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Saturday, 4 April, 2009

Prime Minister attends opening of Post-Nargis Myanma Arts & Crafts Exhibition and Sales Fair



Prime Minister General Thein Sein unveils the signboard of Post-Nargis Myanma Arts and Crafts Exhibition and Sales Fair.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—Prime Minister General Thein Sein attended the opening of Post-Nargis Myanma Arts and Crafts Exhibition and Sales Fair at Saya San Plaza at the corner of New University Avenue and Saya San Road in Bahan Township here at 2 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, ministers, the Yangon mayor, deputy ministers, the director-general of the Government Office, departmental heads, diplomats of foreign embassies in Yangon, the chairman and members of board of directors of Central Cooperative Society Ltd, officials of Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon, business entrepreneurs and guests.

First, Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint, Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut and Chairman U Khin Maung Aye of Central Cooperative Society Ltd opened the fair by cutting a ribbon.

Next, the Prime Minister formally unveiled the signboard of the fair. *(See page 8)*



Prime Minister General Thein Sein views display of sculptures and paintings depicting the Myanmar culture, Chinese-and European-style sculptures, paintings and furniture and prize-winning sculptures and paintings.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein sends message of congratulations to Malaysian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Dato' Seri Mohd Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak on his assumption of the Office of the Prime Minister of Malaysia on 3 April, 2009.—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, 4 April, 2009

Carry out environmental sanitation activities for health and fitness

Each and every one needs to be healthy and fit and to enjoy longevity. The Ministry of Health is providing health care services with added momentum for the people to live a long life and be free from diseases.

As health activities are a national concern, all are to take part in the drive for personal hygiene, environmental sanitation and availability and use of clean water while living a healthy life in line with the notifications of health.

In Myanmar, the environmental sanitation and personal hygiene activities have been launched for decades. The public health care services cover treatment and prevention. Prevention of diseases can be carried out through personal hygiene, environmental sanitation and use of clean water.

The national environmental sanitation week is designated from 4 to 10 April. Mass activities on the use of clean water, consumption of wholesome foods, personal hygiene and clean toilets will be carried out extensively during the week.

At present, the people and social organizations together with the health staff are actively participating in the tasks for the people to be free from diarrhea and related cases, use of fly-proof latrines and environmental sanitation.

With this end in view, the entire people are to constantly practise personal hygiene such as washing hands with soap, partaking wholesome foods, systematic disposal of leftovers and engaging in environmental sanitation activities. Only then, will they be able to live a long life and be free from diseases.



Vice-President U Thant Zin gives completion certificate to a trainee in Advanced Applied Pharmaceutical Management Course No. 4 of MPMEEA.

UMFCCI

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

New school buildings opened in Myanaung, Ingapu Townships



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung addresses opening of new school building in Tittitugwin village Basic Education Primary School.—FORESTRY

YANGON, 3 April—Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay on 30 March attended the opening ceremony of Basic Education High School in Thabyaegon Village of Myanaung Township.

The minister, the deputy minister and Division Education Officer U Khin Maung Yi formally opened the new school building.

The commander unveiled the signboard of the school and sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

At the opening ceremony, the commander, the minister, the deputy minister and the DEO gave speeches. The commander and wellwishers donated K 16 million to the funds of the school through officials.

The responsible persons of the construction committee handed over documents related to the

building to the DEO. The two-storey school building, 200 feet long and 30 feet wide, was constructed at a cost of K 50.8 million.

On 31 March, the minister also attended the opening of new building at Tittitugwin Village BEPS in Ingapu Township.

Director U Ye Htut Win of Dagon Timber Co explained the purpose of constructing the building and handed over documents related to the building to the Township Education Officer.

Wellwishers donated cash to the funds of the school. Director U Thurein Aung of Dagon Timber Co donated 32 sets of desk to the school.

The one-storey RC building, 90 feet long and 30 feet wide, was constructed at a cost of K 80 million.

In the evening, the minister attended opening of Shwe Eya shops in Htugyi Village of Ingapu Township.—MNA

Development tasks expedited in Rakhine State

YANGON, 3 April—Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe met service personnel, townsenders and members of social organizations at Aung Zeya Hall of Manaung on 31 March.

After delivering speeches, they presented medical equipment to Manaung People's Hospital, exercise books to basic education schools, publications and clothes to the libraries, K 1 million to social

organizations, and sport gear provided by the Ministry of Sports to officials concerned.

They inspected progress of the township.

In meeting with local authorities, service personnel and townsenders in Kyaukpyu, the commander and the minister provided assistance in response to their reports.

They presented exercise books to basic education schools, journals and books to libraries, medicines to health care centres, and sports equipment through officials concerned.

MNA

Advanced Applied Pharmaceutical Management Course No. 4 concludes

YANGON, 3 April—A ceremony to conclude Advanced Applied Pharmaceutical Management Course No.4, conducted by Myanmar Pharmaceutical and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs' Association, was held at the office of MPMEEA in UMFCCI Office Tower on Minye Kyaw Swa road in Lanmadaw Township here on 1 April.

President of the association Dr Win Si Thu and Vice-President U Thant Zin made speeches on the

occasion, and presented certificates of honour to course instructors and completion certificates to trainees. Afterwards, joint secretary Dr Thin Nwe Win presented gift to course manager Dr Daw Mi Mi Ko and a trainee spoke words of thanks.

The president presented prizes to outstanding trainees U Kaung Swe Lat and Daw Thet Sandi Oo. Afterwards, Dr Daw Mi Mi Ko explained facts about the course.—MNA



Firefighters put out a fire at the site of a bomb attack in Kirkuk on 1 April, 2009. A parked car bomb wounded nine people in northern Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, on Wednesday, police said.—INTERNET

US troop surge could harm Afghan civilians

KABUL, 3 April — The imminent deployment of extra US troops to insurgency-torn Afghanistan will likely lead to increased fighting and more civilian casualties, aid agencies warned NATO leaders on Friday. In a report entitled “Caught in the Conflict,” released as the alliance’s leaders met in Strasbourg, the 11 agencies called for “a truly comprehensive strategy for the long-term reconstruction and stabilisation of Afghanistan.”

NATO leads a nearly

62,000-strong military force fighting a Taliban-led insurgency in Afghanistan and Washington has pledged 21,000 extra soldiers this year and is mulling 10,000 more as part of efforts to tackle the militants. “There is a likelihood that the deployment of more troops will lead to more fighting and that civilians will be caught up in those hostilities,” Oxfam head of policy in Kabul, Matt Waldman, said on Thursday ahead of the report’s release.

“So that is why we are calling for military forces to do everything possible to minimise the harm that they cause to civilians, whether it is in air strikes or in ground operations,” Waldman told reporters.

Last year was the deadliest of the insurgency spearheaded by the Taliban, who were removed from government in a US-led invasion in late 2001. Nearly 2,200 civilians were killed, a 30 percent increase on the previous year, according to the United Nations.—Internet

Gunman kills at least 13 in hostage attack

NEW YORK, 3 April—A gunman has killed at least 13 people, seriously injured five others and taken up to 41 people hostage in Binghamton, New York state.

Earlier, a police official said 12 people died at the scene after the gunman, described as an Asian male, opened fire at an immigration services centre.

US news channel Fox News is reporting 15 dead in the attacks, quoting Federal and other official sources. ABC also says at least 26 people are hurt.

Latest reports say two Asian males were taken from the scene with their hands bound, suggesting the gunman may not have been working alone.

US news source WGBH said police are looking for a third suspect in connection with the shooting.

US officials said at least one man, believed to be in his 20s, was armed with a high-powered rifle at the American Civic Centre building at about 10.30 local time (3.30pm BST).

Internet



Injured at the scene

Indian airports on alert following threat of female suicide bombers

NEW DELHI, 3 April—All major airports in India have sounded alert following intelligence reports that several female suicide bombers have entered the country to blow up air terminals, a senior Home Ministry official said on Thursday. “The alert has been issued by Airport Authority of India after intelligence agencies informed them about the threat that a number of female suicide bombers have entered India and they are all planning to attack Indian airports to destabilize the country ahead of elections,” said the official on condition of anonymity.— Internet



An Afghan inspects his wall damaged by heavy rain in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 2 April, 2009. Heavy rainfall over the past 24 hours in Afghan capital Kabul claimed the life of one young man and destroyed or damaged some mud houses on Thursday. — INTERNET



The site of a bomb attack in Kirkuk on 1 April, 2009. —INTERNET

Police fire tear gas at NATO protesters

STRASBOURG (France), 3 April – Police fired tear gas at rock-hurling protesters Friday on the eve of a NATO summit—the first real confrontation after hours of mostly small, scattered and peaceful rallies.

Police said that several hundred protesters started to burn a makeshift barricade of slats of wood and trash bins on a road leading to a camp of demonstrators in the

Strasbourg neighborhood of Neuhof.

Some of the protesters said they were frustrated about the large police presence in the French city and across the Rhine river in the German cities of Kehl and Baden-Baden, where President Barack Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel met.

Some 15,000 German police—including 31 riot squads — and 9,000

French police are on call for the summit.

Internet

An anti-NATO activist uses an umbrella to protect himself from the heat of a fire, during clashes with riot police near a barricade near the so-called anti-NATO village in the Neuhoff district of Strasbourg, eastern France.—INTERNET



Iraqi officer, gunman killed in clash in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 3 April — An Iraqi Army officer and a gunman were killed in fighting in western Baghdad on Thursday, an Interior Ministry source said.

The clash erupted when two gunmen were about to hurl a hand grenade at a passing Iraqi Army vehicle near al-Rwwad intersection in Mansour district, prompting the soldiers to trade fire with the attackers, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The clash resulted in the killing of an Army officer and a gunman, while the soldiers arrested another gunman, the source said.

Three civilians were also wounded by the fire exchange, the source added.

