

Minister inspects all-round natural disaster preparedness centre



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe inspects all-round natural disaster preparedness centre of Meteorology and Hydrology Department.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 April—Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe inspected the all-round natural disaster preparedness centre of Meteorology and Hydrology, here, this morning. During his inspection, the minister

heard reports on timely announcement for storm news based on internal and external data in the times of storms at the Bay of Bengal and its neighbourhood, forecast on tidal surge at the regions where the storm will hit, by applying computer software, releasing of daily weather news, receiving of earthquake information, river water condition in major rivers of the country and preparatory tasks for flood forecasting presented by Deputy Director-General of Department of Meteorology and Hydrology Dr Thein Tun and officials.

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

INSIDE

Not very demanding if peace talk is desired

There are many lackeys of external elements who are in fear that they would no longer get foreign assistance and they would lose their atmospheres if KNU troops are no more in the border areas.

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Kengtawng Hydropower Plant, a development drive for Shan State

Article: Yan Gyi Aung; Photos: Kyaw Swe Moe (IPRD)

As a gesture of honouring the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2009, the Kengtawng Hydropower Plant was inaugurated on 21 March 2009.

Kengtawng Hydropower Plant is

located near Kengtawng Waterfall on Namtein Creek, 30 miles northeast from Monai of Langkho District in Shan State (South). To generate hydropower with the use of water from Namtein Creek,

the Construction (7) of Hydropower Implementation Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 built the power plant.

(See page 7)



Kengtawng Hydropower Plant in Kengtawng region.

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 20 April, 2009

Reclaim and exploit fallow and virgin land nationwide

As Myanmar is rich in land and marine resources, natural resources are being exploited effectively.

Perennial crops are being grown in Kyauksone, Kyaukgu, Hsisoneganaing and the mountain tops of Kyaukgu region after fallow and virgin lands have been reclaimed in Yaksauk Township in Shan State.

National entrepreneurs are allowed to reclaim the fallow and virgin land in the interest of both the State and the national entrepreneurs themselves.

There are four private major farms in Indaw region. It is the region where perennial crops can be grown according to the favourable climate and fertile land. This is why the private entrepreneurs are permitted to reclaim 32,000 acres of fallow and virgin land in Indaw-Kyaukgu region. Now, over 4,000 acres of perennial crops have been grown there.

The perennial crops include orange, macadamia, avocado, pear, coffee, tea, physic nut and mango and others. Seasonal crops such as maize, sugarcane, soybean, niger and groundnut are also grown in the farms.

Income earned from cultivation of seasonal crops can be enough to cover the costs of cultivation of perennial crops.

Exploitation of fallow and virgin land in the region not only creates job opportunities for local people but contributes towards boosting production of crops.

Development tasks of Kayah State under inspection

NAY PYI TAW, 19 April—Chairman of Kayah State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Win Myint looked into printing and publishing of newspaper through Internet by applying MPT Satellite Terminal and preparations for changing magneto exchange system to auto-exchange system at radiotelegraph exchange of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications in Bawlake on 6 April.

He viewed the site chosen for construction of the building for Bawlake People's Hospital to be upgraded from 25-bed

facility to 50-bed one and presented K 100,000 to the medical funds.

After inspecting seasonal crops plantation of the staff of Bawlake District and Township General Administration Departments, he met with local national people at Basic Education Primary School in Htarle village.

Afterwards, Brig-Gen Win Myint looked into placing of gravel between mile post Nos 167 and 168 on Bawlake-Pruhso road being undertaken by Public Works and instructed officials to construct the road meeting set standards.—MNA

Peoples' 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

Development tasks in An Tsp inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 19 April — Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thuang Aye together with officials inspected construction project of An Township sports ground in An on 10 April.

The commander and officials inspected condition of the village to village road to be constructed in Kazukaing Village in the township in a motorcade.

During the tour, the commander looked into construction of motor road at Kanhtaunggyi Village in

Myebon Township, construction project for new school building and renovation of lake for drinking water. Next, the commander gave the chairmen of Village Peace and Development Councils warning of natural disaster preventive measures.

The commander inspected development tasks along Yangon-Sittway motor road in An Township and held discussion with townsenders and social organization members in Minbya Township.

MNA

Paddy transplanting machines provided

NAY PYI TAW, 19 April— Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council held a ceremony to hand over paddy transplanting machines to District PDCs at the temporary pandal of farmer U Tin Hla of Nanda Village in Patheingyi Township on 31 March afternoon.

Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe delivered an address. Next, he handed over each paddy transplanting machine to an official.

The ceremony was also attended by the secretary of Division PDC, division level officials, local authorities and the local people.



Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe hands over a paddy transplanting machine to an official.—MNA

After the ceremony, the commander and party viewed high yield paddy strains, rice sample and saplings, pests and

insecticides, natural fertilizers and folio fertilizers.

The commander also inspected nurturing of

paddy plants and cultivation of paddy at the field of farmer U Tin Hla.

MNA

Mass activities on Kachin State Environmental Sanitation Week launched

NAY PYI TAW, 19 April—Mass activities on Kachin State Environmental Sanitation Week were launched at the General Hospital in Myitkyina, Kachin State on 11 April morning with the participation of the Tatmadaw members, members of MPF, departmental personnel and social organizations numbering 1,200.

Chairman of Kachin

State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win and officials looked into the tasks.

Afterwards, the commander and officials proceeded to the Drug-addicts Rehabilitation Hospital in Myitkyina where they inspected the maintenance of medical wards and attended to the needs—MNA

Official inspects construction of canals of Thonze Dam

NAY PYI TAW, 19 April — Vice-Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Sein Myint and members inspected construction of canals of Thonze Dam in Thayawady Township on 2 April.

On 4 April, the Vice-Chairman and party

attended the launching of the National Sanitation Week (2009) held at Bago Division (West) Health Department in Pyay.

They visited the booth of the National Sanitation Week (2009) and sanitation work in the streets in Khittaya Ward in Pyay.

MNA

Tobacco Kills

Afghan army grapples with shortages

NISHAGAM, 19 April — While US troops busily prepare mortar shells for an assault on a nearby mountain, their counterparts in the Afghan army lounge on the grass as a soldier dances.

The men in full body armour from Charlie Troop, 3rd Platoon 1st Infantry Division, glance over bemused as the Afghan soldier — wearing no bullet proof helmet —

twirls gracefully to folk music blaring from a mobile phone.

Building up and training the fledgling Afghan army is a key exit strategy for the United States and other Western powers keen to quell a Taliban insurgency in Afghanistan that last year reached its deadliest yet.

But nearly eight years after the fall of the Taliban regime, Afghan troops

still lack equipment to deal with the increasingly sophisticated tactics of the resurgent fundamentalist movement, and are grappling with the basics.

“We don’t have things to protect ourselves like rain jackets or warm coats — we only have one pair of shoes,” says 20-year-old soldier Ghazni from Jalalabad, who goes by one name only, pointing to his tattered boots.

While coalition soldiers patrol dangerous roads in high-tech new armoured vehicles known as M-RAPS, Afghan troops perch on the back of a pick-up truck, vulnerable to bomb attacks and small-arms ambushes.

Internet



Fadil Abbas is seen at a hospital in Iskandariyah, 50 kilometers (30 miles) south of Baghdad, Iraq, after being wounded in a suicide bombing recently. A suicide bomber walked into a crowd of US-allied Sunni paramilitaries waiting in line for their salaries in Iraq on Saturday and detonated his explosives belt, Iraqi police said. The 11 am explosion took place outside the military headquarters in the town of Jbala, about 35 miles (50 kilometers) south of Baghdad.—INTERNET

Twin roadside bombings kill one, wound three civilians in Afghanistan

KABUL, 19 April—Two mines planted by militants exploded in western Afghan Province of Herat, killing one civilian and wounding three others on Saturday, officials said.

“The first roadside bomb exploded in Jabrahil area of Anjil district at around 7:00 am local time (0230 GMT) killing one truck driver and wounding another civilian,” provincial police spokesman Noor Khan Nikzad told *Xinhua*.

According to another police official, the second bomb which exploded by remote control targeted the vehicle of the police chief of the same district.

“The second explosion occurred at around 8:30 am (0400 GMT), wounding two civilians,” Abdul Rauf Ahmadi police spokesman in southwestern region told *Xinhua*.

However, the police chief Khuja Mohammad Hissah escaped the attack, he added.

Taliban-led militancy and skirmishes claimed the lives of over 5,000 people, including more than 2,000 civilians, in 2008.—*Internet*



A wounded member of “Awakening Council”, a local neighbourhood guard unit, waits for medical treatment in a hospital after a bomb attack in Iskandariya, 40 km (25 miles) south of Baghdad recently. A suicide bomber targeted a group of Sunni Arab militiamen queuing to collect pay cheques at an Iraqi army post south of Baghdad, killing 9 and wounding 31 on Saturday, police said.—INTERNET

Shells hit Baghdad’s Green Zone after 3-month lull

BAGHDAD, 19 April — Suspected militants shelled Baghdad’s protected Green Zone on Saturday in the

first such bombardment in more than three months.

The back-to-back strikes reverberated across the Tigris River to a popular promenade, sending families packing up from fish restaurants and abruptly halting a party at a club.

Violence across Iraq remains sharply down compared with past years, but attacks and bloodshed have edged up in recent weeks and brought worries that it could slow the return

of nightlife and commerce to parts of Baghdad.

The US military said the Green Zone was hit by two “indirect fire” rounds — which typically means either rockets or mortars — but there were no casualties or damage reported.

A police official says the rounds were fired from predominantly Shiite eastern Baghdad. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to media.—*Internet*

Palestinian driver hits policemen near Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, 19 April—A Palestinian driver hit and injured two Israeli police officers with his car near Jerusalem on Saturday, local news service *Ynet* reported.

The policemen were rushed to hospital following the incident, which happened near a checkpoint north of the Holy City, and the driver, resident of east Jerusalem, was immediately detained, said the report. The motive behind the incident was still under investigation. The report said the attacker initially admitted malice, but later confessed to having mental problems.

The incident came a day after a Palestinian man, who entered a settlement in the West Bank and allegedly attempted an attack, was shot dead by local security guards, and two weeks after a Palestinian man killed an Israeli teenager and wounded a child in another West Bank settlement before he escaped.—*Internet*

Taliban fighters intensify roadside bombings, suicide attacks

KABUL, 19 April — Taliban militants fighting against Afghan and the US-led coalition forces in a new tactic to terrify people and undermine government popularity have intensified their roadside bombings and suicide attacks as over two dozen people have been killed over the past two days.

