

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIII, Number 5

13th Waxing of Tagu 1367 ME

Thursday, 21 April, 2005

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Queen Elizabeth II

YANGON, 21 April — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on the occasion of Her Majesty's Birthday, which falls on 21 April 2005. — MNA

CNG filling station No 008 commences function

YANGON, 20 April — The CNG filling station No 008 of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy was commissioned at the station on No 3 Highway in Mingaladon Township this morning.

Director U Myint Htay of MOGE reported on the matters concerning the station. Next, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin formally opened the filling station.

Afterwards, Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe pressed the button to unveil the signboard of the station.

Next, the commander, ministers, the mayor, deputy ministers and guests inspected the station. The director conducted them around the station.

Next, the commander and party viewed filling of CNG to buses and departmental vehicles.

Also present on the occasion were the No 1 Military Region Commander, departmental heads, members of USDA and social organizations. — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe unveils signboard of CNG Filling Station No 008 on No 3 Highway in Mingaladon Township.—ENERGY

Secretariat Member meets Division/District USDA members

YANGON, 20 April—Secretariat Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang held a meeting

with secretaries and executives of NyaungU Township, Myingyan District and NyaungU District USDAs in NyaungU yesterday afternoon.

The secretary and joint-secretary of NyaungU District USDA reported on progress in implementation of the five rural development tasks and future programmes.

In response, the secretariat member elaborated on public welfare services to be carried out in collaboration with respective local administrative bodies, particularly the five rural development tasks, measures for national concerns, organizational tasks for augmentation of members, conducting of more summer courses, multiplier courses, and refresher courses.

Next, the minister inspected the products produced by the Ministry of Industry-1 at Win Thuza Shop in NyaungU and instructed the employees to strictly follow the directives given by the ministry, systematic stockpiling of goods to avoid running out of items, and to deal with the customers in a polite way.



Secretariat Member U Aung Thuang meets with secretaries and executives of Myingyan and NyaungU District USDAs.—INDUSTRY-1

MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 21 April, 2005

Strive for successful implementation of development projects

The Tatmadaw Government is building infrastructures through systematic plans for all the national people to be able to enjoy a rich and secure socio-economic life and possess a promising future.

As Myanmar is an agricultural country, agriculture is one of the main pillars of the national economy and agricultural development is the sine qua non for national development.

This being so, clusters of dams are being constructed wherever necessary the length and breadth of the nation. Now a total of 172 dams have been built and another 31 are under construction. Since the Tatmadaw Government assumed responsibilities of the State, a new dam has been emerging every month. As a result, cultivated acreage has also increased to 26.6 million, up from 24.8 million in 1988. The increase in sown acreage and production ensures food sufficiency not only for the present population but also for the future population.

In his address at the graduation parade of the 108th intake of the Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School in Bahtoo Tatmyo on 11 April, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said: Now our population is 54 million and there will be over 100 million in 30 years. After having taken up the duties of the State, the Tatmadaw was determined to fulfil food, clothing and shelter needs of the people.

Therefore, it undertook the tasks for increase of cultivable lands, supply of water and quality strains. The government is trying to transform conventional farming into mechanized farming. Now there is sufficiency of rice in the country for over 54 million of people. The government with goodwill has been undertaking the 30-year economic plan and making efforts for region-wise rice sufficiency.

Since its assumption of State responsibilities, the Tatmadaw has always been determined to improve the socio-economic life of the entire national people and to fulfil their need for food, clothing and shelter. The people, realizing the goodwill of the government, fully cooperate with the government. As a result, difficulties and hardships have been overcome and considerable success achieved.

We would like to call on the entire national people to work hand in hand with the government for successful implementation of development projects in the interests of the nation and in their own.

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

Course on Health Care with Traditional Medicines opened

YANGON, 20 April— The opening of Course No 7 on Health Care with Traditional Medicines, jointly conducted by the Ministry of Religious Affairs and the Ministry of Health, was held at the State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) under the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana on Kaba Aye Hill here this afternoon.

The occasion was graced by the presence of the vice-chairman Sayadaw and the joint-secretary Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, the rector Sayadaw of the university and Sayadaws, the chairman of the Theravada Buddhist Missionary Ovadacariya Board and secretaries, and student members of the Sangha.

Also present were Minister for Religious



Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung offers alms to a Sayadaw.— MNA

Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Adviser U Arnt Maung, Director-General of the Religious Affairs Department Dr Myo Myint, officials, course instructors, trainees, and lay persons. The minister supplicated on matters related to religious affairs.

The minister, the

deputy minister and departmental heads offered alms to Sayadaws.

Joint-Secretary of the SSMNC Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Tatkon Sayadaw Bhaddanta Candasiri delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

A total of 66 student members of Sangha and

10 lay persons are attending the one-month course. MNA

UN Envoy denies involvement in oil-for-food scandal

UNITED NATIONS, April 20 — Maurice Strong, a Canadian businessman and the UN envoy for North Korea, denied on Monday from any involvement in the scandal over alleged corruption and fraud in the Iraqi oil-for-food programme.

In a statement issued in New York, Strong said he had "no involvement or connection whatsoever with the UN's Iraqi oil-for-food programme or any other of its Iraqi activities".

"Indeed I cannot recall a single instance in which I had any contact or discussion on the programme with any of the officials responsible," he said.

But Strong acknowledged his relationship with Tongsun Park, a South Korean businessman who was suspected of bribing two unidentified UN officials in the oil-for-food scandal.

Strong said Park invested on a normal commercial basis in an unidentified energy company "with which I was associated that had no relationship with Iraq".

MNA/Xinhua

PyinOoLwin Gold Cup Golf Tournament concludes

YANGON, 20 April — The 47th PyinOoLwin Gold Cup Golf Tournament, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, Myanmar PGA and PyinOoLwin Golf Club,

golfers event with 292 strokes. In the gold class, Khin Maung Myint (Forestry) secured first.

In the gold class team event, YCDC team led by Aung Win bagged first

second with 498.

PyinOoLwin-H team led by Soe Naing stood first with 513 in the bronze class team event and PyinOoLwin-F team led by Major Kham Maw sec-



DSTA Rector Brig-Gen Win Myint presents trophy to YCDC team in the gold class team event.— MGF

was held at PyinOoLwin Golf Course in PyinOoLwin, from 12 to 15 April.

Min Naing (Srixon) stood first with 282 strokes in the professional golfers event. Bo Bo (YCDC) led the amateur

team led by Kyaw Htay

and with 529. Rector Brig-Gen Win Myint of Defence Services Technological Academy, Managing Director U Chan Han of Han Golf Masters Pte Ltd and officials presented prizes to the winners.— MNA

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်
မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ့**

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည်ကိုစွဲရပ်မှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ဖြစ်သည်။

- ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဧပြီလအတွက် နောက်ဆုံးပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) (၂၄-၄-၂၀၀၅)ရက်နေ့၊
- ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ မေလအတွက် (၈-၅-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့၊
- နှင့်
- (၂၉-၅-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့။

China collects handwritten family letters as cultural heritage

BELING, 19 April — China has begun collecting handwritten letters between family members from Chinese people both at home and abroad, as experts say they may become precious cultural heritage with the development of modern correspondence technologies.

“These letters are a package of various cultures in literature, aesthetics and calligraphy. They also reflect the development of China’s traditional rites, papermaking industry, post and package services,” said Bai Gengsheng, deputy director of the China Folk Literature and Art Society, in charge of the collection project.

“They have not only helped maintain the emotional attachment between family members but also record the changing society over the past hundreds or even thousands of years,” Bai said.

Bai worries that the next generation may know little about handwritten letters as an increasing number of people have

turned to e-mails, cellphones and other modern channels for communication.

He said the project will welcome all kinds of handwritten letters between family members, including the letter paper and envelopes. There are no restrictions on their lengths, the time when they are written or their addresses.

China’s National Museum will select the 100 most valuable letters for its permanent collection according to the evaluation of experts, he said.

The project, jointly launched by the National Museum, China Folk Literature and Art Society and a Chinese nation culture research institute, started from 11 April. Its first phase will last two or three months. — *MNA/Xinhua*

HK scientists develop novel dimming technology for lighting systems

HONG KONG, 19 April — City University of Hong Kong on Monday announced its newly developed dimmable lighting technology that can help reduce electricity consumption and protect the environment.

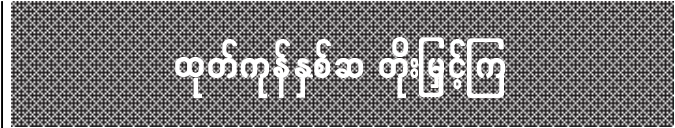
Professor Ron Hui of the university’s Department of Electronic Engineering said that the technology has been successfully applied in a number of outdoor lighting systems in Chinese Mainland. Field trials have shown that it has the capability of reducing energy consumption up to 30 per cent in lighting system. Reduced electricity consumption leads to reduced carbon dioxide emission, which, in turn, helps relieve global warming, he said.

Hui explained that in electric lighting systems for discharge lamps such as fluorescent lamps and high-intensity-discharge lamps, either electromagnetic ballasts or electronic ballasts would be used to control and limit the current in the lamp. An electromagnetic ballast has a typical lifetime of 15-20 years and is recyclable and is therefore environmentally friendly. For an electronic ballast, it consumes about 10

to 15 per cent less electricity. However, it leads to an environmental problem — accumulation of toxic electronic waste, Hui told. The university has developed a central dimming technology that can turn non-dimmable electromagnetic ballasts into dimmable ones, with dimming capability allowing users to use lighting energy when and where it is necessary and to the appropriate lighting level.

The patent-pending central dimming technology can on the one hand save energy, and on the other hand do less harm to the environment during the process of generating electricity. It has been successfully applied to both indoor and outdoor lighting systems.

The novel central dimming control system has been tested in Chinese Mainland since September 2004, registering an average saving of 30 per cent of electricity. It is now being installed in a Mainland city for controlling about 7,000 street lamps. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Thai Crown Prince stresses need for int’l coop in crime prevention

BANGKOK, 19 April — Thailand’s Crown Prince on Monday emphasized the necessity for all nations to joins hands in preventing and fighting crimes which have posed severe threat to the security and stability of human society.

Opening the 11th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on Monday, Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn urged closer cooperation among countries to contain crime and build new prosperity.

“The cooperation is of great value and significance because it springs from productive interaction between nations, the results of which are beneficial to

not just any one individual country, but to the global community as a whole,” he said. The eight-day conference is expected to explore avenues of international cooperation in combating a wide range of crimes, including terrorism.

Acceptable legal practices and judicial standard of criminal justice systems will be discussed at the meeting.

Upon its conclusion, the Bangkok Declaration

will be adopted incorporating issues such as organized crime, narcotics, terrorism, corruption, economic and financial crimes, human trafficking and youth violence in urban areas.

Over 3,000 representatives of international governmental and non-governmental organizations from more than 130 countries gathered for the five-year round conference. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Chinese construction workers erect scaffolding at a construction site in China’s capital Beijing on 20 April, 2005.—INTERNET

Second Filipino dies in Iraq

MANILA, 20 April — The Philippine government reacted on Tuesday to news of a second Filipino death in violence-torn Iraq by expressing “serious concern and apprehension” over that country’s security situation and reiterating its call for the thousands of Filipinos believed working there to come home.

Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo issued the appeal following the death of Marcelo Salazar, 46, who died last

Thursday in a possible terrorist attack against a convoy of military vehicles of the US-led coalition forces. —INTERNET

Philippines urges nationals to quit Iraq, offers free repatriation

MANILA, 20 April— Philippines President Gloria Arroyo offered free transport home to thousands of nationals working in Iraq after one of them was gunned down in Baghdad at the weekend.

Arroyo spokesman Ignacio Bunye said the shooting death on Sunday of Rey Torres, a driver and security guard working at a US military camp in the Iraqi capital served as a “warning that the situation in Iraq remains dangerous to our people.”

He said the foreign and labour departments “stand ready to help to facilitate the repatriation” of Filipinos who volunteer

to leave the country.

