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Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of condolence to Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger

YANGON, 4 April—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of condolence to His Eminence Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, Dean of the Sacred College, Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, Vatican City, on the passing away of His Holiness Pope John Paul II on 2 April 2005. —MNA

Excerpts from Senior General Than Shwe's speech

- * The population of Myeik has been on the increase with the emergence of oil palm and rubber growing undertakings and fish and meat industry in the region.
- * Arrangements are to be made for developing a new town from now on for serving long-term interest.
- * The government on its part will provide all the necessary aids for the emergence of a new town complete with health, social and transport sectors of higher standard.
- * This will contribute much to fulfilment of food, clothing and shelter needs of the local people.

Steps will have to be taken for emergence of new town in chosen area on Kyaukphya Bank of Kywegu-Kyaukphya Bridge in accordance with urban projects Senior General Than Shwe inspects tasks of developing new town in Myeik

YANGON, 4 April—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe yesterday morning inspected the project for developing new town in Myeik Myothit.

Accompanied by members of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, ministers, senior military of-

icers of the Ministry of Defence, the deputy minister for Education, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and heads of department, Senior General Than Shwe at 10 am arrived at the briefing hall of the project for developing new town.

Chairman of new town Development Committee Taninthayi Division Superintending Engineer U Ba Wan of Public Works and Director U Tin Aung of Taninthayi Division Development Committee presented reports to Senior General Than Shwe and party, saying that there are 12 wards in Myeik including six densely populated wards; that with economic development, the population will be on the

increase.

The officials said that the respective committees for developing new town were therefore formed and work is well under way.

To develop the new town, arrangements are being made for choosing plots such as Kyaukphya Region, Kabin-Ahtuseik Region and a plot between Kyaukphya Old Village and Seikkan Region that are contiguous to Myeik as the most suitable ones, they said.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint reported on area and formation of wards in Myeik, population density, possible difficulties for
(See page 8)



Senior General Than Shwe inspects the site for building Myeik GTC and its environmental condition. —MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 5 April, 2005

Strive for development of the Union

The government is constantly raising the momentum of nation-building tasks on all fronts for all-round development of the Union of Myanmar. Regarding the development of the nation, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said that the government was fulfilling all the requirements of states and divisions for the better future of the national people living there, as if parents were meeting all the needs of their offspring without any kind of discrimination. His words reflect the genuine goodwill of the government towards its people.

Government Technological College (Hpa-an) was inaugurated on 3 April in order that the youths in Kayin State, one of the regions in the Union, can study advanced technologies at Hpa-an, the capital city of the state. The opening ceremony was attended by Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win. In his address on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that the government was making concerted efforts for a smooth transition from the old system to the new one and that, in doing so, it always placed a special emphasis on parallel development of all regions and all national people.

In striving for all-round development of the Union made up of seven states and seven divisions, the government has given no less attention to the development of Kayin State than to that of other states and divisions.

Kayin State is not far away from the City of Yangon. But, due to armed insurgency and other social evils, its development had been slow for some time. Therefore, the government is taking all the necessary steps for Kayin State to be able to catch up with other states and divisions in terms of development. As Kayin State shares a long border with a neighbouring country, speedy development in all sectors of the state is a must. Only then will the image of the state improve and its national forces be further consolidated. The opening of Government Technological College (Hpa-an) is a shot in the arm for the education sector of Kayin State. Human resources turned out by the college are to contribute as much as they can to the development, peace and stability of the state.

The government is doing whatever is necessary for the development of the entire Union. Therefore we would like to call on all the national people to lend themselves to regional and national development endeavours, realizing the good intentions of the government.



WINNERS OF ASEAN RADIO QUIZ FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH: Ma Hsu Myat Thwe of Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Ma Ni Ni Swe of Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Ma Pan Pa Pa Hlaing of Dagon Myothit (East) Township and Ma Aye Aye Win of Hekae village, Shwenyaung Township, Shan State South emerged as the first, second, third and consolation prize winners respectively in ASEAN Radio Quiz for the month of March held on 1 April. — H

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

9th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting on 5 and 6 April

YANGON, 4 April— Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Finance & Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe left for Lao People's Democratic Republic yesterday to attend the 9th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting to be held in Vientiane on 5th and 6th April. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Minister for F&R Maj-Gen Hla Tun and officials. The deputy minister was accompanied by Assistant Director Daw Khin Cho Cho of the Central Bank of Myanmar. — MNA



Deputy Minister for Finance & Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe to attend the 9th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting is seen off at Yangon International airport before his departure. — MNA

Books donated to departments under ministries



Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung addresses the ceremony to donate books on culture to departments under the ministries. — MNA

YANGON, 4 April — A ceremony to donate books on culture published by Ministry of Culture to the departments under the ministries at the minister's office on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning, with an address by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Chit Naing, Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Sit Myaing, Directors-General of the Departments under the Ministry of Culture, rectors of Institute of Culture (Yangon) and (Mandalay), librarians and officials concerned.

First, Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung delivered

an address on purpose of the donations on the occasion and so did Deputy Minister Soe Win Maung.

Next, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung presented books donated to officials of National Defence College, Defence Services Academy, Combat Training Schools, Defence Services Medical Academy, Defence Services Technological Academy, Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper/Lower Myanmar), Arts and Science Universities (State/Division), schools under the Education and Training Department, IPRD, departments of the Ministry of Culture, Institute of Culture (Yangon and Mandalay), library of universities and national library.

The number of books donation amounted to 1030. — MNA

New CEC members chosen for MRMA

YANGON, 4 April— Ninth Plenary Meeting 2004-2005 of Myanmar Rice Merchants Association took place at Traders Hotel yesterday. President of MRMA U Aung Than Oo, President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and Patron of MRMA U Nyein made speeches on the occasion.

Members of the association approved the report of Central Execu-

tive Committee and the balance sheet.

Next, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing

of UMFCCI read out the list of new CEC formed with 18 CEC members and 22 executives led by

President U Aung Than Oo and General Secretary Dr Myo Aung Kyaw, it is learnt.—MNA

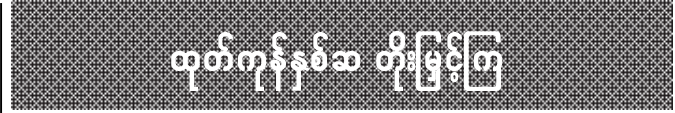


General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing of UMFCCI reads out new CEC members' list at the Ninth Meeting of MRMA. — MRMA



A BMW Z4 at the Bangkok International Motor Show in Bangkok recently.

INTERNET



Indonesia says Asian-African Summit to cost \$22m

JAKARTA, 3 April — The Indonesian Government said it has disbursed the equivalent of 22 million US dollars to make a success the three-day jubilee celebration of the Asian-African Summit in Bandung, West Java, late this month.

State Secretary Yusril Ihza Mahendra was quoted Saturday by *The Jakarta Post* as saying the 206 billion rupiah fund is being spent on building infrastructure, including a toll road linking Jakarta and Bandung, expansion of Bandung's Hussein Sastranegara Airport and renovation of the Independence Building, where the conference is to be held.

The money is also being used to provide accommodation for summit participants from over 60 countries and buy 60 luxury Toyota Camry sedans for them.

"It includes infrastructure and other things that we can use again in the future," Yusril said after a Cabinet meeting led by President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono to discuss preparations for the summit Friday.

"Such a vast sum will hopefully be recovered, not directly but through the improved image of the nation, which would boost foreign investment," Yusril quoted Susilo as saying.

After being used by the summit delegates, he added, the luxury sedans would become the official cars of high-ranking government officials. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Gho Chok Tong stresses long-term ties with India

SINGAPORE, 3 April — Singapore's Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong said Saturday night that building strong and long-term relations with India corresponds to Singapore's interests.

Addressing an Indian community event, Goh said that India is emerging as a major economic power and geopolitical player.

"Singapore can benefit from India's growth just as we are benefitting from China's," Goh said, adding that the young city state can also gain from the culture and heritage of India's ancient and glo-

rious civilization.

He urged the Indian community in Singapore, which constitutes nearly 10 per cent of the country's population, to play a helpful role in introducing Singapore to the Indian market.

Goh expressed belief that the bilateral Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA), which is expected to be concluded soon, will strengthen the links between the two countries.

Worrying about the low birth rate in Singapore, Goh welcomed more talented Indians to come to study,

work and live in the island state so as to inject valuable skills and network into the country. — *MNA/Xinhua*

China invites German businessmen for economic cooperation

BEIJING, 3 April — The head of China's top political advisory body, Jia Qinglin, extended warm welcome to German companies on Friday and invited them to increase cooperation with Chinese businessmen.

"We welcome people from the German business circle and hope they will actively join China's modernization process and have more mutual-beneficial cooperation with the Chinese side," Jia, chairman of the Na-

tional Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), told Matthias Platzeck, president of the Federal Council of the German Parliament.

Platzeck, also Prime

Minister of Brandenburg, a German state, is visiting China with a delegation of more than 60 German entrepreneurs. This is the first China visit made by a Federal Council President since German's reunification. Jia said China

and Germany are in good relations and the leaders of the two countries maintained close contact, which helped deepen mutual political trust and promote the development of the China-German strategic cooperative partnership.

He expressed his belief that Platzeck's visit to China will help improve understanding between the two sides. "The CPPCC is willing to improve exchanges with the Federal Council of German Parliament and all the sectors of German society to make positive contribution to China-German friendship and bilateral relations." — *MNA/Xinhua*

China is major contributor to world's steel output growth

BEIJING, 3 April — China has contributed approximately 140 million tons to the world's steel output increase since 2001, Wu Xichun, chairman of the China Iron and Steel Association (CISA), said at a machine building industry forum on Friday.

He said China's economy has entered a new growth period mainly powered by its heavy industry. During the past four years, the country's steel output growth has accounted for 70 per cent of the world's increased output of 205.9 million tons.

Between 2001 and 2003, a record high 78 per cent or 93.84 million tons of

the world's was produced in China. Meanwhile, about 26.51 million tons was imported during the same period.

As China's steel output and consumption goes on expanding, industrial experts such as Wu also sent out warnings that the country's steel production structure must be optimized. — *MNA/Xinhua*

At least four wounded in explosion in eastern Beirut

BEIRUT, 3 April — At least four people were wounded on Friday night in an explosion in Bermana Town in the eastern mountain of Beirut, local private LBC television reported.

More than ten cars were destroyed in the blast, which caused heavy material damage.

Witnesses said the blast occurred at 9:45 pm (1845 GMT) at the Rizk commercial centre in a Christian village of Bermana, 20 kilometres east of Beirut. — *MNA/Xinhua*

At least 18 US soldiers wounded by guerilla attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 4 April — Guerillas detonated two car bombs and launched mortars at a US military forward base west of Baghdad on Saturday, wounding at least 18 US soldiers, the US military said.

