

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XII, Number 355

13th Waning of Taboung 1366 ME

Wednesday, 6 April 2005

Government increases Taninthayi Division's monsoon paddy sown acreage to 500,000 acres It regards national entrepreneurs trying to build national economy to be strong as colleagues



Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, ministers, senior military officers, officials of the SPDC Office, departmental heads, and local authorities.

Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint gave an account of the regional facts, saying that the region's major aims were to ensure regional food sufficiency, and to meet the targets of putting 500,000 acres under oil palm, 200,000 under rubber, and 26,000 acres under pepper.

This year, the region will enjoy more than 99 per cent of the food security, and it will make relentless efforts to exceed the food production target in the coming years.

Now, more than 130,000 acres have been put under oil palm, more than 108,000 acres under rubber, and 25,000 acres under pepper. Plans are well under way to exceed the plantation targets. He also reported on the mining, marine products, transport, education and health sectors and economic progress of the region.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha reported on the progress of

Excerpts from Senior General Than Shwe's speech

- * People failed to heed the development of the division in the successive periods. As a result, there was less development in Taninthayi Division and it was like a far-flung area.
- * Only when three forces— the State, the people and the Tatmadaw—work unitedly will success be achieved.
- * In doing their business, entrepreneurs are to serve both the interest of the State and the people and their own equally.
- * The entrepreneurs are to work hard for realization of the economic tasks assigned by the State.
- * It is necessary to grow rubber on a commercial scale in suitable regions not only in Taninthayi Division but also in Rakhine State.



Senior General Than Shwe meets departmental personnel, entrepreneurs, social organizations and local elders in Myeik. — MNA

YANGON, 5 April— Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe held a meeting with departmental officials at division, district and township levels, national entrepreneurs, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and social organizations and townsenders at the Coastal Region Command in Myeik, Taninthayi Division, yesterday morning.

Also present on the occasion were SPDC members 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, Taninthayi Division PDC Chairman Taninthayi Coastal

the short-term economic projects for national development, regional development, interrelation between the State's economy and regional economic development, and measures being taken sector-wise for the regional economic development and better per capita income of local people.

General Thura Shwe Mann in his address said that the government is conducting the drive for transition to a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline.

Upholding the leadership of the State, states and divisions are exerting endeavours with might and main for regional development.

In the process, the team led by the Head of State are on an inspection tour to fulfil the requirements and to give guidance on development of Taninthayi Division. It is heartening to see that Myeik region is enjoying development and that reflects stability and peace of the region. Even though the task of bringing such a significant progress to the entire nation is huge, the nation has enjoyed fruits of development due to combined and harmonious efforts of the State, the

people and the Tatmadaw under the correct leadership and genuine goodwill of the State.

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General Thura Shwe Mann speaks at the meeting.

MNA

INSIDE

It is the duty of today's youths to try to have the capacity of safeguarding and defending the nation as their ancestors had done. They should know their right to take over the role and also the duty of safeguarding and defending the nation. It is also their responsibility to hand down the duty to their descendants.

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DR MA TIN WIN

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 6 April, 2005

Work for emergence of new towns with necessary facilities

The government is building all the necessary infrastructures for equitable development of all regions across the Union and, at the same time, is fulfilling the requirements of all sectors for improvement of the socio-economic life of the national people.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, during his tour of Taninthayi Division on 3 April, inspected the sites where a new satellite town and a government technological college were to be built.

In his meeting with the responsible personnel at the briefing hall of the project for the new town, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said that the new town was to be built in such a way that it could meet the people's need for health and transport in addition to basic necessities such as food, clothing and shelter and that it was necessary to build it stage by stage according to a systematic plan of urban development in order that the new town was a pleasant place to live in.

Myeik is made up of 12 wards and has a dense population. As it is difficult to extend the area of the existing town, various committees for developing a new town have been formed and it is being planned to build the new town on the Kyaukphyay side of the Kywegu-Kyaukphyay bridge. Myeik University and Government Computer College are the fruits of measures taken by the government for the development of Taninthayi Division. Now preparations for the construction of a government technological college are also under way.

As Taninthayi Division has a vast area of virgin and vacant land, cultivation of rubber and oil palm is being encouraged and all the necessary assistance rendered to national entrepreneurs so that rubber and palm oil can be exported. Due to its rubber and oil palm cultivation and coastal fisheries, Myeik has excellent potential for economic development. With economic development, its population is likely to increase and this calls for the building of a new town. We would like to call on all those responsible and people to bear in mind the guidance given by the Head of State and work in concert for the emergence of new towns complete with health, education and transport facilities.

Chinese delegation leaves

YANGON, 5 April— A 6-member goodwill delegation led by Adviser to CAFIU of the People's Republic of China Mr Cai Wu left here by air this morning. There were here at the invitation of the Union Solidarity and Development Association.

The delegation was seen off by CEC members of USDA Minister at the Prime Minister's Office U Than Shwe and Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, USDA officials, and staff from the embassy of PRC.—MNA

Raw opium confiscated in Mandalay

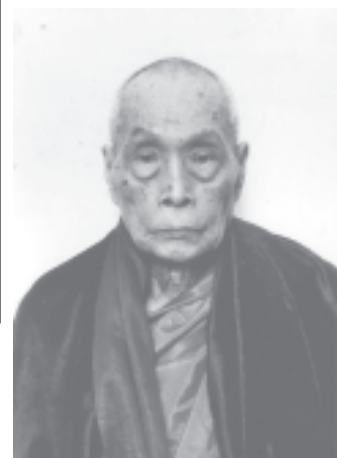
YANGON, 5 April — A combined team comprising members of Mandalay Special Anti-drug Squad and local police force, acting on a tip-off, searched the Room No 13 of Mya Thiri Guest House at the corner of 84th and 24th Streets in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay on 2 January, and arrested Aung Be together with 6.5 kilos of raw opium in his back-sack. In connection with the case, Mandalay Police Station-6 is taking action against Aung Be, 25, son of U Soe Maung of Pata Village, Banmawk Township, Sagaing Division under section 15/19(A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic

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

Seinbudaw, Ngetmyatnadaw and Shwehtidaw to be hoisted atop Lopyi Aye Pagoda

YANGON, 5 April— Under the aegis of Presiding Sayadaw Maha Kamahtatarnacariya Bhaddanta Sobhana, Seinbudaw, Ngetmyatnadaw and Shwehtidaw will be hoisted atop Lopyi Aye Pagoda in Sarthange Village in Bago Township. The consecration ceremony, ceremony to share merits, rice offering ceremony and cash donation ceremony will be held from 22 to 24 April on a grand scale. For further information contact phone number 542876.—MNA



Agga Maha Pandita Sayadaw Bhaddanta Javana Bhivamsa.

State Ovadaçariya Sayadaw passes away

YANGON, 5 April — The Religious Affairs Department today announced that Agga Maha Pandita Sayadaw Bhaddanta Javana Bhivamsa, aged 97 and vasa 77, State Ovadaçariya as well as Presiding Nayaka of Zawanabiwunthayon Monastery in Gyobingauk of Bago Division (West), passed away at 5.30 pm on 2 April 2005, 9 Waning of Taboung, 1366 ME.—MNA

Mandalay Business Directory 2005 in circulation

YANGON, 4 April— Mandalay Business Directory 2005 published annually by Eureka Co.Ltd came out today. The directory provided the readers with over 500 kinds of business, 35,000 addresses and data, phone numbers, advertisements of business groups in Mandalay, Monywa, Pakokku, Shwebo, Magway, Myingyan, Meikhtila, Taunggyi and Kalay. Transport charges of Myanma railways are also included in the directory. It is available at No 145, 36th Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Phone: 01-253295 and H-2, First Floor, at the corner of 78th and 30th Streets, Chanayethazan Township, Phone: 09 500 9101. — MNA

Myanmar Healthcare Directory 2005 comes out

YANGON, 5 April— Myanmar Healthcare Directory 2005 published by Eureka Co. Ltd came out today. The directory contains facts about ambulance services, physical training centres, NGOs, medicine and medical equipment companies, general hospitals, specialist clinics, drug stores, traditional medicine sector, and others. It is available at No 145, 36th Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Phone: 01-253295 and H-2, First Floor, at the corner of 78th and 30th Streets, Chanayethazan Township, Phone: 09 500 9101.

MNA

Construction of roads inspected

YANGON, 5 April— Director-General U Myo Myint of Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, yesterday, inspected construction of district-to-district roads in Yangon Division.

The director-general arrived at the briefing hall in Kyazukan village and heard reports on progress in construction of a road presented by officials. Next, the director-general inspected graveled road linking Phugyi village and



Director-General U Myo Myint inspects district-to-district road in Taikkyi Township. — MNA

Kanthaya village built by Hmawby Township DAD in 2003-2004 fiscal and gave instructions. He also inspected nine miles and six furlongs long

Kanthaya-Kunthimyaung road built by Taikkyi Township DAD.

In Taungnyo village, the director-general met with officials

and gave instructions on work-site safety, minimizing loss and wastage and timely completion of works meeting set standard.—MNA



Culprit Aung Be seen together with seized raw opium. — MNA



Maung Hsan seen together with seized raw opium. — MNA

Substances Law. Likewise, on 25 February, members of traffic police of Mandalay Police force, while checking vehicles, stopped a car with licence plates (1B/2565) driven by Maung Hsan at the corner of 35th and 64th Streets in Maha Aungmyay Township, Mandalay Division, and seized six packets of raw opium weighing 6 kilos.

Mandalay Police Station-2 has filed a lawsuit against Maung Hsan aged 33, son of U Maung Aye of Pylonchantha Ward, Aungmyathazan Township, under section 15/19(A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. —MNA



A Matsushita Electronic Industrial employee introduces new flat-screen television on 4 April, 2005. — INTERNET

Health Minister says VRE case at uncommon stage in S'pore

SINGAPORE, 4 April — Being still at a very uncommon stage, the vancomycin resistant enterococci (VRE) bacteria is not a major problem in Singapore, Channel NewsAsia quoted Health Minister Khaw Boon Wan as saying on Sunday.

The minister assured the public that the situation is under control as only a couple of cases have been found each year, adding that it might be very serious if the epidemic becomes entrenched in hospitals. Fifteen patients have been found infected with the antibiotic-resistant bacteria since March 9 in the Singapore General Hospital (SGH) and hospitals in the country are taking control measures to prevent it from spreading.

MNA/Xinhua

Bangladesh's remittance sees huge boost in March

DHAKA, 4 April — Bangladesh's remittance saw a huge boost in March amounting to 401 million US dollars, the all-time high in a single month.

With the strong flow last month, the total amount rose to 2,827 million dollars in the first three quarters of the current financial year (July, 2004 - June, 2005), recording a 13-per-cent growth over the corresponding period of last fiscal year, according to the Bangladesh Bank statistics, published here Monday.

Increased remittance flow helped the country's foreign exchange reserves go past 3,033.88 million dollars on Saturday.

The target for remittance income for the 2004-2005 fiscal year was set at

3,620 million dollars while the income was 3,371.97 million dollars in the 2003-2004 fiscal year.

According to the statistics of the Export Promotion Bureau, exports during July-February period of the current financial year clocked 13 per cent growth over the same period of last fiscal year, amounting to 5,415 million dollars.

The double-digit boost in remittance and export earnings is helping to maintain a satisfactory foreign exchange reserve, said a senior official of the Bangladesh Bank.