Militants in a new wave of violence and an indication of spreading activities in the relatively peaceful Northern Provinces carried out a car bomb attack against the NATO-led peacekeeping ISAF (International Security Assistance Force) in Balkh Province on Friday injuring two soldiers.

Also on the same day on Friday, a suicide bomber loyal to Taliban outfit blew himself up in Zaranj, the capital of western Nimroz Province, killing three persons and wounding over 10 others.

The target of the suicide bomber, according to provincial governor Ghulam Dastgir Azad was Minister for Refugees Affairs Abdul Karim Barahawi but he escaped unhurt.

Internet



A wounded man is attended to by paramedics after a blast, at the Charsadda DHQ Hospital, Pakistan, on 15 April, 2009. A suicide car bomber attacked a police checkpoint, killing six officers and five civilians. Ten others were wounded, some of them critically, said provincial police chief Malik Naveed Khan.—INTERNET



Smoke rises from the Abitibi-Consolidated mill in Shawinigan, Que. Debt-strapped newsprint giant AbitibiBowater Inc has filed for bankruptcy protection from creditors in Canada and the United States.

INTERNET

Obama says he'll cut dozens of wasteful programmes

WASHINGTON, 19 April— President Barack Obama said on Saturday he would soon announce the elimination of dozens of wasteful or ineffective government programmes as part of a broad effort to restore fiscal accountability to the federal budget. Obama, speaking in his weekly radio address, said he would use his first full Cabinet meeting on Monday to ask department and agency heads for specific ideas to trim their budgets.

He named two new officials as part of a team of management, technology and budget experts that will drive the process of trimming the fat and waste from government spending. "As surely as our future depends on building a new energy economy, controlling healthcare costs and ensuring that our kids are once again the best educated in the world, it also depends on restoring a sense of responsibility and accountability to our federal budget," Obama said.

"Without significant change to steer away from ever-expanding deficits and debt, we are on an unsustainable course," he added.—*Internet*

373 killed over Songkran festival

BANGKOK, 19 April—A total of 373 people were killed and more than 4,000 injured in road accidents nationwide during the seven-day Songkran festival, which ended on Thursday.

Interior permanent secretary Wichai Srikwan said 3,977 road accidents across the country were recorded between April 10-16—the seven day period considered dangerous for road users during the Songkran holidays. That was 266 fewer accidents than last year.

Mr Wichai said fatalities have risen to 373, five more than last year, while 4,332 people were injured, 471 less than the previous year.

During the seven-day period, Chiang Rai recorded the highest number of accidents (145) as well as the highest number of injuries (164) while Chiang Mai recorded the most deaths (14).

On Thursday alone, the last day of the period, 343 road accidents were recorded, and 52 deaths. Suphan Buri had the highest number of accidents (13).

The main causes of accidents were driving under the influence and speeding, and most accidents involved motorcycles.—*Bangkokpost*

Venezuela's Chavez to restore ambassador in US

PORT-OF-SPAIN (Trinidad), 19 April—Hugo Chavez said on Saturday that he is restoring Venezuela's Ambassador in Washington, voicing hopes for a "new era" in relations after exchanging greetings with US President Barack Obama at a regional summit.

Venezuela's socialist president told reporters at the Summit of the Americas that he will propose Roy Chaderton, his current Ambassador to the Organization of American States, as the country's new representative in a move toward improving strained ties with Washington. The announcement crowns a week in which Obama rejected two centuries of US "heavy-handedness" toward Latin America and raised hopes for a rapprochement with Cuba, with which it severed ties 48 years ago. Venezuela under Chavez has become a close ally of Cuba.—*Internet*



US President Barack Obama (L) shakes hands with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez who is presenting the US leader with a book called: "The Open Veins of Latin America" by Uruguayan writer Eduardo Galeano. Latin American leaders — including fierce US critics — hailed Obama and his vow to start a new era in ties with them, at a Summit of the Americas underway in Trinidad and Tobago.—INTERNET

British boy dies in Venezuela plane crash

CARACAS, 19 April—A 6-year-old British boy was killed when a small plane carrying British tourists crashed shortly after take off from an airstrip near Venezuela's Angel Falls.

The boy was travelling with eight other British tourists, including his parents, civil protection director Luis Diaz told *The Associated Press* on Saturday. He said all 10 survivors on board, including a Venezuelan pilot and co-pilot, were flown to nearby Ciudad Bolivar and were being treated for injuries at a hospital. The boy's aunt, June Holman, said the dead child was 6-year-old Thomas Horne.

"Following the tragic death of Thomas, the thoughts of us all are with his parents Jane and Dave at this very sad time," Holman said in a statement issued in Britain. "There is nothing worse than losing a loved one, especially not a young child."—*Internet*



File photo shows a Mimika Air Pilatus Turbo Porter aircraft. Eleven people were killed when their Mimika Air flight crashed in Indonesia's mountainous Papua Province, an airfield official has said.—INTERNET

Eleven confirmed dead in Indonesia plane crash

TIMIKA, 19 April—Eleven people were killed when their light plane crashed in Indonesia's mountainous Papua Province, an airfield official said on Sunday. Timika Air Base commander Easter Haryanto, who is coordinating search efforts, said rescue teams have reached the wreckage of the Mimika Air plane on a steep slope on Mount Gergaji.

"We confirm that all passengers and crew members are dead. The bodies are still in the plane and we hope to transfer them into body bags today and fly them to Ilaga on Monday for identification," he added. The Mimika Air Pilatus Porter was en route from Ilaga to the remote highlands town of Kota Mulia with 11 people on board, including a child, when it crashed on Friday.—*Internet*

At least 70 injured in Mexico commuter train crash

MEXICO CITY, 19 April—An official says at least 70 people have been injured in a commuter train crash on the outskirts of Mexico City.

Mexico State civil defence employee Heladio de la Cruz says many injured were being treated early Sunday at several local hospitals but there was no immediate information on their condition. Emergency personnel were working to remove all the victims from the train cars.

Officials say one train apparently ran into another Saturday on the recently inaugurated Suburban Railway in the State of Mexico, which borders Mexico City. Photos from the scene showed crumpled train cars still on the tracks.

Internet

French policemen talk with bomb disposal experts during a search at a suspected cache of the Basque separatist group ETA, on 6 April in Grenoble, eastern France. Police found 300 kilos (660 pounds) of explosives.

INTERNET





Villagers decorate their new houses into a Nongjiale, a farmhouse attraction, at Qingping village in Deyang, southwest China's Sichuan Province on 18 April, 2009.—XINHUA

Summit of Americas' final declaration still at stake

PORT OF SPAIN (Trinidad and Tobago), 19 April—With at least four heads of state critical of the draft declaration of the Fifth Summit of the Americas, it is still unclear whether all 34 participant countries will sign the document and whether its text will remain unchanged.

Among the strongest critics of the draft declaration are Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, Bolivian President Evo Morales, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, and Honduran President Manuel Zelaya.

The four countries are members of the Bolivarian Alternative for the People of Our America, an international cooperation organization proposed by Chavez as an alternative to the US-sponsored Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Shortly before the summit, the four heads of state criticized the draft, the result of one and a half years of negotiations, that it does not address the necessary measures to curb the effects of the global financial crisis on the developing countries in the Americas — a crisis which they blame on the United States.

The most common explanation for the absence of specific clauses dealing with the crisis is that the draft was mostly negotiated before the crisis deepened in September and October last year.—Xinhua

Vietnam, south China province vow to enhance economic co-op

GUANGZHOU, 19 April—Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung met with Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Guangdong Provincial Committee Wang Yang here on Saturday, calling on concerted efforts in tiding over the global financial crisis.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, said Dung's visit fully demonstrated that the Vietnamese government attached great importance to developing cooperative relations with Guangdong.—Xinhua



France hopes to promote co-op with China in all fields

PARIS, 19 April—France hopes to improve its all-round cooperation with China and consolidate bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership, speaker of the French National Assembly told Xinhua in a recent interview. Bernard Accoyer is scheduled to visit China on 19-26 April at the in-

itation of his Chinese counterpart Wu Bangguo, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China.

This will be the first time since 1982 that a speaker of the National Assembly makes an official visit to China.

The visit is designed to

boost the cooperation between the two parliaments and upgrade the China-France parliamentary relations, Accoyer said.

Accoyer also said that his visit has two purposes, namely, to promote the exchanges between the two parliaments, and the economic cooperation between the two countries which lies at the core of bilateral relations.

He also said "understanding and mutual respect must remain as the driving force behind the development of bilateral relations in the future."

Xinhua

Five killed in US family murder-suicide incident

WASHINGTON, 19 April—A man apparently killed his wife and three children before shooting himself dead in a home in Maryland, US police said on Saturday.

Frederick County sheriff Charles Jenkins told a press conference that police arrived at the scene at a call early on the morning, and found five bodies inside the residence in the first block of Washington Street.

The 34-year-old father, who was identified as Christopher Wood, may have slashed at least some of his members in the killings and turned the gun to himself at the foot of the bed.

"These are horrific incidents," said the police officer, adding some of victims suffered "severe lacerations and cut

wounds."

According to police, Wood and his wife, Frances Billotti Wood just moved to Maryland five months ago with their children, who were be-

tween 4 to 5 years old.

Their neighbours told reporters that the family was actively involved in the community and nobody could see such a tragedy coming.—Xinhua



The newly-released Nano — the world's cheapest car — pictured at the Tata auto-maker's plant at Pimpri near Mumbai. The Nano went on sale on Thursday, with dealers and the company behind it confident of strong demand despite a slump in global car sales amid the world economic downturn.

XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Somali pirates attack two more vessels, one seized, another freed

MOGADISHU, 19 April—Somali pirates attacked two more vessels on Saturday in the Indian Ocean off the Horn of Africa country, seizing a Belgian dredger but thwarted in an attempt to hold a tanker, according to reports monitored here.

A Belgian dredger with 10 crew members on board was hijacked by pirates on Saturday morning, Belgian broadcaster VRT said.

The ship, which is owned by Belgian dredging firms Jan De Nul and DEME, was reportedly missing off the Somali coast. It sounded a silent alarm twice early in the morning, a staff member of the Belgian government's crisis centre told the VRT.