Twelve detainees were also wounded in the attack, which was targeting the Abu Ghraib detention centre taken by the US-led multinational forces as a forward operation base, the military said in a statement.

The apparently well-organized assault was mounted by 40-60 guerillas at about 7:00 p m (0300 GMT). Two car bombs were first detonated, followed by rocket-propelled grenades, mortar

rounds and small arms fire, said the statement. The assault was repelled and the prison "was secured and locked down", said the military, without giving further details. Guerillas have previously shelled the prison, centre of the scandal of abuse of prisoners by US captors. The notorious detention centre 20 kilometres west of Baghdad, holds currently more than 3,000 detainees. — *MNA/Xinhua*



US soldiers from Charlie Company 2BTC 10MNT search for hidden weapons and ammunitions in Abu Ghraib, West of Baghdad, on 3 April, 2005. — INTERNET

Hu Jintao plants trees, urges people to protect environment

BELING, 4 April — President Hu Jintao told all Chinese to protect the environment to help create harmony between humans and nature.

Hu made these remarks on Saturday morning when he and other central leaders planted trees in the Beijing Olympic Forest Park, adjacent to the main stadium for the 2008 Olympic Games. He worked with more than two million people on the 21st Voluntary Tree-Planting Day.

Hu said the environment is fundamental to the sustainable economic and social development. Environmental protection is essential for building up and implementing the scientific concept of development, providing people with

clean water, air and food, he said.

Senior central leaders Wu Bangguo, Wen Jiabao, Jia Qinglin, Zeng Qinghong, Huang Ju, Wu Guanzheng and Luo Gan worked with a group of young students.

At the end, Hu spoke with some model workers and young pioneers, encouraging them to do well in their work or study.

During the past two decades, a total of 9.39 billion people have planted 44.88 billion trees across the country, statistics show. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Nepal exports sugar to Portugal

KATHMANDU, 4 April — A Nepali company has exported 2,200 tons of sugar manufactured in Nepal to Portugal, manager of the company said here Saturday.

"A cargo train carrying the goods has left Birgunj dry port in southern Nepal. This is the first lot of sugar that Nepal has exported this year under the 'Everything But Arms' programme of the European Union," Pradipta Bahadur Pradhan, manager of National Trading Limited, told reporters.

Under the programme, Nepal will export a total of 9,200 tons of sugar to

European countries, namely France and Portugal, within this year, Pradhan said.

The company will export the remaining quantity in the next three lots, he added.

This was also the first time the only railway in Nepal has been used to export sugar, which used to be ferried by containers previously. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Anti-smoking bill to be tabled in HK

HONG KONG, 3 April — A bill banning smoking at indoor public places will be tabled at the Legislative Council in May. This was the message Friday from Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food York Chow made while meeting visiting Canadian Minister of Health Ujjal Dosanjh who shared Canada's experience in tobacco control, according to a government Press release.

Chow said, "We have learnt from experience that the best way is to go for a full ban in indoor working places." He added that "we will be sending a bill to the Legislative Council in May to tighten tobacco control. Key proposals include a ban on smoking in indoor workplaces and public places, including restaurants, bars and karaokes with no exemption. The bill will also set more restrictions on the promotion of

tobacco products".

Chow said he believed that the legislation will be passed as there is strong public support for banning smoking in all enclosed areas. "It is not just passing the law itself. We have to ensure the public understand the reasons behind the law so that we can pass the law and implement it with the acceptance of the public," he said.

— *MNA/Xinhua*



An Iraqi soldier searches civilians lining up at a security checkpoint in central Baghdad on 3 April, 2005. — INTERNET

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A Chinese student (C) donates blood in a blood collection car while others wait outside in Changchun, northeast China's Jilin Province on 3 April, 2005. — INTERNET

Fishing ban takes effect in sections of Yangtze, Hanjiang

WUHAN, 3 April — A three-month fishing ban has taken effect as of 1 April in the sections of the Yangtze and Hanjiang rivers within the boundaries of the central China's Hubei Province, in a bid to prevent overfishing and protect fish spawn.

According to Ren Jinghua, director of the provincial aquatic products administration office, the Yangtze and Hanjiang rivers are the natural reproduction bases for various categories of fresh water fish and spring is the peak season for fresh water fish reproduction.

To protect the fishery resources of the two rivers,

the province started a three-month fishing ban in spring season ever since 2003. No fishing operations are allowed during the fishing ban period, and restaurants, fairs and markets are not allowed to sell fish during the period, the official said.

There are a total of 6,000 fishing boats and

vessels in the provincial sections of the Yangtze and Hanjiang rivers, with the number of fishermen totalling over 10,000.

The local financial, civil affairs and labour departments of various levels has worked out policy for subsidizing the fishermen during the fishing ban.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

Bangladesh's export earnings grow in first eight months

DHAKA, 4 April — Bangladesh's export earnings during the first eight months of the current fiscal (July, 2004-June, 2005) registered a 13-per-cent growth over the same period in the previous year.

According to an individual month record, export marked a rise by 35 per cent in February this year after a 12-per-cent slid in January. The New Age reported Sunday.

The country fetched 5.41 billion US dollars from export during the July-February period this fiscal.

The earnings were, however, over 2 per cent lower than the target of 5.53 billion dollars for the period.

The latest export figure shows that ready made garment sector accounted for 4.23 billion dollars or 78.15 per cent of the total export earnings of the July-February period. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Nine killed as Australian chopper crashes in Indonesia

CANBERRA, 4 April — Nine Australian military personnel were killed and two others seriously injured when the helicopter carrying them crashed on the quake-stricken island of Nias in Indonesia on Saturday.

The Navy's *Sea King* helicopter was flying an aid mission to the area, just hours after Australia's military support to the island started, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio reported Sunday.

The injured were taken to

Australia's Navy ship *HMAS Kanimbla* for treatment.

More than 1,300 people have been killed in Nias, off Indonesia's Sumatra Island, when the quake measuring 8.7 on the Richter Scale struck last Monday.

— *MNA/Xinhua*



US Army forces secure the scene near a badly damaged Stryker armoured vehicle after a bomb explosion in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul on 3 April, 2005. — INTERNET

Cathay Pacific launches aviation education for HK youngsters

HONG KONG, 4 April — Cathay Pacific Airways on Saturday got its second "I Can Fly" education and community service programme for Hong Kong youngsters off the ground.

Cathay Pacific Executive Philip Chen said at the opening ceremony that Cathay Pacific's "I Can Fly" programme has been created to involve, inform and inspire Hong Kong youth to seek and reach for their dreams. "Our pilots, who have had their dreams come true, will lead our programme members along and guide them toward their goals."

The airline will recruit 1,000 youngsters aged between 13 and 18 years. A dozen members from the first "I Can Fly" programme and Cathay Pacific pilots will act as mentors to participants throughout as they learn about aviation and devise and take part in community service schemes.

The "I Can Fly" programme will run for 15 months from May 2005 through August 2006. Some of the best participants will earn the chance to visit the Boeing or Airbus aircraft factories in the United States and France, while others will fly for real at Cathay Pacific's pilot academy in Adelaide, Australia. Cathay Pacific's First Officer Ron Chan said that as a mentor he saw tremendous positive changes among students in his group as they developed team and leadership skills. —MNA/Xinhua

China-France architecture, expo to open in Beijing

BEIJING, 4 April — "French visions: city, architecture and sustainable development," a large exposition on contemporary French architecture and city planning, will open in Beijing on 5 April.

Lu Jun, a senior official with the Chinese Ministry of Culture in charge of the China-French Culture Year, told Xinhua Friday that the show is an important programme of the French Culture Year that kicked off last October. He said that 350 of architecture works will be displayed in the style of a picture, liquid display terminal and model show, covering 1,000 square metres at the Beijing Exhibition Hall for City Planning.

Bertrand Lemoine, the show's chief French coordinator, said it would focus on the quality and innovation of architecture, sustainable development and prospects of the city and the cultural and technological impact of city

planning. The show will be divided into 10 sections including planning for public space, transportation extending in all directions, city image and intellectual spirit and reconstruction of historic relics.

Chinese and French architects have enhanced dialogue and cooperation over recent years, and have worked in cooperation on many buildings in more than 40 Chinese cities, he said.

According to the organizers, a forum on architecture will be held simultaneously with the show. Architects, experts and estate agents will be invited to have discussions on such issues as environment, residence and protection of historic relics.

MNA/Xinhua

US ignored work of UN arms inspectors before Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 4 April — The United States ignored the work of UN inspectors, who had extraordinary access during their three months in Iraq between November 2002 and March 2003, before the Iraq war, *The Washington Post* reported Sunday.

Months before US troops attacked Iraq in March 2003, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) challenged every piece of evidence the Bush Administration offered to support claims of a nuclear programme in the country, the report said, quoting an investigation report commissioned by President George W Bush and released Thursday. By the time Bush ordered US troops to disarm Saddam Hussein of the deadly weapons he was allegedly trying to build, every piece of fresh evidence had been tested — and disproved — by UN inspectors. In January 2003, IAEA inspectors discovered that documents showing Iraq had tried to buy uranium from Niger were forged, but the CIA chose to stick to the claim for another six months, the *Post* report said. —MNA/Xinhua

S Korea opposes Japan's bid for permanent UNSC seat

SEOUL, 3 April — South Korean Government has decided to work to block Japan's bid to win permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council, Seoul's envoy to the UN said Friday.

"We do not think Japan has the qualifications to become a UN Security Council member, and we will try to make sure it does not (become a Security Council member)," South Korean Ambassador Kim Sam-hoon said in New York in an interview with South Korea's *Yonhap* news agency.

He said Japan's leadership would be "limited" because it lacks confidence of neighbouring countries.

"There are difficulties for a country that does not have the trust of its neighbouring countries because of its lack of reflection on the past to play the role of a world leader," the South Korean diplomat was quoted as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

China's ancient wall to be restored before May Day

TAIYUAN, 4 April — The ancient city wall of Pingyao in north China's Shanxi Province will be restored before the May Day holiday, a local cultural heritage official said here Friday.

Costing 870,000 yuan (about 105,326 US dollars), the repair project has been going smoothly for more than 20 days, said Dong Yangzhong, an official with the Cultural Heritage Bureau of Shanxi Province.

"We'll use traditional techniques to restore the original look of the ancient city wall before the tourist rush begins during the coming May Day holiday," Dong said.

The entire wall will also be examined using advanced technology to prevent possible collapse in the future, Dong said.

Part of the 630-year-old wall collapsed on 17 October, 2004. The collapse caused no casualties because no one was around when the 17-metre long, 10-metre tall, three-metre thick section near the southern city gate fell apart.