MNA/Xinhua

1,536 members of US mily killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 4 April — As of Monday, 4 April, 2005, at least 1,536 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,167 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department. The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is one higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EDT Monday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 21; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, eight; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,398 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,057 deaths resulting from

hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

—One soldier was killed by small arms fire in Tal Afar Saturday.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

— Marine Lance Cpl Tenzin Dengkhim, 19, Falls Church, Va; killed Saturday in Iraq's Anbar Province; assigned to 2nd Light Armoured Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, NC.

Internet



UN-HABITAT to strengthen cooperation with China

NAIROBI, 4 April — UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) Executive Director Anna Tibaijuka said here Sunday her agency has a good relationship with the Chinese Government and she looks forward to continued cooperation with China.

Tibaijuka, also UN Under Secretary-general, said this while meeting with Chinese Vice-Minister of Construction Huang Wei, who came to Nairobi to attend the 20th session of the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT.

"First of all, let me start by thanking the Chinese Government once again for the generous grant in February," Tibaijuka said.

During Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan's visit to UN-HABITAT in February, China granted the UN human settlements agency 500,000 US dollars for the reconstruction in the tsunami-hit region.

"This contribution gives us new possibilities

to work with you in the tsunami-affected areas," Tibaijuka said.

UN-HABITAT and China have cooperated in setting up the former's Beijing Information Office and some training programmes. All the cooperation is satisfying, the director said.

Tibaijuka also said that a sustainable development conference is to be held in Nanning City in southern China in November this year, which will be co-hosted by UN-HABITAT, the European Union and the Chinese Government.

The 4th World Urban Forum is to be held in another Chinese city Nanjing in 2008, which Tibaijuka said is another example of good cooperation between UN-HABITAT and China.

Huang Wei said China will continue working closely with UN-HABITAT and will support its reform aimed at strengthening its role in improving the human settlements around the world.

Mayor of Nanning Lin Guoqiang was present at the meeting and he invited Tibaijuka to attend the November conference.

The 20th session of the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT is slated for 4-8 April in Nairobi. This year the discussions will centre on the implementation and monitoring the goal of the UN Millennium Declaration on improving the lives of slum dwellers. The council meets every two years.

MNA/Xinhua

22,000 Nepali workers to return from Qatar

KATHMANDU, 4 April — More than 22,000 Nepali workers are returning from Qatar within next two months because the companies that employed them have nullified the contracts, a Nepali agent said here Sunday.

"The companies that employed more than 22,000 Nepali workers have nullified the contracts before the stipulated time," said Nirmal Gurung, president of Nepal Association of Foreign Employment Agencies, a non-governmental organization.

The workers who were taken there by the

Nepali manpower companies were told that their contract would be valid up to three years, but upon reaching Qatar, the workers came to know that the contract was for a year only, he revealed.

The youths were mostly working in the stadium in preparation for the upcoming Asian Games scheduled to be held in

Doha in 2006. The construction is expected to finish before the coming August, so the Nepalis will be returning soon after, he noted. Nepali Minister for Labour and Transport Management Ram Narayan Singh said, the ministry will hold discussions and try to find a solution to the problem.

MNA/Xinhua



A US Army soldier inspects the area after a mortar exploded just inside an entrance to the US-controlled Green Zone in Baghdad, Iraq, on 3 April, 2005.

INTERNET

Indian PM promises power to all villages by 2009

NEW DELHI, 5 April — Promising power to every village in India by 2009, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Monday launched a nationwide scheme to electrify 78 million rural homes yet to see electricity 58 years after India's independence, *Indo-Asian News Service* reported.

At a function in which 13 provinces and one union territory participated through videoconferencing, Manmohan Singh also called for rational pricing and distribution policies to boost growth in the power sector, and a non-partisan response to improving economic generation, distribution and pricing of electricity.

"Our government is committed to providing access to electricity in every village in the

country by 2009," Manmohan Singh told the gathering in New Delhi, stating that the implementation of this basic commitment could not be delayed any longer.

"The scheme is therefore one of the most important promises we are committed to fulfilling during the tenure of our government. I commit our government to implementing this programme with utmost dedication," he said.

The scheme aims to provide electricity within five years in some 78 million rural homes across 125,000 villages, at the cost of 160 billion rupees.

An amount of 50 billion rupees has been provided for capital subsidy in phase I during the 10th plan. According to official figures, out of 138 million rural homes in India, only about 60 million households, or 44 per cent, have access to electricity.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်မှုစွမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား



A Chinese woman works in a yarn and fabric company that exports textiles to the United States, in Liaocheng, in east China's Shandong Province on 4 April, 2005. — INTERNET

CPPCC Nat'l Committee Vice-Chairman meets Polish delegation

BEIJING, 5 April — Wang Zhongyu, Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), met here Monday with a visiting delegation of the Commission for Foreign Affairs of the Polish Senate.

Wang said China and Poland and the two peoples have enjoyed profound traditional friendship, and the two sides have witnessed rapid growth of their relationship in the past few years.

He told the delegation that the leaders of the two countries have carried out close exchanges and political mutual trust has thus been enhanced. Meanwhile, the two sides are increasingly expanding their cooperation of mutual benefit in many fields such as economy and trade, culture and education, and science and technology, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Bank of China reports fraudulence case involving \$78m

BEIJING, 4 April — The Bank of China (BOC) on Saturday accused a Beijing-based real estate firm of swindling approximately 645 million yuan (78 million US dollars) in mortgage loans.

Wang Zhaowen, a bank spokesman, said the real estate firm, known as Beijing Huayuanda Real Estate Development Co, has obtained the money for its "Senhao Apartment Project" during December 2000 and June 2002 from the BOC's Beijing Branch using falsified housing purchase contracts.

The loans were then diverted by the company to an unspecified place outside Beijing, and the project suspended, said the spokesman.

The bank said it reported the case to local police in September 2002 after it discovered what it called risky loans.

The bank has removed Xu Weilian, deputy chief of the branch's retailing sector, from his position and from the bank due to his role in offering the loans, said the spokesman.

Other employees held responsible for the problematic loans were also penalized by the bank.

The China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC), the country's watchdog of banking sector, issued a circular last month urging all banks around the country to exert greater efforts and adopt substantial measures to prevent and control risks.

The commission said some banks have encountered frequent and major fraudulent cases, causing huge losses, due to the lack of supervision, failure in punishing malfeasant activities, and weakness in risk and internal control. Leading management staff and those held responsible have to be dealt with and punished.

The public should be given access to reports about the occurrence of these cases, according to the circular, which offers 13 instructions concerning the management and risk control of banks.

MNA/Xinhua

Internet services aid Chinese tomb-visitors

XI'AN, 4 April — Instead of making real trips to their beloved ones' tombs, Chinese net surfers can now pay homage to the deceased online.

According to Chinese tradition, people sweep the tombs of their relatives and friends on 5 April, what is known as Tomb-Visiting Day. Now, Internet users can log on to web sites of cemeteries and memorials to dedicate songs, present virtual wine and flowers, and burn candles and incense to mourn for the dead.

They can also express their feelings and leave messages on the country's some 100,000 online memorials.

MNA/Xinhua

Guerillas attack US base in western Iraq

FALLUJAH (Iraq), 4 April — Guerillas attacked a US military base near the Iraqi city of Ramadi, some 110 kilometres west of Baghdad, with mortar rounds on Sunday, witnesses said.

Clashes also broke out between fighters and US troops in the town of Qaim, some 350 kilometres west of Baghdad near the Iraqi-Syrian borders, killing one person and wounding several others, as the US forces continued their search and detention of suspected guerillas in the restive Anbar Province, local residents said. —MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi Police officers search a car entering from the west side of Baghdad, Iraq, on 3 April, 2005. — INTERNET

Karzai meets Chinese Foreign Minister

KABUL, 4 April — Afghan President Hamid Karzai met with visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing in his fortified palace on Sunday.

Briefing the development of the reconstruction process in post-Talebhan Afghanistan as well as the achievements made during the last three years, Karzai said the Afghan Government hopes to improve trade, culture and education cooperation with China.

As the bilateral trade has been increasing his government welcomes Chinese companies to Afghanistan, said the President.

Li congratulated Karzai on the achievements of the peace process and the reconstruction efforts made by his government.

The Chinese Government always encouraged qualified companies to invest in Afghanistan, showing the willingness to explore further cooperation for the mutual benefits of the two countries, added Li.

The Chinese Minister also met with former king Mohammad Zahir Shah in the palace shortly after talks with Karzai.

The former king expressed his gratitude to the Chinese assistance whenever needed when recalling the traditional friendship between the two countries and his personal good relationship with late Chinese leaders in the early years. Li thanked the former king for all his efforts in maintaining the friendship between the two countries. — MNA/Xinhua



South Korean students study at a Chinese Language Institute in Seoul, South Korea, recently — INTERNET

Drought threatens food sources for wild elephants in Thailand

BANGKOK, 4 April — More than 100 wild elephants living in northern Thailand are facing with starvation, for their food and drinking sources have been threatened with the kingdom's wide-spread drought, *Bangkok Post* Monday quoted an official of an elephant food sources project as reporting.

About 120 wild elephants living in the country's northern province of Loei were badly affected due to insufficient water for consumption, said Thinnakorn Pathor, an official of a royal-funded project on elephant's food sources. If there is no rain, wild animals will be in danger of starving. Lack of water and food may drive them to leave the forest and encroach on farmland to search for food," Thinnakorn was

quoted by Monday's *Bangkok Post* as saying.

Each elephant needs 200-300 kilogrammes of plant food a day and drink about 200 litres of water a day, according to Thinnakorn.

The ongoing drought, however, has reduced water volume in many brooks and caused forest fires that destroyed natural food habitats for elephants.

In February alone, forest fires had burned about half the forest areas

in the Phu Luang wildlife sanctuary in Loei, some 520 kilometres northeast of Bangkok. There are also reports of elephants coming down to farms for food and a villager stomped by elephant to death for encroaching forest. Local authorities and Thinnakorn's project are now calling on people to rebuild forest and setting up fences around the wildlife sanctuary in a bid to solve the problem.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia to export more cars this year

Kuala Lumpur, 4 April — Proton, Malaysia national car maker, would boost its exports this year in view of the new line-up of improved products, its chief executive officer Tengku Mahaleel Ariff said Sunday.

Now the quality of Proton cars had improved tremendously, especially in terms of customer satisfaction as confirmed by JD Power, a company tracking developments in the automobile industry, Tengku Mahaleel told reporters here.

The national car maker was scheduled to introduce the Tiara Replacement Model (TRM) and Satria Replacement Model (SRM) later this year while a sports car was also in the offing, he said. "We are ready to sell more abroad," he added.

Proton was expected to chalk up 16,000 units of export sales in the financial ended 31 March, 2005, its second highest export volume after the record of 27,000 units in the 1997, he said.

"We would have nine global plants, including the plants in Malaysia," he said, adding that this would propel Proton into becoming a global car manufacturer from just a merely assembler in 1985.

With oil money and foreign technology, Malaysia has made good headway in developing its national automobile industry. Proton, established in 1985 as part of Malaysia's industrialization programme, has manufactured six models of passenger cars and now has an annual production capacity of some 700,000 units.

MNA/Xinhua

NZ's stem cell recipient back from Beijing

WELLINGTON, 4 April — A New Zealand 64-year-old stem cell recipient has returned home soundly from surgery in China and within hours of her arrival played nine holes of golf, according to New Zealand media reports Monday.

Rotorua woman Willie Terpstra, who suffers from motor neurone disease, had stem cell surgery in a Beijing hospital on 21 March.

Terpstra and her husband Rein arrived in Auckland on Friday and returned to Rotorua, their hometown in north island of New Zealand, on Saturday.

