

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

General Thura Shwe Mann bids farewell to Chinese goodwill delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March — Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence bade farewell to a goodwill delegation led by Chief of General Staff General Chen Bingde of the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China at Nay Pyi Taw Airport here this morning.

When the members of PLA delegation arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport,

General Thura Shwe Mann welcomed them.

General Thura Shwe Mann presented a photo album of goodwill visit to Myanmar to General Chen Bingde.

Afterwards, the PLA goodwill delegation left Nay Pyi Taw for Yangon by the special flight to

continue a visit to Yangon.

General Thura Shwe Mann, Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and senior military officers of Ministry of Defence saw off the delegation at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann bids farewell to Chief of General Staff General Chen Bingde of Chinese People's Liberation Army at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA

International standard Yangon-Mandalay Expressway Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw road section to be inaugurated soon



Heavy machinery at work to level the ground for construction of the expressway.

Article and Photos: Tin Htwe (MNA)

(Continued from yesterday)

In an interview, Project Engineer Lt-Col Myint Oo of the Directorate of Military Engineering said, "We filled the 80 feet deep ravine between milepost No. 96 and No. 98 with soil layer by layer, and we compacted it till it met the standard. We removed the soil from the 100 feet high hill between milepost No. 117 and No. 120, and to throw away the earth from the hill tested our skills and tenacity.

(See page 10)

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 20 March, 2009

Promote Myanmar-Indonesia friendly ties for greater economic cooperation

Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein paid a goodwill visit to the Republic of Indonesia on 16 March at the invitation of Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

Myanmar and Indonesia have established amicable and friendly relations for long and there have been bilateral cooperation and mutual help between the two countries since the pre-independence period. With the traditions of mutual understanding and cooperation between the two countries, there will be more opportunities for cooperation between the business entrepreneurs from both sides.

At the dinner hosted at Istana Merdeka Presidential Palace in Jakarta on 16 March evening, Prime Minister General Thein Sein said that bilateral trade is on the increase, but it has yet to pick up greater momentum; and that he believes the discussions will serve as the strength to promote bilateral cooperation and friendly relations.

The Indonesian President also said the two countries have established friendly relations for long; that the two countries have to implement the advice and suggestions made at discussions and other meetings of the two nations; and that bilateral cooperation will be boosted in the agricultural, trade, investment, tourism, energy, health, communication, information and transport sectors.

During the goodwill visit, the Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein met the delegation led by the Indonesian President on 16 March and they discussed matters related to friendly ties and economic collaboration between the two countries.

All in all, the Prime Minister's goodwill visit to the Republic of Indonesia will further promote friendly relations between the two nations, thereby contributing towards more economic cooperation.

Principal U Myo Min Oo of PS Business School gives talks on time management and presentation ability at Myanmar Bank Association in Yangon on 10 March.—NLM



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

Information Minister supervises free surgical treatment for eye patients from eight townships of Monywa District



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan views giving treatment to eye patients at Pale People's Hospital.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—A free eye surgical treatment for eye patients of Monywa District and surrounding areas was given at the People's Hospital in Pale Township from 10 to 18 March.

A total of 4,479 eye patients from 11 townships namely Chaung U, Budalin, Ayadaw, Monywa, Yinmabin, Salingyi, Kani, Pale, Mingin, Taze and Myaing received the surgical treatments in Pale on schedule.

The patients were accommodated at Basic Education High School Branch in Lettaunggyi Model Village of Pale Township. Win Thuza Shop and foot stalls of social organizations were opened at the school for the patients. Health Department of Sagaing Division opened a mobile dispensary for providing health care to the

patients. Local authorities daily transported the patients from the model village to the hospital of Pale Township.

The patient registration section, the medical check-up section, diabetes and blood pressure check-up section, eye power test section, minor eye surgical section, major eye surgical section, medicine delivering section, meals and purified drinking water delivering section were systematically set up at the hospital. Health staff, social organization members and local authorities provided necessary assistance for the patients.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, local authorities and specialists performed supervision for convenient stay of the patients, cordial greeting with the patients, free providing of eye glasses to the patients, giving encouragement to the officials and social organizations that assisted the patients, daily meeting with patients from 11 townships at the hospital, encouraging the health staff, comforting the patients at the eye tests, giving glasses to the patients free of charge, greeting the specialists at the eye surgical operations



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan puts eye glasses on an eye patient.—MNA

and comforting the patients after being performed surgical operations.

Sponsored by Shwetaung Co and Aung Aung Enterprise, the eye surgical treatment was provided to the eye patients of townships and surrounding areas of Monywa District. With the assistance of Pale Township Health Department Head Dr Sein Lin and health staff, two medical teams—one eye specialist team led by Head

of Sagaing Division Health Department Dr Kyaw Shein and Deputy Head Dr Khin Maung Lin and another team led by eye specialist Dr Yin Yin Myat of Mandalay Eye, Ear and Nose Hospital—performed free major surgical operations on 287 eye patients, minor surgical treatment on 323 patients, eye tests at 950 patients and healthcare services to 2,919 patients, totaling 4,479 patients from 10 to 18 March.—MNA



Iraqi men clean up damage in Baghdad, Iraq, on 18 March, 2009 after a mortar attack in Karrada area, downtown Baghdad, on Tuesday, injuring three civilians, police said.—INTERNET

Office ablaze in central London

LONDON, 19 March—Smoke billowed hundreds of feet above an historic part of central London on Wednesday after a blaze broke out in offices.

About 40 firefighters attended the blaze at Breams Buildings in Chancery Lane at about 3.40 pm.

“There’s dense black smoke hundreds of feet high, and we can see flames,” said Dick Durham, news editor at Yachting Monthly maga-

zine, whose offices are about 250 metres away.

“We didn’t hear anything. There was no explosion, but the fire has been going for about 30 minutes.” A large part of the fifth floor and the roof was ablaze at the building which houses the Special Immigration Appeals Commission (SIAC), but the cause was not known, London Fire Brigade said.

SIAC oversees cases involving terrorism suspects awaiting deporta-

tion.

There were no reports of anybody being trapped or injured, London Ambulance Services said. Police evacuated all the offices and shops within the cordon.

The area is at the heart of London’s legal district and is home to many barristers’ chambers.

It is a short walk from the Royal Courts of Justice, which houses the high court and appeal court.

MNA/Reuters

Russia denies delivering S-300 missiles to Iran

MOSCOW, 19 March—Russia has not supplied S-300 air defence systems to Iran and other Middle East countries, a spokesman for the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

“We confirm the fact that Russia is not shipping S-300s to Iran or to any other Middle East countries,” the anonymous official was quoted as saying by the *Interfax* news agency.

“We cannot discuss prospects for arms shipments or dates for such shipments to Iran as well as to other countries. This is common practice among suppliers,” he said. The weapons that Russia had shipped to Iran were exclusively defense weapons and could not have destabilized the situation in the region, he said.

Internet

London tube station closed amid accident

LONDON, 19 March—A middle-aged woman jumped in front of a train on Wednesday afternoon, causing a convergence of police vehicles in northwest London.

The woman has been carried out of the Swiss Cottage tube station into a helicopter heading for hospital.

After the incident was reported, dozens of police rushed to the tube station, and the Metropolitan Police dispatched about 20 police vehicles, ambulances and rapid response unit cars to the spot.

The area had been cordoned off and traffic came to a standstill for a short time while the red helicopter hovered to find a place to land. There are no further details from the police though obviously it was not terrorist related.

Internet

Shuttle, station crews unpack solar array wings from Discovery’s cargo bay

WASHINGTON, 19 March—Astronauts aboard the US space shuttle *Discovery* and the International Space Station (ISS) used robot arms to unpack the ISS’ fourth and final set of solar array wings from *Discovery*’s cargo bay on Wednesday.

Two astronauts from *Discovery*’s seven-member crew are scheduled to conduct a spacewalk on Thursday, the first during *Discovery*’s eight-day stay with the ISS, to deploy the solar array wings. It is the primary purpose of the shuttle mission.

Each solar array wing has two 115-foot-long (35 meters) arrays, for a total wing span of 240 feet (73 meters), including the equipment that connects the two wings and allows them to twist as they track the sun.

Internet

US mulls counter-insurgency push in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 19 March—US President Barack Obama’s aides are weighing a range of options to shift policy in Afghanistan, including a full-scale counter-insurgency push to protect civilians nationwide, officials said on Wednesday.

Among the ideas are scaling back the US mission to focus on counterterrorism and the training of Afghan forces;

making a focused counter-insurgency push in the violent south and east; and pursuing a wider campaign to protect civilians across the country, said a US official who asked not to be named.

Hundreds of civilian officials from across the US government would be deployed to Afghanistan as part of the new strategy in a sort of “civilian surge,” said another offi-

cial, including veteran US diplomat Peter Galbraith, who would be a deputy to the top UN official on the ground.

