscow, 21 April — Iran does not fear US President George W Bush's threat about a possible nuclear strike on nuclear facilities, Iranian Defence Minister Mostafa Mohammad Najjar said in Baku on Thursday.

"The United States has been threatening Iran for 27 straight years and this is no news for us. For this reason we do not fear the threats," Najjar told reporters during a visit to Azerbaijan.

Najjar said his country was going to discuss its nuclear issue with the world community. "We are ready to settle all questions through negotiations. At the same time, if a menace appears, Iran is ready to stop it."

When asked about

possible mediation by Azerbaijan between Iran and the United States during Azerbaijani President Ilkham Aliyev's

visit to Washington in late April, Najjar said: "We have not asked anybody for mediation so far." Aliyev could "make

our stance clear, but the main thing is that it is understood rightly", he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Nepali capital suffers from sudden rainfall

KATHMANDU, 21 April — The sudden downpour that hit Nepali capital, Kathmandu Valley, from Monday night is not likely to subside until Wednesday evening, a senior meteorologist said here on Wednesday.

Senior Meteorologist at the Tribhuvan International Airport Keshav Das Shrestha said that rainfall was brought by a cloud

system blown from the western regions of the country and that it will begin to clear out only later Wednesday. Normally the

Kathmandu Valley receives about 56.9 rainfall in April. However, there has already been over 67.2 millimetres of precipitation this month, Shrestha said. Since Monday night, the valley witnessed a rainfall of 34.7 millimetres, he said.

Meanwhile, different places in the kingdom received rainfall since Monday night due to the influence of the westerly winds. The rainfall which should have occurred towards the end of March was delayed. Although late in arrival, the rainfall will be favourable for sowing crops like maize and the present 35-hour a week load-shedding will be reduced due to the increase in the water level in the rivulets that had gone dry due to drought conditions, according to Shrestha. —MNA/Xinhua



Rescuers search for victims at the site of a landslide in Trenggalek, East Java, Indonesia, on 21 April, 2006. Flash floods and landslides triggered by heavy rain killed at least 15 people Thursday in the district. —INTERNET

Indian Minister urges closer links with Asian countries

NEW DELHI, 21 April — Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry Kamal Nath said here Wednesday that India will develop closer links with Asian countries in a bid to boost manufacturing.

The growth of trade between India and China and Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) stood the fastest of all regions, Nath said at the National Conference and Annual General Meeting of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

India's bilateral trade with ASEAN grew from 4 billion US dollars a decade ago to 20 billion dollars last year and that with China rose from 1 billion dollars to 15 billion dollars during the same period. The "Look

East Policy" promoted by Indian Government had opened up new windows of opportunities, the minister said. India was negotiating a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the ASEAN. It has been a sectoral dialogue partner of ASEAN since 1992 and a full dialogue partner since 1995.

"We already have a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) with Singapore in place, and an FTA with Thailand nearing completion," Nath said. —MNA/Xinhua

One injured in strong rocket explosion in Kabul

KABUL, 21 April — A strong rocket explosion shook the Afghan capital Kabul Wednesday night near the tightly-secured military area, and injured a police, a witness said.

"One policeman was injured in this strong rocket explosion near the area where ISAF (International Security Assistance Force) headquarters and the US Embassy are located," one witness told Xinhua.

The thick white smoke can be seen even some hundred metres away after the explosion. Large number of policemen and foreign troops, according to someone near the area, have been sent to the explosion site and blocked the way. There was another rocket explosion near the US

Embassy last October before the US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice visited Afghanistan. One policeman was injured in the explosion.

Taliban's elusive leader, who has escaped the US military manhunt in the region, vowed in a statement last month to intensify attacks on Afghan and foreign troops in the spring when the weather gets warm.

Two Canadian soldiers were injured Wednesday when a Canadian convoy was hit by a roadside bomb in the southern province of Helmand. —MNA/Xinhua

Toxic leaks tarnish image of Michigan resort

PETOSKEY, 21 April — On a hillside overlooking Lake Michigan, the community of Bay Harbor promotes itself as an environmentally sensitive luxury resort.

It boasts a highly rated golf course, yachting and equestrian clubs, stylish boutiques and million-dollar mansions with to-die-for views of sparkling waves and scarlet sunsets.

But nearly a decade after it was built atop the grounds of an abandoned cement factory, toxic leaks have tarnished the resort's image.

Chemicals have seeped from buried cement dust piles and into Little Traverse Bay, prompting regulators to restrict access to part of the shoreline and order an extensive cleanup. "It's striking — this lavish, luxurious community with this kind of fencing and signs on the beach," said Scott Kendzierski, environmental health director for the Northwest Michigan Community Health Agency. "I'm sure it's

not what people expected when they bought into this." Heavy machinery, workers in protective suits, chain-link fences and posted warnings to avoid contact with the caustic liquid disturb the resort's serene beauty.

It's unclear when the cleanup will be completed,

but CMS Energy Corp, an original investor now stuck with the tab, recently estimated the cost at \$85 million. The developers have denied misleading anyone and residents of the 550-home community disagree on how much harm has been done.

Homeowners Richard

and Robin Franks of Northville, who say their yard was contaminated, filed a lawsuit contending they were not adequately informed of the danger. Their property value has plummeted and efforts to sell have gone nowhere, said their attorney, Steve Weiss. —Internet



Fencing surrounds a waste ash site at East Park, at the perimeter of Bay Harbor, Michigan. On a hillside overlooking Lake Michigan, the community of Bay Harbor promotes itself as an environmentally sensitive luxury resort. —INTERNET

Old Tagaung in the new age

Ashin Ardiccavamsa

A news report carried in the 19-8-2004-issued Myanmar Alin daily said: "Tagaung region can be proved as the home to early Pyu people as a large number of Pyu urns and goblets were found there, and the discovered artifacts were of the kind of the ones found in Hanlin, Beikthano and Sriakra old towns."

The dailies which appeared on 2 September 2004 also run a news report and photographs under the heading "More Pyu artifacts found in Tagaung". I became interested more in Tagaung after reading the news reports. Tagaung is the birth place of Myanmar people. Tagaung and Myanmar are inseparable from each other. Ancient scholars even said, "Tagaung is the origin of Myanmar people".