A fortnight after the surgery, Terpstra was able to drink and eat without choking and able to poke her tongue out, something she had not been able to do previously. She is not able to speak clearly yet but her husband hopes her speech will improve soon.

MNA/Xinhua

Indian bank scam suspect arrested after deportation

NEW DELHI, 4 April — The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Sunday arrested M Varadarajuloo, an accused in the decade-old multibillion-rupee Indian Bank scam, after he was deported to India by the United Arab Emirates, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

Varadarajuloo, 65, now a French citizen, was arrested at Chennai Airport on his arrival from Dubai, a CBI statement said.

The Interpol had issued a red corner notice against Varadarajuloo, wanted in 10 cases involving billions of rupees. He had allegedly defrauded the Indian Bank in connivance with bank offi-

cials and escaped to Singapore in 1996.

There are five cases registered by the economic offenses wing of Chennai police, three by the bank securities and fraud cell in Bangalore and two by the anti-corruption branch of the CBI, Chennai.

Varadarajuloo later obtained French citizenship and evaded arrest, as the French Government

refused to extradite him after a protracted legal battle fought by the CBI in that country in 2001.

He was detained by Dubai police when he tried to enter the emirate and was deported to India after persistent efforts by the CBI with the help of the External Affairs Ministry and Indian Ambassador Sudhir Vyas.

MNA/Xinhua

Fund collected in Henan for salary default to migrant workers

ZHENGZHOU, 4 April — The Construction Bureau of central China's Henan Province has collected 150 million yuan (18.07 million US dollars) in a guarantee fund designed to prevent cases of salary default to migrant workers.

The establishment of the fund is part of the province's response to the central Chinese government's call for putting an end to a rampant phenomenon in the construction sector in which employers often fail to pay their transient workers as promised, so as to protect legitimate rights of migrant workers, said a local official.

A regulation worked out last year by the provincial government stipulates that all builders must set aside two per cent of their contract prices as guarantee fund for salaries of migrant workers. The guarantee fund will be managed by local authorities of construction, with its use being supervised by local departments of labour and social security.

If a builder fails to pay migrant workers the full amount of salary on time, local construction departments will use the guarantee fund to pay the migrant worker's salary. Those builders who refuse to deposit money into the guarantee fund will not be allowed to continue building or given permits to start construction of their projects, the official said.

By now, the system of the guarantee fund against salary default to transient workers has been in place in 18 cities of Henan, the country's most populous province, said the official. — MNA/Xinhua

Hachim al-Hasani elected Speaker of Iraq's new Parliament

BAGHDAD, 4 April — Hachim al-Hasani, an experienced businessman and active politician, was elected on Sunday by Iraqi lawmakers as Speaker of the newly sworn-in National Assembly (Parliament).

Hasani garnered 215 votes in a secret ballot on five candidates.

The Sunni Arab used to serve as spokesman for the Iraqi Islamic Party, the biggest political group in the Sunni community, but he quit his membership in the run-up to the elections on 30 January.

He remained as Minister of Industry when Hussein Hamid, the party leader, decided to pull all the members out of the interim government last November in protest against the US-Iraqi military operation in the restive city of Fallujah.

The party also boycotted the elections, complaining that a hasty poll would only cause havoc when voters were not secured. Hasani then took part in an alliance headed by outgoing President Ghazi al-Yawar, also a

Sunni, whose list won five seats in the parliamentary elections.

His successful bid for the Speaker post was seen as a compromise after Yawar's withdrawal from

the competition and a fierce rejection from the Shiites against the nomination of Meshaan al-Jobouri, a Sunni merchant said related to the toppled regime. — MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi man is searched by a soldier at a security checkpoint in central Baghdad, on 3 April, 2005. — INTERNET

ASEAN to boost financial cooperation

HANOI, 5 April — A financial and monetary roadmap for Southeast Asia countries in the fields of capital development and service liberalization will be submitted to the 9th ASEAN Finance Ministers Meeting to be held in Laos early this month.

The roadmap was put forth at the ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies Working Group Meeting which opened in Laos's capital Vientiane on 2 April, according to sources from the country on Monday.

At the one-day

meeting, financial and banking officials from 10 members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) discussed such issues as capital market development, insurance system reform, Customs cooperation, and anti-terrorism financing. ASEAN

finance ministers are expected to approve the roadmap at the meeting slated for 6 April.

ASEAN groups Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar and the Philippines.

MNA/Xinhua

Wen Jiabao says China to expand trade with Pakistan

BEIJING, 5 April — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao told Pakistani media on Monday that China values its trade with Pakistan and regards it as pivotal area that should be expanded.

Wen gave an interview with the Associated Press of Pakistan before his visits to the South Asian countries Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India. Wen said China and Pakistan have established an "all-weather, all-around cooperative partnership" despite volatile international changes.

"The Chinese Government will make joint efforts with Pakistan under the guidance of the joint declaration signed by the two heads of state in 2003, expand cooperation fields, raise cooperation levels and make bilateral cooperation benefit the fundamental interests of the two countries and two peoples," he said.

Wen said he hopes the two sides take measures to expand trade and make use of the strong compatibility of the two countries' industry and trade structure to discuss the establishment of free trade area. The Chinese Government will continue to encourage and support the two countries' private sectors to en-

hance cooperation, invest in each other and realize mutual benefits," Wen said.

He said, "China and South Asian countries are close neighbours and developing countries. Pursuing peace and stability and promoting development are our common aspiration.

"China sincerely hopes South Asian countries enjoy long-term stability, harmonious relations and economic development," Wen said, adding that China will support "all efforts that are conducive to peace, stability and development in the South Asia."

He said China pursues peaceful development according to the principle of "building friendship and partnership" with its neighbours. "We are willing to enhance good-neighbourly relations with South Asian and other Asian countries, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation and join hands to promote the regional and world peace and development," he said.

MNA/Xinhua



US soldier killed in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 5 April — A US soldier was shot dead and another wounded by gunmen in Iraq's northern town of Tal Afar, the US military said on Monday.

"One Task Force Freedom soldier was killed, and another was injured by guerilla small arms fire in Tal Afar on Saturday," the military said in a statement. Over 1,530 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese construction workers install metal scaffolding at a new property building being erected in Shanghai's business district on 4 April, 2005.—INTERNET

Another tremor rocks Indonesia's Nias

JAKARTA, 5 April— Another aftershock measuring 4.8 on the Richter Scale jolted Nias Island of North Sumatra Province on Monday only one week after it was shaken by a powerful earthquake of 8.7 on the Richter Scale.

The latest aftershock shook Nias for about two minutes on Monday morning, the official Antara news agency quoted Nias meteorological and geophysics agency spokesman Lido Fanter as saying here.

The official said over 50 aftershocks with magnitudes of between 3 and 7.5 on the Richter Scale jolted Nias in the wake of the March 28's earthquake.

Two strong earthquakes measuring 6.1 and 6.3 on the Richter Scale rocked Nias on Sunday, sending panicked residents to rush for a safe place in Gunung Sitoli, the main

town of the devastated island.

The quakes also forced Gunung Sitoli Hospital to evacuate their patients mostly victims of last week's quake outside into open spaces.

Nias residents were just recovering from the December 26 earthquake and subsequent tsunami which killed over 230,000 people in Aceh and North Sumatra provinces when the March 28 earthquake rocked the island again. Up to now, over 500 people in Nias were killed in the March 28 quake.

MNA/Xinhua

China, Turkey agree to enhance ties between two armies

BEIJING, 5 April— Chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Liang Guanglie said here Monday that China desires to improve its cooperation with Turkey.

In a meeting with Ibrahim Firtina, commander of the Turkish Air Force, Liang said China takes an "active attitude" in fostering ties with the Turkish Army and that he believed relations between the two armies will reach a new level.— MNA/Xinhua



Sony Ericsson 3G-enabled Z1010 mobile phone. Third generation (3G) mobile phone subscribers in the Asia Pacific region outside Japan are projected to soar to 142.6 million in 2009 from just 10.5 million in 2004, an industry analyst said.—INTERNET

Two confirmed dead, six missing in Inner Mongolia mine accident

CHIFENG (Inner Mongolia), 5 April — Rescuers said two miners' bodies were found Monday morning in a fluorite mine in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region flooded Thursday, while six others were still missing.

Rescue work was hampered by the high water level and collapsed rocks underground, according to the rescue headquarters.

The accident took place at the Jinfeng Fluorite Mine in the city of Chifeng at around 10 am on 31 March, when water drenched the 750-

metre-long shaft passage. Nine miners were working 120 metres underground, but only one managed to escape.

MNA/Xinhua

Visitor arrivals in Singapore up 6% in February

SINGAPORE, 5 April — A total of 626,865 visitors arrived in Singapore in February, up 6 per cent over a year ago, according to the figures released by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) on Monday.

STB attributed the robust growth to the double-digit increase in visitor arrivals from China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Taiwan Province, Thailand and China, which registered 67 per cent, 37 per cent, 24 per cent and 21 per cent respectively.

Indonesia, China and Britain were the top three visitor-generating markets in February, accounting for 36.5 per cent of the total number of visitors to Singapore in this period. Some 121,000 Indonesians came to visit the island state in February, while about 62,000 visitors were from China.

Tourism receipts were estimated to

enjoy an increase of 15 per cent to reach 780 million Singapore dollars (about 470 US dollars) in February as compared with the same period of last year.

The hotel room revenue dropped 11.4 per cent to 79 million Singapore dollars (about 48 million US dollars) in February from a year ago, while the average room rate (ARR) declined 2.2 per cent to 130 Singapore dollars (about 78 US dollars) in the same month. The average occupancy rate (AOR) for hotels in Singapore in February was estimated at 77 per cent, 4 percentage points lower than the same month of last year. — MNA/Xinhua

Singapore unveils 2005 sterling silver proof coin set

SINGAPORE, 5 April — The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) on Monday launched the 2005 sterling silver proof coin set featuring the conservation of natural landscape in the country.

A limited mintage of 10,000 sets will be issued worldwide on 16 April at the price of 128 Singapore dollars (about 77 US dollars) for each set, according to a statement by MAS.

Comprised of 5-cent, 10-cent, 20-cent, 50-cent and one-Singapore-dollar coins as well as a 12-sided five-Singapore-dollar coin with scallop edge, the set is minted in 925 silver proof condition.—MNA/Xinhua

Wish all know the truth

Dr Ma Tin Win (Institute of Education)

I have given lectures on the technique of teaching history. At present, I am also writing articles and books concerning history. So, I have been collecting and reading history books till now. We cannot leave out geography in studying history. Thus, I am also reading geography books and studying the atlas published abroad.

One day, a friend of mine presented me a fine atlas printed in a foreign country. I found the map of Myanmar featured systematically in the book like other nations. I would like to thank the publisher for his fine work. But I was rather shocked to find that the book mentioned Myanmar's produce to be opium.

Any foreigner who has been to Myanmar and wishes the truth and any citizen of Myanmar who really loves the nation will never accept such a false statement. It has been many years since our nation opposed growing of poppy for opium. The nation has been achieving success in cultivating opium substitute crops. It has destroyed large hauls of seized narcotic drugs in the presence of diplomats and journalists for many times. Myanmar citizens have sacrificed lots of blood, sweat and lives in the anti-drug campaigns. Colonialist minions and those who wish to destabilize Myanmar's internal affairs are making profits out of opium business, while using innocent locals to run the illegal business and putting all the blame, they have committed, on the nation. Thus, ordinary efforts such as educating and organizing the local people and making agricultural arrangements for them were not enough in the fight against poppy growing. Only after sacrificing many lives in crushing the saboteurs, did the anti-drug campaign achieve success.

