

**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 Maung Bo inspects development of Hpa-an District, progress of Mawlamyine Industrial Zone**  
**Due to concerted efforts of the government and the people, progress can be witnessed in transport, education and health sectors in Kayin State**



*Lt-Gen Maung Bo views broadcasting of fertiliser on summer paddy fields in Tayokhla Village, Hpa-an Township. — MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and Chairman of Kayin State PDC Col Khin Kyu, paid homage to State Ovadaçariya Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Mebaung Sayadaw

Bhaddanta Indriya of Mebaung Monastery in Hpa-an on 1 April morning.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo supplicated on the religious affairs.

Next, they attended the physic nut nurturing ceremony of Kayin State near Hpa-an Golf Club in Hpa-an. Lt-Gen Maung Bo sowed seeds of physic nut in the small bags.

Kayin State planned to grow 500,000 acres of physic nut within three years from 2006 to 2008.

The state has cultivated 86,753 acres of physic nut in 2006.

At Hpa-an University, they met basic education teachers who are attending the refresher course for chemistry and biology subjects. Pro-Rector U Mya Thein and Deputy Director-General U Tun Kyi of Basic Education Department reported on matters related to the refresher course.

In his instructions, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that the trainee teachers are to

nurture their pupils to become outstanding students after attending the refresher course.

At Hpa-an General Hospital, they inspected the out-patient unit and the special pharmaceuti-

cal shop, and presented cash assistance to the patients.

(See page 8)

**Due to concerted efforts of the government and the people in regional development tasks, progress can be witnessed in transport, education and health sectors in Kayin State. All the brethren are to live in the country in amity through thick and thin upholding Our Three Main National Causes, and they are to harmoniously take part in the regional development tasks and process of building the modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.**

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



## PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 5 April, 2007

### Self-reliant village libraries broaden horizon of rural folks

The government today is placing emphasis on the development of human resources and promoting the education standard of the people in its bid to build a modern and developed nation.

Subjects of advanced level are now within the reach of the youth throughout the nation thanks to the advanced communication technologies provided by the government.

Simultaneously, rural self-reliant libraries are being established increasingly for expanding the horizon and enhancing the thinking power of rural people.

The establishment of libraries in rural areas helps the locals cultivate good habit of reading. And those who love reading and adult literates will read more. Enjoying life-long learning opportunities, the people will be able to widen their horizon.

Shan State (South) marked the successful completion of the establishment of self-reliant village libraries in conjunction with the setting up of trust funds at Ayethaya Technological University in Taunggyi District the other day. On the occasion, wellwishers donated cash and kind worth more than 100 million kyats including TVs, radio cassette players, publications and cash.

Self-reliant village libraries are being opened extensively region-wise through harmonious cooperation of the government, local people and donors. Therefore members of regional and social organizations, local people and service personnel should make continued efforts in accordance with goodwill and fine traditions for ensuring durability of the libraries and improving the thinking power and knowledge of the people in rural areas.

### UMFCCI, Yunnan Traders Association hold meeting

YANGON, 4 April — Vice-Presidents of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung and U Zaw Min Win and General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing met with Vice-President Ms Zheng Lu and Deputy Director Mr Xu Qiang of Yunnan Traders Association of the People's Republic of China at the UMFCCI office here on 30 March.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to the First Meeting of UMFCCI-YPCC Economy and Trade Cooperation Forum to be held in Kunming, Yunnan Province, on 4-5 June. The two sides also sought ways for participation of officials and industrialists of both sides in the forum and for win-win cooperation in the economic sector. — MNA

## People's Desire

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

### Singaporean Minister for Foreign Affairs concludes visit

YANGON, 4 April — Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore Mr George Yeo and party, accompanied by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Singaporean Ambassador Mr Robert Chua and embassy staff, visited Shwedagon Pagoda this morning.

They paid homage to Jade Buddha Image on the platform of the pagoda and signed in the visitors' book. The Singaporean minister and party donated cash to the fund of the pagoda. Members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees presented the



*Foreign Minister of Singapore Mr George Yeo visits Shwedagon Pagoda. — MNA*

picture of the pagoda as Dhamma gift to them.

Next, they visited

Myanma Gems Mart.