The officials requested anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss a White House review of policy toward Afghanistan expected to be released in the next week or so.

Internet



Iraqi boys walk among the debris of the former military base of Al-Rashid in Baghdad, Iraq, on 18 March, 2009.—INTERNET

Two Fatah militants killed in central Gaza explosion

GAZA, 19 March—Two Palestinian militants were killed predawn Thursday in a mysterious explosion in central Gaza Strip, medical Palestinian sources and witnesses said.

The witnesses said the two militants, members of al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, Fatah movement’s armed wing, were killed in a mysterious explosion near the central Gaza Strip town of Deirel-Ballah.

However, the pro-Fatah movement news website “Palpress” said that the two Fatah militants were killed in an Is-

raeli strike, without saying if it was an airstrike or a tank shelling.

It was not immediately known if it was an airstrike carried out by Israeli warplanes or it was just an internal explosion.

The bodies of the two militants were taken to al-Aqsa Hospital in central Gaza Strip.

An Israeli army spokeswoman said she was checking the report, but she had no idea of any military activity in the area of the central Gaza Strip.

Internet



Detainees walk at a US military detention facility Camp Bucca, Iraq. The United States aims to shut down its largest detention center, Camp Bucca, by 2010.—INTERNET



A handicraftswoman draws vivid patterns of folklore figures of traditional Chinese New Year paintings on the surface of kites, at Yangjiabu Town, Weifang City, east China's Shandong Province, on 18 March, 2009. —XINHUA

EU summit to assess economic stimulus plan, coordinate position for G20 meeting

BRUSSELS, 19 March—The two-day summit of the European Union starting on Thursday will mainly assess the effect of the current economic stimulus plan and prepare for the G20 summit, to be held on 2 April in London.

First of all, the leaders of the 27-nation EU member states will evaluate the efficiency and effect of the 200-billion-euro economic stimulus plan, put forward by the European Commission in Novem-

ber to contain the impact of the global crisis and stimulate the recovery of the economy.

The stimulus plan asks EU member states to expand public spending, cut value-added tax, invest in infrastructural construction of the Internet and energy sector to mitigate the impact of the financial crisis, which has put the economy of the euro zone into its first recession since the zone came into being a decade ago, and brought a dire prospect for both the zone and the EU in 2009.

Internet



A model presents a creation during the Wills India Fashion Week (WIFW) in New Delhi, capital of India, on 18 March, 2009
XINHUA

EU launches three projects to boost information technology in Latin America

SANTIAGO, 19 March—The European Union (EU), in collaboration with international organizations, launched three projects to boost information and communication technologies (ICT) in Latin America, local press said on Wednesday.

The projects are part of the LIS2 Program, under which 22 million euros (some 17 million US dollars) would be allocated for the sector from 2009 to 2012, reports released by the Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLA) said.

Local press quoted the reports as saying that the projects would be executed by the ECLA, the Latin American Cooperation of Developed Networks (CLARA) and the Latin American forum of Regulatory Entities of Telecommunications (Regulatel).

ECLA official, Laura Lopez, hailed the ICT development, saying that raising ICT's efficiency is fundamental for the region, in view of its potential to generate more profits and improve services in education, health and government. Chief of the European Commission in Chile, Jaime Perez Vidal said that the benefits can be even bigger if these technologies are used with more intensity.—Internet

Obama plays populist, anti-DC role in California

COSTA MESA, 19 March—In Washington, President Barack Obama is the ultimate insider, hosting White House parties to woo lawmakers and diplomats. Elsewhere, he increasingly plays the embattled and populist crusader, helping average Americans fight entrenched interests on Capitol Hill and Wall Street.

On Wednesday, Obama donned that cloak



President Barack Obama greets the crowd at the Orange County Fairgrounds in Costa Mesa, California, on 18 March, 2009.—INTERNET

in Southern California, where he said the weather and conversations are much nicer than in Washington. The conversation was more one-sided, to be sure, as he stood before 1,300 frequently cheering people, 2,500 miles from

the Capitol's shadow.

He defended his ambitious plan to overhaul health care, energy, education, taxes and spending policies in the coming months, against unnamed forces aligned against him.—Internet

Brazilian President vows to achieve energy self-sufficiency

RIO DE JANEIRO, 19 March—Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said on Wednesday that his country will achieve self-sufficiency in energy supply.

Lula inaugurated on Wednesday the country's second liquefied natural gas (LNG) regasification terminal, located in Rio's Guanabara Bay.

During a speech, Lula said Brazil cannot depend on any particular country in meeting its energy needs.

Internet

EU says to reduce red tape in agriculture by 25% by 2012

BRUSSELS, 19 March—The European Commission said on Wednesday that it is well on the way to meeting its objective of reducing red tape arising from the European Union (EU)'s common agriculture policy (CAP) by 25 percent by 2012.

"We've been making great progress with our efforts to make the CAP simpler and more user-friendly," said Mariann Fischer Boel, EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development.—Internet

Earthquake jolts Manado, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 19 March—An earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale jolted Manado, capital of Indonesia's North Sulawesi Province, on Thursday, but there was no reports of casualties and material losses.

The epicenter of the quake, which occurred at 06:09 am local time, was located at 251 km northwest of Manado, the Meteorology, Geophysics and Climatology Agency said. "It did not cause tsunami," the agency reported in its website.

The quake was the second one that hit the province capital on Thursday. Earlier, minutes after midnight a 5.3-magnitude quake also hit the city.

Internet



An Australian researcher has said that Chinese women who ate mushrooms and drank green tea significantly cut their risk of breast cancer and the severity of the cancer in those who did develop it.—INTERNET

IBM in talks to buy Sun Microsystems

SAN FRANCISCO, 19 March—International Business Machines (IBM) is in talks to buy Sun Microsystems, the *Wall Street Journal* and other US media outlets reported on Wednesday, citing people familiar with the matter. It is unclear whether the negotiations will result in a transaction, but if the deal does go through, IBM is likely to pay at least 6.5 billion US dollars in cash to acquire Sun, the *Wall Street Journal* said.

The deal would shake up the global tech industry and spell the end of Sun, the Silicon Valley pioneer that was struggling with slipping sales even before the recession hit other tech companies last fall, the *San Jose Mercury News* noted.

Such a deal would also give New York-based IBM more ammunition in its rivalry with companies such as Hewlett-Packard (HP), which has recently challenged IBM in the lucrative IT services business.

Xinhua



A view of the IBM facility outside Boulder, Colorado on 18 Oct, 2006.—XINHUA

Top political advisor shows confidence in HKSAR's continued prosperity

BEIJING, 19 March—China's top political advisor Jia Qinglin said Wednesday the central government had great confidence in continued prosperity and stability of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).

Jia, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, made the remarks when greeting with a delegation of social workers from Hong Kong headed by Mrs Betty Tung, wife of the SAR's former Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa. Mrs Betty Tung set up the organization in 1998, mobilizing volunteers to help needy youth and women.

Jia, also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, welcomed the visit of the delegation and praised its contribution to the region's prosperity and stability.—Xinhua

German husband kills wife, child

BERLIN, 19 March—One man in Horsens, a small town in German northwestern state of Lower Saxony, killed his wife and at least one of his children, it was reported on Wednesday evening. Three other children were wounded and the husband killed himself thereafter, German news agency *DPA* said. Among the three wounded, one, aged 15, is the son of the man's neighbor, while the two others are his step son and daughter, aged 14 and 16 respectively. The dead child, aged 8, is the man's own son, and his own daughter, aged 6, escaped from the killing without injury, *DPA* said.—Xinhua



A Doraemon balloon is shown at the Tokyo International Anime Fair, Japan, on 18 March, 2009.

Some 250 Japanese and foreign companies exhibited their latest animations during the Tokyo International Anime Fair, opened on Wednesday.

XINHUA

Woman gives birth on plane in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 19 March—Police at Auckland International Airport were investigating after a woman gave birth while flying to Auckland from Samoa on Thursday then got off the plane, leaving her baby behind.

An Auckland Airport spokeswoman said it was not known if other passengers and crew on the Pacific Blue flight noticed she was in labor and "the baby was found on the aircraft" after landing.

Police were called when the plane landed shortly before 7 a.m. and took both mother and child to hospital.—Xinhua



Tourists from the Chinese Mainland in traditional folk garment of Taipei do shopping at the Feng Chia night market in Taichung of southeast China's Taipei Province on 18 March, 2009. Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency



A visitor looks at a huge water jug during a water exhibition of the Fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul of Turkey, on 18 March, 2009.—XINHUA

Scientists puzzled by newly found dinosaur fossils

BEIJING, 19 March—Dinosaur fossils recently discovered in northeast China's Liaoning Province have bewildered scientists about the evolutionary development of feathers.