The killing of Torres was the second attack in Iraq that led to Filipino casualties in the past week.

The Philippines is flying home five other Filipinos whose convoy was ambushed by unknown gunmen in Baghdad on Saturday, leaving two of them slightly injured.

There are at least 6,000 Filipinos in Iraq according to Philippine government

estimates, even though Manila banned travel to the country following the abduction in July 2004 of truck driver Angelo de la Cruz and accountant Roberto Tarongoy in November.

The kidnapers freed de la Cruz after Manila pulled out its small military-police contingent in Iraq, while unknown gunmen are still holding Tarongoy hostage. —INTERNET



An Indian shopkeeper arranges packets of ready-to-cook meals in a shop in Mumbai on 19 April, 2005.—INTERNET

Iraq MPs angry about US humiliation in Green Zone

BAGHDAD, 20 April— Iraqi lawmakers demanded an explanation from the American Embassy after a Parliament member was allegedly detained and beaten by US soldiers when entering the Green Zone.

The National Assembly (Parliament) urged outgoing Prime Minister Iyad Allawi to ask the US Ambassador to Iraq to officially apologize for the humiliation.

MP Fatah al-Sheikh was trying to enter the Convention Centre when a US soldier stopped him at one of the checkpoints inside the US-protected Green Zone, a witness told *Xinhua*.

"He showed them his

ID, but they threw it and shouted at him, then they quarrelled with him, beat him and detained him for minutes before he was released and allowed to attend the meeting," he said.

"One of the US soldiers caught his throat for about three seconds before they started beating him," another witness added.

Sheikh was annoyed by the humiliation and announced his with-

drawal from the Parliament immediately after the session started.

"This is not the first time they treat us like this," said Sheikh.

Some lawmakers suggested suspending the parliamentary session until they solve the problem, but other members rejected the idea as paralyzing the political process means disaster for the violence-ravaged country.

The American Em-

bassy in Iraq has not made any comment on the incident.

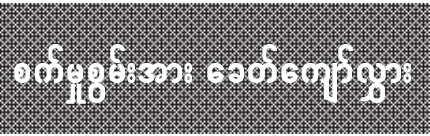
The newly-installed legislators have been complaining about the tight security procedures at Green Zone checkpoints.

At Tuesday's session, MP Muthar Shawket asked for US compensation and urged the US troops to leave the Green Zone within two months.

He then threw his ID and left the gathering.

"I will not come back again until the parliament solves the problem," the angry lawmaker left a word behind.

MNA/Xinhua



Kenya becomes world's largest tea exporter

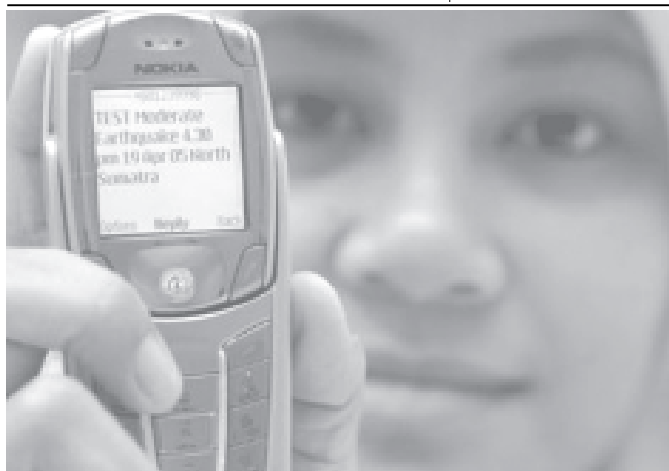
NAIROBI, 19 April — Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) has announced that Kenya is now the world's largest exporter of tea, local media reported on Monday. The East African country had overtaken Sri Lanka after exporting 123 million kilograms of tea last year, local newspaper *Daily Nation* quoted KTDA Managing Director Lerionka Tiampati as saying.

However, the KTDA official said, as Kenya's number one foreign exchange earner, tea industry also faces great challenges.

Firstly it is threatened by surpluses in the world market, leading to low prices. Other challenges include high cost of production, labour and over-reliance on Pakistan as a key importer.

Tiampati said the labour expenses in the sector were 12 per cent higher than India and Sri Lanka. "It is also higher than China's," he added.

MNA/Xinhua



An officer of Malaysia's meteorological service shows a test message delivered from the new Regional Earthquake and Tsunami Monitoring Centre in Kuala Lumpur on 19 April, 2005.—INTERNET

IT business asked to protect children online

BANGKOK, 19 April — Leading internet and high technology companies should take their responsibility for ensuring childrens' safety online, children's organizations from 67 countries made the call on Monday in Bangkok.

"Children... are being exposed to harmful or damaging materials online," said John Carr, UK internet safety expert and spokesman for the UK-based Children's Charities Coalition on Internet Safety (CHIS). "We continue to read of tragic instances of children being abused by sexual predators where the internet played a key part in facilitating the initial contact that led to the abuse," said Carr.

Carr made the comment while a worldwide campaign for internet safety led by CHIS and other children's organization from 67 countries was launched in Bangkok on Monday.

The newly-launched campaign named Make-It-Safe is therefore aimed

at lobbying IT leaders to create a global child protection body to set and implement worldwide industry standards, research safety technologies and fund a global educational campaign.

"Only the IT industry can deliver the technological and financial resources to ensure the safety of children and young people online and in interactive technologies," said Carmen Madrinan, executive director of a global child-rights NGO named ECPAT.

Though some IT companies are concerned to ensure their technologies are safe for children, but it's not nearly enough, according to Madrinan.

MNA/Xinhua

12 killed in Iraq guerrilla attacks

BAGHDAD, 19 April— Guerrilla attacks killed at least 12 people in Iraq on Tuesday as a resurgence in violence piled pressure on politicians struggling to form a government more than 11 weeks after elections.

Guerrillas opened fire on members of Iraq's National Guard in Khaldiya, a restive town west of Baghdad, killing five people and wounding four.

In Baghdad, a suicide car bomber killed four National Guards in the Athamiya District, the police and hospital officials said. Thirty-eight people were wounded in the blast. Al Qaeda's wing in Iraq, led by Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, said a member of its "martyrs' brigade" carried out the attack, according to a statement posted on the Internet. Gunmen also killed Baghdad University professor Fouad al-

Bayati on Tuesday, riddling his car with bullets as he drove to work, police said. The US military said a 51-year-old male detainee held at Camp Bucca in southern Iraq died of what appeared to be natural causes on Tuesday. The military said it was investigating the death as part of a "normal course of action".

As politicians debated renewed violence, an Iraqi lawmaker accused a US soldier of grabbing him by the throat and shoving him to the ground after he parked his car in Baghdad's Green Zone. Fattah al-Sheikh, an independent politician,

said he had parked his car ahead of a session of parliament when US troops approached him and told him he didn't have the right permit.

Internet

Iraqi police secure the scene where a suicide bomber killed at least six people and wounded 44, when he blew up his car at an army recruiting post in Baghdad, in the Azamiyah District of the capital, on 19 April, 2005.

INTERNET

French Prime Minister to visit China

PARIS, 19 April — French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin is expected to kick off Thursday a three-day official visit to China to discuss bilateral economic relations and the problem of a strong Europe facing emerging powers.

Raffarin will stay in Beijing on Thursday to have talks with his counterpart Wen Jiabao and Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Vietnam, Nigeria to strengthen political, economic cooperation

HANOI, 19 April — Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo paid an official visit to Vietnam from 17-18 April at the invitation of Vietnamese President Tran Duc Luong, in which the two sides agreed they have many similarities and great potentials for further cooperation.

Reviewing the progress of the diplomatic ties over nearly three decades, both leaders said during the talks that they were delighted to see the bilateral relations are developing to a new height for the interests of both countries, according to *Vietnam News Agency*.

They agreed to encourage investment and technical cooperation in the fields of agriculture, forestry, infrastructure, economy and trade, science and technology, environment and others.

During their talks, Luong spoke highly of the establishment of the African Union, of which President Obasanjo is chairman, and the approval of the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

Regarding international affairs, the two presidents held that Vietnam and Nigeria have common interests in security defence. They agreed to coordinate with other countries that have

the same viewpoint to ensure a judicious and humane international, political and economic order.

They also shared the view that the regions and the world should make more efforts to resolve problems such as poverty, slow development, and diseases. They have an opinion of expanding the United Nations Security Council in order to make the group more representative and democratic, said the report.

The two presidents also applauded the Asian and African leaders' decision to sign a joint declaration at the upcoming Asia-Africa Summit in Bandung, Indonesia.

During his stay in Vietnam, President Obasanjo also met with General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Nong Duc Manh, met with Prime Minister Phan Van Khai and visited General Vo Nguyen Giap, according to the report. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Beijing encourages private nursing homes

BEIJING, 19 April — Beijing has adopted new measures encouraging non-governmental institutions and individuals to invest in care centres for aged citizens in the national capital.

According to the measures, all welfare institutions for the aged, orphans and abandoned infants and rehabilitation centres run by non-governmental institutions or individuals, or by other organizations without government funding, can apply to local civil affair departments for 100 yuan (12.09 US dollars) in government subsidies for each bed monthly.

The measures also stipulate that welfare service agencies for disabled people (excluding medical institutions) and homes for the aged, which are owned by the government but operated with private funds, can apply for a 50-yuan government subsidies per bed monthly.

An official with the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Civil Affairs said

that Beijing municipal government will no longer directly build care centres for the aged in the future but only build some pilot social welfare organizations.

The official said that providing sufficient beds for aged citizens has been a grave financial burden on local government, adding currently, the government has to spend 40,000 yuan (about 4,800 US dollars) for each bed annually in order to maintain normal operation of existing homes for the aged.

The official said, however, the existing institutions are far from meeting the demand. There are only 1.5 beds for every 100 of Beijing's 1.88 million people aged 60 and above.

MNA/Xinhua



Shoppers view magazines at the newly opened bookstore at a shopping mall in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 19 April, 2005.—INTERNET

Tsunami reporter wins PATA Travel Journalism Award

MACAO, 19 April — "Travel Impact Newswire" Executive Editor Imtiaz Muqbil on Monday received the 2005 Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Travel Journalism Award at the 54th PATA Annual Conference for his in-depth coverage of the Southeast Asia tsunami.

Travel Impact Newswire based in Bangkok, Thailand, is Asia-Pacific's first e-mail travel industry news feature and analysis service. Following the 26 December tsunami, Muqbil delivered 27 special editions via the electronic media to reach a global audience of 20,000 subscribers.

"Imtiaz's dispatches were forthright, factual and often impassioned," said PATA president and CEO Peter de Jong, adding that with this award, PATA acknowledges the hard work and incisive insights Imtiaz brought to his readers throughout the Indian Ocean tragedy.

The PATA Travel Journalism Award acknowledges one outstanding journalist for his or her coverage of the Asia Pacific Region each year.

Founded in 1951, PATA is the recognized authority on Asia Pacific travel and tourism. PATA provides leadership and advocacy to the collective efforts of nearly 100 governments, state and city tourism bodies, more than 55 airlines and cruise lines, and hundreds of travel industry companies.

MNA/Xinhua

Nepali children to be given vitamin A

KATHMANDU, 19 April — All Nepali children aged six months to five years will be given vitamin A capsules and the children aged one to five years will be given deworming capsules, the Nepali Technical Assistance Group said here on Sunday.

According to Group, the Ministry of Health will conduct the programme throughout the nation scheduled on April 19-20.

The ministry has already sent necessary health posts and community female health workers in all the 75 districts throughout the country, according to the non-governmental organization.

The programme has targeted 3.6 million children aged six months to five years and around 48,000 community female volunteer health workers will be mobilized for the task, it said.

The Ministry of Health has aimed at reducing child mortality rate, night blindness and the entire eye diseases caused due to lack of vitamin A through the National Vitamin A programme, which is being organized since 1993, it said.

