

## Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than looks into development of Toungoo, Yedashe Townships



*Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of Ministry of Defence inspects construction of Government Technological College (Toungoo).— MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Bago Division PDC Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, viewed development of Toungoo by car yesterday.

At the hall of Ketumati Integrated Farm of the command headquarters, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on reclamation of land for the integrated farm and cultivation of paddy, sugarcane, physic nut, edible oil crops, pulses and beans and others presented by In-charge of the farm Lt-Col Pyone Cho.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than viewed supply of water to sugarcane plantations. Next, they inspected thriving quality sugarcane plantations and instructed officials to distribute the quality sugarcane strain to local farmers.

*(See page 8)*

## Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects progress of Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) Project

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence inspected maintenance of Sittoung Bridge linking Bago Division and Mon State

in Kyaikto Township on 29 March morning.

Accompanied by Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win and officials, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected progress of Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) Project.

Senior Engineer U Kyaw Lin of Public Works reported on construction tasks of Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) linking Waw and Kyaikto townships and Winka Bridge linking Kyaikto and Shwegyin townships. The commander gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions that Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) on Sittoung-Moppalin road section will be four miles shorter than the old bridge. He stressed the need to build car parking and sale rooms near the bridge.

Next, they viewed construction tasks of Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin). They also inspected building of the overpass on the railroad. Afterwards, they viewed thriving rubber plantation on either side of Yangon-Myeik Road.

Next, they went back to Thaton through Yangon-Myeik Road, and then left for Hpa-an through Thaton-Hpa-an Road. Along the route, Lt-Gen Maung Bo viewed development tasks of Kayin State. — MNA



*Lt-Gen Maung Bo visits construction site of Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin).— MNA*

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 2 April, 2007

### National people to participate in national development undertakings

The Phatashin Bridge on Pathein-Hinthada-Kyangin Railroad between Myanaung and Kyangin was put into service on 25 March. It was built in 1923, and damaged due to bad weather. So, it has been rebuilt.

The 469-foot-long reinforced concrete type bridge can withstand a train along with vehicles weighing 30 tons. Due to the renovated transport facility, 58 village-tracts and 517 villages in Myanaung Township, and Myoma and Kanaung stations are now enjoying smooth transportation, and that will raise the social and economic standards of local people.

Now, Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad was under construction for the development of the regions on the west bank of the Ayeyawady River. When it is completed, Pathein in Ayeyawady Division will be directly accessible from Kalay in Sagaing Division by train.

Pathein-Kyangin-Pakokku-Kalay Railroad passes through areas on the west bank of the Ayeyawady River, located in Ayeyawady, Bago, Magway and Sagaing divisions. So, local people in these regions will enjoy better social and economic standards with swift commodity flow.

The ongoing Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad Project is made up of Kyangin-Okshinpin, Okshinpin-Thayet, Thayet-Minbu, Minbu-Salin and Salin-Pakokku sections. Now, efforts are being exerted to complete the 40.5-mile Kyangin-Okshinpin section soon.

The government has been building more and more railroads, roads and bridges the length and breadth of the nation for ensuring smooth transport. Therefore, all are to take part in the national development undertakings for better social and economic standards of the people.

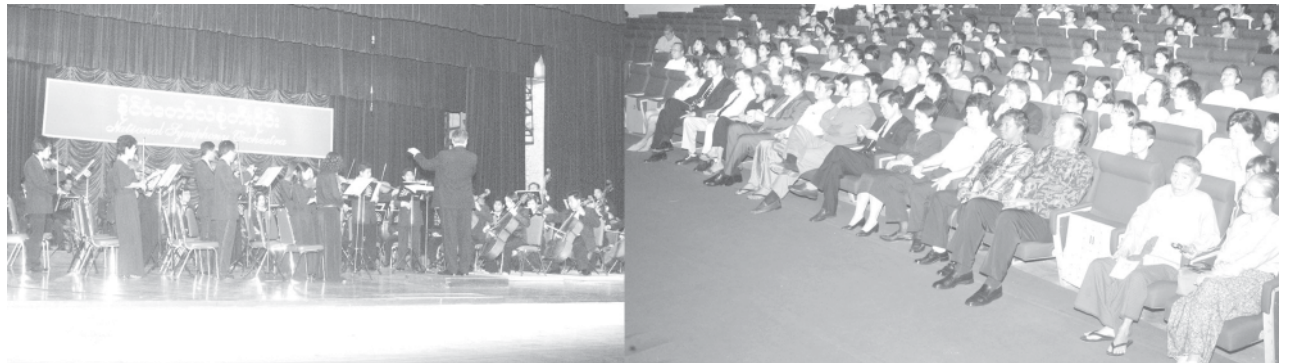
**Fire prevention is compulsory**

**Prevent outbreaks of fire**

## Peoples' Desire

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

### National symphony orchestra presents classical music



Audience enjoy classical music presented by the national symphony orchestra and musicians of Cambridge University to mark the 275th birthday anniversary of Frank Joseph Haydn.— MNA

YANGON, 1 April—In Commemoration of 275th Birthday of Composer Frank Joseph Haydn (1732-1809), national symphony orchestra of the Ministry of Information and musicians of Cambridge University jointly organized a classical music concert at the National Theatre on Myoma Kayung street in Dagon Township yesterday evening. Among the audience were diplomats of the foreign embassies, Director-General U Khin Maung Htay of the Myanma Radio and Television and officials of Myanmar Music Asiayon and Myanma Motion Picture Asiayon.

Director of Music and Lecturer Dr Edward Wickham and Senior Member of Music Society Dr Sean O'Harrow of Fellow of St.Catharine's College, Cambridge University entertained the audience with songs of Frank Joseph Haydn.

After the concert, U Khin Maung Htay presented a basket of flowers to Dr Edward Wickham and Dr Sean O'Harrow. Australian citizen Frank Joseph Haydn was the father of symphony music and the Surprise Symphony and the London Symphony under his command had been very famous in the world.— MNA

### MBF President receives Executive of World Boxing Federation

YANGON, 1 April —Executive of World Boxing Federation Chairman of Referee Committee of Asian Boxing Federation President of Syrian Boxing Federation Mr Shbib M Kamel and Executive of Asian Boxing Federation Secretary of Philippine Boxing Federation Mr Rogelio Fortaleza called on President of Myanmar Boxing Federation U Win Myint at the hall of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Minye Kyawswa Road, here, on 30 March. Also present at the call were Vice-President of MBF Deputy Di-



Director-General U Thein Aung of Sports and Physical Education Department and executives. — MNA

President of Myanmar Boxing Federation U Win Myint meeting with executives of World Boxing Federation.

MBF

### Prophet's Birthday Anniversary held

YANGON, 1 April — Prophet's Birthday Organizing Central Committee held the 1481st Birthday Anniversary of

Prophet at Choliya Jamei Mosque on Bo Sun Pat Street in Pabedan township this morning. Presiding Chairman AlHaj

U Tin Oo spoke on the occasion and Pro-rector (Admin) Dr Myint Kyi of the Ministry of Religious Affairs extended greetings. — MNA



Pro-rector (Admin) Dr Myint Kyi of Ministry of Religious Affairs addresses 1481st Birthday Anniversary of Prophet.— MNA

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## China strongly dissatisfied about US paper sanctions

BEIJING, 31 March — The Chinese Government expresses strong dissatisfaction about the US decision to impose penalty tariffs against the imports of Chinese coated free sheet paper, Wang Xinpei, spokesman for China's Ministry of Commerce, said early Saturday.

The Department of Commerce of the United States on Friday announced its preliminary decision to apply US anti-subsidy law to the imports of coated free sheet paper from China.

"This action of the US side goes against the consensus reached by the leaders of both countries to resolve differences through dialogue," Wang said.

"China strongly requires the US side to reconsider the decision and make prompt changes," the spokesman said, adding China will closely watch the development of the issue and protect its own legitimate rights.

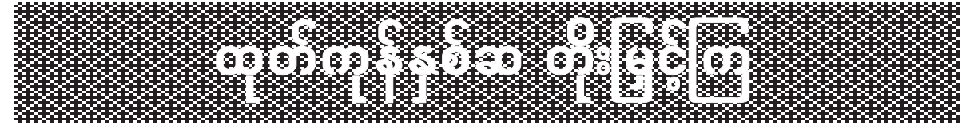
In 1984 the United States set the policy of not applying anti-subsidy law

to "non-market economies".

Such a practice had been taken as a judicial precedent and had not been changed, Wang said.

The preliminary decision of the US Commerce Department made a bad instance and it obviously does not conform with the current judicial precedent of US courts and the consistent practice of the US Commerce Department, the spokesman said.

MNA/Xinhua



*Li Changchun (L), member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, receives a medal awarded by Peruvian President Alan Garcia (R) in Lima, capital of Peru, on 30 March, 2007. Li arrived here for a goodwill visit to Peru in the afternoon of 29 March. — XINHUA*

## Bangladesh says bird flu spreads to more farms

DHAKA, 31 March — Bird flu has spread to five more farms in central and northern districts, Bangladesh said on Friday.

"The avian flu has now spread to 16 farms in five districts so far. But no humans have been confirmed infected," an official of the Fisheries and Livestock Ministry said.

Bangladesh has culled about 60,000 birds since confirming the outbreak of the H5N1 flu virus simultaneously on six farms near the capital, Dhaka, on 22 March.

All the culled birds belonged to the 16 affected farms. So far, 30 workers in the five newly affected farms were being monitored after they were given health checks.

Earlier, 100 poultry workers were released after no H5N1 infection was detected by a local laboratory, which tested their blood and other samples days after the initial outbreak was detected.

Movement of chickens has been banned outside a 10 square-kilometre (3.9-square-mile) area around the affected farms, officials said.

Livestock officials said after the outbreak of the virus they had inspected about 10,000 farms containing nearly 1.1 million birds. — MNA/Reuters



*Kyrgyzstan's new Prime Minister Almaz Atambayev speaks to the media before his approval in Parliament in Bishkek on 30 March, 2007. — XINHUA*

## Beijing restores 3.7-km-long stretch of the Great Wall

BEIJING, 1 April — The restoration of a 2,455-metre-long damaged stretch of the Great Wall in Badaling on the outskirts of Beijing will start in June as part of preparations for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

The restoration work will use materials such as bricks which have fallen from the wall in order to preserve the original style, said Zhang Min, an official with the Badaling special zone administration office.