The sub-adult Tianyu-long Confuciusi, which was covered with feather-like structures, dates back to the early Cretaceous Period (144-99 million years ago), when the first dinosaurs emerged - long before anything like feathers had been believed to have started developing. And the find, described in the journal *Nature*, presents another stumper: "This order of dinosaur was never supposed to have had anything like feathers," Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences paleontologist You Hailu was quoted by Thursday's *China Daily* as saying.—Internet

Two killed, 12 injured in market blast in India

NEW DELHI, 19 March—Two people were killed and 12 injured in a blast in a market in Jalpaiguri district, West Bengal state of India, on Wednesday, said police.

Police said one was killed on the spot and the other died in hospital.

Police suspect the blast could be the work of radical leftwing rebels engaging government forces in some eastern states of India.—Xinhua

Northern, eastern Chinese cities in grip of mid-March heat waves

BEIJING, 19 March—People in northern and eastern China are rolling up their sleeves and bringing out their summer clothes as several cities experience unusual March heat waves.

The high temperature in Beijing reached 29.2 degrees Celsius (about 85 Fahrenheit) on Wednesday, the highest in 59 years.

Zhang Mingying, an expert with the Beijing Meteorological Station, said that a combination of warm air masses, adequate sunshine and calm air had driven temperatures up. The previous record high for the date was 24.4 degrees Celsius in 1950. But a bit of a chill was on the way, he said.

"A cold air mass will come into Beijing during Thursday night and lower the highs to 15-17 degrees Celsius," Zhang added.

Nearby Tianjin City recorded a high of 26 degrees Celsius Wednesday, which broke the 1963 record of 25 degrees Celsius. Local meteorologists said warm air from the south was the cause.

In the northwestern Shaanxi Province, a high of 27.2 degrees Celsius hit the capital Xi'an, the warmest in mid-March since the 1970s. "It's like summer has come," said Sun Yao, a local resident, as he ate ice cream.—Xinhua

General Thura Shwe Mann hosts dinner in honour of Chinese delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March — Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence hosted a dinner in honour of a Chinese goodwill delegation led by Chief of General Staff General Chen Bingde of the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China at Bayintnaung Yeiktha here yesterday.

Also present at the dinner were Secretary-1 of the SPDC Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Member of SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye of Ministry of Defence, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung of Ministry of Defence, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, senior military officers of Ministry of Defence, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung



General Thura Shwe Mann of Ministry of Defence hosts dinner in honour of Chinese delegation led by Chief of General Staff General Chen Bingde of the People's Liberation Army of the PRC.—MNA

Myint, Military Attache' of Myanmar to the People's Republic of China Col Tint Wai, Ambassador of the PRC to Myanmar Mr Ye Dabo and Military Attache' Senior Colonel Gao Tiejun.

They were entertained with songs and dances of artistes to the accompaniment of the modern band of Myanmar Radio and Television.

After the dinner, General Thura Shwe Mann and General Chen Bingde exchanged

souvenirs.

General Chen Bingde cordially greeted the artistes. — MNA

Defence Services Museum to be opened free of charge

YANGON, 19 March — Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon pagoda road will be opened to the public free of charge from 9 am to 5 pm daily commencing 26 March to 4 April in commemoration of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March.

MNA

Talks on traffic rules held in Mawlamyine

YANGON, 19 March — Organized by Mon State Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee, the educative talks on traffic rules for drivers and bus conductors in

Mawlamyine Township was held at the office of Mayangon Ward Peace and Development Council in Mawlamyine on 15 March. At the talks, In-charge of supervision on traffic rules Traffic Police Captain Myint Aye gave talks on traffic rules.

On 16 and 17 March, the similar talks were held at the offices of Pabedan Ward Peace and Development Council and Mying Thaya Ward Peace and Development Council in the township.

MNA

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March — The State Peace and Development Council has confirmed the appointment of Managing Director U Soe Win of Myanmar Industrial Construction Service under the Ministry of Industry-2 on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup on 13-15 April

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March — Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup Golf Tournament will take place from 13 to 15 April at Nay Pyi Taw city golf club, Yebya Tatmadaw golf club and Nay Pyi Taw city golf club.

There will be team and individual events at gold and silver levels. First and second prize winning teams and first, second, third and fourth prize winning individuals will be awarded handsome prizes.

After the three-day tournament, the best team will be awarded Tour Gold Cup and individual players a gold statuette and K 1 million each; the second prize winning

team a silver statuette and K 0.7 million each; the best player for three days a gold statuette and K 1 million; and the second best player a silver statuette and K 0.7 million.

Each team must comprise six players including two professional players. All players are to participate in the tournament with handicap zero.

The players are to follow and respect the rules and regulations prescribed by the respective golf clubs and Myanmar Gold Federation.

Lists of participants are to be sent to the Mayor's Office in Nay Pyi Taw (Ph: 067-414610, 414289).

MNA

IBTC Co Ltd introduces new packaging service

YANGON, 19 March — A press meet to introduce a new packaging service for the Grand Royal products of IBTC Co Ltd was held at Sedona Hotel here yesterday, attended by Managing Director U Aung Moe Kyaw of the company and members of the board of directors, staff, sale representatives,

artists and media men.

Managing Director U Aung Moe Kyaw explained purposes of new packaging service.

Next, facts about products were presented with the use of projector at the ceremony.

Those present were served with dinner and the ceremony came to an end.

MNA



MD U Aung Moe Kyaw of IBTC Co., Ltd speaking at the ceremony to introduce new packaging service for Grand Royal products.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein arrives in Singapore

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—The Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein on 17 March left for the Republic of Singapore from Halim Perdanakusuma Airport in Jakarta in Indonesia, to pay a goodwill visit to Singapore.

The goodwill delegation members led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein were seen off at the Halim Perdanakusuma Airport by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia Mr Nur

Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Sebastianus Sumarsono, Governor of Jakarta Dr Ing H Fauzi Bowo and officials.

Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and delegation members left the airport in Jakarta by special aircraft at 8 am for Singapore and they arrived at Changi Airport in Singapore at 11:40 am local time.

Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Win Myint and Mr Richard Grosse, Acting Head of Protocol Department of the

Yong and party welcomed Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein and delegation members together with the Singapore Acting Minister of Labour, the Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore and party went to Marina Mandarin Hotel in a motorcade.

At the hotel, a Singaporean girl garlanded the Prime Minister. A girl of Myanmar Embassy in Singapore also presented bouquet to the Prime

Minister. Marina Mandarin Hotel in a motorcade, to attend the welcoming ceremony of Singaporean Prime Minister Mr. Lee Hsien Loong.

On arrival at Istana Presidential Palace at 2:15 pm, the delegation members led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein were welcomed by the Singaporean Prime Minister.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and the Singaporean Prime Minister took the salute of the Guard of

Objectives of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

1. To work hard together with the people to accomplish the State's seven-step Road Map in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation
2. To uphold Our Three Main National Causes as the national policy at risk to life
3. To crush, in cooperation with the people, internal and external subversive elements that are disrupting stability, peace and development of the nation
4. To build a strong and patriotic modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation



Prime Minister General Thein Sein and Singaporean Prime Minister Mr. Lee Hsien Loong take the salute of the Guard of Honour at Istana Presidential Palace. — MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein being welcomed by Singaporean Prime Minister Mr. Lee Hsien Loong at Istana Presidential Palace.—MNA

Hassan Wirajuda, Minister of Communications and Information Mr Mohammad Nuh, Myanmar Ambassador to Indonesia U Nyan Lin and wife Daw Khin Mar Nwe,

of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore boarded the aircraft and welcomed Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Next, Acting Labour Minister Mr Gan Kim

Minister and Myanmar Ambassador U Win Myint and wife Daw Khin Win Myint, embassy staff and families welcomed the Prime Minister and party.

The delegation members led by the Prime Minister left for Istana Presidential Palace from

Honour.

The State band played the National Anthems of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Singapore.

Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong inspected the Guard

of Honour and took the salute of the Guard of Honour. Afterwards, Prime Minister General Thein Sein signed the visitors' book at Istana Presidential Palace.

The Singaporean Prime Minister introduced ministers, the ambassador

and senior officials of Singapore to Prime Minister General Thein Sein. Likewise, Prime Minister General Thein Sein introduced members of Myanmar delegation to the Singaporean Prime Minister.

MNA

Myanmar thanks...

(from page 16)

The Prime Minister said that being ASEAN member countries, Myanmar and Singapore are undertaking cooperation in line with the rules of ASEAN Free Trade Area. Among the trade partners of Myanmar, Singapore is in the third position, he said. He also said that senior officials and private chambers of commerce are to join hands in extending the trade and market for further promoting trade between the two countries. He continued to say that Singapore stands at the third position in the Myanmar investment sector. The Prime Minister

invited more investment in Myanmar's economic sector. He expressed thanks for assistance of the Singaporean Government for development of human resources in Myanmar. Singapore is included in the top list of Myanmar's aquatic product importing countries. In the future, he said that Myanmar wants to promote export of aquatic products to Singapore. In conclusion, the Prime Minister said that Myanmar wants to further cooperate in tourism, transport, food safety, biomedical education and research of traditional medicine with Singapore.

