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Political parties need to have their campaigns grounded in a commitment to non-disintegration of Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity as well as in Union Spirit

Those who will be involved in organizing work for parties urged to refrain from inciting unrest, avoid personal attacks and smear campaigns against other parties, find unity in diversity by practising tolerance, forgiveness and understanding toward one another

Democracy in Myanmar today is at a fledgling stage and still requires patient care and attention

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March—*The following is a full text of the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe at the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade 2009 in Nay Pyi Taw today.*

Comrades,
Our patriotic Armed Forces rose from a state of foreign dependence to launch a revolution together with the people, relying on no one but itself for the first time 64 years ago today in the history of the independence struggle.

aim of our Armed Forces today is to defend our independence and sovereignty from all attempts at manipulation through political, economic, ideological, military and other means.

Aim of Armed Forces

Thus, the immediate task before us is the building of a strong and capable modern patriotic Armed Forces that can ensure total all-round defence and protection of our independence and

sovereignty.
Comrades,
In material terms, the modernization and development of the Armed Forces depend on the financial resources available to the State. But at the same time, ongoing efforts must be made in matters of morale, to ensure mental fortitude, good discipline, staunch loyalty, unity and the possession of the Three Capabilities, through the Four Major Tasks of Armed Forces Building.
(See page 8)



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivers an address at 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.
MNA



- 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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 28 March, 2009

Carry on serving national interest upholding the four oaths

Having born out of the independence struggles, the Tatmadaw was formed with offspring of the people who are imbued with patriotism and nationalistic spirit.

Since its inception, the Tatmadaw has been well-disciplined and organized. So, it has become strong day by day. As each and every Tatmadaw member constantly abides by the military rules, military laws and military codes of conduct, the Tatmadaw has won the love and respects of the people.

With the fine traditions in the course of the history, the Tatmadaw has sacrificed a great number of lives, blood and sweat for the perpetuation of independence and sovereignty. At present also, it is steadfastly safeguarding the lives and property of the entire national people.

Nowadays, the Tatmadaw is discharging the three main duties, namely, the national defence duty, the training duty and the public welfare duty while actively participating in the process of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation together with the people.

The active participation of the Tatmadaw in the national defence duty and the public welfare duty is inspired by its innate ability to serve the people's interest based on patriotism and nationalistic spirit. From the period of independence struggle up to date, the consolidation and unity among the Tatmadaw and the people has gone down in the annals of Myanmar history.

With the fine traditions of the Tatmadaw that never betrays the national cause in the course of the history, each and every Tatmadaw member is to carry on serving the national interest upholding the four oaths towards the State and the people.

Planetarium (Nay Pyi Taw) to open on 1 April

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March— Planetarium (Nay Pyi Taw) will be kept open for public access starting from 1 April.

Booths open from 10 a.m to 4 p.m every day except Monday. The exhibition programmes are conducted two times a day at 11 a.m and 1 p.m. Admission fees are K 4,000 per child and K 5,000 per adult.—MNA

Take Fire Preventive Measures

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

Newly-built Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden opens to mark 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March —As a gesture of hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the opening ceremony of newly-built Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee was held at the archway of the garden this morning.

Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Mayor Col Thein Nyunt and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe formally opened the newly-built Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin unveiled the signboard of Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden and Mayor Col Thein Nyunt, newly-built Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden. The commander, the mayor and the ministers sprinkled scented water on the signboard.

Then the commander, the mayor and guests viewed the playground, Musical Water Dancing and water fountains in it.

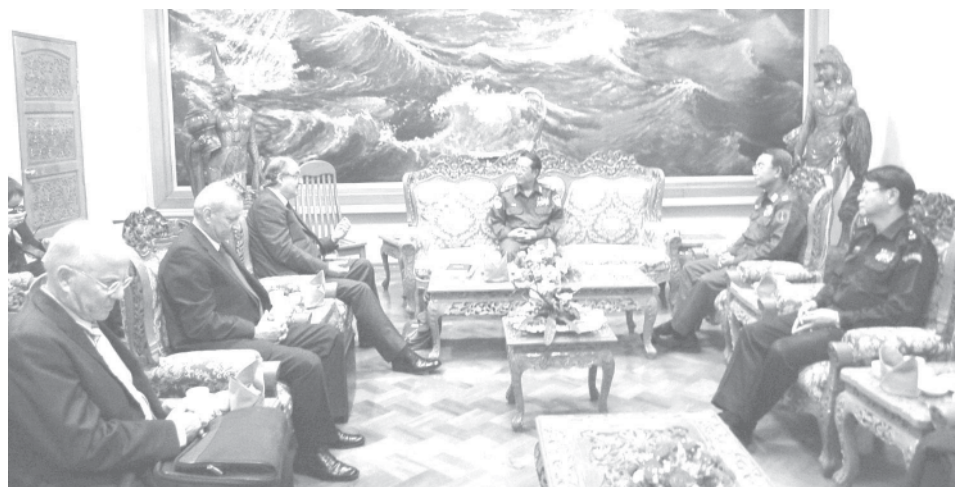
The newly-built 100-acre garden is located near Razathingaha Road and the road to the ministries, north of the Ngalaik creek. The steel structure triple archway is 41 feet wide and 57 feet and eight inches high. The main archway is decorated with one 20-foot-wide archway on both sides. Water fountains are located in front of the archway. The garden is facilitated with a 20-million-gallon capacity 8.26-acre lake, a water fountain lake with five dolphins, five water fountain lakes, modern playgrounds, Water Globe, Musical Water Dancing and a ground palace hall, recreation center and concrete roads, buggy lanes, car parks and flowery plants in the garden. The suspension bridge links the newly opened facility with the main garden.

Now, Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden is 165 acres wide. After the opening ceremony, local people and staff families visited the modern water fountain garden decorated with waterfall taking relax and boating in the Ngalaik creek. — MNA

SWRR Minister receives EU Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March— Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe received European Union Ambassador Mr. David Lipman and party at Mekhala Hall of the ministry, here, yesterday morning.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for SWRR Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Director-General U Myint Tun of Fire Services



Department and departmental officials. MNA

Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe receives EU Ambassador Mr. David Lipman and party. MNA

Bomb blasts in N Okkalapa, leaves bomber dead

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March — A man died in a bomb blast at a guest house in North Okkalapa Township yesterday afternoon as the bomb went off while he was setting it.

The blast occurred at room No F-1 of Tawwinnan Guest House on Thudhamma Road, Ward (L), North Okkalapa Township around 4.20 p.m yesterday.

The authorities found a dead body of a man, aged over 20, in the room. The blast blew off his two arms and legs and damaged his face and lower part of the body.

The authorities seized one four-inch long, two-inch wide and one-inch thick dynamite weighing 0.5 pound; one electronic detonator and wires; one nine-volt dry cell, four AA Brand dry cells; 4 mm-radius 30 steel balls; two clocks; one device for measuring ampere; one binding tape; one wire tape; one mobile

phone; one wrist watch; and a citizenship scrutiny card of the man.

On examination of explosives and accessories found in the room and on the dead body, it was found that the blast occurred while the man was setting a time-bomb. Some explosives and materials to make more bombs were found in the room.

Destructive elements and insurgents have been plotting to plant bombs in an attempt to undermine community peace and stability and to cause panic among the people. The incident shows that one shall pay for his own misdeed. After investigating the blast, it was found the links between the blast, ABSDF insurgent group and WBURF insurgent group. The blast is still under investigation by the authorities.

MNA

Obama to order modest increase of troops in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 27 March—US President Barack Obama will announce a modest increase of 4,000 more troops to Afghanistan as he unveils a new Afghan strategy Friday, US officials

said Thursday.

The new troops will be deployed to that country later 2009 and will be assigned to train local police and security forces, the officials were quoted by the web site of the

Washington Post as saying.

That increase will raise US troop levels there to 61,000-65,000 troops, doubling America's military presence from last December.

The White House announced earlier in the day that the president will announce the strategy on Friday after two-month internal consultations.

The strategy for Afghanistan is expected to include the contents of increasing US troops, expanding Afghan security forces, and appealing for cooperation from "moderate" insurgents, sources closed to the consultations said.