MNA/Xinhua



A worker sews clothing at a garment factory in Beijing on 19 April, 2005.—INTERNET

Iran to launch legal actions for return of smuggled antique

TEHERAN, 19 April — Iran is to launch legal actions to claim the return of an ancient Persian Empire bas-relief which was smuggled to Britain about 70 years ago, the English-language *Teheran Times* reported on Monday.

The legal complaint against the owner of the bas-relief by Iran's Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization (CHTO) demanding its return will be presented to a London court, Yunes Samadi, a CHTO official was quoted by the daily as saying on Sunday.

The bas-relief, depicting the head of a soldier of the Achaemenid era (559-331 BC), was taken away from the eastern staircase of the Apadana Palace in Persepolis, the ceremonial capital of the ancient Persian Empire, Samadi said.

It was smuggled from Iran to Britain about 70 years ago and was sold in 1971 at one of the world's largest

auction houses, Sotheby, Samadi added.

The CHTO was informed on 3 April that the owner of the bas-relief intended to sell it and the organization immediately took actions to halt the sale of the antique, the official said.

CHTO officials have prepared documents proving that the artifact belongs to Iran and the documents and pictures will be presented to judicial officials in London, said Samadi.

Samadi also blamed the Pahlavi authority (overthrown by the Islamic Revolution in 1979) for lack of reaction in protest against the sale of the artifact in 1971, which he said has resulted in difficulties of the antique's return.

MNA/Xinhua

Donate blood

Hu's upcoming S-E Asian tour is of great significance

BEIJING, 19 April — Chinese President Hu Jintao's upcoming state visit to Brunei, Indonesia and the Philippines is an important diplomatic mission aiming at boosting China's friendly cooperation with the three countries and deepening China-ASEAN strategic partnership, said Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Wu Daweian on Monday.

Invited by Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyo and Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Hu will pay state visits to the three countries from 20-28 April. He will also attend the 2005 Asia-Africa summit and activities commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Bandung Conference at the invitation of Susilo and South African President Thabo Mbeki.

At a Press briefing on Hu's visit, Wu said Hu is going to talk with the three countries' state leaders and meet with personnel from various circles. They will confer on bilateral relations and international and regional issues of common concern, which aims to promote the ties between China and the three countries up to a new level.

The three countries attach great importance to Hu's forthcoming visits, Wu said. During stay in Indonesia, Hu and Susilo will sign a joint declaration to announce the formal establishment of

China-Indonesia strategic partnership, Wu said. The two sides will also discuss expanding their cooperation in the fields of trade, technology and telecommunication.

In Hu's visit to the Philippines, the two sides will exchange opinions on promoting China-the Philippines strategic cooperative ties in an all-round way, and confer on their cooperation in trade, transportation, infrastructure and resource exploration. As to the 2005 Asia-Africa summit, Wu said China was the major participant of the Bandung Conference 50 years ago, and made great contribution to its success.

Hu's attending the summit and the activities commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Bandung Conference is of great importance to deepen China's friendly cooperation with Asian and African countries, Wu said. China is willing to make joint efforts with other Asian and African countries and make positive contribution to Asia-Africa cooperation, he said.— *MNA/Xinhua*



Huge rollers process fine threads of cotton for export quality fabric at the state-owned Shijiazhuang Changshan Textile factory in Shijiazhuang, in northern China's Hebei Province recently.—INTERNET

Turkey to buy Israel's unmanned aerial vehicles

JERUSALEM, 19 April— Turkey will buy Israeli unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) and ground stations under a 200-million-US-dollar contract, the *Jerusalem Post* newspaper reported on its website on Monday.

The Turkish Defence Ministry has chosen Israel Aircraft Industries' Heron drone and Elbit System's ground stations.

MNA/Xinhua

NEPAD aims to achieve inter-African cooperation

SHARM EL-SHEIKH, 19 April — Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit said Monday that the upcoming summit of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) aims to achieve cooperation among African states in order to activate development in the continent.

Abul Gheit told the Egyptian TV that Africa has long suffered from internal conflicts and poor economy, urging the African leaders to carry out key development projects inside the continent.

The NEPAD summit to be held here Tuesday will discuss implementing several African ventures such as building a highway linking African states and establishing electricity linkage as well as other projects to fight epidemics spreading in the continent, he added.

The top Egyptian diplomat also urged the world community to provide financial aid as promised to Africa.

MNA/Xinhua

မြို့ခြံရွှေတာ၊ ထိန်းပါးလေလွင်၊ ထုတ်ကုန်မြင့်

Afghans to learn China's development experience

KABUL, 19 April — Afghanistan's Vice-President Abdul Karim Khalili has sought China's support in the recovery and stabilization of its economy.

"As Afghanistan's great neighbour, China has made significant achievement in the field of economy, so we Afghans are looking forward to learn your experience and stabilize our economy," he told *Xinhua* before leaving for Beijing.

Khalili, who is paying his first visit to China on Tuesday, would also attend the Boao Forum for Asia in south China's Hainan Province. "Today, China is one of the successful nations in developing economy and it would be a huge contribution in rebuilding Afghanistan if it extends its experience to us and pave the way for our fast recovery," Khalili noted.

To a query, the Afghan leader backed China's possible support in exploration and utilizing Afghanistan's untapped natural resources.

"Afghanistan is a naturally rich re-

source country. We want the cooperation of all our friends, particularly China, to extend support in exploration and utilizing our underground resources and enable us to recover our economy," Khalili stressed.

He also termed the Sino-Afghan relations as "deep rooted," saying the historic relations between the two countries would further grow in the years to come.

"China has never intervened in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, rather it on Afghans side in the time of need," the Afghan dignitary emphasized.

The Hazara minority leader, who fought against former Soviet Union and later on help the US military to oust Taliban regime in late 2001, was sworn in as Second Vice-President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in December 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

African countries urged to produce local radio programmes

NAIROBI, 19 April — A senior Kenyan official has called on African countries to promote use of community radio to develop and support sus-

tainable development through production of local programmes.

Addressing over 100 community radio broadcasters attending a four-day pan-African conference in Nairobi on Monday, Kenya's Assistant Minister for Education Kilemi Mwiria said greater awareness is needed of the educational and development potential of community radio among policy makers, regulatory and civil society.

"Strategic links should be encouraged between community radio and telecentre development as well as other opportunities to cluster

communications resources at community level," Mwiria told participants. Community radio has in the past decade established an innovative role for itself in the development processes in Africa.

But a research has shown that stations were more likely to use foreign news feeds than to generate their own content. It also showed that more than half of the stations used foreign radio, national state radio and newsletters followed by emailed bulletins as news sources. The research established that lack of skills and the higher cost of producing good local content

are some of the issues at the heart of the problem. Mwiria decried the existing regulatory frameworks where most African governments are still retaining the power to authorize use of radio spectrum and the licensing of broadcasting services. "The existing regulatory frameworks could have a destructive influence.

Thus the need for an effective regulatory framework, Legislative reform should take account of the specific characteristics of community radio and provide for its support within the policy and regulatory framework," Mwiria said.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese journalists take photographs of a new model of General Motors Chevrolet Aveo which is making its worldwide debut at Auto Shanghai 2005 on Tuesday in Shanghai, China on 19 April, 2005.

INTERNET

Let's ward off dangers with our correct stance

Chin Gya (Maubin)

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is an agency associated with the UN. Myanmar has become a UN member since 19 April 1948, and has joined the ILO since 18 May 1948.

According to its name and definition, the ILO has to serve the interests of the world's workers. Hence, Myanmar has always observed the 19 provisions of the ILO. But, nowadays, the ILO is making lopsided accusations and putting pressure on Myanmar.

The problem began in 1991 when the 25 representatives of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) under the influence of some powers filed accusations and complaints against Myanmar. The ICFTU is based in Brussels, Belgium.

But when we studied the ICTUB report issued on 7 May 1999, we found that the accusations and complaints were based on false information sent to it by the Federation of Trade Unions of Burma (FTUB), an expatriate terrorist gang.

At first, Sein Win was FTUB chairman and Maung Maung (a) Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai, secretary. Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai is son of U Nyunt Wai, CEC member of the National League for Democracy (NLD).

Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai graduated from the university with BSc (Geology) in 1977, and joined the Myanma Gems Enterprise the same year. He won the scholarship programme to attend a jewellery course in Germany from 9 June to 31 November 1986 at the State's expense.

In 1988, there was loss of jewellery at the Diplomatic Stores, and when the authorities investigated the case, they found Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai's involvement in the theft. But when the 1988 unrest broke out, he joined the street demonstrators and was acting like a thief shouting "thief".

The Kyauktada Police Station took action against him under section 6 (1) of the Public Property Protection Act. Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai fled to Thailand on 13 December 1988, as he dared not face the legal punishment.

He accepted himself as an expatriate after arriving in the other country as a fugitive. To earn their living and make money easily and become sociable, the expatriates taking refuge abroad have to commit crimes designed to destroy the existing Government and the mother country, with heart and soul. They tried to form organizations under various names, with only two or three members.

Hence, his way of earning money as an expatriate is to launch false accusations against Myanmar one after another concerning the labour affairs. When Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai was launching political opposition and accusations against Myanmar from abroad, saying that the nation never respects workers' rights, the Government is ensuring all the worker's rights for his wife, Daw Aye Myo Naing, who is the section in-charge of the Myanmar Gems Enterprise.

As Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai of FTUB and expatriate Sein Win of National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB) are birds of a feather, they have set up their base in Bangkok, Thailand, and are committing destructive acts in association with global labour organizations including the one in US, with labour affairs as an excuse.

There are four organizations — the ICFTU, the America's Union Movement (AFL-CIO), the Asian-American Free Labour Institute (AAFLI), and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)

— providing assistance to the FTUB to commit terrorist acts.

When the FTUB filed a false complaint against Myanmar at the UN concerning the forced labour, some powers in addition to the above-mentioned four organizations put pressure on Myanmar.

Since 1996 fiscal year, the US State Department has been providing financial assistance to anti-Government organizations existing abroad under the guise of pro-democracy bodies. The National Endowment Democracy (NED), a partner of the US State Department, permitted to provide US \$ 300,000 to FTUB led by expatriate Sein Win and terrorist Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai in January 1989.

When the US Congress was starting its first step towards removing Myanmar Government representatives from the UN, Deputy Foreign Secretary of

On 5 December 1996, a contact was made with two representatives of US Labour Organization, John J Sweeny and Bill Jordan. Myo Aung Thant made arrangements for the two to meet with Daw Suu Kyi. He also made arrangements for John Osolinck to meet with Daw Suu Kyi during his visit to Myanmar for studying labour affairs in the country.

England Derek Petchett issued an announcement to remove Myanmar from the ILO.

The US Labour Department held the Hearing on Forced Labour in Burma on 27 June 1998 to present its report to the ILO fact-finding commission. The Hearing was led by Assistant Secretary of International Affairs of Labour Department Andrew Samet and Assistant Secretary of State Gare Smith of the Bureau of Democracy, Human Right and Labour of the US State Department.

At the meeting, participants including Bo Hla Tint of NCGUB, Win Naing of FTUB, and Assistant Director Philip Fishman of AFL-CIO read papers on violation of labour rights in Myanmar. Win Naing was jobless asking money from others. But the Department of Labour of the US gave him a job with a monthly salary of US \$ 2,400.

Although it is existing under the guise of a labour organization, FTUB in reality is playing a leading role in committing terrorist acts inside the nation. Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai met with Myo Aung Thant through the contact of Myint Aung (a) Pyaung Gyi living in Purathai Ward, Bangkok. Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai organized him, and with the cooperation of Sein Win and his cohorts, made schemes to recruit hardcore members to blast bombs for igniting an unrest inside the nation.

Under orders of Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai, his men concealed eight C3 gelignite bars, 10 units of blasting caps, two bottles of acrylic lacquer, two bottles of industrial lacquer, two cases of aluminium powder, a coil of fuel five foot and 10 inches long and another coil of fuse two feet one inch long in a pressure cooker, and made plans to send it to Yangon via Kawthoung.