Despite security gains in recent months in Iraq, there are still sporadic bombings targeting US troops, Iraqi security forces and civilians, which shape setback to the Iraqi government.

Internet



Israelis react near the gate of the West Bank Jewish settlement of Bat Ayin, on 2 April, 2009. An axe-wielding Palestinian militant went on a rampage Thursday in Bat Ayin, killing an Israeli 13-year-old and wounding a 7-year-old boy before fleeing the area.—INTERNET

Palestinian kills Israeli teenager with pickax

BAT AYIN, 3 April—A Palestinian killed an Israeli teenager with a pickax and seriously injured a 7-year-old boy in a rampage through this West Bank Jewish settlement on Thursday, posing an early test for the country's new hard-line government.

Israeli media broadcast pictures of the body of 13-year-old Shlomo Nativ, bespectacled with long sidecurls and a large skullcap worn by

observant Jews. The images also showed the red pickax on the ground with drops of blood splattered on a road.

The attacker escaped the scene and Israeli troops, joined by bearded settlers armed with automatic rifles, were conducting a manhunt in the area. In the nearby Palestinian village of Safa, troops searched houses and rounded up residents in a schoolyard. The military said all roads

around the settlement of Bat Ayin were closed.

The settlement is notorious in Israel for being the base of the so-called "Bat Ayin Underground," whose members were arrested over a botched 2002 bombing on an Arab girls' school in Jerusalem. The wounded boy's father, a member of the underground, is currently serving a 15-year sentence for his involvement in that bombing attempt.—*Internet*

A worker paints the exterior of a building in Hefei, Anhui Province on 3 April, 2009. China created more new jobs in the first two months of this year compared with the final months of 2008, suggesting the employment situation is showing signs of recovery, a government researcher said on Thursday.—INTERNET



Wildfires burn about 34 homes in South Texas

DALLAS, 3 April—Blustery weather that rolled across Texas on Thursday apparently downed power lines, sparking a fire that destroyed about 34 homes in a small town near Lake Corpus Christi, authorities said.

One volunteer firefighter was burned and two other people suffered minor injuries in the afternoon fire that burned 175 acres in Lagarto in southern Live Oak County, the Texas Forest Service said.

A spokeswoman at the Live Oak County Sheriff's Office said not all of the homes that burned were occupied. Three shelters were set up, and the Coastal Bend-Texas Chapter of the American Red Cross had set up a command centre to assess what people needed.

Lewis Kearney, spokesman for the Texas Forest Service, said the fire was 60 percent contained Thursday night and power lines downed by the winds were the suspected cause. Ten vehicles were destroyed in the blaze.—*Internet*

Filipino Red Cross hostage freed, two others alive

MANILA, 3 April—A Filipino Red Cross worker freed by al-Qaeda-linked militants on Thursday after 10 weeks of captivity in a southern Philippine jungle told a government official that the remaining Swiss and Italian hostages were alive but tired and in danger.

The unexpected release of Mary Jean Lacaba and news that her colleagues have not been killed came after the Abu Sayyaf militants threatened to behead one of the hostages on Tuesday because Philippine forces refused to withdraw from the surrounding area.

Abu Sayyaf gunmen handed over the 37-year-old Lacaba in the jungles near Indanan township on Jolo Island without any ransom payment, government negotiator Lady Anne Sahidulla said. Lacaba was taken in a wheelchair to a Jolo military hospital, looking weak and confused amid the frenzy over her release. Wearing a red Muslim head scarf known as a hijab, she held a flashlight and talked on a cell phone. Doctors gave her a bowl of porridge before giving her a checkup.—*Internet*



Mary Jean Lacaba, a Filipino International Red Cross worker is wheeled by Philippine troops for medical check-up following her release on Thursday evening.—INTERNET

Bombardier to cut almost 1,000 jobs in N Ireland

BELFAST, 3 April—Bombardier Inc will cut 975 jobs at its factories in Northern Ireland as part of a 10 percent worldwide reduction at its aerospace division, the train and aircraft manufacturer said on Thursday.

The world's No 3 civil aircraft manufacturer will lay off 310 of its 5,300 permanent employees as well as its remaining 665 contracted workers following 300 job losses already announced among subcontractors in February.

The redundancies are part of around 3,000 jobs cuts Bombardier at its facilities in Canada, the United States, Mexico and Northern Ireland announced earlier on Thursday when publishing its fourth quarter results.

Internet

Malaysia's exports plunge 15.9 percent in February

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 April—Malaysia's February exports dropped 15.9 percent year-on-year, according to official data released on Friday.

The trade ministry said in a statement that exports fell to 39.59 billion ringgit (11 billion dollars) from a year ago while imports plunged 27.3 percent year-on-year in February.

The total trade was worth 67.2 billion ringgit, a decrease of 21 percent from a year ago, but Malaysia did manage to record a trade surplus of 11.97 billion ringgit for the month.

In January, Malaysian exports slumped 27.8 percent, hitting their lowest level since 2001 amid falling demand from key trading partners, compared with 14.9 percent in December.—*Internet*

Vietnam telecoms firms approved for 3G

HANOI, 3 April—Vietnam said on Friday it had approved four telecoms to offer the country's third-generation (3G) mobile phone services.

Army telecoms operator Viettel, state-owned Vinaphone, soon-to-be-privatised MobiFone, and a venture between Hanoi Telecom and EVN Telecom — part of Electricity of Vietnam — qualified for licensing, said the Ministry of Information and Communications (MIC).

Over the next three months the operators should make sure they are able to fulfil requirements regarding network infrastructure and equipment so they are ready for formal licensing, the MIC said in a press release.—*Internet*

Shanghai World Expo tickets sale starts in HK

HONG KONG, 3 April—Tickets for World Exposition 2010 Shanghai China started to be sold on Thursday in Hong Kong.

The Bureau of Shanghai World Expo Coordination, the Hong Kong government and the China Travel Service (Hong Kong) Ltd, which is the sole official agent for ticket distribution in Hong Kong, jointly organized a sales launching ceremony on Thursday.

The Shanghai World Expo offers nine different types of tickets under two broad categories including individuals and groups. Tickets on sale in Hong Kong range from 107 HK dollars (about 13.8 US dollars) to 1063 HK dollars (about 137.3 US dollars). Group tickets were on sale begin on Thursday, while individuals can place their order from on 1 July.—*Internet*

Marketers bullish on China's recovery

BEIJING, 3 April—Top marketers based in China believe that the country's economy will recover more quickly than the West, and is likely to turn around by 2010, according to a survey conducted by market research firm Millward Brown-ACSR and communications agency Hill & Knowlton.

The survey of 59 chief marketing officers and senior marketing directors (85 percent of whom are from multinationals) indicated that cautious optimism exists in marketing

departments, with 75 percent of correspondents believing the economy would return to a booming state next year, as Chinese consumers had been less affected than those in the West.

Senior management expressed more confidence (81 percent) than other levels (71 percent) about the country's economic recovery by 2010.

The findings also showed that overall marketing budgets in 2009 will not be reduced, even though the pressure to cut

costs is mounting in boardrooms worldwide.

Sixty-three percent of interviewees said they will increase or maintain their marketing spending this year compared to 2008, while only 18 percent indicated that their budgets would be cut by over 20 percent.

The survey also revealed that "retaining existing clients" was the top priority for marketers (50 percent), while "retaining talented employees" was of the least importance (5 percent).—Xinhua



The separation surgery for a pair of conjoined twin girls is underway at Hunan Children's Hospital in Changsha, capital of central China's Hunan Province, on 1 April, 2009.—XINHUA

Thousands protest against Olympic Games in Chicago

CHICAGO, 3 April—A group opposed to spending money on the Olympics rather than on basic needs such as housing and education, held a rally at downtown Chicago Thursday when the International Olympic evaluation team arrived to inspect Chicago's bid for 2016 summer games.

A group calling itself "No Games Chicago" says the city should be spending money on schools and housing, public transportations and improvement of environment. "We don't want Olympic Games, we want houses, we want schools, we want clinics", the protesters shouted.—Xinhua

NATO summit to meet thousands of demonstrators

STRASBOURG, 3 April—Thousands of protesters converged on Thursday to the French city of Strasbourg and nearby German towns to protest against NATO summit on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the military alliance.

Aside from leaders of NATO's 28 member states, the two-day summit, to be held in Strasbourg and Germany's Kehl, has attracted 25,000 to 40,000 protesters, according to German and French authorities.—Xinhua

Anti-NATO rallies to be held in Croatia

BELGRADE, 3 April—Anti-NATO rallies will be held in Croatia against the Balkan country's membership in the alliance, organizers said in the Croatian capital Zagreb on Thursday.

Peace activist Zoran Ostric told a news conference in Zagreb that the rallies would be held in downtown Zagreb and in the coastal city of Zadar on Saturday under the slogan "NATO - 60 years is enough", the Croatian news agency HINA reported.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Researcher says China plays more active, constructive role in world

STOCKHOLM, 3 April — A senior Swedish researcher said China has played a more active and constructive role in world affairs in recent years.

"Over the past 10 years, China has increasingly emphasized multilateral relations with other countries," Linda Jakobson of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) said in an interview with Xinhua on Wednesday. Jakobson said China now seeks to solve problems and important matters on the world stage through multilateralism. She said China does not wish to see the formation of G2 with the United States. "China relies on multilateral diplomatic policy. Of course the China-US relationship is very important. But it's just one part of China's international foreign policy," she said.

On the current global financial crisis and climate change, Jakobson said these matters would increase China's desire to rely on multilateralism. As to China-Africa relations, she said Africa is China's new platform for playing its global role. Although China needs natural resources and new export markets, most African governments appreciate the help from China as it treats African countries equally, she said. Jakobson emphasized China tries to find a balance in its relationship with all countries. — Xinhua

Currency basket can replace US dollar, says UN advisor

BEIJING, 3 April—A UN advisor has suggested that a basket of currencies — including a regional currency in Asia - could replace the US dollar in shaping the global financial system.