In his address, the

Singaporean Prime Minister said that he thanks for knowing the prospects of cooperation between Myanmar and Singapore. The two countries are joining hands under the ASEAN Cooperation Programme in addition to bilateral cooperation. The governments of the two countries can cooperate in trade and tourism services. If the ancient artifacts of Myanmar can be displayed in Singapore, the tourists will know more about Myanmar and will visit the country.

After that, Prime Minister General Thein Sein made a speech, saying that multilateral cooperation can be made between

Myanmar and Singapore. Know-how and investment of Singapore will surely benefit both countries as Myanmar is rich in natural resources. The experiences and cooperation of Singapore can be put to most beneficial use for the beautiful beaches and snow-capped mountain ranges of Myanmar in the hotel sector. As suggested by the Singaporean Prime Minister to organize the culture show, efforts will be made for successful holding the show.

Later, the Singaporean Prime Minister said that he will urge his government and private sector to carry out the tasks which will benefit both countries.—MNA

Myanmar PM expresses views on win-win bilateral cooperation

Senior Minister Goh believes Myanmar will develop

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein met with Senior Minister of Singapore Mr Goh Chok Tong at the Istana presidential palace in Singapore on 17 March.

Also present at the meeting with Prime Minister General Thein Sein were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone

Swe and Ambassador of Myanmar to Singapore U Win Myint.

Also present at the meeting along with Senior Minister Mr Goh Chok Tong were Foreign Minister Mr George Yeo, Acting Minister for Labour Mr Gan Kim Yong and Ambassador of Singapore to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong.

First, Senior Minister Mr Goh Chok Tong extended greetings.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein briefed on works of governmental offices in Nay Pyi Taw, situation of the country when the Tatmadaw took the responsibility of the State and today's development of the country, building of sound economic foundations and upgrading of the education

sector, implementation of the seven-step Road Map, approval of the constitution which is the fourth step of the road map by 92.48 per cent of the people and measures to be taken for the remaining tasks, matters related to the election in 2010 and efforts for ensuring security, law enforcement and community peace for the future government.

The Senior Minister said he believed that Myanmar would develop as the good economic foundations had been laid down in the country.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Thein Sein said he held talks with the prime minister of Singapore over prospects for bilateral cooperation for development of economic



Prime Minister General Thein Sein holds talks with Senior Minister of Singapore Mr Goh Chok Tong at Istana Presidential palace in Singapore. MNA

cooperation between the two countries, and he expressed his views on the win-win cooperation of Singapore and Myanmar.

Senior Minister Mr Goh Chok Tong expressed thanks for the cordial discussion and he also invited Chairman of the

State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe to pay a visit to Singapore.

MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein calls on Acting President of Singapore

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Prime Minister General Thein Sein of the Union of Myanmar paid a visit to Istana Presidential Palace, Singapore and called on Acting President of Singapore Mr J Y Pillay yesterday morning.

Also present at the call together with the Prime Minister were Minister for

National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen

Phone Swe, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, Director-General of Protocol Department U Kyaw Kyaw and officials and together with Acting President of Singapore Mr J Y Pillay were Minister of National Development Mr Mah Bow Tan, Minis-

ter of Transport and Foreign Affairs Mr Raymond Lim, Acting Minister of Manpower Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister of Health and Industry Mr Lee Yi Shyan and Ambassador of Singapore to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong and officials.

At the outset, Acting President of Singapore Mr J Y Pillay extended greetings and so did Prime Minister General Thein Sein. Prime Minister General Thein Sein expressed thanks to the Acting President for giving time to receive his goodwill delegation, hospitality of Singapore and arrangements for study tour. Diplomatic ties between the two countries have been maintained for 43 years and friendship existing between the two countries has been further

strengthened. Mutual friendship and understanding developed among the leaders of the two countries in successive eras.

He expressed his belief that his visit would be more beneficial to the existing friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Singapore stands at third place in the countries that made big investment in Myanmar. There is a host of opportunities for Singapore to make investment in Myanmar. Myanmar invites investors from Singapore. There are lots of daily interrelations between the two countries.

Next, the Acting President said he had visited peaceful quiet pleasant and beautiful Bagan recently of his own plan. Afterwards, the Prime Minister

explained Myanmar's political developments. The State's constitution was approved by 92.48 percent of the people and the election will be held in 2010, he said.

The remaining work procedures will be implemented according to seven-step road map laid down for the emergence of a democratic nation in future. After that the Acting President said that he arrived at Myanmar recently and found a series of opportunities to carry out economic cooperation. Moreover, he asked for assistance to be provided to hotels running in Myanmar by Singapore. Finally, the Prime Minister said that solutions for difficulties would be sought together within the framework of ASEAN.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein holds talks with Acting President of Singapore Mr J Y Pillay at Presidential Palace in Singapore.

MNA

Singapore is ranked third in Myanmar trade partners and it is also ranked third in Myanmar's total foreign investments

Prime Minister General Thein Sein

Singapore will render assistance to the post-Nargis rehabilitation and disaster management

Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong



Prime Minister General Thein Sein speaks at dinner hosted in honour of Myanmar delegation at Istana Presidential Palace in Singapore.

MNA



Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong speaks at dinner hosted in honour of Myanmar delegation at Istana Presidential Palace in Singapore. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore Mr Lee Hsien Loong hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein at the Presidential Palace in Singapore on 17 March evening.

Together with the Singaporean Prime Minister at the dinner were Minister for National Development Mr Mah Bow Tan, Minister for Transport and Foreign Affairs (2) Mr Raymond Lim, Acting Minister for Labour Mr Gan Kim Yong, Joint Minister for Health and Industry Mr Lee Yi Shyan, Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong, ASEAN ambassadors in Singapore and senior officials.

At the reception room, the Singaporean Prime Minister cordially greeted Prime Minister General Thein Sein and

presented the ministers and senior officials of Singapore to him. Likewise, the Prime Minister General Thein Sein also presented his entourage to the Singaporean Prime Minister.

Under the programme of Yong Siew Toh conservatory of music, the two Prime Ministers were entertained with the violin performance presented by Saw James Sar Do Soe and Hsan Win Htaik of Myanmar. Next, they had a souvenir photo taken.

Then the dinner was hosted at the banquet room. During the dinner, a cultural troupe of Singapore performed entertainment to those present.

Speaking on the occasion, the Singaporean Prime Minister said Singapore and Myanmar have established diplomatic ties for 43 years. He is pleased to see such a long-term relationship. As members of ASEAN, the

two countries have regular relations between the government employees and between the organizations. By maintaining friendly relations, they have also been cooperating with each other. Under the programme of cooperation between the two nations, Singapore has taught nearly 6000 Myanmar government employees various subjects such as English, tourism, information technology and aeronautics. Besides, it will continue to provide technical assistance as a gesture of showing ASEAN unity.

He continued to say that Cyclone Nargis was the worst in the history of Myanmar as well as the worst of the cyclones hit in Asia. He said he has learnt that as Chairman of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee, Prime Minister General Thein Sein is taking great responsibility to supervise the relief and

rehabilitation tasks. He added it is a great pleasure for him to learn there has been progress and the storm-hit regions have returned to normal. Singapore will render assistance to the post-Nargis rehabilitation and disaster management. The bilateral trade and investment is on the increase and there is a prospect of mutual interests, for example, tourism development. He noted that in doing business of economic entrepreneurs, assistance should be rendered to overcome any difficulties. Thus, investors will have more confidence and private businesses will have good economic opportunities.

Singapore and Myanmar are the countries of various national races with similar culture and custom. By exchanging visits of artistes between the two countries and with cooperation in other sectors, there will be more amity and friendship

between the nations. As Singapore has contacts with the nations around the world, it will help Myanmar boast her rich national heritage.

Singapore will render all necessary assistance in the interest of Myanmar. In establishing a more amicable and friendly ASEAN, it will also cooperate with Myanmar.

In his speech Prime Minister General Thein Sein said he was very grateful to the Singaporean Prime Minister, the government and the people for their warm welcome and hospitality during the goodwill visit to Singapore. He also expressed thanks for the dinner saying this kind hospitality reflects friendship between the two countries, which has existed for decades. The more friendly relations there are, the more cooperation there will be between the two countries.

The Prime Minister went on to say that in recent years, friendly

relations have been developed not only between the two countries but also among the regional countries and among the international community. Singapore is ranked third in Myanmar trade partners and it is also ranked third in Myanmar's total foreign investments.