A preliminary investi-

gation suggests the collapse was a result of structural defects in the wall itself, not human activities, said Li Shusheng, vice-director of the cultural heritage administration of Pingyao.

The local government promised to restore the collapsed section before winter set in. It did not explain the reason for the project's delay. The existing city wall of Pingyao was rebuilt in 1370 on top of an old one. The wall is around 10 metres tall and has a circumference of nearly 6,200 metres.

Pingyao was an ancient financial centre. It has well-preserved streets, stores, temples and residential houses built in the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) dynasties, attracting numerous tourists from home and abroad each year.

MNA/Xinhua

Pirates rob Japanese-owned ship in Malacca Strait

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 April — Three pirates boarded a Japanese-owned bulk carrier in the Malacca Strait early Friday and robbed the crew of 20,000 US dollars before fleeing in a fishing boat.

None of the 21 crew members, all Filipino, was hurt and the cargo on board was left untouched in the 3.00 am incident, Malaysia's Selangor marine police commander N. Kalai Chelvan told reporters in Port Klang, 45 kilometres west of here.

The pirates stopped the Panamanian-registered *MV Ocean Bridge* in international waters in

the waterway 20 nautical miles from Pulau Angsa, Kuala Selangor, as the vessel was heading for India from Port Klang.

Kalai said he was informed about the incident by Malaysian Rescue and Coordination Centre (MRCC) although the vessel's crew did not make a report to Malaysian marine police.

He said the crew only

radioed MRCC about the incident after the ship was about 130 nautical miles from the spot where it was boarded by the pirates. Kalai could not confirm whether the pirates were armed.

He said more marine police were deployed to the scene of the attack but the pirates had not been sighted. The vessel was continuing its trip to India. —MNA/Xinhua



An Indian model displays a Tag Heuer watch recently.

INTERNET

Beijing to spend \$48.3m for restoration of heritage sites this year

BEIJING, 3 April—Beijing will spend more than 400 million yuan (48.3 million US dollars) this year for repairing or maintaining its heritage sites and cultural relics, reported on Saturday's *Beijing News*.

Of the total amount, 100 million yuan (some 12 million US dollars) will be used for repairs on the Forbidden City, the imperial court complexes of China's last two dynasties, the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911).

The remaining approximately 300 million yuan (36.28 million US dollars), offered partially by the municipal government and partially by district governments, will be used to restore 20 cultural sites, including the splendid Summer Palace on Beijing's western outskirts.

Mei Ninghua, head for Beijing's cultural relics affairs, said the city government will complete the maintenance work on all of the city's approximately 300 cultural relic sites before 2008. The municipality will soon draft a long-

term plan to detail renovation work for the next 15 to 20 years.

According to earlier reports by local media, in five years between 2003 and 2008, Beijing is expected to pour 600 million yuan (72.6 million US dollars) into maintaining and renovating more than 100 sites of historic interest across the city.

Beijing's citywide restoration project in preparation for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games has caught the eyes of foreign governments and companies. Both international bodies and foreign companies have suggested some good projects in years and our cooperation with them is underway," he said.

Mei said there are a host of risks with the city's heritage sites, but the general situation is certainly optimistic.

A probe by the municipal cultural relics bureau found that about 10,000 Beijing families live in homes considered heritage sites, which authorities say damages the buildings. For example in 2004, minor fires broke out in a government site dating to the 1920s but is now used as a housing complex.

The newspaper wrote in an earlier article that more than 60 per cent of Beijing's heritage sites, including some on UNESCO's World Heritage List, are used for offices or housing.

Many buildings on the grounds of the Summer Palace are occupied and buildings on the 3.74 square kilometres grounds of the 15th century Temple of Heaven were used as schools, shops and factories, it said.—MNA/Xinhua

Boao Forum of Asia to hold annual conf in late April

HAIKOU, 3 April—The annual conference of the Boao Forum of Asia (BFA) will be held on 22-24 April in Boao, a tranquil town on the eastern coast of south China's Hainan Province, organizers say.

Preparation for the annual meeting is now in full swing.

According to the organizers, over 1,000 representatives from government, the business community, and the Asian and international Press will attend this year's BFA annual conference, and a number of government leaders from countries and regions in and outside Asia will also be invited to give speeches at the annual meeting.

Among the participants will include John

Winston Howard, Prime Minister of Australia, Wolfgang Schuessel, Prime Minister of Austria, Supachai Panitchpakdi, Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO), and Robert E Rubin, director and chairman of the executive committee and member of the Office of the Chairman, Citigroup, Inc.

In addition to discussing around a topic known as "Asia's new role" at the BFA annual conference, which will have "Asia in pursuit of a win-

win modality and commitment for all" as its theme, participants will also debate and exchange views on subjects including energy, monetary policy and exchange rates, innovation in the information industry, the economics of the Olympic Games and reconstruction after the tsunami in the Indian Ocean.

An Asian film show and a golf invitational tournament will also be staged during the BFA annual meeting.

MNA/Xinhua



A Japanese businessman passes an electronic board displaying recent movements of the dollar-yen rate in Tokyo on 1 April, 2005.—INTERNET

Moderate earthquake jolted Indonesia on Saturday

HONG KONG, 3 April—A moderate earthquake, measuring 5.6 on the Richter Scale, hit Sumatra, Indonesia, at 4:38 am (Hong Kong Time) on Saturday, according to the Hong Kong Observatory.

The epicenter of the quake was determined to be near the sea west of Sumatra, Indonesia (0.4 North Latitude, 98.1 East Longitude), about 360 kilometres south of Medan.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian Govt to restore infrastructure on Nias within month

GUNUNG SITOLI (Indonesia), 3 April—The Indonesian Government said on Saturday that it takes one month to restore infrastructure on the Nias Island, which was seriously damaged in Monday's massive earthquake.

"Many installations and infrastructure have been destroyed. It will take about one month to normalize them," Vice-President Jusuf Kalla told a news conference here after an inspection of the island.

However, it will take about three months to restore the entire power system, he said.

Kalla also promised to immediately provide logistics and clean water to the quake-affected people.

"Within the next one or two days the supply of clean water will be sufficient for the people," he said, adding that five tank trucks will provide water for people in the city, where the water treatment facilities were damaged by the disaster.

The Vice-President asked local authorities to

speed up distribution of rice to the survivors as the local market, the main food source, was devastated in the quake.

"The rice, no matter how much the number needed, we will provide it, we will use two helicopters to carry the aid, we will increase trucks and small ships from Sibolga," he said.

Sibolga, a port city 210 kilometres away from the Nias Island, is the only transit point for aid.

Kalla said the government will add five ships to carry aid to Nias and intensify the frequency of ship schedule. The Vice-President also promised that the Indonesian Government will provide funds to assist people in rebuilding their houses. The local government announced Saturday that 514 people were confirmed dead on the Nias Island while 670 others were seriously injured. The United Nations estimated over 1,000 people were killed on the island.

MNA/Xinhua

S'pore takes control measures after reported outbreak of VRE bacteria

SINGAPORE, 3 April—

Hospitals in Singapore were taking control measures to prevent the spread of vancomycin resistant enterococci (VRE) bacteria, according to Channel NewsAsia (CNA) report on Saturday. Fifteen infected patients had been identified since 9 March in the Singapore General Hospital (SGH), according to earlier CNA report.

As the bacteria can keep alive in human body for a few months, hospitals are isolating patients who have been transferred from SGH since 1 March.

Other measures include closely monitoring the patients who are more liable to the VRE bacteria, cancer patients in particular, and setting limit on the number of visitors for each patient. SGH has also provided other hospitals with the names of its patients who were warded in March and will stop transferring patients to other hospitals.

Hospitals also warn healthcare workers to observe infection control measures like washing their hands after attending to patients.—MNA/Xinhua

A Chinese salesman (R) talks with the customers in front of Lenovo signage at a computer shop in Beijing recently. — INTERNET

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hosts dinner in honour of visiting Vietnamese delegation

YANGON, 4 April — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting goodwill Vietnamese delegation led by Chief of General Staff Senior Lt-Gen Phung Quang Thanh of the Vietnamese People's Army of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta at 7 pm today.

Also present at the dinner were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Yangon Division PDC Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun and senior military officers, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, Charge' d'affaires of Vietnamese Embassy to Myanmar Mr Pham Van Cu, Military Attache' Sr Col Nguyen Van Thanh and officials. Before and during dinner, artistes of Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture sang songs. After the dinner, they also entertained the guests with Myanmar traditional songs and dances. Later, Senior Lt-Gen Phung Quang Thanh presented a basket of flowers to the artistes, and Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party posed for a documentary photo together with the visiting delegation. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greets Vietnamese Chief of General Staff Senior Lt-Gen Phung Quang Thanh at the dinner hosted at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinthta. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hosts dinner in honour of Vietnamese Chief of General Staff Senior Lt-Gen Phung Quang Thanh and delegation at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinthta. — MNA



Prime Minister urges ...

(from page 6)

The Prime Minister and party inspected wards, medical store, operation theatre, obstetrics and gynecological ward, X-ray unit of 25-bed people's hospital in Thanbyzayat.

They went by helicopter to Kawkaik in Kayin State where they were welcomed by Brig-Gen Maung Maung Shein of regional station, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Khin Kyu, senior military officers, departmental officials and members of social organizations.

Next, the Prime Minister met departmental officials, Chairmen of Kawkaik and Kya-in-Seikkyi Township Peace and Development Councils, local authorities and members of social organizations.

Chairman of Kawkaik Township Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Win Maung reported on data of the township, agriculture, livestock breeding and health, sufficiency of rice and coordination for regional development.

In his address, the Prime Minister said officials concerned possessed better experiences and practices for development of the region and raising of living standard of the people. He urged them to utilize these qualities.

Administrative, management and judicial officials dealing with the people directly are to serve and safeguard the interest of the people. Efforts to raise the

socio-economic lives of the people should be prominent, he said. He spoke of the need to take care of their performance when dealing with people.

Regional development tasks such as narrowing the gap between urban and rural areas and eradication of poverty and community welfare services are the ones to be carried out continuously. Especially, personnel of administrative bodies are to undertake the community welfare services with added momentum and to take care of the people in order to do their business within the frame of law, he said.

As people want peace and stability and long for development, the government has been endeavouring for peace and tranquillity and development. The Tatmadaw will safeguard the State and the people. Therefore, the government hand in hand with the Tatmadaw and the people is making efforts for development.

The Head of State himself is giving guidance for national development and raising of quality of life of the people every now and then. Progress has been made due to the cooperation of officials at different levels. By doing so, the greater development will be made.