Hence, a book which describes opium as Myanmar's export is wrong and illegal, whatever publishing house has printed it. In reality, such an act involves prejudice. In fact, such a book never imparts knowledge, it spreads false information without any dignity.

Myanmar's exports include gem stones including rubies, sapphires, jade, etc., which attract the hearts of peoples of global countries, and pearl

that can be found in the Myanmar territorial waters. Myanmar forests are the source of teak and hardwood. The delta region is the rice growing area of Myanmar. Thanks to the advanced techniques, rice can be cultivated on large areas of land in other states and divisions which are also extending cultivation of other crops, vegetables, and plantations of fruits.

Only few plant species do not grow in Myanmar. We have many tree species including coconut and toddy palm trees which provide us food and construction materials in addition to a wide range of uses. We have a large number of edible plants and medicinal plants that can cure various kinds of

It is the duty of today's youths to try to have the capacity of safeguarding and defending the nation as their ancestors had done. They should know their right to take over the role and also the duty of safeguarding and defending the nation. It is also their responsibility to hand down the duty to their descendants.

diseases and injuries.

There are also many tree species that give us shade, food and medicine. Many Myanmar families are still using traditional medicines produced from plants and trees. Because of her fine weather and geographical condition, the country can raise various species of domestic animals. A large number of rivers and creeks flowing in the nation provide a great volume of fresh water for agriculture and fish and animal farming.

As cotton grows well in Myanmar, the people can make cloths suitable for any weather. At present, foreigners visiting Bagan and NyaungU are fond of hand-made cloths, that native pilgrims have to wait for their turn at the shops, for tourists are buying traditional cloths which they like to wear. And they look happy with the Myanmar traditional costumes. In addition to cotton, Myanmar also produces silk clothing which in the eyes of foreigners is always

beautiful and charming. Every region of Myanmar produces enough food and other necessary items for their people. A children's encyclopaedia or an atlas that mentions opium as Myanmar's produce has sinister aims to discredit the country in addition to giving wrong information. The publishers of such a book are guilty of wrongly portraying the country. They are committing sins that may lead them to hell.

At the same time, I would like to give correct information to the youths concerning the nation. They should know that their country is rich in natural resources, because they will have to try to extract or harness them for national interest only if they know that those riches do exist in the nation. Otherwise, aliens will gain control of our natural resources.

Especially, intellectuals and intelligentsia should know more about the nation's riches. Although I cannot describe all the nation's beauties and riches in this article, I can say that her natural beauties and riches are greater in quality and quantity than those of many other nations of the world. Some tourists even come to Myanmar to marvel at her sun set. In this context, onus is on the youths to know, conserve, protect and develop the nation's riches and beauties. They will have to strive hard to develop their qualifications in technology and other sciences to do the job well.

It is the duty of today's youths to try to have the capacity of safeguarding and defending the nation as their ancestors had done. They should know their right to take over the role and also the duty of safeguarding and defending the nation. It is also their responsibility to hand down the duty to their descendants.

The country has fine weather and soil and water conditions, and her people have the ability. Hence, they should have the courage and strength to ward off all dangers threatening to sabotage the national interest. It is the high spirit that can destroy all the enemies till they disappear like the mist under the rays of sun.

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin+Kyemon: 5.4.2005.

Development work in Cocogyun Township inspected

YANGON, 5 April — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Comamnd Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo and USDA CEC member Yangon City Deveopment Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, accompanied by officials inspected regional development work being done in Cocogyun in Yangon South District this morning.

After visiting Zinamarazein Pagoda, the commander and party paid homage to the Saydawaw of Sasana Mandaing Monstery, donated K 100,000 for construction of Theindawgyi and offered alms to the Saydaw and

members of the Sangha. On arrival at the police Station of Cocogyun, the comamnder and party viewed thriving pepper plantation and gave necessary instructions to officials. Next, they met with departmental officials and local people at the office of Cocogyun PDC, and the commander, the minister and the mayor delivered speeches. Officials reported on developemnt work being carried out in the region and future tasks. Next, the commander presented a troller and gifts for the local people.

The commander and party inspected the pepper plantation of Cocogyun Township General Administration Department and visited the township BEHS

where they viewed the learning centre and photos on educational activities. Later, they visited the township USDA Office and cordially greeted USDA members. They also vis-

ited the township EPC office, township hospital, the township pre-primarily school, Depa Aye Pagoda, the local battalion and Cocogyun Dam and left necessary instructions there. *MNA*



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presents gifts to officials of social organizations in Cocogyun Township. —YANGON COMMAND

International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking commemorative contests to be held

YANGON, 5 April — As a gesture of hailing International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking which falls on 26 June 2005, painting, cartoon, poster, computer arts and computer poster competitions will be held. Cartoon competition will be held at 9 am and painting, at 1 pm on 25 May in Myanyila Hall of BEHS 2, Latha and poster will be held at 9 am on 26 May in Myanyila Hall of BEHS 2, Latha.

Competitions are categorized into four age groups— U-10, U-15, U-20 and Above 20. Computer arts, divided into

middle and high school levels will be held separately at 9 am on May 22, at University of Computer Studies, Hline Township. Any one who is above 15 may take part in the computer poster competition.

Application forms can be drawn in person from 1 to 7 May at Yangon Division Police Force Office, Kyauktada Township, Bank Street, Pyithmu Journal Office and Township PDC Offices concerned and are to send applications to Yangon Division Police Force Office from 8 to 14 May.

MNA

Government increases Taninthayi Division's monsoon paddy sown acreage to 500,000 acres...

(from page 1)

Now, the nation has risen from general deterioration in 1988 to the dramatic progress in numerous spheres. In addition, the government has managed to forge mutual trust, understanding and cooperation with the national races armed groups. And it is also exerting continued efforts to make peace with the remaining national races armed groups. The State has never lost sight in serving the interests of the nation and the people with genuine goodwill.

Here, the people are to be vigilant against the dangers posed by certain internal and external destructive saboteurs resorting to all possible ways and means to undermine the nation, national solidarity and the Tatmadaw.

Now, the national entrepreneurs have become a force with their ardent efforts alongside the government's encouragement.

He expressed his pleasure to see that local people are united in striving for regional development.

Food sufficiency is an indispensable factor for a state, division or region. Taninthayi Division has fundamental factors needed to enjoy food surplus.

And oil palm and rubber thrive in Taninthayi Division, so the government has assigned duties to the region to take steps to become the edible oil bowl of the nation by means of putting 500,000 acres under oil palm.

Now, the nation still has to import palm oil. Extended planting of oil palm will benefit both the growers and the State. Thus, it is needed to make efforts thoroughly and effectively to achieve the goal.

Moreover, the region is to extend the acreage of rubber that is in high demand at home and abroad from more than 100,000 to more than 200,000 acres.

With mass-production of palm oil and rubber, the region will be able to enjoy better economy with higher living standard of local people. It is also blessed with favourable conditions to broaden the scope of growing of pepper up to a commercial scale. Besides



Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance to entrepreneurs at the hall of Coastal Region Command in Myeik. — MNA



In conclusion, the General exhorted the entire national people including the entrepreneurs to be loyal to the motherland, and State service personnel to shoulder their responsibilities with a sense of duty and loyalty and to contribute towards regional development undertakings.

Next, the Senior General gave guidance, saying that whenever he makes an inspection tour of Taninthayi Division he has always said that the region has prospects to become a dependable one.

If compared to other states and divisions, Taninthayi Division is blessed with aquatic, terrestrial, forest and mining resources in abundance, and the volume of the regional development depends on how much it can

that, the region is enjoying cumulative success in the meat and fish sector. So, the region will definitely become the dependable one in the near future.

The Senior General urged the region to strive for greater regional development with the effective use of all the development infrastructures constructed by the State. In conclusion, the Senior General pointed out the fact that the region is also the source of oil and gas and minerals, and the State, the people and the Tatmadaw are to be harmonious in undertaking the tasks for national and regional development.

Afterwards, the meeting went into recess. Senior General Than Shwe met oil palm, rubber

requirements and remedy the weakness of the State due to various reasons. In this context, the term 'people' includes national private entrepreneurs. In the past, there occurred extinction of national entrepreneurs with capital and technology in the country. That is why encouragement was given to the existence of those entrepreneurs and opportunities were created for them to invest in commerce and production.

The government allowed national entrepreneurs to engage in production of palm oil and fish and prawn and growing of rubber in Taninthayi Division. Duties have been assigned to them to support the economy of the State. In doing their business, they are to serve both the interest of the State and the people and their own equally. They should have goodwill towards the country and cultivate patriotism and Union spirit. In building a modern developed nation, the government regards the national entrepreneurs who are trying to build the national economy to be strong as colleagues travelling on the same boat.

(See page 9)

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exert efforts.

With regard to the agricultural area, the number of region's sown acreage stands more than 700,000 and there still remains a lot of virgin and vacant lands to be reclaimed.

According to the rice output, the region's rice sufficiency has reached more than 99 per cent, and that is within its reach. The region will be able to enjoy exceeding the target of rice sufficiency by means of extending sown acreage and boosting per acre yield.

That was why the government has increased the region's sown acreage of monsoon paddy from more than 320,000 acres to more than 500,000 in accordance with its topography.

and fisheries entrepreneurs again at the same venue.

He said he had explained prospects and better foundations for development of Taninthayi Division earlier. People failed to heed the development of the division in the successive periods. As a result, there was less development in Taninthayi Division and it was like a fur-flung area. The government laid down development projects and paid attention to equal development of all parts of the Union and states and divisions including Taninthayi Division.

Only when three forces— the State, the people and the Tatmadaw, work unitedly will success be achieved in carrying out the tasks to fulfil the re-

Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint presents a report in meeting with departmental heads at division, district and township levels, entrepreneurs and members of social organizations in Coastal Region Command.—MNA



Government increases ...

(from page 8)

The Senior General spoke of the need for the entrepreneurs to work hard for realization of the economic tasks assigned by the State. The target to cultivate 500,000 acres of oil palm in fallow and virgin lands in Taninthayi Division was set. If the national entrepreneurs can make efforts to exceed the target, it will be beneficial for them as well as for the country. He urged them to undertake this task. He also stressed the need of growing rubber on a commercial scale in suitable regions not only in Taninthayi Division but also in Rakhine State.

At the same time, efforts are to be exerted to extend production of value-added fish and prawn by means of effective process.

Industries will develop in parallel with the progress of oil palm and rubber, and fish and prawn farming.

National entrepreneurs are therefore to make a wider view on the tasks, setting up long-term targets for stronger economy



General Thura Shwe Mann delivers a speech at the meeting with oil palm and rubber and marine products entrepreneurs in Myeik. — MNA

Industries will develop in parallel with the progress of oil palm and rubber, and fish and prawn farming. National entrepreneurs are therefore to make a wider view on the tasks, setting up long-term targets for stronger economy of the nation. Strong economy of the State and capitals and efficiency of national entrepreneurs are required for flourishing democracy in the nation.

of the nation.

Strong economy of the State and capitals and efficiency of national entrepreneurs are required for flourishing democracy in the nation.

In other words, national entrepreneurs who serve as a bridge between the State and the people including workforce are indispensable for development of national economy.

Therefore, the establishment of national economic undertakings by the government amounts to making preparations for ensuring the emergence of a democratic system with fully institutionalized discipline.

Hence, it is incumbent upon the national entrepreneurs to take part in building the Union into a democratic nation by doing their bit based on the

political and economic outlooks.

