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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

Lt-Gen Myint Swe tours Cocogyun

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence and party presented offertories to members of the Sangha of Sasana Mandaing Monastery in Cocogyun Township on 2 April.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party went to Zina Marasein pagoda, inspected laying of tiles on the platform of the pagoda and presented flowers, water and lights to the pagoda.

They inspected police station and the vault, postal service, telegraphs and telephone services there. They also inspected construction of Yezin temporary wooden bridge and visited pre-primary school in the township.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party went to the people's hospital in the township where they observed free treatment given to the patients by specialists, physicians and Myanmar traditional medicine practitioners.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe helped the eye patients wear the spectacles and provided cash to the patients undergoing treatment at the hospital.

(See page 9)



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence views giving of free medical treatment to patients.—MNA

Soft crab in demand in international market

Article: Myint Maung Soe; Photo: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

On our tour of Taninthayi Division to write articles about regional development in the end of 2008, we dropped in the Soft Crab Farm of Pyae Phyo Tun Co.

The company is located in Pahtaw Pahtet Island on the other bank of Myeik. The archipelago is close to Myeik, but it is part of Kyunsu Township.

The soft crab farm is a 15-minute drive from the island. The island has fishing enterprises and timber extraction camps, and the staff and workers stay there. So, the island is like a town.

(See page 7)



Crabs are kept in a plastic container each till they shed off their old shells.

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 5 April, 2009

Post-Nargis Myanmar arts and crafts indicate Myanmar's resilience

The Ministry of Cooperatives and the Central Cooperatives Ltd conducted the Post-Nargis Myanmar Arts and Crafts Exhibition and Sales Fair at Saya San Plaza in Yangon on 3 April, which was graced and attended by Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

The fair is aimed to enable Myanmar handicrafts to gain a foothold in local and international markets; produce value-added wooden handicrafts on a wider scale; and to demonstrate Myanmar people's sense of resilience to natural disasters.

The handicrafts and sculptures at the fair were curved from the trees that had been uprooted in the cyclone "Nargis".

On display at the fair are more than 700 works of sculptures in the styles of Pyu, Bagan, Innwa, Pinya, Toungoo and Konboun periods and in Chinese and European styles including modern works created by more than 400 sculptors from Yangon, Mandalay and Bago divisions and Rakhine State.

Myanmar people made sculptures and handicrafts of traditional styles as value-added works and exhibited them at the fair, instead of keeping on mourning the passing of much-loved property, thus demonstrating their unwavering spirit, dauntlessness and diligence.

One of the works shown at the fair is Sidawgyi (Myanmar traditional drum) curved from the centenarian rain tree that was uprooted by the cyclone "Nargis".

The Post-Nargis Myanmar Arts and Crafts Exhibition and Sales Fair reflects Myanmar people's vivaciousness and art of making handicraft.

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 inspects Zaungtu Hydroelectric power station

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min inspected Zaungtu Hydroelectric power station yesterday.

Officials concerned reported on work being carried out and the minister gave instructions.

The minister inspected storage of water in Zaungtu Dam, installation of sluice gates and spillways, operation in the power station and function of the control room.

The minister met staff and the factory manager and the managing director reported on functions of the station.

The 20-megawatt Zaungtu Hydroelectric power station generates 76 million kilowatt hours a year.

MNA

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

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation meets Indonesian Agriculture Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo met a delegation led by Minister of Agriculture of Indonesia Dr Anton Apriyantono at the Irrigation Department in Yankin Township on 1 April.

They discussed bilateral technical cooperation in the agricultural sector, boosting production in agriculture, signing of MoU on technical cooperation in the agricultural sector and drafting of work plan.

Minister of Agriculture of Indonesia and party visited Agricultural



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo meets Minister of Agriculture of Indonesia Dr Anton Apriyantono and party.—A&I

Museum and observed booths of enterprises and departments under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, background history of

Myanma agriculture, farm implements, orchid culture in Myepadesa Garden, reproduction and medicinal orchid. They were conducted

round the museum by Managing Director of Myanmar Agriculture Service U Ohn Than and officials.

MNA

Ministry of Industry-1 meets

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — A work coordination meeting on review of 2008-2009 fiscal year and realization of objectives of 2009-2010 fiscal year of the Ministry of Industry-1 was held at the ministry here yesterday.

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung made a speech on the occasion.

Factory managers of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries, Myanma Ceramics Industries, Myanma Paper and Chemical Industries, Myanma General and Maintenance Industries, Myanma Textile Industries and Myanma Foodstuff Industries and managing directors took part in the discussions.

Officials concerned reported on cultivation of industrial crops and raw materials.

Director-General of Industrial Coordination and Inspection Department U Soe Hlaing reported on measures taken for industrial coordination and systematic arrangements.

Director-General of Industrial Department U Win Myint reported on review of 2008-2009 fiscal year and realization of objectives of 2009-2010 fiscal year and production and full operation.

The meeting came to a close after concluding remark by the minister.

MNA



Minister U Aung Thaung addresses work coordination meeting on review of 2008-2009 fiscal year and realization of objectives of 2009-2010 fiscal year of the Ministry of Industry-1.—INDUSTRY-1

Obama: US cannot shoulder Afghan burden alone

STRASBOURG, 4 April — On the eve of the NATO summit, President Barack Obama didn't get what he wanted most from US allies: significant new commitments of combat troops for Afghanistan.

Faced with stiff public opposition to war, reluctant European leaders on Friday offered only limited aid for civilians and some troops to help train Afghan police and soldiers.

Afghanistan was the theme to which a frustrated Obama returned over and over throughout the day. "This is a joint problem, and it requires a joint effort," he said.

The summit's co-hosts, French President Nicolas Sarkozy and German Chancellor Angela Merkel, both were quick to offer support for Obama's new Af-

ghan strategy of sending American reinforcements and bolstering Afghan forces. But they went no further.

"We totally endorse and support America's new strategy in Afghanistan," Sarkozy said at a joint news conference with Obama after they met.

After her own talks with the president later in the afternoon, Merkel said: "We have a great responsibility here. We want to carry our share of the responsibility militarily — in the area of civil reconstruction and in police training."

Afghanistan was a key issue at a working dinner of all NATO leaders. "This is our No 1 operational priority," NATO spokesman James Appathurai said.

Internet



The victim of a car bombing is treated for his wounds at a hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, Saturday, 4 April, 2009. The man was one of five wounded and two killed on Friday in the Karrada district.

XINHUA

Smoke billows from Taliban position destroyed by US airstrike in Afghanistan.
INTERNET



One NATO troop, 20 insurgents killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 4 April — Violence flared in southern Afghanistan, with a NATO-led service

member killed Saturday and 20 suspected insurgents slain in Helmand province Friday, authorities said.

NATO's International Security Assistance Force said the service member died after being wounded by a roadside bomb. It did not specify the province where it happened or the victim's nationality.

The US military said the 20 suspected insurgents were killed in clashes with

Afghan soldiers and coalition forces on Friday in the Kajaki district of Helmand province.

The fighting in Helmand's Kajaki district happened during operations targeting suspected Taliban and al Qaeda in Afghanistan, suspected of bomb-making, weapons smuggling, drug activity and attacks on Afghan and coalition soldiers, the US military said in a statement.

Internet

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 601

WASHINGTON, 4 April — As of Friday, 3 April, 2009, at least 601 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures Thursday at 10 am EDT. Of those, the military reports 444 were killed by hostile action.

Outside the Afghan region, the Defence Department reports 67 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen.—Internet

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,265

WASHINGTON, 4 April — As of Friday, 3 April, 2009, at least 4,265 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,425 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The British military has reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.

Internet

US in Iraq kills Sunni paramilitary planting bomb

BAGHDAD, 4 April — A US aircraft fired on suspected government-allied Sunni paramilitaries planting a bomb, killing one and wounding two, the US said on Friday — the latest sign of trouble in a programme that has been a pillar of the American strategy to stabilize Iraq.

Iraq's prime minister said he was not ready to give up on the paramilitary programme, known variously as Sons of Iraq and Awakening Councils, but warned he would not tolerate subversives in the ranks despite the groups' role in helping stabilize the country.

A US statement said the airstrike was launched Thursday night after four gunmen, allegedly members of the Sons of Iraq, were seen planting a roadside bomb near Taji, site of a large US air base about 12 miles (20 kilometers) north of Baghdad.

Sons of Iraq are Sunnis who broke with the insurgents and now work with the army and police to provide security in their areas.

US commanders credit the more than 90,000 Sons of Iraq with playing a major role in turning the tide against al-Qaida and other Sunni insurgents following the US troop surge of 2007.

But the Shiite-led government is suspicious of the groups because they include many ex-militants. Shiite leaders also believe some of the members are infiltrators who are still working for the militants.