There are better foundations in economic, social, education, health and transport sectors. The government has laid down seven-point Road Map and is paving the way for emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation step by step. There is national solidarity in the country and emergence of a demo-

cratic nation is on the path and better prospects for the future can be found.

Achievements in all sectors have been made due to the national solidarity, the spirit of the citizens of the Union of Myanmar and unity. He called for national development.

Next, the Prime Minister cordially greeted those present. He went to Kawkaik Hospital where medical superintendent Dr U Win Zaw reported on history of the hospital and construction of 100-bed hospital.

An official of Home Tauk Construction Group reported on construction of 100-bed hospital. The Prime Minister then inspected the site.

The Prime Minister and party went to Hpa-an by helicopter and inspected construction of three-storey computer college (Hpa-an) near Barkap Village.

They arrived at Barkap River Water Pumping Project site where Director-General of Water Resources Utilization Department U Win Shwe reported on data of the project and tasks to be undertaken. Deputy Minister U Ohn Myint and Chairman Col Khin Kyu gave a supplementary report. Next, Manager of Myanma Agriculture Service in Kayin State U Kyaw Thein reported on cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, sufficiency of rice, dissemination of cultivation methods and cultivation of summer paddy for 2004-2005.

The Prime Minister then fulfilled the requirements and observed Barkap River Water Pumping station and thriving of summer paddy. He also cordially greeted the farmers.—MNA

Steps will have to be taken for emergence of new town in chosen...

(from page 1)
 extension of the town, arrangements for developing new town on the other bank with the emergence of Kywegu-Kyaukphya bridge and area chosen for the new town to Senior General Than Shwe and party.
 After hearing the reports, Senior General Than Shwe gave a guidance. He said that Myeik is densely populated and there have been difficulties for extension of present wards due to land

now on with a view to serving the long-term interest.
 The government on its part will provide all the necessary aids for the emergence of the new town complete with health, social and transport sectors of higher standard. This will contribute much to fulfilment of food, clothing and shelter needs of the local people.
 That is why steps will have to be taken for the emergence of the new town in the chosen area

party inspected the plots designated for developing of new town.
 Next, they arrived at the Government Technological College project site. At the briefing hall, Managing Director U Ohn Myint of Civil Tech Co Ltd reported on arrangements for construction of the college and work being carried out to them.
 Later, Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and Lt-Gen Maung Bo reported on other salient



Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance to officials at the briefing hall of Myeik Timber extraction project. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe hears reports by Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint at the briefing hall of site to build Myeik GTC. —MNA



constraints.
 The population of Myeik has been on the increase with the emergence of oil palm and rubber growing and fish and meat industry in the region, he noted.
 The Senior General added that arrangements are to be made for developing new town from

on Kyaukphya Bank of Kywegu-Kyaukphya Bridge in accordance with urban projects, he stressed.
 Next, Senior General Than Shwe inspected the map of new town and the site chosen for the new town.
 Afterwards, Senior General Than Shwe and

points to Senior General Than Shwe who attended to the needs.
 After that, Senior General Than Shwe and party inspected construction of Myeik Government Technological College and its environs.
 Next, the Senior General and party left the site chosen for develop-

ing the new town by car and inspected construction of Myeik circular road.
 Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Secretariat Member Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and USDA CEC members who accompanied the

Senior General, on 3 April afternoon met secretaries and executives of Taninthayi Division, Myeik District and Township USDAs at Pale Yadana Hall in Myeik.
 The joint-secretary of Taninthayi Division USDA and joint-secretary of Myeik District reported on measures

being taken by USDA members of Division and District USDAs.
 USDA CEC Member Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein dealt with requirements.
 Next, Secretary-General Maj-Gen Htay Oo stressed the need for USDA members to successful implement aims and objectives of the association, to carry out works with firm concept and belief and strive together with the people in implementation of rural development tasks.



Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance to officials at the briefing hall of site to build Myeik GTC. —MNA

Likewise, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi who accompanied the Senior General on 3 April afternoon inspected the storage and distribution division of Myanma Petroleum Product Enterprise in Myeik where Division Manager U Zaw Win and officials reported on distribution of fuel.
 Next, the minister gave instructions on greening the environs and fire preventive measures and fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



Senior General Than Shwe hears reports presented by Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint. (News on page 1)—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greets Senior Lt-Gen Phung Quang Thanh. MNA

Visiting Vietnamese delegation on tour of Shwedagon Pagoda, museums

YANGON, 4 April— Accompanied by Maj-Gen Than Htay and officials of the Ministry of Defence, the visiting goodwill delegation led by Chief of General Staff Senior Lt-Gen Phung Quang Thanh of the Vietnamese People's Army of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam visited the Shwedagon Pagoda this morning. They were welcomed on their arrival at the pagoda by members of the pagoda board of trustees.

Next, Senior Lt-Gen Phung Quang Thanh and party offered flowers, water and joss sticks to a Buddha image, signed the

visitors' book and made cash donations for the pagoda. The members of the pagoda board of trustees presented a painting of Shwedagon Pagoda to the Chief of General Staff. After paying homage to the pagoda and Buddha images, the guests viewed religious edifices.

On arrival at the Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road, the visiting delegation members were welcomed by Lt-Col Zaw Win and officials. Officials conducted the guests round the central booth, the booth on 12 State objectives and the booth on

Tatmadaw affairs at the museum.

The Vietnamese delegation next visited Myanmar Gems Emporium on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township and studied displayed gems and jewellery.

Senior Lt-Gen Phung Quang Thanh and party then paid a visit to Drugs Elimination Museum in Kamayut Township where they were welcomed by Director of the Ministry of Home Affairs Police Col Tin Maung Htay and officials. Later, the guests viewed booths and signed the visitors' book. —MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives Senior Lt-Gen Phung Quang Thanh and party of Vietnamese People's Army.—MNA

Mines Minister views Myanmar Gems Emporium

YANGON, 4 April—Patron of Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint at 5 pm today arrived at the Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road where the 42nd Myanmar Gems Emporium is being staged.

The minister was welcomed there by Chairman of Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein, Secretary Acting Managing Director of Myanmar Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe and central committee members.

The minister viewed the sale of jade lots through competitive bidding and left the venue in the evening.

The sale of jade lots through competitive bidding continued in the evening and altogether 20 jade lots were sold from 5 to 9.10 pm yesterday. A total of 500 jade lots were sold yesterday alone.

Under the 42nd Myanmar Gems Emporium programme, the sale of jade lots through competitive bidding continued this morning and altogether 41 jade lots were sold as of 5 pm. The sale of the remaining jade

lots continued until evening.

Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint presented mosaics and certificates of honour to a foreign gem merchant who attended the gems emporium for 30 consecutive years until the 42nd Myanmar Gems Emporium and a foreign gem merchant who attended the gems emporium for 25 consecutive years until the 42nd Myanmar Gems Emporium.

Next, officials presented certificates of honour to three foreign gem merchants who attended the gems emporium for 15 consecutive years and three foreign gem merchants who attended the gem emporium for 10 consecutive years up to the 42nd Myanmar Gems Emporium.

After that, the minister presented a gift and a certificate of honour to a company that bought jade lots most.

The sale of jade lots by tender system and through competitive bidding continues tomorrow.

MNA

Appointment of ambassador agreed on

YANGON, 5 April— The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the proposed appointment of Mr Juan Manuel Lopez Nadal as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Spain to the Union of Myanmar, in succession to HE Mr Jose Eugenio Salarich Fernandez De Valderrama.

Mr Juan Manuel Lopez Nadal was born in 1951. He holds a Master's Degree in law and journalism from the University of Barcelona as well as a Diploma of High European Studies from the College of Europe in Belgium. He joined the diplomatic service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain in 1980. Subsequently, he served in various capacities at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain and at the Spanish diplomatic missions in Beijing, Jakarta, Tunis, New Delhi, Bangkok, Lisbon, Kabul and Copenhagen.

Mr Juan Manuel Lopez Nadal is resident in Bangkok and will concurrently serve as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Spain to the Union of Myanmar.—MNA

Never shall we accept any scheme to break up the Union

A reader

At present emphasis is being placed on building up a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. At the same time, the National Convention is in progress to write a State constitution that is the basic of the emergence of a democratic nation.

As great efforts are being exerted, we have learnt that internal and external destructive elements echoing the voice of the west bloc are flattering and inciting some national organizations under the pretext of introducing federal system. As a reader, I had learned a federal system that was proposed by Shan State since the time prior to 1962. But I had a thorough knowledge of a conspiracy concerning the federal principle only after the press conference (2/2005) of the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council which took place on 15 March.

At the press conference, Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Information, said with a view to making political cooperation, SSA (Shan State Army) and SSNA (Shan State National Army) which have returned to the legal fold have made contacts with a legal political party, SNLD (Shan Nationalities League for Democracy) since 1996.

That year, SNLD Chairman U Khun Tun Oo visited SSA headquarters at Sein Kyawt in Shan State and held discussions on politics, development and cultural matters with U Hsay Htin and personnel of SSA and SSNA. Then, SSJAC (Shan State Joint Action Committee) made up of SSA, SSNA and SNLD was formed in 1996. The main aim of the SSJAC was to cooperate in political matters. In order to cover up the true intention, it prescribed its tasks as development, literature and cultural affairs of Shan State. SSJAC consists of SNLD chairman U Khun Tun Oo as chairman, U Hsay Htin as vice-chairman, U Kan Ywet of SSA as secretary and U Lwe Maung of SSA as member. After the death of U Kan Ywet, U Sai Nyunt Lwin became secretary of SSJAC. According to the clarifications, I also learned that SSPC (Shan State Peace Council) was formed in 1996 by SSA and SSNA through the coordination of SSJAC. The major aim of SSPC is to avoid fighting each other but to act in coordination among all including insurgent groups in political affairs. Plans were then drawn to form three military divisions under SSPC to see that there was no fighting among existing insurgent groups such as

KNU, ABSDF, KNPP led by U Khuhtair Bupe and U Aung Than Lay. Similar arrangements were said to have been made with other peace groups that came to the legal fold.

The government had already made it clear that it did not recognize the formation of SSPC as the move was not in line with conditions set at peace negotiations and it had to coordinate with existing insurgent groups. The Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing informed the personnel concerned that the government did not recognize the formation of SSPC.

On 13-9-1996 SURA leader Ywetsit arrived at Sein Kyawt, the headquarters of SSA and signed a tripartite agreement of SSA, SSNA and SURA. Col San Naung of SSA and Col Kam Ywet of SSNA also signed the agreement. Based on SSPC, SSNO (Shan State National Organization) was formed as the sole organization and SSA was designated as the sole Shan State Army.