In his address, General Thura Shwe Mann said he had met oil palm and rubber entrepreneurs many times and also present at the today's meeting were fisheries entrepreneurs from Myeik region. When he met with national entrepreneurs, he said he would provide assistance to them in accord with law and procedures. He also said he made arrangements to fulfil the needs of the entrepreneurs as far as possible.

On behalf of fisheries entrepreneurs, U Maung Hla reported on deep sea fishing, increase of trawlers, use of modern equipment in fishing, prawn breeding, investment and loan. On behalf of rubber entrepreneurs, U Aung Lin reported on growing of rubber and assistance.

On behalf of oil palm entrepreneurs, U Htay Myint (Yuzana Co) and U Maung Maung Swe Tin (SI) reported on cultivation of oil palm, difficulties encountered and requirements.

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein reported on deep sea fishing, supply of feedstuff and transport of equipment.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on permit for cultivation of oil palm and rubber and loan. Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung reported on forest reserves in Taninthayi Division, biodiversity and cultivation of teak for local market and export.

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw reported on arrangements for in-

neurs.

General Thura Shwe Mann attended to the needs of the entrepreneurs.

On 4 April, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected plywood factory in Myeik Industrial Zone and fulfilled the requirements.

The minister met service personnel of Forest Department and Myanma Timber Enterprise and discussed implementation of the tasks, spending of money in accord with rules and regulations, minimizing of loss and waste and practising of thrifty.

Minister for Communi-

National entrepreneurs who serve as a bridge between the State and the people including workforce are indispensable for development of national economy. Therefore, the establishment of national economic undertakings by the government amounts to making preparations for ensuring the emergence of a democratic system with fully institutionalized discipline.

stallation of telephone in blocks of the entrepreneurs and condition of the hotels in Taninthayi Division. Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi reported on arrangements for supply of fuel.

Next, members of the Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Division Police Commander Police Col Hla Myint and Commissioner U Maung Maung Win reported on fulfillments for convenience of oil palm and rubber entrepre-

neurs, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected guest houses and discussed upgrading of the guest houses on 4 April.

The minister also inspected the sites for construction of modern hotels and telephone exchange in Myeik. Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein met fish and prawn entrepreneurs and discussed development of fisheries in Taninthayi Division.

MNA

Jatakas for 13th Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions designated

YANGON, 5 April—Widhura Jataka has been designated as a drama while Minkutha Jakata has been designated for marionette contest (professional level) for the 13th Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions for the year 2005 with a view to enabling those from the states and divisions who will take part in the competitions to study and practise them in advance. Details will be announced later.

MNA

Gems Empo sells 1,034 jade lots

YANGON, 5 April—Gems merchants bought 65 jade lots during the auction sales at the Gems Mart here from 5 pm yesterday to 1.30 am today. Yesterday alone saw the sale of 106 jade lots.

During the three-day sales from 2 to 4 March, the merchants bought 1,034 lots of jade. Merchants also bought 29 gem lots today, the fourth day of the 42nd Myanmar Gems Emporium.

Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint also visited the emporium sponsored by Myanma

Gems Emporium Central Committee today.

An official of the committee presented a gift

to the highest bidder company. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint has cordial conversation with gems merchants.— MNA

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects the people's hospital (50-bed) project in Hlaingbwe, Kayin State. — MNA

Local authorities should help...

(from page 16)

The nation at present is on the road to democracy and is in the process of smooth transition to a new administrative system. It has laid down the seven-point Road Map and is in the process of holding the National Convention, the first step of the Road Map. All those present at the meeting should always keep in their hearts the slogan—from peace and stability to the success of the seven point Road Map, the future policy programme of the nation — while harmoniously taking part in the task of materializing the seven points till the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Khin Kyu explained land use, cultivation of ten major crops, cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, farming, education, health and rural development undertakings in Kayin State, Minister for Education U Than Aung the national education promotion programmes of the Government and human resources development programmes in Kayin State, and Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt the projects of his ministry.

Accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, ministers, deputy ministers and officials, the Prime Minister paid respects to Sayadaws led by Meboung Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Raththa Guru Abhidhaja Agga

Maha Saddhammajotika Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Indiya and Sayadaw Agga Maha Kamadanacariya Bhaddanta Panñasami. They also paid respects to Myaingyingu Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sujana.

After attending the opening ceremony of the three-storey main hall of Hpa-an Government Technological College, they went to Paingkyon town in Hlaingbwe Township, Hpa-an District.

In the town, they heard reports on progress in setting up the town, cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, rub-

ber and pepper, health, education, transport, the requirements, building and upgrading of rural roads linking the town and rural health activities presented by officials. The Prime Minister made arrangement with the respective ministries for development of Paingkyon in accord with the characteristics of a modern town. He urged service personnel to strive to know the situation and requirements of the regions they are assigned to, to develop the regions and improve the living standards in accord with the rural and border area de-

velopment projects, to ensure public security, to facilitate transport and to foster the spirit of unity.

The Prime Minister and party observed the progress in construction of a two-storey building of the high school, a two-storey monastery, and Paingkyon Bridge, 1,200 feet long and 12 feet wide. The bridge can withstand up to 13 tons trucks.

In Hlaingbwe, they met with departmental personnel, local authorities, social organizations and local elders. The Government has been implementing projects for peace and stability and harmonious development of all

the regions of the nation with the participation of the people. Thus, the nation has seen daily progress in all sectors. At the same time it is fostering the spirit of national unity the main factor for perpetuation of the nation. Thanks to the participation of the local authorities, departments and the public, the people are enjoying the fruits of progress. The staff taking the administrative and management duties, on behalf of the Government, will have to ensure public peace and stability and serve the people's interest. They should work with goodwill to record the degree of their efforts.

The people will have to join hands with the Government and the Tatmadaw for development and peace and sta-

bility. With loyalty and sincerity to the people, the Tatmadaw Government will strive to serve the public interest.

The nation has seen favourable conditions in all sectors. All will have to harmoniously strive for the successful materialization of the seven-point Road map including the National Convention.

At the 50-bed township hospital project, the Prime Minister and party met with health staff and heard a report on progress in implementing the project. They arrived back here in the evening.

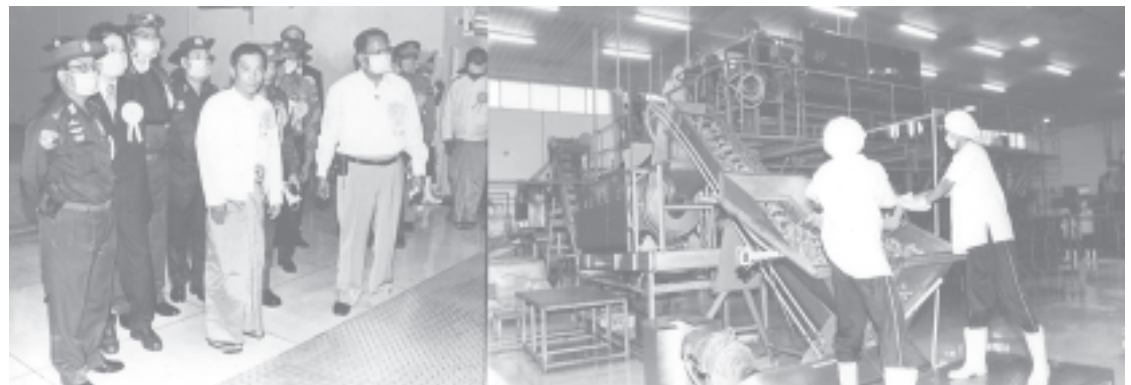
Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo also inspected the Mon State Hospital in Mawlamyine and Kayin State Hospital in Hpa-an and met with health staff.

MNA

All should always keep in hearts the slogan —from peace and stability to the success of the seven-point Road Map, the future policy programme of the nation — while harmoniously taking part in the task of materializing the seven points till the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.



Lt-Gen Maung Bo formally unveils stone inscription of Surimi and Fish Meal factories of ASK Andaman Ltd. (News on page 16)— MNA



Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party observe production process at the factory of ASK Andaman Ltd. (News on page 16)— MNA

Turkish Cos see China as market with big business opportunity

ANKARA, 5 April — Several Turkish companies asserted that China's market offers big opportunities both for investment and trade, the *Turkish Daily News* reported on Monday.

Emre Kavukcu, deputy general manager of Demirdokum, a subsidiary company of the Koc Group, was quoted as saying Demirdokum has launched production in China's Dongguan region, Guangdong Province and has increased its business in China's market.

Kavukcu noted that the company has already gained considerable experience in the market with Demirdokum working in seven regions of China, adding that the Koc Group's trade with

China will exceed 150 million US dollars in three or four years.

"We invested in China with the hope of getting a better understanding of Chinese culture. One needs to have patience when first investing in the Chinese market," Kavukcu said.

According to Ridvan Reman, manager of the Sisecam Exports, lots of companies have some prejudices about the Chinese market, deeming it difficult to reach both in terms of distance and marketing.

However, "Chinese demand for imported products is on the upswing and imported products are being allotted greater shares of the all important measure of shelf space," he said.

Reman's company founded the Sisecam Shanghai Trading Company in China's Shanghai free trade area in 2003 and the company's exports of chrome chemicals increased to 9.2 million US dollars in 2004 from 2.6 million dollars in 2000.

Mehmet Karatas,

southeast manager of Kibar Foreign Trade, said China will be in a very strong position in the determination of global steel and iron prices by 2010.

"We were first only selling products to China but now we buy products from China to sell in other markets. We transferred 40,000 tons of steel from northern China to Italy. This was welcomed. This is just one example of the opportunity in the Chinese market," Karatas said.

MNA/Xinhua



The snows are melting on the Himalayan ridges above the Kathmandu Valley, but the arrival of spring has brought only a trickle of tourists into Nepal on 5 April, 2005. — INTERNET

Annan names four envoys to help promote reform agenda

UNITED NATIONS, 5 April — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan named four world political leaders on Monday to assist in promoting the comprehensive reform agenda for the UN summit to be held in September.

The envoys will help the Secretary-General promote the bold but achievable agenda put forward last month in his report, "In larger free-

dom: towards development, security and human rights for all," which outlines an agenda for action to be taken by the international community to

meet the challenges of the 21st century. Annan has requested the good offices of four prominent world leaders, whom he has asked to act as his en-

voys in the run up to the summit: Foreign Minister Dermot Aherne of Ireland; Ali Alatas, former foreign minister of Indonesia; former president Joaquin Chissano of Mozambique; and former Mexican president Ernesto Zedillo. All four have vast political experience, profound knowledge of international relations, and are committed to the cause of the United Nations and are expected to travel around the world and engage political leaders, civil society representatives, academics and the media.

MNA/Xinhua



A boatman sits on the bank of the Dal Lake in Srinagar, India, on 5 April, 2005. — INTERNET

Crude oil prices drop as OPEC may increase output

NEW YORK, 5 April — Crude oil prices fell Monday as the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) was considering additional production increase.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange, light, sweet oil futures for May delivery fell 26 cents to end at 57.01 dollars per barrel. Prices touched an intraday high of 58.28 dollars a barrel, the highest level since trading was introduced in 1983.

Meanwhile, on London's International Petroleum Exchange, the May Brent crude-oil futures contract shed 28 cents to settle at 56.23 dollars per barrel, the highest intraday prices since the contract began trading in 1988.

Adnan Shihab-Eldin, OPEC acting secretary-general, said Sunday during an interview that the group was concerned about the prices and did not want to face a boom-and-bust situation. He further noted that OPEC was ready to boost its oil output quota by 10 per cent to prevent record high oil prices from hurting economic growth.