Internet

Afghan battle kills 12 militants, one civilian

KABUL, 4 April — Coalition and Afghan forces killed 12 militants and one civilian in a province next to the Afghan capital in a mission that included airstrikes, an Afghan official said Friday, while a member of the NATO-led force was killed in violence in the east.

The joint coalition-Afghan mission late Thursday killed the 12 militants in Logar, one province south of Kabul, said Mustafa Mosseini, the provincial police chief. He said that militants forced their way into a civilian home and that a civilian woman was also killed during the battle.

Militants commonly use civilian homes for cover, a tactic that puts in-

nocent Afghans in the line of fire. NATO's top general in Afghanistan, Gen David McKiernan, has ordered his ground commanders to consider breaking away from a fight if they think civilians are in danger.

Internet



Afghan policemen run to a destroyed house after Thursday's joint coalition-Afghan mission, in which 12 militants were killed, in Shikhan village of Baraki Barak district of Logar Province south of Kabul, Afghanistan on 3 April, 2009. —INTERNET



Workers show the traditional silk making technique at the silkworm temple fair held in Xinshi Township of Deqing County, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 2 April, 2009.—INTERNET

Obama to allow unlimited travel to Cuba

WASHINGTON, 4 April—US President Barack Obama plans to ease economic sanctions on Cuba, allowing Cuban-Americans to visit families as often as they like and send them unlimited financial aid, *The Wall Street Journal* reported. Citing an unnamed senior administration official, the newspaper said the new rules, which the president can introduce without seeking congressional approval, will affect an estimated 1.5 million Americans who have family members in Cuba.

The report came as

eight US lawmakers — all Democrats from the US Congressional Black Caucus — arrived in Havana to discuss relations.

The group is led by caucus chairwoman Barbara Lee and also includes Mel Watt, Emanuel Cleaver, Marcia Fudge, Mike Honda, Bobby Rush and Laura Richardson.

The eighth legislator, Sheila Jackson-Lee, was

due to arrive Monday.

The Journal said Obama doesn't intend to call for lifting of the trade embargo against Cuba, which would require congressional action.

The timing of the announcement is unclear, but several Cuba experts have said it could come ahead of this month's Summit of the Americas in Trinidad and Tobago.—INTERNET

Survivor Zhanar Tokhtabayeva, left, a 30-year-old from Kazakhstan, and an unidentified woman embrace outside a Catholic Charities office where counselors are tending to relatives of victims of the shooting in Binghamton N Y, on 3 April, 2009.—INTERNET

Shell shuts gas plant in Nigeria

LAGOS, 4 April—Anglo-Dutch oil giant Shell has shut down a gas plant in southern Nigeria, cutting national power supply by around 25 percent, to repair an illegally breached pipeline, a spokesman said Friday.

The 300-million-standard cubic feet Utorogu gas plant in western Niger Delta "was shut down on 1 April following a leak on the condensate line," spokesman Precious Okolobo said. "A joint in-

vestigation team discovered that unknown persons had illegally installed a valve on the line. The valve apparently failed," he said.

He said gas supplies to the Nigerian Gas Company had been disrupted as a result of the incident, resulting in a drop in power generation in the country.

"We are doing all we can to repair the line and resume gas supplies as soon as possible," he said.

"The loss in gas supply

has resulted in a cut back in generation by over 700 megawatts and will entail load-shedding in many parts of the country," the state-run Power Holding Company of Nigeria said in a statement.

Nigeria currently produces around 3,000 megawatts of electricity for a population of 140 million people, while South Africa produces more than 43,000 megawatts of electricity for a population a third the size.—INTERNET



Japan aims for walking robot on the moon by 2020

TOKYO, 4 April—Japan hopes to have a two-legged robot walk on the moon by around 2020, with a joint mission involving astronauts and robots to follow, according to a plan laid out Friday by a government group.

Specifics of the plan, including what new technologies will be required and the size of the project's budget, are to be decided within the next two years, according to Japan's Strategic Headquarters for Space Development, a Cabinet-level working group.

Development of a lunar robot is part of a broad framework outlined by the group, which is charged with plotting a new course for Japan's space strategy. As a next step, joint exploration of the moon involving robots and astronauts will be considered.

The framework is to be finalized late next month,

after the public has a chance to comment on the proposals.

The group also recommended promoting research into military satellites, such as an early warning system for detecting ballistic missile launches and systems to detect and analyze radio waves sent in space.

INTERNET

Plane lands at Australia Airport after hit by lightning

CANBERRA, 4 April—A Virgin Blue jet on its way from Melbourne to Launceston has been forced to make an emergency landing at Melbourne Airport after being struck by lightning, *Australian Associated Press* (AAP) reported on Friday.

Virgin Blue flight DJ137, which was carrying 117 passengers and six

crew, has detected an emergency signal soon after takeoff on Friday and returned to land safely, an airport spokeswoman said, adding that no one was in-

jured.

The plane was hit by lightning a number of times 10 minutes into the flight, the Nine Network said.—INTERNET

Unidentified gang kills three in C Nepal

KATHMANDU, 4 April—An unidentified gang brutally killed three youths on the banks of Jalad River in Haripur area of Dhanusha district in central Nepal, local media reported on Saturday.

According to myre-publica.com report, the gang killed two youths in the district, some 125 km south of Kathmandu, — by slitting their throats.

The same unidentified group is believed to have murdered another person by chopping off his hands and legs after tying him with a rope to a tractor.

No one has owned up the incident so far. Though the murders took place on Friday evening, the brutal incident came to light on Saturday morning only.

All the deceased are learnt to be village level cadres of ruling Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist). A police team from district headquarters Janakpur has reached the incident site to start investigation into the incident, the website reported.

INTERNET



A wedding cake featuring two grooms and two brides, symbolizing gay marriage. Sweden's parliament on Wednesday voted by a wide majority in favour of a gay marriage bill that allows homosexuals to wed in either a religious or civil ceremony.—INTERNET



All items from Xinhua News Agency

Several major US carriers reports declines in March

HOUSTON, 4 April—A number of major US Airlines reported on Friday that fewer passengers traveled by airplanes in March compared to the number in same period last year.

American Airlines Inc said its traffic dropped 10.9 percent in March while US Airways Inc said its traffic decreased 8.9 percent.

AirTran Airways Inc's traffic fell 7.2 percent, while Alaska Airlines Inc was down 8.1 percent, according to news releases from respective airlines headquarters.

Earlier in the week, Continental Airlines Inc said that company wide traffic fell 9.7 percent in March from a year earlier as weak economy strained demand for travel.

Xinhua

Wu Bangguo (L, front), chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), inspects Chutian Laser Company in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, on 2 April, 2009.
XINHUA

A job seeker fills a form at a job fair held by the job website Monster.com at the Marriott Marquis hotel in Manhattan, New York, the United States, on 5 March, 2009.
XINHUA



Chinese leader pushes for economic restructuring, industrial upgrading

BEIJING, 4 April—China's top legislator Wu Bangguo has called for more efforts in economic restructuring and industrial upgrading in order to strengthen the economy.

Wu, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), made the remarks in a trip to Hubei Province from Tuesday through Friday.

The impact of the global financial crisis on China's economy was deepening, said Wu.

He urged doing a good job in economic restructuring and industrial upgrading, which he said is important

to realizing sustainable development and also the fundamental way out of the current difficult situation.

But the government should strictly control the direction of investment so as to avoid redundant construction and blind expansion, he said.

Wu also urged local authorities to stimulate employment and improve living standards.

Wu visited factories, higher education institutions, research centers and residential communities to investigate the issues of employment, social securities, education and medical care in the area.—Xinhua

Strong quake hits Indonesia

JAKARTA, 4 April—A shallow earthquake measured 6.5 on the Richter scale rocked eastern parts of Indonesia on Sunday, but no tsunami warning was issued and no reports of damage or casualties, the country's meteorology and disaster management agencies said here.

The quake struck at 12:31 Jakarta time (0541 GMT) with epicenter at 117 kms northeast Melongue of North Sulawesi and at 10 kms under sea bed, an official of meteorology agency named only Subagio told Xinhua.

"There is no report of damage or fatality. The people only felt a light shakes," an official of disaster management agency Panji Syahril Maulana told Xinhua.—Xinhua

Russia launches rocket with European satellite atop

MOSCOW, 4 April—Russia launched a booster rocket with a European communication satellite on board Friday night, news agencies reported.

The Proton-M carrier with the Briz-M upper stage and Europe's Eutelsat W2A telecommunication satellite atop blasted off in 8:24 pm Moscow time (1624 GMT) from the Baikonur space center in Kazakhstan, said a spokesman of the Khrunichev Aerospace Center, Alexander Bobrenyov.