There came out an opportunity for me to visit Tagaung in February this year. I attended the ceremony to close the upper reliquary, hoist the sacred umbrella and consecrate the rebuilt

Laymyethna Payagyi, an ancient pagoda in Tagaung, on 2nd of that month. The ceremony was sponsored by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung. The pagoda was rebuilt with the generous donations of the Buddhist Myanmar.

The minister and party during their visit to Tagaung on 10 May 2003 cleared the compound of Shwezigon ancient pagoda built by Thadoe Maha Dhammayaza of the second Tagaung dynasty in the Religious Year (RE) 98. Locals gave them information about a large ancient pagoda and a large number of votive tablet they had found. When the minister and party visited the area on 19 May morning, they found a mound or an ancient brick pagoda over 20 feet high and about 90 feet in circumference. The level of its brick foundation was of the same as the ground's. It was Laymyethna Pagoda.

The two huge sitting Buddha statues located on the east and the west of the pagoda were half covered with earth and broken bricks. The head and

hands of each statue could be seen. But they were just brick statues without any outer cement cover. Two standing Buddha statues were learned to exist on the north and the south of the pagoda but they had collapsed due to prolonged exposure to natural elements.

Under a jack fruit tree located not far from the pagoda in the south-east were broken votive tablets. Each tablets was five inches wide, one inch thick and 6.5 inches high.

Written on the tablets were the Pali words meaning "the votive tablets were made by the noble king Anirudda (Anawrahta) himself by his own skillful hands to be free from the Samsara." According to the inscriptions, the Laymyethna Pagoda was built by King Anawrahta of Bagan. The Culture Minister held a ceremony in accord with Myanmar tradition to drive the stakes and lay foundation on 18 June 2004 morning to rebuild the pagoda. He enshrined religious objects in the main reliquary, and erected the pivot on 5 May 2005.

History of Tagaung, where Myanmar originated, is about to enter a new age. The archway of the entrance to the old town was built according to the designs in the unearthed urns in Tagaung. There were 65 kinds of urn designs, and the archway was decorated with them.

Enshrinement, sacred-umbrella-hoisting and consecration ceremony of the pagoda was held in February 2004, and on the 12th of the month there took place the 59th anniversary Union Day celebrations. Hence, in my view, the successful rebuilding of the Laymyethna Pagoda of Tagaung has been a good omen for the solidarity of the Union of Myanmar.

(Translation: TMT)

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Forestry Minister inspects sawmill, timber extraction regions

YANGON, 22 April — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected the Base Workshop (Swa) of the Engineering Department of the Myanmar Timber Enterprise in Yedashe Township yesterday.

The minister and party also inspected Saw-

mill No 6 in Yedashe Township and Moe rafting station of Swa Timber Extraction Region (1), and gave instructions. They also looked into Myaysay rafting station at Taungoo (South) Timber Extraction Region in Ottwin Township in the afternoon.

Later that afternoon, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung and party arrived at Kan (3) rafting station in Alon Township and Setsan rafting station in Mingala Taungnyunt Township. He oversaw heaps of sorted lots to be sold through tender and gave instructions.

MNA



Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspects Base Workshop (Swa) of Engineering Department of Myanmar Timber Enterprise in Yedashe Township. — FORESTRY

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

Relics kept in reliquary of Nagayon Musalinda Buddha Image at Maha Tejamuni Pagoda in Hlinethaya

YANGON, 22 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence kept relics and religious objects in the reliquary of Nagayon Musalinda Buddha Image of Maha Tejamuni Pagoda built on Bawgawady Hill in Ngwe Pinle Fishery Industrial Zone of Hlinethaya Township at the pagoda this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Shwethuwun Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Siddhiya of Thingangyun Township and members of the

and wellwishers.

Hlinethaya Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman Bhaddanta Paññajota administered the Nine Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Lt-Gen Tin Aye and party offered provisions to the Sayadaws.

Next, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tejavamsa delivered a sermon, and the congregation shared merits gained.

They conveyed relics and religious objects to the pagoda. Next, Lt-Gen Tin Aye and party kept relics and religious objects into the reliquary of the



Maha Tejamuni Pagoda built on Bawgawady Hill in Ngwe Pinle Fishery Industrial Zone of Hlinethaya Township being seen. — MNA



Lt-Gen Tin Aye and congregation took nine precepts from a Sayadaw at the ceremony to place relics and religious objects into Nagayon Musalinda Buddha Image. — MNA



Lt-Gen Tin Aye donates religious objects to a Sayadaw. —MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe donates religious objects to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Sangha, Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, senior military officers, departmental officials, members of BODs of Ngwe Pinle Fishery Industrial Zone

Buddha Image. After closing the reliquary, they sprinkled scented water on it.

Lt-Gen Tin Aye and party performed the rituals of golden and silver showers to mark the successful completion of placing relics and religious objects into the reliquary.

MNA

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win donates religious objects to a Sayadaw at the ceremony.

MNA



Sound foundations needed for...

(from page 16)

No 1 Ward in Pyapon Township and Ohnbin Village in Dedaye Township. The main bridge is 1,372 feet long. The total length including approach bridges is 3,932 feet and its width is 28 feet with six-foot wide walkways each. The clearance of the bridge is 265 feet wide and 36 feet high.

The Senior General and party went to Pyapon by Z-craft and toured there. They met members of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council, departmental officials, Chairmen of Pathein, Myaungmya, Hinthada and Maubin District PDCs, Chairmen of Pyapon, Bogale, Kyaiklat and Dedaye Township PDCs, members of the Union Solidarity and De-



Senior General Than Shwe greets members of Ayeyawady Division PDC, departmental personnel, USDA and social organization members and local people. — MNA

velopment Association and social organizations and townsenders at Thiri Annawa Hall.