Jaak Raes of the crisis centre, which is monitoring the situation, said the crew on board the Pompei include two Belgians, one Dutchman and several Croatian and Filipino nationals.

The Pompei first sounded the alarm at around 5:30 am. A second distress call was received by coast guards at around 6 am.

Later in the day, NATO forces captured seven Somali pirates in the Gulf of Aden and freed 20 people taken hostages.—Xinhua

Bridegroom shoots an arrow at a Chinese-style wedding ceremony held in Kaifeng, central China's Henan Province, on 18 April, 2009. A traditional Chinese wedding ceremony was held in Kaifeng on Saturday, in which people put on traditional costumes, and the newlyweds followed a series of Chinese wedding customs. —XINHUA

Five children feared dead in Texas storms

HOUSTON, 19 April — Five Houston children were feared dead after the car they were riding in was swept away by high water on Saturday evening, a fire official said.

Rescue workers found the car about 7:30 pm, about 100 feet from where the driver lost control 2 1/2 hours earlier, Houston Fire Assistant Chief Omero Longoria told the Houston Chronicle for its online edition.

The car came to rest in a drainage ditch filled with about 9 feet of water. Two men and a 10-year-old girl managed to escape the car, but a strong storm current initially prevented rescuers from getting to it, Longoria.

Travis Campbell, 24, watched in shock as police and firefighters searched for the bodies of his 7- and 10-year-old nephews.

"At this point, I just want their bodies to be found," Campbell said.

Further information about the occupants of the car was not immediately available. The children's deaths would bring the weekend death toll to six from the massive storms that moved across southeast Texas.

A 76-year-old Fayette County man died after his car got stuck in a flooded underpass in Schulenburg, midway between Houston and San Antonio. Frank Floyd, 76, of Hallettsville, drowned Friday afternoon after he and

his wife became trapped after driving into a flooded railroad underpass on US 77, said Schulenburg Police Chief Randy Mican.—*Internet*



Joshlyn Bennett, foreground, her sister, Leanna Caldwell, right, and an unidentified woman react during the search for five children feared dead after the car they were in was swept away by high water in Houston on 18 April, 2009.

INTERNET

Thousands in Colorado without power after storm

DENVER, 19 April — Hundreds of stranded travellers resumed their journeys on Saturday after spending the night at shelters when a powerful spring storm walloped the Rocky Mountains and foothills west of Denver with more than 3 feet of snow.

Officials reopened an 80-mile stretch of Interstate 70 between Golden and Vail that had been closed on Friday, said Colorado Department of Transportation spokesman Bob Wilson. Drivers were cautioned to expect heavy traffic and sloppy road conditions.

"It's not the I-70 you know in a June afternoon," Wilson said.

Storm warnings were dropped as the bulk of the storm moved east into Kansas.

About 15,000 homes and businesses were without power in Denver and areas



A car and van are nearly buried in snow while parked in a lot near the mountain community of Genesee, Colo, on 18 April, 2009. Forecasters predict that the spring storm that has dumped up to two feet of snow in some parts of Colorado will move out on to the eastern plains on Saturday.—INTERNET

north and west of the city. The heavy snow had weighed down power lines and tripped system circuit breakers. Piles of snow and closed roads were preventing crews from reaching some areas, Xcel Energy spokesman Joe Fuentes said, adding that crews hoped to restore power by 11 am on Sunday.

About 3 to 10 inches fell in Denver, but the heaviest of Friday's snow dropped on the foothills west of the city, with 52 inches at Pinecliffe and 36 at Black Hawk, said National Weather Service meteorologist Carl Burroughs.

April is one of the third snowiest month in Colorado, behind March and November, he said.—*Internet*

Sino-Egyptian economic zone to be completed in 2018

TIANJIN, 19 April — Construction of the Suez Economic and Trade Cooperation Zone, a key project of the Forum on China-African Cooperation, is expected to be finished around 2018, a Chinese source said here on Saturday.

The zone reflected China's willingness to invest in Africa and help develop the continent, Yang Zhiqiang, president of the Tianjin Economic & Technological Development Area Suez International Cooperation Company, told an investment forum.

The company is a shareholder of Egypt Teda, a Sino-Egyptian joint venture responsible for the development, construction, management, and administration of the zone.—*Internet*

NEWS ALBUM



A robot moves a Rubik cube, at a stand at the "Hannover Messe" industrial trade fair in Hanover. The world's leading fair for industrial technology, with about 6,150 exhibitors from 61 nations, opened to the public on Monday and runs till April 24 with Korea as this year's partner country.

A visitor experiences a touch screen during the 5th International Flat Panel Display (FPD) Expo in Tokyo, capital of Japan.

Ala coffee shop customers pick up other's tabs

Some customers at Starbucks shops around the Birmingham area have been getting an extra ingredient with their coffee: Kindness. Customers at shops in eastern Birmingham, Hoover and Vestavia Hills are paying it forward by anonymously picking up the tabs of others.

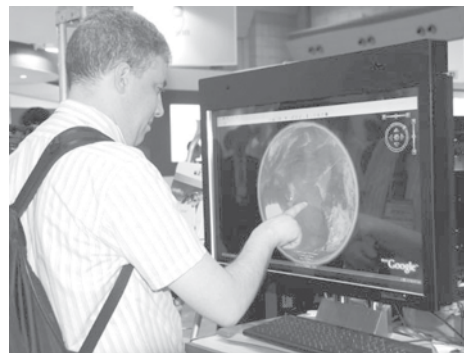
Sharon Dierking got a taste of the movement when she pulled up to the window at a Starbucks on US 280 and the barista told her the driver in the car ahead of her had paid for her order.

"I was completely dumbfounded, but I was thrilled," she said.

Dierking was last in line that day, but was able to return the kindness to another at a Starbucks in Inverness a few days later.

"It makes you feel good and it brightens your day," she said.

A Starbucks spokeswoman said the Seattle-based company promoted a Cheer



Pass programme in 2007 to remind customers to spread kindness, but the recent phenomenon is "consumer-driven."

13-year-old boy accused of robbing bank

A 13-year-old boy who police say was caught red-handed a block away was accused of robbing a bank in Peoria.

The unidentified boy was charged with felony armed robbery in juvenile court, accused of threatening a teller with a gun and demanding cash.

He was found hiding in a nearby garage about 30 minutes after Monday's robbery, stained red from a dye pack that had been placed in the bag of money.

"It's the youngest person I can remember," said Sheriff Michael McCoy, a four-decade veteran of the sheriff's office.

Prosecutors were considering whether to seek to have him tried as an adult and face up to 30 years in prison.

Bus driver accused using brake to discipline kids

A bus driver accused of slamming on the brakes to discipline children on her bus when they misbehaved was arrested. Police said the sudden stops caused the elementary school children to hit their heads on the seat in front of them or fall on to the floor. No one was seriously injured.

According to WCAX-TV, the 38-year-year-old driver was charged with careless and negligent operation.



An archerfish latches onto the finger of a young tourist who lured it out of the water with bread on his finger tip during a visit to a fish farm at the Kilim Karts Geoforest Park on Langkawi island in Malaysia. Langkawi Geopark is Malaysia's first geopark and is located in the far northwestern corner of peninsular Malaysia.

Kengtawng Hydropower Plant, a development drive for Shan State

Article: Yan Gyi Aung; Photos: Kyaw Swe Moe (IPRD)

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Namtein Creek originates in the northern part of Mongkai and flows into Thanlwin River, five miles north of Namhsan through Kengtawng and Langkho. Kengtawng Hydropower Project was implemented with the use of water source from the Kengtawng Waterfall that is located 18 miles southeast of Kengtawng.

The government had set a five-year short-term plan to implement the hydropower plant not only for contribution to the economic sector but also for development of the region. Moreover, the power plant was built to provide hydroelectricity to townships of Loilem

Namhkam, Muse and Tatgyi. So far, the government had built small- and medium-scale hydropower plants in Hamhmyaw, Hamhsaunggaung, Pakyethaw, Namhsaungchaung, Zawgyi-1, Zawgyi-2, Hamhsanchaung, Namwok, Maipan, Mongla, Namlat and Silu. Except Zawgyi hydropower plants, the remaining plants can generate electricity to the respective regions.

The newly opened Kengtawng Hydropower Project is a national level project that can contribute to development of the State and the region.

Kengtawng Hydropower Project was one of 16 hydropower projects

in the future.

In addition, the government is implementing the Upper Kengtawng Hydropower Project. On completion, the project will contribute to generating electricity of Kengtawng Hydropower Plant. Therefore, the project will help satisfy the electricity demand of the nation.

Actually, Kengtawng Hydropower Plant had not been built easily. The plant is located in the poor transport region. With a view to narrowing the development gap and ensuring equitable development of all the regions throughout the nation, the power plant was constructed with the goodwill of the



A beautiful scene of Kengtawng Waterfall located on Namtein Creek, 30 miles northeast of Monai in Shan State (South).

plant can generate 54 megawatts in total. As such, the power plant can generate 377.6 million kilowatt hours yearly.

The construction of the plant started in 2003-2004 financial year and it was completed in 2008-2009. During a five-year period, the power plant project was implemented. The test-run and power supply functions were undertaken at every generator, and as of 31-1-2009, all the generators commenced to produce 54 megawatts at full capacity. The government has spent K 15,285 million and US\$ 19.56 million on construction of the power plant.

A large amount of investment was put in the task to generate electricity. Moreover, the government is undertaking the installation of power lines and construction of power stations for supplying

power to the consumers.

To supply electricity to townships in Loilem and Langkho Districts of Shan State (South), the 114-mile 132KV power line, the 211-mile 66KV power line, the 75-mile 33KV power line and the 81-mile 11KV line are under construction. The 132KV power line is linking 73 miles long power line section from Kengtawng to Namhsan and 41 miles long from Namhsan to Pinpet. The 66KV power line includes 82 miles long Namhsan-Loilem-Mongkai section, 44 miles long Kholan-Mongnaung section, 33 miles long Kholan-Kunhing section and 52 miles long Namhsan-Monai-Langkho section. The 33KV power line is combined with 38 miles long Mongnaung-Mongshu section and 37 miles long Mongnaung-Kehsi section. The 11KV

power line is being installed with 18-mile section from the power plant to Kengtawng, 32-mile Monai-Maukmai section and 31-mile Langkho-Mongpan section. In addition, plan is under way to provide electricity to other States and Divisions through the power grid.