Internet



An Iraqi youth inspects the site of a car bomb attack in Baghdad. The bomb ripped through a crowd in Baghdad on Thursday, killing at least 20 people, including women and children, a day after the US military said violence in Iraq was at its lowest in six years.—INTERNET



Husham Jawad is comforted by his brother, after being injured in a car bombing in northern Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 March, 2009. The bomb exploded near a crowded market in a mainly Shiite area, killing at least 20 people, Iraqi officials said.—INTERNET



The site of a bomb attack in western Baghdad on 24 March, 2009. A bomb at a bus terminal killed nine people and wounded 23 on Monday in Abu Ghraib, western Baghdad, police said.

INTERNET

Nine police killed in southern Afghanistan

KABUL, 27 March—The Interior Ministry says militants have killed nine police officers in southern Afghanistan.

The ministry says in a statement the officers were attacked in Helmand Province's Nahri Sarraj district on Thursday. It blamed the "enemies of Afghanistan" for conducting the attack, a common reference to Taliban militants.

Lightly armed police bear the brunt of militant attacks across the country.

Southern Afghanistan is the center of the Taliban insurgency, where thousands of new US troops will be joining the fight later this year.

Internet

US watchdog says billions of US aid wasted in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 27 March — About three billion US dollars to five billion US dollars in US aid for rebuilding Iraq has been wasted since 2003, and similar problems will likely haunt development in Afghanistan, a top US watchdog said on Wednesday.

Stuart Bowen, the US special inspector general for Iraq reconstruction, told Congress that sums wasted on ill-designed or failed projects in Iraq translate into 15-20 per cent of the 21-billion-US-dollar Iraqi Relief and Reconstruction Fund set up by Congress after the 2003 US-led invasion.

Bowen, who appeared before the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, did not give specific examples but faulted an ad hoc US approach that sought to modernize every aspect of Iraqi society from banking to traffic laws, poor security and a lack of structure for mobilizing resources.

The figures were the result of about 135 audits conducted by Bowen's team in recent years.

Bowen said reconstruction in both Iraq and Afghanistan suffers because the United States has no established framework for relief and contingency operations. — MNA/Reuters

Israel successfully tests anti-rocket system

JERUSALEM, 27 March—Israel's Defence Ministry says it has successfully tested a high-tech system designed to intercept incoming rockets.

A ministry statement says the Iron Dome system successfully intercepted rockets in tests carried out this week. The statement called the tests a "milestone" in the system's development.

Defence officials said on Friday that this was the first time the system had intercepted rockets in a test.

The system fires missiles that home in on incoming short and medium-range rockets of the type fired by Palestinian and Lebanese militants. Millions of Israelis are now in range of rockets fired by Hamas and Hezbollah.

Israel is spending more than \$200 million on the system, which is supposed to be operational in 2010.

Internet

US, Afghan troops kill 11 militants in south

KABUL, 27 March—International and Afghan troops killed 11 militants when a raid in Afghanistan's volatile south turned into a gunbattle with Taliban fighters, US forces said on Friday.

Fighting broke out during the Thursday night raid targeting a key Taliban insurgent in a village in Helmand province, the military said in a statement. The forces came under fire from militants inside a compound as they advanced and returned fire.



The body of a suspected Taliban militant lies lifeless on the back of a police vehicle with his heavy machine gun after he was killed in a battle with the Afghan forces on the outskirts of Ghazni province west of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 26 March, 2009.—INTERNET

The US military said the militants targeted in the attack were used for roadside attacks in northern Helmand Province. One militant was cap-

ured and 11 killed in the fighting in Lashkar Gar district, west of the provincial capital of Kandahar. The statement said one militant tried to use women and children in the compound as human shields, but the force managed to shoot the man without harming the civilians.

A village elder told coalition forces the Taliban forced them to shelter the group for the night, the statement said.

Internet

China spent 26.5 b US dollars on Three Gorges Project

BEIJING, 27 March—As of the end of 2008, China had spent 181.5 billion yuan (26.5 billion US dollars) in dynamic investment, and 122.9 billion yuan in static investment, on the Three Gorges Hydropower Project on the upper reaches of the country's Yangtze River.

So far, 91 percent of the budget has been spent on the project. The total cost is not expected to surpass what has been bud-

eted, said Wang Xiaofeng, deputy director of the Committee of the Construction of the Three Gorges Project and the Three Gorges Project Office under the State Council.

The project is now in its final stage in both construction and resettlement. The government is still working on guidelines for carrying out long-term follow-up programs that are aimed at

ensuring a stable life for the more than one million resettled people, protecting the environment and preventing geological disasters in the area.

According to the official, after nearly 17 years of construction, the Three Gorges Reservoir is now able to hold water that's 175 meters high. All 26 generators, 700,000 kw each, were put into operation in November.

Xinhua



The photo "Dance" taken by Lu Xubo wins the bronze prize in Nature & Environment News Singles in the 5th China International Press Photo (CHIPP) Contest held in Shanghai, China, from 20 to 25 March, 2009.—XINHUA

Tourist attractions open for free on anniversary of quake

CHENGDU, 27 March—Most scenic spots in southwest China's Sichuan Province will open for free on 12 May, the one year anniversary of a fatal earthquake which killed nearly 70,000 people, local tourism authority confirmed on Wednesday.

Tourist attractions will also be discounted, some from 50-70 percent, during the month of May, said Wu Mian, deputy director of the Sichuan Provincial Tourism Administration.

The measures were taken to rebuild tourists' confidence so as to revitalize the province's travel industry, he added.

On Tuesday, the provincial capital Chengdu began distributing 20 million tourism cards, named the Panda Card, which offer free or discounted admission at tourist attractions in the city for people in and outside the province.—Xinhua

Steel futures contracts launched in Shanghai

SHANGHAI, 27 March—China's steel futures contracts were launched at 9 am on Friday on the Shanghai Futures Exchange (SHFE), with benchmark price for major contract of rebar RB909 set at 3,399 yuan (499.85 US dollars) per tonne and that of steel wire WR909 at 3,199 yuan per tonne.

September contract for rebar opened at 3,621 yuan, up 222 yuan, or 6.5 percent from the benchmark price, and that of steel wire at 3,459 yuan, up 260 yuan, or 8.1 percent. Both contracts dipped lower to 3,585 yuan and 3,411 yuan respectively by 10 am.

Among other steel products, rebar and steel wire were in large demand from the industrialization and urbanization process, and thus had a sound and stable base of market trading, an SHFE official told Xinhua.

Xinhua

New York's unemployment hits 16-year high

NEW YORK, 27 March—The New York State Department of Labour said Thursday that the city's unemployment recorded the worst figure in 16 years, according to local TV channel NY1.

The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for the city posted 8.1 percent last month, from 6.9 percent in January.

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Foreigners studying in China exceeds 200,000 in 2008

BEIJING, 27 March—The number of foreign students in China reached a record high of 223,499 in 2008, a 14.32 percent increase over 2007, an official with the Ministry of Education (MOE) said on Wednesday.

Foreign students were attending 592 higher educational institutions throughout the country, Zhang Xiuqin, head of the international cooperation and exchange department said at a press conference in Beijing.

"China has become one of the most popular destinations for foreign students because of its history and culture as well as improving government services," Zhang said.

The Chinese government increased scholarships for foreign students in recent years. In 2008, 13,516 foreign students received scholarship. That's 33.15 percent more than the previous year.

Those scholarships included tuition, housing and medical insurance, Zhang said.

According to the MOE, the Chinese government invested 500 million yuan (71.4 million US dollars) in 2008 to finance foreign students. Recipients received a monthly stipend between 1,400 to 2,000 yuan (200 to 285 US dollars).—Xinhua



Models present ancient-style wedding dresses during the First Dalian Wedding Expo in Dalian city of northeast China's Liaoning Province, on 25 March, 2009.—XINHUA

China expresses "resolute opposition" to US military report

BEIJING, 27 March — China on Thursday expressed its opposition to a new report by the US Defence Department on China's military strength.

"We have lodged solemn representations to the US side," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told a regular press conference when asked to comment on this annual report.