Senior General Than Shwe inspects the site chosen for construction of Kyungon Bridge in Ayeyawady Division. — MNA

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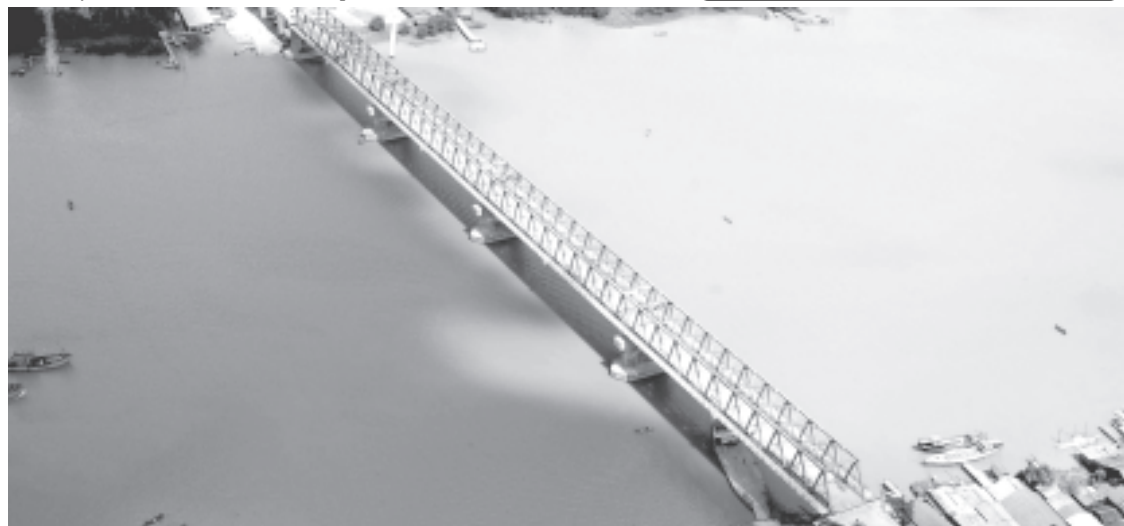
Water, land, climate, workforce and technology are necessary for development of a region. It can be said that Ayeyawady Division possesses these foundations.

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velopment Association and social organizations and townsenders at Thiri Annawa Hall.



Aerial view of Pyapon Bridge in Ayeyawady Division. — MNA

(See page 9)



Senior General Than Shwe hears report presented by Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun on the site chosen to build Kyungon bridge.— MNA

Sound foundations needed...

(from page 8)

If Ayeyawady Division can employ such favourable conditions and exert efforts to its utmost, the region will remain as the most reliable region in the nation and that will serve the interest of the people



General Thura Shwe Mann— MNA

and the region. So, those in charge of respective regions, departmental personnel and local people are to pursue these aims, he urged.

State level officials are making unremitting efforts with good volition in the interests of the nation and the people.

Therefore, the entire nation has enjoyed remarkable development. In a bid to implement development plans, there still remains a task of democratization process to be completed.

The government has laid down the seven-step Road Map and is implementing it to ensure smooth transition to democracy.

Democracy cannot be introduced through words. The introducing of democracy without discipline can incite mob rule and anarchy.

So, the government is using the words of discipline-flourishing democracy in reference to the word

democracy.

Sound foundations needed for flourishing of democracy are to be laid in the transitional period.

The first requirement is to restore peace and stability and ensure prevalence of law and order across

the progress of work and approach road and left there.

The length of the main bridge of Twantay Bridge is 840 feet and its width is 28 feet. Each approach bridge is 1,365 feet long.

MNA

The people should have the correct knowledge of democracy. So, the government is nurturing them to be highly intelligent with rich knowledge.

the nation including border areas. It has been witnessed that any system cannot be built without community peace and stability.

The second requirement is to have good foundations for economic development with strong national economy. The third one is that the people have high intellectual and reasoning power.

Work is to be done with intelligence. So, basically the people are to be high in intelligence and knowledge and to be capable of distinguishing destructive acts and constructive efforts.

The people should have the correct knowledge of democracy. So, the government is nurturing them to be highly intelligent with rich knowledge.

Due to lack of such solid foundations, the parliamentary democracy practised from 1948 to 1962 and the Socialist democracy practised from 1962 to 1988 in the nation did not last long and met their end.

Thus, the seven-step Road Map is to be implemented stage by stage while building basic foundations needed for building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. After the meeting, the Senior General cordially greeted those present.

On arrival at Twantay Bridge Construction Project site at Twantay Canal in Phaya Ngutto Village in Twantay Township, Senior General Than Shwe and party were welcomed by Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Yangon Division PDC Chairman Yangon Command Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and officials.

Next, the Senior General and party inspected



Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung.— MNA

Commander inspects agricultural task in Lashio Township

NAY PYI TAW, 21 April—Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, accompanied by officials concerned, on 18 April inspected physic nut plantations Nos 1 and 2 and cultivation of sun flowers, pineapple, lychee research plantations and honey orange plantations under the command headquarters.

At the briefing hall, the commander heard a report presented by Lt-Col Tin Win of local regiment on engines to be run with the use of physic nut oil, plans to extract physic nut oil and refining of it, and using of physic nut oil in generators of rural areas.

Next, the commander and party inspected the 100-acre physic nut plantation of the command, the 5000-physic nut plant research plantation, the 1000 acre-high land paddy plantation in Lashio, the 30-acre high yield Hsinshweli paddy plantation, pineapple plantation, the 15-acre summer paddy plantation, the 1000-acre physic nut plantation of Hnin Hnin Khine Co near Napha village, Lashio Township, the 10-acre high yield Hsinshweli paddy plantation of Lashio Township Peace and Development Council and the 121-acre high yield Hsinshweli paddy plantation of Myanmar Police Force near Yepusan village, Lashio Township and gave necessary instructions to officials.—MNA

If Ayeyawady Division can employ such fine conditions and exert efforts to its utmost, the region will remain as the most reliable one in the nation and that will contribute towards the interest of the people and the region. So, those in charge of respective regions, departmental personnel and local people are to pursue the aims.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends respect-paying, ordination, novitiation ceremonies, visits crops plantations in Kayin State

NAY PYI TAW, 22 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, together with Mon State PDC Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials, attended a respect-paying ceremony for elders organized by Kayin State PDC in Zweekabin Hall in

Hpa-an, Kayin State on 19 April morning.