Thanks to implementation of the power project, not only Kengtawng region but also the townships in Loilem and Langkho Districts get electricity 24 hours a day.

Actually, Kengtawng Hydropower Plant contributing to the social economic improvement of the local people is a major drive to develop Shan State.

Translation: TTA

Kyemon: 14-4-2009



Modern equipment installed at central control room of Kengtawng Hydropower Plant.

and Langkho districts for development of their social and economic sectors and supply surplus electricity to the entire nation through the power grid.

The hydropower plant that can generate 54 megawatts was one of the heavy hydropower projects of the State and it was built with might and main during a five-year period. At present, Kengtawng Hydropower Plant was the largest facility of its kind in Shan State.

In the past, there were three small-scale hydropower plants in

being implemented by Hydropower Implementation Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1. Moreover, it was 40th hydropower facility of its kind across the nation.

Thanks to construction of the power plant, the local people in Kengtawng, Loilem, Namhsam, Langkho, Monai, Mongpan, Maukmai, Panglong and Laikha of Loilem and Langkho Districts are enjoying fruits of hydroelectricity. It is sure that these regions in Shan State will gain social-economic improvements

government and concerted efforts of the staff under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1. Indeed, the power plant could be built as peace and stability was restored in Kengtawng region.

Namtein Creek has 2325 square miles of catchment areas and its current flow rate is 3225 cubic feet per second. There has been 53 inches of rainfall in Kengtawng region.

The power plant was installed with three vertical-type Francis generators. As each generator can produce 18 megawatts, the power



Three vertical-type Francis generators installed at Kengtawng Hydropower Plant.



Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint views thriving paddy plantations of Shwe Naga Min Co in Dagon Myothit (South) township.

MNA

Commander, Mayor attend opening of school buildings, inspect water supply facilities

YANGON, 19 April—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning attended the opening ceremonies of basic education schools in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

At No. 3 Basic Education High School, the commander, the mayor and the vice-mayor opened the new school building. They also cut the ribbon to open the new building of BEPS No. 1.

Next, the mayor delivered an address and handed over documents related to the buildings to the director-general of No. 3 Basic Education Department.

The commander attended the coordination meeting at the hall of Shwe Nagamin Co on No. 2 block of Modern Mechanized Farming Special Zone-2

in the township.

Officials reported on undertaking of the tasks of the zones with momentum. The Director-General of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development gave a supplementary report. The commander attended to the needs.

The commander looked into dredging of drains, construction of production roads and canals at summer paddy model plantations.

They inspected the site for construction of Ngamoeyeik Sluice Gate in Hlegu Township.

Afterwards, they viewed summer paddy harvesting in West Malit Village-tract and construction of the fish ponds in Ahtayu field.

The commander inspected storage of water at Ngamoeyeik Dam and irrigation facilities and functions of City Water Supply Control Tower of YCDC at Ngamoeyeik Dam and left necessary instructions.—MNA

New gasifier brand introduced



Use of Treasure Yadana gasifier being demonstrated.

UMFCCI

YANGON, 19 April—The Treasure Engineering Group, a member of Myanmar Industries Association, held a demonstration on Treasure Yadana gasifier in Letkhaik Village of Kawhmu Township on 28 March.

Chairman of the group U Ye Chan explained the purpose of the demonstration. Managing Director U Khin Win introduced use of Treasure Yadana gasifier to be applied in water pumping, rice milling, generating

electricity and operating oil mill and saw mill.

Chairman of Village Peace and Development Council U Han Nyunt spoke words of thanks for the demonstration.

The operating of a water pump will use eight gallons of diesel in 24 hours. The treasure Yadana gasifier will use one gallon of diesel and 10 viss of paddy husk only for the similar work.

MNA

Binge eating: When perfection unravels

HALIFAX, 19 April —In everyday life, someone who takes a perfectionist's approach



Binge eating has been found to be associated with perfectionism.

to activities might be admired or even rewarded with a pat on the back.

These attitudes are tied to a commonly held, but mistaken, belief that perfectionism will ultimately produce achievement and social success. But a psychologist warns that perfectionism is not a healthy, or even effective, approach to life's challenges.

“Perfectionism is a double-edged personality trait,” says Simon Sherry, assistant professor of psychology.

A newly-published study shows

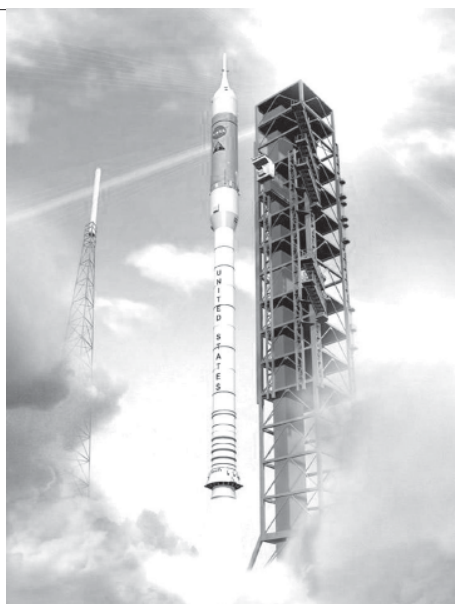
why individuals with a high degree of perfectionism are often setting themselves up for a host of physical, emotional and mental problems— particularly related to binge eating. Although less well recognized than anorexia or bulimia, binge eating is a serious disorder. Binge eating occurs when a person feels out of control and rapidly consumes a large amount of food in a short period of time. Binge eating elevates the risk of developing depression, obesity, diabetes and other problems.

Internet

NASA Goddard to purge rocket-bursting bubbles on Ares-1

SCIENCE DAILY, 19 April—Of all the things that can bring down a rocket, bubbles seem the most unlikely. They are a threat to rockets that use very cold liquid fuels, like the upper stage of NASA's new Ares 1 rocket, which will carry astronauts to the space station and join up in orbit with spacecraft carried by the larger Ares 5 rocket for missions to the moon and beyond. Bubbles can form when frigid liquid hydrogen and oxygen fuel are pumped into a rocket engine. The problem arises when they pop.

An artist's concept image shows the Ares I crew launch vehicle on the launch pad at NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Florida. The upper stage is the wide part of the rocket near the top.



“You get cavitation – a tiny but powerful pressure wave – that can erode bits

of metal from the rocket's fuel pump.

Internet

Peaceful and stable Myebon Township gaining development momentum

Article & Photos: Reporter Singu Soe Win

(from page 16)
west, Kyaukpyu in the south and Minbya in the north. Local people are engaged in agriculture fish and prawn production. The town is formed with nine wards which are home to over 15,000

highest level or 26 million gallons. The dam is installed with gravel-filled concrete spillway. The region gets 200 inches of rainfall yearly.

At present, the dam is supplying water to six wards out of nine and

with 60 water taps and the remaining eight wards with 247 residential water taps.

In Myebon, seven tarred roads, seven gravel roads and 21 earth roads are being upgraded. Moreover, Township



Photo shows a beautiful scene of the jetty in Myebon.



Fish and prawn brokerages buying aquatic products from fishermen.



Workers are processing fish and prawn for export and local consumption.

people of over 2,000 households. In calculating the population density based on 2.2 per cent rate, it can be estimated that the town may have a population of 35,000 in coming 20 years. The urban areas will require 0.7 million gallons of water daily and 166.8 million gallons for eight months every year.

In the town, a total of 10 ponds, 118 artisan wells and Kandawgyi Dam can supply 40.12 million gallons of water. Kandawgyi Dam is 1200 feet long and 12 feet high. The dam can store 20.48 acre feet of water at the

partially supplying water to two wards. Arrangements are being made for undertaking water supply facilities for all the wards.

The people of Kantha Htwetwa, Taungbaing, Alebaing, Zaybaing, Tayoktan and Thedan wards are enjoying fruits of water supply facilities. Moreover, the water is being supplied partially to two wards namely Myaukpaing and Taungbaw wards. Myaukpaing Ward is facilitated with one 1200-gallon-capacity water tank, Thetet Ward with one 1200-gallon-capacity water tank. Tayoktan ward

Development Affairs Committee is nurturing various flower plants at the nursery.

Local fishermen of villages in the township sell aquatic products to fish and prawn brokerages in the urban area daily. Therefore, the news team observed the functions of the brokerages.

U Nyi Pu KMP fish and prawn brokerage on Bogyoke Street is buying some 300 viss of fish and prawns daily and sending them to Taungup and

Yangon through water-way and land route. On arrival at NCR Peace Fish and Prawn Brokerage at Myoma Jetty, Manager U Than Tun explained purchase of over 500 viss of fish and prawn daily to export the processed products through the NCR cold storage of Kyaukpyu and Yangon.

At TTT Fish and Prawn Trading of U Tin Aye on U Uttama Road, we observed buying of about 300 viss of aquatic products and distribution of them to Taungup and Yangon through water-way and land route.

Dried shrimp and prawn brokerage on Bogyoke Street, brokerage owner U Saw Ba Gyi said that he generated jobs for 70 workers and 400 dependants. He said that he was pleased with his efforts to provide K 18,000

to K 50,000 to every worker. He added that his brokerage sends 300 to 3000 viss of dried shrimp and prawn to Yangon twice a month.

per cent. A total of 735 breeders of 45 village-tracts are breeding fish and prawn at 24,657 acres of farming resources.

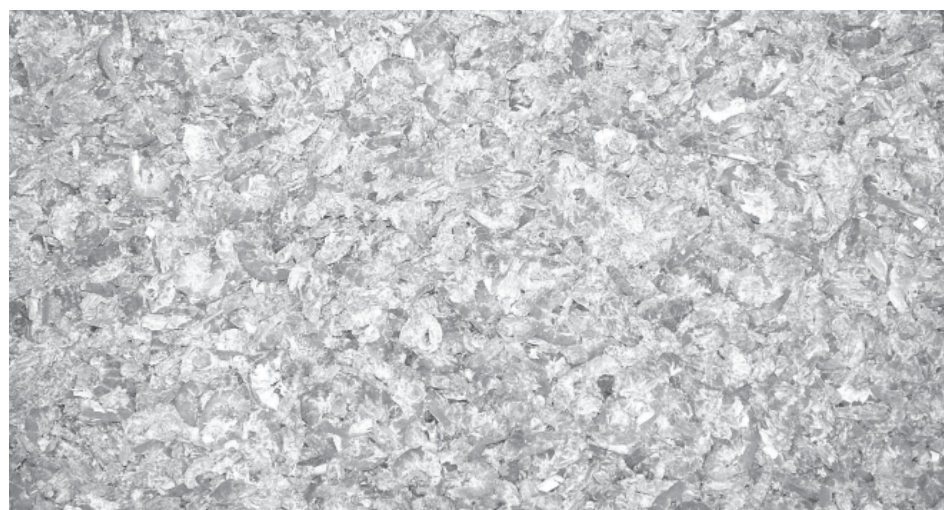


Photo shows dried shrimp and prawn to be sent to Yangon.