"I think China should play a cooperative role with Japan, South Korea and other Asian countries to introduce a regional currency while the world is trying to replace the old reserve currency system," Jeffrey Sachs, special advisor to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, told *China Daily* on Wednesday. Sachs is also professor of Columbia University.

He said China's central bank governor Zhou Xiaochuan has come up with an innovative idea to introduce a global currency in an effort to redefine the rigid global financial regime, which has undergone no major change since World War II.

"However, I think the US dollar, British pound, euro and a regional currency in Asia can shape a basket of global reserve currencies with their own special drawing rights," said Sachs, who is with the UN delegation attending the G20 summit.

He believes the US's previous supply side monetary policies and the US dollar's monopoly were the roots of the financial crisis.

However, Sachs was more reserved about the idea of introducing a global currency to replace the US dollar and said China should cooperate with Japan, South Korea and some other countries.—Xinhua



Staff members of the fishery department get ready to patrol at the estuary of Yangtze River in Shanghai, east China, on 1 April, 2009. —XINHUA

German car sales soar 40% in March

BERLIN, 3 April—Car sales in Germany, the world's automobile-making giant, soared 40 percent year-on-year in March, said an official data released on Thursday.

Germany's VDA automobile federation said the new car sales rose to 401,000 in March in the biggest car market of Europe compared to the same month last year.

This is the biggest boost since 1992, according to VDA.

The figure shows an upbeat sign that the world auto industry maybe recovering from a collapse that has forced job cuts and plant closures.

The rise of the sales was partly thanks to the German governmental stimulus funds, which was earmarked earlier in January for used car replacement, totaling 1.5 billion euros (1.98 billion US dollars).

The premium programme is a part of broader economic stimulus package in boosting the gloomy automobile industry. The programme is designed to underpin new car sales, with buyers getting a bonus of 2,500 euros if they scrap a car that is at least nine years old.—Internet

Tough laws against biker gangs passed in Australia

SYDNEY, 3 April—Tough new anti-terrorism style laws allowing biker gangs to be outlawed have been rushed through an Australian state parliament amid growing fears of gang warfare.

The crackdown follows escalating violence sparked by the fatal bludgeoning of the brother of a Hells Angel at Sydney Airport last month, which was followed by reprisal shootings and bomb threats.

Under the laws passed by the upper house of the New South Wales state parliament around midnight Thursday, police will be able to apply for a motorcycle gang to be declared a criminal organisation by a judge.

Once declared, members of the gang found to be associating with one another could be jailed for up to two years.

"This legislation has the capacity to cause severe damage to these organisations," said John



A forensic policeman at a crime scene in Sydney airport. —INTERNET

Hatzistergos, the state's attorney-general.

Civil libertarians and legal groups have criticised the laws, saying they undermined the right to freedom of association and increased the risk of

police corruption.

But Hatzistergos said he was confident there had been adequate scrutiny of the laws, and that they would withstand a constitutional challenge.

Internet

35 arrested in alleged Puerto Rico drug ring

SAN JUAN, 3 April—FBI agents and police arrested at least 35 suspects on Thursday in an alleged Puerto Rican drug trafficking ring blamed for seven murders, authorities said.

The network operated out of a housing project in the southern coastal city of Guayama and sold heroin, cocaine and marijuana in cities across the US Caribbean territory, according to Luis Fraticelli, the special FBI agent in charge of Puerto Rico. Fraticelli said authorities have a total of 47 federal arrest warrants in the case, including two for suspects in the United States — one in Ohio and another in New York. The suspects in Puerto Rico were arrested in seven cities, including the capital, San Juan. —Internet

Washington shows no interest in Chavez Gitmo offer

DOHA, 3 April—Washington expressed no interest Thursday in an offer by Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez to take in any of the 240 remaining Guantanamo detainees after they are released from the US military prison.

Chavez said he would have "no problem" accepting any of the remaining detainees in Venezuela. In an interview with Arabic-language Al-Jazeera news network during his trip this week to this Persian Gulf country, Chavez also urged President Barack Obama to free the remaining de-

tainees and return the surrounding US Navy base to Cuba.

But the State Department said in a statement that "the United States has not received a formal offer through diplomatic channels to resettle detainees to Venezuela and is not contemplating resettling detainees to Ven-

ezeuela."

Chavez has frequently criticized the US military prison, but the socialist leader also has praised Obama's pledge to close it within a year. As for the detainees, Chavez said "we would have no problem in receiving a human being."

Internet

ElBaradei welcomes Russia, US to reduce nuclear arsenals

VIENNA, 3 April—IAEA Director General Mohamed ElBaradei welcomed the Joint Statement of Russian President Medvedev and US President Barack Obama, in which they committed themselves to reduce nuclear arsenals and strengthen non-proliferation.

The IAEA director general was greatly encouraged by the commitment of the two presidents to fulfill their obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, according to an IAEA press release issued here on Thursday.

In addition he was also encouraged by taking effect of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as well as the negotiation of a verifiable treaty to end the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons.

Mohamed ElBaradei believed all these measures would contribute to a universal adherence to comprehensive safeguards agreements, as well as the enhancement of the safeguards system and achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free world. —Internet

NEWS ALBUM



This handout shows a limited edition print of the "RMS Titanic: Maiden Departure" by Simon Fisher. A flamboyant Finnish businessman said Wednesday he aimed to build a full-sized copy of the Titanic on dry land, housing a hotel and restaurants to lure tourists to northern Finland.

Greek fisherman nets 2,200-year-old bronze statue

A Greek fisherman must have been expecting a monster of a catch when he brought up his nets in the Aegean Sea last week. Instead, Greek authorities say his haul was a section of a 2,200-year-old bronze statue of a horseman.

A Culture Ministry announcement said on Monday the accidental find was made in waters between the eastern islands of Kos and Kalymnos. The fisherman handed over the corroded metal figure to authorities, who have started the cleaning process.

Two Komodo dragons kill man in eastern Indonesia

Two Komodo dragons mauled a fruit-picker to death in eastern Indonesia, police and witnesses said on Tuesday, the latest in a string of attacks on humans by the world's largest lizard species.

Police Sgt Kosmas Jalang said 31-year-old Muhamad Anwar was attacked on Komodo, one of four islands where the giant reptile is found in the wild, minutes after he fell out of a sugar-

apple tree on Monday. He was bleeding badly from bites to his hands, body, legs and neck after two lizards, waiting below, attacked him, according to a neighbour, Theresia Tawa. He died at a clinic on the neighboring island of Flores soon after.

Attacks on humans by Komodo dragons — said to number at less than 4,000 in the wild — are rare, but seem to have increased in recent years.

An 8-year-old boy was killed in 2007 — the first recorded deadly attack on a human by one of the endangered lizards in three decades. A park ranger narrowly survived after one of the animals entered his hut last month and started biting his hands and legs.



Manuel Uribe (C) waits for an interview next to his wife Claudia Solis (L) and a TV host at an esplanade in the suburb of San Nicolas de los Garza, in Monterrey. Uribe, who once weighed 1,235 pounds (560 kg), will use a modified truck with the help of a driver who will help him to go out anytime he wants to. Uribe, who is unable to walk due to his swollen legs, has been confined to his home for years. Friday was the first time in six bedridden years Uribe was able to go to work. He currently weighs 705 pounds (320 kg).

A Komodo dragon is seen at Safari Park in Cisarua, West Java, Indonesia. Police and witnesses said on 24 March, 2009 two Komodo dragons killed a man picking fruit in eastern Indonesia, the latest in a string of attacks on humans. Komodo dragon, the world's largest lizard species, is believed to number at less than 4,000 and can only be found in the wild on four eastern Indonesian islands.

A&I Minister attends 29th Asia and Pacific Regional Meeting of FAO



A&I Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo meets FAO Director-General Dr. Jacques Diouf. —A&I

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—The 29th Asia and Pacific Regional Meeting of FAO was held in Bangkok of Thailand from 26 to 31 March.

The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo attended the meeting together with delegations of 33 countries.

The minister was accompanied by Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Aung Thein, Director-General U Tin Htut Oo of Agriculture Planning Department, Pro-Rector U Ohn Win of University of Forestry,

Minister Counsellor Daw Aye Aye Mu of Myanmar Embassy in Thailand, Deputy Director Dr Ye Aung of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and Deputy Director Dr Tin Htut of Agriculture Planning Department.

The 29th Asia and Pacific Regional Senior Officials Meeting of FAO was held from 26 to 28 March. On 30 March, the leaders of the delegations posed for documentary photo. FAO Director-General Dr Jacques Diouf extended greetings. Next, the Thai Prime Minister delivered an address.

At the meeting, Myanmar delegation leader Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivered a speech.

At 4 pm, the minister met with the FAO Director-General and discussed assistance for Myanmar agriculture sector and cooperation with FAO in development of the works.

On 1 April morning, the delegation arrived back in Yangon. **MNA**

Foreign football delegations conclude visit

YANGON, 3 April—The Malaysian delegation led by Prince Abdullah Ibni Sultan Ahmad Shah of Pahan Province and the Bahrain delegation led by President Shaikh Salman Bin Ebrahim Bin Hamad Al-Khalifa who were in Yangon on a goodwill visit left here by special flight today. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by President U Zaw Zaw of Myanmar Football Federation. **NLM**

MFF President U Zaw Zaw sees off members of Malaysian and Bahrain football delegations.