After taking the Nine Precepts from the members of the Sangha, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and wife Daw Khin Lay Myint offered alms to the Sayadaw of Mebaung Monastery. Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and wife also presented offertories to the Chairman Sayadaw of Kayin State

Sangha Nayaka Committee. Next, No 22 LID Commander Col Kyaw Swe, Kayin State PDC Chairman Col Khin Kyu and officials offered alms to the members of the Sangha.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party presented cash assistance to 77 elderly persons. After that, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended the second ordina-



Lt-Gen Maung Bo and wife Daw Khin Lay Myint offer alms to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Maj-Gen Soe Naing and wife offer alms to a Sayadaw.

MNA

tion and novitiation ceremony of No 22 LID held at Nayungbintha Monastery in Myainggalay. They offered provisions to 210 persons who were ordained and 40 boys who were novitiated. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and wife offered alms to the Sayadaw of Mebaung Monastery. The commander and officials also donated offertories to the monks.

On 20 April, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended a ceremony to plant seeds of kitchen crops of the units and regiments under Hpa-an Station. They next inspected the seasonal crops plantations of the station and presented cash in aid to the families of the station.

On their visit to the briefing hall of physic nut

cultivation of the local battalion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander and party were briefed by an official on cultivation of physic nut plants. Lt-Gen Maung Bo called for boosting cultivation of physic nut plants and inspected the plantations. In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw via Sittoung Bridge.

MNA

Myanmar delegation back from Indonesia

YANGON, 22 April — The Myanmar delegation led by Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun arrived back here by air this afternoon from Indonesia.

The Myanmar delegation attended the Third Meeting of the Eminent

Persons Group (EPG) on the ASEAN Charter held in Indonesia, from 17 to 20 April.

They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, members of

CSSTB, directors-general and officials of the CSSTB.

Director U Win Thein and Head of Section-1 U Zaw Naing Win of ASEAN Affairs Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also arrived back here on the same flight. — MNA



Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun being welcomed back at the airport. — MNA

Yangon Business Directory comes out



YANGON, 22 April — Eureka Co Ltd published Yangon Business Directory recently.

The Myanmar version directory carries addresses of businesses, other facts and data, telephone numbers and advertisements related to 22 townships including Yangon, Pinyinman, Toungoo, Pyay, Bago, Mawlamyine, Hpa-an, Sittway and Patheingyi.

Furthermore, more than 600 industries of entrepreneurs' production and services and over 60,000 business addresses are collected in the directory.

The industries and business addresses are in alphabetical order.

The directory is available at Eureka Co Ltd, No 145, 36th Street (Central Block), Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-253295 and 250121; and H-2, First Floor, at the corner of 78th Street and 30th Street, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay, Tel: 09-500-9101.

MNA

Senior CPC official meets Mongolian guest

BEIJING, 22 April — Wang Jiarui, head of the International Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met with a Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP) delegation led by the party's secretary-general S Bayar.

Wang said that China-Mongolia partnership boosted in recent years by the joint efforts made by the two sides, highlighted by intensified high-level exchanges, consolidated the political mutual trust and expanded the economic and trade cooperation.

"To promote ties with Mongolia is a longstanding policy of the Chinese Government and the CPC," Wang promised.

Wang also spoke positively on the role

played by inter-party exchanges between the CPC and the MPRP in pushing forward bilateral relations, adding that the two parties should further their friendship and step up cooperation. Bayar said that the mutual visits between the two state heads in recent years have set a clear direction for Mongolia-China partnership, noting that the development of friendly ties with China tops the Mongolian Government's foreign policies. — MNA/Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENTS

INVITATION FOR QUOTATION

1. For and on behalf of the Ministry of Construction of the Government of the Union of Myanmar sealed Quotations with deferred payment for three years as well as L/C at sight proposals are invited by the Managing Director, Public Works, Nay Pyi Taw City, Myanmar for the detailed design (including the erection procedure), fabrication, supply of materials, erection equipment, and supervision of steel truss erection for LEINLI Suspension Bridge across Paung Laung Chaung, Pyinmana-Pinlong Road, Southern Shan State.
 2. The particulars of LEINLI Suspension Bridge may be obtained for USD 5000 by request in writing or in person at the specified price following address. Managing Director Public Works No. 11, Ministry of Construction Nay Pyi Taw City, Myanmar
 3. The Quotation should be submitted to the above address not later than 16:30 hours on 31st July, 2006.
 4. When this Quotation is accepted, the Contract will be made in the name of Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw City, Myanmar.
- Managing Director,
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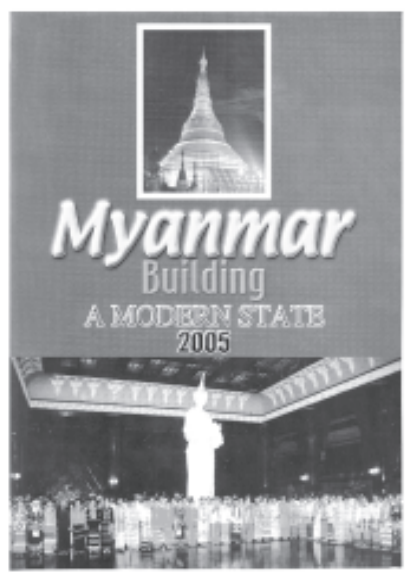
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M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for S. C. R. A. S.
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 23 April 2006

Russia not to take sides in possible US war against Iran

Moscow, 21 April—Russia will maintain neutrality in a possible armed conflict between Iran and the United States, Chief of General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces and First Deputy Defence Minister Yuri Baluyevsky said on Wednesday.

"Unequivocally, and I'm saying it as chief of the General Staff, Russia will not be offering the use of its Armed Forces on either side," Baluyevsky was quoted by the *ITAR-TASS* news agency as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



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An employee of Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd, best known for its Panasonic brand, shows the new Blu-ray Disc drive and Blu-ray discs in Tokyo on 21 April, 2006. Matsushita is one of the main supporters of Blu-ray which is one of two competing formats for the next-generation of DVD technology. The other is called HD-DVD.—INTERNET

“Forbes” says Russia’s richest worth \$ 248b

Moscow, 21 April — The 100 richest Russians have assets worth 248 billion US dollars or more than a quarter of Russia's nominal gross domestic product, according to the Russian version of *Forbes* magazine which hit newsstands on Thursday.