Likewise, the local fishermen are catching aquatic products with the use of 2,253 trawlers and fishing boats.

At present, the government is constructing Myebon-Minbya Motor Road. On completion of the road, vehicles will run along Myebon-Yangon route by carrying passengers and commodities. With peace and stability prevailing in the region, the local people can enjoy fruits of economic, health, education and social sectors in Myebon Township.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin:
10-4-2009

Not very demanding if peace talk is desired

Saw Hla Aung

(Continued from yesterday)

During the period from 1970 to the early 1980s, KNU made huge sums of money from illegal trade of the nation's natural resources and could strengthen its manpower and weaponry by making good use of the conditions in which the Tatmadaw was preoccupied with the fight against the growing BCP. In the 1988 unrest, KNU could occupy some outposts of the Tatmadaw through attacks on Methawaw region. So, the Tatmadaw had to launch an 80-day military operation to reoccupy the region. Later that, the Tatmadaw managed to occupy KNU's military bases one after another through military operations, and that was the beginning of the KNU's downfall. In the meantime, BCP, the strongest force among the armed groups, collapsed. Since March 1989, troops of various national races in the BCP started to rise against BCP and exchange arms for peace with the government through peace talks. The collapse of BCP had considerable effect to the national race armed groups in Shan, Kachin and Kayah states, and 14 of the groups returned to the legal fold from 1989 to 1995.

However, KNU persisted in exercising the armed struggle line. On 28 April 1992, the Tatmadaw government announced the unilateral suspension of its military operations in Kayin State with the aim of opening the door for peace. Nevertheless, KNU misjudged the Tatmadaw's intention of regaining national reconsolidation and peace, making an unwise comment that the announcement was due to the government's declining strength. And KNU leaders turned down the olive branch the government had extended to it. During the period of the Tatmadaw's unilateral suspension of military operations, KNU launched attacks on the Tatmadaw for about 100 times. The Tatmadaw waged just defensive attacks and continued its efforts for peace.

Whatever it was, the aspect of the Tatmadaw's behaviour was never hidden. The Tatmadaw's pursuance of peace with national race armed groups was based on conviction and benevolent attitude. So, the Tatmadaw government formed the Central Committee for Progress of Border Areas and National Races in 1989, and tasks for development of border areas were effectively stepped up under the leadership of the Head of State. As a result, the battlefields were later converted into irrigation facilities and farmlands. Many hamlets were transformed into urban areas with fine buildings. Getting new roads and bridges along with schools, hospitals, health care centres, TV retransmitting stations and auto exchanges, the regions enjoyed cumulative development. Those facts then came to the knowledge of the regions with less development where peace had not been restored.

The information about gradual development of peace regions reached the ears of the people of Kayin State who are going through real hard times due to the KNU's armed insurgency and KNU members of other ranks who are engaged in the Kayin revolution at risk to life for ages. In reality, they all favoured peace. However, there

are many leaders in KNU who are opposed to peace and afraid of peace. In addition, there are many lackeys of external elements who are in fear that they would no longer get foreign assistance and they would lose their atmospheres if KNU troops are no more in the border areas, alongside certain elements who are resorting to all possible ways under the pretext of KNU affairs to mess up the Myanmar politics and disrupt the peace process.

So, the government's efforts to make peace with the whole KNU prolonged unnecessarily. However, the officers and other ranks and leaders of KNU who are completely weary of the armed conflicts are determined to achieve peace.

In the end of 1994, KNU troops under KNU leaders' intolerable oppression and disruptive attempts to the peace process and Kayin nationals formed themselves into the Democratic Kayin Buddhist Organization (DKBO) and joined the Tatmadaw to fight back KNU, thus culminating in the downfall of almost all the KNU military bases in the border areas including its headquarters.

DKBO taking a stronghold in Myainggyingu managed to scale up the momentum of the tasks it was carrying out in cooperation with the government for development of local Kayin people. Emulating the success of DKBO, the KNU troops in many other regions have made peace on their own. They are the group led by U Saw Tha Mu He of KNU Brigade (6), the group of Thandaung region, the group led by Phado Aung San from KNU (Central), Brigade (2) special region group, and the KNU/KNLA Peace Council led by Maj-Gen Htay Maung.

In order to make peace with the government, they had to brave a variety of hindrances. They had to risk their lives and deal with the dangers posed by the groups that were not happy with the peace process.

There is disunity between two factions of KNU leaders regarding the peace process: the first that have come to understand well the genuine goodwill of the government and the other that want to give priority to its interests rather than that of the people of Kayin State. The leaders in favour of peace with the government are good soldiers. They are rural folks as well as soldiers, so they are open-minded with decisive attitude. They by nature do whatever thing with all their heart and soul, and speak wholeheartedly and bluntly. They are from KNLA, the military wing. Unlike them, members of KNU are educated persons from urban areas. They have incidentally become insurgents due to various reasons in doing aboveground politics. In the atmosphere of armed insurrection, the educated population is so low that they dominate office work. Being politicians, they talk too big. They never put their words into deeds. They are skilled at the tactics of politics. They are in a position to enjoy the benefits from Kayin revolution far more than any other fellow member. They live a life of luxury with fine vehicles and residences in Maesot due to the foreign funds. They could send their children to foreign countries such as the US, Australia and Norway for

academic purposes. So, they want the Kayin revolution to be never-ending, whereas The KNU leaders-cum-solidiers used to engaging in combats at the risk of life and going through hardships including hunger have come to realize that it is no use of continuing their armed insurrection, through which they would never generate a prosperous future of Kayin people.

As a result, KNU leaders split into two factions with respect to the peace offer proposed by the Tatmadaw in 1992. The desire of the KNU leaders-cum-soldiers is that they can make peace if they could trust the offer of the government. The group of politicians has a plan to delay the peace process as long as they can by claiming their superficial programmes.

The peace process commenced in 1993, and KNU and the government held 10 informal meetings and six formal meetings for peace. The then Chairman of KNU Saw Bo Mya took part in the peace talks in Yangon in January 2004. On his tour, he witnessed the projects the government was undertaking for national development. So, he agreed to the process for peace with the government. At that time he was at old age. He had a passion to see development of the entire Kayin State. Nonetheless, he no longer had influence over the KNU leaders of young generation, as the saying that goes "A feeble person is hardly heeded by others". To make matters worse, his health was deteriorating due to his ripe old age. After all, he was removed from his chairmanship on health grounds.

Despite his ill health, Saw Bo Mya worked as much as he could for peace. He handed over his ongoing peace process to his confidant Major General Htay Maung (Htein Maung) who was capable of serving as a person in charge of the entire KNU. Major General Htay Maung was very eager to make peace, so as entrusted tasks by Saw Bo Mya, he continued the peace talks with the government on behalf of KNU. Some time later, he noticed that the peace process for the whole KNU was impossible for the time being. So, he mobilized as many troops as he could and celebrated the victory of peace process in Htot-kawkoe on 11 February 2007. At that time, his party comprised 320—309 members and 11 family members. Then, they were followed by other members who also wanted to enjoy the taste of peace, adding to the number of members to 1708 — 615 members and 1093 family members with 218 assorted arms. They are now carrying out regional development tasks in Htot-kawkoe, Nabu Township, Kawkareik District.

The group led by Captain Saw Nay Soe Mya of KNU Special Force (202) recently entered the legal fold in compliance with the wish of his late father General Saw Bo Mya. There might be many other troops who will come to the peace region like the group of Captain Saw Nay Soe Mya.

What they will have to do is not so difficult if they really want to enjoy the taste of peace. It took only eight hours for Captain Saw Nay Soe Mya and his members to leave the gathering point in the jungle for Htot-kaw-koe peace region. However, KNU that has practised the armed struggle line for more than 60 years has not been able to complete the peace process because of the hindrance caused by anti-peace leaders.

Anyhow, inspired by the good news about peace, remnant KNU officers and other ranks are abandoning awful KNU. So, in the near future, the whole Kayin State will be able to enjoy peace fully.

Translation: MS

Inspired by the good news about peace, remnant KNU officers and other ranks are abandoning awful KNU. So, in the near future, the whole Kayin State will be able to enjoy peace fully.

Koreans predict shorter skirts this summer

SEOUL, 19 April — South Korean fashion mavens said miniskirts in the country are likely to shrink to no longer than 9.8 inches long during the coming summer season. Chung Il-chaee, chief merchandiser for Shinsegae Department Store, said skirt length is tied to the state of the global economy, The Korea Times reported on Friday.

“Women’s skirts are going to get shorter as the economy continues its downswing cycle,” Chung said. He said the trend in women’s fashion will likely not stop with miniskirts. “Everything is going to shrink,” he said.

Kim Sun-ae, a shop manager at Lotte Department Store, said the coming of shorter skirts is likely to increase the sales of shoes with heels more than 4 inches high.

“Don’t think about lowering those heels,” Kim said. “There’s nothing that complements a miniskirt better than a pair of power heels.”— *Internet*

Mexico says 8 killed in attack on police convoy

MEXICO CITY, 19 April — Eight Mexican law enforcement officers were killed on Saturday in a brazen attack on a police convoy transporting an important drug suspect to a prison in western Mexico.

Gunmen killed four federal police officers, two federal investigative agents and two prison employees in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent the transfer, the Public Safety Department said. “They fulfilled their duty with professionalism, commitment and dedication,” the department said of the fallen officers.

The assailants have not been identified, but the department said the attack



People were injured on Saturday when two light rail trains collided on the outskirts of Mexico City. The train service was launched in mid-2008.— *INTERNET*

appeared to have been an attempt to free a top lieutenant of the Beltrán-Leyva cartel named Jeronimo Gamez, who was arrested on the outskirts of Mexico City in January.