In the afternoon, the Singaporean Minister for Foreign Affairs and party left here for Singapore. At Yangon International Airport, the

Singaporean minister and party were seen off by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singaporean Ambassador Mr Robert Chua and embassy staff. — MNA

### Deputy FM arrives back from Bangladesh



*Deputy Minister U Maung Myint delivers an address at BCIM Forum on Regional Economic Cooperation. — MOFA*

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint arrived back here yesterday after attending the Seventh Forum for Regional Economic Cooperation between Bangladesh, China, India, Myanmar (BCIM) held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from 31 March to 1 April.

Delegation members U Kyaw Zaw, Deputy Director-General of the Directorate of Investment & Company Administration Department, under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, U Tha Aung Nyun, Deputy Director of the International Organizations and Economic Department, and U Kyaw Thi Wa, Assistant Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also arrived back on the same flight. — MNA

### SWRR Deputy Minister meets Resident Representative of World Vision Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint received Resident Representative Mr James Leslie Tumbuan of World Vision Myanmar and Networking and Strategic Planning Coordinator Dr Ivan at the hall of the ministry here this afternoon.

Also present were Director-General U Sit Myaing of the Social Welfare Department, Director-General U Than Oo of the Relief and Resettlement Department and departmental officials. — MNA



*Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint receives Mr James Leslie Tumbuan, and Dr Ivan of World Vision Myanmar. — MNA*



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## South Asian FMs vow to remove visa restriction for media

NEW DELHI, 3 April — Foreign ministers of the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries here Monday promised to improve free travel of journalists in the region.

The foreign ministers from the eight SAARC countries attended a meeting organized by the South Asian Free Media Association (SAFMA), according to *Indo-Asian News Service*.

“We have decided to remove restrictions before the next meeting

of the council of ministers,” said Indian External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee. India will unilaterally liberalize the visa process so that journalists can travel freely in the region, he said.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri lauded the SAFMA for promoting “better understanding” in the region and promised to work with India to enable freer movement of journalists.

Afghan Foreign Min-

ister Rangin Dadfar Spanta said fighting terrorism needs greater coordination among journalists.

The foreign ministers attended the daylong 28th Session of the Council of Ministers of SAARC, which was held here Monday to finalize the agenda for the two-day SAARC summit that begins here Tuesday. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## Radiation risk ‘like pollution’

LONDON, 3 April — Air pollution may be a bigger risk to health than exposure to radiation, such as that after the Chernobyl disaster, a study suggests.

Researchers examined the health impact of the meltdown of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and the atomic bombs dropped on Japan in 1945.

They concluded the risks were probably no greater than those posed by obesity, smoking and urban pollution. However, a radiation expert cast doubt on the BMC Public Health research.

He said the risks posed by radiation were not comparable to those from other sources. Researcher Dr Jim Smith, from the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, said exposure to radiation took fewer years off life expectancy than heavy smoking or severely obese.

He calculated that someone who was exposed to radiation after the Chernobyl incident had around a one in 100 chance of contracting a fatal cancer in later life as a direct result — in effect the mortality risk was increased by 1%. Dr Smith estimated that exposure to air pollution, or passive smoking had a similar impact.

*Internet*

## US Democratic leader proposes cutting off funds for Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 3 April — Democratic Senator Harry Reid, the Senate majority leader, proposed on Monday cutting off funds for the Iraq war if the proposal to set a timetable for with-

drawing US troops from Iraq was rejected by President George W Bush.

Reid said if Bush rejects the legislation with a pullout deadline, he would join forces with

Democratic Senator Russ Feingold, who has called to end the war by denying funding for it.

“Congress has a responsibility to end a war that is opposed by the American people and is

undermining our national security,” said Feingold.

Both the House and the Senate have passed emergency war funding legislation that included timetables for pulling American forces out of Iraq, and Bush has threatened to veto any bill with such a deadline.

The bill approved by the Senate last week requires Bush to start withdrawal within 120 days after it becomes law, and aims to pull out all combat forces by 31 March, 2008. The House measure asks the President to bring most combat troops home by 31 August next year. The House and Senate are working on a final proposal so Congress can send a final version of the bill to the President.

*MNA/Xinhua*



*Vehicles surrounded by flood water in Jalalabad city, the provincial capital of Nangarhar Province, east of Kabul, Afghanistan recently. After many years of drought, Afghanistan is witnessing heavy rains in the past few days, which has resulted in the death of many Afghans and left hundreds homeless around the country, reports say. — INTERNET*



*Chuang Chuang a male panda chews bamboo leaves inside its cage in Chiang Mai zoo in Chiang Mai Province, northern Thailand on Wednesday, 4 April, 2007. INTERNET*

## US soldier killed in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 3 April — A US soldier was killed in non-battle related cause in the Iraqi capital on Friday, a US military statement said on Sunday.