On 7 March 2005 Ywetsit group issued a statement as regards the seizure of heroin from a member of drug trafficking group of Ywetsit by Thai authorities. In the statement, Ywetsit denied that heroin and traffickers were related with RCSS and SSA. It can be witnessed that Ywetsit used the name SSA instead of his original group of SURA. It shows that Ywetsit and SSA are in oneness. Moreover, Ywetsit's group has formed the 15-member RCSS (Restoration Council of Shan State) with Ywetsit as chairman, Sai Aung Mat was vice-chairman, Sao Say Htin as secretary, Sao Say Hsam as secretary, Sai Htai as joint secretary, Sai Tha Oo as treasurer, Sai Ouk Kyaw was military leader and Sao Wein Mein as organizer.

The clarifications in connection with the formation of the Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council are as follows.



Sai Tun seen together with seized heroin.

On 4 November 2004, the SSA (North) marked the 15th anniversary of attaining peace at Sein Kyawt Village in Hsipaw Township, Shan State. It was attended by representatives of peace groups such as SSA, SSNA, SNLD Chairman U Khun Tun Oo, Secretary Sai Nyunt Lwin, representatives of Joint Action Committee (JAC) and U Myint Than and

Myawady Road in Lashio. At the meeting the Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council was formed with some persons. The second meeting also urged peace groups from Shan State who were to attend the National Convention to discuss seriously matters on the emergence of a genuine Union and a democratic nation. The third meeting was held on

Aung, U Tha Oo and U Shwe Ohn.

In addition, objectives have been laid down to form other advisory councils in the remaining six states as well as other advisory committees in the remaining seven divisions.

After the meeting, a dinner was held at Sein Taungdan restaurant in Taunggyi. It was hosted by SSA group. At the

At the dinner, hosted by SSA, the Shan State Day commemorative Declaration of the Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council, Declaration of New Generation Students (Shan State) and Declaration of New Generation (Shan State) were distributed. It is found that the Declaration of New Generation (Shan State) urges all nationalities that it was the first step taken to enable Shan State to shape its own destiny. It also calls on them to unitedly participate.

members of New Generation (Shan State). SNLD Chairman U Khun Tun Oo presided over the meeting and all those present agreed to form the Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council. A formation committee was then set up for the emergence of the advisory council.

On 6-11-2004, the day after the set-up of the formation committee, its first meeting was held at SSA headquarters in Sein Kyawt Village. The meeting decided that the Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council must be formed not with chairman, secretary, etc but U Myint Than was to lead the entire programme.

After that, the second meeting was held on 22-12-2004 at the house of U Say Htin on

7-2-2005, the Shan State Day. At the meeting U Say Htin delivered an address. U Shwe Ohn, former chairman of defunct Shan State Nationalities Democracy League, supported the formation of the council. Next, "Declaration of the Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council", "Declaration of New Generation (Shan State)" and "Declaration of Student Youths" were read. Then, the formation of the Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council was approved.

Although the Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council was formed, it was manipulated by U Say Htin, U Khun Tun Oo, U Sai Nyunt Lwin, U Myint Than, U Nyi Moe, U Myo Win Tun, U Tun Nyo, U Sai Hla

dinner, the Shan State Day commemorative Declaration of the Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council, Declaration of New Generation Students (Shan State) and Declaration of New Generation (Shan State) were distributed.

It is found that the Declaration of New Generation (Shan State) urges all nationalities that it was the first step taken to enable Shan State to shape its own destiny. It also calls on them to unitedly participate.

The minister continued to clarify that the above-mentioned alliance, aims, declarations and acts of the SSA, SSNA, SURA, SNLD and Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council reflected that the Union (See page 11)



Sai Tun and Ywetsit.

Never shall we accept . . .

(from page 10) would be formed with emphasis on a genuine Union. The genuine Union means the Union made up of eight states namely Kachin state, Kayah state, Kayin state Chin state, Mon state, Rakhine state, Shan state, and Bamar state which is made up of the existing seven divisions.

Hence, the government had been effectively deterring and taking severe action against those plots detrimental to Our Three Main National Causes.

Therefore, four members of the New Generation Shan State, U Hsay Htin, and two members of the SNLD were detained on 8 February

lished in 1953 by Oxford University says that a federal union is constituted with independent provinces to achieve common goals without inflicting harm upon the independence. Any province has the right to secede from the union of its own accord if it wants to.

Due to the federal crisis, a civil war broke out in the US between 1861 and 1865 and it lost a great number of lives and property. In the world, the US, Canada, Australia, South Africa, India and Switzerland wrote their state constitutions based on the federal principle.

However, no country is practising federal principle and it is just on paper. There are only few real federal unions, and really these countries run their administrative machinery through the Unitary State system.

The federal principle proposed by Shan State in the time of the Pa-Hta-Sa Government in 1962 was just an attempt to secede from the Union with reference to Section 202 of the 1947 Constitution of the Union of Myanmar, which said that 10 years after the nation had regained independence, a state could secede from the Union if it wanted to Shan State proposed the federal principle with the intention of seceding from the Union.

Under the political jargon, it would not be wrong to describe it to be the last reactionary act of feudalism.

The Tatmadaw took over the State power from the Pa-Hta-Sa Government on 2



Members of Shan State Joint Action Committee.

March 1962. But, the Tatmadaw had no other reason except its concern over the imminent disintegration of the Union in taking over the State responsibilities.

One can study the book "Myanma Politics volume IV (1958-62) published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise.

The conference of the Shan sawbwas held at Mongyai in 1956 passed a resolution to establish a Shan republic after seceding from the Union.

They again held the conference in Lashio in 1957 and reaffirmed the agreement and also passed a resolution that they would resort to the armed revolt if the case did not make any progress.

At the meeting of Shan State Council in Taunggyi on 18 May 1958, the chairman of Shan State, also the former foreign affairs minister, said that the split of the AFPFL government created favourable grounds for Shan State to secede from the Union. He said it was an important case for Shan

State. And Shan State had to submit the matter of sufferings Shan State faced as an important case to the government.

In 1959, Shan sawbwas had to relinquish power and privileges. The ruling government compensated the sawbwas for their relinquishing of power. However, they weren't satisfied with the government at all. The Nyaungshwe Sawbwa, the very first president of Myanmar, was absent from the ceremony to relinquish power and privileges and he even accused the other

gans echoed that of the Shan sawbwas "the framing of Constitution based on federal system, and establishment of a Shan republic. Yet, the Tatmadaw had already realized the incidents from the very beginning to the very end, and so it had to take over the State power from the Pa-Hta-Sa Government so as to avoid disintegration of the Union.

To sum up, those who are resorting to all possible ways and means in the past and at present to break up the Union of Myanmar are just the

Under the political jargon, it would not be wrong to describe it to be the last reactionary act of feudalism. The Tatmadaw took over the State power from the Pa-Hta-Sa Government on 2 March 1962. But, the Tatmadaw had no other reason except its concern over the imminent disintegration of the Union in taking over the State responsibilities.

The entire national people might be misled by the beautiful wording "Genuine Union". In fact, they aimed to form a nominal Union and later secede from the Union.

The activities of the groups are very dangerous to the stability of the State, national solidarity and it could lead to disintegration of the Union.

Since its assumption of the State duties, the government had been upholding Our Three Main National Causes —Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity, and Perpetuation of sovereignty— as a policy and carrying out nation-building tasks. At the same time, the seven-point Road Map had been adopted to introduce the multi-party democracy system desired by the entire national people.

2005; and SNLD chairman U Khun Tun Oo and secretary U Sai Nyunt Lwin on 9 February 2005. U Shwe Ohn who played a major role had been kept under house arrest, the minister said.

After studying the clarifications made at the press conference (2/2005) of the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council, I read a related article "Blood is thicker than water" printed in the issue dated 31 March this year. According to the writer, I learnt that the aims and acts of the SSA, SSNA, SURA, SNLD and Shan State Intellectuals Advisory Council were similar to the demand for the federal principle made in 1962. I also learnt the following facts.

The book "Federal Government" written by KC Wheare and pub-

Taking a glance at the historic events that occurred in 1962 and 2005, one will realize the fact that if the Tatmadaw had not been able to safeguard and protect the nation in time, Myanmar would have been under the alien subjugation again failing to stand with dignity and unity.

sawbwas of selling out the Shan State.

Prior to the ceremony, they secretly recruited local people and stockpiled arms and ammunition to put into motion the resolution of Mongyai conference.

There broke out the armed revolt of Shan nationals against the government, following the ceremony to relinquish power and privileges in November 1959.

In 1960-61 in some regions, Shan national insurgents exchanged poppy with arms and ammunition from nationalist Chinese. At the same time, they also contacted the SEATO, a US military bloc, for weaponry.

They also persuaded local people to rise against the ruling government under the pretext of opposing the chauvinism.

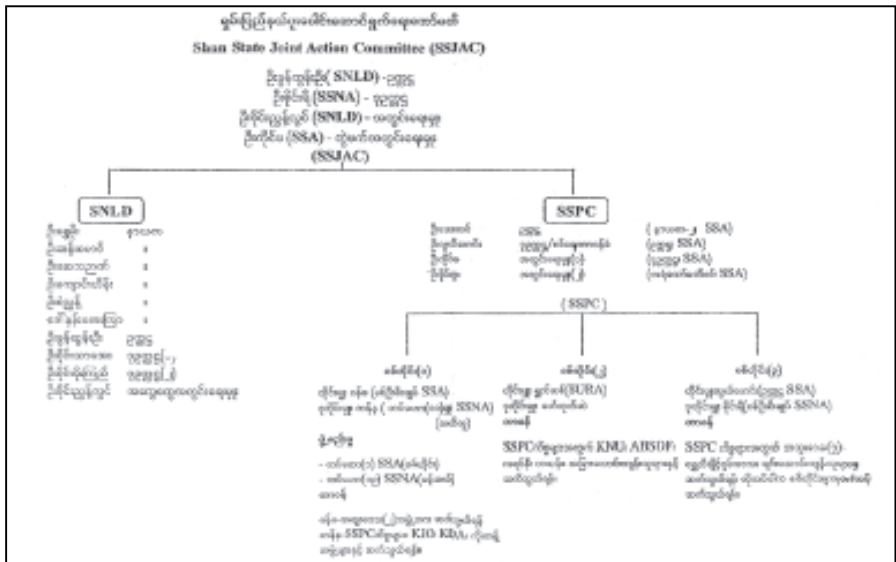
The Shan national insurgents' political slo-

colonialists and their lackeys or reactionary forces wishing to go back to the feudal system.

Taking a glance at the historic events that occurred in 1962 and 2005, one will realize the fact that if the Tatmadaw had not been able to safeguard and protect the nation in time, Myanmar would have been under the alien subjugation again failing to stand with dignity and unity.

In conclusion, I would say according to the above-mentioned events, the fact that enabling the Tatmadaw to participate in the national political leadership role of the future State becomes clearer and is essential for the nation.