Analysts believed that there was a confluence of bearish factors that were finally being felt by the energy markets. "There is a prospect of recession in Europe and Japan and OPEC continues to boost production," an American analyst said. The European Commission again lowered its 2005 growth forecasts, which also pressured on oil prices. — MNA/Xinhua

Venezuela says OPEC decision has to be unanimous

CARACAS, 5 April — Any decision by the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) on a production increase of 500,000 barrels per day has to be unanimously made, Venezuelan Energy Minister Rafael Ramirez on Monday.

Venezuela has not been consulted yet by OPEC about a possible increase in oil production, Ramirez said.

OPEC's president, Kuwaiti Energy Minister Ahmad Fahd al-Sabah, said Monday that the organization is studying a possible production increase.

OPEC decided on 16 March in Iran to increase its production by 500,000 barrels per day, to 27.5 million barrels. The cartel has promised an additional 500,000-barrel growth if prices remain high.

Venezuela is the world's fifth biggest exporter of crude, with a daily production of 3.1 million barrels.

MNA/Xinhua

Global chip sales up 15.8% in February

LOS ANGELES, 5 April — Worldwide micro-chip sales reached 18.1 billion US dollars in February, up 15.8 per cent from the same month a year ago, the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) said on Monday.

But the figure was 2 per cent below the revised January chip sales of 18.4 billion dollars, said SIA, a trade group, noting that February is normally one of the weaker months for chip sales.

The group also reported that the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS) organization boosted the three-month rolling average number. Data released last month indicated a slight sequential decline in sales, but the revised data indicated that January sales were essentially flat with December sales.

"Worldwide sales of semiconductors have been stronger than expected during first two months of 2005," said SIA President George Scalise. "Flat sales in January followed by a modest sequential decline in February are actually encouraging signs given that these two months are normally slow periods for the industry."

Scalise noted that according to SIA estimates, half of all semiconductor consumption in 2004 was driven by purchases of products by individuals.

"The semiconductor content of a vast array of products purchased by individual consumers — from automobiles to personal communications devices and home entertainment systems — has risen dramatically in recent years," Scalise said. — MNA/Xinhua

2005 Pulitzer Prizes announced in New York

NEW YORK, 5 April — The 89th annual Pulitzer Prizes in Journalism, Letters, Drama and Music were announced Monday at the Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University in New York.

The *Los Angeles Times* won the prestigious Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for a series of stories exposing deadly medical problems and racial injustice at a major public hospital.

The paper was also awarded a prize in international reporting category for its coverage of Russia's struggle to fight terrorism and improve its economy. It shared this prize with New York-based *Newsday*, honoured for its coverage of Rwanda a decade after the slaughter of Tutsi tribe.

The *Wall Street Journal* also went away with two Pulitzer prizes, the best reporting award for its stories about cancer survivors and criticism


award for its film reviews.

The *New York Times* won in the category of national reporting for its stories about a corporate cover-up of responsibility for fatal railway crossing accidents.

The breaking new award went to *The Star-Ledger of New Jersey* for the paper's coverage of the resignation of New Jersey governor after he announced he was gay. *The Associated Press* won for breaking news photography and the *San Francisco Chronicle* won for feature photography.

Other winners included *The Boston Globe*, *Chicago Tribune*, *The Cleveland Plain Dealer* and *The Sacramento Bee*. — MNA/Xinhua

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Greece expects current economic policy to payoff in 2007

ATHENS, 4 April — Greece will begin to reap the benefit of its current economic policy in 2007, Finance Minister George Alogoskoufis said on Sunday.
“The government’s plan for reshaping the economy is concrete and clear-cut. The result will be visible from 2007. Effort by the public will bring returns,” said

Alogoskoufis in the northern town of Komotini, quoted by *Athens News Agency*. “Our objective is a different model of growth. Greece can move more effectively and more rapidly in today’s environment,” he added.
On the country’s revised stability and growth pact announced last week, Alogoskoufis repeated that the government had

sought mild but undeviating adaptation coupled with bold structural changes.
Public spending would be contained and rationalized, without hurting the basic workings of the state, and a rise in public revenue would be sought with minimum repercussions on the public, business and exports, he stressed.
MNA/Xinhua

US considers replacing “W-76” warheads

WASHINGTON, 4 April — The United States is considering to replace its W-76 warheads, a compact, powerful hydrogen warhead designed during the Cold War, *The New York Times* reported Sunday.
The W-76 warhead has been the centerpiece of the US nuclear arsenal for over two decades, carried aboard nuclear submarines that prowl the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, but in recent months it has become the subject of a fierce debate over its reliability and its place in the nuclear arsenal, the report said.
The government is readying a plan to spend more than two billion US dollars on a routine 10-year overhaul to extend

the life of the aging warheads, and at the same time, some weapons scientists say the warheads have a fundamental design flaw that could cause them to explode with far less force than intended.
The W-76, developed in the early 1970’s for destroying large targets like military bases, now sits packed in clusters of up to eight atop hundreds of missiles in a dozen nuclear submarines, the report said.
The W-76 and its troubles were born during the Cold War, when American bomb makers sought to win the arms race with designs that made nuclear arms lightweight, very powerful and in some cases so small that a dozen or more could fit atop a

slender missile, according to the report.
Quoting officials and weapons experts, the report said of 5,000 active warheads in the US arsenal, 1,500 are W-76’s, each of which is meant to be about seven times as powerful as the bomb that destroyed Hiroshima.
The W-76’s importance is rising as the country’s nuclear force relies more on submarines and less on bombers and land-based missiles, but as the arsenal’s oldest warheads age, the risk of internal rusting, material degradation, corrosion, decay and the embrittling of critical parts increases, the report said.—*MNA/Xinhua*

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Nepal to celebrate golden jubilee of two peaks to mark first human ascent

KATHMANDU, 4 April — Nepal will celebrate the golden jubilee anniversary of Mt Kanchanjanga and Mt Makalu, to mark the first human ascent, an organizer told *Xinhua* on Sunday.
The three-day programmes to celebrate the 50th anniversary of ascending Mt Kanchanjanga (8,586 metres) and Mt Makalu (8,463 metres), the third and fifth highest peaks in the world respectively, has been finalized, said Ang Tshering Sherpa, president of Nepal Mountaineering Association, a non-governmental organization.
The 50th anniversaries of Mt Makalu and Mt Kanchanjanga are scheduled to start on 14 and 24 May respectively, he noted, adding, all the successful summiters will be felicitated during the programme.

An expedition team of eight French with one Nepali Sherpa guide first stepped onto the peak of Mt. Makalu on 15 May, 1955 and other four-member team of United Kingdom first summit onto Mt Kanchanjanga on 25 May, 1955.
According to the association, a total of 195 and 227 mountaineers have successfully climbed Kanchanjanga and Makalu respectively during this period of time.
As the Nepali Government has adopted a policy to celebrate Golden Jubilee Anniversary of ascent on the Himalayan peaks above 8,000 metres height, the Golden Jubilee of the Mt. Qomolangma (8,848 metres) and Mt Cho-Oyu (8,201 metres) were celebrated successfully in May 2003 and October 2004 respectively.
MNA/Xinhua

Nepal computerizes ID process

KATHMANDU, 4 April — The Nepali Government is all set to computerize the process of issuing citizenship certificates (ID cards) in seven more districts by 15 July, a government official said here Sunday. “This will ensure prompt services and encourage people from acquiring citizenship.” Under-Secretary at the Home Ministry Ganesh Rai told

reporters.
Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur districts in the Kathmandu Valley have already computerized the process four months before. According to Rai, the number of people who have already taken the certificates stands at over 12.51 million with the total population put at over 23 million in the country.
MNA/Xinhua

60 countries back Uruguayan candidate for WTO head

MONTEVIDEO, 4 April — Some 60 countries support the Uruguayan candidate Carlos Perez del Castillo to be the next general director of the World Trade Organization (WTO), local Press quoted Uruguayan Foreign Minister Reinaldo Gargano as saying recently.
“Uruguay keeps on supporting Perez del Castillo. This has been

said before, by the President (Tabare Vazquez) to his Brazilian counterpart, Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, and in a very clear form we keep that position,” Gargano told a Press conference Friday evening upon his return to Montevideo from Brazil, where he accompanied the President on a visit.
“This week we’ve sent letters to nearly 60 countries supporting the candi-

dacy, and the President placed a special emphasis in this sense,” said Gargano. Currently, there are four candidates for the election to be held before 31 May, 2005, and they also include Luiz Felipe de Seixas from Brazil, Mauritian Foreign Minister Jaya Cuttaree, and former EU Commissioner of Trade Pascal Lamy from France.
MNA/Xinhua

Canadian Govt to fund stem cell research

OTTAWA, 4 April — The Canadian Government has announced 5.3 million Canadian dollars (about 4.2 million US dollars) to fund stem cell research, it is reported here Sunday.
The research funding for the Stem Cell Network will support a number of national projects, including an effort led by

Dr Jacques Galipeau of the Montreal-based Jewish General Hospital to study the use of adult stem cells as repair material to help patients with cardiovascular and respiratory diseases.
In announcing the funding, Canadian Justice Minister Irwin Cotler said that Canada is among the leaders in stem cell research.

In Canada, scientists can use adult and embryonic stem cells for research but cannot legally push the limits any further. It is hoped that stem cells, which can be found in fat, blood, bone and cells themselves, will eventually be used to repair damaged hearts, lungs and blood vessels.
MNA/Xinhua

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A Christian devotee touches the sketch portrait of Pope John Paul II after a prayer session at the Sacred Heart's Cathedral in New Delhi, India, on Sunday, 3 April, 2005.—INTERNET

Brazil,Paraguay agree to resolve border issues

BRASILIA, 4 April— Brazil and Paraguay have reached agreement on resolving border issues by means of cooperation in fighting crime and facilitating flow of tourists, the Brazilian Foreign Ministry announced Saturday.

Officials of the two countries met on Friday in the Paraguayan capital of Asuncion to decide on joint efforts to crack down on crimes and promote tourism, according to the ministry. One of the steps to resolve the border issues is to revive the International Friendship Bridge linking the two neighbours suffering tit-for-tat measures recently.

The two sides also managed to increase the 150-dollar exemption quota for Brazilian tourists to buy consumer goods

in Paraguayan border cities.

The new value will come into effect approximately within 15 days to "stimulate further tourist flows in the border region," the ministry said, without giving the new ceiling for cross-border purchases.

Paraguay, on its part, has committed itself to cooperating in fighting illicit activities such as smuggling of goods, tax evasion, drug trafficking, piracy, money laundering and child prostitution.

The signed commit-

ments are yet to be further reviewed by the two governments, the Brazilian ministry said. The package of deals was struck following quarrels between the two members of the Common Market of the South, which also includes Argentina and Uruguay.

Amid the controversies, Brazil has recently tightened its crackdown on smuggling from the Paraguayan city of Ciudad del Este, leading to Paraguayan measures against illegal Brazilian workers.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran seizes 5 tons of drugs during its calendar year

TEHERAN, 4 April — More than 5 tons of various illicit drugs were seized in the central Iranian city of Mehriz during the Iranian calendar year starting from 20 March, 2004 to 20 March, 2005, the official IRNA news agency reported on Sunday.

IRNA quoted local police commander Mehriz Mohammad Hossein Vorasi as saying that the haul mainly consisted of 4,950 kilogrammes of opium and 156 kilogrammes of heroin, a 65-per-cent rise compared to drugs confiscated in the previous year.

Vorasi said that police also arrested 555 drugs traffickers during the same period.