The name of the soldier is being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statement said. More than 3,245 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Powerful earthquake jolts N-E Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD, 4 April — An earthquake measuring six in Richter Scale occurred on Tuesday morning at somewhere near the Hindu Kush ranges and was felt in many Pakistani major cities, Meteorological Department said.

At around 8:40 (GMT 0340), a strong earthquake was felt in Pakistani capital Islamabad, and beds, windows are rattling.

The epicentre lies in 300 kilometres north of Peshawar, the capital of Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province (NWFP), Mushtaq Ali Shah, deputy director of Pakistan Meteorological Department at Peshawar told *Xinhua*.

The official said the earthquake was also felt in northwest city of Peshawar, east city Lahore, central city Multan and other areas in Pakistan. — *MNA/Xinhua*



# Scientists make breakthrough in blood conversion



LONDON, 3 April — Scientists have developed a simple method of converting blood from one group to another, which could potentially mean the end of blood shortages and boost supplies of sought-after group O negative blood.

O negative blood is known as “universal” because it can be given to anyone in a blood transfusion.

In research published in the latest issue of the

journal *Nature Biotechnology*, an international team of researchers said they successfully converted blood from groups A, B or AB to group O.

People in groups A and B have blood containing one of two different sugar molecules which can trigger an immune response.

Those in group O have neither of these “antigens”, while those in group AB have both.

The scientists, led by Professor Henrik Clausen of the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, used bacterial enzymes as biological “scissors” to cut sugar molecules from the surface of red blood cells.

They started by screening 2,500 types of fungi and bacteria looking for useful proteins.

Two bacteria, *Elizabethkingia meningosepticum*, and *Bacteroides fragilis*, yielded enzymes capable of removing both A and B antigens from red blood cells.

Researchers then verified the enzymes in standard laboratory tests. After an hour’s exposure to the appropriate enzyme, the antigens vanished from 200 millilitre samples of A, B and AB blood.

MNA/Xinhua

## ဝတ်စုံပွင့်အား ခေတ်ကျော်ဖွား



A model presents a creation by Chinese designer Wu Xuewei on “China Day” of Russian Fashion Week in Moscow, capital of Russia, on 3 April, 2007.—XINHUA

## Landslide leaves seven dead in S-W China

CHONGQING, 3 April — Seven people were killed and one was injured when a passing bus was hit in a landslide in a mountainous county in southwest China’s Chongqing Municipality on Monday.

Pu Yang, secretary of the Miao and Tujia Autonomous County of Pengshui, said that torrential downpour on Sunday night caused a landslide near the highway connecting Pengshui to the Tujia Autonomous County of Shizhu, north to Pengshui.

The landslide happened at 8 a.m. on Monday 5.4 kilometres away from the seat of Pengshui, when more than 120 cubic metres of rock fell off from a slope, hitting the bus which was passing through the spot.

Among the seven killed was the bus driver.

The injured is now hospitalized.

The exact number of people aboard the bus is still unknown.

Another 200 cubic metres of rocks are about to fall off the slope and rescuers are taking measures to deal with the emergency, according to Pu.—MNA/Xinhua



A stork is silhouetted at sunset near the Macedonian capital Skopje on 3 April, 2007. — XINHUA

## Indonesian woman suspected of bird flu

JAKARTA, 3 April — Initial laboratory test showed a 23-year-old Indonesian woman had died of bird flu, Indonesian Health Ministry said here Monday.

The health officials were waiting for the result of a second laboratory test for confirmation that she was positive of the avian influenza virus, an official of the anti-bird flu centre

of the Ministry Ahmad Prihatna said.

The woman from Central Jakarta died on Sunday evening at the hospital of Persahabatan in East Jakarta, he said.

She died at the hospital one hour after being shifted from Islamic Hospital in Central Jakarta, said Prihatna.

Should the second test be positive, she would be the 72nd fatality case out of 92 contracted people in the country.

The official said that it was not clear whether the woman had historical contacts with fowls.

The number of bird flu cases in Indonesia has increased recently after months of absence of new cases.

MNA/Xinhua

## Three killed in bomb attack in N-E Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 3 April — At least three people were killed and up to 23 others injured when a bomb went off at a busy market in a town northeast of Baghdad on Monday, a source from Diyala provincial police said.

A bomb hidden in a bag detonated around midday in the popular market in Khalis town, 75 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

MNA/Xinhua

## Two killed in shooting in US university

WASHINGTON, 3 April — Two people were shot to death on Monday morning in the University of Washington in Seattle, the Washington state, US media reported.