Myo Aung Thant met with Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai, Than Lwin, Aye Maung and Khin Kyaw in Thailand on 7 June 1997. The meeting hatched a plot to cause workers' unrest in Yangon, to assassinate State

leaders, to target Chinese and Indonesian embassies to cause destruction and to blow up power cables and telephone lines in downtown Yangon.

As directed by Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai, Myo Aung Thant entered Yangon from Bangkok. The authorities were able to arrest Myo Aung Thant and his accomplices in time. They also seized the explosives in Kawthoung.

While Myo Aung Thant was in Yangon before he was arrested, Sein Win and Soe Paing and Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai in Bangkok contacted Myo Aung Thant through satellite phones and ordered him to commit improper political activities that were incompatible with the name of FTUB.

On 5 December 1996, a contact was made with two representatives of US Labour Organization, John J Sweeny and Bill Jordan. Myo Aung Thant made arrangements for the two to meet with Daw Suu Kyi. He also made arrangements for John Osolinck to meet with Daw Suu Kyi during his visit to Myanmar for studying labour affairs in the country.

Terrorist bombers sneaked into Yangon under the arrangement of Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai on 15 July 2003. The authorities were able to arrest the terrorists four days later on 19 July while they were planing to blow up bombs in five places in the city.

Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai met with Min Kyi (a) Naing Min Kyi and Shwe Mann (a) Zeya Oo in Maesot in Thailand in March 2003 and hatched schemes to organize small cells to gather and send information. He provided them with a satellite phone and money.

But the authorities got the information in advance that bombers of NLD (LA), ABSDF, NCUB, FTUB and underground elements of the Burma Communist Party from abroad were inside the country then. They caught terrorist Win Aung of ABSDF in Taninthayi on 5 February 2005. At the same time, the authorities seized explosives and timers at Shwemnanthu Passenger terminal in South Okkalapa.

There were explosions one each in Parami compound in South Okkalapa on 17 March 2005, and at Panorama Hotel on Pansodan Street in Kyauktada Township two days later. It is obvious that those terrorist acts were the work of Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai of FTUB. NCUB held its seventh meeting at Thai-Myanmar border from 3 to 8 March 2004. NCUB is formed with anti-Government organizations — DBA, NLD (LA) and FTUB. At the meeting, Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai became the secretary of the NCUB, and told the participants that he would launch more terrorist attacks inside Myanmar to publicize the political situation of Myanmar inside and outside the country.

After his announcement at the meeting, a bomb exploded in the vicinity of Yangon Railway Station on 26 June 2004. Authorities also seized explosives.

At the press conference of the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council held on 15 March 2005, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said, "The ILO's actions were not based on the objective conditions of the nation, true information and genuine wish of the local NGOs representing the 54 million people of Myanmar, but only on false information sent to it by a handful of expatriates and insurgents in border areas including the FTUB."

(See page 10)

Social organizations, peace groups issue declarations totally opposing, condemning acts, aims of renegade Sao Hkam Hpa, his group, cohorts

(from page 16)

Declaration of attitude of Special Region-7 Palaung national group

Dated: 20 April 2005

1. On 18 April 2005, Radio Free Asia broadcast that temporary Shan Union government had been formed and Shan State was an independent nation. Regarding this, Palaung nationalities do not accept it at all.
2. Shan State is not a state where only Shan nationalities live but all Union nationalities live there. The Palaung nationalities totally disagree to and do not support the broadcast that will bring evil consequences and lead to disintegration of national solidarity and the Union.
3. The entire Palaung nationalities emphatically support only the government's seven-point Road Map for the future of all national races of the Union and will fully accept the leadership of the Government of the Union of Myanmar.
4. Therefore, the entire Palaung nationalities including Special Region-7 Palaung national group do not recognize the declaration of "Shan State, an independent nation" and are totally opposed to it.

U Aik Mone
Chairman
Special Region-7
Palaung national group

U Nyi Lone
Vice-Chairman
Special Region-7
Palaung national group

U Maing Ohn Khaing
Joint Secretary
Special Region-7
Palaung national group

Declaration of Kokang Nationalities Peace Group of Shan State (North) Special Region (1)

Dated: 20 April 2005

1. The RFA broadcasting station on 17 April 2005 aired the declaration of a group of fugitives abroad that says Shan State is an independent nation. However, we the Kokang nationals do not accept the declaration.
2. We hereby declare that we the Kokang nationals totally disagree to the declaration because such an evil act can break up not only the unity of Shan nationals in Shan State but also that of the entire national people of the Union of Myanmar. And it can create undesirable consequences that can lead to disintegration of the unity of all the national races of the Union of Myanmar.
3. We the Kokang Peace Group of Shan State (North) and Kokang nationals love peace. We will continue to support and safeguard for ever peace and stability in the entire Union of Myanmar, prevalence of law and order, and further cementing of friendship and solidarity among the national races.
 - * We are in favour of national unity.
 - * We oppose any acts that endanger national solidarity.
 - * We are in favour of peace.
 - * We oppose any acts that endanger peace.

U Kyan Tet Win
Vice-Chairman
Special Region (1) Administration Committee

U Sho Kwe Shi
General Secretary
Special Region (1) Administration Committee

Shan State is not a state where only Shan nationalities live but all Union nationalities live there. The Palaung nationalities totally disagree to and do not support the broadcast that will bring evil consequences and lead to disintegration of national solidarity and the Union.

- * We are in favour of national unity.
- * We oppose any acts that endanger national solidarity.
- * We are in favour of peace.
- * We oppose any acts that endanger peace.

Declaration of Karenni National Peace and Development Party (KNPDP)

Dated: 20 April 2005

1. The Karenni National Peace and Development Party (KNPDP) of Kayah State is an organization that officially exchanged arms for peace with the Government on 23 July 1999.
2. It always welcomes the constitution of the Union of Myanmar and the unitary system that does not allow secession from the Union.
3. The Karenni National Peace and Development Party strongly protests against the aims and acts of the group led by renegade Sao Hkam Hpa, son of the late Nyaungshwe Sawbwa Sao Shwe Thaik, its members and other related groups and individuals unilaterally declaring that Shan State was an independent nation.

U Go Yi
Chairman
Karenni National Peace and Development Party
(KNPDP)

Declaration of Shan State (East) Special Region-4

Dated: 20 April 2005

We found on the Internet website bbc.burmese.com on 18-4-2005 that renegade Sao Hkam Hpa had declared that Shan State was an independent nation according to the federal policy. The declaration can undermine national unity and lead to the collapse of the union. We desire the development and peace and tranquillity of the Union in which all the national races enjoy equal rights. Thus, Special Region-4 hereby declares that it totally opposes the declaration and does not recognize it.

U Sai Lin
Chairman
Shan State (East) Special Region-4
Military and Regional Administration Committee

The Karenni National Peace and Development Party strongly protests against the aims and acts of the group led by renegade Sao Hkam Hpa, son of the late Nyaungshwe Sawbwa Sao Shwe Thaik, its members and other related groups and individuals unilaterally declaring that Shan State was an independent nation.

(See page 9)

Social organizations and peace groups issue declarations totally opposing, condemning acts, aims of renegade Sao Hkam Hpa, his group, cohorts

(from page 8)

Declaration of attitude of Special Region-5 of Shan State (North)

Dated 20-4-2005

1. BBC Burmese.Com, the Internet Website, reported a news story under the title "Shan elders declare independence" on 18-4-2005. It stated that the group led by Sao Hkam Hpa, son of Sao Shwe Thaik, declared independence of Shan State according to the federal principle.
2. The Special Region-5 of Shan State (North) returned to the legal fold on 11-1-91. It is an organization that is actively participating in building of a discipline-flourishing multi-party democratic nation hand in hand with the Tatmadaw Government in accord with Our Three Main National Causes and Twelve Objectives. It will not accept any act that harms Our Three Main National Causes.
3. The declaration of independence of Shan State by the group led by Sao Hkam Hpa is the act that is designed to cause disintegration of the Union and undermining of national solidarity and it can harm the sovereignty of the State. The Special Region-5 of Shan State (North) declares that it does not recognize the declaration and totally disapproves of it and opposes it.

U Mahtu Naw
The Special Region-5 of Shan State (North)

Provided that the renegade Shan group (Sao Hkam Hpa) endangers the disintegration of the Union and encroaches the security of the State, the KLPNF announces that it will cooperate with the government and the Tatmadaw and defend the country.

Attitude of Karenni Nationalities People's Liberation Front (peace group)

Dated 20 April 2005

1. Karenni Nationalities People's Liberation Front of Kayah Special Region-2 made peace with the government on 9-5-94 and participated in regional development tasks hand in hand with the government.
2. The KNPLF attended the National Convention sponsored by the government in accord with Our Three Main National Causes and Twelve Objectives and upholds the interests of State and nationalities.
3. As the government laid emphasis on the interest of nationalities and implemented the tasks, all-round progress has been made in villages in the regions of the state.
4. Declaration of independent Shan State, Shan State interim government and war zone in Shan State by renegade Shan group (Sao Hkam Hpa) will not do any good to Shan State, or Shan people or the State but will bring evil consequences. Regarding the declaration, Karenni Nationalities People's Liberation Front does not support it and totally opposes it.
5. Provided that the renegade Shan group (Sao Hkam Hpa) endangers the disintegration of the Union and security of the State, the KNPLF declares that it will defend the country in cooperation with the government and the Tatmadaw.

U Tun Kyaw
Vice-Chairman
Karenni Nationalities People's Liberation Front
(Peace group)

As the government of the Union of Myanmar has steadfastly been practising the national policy of Our Three Main National Causes — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty, there prevails peace and tranquillity and all-round development in the entire nation.

Declaration of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation

1. Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation with some 1.4 million members carrying out the tasks for uplift of the role of 27 million women in the Union of Myanmar declares that the federation does not totally accept the aims and acts of renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and his group.
2. The aims and acts of renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and his group endanger the interests of the Union of Myanmar and national races.
3. As the government of the Union of Myanmar has steadfastly been practising the national policy of Our Three Main National Causes — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty, there prevails peace and tranquillity and all-round development in the entire nation.
4. The federation feels honoured to support the government's endeavours for national reconsolidation with genuine goodwill in order to end the armed conflicts that greatly hinder peace and tranquillity and development.
5. Now the seven-point Road Map for building of a peaceful, modern developed nation, which is the goal of the nation, has been laid down and is being implemented.
6. Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation hereby declares that it strongly condemns the acts of renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and his group and emphatically supports the actions of the government in accord with the law.

Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation
20 April 2005, Wednesday

The Special Region-5 of Shan State (North) returned to the legal fold on 11-1-91. It is an organization that is actively participating in building of a discipline-flourishing multi-party democratic nation hand in hand with the Tatmadaw Government in accord with Our Three Main National Causes and Twelve Objectives. It will not accept any act that harms Our Three Main National Causes.

Tipitakadhara Sayadaws honoured



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay offer provisions to Sayadaws.— YANGON COMMAND

YANGON, 20 April — A ceremony to honour five Tipitaka-dhara Tipitaka Kovida Dhammabhandagarika Sayadaws, three Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Sayadaws and two Tipitakadhara Sayadaws was held at Kanmyint Monastery on Thiri Mingala Road in Aungchantha Ward of Sangyoung Township this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace

and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay offered dawn 'soon' to Agga Maha Pandita Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Dhammabhandagarika Maha Gandayon Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sumangalalankara and Agga Magha Pandita Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Dhammabhandagarika Yaw Sayadaw Bhad-

danta Sirindabhivamsa and Sayadaws.

The congregation took the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sumangalalankara. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

The commander, wife and officials donated alms to the Sayadaws. Later, the ceremony ended with a sermon delivered by Yaw Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sirindabhivamsa.

MNA

Minister receives MD of Press Line India



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Mr Satish Bajwa of the Republic of India.—MNA

YANGON, 20 April—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Managing Director of Press Line India Private Limited Mr Satish Bajwa of Sarita Vihar, New

Delhi, the Republic of India, at his office at 3.30 pm today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Directors-General and Managing Di-

rectors of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Information, the Chief Editor of the New Light of Myanmar and the head of office.