Drug addiction and transportation has been a serious social problem in Iran, a country sitting in the crossroad linking drugs producing Afghanistan and Pakistan and markets in Persian Gulf states, Central Asia, Western Europe and other regions.—MNA/Xinhua

Greeks see new tax rules hurt purchasing power

ATHENS, 4 April — Most Greeks saw purchasing power hurt by new tax measures announced last week, according to two opinion polls released on Sunday. In an Alco survey published in the Photo Thema newspaper, 83 per cent of people polled said that the measures would hurt household income, with 8.0 per cent forecasting a slightly adverse impact, and 3.0 per cent — on the border of statistical error — anticipating no negative repercussions.

Fifty five per cent of respondents believe that the measures are unfair on the public, with 22.0 per cent saying they are probably unfair, and 5.0 per cent describing them as fair and 10.0 per cent as probably fair. Of voters who cast their ballot for the ruling New Democracy (ND) party in March 2004, 59 per cent view the measures as unfair, and 34 per cent believe they are unnecessary.

Asked how they would view the government after implementation of the measures, 5.0 per cent said they would have a positive image, all of them ND voters, while 36.5 per cent predicted a negative image. Again of total voters, 72 per cent reported they were either unsatisfied or slightly satisfied with the government's performance.—MNA/Xinhua

Tanzania charges high fees for new passports

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 4 April— The Immigration Department under the Tanzanian government has defended its decision to charge 50,000 shillings (50 US dollars) for each copy of the new machine-readable passports.

The Immigration Department said on Saturday that the amount is reasonable and covers the cost for making the passports.

The Tanzanian immigration authorities announced on 22 March that the Tanzanians willing to travel abroad or those residing abroad would have to change their passports into a 48-page yellow-cov-

ered document with a validity duration of 10 years. Though over 200 people have so far obtained their new passports in Dar-es-Salaam, the application fee of 50,000 shillings have been criticized as exorbitant.

Those who are already holding the old green Tanzanian passports will have to change

within the next six months into new yellow ones at the immigration headquarters in either Dar-es-Salaam or in Zanzibar.

For Tanzanians residing abroad, they will have to collect their new passports from the Tanzanian embassies or high commissions of their respective countries of residence.

The old passports will become obsolete by the end of the six-month grace period.

The most notable change between the new and old passports lies in the fact that a machine-scanned picture of the passport holder will appear on the inside of the cover of the new passports. — MNA/Xinhua

Quake injures 24 in southeastern Iran

TEHERAN, 4 April— An earthquake measuring 4.1 on Richter Scale hit the southeastern Iranian province of Kerman on Sunday, leaving 24 injured, the official IRNA news agency reported.

The quake jolted suburbs of Ravar, a town 155 kilometres north of the provincial capital city Kerman at 02:54 am (2224 GMT Saturday), the report said. Local official Mahmoud Vafaei was quoted as saying that 22 of the wounded sustained light injuries but the other two picked up serious injuries and were admitted to a hospital in Kerman.

Iran is situated on some of the world's most active seismic fault lines and quakes of varying magnitudes are frequently witnessed.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia to launch four spaceships in April, May

MOSCOW, 4 April— Russia will launch a manned space mission in April and three unmanned spaceships in May, the Interfax news agency quoted a spokesman for the Russian Space Troops as saying.

A Soyuz spaceship that carries a replacement crew to the International Space Station (ISS) will blast off from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on 15 April, the spokesman said. Russian cosmonaut Salizhan Sharipov and NASA astronaut Leroy Chiao have been working in the station since mid-October last year.

The 16-nation ISS used to rely heavily on US shuttle flights but Russian spaceships have been the only links with it since the US Columbia space shut-

tle disaster on 1 February, 2003, which killed all seven crew members. All US space shuttle flights have been grounded since the disaster.

A Proton heavy carrier rocket with a Direct-TV8 telecommunications satellite will be launched on 2 May. A medium-class RS-20 carrier rocket with several space vehicles will lift off on 27 May, and a medium Soyuz carrier rocket with a Foton spaceship on 31 May, according to the spokesman.

MNA/Xinhua



Just chillin': One of over 130 northern koalas (Phascolarctos cinereus adustus) relaxes at the world's largest and oldest-established koala haven: Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary near Brisbane.—INTERNET

Chance of survival slim for two missing in N-W avalanche

MENYUAN (Qinghan Province, NW China), 5 April — Rescuers have not yet found the two tourists missing in an avalanche occurred in Qinghai Province Saturday afternoon and their chance of survival is slim, according to local rescue headquarters. All the 70 rescuers withdrew from the spot for signs of new avalanche on Sunday afternoon and the headquarters sent a new rescue team including mountaineering coaches and climbers early Monday morning to continue search, said Deng Haiping, head of the provincial mountaineering administration. The administration is now in charge of the rescue operation.— MNA/Xinhua

German police to put iron hand on World Cup hooligans

BERLIN, 5 April — The German police will show their toughness against football hooligans if they try to disrupt the 2006 World Cup finals in Germany, the co-president of the German football federation said on Monday.

"It is really necessary to act with great firmness and to put the screws on them," Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder said.

"The police will use all necessary force." Renewed fears of hooliganism in Germany have been sparked by riots last week in the Slovenian city of Celje after Germany beat Slovenia 1-0 in a friendly.

"These were madmen with whom I personally came face to face," Mayer-Vorfelder said.

"According to what they told me, they are also planning something for the 2006 World Cup."

The 2002 World Cup finals in Japan and South Korea were free from hooliganism, but the 1998 event in France was marred by fighting involving English supporters.

MNA/Xinhua

Phelps takes 100m butterfly qualifying for fourth event at world championships

WASHINGTON, 5 April — Michael Phelps won the men's 100-metre butterfly event Sunday night at the US national swimming trials in Indianapolis, qualifying for a fourth event at this summer's world championships in Montreal.

Phelps, Olympic champion in Athens in 2004, beat teammate world record holder and Olympic silver medallist Ian Crocker.

"I love to race against Ian," Phelps said after the race. "He's probably one



Michael Phelps.—INTERNET

of my favourite competitors. With the friendship we have and the competitive edge that we have for this race, it makes it that much more exciting."

The 19-year-old Phelps was satisfied with his time, which was just two tenths of a second off his personal best.

Phelps, who won six Olympic gold medals in Athens, had qualified for three events at the world championships in July in Montreal.

Stuttgart to sign Hitzlsperger from Aston Villa

BERLIN, 5 April — English premier league club Aston Villa's German international midfielder Thomas Hitzlsperger will join VfB Stuttgart on a free transfer at the end of the season, the Bundesliga club announced on Monday. Hitzlsperger, who turns 23 on Tuesday, is due to sign a two-year deal, with an option for a third year, Stuttgart announced. "I'm glad the move has been firmed up," Hitzlsperger told the Stuttgart web site. Hitzlsperger made his debut for Germany in October 2004 against Iran and has played four games under coach Juergen Klinsmann, who himself used to play in England's Premier League.

MNA/Xinhua

Earlier in the six-day national trials, he won the 200-metre and 400-metre freestyle events and earned a berth on the 800 freestyle relay.

Phelps is scheduled to swim in the 100-metre freestyle and 200-metre individual medley, followed by the 200-metre backstroke on Tuesday.

While Phelps remained dominant in the men's competition, Katie Hoff continued to build her case as the top female performer at the national trials.

The 15-year-old high school student won her third event Sunday, finishing first in the 400-metre individual medley in 4:39.25, the fastest time in the world this year. Hoff came in ahead of Olympian and American record holder Kaitlyn Sandeno, the winner of four gold medals at last October's short-course world championships in Indianapolis. Sandeno finished second in 4:41.87.

Hoff, the winner of the 200-metre IM on Friday and 200-metre freestyle on Saturday, said her goal coming into the trials was to qualify for both individual medley races. Tara Kirk, sixth in the Olympic 100-metre breaststroke last year, qualified for Montreal with a first-place finish on Sunday. Both 50-metre freestyle finals took place Sunday. Jason Lezak qualified for his 11th national team with a 22.29 second victory in the mens event. — MNA/Xinhua

Inacio takes over as struggling Beira Mar's coach

LISBON, 5 April — Portuguese premier league club Beira Mar named Augusto Inacio as the new coach on Monday in a bid to fight off the relegation threat. Inacio took over from Luis de Campos who quit in the wake of Beira Mar's 3-1 loss to lowly visitors Penafiel on Sunday. Inacio, who steered Sporting to their first title in 18 years in 2000, was fired by Qatar's Al-Ahly at the end of last year.

He has signed a contract until the end of the season, becoming Beira Mar's fifth coach in the current campaign.

The northern club are bottom of the 18-team league table, collecting 23 points from 27 games.

MNA/Xinhua

Mickelson wins Bellsouth Classic golf

WASHINGTON, 5 April — Phil Mickelson won the 5 million US dollars Bellsouth Classic golf tournament after being taken to a fourth playoff hole by Rich Beem at the TPC at Sugarloaf in Duluth, Georgia on Monday.

Masters champion Mickelson will head to Augusta with his 26th PGA Tour victory after sinking a birdie put on the 17th to see off the brave challenge of Beem, the 2002 PGA champion.



Phil Mickelson poses with the trophy after winning the BellSouth Classic on Monday, 4 April, 2005, in Duluth, Ga. Mickelson won on the fourth hole of a playoff.—INTERNET

"I'm very excited at how I played the backside today and I'm looking forward to the Masters," world number four Mickelson was quoted by Reuters as saying. The playoff began with five players — Arjun Atwal, Brandt Jobe and Jose Maria Olazabal as well as Mickelson and Beem — after they had tied on eight-under-par 208 after three rounds.

Atwal and Jobe dropped out at the first playoff hole — the 18th — after missing their putts for par while the other three parred the hole and moved on to the 17th.

Twice Masters champion Olazabal had blown two chances to clinch the title with birdie putts — one on the 18th and another on the first playoff hole. He then bowed out after his fifth shot landed in the water on the third playoff hole.

With the first two days of the tournament wiped out by torrential rain, officials had been forced to shorten the event to 54 holes but an extra day was still needed.

Now those qualified for the Masters starting on Thursday have to race across the state to the Augusta National, including Mickelson and Olazabal who was champion in 1994 and 1999. — MNA/Xinhua

Chelsea not to appeal against UEFA ban

LONDON, 5 April — Chelsea have decided not to appeal against manager Jose Mourinho's touchline ban for the Champions League quarter-final against Bayern Munich.

The club said in a statement on Monday an appeal would interfere with preparations for the first leg at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday. "As indicated on Friday, we are not happy with that verdict but we accept it," the statement said.

Mourinho preferred to be less talkative on the club's statement. "I'm not on the bench on Wednesday, and also next week, and it's something that I don't want to comment or say what I have in myself," Mourinho said.

"It's clear you cannot say too much. I must keep quiet," he said. Chelsea were fined 75,000 Swiss francs and Mourinho was given a two-match touchline ban by European football's governing body UEFA last week.

The club, which UEFA charged with bringing the game into disrepute, had alleged that Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard talked to the referee during halftime of their Champions League first knockout round game at the Nou Camp on February 23.

UEFA had accused Chelsea of making false declarations and "deliberately creating a poisoned and negative ambience" after Mourinho refused to attend the post-match news conference and submitted a report detailing their allegations.

Mourinho, who was also fined 20,000 Swiss francs (16,750 US dollars), will have to sit in the stands for both legs of the quarter-finals against Bayern Munich. The first game is at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday. — MNA/Xinhua

Federer beats Nadal for title in Miami

WASHINGTON, 4 April — Swiss Roger Federer rallied from two sets to love down to subdue Spanish teenager Rafael Nadal 2-6, 6-7 (4-7), 7-6 (7-5), 6-3, 6-1 to win the Nasdaq-100 Open at Key Biscayne in Miami on Sunday.