The Eutelsat W2A satellite, with a service life of 15 years and a take-off weight of 5,900 kg, was designed by the Thales Alenia Space company to provide internet and communication service for customers in regions such as Europe, Africa and the Middle East.—Xinhua



A doctor of a mobile medical team examines a herdsman in the pastoral area at Yiwu County, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 2 April, 2009. —XINHUA

US unemployment rate rises to 8.5% in March

WASHINGTON, 4 April—The unemployment rate in the United States rose to 8.5 percent, the highest level since late 1983, as employers slashed 663,000 jobs in March, the Labour Department reported Friday.

The March reading for unemployment rate matched analysts' expectations but was above the 8.1 percent jobless rate in February, when employers eliminated 651,000 jobs.

January's job losses, meanwhile, were revised to 741,000 from 655,000.

If part-time and discouraged workers are factored in, the unemployment rate would have been 15.6 percent in March, the highest on records dating to 1994.

The average work week in March dropped to 33.2 hours, a new record low.

Since the start of the recession in December 2007, payroll employment has declined by 5.1 million jobs, with almost two-thirds of the losses occurring in the last five months.

"In March, job losses were large and widespread across the major industry sectors," the Labour Department said while releasing the report.

In March, the manufacturing sector shed 161,000 jobs while construction industries axed 126,000 jobs. Retail trade employment fell by nearly 50,000 over the month.

Professional and business services got rid of 133,000 jobs while financial companies reduced payrolls by 43,000. Leisure and hospitality firms chopped 40,000 positions.—Xinhua



Police escort a man who had been inside the building during the siege at the American Civic Association. Fourteen people were killed, probably including the gunman, and four were critically injured during a massacre at a civic center in Binghamton, New York, police said recently.—INTERNET

Seven boats damaged as Sri Lankan troops, rebels clash in north

COLOMBO, 4 April—Sri Lanka's Government troops and Tamil Tiger rebels clashed in the northern Mullaitivu coast Friday night, resulting in the damage of four rebels boats and three Navy boats, said the military on Saturday. Officials from the Ministry of Defence said

the Navy's elite Special Boat Squadron (SBS) intercepted 10 LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) boats around 11:30 pm (1800 GMT) Friday off Puthumathalan coast in the Mullaitivu District.

The rebel boats, comprising three suicide craft and seven attack craft,

attempted to make a southward-bound move when the SBS personnel intercepted them and directed naval gunfire completely destroying one craft and disabling another. Two other LTTE boats which attempted to beach were destroyed by ground troops.—MNA/Xinhua

Police tighten NATO security after arrests

STRASBOURG, 4 April — Police tightened a security cordon around the French city of Strasbourg before a NATO summit on Friday after 300 people were arrested in clashes between police and protesters.

Police said one man was wounded with a rubber bullet on Thursday, when riot police battled several hundred anti-NATO protesters and disaffected youths.

Most streets were deserted in drizzly weather on Friday and many shops were empty. Public transport was restricted for the summit, which US President Barack Obama and other leaders will attend in Strasbourg and the German city of Baden-Baden.

"Police are tense. We have been treated like serious criminals. We were searched American-style with our hands on the car, but we are going to stay calm and we are not going to hit back," said a

German student who identified himself as Michael.

France and Germany have deployed 15,000 police and troops on the two sides of their border in an operation costing 110 million euros.

Thousands of mainly peaceful anti-NATO protesters have converged on the "summit to campaign against Western military activities as the Cold War Military alliance marks its 60th anniversary, but violence flared as dusk fell on Thursday.

Masked youths smashed windows, barricaded a street and at one point hurled a pole through the windscreen on a military vehicle. Police fired teargas and rubber bullets at the demonstrators.

The protests continued until the evening, but the night was clam, local authorities said.

MNA/Reuters

NATO leaders agree to cooperate with Russia

STRASBOURG, 4 April — NATO leaders agreed on Friday that the alliance must cooperate with Russia despite differences.

The leaders had a common vision that Russia is a great European power with which NATO must cooperate, said NATO spokesman James Appathurai. The leaders agreed that there are areas where cooperation would be mutually beneficial. They also recognized that there are areas where NATO and Russia disagree.

NATO's desire to cooperate with Russia does not mean NATO would compromise its core principles, he told reports at the end of the first day of the NATO summit.

MNA/Xinhua

NEWS ALBUM

Elderly woman can do 97 push-ups in a minute

A 63-year-old woman in Chengdu, capital of Sichuan province of China, can do 97 push-ups within 60 seconds.

Huang Tianleng, resident in Wenjiang district of the city, has exercised every day since 2002, and she does push-ups for one to two hours every morning.

"I learned that a man named Wang Jiyue in our city can do 100 push-ups within one minute, I want to challenge him." Huang said.



The design concept for the National Museum of African American History and Culture submitted by Foster + Partners/URS Group, Inc, is seen in Washington. Six architectural models for the planned National Museum of African American History and Culture are currently on display.



Artist Linna Knie Sun stands on an elephant during a rehearsal of the new show of Swiss National-Circus Knie in the town of Rapperswil east of Zurich. Circus Knie starts its tour.

Woman held 3 times for drunken driving gets month in jail

A court Wednesday handed down a woman one month in jail after she was arrested three times in three days in Wisconsin for drunken driving.

According to authorities, the 60-year-old Washington woman, who was on a vocation in Wisconsin, was arrested first at 2 p.m. March 11, 2008. A deputy saw her try to drive out of a ditch, wearing only one shoe and had a blood-alcohol level of 0.21. The legal driving limit is 0.08.

The woman was again arrested after 24 hours when her car got stuck in snow in a park campground that was closed for the winter. The woman told an officer she had had four or six cups of wine.

"I am still finishing up the box of wine in my car from yesterday," authorities reported she told the officer.

Woman gives birth on airliner, abandons baby in trash

A newly born baby was saved by a cleaning lady from a blue trash bag in an airplane bathroom, media reports said Thursday.

Were it not for a cleaning lady who chanced upon the newborn waving a feeble arm from a blue trash bag, Grace would have met the fate her mother apparently intended for her, authorities said.

On Wednesday, police in New Zealand charged the 29-year-old woman with abandonment and assault — for giving birth to the child on an international flight and then leaving her, without alerting anyone, in a toilet bin amid bloodied paper towels.

The woman, whose name was not released, faces up to seven years in prison if convicted.

Man leaves his house in flames, sleeps in boat

A man spent a night sleeping in a boat parked on his property after his house caught fire, according to police.

Police said the man didn't bother running to a neighbour for help but instead drove about a mile on his all-terrain vehicle to a friend's house after his house caught fire Sunday.

He couldn't, however, get anyone out of bed there and went to sleep in boat. Police said the man was in his basement when an ember from the fireplace ignited a rug. It took firefighters about an hour to knock down the blaze after it was reported by a resident.



In this photo released by the US Navy, the Los Angeles-class submarine USS Annapolis is seen on the surface of the Arctic Ocean after breaking through three feet (ninety centimeters) of ice during Ice Exercise 2009, a training and research exercise.

72nd Anniversary of CSSTB marked

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April—Civil Service Selection and Training Board marked the 72nd Founding Anniversary at the assembly hall here this morning with an address by Chairman U Kyaw Thu.

U Kyaw Thu explained the purpose of marking the anniversary. Next, he and members awarded the staff members who have served for 30 years, honorary title recipients and outstanding staff members and staff families.

MNA



Chairman of CSSTB U Kyaw Thu makes a speech at a ceremony to mark the 72nd Founding Anniversary of CSSTB.—NLM

Soft crab in demand in international market

Article: Myint Maung Soe; Photo: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

(from page 1)

Upon arrival at the farm, we saw crab ponds. Ko Moe Kyaw Han of the farm told the Myanma Alin Daily, "Our company has run the farm for about four years in this island. We have 15 crab ponds and we breed 65,000 crabs in a pond. We buy live crabs from crab trappers who catch crabs in the sea at the price of 3000 kyats a viss. We keep crabs in a small container each in the ponds. Crabs shed off their shells to grow in 45 days after they are caught in the sea. While a crab is in the process of shedding off its old shell, a worker picks it up and put it into the



U Moe Kyaw Han briefs the Myanma Alin Daily on the process of producing soft crabs.

freshwater. Those crabs are relocated from seawater to freshwater during the period of the shedding process, so their shells can never turn hard again. That is the whole process we produce soft crabs. We don't hatch crabs here. Sea crabs are relocated

to freshwater while they are shedding off their old shells, so they can never have hard shells again."

He said, "We keep the crab with new shells in the chlorine solution for some time. Then, we send them to

the cold storage to process them. We soak them in the chlorine solution to pasteurize bacteria."