NLM

Industry-1 Minister meets local people of Chanayethazan and Aungmyethazan Townships

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaug met with local people of Kankauk, Myetshin, Myethman, Patkon, Pyawbwe, Patkonwinkyin, Yanmyolon, Sittaramahi, Hemazala, Mawraziwa, Aungnan-east-west, of Chanayethazan east, middle and west, of Pyigyipyawbwe east and west, Thirihaymar-east and west, Daywind west wards of Chanayethazan Township in Mandalay Division and members of social organizations on 28 March morning and fulfilled the

requirements of their reports.

The minister also met with local people of 15 wards of Aungmyethazan Township and members of social organizations at Panson monastery in Upottaw ward on 29 March morning.

The minister donated cash and kind including ten sewing machines each to Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association of Aungmyethazan Township, K 3.5 million for library and fire prevention measures

in Phontawtoe ward, K 500,000 and 200 bags of cement for repair of No. 3 BEMS and No. 25 BEHS in Upottaw ward, K 500,000, 50 bags of cement and 100 corrugated iron sheets for repair of No. 35 and No. 13 BEPSs in Oboshwekyin ward and K 1 million for Abhidhamma and Culture courses in Amarahtani ward.

At briefing hall of Kanaung guest house, the minister attended the presentation of the low-cost biogas machine for supply of electricity to rural areas. **MNA**



Education Minister Dr. Chan Nyein presents sports gear and stationery to local people of Natpay village in Kanbalu Township. —MNA

Education Minister meets local people in Kanbalu Township

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, on 30 March, met with local people at Natpay village in Kanbalu Township and fulfilled the need.

At Tawkashut

village, the minister coordinated matters and presented sport gear, books and stationery.

At the Basic Education High School of Mingon-A village, the minister met with local people and presented

sport gear, books and stationery.

At the BEHS of Zegon village, the minister met with the headmaster and teachers and presented sport gear, books and stationery. **MNA**



CDMA-450 telephone system opens in Putao

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw attended the opening ceremony of CDMA-450 telephone system held at Putao, Kachin State on 30 March.

The minister inspected construction site of KaungHmuLon river-crossing suspension bridge. Afterwards, the minister met townselders and local people and coordinated matters for regional development.

The minister inspected the maintenance of Malikha river-crossing suspension bridge. At Gubar hall of Machabaw, the minister met departmental officials, townselders and local people.

The minister inspected radio telegraphic camp in Machanbaw and gave instructions on better trunk lines.

The minister provided local people with eyeglasses at Malikhu hall of Basic Education Primary School in Putao and at post-primary school in Layingwin ward. **MNA**

Prime Minister attends ...

(from page 1)

The Prime Minister and party viewed the display of sculptures and paintings depicting the Myanmar culture in Pyu, Bagan, Innwa, Pinya, Toungoo and Konboug periods on the first floor; Chinese- and European-style sculptures, paintings and furniture on the second floor; and prize-winning sculptures and paintings on the third floor.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party viewed arts and handicraft shops on the ground floor and curving of sculptures by sculptors in the sculpture garden.

Displayed at the fair are more than 700 works of sculptures in the styles of Pyu, Bagan, Innwa, Pinya, Toungoo and Konboug periods and in Chinese and European styles including modern works carved from the fallen trees in the cyclone Nargis by over 400 sculptors from Yangon, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and Rakhine State.

The fair continue up to 7 May from 9 am to 9 pm daily but will be temporarily closed during the Thingyan Festival. —MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein views Myanmar arts and craft works.—MNA



Sculpture works seen at Myanmar Arts and Crafts Exhibition and Sales Fair.—MNA

Victorious Myanmar archers honoured

YANGON, 3 April— A ceremony to honour the victorious selected archers who secured medals in the First Asian Open Compound Archery Tournament held in Yangon from 9 to 14 December 2008 and the First Asian Archery Grand Prix held in Bangkok of Thailand from 18 to 24 February 2009 was held at Myanmar Archery Federation, here, this evening.

Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint gave a speech. Member of the Asian Archery Federation Vice-President

invitation of Deputy Minister Mr Lee Yong-joon of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea.

MNA

of SEA Archery Federation and Honorary President of MAF Dr Khin Shwe reported on future tasks of the selected Myanmar archery team.

Officials presented cash awards to the victorious archers and men's and women's archery teams.

Myanmar archery team bagged five gold and three silver medals in the First Asian Open Compound Archery Tournament and two silver and one bronze medals in the First Asian Archery Grand Prix.—NLM

Chairperson Daw Aye Aye of Central Work Committee for Myanmar Women's Sports Federation presents cash award to selected archer Aung Hnyeinn. — NLM

Dy Foreign Minister back from ROK

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint arrived back

here by air on 2 April after attending the signing ceremony of the MoU on Consultations between the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar and of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea, and the first meeting of Consultations between the Ministries concerned of the two nations from 29 March to 2 April.

Deputy Minister U Maung Myint and Deputy Minister Mr Lee Yong-joon signed the MoU on Consultations between the two ministries. The first bilateral consultations meeting was also held.

The two sides discussed and exchanged views on mutual cooperation in culture and information, human resources development, oil and gas, labour, agricultural, industrial and

energy sectors.

The deputy minister visited Jeju Island where the ASEAN-Korea Commemorative Summit of the 20th Anniversary of Dialogue Partnership will be held. Deputy Minister U Maung Myint went to the Republic of Korea at the



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint shakes hands with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Lee Yong-joon of Republic of Korea.— MOFA





Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min inspect transport of RBE coaches from Yeohanpyin jetty to Yeohanpyin station.
MYANMA RAILWAY

Sittway-Ponnagyun railroad under construction

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye together with Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and Deputy Minister U Pe Than, on 31 March, looked into Sittway-An-Minbu railroad construction project.

At the briefing hall of Sittway-Ponnagyun railroad section, the commander and the minister heard reports on

completed works presented by the project engineer and the deputy minister.

Next, the commander and the minister inspected placing of rail tracks, ballast and sleepers in Sittway station yard. They then observed the earth work in a motorcade. They also looked into construction of a bridge near Bume village, construction of Mansi Creek bridge and earthworks in Zawpujah station yard near Zawpujah village.

Afterwards, they inspected placing of concrete on Moatso Creek

bridge and transport of RBE coaches from Yeohanpyin jetty to Yeohanpyin station and presented cash awards to the staff. The minister and deputy minister then proceeded to Ponnagyun in which they looked into earthworks in Ponnagyun station yard. Sittway-Ponnagyun railroad section of Sittway-An-Minbu railroad project is 26 miles long and it is said that 27 under 40-foot bridges, and 10 stations are to be constructed in the project.

MNA

Meeting seeks means to boost fertilizer production

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—A coordination meeting on boosting production of fertilizer of fertilizer plants of Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise under Ministry of Energy was held at the ministry here this morning, attended by Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, departmental heads and personnel.

The minister called for meeting of target production in respective plants in 2009-2010 fiscal year and running of the full capacities of the plants, saying that fertilizer plays a crucial role in higher output of crops.

Next, managers of the plants presented reports on production status and maintenance of the plants, and

arrangements for meeting the target production in 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Afterwards, deputy minister, departmental heads and personnel made supplementary reports on boosting production of fertilizer and the minister urged them to make efforts for surplus production of fertilizer in 2009-2010 fiscal year.

MNA



Energy Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi addresses coordination meeting on boosting production of fertilizer of fertilizer plants.—ENERGY

Altogether 159 members led by Saw Nay Soe Mya, son of former KNU/KNLA Chairman late Saw Bo Mya of KNU Insurgent Group come and join Htokawko Village

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—The government in the perpetual service of the people has laid down and is implementing the seven-step Road Map for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

Realizing the policy of the government and witnessing nation-building endeavours being carried out by the State, the people and the Tatmadaw, local people taking great delight in enjoying the fruits of regional development due to prevalence of peace in the region, and taking care of national race groups who have returned to the legal fold by the government, altogether 71 members led by Saw Nay Soe Mya with the rank of Captain, son of former KNU/KNLA Chairman late Saw Bo Mya of KNU Insurgent Group along with 88 family members totalling 159 and 24 assorted arms, came and joined Htokawko Village where KNU/KNLA Peace Council resides on 30 March.

Officials concerned and local people extended a warm welcome to Saw Nay Soe Mya and party who returned to the legal fold. They were resettled by the government that is making arrangements for providing them with necessary assistance.—MNA

Yadanabon University Project under way

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe inspected Yadanabon University Project on 28 March.

Chief Engineer U Khin Maung Swe of Mandalay Division Building

Project Special Group (6) gave an account of work progress. The deputy minister fulfilled the requirements.

The deputy minister also viewed Mandalay University Project and attended to the needs.—MNA

MADB presents prizes to outstanding banks for monsoon loan

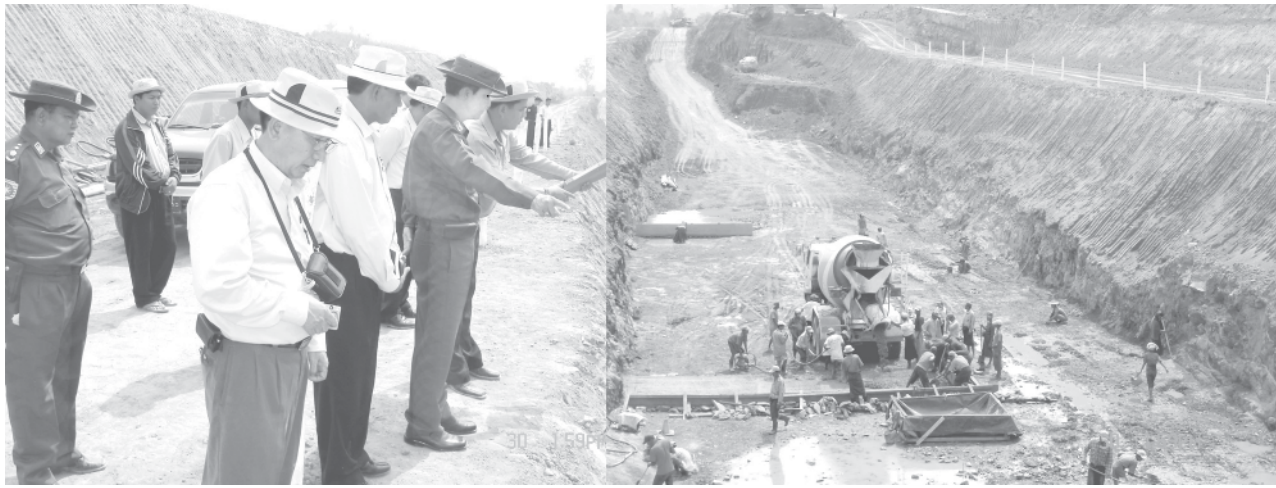
YANGON, 3 April — Myanmar Agriculture Development Bank under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation held prizes presentation to banks (branch) of the best townships, states and divisions for monsoon loan activities 2008 and those who won the best training

award of the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) at the bank on Pansondan Street here yesterday.