The project will not use modern building materials or equipment, according to Zhang. If new building materials are needed, they will be produced in line with ancient craft methods under the supervision of cultural heritage authorities.

The stretch, which does not open to tourists, is located north of the Badaling section of the Great Wall, a famous scenic spot 75 kilometres northwest of downtown Beijing.

MNA/Xinhua

## Indian Army team to scale Mt Everest

KATHMANDU, 31 March — A team of 20 Indian Army personnel is to scale the Mt Everest in April, Nepali national news agency RSS reported on Saturday.

During a Press conference organized at Indian Embassy Friday, it was informed that the team of Army personnel is scheduled to scale Mt Everest from the north face within two months.

On the occasion, Indian Charge d'Affairs to Nepal Kheya Bhattacharya stated that the Indian Army had already scaled the Mt Everest three times from the year 2001 till now under the Indian Army's campaign to scale all the mountains above 8,000 metres.

MNA/Xinhua

## Deadliest bomb in Iraq war kills 152

BAGHDAD, 31 March — The Iraqi government raised the death toll on Saturday from a truck bomb in the town of Tal Afar to 152, making it the deadliest single bombing of the four-year-old war.

Interior Ministry spokesman Brigadier Abdul Kareem Khalaf said 347 people were wounded in Tuesday's attack on a Shi'ite area. There was another truck bomb in the mixed northwestern town on Tuesday, but it was small.

Khalaf said 100 homes had been destroyed in the main blast, which officials have blamed on al Qaeda. The explosion left a 23-metre (75-ft)-wide crater.

"It took us a while to recover all the bodies from underneath the rubble of the homes ... what did they achieve by using two tons of explosive to kill and wound 500 in a residential area?" Khalaf asked at a news conference.

The past week has been the bloodiest in Iraq since the government launched a security crackdown in Baghdad in February aimed at halting the country's slide toward civil war.

Bombings blamed on Sunni Islamist al Qaeda have killed 400 people in Shi'ite areas across the country in the past week.

Car bombs killed nine people on Saturday, police said. —Internet

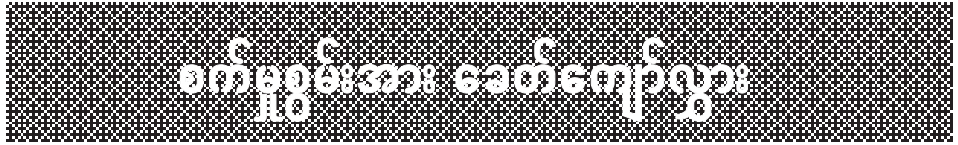


*Some parts of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region and Shaanxi Province have been hit by sandstorm on 31 March. —INTERNET*



Artists of the Chinese National Circus stage a guest performance at the Tempodrom theatre in the German capital Berlin on 29 March, 2007.

XINHUA



## Sydney blacks out for global warming

SYDNEY, 31 March — The Sydney Opera House's gleaming white-shelled roof was darkened Saturday night along with dozens of skyscrapers and countless homes in the 4 million-strong city, in an hour-long gesture organizers said they hoped would be adopted as an annual event by cities around the world.

The arch of Sydney's

other iconic structure, the harbor bridge, was also blacked out, along with dozens of skyscrapers and countless homes in the 4 million-strong city, in an hour-long gesture organizers said they hoped would be adopted as an annual event by cities around the world.

Mayor Clover Moore, whose officials shut down all nonessential lights on city-owned buildings, said Sydney was "asking people to think about what action they can take to fight global warming."

Restaurants throughout the city held candlelit

dinners, and families gathered in public places to take part in a countdown to lights out, sending up a cheer as lights started blinking off at 7:30 pm.

Buildings went dark one by one. Some floors in city skyscrapers remained lit, and security and street lights, those at commercial port operations and at a sports stadium, stayed on.

"It's an hour of active, thoughtful darkness, a celebration of our awakening to climate change action," said Oscar-winner Cate Blanchett, who attended a harborside function to watch the event.

Internet

## Kickboxing 'causes brain damage'

LONDON, 31 March— Kickboxing can cause damage to the part of the brain which controls hormone production, a study has shown.

Around a million people around the world take part in the sport.

The Turkish study found head injuries in kickboxing can cause damage to the pituitary gland, which affects the body's metabolism and stress response.

In Clinical Endocrinology, researchers say amateurs with head injuries should be screened. But kickboxers say they are unaware of such injuries.

People who take part in combative sports and are exposed to repeated head

trauma should be screened to ensure their pituitary is working properly

The pituitary is a pea-sized gland, weighing no more than a gram, which is found at the base of the brain, just behind the bridge of the nose.

It produces a range of hormones which control, among other things, the body's regulation of metabolism, coping with daily stress, general well-being and sex drive amongst

other areas.

The team at Erciyes University Medica School in Turkey measured the levels of these hormones in 22 amateur kickboxers (16 men and six women) and compared these to healthy people of the same age and sex.

It was found that 27% - six - of the kick-boxers were deficient in at least one hormone compared with the healthy group.

Internet

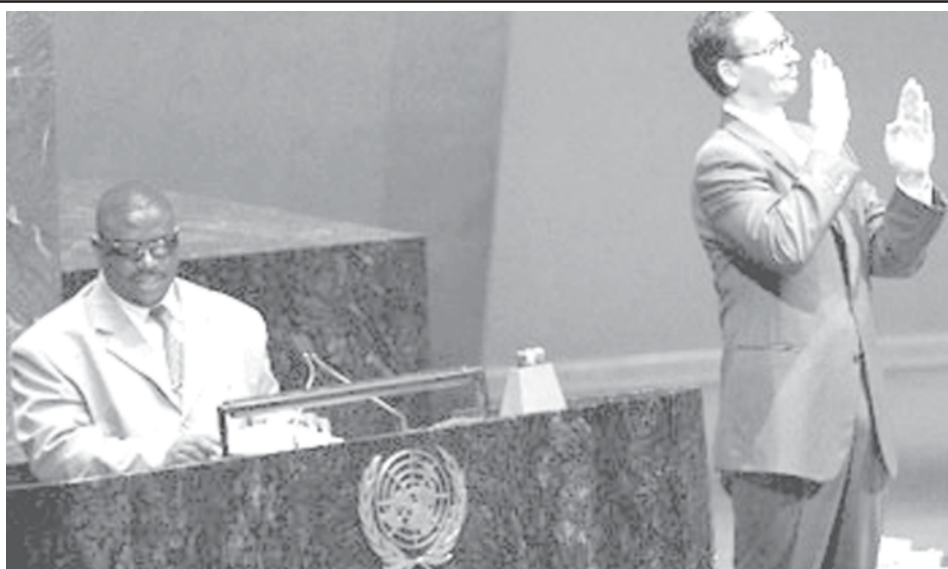
## Earthquake hits northeastern Japan

TOKYO, 31 March — A strong earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5 hit northeastern Japan's Iwate Prefecture and Miyagi Prefecture on Saturday night, according to information released by the Japan Meteorological Agency.

The center of the 10:32 pm quake was in northern Miyagi Prefecture and about 80 kilometres underground, the agency said.

No tsunami warning was issued for the area and no damage nor injuries have been reported so far.

Internet



A blind representative (L) delivers a speech as the interpreter conveys the content in sign language during the opening session of the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the UN headquarters in New York, on 30 March, 2007. — XINHUA

## Egypt reports 3rd bird flu case in one day



A woman stands in front of ducks in Cairo recently.

INTERNET

CAIRO, 31 March — The Egyptian Health Ministry Saturday said a new human bird flu case was discovered in northern Egypt, which was the third case reported in this populous nation in one day, the official news agency MENA reported.

Earlier in the day, Egypt announced two human bird flu cases. One was a four-year-old boy and the other seven-year-old boy.

The latest case in Qalyubiya

raised the total number of human bird flu cases in Egypt to 32, of which 13 died, 13 recovered, while the other six were still hospitalized, according to Shahin.

Egypt found the first bird flu case in dead poultry on 17 Feb, 2006 and then the virus spread to 20 of the country's 26 governorates. The populous Arab country reported first human bird flu case on 18 March of 2006.

Internet

## Two die from lightning as summer storms hit upper Thailand

BANGKOK, 31 March — Two villagers were killed by lightning when a summer thunderstorm hit Thailand's northeastern province of Kalasin Friday.

Sayan Matrat, 23, and Kanlaya Pimpen, 22, were struck by lightning in Kammuang District and died on the spot, according to the *Thai News Agency*.

Disaster prevention and mitigation officials have surveyed and assessed summer thunderstorm damage in Kammuang and Thakantho districts. According to initial reports, the storm destroyed 172 houses, with the cost of damage estimated at more than 10 million bath (about 280,000 US dollars).

The Meteorological Department said a high pressure system from China has covered upper Thailand and triggered summer thunderstorms in the northeast and the east since Wednesday. — MNA/Xinhua



A Los Angeles County hand crew works to put out a hot spot that jumped the road as a 150 acre bush fire makes its way down the Hollywood Hills area of Los Angeles on 30 March, 2007. — XINHUA

## ECONOMIC NEWS

### Britain sees US imports as threat to UK biofuels

LONDON, 31 March — Britain is looking for a way to tackle imports of biofuels from the United States which it believes will undermine the commercial case for European production, Britain's Transport Minister Stephen Ladyman said. "People who are being subsidized to produce renewable fuels in the United States are now planning to export that fuel to Europe where they hope to get a second subsidy when it is sold in Europe," he said.

"That is undermining the commercial case for

investment in Europe. It is one of the things that we have got to try and sort out," he told a conference organized by biofuels industry lobby group, the Environmental Industries Commission.

The United States has seen rapid growth in its bioethanol industry, boosted by strong government support motivated by a desire for energy security.

European biodiesel makers have made the same complaint to Brussels—that increasing sales of US biodiesel are being made in the EU with

the help of unfair subsidies.