"We feed them fish. Before feeding them, we have to make

to check them once an hour by pulling up the plastic cages to know whether they are shedding off their old shells. We have over 300 workers to check them," he said.

So, Myanmar fish entrepreneurs and fishery product processors should export value-added marine products on a wider scale to help the



Workers have to check crabs once an hour all-day round to know whether they are shedding off their old shells.

fish into one-cubic pieces. We get crabs from crab trappers at the price of 3000 kyats a viss. They shed off their old shells in 45 days. Workers have

Pyae Phyo Tun Company's largest soft crab market is China. It also exports soft crabs to Australia, Hong Kong and Thailand.

country earn more foreign exchange.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
3-4-2009



Two soft crabs.

Myanmar fish entrepreneurs and fishery product processors should export value-added marine products on a wider scale to help the country earn more foreign exchange.



Myawady TV Station marks 14th founding...

(from page 16)
Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, the commander, Brig-Gen Than Soe of the Ministry of De-

fence, Lt-Col Than Tun (Retd), and Cmdr Tun Lwin Oo of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command presented prizes to the

winners.

Officials presented gifts to experts, scholars, literati and photographers who had contributed towards Myawady TV Station.

After the ceremony, dinner was hosted to Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung and guests. Vocalists from the Myanmar Music Association entertained the attendees to the accompaniment of Myawady music band.

MNA

Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung presents prize to Maung Sein Win

(Padigon).

MNA

Nay Pyi Taw main power plant inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April—Minister for Electric Power No. (2) Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint together with Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Win Myint and officials went

to 230/33/11 KV (100 MVA Nay Pyi Taw main power plant and inspected the battery room and control room.

Next, the minister and party inspected

power supply from the grid in the switch yard and distribution of electricity and construction tasks in the switch yard. Later, he left necessary instructions there. —MNA

Supply of safe drinking water in Dagon Myothit (South)



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin visits Pipe Factory in Phawtkan ward, Insein Township.—YCDC

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin arrived at pipe factory Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation) in Phawtkan Ward in Insein Township today.

The mayor inspected innovation of steel mould

for construction of cement silo to be used in cement plant in Pyinnyaung in Thazi Township and production of pre-stressed concrete pipes for supply of water to Yangon.

The mayor went to water supply station No. 2 Project in Dagon Myothit (South), pumping stations, installation of motor, system for removal

of ferrous elements, construction of 150,000-gallon capacity tank and laying power lines.

The water supply station No. 2 Project is nearing completion. On completion of the project, safe drinking water can be supplied to Ward, 54, 55, 19 and 20 in Dagon Myothit (South).

MNA

Foreign military attaches visit Myitkyina, Phakant

YANGON, 4 April—A team of foreign military attachés and their families led by Dean of the Diplomatic Corps to the Union of Myanmar Bangladeshi Military Attaché Brig-Gen A. N. M Shawkat Jamal made an excursion tour of Myitkyina and Phakant in Kachin State on 1 April morning.

On arrival at Myitkyina from Yangon, they were welcomed by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win and wife and departmental officials.

An official briefed them on the historical background of Kachin State, and the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps expressed thanks.

They arrived at Phakant in the evening.

On 2 April morning, they visited the 3000-ton jade boulder museum of the Ministry of Mines in Namt-hmaw, Phakant Township, and Ever Winner Jade Enterprise and Lonkhin Hmawsizar block (7), and then got back to Myitkyina.

In the evening, the commander and wife host dinner in their honour at the gymnasium of Northern Command.

They were entertained with traditional dances. Officials presented a bouquet and cash awards to the entertainers. The attendees doused each other with water as a preliminary event to the Myanmar New Year.

Yesterday morning, they enjoyed the natural beauty of the confluence of the Mekha and the Malikha rivers where the Ayeyawady River rises. In the afternoon, they visited Myoma Market and Sun Jewellery Shop in Myitkyina.

They arrived back here by air yesterday evening.

MNA

A team of foreign military attachés and their families led by Dean of the Diplomatic Corps to the Union of Myanmar Bangladeshi Military Attaché Brig-Gen A. N. M Shawkat Jamal visits Lonkhin Hmawsizar jade block (7) in Phakant Township.—MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe tours Cocogyun ...

(from page 1)

The specialist provided medical treatment to 479 patients, performed operations on four patients and 46 eye patients.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party met departmental officials and members of social

associations. Officials concerned reported on measures taken for development and requirements. Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented gifts to service personnel and books to Township Information and Public Relations Department.

Lt-Gen Myint

Swe visited electric power station, CoCo Dam and ring road of Coco Island.

MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe visits a pre-primary school in Cocogyun.

MNA



National Environment Sanitation Week 2009 observed

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April— The Ministry of Health and UNICEF jointly organized the National Environment Sanitation Week 2009 at the Ministry of Health, here, this morning.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint addressed the ceremony.

In his speech, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint said supply of purified drinking water, systematic disposal of garbage, personal hygiene are interconnected. These are beneficial to the health sector of the nation and directly contributing towards development of socio-economic life.

According to the World Health Organization, 1.8 million of people die yearly due to diarrhoea-

related diseases and most are the children from developing countries. The ASEAN region sees 40 per cent of the figure. Most are under-five children from the region.

Sanitation tasks are the key to reduction of the outbreak of diarrhea-related diseases and health education is also crucial. Generally, although there may be sanitation across the country, there are gaps between the states and divisions and among the townships. That's why, the activity 2009 is observed.

In accord with the motto Sanitation For All, sanitation works are being systematically carried out. It can be witnessed that arrangements are being made for ensuring that every house across the nation uses a

fly-proof latrine, said the minister.

After that, Deputy Resident Representative Ms Juanita Vasquez addressed the ceremony.

Next, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint and guests viewed the documentary photos on sanitation tasks of the government and NGOs at the booths to mark the National Environment Sanitation Week 2009.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe, the directors-general, the heads of the departments, responsible persons of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, representatives of UN agencies and others.—MNA

Training courses conclude in Pyapon, Bogalay in Ayeyawady Div

YANGON, 4 April – Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs conducted basic domestic science training special courses (No. 1) in Pyapon, Bogalay, Mawlamyinekyun and Labutta in Ayeyawady Division from 25 January to 3 April and carpentry, masonry and steel fixing

courses (No 1) in Pyapon, Bogalay, Mawlamyinekyun, Labutta, Pyinsalu and Digugon village in Haigyikyun Township from 11 March to 10 April.

The concluding ceremony of the courses took place at Thiri Anawah Hall in Pyapon on 2 March morning with an address by Deputy

Minister Col Tin Ngwe. The deputy minister and Director-General U Than Win of the Education and Training Department awarded outstanding trainees and presented completion certificates to the trainees.

Next, the deputy minister also attended the course conclusion ceremony held at Bogalay

Education College, made a speech and presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

The basic domestic science training courses were attended by 30 women from the storm-hit villages in Pyapon and Bogalay townships and 30 others from the wards of town centre. Carpentry, masonry and steel fixing courses were attended by 39 men from the storm-hit villages in Pyapon and 11 others from the town centre; and 25 men from the storm-hit villages in Bogalay and 25 others from the town centre. All the trainees attended the courses free of charge including free accommodation and meals. There will be more job opportunities for those who have completed the courses.

MNA



Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe observes works of the trainees.—MNA

Anti-government broadcasting stations airing fabricated news to harm China-Myanmar friendly ties

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April – Some broadcasting stations aired in the last of week of March that a piece of news about Myanmar was broadcast in a Yunnan Province TV programme on 25 March 2009.

What is true is that the news was not broadcast in the Yunnan Province TV programme but it was aired by private-run Feng Hung TV (a) Phoenix TV Station based in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region at 9.40 pm on 28 February and 6 am and 4 pm respectively on 1 March.

Based on Kowloon Peninsula of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Phoenix TV Station has branches in Beijing, Shenjiang, Kunming and Taiwan. As Hong Kong is a Special Administrative Region of the mainland China, and according to the policy of "One country, two Systems", mainland China controls foreign affairs and the defence sector only. And the Hong Kong SAR government has the right to deal with other sectors freely.

Anti-government broadcasting stations and groups, taking advantage of news reports aired by Phoenix TV, manufactured a fabrication as if the news about Myanmar was aired by the Yunnan Province TV Station which is under the supervision of the Chinese government. Actually, the attempt was to jeopardize China-Myanmar friendly ties. – MNA

Pauktaw boasts of developing fishery work

Article: Reporter Singu Soe Win; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

(from page 16)

The town now located on 413.74 square miles is formed with five wards and 53 village-tracts where over 100,000 local people are residing," explained Chairman of the Township PDC U Kyaw Zaw Hla.