Managing Director U Tin Lwam delivered an address and gave prizes to winners.

MNA

SAY NO TO DRUGS



Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min views progress of An Creek Hydropower Project.—MNA

Minister inspects hydel power projects in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—Minister for Electric Power No.1 Col Zaw Min inspected the An Creek hydel power plant project being constructed on An Creek north of An in Rakhine State on 30 March.

The project being implemented will be equipped with two five-megawatt generators and will generate 10 Megawatts to supply power to the central Rakhine State and to transport power to the power grid.

On his inspection tour of Saidin Hydel Power

Plant project in Buthidaung Township on 31 March, Minister Col Zaw Min heard reports on the project presented by officials concerned and Deputy Minister U Myo Myint.

Saidin Hydel Power Plant Project is equipped with generators which have a combined capacity of 76.5 megawatts and will produce 236 million kilowatt hours per year.

MNA

Summer basic sailing course concludes

YANGON, 3 April—Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint attended Myanmar League Knockout football tournament for 2008-2009 and prize presentation ceremony held in Aung San Stadium here on 31 March.

In the final match, Ministry of Finance and Revenue team won over Ministry of Energy 2-0. The minister presented tournament and duplicate shields and K5 million to first prize winner Ministry of Finance and Revenue team of Myanmar League Knockout football tournament and first prize winner Ministry of Commerce team of Myanmar League Cup football tournament each. Officials presented prizes to second and third prizes winners, best player prizes and top scorer prize.

The minister attended the ceremony to conclude summer basic sailing course 2009 held at Yangon Boat Club on Inya road here today.

The minister and Chairman of Myanmar Sailing Federation member of MOC U Moe Myint made concluding speeches. The minister presented prizes to first, second and third prize winners. Officials also presented prizes to winners and certificates to trainees.

U Moe Myint presented gifts to headmasters and headmistresses.—MNA

Central Institute of Transport and Communications in Meiktila turning out competent workers

Article & Photos: Ko Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)

(from page 16)

Among the training schools, the Central Institute of Transport and Communications was set up in Meiktila under the Ministry of Rail Transportation. The institute was initially established with 32 officers and 282 staff totalling 314 at Hsinmalaik Dockyard of Yangon.

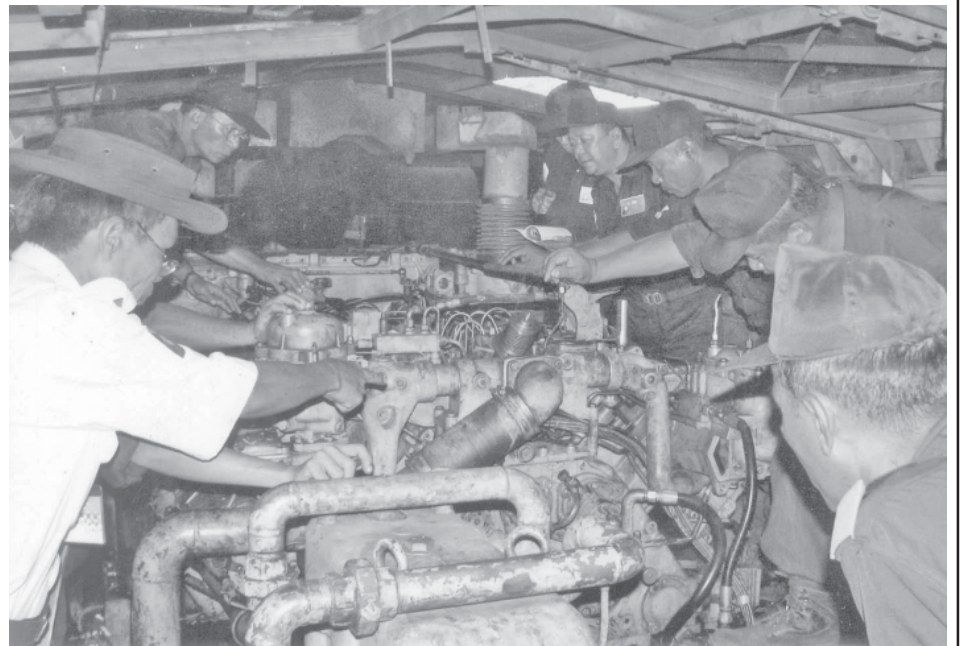
Next, the institute was combined with the motor vehicle driving training school under Road Transportation in

Meiktila. The institute has been conducting the training courses on vehicle, locomotive, communication and postal service.

With a view to enhancing work efficiency of the instructors and staff of the institute, the training courses are being provided to them at the institute. Moreover, the instructors and staff of the institute were sent to the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) and the Worksite Efficiency

Training School (Yangon). In addition, arrangements have been made for them to observe the factories and workshops on the excursion tours.

The institute is conducting necessary training courses with the use of equipment for the practical works for enhancement of the work efficiency of the trainee workers and staff. At the end of the excursion tours, the trainees have to compile the reports and papers on their expe-



Trainees of Locomotive Course practically studying DD 1329 locomotive at Central Institute of Transport and Communications.



Trainees observing CNG engine at the vehicle course.

riences in the excursion tours, and the instructors gave necessary training to them.

At the institute, the competent instructors are providing the systematic training courses to individuals from outside wishing to study the driving and repair of heavy and small vehicles. The training fees are reasonable. After completion of the training courses, service will be given to

the trainees by sending the driver's licences to their residences.

The vehicle driving courses last four weeks each and the training courses are being conducted 10 times per year. Moreover, the eight-week mechanic courses are being opened four times yearly.

In line with the instructions of the Minister for Rail Transportation and the deputy min-

isters, the training courses are being provided to the trainees with the aims of sharpening their morale, discipline and efficiency, and the Central Institute of Transport and Communications is turning out the trainees to become the competent workers monthly and yearly.

Translation: TTA
Kyemon: 15-3-2009



Chinese police present wreaths at a ceremony to pay their respect to deceased heroes at a local cemetery for revolutionary martyrs in north China's coastal city of Tianjin, on 2 April, 2009, two days prior to the Qingming festival, or the tomb sweeping day, that falls on 4 April. —Xinhua

APACE: Looted Chinese relics should return home

BEIJING, 3 April — The two looted Chinese bronze sculptures that were auctioned in Paris should return to its motherland, head of a European art protection organization said here on Thursday.

Relative Chinese authorities should negotiate with the current owners of the two looted bronzes and some French companies so that they could buy the cultural relics and donate them back to China, said Bernard Gomez, president of the Association for the Protection of Chinese Art in Europe (APACE), after APACE signed a memorandum of cooperation with the National Treasure Funds of China (NTFC).

Both side pledged to adopt proper, reasonable and legal means to get the two animal heads back to China, as well as explore a new way for the return of looted Chinese cultural relics through international civil cooperation, according to the memorandum.

Niu Xianfeng, deputy director of NTFC, praised APACE for its consistent support for helping China to pursue looted cultural relics.

China has repeatedly demanded the return of the sculptures looted when the Old Summer Palace (Yuanmingyuan) was burned down by Anglo-French allied forces during the Second Opium War in 1860. However, Christie's held the auction after a court in Paris turned down a motion by Chinese lawyers to stop the auction.

MNA/Xinhua

US immigration officials sued for abusing civil rights

LOS ANGELES, 3 April — Civil rights groups announced on Thursday they have sued the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency in federal district court for detaining immigrants in egregious and unsanitary conditions in Los Angeles. The lawsuit filed on 1 April said detainees at the Los Angeles facility have no soap, drinking water, toothpaste, toothbrushes, sanitary napkins, changes of clothing or showers.

The lawsuit, filed by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California, the National Immigration Law Centre and the Law firm of Paul Hastings, Janofsky and Walker

LLP, also charged that the unsanitary conditions have led the ICE to deprive immigrants of due-process rights such as accessing to mail or attorneys while in detention. The announcement came on the

same day when two US House subcommittees held a joint hearing to examine civil rights abuses committed by state and local police functioning as federal immigration agents.

MMA/Xinhua

Najib sworn in as Malaysia's new Prime Minister

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 April — Malaysian Deputy prime Minister Najib Tun Razak was sworn in here on Friday as Malaysia's new Prime Minister.

Najib, wearing a black traditional costume, was sworn in by Malaysia's Supreme Head Mizan Zainal Abidin at Istana Negara (National Palace) in Kuala Lumpur in a solemn ceremony, local TV footage showed. Also attending were outgoing prime minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, former prime minister Mahathir Mohamad and other senior ministers.

Badawi is expected to hand over his duties to Najib at the Prime minister's office in Putrajaya, the administrative centre of Malaysia at 4 pm. —MNA/Xinhua



The damaged vehicle after an explosion seen in Khost, Afghanistan recently. The roadside bomb killed one and seriously wounded one, said an official.