The report continued disseminating the "Chinese military threat" theory, severely distorted the facts and interfered in China's internal affairs, Qin said.

"China unswervingly sticks to a path of peaceful development and pursues a national defense policy which is purely defensive in nature," he said, noting that China is devoted to safeguarding world peace and stability.

"We urged the US side to respect this basic fact," he noted.—Xinhua

One dead, two missing in separate avalanches in W Canada

OTTAWA, 27 March—One snowmobiler was killed in an avalanche in western Canada's British Columbia (BC) Province and two others are still missing after being hit by a separate avalanche in the same province, police said Thursday.

The snowmobiler was killed Wednesday afternoon near Kimberley, in southeastern BC. On Tuesday three snowmobilers were also caught in an avalanche in northeastern BC. One man survived but the other two are still missing.

No rescue has been launched as experts determine the area is too dangerous to enter. The mountain will be surveyed again Thursday morning to establish whether it is safe for search and rescue teams to enter the area where two men remain missing, police said

Xinhua

2016 Olympics bidders launch bidding process

WASHINGTON, 27 March—Four cities bidding for the 2016 Olympic Games unveiled the bidding process with a series of presentations to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and top sports officials in Denver on Thursday. Chicago, Tokyo, Madrid and Rio de Janeiro were each given 20 minutes to explain their Olympic vision and they duly obliged by rolling out catchy slogans with flashy videos featuring ambitious plans for stadiums and athletes villages.—Xinhua



HONOURING THE 64TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

Armed Forces Day resolve

- ☆ Joining hands with brethren
We will all strive without fail
To implement seven-step Road Map
Till reaching goal successfully
For national peace and modernization
Added with prosperity and glory
And to serve national interest
And win over all enemies
- ☆ Always placing in fore
Our Three Main National Causes
As the national policy
Willingly sacrificing lives
To safeguard nation
- ☆ Taking the strength of brethren
We will crush all destructionists
Who with antagonism and wicked mind
Attempting to undermine
People's interest and nation
Which is so peaceful and developed
- ☆ With firm determination
We will build
A modern patriotic Tatmadaw
In accord with the time
Safeguarding sovereignty
And territorial integrity
For ever existence and glory
Of our country

Than Tun Nyo (Trs)
**Honouring the 64th Anniversary Armed
Forces Day**

Development of information sector in the time of Tatmadaw Government



*Printing Press of the
Printing and
Publishing
Enterprise under
Ministry of
Information
established in Nay
Pyi Taw.*

*TV retransmission
station built in
Pyigy Mandaing of
Taninthayi Division.*

No.	Subject	1988	2008	Progress
1.	TV station	1	2	1
2.	TV retransmission stations	15	212	197
3.	MRTV-4 retransmission station	-	23	23
4.	FM radio retransmission station	-	9	9
5.	FM radio broadcasting	-	2	2
6.	IPRD offices	-	398	398
7.	IPRD libraries	111	398	287
8.	Departmental libraries	-	821	821
9.	Rural libraries	-	55755	55755
10.	e-libraries	-	126	126
11.	Government printing presses	5	7	2
12.	Sub-printing houses	-	9	9



*Kettha Youth
Library opened in
Homalin Township
of Sagaing
Division for
disseminating
knowledge to local
people.*



*TV retransmission station seen in Mindat of
Chin State.*

Senior General Than Shwe addresses...

(from page 16)

Also present at the parade were Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister General Thein Sein, Secretary-1 of the SPDC General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Lt-Gen Tha Aye and Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Defence Services Inspector-General Maj-Gen Thein Htaik, Military Appointment-General Maj-Gen Hsan Hsint, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Maj-Gen Maung Shein of the Ministry of Defence, ministers, senior military officers of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) of the Ministry of Defence, deputy ministers, the deputy Attorney-General, members of the Civil Service Selection and

Training Board, military attachés of foreign missions, departmental heads, senior police officers of Myanmar Police Force, senior officers of Fire Services Department, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar War Veterans Organization, chairmen and members of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon and Myanmar Music Asiayon, nurses, fire brigade members, Red Cross Brigade members, journalists, correspondents of foreign news agencies at home and reporters of local journals and magazines and guests.

At 5 a.m., servicemen of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air), Myanmar Police Force members, Myanmar Fire Brigade members and Myanmar Red Cross Brigade members took the designated places at the assembly area of Thittat Parade Ground to march towards the Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground.

At 5.30 a.m., Parade Adjutant Lt-Col Soe Moe Kyaw presented seven parade columns to Parade Commander Brig-

Gen Tun Nay Lin. The Central Military Band led by Captain Aung Moe Lin marched to the Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground in advance and took the designated places.

Next, Parade Commander Brig-Gen Tun Nay Lin led the military columns, followed by Parade Adjutant Lt-Col Soe Moe Kyaw, the standard bearers of the Union Flag and flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of Anawrahta Column led by Major Khin Maung Aye. Column Commander Col Than Win ushered Anawrahta Column, together with the Guard of Honour representing Directorate of Armoured Force led by Company Commander Major Htoo Myat Toe, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Kyaw Khaing Tun, the company led by Major Khin Tun Aung representing Eastern Command, the company led by Major Aung Zaw Oo representing South-West Command, the company led by Major Zaw Lwin Oo representing Office of the Chief of Defence Industries, the company-2 led by Major Soe Moe Aung representing South-West Command, the company-2 led by Major Thint Myat representing South-East Command and the military band led by Sergeant Win Moe.

Column Commander Col Yan Myo Aung ushered Kyansittha Column, together with the



Dignitaries attend 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

MNA

standard bearers of the Union Flag and flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of Kyansittha Column led by Major Kaung Nyunt, the Guard of Honour led by Company Commander Major Phyo Thant representing Yangon Command, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Myo Min Aung, the company led by Major Min Chit Nyo representing Directorate of Signals, the company led by Major Soe Moe Kyaw representing South-East Command, the company-3 led by Major Htein Lin Oo representing Western Command, the company-2 led by Major Aung Hsan Lin representing Coastal Region Command and the military band led by WO-II Kyaw Zeyar Win.

Column Commander Captain Min Thein Tint (Navy) ushered Bayintnaung Column, together with the standard bearers of the Union Flag and flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of Bayintnaung Column led by Lt-Cdr Sai Thet Naing, the Guard of Honour led by Company Commander Lt-Cdr Ye Tun Lin representing Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), Commanding Officer Cdr Maung Maung Kyaw (Navy), the company led by Major Nay Myo Oo representing Directorate of Supply and Transport, the company led by Major Kyaw Thet Win representing North-East Command, the company led by Major Ye

Yint Aung representing Western Command, the company-2 led by Major Zaw Min Soe representing Northern Command, the company-2 led by Major Zaw Min Oo representing Eastern Command and the military band led by Cpl Kyaw Lwin Oo.

Column Commander Col Than Aung ushered Aungzeya Column, together with the standard bearers of the Union Flag and flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of Aungzeya Column led by Major Min Thu, the Guard of Honour led by Company Commander Major Hla Myo representing Directorate of Artillery Force, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Kyaw Kyaw Naing, the company led by Major Tun Tun Naing representing Directorate of Ammunition, the company led by Major Myo Nyunt representing Northern Command, the company led by Major Aye Min Thein representing Coastal Region Command, the company-2 led by Major Yan Myo Naing representing Yangon Command, the company-3 led by Major Min Oo representing Triangle Region Command and the military band led by Sgt Tin Naing.

Column Commander Col Nay Win ushered Hsinbyushin Column, together with the standard bearers of the Union Flag and flags of Tatmadaw (Army,

Navy and Air) of Hsinbyushin Column led by Major Kyaw Kyaw Win, the Guard of Honour led by Company Commander Major Zaw Zaw Tun representing Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Commanding Officer Lt-Col Zaw Tun, the company led by Major Aye Zaw representing Directorate of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, the company led by Major Nanda Win representing Triangle Region Command, the company-3 led by Major Naing Lin representing Eastern Command, the company-2 led by Major Nyi Nyi Tun representing North-West Command, the company-3 led by Major Hsan Htay Maung representing Coastal Region Command and the military band led by WO-II Kyaw Moe Tun.