MNA

Cash and kind donated to MAAF

YANGON, 20 April — A ceremony to donate cash and kind to Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation (MAAF) took place at the hall of MAAF on Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township here this afternoon. It was attended by President of MAAF Daw Than Than Nwe, Vice-President Daw Khin Lay Myint, officials and well-wishers.

At the ceremony, the president accepted do-

nations and presented certificates of honour to the well-wishers. The donations included a TKT-Nibban UD Light Truck worth K 8.5 million by U Thein Kyi and Dr Aung Thein of Nibban Electric and Electronics; K 3 million for establishment of MAAF Website by Yangon City Development Committee; a tripod screen and a motorized screen worth K 1,589,000 by Chairman U Khin

Maung Lay and wife MD Daw Kyu Kyu of Gandama Office Equipment Limited, 500 books worth K 1.3 million by Ministry of Culture and K 477,000 for reception expense by U Tun Nyunt-Daw Aye Aye Nyunt (Kyetsashoon Biriyani).

Next, MAAF President Daw Than Than Nwe spoke words of thanks and the ceremony ended.

MNA



President of MAAF Daw Than Than Nwe accepts cash donated by a well-wisher.— MNA

Respects to be paid to teachers of Sangyoung BEHS-1

YANGON, 20 April — The 11th anniversary of paying respects to teachers of Sangyoung Township BEHS-1 will be held at 9 am on 1 May. Those wishing to donate cash and kind may contact U Thein Myint Tel: 243748, U Nyunt Than Tel: 501919, U Hla Aung Shwe (Shwe Family) Tel: 502681, 502682, 503716, U Thet Oo Tel: 242424, U Maung Maung Htay Tel: 526362 and U Soe Naing (Aye Myitta Car parts Shop) Tel: 565885.

MNA

Let's ward off dangers...

(from page 7)

Because of terrorist Pyi Thit Nyunt Wai the ILO may have turned its back on its original aim of workers' affairs which lacked political essence.

Instead of paying attention to the Government's correct way of solving the problem, the ILO has been listening to the words of crooks, and trying to make lopsided accusation and put pressure on Myanmar. The 1907 Towns Act and 1908 Villages Act, the ILO is criticizing, are not enacted by the Myanmar Governments. They were enacted by the colonialist government to spread their administrative power in all parts of the nation. According to the directive of the State Peace and Development Council, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued the Order No 1/99 on 14 May 1999, prohibiting the respective administrative bodies from exercising the two Acts.

For the Union of Myanmar, the nationalities' tradition of collectively taking part in a social activity is her national pride. The nationalities love the tradition and are happy to help one another. It is not fair to say the tradition as the forced labour. All the villagers collectively take part even in roofing a house in a village out of their own volition.

In reality, the ILO has been deceived by the crooks as the body made a decision not to provide any assistance to Myanmar nor invite Myanmar to any of the ILO-sponsored meetings, other than materializing its Convention No 29 concerned with forced labour.

In this regard, the Myanmar people, with the leadership of the Government, will have to safeguard the nation, with correct deeds, wish and attitude and objective conditions as the proof of its correct stance.

(Translation: TMT)

Myamma Alin+Kyemon: 20.4.2005.

Stimulant tablets seized in Mandalay, Patheingyi

YANGON, 20 April —Members of Mandalay Special Anti-Drug Squad acting on information searched the house of Nyi Nyi Lwin, Gagyi/123 in Dawnabwa Ward of Aungmyaythazan Township on 5 May 2004 and seized 265 brown colour stimulant tablets, 140 green stimulant tablets and two packets of chemical powder used in manufac-

turing the stimulant tablets, totalling 978 grams packed with plastic kept in a box in his bedroom.

Action is taken against him under sections 15/16(C)/21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law at No 1 Police Station in Mandalay.

Mandalay District Court on 5 January 2005 sentenced six years' im-

prisonment under section 16(A) and 12 years' under 19 (A) to Nyi Nyi Lwin to serve the sentence concurrently.

On 27 September 2004, Mandalay Special Anti-Drug Squad searched passenger bus with number plates 8Ka/1855 driving from Kyaukme to Mandalay at Kyaukchaw check-point in Patheingyi Township. They seized 2,018

brown WY brand stimulant tablets from 10 packets in the underwear of passenger Aung Ko Oo.

On 19 January 2005, Mandalay District Court sentenced five years' imprisonment with work under section 15 and 20 years' with work under 19 (A) to Aung Ko Oo to serve the sentence separately.

MNA

Mbeki will be first leader to arrive in Jakarta

JAKARTA, 20 April — South African President Thabo Mbeki will be the first head of state to arrive in Jakarta to attend the historic Asian-African Summit (AAS).

South Africa is the co-sponsor of the two-day AAS, which will be held from 22 April to 23 April, along with Indonesia. Leaders from more than 100 countries are expected to attend the Summit, whose main aim is to forge a new strategic partnership between Asian and African states.

“President Thabo Mbeki will arrive in Jakarta on Tuesday. The main purpose of this visit is two-fold. One is a state visit, which will begin on Tuesday. The second is to attend the Asian-African Summit as co-sponsor,” the South African Embassy in Jakarta was

quoted by *The Jakarta Post* newspaper as saying. Around 60 heads of state/government are expected to arrive in Jakarta on Thursday.

President Mbeki’s two-day state visit is intended to strengthen the existing ties with Indonesia as part of the envisaged new partnership.

Both Indonesia and South Africa are regional powers in their respective regions. Mike Membukwe, counsellor at the South African Embassy, said that his Foreign Minister, Nkosozana Dlamini Zuma, arrived late on Monday to participate in the Asian-African

Ministerial Meeting, which will be held on 20 April.

Both President Mbeki and Zuma will participate in the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Asian-African Conference, which was held in Bandung, the West Java capital, in 1955.

South Africa was not invited to the 1955 Bandung Conference as it was still governed by the apartheid regime at that time. But the African National Congress, the present ruling party, sent Cachalia, Nagdee and Mosen Kotane to Bandung as observers.

MNA/Xinhua

UN Workshop on Small Arms, Light Weapons held in Beijing

BEIJING, 20 April — China is willing to join hands with the international community in eliminating the illegal trade of small arms and light weapons, said Qiao Zonghuai, a senior official with the Foreign Ministry, here on Tuesday.

Qiao made the remarks at a three-day United Nations Workshop on Small Arms and Light Weapons attended by about 70 government officials and scholars from more than 30 countries and another ten international, regional and non-governmental or-

ganizations.

Qiao said maintaining world peace, promoting common development and strengthening cooperation with mutual benefits has become an unavoidable trend nowadays. However, both traditional and non-traditional threats to security

still exist.

The harm caused by illegal sales of small arms, such as machine guns, rifles, grenades and pistols, should not be ignored, he said, noting that severely combating illegal activities concerning small arms and properly controlling legal activities of manufacture and transfer of small arms are conducive to safeguarding regional peace as well as fighting against terrorism and transnational crimes.

Qiao expressed his appreciation for the effective efforts made by the international community in recent years combating illegal trading of small arms, saying that the United Nations should continue to play a leading role in this process and all countries should strengthen coordination and cooperation in their policing and Customs.

Qiao introduced China’s measures to strengthen management on the manufacture, holding, and export of small arms, noting that China is devoted to joining multilateral efforts to fight against illegal trade of small arms.

MNA/Xinhua

NZ Govt allocates extra fund against disaster

WELLINGTON, 20 April — New Zealand Government is providing 21.5 million NZ dollars (5.3 million US dollars) in the coming budget against natural and other disasters, Civil Defence Minister George Hawkins said on Tuesday.

The money is to be used for heightened awareness of New Zealand’s vulnerability to disasters, including funding a major public education campaign.

“The devastating earthquake and tsunami in Asia and the recent floods around New Zealand have made people more aware of the potential for disaster, but there is still a worrying complacency about the need to be prepared,” said Hawkins.

An extra 15.4 million NZ dollars (10.9 million

US dollars) will be spent on increasing Civil Defence’s emergency management capability over the next five years.

The new funding will enable the Ministry to continue development of a hazard based civil defence emergency management environment, increase its capacity to engage with local government and community groups and reinforce its capability to manage large scale events.

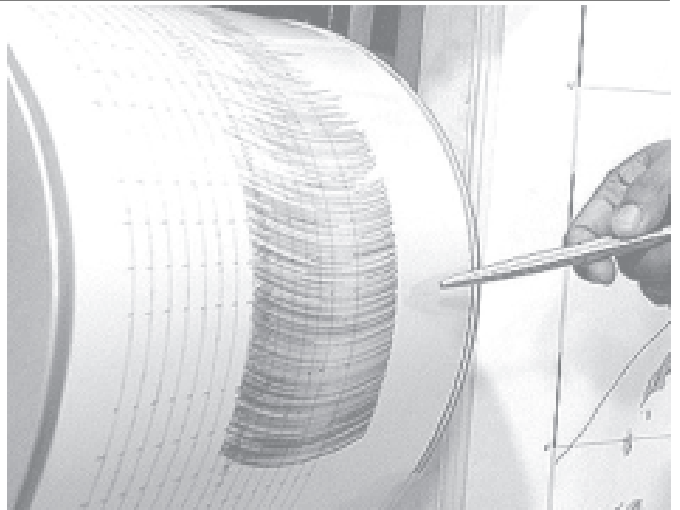
In addition the government will provide 6.1 million NZ dollars (4.3

million US dollars) for national public education programmes for the first four years, to increase awareness and preparedness amongst individuals and communities.

“We cannot oversee the need for everyone in New Zealand to understand the likely impact of our hazards on people, homes and livelihoods,” said Hawkins.

“We can surely reduce the impact of disasters by way of making preparation,” said Hawkins.

MNA/Xinhua



Earthquake recorded on a seismograph. An earthquake measuring 5.7 on the Richter scale jolted Japan’s southern Kyushu island, the Japan Meteorological Agency said recently. — INTERNET

India warns about dangers of uneven global growth

WASHINGTON, 20 April — India has warned that unbalanced nature of robust growth of world economy and widening current account imbalances posed serious risks and wanted appropriate strategy to be evolved to tackle it.

“There is growing consensus that adjustment of these imbalances needs to be paced and sequenced in a non-disruptive manner,” Finance Minister P Chidambaram said addressing the International Monetary and Finance Committee meeting of IMF on Saturday night. He also said high level of oil prices are straining the performance of many economies, particularly oil importing developing countries.

The appropriate broad strategy to address these imbalances included fiscal consolidation in US, structural reforms in the Euro area, continuing monetary stimulus in Japan and

greater exchange rate flexibility in emerging Asia, he said.

“In any case the persistent risks call for a contingency plan, which will indicate possible alternatives to avert any abrupt unwinding of these imbalances,” he said adding such a plan has to be a coordinated action in consultation with G-7 and G-20 countries. The action should address among other issues vexed questions like how much of the adjustments should be borne by interest rates and how much by exchange rates.

The answer will have to take into account the ramifications that increases in interest rates

will have on growth momentum of the global economy, he said.

“We must acknowledge that in the recent past the benign interest rate regime and price stability have contributed a lot to firing the engine of growth, particularly in the developing world,” Chidambaram said.

Elaborating on the surging oil prices, Chidambaram said excessive volatility assumes riskier dimension when they are already high.