Britain offers tax incentives for motor fuels which contain biofuels as part of its effort to reduce emissions of the greenhouse gases which are believed to contribute to global warming. The incentive is provided to both domestically produced and imported biofuels.

Bioethanol, which is usually blended with petrol, can be made from grains or sugar crops. The US and Brazil are the world's two leading producers of bioethanol.

MNA/Reuters



Apple's iTunes website is reflected in an iPod. Apple unveiled on Thursday an iTunes online music store offer aimed at enticing people into buying complete albums instead of separate song tracks. — INTERNET

### China to produce liquid fuel from coal in 2008

XI'AN, 31 March — China's first coal liquefaction project, which will go into operation in 2008, will be able to

produce more than one million tons of oil a year, significantly reducing the country's dependence on oil imports.

Shenhua Group Corporation Limited, one of China's largest coal producers, launched the coal liquefaction project in 2004 in Erdos, a city in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

"The project transforms coal into refined oil. When the second phase is completed in 2010, the plant will produce 6 million tons of oil products each year and help reduce China's reliance on crude oil imports," said Wang Pinggang, vice-president of Shenhua Group.

According to Wang, Shenhua will invest 24.5 billion yuan (3.2 billion US dollars) to build three production lines in the first phase of the project. The first line, currently under construction, will enter trial production at the end of the year and be able to

convert 3.45 million tons of coal into around one million tons of oil products.

When the other two production lines come onstream in 2009, the plant will be able to produce 3.2 million tons of oil products. "More than 60 per cent of the equipment we are using is domestically-made and we also own the intellectual property rights for the manufacturing technology," said Wang.

The coal liquefaction technique has drawn increasing attention in recent years as international oil prices have shot up. "The Shenhua project is of great importance to China, the world's fourth largest economy, both in terms of energy safety and economic development," said Li Kejian, head of the coal liquefaction technology research centre of the Beijing Research Institute of Coal Chemistry.

MNA/Xinhua

### Vietnam sees bigger seafood export in first quarter

HANOI, 31 March — Vietnam is estimated to earn 678 million US dollars from exporting seafood, including shrimps, prawns, catfish and octopuses in the first quarter of this year, a year-on-year rise of 11.9 per cent.

Vietnam has targeted seafood export earnings of 3.6 billion dollars this year, up 7.1 per cent against last year, according to the Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers on Friday.

It has set targets of annual seafood export growth of over 9 per cent in the 2006-2010 period, and export revenues of 4-4.5 billion dollars in 2010.

The country is boosting export of different seafood items to traditional markets such as China, the United States, the European Union, Japan, Canada and South Korea, and some new ones like the Middle East, East Europe, Africa and South America.

Vietnam is also focusing on ensuring quality of products, intensifying their trade promotion, building more seafood brand names, and enhancing its capacity of forecasting seafood prices and export demand, said the association. — MNA/Xinhua



Miss Universe Zuleyka Rivera, of Puerto Rico, smiles during a visit to the ancient canals of Xochimilco in Mexico City, on 30 March, 2007. This year's Miss Universe competition will take place in various cities in Mexico, and the finals will be held in Mexico City on 28 May. — INTERNET

### British biodiesel plant begins commercial production

IMMINGHAM (England), 31 March — Independent oil company Greenergy's biodiesel plant in north-east England began commercial production on Friday and should ramp up to full output in a couple of weeks, chief executive Andrew Owens said.

The plant has an initial capacity of 100,000 tons of biodiesel from rapeseed oil, palm oil and soyabean oil.

Owens told Reuters in an interview that the second phase, which should take capacity to 200,000 tons is on schedule to be completed in November.

The plant includes a vegetable oil refining unit, allowing to buy crude vegetable oil.

Rival British biodiesel producers Biofuels Corp plc and D1 Oils have both been running at below capacity recently, citing a sharp decline in profit margins with

feedstock costs rising and the mineral oil market weakening. "We are very comfortable with margins where they are now," Owens said.

Both Biofuels Corp and D1 Oils use more expensive refined vegetable oils. Owens said the plant would adjust its balance between vegetable oils during the year, with rapeseed oil likely to be used more in winter than in summer.

Palm oil becomes solid at a relatively low temperatures, restricting its use during winter. Immingham is one of Britain's biggest ports and has two major oil refineries. Several companies, including Spain's Abengoa have announced plans to build bioethanol plants at the port. Owens said he expects to sell much of the biodiesel plant's output "locally". — MNA/Reuters



Polar bear cub Knut walks through water at an enclosure in Berlin zoo on 31 March, 2007. Knut, born on 5 Dec, 2006, had to be hand fed every four hours by a zoo employee after its mother Tosca refused the baby. — INTERNET

## Chinese V-P urges more technological innovation in agri sector

**BEIJING, 31 March** — Chinese Vice-Premier Hui Liangyu called Friday for more technological innovations in the agricultural sector to ensure adequate food supplies and sharpen China's competitive edge in the global market.

Hui stressed the importance of technology in resolving issues related to agriculture, rural areas and farmers.

The Vice-Premier said the country needs to accelerate the building of a national mechanism to promote innovation.

He called on colleges and research institutes to play an active role in spreading advanced technologies and encouraged technologists to go to the countryside and

serve needy farmers.

He said the government would finance public technology institutes and human resources training to build a globally competitive expert team.

Hui made the remarks when meeting with a group of pacemaker technologists from across the nation who received awards from the central government.

Despite serious natural disasters, China last year reaped a rich grain harvest

with total output reaching 497 billion kilogrammes, 13 billion kilogrammes up on the previous year.

However, observers warned that the country is not producing enough grain for its huge population.

MNA/Xinhua



Designer Narendra Kumar (C) poses with Bollywood actresses Katrina Kaif (2nd R), Raima Sen (R) and models during the grand finale of India fashion week in Mumbai on 31 March, 2007. — INTERNET

## Ginger, curry powder may offer cure to Kennedy's disease

**HANGZHOU, 30 March** — A Chinese prostate cancer researcher says that a compound in ginger and curry powder could bring a glimmer of hope to patients suffering from Kennedy's disease, a debilitating neurodegenerative condition that only affects men.

The compound, known as ASC-J9 and found in curcumin — the bright yellow spice in curry powder — dramatically slowed the progression of the disease in mice that carried the mutant human gene that causes the disease, Dr Yang Zhiming of China's Zhejiang University told *Xinhua* on Friday.

The tests, conducted by Yang and a research team

under Prof. Chawnshang Chang at the University of Rochester Medical Center, involved 60 pairs of mice, each pair consisting of one treated and one untreated mouse. "The mice that were treated with ASC-J9 were more mobile than their untreated counterparts," said Yang. "They walked better and dragged their legs less often; their muscles appeared to work

better and they lived 40 percent longer than the untreated mice."

The tests also proved that the mice treated were able to mate and produce offspring, while their untreated partners could not, he said.

Kennedy's disease, also known as spinal and bulbar muscular atrophy, attacks one out of 40,000 people. Symptoms typically include difficulty in speaking and swallowing, and weakness in the arms and legs. Patients are often diagnosed in their 30s and 40s, and many end up using a wheelchair.

Yang, 35, was the first author of the study, which appeared in the March edition of the journal

*Nature Medicine*. He earned his doctorate under Prof Chawnshang Chang, a prostate cancer expert at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Prof Chang found earlier that pungent food, including onions and garlic, may cut men's risk of prostate cancer by half. Ginger is widely used in China as a folk medicine to treat male baldness and promote perspiration to fight cold.

In the past decade, western medicine has tested curry, finding that the spice can help fight breast cancer, Alzheimer's disease and the blisters that come after radiation treatment for cancer.

Xinhua



The Alcatel OT-C820A is a slider handset mobile phone geared toward music and video, featuring dedicated playback buttons and an external slot for extra memory, shown at the CTIA Wireless 2007 convention in Orlando, Fla, on 29 March, 2007. — INTERNET

## At least 137 killed, thousands displaced in Kenya land clashes

**NAIROBI, 31 March** — Escalating clashes over fertile lands in Kenya's western district of Mount Elgon region have killed 137 people and forced tens of thousands more to flee from their home since December, the country's aid agency said on Friday.

The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) said 45,720 people have been displaced following clashes caused by a dispute over land rights that erupted late last December.

"Of the 137 lives lost, 43 people, that is, 30 children and 13 adults, lost their lives due to pneumonia and malnutrition cases.

The health facilities have been strained beyond their capacity due to the increased number

of patients," the KRCS said in a statement issued in Nairobi.

MNA/Xinhua



An excavator prepares the rescue work near the pithead in a copper mine pit at Dajipu township of Huangshi city, central China's Hubei Province, on 31 March, 2007. A flooding accident happened in the mine at about 1:00 am Saturday when 21 miners were working underground. Six miners were trapped when the mine was flooded and other 15 miners managed to escape. At present, the rescue work is underway. — XINHUA

## India successfully test fires nuclear-capable missile

**NEW DELHI, 31 March** — India successfully test fired its indigenous *Dhanush* missile, a nuclear-capable short-range ballistic missile, off east Indian state Orissa's coast on Friday, according to *Indo-Asian News Service*.

The news quoted defence sources as saying that the missile was test-fired from a naval ship in the Bay of Bengal at a distance of nearly 60 kilometres from the Integrated Test Range of Chandipur in Orissa at about 2:30 pm. Developed and built by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) exclusively for the Indian Navy, *Dhanush* has a 250-kilometre striking range and can carry a single warhead up to 750 kilos.

The missile, which is a part of India's Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme, is about 8.53-metre long and 0.9-metre wide and has a launch weight of about 4.4 tons.

*Dhanush* was first test-fired on 11 April 2000, from Chandipur. However, it failed due to a technical snag in its software system. — MNA/Xinhua

# Regaining eyesight in Yenangyoung

*Dr Nilar Thein (Lin Yaung Thit)*

At the request of local residents and Yenangyoung Township Association (Yangon), we members of a medical team led by Professor Dr Tin Win and Professor

Nyunt, Dr Moe Kyaw and I arrived there, all necessary arrangements had been in place for the programme.

On the first day, we examined 1202 persons with

townships such as Natmauk, Myothit, Konzaung, Lekaing, Kyaukye, Kamma Malin, Pwintbyu and Seikphyu visited us. So, the number of the outpatients reached

eye-drops from nearby drug stores, and so they lost their eyesight. Some of them said that they became one-eyed, but they had to give priority to earning their living, relying on the still-good eyes. Since they lost eyesight cent per cent, they had been looking forward to our operation.

Glaucoma is of two categories—angle closure glaucoma and open angle glaucoma. A person with angle closure glaucoma suffers eyesore, rapid loss of eyesight and pain in the eyes, and sometimes he vomits and gets sick. However, open angle glaucoma does not show any syndrome. The pressure in the eye gets high imperceptibly, and it has effect on the main visible nerve, and the sight is getting narrow, and the person with

Those with hypermetropic eye are likely to suffer from angle closure glaucoma more than other people. So, everyone, aged over 40, should go see an eye specialist occasionally to know their visible power and pressure in the eyes. And those with myopic eye may suffer from open angle glaucoma. Those with any type of glaucoma can regain their eyesight cent per cent only if they receive medical treatment in time.

On 22 March, we cleared the dressings, cleaned the eyes of the patients and put eye drops into their eyes. And led by Dr Tin Win, Dr Kan Nyunt and Dr Moe Kyaw, we tested their visible power. When they knew that they regained their eyesight, they were overjoyed.

Responsible persons

operation was sponsored by Shwe Parami Tawya Sayadaw Shin Chandadhika and his lay disciples, Yenangyoung Township Association (Yangon), U Shwe Win-Daw Myo Myo Tun and family, owner of Golden Dragon Industry in Yenangyoung U Ye Myint-Daw Win Maw Tun and family, Alcon, Ashford (San La Min) Co Ltd, KTZ Co Ltd and United Pharma Co Ltd.

We gave the patients talks on Do's and Don'ts. I considered that the success we achieved was largely due to harmonious cooperation of all concerned. Professor Dr Kan Nyunt said, "If we don't give medical treatments to the patients, they will have to spend the rest of their lives as blind persons. So, there should be more such operations in our country."

Our heartfelt thanks go to Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint who assigned duties to our group, Medical Superintendent Ophthalmologist Dr Kyin San Yin, Acting Medical Superintendent of Yenangyoung Dr May Phyu Htaik and medical staff, Yenangyoung Township Association (Yangon), wellwishers, Myoma Yadana religious association and dwellers of Shwe Kya Ngan Ward.

**Translation: MS**



*An eye specialist examining the eyes of a woman with eye complaints.*

Dr Kan Nyunt from Yangon Eye Specialist Hospital, under the arrangement of the Ministry of Health, made a trip to Yenangyoung for the second time on 19 March. There, we gave free medical treatments to those with eye complaints from 19 to 22 March 2007.

When I knew that the Ministry of Health granted us permission for the trip to Yenangyoung, my heart was filled with a great pleasure that was beyond words because I would be able to grab the golden opportunity to repay the gratitude of my native town Yenangyoung, which was known as Seiktha Kunhtauk in the past and which has now become like a hilly station town of the Arid Zone.

Dr Saw Thwin Mon Thein, Dr Myat Su Khin (People's Hospital) of Pyay, Dr Yee Lin, Dr Aung Moe Tun, Dr Thein Htut, and nurses Daw Aye Aye Myint, Naw Mashei Hta Oo, Naw Lwe Tapaw, Daw Win Pa Pa and Daw Yu Wah Maung went there one day ahead to make arrangements for the operation. They also began giving medical check-ups to outpatients since 19 March morning. When Dr Tin Win, Dr Kan

eye problems. Among them, more than 200, were found suffering from cataract. We had planned to examine about 3,000 outpatients and perform surgical operations on about 300 patients. Commencing at 8 am, we performed surgery on four patients at the same time with the use of four microscopes. Local medical staff Dr Than Than Chit, Dr Hla Myat Nwe and nurses were also very busy with their work.

Our operation was reinforced by Ophthalmologists Dr Nyunt Nyunt Lwin of Chauk, Dr Myat Su Khin of Pyay, Dr Khin Cho Mar and nurses Pa Pa of Kyaukpadaung and Theint Theint of Linn Specialist Clinic.

Fortunately, it was a little cloudy, so it was not very hot during the period. And the operation theatre was installed with two air-conditioners and all necessary facilities. Therefore, it was very convenient for us to do our work. During our stay, we performed surgical operations on 288 persons with cataract and minor surgery on 28 patients, totalling 316. That was a record number of patients.

In addition to local people with eye problems, those from nearby

2,507. We examined them and donated eye drops and medicines to each patient.

In the second trip to



*Ophthalmologists performing surgical operations on eye patients.*

Yenangyoung, I noticed that the number of people with eye complaints was high, and so was that of the people who had lost their eyesight due to cataract and glaucoma. They were one-eyed, and the other eye was with cataract. According to the examination, we found that the damaged eyes were owing to the fact that they did not notice they were suffering from glaucoma, and lost their eyesight gradually. They thought that their having red eyes and poor eyesight resulting from glaucoma were due to normal eyesore. And they took traditional medicines and

open angle glaucoma loses his eyesight in the end. In general, women and people in the eastern part of the world suffer from angle closure glaucoma most.

and wellwishers donated sunglasses and eye-drops, Yenangyoung Township Association (Yangon), 2,000 kyats each to the patients. The whole



*Those who have undergone surgical operations.*

## Commander inspects cultivation of summer paddy in Tatkon



Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin views cultivation of summer paddy in Tatkon Township.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April — Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, accompanied by Chairman of Pyinmana District Peace and Development Council U Khin Maung Zaw and officials, inspected cultivation of summer paddy in Tatkon Township yesterday.

They viewed growing of Shwethweyin paddy in Tatkon (West) and heard reports on cultivation of summer paddy on 650 acres presented by Manager of District Myanma Agriculture Service U Hmat Gyi.

The commander and party viewed paddy transplanting contest. They also viewed agricultural booths displayed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. Next, the fertilizer broadcasting ceremony for cultivation of summer paddy followed. Chairman of Township PDC U Nay Aung reported on progress in growing summer paddy in the township.

## Minister inspects projects in Dagon Myothit (South)

YANGON, 1 April — Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin held a meeting with officials concerned and project directors at the hall of Myanma Industrial Construction Services in Yankin Township on 31 March.

During the meeting with officials concerned and project directors, the minister called on them to take systematic measures for implementation of project tasks as targeted by the ministry, make efforts to accomplish the project tasks in time and minimizing loss and wastage.

Upon arrival at Electrical and Electronic Manufacturing Factory (South Dagon) in Dagon Myothit (South) Industrial Zone of the Ministry of Industry-2, general manager U Ko Ko Gyi briefed the minister on experimental producing of Protos stoves of No 2 Machines and Tools Manufacturing Factory (Yangon).

Next, the minister and party looked into production process of electrical meter and test-runs. Afterwards, general manager Daw Lei Lei Win and officials conducted the minister and party round the electric meter workshop.

In connection with the reports, the minister gave instructions on production of electrical meter to hit the target and meet the set standards, reduction of production cost and efficient use of power and fuel.

MNA

District MAS Manager U Hmat Gyi, District PDC Chairman U Khin Maung Zaw and Assistant Director U Myo Myint Aung of Irrigation Department explained knowledge about agricultural tasks to the people.

The commander urged the people to make efforts for cultivation of monsoon paddy. — MNA

## Immigration and Population Minister meets departmental officials

YANGON, 1 April — Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe met departmental officials in Yangon Division at Population Department (Head Office) on Maha Bandoola Street in Kyauktada Township this morning.

In his instructions at the meeting, the minister said that service personnel are to observe political, economic and social progress of the State and make efforts for gaining achievements in their tasks. The Immigration and National Registration Department is to strive for implementation of its aims. Heads of division and district departments are to make field trips to townships and supervise tasks. While upholding Our Three Main National Causes, staff are to harmoniously take part in the respective sectors in realization of seven-step Road Map.

Director U Hla Daung of Yangon Division INRD reported on tasks being carried out in Yangon Division and future plans. Deputy Minister Brig-Gen



Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe meeting with departmental officials.— MNA

## Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than ...

(from page 1)

Afterwards, they looked into reclamation of 150 acres of land being carried out by Thein Shwe Family Import Co Ltd and gave necessary instructions.

At the work site of Government Technological College (Toungoo) Project, Project Engineer U Htay Aung reported on construction of the main building and Principal Dr Zarni Lin on academic and management matters.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than instructed them to construct the buildings meeting set the standards on schedule. They inspected progress of construction tasks.

In Thabyedan Village of Yedashe Township, officials reported on cultivation of summer paddy in Bago Division for 2006-07 and supply of water to the farmlands from Swachaung Dam.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urged officials to strive for cultivation of summer paddy meeting the target production with the use of Swachaung Dam, and viewed spread of fertilizer and weeding tasks.

After viewing thriving summer paddy plantations near Swaminlan Village, they left for Toungoo.

MNA

## Commander attends nurturing of physic nut in Mawlaik

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April — Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, accompanied by Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin of Kalay Station and officials, attended the ceremony to nurture physic nut in the compound of Mawlaik District PDC Office on 22 March.

The chairmen of Mawlaik District and Township PDCs reported on cultivation of physic nut for 2007. Next, the commander inspected maintenance of Kalewa-Mawlaik Road.

At the briefing hall at mile post 19/7 on the road, the commander heard reports on progress of maintaining Kalewa-Mawlaik Road presented by Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin and officials, and gave necessary instructions. The commander inspected construction of the road and digging of drains.

In Kalewa, the commander attended the physic nut nurturing ceremony. — MNA

Win Sein and officials gave supplementary reports.

Later, the minister gave necessary instructions.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General U Maung Maung Than of INRD and departmental officials. — MNA



## Coord meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Smooth and Secure Transport held



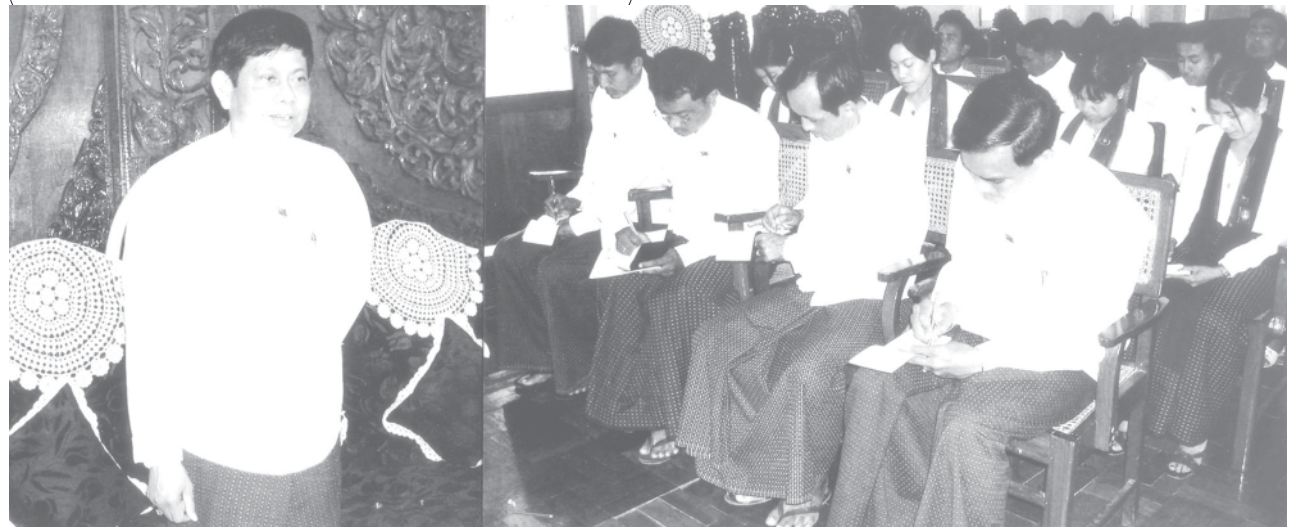
**Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win addresses coord meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Smooth and Secure Transport.— MNA**

YANGON, 1 April — A work coordination meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Smooth and Secure Transport was held at the meeting hall of Yangon Command Headquarters on 30 March.

First, Chairman of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Smooth and Secured Transport Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win made a speech on the occasion.

Next, those present briefed the chairman on traffic rules and matters of smooth and secure transport in the meeting. Afterwards, the chairman fulfilled the requirements and made concluding remarks. — MNA

**USDA Secretary -General U Htay Oo meeting with division, district and township USDA members.— A&I**



## Applied Abhidhamma Course (English) concludes

YANGON, 1 April — Organized by Abhidhamma Propagation Association, the Applied Abhidhamma Course (English) concluded at Abhidhamma Baikmandaw in Bahan Township here this evening, attended by Rector of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Nandamala, Director-General U Myo Kyaw of Religious Affairs Department, Chairman of Abhidhamma Propagation Association Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja U Nyunt Sein, Chairman U Mya Than (retired ambassador) of Abhidhamma Propagation Association (Abroad), executives, diplomats, guests and trainees.

Rector Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nandamala delivered Ovadakatha on the occasion. Director-General U Myo Kyaw of RAD gave a speech. Chairman of the association Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja U Nyunt Sein and Chairman U Mya Than (retired ambassador) of Abhidhamma Propagation Association (Abroad) presented certificates to the trainees.

The Rector Sayadaw gave lectures to the trainees every Sunday. The course lasted three months, and it was attended by 400 trainees. After the ceremony, responsible persons accepted cash donations from wellwishers and gave away certificates of honour to them. — MNA

## Paper reading sessions of Symposium on Conservation Methods and Techniques of Historical Buildings and Other Cultural Properties in ASEAN held

YANGON, 1 April—The paper reading sessions of Symposium on Conservation Methods and Techniques of Historical Buildings and Other Cultural Properties in ASEAN were held at the Archaeological Research Museum and Bagan Hotel in Bagan simultaneously

this morning.

They were attended Secretary of Myanmar Historical Commission U Tun Aung Chein, Director-General U San Win of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department, Deputy Director-General of Fine Arts Department Daw Nanda Hmon and members, Acting Director-General of Historical Research Department Dr Ba Maung, deputy directors-general, rectors and pro-rectors of departments and universities under the University of Culture, directors and officials, experts, researchers, observers and others.

The symposium experts from ASEAN on Historical Buildings Conservation Techniques

was held at the Archaeological Research Museum. It was presided over by Director-General U San Win of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department with Senior Conservationist and Trainer Mr Hubertus Sadirin of Indonesia as the group leader of ASEAN.

Next, Deputy Director-General U Kyaw Oo Lwin of the Ministry of Culture, Deputy Director-General Daw Sanda Khin of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library and experts from ASEAN submitted papers on conservation methods and techniques of historical buildings in their nations.

Likewise, symposium experts from ASEAN on Moveable

Cultural Properties & Archival Materials took place at the Bagan Hotel. It was presided over by Secretary of Myanmar Historical Commission U Tun Aung Chein with Director Ms Loh Heng Noi of National Heritage Board, Heritage Conservation Centre of Singapore as the group leader of ASEAN.

Next, Director (Museum) Daw Nu Mra Zan of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library, Acting Director-General of Historical Research Department Dr Ba Maung, experts and researchers from ASEAN submitted papers on cultural properties & archival materials, and the symposium ended in the evening.

MNA



**Paper reading session of Symposium of Conservation Methods and Techniques of Historical Buildings and Other Cultural Properties in ASEAN in progress.— MNA**

## Myothit Township Association (Yangon) holds annual meeting



**Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung speaks at the third annual meeting of Myothit Township Association (Yangon).—INDUSTRY-1**

YANGON, 1 April— Myothit Township Association (Yangon) held its third annual meeting at the Dhammayon building of the Ministry of Industry-1 in Bahan Township here today.

At the meeting, Honorary Patron of the association Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung

and chairman of the association Lt-Col Kyi Win (Retd) delivered addresses.

Next, they read out the annual and financial reports of the association and selected the new executives.

MNA

## Training courses of Yedashe, Toungoo USDAs conclude

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April — CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min delivered an address at the concluding ceremony of the Executives' Management (Multiplier) Course No 19 and the Basic Physical Training Course No 1, organized by Bago Division USDA, at the hall of Yedashe Township USDA Office yesterday afternoon.

The CEC member presented prizes to outstanding trainees of the courses. Bago Division USDA Secretary U Saw Maw Tun gave completion certificates to the trainees.

The CEC member also attended the concluding ceremony of the Executives' Management (Multiplier) Course No 13 and the Basic Physical Training Course No 1 of Toungoo Township USDA.

The CEC member awarded prizes to the outstanding trainees, and the Division USDA Secretary, certificates to the trainees. —MNA

**Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min addresses USDA Executives' Management (Multiplier) Course No 13 and Basic Physical Training Course No 1.—RAIL**

## Thai Minister for Public Health visits Indagaw Rural Health Care Centre

YANGON, 1 April — Visiting Thai Minister for Public Health Dr Mongkol Na Songkhla and party, accompanied by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, viewed tasks of Indagaw Rural Health Care Centre in Bago Township this morning.

Officials reported on health care services and participation of social organizations. The Thai minister cordially conversed with health staff and social organization members on basic health care tasks.

Next, the Thai minister and party visited Kanbawzathadi Palace in Bago. Assistant Director U Kyi Khin of Archaeology Department reported on the history of Hanthawady Nay Pyi Taw of King Bayintnaung and construction of the palace.

Afterwards, the Thai guests went to Shwethahyaung reclining Buddha image and offered flowers and lights to the image. —MNA



**Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo briefs Dr Mongkol Na Songkhla of Thai Public Health Minister on tasks of Indagaw Rural Health Care Centre. —HEALTH**

## Preventive measures against bird flu in Mingaladon Township

YANGON, 1 April—Altogether 929 chickens at a farm raising 1,500 chickens in Htaukkyant Ward, Mingaladon Township, Yangon Division died from 28 to 30 March 2007.

According to laboratory test, it was described as H5N1 suspected case, and the remaining chickens at the affected farm and those from three farms that are contiguous with the affected farm totaling 6,663 were culled as the disease preventive measures.

Chickens, ducks and quails of suspected farms that are one kilometre away from the affected farm and domestic chickens and ducks were monitored and culled, and restriction was placed on transport and sale of poultry and poultry products in six-kilometre radius of the restricted zone.

It has been assessed that bird flu virus spread to the affected farm due to transport and sale of chickens, ducks and quails on Yangon-Pyay Road and at the Hlawga Junction in Mingaladon Township where there was an outbreak of bird flu.

When compared to the incidents in Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions in previous years, the outbreak

of bird flu in Yangon Division is insignificant.

During the period of one year when the outbreak of bird flu occurred in Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, thanks to early detection, early warning, early response and the cooperation among the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the Health Department, the Yangon City Development Committee and Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation local authorities as well as technical cooperation among OIE, FAO, WHO, JICA, UNICEF, Aus AID, USAID, Care Myanmar, Japan, Australia, China and Thailand, the spread of disease could be controlled.

The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department urged the people to come forward with information to the department if unusual death of chickens, ducks and quails was found in order to control the spread of bird flu, not to sell the remaining chickens, to intensify bio-security, to carry out disinfection at farms and to cooperate with LBVD, the Health Department, the Yangon City Development Committee and local authorities.—MNA



Manchester United's Paul Scholes, right, celebrates scoring past Blackburn Rovers' goalkeeper Brad Friedel during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford Stadium, Manchester, England, on 31 March, 2007. — INTERNET

## Pakistan test fires short-range missiles

ISLAMABAD, 1 April — Pakistan successfully tested a short-range nuclear-capable ballistic missile on Saturday, the military said.

It was the second test firing of the surface-to-surface *Hatf-11 Abdali* missile within a month. It can travel up to 200 kilometres (125 miles).

"The test was aimed at validation of the desired technical parameters which has been successfully achieved," the military said in a statement.

Last week, Pakistan

test fired a nuclear-capable *Hatf-VII Bahur* cruise missile with a range of 700 kilometres (435 miles).

Nuclear-armed Pakistan and India routinely carry out missile tests despite a peace process they launched in early 2004, and both have agreed to inform each other of such tests in advance.

MNA/Reuters

## Scientists say ethanol-blended car emits no less pollutants

OTTAWA, 1 April — Many believe that ethanol-blended fuel produces cleaner emissions than regular gasoline, but Canadian scientists have drawn opposite conclusions.

Scientists at Canada's Environment Ministry studied four vehicles of recent makes, testing their emissions in a range for driving conditions and temperatures. They find that ethanol-blended fuel cars are producing no less pollutants than normal gasoline cars, according to an unpublished federal report made available to Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC).

"Looking at tailpipe emissions, from a greenhouse gas perspective, there really isn't much difference between ethanol and gasoline," said Greg Rideout, head of the Environment Ministry's toxic emissions research.

"Our results seemed to indicate that with

today's vehicles, there's not a lot of difference at the tailpipe with greenhouse gas emissions."

The study found no statistical difference between the greenhouse gas emissions of regular unleaded fuel and 10-percent ethanol blended fuel. Although the study found a reduction in carbon monoxide, a pollutant that forms smog, emissions of some other gases, such as hydrocarbons, actually increased under certain conditions, CBC said in a report Saturday.

But Environment Minister John Baird and other ethanol proponents say people need to look at the big picture to see the advantages of ethanol cars. — MNA/Xinhua



A toy poodle jumps over a crossbar during an agility competition at the Asian International Dog Show in Tokyo on 31 March, 2007. — INTERNET

## Japan clocks world's longest concert at 182 hours

TOKYO, 1 April — Hundreds of Japanese professional and amateur musicians have set a new world record for a non-stop concert, performing about 2,000 tunes consecutively over 182 hours, *Kyodo* news agency reported on Saturday.

The concert began on the evening of March 23 in the western Japanese city of Omi, with musicians aged between six and 96 taking turns in the relay, *Kyodo* said.

The agency said an official of London-based *Guinness Book of World Records* attended and approved the new record set on Saturday.

The previous world record was set in Canada in 2001 with 181 hours, *Kyodo* said. — MNA/Reuters

## First sandstorm hits Beijing

BEIJING, 1 April — The Chinese capital was blanketed by floating dust from Friday night on. This year's first sandstorm should be cleared up in the city till Saturday night, says the China Meteorological Administration (CMA).

The floating dust was brought in by a cyclone developed in Mongolia, which moved eastward through Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and Hebei Province into the city, Sun Jun, a CMA senior engineer said.

The main body of the cyclone is expected to reach Beijing around Saturday noon, but the strong wind should help drive the floating dust away, according to Sun. — MNA/Xinhua

## Earthquake jolts eastern Japan

TOKYO, 1 April — An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.7 jolted eastern Japan on Sunday noon, according to information released by the Japan Meteorological Agency.

The 11:52 am (0252 GMT) quake could be felt in Tokyo and prefectures of Ibaraki, Fukushima, Saitama, Gunma, Tochigi. No tsunami warning was issued.

MNA/Xinhua

## Two British Marines accused of assaulting Cypriot cab driver

NICOSIA, 1 April — Two British Royal Marines have been charged with assaulting a Cypriot taxi driver and robbing his car following a disagreement over the taxi fare last week, local media reported on Saturday.

The two Marines, who had come to the Mediterranean island after serving eight months in Afghanistan, were charged with assault, theft and reckless driving, the daily *Cyprus Mail* said.

During Friday's hearing, the soldiers, aged 22 and 27, expressed their sorrow over the incident.

According to the taxi driver, the two Marines asked to be driven back to a British base near the southern city of Limassol after a night out last

Friday. They were staying at the base.

The driver discovered that the Marines did not have enough money for the taxi fare and asked them to get out of the car, at which point they assaulted him, fracturing his jaw.

They then forced the driver out of the car and sped off, but struck a roadside barrier and a tree shortly afterward. The two are to reappear at the court on Tuesday and their legal team has been discussing the possibility of a

financial settlement with the taxi driver's lawyer and the prosecutor, said a spokesman for the British base, who implied that they would probably plead guilty for lenity.

Around 150 British service personnel are temporarily at the British base in Cyprus for what is described as a "decompression period", to allow them to adjust to a more relaxed daily routine following active service in Afghanistan.

MNA/Xinhua



America horse Kelly's Landing ridden by Franki Dettori wins the Dubai Golden Shaheen during the Dubai World Cup, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on Saturday 31 March, 2007. — INTERNET

**ADVERTISEMENT**

**Volkswagen to make Chinese cars more energy efficient by 2010**

BEIJING, 31 March — German automaker Volkswagen AG is planning to reduce oil consumption and emissions by 20 per cent in all its Chinese-made cars by 2010.

Winfried Vahland, chief executive officer of Volkswagen China, made the announcement on Friday at the production launch of an engine plant in Dalian, northeast China's Liaoning Province.

The new plant, a joint venture between Volkswagen and the Chinese automaker FAW, was built to produce turbo direct injection gasoline engines in order to "introduce the newest-generation engines into China".

Volkswagen also planned to introduce the latest technology for automatic gearboxes and light auto parts into the country.

China became Volkswagen's fastest growing market last year with annual sales soaring 24.3 per cent to 711,000 units.—MNA/Xinhua

**Jordan to establish botanic garden to preserve biodiversity**

AMMAN, 31 March — A botanic garden will be established in the Jel al-Rumman area in Jordan to protect biodiversity in the country, the *Jordan Times* reported on Friday.

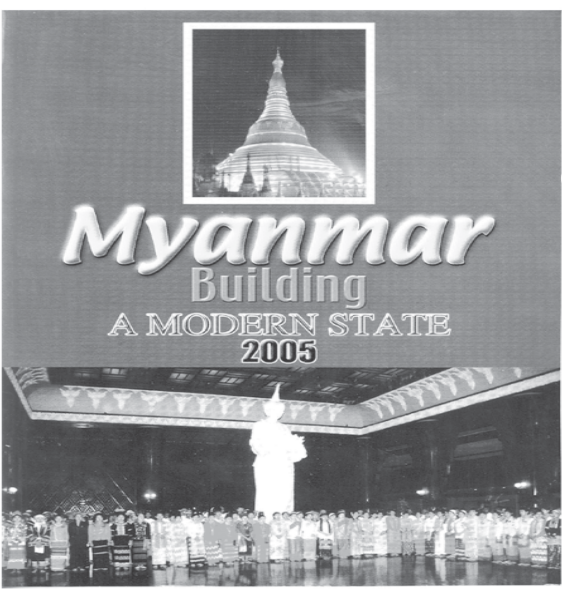
"Our aim through the establishment of the Royal Botanic Garden in Jordan is to make it a centre to enhance public education, scientific research, tourist attraction and most of all, a centre for the conservation of botanical creations for generations to come", founder of the Royal Botanic Garden, Basma Bint Ali, was quoted by the newspaper as saying.

The Royal Botanic Garden, covers about 1800 dunams (450 acres) of land, is due to open in two years and will include natural

habitats, theme gardens and a herbarium. The executive director of the botanic garden, Hania Kabariti, described it as "a way to give back to the nation", adding that the private sector, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs) who support environmental projects, can join by contributing to the "national project".

According to Basma Bint Ali, the country is originally rich in wild plants and naturally grows more than 2,000 species. However, due to rapid urbanization, population expansion, lack of land use management and minimal conservation efforts, the rich botanical diversity is under threat of extinction.

MNA/Xinhua



**MYANMAR**  
Building A Modern State  
2005

- This facts studded book provides a reliable and valuable reference for scholars, researchers and the public for general reading.
- Illustrated with colourful photographs.
- Published by the Ministry of Information presenting five chapters: The Beautiful Land, Economy, Infrastructure, Social Setting, International Cooperation.

**On sale US\$ 5.00 per copy**

Available at  
 ■ Sarpay Beikman Book Shop, No. 529-531, Merchant Street, Yangon ☎: 381448, 249031  
 ■ News and Periodicals Enterprise Book Shop, No. 212, Theinpyu Street, Yangon ☎: 294306  
 ■ Hotels, Shopping Malls and other Book Shops in Yangon

**Spaniard wins "Mr World" in Mr Pageant 2007**

SANYA (Hainan), 31 March—A Spanish man won the top honor of Mr World in the final round of contest of Mister World Pageant 2007, which concluded on Saturday night in Sanya City of south China's Hainan Province.

Juan Garc Postigo from Spain outshined the other 55 competitors, followed by Lucas Gil from Brazil and Jiang Lejun from China.

Contestants from 56 countries and regions, such as Bahamas, New Ireland and Austria gave excellent performances on the contest, which was broadcast live in more than 100 countries to an audience of nearly 1.4 billion.

Mr Pageant 2007, the first of its kind held in China, made healthy, handsome, brave, thoughtful and responsible as the theme, which is believed to be the most desirous characters attracting women, organizers said.

The Mr World contest was launched in 1996. The previous contest was held in London in 2003, and Gustavo Cabral Narciso from Brazil was crowned the fourth Mr World.

Sanya, China's southernmost tropical city, hosted the Miss World pageants from 2003 to 2005.—Internet

*Juan Garc Postigo, a Spanish contestant wins the golden prize of the 5th Mister World Competition in Sanya, south China's Hainan Province, on 31 March, 2007.*  
XINHUA



**China expects world reaction to breakthrough in cancer research**

SHANGHAI, 31 March — Using a patented laboratory device, Chinese scientists have for the first time grown cancer tumours outside the body which they say will lead to a new generation of cancer treatments.

Liu Hua, visiting

professor with Zhongshan Hospital in Shanghai, says scientists have for years been able to grow cancer cells in lab but have never been able to reproduce a living cancer tumour.

Liu called the breakthrough a milestone in cancer research that will lead to the development of a new generation of cancer treatments using biological medicines that have virtually no side effects. Someday it may help scientists develop actual cancer vaccines.

Liu has been asked to deliver a paper to the American Association of Cancer Researchers in Los Angeles in mid-April.

"I expect the paper will generate a lot of positive and interesting reaction," said Liu.

The doctor of internal medicine says he has shown tumour he has grown to

scientists in Beijing and Shanghai.

"They are very excited about it. Some have worked 30 or 40 years and have never seen a tumour outside the body. They agree its a milestone in cancer research."

Liu says drug companies and researchers often find the treatments they develop using a simple

culture of cancer cells, do not work well on the tumour itself, which are awkward to test on patients or lab animals that have been cancer induced.

Now they will be able to work with a complete, three dimensional tumour and examine how it reacts, metastasize or grows when treated in different ways.

MNA/Xinhua

**India to offer \$600m aid to Bhutan**

NEW DELHI, 31 March — India will offer an assistance of 26.10 billion rupees (some 606.98 million US dollars) to neighbouring country Bhutan in the fiscal year of 2007-08, according to the Indian Government on Thursday. The Indian Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, approved to continue the Indian assistance towards Bhutan, said a Press release from the Cabinet.

"This decision will result in continued strengthening of India-Bhutan relations based on our strategic and economic interests in an area of high geo-political sensitivity," the Press release said.

The package will include the development subsidy and tied assistance given by India to Bhutan and also refunds and subsidies.—MNA/Xinhua



Actress AnnaSophia Robb, star of the film 'The Reaping' poses next to the film's poster as she arrives for the film's premiere in Los Angeles 29 March, 2007.—XINHUA

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Sean Stewart (L), son of singer Rod Stewart, David Weintraub (C), a talent manager and friend of Sean and Randy, and Randy Spelling, son of the late television producer Aaron Spelling, pose at the launch party for their A&E cable channel reality series "Sons of Hollywood" in Hollywood on 29 March, 2007. The series features sons of entertainment industry legends and their lives in Los Angeles. — XINHUA

**China's largest regional airline set up in Tianjin**

TIANJIN, 31 March— China's largest regional airline by fleet size and the number of routes, Grand China Express, was set up in the northern port city of Tianjin Friday.

The new carrier, owned by Hainan Airlines Group and its subsidiary Hainan Airlines Co Ltd., operates a 29-strong fleet of 32-seat Dornier 328-300 jets on 78 routes linking 54 cities, said Chen Feng, board chairman of the Hainan Airlines Co Ltd, at an inauguration ceremony.

The company, with a registered capital of 100 million yuan (12.5 million US dollars), will buy 100 regional jets from Embraer in Brazil from now on till 2012, including 50 ERJ145s and 50 EMB190s, Chen said.

By then, the airline will operate on more than 450 routes, linking at least 90 cities, taking more than

90 per cent of the domestic regional aviation market, he said. Regional aviation, also known as feeder-line services, operates between small cities, with routes typically from 500 to 1,000 kilometres. The services usually use aircraft which seat less than 100 passengers.

MNA/Xinhua

**UNESCO, Microsoft honour innovative teachers from Europe, Africa, M-E**

PARIS, 31 March — United Nations' Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and Microsoft company on Thursday joined together here to honour and reward teachers from Europe, Middle East and Africa who have shown exceptional innovation in the use of information and communication technologies (ICT).

Innovative Teachers Forum 2007 is being held on Thursday and on Friday at the UNESCO's Headquarters in Paris, with the participation of over 200 teachers from 40 countries in the three regions.

They will share experiences and explore new and creative means of improving and enriching education, thanks to teaching technologies to millions of children.

"We are delighted to host this forum," said Abdul Waheed Khan, UNESCO's under-secretary general in charge of communication and information .ICT can contribute to the quality of all types of formal or informal education at all levels. They can also help the international movement aiming to establish quality and inclusive education by 2015," he added.

Innovative Teachers Forum is part of Microsoft Partners in Learning initiative. The forum supports UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the fields of literacy and helps to build a world teaching community which can enable the sharing of ideas and academic practices.— MNA/Xinhua

**Sri Lankan President to attend SAARC summit**

COLOMBO, 31 March — The Sri Lankan Government said Thursday that President Mahinda Rajapakse will attend the 14th South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summit in New Delhi on 3 April to 4 April . "President Mahinda Rajapakse will lead the Sri Lankan delegation," said a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Issues relating to the implementation of the SAARC Free Trade Agreement, promoting intra regional trade, socio-economic development, poverty alleviation and

curbing terrorism will be discussed at the summit, said the statement.

A special feature of this summit will be the admission of Afghanistan as the 8th member of the association.

China, the European Union, Japan, South Korea and the United States will also be attending the summit as observers.

Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are the current seven member states of the SAARC which was founded in 1985.

MNA/Xinhua



Soccer player David Beckham and his wife Victoria arrive for the Sport Industry Awards 2007 at Old Billingsgate in central London on 29 March, 2007. XINHUA

**Five countries to sign pan-European oil pipeline construction**

BELGRADE, 31 March — Slovenia and other four countries would sign a ministerial declaration on the construction of a pan-European oil pipeline connecting Romania's Constanta and Italy's Trieste, said reports reaching here from Slovenia on Thursday.

The Slovenian Government authorized on Thursday its Economy Minister Andrej Vizjak to sign the declaration, which would be signed in the Croatian capital Zagreb on April by ministers from Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Romania and Italy and EU Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs, the Slovenian national news agency STA reported. The declaration will be the first document to enable work on developing the pan-European oil pipeline construction project after three years of negotiations between the governments of five countries. —MNA/Xinhua

Members of the US women water polo team show their gold medals during a medal ceremony at the World Aquatics Championships in Melbourne on 31 March, 2007. INTERNET



# SPORTS



Samoa's Jerry Meafou (C) is tackled by Australia's Josh Holmes (L) and Tim Wright during their Cup quarter-final match at the Hong Kong Sevens rugby tournament in Hong Kong on 1 April, 2007.—INTERNET

## Bordeaux sink Lyon in League Cup final

PARIS, 1 April — Girondins Bordeaux wrecked Olympique Lyon's hopes of a first domestic double by beating the five-times French champions 1-0 with a last-gasp winner in the French League Cup final on Saturday.

Brazilian defender Henrique earned Bordeaux their second League Cup title since 2002 by heading in a last-minute corner.

Lyon, 16 points clear at the top of Ligue 1 with nine matches left, are almost certain to become the first side from a major European league to capture six titles in succession.

They have, however, never completed a league and cup double and were hoping for the first until Henrique shattered their hopes against the run of play with a few seconds remaining in a tense game at the Stade de France.

The defeat was a further blow to Lyon after they were eliminated from the Champions League by AS Roma in the first knockout round earlier this month.

MNA/Reuters

## Ronaldinho shines as Barcelona go clear at top

MADRID, 1 April — Barcelona turned on the style to pull three points clear at the top of the Primera Liga with a 2-1 win over Deportivo Coruna on Saturday.

Brazilian playmaker Ronaldinho, who has been at the centre of intense media speculation over his future, helped set up goals for Lionel Messi before the break and Samuel Eto'o soon after the restart. As the home team eased off, Depor pulled a goal back through Adrian Lopez and Barca suffered an uncomfortable final few minutes before taking their points tally to 56 from 28 games. Second-placed Sevilla can go level at the top again by winning at Osasuna on Sunday. Deportivo's hard-running style unsettled Barca for much of the first half at the Nou Camp until a moment of brilliance from Ronaldinho opened up the defence in the 45th minute.— MNA/Reuters



West Ham United's Mark Noble, right, makes a sliding challenge on Middlesbrough's Mark Viduka during their English Premiership League soccer match at Upton Park, London, on Saturday 31 March, 2007. West Ham won the match 2-0. — INTERNET

## Valencia close on leaders with win over Espanyol

MADRID, 1 April — Valencia got their title challenge back on track in an entertaining 3-2 win at home against Espanyol that moved them up to third in the Primera Liga on Saturday. Spain striker David Villa volleyed Valencia into an early lead and, after Albert Riera had levelled for Espanyol, set up Vicente and Miguel Angel Angulo for goals either side of halftime.

Espanyol quickly pulled a goal back through Luis Garcia in the 63rd minute and pushed Valencia hard right to the end. Valencia have 50 points, three behind leaders Barcelona and second-placed Sevilla who are level on 53. Later on Saturday, Barca can move clear at the top if they beat Deportivo Coruna in the Nou Camp.

Sevilla visit Osasuna on Sunday when Real Madrid, who are fourth with 48 points, are away to Celta Vigo.

MNA/Reuters

The UCLA Bruins Josh Shipp drives to the net pursued by the University of Florida Gators Al Horford (42) during their NCAA Final Four men's semi-final basketball game in Atlanta, Georgia, on 31 March, 2007. INTERNET



Serena Williams of the US holds the trophy after winning her final tennis match against Justine Henin of Belgium at the Sony Ericsson Open in Key Biscayne, Miami on 31 March, 2007.—INTERNET

## Milan's European drive slowed by draw at Roma

ROME, 1 April — AC Milan's drive for a place in next season's Champions League suffered a setback after a 1-1 draw at AS Roma on Saturday.

The result left Milan fifth in Serie A on 44 points, three behind fourth-placed Palermo, who occupy the final Champions League berth and visit Torino on Sunday.

Roma are second on 59 points, 17 behind leaders Inter Milan who host Parma on Sunday. Lazio (49) are third. Midfielder Daniele De Rossi went close to giving Roma a third-minute lead, his header from a corner forcing Milan keeper Dida into a fingertip save.

One minute later Francesco Totti slid a Roma

corner back to Philippe Mexes on the edge of the area and the French defender thumped the ball in for the opening goal.

Milan, who had won six of their previous eight games, came out aggressively after the break and gained their reward on 61 minutes when Alberto Gilardino nodded in the equalizer from an Andrea Pirlo free kick.

But most of the chances continued to fall to Roma with Dida twice beating away the ball in a goalmouth scramble and only a last-ditch challenge by Giuseppe Favalli preventing winger Mancini getting in a shot from close range.

MNA/Reuters

## Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

1	A	2	B	3	D	4	A	5	W	6	O	U	7	L	D	
8	S	H	A	V	I	N	G	S	C	A						
	K		R		R		E		9	O	C	C	U	R		
10	E	N	G	A	G	I	N	G		I						
	W		E		E		C		11	E	D	I	C	T		
		12	M		13	L		14	W	15	Y	E			H	
16	P	I	L	A	T	E			17	G	E	N	D	E	R	
			R			N		18	B	19	E	G		T	D	
20	H	A	N	D	Y			A		21	E		22	A	23	S
			C			L		24	E	S	T	R	A	N	G	E
25	B	L	O	O	M			T								V
			E			R		26	R	E	S	O	L	U	T	E
27	A	S	I	D	E			R								R

## Makaay scores 100th Bayern goal in Schalke win

BERLIN, 1 April — Roy Makaay scored his 100th goal for Bayern Munich as the champions roared back into the Bundesliga title race with a 2-0 win at home to leaders Schalke 04 on Saturday.

Makaay put Bayern ahead in the third minute when he took a Mark van Bommel pass and crashed in. The home side kept control and Hasan Salihamidzic squeezed in a shot 12 minutes from time to complete the victory.

Werder Bremen missed the chance to replace Schalke at the top as they were held to a goalless draw at Energie Cottbus.

With seven games to play, Schalke are top on 53 points, followed by Werder on 51.

VfB Stuttgart are still in the running after they won 3-1 at home to Alemannia Aachen to remain third on 49 points. — MNA/Reuters



Calgary Flames' Miikka Kiprusoff (L) makes a save on the Vancouver Canucks' Daniel Sedin (C) as he gets knocked down by Flames' Robyn Regehr during the first period of their NHL hockey game in Vancouver British Columbia, on 31 March, 2007.—INTERNET

Barclays Premiership Table

1 April 2007

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Team, P, GD, PTS. Lists top 20 teams including Man Utd, Chelsea, Liverpool, Arsenal, Bolton, Tottenham, Everton, Reading, Portsmouth, Blackburn, Newcastle, Middlesbrough, Man City, Fulham, Aston Villa, Wigan, Sheff Utd, Charlton, West Ham, and Watford.

Internet

Tottenham 1-0 Reading

LONDON, 1 April — Tottenham moved up to sixth as they kept up their challenge for a UEFA Cup place with a win over rivals Reading.

Robbie Keane and Dimitar Berbatov squandered one-on-one chances for the home side before Leroy Lita's header hit the post at the other end.

But Spurs went ahead when Keane tucked away a penalty after Greg Halford was harshly penalised for handball.

A dominant Spurs failed to add a second as Jermain Defoe blazed their best chance high but still eased to victory.

Berbatov has been one of the signings of the season and the Bulgarian started off in promising fashion.

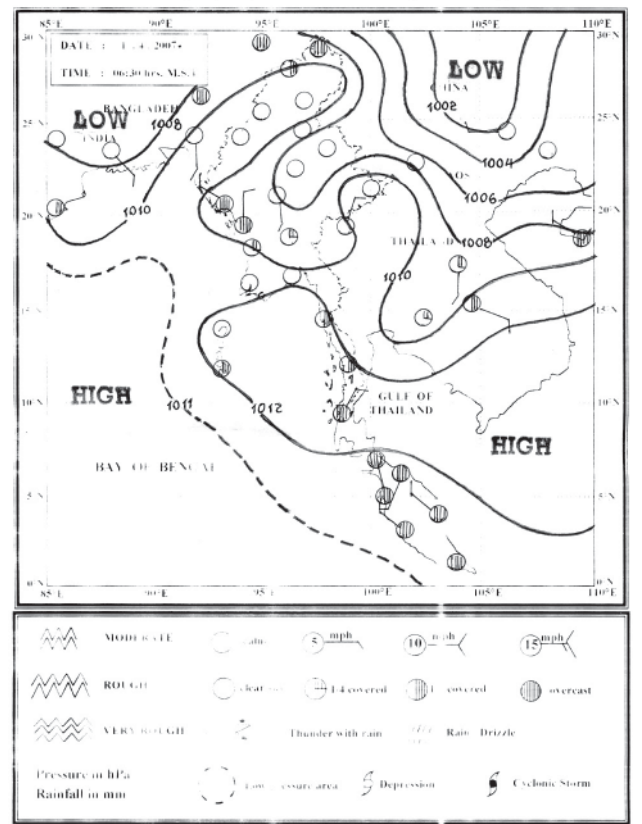
Internet



Tottenham Hotspur's Robbie Keane, right, shoots to score from a penalty against Reading during their English Premiership soccer match at White Hart Lane, London, on Sunday, 1 April, 2007.

INTERNET

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 1 April, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, except for isolated light rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Division, weather has been generally fair in the whole country.

Maximum temperature on 31-3-2007 was 103°F. Minimum temperature on 1-4-2007 was 75°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 1-4-2007 was 71%.

Rainfall on 1-4-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 2-4-2007: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 2-4-2007: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 2-4-2007: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 2-4-2007: Fair weather.

U Khin Aung Hla (Michael Soe Mung) 78 years

(Retired officer, Myanmar Air Force)

Son of (U Chon and Daw Aye Kyi) of Mandalay; brother of (U Ko Gyi-Daw Mya Thein); son-in-law of (U Thein Pe-Daw Nu) of Yangon; husband of Daw Hla Than (Retired)(Myanmar Air Force) residing at No 148-W A-1 Compound Road, 9th Mile; father of Daw Htay Htay Win (France Embassy)-U Maung Maung Tun Shwe, Daw Aye Aye Kyi (USA) and U Kyaw Kyaw Min-Daw Khin Thandar Lwin; grand father of Maung Thaung Myint and Maung Aung Khant; Aphu of Mu Mu Gyi and Mu Mu Lay passed away at 9.05 am on 1-4-2007. The remains will be cremated at Yayway cemetery on 3-4-2007 at 1 pm. Cars will leave from the house at 12 noon.

Bereaved family



Monday, 2 April View on today

- 7:00 am 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့ အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ရွက်ပုံ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာရတနာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာရတနာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာရတနာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာရတနာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာရတနာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာရတနာ

- 7:40 am 5. Nice and sweet song
7:55 am 6. Song of national races
8:05 am 7. Cute little dancers
8:20 am 8. နိုယွန်းကြီးရေငံနိုးတံခါး
8:30 am 9. International news
8:45 am 10. Grammar made easy
4:00 pm 1. Martial song
4:15 pm 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm 3. Practice in reading
4:45 pm 4. အခမ်းသင်တန်းပိုင်း ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒ) (ရူပဗေဒ)
5:00 pm 5. Dance variety
5:10 pm 6. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
5:20 pm 7. လက်ဆွဲကမ်းပေးကိတောက်
5:30 pm 8. Song and dance of national races

- 5:40 pm 9. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)
5:50 pm 10. "ပျော်ရွှင်ကျန်းမာ သန့်စင်သောအစာ" (ဆုပန်ထွား၊ ပွင့်၊ ရွမ်းပုံကြီး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုးထွန်း)
6:00 pm 11. Evening news
6:30 pm 12. Weather report
6:35 pm 13. အလှူရာမယ် လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်
6:55 pm 14. လှပခုံညား ဖျာပုံတံတား
7:00 pm 15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သစ္စာ ဘဝပင်ခြားသော်လည်း" (အပိုင်း-၈)
8:00 pm 16. News
17. International news
18. Weather report
19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "တကယ်သဘောကျတယ်" (အပိုင်း-၃၄)
20. The next day's programme

\*R 489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 392308, Manager 392226, Circulation 392304, Advertisement 392223, Accounts 392224, Administration 392225, Production/Press 297028

**Four political objectives**

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

**Four economic objectives**

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

**Four social objectives**

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

**Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends merits sharing ceremony for consecration of Naungdawgyi Pagoda**



*Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party take Nine Precepts from a Sayadaw at consecration of Naungdawgyi Pagoda. — MNA*

YANGON, 1 April — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended a ceremony to share merits gained for consecration of Naungdawgyi Pagoda held at Chanthagyi Prayer Hall on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda, here, this morning.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Sangha led by Ovadacariya Sayadaws of the Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay

Win, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Chairman of Work Committee for Perpetual All-round Renovation of Shwedagon Pagoda Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Col Kyaw Kyaw Tun, officials of the Work Committee and subcommittees, members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees, well-wishers and others.

At 5.30 am, the ceremony was opened with the recitation of *Namo Tassa* three times. And Ovadacariya Sayadaws of Shwedagon Pagoda Board

of Trustees and invited members of the Sangha consecrated Naungdawgyi Pagoda.

Next, Chairman of Work Committee Chairman of Gold Foil Offering Central Committee Deputy Commander Col Kyaw Kyaw Tun supplicated on the purpose of the consecration ceremony.

After that, the congregation received the Nine Precepts from State Ovadacariya Presiding Sayadaw of TheingiU Taikkyau of Chaukhtatgyi Phayagyitaik Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Nandobhasa and members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented offertories to the Sayadaws.

Later, Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, the Mayor and officials donated offertories to members of the Sangha.

The congregation led by Lt-Gen Myint Swe shared merits gained, and the ceremony ended with the recitation of *Buddha Sasanan Ciram Titthatu*.

MNA

**NLD's activities never serving national interest but harming the people**

**Four members resign from Twantay Township NLD as they want to cooperate with the government**

YANGON, 1 April—Members of Twantay Township National League for Democracy U Khin Shein of Khanaung Village, U Kyaw Myint of Kyiseik Village, U Ohn Tin and U Thaug Han of Kayinchaung Village resigned from the party of their own volition on 24 March, sending letters of resignation to the NLD (Headquarters) and the authorities concerned.

In their letters of resignation to the Twantay Township Multiparty Democracy General Election

Sub-Commission, they said that they resigned from the party of their own volition as they had a strong dislike to the activities of NLD which never served national interest but harmed the people due to economic sanctions imposed by some foreign big nations at the instigation of the NLD; that they would like to cooperate with the government which serves the national interest in a pragmatic manner; and that they no longer took interest in the party.

MNA

**INSIDE**

**We gave the patients talks on Do's and Don'ts. I considered that the success we achieved was largely due to harmonious cooperation of all concerned. Professor Dr Kan Nyunt said, "If we don't give medical treatments to the patients, they will have to spend the rest of their lives as blind persons. So, there should be more such operations in our country."**

PAGE 7

DR NILAR THEIN (LIN YAUNG THIT)