The two, one man and one woman, were killed in an office on the fourth floor at the university’s architecture building, possibly in a murder-suicide, university police said.—MNA/Xinhua

## Six killed in Solomon Islands earthquake



A house lies collapsed on a street in the town of Gizo in the Western Province of the Solomon Islands on 3 April, 2007. INTERNET

CANBERRA, 3 April — Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare said as many as six people have been killed in a strong earthquake off the Solomon Islands, and that he expected the death toll will rise.

The quake with a magnitude 8.0 took place at 20:40 GMT Sunday with the epicentre located 45 kilometres south of the New Georgia Islands, and around 350 kilometres west-northwest of the

capital of Honiara, at a depth of 10 kilometres.

There have been reports that a wave several metres high crashed into the country’s west coast.

The most affected area is in and around Gizo, a popular tourist and diving destination and the capital of the Western Province in the South Pacific nation.

Sogavare said unfirmed reports have placed the number of dead at about six and that he is expecting more.

“Most of the islands are low-lying and the extent of the damage is yet to be known,” he was quoted by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio as saying.

He said that a team from his office, the Red Cross and police were headed to the zone.

Earlier, a government spokesman said the quake and the tsunami which followed has caused millions of dollars in damage around Gizo.

MNA/Xinhua



## ECONOMIC NEWS

## Vietnam's tea export up in first quarter this year

HANOI, 3 April — Vietnam shipped abroad 21,000 tons of tea, mainly black, green and jasmine tea, totalling 21 million US dollars in the first quarter of this year, seeing respective year-on-year rises of 10 per cent and 8.4 per cent, according to a local trade agency on Monday.

The country's big tea importers included Pakistan, China, Russia, India,

Indonesia, Iraq, Germany, Poland, the United States and Taiwan, according to the Trade Information Centre under the Trade Ministry.

Vietnam, home to about 110,000 hectares of tea trees and 600 tea enterprises, has planned to export 140,000 tons of tea worth 190 million dollars in 2010. They are expanding export markets, intensifying trade

promotion, raising tea's quality, and building their products' trademarks.

Vietnam shipped abroad 97,000 tons of tea worth 93 million dollars in 2004, some 89,000 tons valued at 100 million dollars in 2005, and 105,000 tons totalling 111 million dollars in 2006. Last year, it exported roughly 65,300 tons of black tea, over 27,000 tons of green tea and nearly 3,800 jasmine tea, said the centre.

MNA/Xinhua

## Zambia's largest cement producer to suspend export

LUSAKA, 3 April — Chilanga Cement of Zambia will suspend its cement export to regional market so as to focus on supplying to the Zambian market to meet the increasing demand until next year when the company's new plant under construction is commissioned, a company official has said.

Corporate affairs director Eugene Chungu was cited by Monday's *Times of Zambia* as saying there was a huge demand for cement locally arising from the booming construction sector.

He said his company would suspend most of its exports and concentrate on supplying increased amounts of cement to the local market.

Chilanga Cement is investing 120 million US dollars in the construction of the new plant which would have a capacity of 800,000 tons of cement annually.

Currently, the company produces about 650,000 tons of cement annually, which falls short of local market demand spurred by construction especially in the copper mining industry.

Retail price of cement in Zambian market has went up dramatically to 60,000 kwacha (about 14 dollars) per 50-kilo pocket from 35,000 kwacha (8 dollars) in early 2006. — MNA/Xinhua

## Bangladesh raises fuel prices by up to 21%

DHAKA, 3 April — Bangladesh raised fuel prices by up to 21 per cent on Monday to bring them closer to international

levels, a senior energy official said, a move to ease the pressure on its state oil firm and balance of payments. Petrol will sell

at up to 67 (97 cents) taka per litre, up nearly 16 per cent from 58 taka. Both kerosene and diesel will sell at 40 taka per litre, up 21 per cent from 33 taka, with the new prices coming into effect immediately.

Nasiruddin said the prices could be adjusted every month to the changing global prices of fuel, which he believed will fluctuate frequently because of OPEC-producer Iran's deteriorating ties with Britain and the United States. The Asian Development Bank advised Bangladesh last week to adjust fuel prices with international markets to minimize losses of state-run Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC), the country's sole importer and distributor of fuel.