“We need to guard against market distortions,” he said adding the burden of high oil prices has fallen disproportionately on developing countries. — MNA/PTI



Doris Eaton Travis, 101-year-old former Ziegfeld Girl, dances during rehearsal for the upcoming 19th annual Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS Easter Bonnet Competition in New York on 15 April, 2005. — INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENTS

TRADE MARK CAUTION
YAMAHA CORPORATION, a company organized under the laws of Japan, of 10-1, Nakazawa-cho, Hamamatsu-shi, Shizuoka-ken, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-



Reg. No. 3531/1998
in respect of "Class 35: Auditing, book-keeping, professional business consultancy, personnel management and recruitment, publicity, business management of hotels, information agencies, direct mail advertising, telemarketing, radio and television advertising, radio and television commercials, business research, business appraisals, compilation of information into computer database. Class 38: Broadcasting through radio, television and cable television; rental of facsimile apparatus; message sending apparatus, modems, and telecommunication equipment; telephone services; telegraph services; telex services; wire services; satellite transmission; paging services; electronic mail; computer aided transmission of messages and images; facsimile transmission; information about telecommunication; news agencies. Class 42: Rental of temporary accommodation, motels, hotels, boarding houses; restaurants, cafes, canteens, cafeterias, catering; architectural consultation; animal breeding and grooming; computer programming, computer rental, computer software design, computer systems analysis, maintenance and upgrading of computer software; cosmetic research; cremation; nurseries; engineering; gardening; genealogical research; biological and geological research; hair-dressing salons; guardianship; hospitals; land surveying; legal research, legal services; licensing of intellectual property; massage; material testing; microfilming; pharmacy advice; plastic surgery; printing; providing facilities for exhibitions; oil prospecting; surgery; urban planning; weed killing; security consultancy; undertaking; weather forecasting".
Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.
Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for YAMAHA CORPORATION
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 21 April 2005

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်
ရန်ကင်းမြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့
ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၅ခုနှစ် ဧပြီလ ၁၉ ရက်
ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း
ရန်ကင်းမြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ၏ လုပ်ငန်းသုံး အတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါပစ္စည်းများကို ဌာနအရောက် ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူရန် ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာများ ဖိတ်ခေါ်ပါသည်။
(က) တာယာအရွယ် (၅)မျိုး ၁၉၁ ခု
(ခ) ဘတ္တရီ (၂)မျိုး ၇၇ လုံး
(ဂ) တန်ဖိုးချိန်စက်သုံး Load Cell ၆ လုံး
(ဃ) သာမိုလပ်တစ်ဆေးမှုန် ၅၀ တန်
ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာပိတ်ရက်မှာ (၁၁-၅-၂၀၀၅) နေ့ (၀၆:၀၀) နာရီဖြစ်ပြီး ဈေးနှုန်းတင်သွင်းလွှာပုံစံတစ်ရပ်လျှင် ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင်တိတိ) နှုန်းဖြင့် ဘတ်ဂျစ်နှင့်ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးဌာနမှ တွင် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ်-၂၀၂၅၂၅၂၊ ၂၄၈၁၁၂ လိုင်းနဲ့ (၂၃၅) တိုသို့ ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။
၃၅၄
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

TRADE MARK CAUTION NOTICE
GEORGE WESTON FOODS LIMITED, a company organized under the laws of AUSTRALIA (ACN 008 429 632) and having its principal office at Level 20, Tower A Zenith Centre, 821 Pacific Highway, Chatswood, New South Wales, 2067, Australia is the owner and sole proprietor of the following Trademarks:-



Reg. Nos. 4/3274/1996 & 4/2064/2005
WESTON MILLING
Reg. Nos. 4/6149/1996 & 4/2063/2005

Used in respect of:-
"Flour and preparations made from cereals, bread, pastry, confectionery and all other goods in International Class 30".
Any unauthorised use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above marks will be dealt with according to law.
TIN OHNMAR TUN BA(LAW)LLB(LLM)(UK)
P.O. Box. 109,
Ph:248108/723043
(For. Freehills,Patent & Trademark Attorneys, Australia)
Dated: 21 April 2005

TRADE MARK CAUTION
Notice is given that LRC Products Limited (a British Company) of Teft Hall, Holms Chapel Road, Teft, Knutsford, Cheshire WA 16 9PD, United Kingdom, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:



used in connection with:-
"Condoms, contrivances made of natural or synthetic rubber or like materials for hygienic, prophylactic or medical purposes".
A Declaration of Ownership of the said Mark has been registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar of Deeds and Assurances, Yangon, being No.1999/2001.
WARNING is hereby given that any fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark in any manner whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.
Win Mu Tin M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.,
for LRC Products Limited.
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 21 April 2005

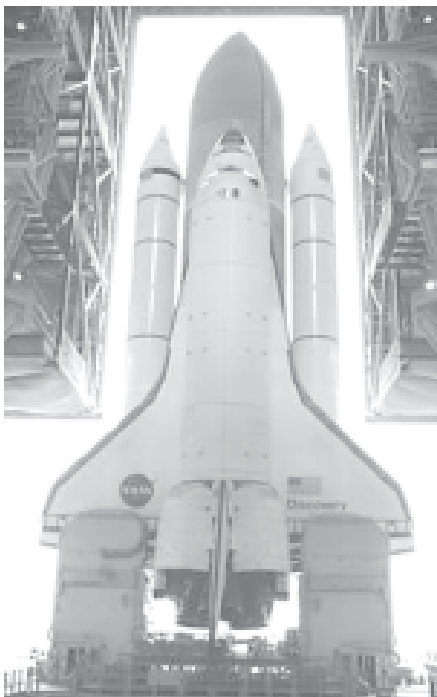
Nitrogen fertilization of soil endangers rare plants

LOS ANGELES, 20 April — Rare plant species are six times more likely than abundant species to be lost due to nitrogen fertilization of soil, US scientists said on Monday.

While nitrogen increases the production of plants, an excess amount of it creates a competition among plants for space that drives rare plants out of existence, causing a weakening of biodiversity in the ecosystems. Researchers at the University of California, Irvine, have found this through experiments conducted across nine ecosystems in North America. Their paper was published in a journal, the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sci-

ences.
"The results from the 34 nitrogen-fertilization experiments are useful for putting together conservation strategies that protect rare plants and spare them from extinction," said Katharine Suding, an assistant professor and the first author of the paper.
"As a basic building block of plant and animal proteins, nitrogen is a nutrient essential to all forms of life. But it is possible to have too much of a good thing," she noted.
The researchers

analyzed the responses to nitrogen fertilization of 967 plant species. The ecosystems in their experiments included arctic and alpine tundra, grasslands, abandoned agricultural fields, and coastal salt marsh communities.
While the researchers found that rare plants were vulnerable to nitrogen fertilization, they determined that other plant traits also put even the most abundant plant species at risk.
Based on simple plant traits, the researchers are able to predict which types of species will be most at risk as nitrogen levels continue to increase.
Nitrogen from the air can be used by plants only when it is chemically fixed into compounds that plants can metabolize. In nature, only certain bacteria and algae have the ability to fix atmospheric nitrogen, and the amount they make available to plants is relatively small.
But some species may be better able to take advantage of this added resource, getting bigger at the expense of other species and causing diversity to decline. The researchers found evidences in Kansas, California, and Alaska that local plant species are lost.
Even without the fertilizers, nitrogen availability is increasing at all the sites due to atmospheric deposition, a process by which gases or particles are transferred from the atmosphere to the Earth's surface. Annual nitrogen deposition rates can reach more than 50 kilos per hectare in auto-dominated areas like Southern California, which is in the range of application rates of nitrogen fertilizers for farming. Even relatively pristine areas such as the alpine tundra are experiencing substantial inputs of nitrogen falling from the sky, according to Suding.
MNA/Xinhua



The shuttle Discovery prepares to leave the Vehicle Assembly Building at Cape Canaveral, Florida, on 6 April, 2005.— INTERNET

One-day holiday system resumes in Kathmandu

KATHMANDU, 19 April — Civil servants of the Nepali Government in the capital of Kathmandu Valley are attending office on Sunday for the first time after more than five years.
This follows a government decision in February, which reintroduced one-day holiday office system scraping the Sunday off system after years

of trials introduced only in Kathmandu.
For about five years, the country embraced two separate holiday systems, two-day off in the capital and one-day holiday outside the valley in a week, causing many disturbances to the people who come to Kathmandu from outside the valley to get their works done in the government offices.

One of the major reasons behind the suspension of Sunday holiday system was the difficulty the employees and common people coming to Kathmandu from outside the valley for official purpose faced.
"They had to stay for a long time in Kathmandu to get a piece of work done because of the two-day holiday system. If they failed to complete their works on Friday, then they had to wait for three days as the offices resume their works only on Monday," said Bishwo Prakash Pun-dit, spokesman at the Ministry of General Administration.— MNA/Xinhua

Nepali woman arrested with 200 kilos of hashish

KATHMANDU, 19 April — Nepali police have arrested a woman with 200 kilos hashish in the Kathmandu Valley, the Narcotics Drug Control Law Enforcement Unit said Monday.
The middle-aged woman was arrested with the contraband drug from her furniture factory at Thasikhel area of Lalitpur sub-metropolis in the valley.
MNA/Xinhua



ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Global aviation industry to suffer more severe losses in 2005

MACAO, 20 April—International Air Transport Association (IATA) Director General and CEO Giovanni Bisignani forecast here on Monday that 2005 will be another year of losses for the aviation industry, which would amount to 5.5 billion US dollars.

Delivering the opening keynote speech at the 54th annual conference of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), Bisignani said that the global air transportation is undergoing the most difficult time ever.

“High oil price is challenging all carriers. In 2005, if average oil price is 43 US dollars per barrel (Brent), the fuel bill of the aviation industry will reach 76 billion dollars,” said Bisignani.

At that price, the industry losses in 2005 would amount to 5.5 billion US dollars.

IATA has 270 member airlines, which constitute 94 per cent of scheduled international traffic covering some 150 countries worldwide. It is also associated with 79,000 IATA travel agencies. IATA airlines sold 300 million air tickets annually totalling 225 billion US dollars in industry settlement.

Bisignani said that global airline yields dropped 10 per cent in the last five years, as airlines tried to meet

passengers’ expectations for cheap travel.

He said that more people are flying, as it has never been so much cheap to travel. Last year, 1.8 billion people travelled by air. However, airlines have never lost so much money with accumulated losses between 2001 and 2004 running up to 36 billion US dollars.

In terms of profitability, Asia-Pacific carriers are among the strongest, said Bisignani.

He said that airlines, travel agencies, global distribution system, airports, tourist operators, hotels and souvenir shops are all part of a tightly connected value chain. If one part of the value chain is broken, everybody suffers. He advised airport partners to preserve fair competition for airlines and governments to rethink tax imposed on airlines. All tourist stakeholders must learn to cooperate and communicate better, as they share the same customers and the future, said Bisignani. — MNA/Xinhua



Physicist Albert Einstein’s famous equation $E=mc^2$ is displayed on the 508 metre-(1,679-foot) tall Taipei 101, the world’s tallest building, as fireworks are set off during an event entitled “The World Year of Physics 2005,” on 19 April, 2005, in Taipei.—INTERNET

Greece, Italy sign MoU on sea transport

ATHENS, 19 April—Greek Defence Minister Spiros Spiliotopoulos and his Italian counterpart, Antonio Martino, signed a memorandum of understanding on Monday on cooperation between the two countries in sea transport under the frameworks of NATO, the European Union and the UN.

Greece has created the Multinational Strategic Sea Transport Co-ordination Centre, headquartered in Athens, for this purpose and has placed 161 freighters and passenger ships at the disposal of the EU, NATO and the UN to meet the needs of the organizations, Athens News Agency reported.

MNA/Xinhua

MSF providing medical care for AIDS, HIV patients in China

NANNING, 19 April—The office of Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) French Section in Nanning, capital of south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, said on Monday they had provided free medical aid to 260 AIDS patients and HIV carriers in China since late 2003.

Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) is an international humanitarian aid organization that provides emergency medical assistance to populations in danger in more than 80 countries.

Max-Antoine Grolleron, MSF French Section’s representative in China, said MSF French Section began its medical aid to China in 1996 with a medical service programme in Rongshui County of Guangxi.

In compliance with a two-year agreement signed among MSF French Section, the regional health bureau and the regional Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Decem-

ber 2003, an outpatient service has been established to provide free medical care to AIDS patients and HIV carriers from Nanning, the regional capital, and five other adjacent counties.

According to Mr Grolleron, patients receive health checkups, tests, medical treatment such as anti-retroviral therapy (ART) at the outpatient service. So far, 160 of the patients have received anti-retroviral therapy (ART) at the outpatient service.