Gamez was taken from Mexico City to an

airport in the Pacific coast state of Nayarit, and from there was being transported overland to a prison in the state capital, Tepic. Police said gunmen in three vehicles opened fire shortly after the police convoy left the Nayarit airport.— *Internet*

Study finds dullness can kill a marriage

STONY BROOK (NY), 19 April — A team of US researchers has concluded that problems don’t hurt a marriage, but dullness — being in a rut — does.

Irene Tsapelas and Arthur Aron of Stony Brook University and University of Michigan researcher Terri Orbuch interviewed a representative US sample of 123 married couples seven years into their marriage, and then interviewed them again nine years later, 16 years into their marriage.

As part of the interview taking part in the seventh year of marriage couples were asked, “During the past month, how often did you feel that your marriage was in a rut, or getting into a rut, that you do the same thing all the time and rarely get to do exciting things together as a couple?”

The study, published in the journal *Psychological Science*, said the key finding was that those who were bored with their marriage at year seven experienced

a greater decrease in satisfaction at year 16. Those who were not bored at year seven experienced a typically small decrease in satisfaction at year 16.

— *Internet*



Undated handout image shows Belgian-registered ship Pompei made available by Belgium’s Home Affairs Office crisis centre on 19 April, 2009.

— *INTERNET*



Hostages and pirates stand with their hands up before the intervention of Dutch NATO soldiers off Somalia’s coast in this NATO handout photo made available on 18 April, 2009.— *INTERNET*

Checks ordered for British helicopters

EDINBURGH (SCOTLAND), 19 April — British accident investigators ordered emergency inspections on Friday of all helicopters of the model that crashed in the North Sea killing 18.

The gearboxes are to be checked, The Scotsman reported. A gearbox failure has been blamed for the deadly crash.

The Eurocopter AS332L2 Super Puma was making a ferry trip to

an oil platform when it plunged into the sea off Aberdeenshire. Checks were also ordered on the EC225LP Super Puma, the model involved in a February crash in which all aboard were rescued.

The helicopters could be grounded if the inspections do not reveal a cause for the failure of the gearbox that has been blamed for the crash, an expert said.

The Air Accidents Investigation Board said

the Super Puma that crashed was being put through a gearbox check because a metal chip was found on a detector.

“However, during the period between the discovery of the chip and the accident, no signs of an incipient gearbox failure were detected,” the AAIB report said.

The helicopter flew for 34 hours between the discovery of the chip and the crash.

— *Internet*

Fetus may benefit from mom’s exercise

NEW ORLEANS, 19 April — US researchers say exercising mothers-to-be may be helping fetal development of their baby.

Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences’ Stephanie Million and Linda May along with Kathleen Gustafson of the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas, used a biomagnetometer, to

measure maternal and fetal magnetocardiograms as well as fetal movements.

They recorded the physiology of the developing fetus in a group of mothers involved in a moderate intensity aerobic 30-minute-three-times-a-week exercise program and a group of mothers with no regular exercise routine.

The researchers

found fetal heart rates significantly lower and the variability of heart rates during fetal breathing and non-breathing movement periods higher in the mothers who exercised. The fetal measures having to do with the nerve responsible for heart rate, peristalsis and muscle movements in the mouth also were higher during breathing movements in the fetuses of exercising mothers.

“These findings suggest a potential benefit of maternal exercise on fetal development because of the link between fetal breathing movements and the developing autonomic nervous system,” May and Gustafson said in a statement.

— *Internet*

Gel studied as cancer treatment

CHICAGO, 19 April—US gastroenterologists are studying a new system for delivering chemotherapy for esophageal cancer patients. The drug therapy delivers a highly concentrated dose of chemotherapy directly to hard-to-reach tumors of esophageal cancer patients. The aim is to reduce the size of the tumors.

"Patients with esophageal cancer have very few treatment options," study principal investigator Dr Sohrab Mobarhan of the Coleman

Foundation Comprehensive Clinic for Gastrointestinal Cancers at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago said in a statement. "This also could potentially be a viable treatment option for patients who have inoperable tumors located in their esophagus."

The investigational drug, OncoGel, is made of two major components—the ReGel drug delivery system, which is a gel made up of ingredients used in biodegradable stitches, and paxlitaxel, an established, US Food

and Drug Administration-approved anti-cancer chemotherapy agent. Patients receive a one-time injection of OncoGel during an endoscopy.

In an earlier phase of the study of OncoGel in patients with late stage inoperable esophageal cancer, 70 percent of patients had a reduction in tumor volume when OncoGel was used in combination with radiotherapy. In addition, after treatment, biopsy samples did not contain tumor cells in almost 40 percent of patients.

Internet

Lead can affect child's heart risk

OSWEGO, 19 April—Low levels of lead in the blood during early childhood can adversely affect a child's cardiovascular system, US researchers said. Researchers at the State University of New York at Oswego said lead exposure was associated with an increase in vascular resistance when the children worked on a stressful computer task—vascular resistance is a measure of tension within

the blood vessels.

James A MacKenzie, Brooks B Gump, Kristen Roosa, Kestas Bendinskas and Amy Dumas of the State University of New York, Oswego; Robert Morgan of Oswego Family Physicians; and Patrick Parsons of the New York State Department of Health found that lead exposure was associated with a decrease in circulating aldosterone levels. Aldosterone is a

hormone that helps regulate blood pressure.

Increased vascular resistance may lead to hypertension if it continues over time, the researchers said. The researchers are scheduled to present their findings at the 122nd annual meeting of The American Physiological Society, part of the Experimental Biology 2009 conference, in New Orleans.

Internet

\$10m announced for hybrid schoolbus

WASHINGTON, 19 April—The US Department of Energy has allocated \$10 million for the development of a plug-in hybrid electric school bus, Secretary Margaret Chu announced on Friday.

"These projects will help move technologies from the laboratory to the marketplace by improving their durability, reducing their costs, and validating their performance in real-world settings," Chu said. "By investing in the vehicles of the future, we will create new jobs while reducing our dependence on foreign oil and improving our environment."

The vehicle could be recharged through any standard electrical outlet. The proposed buses could operate as hybrids or all-electric vehicles.—Internet

Mexican sailing ship arrives in China to join int'l fleet review

QINGDAO, 19 April—Sailing ship ARM Cuauhtemoc of the Mexican Navy arrived here on Saturday to attend an international fleet review on April 23 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army Navy.

The visiting Mexican ship was received by

Senior Colonel Han Xiangzhong, deputy leader of a destroyer detachment of the PLA's North Sea Fleet. The ARM Cuauhtemoc and the Chinese Navy exchanged 21 salutes with one another, when the former arrived at the Chinese naval port of Qingdao.—Internet

Italian scientist, turning 100, still works

ROME, 19 April—Rita Levi Montalcini, a Nobel Prize-winning scientist, said on Saturday that even though she is about to turn 100, her mind is sharper than it was when she was 20.

Levi Montalcini, who also serves as a senator for life in Italy, celebrates her 100th birthday on Wednesday, and she spoke at a ceremony held in her honor by the European Brain Research Institute. She shared the 1986 Nobel Prize for Medicine with American Stanley Cohen for discovering mechanisms that regulate the growth of cells and organs.

"At 100, I have a mind that is superior—thanks to experience—than when I was 20," she told the party, complete with a large cake for her. The Turin-born Levi Montalcini recounted how the anti-Jewish laws of the 1930s under Benito Mussolini's Fascist regime forced her to quit university and do research in an improvised laboratory in her bedroom at home.

Internet



Italian neurologist and senator for life Rita Levi Montalcini, Nobel Prize winner for Medicine in 1986, seen with a glass, at the end of a press conference for her one hundredth birthday in Rome, on 18 April, 2009.—INTERNET

MP3 player designed for fetuses

OTTAWA, 19 April—A Canadian design student said he has created an MP3 player that wraps around an expecting mother's waist to play music for the unborn child.

Geof Ramsay said his invention, the BLABY, is

comprised of the MP3 player, a contoured belt and three speakers that broadcast the vibrations from the chosen music into the womb, Britain's *The Daily Telegraph* reported on Friday.

"Scientists have talked about music being a catalyst for an unborn child's mental growth for years," Ramsay said. "This simple device just gives mothers a chance to try out that theory and also to

help form a bond with their baby before they are even born."

"Of course, classical music is what the experts have suggested be used, but there is nothing to stop you playing your favorite Beatles track or even Led Zeppelin," he said.

Ramsay said the BLABY can also help parents strengthen their bonds with their unborn children.

Internet

Smoke may be deadly for heart

NEW ORLEANS, 19 April—Smoke particulates from tobacco, cooking oil and wood fires affect cardiovascular function after as little as 10 minutes of exposure, US researchers say.

"I was surprised we got statistically significant results with this low level of exposure," Joyce Evans of the University of Kentucky in Lexington said in a statement. "If we can detect these effects with smaller exposures, then the public health hazard from cigarettes and other particulate exposures may have been underestimated."

The study also finds that, particularly among men, exposure to smoke changed breathing patterns, raised blood pressure oscillations in peripheral arteries and shifted control of heart rate toward sympathetic domination.

The sympathetic nervous system produces the "fight or flight" response, which drives the heart and blood pressure and may cause damage if activated too long, Evans says.

The researchers briefly exposed 21 women and 19 men to low levels of secondhand cigarette smoke, wood smoke or cooking oil smoke in separate trials and measured their cardiovascular and cardiorespiratory responses. All were healthy non-smokers. The average age was 35.—Internet



An investor sits watching share prices at a local securities trading floor in Hanoi in 2008.

Vietnam will allow foreign investors to increase their stakes in non-listed companies and plans to set up a new trading floor for unlisted shareholding firms, officials said on 17 April, 2009.

INTERNET

NASA team treks to Mt Qomolangma region on research mission

KATHMANDU, 19 April—A team of the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) officials has arrived in Kathmandu on a visit to the Mt Qomolangma region.

A report of local newspaper *The Himalayan Times* said on Sunday, "The team members said they would contribute to the research activities of the NASA. They, however, said their trip was not official."

NASA Orion Landing System Integration Manager and leader of the expedition Chris J Johnson said there are doctors, pilots and scientists in the 11-member team. "Steve Vander Ark, section manager of the NASA Behavioral Health and Performance Group said NASA scientist Jake Maule and he wanted to do some serious research to help the astronauts," the report said.