Column Commander Col Khin Maung Htwe ushered Bandoola Column, together with the standard bearers of the Union Flag and flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of Bandoola Column led by Major Tun Tun Oo, the Guard of Honour led by Company Commander Major Myo Win representing Directorate of Medical Services, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Than Zaw Htut, the company led by Major Naing Win Soe representing Southern Command, the company led by Major Kyaw Kyaw Lin representing North-West Command, (See page 7)



View of fireworks above Parade Ground in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe...

(from page 6)

the company led by Major Zin Min Htut representing No. 101 LID, the company-2 led by Major Arkar representing Triangle Region Command and the military band led by WO-II Aung Zaw Latt.

Column Commander Col Kyaw Thant Naing ushered Myawady Column, together with the standard bearers of the Union Flag and flags of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) of Myawady Column led by Police Major Maung Maung Zaw, the Guard of Honour led by Company Commander Police Major Aung Hsan Win representing Myanmar Police Force, Commanding Officer Lt-Col Kyaw Lin Oo, the company led by Assistant Director Hlaing Win Aung representing Myanmar Fire Brigade, the company led by Deputy Commanding Officer Zaw Naing Thant representing Myanmar Red Cross Society, the company led by Major Tin Myo Naung representing Directorate of Military Engineers, the company-2 led by Major Aung Thu representing North-East Command, the company led by Major Zaw Moe Khaing representing Central Command and the military band led by Cpl Kyaw Soe.

Singing military songs, the parade columns comprising 13,697 members of Tatmadaw, MPF, Fire Brigade and Red Cross Brigade marched toward the Parade Ground.

Along the route, the marching columns were accorded a rousing welcome by the families of the Camp Commandant's Office of the Ministry of Defence, service personnel of ministries, Tatmadawmen, Myanmar Fire Brigade and MRCS, families of Nay Pyi Taw Station, members of USDA, MWAFF, MMCWA, WVO, Red Cross and Fire Brigade, nurses, teachers, students and local people waving miniature flags presented flowers and garlands to the parade members.

The columns took the designated places at 7.20 a.m. At 7.30 a.m., Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by SPDC member General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, took the designated place on the dais at the Parade Ground. Afterwards, the parade columns saluted the Senior General. Next, Parade Commander Brig-Gen Tun Nay Lin presented the columns to the Senior General.

After that, the Senior General inspected the

parade columns by car. The columns saluted the flag of the Union of Myanmar. Meanwhile, the Central Military Band played the National Anthem.

After paying tribute to the fallen leaders and members of the Tatmadaw, the members of the parade columns took the four oaths.

Next, the Senior General delivered an address. (*The speech of the Senior General is reported separately.*)

The parade commander sought the permission from the Senior General to march past him. The columns led by the parade commander marched past the Senior General and left the Parade Ground for the assembly area. The Senior General left the Parade Ground and the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade ended at 8.40 a.m.

The bronze statues of King Anawrahta, King Bayintnaung and King Alaungphaya could be seen in the Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground. A torch was lit at the right side of the statues. The parade ground was decorated with water fountain, flowery plants, the lawns and multi-coloured lights. Various billboards with mottos of the Tatmadaw and flags of the Tatmadaw were put up along Pinlaung Road.—MNA

Prize presentation ceremony of 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade held

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March—The prize presentation ceremony of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade took place at the assembly area of Thitatt parade ground here at 9 a.m. today attended by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence.

Also present on the occasion were Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Chairman of Leading Committee for Observance of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Chairman of Parade Work Committee for Observance of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Chairman of Work Committee for Presenting Prize to Best Parade Company Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and senior military officers, Tatmadawmen from Anawrahta Column, Kyansittha Column, Bayintnaung Column, Aungzeya Column, Hsinbyushin Column, Bandoola Column and Myawady Column led by Parade Commander Brig-Gen Tun Nay Lin, members of Myanmar Police Force, Myanmar Fire Brigade and Myanmar Red Cross Society.

General Thura Shwe Mann took the salute of Tatmadawmen and members of Myanmar Police



General Thura Shwe Mann presents first prize to the company representing Directorate of Artillery Force.—MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann presents second prize to the company representing Directorate of Armoured Force.—MNA



Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win presents a prize to the company representing Myanmar Red Cross Society.—MNA



Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung presents third prize to the company representing Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Office.—MNA

Force, Fire Brigade and Myanmar Red Cross Society of respective columns led by Parade Commander Brig-Gen Tun Nay Lin.

Next, Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win presented prizes to companies representing Myanmar Red Cross Society and Myanmar Fire Brigade.

Then, Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung presented a prize to the company representing Myanmar Police Force and the third prize to the company representing Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy).

Afterwards, General Thura Shwe Mann presented the second prize to the company representing Directorate of Armoured Force and the first prize to the company representing Directorate of Artillery Force.

Later, General Thura Shwe Mann took the salute of columns of Tatmadawmen and members of Myanmar Police Force, Myanmar Fire Brigade and Myanmar Red Cross Society led by Parade Commander Brig-Gen Tun Nay Lin.

MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann, Prime Minister General Thein Sein, Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Lt-Gen Tin Aye, senior military officers and ministers attend 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.—MNA

Political parties need to have their campaigns...

(from page 1)

At all times, you Comrades should be making an effort to accomplish the Four Major Tasks, building your Units through training, through

when the Tatmadaw unavoidably had to assume State power, the nation had fallen into a state of serious deterioration. The stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, and

the rule of law had collapsed and the people were finding their very survival threatened through no fault of their own. No one but the Tatmadaw had the capability to bring such a situation under control.

Immediate action

Thus, the

Tatmadaw initially had to restore the stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and the rule of law. While meeting the livelihood requirements of the people expeditiously on the one hand, immediate action was taken to clear up blockages in the transportation system and restore its safe and smooth functioning. Moreover, to achieve national reconciliation, a welcoming hand was extended in good faith and

Effective and expeditious implementation is the result of strong cooperation among the 3 principal pillars: the Government, the People and the Armed Forces.

administration, through welfare and through morale.

Comrades,

We must be combat-ready forever to defend the nation and protect the life and property of the people. To be combat-ready, we must have military awareness at all times and engage in continuous training.

Main duties

In addition, as true patriot soldiers, we have to uphold the public interest and serve the people not only by taking responsibility for national defence but also through participation in national development activities. These are our main duties.

Comrades,

In every national emergency, our Tatmadaw always stands steadfastly in front of the people to defend and protect them. In 1988

with goodwill to armed dissident groups that had appeared since independence was gained, in order to facilitate their return to the legal fold.

Comrades,

As the previous Constitution was no longer in effect, the Tatmadaw strove for the emergence of a new Constitution appropriate to the democratic system and the market economy that the people aspired to and capable of defending and protecting the causes of non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity.

National Convention

For this purpose, the representatives of political parties and the elected representatives were consulted, and taking their opinions into account, the National Convention was convened with delegates from every township in the country, including the delegates of the national groups, farmers, workers, intellectuals and professionals, civil service personnel and other invitees.

The National Convention started out with momentum and achieved initial successes,

but had to be suspended subsequently for a variety of reasons. The Tatmadaw always kept the National Convention in mind. In order to utilize the available time for the benefit of the nation rather than letting it go to waste, the goal of building a peaceful, modern developed nation was implemented through ceaseless efforts.

Comrades,

Under the 3 major projects that the Tatmadaw has been carrying out, which are the Border Areas and National Peoples Development Project, the 24 Special Regions Development Project and the Rural Areas Development Project, the infrastructures for the economy, transportation, health, education, etc. have been constructed all over the country to an extent that is out of proportion to the 20-year period in which it has been accomplished. Such effective and expeditious implementation is the result of strong cooperation among the 3 principal pillars: the Government, the People and the Armed Forces.

(See page 9)



Parade Columns marching to Parade Ground on 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspects parade columns at Parade Ground in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Political parties need to have their campaigns...

(from page 8)

United strength

Another clear instance of the united strength of the Government, the People and the Armed Forces can be seen in the expeditious and effective relief, resettlement and rehabilitation in the aftermath of the disaster brought about by the Cyclone in 2008. I would like to stress that in our country, the unity—of the Government, the People and the Armed Forces—is the enabling factor for success.