MNA/Reuters

## UAE energy giant announces retrospective oil prices

ABU DHABI, 3 April — The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), energy giant of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), announced on Monday the retrospective prices for March for its four main grades of crude oil, *Emirates News Agency* reported.

According to the report, the price for the onshore Murban crude oil was set at 62.10 US dollars per barrel, while prices for the three offshore crudes were set at 62.15 dollars for Lower Zakum, 61.55 dollars for Umm Shaif and 58.05 dollars for Upper Zakum.

MNA/Xinhua



Models present a creation of Bosideng by Zhu Lin during Russian Fashion Week in Moscow, on Tuesday, 3 April, 2007. — INTERNET

## Firm in GM insulin breakthrough



Chile, the US and Canada are hosting safflower trials. — INTERNET

OTTAWA, 4 April — Insulin produced by genetically modified plants — with a human gene added — could be on the market in three years, a Canadian company has claimed. Sembiosys said it has made scientific breakthroughs and

found a short cut through current drug regulations.

The firm's CEO Andrew Baum said his company could become one of the first to sell a plant-based pharmaceutical.

However, critics believe that these products pose greater environmental and health risks than GM food crops.

Most insulin is now produced by genetically modified bacteria, inside sealed tanks. The new technique uses GM plants grown out in the open.

The company is growing insulin in the seeds of safflower, a relatively little-used seed oil plant. The safflower is being grown on a trial basis in fields in Chile, the US and Canada.

Internet



A woman makes a flower arrangement with carnations decorated in the form of the Hello Kitty cat, during a photo opportunity at a shop in Tokyo on 3 April, 2007. — XINHUA



Journalists inspect the boats of Italy's Mascalzone Latino - Capitalia Team during the unveiling ceremony at their team base in the port of Valencia, Spain, on Sunday, 1 April, 2007, two days before the start of the Louis Vuitton Act 13 fleet race competition qualifier for the 32nd America's Cup. — Internet





Orthodox Easter eggs painted with human figures are seen at Bucharest's Peasant Museum during a Palm Sunday fair, where hundreds of artisans from all over Romania gathered to show and sell their goods on 1 April, 2007.

INTERNET

## Ancient human unearthed in China

BEIJING, 2 April—The remains of one of the earliest modern humans to inhabit eastern Asia have been unearthed in a cave in China.

The find could shed light on how our ancestors colonised the East, a movement that is only poorly

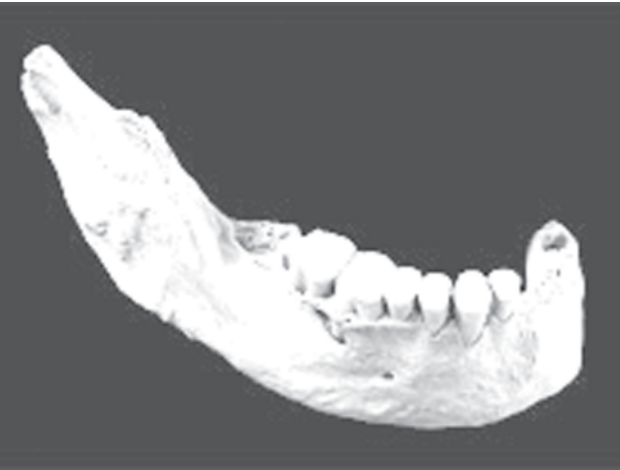
understood by anthropologists.

Researchers found 34 bone fragments belonging to a single individual at the Tianyuan Cave, near Beijing. Details of the discovery appear in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences journal.

Radiocarbon dates, obtained directly from the bones, show the person lived between 42,000 and 39,000 years ago.

“For this time period, which is critical for understanding the spread of modern humans around the world, we have two well-dated human fossils from eastern Asia,” said co-author Professor Erik Trinkaus, from Washington University in St Louis, US.

“We have remains from the Niah Cave from Sarawak on Borneo, and now this specimen from China. As you go west, the next specimens are from Lebanon. There’s nothing in between.”—Internet



The remains include a lower jaw as well as leg bones.

INTERNET

## EU price probe into Apple iTunes

BRUSSELS, 3 April—The EU has launched a probe into what Apple’s online music store iTunes charges users across Europe, accusing it of restricting customer choice.

Brussels believes agreements between Apple and record companies violate EU laws by preventing users in one country buying music from a site elsewhere.

The move follows a complaint by UK body Which? that British users have to pay more to download songs than others.

Apple said it wanted to offer a single European service but faced obstacles.

The Commission’s move is unrelated to an agreement, announced on Monday, between iTunes and EMI to make the latter’s music available online without piracy protection.