Equipped with the Actiwatch and Lab-On-a-Chip Application Development Portable Test System, the team members would record the sleeping and waking movements and light exposure of the subjects, Steve said, adding that the Lab-On-a-Chip, which detects bacteria and fungi on surfaces inside the International Space Station, will be used to look for snow algae.—Internet



Men dressed in 1940s-era zoot suits dance during a festival in honour of Tin Tan in Mexico City, on 18 April, 2009. The week-long festival is in honour of German Valdes, better known as Tin Tan, a Mexican actor and singer who made the look famous on both sides of the US - Mexico border.—INTERNET



A supporter of the anti-shark fins animal right group signs a petition on a shark-shaped cardboard cutout during a campaign against shark killing in Singapore.—INTERNET

Desert clash in West over solar potential, water

OAKLAND, 19 April—A westward dash to power electricity-hungry cities by cashing in on the desert's most abundant resource — sunshine — is clashing with efforts to protect the tiny pupfish and desert tortoise and stinginess over the region's rarest resource: water.

Water is the cooling agent for what traditionally has been the most cost-efficient type of large-scale solar plants. To some solar companies answering Washington's push for renewable energy on vast government lands, it's also an environmental thorn. The unusual collision pits natural resources protections against President Barack Obama's plans to produce more environmentally friendly energy.

The solar hopefuls are encountering overtaxed aquifers and a legendary legacy of Western water wars and legal and regulatory scuffles. Some are moving to more costly air-cooled technology — which uses 90 percent less water — for solar plants that will employ miles of sun-reflecting mirrors across the Western deserts. Others see market advantages in solar dish or photovoltaic technologies that don't require steam engines and cooling water and that are becoming more economically competitive.—Internet

Father tried to sell 'Slumdog Millionaire' girl

LONDON, 19 April—The father of "Slumdog Millionaire" child actress Rubina Ali tried to sell his nine-year-old daughter for adoption in a bid to escape the Mumbai slums, a British newspaper said on Sunday.

News of the World alleged that Rafiq Qureshi wanted 20 million rupees (400,000 dollars, 310,000 euros) for the girl, who played the young Latika in the British hit film set in India.

"Slumdog Millionaire", a rags-to-riches tale of children from the slums of Mumbai, won eight Oscars in February, including the best picture Academy Award.

News of the World said its reporters posed as a wealthy family from Dubai, employing its regular "fake sheikh" sting tactic.

The weekly tabloid said a Mumbai informant told them that Qureshi was touting for the highest offer, having already been approached by a Middle Eastern family.

The newspaper published pictures of the actress, her father and uncle posing with their undercover reporter, plus video clips of Qureshi and his brother-in-law during their meeting last week.

"Yes, we are considering Rubina's future," Qureshi was quoted as saying.—Internet

5.5-magnitude quake hits Xinjiang

URUMQI, 19 April—An earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter scale rocked a far northwestern county on Sunday noon in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, according to China's seismological network.

The epicentre was at 41.3 degrees north latitude and 78.3 degrees east longitude in Akqi County in Kizilsu Kirgiz Prefecture.

No casualties have been reported, local authorities said.—Internet

5.8 magnitude earthquake hits Fiji

WELLINGTON, 19 April—An earthquake measuring 5.8 on the Richter scale hit the sea area off the Pacific island nation of Fiji on Sunday morning, the US Geological Survey reported.

The quake occurred at 05:49 am Fiji local time (1749 GMT on Saturday) and was centered 425 km southeast the Fiji capital of Suva with a depth of 566 km.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or damages.—Internet

A Panamanian golden frog (*Atelopus zeteki*) is seen at the El Nispero zoo in Valle de Anton, 124 km east of Panama City on 16 April, 2009. The Panamanian golden frog (*Atelopus zeteki*) is a critically endangered toad which is endemic to Panama. They inhabit tropical forest regions, particularly on mountains, near streams.—INTERNET



Cisco to launch "Cultivated Innovation Model" in China

BEIJING, 19 April — US network equipment maker Cisco Systems said on Friday that it will allocate \$1 billion to support its newly unveiled "Cultivated Innovation Model" to boost local innovation in China, as part of its \$16

billion investment commitment in the country.

The new model, unveiled on Friday, "is aimed at boosting local innovation through capital, technology, process expertise, incubation resources and leadership investments".

The model, Cisco said, will help it and its partners and customers accelerate their time to market span as they pursue new local and global market opportunities.

The world's top network equipment gear maker on Friday launched a joint green technology and

research and development laboratory with Tsinghua University, one of the country's top ones.

The lab will develop network-based technologies and solutions for intelligent urbanization development, the company said.

"Our innovation initiative and the establishment of the lab are clear examples of our commitment to the country, and our focus on the long-term growth potential," Cisco's Chief Executive Officer John Chambers said at the unveiling ceremony.

Internet

SPORTS

Real stay on Barcelona's heels in Spanish League



Real Madrid's Marcelo Vieira (R) fights for the ball with Recreativo Huelva's Aitor Tornavaca (L) during their Spanish league football match at the Nuevo Colombino's stadium in Huelva.—INTERNET

MADRID, 19 April — Double champions Real Madrid kept up the pressure on Barcelona in the Spanish title race defeating Recreativo Huelva 1-0 on Saturday to stay six points behind their arch rivals.

Brazilian Marcelo scored three minutes into the second half to sink Recre as Real made it 15 wins from 17 league matches under coach Juande Ramos.

"We are still hanging in there and keep fighting for every three points," said Marcelo. "We just have to hope Barca drop some points. I think Sevilla could do us a favour this week (the two sides meet on Wednesday) and get at least a draw at Barcelona."—INTERNET

Wozniacki to face Lisicki after stunning Dementieva



Caroline Wozniacki

CHARLEESTON, 19 April — Denmark's Caroline Wozniacki stayed on course for back-to-back claycourt titles when she reached the Charleston final Saturday with a 6-4, 5-7, 7-5 win over Russian top seed Elena Dementieva. The 18-year-old Wozniacki, the world number 12 who won the Ponte Vedra

Beach title in Florida last weekend, came out on top after a three-hour battle with world number five Dementieva.

It would have been a shorter match had she converted one of the three match points she had in the second set when she was leading 5-3. In Sunday's final, Wozniacki will face German 16th seed Sabine Lisicki who defeated French sixth seed Marion Bartoli 6-3, 6-1.—INTERNET

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle

1	W	H	O	L	Y	4	W	A	U	G	H				
	R		V		O	7	S		A		T	O			
8	E	V	E	R	T	9	C	U	R	A	T	O	R		
	A		R		H		R		T		E	N			
10	T	E	S	T	A	T	E			11	T	R	U	E	
	H		E		R		12	W	A	13	R			T	
		14	P	E	R	I				15	H	A	16	L	T
17	I			18	O	W	19	L	O		E		20	A	
21	M	I	22	T	E		23	A	R	D	U	O	U	S	
	M		A		H		T		E		N		S		
25	U	N	C	O	U	T	H		26	S	P	I	N	E	
	N		I		L		E				I		N	T	
27	E	X	T	O	L			28	C	A	R	E	S	S	

Nadal meets Djokovic for fifth Monte Carlo title

MONTE CARLO, 19 April — World number one Rafael Nadal out-muscled Andy Murray on Saturday with a 6-2, 7-6 (7/4) win which moved him to within one victory of a fifth consecutive Monte Carlo Masters title.

The Spanish claycourt king will take on Serbian world number three Novak Djokovic, who recovered to beat Swiss 13th seed Stanislas Wawrinka, the conqueror of Roger Federer, 4-6, 6-1, 6-3, to reach his first final in the principality. Nadal leads Djokovic 11-4 in career meetings, including a Davis Cup victory last month and a 6-0 mark on clay.

INTERNET

Day after plunking woman, Bill Murray hacks away

LUTZ, 19 April — One day after she was plunked on the head by Bill Murray's wayward tee shot, Gayle DiMaggio had a request: a signed copy of his movie "Caddyshack." The actor, meanwhile, was back on the course Saturday for the second round of the Outback Pro-Am. And the course marshals took no chances: They wore hard hats.

DiMaggio lives on the course where Murray hooked his shot far to the left of the No. 9 hole at TPC Tampa Bay. She was hit on the left temple Friday as she stood in her backyard to watch the first round. She never lost consciousness but needed stitches at a hospital. DiMaggio, who has lived on the course for eight years, recounted her mishap and her encounter with Murray.

INTERNET



Actor Bill Murray tees off on the seventh hole at Pebble Beach Golf Course during the third round of the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am at Pebble Beach, Calif.—INTERNET

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

Tottenham H	1 - 0	Newcastle U
Manchester C	4 - 2	West Bromwich A



Wilson Palacios of Tottenham Hotspur tackles Michael Owen.—INTERNET



Man Utd v Everton: Everton's Leon Osman battles against Darron Gibson during the opening exchanges of the FA Cup semi-final

Everton win 4-2 on penalties after extra-time

LONDON, 19 April — Everton saw off Manchester United in a dramatic penalty shoot-out to set up an FA Cup final clash with Chelsea. After a largely disappointing semi-final, Phil Jagielka scored the decisive kick after Dimitar Berbatov and Rio Ferdinand's efforts were saved.

United were unlucky not to get a normal time penalty after Danny Welbeck was clattered by Jagielka in the box. Everton livened up after a slow start with Tim Cahill's shot well saved and James Vaughan denied by Nemanja Vidic.—INTERNET

Chelsea's Hiddink starts to dream in 'treble vision'

LONDON, 19 April — Guus Hiddink believes his "extraordinary" Chelsea squad could yet ensure a trying season ends with an unprecedented sweep of trophies.

The west Londoners, disheartened and hopelessly out of form under previous manager Luiz Felipe Scolari, were in danger of surrendering their status as one of the English Premier League's 'big four' clubs until Hiddink was appointed on an interim basis in February. Now, the Dutchman's outlook is resolutely sunny. His team are still clinging onto their place in the title race, albeit as rank

outsiders to Manchester United and Liverpool, and have booked their spot in the Champions League semi-finals, where they will face Barcelona.

On Saturday, they maintained their three-pronged assault on silverware by defeating Arsenal 2-1 in a hard-fought FA Cup semi-final at Wembley, courtesy of a dramatic late goal from in-form Didier Drogba. It is a remarkable transformation, but Hiddink — swiftly becoming a bona fide Chelsea hero, despite insisting he will walk away for good at the end of May — was keen to play down his own role in Chelsea's rise from the ashes.