Roman Abramovich, owner of English soccer club Chelsea, stayed at the top with a fortune of 18.3 billion US dollars, a gain of 3.6 billion US dollars on last year, said the magazine.

Collectively, the fortunes of Russia's richest who are often termed "oligarchs" grew by 107 billion US dollars over the past year.

"The main result of the year is that the rich became richer," *Forbes* said in a statement. Their fortunes compare to average wages of 3,600 US dollars per year, according to official Russian statistics.

Many ordinary Russians view the oligarchs with a mixture of envy and resentment and are quick to accuse them of having made illicit gains. Russia's richest amassed massive fortunes and influence in the chaotic privatizations that followed the fall of the Soviet Union.

They have bolstered their wealth in recent years in a wave of initial public offerings and attempts to present a more friendly face to foreign investors, who have been attracted back to Russia's sometimes turbulent markets since the 1998 crisis.— MNA/Reuters

Red Cross seeks \$13.7m to combat bird flu

GENEVA, 21 April — The world's largest disaster relief agency appealed on Thursday for 17.4 million Swiss francs (13.7 million US dollars) to train tens of thousands of Red Cross volunteers to shore up defences against any bird flu pandemic.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said west and central Africa were "particularly vulnerable" if the H5N1 virus began to spread amongst humans, because healthcare services there were often weak.

Experts including UN bird flu coordinator David Nabarro have said Red Cross and Red Crescent societies are a key frontline partner in gearing up preparedness against a pandemic.

"A crucial part of the International Federation's response will be to specially train 50,000 volunteers and staff to respond to the specific nature of the crisis," the Federation said in a statement.

Among the more than two dozen countries

where the Federation is already preparing to respond to avian flu are China, Iraq and North Korea, according to the statement. The H5N1

avian flu virus has spread quickly in recent months, and has been reported in 42 countries across Asia, Europe and parts of Africa.
MNA/Reuters

Russia to sell air defence systems to Iran according to contracts

Moscow, 21 April — Russia will implement the contract to supply Tor-M1 air defence systems to Iran in full, Chief of General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces and First Deputy Defence Minister Yuri Baluyevsky said here. Baluyevsky made the statement after his talks with James Johns, Supreme Commander of the United States and NATO forces in Europe.

"I'm sure this equipment is not strategic, but it is obvious that it will be delivered in accordance

with Russia's international commitments in the non-proliferation sphere and under control by the appropriate bodies. I'm simply sure of it," Baluyevsky was quoted by the *ITAR-TASS* news agency as saying.

Up to 30 Tor-M1 complexes are planned to be supplied to Teheran which will defend the key state and military facilities, foremost nuclear facilities in Isfahan, Bushehr, Teheran and in the east of the country.

MNA/Xinhua



Adobe's Photoshop CS2 software is seen in an undated file photo. Design software maker Adobe Systems Inc aims to increase its revenues in Japan by more than 40 percent in the business year ending in November 2007, its chief executive said on 21 April, 2006.

INTERNET

Drive with care

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Russia to launch "Progress M-57" cargo ship ahead of schedule

Moscow, 21 April — The US space agency (NASA) has ordered the launch of Russia's Progress M-57 cargo spaceship on 16 June, 12 days ahead of schedule, the Russian space agency said on Wednesday.

NASA had called for Progress early takeoff because of the planned launch of its Discovery space shuttle had been delayed from May to July, the Russian space agency's spokesman, Davydenko said.



An Atlas V rocket with its payload of an Astra 1KR satellite lifts off from the launch pad at complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida on 20 April, 2006. International Launch Services launched the Atlas V carrying the Astra 1KR direct broadcast satellite that will provide direct to home services and transmit HDTV channels across Europe.—INTERNET

Discovery, the International Space Station (ISS) crew of US astronaut Jeffrey Williams and Russian cosmonaut Pavel Vinogradov have to make preparations for several weeks. Therefore US space experts were concerned that if Russia's Progress was not launched ahead of schedule, the two station crew would have insufficient time to prepare for the Discovery. MNA/Xinhua



Employees of the Philippine Electricity Market Corp monitor the market on the trading floor at its headquarters in Pasig City, Manila, on 20 April, 2006. The Philippine wholesale electricity spot market, which analysts say is key to success of the sale of state-owned power plants, is likely to open in June, the operator of the trading system said on Friday.—INTERNET

Archaeologists find fossil snake with legs in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 21 April — Archaeologists have found a 90-million-year-old fossil of a two-legged snake in La Buitrera, in the southern Argentine province of Rio

Negro, adding evidence to the argument that snakes evolved on land, local media said on Thursday.

The snake's anatomy and the location of the fossil show it lived on land, said the researchers, from the Maimonides University National History Foundation and Buenos Aires Natural Sciences Museum team.

The archaeologists named the snake najash, the Hebrew name for the Biblical snake which tempted Adam and Eve.

Paleontologist Sebastian Apestequia said the most primitive snakes were lizards which had lost their forelimbs and extended their upper bodies.—MNA/Xinhua

Aaron Kwok to join stars at Madame Tussauds Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 21 April — Madame Tussauds Hong Kong announced Wednesday that local artist Aaron Kwok will be immortalized in wax at the new attraction scheduled to be reopened at the Peak in May.

Typical to his dazzling flamboyant pose in a loose black jacket adorned with bursts of colourful flowers at the Hong Kong Glamor Hall alongside Hollywood stars including Hugh Grant, Brad Pitt, Michelle Yeoh and Elizabeth Taylor.

Aaron has got outstanding achievements on the stage and screen. He is also an active participant in various charity programmes. He set up his own foundation in 2000 as is a regular contributor to charities.

Last year, Aaron was awarded the Best Actor at

the Taiwan Golden Horse Award and was recognized as one of the "Ten Outstanding Young Persons" of Hong Kong in 2003.