For more development of bilateral trade, it is necessary to exchange visits of senior officials and chambers of commerce between the two nations in order to promote trade, expand market and investments.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein noted that although his visit was short, he was delighted to see all-round development of Singapore and more personal relationship could be built with the Singaporean Prime Minister. In conclusion, the Prime Minister wished Singapore and its people enjoy more prosperity and development. — MNA

International standard Yangon-Mandalay Expressway Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw road section to be inaugurated soon

Article and Photos: Tin Htwe (MNA)

(from page 1)

But, we managed it with all-out efforts and many units of heavy machinery day and night. The hill between milepost number 170 and number 171 was a rocky one, and was well resistant to mine explosions, bulldozers and excavators. So, we dug deep grooves in it with rippers of the bulldozers, and filled them with water to soften the crest of the

the person in-charge to get pure quality raw materials. To mix concrete, we got water from nowhere except wells to get strong concrete road. In the rainy season, we stopped ground preparation work, and kept on building upper concrete layers both day shift and night shift every day.

"Most bridges are close to Bago Yoma. So, we sometimes faced several instances in which

would build pile caps, and pumped the water out off the islands continuously."

Assistant Project Engineer Captain Han Win Tun of the Directorate of Military Engineering said, "In the road section I undertake, we built six above 180 feet long bridges, 36 50-to-180 feet long bridges and eight under 50 feet long bridges, totalling 50. We built 12 18 feet wide and four 40 feet wide underpasses, totalling 16.

and one meter diameter bore piles. The structures of the bridges are of reinforced concrete type. Upper structures of bridges are of two types: reinforced concrete girder and reinforced concrete floor, and 90 feet long steel girder and reinforced concrete floor.

"At every site, two bridges: one on the straight way and the other on return way stand side by side with a 30 feet wide traffic island between them. The foundation and the structure of the bridge are wide enough for four lanes, and the upper structure of the bridge is wide enough for two lanes. So, when it is to be upgraded to a four-lane one, it will just need to add two lanes to the upper structure.

"A bridge is 32 feet and six inches wide, the motorway is 28 feet wide, each of the two pedestrian lanes is two feet and three inches wide. The bridge can withstand 80 tons of loads. Officials made inspection tours of the bridges, and the persons in charge worked hard, so we could overcome the difficulties and all the bridges were completed ahead of schedule."

Assistant Project Engineer Captain Lin Kyaw Khaing of the



Project Engineer Lt-Col Myint Oo.

Directorate of Military Engineering explained land preparation work and concrete laying work, saying, "In land preparation work, we identified the alignment of the road, constructed one-way lane, built embankments, and shaped the road. We got mud and silt out of the ravines along the section and filled them with sand from creeks and sandy earth and compacted the earth till they were stable.

"We built box culverts wherever necessary along the section. All the earth we used met the set compaction degree. We had to compact the ground till the one foot thick upper layer met 95 degrees of compaction and the lower layer met

90 degrees of compaction. We had to get correct type of earth and mix it with water at the proper ratio to fill the ravines and compacted the ground with compactors.

"After the ground preparation work, we started to lay concrete. We made sure that the rock and sand for building concrete structures were pure with fine quality. Before building the six inches thick lower concrete layer, we had to carry out land preparation work and built a two inches thick concrete layer. We used six 120 cubic meter concrete mixers and six concrete laying machines.

We had to make sure that the concrete we mixed was at the slump rate between 25 and 40 millimeters and transported the concrete by dump truck. We used sealant based on the day temperature and distance.

We used curing compound in order that the concrete surface did not have any cracks in it. After building a concrete layer, the quality control group inspected every part of the layer. Then, another layer was built. The group had to inspect every layer.

(See page 11)



Construction of Toll Gate near Yangon No. 3 Junction on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Road section.

hill. Then, we removed the earth from the hill with bulldozers and excavators and it took us a long time. We had to make two geotextiles to fill the lake with earth at milepost number 84 near Danyingon Village and the 15 feet deep lake at milepost number 116 near the Pyu Creek.

"Around here, there are so many strong rivers and creeks because the area is not far from Bago Yoma and gets a high rainfall. We found it hard to construct bridges and box culverts, so I had to provide close supervision over the tasks. To get quality concrete, the sand and gravels must be free from unnecessary things. So, sand and gravels were produced under the supervision of

the scaffoldings and cradles set up to build bridges were washed away by the torrents. In the rainy season, water flow continuously in the creeks. So, we had to divert the creeks to construct bridges. We let the creeks take their courses after we had constructed the bridges. Sometimes, we found roots of nearby trees in the piles while constructing foundations for bridges. Removal of those roots was a demanding task. When piles lost their balances, we had to put counter weight on the higher sides till the piles were in upright position again. To build the pillars of large bridges, we had to build man-made islands by laying bags of sand around the sites where we

We had to build box culverts and underpasses under the expressway for bullock carts.

"As foundations of the bridges, we used nine feet diameter piles, 16" x 16" piles, 0.8 meter diameter mini-bore piles



Two-Way/Two-Lane concrete road section near Myochaung Village on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Road section.

International standard Yangon-Mandalay Expressway Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw road section to be inaugurated soon

Article and Photos: Tin Htwe (MNA)



Land preparations on construction of Nay Pyi Taw C Junction-Pantin road section in progress.

(from page 10)

“In order to complete concrete joints in eight hours after constructing the concrete blocks in line with the design, we had to cut one-third of the blocks in the upper part. We filled the joints with sealant in 28 days after laying concrete to make them waterproof.

“We conducted cubetest every day in mixing concrete, and officials in charge inspected the work regularly for quality control. The mechanics groups the Directorate of

Only small vehicles and express buses that can run at the prescribed speed except cargo trucks will be allowed to use the expressway.

“We will set up road signs along the expressway for the drivers to be able to drive in safety. Road guard posts will be set up at the sites close to villages in order that people, vehicles and farm animals cannot cross the expressway. Guard posts will set up at the bends, and road line points will be painted along the road. We are planning to grow rain trees on both

Yangon-Mandalay Expressway will have 72 above-180-foot bridges, 200 50-to-180 bridges, 162 under-50-foot bridges, 884 box culverts, 75 underpasses, three rest camps, and five toll gates. The section between No (3) Junction and Myochaung, Public Works undertakes has 10 above-180-foot bridges, 22 50-to-180 bridges, 35 under-50-foot bridges, 18 underpasses, and 235 box culverts.

The Myochaung-Thagara section the Directorate of Military

And the land preparation work for the project accounts for 10,450,000,000 cubic feet of earth, and so far, the work progress covers 7,520,000,000 cubic feet of earth.

Underpasses will be built for the villages close to the expressway for the transportation purpose. The facility will also have box culverts, three main road links, and three rest camps. A rest camp will have a lodging house, a

Hydropower Plant Entrance Road, Ottwin-Paukhaung, Thagara-Koebin, Nay Pyi Taw Entrance Road, Pynmana-Taungnyo, Kyauk-padaung-Meiktila, Meiktila-Myingyan, and Myittha-Myingyan.

Only vehicles that can run at the prescribed speed limit will be allowed to use Yangon-Mandalay Expressway to avert traffic congestions. Cargo trucks are prohibited from using the expressway, and small

Unlike the old one, Yangon-Mandalay expressway does not pass through towns and villages. It can withstand 80 tons of loads. The expressway is one of the requirements for building a modern and developed nation. Among the large projects, Yangon-Mandalay expressway is, indeed, a feather in the cap of the State Peace and Development Council.

The project is being implemented with



Land preparations on construction of Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Road section near Myochaung.

restaurant, a car servicing centre, a fuel station, a car park, and a police station.

The three rest camps will be located in Pyu, Nay Pyi Taw, and Meiktila; and the five toll gates, at No (3) Junction, Pyu, Nay Pyi Taw, Meiktila, and Zagar-in Roundabout. The section between Yangon No (3) Junction and Mandalay Zagar-in Roundabout will have eight road links: Phayagyi-Bawnatkyi, DaikU-Shitkon, Thahtaygon-Myochaung, Pyu

vehicles and express buses are allowed to use it. On completion, the expressway will have all characters of an international level expressway.

The ratio of the section (1) of Yangon-Mandalay Expressway or the old Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw section and the new facility is 224 miles to 221 miles and one furlong in length; seven hours to four hours in time consumption; and 60 kilometres to 100 kilometres in mph.

locally-produced materials and national experts, without foreign assistance or foreign experts. The facility is the result of realizing the dream of successive previous governments. The expressway reflects all-round development of the nation in the time of the State Peace and Development Council, as well as hard work, tenacity and skills of Myanmar engineers.

Translation: MS



Construction of Rest Camp in progress at Mile Post No. 115/2 near Pyu.

Military Engineer had formed were deployed in the camps to repair the machinery units with mechanical problems.