And the medical cost with the outpatient service last year totalled six million yuan (about 722,892 US dollars) which was fully borne by MSF,

said Huang Xiaoying, an interpreter with the Nanning office of MSF French section.

MSF has also been advancing prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of AIDS or HIV virus in cooperation with local hospitals in Nanning City.

Women infected by AIDS or HIV virus may choose to take anti-retroviral medicine in their 28 weeks or 36 weeks of pregnancy. Up to now, six infected women have given births by cesarean section, with the eldest infant being three months old. — MNA/Xinhua

Export of Nepali handicraft up in first nine months

KATHMANDU, 19 April—The total export of Nepali handicraft products increased by around 7 per cent in the first nine months of the current fiscal year, Handicraft Association of Nepal (HAN) said here on Sunday.

“Nepal exported hand-made crafts and goods of worth 2.1 billion Nepali Rupees (30 million US dollars) in the review period of mid-July 2004 to mid-April compared to 1.9 billion rupees (27 million US dollars) of the similar period last year,” the non-governmental organization said in a Press statement.

HAN attributed the cause to rise in exports of handicraft products to Germany and other new destinations including China’s Taiwan and the Tibet Autonomous Region, the United Arab Emirates and Czech Republic.

The export of handicraft to United Arab Emirates, Czech Republic, Tibet and Taiwan regions increased by 367, 113, 67, 68, 26 per cent respectively, the statistic prepared by HAN reveals. Similarly, export to the US and Germany, the largest and second largest importers of Nepali handicraft, saw growth of about 5 and 26 per cent during the nine-month period.

However, export to Japan and Italy, the third and fourth largest importers of Nepali handmade goods, declined around 6 and 9 per cent respectively, the statement added.—MNA/Xinhua

Singapore to build two integrated resorts with casinos

SINGAPORE, 20 April—Singapore will build two integrated resorts with casinos, located in Marina Bayfront and Sentosa, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong announced in Parliament on Monday.

It is the first time for the Singapore Government to give green light to opening casinos in the island state since the Republic was founded 40 years ago.

Lee expected that the decision will give a boost to the country’s tourism industry, which has seen increase in tourist numbers but decrease in market share, posing many jobs at stake.

“If we become a backwater, just one of many ordinary cities in Asia, in-

stead of being a cosmopolitan hub of the region, then many good jobs will be lost, and all Singaporeans will suffer. We cannot afford that,” Lee said.

He stressed that casinos, scheduled to be operational by 2009, are just a small but essential part of these two leisure, entertainment and business zones.

Lee noted that taking the long-term national interest as the key consideration, the government will balance the economic gains

against the social fallout and the intangible impact on values as the negative is absolute. Comprehensive measures will be taken to minimize the social consequences of casino gambling, according to Lee, which will include charging a high entrance fee of 100 Singapore dollars (about 60 US dollars) per day or 2000 Singapore dollars (about 1200 US dollars) a month to restrict the admission of locals.

MNA/Xinhua



Kamel, the robot jockey, rides Ghazil, a Qatari camel, during a test-run at the Shahaniah camel race track in Doha, Qatar, on 19 April, 2005.—INTERNET

Japanese IOC honour member suspended over corruption charges

BERLIN, 20 April— Japanese billionaire businessman Yoshiaki Tsutsumi was suspended as an IOC honour member here on Tuesday following corruption charges levelled against him by the Tokyo public prosecutor.

The IOC's executive board made the decision to suspend Tsutsumi, who played a major role in aiding Nagano win the 1998 Winter Games, following a report from the IOC's ethics commission.

Tsutsumi has no voting rights within the IOC but as a honour member was able to attend meetings.

The ethics commission is now investigating the charges of insider trading and falsifying financial statements made against him last March and will then report back to the executive board.

The 70-year-old Tsutsumi, the former chairman of Seibu Railway, will remain suspended until the ethics commission finishes its probe.

Tsutsumi, who was elected an honour member in 2000, denies all the charges. —MNA/Xinhua



Bolton's Stelios, partly obscured second from left, scores past Southampton's goalkeeper Antti Niemi during their English Premier League soccer match at the Reebok Stadium, Bolton, England, on 19 April, 2005. —INTERNET

Ferguson urges Rio to sign new contract

LONDON, 20 April— Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson has urged Rio Ferdinand to commit his future to Old Trafford by signing a new deal.

The England defender is in contract talks with the Red Devils, with his agent Pini Zahavi indicating the centre-half is looking for an extended deal worth around 120,000 pound a week.

The situation has been clouded by revelations that Ferdinand had dinner with Chelsea chief executive Peter Kenyon last week and, although the Stamford Bridge club have insisted they are not in the market for Ferdinand, Ferguson is dubious about their motives. He said: "The best thing Rio Ferdinand can do is sign his contract and put the matter to bed. He says he wants to sign for the club and now he has an opportunity to do just that.

"We have offered him a good deal, hopefully something can be done in the next few days."

Supporters are turning against the 26-year-old, who has two years to run on his current United deal. They believe owes United after the club's decision to stand by him during his nine-month suspension for a missed drugs test.

And Ferguson has now declared it would be in the best interests of the 29.1 million signing from Leeds to declare his intention to stay with United.

Ferdinand has been impressive since returning to the side against Liverpool in September and Ferguson clearly views him as a long-term successor to Roy Keane as captain.

The Londoner kept Alan Shearer at bay during Sunday's FA Cup semi-final rout of Newcastle and is likely to retain his place for Wednesday night's Premiership trip to Everton. —MNA/Xinhua

Ouyang Kunpeng breaks Asian record in 50m backstroke

HARBIN, 19 April— Ouyang Kunpeng renewed the men's 50 metres backstroke Asian record at the Chinese Spring Swimming Championships here on Sunday.

In the 50-metre backstroke semifinals, Ouyang topped the qualifiers with a time of 25.53 seconds, slicing the previous mark 25.67 held by a Malaysian swimmer.

Ouyang said: "I'm not surprised with the result. I swam faster than this during training. Hope I can break it again in tomorrow's final".

Olympian Wu Peng claimed title in the men's 200 metres butterfly in one

minute 56.54 seconds, 0.26 seconds shy of his own national record. Chen Yin from Hebei and Zheng Huazhang from Liaoning came second and third.

Wu, 18, sixth place finisher in the event at the Athens Olympic Games, said: "It's a pity that I expected to better my national record. However, I was choked by water at the 150-metre turn which made me lose my rhythm".

MNA/Xinhua

Bolton held 1-1 by Southampton

LONDON, 20 April— Bolton missed the chance to go fourth in the England Premier League as they were held to a 1-1 draw at home by Southampton on Tuesday.

Middlesbrough also played to a home 1-1 draw with Fulham to keep alive the hope of qualifying for next season's UEFA Cup.

Bolton looked on course to move into the Champions League places after Stelios Giannakopoulos gave them the lead after 25 minutes.

He headed home from El-Hadji Diouf's cross as Bolton laid siege to the Southampton goal, with Nigel Quashie twice clearing off the line.

But Southampton rallied and grabbed a crucial point after 69 minutes when Kevin Phillips scored from close range.

Bolton restored Diouf to their starting line-up, and he was instrumental in a first 45 minutes dominated by the team chasing a place in Europe.

The Senegalese player did brilliantly to send in a cross from the right flank, and Giannakopoulos stole in to send a powerful header past Antti Niemi.

Southampton had sent Matt Oakley for Graeme Le Saux at half-time, and it had a dramatic effect on Redknapp's strugglers.

Jussi Jaaskelainen had been a virtual spectator, but he produced a stunning double save to keep Bolton in front after 56 minutes.

Rory Delap's cross was headed down

by Crouch, but Jaaskelainen made a fine reflex save before recovering to block the rebound from Oakley — who was then well off target.

Southampton were a team transformed, and Phillips put them level after 69 minutes when he took a Delap's long ball which was missed by N'Gotty and pounced to beat Jaaskelainen from 10 yards. The result left Bolton in fifth on 53 points from 34 matches, a point behind Everton who have two games in hand.

Southampton edged out of the relegation zone on goal difference. They are level on 28 points with third bottom West Bromwich Albion, who have two games in hand.

Thanks to the FA Cup final referee Rob Style's last-ditch blunder, Middlesbrough salvaged a 1-1 draw with Fulham.

The official awarded the hosts a 89th-minute penalty for keeper Edwin van der Sar's challenge on Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink despite the fact that the incident clearly took place outside the box, and Bolo Zenden gratefully accepted the chance to level.

Fulham looked to have snatched all three points when American striker Brian McBride fired home from a Tomasz Radzinski cross with eight minutes remaining. —MNA/Xinhua

S African President salutes his athletes

JOHANNESBURG, 20 April — South African President Thabo Mbeki on Tuesday praised South African sport teams and African athletes for their recent achievements locally and abroad.

"New South African milestones in world sport are being achieved by the day," Mbeki said in statement on Tuesday. The President described South Africa's victory over New Zealand in the final of the Under 19 International Rugby Board tournament Sunday in Durban as a major achievement.

"An excellent omen for the future of South African rugby, and because of the number of blacks in the team — who were described as stars — this points the way ahead in successful transformation," he said.

Mbeki commended Hendrick Ramaala for his third place in the London marathon and cricket bowler Makhaya Ntisi for his recent record-breaking performance against the West Indies.

"For continental Africa, it was not

only that, Martin Lel of Kenya came in first and Jaouad Gharib of Morocco second in the London marathon," Mbeki said.

Referring to South Africa's isolation during the apartheid years, Mbeki said a new generation of South African athletes were taking the globe by storm.

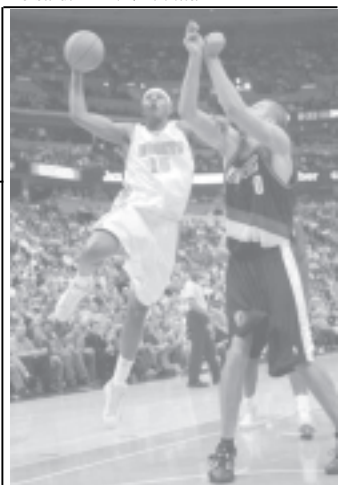
"Now a new generation of South African sportswomen and sportsmen — with their splendid fitness and determination — pit themselves against the best and frequently notch up stunning successes," he said. —MNA/Xinhua

Paes-Zimonjic duo wins Monte Carlo Tennis Masters title

NEW DELHI, 19 April— Leander Paes and Nenad Zimonjic of Serbia and Montenegro won the doubles title in the Monte Carlo Tennis Masters Series at Monaco. The fifth-seeded pair emerged champions after getting a walkover from their third seeded opponents Bob Bryan and Mike Bryan of USA.

The Bryans were forced to pull out after Mike Bryan suffered a shoulder injury, according to information received here on Sunday.

In the semis, Paes-Zimonjic had beaten fourth seeds Wayne Arthurs and Paul Hanley of Australia 6-3, 6-4 while third seeds Bob and Mike beat French duo of Michael Llodra and Fabrice Santoro 6-0, 6-4. —MNA/PTI



Denver Nuggets forward Carmelo Anthony goes up for a shot against Portland Trailblazers centre Joel Przybilla during the second half at the Pepsi Centre in Denver, on 19 April, 2005. Anthony scored 36 points leading the Nuggets to a 119-115 victory over the Trailblazers. —INTERNET

China, Cuba vow to expand cooperation, advance ties

BEIJING, 20 April— Chinese and Cuban leaders vowed here Monday to expand cooperation and advance ties between the two countries.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, while meeting visiting Cuban leader Raul Castro Ruz, said that over recent years, China and Cuba had developed a profound, friendly relationship and had also continuously made new achievements in economic and trade cooperation. "The Communist Party of China and the Chinese Government treasure very much the China-Cuba friendship," Wen said.

He said that the Communist Party of China and the Chinese Government were not only good at developing the economy, but also good at securing a well-coordinated and harmonious development.