(Myanma Alin +Kyemon: 4-4-05)
Translation:
(ST + NW + MS)



Organizational set-up of SSJAC

ADVERTISEMENTS

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (187)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MUTIARA Voy No (187) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER**
Phone: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (080)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BOUGAIN VILLA Voy No (080) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM**
Phone: 256908/378316/376797

Chemical leakage in Singapore infects 10 workers

SINGAPORE, 4 April—A chemical leakage at the Federal Express warehouse located in Changi South Street 2, eastern part of Singapore, infected 10 of its staff, according to a Channel News Asia report on Saturday.

Feeling giddy and nauseous, the 10 people were thus hospitalized and reported to be in stable condition now.

They were moving drums containing chemi-

cals when some spilled out at about 9:40 a.m. Saturday, the report said.

Officers from Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) have applied special absorbents and neutralizing agent to the affected areas, and packed the chemical drum and other contaminated items in the warehouse into a special container for disposal, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

Patients poisoned in E China chlorine leakage out of danger

NANJING, 4 April — Twenty-two people seriously poisoned by Tuesday's chlorine leakage in east China's Jiangsu Province are out of life danger, local hospital authorities said Saturday.

Thirteen others have been discharged and 37 are about to leave the hospital, according to a conference held by the emergency-meeting headquarters on Saturday morning.

"The badly injured will be able to leave the hospital in three weeks and there will be no complica-

tions or negative effect on their ability to work in the future," said Xu Xinrong, director of guarding room for serious patients in People's Hospital of Jiangsu Province, at the conference.

The accident occurred at 6:50 p.m. Tuesday, when a tank truck carrying 35 tons of chlorine blew out a tyre and rammed into a cargo truck on the Huai'an section of the Beijing-Shanghai expressway. The tragedy killed 28 people and led to the hospitalization of

TRADE MARK CAUTION
AstraZeneca UK Limited., a company incorporated in England of 15 Stanhope Gate, London W1Y 6LN, England., is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

ATROMID

Reg. No. 1473/1997

DIPRIVAN

Reg. No. 1470/1997

FLUOTHANE

Reg. No. 1474/1997

INDERAL

Reg. No. 3432/1996

NIF-TEN

Reg. No. 1467/1997

NOLVADEX

Reg. No. 1480/1997

TENORET

Reg. No. 1479/1997

TENORETIC

Reg. No. 1468/1997

TENORMIN

Reg. No. 1476/1997

ZENECA

Reg. No. 641/1993

ZESTRIL

Reg. No. 1472/1997

ZOLADEX

Reg. No. 1475/1997

in respect of "pharmaceuticals".

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

Win Mu Tin,
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **AstraZeneca UK Limited**
P.O. Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 5 April 2005

မြိုင်ထွင်းမြိုင်ကိုအားပေးပါ

ရိုက်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ အမှတ် (၁) စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့ဆေးဝါးနှင့် အိမ်သုံးပစ္စည်းလုပ်ငန်း၊ အလှကုန်ပစ္စည်းစက်ရုံအတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါကုန်ကြမ်းပစ္စည်းများ ဝယ်ယူလိုကြောင်း ကြော်ငြာအပ်ပါသည်-

စဉ့်	ယွန်းအမည်	အရေအတွက်	တင်ဒါပိတ်မည့် ရက်/အချိန်
၁။	Sodium Mono Fluro Phosphate (S.M.F.P)	၂၀၀၀ ကီလို	(၈-၄-၂၀၀၅) (၁၄၀၀)နာရီ

၂။ အသေးစိတ်အကြောင်းအရာများကို အလှကုန်ပစ္စည်းစက်ရုံတွင် ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း စုံစမ်းနိုင်ပြီး တင်ဒါပိတ်များ ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ ဆက်သွယ်ရန်တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ်- ၅၇၇၅၅၅၊ ၅၇၅၁၂၂

**စက်ရုံမှူး
အလှကုန်ပစ္စည်းစက်ရုံ**

TRADE MARK CAUTION
MOTOR INDUSTRIES COMPANY LIMITED, of Hsear Road, Aungmye, Bangoon 560030, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

MICO
Reg. No. 652/1977



MICO
Reg. No. 653/1977

MICO
Reg. No. 654/1977

In respect of "Fuel Injection Pumps and their parts; Nozzles; Nozzle Holders; Elements; Delivery Valves; Filters; Filter Inserts; Spark Plugs; Glow Plugs; Glow Indicators and components of the above".

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

Win Mu Tin,
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **MOTOR INDUSTRIES COMPANY LIMITED**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 5 April 2005.

TRADE MARK CAUTION
James Hall Holdings Limited of Atlas Way, Atlas Works, Sheffield S4 7QQ, England is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark:-

ECLIPSE
(Reg. No. 1344584/2001)

used in respect of "hand tools with or without a cutting edge, including hacksaw frames and hacksaw blades".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Thain Aung B.S.P.A.L.D.B.I. Advocate
MYANMAR TRADE MARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtplpa@regional.net.mm
Tel: 254037 G.P.O. Box: 688 Yangon. 5 April 2005

Drive safely

Thailand marks 100 days after tsunami

BANGKOK, 4 April — Events were held in Phangnga in southern Thailand on Saturday to mark a hundred days after the tsunami disaster which left property devastated and thousands of people perished.

The provincial governor, Anuwat Maeteewiboolwut, presided over the opening ceremony on Saturday at Bang Niang beach in Ta Kua Pa District, according to the *Thai News Agency*.

At the ceremony, Anuwat lit six lanterns to signify the six coastal provinces which were devastated by the tsunami. Photographs showing various aspects of the tsunami, including the rescues of victims taken by foreign volunteers, were on sale as well as clothes and souvenirs.

Proceeds will be used to assist the disaster victims.

Local and foreign musicians will perform in a musical show on Saturday night.

Volunteers and a foundation have organized the events to remember those who died in the disaster and to help boost the morale of those affected by the tsunami.

MNA/Xinhua

Gas poisoning incident in northern Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 4 April— Seventy-three workers from an electronics factory in the northern city of Penang were rushed to a local hospital on Saturday morning after experiencing dizziness and vomiting, believed to be the result of inhaling toxic gas.

Senior executive councillor of Penang State P. Subbaiyah told local reporters Saturday that 11 of the victims, all of whom were women, had been warded for further checks while the rest received outpatient treatment.

Those warded, including three who were reported to have fainted, were said to be in stable condition and would be released in the next few days, he said.

One of the victims, Sayang Salim, 37, said several workers had complained of a nauseating smell since 7 p.m. on Friday.

She said the night shift had more than 300 workers and many started feeling dizzy 10 minutes after they resumed duties. Sayang, who has been with the factory which manufactures hearing aids for seven years, said several workers from the earlier shift had complained to their supervisors about the smell but had been told to carry on with their work.

Meanwhile, Penang southwest district police chief, Superintendent Shuib Hussain, said the gas was believed to have leaked from a faulty diesel generator located near the production floor of the factory.

He said that the fumes was believed to have entered the air-conditioning system of the factory causing the production floor to smell of diesel and the work had been temporarily stopped for cleaning and safety checks.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပစ္စည်းတိုးတက်လာ ခိုင်ခံ့တော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Anthrax confirmed as cause of cattle deaths in Mongolia

ULAN BATOR, 4 April—Two heads of cattle have died of anthrax infection in Mongolia's Uvs Province, the Mongolian General Authority for Emergency Management (GAEM) said here Saturday. The Uvs Province authority has isolated Malchin County where the cows died in recent days and is disinfecting more than 1,400 head of livestock nearby, GAEM said. The cause of the anthrax is under investigation.

Livestock-raising is the most important sector of Mongolia's economy with about a third of the population dependent on animals for food, transport and income.

MNA/Xinhua

Syria, Iran highlight importance of preserving Lebanon's stability

DAMASCUS, 3 April — Syria and Iran underlined on Saturday the importance of preserving security, stability and peace in Lebanon, the official SANA news agency reported.

Visiting Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazi and his Syrian counterpart Farouk al-Shara said during their meeting the Lebanese national unity and non-intervention in its affairs are necessary for the Lebanese to overcome the current crisis.

The assassination of former Lebanese premier Rafik al-Hariri was a painful event for both Syria and Lebanon, Kharazi told reporters after the meeting.

Syria and Lebanon should take "wise measures" to deal with the worrying situation, Kharazi

noted, while pointing the finger at those who seek to reach their aims at the expense of Lebanon's interest. He also called on the Lebanese leadership to try to preserve national unity and peace which was achieved after a long civil war.

The pro-Syrian Prime Minister Omar Karami, who resigned on 28 February over opposition protest at the killing of Hariri on 14 February in a car bomb blast, has failed to form a national unity government since he was re-appointed as premier on 10 March.

MNA/Xinhua

The world's smallest direct methanol fuel cell battery (top), produced by

Japanese electronics giant Toshiba, and DVD disks made of vegetable-based plastic by JVC.

Corporate Japan is making strides in sustainable development, slashing the use of lead and other toxic substances in industry, embracing solar energy and making biodegradable plastic out of sugar beets.— INTERNET



Earthquake jolts Indonesia's Nias island again

JAKARTA, 4 April — An earthquake measuring 6.2 on the Richter Scale shook Nias Island and surrounding areas again on Sunday morning.

A spokesman of the Meteorological and Geophysics Agency, Edison Gurning, said here that the epicenter of the earthquake was some 33 kilometers deep in the Indian Ocean, about 157 kilometres south of Gunung Sitoli, the main town of Nias District.

"The tremor was also felt on Mentawai Islands, Pariaman and Padang Panjang of West Sumatra Province," he was quoted as saying by the official Antara news agency.

The small tremor caused panic among residents in Gunung Sitoli, as

they were still traumatic with the 8.7 magnitude quake near the midnight of 28 March during which over 500 people have lost their lives.

Edison further said that more aftershocks would possibly strike Nias and surrounding areas in the future.

There have at least

21 aftershocks which had stricken Nias Island since 28 March strike. Of the 21 aftershocks, five could be felt on the scale of intensity I-III of Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI), while the biggest one was a 6.2-magnitude tremor which happened at 10:00 local time on Sunday.

MNA/Xinhua

Mugabe's party wins 78 seats in parliamentary election

HARARE, 3 April — The ruling party of Zimbabwe won 78 seats in Thursday's parliamentary election and the main opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) garnered 41 seats, according to final official results released Saturday.

The remaining one of the legislature's 120 contested seats went to an independent candidate.

President Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) has been ruling since Zimbabwe attained politi-

cal independence on April 18, 1980 from former colonial ruler Britain.