As the first permanent Madame Tussauds in Asia, Madame Tussauds Hong Kong is undergoing an expansion project worth 20 million HK dollars (about 2.58 million US dollars).

The new look attraction will feature over 100 local and international celebrity wax figures with exciting audio-visual effects and interactive experiences to create truly magic moments for guests.—MNA/Xinhua

Display of Mexican culture to kick off in Beijing

BEIJING, 21 April — Ten representative troupes of performing arts in Mexico will join "Meet in Beijing", a national cultural festival on 28 April, presenting the largest ever display of Mexico culture.

Mexican Ambassador to China, Sergio Ley Lopez said that Mexico's participation in "Meet in Beijing" as the guest of honour highlighted the healthy and stable Mexico-China relations since the establishment of diplomatic ties 34 years ago.

Mexico, like China, is proud of its long history and ancient civilization represented by the Maya Civilization, Lopez said, adding Mexico so far held 21 historic UNESCO World Heritage sites.

"Our government attaches great importance to Mexico-China ties," Lopez said, "The Mexican artistic delegation will present a huge and diverse mosaic that represents the present creative force of our country."

The programme will be kicked off by the performance of the most important dance company of Mexico: the National Folk Ballet of Amalia Hernandez. Hernandez, Mexico's best renowned dancer, will show people the Mexican artists'

innovative spirit for artistic exploration. Another two national level dancing companies, namely, Yucatan Folk Dance Company and Alacia Schanz Modern Dance Troupe, will show people the past and present of Mexico with the unique expression of dancing.

Lopez noted three greatest Mexican artists will all come to China, including cellist Carlos Prieto, popular singer Cecilia Toussaint and soprano Eugenia Garza. MNA/Xinhua

Chinese scholar draws map of Chinese literature

BEIJING, 21 April — A leading Chinese scholar said here Wednesday that he has found correlation between ancient paintings with Chinese literature and tries to draw a map of ancient Chinese literature.

Yang Yi, director of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) Institute of Literature, said at a news briefing that he has published the first book of his innovative idea, The Chinese Ancient Literature Illustrated.

"The fragile paper and paintings show us spirit of the ancient Chinese

literature," Yang said in an interview with Xinhua.

In this newly-published book, Yang tried to explain context of literary documents and paintings, dated back to about 1,000 years.

"I wish to thoroughly study the integration of Chinese civilization in the dimension of literature

history as well as dynamics of the Chinese culture," Yang said. Literary critics said Yang's analyses on relationship between different family clans, localities and urban cultures, as well as mentality of the elite and derogated officials are academic innovations. MNA/Xinhua



Brazil's first astronaut Marcos Pontes (top L) is greeted by residents during his arrival at his hometown Bauru, 300 km (186 miles) northwest of Sao Paulo, on 21 April, 2006. Pontes is visiting Bauru after he returned from a mission in the International Space Station (ISS) with colleagues from Russia and the US.—INTERNET

SPORTS



Andres Palop, goalkeeper of Sevilla FC saves a header of Schalke 04's Kevin Kuranyi (4thL) during their UEFA Cup semi-final first leg soccer match in Gelsenkirchen, western Germany, on 20 April, 2006. The match ended 0-0.—INTERNET

Anderlecht beat Liege to reclaim top spot

BRUSSELS, 22 April—Anderlecht are favourites to win their 28th Belgian First Division title after taking over form Standard Liege at the top with a 2-0 home win on Friday.

The Brussels club's victory put them two points clear of their opponents with two games remaining. Anderlecht have 66 points against Liege's 64 after 32 matches.

Anderlecht grabbed the lead in the 34th minute when Serhat Akin beat the offside trap and slipped the ball home after it was knocked forward by Gregory Pujol.

Captain Par Zetterberg got the second in the 58th by bending a free kick into the top corner from the edge of the box to make amends for a glaring penalty miss after just

seven minutes. Zetterberg's poor first-half spot kick was comfortably saved by Liege goalkeeper Vedran Runje after defender Jorge Costa was adjudged to have handled in the box.

Although Anderlecht now have the advantage in the title race both coaches played down the significance of the result.

"We need to be very careful in the next two games and need to be at our best and take maximum points," Anderlecht coach Frank Vercauteren said.—MNA/Reuters



Annika Sorenstam, of Sweden, hits her tee shot on the 11th hole during second round play at the Florida's Natural Charity Championship golf tournament on 21 April, 2006, in Stockbridge, Ga.—INTERNET

Shearer brings down curtain on glorious career

LONDON, 22 April—Former England captain Alan Shearer has played his last professional game for Newcastle United after announcing he will miss the rest of the season.

"I'm finished now and I have great memories. The fact I won't be able to play the last three games is disappointing but I'm not complaining. How could I?" he was quoted as saying in Saturday's *Sun* newspaper.

The 35-year-old centre forward was due to retire at the end of the season but a scan on Friday revealed that he tore his medial knee ligament in Monday's 4-1 Premier League win over Sunderland.

"There's a tear in the

medial ligament which, although it does not require an operation, means I will be in a knee brace for a few weeks. It's disappointing but I've had a great career.

"Some people think it was a fantastic way to go out anyway by scoring in our 4-1 win at Sunderland last week. I think they might be right.

"I had focused on going all the way to the last game of the season against Chelsea and then my testimonial," he said. "But we don't live in an ideal

world.

"Hopefully, I'll be able to kick off the testimonial but there's lots of people worse off than me."

MNA/Reuters

Former Brazil coach Santana dies at 74

SAO PAULO, 22 April—Tele Santana, one of Brazil's greatest coaches, died on Friday aged 74 in a Belo Horizonte Hospital where he had been in intensive care for an intestinal infection since 25 March, the hospital said.

Santana, who led Brazil at the 1982 and 1986 World Cups and won the Libertadores Cup twice in a row with Sao Paulo, was widely respected for his

sense of fair play and his refusal to use rough-arm tactics.

"Football is art, it's enjoyment and it's not about hoofing the ball upfield," he said. "I'd rather lose the game than tell my team to foul, kick the opponents or win with an illegitimate goal." Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva led the tributes.