In 2007-2008 cultivation season, a total of 115,044 acres of monsoon paddy yielded 7,503,570 baskets of paddy. In 2008-2009, a total of 469,285 baskets of paddy were produced from the harvested 69,036

groundnut, sunflower, oil mustard and niger last year and 3,392 acres of edible oil crops this year. Beans and pulses were grown on 3679 acres of land the previous year and 2045 acres this year. In the previous year, kitchen crops were cultivated on 2232 acres of land and 2105 acres this year. Last year, a total of 10 acres of summer paddy was grown on test. However, all the paddy plants were destroyed due to inflow of seawater. This year, there is no acre of summer paddy in the

Secretary of Township PDC U Tha Tun Aye and Head of Township Fisheries Department U Kyaw Sein, we visited fresh water and sea fish and prawn brokerages on Sethmu Road in Ward 3 and on the strand road.

During the neap-tide days, about 300 viss each of fish and prawn were sold in 25 villages daily. Fish and prawn processed with ice were sent to Sittway by boat. Some of them were distributed to Yangon. When the price of prawn fell, the sellers faced loss.



Workers processing prawns.



Workers of Pauktaw Township Development Affairs Committee tarmacking a road.

acres of monsoon paddy out of 115.063 acres. A total of 400 acres of paddy of 55 farmers at the entrance to the town yielded 37,734 baskets of paddy in 2007-2008, accounting for 94.34 per cent and 38,462 baskets of paddy in 2008-2009, accounting for 96.15 per cent.

Altogether 950 farmers from 29 villages cultivated 2,500 acres of monsoon paddy in 2007-2008 and produced 151,359 baskets of paddy, accounting for 100.91 per cent. In 2008-2009, altogether 980 farmers from 29 villages grew 2,500 acres of monsoon paddy and produced 229,606 baskets of paddy from 2270 acres, accounting for 101.14 per cent.

A total of 3643 acres of land was put under

township, said Township Manager U Khin Aung Nyein of Myanmar Agriculture Service and Head of Township Settlement and Land Records Department U Than Aung.

Together with

We witnessed the improved earning of fishermen and their families and seven fishery brokerages.

After the breakfast, Staff Officer U Kyaw Aye of Township Development Affairs Department explained to

us development undertakings of the township DAC after 1988.

"The organizational set-up of Pauktaw Township DAC approved 80 staff and the committee is now formed with 20 staff. This financial year, we expected to levy K 76 million in various sectors and have collected K 72.8 million so far," explained Staff Officer U Kyaw Aye.

In the past, all the roads in the town were of earth type. Since 1989, the town has been facilitated with seven tarred roads, 10 gravel roads and 12 earth roads, totalling 29 roads stretching eight miles and six furlongs. Six miles and one furlong long Pauktaw-Letpanbya gravel road and one mile and five furlongs long Pauktaw-Taungnyo

earth road were constructed as the rural roads.

During the tour, we took documentary photos on construction of 1270-foot gravel Min Saw Mon Road in Ward 2 of Maungtaung.

Indeed, Pauktaw is surrounded by seawater. Nattaungbyin Dam, 1.5 miles north of Pauktaw, was built in 1991 for drinking water. The earthen embankment is 15 feet high. The dam stores 12 acres of water or 39 million gallons of water. Through the gravity flow system, the dam supplies water to 201 water taps of the local people in nine months a year. In the remaining three summer months, the water is being supplied with the use of

pump. Therefore, the committee collects K 201,000 for 201 watertaps monthly.

A total of 17 earthen water lakes were constructed in five urban wards. At present, the township achieves cent per cent water sufficiency by using the water from the dam and lakes.

On our tour, we had the opportunity to observe that the Irrigation Department built 11 dikes stretching 80.1 miles to prevent inflow of seawater to 27,064 acres of farmlands, said Deputy Staff Officer U Oo Saw Maung of the Irrigation Department.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin:
17-3-2009



Roads of Pauktaw are neat and tidy.

Hamas to remove Gaza war rubble next week

GAZA, 4 April — Palestinian Islamic Hamas movement in the Gaza Strip said on Saturday that it will from next week start scooping away debris and rubble of 22-day Israeli war.

“Next week will witness the beginning of removing the debris of the houses that were demolished during the aggression,” said Hamas public work minister Yousef al-Manssi.

“The government will rebuild the houses with new designs,” opening

“the door for anyone who wants to help,” he added.

At least 14,000 installations sustained complete or partial damage in the war which ended on Jan. 18, 2009, according to the UN estimates.

Last month, international donors pledged more than 4 billions U.S. dollars to rebuild the Gaza Strip. However, nothing has been done except urgent relief work due to the political barrier that prevents the donors from dealing with Hamas that controls the strip.

Israel has imposed a tight blockade on the Gaza Strip since 2007, allowing little more than humanitarian aid and basic food into the coastal enclave.

Al-Manssi said his government donated 5,000 dollars for every family that lost its house completely to let them rent houses while the construction of the new houses will start “once the crossings open” and materials get in.

Internet



A white piano that visitors are welcome to play “imagine” on is displayed at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts exhibition titled “Imagine: The Peace Ballad of John & Yoko” on 3 April, 2009. A large bed with white sheets is a central feature of the exhibition marking the 40th anniversary of John Lennon and Yoko Ono’s “bed-in” for peace, a week-long protest against the Vietnam War. Visitors to the Montreal exhibition can lie on the oversized bed, listen to archive interviews and watch clips from the peaceful protest that Lennon and Ono conducted from their bed at the city’s Queen Elizabeth Hotel.—INTERNET



Parents with their kids seek for gold in the San Gabriel Mountains, Los Angeles, California, the United States, on 29 March, 2009. As one of the most significant events in California history, more people began to take part. Some of the gold seekers in the San Gabriel Mountains are for money and some of them are for fun.

XINHUA

Three policemen wounded in Pittsburgh shooting

WASHINGTON, 4 April — Three policemen were wounded in a shooting in Pittsburgh on Saturday after they responded to a domestic call, police said.

A gunman is apparently holed up inside a home in the Stanton Heights neighborhood of the western Pennsylvania city, in a standoff

with police, local TV station WTAE quoted local police source as saying.

The conditions of the injured policemen were not known.

A large number of policemen are at the scene and as many as 80 shots have been fired between the gunman in the house and the police.

Internet

Lin Miaoke, the girl who performed at the opening ceremony of Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, plays a role in the new version of TV play “A Dream of Red Mansions” in Yangzhou, east China’s Jiangsu Province, 3 April, 2009. This is the first time for her to act in the play.—XINHUA



Roadside bomb kills two Afghan police

KABUL, 4 April — Two police were killed as a roadside bomb struck their van in Zabul province south of Afghanistan Saturday, a local official said.

“A mine planted by militants and detonated by a remote control in Arghandab district this morning killing two policemen and wounding another,” deputy police chief of the province Ghulam Jilani Khan told Xinhua.

Considered as hotbed of Taliban, Afghanistan’s southern provinces have been experiencing Taliban-led insurgency.

One NATO soldier was killed on the same day Saturday in the troubled southern region as an Improvised Explosive De-

vice (IED) went off.

Taliban militants have vowed to speed up militancy this year in Afghanistan.

Internet



A foreign diplomat is displaying a creation during the China International Fashion Week. XINHUA

US marine dies in non-combat incident in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 4 April — A US marine died due to non-combat related incident in western Iraq on Friday, the US military said on Saturday.

A military statement said the incident took place in Anbar province without giving further details, but said that incident is under investigation.

Earlier, the military announced the death of another US soldier in non-combat incident on Friday, making the marine’s death the second in the current month.

Nine soldiers have been killed in Iraq during March, making the last month’s death toll the lowest since the US -led invasion in 2003.

About 4,265 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the breakout of Iraq’s war, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

Internet

German troops attacked in N Afghanistan

KABUL, 4 April — German Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) came under rocket attacks in the wee hours of Saturday in Kunduz province of northern Afghanistan, a spokesman of the base said.

“Five rockets fired from unknown location at 1:00 am local time (2030 GMT) landed close to German PRT team base outside Kunduz city but caused no loss of life or damage,” Nasir Alkozai told newsmen.

He also added this is the first time that German military base came under attack since January this year in the relatively peaceful northern province.

Some 3,800 German troops within the framework of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) have been serving in Afghanistan to help stabilize security in the post-Taliban country.

Internet

Don’t smoke

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KMA II VOYNO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KMA II VOYNO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W 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 KMA SHIPPING CO, LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797**

China opposes protectionism, supports coop to fight crisis

LONDON, 4 April—As the curtain dropped on the G-20 London summit, Chinese Commerce Minister Chen Deming on Friday reiterated China's opposition to protectionism and voiced support for cooperation.

"This summit has yielded a series of positive and pragmatic results for the international society to jointly tackle the

current financial crisis," Chen said.