Brussels has written to iTunes and a number of unnamed record companies to notify them of their objections to the way music is sold, the first step in formal proceedings.

“Consumers can only buy music from the iTunes online stores in their country of residence and are therefore restricted in their choice of where to buy music,” said EU competition spokesman Jonathan Todd.

Research by Which? in 2005 found that UK users



iTunes is the market leader in downloaded music.—INTERNET

paid 79p (1.16 euros) to download a song compared with 66p (99 euro cents) in France and Germany.

Apple said it had always wanted to offer a fully pan-European service but was restricted by the demands of its music partners.

“We were advised by the music labels and publishers that there were certain legal limits to the rights they could grant us,” it said in a statement.

The companies targeted by Brussels have two months in which to respond to the charges.—Internet

## Research offers hope for removing liver, kidney damage

LOS ANGELES, 3 April — Scientists from the United States and Japan have found a possible solution to save people with liver and kidney damage.

Thousands of people with liver and kidney diseases die every year from too much ammonia in their blood, and scientists have found a protein which excretes ammonia through pufferfish gills is similar to human Rh blood proteins, according to a research published on the April 2007 issue of *The FASEB Journal*.

By targeting human Rh proteins, new treatments will help people with

damaged livers and kidneys remove toxic ammonia from their bloodstream, said the report. “Rh proteins are important targets for treatment of high toxic blood ammonia levels that occur in liver disease,” said Shigehisa Hirose, co-author of the study.

“Our findings also indicate that the ammonia transport system involving Rh glycoproteins is evolutionally conserved in a broad range of organisms, suggesting an essential role for surviving,” he said.

For people with kidney and liver damage, the need

to remove naturally occurring ammonia from the bloodstream is critical.

Brain cells are particularly susceptible to ammonia, and at low levels, ammonia toxicity can cause mild to severe confusion, drowsiness, or tremors. At high levels, ammonia toxicity leads to coma and eventually death.

“This study has broad implications for practically any disease or trauma affecting the liver or kidneys,” said Gerald Weissmann, MD, editor-in-chief of *The FASEB Journal*.

MNA/Xinhua

## Jordan’s King receives Yeltsin

AMMAN, 3 April — Jordan’s King Abdullah on Monday received former Russian president Boris Yeltsin, Jordan’s Petra news agency reported.

They held talks on relations between Jordan and Russia, the current political developments in the Middle East and efforts exerted to resume the peace process, the report said.

During the meeting, Abdullah reaffirmed Jordan’s keenness on boosting bilateral cooperation with Russia in various fields.

For his part, Yeltsin, who is currently on vacation in the country, praised efforts being exerted by Abdullah with the aim of re-establishing peace in the region. He also expressed admiration for Jordan’s ancient and tourist sites.—MNA/Xinhua



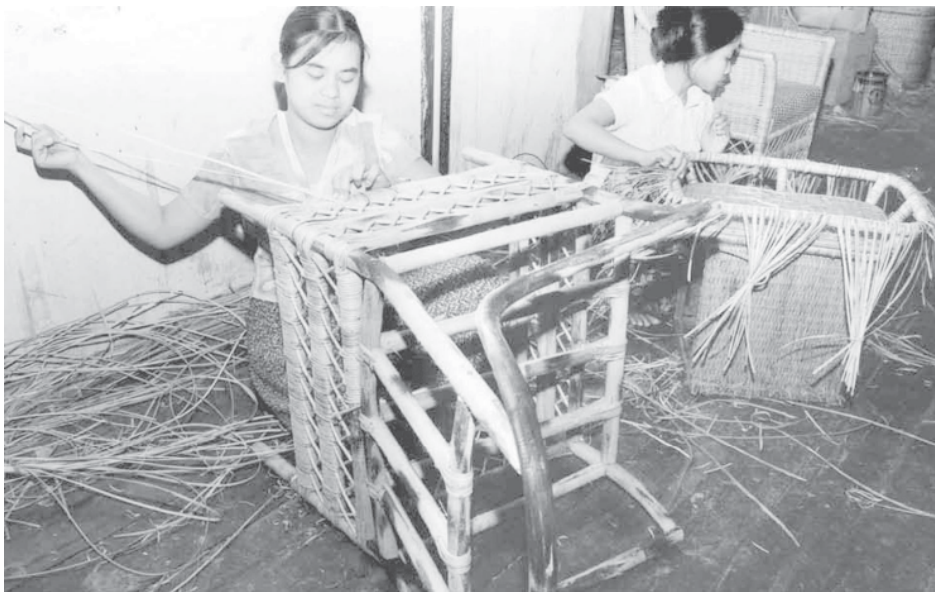
A crocodile weighing one ton is captured in Australia recently. It is estimated the crocodile is more than 70 years old.—INTERNET