However, in last parliamentary election held in 2000, the party just got a feeble majority with 62 seats. The MDC, a party launched just one year before that elections, won

57 seats. Zimbabwe's Parliament, also called House of Assembly has 150 members: 120 elected for a five-year term in single-seat constituencies and 30 appointed members by president, governors and elected chiefs.

MNA/Xinhua

Egyptian judiciary to supervise presidential election

CAIRO, 3 April — The Egyptian judiciary would supervise the presidential election to be held in September, Egypt's official MENA news agency reported.

"The multi-candidate presidential election will take one day and be held under the full supervision of the Egyptian judiciary," Egyptian Minister of Justice Mahmoud Abuel-Leil

was quoted as saying.

He added that judges will also supervise the three-phase parliamentary election.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has not

indicated whether he would run for this year's presidential election.

A senior official from the ruling National Democratic Party said Wednesday that Mubarak would announce his decision after the result of a referendum in May on a proposed amendment to the Constitution, which will allow more than one candidate to stand in the presidential election.

The proposal was put forward by Mubarak in February.

Under Egypt's current political system, the President is not elected directly by the electorate. Instead, the Parliament chooses a sole candidate first and then the only nominee is put to a referendum.

MNA/Xinhua

African campaigners seek blanket debt cancellation

NAIROBI, 3 April — African civil society organizations have stepped up a new push for debt cancellation of the 39 billion US dollars paid by African states to lenders annually ahead of crucial World Bank, International Monetary Fund meeting set for April 16-17.

"We have been strategizing for popular action and public mobilization to put pressure on the World Bank and IMF to reform the policy agenda and cancel debts owed by African nations and improve the quality and quantity of aid," Kumi Naidoo, secretary-general of the Johannesburg-based CIVICS (World Alliance for Citizen Participation) told Xinhua in an interview on Saturday.

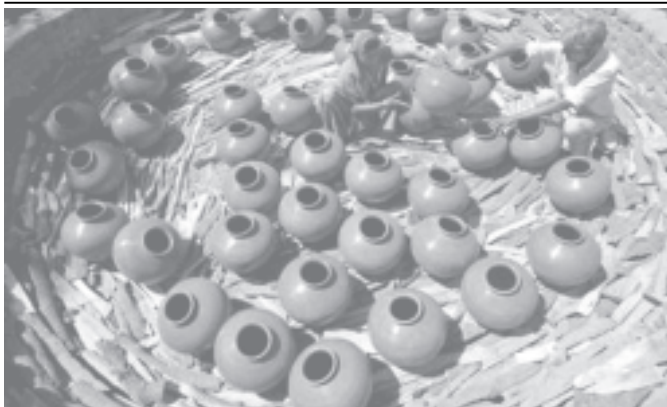
Naidoo said the African countries paid debts worth 39 billion dollars to mainly bilateral donor organizations compared to 27 billion dollars it received in aid inflows, a stark demonstration of the capital loss the continent suffers despite its branding as absolutely poor.

"African nations are also spending an average

of 40 per cent of their annual budgets on servicing debts which were given ages back but which the various nations still have to repay as part of national obligations," Naidoo said.

Over 70 representatives of human and civil rights watchdog organizations drawn from 20 African nations earlier met in Nairobi with ambassadors and high commissioners from the Group of Eight (G-8) rich states and have agreed to press for reforms. When addressing a news conference in Nairobi Friday, the representatives said they will organize simultaneous demonstrations of solidarity and protest across the continent, if significant movement on Africa's debt is not made at the April meeting.

MNA/Xinhua



Indian potters arrange earthen pitchers to be sold at a market in Village Adlaj, about 25 km (15 miles) north of the western Indian city of Ahmedabad, on 3 April, 2005. — INTERNET

Manchester United quit race with Chelsea

LONDON, 4 April—Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson has given up the race with Chelsea for the Premiership title, saying coming second is their aim.

Manchester United's home goalless draw with stubborn Blackburn Rovers on Saturday dealt a heavy psychological blow to the Red Devils as Chelsea, who beat Southampton 3-1, stretched their lead at the top to 13 points with seven games left to play.

United's draw also saw them slip down to third on goal difference after Arsenal's win over Norwich.

Ferguson says that Jose Mourinho's side can now not be caught and he now says that finishing second is their major target.

"You can forget Chelsea, that's for sure," said Ferguson.

"You do not win league titles with performance like that. It is going to be very difficult for us now and second spot is the real priority for us now," he said.

Finishing second will ensure a passage into the UEFA Champions League without the need to qualify -- but ending up third would cause some unwanted fixtures early next season. —MNA/Xinhua

Late winner keeps Benfica's lead in title race

LISBON, 4 April—Pedro Mantorras came off the bench to score a late goal to secure Benfica a 4-3 win over Maritimo on Sunday.

Benfica, which has not won a title since 1994, have 54 points with seven games left and maintain their six-point lead in the Portuguese championship.

Champions Porto also stay in the title race by beating Gil Vicente 1-0. They collected 48 points to share the second spot with Sporting who crushed Boavista 4-0.

Braga, who host Uniao Leiria on Monday, and

Boavista are next on 45 points. Benfica went ahead through striker Nuno Gomes who tapped in a cross from the right by Miguel after seven minutes.

The Madeira Island side quickly responded with a header by Brazilian striker Pena one minute later.

Defender Miguel restored Benfica's lead with a deflected shot before an unmarked Nuno Gomes fired the Lisbon side 3-1 up. But goals from Dutch defender van der Gaag and Pena, four minutes into the second half, made the game a thriller.

Benfica were set to settle for a point until striker Mantorras, returning after a long injury lay-off, netted the winner with a low shot three minutes from time.

Porto picked up their first win at home in six games as striker Helder Postiga scored the winning goal on Sunday against Gil Vicente.

Sporting crushed Boavista 4-0 away on Saturday with Brazilian striker Liedson, the league's top scorer, hitting a double to take his tally to 23 for the season.

MNA/Xinhua



Sevilla's Jesus Navas (L) dribbles past Numancia's goalkeeper Juan Manuel Juanma during their Spanish Primera Liga soccer match at the Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan Stadium in Seville, on 3 April, 2005. —INTERNET

Spanish Primera Liga top scorers

MADRID, 4 April—Following are the top scorers from the Spanish Primera Liga on Saturday:

- 18 — Diego Forlan (Villarreal)
- Samuel Eto'o (Barcelona)
- 15 — Fernando Torres (Atletico Madrid)
- Ricardo Oliveira (Real Betis)
- 14 — Julio Baptista (Sevilla)
- 13 — Nihat Kahveci (Real Sociedad)
- Juan Riquelme (Villarreal)
- 12 — Ronaldo (Real Madrid)
- 11 — Ismael Urzaiz (Athletic Bilbao)
- Maxi Rodriguez (Espanyol)
- Luis Garcia (Real Mallorca)
- 10 — Edu (Real Betis)
- Santiago Ezquerro (Athletic Bilbao)
- 9 — Michael Owen (Real Madrid)
- Marco Di Vaio (Valencia)
- David Villa (Real Zaragoza)
- Antonio Pacheco (Albacete)
- Alberto Luque (Deportivo Coruna)
- 8 — Deco (Barcelona)
- Diego Tristan (Deportivo Coruna)
- Marcos Assuncao (Real Betis)
- Darko Kovacevic (Real Sociedad)
- Richard Morales (Osasuna)
- Mario Regueiro (Racing Santander)

MNA/Xinhua

Marseille hold PSG to 1-1 draw

PARIS, 4 April—Olympique Marseille failed to end their poor run against rivals Paris Saint-Germain on Sunday when they could only pulled off a 1-1 home draw.

Marseille have failed to win over PSG in any of their last nine meetings, including eight defeats.

Marseille was one goal down just after halftime when fullback Koji Nakata diverted a cross from Serbian striker Danijel Ljuboja into his own net.

The home side managed to level the scoreline through Laurent Battles 15 minutes from time who took advantage of a bad clearance from PSG's captain Jose Pierre-Fanfan. — MNA/Xinhua

Tianjin stun Liaoning 5-1 in China Super League

BEIJING, 4 April— Tianjin Kangshifu scored an encouraging victory in their opener, beating Liaoning 5-1 in the first round of the Chinese Super League soccer tournament at home on Sunday.

In the 14-team league without any threat of relegation which kicked off on Saturday, Tianjin found the net in the fifth minute through Cao Yang.

After Chen Xing hit the equalizer in the 12th minute, Tianjin regained their lead 2-1 twelve minutes later and entertained their home crowd with three more goals from Zhang Shu (50th), Cao Yang (68th) and Mao Biao (89th).

In Dalian, Zhou Jie put the home side ahead in the 33rd minute before import Jankovic and Wang Sheng sealed a 3-0 win over Sichuan Guancheng in the 48th and 64th minutes.

In other two games of the day, Shenyang Jinde tied 1-1 against Beijing Hyundai and Chongqing Lifan played a scoreless draw with Qingdao Zhongneng.

On Saturday, the season opener was raised between double champion Shandong Luneng and Shanghai International in Jinan. Striker Li Jinyu scored the winner in the injury time to ensure a 2-1 home victory.

In the 35th minute, Cui Peng connected a free kick from Li Xiaopeng to open the account for the home side before Li Yan hit the equalizer 10 minutes into the second half. In Shanghai, Xie Hui scored twice for Shenhua, including the first goal in the 2005 Super League season, beating visiting Qingdao Zhongneng 2-0 at home.

In the 33rd minute, Xie swang a corner from Sun Xiang and put in his second in the 57th minute from a teamwork of Yu Tao and Sun Liji. In the other action on Saturday, Shenzhen Jianlibao played a scoreless home game against Wuhan Huanghelou. —MNA/Xinhua

Barcelona earns draw with Betis

MADRID, 4 April— Two penalty kicks by Samuel Eto'o and an injury-time goal by Giovanni van Bronckhorst helped league leaders Barcelona battle out a 3-3 draw with 10-man Real Betis in the Nou Camp on Sunday.

Barca extend their lead at the table to 12 points with second-placed Real Madrid playing lowly Albacete later on Sunday. Betis stay fourth behind Villarreal, who beat Athletic Bilbao 3-1 on Saturday.

Betis' Joaquin scored the first of his two goals after 12 minutes, only to be cancelled out by Eto'o from the penalty spot four minutes later. Betis defender David Rivas was shown a red card in the penalty incident.

Betis restored their lead through Ricardo Oliveira before the break before Joaquin made it 3-1 in the 63rd minute. But Eto'o scored again from the penalty spot, with seven minutes remaining, and van Bronckhorst grabbed the equalizer in the fourth minute of injury time.

Espanyol moved up to fifth after they overcame Racing Santander 3-1. — MNA/Xinhua

Mari scores twice as Villarreal climb to third

MADRID, 4 April— Villarreal scored a 3-1 win over Athletic Bilbao on Saturday to move up to third in the Spanish Primera Liga.