A giant sculpture constructed with the faces of clocks is seen outside a Paris train station recently.

MIT researchers make virus battery

WASHINGTON, 3 April — For the first time, MIT researchers have shown they can genetically engineer viruses to build both the positively and negatively charged ends of a lithium-ion battery, according to a study released on Thursday in the online edition of journal Science.

The new virus-produced batteries have the same energy capacity and power performance as state-of-the-art rechargeable batteries being considered to power plug-in hybrid cars, and they could also be used to power a range of personal electronic devices, said Angela Belcher, the MIT

materials scientist who led the research team.

The new batteries could be manufactured with a cheap and environmentally benign process: The synthesis takes place at and below room temperature and requires no harmful organic solvents, and the materials that go into the battery are non-toxic.

In a traditional lithium-ion battery, lithium ions flow between a negatively charged anode, usually graphite, and the positively charged cathode, usually cobalt oxide or lithium iron phosphate. Three years ago, an MIT team led by Belcher reported that it had engineered viruses that

could build an anode by coating themselves with cobalt oxide and gold and self-assembling to form a nanowire.

In the latest work, the team focused on building a highly powerful cathode to pair up with the anode, said Belcher, the Germeshausen Professor of Materials Science and Engineering and Biological Engineering in MIT. Cathodes are more difficult to build than anodes because they must be highly conducting to be a fast electrode. However, most candidate materials for cathodes are highly insulating (non-conductive).

MNA/Xinhua

Former US governor charged with 16 felonies

CHICAGO, 3 April — Former Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich has been indicted formally on 16 felony counts, the US attorney's office in Chicago said on Thursday. Patrick Fitzgerald, the US attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, indicated that since 2002 even before Blagojevich was first elected governor, he and a circle of his closest aides and advisers allegedly engaged in a wide-ranging scheme to deprive the people of Illinois, a state in the US Midwest.

MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TEGAP VOYNO (439)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOYNO (439) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.4.2009 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Schering-Plough Ltd., of Weyrstrasse 20, CH-6000, Lucerne 6, Switzerland, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

SICASTAT

Reg. No. 6155/2008 in respect of "Pharmaceutical preparations".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for Schering-Plough Ltd.
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 4 April 2009

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOYNO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOYNO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2009 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Religious Technology Center, a non-profit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, USA, and located at 1710 Ivar Avenue, Los Angeles, California, USA, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-



Reg. No. 1786/1992



Reg. No. 1789/1992

DIANETICS

Reg. No. 1790/1992

HUBBARD

Reg. No. 1792/1992



Reg. No. 1793/1992

SCIENTOLOGY

Reg. No. 1795/1992

in respect of "educational, teaching, and philosophical services".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for Religious Technology
Center
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 4 April 2009



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV HANSA LONDON VOYNO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HANSA LONDON VOYNO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.4.2009 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: 256908/378316/376797

UN chief calls for greater efforts to help people with autism lead full lives

UNITED NATIONS, 3 April—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Thursday called for intensifying global efforts to ensure that the estimated 67 million people worldwide with autism can benefit from the supportive environment they need to reach their full potential and contribute to society.

In a message marking World Autism Awareness Day, which falls on Thursday, Ban said the growing international chorus of voices calling for action to enable children and persons with autism to lead full and meaningful lives.

"This is not a far-off dream; it is a reality that can be attained by promoting positive perceptions about autism, as well as a greater social understanding of this growing challenge," he said.

On 18 December, 2007, the General Assembly designated 2 April as World Autism Awareness Day in order to galvanize global efforts to promote greater understanding about the disorder which affects tens of millions around the globe.

This year's observance is being marked with lectures, briefings, screenings, musical performances, video conferences, art installations and other activities carried out by the UN family and its partners.—*Internet*

Size counts in the sunny side of life

BEIJING, 3 April—Large, colourful and flashy — sunglasses fashion this summer is definitely conspicuous. "Colourful frames are hot, as are frames with way-out patterns, like spider webs, peace signs or skulls," says Gabriele Gerling of Germany's Central Association of Opticians in Dusseldorf.

Retro is the catchword nowadays but not just from the 1950s and '60s; everything from the 1930s to the 1970s is represented.

What all new styles have in common is the extra large format. Oversized, visually striking sunglasses are setting the tone, according to Berlin eyewear specialist Kerstin Kruschinski.

"The large lenses protect the eyes and the sensitive thin skin around the eyes," says Kruschinski. In this way, the glasses help prevent early development of wrinkles and conceal, when necessary, the aftermath of a long night of partying.

Internet

Intel, GE team up on healthcare technologies

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 April—Intel and General Electric (GE) on Thursday announced that they have formed an alliance to market and develop innovative technologies to help patients better manage their healthcare from the comfort of their homes.

The two companies said they will investment more than 250 million US dollars over the next five years for the research and product development of home-based health technologies.

Intel and GE are planning to combine their skills and research resources to accelerate the innovation and commercialization of next-generation home health technologies.

Both companies also intend to expand their current development programs in home health and independent living technologies to include new areas such as fall prevention and chronic diseases monitoring.—*Internet*

Miss Universe 2008, Dayana Mendoza of Venezuela, caused a stir here after gushing over her visit to the US naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, home of the "war on terror" prison camp.—INTERNET



UK study finds bird can "read" human gaze

WASHINGTON, 3 April—We all know that people sometimes change their behaviour when someone is looking their way. Now, a new study released on Thursday in the online edition of US journal *Current Biology*, shows that jackdaws — birds related to crows and ravens with eyes that appear similar to human eyes — can do the same. "Jackdaws seem to recognize the eye's role in visual perception, or at the very least they are extremely sensitive to the way that human eyes are oriented," said Auguste von Bayern, formerly of the University of Cambridge and now at the University of Oxford. When presented with a preferred food, hand-raised jackdaws took significantly longer to retrieve the reward when a person was directing his eyes toward the food than when he was looking away, according to the research team led by Nathan Emery of the University of Cambridge and Queen Mary University of London. The birds hesitated only when the person in question was unfamiliar and thus potentially threatening.—*Internet*

Astronauts may need more intense workouts to maintain muscle fitness in space

WASHINGTON, 3 April—A new study published on Thursday in the *The Journal of Applied Physiology* suggests that astronauts need to modify their workouts to avoid extensive muscle loss during missions onboard the International Space Station (ISS).

The latest NASA-sponsored research from Indiana-based Ball State University's Human Performance Laboratory (HPL) suggests that changes are needed to optimize the in flight exercise regimen for astronauts to improve their muscle performance while in space for extended stays.

Average stays on the ISS run about six months, and preservation of crewmember health in zero-gravity environments is paramount for safety and mission success. Since exercise is the primary course of action to protect the cardiovascular system, bone, and skeletal muscles, astronauts need to find the optimal exercises to stay fit.

The findings of the Ball State study were based in part on muscle biopsies taken from the astronauts, the first time this procedure has been allowed on crewmembers who have completed long-flight missions, according to

Scott Trappe, HPL director.

Working with NASA, Marquette University's biological sciences department in Wisconsin, Wyle Integrated Science and Engineering Group in Houston, and the Medical College of Wisconsin, Trappe found that even while the crewmembers exercised, they still lost an average of 15 percent muscle mass and 20 to 30 percent loss of muscle performance.—*Internet*



A woman views an untitled painting by Chinese artist Zhang Xiaogang, valued between 500-700 thousand USD, on display at a preview of Sotheby's Spring Sales in Hong Kong.—*INTERNET*

GlaxoSmithKline seeks new approval for breast-cancer drug

TRENTON, 3 April — GlaxoSmithKline PLC on Wednesday applied for approval in the US and Europe to sell an existing breast-cancer drug as a first-line treatment.

The British pharmaceutical company's Tykerb was approved here two years ago as part of a treatment for most women with advanced breast cancer that wasn't stopped

after chemotherapy and other drugs. It's also been approved for that use in the 27 European Union countries and several others. Tykerb, a pill that is more targeted than chemotherapy, had sales of \$189 million last year. Approval as an initial treatment likely would boost that sharply.

Tykerb is currently approved for women with advanced breast cancer that is HER2-positive, meaning the cancer cells have more of the HER2 protein on them than healthy cells.

GlaxoSmithKline now is seeking to market it as an initial treatment for advanced breast cancer that is hormone-sensitive. About two-thirds of breast cancers are hormone sensitive, meaning they are fueled by the estrogen the body makes.

Internet

Dengue sickens at least 5,154 people in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 3 April — Argentina is battling an outbreak of dengue fever which has sickened at least 5,154 people, of whom five have died, health officials said on Thursday.

According to Health Minister Graciela Ocana, regions worst hit by the epidemic are Chaco, Salta and Catamarca.

There are about 2,900 cases in northern state Chaco, while Salta have 1,040 and Catamarca have 939.

On Tuesday, two women died from dengue in Chaco after receiving medical treatment for several days.

Internet

Mitsubishi raises output target for electric car

TOKYO, 3 April — Mitsubishi Motors Corp will increase production of its planned electric vehicle after orders for its first 2,000 cars were quickly filled, a spokesman said on Friday.

Japan's No 4 automaker aims to roll out the "i MiEV" zero-emissions car for leasing in Japan by July. The first year's planned production of 2,000 units has already sold out with Japanese corporate leasers, including utility Tokyo Electric Power Co and convenience store chain Lawson, said company spokesman Kai Inada.

Due to the strong

interest, Mitsubishi Motors is raising its output of the model for 2010 from 4,000 to 5,000 units, he said. Mitsubishi Motors plans to sell the i MiEV — which can be recharged from a regular home socket — in Europe through Peugeot Citroen PSA in 2010, and sales to individual consumers in Japan are planned for 2011. The potential growth of such "green" cars is offering a glimmer of hope for the world's automakers, which are struggling to cope with plunging auto demand caused by the global economic slowdown and credit crunch.—*Internet*

US company to build 4G wireless network in Silicon Valley

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 April — Clearwire, a leading US wireless broadband provider, on Thursday announced its plans to build a test-bed mobile network in Silicon Valley using WiMAX, a fourth-generation (4G) wireless communication technology.