The top-seeded Federer, the world number one who claimed his fifth title of the year after the 3:42 marathon, won his 22nd straight match and extended his 2005 record to an astonishing 32-1.

But Nadal made him work every step of the way.

Nadal broke Federer for a 3-1 lead in the third set. Federer had a chance to return the favour in the next game, and berated himself when he hit a forehand long.

Federer claimed his second straight title in Miami, after defending his title at Indian Wells, California, earlier this month.

He became the first top seed to win the Nasdaq-100 Open since Pete Sampras beat Andre Agassi in 1994.

Federer earned 533,350 US dollars for this title. — MNA/Xinhua



Roger Federer of Switzerland lifts the trophy after defeating Rafael Nadal of Spain in the men's final during the NASDAQ-100 Open at the Crandon Park Tennis Center in Key Biscayne, Florida. — INTERNET

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ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မစ်

မြန်မာ့ယဉ်ကျေးမှုမဟာသင်တန်း ဆင်နွဲ့သူများ လိုက်နာရန် တိုက်တွန်းနှိုးဆော်ချက်

- * မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှုလေ့စရိုက်နှင့် ဖိလားဆန်ကျင်ပြီး မြန်မာလူမျိုးများ၏ အမြင်တွင် မတင်တယ်သည် ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်မှု၊ ပြုမူပြောဆိုမှုများ မပြုလုပ်ရန်။
- * ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာယဉ်ကျေးမှုအဆုံးအမနှင့် ဖိလားဆန်ကျင်သည် အပြုအမူ၊ ပြောဆိုမှုများ မပြုလုပ်ရန်။
- * အချင်းချင်း ဒဏ်ရာအနာတရ ဖြစ်စေပြီး အန္တရာယ်ဖြစ်စေသည့် ကြမ်းတမ်းသည့် ရေကစားမှုများ မပြုလုပ်ရန်။
- * တိုင်းရင်းသားစည်းလုံးညီညွတ်မှုကို ဖျက်ပြားစေပြီး ဆူပူမှုကို ဖြစ်စေနိုင်သည့် လူ့ဆော်ဖန်တီးပြုမူပြောဆိုကြိုပမ်းမှုများကို မပြုလုပ်ရန်။

မဟာသင်တန်းစည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ

သတိ

၁။ လေပေါင် (၁၀၀) မှ (၁၅၀) အထိ အတင်အချ ပြုလုပ်၍ ရသည့် ကွန်ပရက်ဆာပန်များဖြင့် ရေပက်ကစားခြင်း၊ ကြောင့် ရေစူးအား ပြင်းလွန်း၍ ရေပက်ခံရသူတွင် အသားရေများ ပွန်းပဲ့စွတ်ထွက်နိုင်ခြင်း၊ မျက်စိ၊ နားများ အား ထိုးမိပါက မျက်လုံး၊ နားကန့်နိုင်ခြင်း၊ အန္တရာယ် ဖြစ်စေနိုင်ပါသဖြင့် ရေကစားမအောင်တားရန်၊ ရေပက်ခံကား များတွင် ကွန်ပရက်ဆာပန်များ အသုံးပြု၍ ရေပက်ခြင်း မပြုရန် တားမြစ်ပါသည်။

၂။ သင်တန်းရေပက်ကစားခြင်းအား သင်တန်းရက်များအတွင်း နေ့စဉ် နံနက် (၀၇:၀၀) နာရီမှ (၁၈:၀၀) နာရီအတွင်း သာ ရေပက်ကစားကြရန်နှင့် (၁၈:၀၀) နာရီ နောက်ပိုင်း ရေပက်ကစားခြင်း မပြုရန် တားမြစ်ပါသည်။

၃။ တားမြစ်ချက်အား ဖောက်ဖျက်ပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူခံရမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မစ်

ကမ္ဘာ့ကျန်းမာရေးနေ့
WORLD HEALTH DAY
 ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ခပြာ (၃) မှတ်

မိခင်ရင်သွေးကျန်းမာမှု လူ့တောင်ထဝစဉ်လွယ် လူတိုင်းပါဝင်စောင့်ရှောက်ကြ

Make every mother and child count

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

သတိ

အရက်/ဘိယာများအား ဓော်တော်ယာဉ်များဖြင့် လှည့်လည် ရောင်းချခြင်း၊ မအောင်မြင်မှုအနီးနှင့် အခြားနေရာ များတွင် တရားမဝင်ရောင်းချခြင်းများ မပြုလုပ်ရန် တားမြစ်သည်။

မဟာသင်တန်းစည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ

ရေခဲထုပ်၊ ရေပူဖောင်း ဆပ်ပြာညှပ်ဂင်္ဂန်းသုံးဖြင့် ကစားက

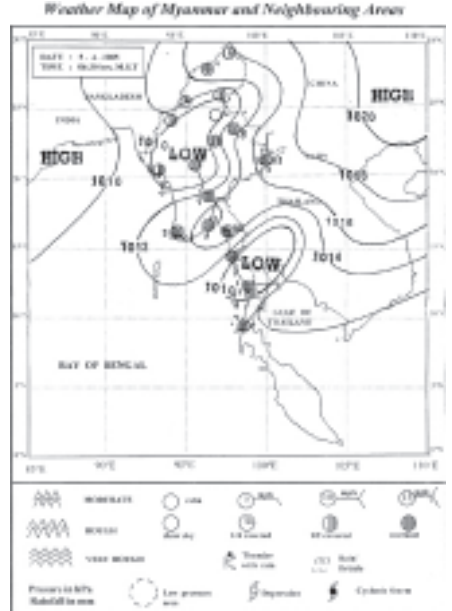
၁။ လက်ဝယ်တွေ့သူ - ထောင် (၁) နှစ်
 ၂။ ကစားသူ - ထောင် (၃) နှစ်
 ၃။ ထုတ်လုပ်ရောင်းချသူ - ထောင် (၅) နှစ် နှင့် ဝစ္စည်းကိုသိမ်း

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မစ်

သတိ

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်အတွင်း ဟွန်းမတီးရ။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကော်မတီ



WEATHER

Tuesday, 5 April, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division, Kachin and Chin States and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Rakhine and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and scattered to widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mawlamyine (1.65) inches and Hpa-an (1.34) inches. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin State and Yangon Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Shan and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Magway and Bago Divisions, (7°C) below normal in Mandalay Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperature was Hmawby (40°C).

Maximum temperature on 4-4-2005 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 5-4-2005 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 5-4-2005 was 87%. Total sunshine hours on 4-4-2005 was (2.6) hours approx. Rainfalls on 5-4-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, (0.15 inch) at Kaba-Aye and (0.32 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (0.59 inch) at Yangon Airport, (1.69 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (0.32 inch) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (13:50) hours MST on 4-4-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 6-4-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Shan, Rakhine, Mon, Kayah and Kayin States and Ayeyawady, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, isolated in Mandalay, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, in the Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere 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 6-4-2005: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-4-2005: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Drive safely

TV Myanmar

Wednesday, 6 April
View on today:

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံသမဟာ နာယကအဖွဲ့အဖွဲ့တော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မေယျာရဋ္ဌဂုဏ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မေယျာရဋ္ဌဓမ္မာတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိတ၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာ အိပ်သာ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. အရေးပိုင်ပွဲ

8:00 am

6. ရွှေလောင်းတံတား

8:15 am

7. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Let's Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in Reading

4:45 pm

4. Musical programme

5:00 pm

5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ်(ပထဝီဝင်အထူးပြု) (ရတနာ)

5:15 pm

6. Song of national races

5:30 pm

7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:40 pm

8. Classical song

5:55 pm

9. "စက်မှုတော်ဆင်လုပ်ငန်းတွင်" (အကယ်ဒမီစီဒီဒီ၊ အကယ်ဒမီ)

မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ အကယ်ဒမီ မိုးမိုးမြင့်အောင် (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဝင်းထွန်းထွန်း)

6:00 pm

10. ရွှေပန်းခွက်အဆီယံအစီအစဉ်

6:10 pm

11. Discovery

6:20 pm

12. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

6:30 pm

13. Evening news

7:00 pm

14. Weather report

7:05 pm

15. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

7:20 pm

16. Strong and healthy Myanmar

7:35 pm

17. Musical programme

8:00 pm

18. News

19. International news

20. Weather report

21. "၂၀၀၄-၂၀၀၅ ရ နှစ် ပန်ကျားကျောင်း (ရန်ကုန်) သင်တန်းဆင်းကဏ္ဍ"

22. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Wednesday, 6 April
Tune in today:

8.30 am Brief news
8.35 am Music: Why oh Why
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music: Tell me what you want
8.50 am National news/Slogan
9.00 am Music: Dr Jones
9.05 am International news
9.10 am Music: Can't stop
9.15 am News/Slogan
1.30 pm Lunch Time
1.40 pm Music
 -Show me the meaning of being lonely
 -Lay all your love on me
 -I'm your eyes
 -Good times
9.00 pm "Variations on a tune": Season in the sun
9.15 pm Article/music
9.25 pm Music at your request
 -Don't fall in love so easy
 -There goes my heart
 -It's a headache
9.45 pm News/Slogan
10.00 pm PEL

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

**Local authorities should help public in accord with Government's goodwill and stance towards people
They should not become burden for people**



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win addresses the meeting with officials at township level, members of social organizations and local people at Aung San Hall, Hlaingbwe Township, Kayin State. — MNA

YANGON, 5 April— Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win met with departmental personnel, local authorities, social organizations and local nationalities in Hpa-an, Kayin State on 2 April.

The Prime Minister said that Kayin State contributes 0.5 per cent to the gross domestic product of the nation. But the state is at the fifth position in terms of progress among all states and divisions, thanks to the efforts of all local authorities and departmental personnel. Kayin State at present can produce enough food for its population, but efforts are still needed to produce surplus paddy. As the food production is exceeding the local demand, the state should make efforts to extend cultivation of the ten major crops and develop trade. Of the cash crops, it should extend rubber and pepper cultivation, as the two crops grow well in the state. The state should see to the increase in the per capita income and development in social and economic sectors. In addition to agriculture, the state will have to extend livestock breeding and fish farming to develop its economy. In

accord with rural development projects, farming should be conducted

ensuring of cent per cent peace and security, the rule of law and adminis-

trative protection for the people. It is important for them to become adminis-

trative bodies helping the people in accord with the Government's goodwill

and stance towards the people.

(See page 10)



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects progress in building of extension of school, Paingkyon, Hlaingbwe, Hpa-an District, Kayin State. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends opening of fish processing plant, fish powder plant of ASK Andaman Ltd in Myeik

YANGON, 5 April — The opening ceremony of fish processing plant and fish powder plant of ASK Andaman Ltd in Myeik Industrial Zone in Myeik, Taninthayi Division took place in the compound of the plants yesterday morning, attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence on 4 April.

Also present were Taninthayi Division PDC Chairman Coastal Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Thein, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, departmental heads, local authorities, departmental staff, business entrepreneurs

and guests.

First, Chairman Mr Y Nishida of Texchem Food Division, Texchem Resources Berhad, extended greetings and Dr of ASK Andaman Ltd U Maung Sit spoke words of thanks. Next, Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint spoke on the occasion. Lt-Gen Maung Bo formally unveiled the stone plaque of the plants. Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander, the ministers and officials sprinkled scented water on it.

Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party viewed the operating of the plants and quality control laboratory. The two plants can produce 30 tons of fish powder and process seven tons of fish per day.

MNA