The Communist Party of China and the Chinese Government earnestly resolved various problems emerging in the course of development, and persisted in making scientific decisions on the basis of investigation and research, he said.—MNA/Xinhua

He said China was willing to work closely with Cuba to actively implement the cooperation agreements signed between the two countries during Chinese President Hu Jintao's visit to Cuba last November, and to push the bilateral economic and trade relations to a new high through down-to-earth endeavours. Raul Castro, second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, said that the Communist Party of China had won world recognition for its achievements in exploring a course of development that fit the national conditions of China.

Photo exhibit on China, UN opens at UN Headquarters

UNITED NATIONS, 20 April — A photo exhibition on China and the United Nations opened Monday at the UN Headquarters in commemoration of the 60th birthday of the world body.

Addressing the opening ceremony, Wang Guangya, Chinese Ambassador to the United Nations, said that the international community had witnessed the growth and indispensable role of the United Nations, in safeguarding world peace and security, in enhancing international exchanges and cooperation, and in promoting economic development and social progress.

"In human history, no organization is as widely representative as the United Nations, and no one has ever exerted such profound influence as this organization," he added.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝမ်းနည်းကြေကွဲခြင်း

ဘုရား၊ ရဟန်း၊ ကျောင်း ဒါယိကာမကြီး

ဒေါ်ခင်နီ

အသက် (၇၅) နှစ် (မိတ္ထီလာ)

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း၊ ဦးဆောင်ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး ဗိုလ်မှူးကြီးစိုးဝင်း-ဒေါ်ခင်နီသန်းအေးတို့၏ မိခင် ဒေါ်ခင်နီသည် ၂၀-၄-၂၀၀၅ ရက်တွင် ကွယ်လွန်ကြောင်းသိရသဖြင့် မိသားစုနှင့်အတူ ဝမ်းနည်းကြေကွဲရပါသည်။

သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းမိသားစု

ဝမ်းနည်းကြေကွဲခြင်း

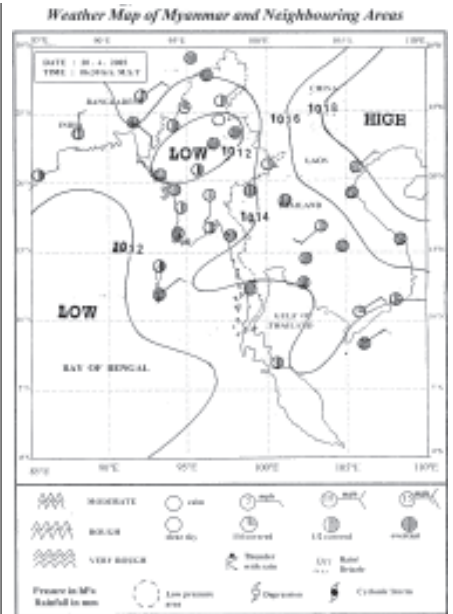
ဘုရား၊ ရဟန်း၊ ကျောင်း ဒါယိကာမကြီး

ဒေါ်ခင်နီ

အသက် (၇၅) နှစ် (မိတ္ထီလာ)

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း၊ ဦးဆောင်ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး ဗိုလ်မှူးကြီးစိုးဝင်း-ဒေါ်ခင်နီသန်းအေးတို့၏ မိခင် ဒေါ်ခင်နီသည် ၂၀-၄-၂၀၀၅ ရက်တွင် ကွယ်လွန်ကြောင်းသိရသဖြင့် မိသားစုနှင့်အတူ ဝမ်းနည်းကြေကွဲရပါသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar ဝန်ထမ်းမိသားစု



WEATHER

Wednesday, 20 April, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Shan State and Mandalay Division, isolated in Rakhine State and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Ann (0.35) inch, Taunggyi and Pyinmana (0.12) inch each. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan and Mon States, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Kachin, Chin and Kayin States, Sagaing, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Monywa (44°C), Myingyan and Magway (43°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 19-4-2005 was 103°F. Minimum temperature on 20-4-2005 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 20-4-2005 was 78%. Total sunshine hours on 19-4-2005 was (9.2) hours approx. Rainfalls on 20-4-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (0.63 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 (4) mph from Southwest at (21:30) hours MST on 19-4-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the North and Central Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 21-4-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin, Chin, Northern Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States, Mandalay, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Bago, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of day temperatures in upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-4-2005: Partly cloudy to cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-4-2005: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).



Thursday, 21 April Tune in today:

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: -I like your style
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: -Every morning
- 8.50 am National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am Music: Queen of your fantasy
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music: -Crush on you
- 1.30 pm News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch time music: -Love takes time
- From a distance
- Always
- Save your love
- Modern day romance
- 9.00 pm Aspects of Myanmar: -Myanmar Traditional Earthen Waterpot stand
- 9.10 pm Article
- 9.20 pm Pouri: -Thai Health Department claims flies cannot spread bird flu
- Polio eradication campaign launched across Africa
- SARSvirus behaviour could help design treatment vaccines
- European scientists think life can be still on Mars
- Five star luxury hotel on ocean floor planned in Bahamar
- 9.30 pm Favourite songs chosen by music lovers: -Anyone of us--Garath Gates
- Try again--Westlife
- I have a dream--ABBA
- 9.45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL



Thursday, 21 April View on today:

- 7:00 am 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာအဂ္ဂမဟာဂုဏ်ရတနာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ မေဃဘုရားဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာ အိပ်သစ် 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. Dance of national races
- 8:10 am 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am 7. Dance variety

- 8:30 am 8. International news
- 8:45 am 9. Happy and Educational English Summer Course MRTV
- 4:00 pm 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm 3. English for Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm 4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm 5. အစားသင့်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး နှစ်ပြိုင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ရှုကွေအထူးပြု) (ရှုကွေဗေဒ)
- 5:15 pm 6. Cute little dancers
- 5:30 pm 7. လတ်ဆင့်တန်းပေးဂီတတေး
- 5:40 pm 8. Musical programme
- 5:50 pm 9. "ဆေးလိပ်ကင်းကွေ အနုပညာ တက္ကသိုလ်"
- (လွင်စိုး၊ မင်းဆော်ကွန်း၊ စာနည်း၊ ကင်းကောင်း၊ မိုးမြတ်နုနု၊ လှအောင်လှတင့်၊ ကြည်လှလှည့်၊ ဝမ်းပုံ)
- 6:00 pm 10. နိုင်ငံအဝန်းသစ်တောစွမ်းပြိုင်စိမ်းလန်းစေရမည်။
- 6:15 pm 11. မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်
- 6:30 pm 12. Evening news
- 7:00 pm 13. Weather report
- 7:05 pm 14. နိုင်ငံကြားစားလမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်မေညီမ" (အပိုင်း-၂၃)
- 7:30 pm 15. Musical programme
- 8:00 pm 16. News
- 17. International news
- 18. Weather report
- 19. မြန်မာစိတ်ဓာတ်လမ်း "အချစ်ရေကျားနူးပဲ" (အပိုင်း-၁) (ရန်အောင်၊ မျိုးသန္တာထွန်း၊ မေမာကြိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်နီလွင် သပြေ)
- 20. The next day's programme

Aims and acts of the renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts endangering interest of Union of Myanmar and the entire people Social organizations, peace groups condemn, oppose the announcement of renegade group

YANGON, 20 April — The social organizations and armed groups that had returned to the legal fold issued declarations condemning and opposing the acts disturbing and endangering peace and stability and law enforcement of the State and peace and tranquillity of the entire people of the group led by renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and his cohorts. The following is a translation of the full texts of their declarations:

Declaration of USDA

1. Keeping in the fore Our Three Main National Causes — non-disintegration of the Union; non-disintegration of national solidarity; and perpetuation of sovereignty — the Union Solidarity and Development Association declares that it strongly condemns and protests against the aims and acts of the renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts, as they are endangering the interest of the Union of Myanmar and the entire nationalities; and that their aims and acts are totally unacceptable for the Association.
2. The USDA unanimously welcomes and supports the Notification No (1/2005) of the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Union of Myanmar which declares the renegade organization and related groups unlawful.
3. The USDA in accord with its objectives will ward off all saboteurs with the strength and unity of its over 21 million members.
4. The nation has clearly seen the results — peace, stability, unity and progress — of the endeavours of the State Peace and Development Council in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, which is the national goal.
5. With full Union Spirit and the spirit of national unity, the nation at present is in the process of making utmost efforts for perpetuation of the Union according to the political, economic and social objectives.
6. As the nation is achieving development with greater momentum, it has started to materialize the seven-point Road Map of the State. Hence, the Union of Myanmar is on the right track towards emergence of a democratic society and state.
7. On the other hand, the aims and acts of renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts are simply meant for destruction. In this regard, the Union Solidarity and Development Association denounces in the strongest terms and protests the aims and acts of renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts.

**Union Solidarity and Development Association Headquarters
20 April 2005.**

Declaration of Shan State Army (SSA) Special Region-3 and Shan State National Army (SSNA)

Dated: 20 April 2005

1. We have heard that a handful of renegades declared independence of Shan State on 17 April, 2005. We of Shan State Army (SSA) Special Region-3 and Shan State National Army (SSNA), that have made peace with the government, make clear our stand on their declaration of independence.
2. Our Shan State Army and Shan State National Army have made peace with the government in order to settle political issues by peaceful means. Hence, we believe in and take a firm stand on the genuine Union System based on peace, regional development, equality and self-determination.
3. Therefore, we make public that we of Shan State Army (SSA) Shan State (North) Special Region-3 and Shan State National Army (SSNA) object and are totally opposed to the unilateral declaration of independence and separation from the Union by the above-mentioned renegades that could lead to disintegration of the Union and cause misunderstanding among the national races.

**For Chairman,
U Kaung Taing
Central Committee Member
SSA Special Region-3**

Shan State Army and Shan State National Army have made peace with the government in order to settle political issues by peaceful means.

Declaration of Shan State Nationalities People's Liberation Organization

1. The Panglong Agreement that has stood as a firm witness to Union Spirit and Shan State unity spirit says that not only the Shan race represents the Shan State. And as the Agreement was signed by Pa-O, Palaung, Danu and Intha Sawbwas and Shan nationalities, the Shan State Nationalities People's Liberation Organization (SSNPLO) firmly accepts that Shan State is a region collectively owned by various national races.
2. The SSNPLO does not accept wrong racialism at any cost as it divides and destroys the unity of the various nationalities of Shan State, and endangers the perpetuation of Shan State.
3. As the formation of the Shan Union Government by the group led by Sao Hkam Hpa on 25 March 2005 was without the wish of all the national races of Shan State, and also an act that could lead to breaking up the national unity and the Union, the SSNPLO never recognizes nor accepts it.

**U Tar Kale
Chairman
Shan State Nationalities People's Liberation Organization
20 April 2005.**

The SSNPLO does not accept wrong racialism at any cost as it divides and destroys the unity of the various nationalities of Shan State, and endangers the perpetuation of Shan State.

Declaration of Pa-O National Organization (PNO)

Dated; 20 April 2005

1. On 17 April 2005, the PNO heard the VOA quoted the Bangkok-based Foreign Ministry of the Liberated Shan State Government as announcing that the Liberated Shan State Government was formed together with the names of the President, the Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister, the Defence Minister and the Home Affairs Minister.
2. The present State Peace and Development Council Government has been able to restore peace and stability in the entire nation with Our Three Main National Causes, and 12 political, economic and social objectives, and is in the process of materializing the seven-point Road Map to build a discipline-flourishing multi-party democratic nation.
3. The National Convention that has been held according to the Road Map has already laid down and approved the 104 basic principles and the basic principles for distribution of the legislative power. The laying down of basic principles for the chapter headings of the other two organs of power — the executive power and the judicial power — will be completed in the near future.
4. The PNO hereby declares that in view of ensuring the non-disintegration of the Union, it totally disapproves and opposes the formation of the Liberated Shan State Government that is leading the destructive acts of saboteurs from inside and outside the country, who are jealous of the successes the Union of Myanmar has been achieving in her march towards the discipline-flourishing multi-party democracy.

**U Aung Kham Hti
Chairman
Pa-O National Organization**

(See page 8)