Comrades,

At present, the new National Constitution has been adopted with the overwhelming support of the people. In 2010, elections will be held in proper order for the various Hluttaws to be formed in accordance with the new Constitution.

Transition to new system

In such a period of transition to a new system, all manner of political parties are likely to appear, reflecting diverse beliefs and political arrangements.

In our country, parliamentary democracy was practised in the post-independence period. The political parties in those days were the major established parties that played prominent roles in the independence

struggle.

A view of the history of politics in our country reveals that splits in organizations and political parties were common and almost routine rather than unusual or unexpected occurrences.

Comrades,

The Young Men's Buddhist Association (YMBA), which played a prominent role in the national movement, was formed in 1906 and achieved national coverage in 1920 with its transformation into the



Prime Minister General Thein Sein welcomes military attaches.—MNA



View of illuminated Parade Ground in Nay Pyi Taw on 27 March.—MNA

General Council of Burmese Associations (GCBA). But in 1922, the GCBA first split into the 21-member faction led by U Ba Pè and U Maung Gyi, and the faction led by U Chit Hlaing, U Pu and U Tun Kyaw.

After further splits in the GCBA, the Doh Bama Asi Ayone was formed in 1930. In turn, the Doh Bama Asi Ayone split into the Thakhin Kodaw Hmaing faction and the Thakhin Ba Sein faction in 1938.

The Pyithu Yèbaw group formed in 1945 later split into the White Faction and the Yellow Faction. The Burma Communist Party with its roots going back to the Doh Bama Asi Ayone also split into Red Flag and White Flag factions in 1946.

Similarly, the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League (AFPFL) expected to last at least 40 years and possibly much longer at the time of its formation in 1945 split amid deep controversy after only 13 years in 1958. The Pyi Daung Su Ah Phwe Gyoke (Pa Hta Sa) that appeared in 1960 after the AFPFL split also faced the problem of factionalism with conflicts between U, Bo and Thakhin factions. After that the danger of disintegration of the Union became a serious threat to our country.

(See page 10)



Statues of King Anawrahta, King Bayintnaung and King Alaungmintaya seen at Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground.—MNA



Military attachés attend 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Political parties need to have their campaigns...

(from page 9)

Comrades,

The root causes that underlay the rise of fractious sectarianism and the proliferation of splits are found to be the incentives that the colonialists provided to expand their sphere of influence, the wedges of instigation and incitement that they drove in a well-planned manner among colleagues, the arrogance born of overestimating oneself, personal rivalries and underestimating others, jealousies, suspicions and grudges.

Some parties looked to foreign countries for guidance and inspiration, followed the imported ideologies and directives irrationally under foreign influence and carried out purges against fellow party members, which inevitably led to their demise. There were also many others that brought

misery on themselves by aping the practices of countries with divergent development and dissimilar backgrounds. Power struggles were also seen to be a source of disunity.

After a split, different factions gave free rein to their feelings of hurt and resentment, accusing and attacking each other until reconciliation was no longer practical. In addition, the fear of persecution after a defeat led the losing factions to go underground. As you Comrades are aware, the evil practice of going underground was a great detriment to the nation. These are the lessons for us to learn.

Comrades,

In the post-independence period, disunity in our country led to numerous instances of armed opposition among national groups, which was detrimental to

our country.

So, in our time, political parties need to have their campaigns grounded in a commitment to non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity as well as in the Union Spirit. It is also necessary to refrain completely from

undermining the Constitution that has been adopted by the people.

Blessing of the government

Incidentally, I would like to request those who will be involved in organizing work for parties to refrain from inciting unrest, to avoid personal attacks and smear campaigns against other parties and to find unity in diversity by practising tolerance, forgiveness and understanding toward one another. Everyone

following such ways and means of mature party organizing work will receive the blessing of the government. I would like to point out that this will ensure democracy does not collapse before it becomes established as a strong democracy.

Democratization process

In the democratization process, given that the kind of well-established mature democracy that is the end result of two or three centuries of development cannot reasonably be made to appear overnight, all-round consideration and thoughtful action will be advisable. Democracy in Myanmar today is at a fledgling stage and still requires patient care and attention. As a Myanmar proverb puts it, a recently dug well cannot be expected to produce clear water immediately; understanding the process of gradual maturity is crucial, as is contributing to it through concerted constructive efforts in an

environment of peace and tranquillity.

Comrades,

In conclusion, our Tatmadaw not only has the duty of national defence but it has to uphold the public interest and contribute to it. The building of a strong capable modern patriotic Armed Forces is an imperative. Serving the public interest has to continue through nation-building efforts initiated by the Government, the People and the Armed Forces with joined hands after the unavoidable assumption of State power by the Tatmadaw. We have to ensure that the practice of democracy in the country does not affect non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity. I would also like to urge you to make concerted efforts together with the government and the people, never losing sight of the national goal of building a peaceful modern developed nation. With this, I conclude my speech.—MNA

We have to ensure that the practice of democracy in the country does not affect non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity.



Military parade columns seen at Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing ...

(from page 16)

Present at the dinner were Vice-Chairman of the SPDC Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Secretary-1 of the SPDC General Thiha Thura Tin Aung

Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Ohn, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and Maj-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Defence Services Inspector-General Maj-Gen Thein Htaik, Military Appointment-General Maj-Gen Hsan Hsint, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence and their wives, ministers, the

chief justice, the attorney-general, the auditor-general, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and their wives, deputy ministers, the parade commander and column commanders, foreign military attaches to Myanmar and their wives, departmental heads, members the Leading Committee for Observance the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day and work committees, foreign and local journalists, delegates from social organizations, artistes and guests.

Before and during the dinner, vocalists presented songs to the accompaniment of Myanmar Athan modern music band.—MNA

Thousands of people accord rousing welcome to parade columns of 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day



Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March—Thousands of people accorded a rousing welcome to Tatmadawmen of Anawrahta, Kyansittha, Bayintnaung, Aungzeya, Hsinbyushin, Bandoola, and Myawady columns, members of Myanmar Police Force, Myanmar Fire Brigade, Myanmar Red Cross Society led by Parade Commander Brig-Gen Tun Nay Lin as they marched from Thittat parade ground to Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground to participate in the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade for 2009 this morning.



Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Prime Minister General Thein Sein, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column.—MNA

Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, and family members; Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Chairman of the SPDC Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye; Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of Member of the SPDC General Thura



Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column.—MNA

Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence; Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Prime Minister General Thein Sein; Daw Khin Saw Hnin, wife of Secretary-1 of the SPDC General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo; Daw Kyi



Daw Khin Saw Hnin, wife of Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column.—MNA

Kyi Ohn, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence; wives of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and wives of senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence; together with thousands of people accorded a rousing welcome to the parade columns and so did service personnel from ministries in Nay Pyi Taw, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, War Veterans Organization, social organizations, Tatmadawmen and families, families of Myanmar Police Force, Myanmar Fire Brigade and Myanmar Red Cross Society, nurses, teachers and students.—MNA



Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column.—MNA



Daw Kyi Kyi Ohn, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Aye, garlands a Tatmadawman of a parade column.—MNA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV SINAR BANDUNG VOY NO (164 N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BANDUNG VOY NO (164 N) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 27.3.2009 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376979

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV XIANG XIU VOY NO (9021)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG XIU VOY NO (9021) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.3.2009 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 CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376979

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.3.2009 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: 256908/378316/376979

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV CARNATION VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CARNATION VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.3.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM SDN
BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376979

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV HANSEDOU VOY NO ()**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HANSEDOU VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.3.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MAXICON CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376979

Bank Holiday

All banks will be closed on 1st April (Wednesday) 2009, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of
Myanmar

All-electric cars to be first tested in San Diego

LOS ANGELES, 27 March—San Diego, about 80 miles (about 128 kilometres) south of Los Angeles, will become "a national centre for clean technology and green practices" when all-electric cars are first tested in the city, it was reported on Tuesday.

Under a deal between Renault-Nissan and San Diego Gas & Electric Co., Nissan's new all-electric vehicle will be deployed on the roads in San Diego before it hits the consumer market in 2012, the *Los Angeles Times* said.