The so-called WiMAX Innovation Network will initially cover an area of more than 20 square miles (52 square kilometers) in Silicon Valley for software developers to try out new applications, said Clearwire, which is headquartered in Kirkland in the US state of Washington.

The network will bring 4G wireless service to campuses of some of the world's leading technology companies including Google and Intel.

Service is expected to be available to developers by late summer this year ahead of Clearwire's planned launching of commercial 4G service in the San Francisco Bay Area in 2010.

Internet

Ice-free Arctic summers likely sooner than expected

WASHINGTON, 3 April — Summers in the Arctic may be ice-free in as few as 30 years, not at the end of the century as previously expected, according to a study released by US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The updated forecast is the result of a new analysis of computer models coupled with the most recent summer ice measurements.

"The Arctic is changing faster than anticipated," said James Overland, an oceanographer at NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory and co-author of the study, which will appear

Friday in *Geophysical Research Letters*. "It's a combination of natural variability, along with warmer air and sea conditions caused by increased greenhouse gases."

Overland and his co-author, Muyin Wang, a University of Washington research scientist with the Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean in Seattle, analyzed projections from six computer models, including three with sophisticated sea ice physics capabilities.

That data was then combined with observations of summer sea ice loss in 2007 and 2008.—*Internet*



A NASA satellite image from on 21 Sept, 2005 and released on 21 Sept, 2007 shows Arctic summer sea ice coverage in 2005.—*XINHUA*

SPORTS

Nanjing among three cities bid for 2014 Youth Olympics

GENEVA, 3 April — The International Olympic Committee said on Thursday that three cities, including China's Nanjing, pose to be the candidates to race for the staging right of the 2014 Summer Youth Olympics.

Nanjing joins Mexico's Guadalajara and Poland's Poznan to be in the running, as the other three countries that originally expressed interest to the IOC, namely Indonesia, Morocco and Turkey, have dropped out.

The bid cities must now submit detailed bid files by Sept. 4, with the IOC executive board to make a short list in December and the full IOC membership to vote on it in Vancouver before the Winter Olympics open in February 2010.

The 2014 event is scheduled to take place over 12 days with up to 3,500 athletes aged 14-18 competing in as many as possible of the 26 official Olympic summer sports.

Singapore, which beat Poznan in the bidding, will host the first Summer Youth Games in 2010, while the first Winter Youth Olympics is scheduled for 2012 in Innsbruck, Austria. —Xinhua

Lincicome's 66 good for lead at Kraft Nabisco

RANCHO MIRAGE, 3 April — Brittany Lincicome never saw a 66 coming in the first round of the Kraft Nabisco Championship.

Likewise, defending champion Lorena Ochoa wasn't expecting to open with a 73 when she headed out onto the same desert course where she was 11 strokes better three years ago. "It was surreal, really," Lincicome said after taking the lead in the first LPGA Tour major of the year Thursday with her 6-under 66 at Mission Hills.

Pushed along by playing partner Ji Young Oh in a round she likened to match play, Lincicome hit 16 greens in regulation. Oh hit 14 greens and was tied for second at 67 with Angela Stanford and Brittany Lang. Lincicome, whose best finish in a major was a tie for second here two years ago, was thinking that something around par would have made for a good day.

"If you would have told me that this morning I would have taken it and ran," she said about her 66. "Obviously it's a major, so it's going to be playing long.

The rough is going to be thick. Even par or 1 or 2 under I would have been completely satisfied."

While Lincicome and Oh fought it out, Ochoa struggled with her driver.

The top-ranked Mexican star started on the 10th tee and was 2 under at the turn before carding three bogeys and no birdies on the front nine.

Internet



Michelle Wie hits to 11th green during the first round of the LPGA Kraft Nabisco Championship golf tournament in Rancho Mirage, California, on 2 April, 2009.

INTERNET

Del Potro stuns Nadal at Miami ATP Masters

MIAMI, 3 April — Juan Martin del Potro shocked world number one Rafael Nadal in the quarter-finals of the Miami ATP Masters 1000, downing the top-seeded Spaniard 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (7/3).

In the semi-finals, the sixth-seeded Argentinian will face world number four Andy Murray of Britain, who beat eighth-seeded Spaniard Fernando Verdasco 6-1, 6-2. Nadal, who won his sixth Grand Slam title at the Australian Open, also won the first Masters 1000 crown of the year at Indian Wells in March.

He had won all four of his previous meetings with del Potro without dropping a set - including a quarter-final victory at Indian Wells. But before a raucous, largely pro-del Potro crowd the Argentinian fought back from 0-3 down in the third set to prevail in the tiebreaker.

"Today, I did everything," del Potro said. "I served very good, and hit with my forehand with big confidence." "To beat Rafa, you have to be in good shape in every part of your game, and today I did a great job." —Internet



Juan Martin Del Potro of Argentina returns a shot against Rafael Nadal during the quarterfinals of the Sony Ericsson Open at the Crandon Park Tennis Center in Key Biscayne, Florida.

INTERNET

Mexico sack Eriksson after World Cup defeat

MEXICO CITY, 3 April — Former England manager Sven-Goran Eriksson was sacked as Mexico national coach on Thursday following a disappointing 3-1 loss to Honduras in a World Cup qualifier.

Wednesday's defeat was Mexico's second loss in three matches in the final phase of qualifying in the region coming hot on the heels of a reverse to the United States sandwiched by a home success over Costa Rica at the Azteca Stadium in Mexico City. —Internet

Mourinho wants records

MILAN, 3 April — Inter Milan manager Jose Mourinho said in a remarkable interview Wednesday he feels like the "Robin Hood" of the club, whom he plans to leave and then lead a Spanish club to title glory.

Mourinho, who led Chelsea to the English Premier League title in 2005 and 2006, is confident his side will win this year's Italian league crown. And if they do, he said it would allow him to then focus on achieving a rare feat of winning championship titles in the "three most competitive football leagues in the world".

"Now we are going to win the title," said the Portuguese, speaking to Italian television channel



Inter Milan manager Jose Mourinho.

Wednesday. "And then we'll sit down to consider the future." Despite having another year on his contract, he added: "Once my experience with Inter comes to an end I hope to go and coach in Spain because my aim is to win league titles in the top three competitive leagues in the world. All that's missing is La Liga (Spain)."

Inter currently have a seven-point lead over Juventus in Serie A.

Internet

Furious Bruce rounds on Zaki

WIGAN, 3 April — Wigan manager Steve Bruce said Thursday he was at the "end of my tether" with Amr Zaki after the on-loan Egypt forward failed to return on time from international duty for the fourth time this season.

Zaki was due back in Wigan on Tuesday, more than 36 hours after Egypt's game against Zambia. His compatriot and fellow striker Mido made it back on time but repeated attempts by Wigan to contact Zaki came to nothing.

Bruce, who said he intended to impose a heavy fine on Zaki, did not have his mood improved by the arrival of a fax from the Egypt team doctor saying the forward had a hamstring injury. But the standard scan detailing the extent of Zaki's injury did not accompany the fax.

Internet



Wigan's English manager Steve Bruce.

Serena beats Venus to set up Azarenka title clash

MIAMI, 3 April — Serena Williams assured herself of some more time atop the world rankings and gave herself a shot at a record sixth Miami title Thursday with a three-set victory over her sister Venus in the ATP and WTA hardcourt tournament here.

Serena, who claimed her 10th Grand Slam title at the Australian Open in January, evened her career head-to-head record against her elder sister at 10 wins apiece with a 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 victory. "I definitely knew about it," Serena said of her head-to-head record against her sister. "It's definitely good to even it up. I would love to be in the lead again."

She'll seek a third straight Miami title, and sixth overall, when she tackles 19-year-old Victoria Azarenka of Belarus in the final. The two met in the Australian Open quarter-finals, when a distraught Azarenka retired with a stomach ailment while leading 6-3, 2-4. —Internet

No fine for outspoken Podolski after Ballack row

BERLIN, 3 April — Striker Lukas Podolski has escaped a German Football Federation (DFB) fine despite his on-field spat with captain Michael Ballack in the 2-0 win over Wales, it was revealed Thursday.

Ballack and Podolski clashed in the second half of the World Cup qualifier at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium on Wednesday, but despite the Bayern Munich star arguing fiercely with his captain, the DFB will not fine the 23-year-old. Germany coach Joachim Loew revealed the argument erupted when Ballack gave Podolski a tactical instruction and laid the blame firmly at the striker's door.

"If the captain gives a player a tactical instruction, then that player must obey," said Loew. "That is absolutely clear. Lukas has to listen to an experienced player like Michael Ballack." Ballack and Podolski exchanged heated words on the Cardiff pitch and the spat was only ended when Germany defenders Per Mertesacker and Philipp Lahm intervened while Loew then immediately replaced Podolski. —Internet

Ecuador buys seven helicopters from India

QUITO, 3 April—The Ecuadorean Air Force said Thursday it has bought seven helicopters from India transporing personnel and rescue operations. Of the seven choppers, one will be exclusively used by Ecuadorean President Rafael Correa, news reports said.

Five of the seven HAL helicopters, Dhruv, are being assemble in the air base of Taura, in Guayaquil. The choppers were bought from the Indian company Hindustan Aeronautics Limited at a cost of 50 million US dollars. The helicopters have the capacity of carrying 15 passengers and can fly a maximum altitude of 21,000 feet.