“In the section the Directorate of Military Engineer undertakes in Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw section, we are constructing one rest camp and one toll gate at milepost number 115/2 near Pyu. The rest camp will have a 400-unit capacity car park, a filling station, a restaurant, a car servicing centre, and a lodging house. Either way will have a toll gate.

sides of the expressway, and te (persimmon), yaytamar (cedrela febrifuga), starflower, toddy palm and setku plants in the traffic islands.

“Three roads will link with the expressway. They are the three miles and two furlongs long road linking Pyu and milepost number 115/4, the seven miles and four furlongs long road linking Toungoo and milepost number 146/6, and the two miles and four furlongs long road linking Kaytumati and milepost number 154/4.”

On completion,

Engineering undertakes has six above-180-foot bridges, 36 50-to-180 bridges, eight under-50-foot bridges, and 16 underpasses.

The project needs 2.25 million tons of cement, 1.25 million tons of iron rods, 72 million gallons of fuel, 203,300,000 cubic feet of different types of rock and gravels. So far, the project has consumed 1.7 million tons of cement, over 90,000 tons of iron rods, over 40 million gallons of fuel, and 140,000,000 cubic feet of rock and gravels.



Progress of Two-Way/Two-Lane concrete section on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Road section.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV VASCO DA GAMA VOYNO (153)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (153) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.3.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

11 dead as van plunges into river in China

YONGSHAN, 19 March—Eleven people were killed and another was missing after a van plunged into a river in southwest China's Yunnan Province Wednesday, local police said.

The accident occurred at about 3 pm when a van carrying 12 people plunged more than 70 meters into the Jinsha River in Yongshan County, Zhaotong City, police said.

Ten people died at the scene and another died in hospital. Rescuers are still searching for the missing person.

Internet

TRADEMARK CAUTION
P.T. Kalbe Farma Tbk., a company incorporated in Republic of Indonesia, and having its registered office at Kawasan Industri Delta Silicon, J.M.H. Thamrin Blok A3-1, Lippo Cikarang, Bekasi 17550, Indonesia is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:

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In respect of "Pharmaceutical preparations; including medicines to reduce neutropenia & febrile neutropenia in patients who received cytotoxic chemotherapy for non-myeloid malignancy" in **Class 5**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the mark shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
For P.T. Kalbe Farma Tbk.
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
Unit 701-702, Traders Hotel,
Yangon, Union of Myanmar
utm.kcy@mptmail.com.mm
Dated 20 March 2009

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Htain Lin Oo (LL.B) Advocate
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India. 20 March 2009

Drive with care

"Happy Birthday To Professor Dr. Nai Pan Hla"

On your auspicious Birthday (86th) today (20.3.2009), we all wish you for your good health and strong energy to compose more papers and books.

Beloved Only daughter - Mi Khin Khin Hla - Dr. Mehm Soe Myint
Beloved Sons - Min Aye Chan - Mi Tin Tin Sein,
Min May Chan - Mi Thit thit
Min Hlaing Htaw -Mi Kyi Kyi San,
Min Aye Cho- Mi Hnin Si
Min Hlaing Soon (12-A, Golden Valley Avenue)

Beloved Grandchildren -Min Kon Htaw - Mi Hnin Phyu Pyar Han,
Hlaing Moe Myint- Mi May Soe Mon (Singapore),
Min Hla Htaw (The Tourism Academy SENTOSA-Singapore),
Min Ko Ko Tun (U.K) - Mi May Hlaing Kyi (Accountant, U.K)
Min Htaw Mon (Gran'd Bird Co., Ltd, Tokyo)- Mi Khaing Sandar Zaw (Tokyo)
Min Banya Htaw (Second Mate, F.G. Five Star Line)
Mi Ohnmar Chan (C.B. Bank)
Mi Ki Mon Chan (New Global Language School, Tokyo)

Beloved Greatgrandchildren - Mi Su Wati Htaw, Daniel Moe Myint

Sixteen die in fighting in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 19 March—At least 16 people, all of them combatants, were killed and one was wounded Wednesday in fierce clashes between Somali government forces and fighters of the Islamist insurgent group of Al-Shabaab in the southern town of Raddhure, witnesses said.

"I saw the bodies of 15 Somali government soldiers whose battle vehicle was burned by Al-Shabaab fighters as the soldiers tried to retake the town," Abdurashid

Ahmed, a resident in Raddhure town near the Ethiopian border, told *Xinhua*.

Other witnesses and Al-Shabaab commanders in the town also confirmed the death toll adding that the Somali government forces retreated back to their base in the border town of El Bardeh, 90 km west of Raddhure.

A senior Islamist official in the region, Sheikh Hassan Moh-amedAli, told reporters that one of the Al-Shabaab fighters was killed in the clashes

while another was wounded, adding that "one battle-wagon and a large cache of weapons" were captured from Somali government forces.

Reports from Raddhure said the town is now tensely clam as heavily armed Al-Shabaab fighters have been pouring in for reinforcement and to patrol the town.

Most of the residents of the small border town have been returning to their homes after fleeing the fighting.

Internet

Actress Natasha Richardson dies after ski fall



Actress Natasha Richardson has died following a ski accident, a spokesman for her actor husband Liam Neeson said in a statement on Wednesday. INTERNET

NEW YORK, 19 March—Actress Natasha Richardson has died, according to a spokesman, two days after the daughter of British theater icon Vanessa Redgrave apparently suffered brain damage in what was initially dismissed as a minor ski accident.

Richardson, married to Irish actor Liam Neeson, died in New York, where she had been flown after the accident in Canada. She was 45.

"Liam Neeson, his sons, and the entire family are shocked and devastated by the tragic death of their beloved Natasha," said a statement from spokesman Alan Nierob in Los Angeles.

"They are profoundly grateful for the support, love and prayers of everyone, and ask for privacy during this very difficult time."

The statement did not disclose the cause of death.

The actress became gravely ill shortly after a tumble on a beginner's slope at the Mont Tremblant resort in Canada.

In the hours after she was injured, Neeson, 56, rushed to her side and flew her on a private jet to New York, where tabloids reported the star was "brain-dead." Redgrave, a film and theater star, was seen arriving overnight at the Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan, as were Natasha's sister Joely Richardson and her two sons.—*Internet*

Lights on for some Kabul residents

KABUL, 19 March—For the first time in perhaps 20 years, Kabul resident Abdul Karim can turn his lights on every single night.

It makes getting up to pray before dawn so much easier, said the 67-year-old, standing outside his small house on a dirt street in the centre of the Afghan capital.

"This power is like eyes. If you don't have eyes, you can't walk," he said.

Karim is one of the lucky Kabul residents to benefit from a 40-megawatt (MW) boost in power supply to the capital of roughly four million since mid-January.

For up to 40,000 households, power supply has been boosted to 18 hours a day — up from four hours every third day — according to USAID, Washington's overseas aid arm, which helped put the project in place.

Seven years after the US military helped end the repressive rule of the Islamist Taliban, many Kabul residents are finally beginning to feel that one of their most pressing complains is being dealt with.

Karim's 21-year-old son, Haroon, is thrilled—mainly because it means he can



Afghan women walk past electric meter boxes in a residential neighbourhood of Kabul. —INTERNET

watch a lot more television.

"There is no night that I have gone to bed before 12. This power is an amazing thing because we do not have places for entertainment," he said.

The wattage in their home is enough for the lights and a few appliances — though like most Afghans, they still use traditional wood-fired heaters and gas for cooking.

Internet

Sony e-book reader gets 500,000 books from Google

NEW YORK, 19 March — Google Inc is making half a million books, unprotected by copyright, available for free on Sony Corp.'s electronic book-reading device, the companies were set to announce Thursday.

It's the first time Google has made its vast trove of scanned public-domain books available to an e-book device, and vaults the Sony Reader past Amazon.com Inc's Kindle as the device with the largest available library, at about 600,000 books.

The scanned books were all published before 1923, and include works like Charles Dickens' "A

Tale of Two Cities" as well as nonfiction classics like Herodotus' "The Histories."

The books are already available as free downloads in the Portable Document Format (PDF), which works well on computer screens but not on e-book readers. Google will provide the books to the Sony Reader in the EPUB (electronic publication) format, which lets the lines flow differently to fit a smaller screen.

Google spokeswoman Jennie Johnson said the company wants to make the books available as widely as possible.

"Really our vision is:

any book, anywhere, any time and on any device," she said. "We want to partner with anybody who shares our vision of making them more accessible."

The publishing industry has more or less united on EPUB for e-book distribution, but Amazon uses its own format for the Kindle. However, unencrypted EPUB files can be converted to a format readable by the Kindle using PC software.