MNA/Xinhua

Two Afghan farmers shot dead by NATO-led troops

KABUL, 27 March—NATO-led troops shot dead two Afghan farmers who were watering their land in east Afghanistan, a police chief told *Reuters* on Wednesday.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has said civilian casualties are the biggest cause of tension between him and his Western backers, who have about 70,000 troops in Afghanistan fighting a Taliban-led insurgency.

The two Afghans were killed late on Tuesday just outside Khost city, east of the capital Kabul, provincial police chief Abdul Qayum Baqizoi said, adding they were innocent civilian farmers tending their land.

MNA/Reuters

Zambia and Namibia face worst floods in 40 years

LUSAKA, 27 March—Zambia and Namibia face their worst floods in at least 40 years as rains swell the Zambezi River to record levels, destroying crops and swamping whole villages, disaster officials and aid workers said on Wednesday.

Zambia has put its air force on standby to airlift people to safety and Namibia has declared a state of emergency in flood-hit areas as waterways burst their banks in the narrow Caprivi Strip between Zambia and Botswana.

Some 400,000 people have been affected on both sides of Namibia's border with Angola alone, the international Red Cross movement said, adding that the number was likely to rise. —*Internet*

US economy sees quicker decline

LONDON, 27 March—The US economy shrank at a faster pace than previously estimated in the final three months of 2008.

US GDP contracted at an annualized rate of 6.3%, worse than a previous estimate of 6.2%. The rate of decline was the steepest since early 1982.

For 2008 as a whole, the economy expanded 1.1% in 2008, the weakest rate of growth since 2001.

However recent data has been less downbeat, with improved home sales and factory orders.

Economists had been expecting an even sharper contraction of 6.5%.

"I think people realize the economy seemingly fell off the cliff in the fourth quarter," said Doug Bender, managing director of McQueen, Ball & Associates, pointing out that the decline has continued this year.

Internet

Ban calls for global coop in fighting tuberculosis

UNITED NATIONS, 27 March—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon Tuesday called on all countries in the world to work together and fight against tuberculosis (TB) amid the spreading financial crisis. In a message marking World TB Day, Ban said although strides have been made on combating TB, the pace of the disease's decline is "far too slow", with the contagium still claiming a life every 20 seconds.

He underlined the need to prevent infection, to detect cases at an early stage and to provide treatment for all. Ban also stresses the importance of redoubling efforts to fight multi-drug-resistant (MDR-TB) and extensively drug-resistant (XDR-TB) forms of TB as well as the TB/HIV co-epidemic. —*MNA/Xinhua*

Vietnam to increase steel import tariffs

HANOI, 27 March—Vietnam's Ministry of Finance decided to increase import tariffs on certain steel and iron products in a bid to help domestic steel producers boost their consumption the local newspaper *Vietnam Economic Times* reported Friday.

Accordingly, the tax rate of 8 per cent will be imposed on steel ingot instead of 5 per cent. Import duties on finished products including rolled and barred steel will also rise 12 per cent to 15 per cent. Though local steel producers have continuously slashed prices, sales have still been slow due to low demand and the flood of imports with cheaper prices. The new tax rate will take effect as of 1 April.

Xinhua



Pupils observe plants with a magnifier at Luluo Arboretum in Yichang, central China's Hubei Province, on 25 March, 2009. More than 100 pupils came here to learn knowledge about plants and growing skills during an environment-friendly education activity. —XINHUA

Study says very hot tea may cause throat cancer

LONDON, 27 March—Drinking hot tea may cause throat cancer, Iranian researchers said on Friday, suggesting people should let steaming drinks cool before consuming them.

Previous studies have linked tobacco and alcohol with cancer of the oesophagus, and the research published in the *British Medical Journal* suggests that scalding beverages may also somehow pave the way for such tumours.

Drinking very hot tea at a temperature of greater than 70 degrees Celsius was associated with an eight-fold increased risk of throat cancer compared to sipping warm or lukewarm

tea at less than 65 degrees, the researchers said.

Reza Malekzadeh of Teheran University of Medical Sciences and colleagues studied the tea-drinking habits of 300 people with oesophageal cancer and another 571 healthy men and women from the same area in Golestan Province in northern Iran.

That region has one of the highest rates of throat cancer in the world but smoking rates and alcohol consumption are low, the researchers said. Nearly all the volunteers drank black tea regularly, consuming on average more than a litre each day.—MNA/Reuters

NZ climate good for long life

WELLINGTON, 27 March—New Zealand's climate is much better than Australia's when it comes to living a long life, according to research from a study of frogs.

Victoria University of Wellington has revealed that the tiny Maud Island frog, a threatened amphibian, can reach the grand age of 37, the oldest recorded age of any frog out of captivity, the *New Zealand Herald* reported on Friday.

Professor Ben Bell, a researcher on the study, said similar long lives could be seen in other animals in Godzone.

"In frog terms, it's very comfortable here and it helps them to live longer. Australia has some amazing frogs that do very interesting things, but I don't know of any as long lived as these ones.

"Animals tend to do this in New Zealand, live for a very long time, like the geckos and the tuatara and the frogs are just following suit," Professor Bell said.

"There's something about the very comfortable climate, the few extremes in weather, that works for them and allows them to just keep on going."

Internet

"Washington post" "New York Times" seek new cost cuts

New York, 27 March—Two of the most respected US newspaper publishers. The Washington Post Co and The New York Time Co, are embarking on new cost cuts in the face of dramatic declines in advertising revenue.

The *Time* said it laid off 100 workers and is cutting non-union salaries. It is also asking unionized

employees to accept similar concessions to avoid layoffs in the newsroom.

The *Post* is offering a new round of buyouts to newsroom, production and circulation employees, and said it could not rule out laying off staff.

"This was a very difficult decision to make," said a memo signed by *Times* Chairman Arthur Sulzberger Jr addn Chief

Executive Janet Robinson. "The environment we are in is the toughest we have seen in or years in business."

The moves come as a host of other US newspaper publishers have reduced staff, declared bankruptcy or shuttered once-vaunted newspapers, as readers seek news online and elsewhere and as the recession crimps advertising spending.

MNA/Reuters

UN report warns on threat of triple crises to Asia, Pacific

UNITED NATIONS, 27 March—A UN report released here Thursday warned that when most countries are focused on fighting the worst economic crisis in decades, two other longer-term crises, food-fuel price volatility and climate change, should not be forgotten.

"Food-fuel price volatility and climate change are converging with the present economic crisis to create what is now being

referred to as the triple threat," said the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2009, a publication of a UN's regional arm—the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP).

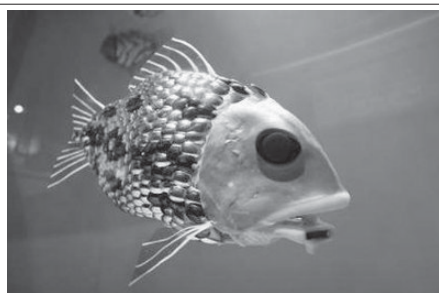
It said the triple crises are "interlinked and are reinforcing the impacts of each other," noting that the number of the poor in Asia and the Pacific, already two thirds of the

global total, is likely to increase as a result of the economic crisis and rising unemployment.

The survey, released in over 20 cities across the region and in New York and Geneva, provides a regional perspective as well as country-specific analyses, and outlines ways in which economies in the region can move forward towards a more inclusive and sustainable development path.—Internet

Gere tours Galapagos, meets unique tortoise

Richard Gere may be adopting a new cause: the preservation of the Galapagos Islands.



Robot fish developed by British scientists are to be released into the sea off north Spain to detect pollution. The carp-shaped robots, costing 20,000 pounds (\$29,000) apiece, mimic the movement of real fish and are equipped with chemical sensors to sniff out potentially hazardous pollutants, such as leaks from vessels or underwater pipelines.

Galapagos National Park spokeswoman Vanessa Garcia says that during a visit to the Ecuadorean islands, he offered to speak out publicly for their conservation.

The Galapagos are home to unique animal and plant species and were a living laboratory for Charles Darwin. But conservationists say they are threatened by development and tourism.