INTERNET



Nantes' forward Mamadou Bagayoko (R) jumps for the ball against Nice's goalkeeper David Ospina (L) during the French L1 football match at the La Beaujoire stadium in Nantes. Nantes gave their hopes of staving off relegation a major shot in the arm on Saturday with a 2-0 home win over mid-table Nice.—INTERNET



Chelsea's Florent Malouda celebrates after scoring against Arsenal during their FA Cup semi-final match at Wembley Stadium in London, on 18 April. Chelsea won 2-1.—INTERNET

New Zealand agrees to tourism limits in Antarctica

WELLINGTON, 19 April—New Zealand has agreed to a proposal by the United States for limits on tourism in Antarctica, according to media reports on Sunday.

Measures to protect the ecosystem of the continent were tabled by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton at a meeting of signatories to the Antarctic Treaty in Baltimore.

All 28 signatories have agreed to introduce

legislation limiting shore visits to no more than 100 people at a time, Radio New Zealand reported on Sunday. Antarctic visitor numbers have risen from 6,700 in 1992-93 to more than 45,000 last season.

Another resolution adopted at the meeting places a mandatory safety code on vessels operating in the region. Two cruise ships ran aground during the 2008-09 season.

Internet



China will start building a new giant panda breeding centre as early as next month after last year's 8.0-magnitude earthquake destroyed much of their habitat, according to state media. The new centre in the Wolong nature reserve will replace a destroyed base in southwestern Sichuan province where most of China's captive pandas were kept before the earthquake.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (20.4.2009) (Monday)

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

Local Transmission

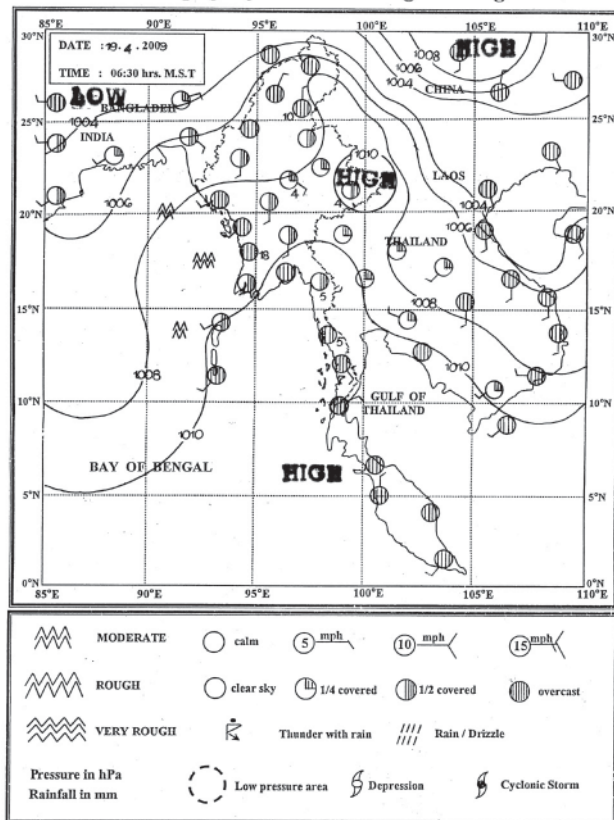
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Nan Pan Market Day
- * Mandalay, A Close distance
- * Resort for Rest and Recreation (Inle Khaung Taing Village)
- * Delicious Sein Talone Mangoes
- * Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Evening Flight in Monywa)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Native of Pa-O Nationals (Kyauktalone)
- * A Journey to the Zalon Mountain
- * Myanmar Traditional Marionette Theatre (Part-V)
- * Shopping with Torchlight
- * Road Network Speed Up Commodity Flow
- * Myanmar Traditional Food "Pone Ye Gyi"
- * Myanmar Footware and Bags
- * A Salient Myin Ma Hti
- * Everyone has a life
- * Preserve and Safeguard Cultural Heritage
- * Nan Pan Market Day
- * Mandalay, A Close distance
- * Resort for Rest and Recreation (Inle Khaung Taing Village)
- * Delicious Sein Talone Mangoes
- * Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Evening Flight in Monywa)
- * Conservation of Sea-turtles
- * Mosaic Painting of Myanmar
- * Three Dimensional Gems Studded Painting
- * Let's Drink Strawberry Juice
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 19 April, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfall in Mon State. Day temperatures were (4°C) above April average temperatures in Taninthayi Divisions, (7°C) to (8°C) below April average temperatures in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below April average temperatures in Kayin and Mon States, Bagon and Yangon Divisions and about April average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Myingyan (41°C), Nyaungoo, Chauk and Minbu (40°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Belin (4.41) inches, Kawkayeik (1.38) inches, Hpa-an (0.09) inch, Shwebo (0.78) inch, Thandwe and Bago (0.71) inch each, Thaton (0.67) inch, Sagain (0.63) inch, Heho (0.55) inch, Minesat, Gwa and Dawei (0.47) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 18-4-2009 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 19-4-2009 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 19-4-2009 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 18-4-2009 was (6.1) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 19-4-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (0.20) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (1.06) inches at Mingaladon, (1.58) inches at Kaba-Aye and (2.84) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 18-4-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 20th April 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kayah State and Magway Division, rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and scattered in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderated in Myanmar waters.

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 20-4-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 20-4-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 20-4-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Monday, 20 April
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြုရေးတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. Cute little dancers

8:05 am

6. “စေတနာပန်းများဖူးပွင့်စေစီ ငွေတောင်ပြည်”

8:15 am

7. Musical programme

8:30 am

8. International news

8:40 am

9. “စက်မှုတပ်ဆင်လုပ်ငန်းတွင်” (စင်ပိုင်၊ မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ မိုးမိုးမြင့်အောင်) [ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဝင်းထွန်းထွန်း]

8:50 am

10. Local talent

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. Song of national races

4:20 pm

3. Dance variety

4:30 pm

4. Musical programme (The radio myanmar modern music troupe)

4:40 pm

5. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

4:50 pm

6. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနှစ် (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာအထူးပြု) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)

5:05 pm

7. Songs to uphold National Spirit

5:15 pm

8. Musical programme

5:30 pm

9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:35 pm

10. စိတ်ကြွေးသွပ်ဆေးအန္တရာယ်

6:00 pm

11. Evening News

6:30 pm

12. Weather report

6:35 pm

13. Sing & enjoy

7:00 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “နွဲ့ဆိုးဆိုးသူကိုယ့်ချစ်သူ” (အပိုင်း-၂၆)

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

- “ချစ်သူသံစဉ်” (အပိုင်း-၈)

Thephyu and Toungoo main power stations inspected

YANGON, 19 April—Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint together with departmental officials inspected power input and output through Control Panel Box at the Control Room, distribution of power and transformers at the Switch Yard and connection of power lines and gave necessary

instructions at 230/33/11 KV (100 MVA) Thephyu main power station near Myohla, Yedashe Township, Bago Division yesterday. Similarly, the minister and party looked into the Control Room of 230/33/11 KV (60 MVA) Toungoo main power station.

MNA

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Peaceful and stable Myebon Township gaining development momentum

Article & Photos: Reporter Singu Soe Win

While visiting Myebon of Sittway District in Rakhine State recently, we learned the efforts for beautifying the township by Township Development Affairs Committee, production of fish and prawn and improvement of living standard of the fishermen

explained by Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Thet Naing.

At the office of Township DAC near the jetty, Executive Officer U Than Tun of Township DAC and Engineer U Kaung Tun Lin explained developments of

the committee in the township.

Myebon Township is located on 243 acres of land in northern part of Rakhine State. The township is sharing borders with An in the east, Pauktaw in the (See page 9)



Kandawgyi Dam stores 26 million gallons of water to be supplied to Myebon Township of Rakhine State.

Major boost in atomic clock accuracy: Loses or gains less than a second every 300 million years

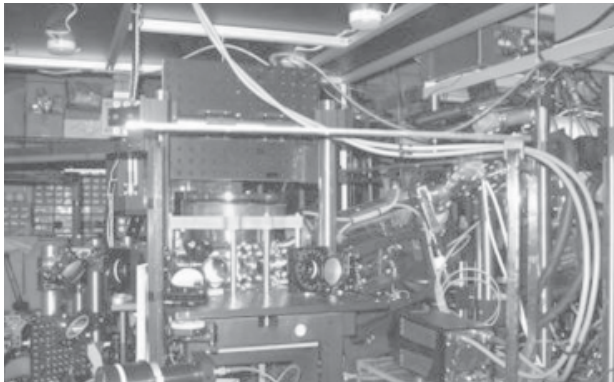
DENVER, 19 April—Physicists have measured and controlled seemingly forbidden collisions between neutral strontium atoms—a class of antisocial atoms

known as fermions that are not supposed to collide when in identical energy states. The advance makes possible a significant boost in the accuracy of atomic clocks based on

hundreds or thousands of neutral atoms.

Described in the April 17 issue of the journal *Science*, the research was performed at JILA, a joint institute of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the University of Colorado (CU) at Boulder.

“This is one of the most precise measurements of collisional effects in a clock,” says NIST/JILA Fellow Jun Ye, whose strontium atomic clock design enables scientists to “peek into very tiny effects.”—*Internet*



This is a strontium atomic clock operating at JILA, University of Colorado.

Ocean dead zones likely to expand

SCIENCE DAILY, 19 April—New calculations made by marine chemists from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) suggest that low-oxygen “dead zones” in the ocean could expand significantly over the next century. These predictions are based on the fact that, as more and more carbon dioxide dissolves from the atmosphere into the ocean, marine animals will need more oxygen to survive.

Concentrations of carbon dioxide are increasing rapidly in the Earth’s atmosphere, primarily because of human activities. About one third of the car-

bon dioxide that humans produce by burning fossil fuels is being absorbed by the world’s oceans, gradually causing seawater to become more acidic.

However, such “ocean acidification” is not the only way that carbon dioxide can harm marine animals. In a “Per-

spective” published in the journal *Science*, Peter Brewer and Edward Peltzer combine published data on rising levels of carbon dioxide and declining levels of oxygen in the ocean in a set of new and thermodynamically rigorous calculations.—*Internet*



A new study by marine chemists at MBARI suggests that deep-ocean animals such as this owlfish (*Bathylagus milleri*) may suffer as carbon dioxide increases and oxygen concentrations decline in the deep sea.