He said it included reaching broad consensus on stabilizing international financial markets, speeding up reform of the international financial system, actively pushing forward the Doha Round talks, and opposing trade protectionism.

Chen said history and experiences have proved that protectionism will only drag the world economy into deeper recession. As the crisis is worsening, people have increasingly realized the necessity and urgency to reject protectionism, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia not yet participant of G-20 \$1.1t package

Moscow, 4 April—Russia has not yet participated in the global anti-crisis package of 1.1 trillion US dollars approved at the G-20 London summit, said Russian Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin on Friday.

"Russia is not participating in this package yet. We have made no commitments," the RIA Novosti news agency quoted Kudrin as saying G20 leaders agreed on Thursday at London summit a package of measures, including giving 1.1 trillion US dollars to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other financial institutions, to combat the ongoing financial crisis and economic turmoil.

As the major contributor to the 10-billion-dollar anti-crisis fund of the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC), Russia is currently providing significant assistance to neighbouring states, said the Russian finance minister as well as deputy prime minister. "We believe we play the role of an elder brother for our region," he said.

Russia contributed 7.5 billion US dollars to the EurAsEC fund set up in February, dedicated to supporting member states facing grave social and economic problems. The EurAsEC, an economic bloc formed in May, 2001, comprises Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

MNA/Xinhua



A Romanian model displays wedding dress with a train measuring 1,579 metres long for a new world record for the longest wedding train in Bucharest Romania, Wednesday, on 1 April, 2009.

INTERNET

Abbas rejects Fayyad's resignation

RAMALLAH, 4 April—Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas rejected the resignation of Prime Minister Salam Fayyad, and decided to keep him in office until a new Palestinian Government is formed.

The state-run Palestinian news agency Wafa reported on Friday that President Abbas met with Fayyad and informed him that he decided not to accept the resignation now in order to avoid any constitutional vacuum.

The report quoted Abbas as saying that "the moment is not suitable to accept this resignation because it would leave a severe constitutional vacuum in the Palestinian National Authority".

Fayyad's office has stated that the resignation of the Prime Minister is still in the hands of President Abbas, adding he (Abbas) is the one who can decide whether to keep the current government or form a new one.—MNA/Xinhua

DPRK says to launch satellite soon

SEOUL, 4 April—The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) announced Saturday that it will "soon" launch communications satellite Kwangmyongsong-2, South Korea's Yonhap news agency said.

"Preparations for launching Kwangmyongsong-2, an experimental communications satellite, by carrier rocket 'Unha-2' have been completed at the satellite launching ground in the east coastal area of the DPRK."

Yonhap quoted the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) as reporting.

The KCNA added that launch preparations have been "completed at the satellite launching ground in the east coastal area and that there would be no chance in the technological indexes necessary for the safe navigation of airliners and ship" it had provided to the UN, according to Yonhap.

Yonhap also reported that the DPRK appears to

have set up recording equipment around the launch pad, quoting an expert as saying that cameras are usually positioned to record a takeoff before a rocket launch.

The South Korean military said Friday that it is on full alert and is closely monitoring the DPRK's Musudan-ri missile base and areas near the Northern Limited Line (NLL) and the Military Demarcation Line (DML).

MNA/Xinhua

Iran, Venezuela open joint bank to boost ties

TEHERAN, 4 April—Iran and Venezuela opened a joint bank on Friday to develop economic projects, Iranian state television reported.

The Teheran-based Iran-Venezuela bank, which was inaugurated by visiting Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez and Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, has an initial capital of 200 million US dollars with each country providing half.

"The capital will be

raised to 1.2 billion dollars with the aim of supporting joint economic, industrial and mining projects as well as accelerating the ongoing projects," the state television said.

Chavez, who arrived in Teheran on Wednesday for an official visit, accused the United States and Britain of being "the most guilty" for the international economic crisis because of the financial model they had imposed.

"The values of capital-

ism are in crisis and capitalism has to end," the television quoted Chavez as saying at the inauguration ceremony.

"We must take a transitional path to a new model that we call socialism." Chavez and Ahmadinejad, both ex-military officers known for their anti-US rhetoric, have strengthened economic and political ties. Chavez is on his seventh trip to Iran since Ahmadinejad was elected in 2005.—MNA/Reuters



Bulgarian girls in traditional costumes performing the "Horo" for tourists in 2008. The Bulgarian government hopes to more than treble revenues from tourism by 2013 by improving service quality and aiming for a more up-market image, a strategy paper said Thursday.

INTERNET

Total's 2009 investments may not reach \$18b

PARIS, 4 April —Delays in projects may dent Total's plan to invest 18 billion US dollars in 2009 the group's chief executive said on Thursday, adding the company was not considering any large acquisition.

"we might not reach 18 billion US dollars in investment this year," Christophe de Magerie told reporters on the sidelines of an oil conference.

"we are committed to invest, but we are not alone as we invest with partners but clearly there are delays in start ups and investment decisions," he said, adding the delays were not caused by the French oil major.

He did not say which

specific projects were delayed.

Many oil companies are delaying big projects to preserve cash, after oil prices collapse from more than 147 US dollars/barrel in July, and in the expectation a drop in industry costs will allow them to build projects more cheaply in the future. "Our decision is to not to delay and maintain our investments," he said adding the company had enough cash flow to stick to its commitments.

Oil prices at 45 US dollars to 50 US dollars a barrel in the long term would not justify the presents level of investment, he said.

MNA/Reuters



Frenchman Dimitri Gauier poses with his invention, the 'crustacean peeler', during the opening day of the 36th International Exhibition of Inventions, on in Geneva. The device peels seafood.

More than 710 exhibitors from 45 countries are present at the exhibition, one of the World's largest devoted to innovation.—INTERNET

Ex-US sailor jailed for 10 years on terrorism charges

BOSTON, 4 April—A former US Navy sailor stationed in the Middle East was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison on Friday for spying and providing material support to a terrorist organization.

Hassan Abujihaad, 33, was convicted last year by a federal jury in Connecticut of providing classified information to Azzam Publications in London, knowing that it would be used in a conspiracy to kill US citizens. Abujihaad, formerly known as Paul Hall, was arrested in Phoenix, Arizona, on 7 March 2007.

Prosecutors accused Azzam Publications to engaging in a conspiracy to provide material support and communications links to people involved in terrorism, including the disclosure of a US Navy battle group's movements in 2001.

Prosecutors said the spying occurred months after suicide bombers attacked the *USS Cole*, an American warship, during a refueling stop in Yemen in October 2000, killing 17 sailors and injuring dozens. Charges were brought in Connecticut because Azzam websites were hosted for a time on servers in the state.

MNA/Reuters

The study found that certain mental functions started to dull as early as age 27.

INTERENT



US "Sun-Times" may stop publication of suburban newspapers

CHICAGO, 4 April—The US Sun-Times Media Group Inc, which filed for bankruptcy protection this week, may stop daily publication of some of its suburban newspapers as part of a push to return to profitability, the company's CEO Jeremy Halbreich said Friday. In an interview with *Chicago Business*, he said "I am hard-pressed to think of any other place with suburban dailies, it's something we need to think about". Daily publications around the country have cut frequency or stopped publishing altogether as ad revenue has plummeted faster than expected amid the deepening recession, he said.

Sun-Times is making other cost-cutting moves, including slashing compensation costs, which

last year ran to about 100 million US dollars, by 15 per cent through layoffs, pay cuts, benefit reductions and furloughs. "In this environment we need to ensure that we are minimizing the cash drain and turning it into a situation of cash equilibrium as quickly as possible," said Halbreich, who took over as the company's CEO in February after disgruntled shareholders ousted most of the board of directors.

Sun-Times Media Group Inc, which also owns dozens of suburban newspapers, filed for Chapter 11 protection in a Delaware court on Tuesday to become the fifty US newspaper publisher to seek protection from creditors in recent months.

MNA/Xinhua

Blast in southern philippines kills two, wounds eight

MANILA, 4 April—A blast near a popular fastfood chain in the southern Philippines killed two people and wounded eight others late on Friday, security officials said, blaming the attack on kidnapers with links to Islamic militants. The explosion, believed to have been caused by a crude bomb, also damaged major power cables, cutting electricity in some parts of the capital town on Basilan Island, said Salik Macapantar, provincial police chief.

"Two people were killed on the spot, including a woman," Macapantar told reporters, adding the explosive device was planted beside an electric post about 100 metres from a Roman Catholic cathedral and a

popular fastfood chain.

"Most of the victims were waiting for a ride home near the restaurant," he said, adding no one had claimed responsibility for the attack.—MNA/Reuters

Age-related mental decline starts in the late-20s

BEIJING, 4 April—Declining mental function is often seen as a problem of old age, but certain aspects of brain function actually begin their decline in young adulthood, a new study suggests.