Internet

A China Mobile sales representative reaches for a mobile phone on display at an outlet in Hong Kong on 19 March, 2009. China Mobile missed forecasts with an 11 percent rise in quarterly earnings as subscription and usage growth slowed faster than expected, and warned the industry will suffer this year due to the economic turmoil.

INTERNET



ESA to use own rockets in satellite launches from 2010

MOSCOW, 19 March — Europe will use its own lightweight rockets in the launching of small satellites instead of Russia's Dnepr and Rokot from 2010, Jean-Jacques Dordain, director general of the European Space Agency's (ESA), said here on Wednesday.

"Starting from 2010, all small satellites will be launched atop the Vega rockets," Dordain was quoted as saying by the *Interfax* news agency. Europe's Vega launch vehicle will be designed early next year and the first rocket is expected to blast off in mid-2010, Dordain said, adding that Russian rockets will send two more European research satellites into orbit this year. The ESA's GOCE satellite, designed to measure and map the earth's gravitational field, was launched from Russia's Plesetsk cosmodrome on Tuesday.

According to a joint statement by the space agencies of Russia and Europe on Wednesday, they are planning to make their satellite navigation systems, GLONASS and Galileo, complement each other.

Internet



An Iraqi woman inspects her damaged car after a mortar attack in Baghdad, Iraq, on 18 March, 2009. —INTERNET

Rare reptile hatchling found on NZ mainland

WELLINGTON, 19 March — A hatchling of a rare reptile with lineage dating back to the dinosaur age has been found in the wild on the New Zealand mainland for the first time in about 200 years, a wildlife official said on Thursday.

The baby tuatara was discovered by staff during routine maintenance work at the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary in the capital, Wellington, conservation manager Raewyn Empson said.

"We are all absolutely thrilled with this discovery," Empson said. "It means we have



In this photo released by the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary, a baby tuatara is held by a staff at the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary in Wellington, New Zealand, on 19 March, 2009.

INTERNET

successfully re-established a breeding population back on the mainland, which is a massive breakthrough for New Zealand conservation."—Internet

Honey may relieve sinusitis

BEIJING, 19 March — USC University Hospital reports that honey could help reduce chronic sinusitis.

An in-vitro lab study conducted at the University of Ottawa found that the "natural germ fighters" in honey can kill off bacteria that cause sinusitis.

Researchers tested honey on biofilm substances that contain the sinusitis bacteria, and found that honey was actually more effective at killing the bacteria than traditionally-used antibiotics.

The Director of Pediatric Clinical Research at Penn State, Dr. Ian Paul, commented on this new study: "Bacteria do not grow very well in honey... There is data that

honey works well for wounds, in smothering the bacteria that that grow in wounds. So it's not altogether surprising that honey would be effective in killing these bacteria."

Internet



A vendor pours honey into a jar during an annual handmade products market near the Kremlin, central Moscow on 13 Aug, 2007.

XINHUA

Oil tumbles on bigger-than-expected inventory build

NEW YORK, 19 March — Crude oil retreated on Wednesday after a US government report showed energy inventory increased more than market had expected. Light, sweet crude for April delivery fell 1.02 US dollars to settle at 48.14 dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The US Energy Department Energy Information Agency reported on Wednesday that crude stockpiles rose 1.94 million barrels for the week ended 13 March, which has sent US crude inventory to the highest level since 29 June, 2007.

Meanwhile, gasoline stocks surged by 3.2 million barrels, against analysts' expectation of a 2.1-million-barrel drop. Oil prices have gained support from the rally in the stock market recently, but many analysts do not think the price will go beyond the 50-dollar resistance level. Energy demand would remain weak with economic conditions still deteriorating and jobless rate rising.—Internet



Kasper, right, a three-month-old white lion cub, plays with zookeeper Nadja Radovic's hair in the lion's enclosure at Belgrade Zoo, Serbia, on 18 March, 2009. The cub, an extremely rare subspecies of the African lion, was born on 9 December in Belgrade Zoo. White lions are unique to the Timbavati area of South Africa and are not albinos but a genetic rarity.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Ferguson dismisses 'quintuple' talk

LONDON, 19 March – Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson does not believe his team will win an unprecedented five major trophies this season — even though he reckons the current squad is the best he's had during more than two decades at Old Trafford.

United, who have already won the Club World Cup and English League Cup this term, are currently four points clear at the top of the Premier League and still have chances to win both the FA Cup and the European Champions League.

Internet



Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson does not believe his team will win an unprecedented five major trophies this season — even though he reckons the current squad is the best he's had during more than two decades at Old Trafford.—INTERNET

Marseille beat Ajax on aggregate in UEFA Cup

PARIS, 19 March – An Englishman came to the rescue of French giants Marseille's UEFA Cup campaign on Wednesday as the journeyman defender Tyrone Mears scored a goal in extra-time to see them to a 2-2 draw on the night but a 4-3 aggregate success over Dutch side Ajax and a place in the quarter-finals.

Mears, the only Englishman playing in the top flight of French football, headed in in the second-half of extra-time to raise French morale after St Etienne had also forced a 2-2 draw at home to Werder Bremen but they went out 3-2 on aggregate.

Marseille coach Eric Gerets, who has revived the fortunes of the club since taking over, conceded that Ajax had been the better side.

"I would like to congratulate Marco van Basten (Ajax coach) on his tactics," said the no-nonsense former Belgium captain. "It is the first time for a long time that my midfield had so much difficulty.—Internet



Marseille's Boudewijn Zenden (R) tackles Toby Alderweireld of Ajax during the UEFA Cup football match Ajax vs Marseille in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Marseille go through 4-3 on aggregate.—INTERNET

Liverpool's Benitez ends saga, extends contract

LIVERPOOL, 19 March – Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez has ended months of speculation by signing a contract extension that will keep him at Anfield until 2014, the English Premier League club confirmed on Wednesday.

The Spaniard, whose current deal ran until the end of next season, told Liverpool's official website: "My heart is with Liverpool Football Club, so I'm delighted to sign this new deal.

"I love the club, the fans and the city and with a club like this and supporters like this, I could never say no to staying. I always made clear I wanted to be here for a long time and when I complete my new contract it will mean I have spent over a decade in Liverpool."

Internet



Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez.

Federer, Murray advance at Indian Wells

INDIAN WELLS, 19 March – Roger Federer and Andy Murray edged closer to a semi-final clash at the Indian Wells hardcourt tennis tournament Wednesday, each booking his quarter-final berth.

World No.2 Federer, playing his first tournament since falling in a five-set thriller to Rafael Nadal in the Australian Open final, got past Chilean Fernando Gonzalez 6-3, 5-7, 6-2. Fourth-seeded Murray had an easier than expected time, reaching the quarters as fourth-round opponent Tommy Robredo retired with an injured right wrist as Murray led 6-2, 3-0.—Internet

Tiger to play 1st tourney Down Under since 1998

MELBOURNE, 19 March – Tiger Woods will play at the Australian Masters in November, his first tournament appearance Down Under since 1998.

Victoria state premier John Brumby held a news conference Thursday to confirm the world's top-ranked golfer would play at the tournament at Kingston Heath, scheduled for 12-15 Nov.

Brumby predicted the visit by the world's top golfer would earn Victoria state \$12.54 million in economic benefits, which would offset Woods' \$3 million appearance fee.

Internet



Tiger Woods watches his approach shot to the green during the second day of play in the annual Tavistock Cup golf tournament in Orlando, Fla. on 17 March, 2009.

INTERNET

Van der Sar turns down international offer

THE HAGUE, 19 March – Manchester United goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar turned down a request to return to international football it was revealed by national coach Bert van Marwijk on Wednesday.

The 38-year-old goalkeeper — capped 130 times — retired from international football after The Netherlands went out of Euro 2008 but did accept to return for two World Cup qualifiers last year in which he didn't concede a goal. Van Marwijk faces a goalkeeping crisis ahead of the next two World Cup qualifiers against Scotland on 28 March and Macedonia on 1 April.

Internet



Manchester United's Dutch goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar, turned down a request to return to international football it was revealed by national coach Bert van Marwijk on Wednesday.—INTERNET

Fabregas rejects spitting allegations

LONDON, 19 March – Arsenal captain Cesc Fabregas insists he has nothing to hide if he is hauled before the Football Association over claims that he spat at Hull's assistant manager.

"I've absolutely nothing to hide and nothing to be ashamed of," he told the Sun newspaper. "The simple fact is I did not spit at the assistant manager of Hull City." Hull boss Phil Brown accused the Spanish midfielder of spitting at assistant manager Brian Horton in the tunnel after Arsenal's ill-tempered 2-1 FA Cup quarter-final win at the Emirates Stadium on Tuesday.—Internet

Grenoble reach first ever French Cup semi-final

PARIS, 19 March – Grenoble qualified for the French Cup semi-finals for the first time in their history after a comfortable 2-0 home win over Monaco on Wednesday. Eliminated at the quarter-final stage in 1953, 2001 and 2005, Grenoble took a 13th-minute lead through 31-year-old striker Daniel Moreira, who failed to score a goal in two seasons for his previous club Rennes.