"Tele always maintained that football should be played elegantly, skillfully and with respect for the opposition," he said in a statement, adding that artistic football practised by the "master" would inspire future generations.

Brazil captain Cafu, who played under Santana in the early days of his

career at Sao Paulo, also paid tribute to him.

"He was a great man, a great friend and a father-like figure, who kept giving us great advice," said Cafu, who became the first player to appear in three successive World Cup finals. Former Brazil midfielder Rai played in the same Sao Paulo team in the early 1990s and said Santana changed his career.

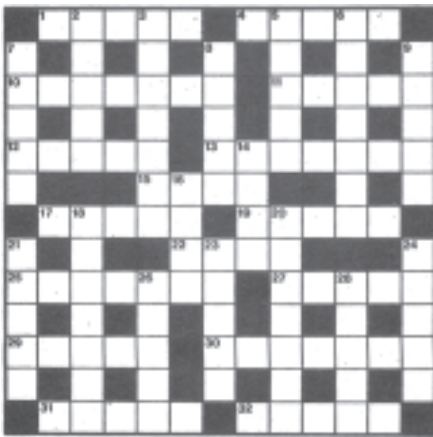
"He represented a watershed in my career and made me see that I could give a lot more, that I needed ambition to bring out the best in me," said Rai, the younger brother of 1986 World Cup midfielder Socrates.

MNA/Reuters



Roger Federer of Switzerland returns the ball to David Ferrer of Spain during their quarter finals match of the Monte Carlo Open Tennis tournament in Monaco, on 21 April, 2006. Federer won 6-1, 6-3.—INTERNET

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



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- 28 Supply

Wenger ready for biggest north London derby of all time

LONDON COLNEY (England), 22 April—Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger says Saturday's Premier League clash with Tottenham Hotspur is the most important in the history of north London derbies.

Wenger knows his side must beat Spurs at Highbury to stand a realistic chance of pipping their neighbours for the fourth Champions League spot.

Arsenal, in fifth position, are four points adrift of fourth-placed Spurs. The Gunners have four games left to play this season and their local rivals have three.

"Tomorrow is our biggest game of the season in the Premier League," Wenger told reporters on

Friday. "You want to combine both, not killing your chance in the Champions League and beat Tottenham.

"There was never a game where there was so much at stake for both teams."—MNA/Reuters

Owen's surprise return to Newcastle squad boosts England

NEWCASTLE (England), 22 April—Newcastle United's surprise naming of Michael Owen in their squad for Saturday's home game against West Bromwich Albion is also a big boost for England's

World Cup hopes. Sources close to the club say the best Owen can hope for is a place on the substitutes' bench against West Brom as Newcastle are not prepared to take major risks with the England striker.

But the fact that he is back in the first-team fold is a huge lift not only for the Magpies, who are chasing a place in next season's UEFA Cup, but for England with their World Cup opener against Paraguay just seven weeks away.

Before then, England have two warm-up games at Old Trafford against Hungary on 30 May, and Jamaica four days later.

MNA/Reuters



Belgium's Fed Cup tennis player Justine Henin-Hardenne listens her coach Carlos Rodriguez (R) during a training session in Liege on 21 April, 2006. Belgium will play Russia in the Fed Cup quarter-finals.—INTERNET

Vietnam inaugurates modern bird flu lab

HANOI, 22 April — A modern bird flu reference laboratory with a total investment of over 281,000 US dollars has become operational in Vietnam, local newspaper *Vietnam Agriculture* reported on Friday.

The lab inaugurated on Thursday is to conduct bird flu researches, help Laos and Cambodia diagnose the disease, develop technologies for making diagnosis products, and train local veterinary staff about diagnosis techniques.

reference laboratory, it will make final decision about results of bird flu analysis when health establishments produce different testing results.

In 2005, bird flu hit 44 cities and provinces of Vietnam, killing and leading to the forced culling of nearly 4.8 million poul-

try, or over 2 per cent of the country's fowl population, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The country, home to nearly 220 million fowls currently, has detected no bird flu outbreaks for over four months, said the ministry. — *MNA/Xinhua*



People carry their belongings away from the flooded village of Rast near the Danube River, 300 km (186 miles) southwest of Bucharest, on 20 April, 2006. Hundreds of Romanians and Bulgarians faced the danger of new flooding on Thursday as the swollen Danube River threatened to breach battered defences. — INTERNET

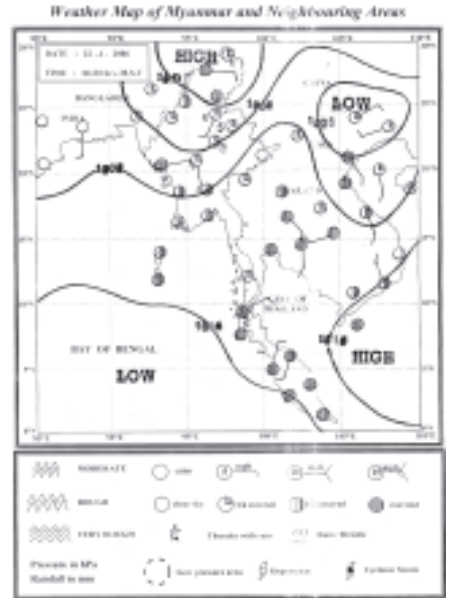
New air route links China, Russia

GUANGZHOU, 22 April — Travellers shuttling between China and Russia will have more choices as a new air route linking the two countries will be operational Thursday night.

China Southern Airlines has launched a new air route between Beijing and Irkutsk Thursday night, which will be the fifth air link between China and Russia operated by the airline company.

Boeing 757 airplanes of the China Southern Airlines will fly between the two cities on every Monday and Thursday, said sources with the airline company based in Guangzhou, capital of South China's Guangdong Province, on Thursday.

The flights are scheduled to depart Beijing at 11:20 pm (Beijing Time) and arrive in Irkutsk three hours and 15 minutes later. — *MNA/Xinhua*



WEATHER

Saturday, 22 April, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin, Rakhine and Kayah States, lower Sagaing and Magway Division and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin State, upper Sagaing, Magway, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions (5°C) above normal in Ayeyawady Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Minbu and Magway (42°C) each. NaungU and Chauk (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were PyinOoLwin (0.82) inch and Tharrawady (0.44) inch.