The training to fly the helicopters will take some three months, and two Indian pilots will stay in Ecuador for two years to train the pilots according to Rodrigo Bohorquez commander of the Ecuadorean Air Force.—MNA/Xinhua



Models Pose for photos in the cars during the motorcade tour around Luoyang, central, China's Henan Province on 2 April, 2009. A motorcade consisting of luxury cars toured around Luoyang city on Thursday to greet the eighth luxury car show opened on 3 April.

XINHUA

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (4.4.2009) (Saturday)

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

Local Transmission

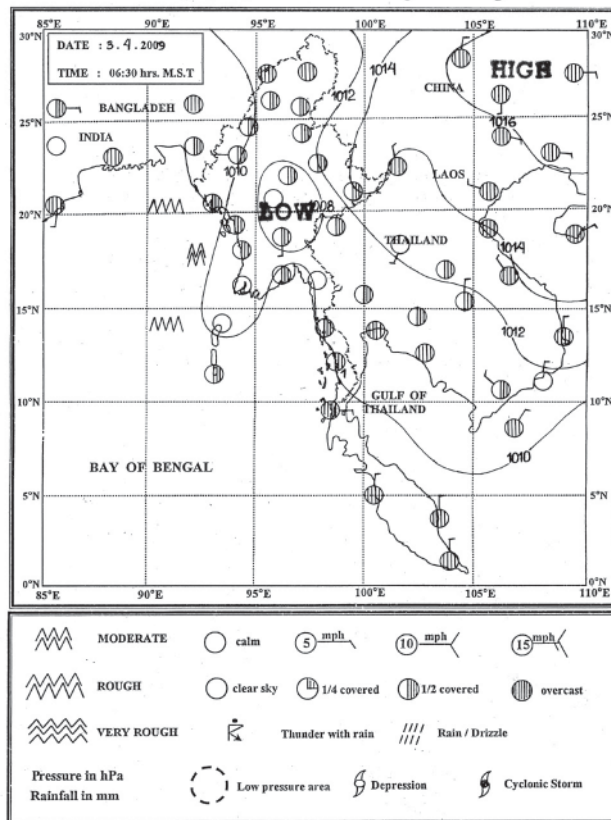
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Inn-Waing Waterfall
- * A Collection of Rakhine Cultural Heritages
- * Thingyan Dance
- * Pleasant Beach Chaungtha "Where Tourism and Fishery Industries Boom..."
- * Travelogue "Yangon to Bagan"
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * A Journey to Research Taron Race
- * Weaving Industry of Pakokku
- * Let's Decorate with Myanma Silversmith
- * Thingyan Dance
- * Our Coffee Town
- * Mandalay Cultural Museum
- * Myanmar's Ancient City Bagan
- * Medicinal Plants at Popa Mountain Park
- * A Clean and Green Brewery
- * Inn-Waing Waterfall
- * A Collection of Rakhine Cultural Heritages
- * Thingyan Dance
- * Pleasant Beach Chaungtha "Where Tourism and Fishery Industries Boom..."
- * Travelogue "Yangon to Bagan"
- * Prawn Breeding Industry in Sea Water
- * Aungpan Oranges
- * Coffee-shop Culture
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 3 April, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan State and Taninthayi Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (6°C) above April average temperatures in Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) above April average temperatures in Kayin and Mon States, (3°C) to (4°C) below April average temperatures in Shan State and upper Sagaing Division, and about April average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant Day temperatures were Chauk and Thayawady (41°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Myeik (0.04) inch.

Maximum temperature on 2-4-2009 was 101°F. Minimum temperature on 3-4-2009 was 71°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 3-4-2009 was 53%. Total sunshine hours on 2-4-2009 was (10.2) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 3-4-2009 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 Southeast at (21:30) hours MST on 2-4-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 4th April 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Chin and Shan States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. 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 isolated rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 4-4-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-4-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-4-2009: Partly cloudy.



Saturday, 4 April
View on today

- 7:00 am
- 1. မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
- 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
- 4. Nice & Sweet song
- 7:50 am
- 5. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ
- 8:00 am
- 6. ကဗျာပန်းနုယျာဉ်
- 8:15 am
- 7. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

- 8:30 am
- 8. International news
- 8:45 am
- 9. "အေးမြသောလေညှင်းလေးများ" (ဇေတ္တာ၊ ဇေယျ၊ စိုးမိုးကြည်၊ ဇူးဇူးမောင်) [ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မိုး (ဝဲရစ်)]
- 11:00 am
- 1. Martial song
- 11:10 am
- 2. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ
- 11:20 am
- 3. ချစ်စရာအရွယ်ကစားကြမယ်
- 11:45 am
- 4. တစ်ပတ်အတွင်းရုပ်မြင်သံကြား ပြည်တွင်းသတင်းစဉ်
- 12:40 pm
- 5. Yan Can Cook
- 1:00 pm
- 6. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ" (အပိုင်း-၃၅)
- 2:00 pm
- 7. ဆန်းကြယ်ထူးခြားပြိုင်ပွဲများ

- (Telematch)
- 2:45 am
- 8. International news
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm
- 2. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ
- 4:20 pm
- 3. Musical programme
- 4:30 pm
- 4. Dance of national races
- 4:40 pm
- 5. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 4:50 pm
- 14. မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်
- 5:00 pm
- 7. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (အရှေ့တိုင်းပညာ အထူးပြု) (အရှေ့တိုင်းပညာ)
- 5:10 pm
- 8. Songs to uphold National Spirit

- 5:15 pm
- 9. ရန်ကုန်မွန်လေးအမြန် လမ်းမကြီး (အပိုင်း-၃)
- 5:30 pm
- 10. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ
- 5:45 pm
- 11. မြန်မာ့လေ့ရှိရာလက်တွေ့
- 6:00 pm
- 12. Evening News
- 6:30 pm
- 13. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
- 14. အလှူရှာမယ်၊ လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်
- 7:00 pm
- 15. ပုလဲလက်ကျောင်းတော်
- 7:20 pm
- 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူသက်ထား" (အပိုင်း-၃)
- 8:00 pm
- 17. News
- 18. International News
- 19. Weather report
- 20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကြမ္မာမန်တိုင်း" (အပိုင်း-၂၃) (ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း)

Central Institute of Transport and Communications in Meiktila turning out competent workers

Article & Photos: Ko Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)

Today, all the ministries are striving for all-round development of the Union of Myanmar. In doing so, the Ministry of Rail Transportation is carrying out the construction of new railroads for ensuring secure and smooth rail transportation. Moreover, emphasis is being placed on import of new locomotives and new carriages, construction of new cargo coaches and providing of driving courses for automobiles and locomotives.

In this regard, opening of the training schools is one of the important tasks for ensuring the secure and improved transportation.

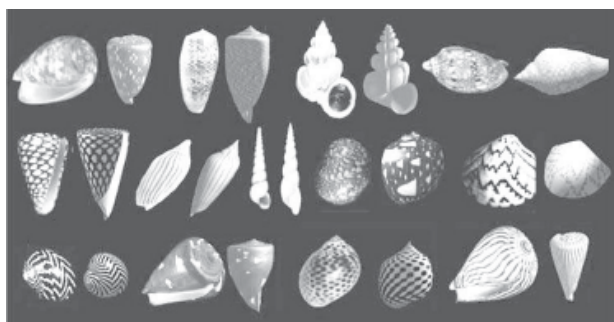
(See page 10)



Photo shows Central Institute of Transport and Communications that is turning out competent workers.

Mollusks taste memories to build shells

SCIENCE DAILY, 2 April—University of California, Berkeley, graduate student Alistair Boettiger has amassed a beautiful collection of seashells, but not by combing the beach. He created them in his computer.



By adjusting nine parameters in a single equation, a computer model can generate patterned shells (right example in each pair above) that closely resemble real mollusk shells.

He and George Oster, a UC Berkeley biophysicist, along with University of Pittsburgh mathematical neuroscientist Bard Ermentrout, have written a computer program that generates the complex patterns of seashells using simple principles developed to explain how the brain works and how memories are stored.

The "neural net" model explains how mollusks build their seashells based on the finding that the mollusk's tongue-like mantle, which overlaps the edge of the growing shell, senses or "tastes" the calcium carbonate layer laid down the day before in order to generate a new layer.

"The pattern on a seashell is the mollusk's memories," said Oster, a professor of environmental science, policy and management and of molecular and cell biology. "The shell is laid down in layers, so the mantle is sensing the history of the mollusk's 'thoughts' and extrapolating to the next layer, just like our brains project into the future."

Internet

DNA analysis uncovers prehistory Norwegian red deer

OSLO, 3 April—For his doctoral thesis, Hallvard Haanes discovered that Norwegian red deer are genetically different from other European red deer, due to their historical distribution. However, a century ago, red deer were imported from continental Europe to the island of Otterøya in Namsos, and these imported deer have created hybrid forms with the Norwegian red deer on the island.

These hybrids have only to a modest degree become integrated with the rest of the Norwegian red deer population. Red deer colonised Norway after the last ice age. Since then the population has been isolated from the rest of Europe, and on several

occasions their numbers were reduced so dramatically that the genetic makeup became altered and genetic diversity was lost.—Internet



Huge population of rare dolphins discovered



DHAKA, 3 April — The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) has just announced the discovery of a huge population of rare dolphins in South Asia—but warns that the population is threatened by climate change and fishing nets.

Using rigorous scientific techniques, WCS researchers estimate that nearly 6,000 Irrawaddy dolphins, which are related to orcas or killer whales, were found living in freshwater regions of Bangladesh's Sundarbans mangrove forest and adjacent waters of the Bay of Bengal—an area where little marine mammal research has taken place up to this point. Prior to this study, the largest known populations of Irrawaddy dolphins numbered in the low hundreds or less.

Each discovery of Irrawaddy dolphins is important because scientists do not know how many remain on the planet. In 2008, they were listed as vulnerable in the IUCN Red List based on population declines in known populations.—Internet