# Myanmar's rattan ware industry spreading its wings

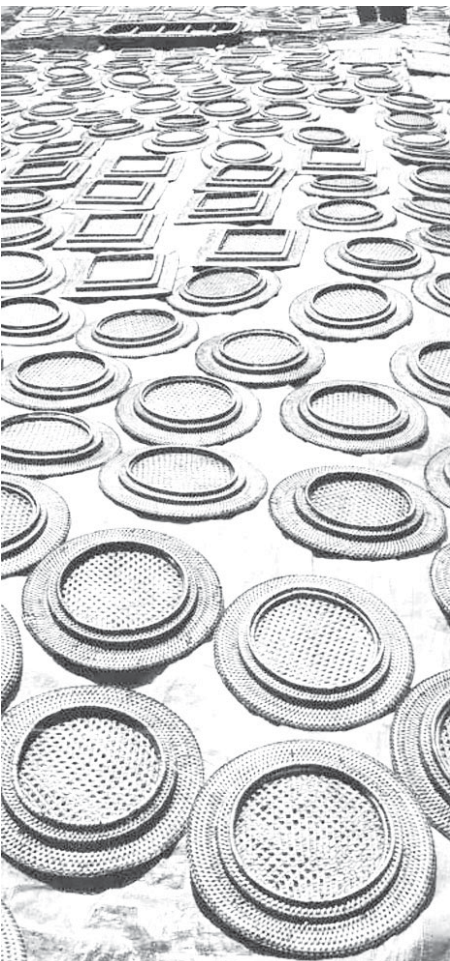
*Interviewed by Nyi Nyi Soe Nyunt;  
Photos by Soe Nyunt (Kyemon)*

Of the Myanmar's traditional handicrafts, rattan ware has earned a good reputation at home and abroad. Myanmar's rattan ware items have been advertised on website, and many countries are placing more orders for the works.



*Two female workers making rattan armchairs.*

Myanmar rattan works win more customer satisfaction abroad. Belgium, Italy and France place orders most. Now, Turkey and England are also taking



*Household utensils made of rattan.*

interest in the products. They place orders for rattan ware through e-mail.

"Some Europeans have never seen even bamboo and rattan, but Myanmar rattan ware pieces are artistic and new to them, so they like the works. In our country, some hotels place orders for and display

the Great Myanmar Island Co Ltd at the Industrial Zone (1) in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

In the nation, utensils and furniture made of plastics, fibre and wood have become popular, and as a result, the use of rattan works is on the decline. Therefore, rattan ware items of modern designs are produced to promote sales in the nation.

The most important thing to produce wickerwork is raw material. Raw material for rattan ware is available in Tanai and Bhamo in Kachin State, Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division. Among more than 100 species of rattan, only five species are commonly used in the industry.

He said, "To make rattan ware, firstly rattan stems are processed with the use of the machine. Before making a rattan chair,



*Export quality rattan armchairs.*

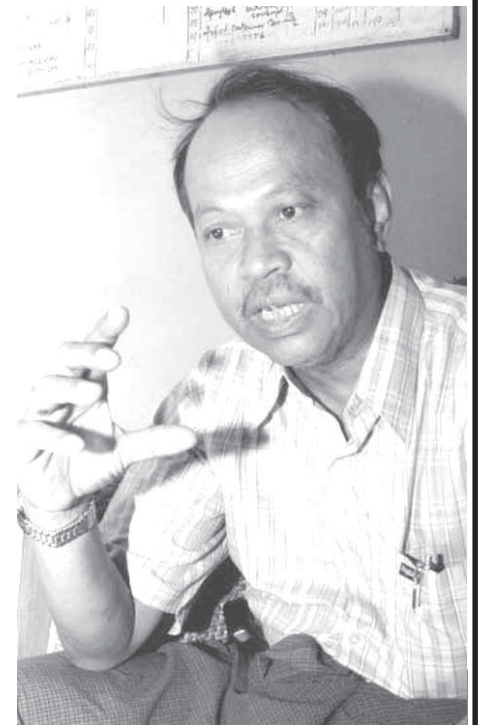
rattan ware items to attract foreign tourists. Now, we are working hard for rattan ware to be more popular at home. Myanmar's rattan ware has gained a foothold in the

the designer has to produce a design. Next, rattan filigree works are weaved according to the pattern. Then, the semi-finished product is painted and dried. And then it is