The study, which followed more than 2,000 healthy adults between the ages of 18 and 60, found that certain mental functions — including measures of abstract reasoning, mental speed and puzzle-solving—started to dull as early as age 27.

Dips in memory, meanwhile, generally became apparent around age 37.

On the other hand, indicators of a person's accumulated knowledge — like performance on tests of vocabulary and general knowledge — kept improving with age, according to findings published in the journal *Neurobiology of Aging*.

The results do not mean that young adults need to start worrying about their memories. Most people's minds function at a high level even in their later years, according to researcher Timothy A. Salthouse, a professor of psychology at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

"These patterns suggest that some types of mental flexibility decrease relatively early in adulthood, but that how much knowledge one has, and the effectiveness of integrating it with one's abilities, may increase throughout all of adulthood if there are no pathological diseases," Salthouse said in a news release from the university.

The study included healthy, educated adults who took standard tests of memory, reasoning and perception at the outset, and at some point over the next seven years.

The tests are designed to detect subtle changes in mental function, and involve solving puzzles, recalling words and details from stories, and identifying patterns in collections of letters and symbols.

In general, Salthouse and his colleagues found, certain aspects of cognition generally started to decline in the late-20s to 30s.

The findings shed light on normal age-related changes in mental function, which could aid in understanding the process of dementia, according to the researchers.—Internet

Philippe Glimes of Spain poses with his invention, a self-cleaning toilet for dogs, during the opening day of the 36th International Exhibition of Inventions, in Geneva. The continuous carpeting on which dogs defecate is automatically washed with a high-pressure hose and everything is evacuated to the sewer.

INTERNET



SPORTS

Valladolid look to exploit Barcelona fatigue

BARCELONA, 4 April—League leaders Barcelona sparked talk of a treble playing some of the best football in Europe before the international break, but this weekend Valladolid will be primed to take advantage of their jet-lagged players.

After a minor blip in form which saw Real Madrid come breathing down their necks, Barca have reopened a six-point gap at the top of the table but they will have to be careful against Valladolid, who know a victory could all but assure their own top-flight future.

Barca have lost three out of the four matches played after internationals so far this season and Valladolid have had two weeks to prepare for the game.—*Internet*



Valladolid's Joseba Llorente (left) is congratulated by his teammate Alberto Marcos. INTERNET

McPherson, Kim beat the wind at Kraft Nabisco

RANCHO MIRAGE, 4 April —The powerful desert wind that tore through the Coachella Valley on Friday blew a new set of players to the top of the leaderboard of the Kraft Nabisco Championship.

The strong gusts made some players such as defending champion Lorena Ochoa lose their balance, sent a sharp palm frond into Angela Stanford's ankle and frustrated Ji Young Oh by blowing her ball some 30 feet off the 18th green and into a lake, leading to a one-stroke penalty.

Stanford questioned whether the course was unplayable, but officials said they didn't feel con-



Christina Kim waves after a birdie on the fourth hole during the second round of the LPGA Kraft Nabisco Championship.—INTERNET

ditions got to that point. Although the wind helped knock first-round leader Brittany Lincicome back a few shots, she was still in contention — and feeling fortunate.—*Internet*

Fabregas back to Arsenal squad from injury

LONDON, 4 April—Arsenal may have captain Cesc Fabregas back in the squad for Saturday's English Premier match hosting Manchester City as the Spanish international has recovered from a knee injury.

It could be the first appearance of Fabregas for the club in more than three months since he suffered a serious knee injury against Liverpool on 21 December.

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger is delighted to have Fabregas back in action with a Champions League quarter-final date with Villarreal and an FA Cup semifinal against Chelsea coming up this month.

"Cesc is ready to play again, but he'll need two or three games to be back at his best," said Wenger. "But it will be good to have him in the team. We've got eight games in 25 days, all of them critical."

Internet

Aguirre replaces Eriksson at Mexico helm

MEXICO CITY, 4 April—The Mexican football federation said Friday it had appointed former coach Javier Aguirre as their new handler a day after sacking ex-England manager Sven-Goran Eriksson.

Aguirre, 50, coached the Mexicans at the 2002 World Cup before moving to Spanish side Osasuna and thereafter to Atletico Madrid, who dispensed with his services in February.

Eriksson, 61, was fired after barely ten months in the job following Wednesday's disappointing 3-1 loss to Honduras in a World Cup qualifier, which came after a previ-



The Mexican football federation said Friday it had appointed former coach Javier Aguirre as their new handler.—INTERNET

ous defeat regional rivals the United States. In between, the Mexicans enjoyed a home success over Costa Rica but the two away reverses left them struggling to make a berth in South Africa at next year's finals a place below the third guaranteed slot.—*Internet*

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

(4-4-2009)

Blackburn R.	2 - 1	Tottenham H
Arsenal	2 - 0	Manchester C
Bolton W	4 - 1	Middlesbrough
Hull C	0 - 0	Portsmouth
Newcastle U	0 - 2	Chelsea
West Bromwich A	0 - 2	Stoke C.
West Ham U	2 - 0	Sunderland
Fulham	0 - 1	Liverpool



Arsenal's Emmanuel Adebayor (L) scores past Manchester City's goalkeeper Shay Given during their English Premier League soccer match at the Emirates stadium in London on 4 April, 2009.—INTERNET



Newcastle United's Obafemi Martins (front) attempts an overhead kick at the Chelsea's goal during their English Premier League soccer match in Newcastle, northeast England on 4 April, 2009.—INTERNET

Federer loses to Djokovic in Miami ATP tennis semi

WASHINGTON, 4 April—Swiss Roger Federer suffered a 3-6, 6-2 and 6-3 defeat to Serbia's Novak Djokovic in the semifinal of the Miami ATP hard court tennis tournament on Friday.

Djokovic, ranked third, will play the winner between Britain's Andy Murray and Argentine Juan Martin Del Potro in Sunday's final.

The former world No. 1 won the first set comfortably against an error-prone Djokovic in 25 minutes, but faded badly in the second as he made a total of 47 unforced errors.

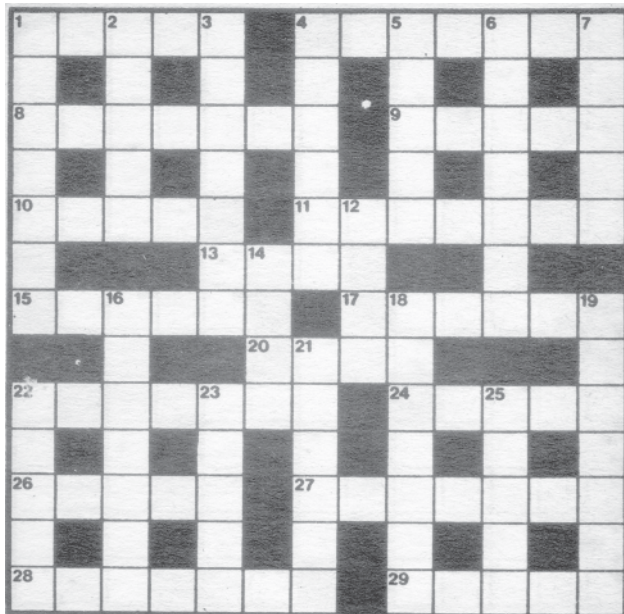
The Swiss won just 57 percent of first serve points in the second and it got worse in the third as Djokovic broke at the first attempt.—*Internet*

Stakes high for Bayern's Klinsmann

BERLIN, 4 April—Bayern Munich coach Jurgen Klinsmann says his side begin five crucial days on Saturday as the defending Bundesliga champions travel to title-rivals Wolfsburg ahead of facing Barcelona in the Champions League.

Bayern are level on both points and goals with Wolfsburg just behind league leaders Hertha Berlin and then travel to Barcelona's Nou Camp stadium for next Wednesday's Champions League quarter-final first leg clash. Because of international call-ups, Klinsmann has only had eight of his squad to train with for the last two weeks with the last of his players having returned from World Cup qualification only on Friday.—*Internet*

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Regal
- 4 Disagree
- 8 Rank
- 9 Additional
- 10 Scope
- 11 Accuse publicly
- 13 Annoy
- 15 Marsh
- 17 Table linen
- 20 Noose
- 22 Referee
- 24 Newspapers
- 26 Outspoken
- 27 Cross-beam
- 28 Amends
- 29 Smooth and glossy

DOWN

- 1 Speaker's platform
- 2 Feel intense longing
- 3 Dawdles
- 4 Refusal
- 5 Guide
- 6 Interlace
- 7 Retinue
- 12 US gambling centre
- 14 Lies (anag.)
- 16 Spring back
- 18 Seems
- 19 Moslem veil
- 21 Makes speech
- 22 Warning light
- 23 Tenth part
- 25 Follow

Passenger plane makes safe emergency landing at Moscow airport

Moscow, 4 April—A Boeing 737 with 69 passengers on board has made a safe emergency landing Saturday after signs of a possible malfunction were detected in its left engine, news agencies reported.