Another old hand, 34-year-old Nassim Akrouf, killed off Monaco's hopes with a goal in the ninth minute of the second half. It was Akrouf's second key goal in a week, having scored an injury-time winner against troubled St Etienne in the league on Sunday.—Internet



Grenoble's players celebrate their victory over Monaco in the French Cup quarter-finals at the Stade des Alpes in Grenoble. Grenoble won 2-0 to reach the semi-finals for the first time in their history.—INTERNET

Temperature rise may trigger West Antarctic thaw



An enormous iceberg (R) breaks off the Knox Coast in the Australian Antarctic Territory in 2008.—INTERNET

OSLO, 19 March—The West Antarctic ice sheet may start to collapse if sea temperatures rise by 5 degrees Celsius (9 degrees Fahrenheit), triggering a thaw that would raise world ocean levels by 5 meters (16 ft), US scientists said.

Such a rise in sea levels — taking thousands of years — would swamp many coasts and cities and wipe some low-lying Pacific islands off the map.

West Antarctica, the part of the frozen conti-

nent most vulnerable to climate change, has thawed several times in the past few million years, most recently 400,000 years ago, according to Thursday's edition of the journal *Nature*.

The study "suggests the Western Antarctic ice sheet will begin to collapse when nearby ocean temperatures warm by roughly 5 C," David Polard of Pennsylvania State University and Robert DeConto of the University of Massachusetts wrote.—*Internet*

MRTV-3
Programme Schedule
(20.3.2009) (Friday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

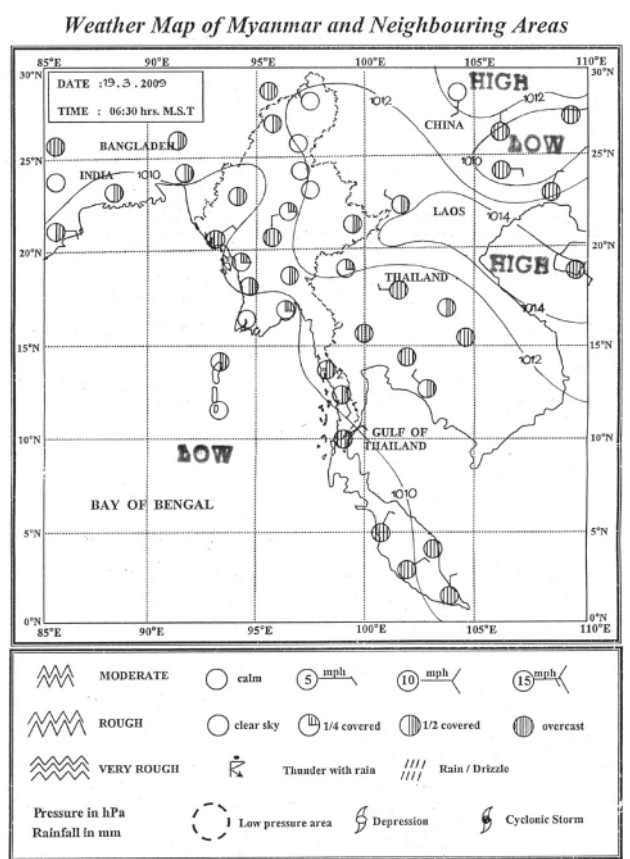
Local Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Road to Mingun
- * King of all fruits
- * Hundred Fruits from a Common Stem, Our Union "Rakhine State"
- * Myanma Ancient Ornaments Showroom
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Ecstasy of Life
- * The Art of Aesthetic Mosaic
- * The Interesting Places of Kachin State
- * Hundred Fruits from a Common Stem, Our Union "Mon State"
- * Lush and Green Myanma Land
- * Colourful Lotus-shaped Candles
- * Fish Culture in Myanma
- * Pickled Featherback
- * Beauty of the Women of Myanma
- * Road to Mingun
- * Hundred Fruits from a Common Stem, Our Union "Rakhine State"
- * Kanbawza Thardi Museum
- * A Brief Account of Bagan
- * Plesant Taunggyi (Part-1)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm



WEATHER

Thursday, 19 March, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan, Kayah and Mon States, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) above March average temperatures in Kachin State and Bago Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below March average temperatures in Kayah State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below March average temperatures in Shan and Kayah States, upper Sagaing Division and about March average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures was Thayawady (39°C). The Noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Heho (1.14) inches, Pinlaung (0.39) inch, Taunggyi (0.35) inch and Yamethin (0.28) inch.

Maximum temperature on 18-3-2009 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 19-3-2009 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 19-3-2009 was 67%. Total sunshine hours on 18-3-2009 was (5.0) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 19-3-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and 1 mm (0.04) inch at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from North at (09:30) hours MST on 19-3-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 20th March 2009: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Shan, Kayah and Mon States and Taninthayi Division 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: Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 20-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 20-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 20-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Beware of Fire

TV
Myanmar

Friday, 20 March
View on today

7:00 am

1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:05 am

6. (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့.

ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:20 am

7. International news

8:30 am

8. "ကျန်းမာသန်ထွားညင်သာခြင်း" (မင်းရာဇာ၊ မျိုးစနွဲ့ကျော်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဂွမ်းပုံ) [ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်ဇော်(ကုမုဒြာ)]

8:45 am

9. The mirror images of the musical oldies

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. Dance of national races

4:20 pm

3. Song of yesteryear

4:30 pm

4. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

4:45 pm

5. တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြု

တေးသီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရတေးများ

5:0 pm

6. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်လညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ (ဒုတိယနှစ်) (ရှုက္ခမေဇာ၊ သတ္တဗဒအထူးပြုများ) (ရှုက္ခမေ)

5:10 pm

7. Songs to uphold National Spirit

5:20 pm

8. Musical programme

5:30 pm

9. "ငွေကြေးကိစ္စမှန်သမျှတက်ကိုသာ အားကိုးကြ" (ခန့်စည်သူ၊ ဖြိုးငွေစိုး၊ ဝိယ၊ ပုလဲဝင်း၊ ပူးစုံ၊ သဇင်) [ဒါရိုက်တာ-မြင့်စိုး(ဝ/သ)]

5:45 pm

10. (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

6:00 pm

11. Evening news

6:30 pm

12. Weather report

6:35 pm

13. "သားကောင်းမိခင်" (အပိုင်-၁) (လွင်စိုး၊ နေတိုး၊ ဇင်စိုင်း ထွန်းထွန်း(Examplez), စိုးမြတ်သူဇာ၊ မေသတ္တဦး၊ ပန်းဖြူ၊ သက်မွန်မြင့်၊ ပုလဲဝင်း) [ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီစိုးစိုး]

8:00 pm

14. News
15. International news
16. Weather report
17. "သားကောင်းမိခင်" (အပိုင်-၂) (လွင်စိုး၊ နေတိုး၊ ဇင်စိုင်း ထွန်းထွန်း(Examplez), စိုးမြတ်သူဇာ၊ မေသတ္တဦး၊ ပန်းဖြူ၊ သက်မွန်မြင့်၊ ပုလဲဝင်း) [ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီစိုးစိုး]



Myanmar thanks S'pore government for its assistance to develop her human resources

Prime Minister General Thein Sein

Government, private sector urged to carry out task beneficial for both countries

Prime Minister Mr. Lee Hsien Loong



Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein holds a meeting with Singaporean Prime Minister Mr. Lee Hsien Loong at Istana Presidential Palace in Singapore. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Members of the Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein held a meeting with Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong at the meeting room of Istana Presidential Palace in Singapore at 2.15 p.m., on 17 March.

Also present at the meeting were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Deputy

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Win Myint, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department and departmental heads.

The Singaporean Prime Minister was accompanied by Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr George Yeo, Minister of Trade and Industry Mr Lim Hng Kiang, Acting Minister of Labour Mr Gan Kim Yong, Singaporean

Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong and senior officials.

First, the Singaporean Prime Minister extended greetings. After delivering an address, Prime Minister General Thein Sein introduced his delegation members to the Singaporean Prime Minister.

Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister General Thein Sein said that the Republic of Singapore is the international trade centre and the gateway of Myanmar to other countries.

(See page 7)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo meets Chief of Staff of Malaysian Armed Forces

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo received Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Dato Haji

Shahrom bin Haji Ibrahim of Malaysian Armed Forces and party at the

hall of SPDC Office here this morning.

Also present at the call

together with Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo were

Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Maj-Gen Aye

Myint of the Ministry of Defence and senior military officers.—MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo receives Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Dato Haji Shahrom bin Haji Ibrahim of Malaysian Armed Forces and party at SPDC Office in Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA

