

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

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives Singaporean Foreign Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April— Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein received Mr George Yeo, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore, at the State Peace and Development Council Office here this morning.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the State Peace and Development Council Office, Director-General Col Thant Shin of the Government Office, Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador of Singapore to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua.



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein welcomes Mr George Yeo, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore, in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives Foreign Affairs Minister of Singapore Mr George Yeo and party in Nay Pyi Taw. MNA

INSIDE

Ten years ago, about 6000 German tourists visited Myanmar annually. During the previous year, about 18,000 visited Myanmar. German tourists are the largest among the tourists from the West. Germans are big spenders who love serenity and discipline and are less fussy. They love to take a vacation at Ngapali. But Ngwehsaung is not so popular among them yet.

PAGE 7 CHIT SWE MYINT

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 4 April, 2007

Eliminate trafficking in persons as national duty

Myanmar has paid a serious attention to the trafficking in persons issue, and is cooperating with UN agencies and international organizations in this regard.

Myanmar joined UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children on 30 March 2004.

It signed the MoU Against Trafficking in Persons of six member countries of Greater Mekong Sub-Region on 29 October 2004. Strictly observing the UN resolutions, it has been combating trafficking in persons and taking preventive measures with might and main.

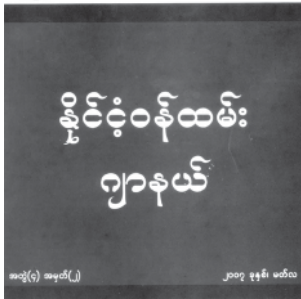
Law on Prevention of Trafficking in Persons was promulgated to protect and prevent vulnerable persons from being trafficked in and action was taken against human traffickers in accordance with the law. In order to effectively tackle the issue, a national level five-year plan for elimination of illegal practice, made up of five sectors, was laid down.

In 2006, 60 cases were exposed, 200 victims were rescued, and action was taken against 299 human traffickers in accord with the law.

In an endeavour to eliminate trafficking in persons, Myanmar is implementing the four tactics of the national plan—prevention, taking action under law, protection of the victims, and rehabilitation of the victims—in cooperation with UN agencies and local and international NGOs.

Therefore, Myanmar will continue to fight the global issue of trafficking in persons as a national duty in collaboration with UN agencies and international organizations.

Journal of Myanmar Civil Service Vol 4 No 2 in circulation



cluding Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) on 14 December, 2006, are of great significance in the journal.

The journal features a host of articles that are capable of fulfilling a wide range of knowledge for the service personnel and the public. Articles of local and foreign service personnel affairs and management are covered in the journal. It has a total of 215 pages.

The journals are available at K 1600 per copy at the office building No 7 of CSSTB in Nay Pyi Taw and Win Thuza Shops, Tharapyu and Thawdasan bookstalls in Pinyinana, CSSTB on Strand Road in Yangon, Sarpay Beikman Publishing House on Merchant Street, News and Periodicals Enterprise on Theinbyu Street, Innwa Publishing House on Sule Pagoda Road. — MNA

YANGON, 2 April — The Civil Service Selection and Training Board has published Journal of Myanmar Civil Service Vol 4 No 2 to the public. It is a journal of knowledge published twice a year.

Pieces of advice given by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe at the respect-paying ceremony of the trainees of B.Ed. Course No 38 of University for Development of National Races on 25 January, 2007, and his guidance given during his tours of training schools in-

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

Commander, minister inspect Zi Creek Dam Project in Kyauktaw

YANGON, 3 April — Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Maung Shein and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo went to Zi Creek Dam project in Kyauktaw Township, Sittway District, and inspected the construction work of the project on 29 March.

Officials of the Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation reported to the minister on preparatory tasks for construction of the dam.

At the meeting, the commander and the minister discussed with officials concerned producing of hydel power at the dam and boosting of agricultural produce in the catchment area of the dam, and fulfilled the requirements. The project is located on Zi Creek in Kyauktaw Township, and upon completion, the project will store 6590 acre feet of water.

Before the inspection tour, Commander Brig-Gen Maung Shein and Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo visited Maha Muni Pagoda in Kyauktaw and donated cash to the renovation funds of the pagoda. —MNA

Minister inspects issuing of citizenship scrutiny cards in Ygn East District

YANGON, 2 April — Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe went to offices of the Immigration and National Registration Department in Yangon East District today and inspected issuing of citizenship scrutiny cards.

During his inspection tour, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe urged officials of the department to work together with local authorities and social organizations to speed up the process of issuing the scrutiny cards. He also urged them to issue the cards in accordance with rules and regulations of the ministry. After hearing reports of the officials concerned, the minister fulfilled the requirements.

During his tour, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe visited Immigration and Population offices in Dagon Myothit (South), Thakayta, Thingangyun and South Okkalapa townships.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe inspects issuing of citizenship scrutiny cards in South Okkalapa Township. — MNA

Forestry Minister meets with departmental officials

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung met with departmental officials under the ministry at Yezin Forest Research here yesterday.

At the meeting, the minister called for more efforts for achieving targets of the ministry and free from bribes. He also urged officials concerned to supervise the afforestation tasks of the ministry, to ensure that there will be no practice of forced labour in

the ministry as International Labour Organization (ILO) complained to the ministry for two times of forced labour and to take action against those who practised forced labours.

Also present at the meeting were directors-general, managing directors, rector, deputy directors-general, general manager and officials of division, district and township departments. — MNA



Forestry Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung meeting with directors-general, managing directors and officials of Ministry of Forestry. — MNA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bush ex-strategist says loses faith in President

WASHINGTON, 2 April — The chief strategist of US President George W Bush's 2004 reelection campaign said he had lost faith in the President over Iraq and other issues, in one of the highest-level ruptures of Bush's inner circle.

Matthew Dowd, a polling expert who switched parties to become a Republican and served as a senior strategist in Bush's 2000 presidential campaign, told *The New York Times* in an interview on Sunday that Bush must face up to Americans' growing disillusionment with the war.

Dowd said he had found himself agreeing with calls by Democratic Senator

John Kerry of Massachusetts, Bush's opponent in 2004, for a withdrawal of US troops from Iraq. "If the American public says they're done with something, our leaders have to understand what they want," Dowd said. "They're saying, 'Get out of Iraq.'"

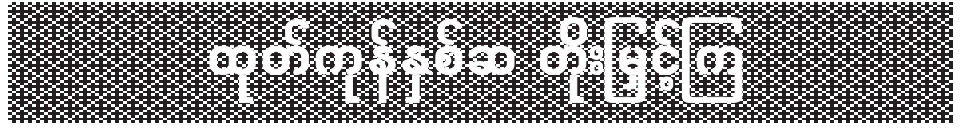
He also cited the administration's bungled handling of the response to Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and Bush's refusal to meet Cindy Sheehan, who had lost a son in Iraq and led a protest outside Bush's Texas ranch.

"I had finally come to the conclusion that maybe all these things along do add up," Dowd said. "That it's not the same, it's not

the person I thought."

Although some other administration officials have expressed similar views over the years, the *Times* said Dowd is the first member of Bush's famously loyal inner circle to break so publicly with him. Dowd said he had been attracted to Bush by his ability as Texas governor to work across party lines but Bush had failed to do the same as President and had become isolated with his views hardening.

"I really like him, which is why I'm so disappointed in things," Dowd said. "I think he's become more, in my view, secluded and bubbled in." — MNA/Reuters



Oregon Zoo veterinarians and maintenance workers remove an infected tusk from a sedated Asian elephant in Portland, Oregon on 1 April, 2007. Tusko the elephant had lived with a broken and chronically infected tusk for 14 years. Specially fabricated power tools were used to assist in the surgery. — XINHUA

Hospital mistakes increase in US

THE KANSAS CITY, 2 April — The deaths of nearly 250,000 hospitalized Medicare patients

might have been prevented in recent years if hospitals had been safer, according to a report being issued today.

The fourth annual Patient Safety in American Hospitals Study by Health Grades Inc, a health-care ratings company, says Medicare patients had faced a worsening safety environment between 2003 and 2005 as a wide gap persisted between the best and worst US hospitals.

The latest study shows some improvement from the 2002-2004 study period. It says about 1.16 million preventable patient safety incidents occurred in 40.6 million hospitalizations of Medicare patients from 2003 through 2005. That was down from 1.24 million

such incidents in nearly 40 million hospitalizations between 2002 and 2004.

However, Health Grades said patient safety problems worsened by an additional 2.03 incidents per 1,000 hospitalizations between 2003 and 2005.

Better tracking probably contributed to higher reports of patient-safety problems, physician Gregg Laiben, medical director of Primaris, a Columbia-based health-care consulting firm, said in an interview last week.

The report, which looks at the treatment of Medicare patients in nearly 5,000 hospitals, says safety lapses had cost Medicare an extra \$8.6 billion over the three years from 2003 through 2005.

Internet

Solomons: death toll 20, earthquake hits capital

BEIJING, 3 April — Less than a day after a devastating tsunami hit the Solomon Islands, a smaller earthquake struck early Tuesday near the South Pacific chain of islands. The US Geological Survey reported an earthquake of 6.2 on the Richter scale struck about 305 kilometres west-northwest of Honiara, on Guadalcanal, the capital of the Solomons, about 10:20 am (2320 GMT). There were no reports of further damage after Tuesday's quake.

The tsunami and huge 8.1 earthquake that devastated the western Solomon Islands Monday killed at least 20 people and left many more missing, a senior police officer said. "We are now of a view that there are about 20 confirmed dead overall, but I am rather fearful that the number will increase today as we get around to the various locations," said Solomons Deputy Police Commissioner Peter Marshall.

He said many more people were missing. Earthquakes are regular events in the Solomons, a poor country of 450,000 people spread over 1,000 islands closer to Papua New Guinea than Australia.

Entire villages were destroyed Monday after the 8.1-magnitude quake caused a tsunami that struck towns in the country's Western Province and a state of emergency was declared by the government.

Sky news in Australia reported hundreds of people

were missing after the town of Gizo was first shaken by the earthquake, whose epicentre was just 40km away, and then punished by a wave reported to be at least 10 feet high. — Internet



A model makes up at the background during a show at the Singapore Fashion Festival 2007 held in Singapore, on 1 April, 2007. The ten-day festival ended on Sunday. — XINHUA



Police find explosives stash in northern Spain

MADRID, 2 April — Police found 140 kilos (310 pounds) of explosives on Saturday in the Basque Country and neighbouring Navarra Region in northern Spain, the second such haul in

four days, officials said.

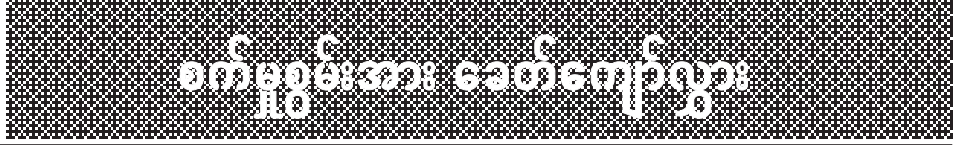
Basque police are on maximum alert following the arrest of eight suspected members of the armed separatist group ETA and the discovery of explosives and other

bomb-making equipment on Wednesday. Saturday's stash came to light during six morning raids by police, the Interior Ministry said in a statement. Police believe those arrested this week could be responsible for 24 ETA attacks between 2004 and 2006, Interior Minister Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba said in comments broadcast on stateradio. — MNA/Reuters

Pupils of Banchang Primary School plant trees in Beijing's southern Chongwen district on 1 April, 2007. More than 10,000 people in eight Chinese cities celebrated the launching of the country's first "Green China Day" by planting 5,000 trees on Sunday in respective cities. — XINHUA



Margaret Chan (R), Director General, World Health Organization (WHO), shakes hands with Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at the Istana (presidential palace) in Singapore on 2 April, 2007. — INTERNET



Scientists find Earth's core is really, really hot

BEIJING, 2 April — Scientists have stuck a thermometer in the Earth's inner core and found it's really, really hot — about 9,000 degrees Fahrenheit, just 1,000 degrees cooler than the sun's surface.

The findings will help geologists as they seek to understand how heat is

transferred through the planet's interior, which drives all geologic processes like earthquakes and volcanoes, and Earth's magnetic field.

Robert van der Hilst of MIT and his colleagues studied a region under Central America by monitoring earthquake-generated seismic waves in real time. The speed of the seismic waves indicates the chemical and physical properties of the material they encounter.

The waves penetrate thousands of miles beneath Earth's surface, effectively taking the temperature of the boundary between Earth's core and the surrounding mantle by combining this seismic data with mineral physics. The team calculated the temperature at this boundary as well as above and below it.

Specifically, a mineral called perovskite transforms into so-called post-perovskite at certain temperatures and pres-

ures. The location of the core-mantle boundary, a place where abrupt temperature and pressure changes occur, can be identified by locating the exact spot of this mineral transition.

The scientists' calculations put this temperature at about 6,650 degrees.

Scientists estimate Earth's inner core to be about 9,000 degrees.

"What is really the important thing is the amount of heat that can flow from the core into the mantle, and the amount of heat is related to the contrast in temperature," van der Hilst said.

Combined with a past study that estimated heat loss in an area beneath the Pacific Ocean, the research team suggests Earth's total heat loss at the core-mantle boundary is about 7.5 to 15 terawatts, much higher than previous estimates. Global energy use by humans is about 13 terawatts.

Internet

Death toll in Argentine rainstorm rises to 10

BUENOS AIRES, 2 April — The death toll in the rainstorm, which began a week ago in eastern central Argentina, rose to 10 on Sunday after three people died in Rosario, in Santa Fe Province.

Juan Navarro, 56, his wife Marta Martinez, 55, and their son Juan Carlos, 29, were killed when their car fell into a ravine covered by nearly two-metre water on Saturday.

The family was reportedly travelling from Buenos Aires to Cordoba for the Easter Week vacations.

The rainstorm has caused a total of seven deaths in Santa Fe Province, the worst hit region in the rainy season with a 600-millimetre rainfall, the highest volume registered in 100 years.

The other three victims were all in Entre Rios Province.

More than 60,000 people were evacuated, including 40,000 in Santa Fe, 20,000 in Entre Rios and 1,000 in Buenos Aires and Cordoba.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao signs the Decree No 490 of the State Council at a plenum of the State Council in Beijing, China on 2 April, 2007. — XINHUA

Air China starts daily service between Beijing, San Francisco

BEIJING, 2 April — Air China, the nation's largest international carrier, increased the number of flights between Beijing and San Francisco from five times a week to daily from Sunday.

The adding of two more flights on Mondays and Wednesdays would better meet increasing passenger demand on the air route, said the company.

Flight CA 985 will depart Beijing at 3:30 pm (Beijing Time) and arrive in San Francisco at 12:10 pm (local time) the same day. Flight CA986 will depart San Francisco at 2:20 pm and arrive in Beijing at 5:05 pm the next day.

Zhang Lan, vice-president of Air China, said, "The daily flights will also help us seize more market share in America's mid-west."

She said the company was the only Chinese carrier offering non-stop flights from China to San Francisco and Los Angeles, the two major destinations in the western United States.

It also offered direct flights from Beijing to both New York and Vancouver.

MNA/Xinhua

Sandstorms hit north China

BEIJING, 2 April — Sandstorms hit north China during the weekend, blanketing many cities in floating dust.

Sandstorm intensified in the Tarim Basin of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, closing the airport of Kashghar at 6 pm Sunday.

A flight from Urumqi to Kashghar was cancelled.

Visibility in Kashghar was lowered to less than 2,000 metres and travelling vehicles had to have their lights on.

In Tianjin, the number of people on streets dwindled as sand reduced the visibility in the city to about 1,000 metres.

Parking cars were coated by yellow dust.

But the harsh weather did not seem to put as much strain on Tianjin's traffic.

Ten highways passing through the city were functioning well and no flight were reported cancelled or delayed at the Binhai International Airport.

Xi'an, capital city of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, saw the strongest sandstorm since the beginning of this year. Temperature dropped from about 28 Celsius degree to 16.

Sandstorm also hit Gansu, Inner Mongolia, Liaoning and Shandong.

Local meteorological

bureaus predicted that the sandstorm in Xianjiang will last till Tuesday, while that in Tianjin will abate on Monday.

In Beijing, a warning of strong wind was issued Sunday afternoon. A force five wind would sweep the city on Monday, and the temperature would drop to about 5 Celsius degrees.

Eleven to 15 sandstorms are forecast in northern and northwestern China this spring, according to a previous forecast by the China Meteorological Administration.

Experts ask people to take precautions, such as wearing a scarf when they go outside, and avoid outdoor activities.

MNA/Xinhua



Actress Nicole Kidman speaks as she accepts the award for best animated film "Happy Feet" during the 2007 Kids' Choice Awards in Los Angeles on 31 March, 2007. Kidman was the voice of a character in the film. — INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

Oil worker abducted off Nigeria

LAGOS, 2 April—A foreign oil worker was kidnapped from an offshore drilling rig in Nigeria on Saturday, industry and diplomatic sources said. One diplomat said the worker was British but the nationality could not be immediately confirmed.

“An expat was kidnapped from the Bulford Dolphin rig,” said an industry source, without giving any further

details.

The rig is situated about 40 miles off the coast of the lawless Niger Delta, Nigeria’s oil heartland where kidnappings of foreign workers for ransom or to press political demands are common.

Six Britons, one American and a Canadian were kidnapped from Bulford Dolphin on June 2 last year in a night raid by gunmen in speedboats. They were released two

days later.

A spokesman for Britain’s Foreign Office said: “We are looking into it. We can’t confirm anything at this stage.”

The Bulford Dolphin rig is owned by the Norwegian oilfield services group para Fred Olsen Energy ASA and leased to Nigerian firm Peak Petroleum, which operates it in partnership with Equator Exploration.

MNA/Reuters



Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of EMI Group Eric Nicoli (L) and CEO of Apple Steve Jobs pose for photographers with British musician Damon Albarn (C) in London on 2 April, 2007. EMI Group Plc said on Monday it was making its music catalogue available through Apple Inc’s iTunes store without the anti-piracy measure known as digital rights management (DRM). — INTERNET



Vasan, a baby Tapir explores its enclosure at Edinburgh Zoo, Scotland, on 30 March, 2007. The birth is a special event as it is the first time a Malayan Tapir has been born at the zoo and is also the first baby for this particular adult Tapir. Tapirs are hooved mammals and are related to rhinos and horses. — INTERNET

“No 1 Beauty in Shanghai” slams billionaire rumor

SHANGHAI, 2 April — “No 1 Beauty in Shanghai?” Actually, that is a title given by many Chinese netizens to Shen Lijun, a model in Shanghai.

Recently, the pretty model has to once again dismiss a rumor that she is determined to marry nobody else but a billionaire, saying in her blog that the rumor is absolutely a lie.

The earliest post cooked up the rumor in a BBS dated back to mid-October last year, which contained Shen’s profile and photos, as well as a shocking headline — “No 1 Beauty in Shanghai determined to marry billionaire.” The post has been redistributed by other forums, and Shen was elected by some netizens as No 1 beauty on the Internet in 2006.

Shen then dismissed the rumor,



“No 1 Beauty in Shanghai” Shen Lijun. — XINHUA

saying, “Although it is my dream to marry a billionaire, I still believe it is better for a girl to be self-reliant.”

Internet

EU cautions Arab states with atomic energy ambitions

BREMEN (Germany), 2 April—EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana said on Saturday Arab countries planning to develop nuclear energy programmes must do so in keeping with a global pact aimed at stopping the spread of atomic weapons.

“Several countries in the Arab League—Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the Jordanians — they have decided to produce energy with nuclear processes,” Solana told reporters at the end of a two-day meeting of European Union foreign ministers.

“This is a very important decision. It is very important that it is done according to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, according to the rules of the game,” he said. Arms control experts estimate that Israel, which unlike its Arab neighbours never signed the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), has an arsenal of nuclear weapons.

Western nations suspect that another predominantly non-Arab country in the Middle East —Iran — is developing atomic weapons under

cover of a civilian energy programme.

Teheran denies this allegation but hid sensitive parts of its nuclear programme from UN inspectors for nearly two decades in violation of the NPT.—MNA/Reuters

E-channels for tourists to go on trial in HK

HONG KONG, 2 April —Hong Kong Acting Director of Immigration Peh Yun-lu said on Saturday that an automated passenger-clearance system for tourists who frequently visit Hong Kong will be put on trial

in the second half of this year.

Speaking on a radio talk show Saturday morning, Peh said tourists who wish to use the system should register with the Immigration Department, providing their travel

document data and personal particulars. The department will also store their fingerprints and photos.

When the tourists enter or leave Hong Kong, they can insert their travel documents into a newly designed e-channel machine which will verify their information.

Under the trial scheme, the new e-channel machines will be installed in some busy check points, such as Lo Wu and Lok Ma Chau that border Shenzhen City in south China’s Guangdong Province. If the initial response is positive, the department may consider expanding the scheme.

MNA/Xinhua

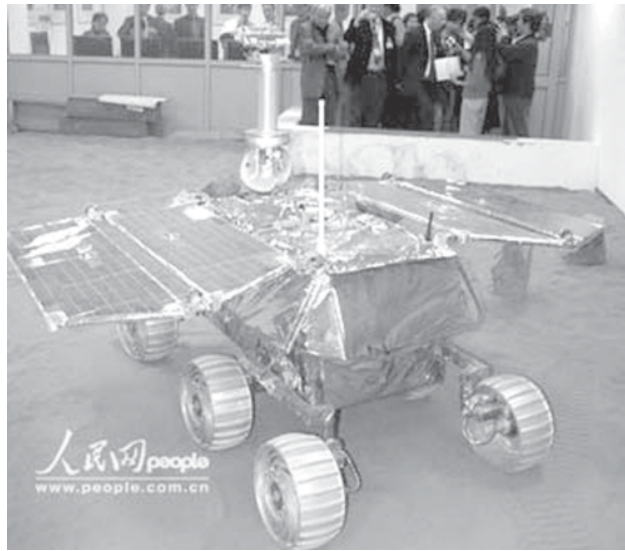


United Internet Team Germany practises on the Mediterranean Sea off Valencia, Spain, on 2 April, 2007, the day before the start of the Louis Vuitton Act 13 fleet race competition qualifier for the 32nd America’s Cup. — INTERNET

Shanghai vies to win battle of moon rovers

BEIJING, 2 April — Shanghai has developed a prototype lunar rover it hopes will be chosen for China's first landing on the moon in 2012, researchers said over the weekend.

The remote-controlled vehicle was unveiled on Saturday at a China-United Kingdom space technology



A China-made lunar rover makes its debut during the third China-UK Workshop on Space Science and Technology in Shanghai, on 31 March, 2007. — INTERNET

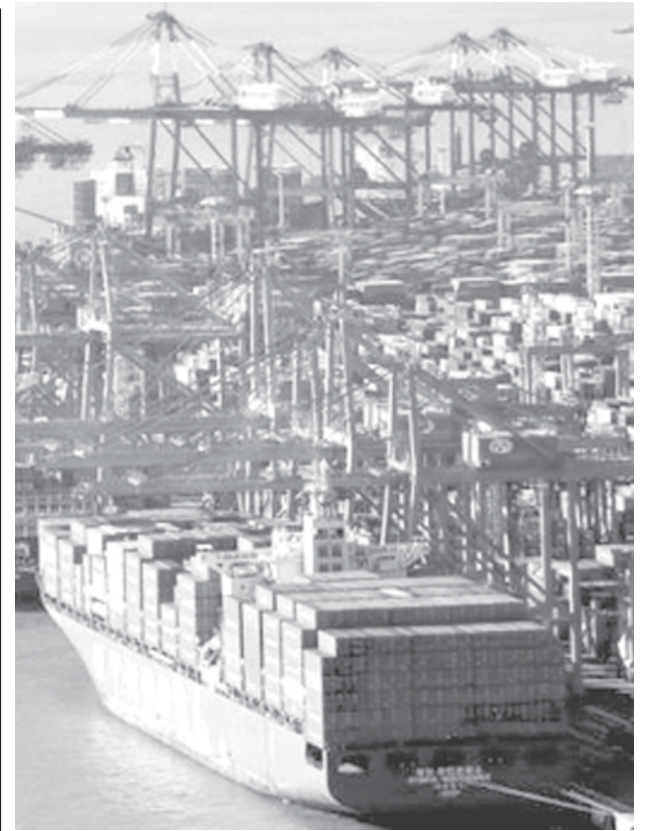
seminar at the Shanghai Aerospace System Engineering Institute in Minhang District in the city's south. The rover, which travels at an average speed of 100 metres per hour and is 1.5 metres high and weighs 200 kg, is similar to America's "Spirit," which landed on Mars.

"We want to make it better than the early US and Russian rovers," institute director Luo Jian said, without specifying the improvements.

The rover is designed to take three-dimensional images, transmit real-time motion pictures and dig and analyze soil samples. Luo said the rover can climb slopes, and its sensors can help it avoid bumping into obstacles.

Researchers are still refining the vehicle to ensure it can handle the moon's gravity, which is only one-sixth that of Earth's, and withstand intense cosmic rays and temperature differences that run between minus-180 degrees Celsius at night and 150 degrees in the day. The biggest challenge for planners is energy supply because each "night" on the moon lasts for 14 Earth days, making solar power problematic.

Internet



A port in Pusan, southeast of Seoul, is seen in this picture taken on 2 April, 2007. The United States and South Korea agreed the biggest US trade pact for 15 years on Monday with only minutes to go before a deadline. —INTERNET



Costumed kitty : A cat dressed up in costume poses for a photo during a cat show inside a shopping centre in Jakarta on 1 April, 2007. — INTERNET

57 poisoned people out of danger in east China

HANGZHOU, 2 April — The 57 people who were poisoned at breakfast on Thursday morning in east China have been out of danger, doctors with a local hospital said Saturday.

The 57 victims felt nauseous and stomach-ache after eating breakfast in a restaurant in the Xixi Town of Yongkang City, Zhejiang Province.

They were hospitalized immediately and a panel of experts was sent to the hospital at once.

Rat poison was found in the food that the victims

had for breakfast and the restaurant owners are under investigation, said the local police, who

believe someone put the poison deliberately into the food.

MNA/Xinhua



Heart valve grown from stem cells

LONDON, 2 April— British scientists have grown part of a human heart from stem cells for the first time.

Heart surgeon Sir Magdi Yacoub, who led the team, said doctors could be using artificially grown heart components in transplants within three years.

His researchers at Harefield hospital managed to grow tissue that works in the same way as human heart valves.

Sir Magdi told the Guardian newspaper a whole heart could be produced from stem cells within 10 years.

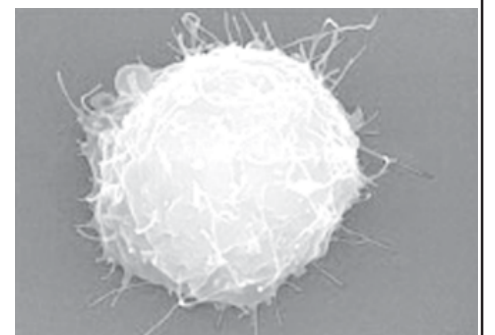
The team which spent 10 years working on the project included physicists, pharmacologists, clinicians and cellular scientists.

Researchers will see their

achievement as a major step towards growing entire organs for transplant.

Stem cells have the potential to turn into many different types of cell.

Many scientists believe it should be possible to harness the cells' ability to grow into different tissues to repair damage and treat disease. —*Internet*



Entire organs could be grown from stem cells.—INTERNET

Residents look at the wreckage of a vehicle used in a car bomb attack in Baghdad on 2 April, 2007. XINHUA

Suicide bombing kills three civilians in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 2 April — A suicide car bombing targeting Afghan soldiers killed three civilians and injured 13 persons on Sunday afternoon in Laghman Province of eastern Afghanistan, Interior Ministry spokesman Zamarai Bashari said.

A suicide car bomber attacked a convoy of the Afghan National Army near Mihtarlam City, the provincial capital, Bashari told *Xinhua*.

Three civilians were killed and five others as well as eight soldiers injured, he added. No one has claimed responsibility, but Taliban militants have frequently carried out similar attacks before.

Taliban commanders claimed 2,000 suicide bombers would launch a bloody spring offensive against foreign troops and other targets in this country. Due to rising Taliban-linked insurgency, over 600 persons have been killed in Afghanistan this year.

MNA/Xinhua

Bay of Bengal Resort in Ngwehsaung

Chit Swe Myint

A new hotel appeared on Ngwehsaung beach on 15 March this year. As the hotel is facing the Bay of Bengal, it is christened "Bay of Bengal Resort". "It took two years to build the hotel in accord with its advanced design", said the Management Board of the hotel.

We can say that Ngwehsaung has reached a certain point to help develop the tourism of Myanmar. Hoteliers are taking pride in Ngwehsaung for its nine-mile-long flat and, white-sand beach and blue waters. They wish Ngwehsaung to become an attractive tourism designation of Myanmar. Because of its natural beauties, international beach lovers are wishing to spend up to seven-night stay at Ngwehsaung. Some even wish to stay at the beach for two weeks.

German tourists see Myanmar as an unspoiled destination where convenience and amity are unforgettable.

Ten years ago, about 6000 German tourists visited Myanmar annually. In the previous year, about 18,000 visited Myanmar. German tourists are the largest among the tourists from the West. Germans are big spenders who love serenity and discipline and are less fussy. They love to take a vacation at Ngapali. But Ngwehsaung is not so popular among them yet.

Bay of Bengal Resort was opened with 62 well-appointed rooms, with Bay of Bengal Suite as the most high-end room. I assume that its design is based on American architecture and not on the oriental. The hotel also uses wooden posts and partitions in

addition to concrete ones. From its picture windows is the magnificent view of the Bay of Bengal touching the Indian Ocean. The hotel also boasts a swimming pool in modern design and deluxe and superior rooms all equipped with modern facilities that ensure convenience and satisfaction for every guest. Man-made cascades, a high-roof restaurant and an open-air deck also add extra attraction to the resort.

The Management Board told me that the Bay of Bengal Resort is intended for accommodating high-end guests. And they are going to invite media persons and travel agents to attend their official launching ceremony.

Foreigners find it rather difficult to pronounce the word "Ngwe". But Ngapali is different. Most tourists prefer Ngapali as their first choice. Their choice for a hotel whether it may be Sandoway Resort, Bayview Beach Resort or Amazing Ngapali depends on the marketing arrangements of travel agents. Hence, the first priority is to develop a tourist destination; travel agents will find markets and hoteliers will make the destination more attractive.

TV Myanmar is airing special programmes to promote Ngwehsaung. Hoteliers, the committee to find new international markets and travel agents will have to collectively advertise Ngwehsaung at the international tourist forums. They will have to make financial cooperation among them. Myanmar travel agents have found new markets at International Tourism Bourse (ITB) held in Germany this year. It is possible that they would introduce the beaches in Myanmar to

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has been coordinating with entrepreneurs for the success of the tourist industry of Myanmar. Arrangements are under way to organize a forum or a seminar, with the participation of travel agents, hoteliers running businesses at Ngwehsaung and local and foreign media to send the message about Ngwehsaung abroad. The meeting also aims to establish cooperation and understanding among the participants to introduce the destination to foreign markets and to know the economic management and tourism principles.

the forum rather than a particular hotel in Ngwehsaung. Ngapali would be popular there because it was easy to remember. So, we all must strive to publicize Ngwehsaung, one of the famous beaches in Myanmar.

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has been coordinating with entrepreneurs for the success of the tourist industry of Myanmar. Arrangements are under way to organize a forum or a seminar, with the participation of travel agents, hoteliers running businesses at Ngwehsaung and local and foreign media to send the message about Ngwehsaung abroad. The meeting also aims to establish cooperation and understanding among the participants to introduce the destination to foreign markets and to know the economic management and tourism principles.

Even if the guests are satisfied with the services and facilities, we still need to see that intermediaries to distribute the good news. The ministry would like to serve as an intermediary. However, we all need to make joint efforts to send the message to the world about good services, facilities and destinations. Bay of Bengal Resort may be better than many of the resorts in the Southeast Asia region. And there are many other standard beach resorts in Myanmar. They all can become famous. If my article is featured in the dailies and prominent journals, more people will know about Ngwehsaung and its wonders. Besides, they will come to know the Bay of Bengal Resort as a jewel of Ngwehsaung. But we need cooperative efforts as individual efforts alone may not produce sound results as desired.

(Translation: TMT)



A beautiful resort hotel with a swimming pool on Ngwehsaung Beach.

ASEAN delegates go on study tour of Bagan Archaeological Region

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — The delegates from ASEAN countries who attended the paper reading sessions of Symposium on Conservation Methods and Techniques of Historical Buildings and Other Cultural Properties in ASEAN led by Director-General U San Win of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department went on a study tour of Bagan Archaeological Region yesterday.

Upon arrival at Shwezigon pagoda in NyaungU, assistant director U Myo Nyunt Aung of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department briefed the visiting delegation on background history of the pagoda, artifacts in Bagan dynasty and conservation of Bagan-age archaeological artistic works. They visited Gupyaugyi and Arnanda pagodas and studied Bagan-age artistic works.



Representatives from ASEAN countries pose for group photos in Bagan archaeological zone. — MNA

The visiting delegation headed to Bagan Archaeology Research Museum and observed anthropoid primate discovered in Pontaung Ponnya region and artifacts found in Pyu age.

At Bagan hotel, experts from ASEAN held

a coordination meeting on review of findings in the tour and the paper reading sessions. In the evening, Director-General U San Win hosted dinner in honour of the delegates from ASEAN countries.

MNA

Palauk station airs MRTV programmes

YANGON, 3 April — Palauk retransmission station in Taninthayi Division aired programmes of MRTV as of 27 March.

The construction of Palauk retransmission station was completed on 26 March 2007. — MNA

One killed, two wounded in terrorist-planted mine blasts

YANGON, 3 April — The insurgents are committing destructive acts through various ways with the intention of disrupting stability of the State and community peace and tranquillity and killing the innocent people and making them panic.

While Ma Tin Tin Khine of Kyaukkyi township in Bago Division was picking up vegetables in MyaungU village, north-

east of Mone town, she stepped on the mine planted by insurgents and it left her wounded at left chin on 29 March.

Similarly, Maung Zaw Naing and Maung Thet Oo of Htantabin township headed to the forest, upper part of Bulone village, Thandaung township in Kayin State in search of firewood on 31 March, stepped on the mine

planted by the insurgents. It went off and both were injured. Of them, Zaw Naing bled to death on the spot.

Injured persons were sent to respective hospitals. Medical treatment and supplies were provided to the victims and the authorities concerned are making arrangements to expose the insurgent terrorists.

MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects...

(from page 16)
of the project and worksite safety. Next, he visited the briefing hall of Special Road Construction-7 at Mile Post (80/3) where Senior Engineer U Saw Han reported on the renovation of Pyay-Paukkhaung-Toungoo Road and construction of a road to bypass Khabaung Dam. Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Bago Division PDC Vice-Chairman Col Sein Myint gave supplementary reports.

Lt-Gen Khin

Maung Than stressed the need for maximizing loss and wastage, meeting the set standards, completion of the project by the hot season and ensuring that the road is accessible in all seasons. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to Mile Posts (70/5) and (39/7) and inspected road renovation tasks.

Pyay-Paukkhaung-Toungoo Road is situated between Pyay District and Toungoo District in Bago Division.

The road starts at Mile Post (182/3) on Yangon-Pyay-Magway and ends at Mile Post (166) in Ottwin on Yangon-Mandalay Road. Pyay-Paukkhaung-Toungoo Road has been extended up to 142 miles and 2 furlongs.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party drove the car, inspecting summer paddy plantations on both sides of the road in Paukkhaung and Pyay townships and went to Pyay.

MNA

S'pore Foreign Minister visits City Hall



Secretary of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Col Tun Kyi presents souvenir to Mr George Yeo at City Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore Mr George Yeo and party visited Nay Pyi Taw City Hall here this morning.

Accompanied by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador of Singapore Mr Robert Chua and embassy staff, they arrived at the City Hall and were welcomed by Secretary of

Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Col Tun Kyi and members and heads of departments.

On the first floor of the City Hall, Col Tun Kyi briefed the guests on the location and area of Nay Pyi Taw, government institutions, residences of government employees, modern markets, the hotel zone, the City Hall, the open-air

theatre, roundabouts, thoroughfares and link roads. He also replied to queries raised by the Singaporean Foreign Minister.

Mr George Yeo signed in the visitor's book.

Col Tun Kyi presented a picture of City Hall to the Singaporean Foreign Minister.

MNA

S'pore Foreign Minister leaves Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore Mr George Yeo and party left here by air for Yangon this evening.

They were accompa-

nied by Ambassador of Singapore Mr Robert Chua and embassy staff.

They were seen off at the airport by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, departmental heads

of MOFA and officials.

The Singaporean Foreign Minister and party arrived Myanmar at the invitation of Minister U Nyan Win.

MNA

3,087 libraries established in Shan State (South)

Village libraries are pride of the nation

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — To mark the completion of the establishment of libraries in Shan State (South), wellwishers donated cash, TVs, radios, periodicals to the libraries yesterday.

At the donation ceremony held at Ayethaya Technology University in Taunggyi, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thaung Aye, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and officials concerned accepted the donations and thanked wellwishers for their contributions to the establishment of village libraries in the state.

Speaking on the occasion, Commander Brig-Gen Thaung Aye said the establishment of



Commander Brig-Gen Thaung Aye delivers an address at the ceremony to donate cash and kind to libraries in Shan State (South). — MNA

libraries in every village plays an important role in improving the education standards of rural people.

Thanks to the efforts of the local authority, social organisations and wellwishers, 2,672 libraries in Taunggyi District, 280 in Loilem District, 135 in Langkho totalling 3,087 have been established in Shan State (South), the commander said. He continued to say

that Shan State (South) PDC will assist in maintenance of the libraries joining hands with departments and social organizations in the state.

Regarding the establishment of the libraries, Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said higher education is within the reach of most of the youth in urban area while residents in rural areas are

not in the habit of reading and books are beyond their reach. Therefore, the ministry has established libraries across the country to develop the knowledge of rural people, he said.

According to the minister, there are over 60,000 villages in Myanmar and libraries have been established in almost every village on self-reliant basic. It will be the pride of Myanmar in the future that Myanmar is the first country to

establish libraries in all villages in it, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said.

Information Ministry laid down five tasks for maintenance of libraries. In his concluding remarks, the minister urged local authority, local people, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association and social organizations to work together for maintenance of the libraries.

Wellwishers donated 35 TVs worth K 4,174,500, 82 radios worth over K 648,800, 5,420 periodicals worth over K 1.4 million, 84 buildings worth over K 99.3 million, 18 VCDs worth K 737,000, 18 generators and cash amounted to K 6,122,200 to Commander Brig-Gen Thaung Aye, Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and officials. — MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Thaung Aye presents K 3 million to Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. — MNA

Minister visits prawn & fish farms in Myeik

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein visited prawn and fish breeding farms of private companies in Myeik District, Taninthayi Division, on 31 March.

During his tour of

Myeik, the minister met with owners of fishing companies, cold storage factories and farmers.

At the meeting, he called for exceeding the target for livestock and fishery sector and urged them to carry out tasks for bio-security to prevent Avian Influenza

disease.

Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein also met with officials of Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Myanmar Livestock Federation at MFF here yesterday and discussed matters related to boosting fishery production. — MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Thaung Aye, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein view documentary photos on establishment of libraries in Shan State (South). — MNA

Bio-safety equipment donated

YANGON, 3 April— The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) donated bio-safety equipment for prevention of bird flu to the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department at the

department this morning. Present on the occasion were Deputy Resident Representative of JICA to Myanmar Mr Kohei Sato and party, Director-General of the department U Maung Maung Nyunt and

officials and local media men.

U Maung Maung Nyunt and Mr Kohei Sato delivered speeches. Mr Kohei Sato handed over the equipment worth US\$ 14,638.

MNA

Basic Red Cross Training Course No 1/2007 opened in Nay Pyi Taw



Daw Swe Swe Oo cuts the ribbon to open Red Cross Course No 1/2007.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—Patron of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Swe Swe Oo, wife of Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, attended a ceremony to open Basic Red Cross Training Course No 1/2007 yesterday.

Red Cross Deputy Commandant U Soe Thein made a speech. He said

that battalions and units of Red Cross are to become well qualified in the first aid subject and to apply it practically in order to increase the red cross members, and urged the trainees to try their utmost in studying the respective subjects that serve the interest of human being.

Next, Red Cross Society Chairman Medical Superintendent Dr Aye Ko

Ko spoke, saying that the training course is the first of its kind opened in Nay Pyi Taw, and called on the trainees to strive for successful realization of the course.

Altogether 50 trainees from Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Women's Affairs Organization and Red Cross Society are attending the course.

MNA

Power supply tasks inspected

YANGON, 3 April — Minister for No 2 Electric Power Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint attended 'soon' offering ceremony of Yangon City Electric Power Supply Committee held at the hall of Ahlon Township Head Office of the committee on 1 April morning.

The congregation received the Five Precepts from Presiding Sayadaw of Aungmingala Pali Tekkatho Kyaung in Ahlon Bhaddanta Kundala.

Next, officials and wellwishers presented alms and offertories to members of the Sangha and shared merits gained.

Accompanied by officials concerned, the minister proceeded to the Ahthot sub-power station on Pathein-Monywa road in Pathein District where he met with staff members.

At the meeting, the minister said that there has

been the national grid to supply power in all parts of the nation; that the Ahthot sub-power station plays an important role in supplying power to southern part of the nation and Ayeyawady Division; and that all staff members are to make relentless

efforts for early completion of the sub-power station.

Next, the minister inspected control room and installation of three SIEMENS transformers in the switch yard and gave instructions to officials. — MNA

USDA members from states and divisions pose for documentary photos on their mountaineering trip to Pannandin Township in Putao District. — COMMUNICATIONS



Lt-Gen Maung Bo meets...

(from page 16)

physic nut and gave encouragement to departmental officials and members of social organizations who took part in the ceremony of growing physic nut plants.

Upon arrival at Kawkaeik District People's Hospital (100-bed), Lt-Gen Maung Bo heard reports on progress in building of the hospital presented by Director U Aung Moe Kyaw of Honetauk construction group and on requirement of the hospital and future plans by Head of Kayin State Health Department Dr Htay Aung and medical superintendent Dr Aye Maung. Next, Col Khin Kyu gave a supplementary report.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo made a speech, saying that the government has been providing necessary

assistance for development of the health sector and thus health staff are to try their best to win the hearts of the people.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the hospital which was under construction and gave necessary instructions. During the meeting with local authorities, departmental officials and members of social organizations, Lt-Gen Maung Bo heard reports on efforts made in administration, economy, social welfare, agriculture, cultivation of physic nut plants and regional development tasks presented by the chairmen of Kawkaeik District PDC and Myawady District PDC.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo cordially greeted those present following the

meeting. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met military officers, other ranks and their families at Kyonedoe Station. On arrival at Gyaing water pumping project in Hpa-ant township, assistant director U Soe Lwin of Water Utilization Department briefed Lt-Gen Maung Bo on efforts for water supply from Gyaing river towards 800 acres of farmlands by the use of five generators and Kayin State manager U Aye Thein of Myanmar Agriculture Service on cultivation of monsoon paddy on 516,476 acres and regional food security. Upon arrival at No 2 Defence Services Hospital (100-bed) in Hpa-an, Lt-Gen Maung Bo looked into intensive care ward, patient wards, surgical room and delivery room and left necessary instructions. — MNA

Dinner to mark USDA youth members' hiking hosted

YANGON, 3 April—A dinner was hosted at the city hall of Myitkyina, Kachin State, yesterday evening, to honour those who had participated in the hiking through Tahundun and Gubar regions in Pannandin Township, Putao District, Kachin State, as youths' activities of the Union Solidarity and Development Association.

Present on the occasion were Kachin State USDA Patron Kachin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Northern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and wife, USDA Secretariat Member In Charge of Youths Affairs Minister for Communications, Posts and

Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, senior military officers and wives, heads of department, members of Kachin State USDA, officials of the Myanmar Hiking and Mountaineering Association, and participants and guests.

In his speech, the commander praised the youth members for their participation in the regional development tasks, while fulfilling regional knowledge. The minister said that arrangements were made systematically for the hiking with the aim of enabling the youth members to gain regional knowledge, ensuring flourishing of the spirit of upholding Our Three Main National Causes and Union Spirit among local youths, and uplifting health standard, friendship, unity and cooperation of the members.

Trekking to the northernmost part of Myanmar and carrying out regional development tasks there reflect the vigour of the youth members and enhance the image of the association, he said.

Fifty youth members from State and Division USDA, 16 members from the Myanmar Hiking and

Mountaineering Association, and seven supervisors went on a 280-mile hiking through Tahundun and Gubar regions in Pannandin Township, Putao District, Kachin State, from 5 to 29 March.

Local people submitted 1550 USDA membership applications to the hiking group. Along the route, the members donated hydroelectric power plants to seven villages. And the nine-member medical team led by Rector Dr Daw Khin May Ohn of the Myanmar Nursing University gave medical treatments to 1212 locals and gave health education talks. They also provided assistance for the education, health and agricultural sectors of the villages.

The commander and the minister attended the ceremony to submit 1925 USDA membership applications at Naungnan Village affiliated Basic Education High School in Myitkyina Township, on 30 March, and attended to the needs of the villages. They also inspected the construction of the 64-mile Myitkyina-Kanpaikti-Hsaddon Road.

MNA

Robbers loot Computer Village in Lagos

LAGOS, 3 April — About 40 armed robbers besieged the Computer Village in Ikeja, Lagos, on Sunday and looted away with goods and about 11.5 million naira (about 90,000 US dollars), a police source said here on Monday.

The armed robbers reportedly in four vehicles, including two buses, a pick-up van and a truck, were said to have arrived at about 1 am and operated till about 4 am, the spokesman for the Lagos State Police Command, Olubode Ojajuni, said.

According to the police, the robbers wielded sophisticated weapons, broke into two big shops at the popular computer telephone market before security men came to the scene.

He said the bandits stole 6.5 million naira in the first shop and carted away five million naira from the second mall.

They also took away with cartons of assorted cell phones, computers and other accessories. Ojajuni said the robbers loaded the goods into a pick-up van and a big truck which they brought to the scene, adding that the robbers had prior information that money was kept in the two shops.

The robbers operated

for about three hours and had an encounter with the police for another hour before they escaped with the stolen money and the goods.

Nobody was killed in the raid. The police have not arrested any suspect.

Ojajuni said the case was being investigated.

One of the buses used by the robbers, and later abandoned, had been recovered near Toyota bus stop on Apapa-Oshodi Expressway.

MNA/Xinhua



Takeshi Kasai, regional adviser of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response, briefs the media on the bird flu simulation drill conducted by the WHO, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and Japan at the WHO headquarters in Manila on 2 April, 2007. The simulation drill assesses how quick the region could respond on the first signs of a human influenza pandemic. —INTERNET



The 9-day 21st Berck International Kite Festival kicks off on 31 March, 2007 on the beaches of Berck in northern France. — INTERNET

Early lifting of ban on Thai pol party activities rejected

BANGKOK, 3 April — Thailand's Council for National Security (CNS) chairman Sonthi Boonyaratkalin

on Monday rejected calls for an early lifting of the ban on political party activities, citing law and order con-

cerns.

"Law and order in the nation is the most important thing," the CNS chief was quoted by *Thai News Agency* as saying. As long as the political situation remains uncertain, the ban should remain in force, he said.

After staging the 19 September coup d'etat to depose former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra last year, the Council for Democratic Reform (CDR), as the CNS was previously known, issued Orders 15 and 27 prohibiting political parties from engaging in political activity.

MNA/Xinhua

New S Korean PM nomination approved by National Assembly

SEOUL, 3 April — South Korea's National Assembly on Monday approved Han Duck-soo, former finance minister, as the nation's new prime minister.

Han was nominated by President Roh Moo-hyun on 9 March as Prime Minister to take over the post left by Han Myeong-sook, who resigned earlier in preparation for the Uri Party's campaign for the presidential election in December.

Han is to take office on Tuesday.

Han earned a doctorate in economics from Harvard University. He has held a string of top financial posts, such as a presidential advisor on free trade talks with the United States, Trade Minister and Ambassador to the Paris-based Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development.

MNA/Xinhua

Los Angeles witnesses driest year due to global warming

LOS ANGELES, 3 April — Los Angeles got just a half-inch of rain this month, indicating that the city was experiencing the driest rain year on record, the National Weather Service reported on Sunday.

The .05 inches that fell in March is more than 3 inches below the average March rainfall of 3.14 inches.

This rain season, which begins in July, is currently the driest downtown since records began to be kept in 1877, according to the Weather Service.

This was largely due to global warming which pushes up temperatures and leads to rising sea

levels, said scientists.

Since 1 July, downtown has received just 2.47 inches of rain — nearly a foot, or 11.47 inches below the normal precipitation to date, which is 13.94 inches.

To date, only 18 per cent of normal rainfall has fallen. If downtown receives less than 1.95 inches of rain through 30 June, it will become the driest rain season ever for the area, beating the 4.42

inches of rain that fell in 2001-02.

Average rainfall begins to drop off sharply in Los Angeles in April, when the average is .83 inches. In May, average rainfall drops to .31 inches, and .06 inches in June.

Los Angeles averages 15.14 inches of rain a year. The dry weather is expected to increase the risk of wildfires as summer nears.

MNA/Xinhua



Model Anne Watanabe, daughter of actor Ken Watanabe, sews while having her hair done backstage before the Matthew Williamson Spring/Summer 2007 ready-to-wear collection at the Singapore Fashion Festival in Singapore on 1 April, 2007. — INTERNET

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S Korean exports increase 14% in March

SEOUL, 2 April—South Korea's exports increased by 14 per cent in March to 30.6 billion US dollars, said a report by South Korea's Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy on Monday. According to the report, the expansion of exports are mainly backed by strong overseas demand for semi-conductors, ships, petrochemicals and steel. The imports in March increased 12.1 per cent to 29.1 billion US dollars, the ministry said, adding that the nation posted a monthly trade surplus of 1.5 billion US dollars last month.

It was the 14th straight month for the country's exports to keep rising. In February, exports climbed 11.3 per cent from the previous year to 26.4 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

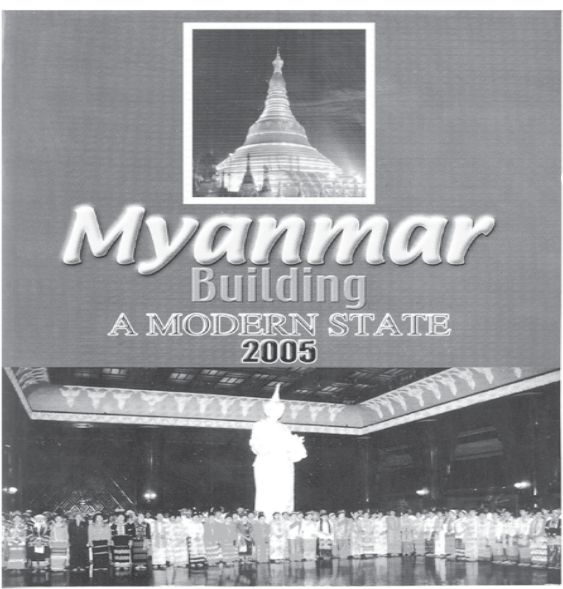
Chinese girl challenges Brahms' second piano concerto

LANSDALE (Pennsylvania), 2 April — Zhang Youyou, a 23-year-old young Chinese woman pianist challenged Johannes Brahms' piano concerto No Two last week, interpreting the colossal music piece with her uniquely charming and solid skills.

Collaborating with the North Penn Symphony Orchestra, Zhang transformed effortlessly from peaceful mood to stormy aggressiveness, presenting an enchanting rendering of the four movements of the lengthy piece, widely deemed as one of the largest and the most sophisticated piano concertos.

Allan R Scott, music director and conductor of the North Penn Symphony Orchestra, said Brahms was really difficult since it was hard to get Brahms' sound.

MNA/Xinhua



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Studies: DNA has definite role in prostate cancer

BEIJING, 2 April — According to three new studies published Sunday in Nature Genetics, three separate groups of scientists have found seven variations in DNA that definitely increase a man's risk of prostate cancer.

Because prostate cancer runs in families, it's known flaws in DNA play a role, but the source could not be found.

"We've known there was a genetic component," says National Cancer Institute researcher Stephen Chanock, "but we've had no robust, strong finding that everyone could agree on."

The latest research reveals all of the variants are found on the same chromosome, but they are not genes. Instead, they are found in "junk DNA," parts of the genome that don't make proteins.

"What these variants are doing inside the cell is still a big question," says Brian Henderson, dean of the school of medicine at the University of Southern California. "But whatever we've found, it's the same finding by three different groups who didn't find anything else. After 15 years of looking, that's very exciting, believe me."

One of the studies, led by Henderson, David Reich of Harvard Medical School and others, lays out where

the seven genetic variations are. All appear in seemingly barren stretches of chromosome 8 with virtually no genes. The other two studies confirm the location of the prostate-cancer risk factors and show independently that they do influence a man's risk for prostate cancer.

"One of the problems that has plagued prostate cancer is that nobody can ever confirm anybody else's work," Catalona says. "You'll have a really good research group saying, 'We have a signal here,' and then everyone else will try to reproduce that signal and they can't. So people get skeptical and think that it's a false positive signal, and in genetics, false positive signals occur all the time."

A family history of the disease, which strikes one in every six men, is by no means a sure indicator that someone will get it, but it is a major warning sign. Race also seems to be involved — African-Americans' risk of developing prostate cancer is about 1.6 times higher than any other group's.

The new studies begin to explain why. The seven genetic variants appear "across all ethnic groups," says Reich, but "all are more common in African-American than in European-American families."

For scientists, then, task No 1 is to explore the new biology they've found. — Internet

S Korean, Japanese FM's agree for better relations

SEOUL, 2 April—South Korean and Japanese foreign ministers on Sunday wrapped up their two-day meeting and agreed to take measures for better bilateral relations between the two neighbours.

During the meeting in South Korea's southern island of Jeju, South Korean Foreign Minister Song Min-soon and his Japanese counterpart Taro Aso agreed to increase exchanges and cooperation between the two countries and bring an early end to the dispute over the nuclear issues on the Korean Peninsula, South Korean official said.

According to Kim Jae-shin, official of South Korean Foreign Ministry, the two sides agreed to hold high-level security talks in May and hold various dialogues in the near future.

The Japanese side promised to invite 1,000 South Korean students each year within the next five years to Japan on a youth exchange programme to help promote understanding and exchanges between the youth.

The two ministers also discussed the free trade agreement (FTA) between the two countries. During the meeting, Aso suggested to resume the FTA negotiations between South Korea and Japan, but Song said it was important to first lay the groundwork for a high-level agreement, Kim said.

MNA/Xinhua

Air Canada to launch direct Vancouver-Beijing flight in July

BEIJING, 2 April — Air Canada, Canada's flagship airline, will operate a second daily direct flight between Beijing and Vancouver from 2 July to 1 October this year. The company will run 211-seat Boeing 767-300 aircraft to meet increasing passenger demand over the summer tourist peak.

The carrier will also increase the number of flights between Shanghai and Toronto from two to three times a week from 13 April to 30 June, and seven times a week from 1 July before returning to three a week in winter. — MNA/Xinhua



Mourners sing carols in honour of late revolutionary heroes at Longhua Martyrs Cemetery in Shanghai, ahead of the Qingming Festival, on 1 April, 2007. — INTERNET

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြားတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Winners and judges pose for a group photo at the closing ceremony of the 9th France's Asian Film Festival in Deauville on 1 April, 2007. — XINHUA

Australian, Norwegian films get top prizes at Danish Festival

BEIJING, 2 April — A “magical” Australian film shot entirely in an aboriginal language and a Norwegian film inspired by the French new wave took the top prizes at Denmark’s largest film festival, which closed Sunday.

“Ten Canoes,” from Australian director Rolf de Heers, took the NatFilm festival’s audience award,

while Norwegian director Joachim Tier’s “Reprise” won the TV5Monde Critics Award, sponsored by the French TV network.

Critics at the festival described “Ten Canoes” as “nearly magical” and exceptional in its use of Australian aboriginals to tell the story in their own language.

The film has already picked up a clutch of awards in Australia.

“Reprise,” about the

friendship and rivalry between two young writers, is inspired by films of the French new wave genre such as the Francois Truffaut’s 1961 classic “Jules and Jim.”

NatFilm featured 170 films from 50 countries and attracted 40,000 spectators during its 10-day run. As well as Copenhagen, it was hosted by the Danish cities of Aarhus, Odense et

Kolding.— *Internet*

UN climate report a “highway to extinction”

BEIJING, 2 April — One of the lead authors in a 20-chapter draft report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change — global warming — says a chart that projects degree-by-degree rises in worldwide temperatures is a “highway to extinction.”

The chart forecasts more and more animal species will go extinct as the heat rises, and hundreds of millions (perhaps billions) of people may starve, face water shortages or floods, according to the draft report obtained by *The Associated Press*.

The chart is likely to be the source of sharp closed-door debate, some scientists say, along with a multitude of other issues in the draft report. While the wording in the draft is almost guaranteed to change at this week’s meeting in Brussels, several scientists say the focus won’t.

University of Victoria climate scientist Andrew Weaver said the chart of results from various temperature levels is “a highway to extinction, but on this highway there are many turnoffs. This is showing you where the road is heading. The road is heading toward extinction.”

The final document will be the product of a United Nations network of 2,000 scientists as authors and reviewers, along with representatives of more than 120 governments as last-minute editors.

It will be the second of a four-volume authoritative assessment of Earth’s climate released this year. The last such effort was in 2001.

While humanity will survive, hundreds of millions, maybe billions of people may not, according to the chart — if the worst scenarios happens. The report says global warming has already degraded conditions for many species, coastal areas and poor people.

The scientists, who feel a 90 percent level of confidence in the draft report, say man-made global warming “over the last three decades has had a discernible influence on many physical and biological systems.” — *Internet*

Malaysia’s Firefly makes maiden flight

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 April — Malaysia’s first community airline Firefly was officially launched on Monday as its two aircraft landed smoothly in northern Malaysia.

Two *Fokker Friendship* aircraft, which carried passengers including Malaysian Tourism Minister Adnan Tengku Mansor and invited guests, took off from Subang Airport near here and landed at Pinang International Airport Monday morning.

Eddy Leong Chin Tung, managing director of Firefly, a wholly owned subsidiary of Malaysia Airlines, said at the launch ceremony in Pinang that Firefly would operate as Malaysia’s first community airline and capture a new market segment by serving destinations which are not financially viable for Malaysia Airlines.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Flooding displaces nearly 40,000, kills seven in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 2 April — Nearly 40,000 people were forced to abandon their homes and seven others were killed after days of heavy rain triggered flooding in three Argentine provinces, police and civil defence authorities said on Saturday.

In the worst-hit Santa Fe Province, around 30,000 people were evacuated in and around the provincial capital and the cities of Rosario and Canada de Gomez, civil defence authorities said. Two men and a woman lost their lives in Santa Fe after a house collapsed and was washed away by the swollen Parana River near Rosario. The two men’s bodies were recovered on Friday by Coast Guard boats and the woman’s body was retrieved on Saturday.— *MNA/Xinhua*



“Ten Canoes,” from Australian director Rolf de Heers. INTERNET

Zhang Ziyi nominated for “most influential Chinese”

HONG KONG, 2 April — Just returning from Canada for Hollywood produce “Horsemen”, Zhang Ziyi heard that she was nominated candidate for “most influential Chinese in 2006” by 10 major Chinese media. “It’s a great honour to me, but I have never thought of myself anything particularly outstanding,” the actress, who starred in “Memoirs of a Geisha”, told Phoenix TV recently.

In her mind, real heroes are those like scientific research workers who make great contributions to the world but remain unknown to the public. “For me, I just luckily live in a good time and have participated in many excellent productions. I’m growing up in those films,” she said. After “Horsemen”, her next film will again be a Hollywood produce, a Western love story in the 1960s. In that

film, she will star opposite Korean actor Dong-Kun Jang and work with “The Lord of the Rings” team.

Why so many Hollywood directors are eager to work with her? Even she herself could not tell. Actually, she does not care much about whether it is a Hollywood produce or not. “The key is if it is attractive to me and if I have confidence and passion to do it,” she said.

MNA/Xinhua



Kae Burke (R) and Anya Sapozhnikova (L) dance on stilts while the “Hungry March Band” plays outside the amusement park “Astroland” on Coney Island, New York on 1 April, 2007. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Poland's Sawrymowicz wins gold medal at swimming worlds

WARSAW, 3 April — Poland's Mateusz Sawrymowicz won the men's 1,500-metre freestyle final at the world championships in Melbourne on Sunday, the Polish PAP news agency reported.

Sawrymowicz broke the European record.

Sawrymowicz, 19, took the lead after 500 metres and surged clear to win the longest race on the programme in 14 minutes 45.94 seconds.

Russia's Yuri Prilukov, the European champion, finished second in 14:47.29 after leading for the first 500 and Britain's

Commonwealth champion David Davies was third in 14.51.21.

During the world championships Poland won four medals (one gold, two silver and one bronze).

MNA/Xinhua



Novak Djokovic of Serbia kisses the trophy after winning the Sony Ericsson Open tennis tournament final against Guillermo Canas of Argentina in Key Biscayne, Miami on 1 April, 2007. The 19-year-old Djokovic beat Canas 6-3, 6-2, 6-4. XINHUA

Real Espana leads Honduras Soccer League

MANAGUA, 3 April — With Honduras' 14th closing soccer tournament playing day about to start, Real Espana has taken the lead following a 2-1 win over current champion Motagua on Saturday night, according to news on Sunday from Tegucigalpa, capital of Honduras.

The home win, with goals by Carlos Pavon and Brazil's Everaldo Ferreira, means that Real now has 30

league points.

Tegucigalpa team Motagua scored one goal via another Brazilian, Pedrinho Santana, and is now in third place with 25 points.

San Pedro Sula team and previous league leader, Marathon, scored a goalless draw with Victoria, at Victoria's home ground in the Caribbean port of La Ceiba. Marathon is now in second place with 29 points. — MNA/Xinhua

Mexican soccer player plans to move to US League

MEXICO CITY, 3 April — Cuauhtemoc Blanco, a former World Cup soccer player who currently plays for top Mexican team America, is set to sign for Major League Soccer team Fire, from the United States city of Chicago, Mexican sport's daily Record said on Sunday.

Blanco, 34, told the newspaper that the contract was close to being signed, and that if all goes well he will fly to Chicago to meet fans and join the team next week.

"If it goes well, They will present me on Tuesday over there, and I will give a Mexican Press conference on Wednesday," he said.

Blanco played in the 1998 and 2002 World Cups in France; and in South Korea and Japan respectively.

MNA/Xinhua

Italian Federation ends 10-month search for new president

ROME, 3 April — The Italian Football Federation's 10-month search for a new president came to an end when Giancarlo Abete was elected to the post on Monday.

Abete, 56, who was the only candidate, previously worked as vice-president under former federation president Franco Carraro, who resigned when the Serie A match-fixing scandal broke in May last year.

Since then, the Federation has been run by two extraordinary commissioners, Guido Rossi and then Luca Pancalli, who guided the sport through one of the most turbulent periods in its history.

"It's a dream come true. I will work with great responsibility, humility, and seriousness," Abete was quoted as saying on *La Gazzetta dello Sport's* website.

MNA/Reuters

World champion Dott crowned at China Open

BEIJING, 3 April — Graeme Dott won the title of the 2007 China Open Snooker Tournament after beating Jamie Cope 9-5 here on Sunday.

The Scot dominated the final as Cope looked jaded after last night's gruelling semifinal against Barry Hawkins,

Dott won six of the eight frames in the first session for a 6-2 lead in the best-of-17-frame final.

Dott put together breaks of 72, 60, 70 and 95 to open a four-frame advantage and leave himself needing three more to take the title.

He took the first frame 71-46 before Cope struck back with a break of 65 to level the match.

Cope fought back after Dott had won the third frame, tying up the match at 2-2 with a run of 97.

However, Dott won the next with breaks of 72 and 60 before taking advantage of a mistake by his opponent to open a 4-2 lead.

The 29-year-old Dott lost momentum when the match resumed as Cope trailed back 6-5 after runs of 91, 77 and 46.

Dott proved his superb form in the tournament after outplaying Cope in the last three breaks after snatching 124, 120 and 64 points.

This is the first time these two have met in professional competition. — MNA/Xinhua



Graeme Dott lifts his trophy for the 2007 China open snooker tournament after beating Jamie Cope 9-5 in Beijing on 1 April, 2007. — XINHUA



A member of the French acrobatic basketball team "Crazy Dunkers" performs during a show in Riga on 1 April, 2007. The group, which was formed in 1993 and has since performed more than 1,000 shows on five continents, currently holds three Guinness World Records. — INTERNET

Euro 2008 tickets 30 times oversubscribed

VIENNA, 3 April — Tickets for the 2008 European Championship were 30 times oversubscribed after seats went on sale in the first round of

applications, European soccer's governing body UEFA said on Monday.

The huge demand means the second round of sales — initially planned to allocate unsold tickets on a first come, first served basis in June — has been abandoned. Almost 600,000 fans from 142 countries had ordered 10.4 million tickets when the deadline expired on March 31 — 18 times more than for the Euro 2004 finals in Portugal and almost as many as for last year's World Cup in Germany.

The applicants are competing for just 350,000 tickets, a third of the total, that were available in the first round and will be distributed using a lottery system in mid-April. The remaining tickets are reserved for participating national soccer associations, official sponsors, VIPs, special guests, host cities and stadium owners.

MNA/Reuters

Sporting keep in touch with leaders with 2-0 win

LISBON, 3 April — Early goals gave Sporting a 2-0 win at home over relegation-threatened Beira Mar on Monday to stay in the thick of the Portuguese Premier League title race.

With seven matches remaining, Porto lead on 53 points followed by Benfica one point behind and third-placed Sporting four behind.

Defender Abel put Sporting ahead after 15 minutes from Swedish midfielder Pontus Farnerud's pass and Brazilian striker Liedson, unmarked inside the box, doubled the lead with a header in the 33rd. — MNA/Reuters



Football legend Diego Maradona is not suffering from "real alcoholism" but remains stable in hospital with liver problems, his personal physician Alfredo Caha said on Saturday. — XINHUA

Charlton says transfer talk unsettling Cristiano Ronaldo

BARCELONA, 3 April — Manchester United director Bobby Charlton believes speculation about the future of Cristiano Ronaldo is unsettling the player and the club.

"Ronaldo is having a marvellous season and he is enjoying himself at Manchester United," Charlton told reporters at the Laureus sports awards in Barcelona on Monday.

"I can see no reason at all why he should want to play for another club. It's really destabilizing for both the club and the player to have all this speculation about his future. All of it is coming from abroad and none from our club." Real Madrid president Ramon Calderon has said they want to sign the United forward, while Spanish media have reported that Barcelona are interested in the 22-year-old. — MNA/Reuters

US indicts 4 for illegal tech exports to India

WASHINGTON, 3 April — The head of a US electronics supplier and three employees have been indicted for shipping controlled US computer technology with missile applications to India, court documents made available on Monday showed.

Cirrus Electronics founder and chief executive Parthasarathy Sudarshan will appear in the US District Court in Washington, DC on Tuesday to face charges that include export violations, international arms trafficking and conspiracy, according to the indictment.

Gopal, the company's international sales manager, were arrested in South Carolina on 23 March, a US Justice Department spokesman said.

The pair are accused of shipping to India heat resistant computer chips, capacitors, semiconductors, rectifiers and resistors — all of which

have applications in missile guidance and firing systems — the indictment said.

It said the items were shipped between 2003 and 2006 to Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Bharat Dynamics Ltd and the Aeronautical Development Establishment — key state agencies in India's missile

and aerospace sector.

Exports to those firms in India require licences from the US Department of Commerce on national security grounds.

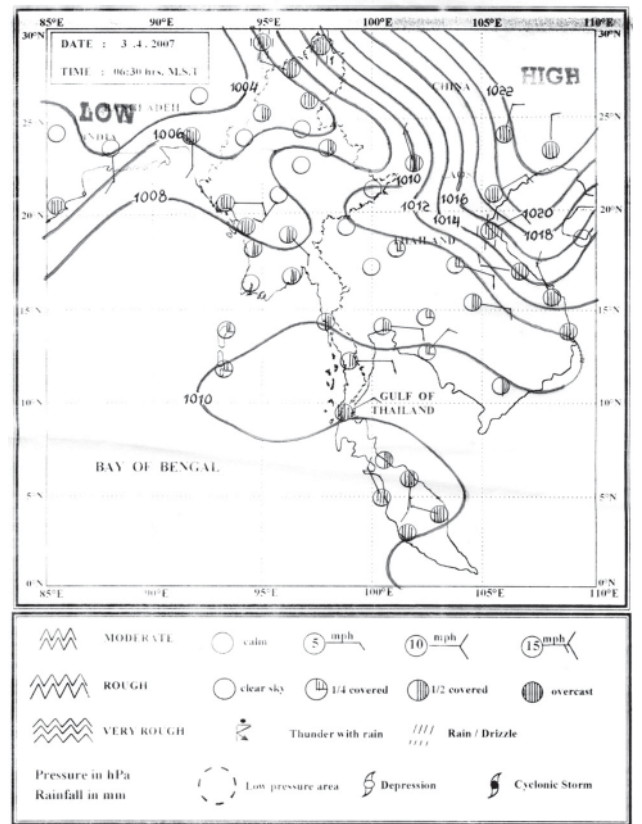
Sudarshan and Gopal, Indian nationals residing legally in the United States, are accused of having used false documents about the end-users to ship the prohibited computer parts to India through Cirrus offices in South Carolina and Singapore.

The indictment said Cirrus made the illicit shipments working closely with "Coconspirator A," an unidentified Indian Government official located in Washington who was not charged.

Two other Cirrus employees, Akn Prasad in Bangalore and Sampath Sundar in Singapore, have also been indicted, the documents showed.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 3 April, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (6°C) above normal in Magway Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Chin, Shan and Kayin States, lower Sagaing, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Magway and Minbu (44°C) each and Chauk (42°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Machanbaw (0.12) inch and Putao (0.04) inch.

Maximum temperature on 2-4-2007 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 3-4-2007 was 74°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 3-4-2007 was 75%. Total sunshine hours on 2-4-2007 was (9.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 3-4-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (20:20) hours MST on 2-4-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 4-4-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Shan and Mon States, upper Sagaing Division 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 increase of day temperatures in the Northern Myanmar areas.

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

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


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

Earthquake report

(Issued at 11:30 hours MST today)
A strong earthquake of intensity (6.2) Richter Scale with its epicentre outside of Myanmar about (2,117) miles Northwest of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory was recorded at (10) hrs (10) min (56) sec MST on 3rd April 2007.




Contestants of the 5th Mister World perform in the final in Sanya, south China's Hainan Province, on 31 March, 2007. Fifty-six contestants from around the world arrived in Sanya to take part in the 5th Mister World Competition which kicked off on 11 March. — XINHUA



Wednesday, 4 April
View on today

<p>7:00 am 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p>7:15 am 2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်</p> <p>7:25 am 3. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am 4. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am 5. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:55 am 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:05 am 7. ကံတင်ဘီးလင်းရေလှောင်တံ</p>	<p>8:15 am 8. ခါသကြိန် အဆိုအကများ</p> <p>8:30 am 9. International news</p> <p>8:45 am 10. Happy and Educational English Summer Course M2RTV</p> <p>4:00 pm 1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm 2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm 3. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ်(ခါတုပေး၊ ရူပပေး၊ သတ္တပေး၊ ရုက္ခပေး အထူးပြုများ) (ခါတုပေး)</p> <p>4:45 pm 4. Song of national races</p> <p>5:00 pm 5. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား</p> <p>5:15 pm 6. Classical songs</p> <p>5:25 pm 7. ရှုဖွယ်စုံလင်အာဆီယံ အစီအစဉ်</p> <p>5:35 pm 8. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်</p>	<p>6:00 pm 9. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm 10. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm 11. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေဥဏ္ဍာန်</p> <p>7:00 pm 12. Discovery</p> <p>7:10 pm 13. "အသက်ကလေးရယ်တဲ့ ရှည်စေလို" (ဦးအောင်လွင်၊ ဦးကြည်စိုး၊ မေထွဋ်ခေါင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)</p> <p>7:25 pm 14. ခါသကြိန် အဆိုအကများ</p> <p>7:40 pm 15. The mirror images of the musical oldies</p> <p>7:50 pm 16. ဘာသာစကားသင်ကြား လေ့လာတက္ကသိုလ်မှာ (အပိုင်း-၂)</p> <p>8:00 pm 17. News</p> <p>8:00 pm 18. International news</p> <p>8:00 pm 19. Weather report</p> <p>8:00 pm 20. မြန်မာရုပ်ရှင် "နုလုံးသားမြို့တော်" (နေအောင်၊ ခင်သီတာထွန်း၊ မိုးမိုးမြင့်အောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်တင်ဦး)</p> <p>8:00 pm 21. The next day's programme</p>
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Wednesday, 4 April
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music: -Billi Balla (Kitty)

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music: -Paradise ... Natural

8:50 am National news & Slogan

9:00 am Music: -All the small things ... At-lantis

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music: -Do wan diddy

1:30 pm News & Slogan

1:40 pm Lunch time music:

9:00 pm Variations on a tune

9:15 pm Article

9:25 pm Music at your request

9:45 pm News & Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects renovation of Pyay-Paukkhaung-Toungoo Road



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects the upgrading of Pyay-Paukkhaung-Toungoo Road. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence yesterday inspected upgrading of Pyay-Paukkhaung-Toungoo Road.

First, he, accompanied by Bago Division PDC Chairman Southern Command Commander Maj-Gen

Ko Ko and departmental officials, arrived at Mile Post 92 of Bago Yoma Bypass by car via Toungoo and Oktwin. There Superintending Engineer U Win Maung and officials reported on the gravelling of the road and plans to tar the road. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on completion of the tarred road during the

hot season.

On arrival at Mile Post 82/5, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party were briefed by Senior Engineer U Saw Han on widening of the road. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than stressed the need for timely completion

(See page 8)

Lt-Gen Maung Bo meets departmental personnel in Kawkareik, Myawady Districts, discusses regional development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry

of Defence during his tour of Kawkareik in Kayin State, accompanied by Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen

Thet Naing Win, Chairman of Kayin State PDC Col Khin Kyu, officials concerned of the SPDC Office and departmental

heads, attended a ceremony to grow physic nut plants in Kawkareik township on 31 March.

At Kawkareik

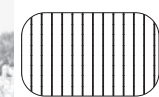
town hall, Lt-Gen Maung Bo held a meeting with chairmen of Kawkareik and Myawady District PDCs, departmental

heads, members of social organizations and local people, and discussed regional development work with them.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented physic nut seeds and grafts to local authorities, members of Kawkareik District Union Solidarity and Development Association and Women's Affairs Organization and so did Commander Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win and Chairman Col Ne Lin of Kawkareik Station.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo planted grafts and saplings of (See page 10)

Health staff urged to try their best in providing medical treatments to people.



Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects river water pumping work in Gyaing Village in Hpa-an Township.

MNA