“The plane has made an emergency landing. None of the 69 people on board the plane was harmed,” the Interfax reported, citing an airport source.

The aircraft, which belongs to Sky Express, a cheap-cost Russian airline serving domestic destinations, was on a flight from Moscow to the Black Sea resort city of Sochi.

Not long after the takeoff, the crew detected some vibrations in the left engine of the plane and thus decided to land. The plane then hovered over the Vnukovo airport for a while to use up extra fuel.

Fire engines, ambulances and other support vehicles gathered at the runway before the landing.

Internet



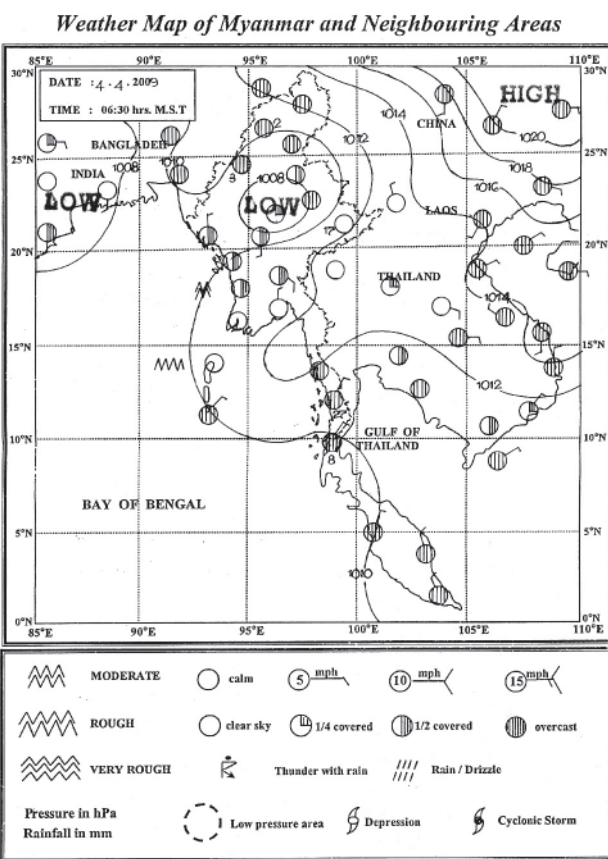
Members of the media examine a Rolls Royce 200EX experimental car after it was unveiled in Singapore on 3 April, 2009. The sales of Rolls-Royce cars will likely be flat this year but could potentially double next year as the global economy is expected to recover and as the firm introduces new models, a company official said on Friday.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (5.4.2009) (Sunday)

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
 - * Invaluable heritage of the Pyu
 - * Hill Resort Town (Thandaung)
 - * Integrated Farming for higher income
 - * Thingyan Dance
 - * Poem Garden “Rain Rain Go Away”
 - * Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Nyaung Shwe, Southern Shan State)
 - * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

- Europe/ North America 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”
 - * Prawn Breeding Industry in Sea Water
 - * Aungpan Oranges
 - * Scenic Beauties and Sentiment (Mingun, Inlay)
 - * Coffee-shop Culture
 - * Invaluable heritage of the Pyu
 - * Hill Resort Town (Thandaung)
 - * Integrated Farming for higher income
 - * Poem Garden “Rain Rain Go Away”
 - * Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Nyaung Shwe, Southern Shan State)
 - * Marine Industries in Taungok Township
 - * A Visit to Kayah State (Part-I)
 - * Myanma Traditional Musical Instruments (String Instruments)
 - * Thanakha Joss-sticks from Yesagyo
 - * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm



WEATHER

Saturday, 4 April, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin and Shan State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and about April average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant Day temperatures were Chauk and Minbu (42°C) each and Magway and Thayawady (41°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Myeik (1.06) inches and Kengtung (0.67) inch.

Maximum temperature on 3-4-2009 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 4-4-2009 was 68°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 4-4-2009 was 59%. Total sunshine hours on 3-4-2009 was (10.2) hrs approx.

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

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 5th April 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 5-4-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 5-4-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 5-4-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).



Sunday, 5 April View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 3. Morning news
- 7:45 am
 4. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ(၃၈)ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ
- 7:55 am
 5. Nice & Sweet song
- 8:05 am
 6. “မြို့ကြီးသားယဉ်ကျေးမှု” (လျှမ်းထက်၊ ဖိုးချစ်၊ ပုလဲဝင်း၊ နန်းဆုရတီဦး၊ စုချစ်ဇော်)

- (ဒါရိုက်တာ- ဇော်လူထက်)
- 8:15 am
 7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:25 am
 8. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ
- 8:40 am
 9. International news
- 8:50 am
 10. Dance of national races
- 11:00 am
 1. Martial song
- 11:10 am
 2. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ
- 11:20 am
 3. Round up of the week’s international news
- 11:30 am
 4. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ” (အပိုင်း-၃၆)
- 12:30 pm
 5. Golf magazine TV
- 12:50 pm
 6. မြန်မာ့ရုပ်ရှင်

- “မောင်တို့ချယ်ရီမြေ” (ဝင်းဦး၊ ခင်သန်းနု) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဦးတင်ယု)
- 2:50 am
 8. International news
- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm
 2. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 4:25 pm
 3. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ
- 4:40 pm
 4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တတိယနှစ် (သင်္ချာအထူးပြု) (သင်္ချာ)
- 5:00 pm
 5. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 5:05 pm
 6. Musical programme
- 5:10 pm
 7. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

- 5:25 pm
 8. Sing & Enjoy
- 6:00 pm
 9. Evening News
- 6:30 pm
 10. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
 11. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ် “Pocket Dragon Adventure”
- 6:55 pm
 12. တစ်မျက်နှာတစ်ကွက်စာ “မောင်ထုံနှင့်ထုံအသု(၅)ဦး”
- 7:15 pm
 13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်သူသက်ထား” (အပိုင်း-၄)
- 8:00 pm
 14. News
 15. International News
 16. Weather report
 17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ကျေးဇူးတင်ပါတယ်” (အပိုင်း-၁)

Myawady TV Station marks 14th founding anniversary



Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung addresses the 14th founding anniversary of Myawady TV Station.—MNA

YANGON, 4 April—The Myawady TV Station celebrated its 14th founding anniversary along with the awarding ceremony at its office in Hmawby this evening, with an address by Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung.

It was also attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, senior military officers from the Ministry of Defence, representatives of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, the Myanmar Photographic Society, the Myanmar Motion Picture Association, and the Myanmar Music Association, and prize winners.

Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung in his speech said that today, the people and the Tatmadaw are working hard together for building a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation.

Some countries with the technological superiority are using the media to influence their targeted countries in the economic, social, cultural, literary and art fields.

Certain countries are airing made-up broadcasts to deceive the international community into misunderstanding Myanmar, undermine national unity, hurt Union Spirit of the people, and destabilize the nation. So, it is needed to wage counter media attacks to refute

such fabricated news stories and protect the people.

A plan is in the process to transform the Myawady TV Station from analog into digital system to be able to keep abreast of other countries in TV broadcasting technology, and that calls for more human resources.

In conclusion, he called on the staff of Myawady TV Station and Myawady Publishing House to minimize mistakes, to be loyal to the country and the people, to contribute towards national objectives, to attract public trust, and to try to become competent media persons.

(See page 8)

Pauktaw boasts of developing fishery work

Article: Reporter Singu Soe Win; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

Recently, the news team of the Myanma Alin Daily left Sittway for Soemekyi Jetty in Pauktaw by Malikha speed boat through Phayonga islands to observe regional development task of Pauktaw Township.

At 4.40 pm, we were welcomed at the jetty by Deputy Staff Officer U Zaw Win Hlaing and staff of Township General Administration Department and transported by the boat of Township Peace and Development Council.

The boat ran between two Phayonga islands heading for Sittway. At 9.40 pm, we arrived at Pauktaw, beyond Sittway. Local people had gone to bed at that time. We were accommodated at the lodge inn near the jetty.

After having breakfast the following morning, we met with Chairman of Township PDC Township Executive Officer U Kyaw Zaw Hla at his office.

“A village was established in the place of Pauktaw Township in 1788, and Rakhine national races resided there. At that time, the region was called Thaywe Pauktaw. The colonialists occupied Rakhine region in 1887. At that time, Thaywe Pauktaw had a strategic port for inland water transport. So, the region was designated as Pauktaw Town where one town administrator opened his office”.

(See page 10)



Photo shows an area of Pauktaw surrounded by seawater.