The 59-year-old star of "Pretty Woman" and "Chicago" is touring the archipelago with his wife and son. Ecuadorean TV shows Gere meeting Lonesome George, believed to be the last living member of the Geochelone abigdoni tortoise species.

Gere is an outspoken advocate for human rights in Tibet and other causes.

Python swallows 12.8-pound dog

An Australian woman said a python slithered onto her property and swallowed her 12.8-pound dog.

Patty Buntine said she became concerned on Wednesday when her Maltese terrier mix, Bindi, did not show up for breakfast at 7 am in her Katherine, Australia, home, the *Northern Territory News* reported Monday.

"She was always there so I got worried and went to look for her," she said. "I went around the side of the house and that's when I found the snake. It couldn't

move and had its head up in a striking position. "It's belly was bulging — it looked like a great big coconut was inside it. I knew straight away that it had ate Bindi," she said.

Snake catcher David Reed of Reedy's Reptiles came to Buntine's home to collect the reptile.

"I've had a lot of calls about dogs that have been bitten by snakes, and I have even had an olive python that had eaten some new-born puppies, but never one like this," Reed wrote on his Web site, www.reedysreptiles.com.

World's oldest champagne opened

The world's oldest champagne, bottled before Victoria became Queen, is still drinkable, with notes of "truffles and caramel", according to the experts.

An "addictive" bottle of 1825 Perrier-Jouet was opened at a ceremony attended by 12 of the world's top wine tasters.

Their verdict: the 184-year-old champagne tasted better than some of its younger counterparts.

There are now just two 1825 vintage bottles left - and Perrier-Jouet has no plans to open them soon.

The wine and champagne experts convened at the winemaker's cellars in Epernay in France, for a "once in a lifetime" tasting of the 1825 champagne - officially recognised by Guinness World Records as the world's oldest.



The 184-year-old cork was in good condition, helping to preserve the wine.



A man shows a ball of thread, material of the dress hung on the wall which was made from newspapers, during the China International Energy Saving, Emission Reduction and New Energy Science and Technology Expo at the Beijing Exhibition Center in Beijing, capital of China, on 19 March, 2009. More than 200 companies and organizations took part in the expo, opened.

NEWS ALBUM

SPORTS

Ancelotti almost certain to stay, says Galliani

ROME, 27 March — AC Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti will almost certainly be staying at the club according to vice-president Adriano Galliani.

Speculation in the Italian press has long linked Ancelotti with a move to Spanish giants Real Madrid but Galliani said that would not happen. However, he said Milan would wait until they knew for sure which European competition they were playing in next season before beginning their summer shopping.

"It's 99.99 percent certain he will stay. All transfer dealings will begin the day when we know exactly what competition we'll be in," said Galliani. "I think and I hope it will be the Champions League. As for Ancelotti and Real I'm not worried.

"He has a contract (until the end of next season) and then (Real president) Florentino Perez keeps telling me he's a friend, he would never do this without telling me." All this attention shows that he's a coach in demand and we were clever in signing him." —*Internet*



AC Milan's coach
Carlo Ancelotti.
INTERNET

McManus ruled out for Scots

GLASGOW, 27 March — Celtic captain Stephen McManus has lost his battle to be fit in time for Scotland's World Cup qualifier against Holland. The centreback, a first-choice for his country when fit, has been struggling with an ankle injury and had been rated only a 50-50 chance for the match in Amsterdam on Saturday evening.



Celtic captain Stephen McManus, has lost his battle to be fit in time for Scotland's World Cup qualifier against Holland.
INTERNET

The Scots remain hopeful he will be available for Wednesday's group nine match against Iceland at Hampden but he will not travel to Amsterdam, said Steven Pressley, one of manager George Burley's assistants. "Stephen did some light running today and was still feeling his ankle," Pressley reported.

Scotland's coaching staff have now seen five players pull out of the match against the Dutch since the start of the week with McManus joining his Celtic team-mate Paul Hartley, Rangers defenders David Weir and Kirk Broadfoot and the Derby winger Kris Commons on the sidelines.

There was good news however on Thursday concerning the condition of captain Barry Ferguson, who has been given the green light to play in Amsterdam after recovering sufficiently from bruised ribs.

Pressley said: "Barry Ferguson came through the late running okay and we are confident that he should make Saturday's game."

Internet

Loew recalls Enke and Gomez back for Germany

BERLIN, 27 March — Germany coach Joachim Loew said on Thursday he is set to recall goalkeeper Robert Enke and striker Mario Gomez for Saturday's World Cup qualifier against Liechtenstein in Leipzig.

Germany top Group 4 with nearest rivals Russia four points behind, but Loew knows his side can ill-afford to drop points either on Saturday or on April 1 against Wales in Cardiff before they travel to Moscow in October.



Germany coach Joachim Loew said Thursday he is set to recall goalkeeper Robert Enke, seen here at practice on 25 March, 2009, and striker Mario Gomez for Saturday's World Cup qualifier against Liechtenstein in Leipzig. —*INTERNET*

Back-to-back home defeats at the hands of England and Norway recently mean Germany need a convincing win at Leipzig's Zentralstadion to stay on course for South Africa next year.

Having recovered from a broken hand, Hanover's Robert, 31, is back in goal while an ankle injury to Bayern Munich's Miroslav Klose means Stuttgart's Mario Gomez will partner Bayern's Lukas Podolski up front. "Robert has showed good form in recent weeks and we trust him," said Loew in Wednesday's press conference. —*Internet*

Glatch books meeting with tennis No 1 Serena

MIAMI, 27 March — American Alexa Glatch made the most of her wild card invitation to book a second-round clash with world number one Serena Williams at the Miami ATP Masters and WTA hardcourt tournament on Thursday.

Glatch, ranked 124th in the world, defeated Switzerland's Timea Bacsinszky 6-4, 6-1 to advance to a meeting with Williams, a five-time Miami champion who claimed her 10th career Grand Slam title at the Australian Open this year. —*Internet*

Kim leads, Ochoa and Wie struggle in Phoenix

Michelle Wie hits from the fourth tee during the first round of the Phoenix LPGA International golf tournament on 26 March, 2009, in Phoenix.
INTERNET

PHOENIX, 27 March — South Korea's In-Kyung Kim shot a 4-under 68 on Thursday to take the first-round lead in the J Golf Phoenix LPGA International, while two-time defending champion Lorena Ochoa and Michelle Wie struggled in windy afternoon conditions.

Kim had a one-stroke lead over countrywomen Jiyai Shin, Imbee Park and Eun-Hee Ji and American Cristie Kerr, who eagled the final hole, and Norway's Suzann Pettersen, who finished with a birdie.

Internet

Schalke parts company with Dutch coach Rutten

BERLIN, 27 March — German side Schalke 04 said on Thursday that they had parted company with their Dutch coach Fred Rutten.

Mike Buskens, Youri Mulder and Oliver Reck, all members of the club's backroom staff, will take charge of training.

Earlier Thursday, the 46-year-old Rutten said he had expected to leave the struggling Bundesliga side at the end of the season.

Rutten had a contract with Schalke until 2010 having only taken over as trainer of the Royal Blues in July 2008, but the club are eighth in the table and have been blighted by erratic form this season. —*Internet*

Beckham will play minder for fiery Rooney

LONDON, 27 March — David Beckham is ready to act as Wayne Rooney's minder to keep the fiery England forward out of trouble.

England coach Fabio Capello called Rooney a "crazy man" following the Manchester United star's petulant red card for throwing the ball at the referee against Fulham last weekend. Capello's joke hid concern that a lack of individual discipline could damage England's hopes of a successful World Cup campaign in South Africa next year.



England football players Wayne Rooney (R), David Beckham (L) and John Terry (C) warm-up during the team training session at Arsenal's training facility in London. Beckham is ready to act as Rooney's minder to keep the fiery England forward out of trouble.
INTERNET

Rooney has often struggled to control his temper with England and was sent off for stamping on Ricardo Carvalho in the 2006 quarter-final defeat against Portugal. He was also substituted by Sven Goran Eriksson after losing his rag in a friendly against Spain in 2004.