Maximum temperature on 21-4-2006 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 22-4-2006 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 22-4-2006 was (75%). Total sunshine hours on 21-4-2006 was (7.4) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 22-4-2006 were Nil at Mingaladon and Kaba-Aye and (0.20) inch at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (0.04) inch at Mingaladon, (0.08) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.59) inch at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Southwest at (13:20) hours MST on 21-4-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 23-4-2006: Weather will be partly cloudy in Chin and Rakhine States, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, rain or thundershowers are likely scattered in Mon and Kayah States, Taninthayi Division and isolated in the remaining States and Division. Degree of certainty is (60%).


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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw City and neighbouring areas for 23-4-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the afternoon or evening. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 23-4-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the afternoon or evening. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 23-4-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the afternoon or evening. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Sunday, 23 April
View on today

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. Recitation of Parittas of Missionary Sayardaw U Oaktamathara</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>7:55 am</p> <p>5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈)ပြာမဂ်လာ</p> <p>8:05 am</p> <p>6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:10 am</p> <p>7. သူ့ချောငါ့တံတား</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>8. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>9. International news</p> <p>8:45 am</p> <p>10. Say it in English</p> <p>11:00 am</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>11:10 am</p> <p>2. Musical song</p>	<p>11:25 am</p> <p>3. Round up of the week's local news</p> <p>11:40 am</p> <p>4. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "Doraemon"</p> <p>12:00 pm</p> <p>5. မြန်မာ့စီဒီယိုဇာတ်လမ်း "တစ်ကြိမ်တည်းနှင့်အညီထားသည်" (ခရီး၊ စိုးမြတ်နုစာ) ခါရိုက်တာ (မောင်ပြည့်ဝ-ဝန်းအေး)</p> <p>2:00 pm</p> <p>6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>2:10 pm</p> <p>7. ဘော်ဘင်ခရေလောင်တစ်</p> <p>2:20 pm</p> <p>8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>2:35 pm</p> <p>9. "သတိနှင့်ယှဉ် အသိနှင့်ပြိုင်" (အပိုင်း-၂) (ဝါးမယ်မ ရဲမောင်၊ ဘုန်းလှနီ၊ မြတ်ကော်အောင်၊ ရတနာခင်၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း၊ ပြည့်ညွှန်း၊ နိုင်နီ၊ ရွှေရည်အောင်၊ နန်းဆေး၊ ဝိုင်းစုရိုင်သိန်း၊ အိုင်းရစ်လေငြိဦး) (ခါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)</p> <p>2:45 pm</p> <p>10. International news</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. အထူးသတိပြုရန် သတိပေးချက် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယ ဝတ် (သတ္တ ဓာဒ) အထူးပြုများ (သတ္တဓာဒ)</p>	<p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. Song of national races</p> <p>5:00 pm</p> <p>5. Musical programme</p> <p>5:15 pm</p> <p>6. မြို့ပြနှင့် ကျေးလက် ဇာတ်စိမ်း ပြီးတိုက် (အောင်ကြီး၊ မြို့နယ်စည်ပင်သာယာရေး)</p> <p>5:20 pm</p> <p>7. ဆိုကြမယ်၊ ပျော်ကြမယ်</p> <p>6:00 pm</p> <p>8. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>9. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm</p> <p>10. Discovery</p> <p>6:45 pm</p> <p>11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "တံတောင်ခြင်အိပ်မက်" (အပိုင်း-၈)</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>15. News</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>16. International news</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>17. Weather report</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်မိပြီဆိုရင်" (အပိုင်း-၃၈)</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>19. The next day's programme</p>
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Sunday, 23 April
Tune in today

8.30 am Brief news

8.35 am Music:
-Heaven help my heart

8.40 am Perspectives

8.45 am Music:
-Good feeling

8.50 am National news / Slogan

9:00 am Music:
-Baby it's you

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Cultural images of Myanmar

9.20 am Music
-Better watch out

1:30 pm News / Slogan

1:40pm Children's Delight
-Story for children
-Songs for children

9.00pm Weekly news review

9.10 pm Article

9.20 pm Music/Latest hits / Let's improve English through songs
-In the air tonight
-New love

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

Sound foundations needed for flourishing of democracy are to be laid in transitional period

(from page 1)
86-mile Wakema-Kyongkanaung-Einme-Dhaka Road and 65-mile Wakema-Kyungon-Ywathit-Eimme-Dhaka-Pathein Road.

On completion of the Kyungon Bridge, it leads to Wakema-Kyungon-Myinkaseik-Pathein Road and it is only 55 miles and 3 furlongs long and people can travel from one region to another in a short time.

At 11 am, Senior General Than Shwe and

party arrived at Pyapon Bridge Construction Project site. At the briefing hall, Construction Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun reported on tasks implemented and facts about the project. Afterwards, Deputy Superintending Engineer U Khin Maung Se of Bridge Construction Project Special Group 7 of Public Works reported on progress of the tasks and safety for vessels under the bridge and Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi on the

supply of fuel oil and asphalt for the project, and Pyapon District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Ye Htut on supply of potable water in Pyapon Township. In his guidance, Senior General Than Shwe said Pyapon Bridge construction project is nearing completion and efforts are to be made systematically. Pyapon is economically viable. On completion of the project, economy and trade will develop in the region. Now altogether 214



Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance to local authorities, departmental officials, USDA and social organization members and local people in Pyapon. — MNA



Construction of Pyapon Bridge in progress. — MNA

bridges which are over 180 feet and above have been built nationwide. In Ayeyawady Division 42 bridges were built and this gives the division easier transport and its economy has improved considerably. In the country bridges needed for road networks have been built and roads which link those bridges are to be upgraded, he said.

Priority is to be given to improvement of roads after designating the Roads Year, he stressed.

The Senior General and party inspected the Pyapon Bridge under construction. The bridge is being built between

(See page 8)