Manuel Pellegrini's side now have 50 points and a game in hand on second-placed Real Madrid, who are seven points ahead of them.

Two goals from striker Jose Mari and a third from Uruguay striker Diego Forlan, his 18th of the season, were too much for Athletic, who had levelled the scores at 1-1 through striker Santi Ezquerro.

Valencia missed out on the chance to move into the Champions League places despite staging a fightback from 2-0 down to earn a point against Real Zaragoza.

Substitute Bernardo Corradi scored on a defensive error to pull a goal back for the visitors in the 81st minute before defender Marco Caneira stroked home the leveller soon after. Caneira was later dismissed for a second yellow card.

Zaragoza had taken the lead against the run of play when David Generelo scored with a fierce 30-metre shot just before the break.

Valencia's David Albelda headed Savio's inswinging cross into his own net after 50 minutes but Zaragoza failed to build on their two-goal advantage.

Two goals in three minutes from Gari Uranga and Valery Karpin all but guaranteed Real Sociedad's Primera Liga survival as they swept aside struggling Osasuna 2-0.

MNA/Xinhua



Barcelona's Dutch defender Giovanni van Bronckhorst (R) scores his team's third goal against Real Betis' goalkeeper Antonio Doblaz during their Spanish Primera Liga soccer match at Nou Camp Stadium in Barcelona on 3 April, 2005.

The match ended in a 3-3 draw.

INTERNET

Myanmar-Korean Business Forum on 8 April

YANGON, 4 April— A 28-member Korean delegation led by Chairman Mr Soon Han Kwon of Korea Importer Association (KOIMA) will visit here from 7 to 9 April. They will attend the business forum of Myanmar and Korean businessmen to be held on 8 April at Traders hotel. Their journey is aiming at economic cooperation between Myanmar and Korean businessmen in various sectors. To enhance business and to seek business opportunities, Myanmar entrepreneurs will make discussion with their Korean counterparts.

Myanmar entrepreneurs who wish to participate in the discussions will have to fill application forms and send them to Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at No 504/506 Merchant Street, Kyauktada Township, not later than 6 April. —MNA

ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters on 5 & 6 April

YANGON, 4 April— Director-General U Hla Kyi of Civil Service Selection and Training Department left for Cambodia to attend the Preparatory Meeting of the 13th ASEAN Conference on Civil Service Matters to be held in Phnom Penh on 5 and 6 April.

First Secretary Daw Than Aye of Myanmar embassy in Cambodia will also attend the conference. —MNA

မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသင်တန်း

- * အမျိုးသားယဉ်ကျေးမှုကို ထိန်းသိမ်းပါ။
- * သရုပ်ချက်ယဉ်ကျေးမှုကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- * အမျိုးဂုဏ်၊ ဓာတ်ဂုဏ်ကို မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုသင်တန်းဖြင့် မြှင့်တင်ပါ။ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မရှီ

Summer Wushu course attracts new generation youths

YANGON, 4 April — Summer Wushu courses, jointly-organized by the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Wushu Federation, were being conducted with a view to turning out new generation Wushu athletes.

The number of trainees increased this year and there were 800 attendance in last year's courses. A force of new generation is of great importance so as to achieve success in a game of sports.

A total of 1064 trainees — 927 in Padonma (Federation Training Camp), 50 in National Indoor Stadium-1 (Thuwunna), 50 in TTC, 20 in Thanlyin and 17 in Sports and Physical Education Department — are

attending the summer Wushu course. Training coaches are U Khun Jar Aung, U Aung Myo Zaw, U Win Hlaing, U Aung Cho Htay, Daw Yin Yin Nu, U Hla Myint, U Khin Maung Nyein, U Nyein Chan Kyaw, U Aung Thu Naing, U Kyaw Myint, U Hla Wai and U Hsan Min.

The summer Wushu course opened on 18 March will end on 8 April. The course hours is from 7 am to 9 am. An advanced Wushu course will be opened on 11 April. — NLM

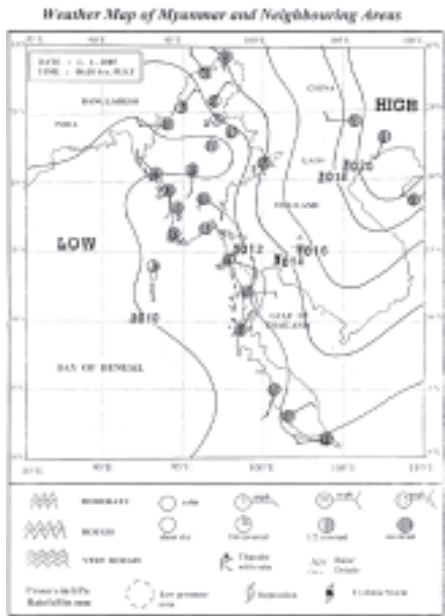


New generation trainees taking part in summer Wushu course. —NLM

သတိ

အရက်/ဘီယာများအား မော်တော်ယာဉ်များဖြင့် လှည့်လည် ရောင်းချခြင်း၊ မဏ္ဍိုင်များအနီးနှင့် အခြားနေရာ များတွင် တရားမဝင်ရောင်းချခြင်းများ မပြုလုပ်ရန် တားမြစ်သည်။

မဟာသင်္ကြန်စည်းကမ်းညီနင်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ



WEATHER

Monday, 4 April, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin, Shan and Kayah States, Taninthayi and Bago Divisions, isolated in Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Kawkaireik (1.85) inches and Bago (0.79) inch. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States and Taninthayi Division, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Kachin State, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Southern and Eastern Shan and Kayah States and Bago Division, (5°C) below normal in Mandalay and Magway Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Monywa, Hmawbi, Patheingyi and Hpa-an (40°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 3-4-2005 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 4-4-2005 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 4-4-2005 was 71%. Total sunshine hours on 3-4-2005 was (5.4) hours approx. Rainfalls on 4-4-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (0.59) inch at Yangon Airport, (1.54) inches at Kaba-Aye and nil at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (17:15) hours MST on 3-4-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is cloudy in the Southwest Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 5-4-2005: Weather will be partly cloudy in Chin and Kayah States, lower Sagaing Division and rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 5-4-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 5-4-2005: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Radio Myanmar

Tuesday, 5 April Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
- 8.35 am** Music: When you're looking like that
- 8.40 am** Perspectives
- 8.45 am** Music: This time around
- 8.50 am** National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am** Music: -Mind machine
- 9.05 am** International news
- 9.10 am** Music: What's your flava?
- 1.30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm** Lunch Time Music: -My one thing that's real -Something like you -Owner of my heart -Height
- 9.00 pm** English Speaking Course Level-II (Unit-23)
- 9.15 pm** Article/music
- 9.25 pm** Weekly sports reel
- 9.35 pm** Music for you listening pleasure: -Written in the stars -If you had my love
- 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm** PEL

TV Myanmar

Tuesday, 5 April View on today:

- 7:00 am**
 - ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာ နာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင် ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအရဟံသာဝရီတော်တော်၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ မဗ္ဗဘုရားဂါရီတော်၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိန္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am**
 - To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
 - Morning news
- 7:40 am**
 - Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am**
 - ကဗျာစုံနိဂ္ဂုလှိုင်
- 8:00 am**
 - Song of yesteryears
- 8:10 am**
 - မင်းလှရေလှောင်တစ်
- 8:20 am**
 - ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ
- 8:30 am**
 - International news
- 8:45 am**
 - Happy and Educational English Summer Course MRTV
- 4:00 pm**
 - Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
 - Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
 - English for Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm**
 - အစားသင်တန်းတို့လုပ်ငန်းများ ရှင်းမြင်သင်ကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရုပ်ပေးအထူးပြု) (ရုပ်ပေး)
- 5:00 pm**
 - Song of national races
- 5:15 pm**
 - မံစားနားဆင်းတေးဇာတ်ဝင်
- 5:25 pm**
 - မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:35 pm**
 - ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ
- 5:45 pm**
 - Sing and Enjoy
- 6:15 pm**
 - နိုင်ငံခြားကာကွယ်ရေးဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဗျောက်မင်းဂွဇန်း" (အပိုင်း-၈၅)
- 6:30 pm**
 - Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
 - Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
 - Musical programme
- 7:20 pm**
 - သားငါးဖွံ့ဖြိုးပြည့်အကျိုး
- 7:30 pm**
 - The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 8:00 pm**
 - News
- 17. International news**
- 18. Weather report**
- 19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဟောမာန်ဆောင်း၏ ရှစ်သံစဉ်" (အပိုင်း-၆)**
- 20. The next day's programme**

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives Vietnamese Chief of General Staff and party



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Senior Lieutenant General Phung Quang Thanh and party pose for documentary photo at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinthathar—MNA

YANGON, 4 April — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye received visiting Vietnamese Chief of General Staff Army Senior Lieutenant General Phung Quang Thanh and party at Zeyathiri

Beikman, Konmyinthathar this morning. Also present at the call were Secretary-1 of State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of

Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, Charge d' Affaires of SRV embassy in Myanmar Mr Pham Van Cu and Military Attache Sr Colonel Nguyen Van Thanh. MNA

Prime Minister urges industrialists to produce export quality goods in addition to import-substitute goods with individual innovation and cooperation among themselves

YANGON, 4 April — Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win met with industrialists in Mawlamyine Industrial Zone in Mawlamyine Township, Mon State, on 2 April.

At the meeting, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win said that the Mawlamyine Industrial Zone has been seeing progress, and the Government will provide more assistance for rapid development of the industrial sector and to improve the quality of the products. As the Government has been setting up advanced steel mills in Mandalay, Monywa and Ayethaya industrial zones, Mawlamyine Zone should make preparations to run such industries. The zone should receive assistance from the Ministry of Science and Technology to develop the rubber production technology as Mon

State is the main rubber growing region. As the industrial zones are achieving development, the industrialists should strive to produce export quality goods in addition to import-substitute goods with individual innovation and cooperation among themselves. They should consolidate their capital, innovative efforts and unity for development of the zones.

The motorcycles and three-wheeled motorcycles assembled by Yenangyoung Industrial Zone can now find markets abroad. Other industrialists should follow the example in producing standard goods. As the Government has been providing assistance for zones, industrialists will have to strive with their own capability through correct means for

their development. Accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, the ministers, the deputy ministers and officials, the Prime Minister heard reports on salient points of the zone and power (See page 6)

INSIDE
<i>The activities of the groups are very dangerous to the stability of the State, national solidarity and it could lead to disintegration of the Union.</i>
(Page 10) A READER



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects progress in building of tunnel across Mudon road on Yangon-Dawei road, Mawlamyine. — MNA