Beckham knows from personal experience how the red mist can descend quickly on the pitch following his costly red card for kicking Diego Simeone in the 2002 World Cup defeat to Argentina. The on-loan AC Milan midfielder is a more mature figure now but he knows it is essential that Rooney retains his fire or he will become a less dynamic player.

Internet

Captain Ballack urges Germany to raise their game

BERLIN, 27 March — Germany captain Michael Ballack on Thursday urged the Euro 2008 finalists to raise their game for Saturday's World Cup qualifier against Liechtenstein to banish the memories of their recent defeats.

The 32-year-old Chelsea star is demanding a raised effort in Leipzig from his side who have lost their last two home games: a 2-1 defeat to England last November and a 1-0 defeat to Norway in February. Germany have not suffered back-to-back home defeats since 1956 and Ballack says only a convincing win over Liechtenstein, ranked 151st in the world, will suffice.

Internet

Bangladesh takes fresh move to set up N-power plant

DHAKA, 27 March—The Bangladeshi Government has initiated a fresh move for setting up a one-billion-US-dollar nuclear power plant to meet the mounting demand for electricity in the country, a minister said Tuesday.

The country's chronic energy problem has prompted the government to ponder over installation of the country's first nuclear power plant, State Minister for Science and Information & Communication Technology Yafes Osman was quoted by local newspaper *The Financial Express* as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



US entrepreneur Charles Simonyi waves to his wife after putting on his space suit at Baikonur Cosmodrome 26 March, 2009. Simonyi will roar off into space aboard a Russian rocket on Thursday to make history as the first tourist to make the odyssey twice. He will travel to the International Space Station (ISS) with Russia's cosmonaut Gennady Padalka and US astronaut Michael Barratt.

INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (28.3.2009) (Saturday)

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

Local Transmission

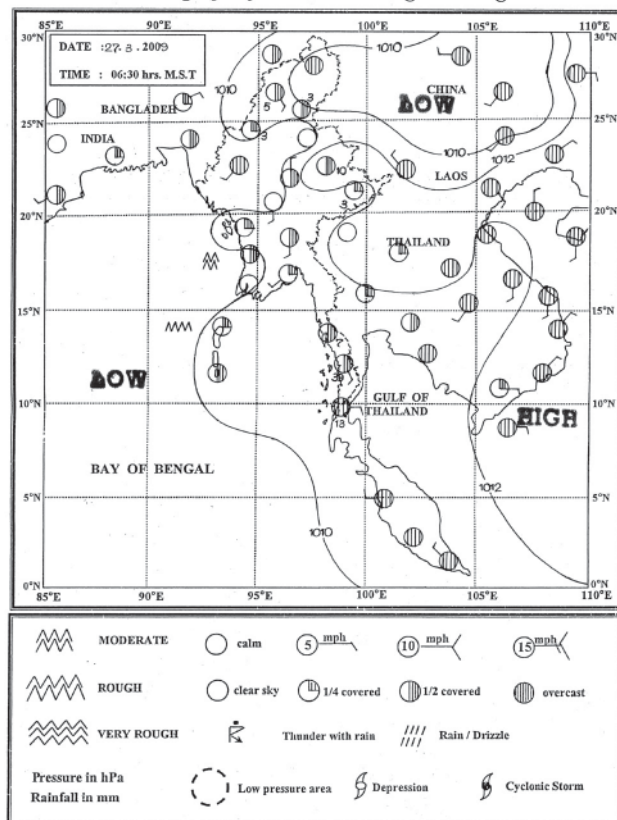
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * One of the Bright Prospects in Agriculture
- * Scuba Diving Adventure
- * Thahtay Hydropower Project to spread Light across Rakhine State
- * Travelogue (PyinOoLwin)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Bagan, Our Pride and Glory of the Past
- * Hero Physician, Victorious Warrior
- * Victories of the State, the People and the Tatmadaw (Main Programme)
- * Innovative Skills of Myanmar Handicrafts (Part-2)
- * Wonderful Tofu
- * Success of tea-growing call for concerted efforts
- * One of the Bright Prospects in Agriculture
- * Scuba Diving Adventure
- * Thahtay Hydropower Project to spread Light across Rakhine State
- * Travelogue (PyinOoLwin)
- * Teacher Matters
- * Marketable Fruit
- * Let's study the "World Biggest Book"
- * Naga Traditional Handicrafts
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 27 March, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Chin State, Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, isolated in Kachin, Shan and Kayin States, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and weather have been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperatures in Kachin State, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and about March average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Thayawady (40°C) and Hinthada (39°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Myeik (1.53) inches, PyinOoLwin (0.59) inch, Kouthoung and Kawkareik (0.53) inch each and Lashio and Mogok (0.39) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 26-3-2009 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 27-3-2009 was 69°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 27-3-2009 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 26-3-2009 was (8.9) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 27-3-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, (0.20) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from South at (15:30) hours MST on 26-3-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 28th March 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Chin, Shan and Mon States, Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 28-3-2009: Partly cloudy to cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Weather outlook for first weekend of April 2009: During the coming weekend, weather will be partly cloudy in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.



Saturday, 28 March
View on today

- 7:00 am
1. တောင်တန်းသာသာနာပြုဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
4. ကဗျာပန်းချီယူပျာင့်
- 7:50 am
5. "စင်စင်နှင့်ခြင်ကျား" (စင်စင်စော်မြင့်၊ လင်းလင်းစော်မြင့်)

- (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စင်စော်မောင်မောင်)
- 8:05 am
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am
7. (၆၄) နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊
ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 8:30 am
8. International news
- 8:40 am
9. တေးသရုပ်ဖော်အစီအစဉ်
- 8:45 am
10. Musical programme
- 11:00 am
1. Martial song
- 11:10 am
2. တစ်ပတ်အတွင်းရုပ်မြင်သံကြား ပြည်တွင်းသတင်းစဉ်
- 1:50 pm
3. Yan Can Cook
- 2:20 pm
4. ဆန်းကြယ်ထူးခြားပြိုင်ပွဲများ (Telematch)
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song

- 4:10 pm
2. Song of national races
- 4:20 am
3. Musical programme
- 4:30 pm
4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနှစ် (ရုက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရုက္ခဗေဒ)
- 4:45 pm
5. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:50 pm
6. "တစ်လောကလုံးလင်းပါစေ" (မြေတီဦး၊ မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်၊ မေသဉ္ဇာဦး၊ ဝါဝါအောင်၊ ဧကန်းပွင့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စင်စော်မောင်မောင်)
- 5:10 pm
7. Musical programme
- 5:25 pm
8. ချစ်စရာအရွယ်ကစားကြမယ်
- 5:50 pm
9. (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊

- ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 6:00 pm
10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
11. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
12. အလှူရှာမယ် လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်
- 6:55 pm
13. ဗုဒ္ဓလက်ကျောင်းတော်
- 7:15 pm
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူသက်ထား" (အပိုင်း-၁)
- 8:00 pm
15. News
16. International news
17. Weather report
18. ပြည်သူ့အတွက်တပ်မတော် (တပ်မတော်သည်ပြည်သူ့အတွက်)
19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကြမ္မာမုန်တိုင်း" (အပိုင်း-၂၁)

Senior General Than Shwe addresses 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address at the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade 2009 at the Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground this morning.

The 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day was

observed in accord with the objectives—To work hard together with the people to accomplish the State's seven-step Road Map in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation; To uphold Our Three Main National Causes as the national policy at risk to life; To crush, in cooperation with the people, internal and external subversive elements that are disrupting stabil-



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe takes the salute of the parade columns.

MNA

ity, peace and development of the nation; and To build a strong and patriotic modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation.

(See page 6)

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing host dinner to mark 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing hosted a dinner to

mark the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, this evening.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Serv-

ices Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing arrived at the dinner to mark the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day at 7 pm today.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing together with Vice-Chairman of the SPDC Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Secretary-1 of the SPDC General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Ohn, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and Maj-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observation the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, cordially greeted foreign military attaches to Myanmar and their wives and special guests.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing hosted dinner to those present.

(See page 11)



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe greets military attaches at the dinner.—MNA