## ONE VILLAGE, ONE PRODUCT

international market but we are still doing our best so that our works will gain a strong position in the local market as well", said Managing Director U Maung Yu of

painted brown again and exposed to the sun. After that, it is examined to ensure that it has no flaws. Only flawless products are exported to control the quality of the



*We are working hard for our rattan ware to earn a good reputation and to achieve an increasing demand for our works abroad and at home. (U Maung Yu, Managing Director of Great Myanmar Island Co Ltd)*

products. It takes about three days for a worker to make a rattan chair."

Today, technology is making progress rapidly. So, only products of modern designs will be popular and can draw the attention of the customers. Myanmar's rattan ware has won the customer satisfaction in the international market. That reflects Myanmar's high standard of handicraft.

So, it is required to control and improve the quality of artistic works and innovate the designs.

Now, Myanmar is exerting innovations in manufacturing wickerwork of artistic designs with the use of forest resources to penetrate the markets more both locally and internationally.

**Translation: MS**

*Kyemon: 31-3-2007*

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# Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects...

(from page 1)

They proceeded to the Nurses and Midwifery Training School in Hpa-an. After giving necessary instructions, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented K 500,000 for the school to Principal Daw Khin Saw Mu.

At Zwegabin Hall in Hpa-an, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met local authorities and departmental officials. Chairman of Kayin State PDC Col Khin Kyu submitted reports on administrative, economic, social and agricultural sectors of the state.

In his address, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that as peace and stability prevail in Kayin State, people of the state will enjoy fruits of development soon. Due to concerted efforts of the government and the people in regional development tasks, progress can be witnessed in transport, education and health sectors in Kayin State. All the brethren are to live in

the country in amity through thick and thin, upholding Our Three Main National Causes, and they are to harmoniously take part in the regional development tasks and process of building the modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

They attended the fertilizer broadcasting ceremony on 20 acres of Hsinthwelat paddy in Tayokhla Model Village of Hpa-an Township.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended the ceremony to open Mukawah-Kawthankha village-to-village laterite road in Mukawah Village. Director U Maung Maung Aung of Kayin State Development Affairs Committee and Hpa-an District PDC Chairman U Saw Myat Htut Win formally opened the road. Lt-Gen Maung Bo unveiled the signboard of the road and inspected the road.

They went on their tour to Mawlamyine Industrial Zone Management Committee Office.

Police Col Tin Thein Han of the committee reported on the industrial zone and entrepreneurs on development for the zone.

In his speech, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that industrial entrepreneurs are to strive for manufacturing of import-substitute products and then to export their products. Product-wise Committees were formed to supervise manufacturing of quality machine parts. Job opportunities are to be created for qualified youth, and entrepreneurs are to cooperate among them for development of the industrial sector.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party viewed factories in the industrial zone.

Mawlamyine Industrial Zone has manufactured 304 vehicles against the target of 630 vehicles in 2006-07.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded to Mawlamyine by car. — MNA

## Commander, Minister inspect rural development task in Tanai Township



Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspect sugarcane cultivation of Yuzana Co in Tanai Township. — MNA

YANGON, 4 April—Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint together with Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected construction tasks of Donbun bridge on Myitkyina-Tanai Road this morning and urged officials to complete the tasks in time.

At the briefing hall of the 200,000-acre-sugarcane plantation project of Yuzana Co, the commander and the minister heard reports on progress of plantation tasks presented by project manager U Sonny and attended to the needs.

The commander, the minister and U Htay Myint of Yuzana Co inspected reclamation of lands in Tanai Township in a motorcade. Later, they attended the communal novitiation ceremony organized by Tanai Township Union Solidarity and Development Association at Theravada Buddhist Missionary Monastery and donated cash and kind to the local people.

They proceeded to the site for the construction of replica of Thiri Mingalar Shwedagon Pagoda at Zeyathiri Monastery and offered provisions to members of the Sangha. Next, they inspected the bridge across Tanai creek and gave necessary instructions.

Later, the commander and the minister met with service personnel, townsenders and members of social organizations at Hukaung Hall in Tanai. The commander presented clothes for local people and the minister machinery for the establishment of Public Access Centre and fuel and cement bags for the construction of roads in the region to officials.

They visited Tanai tele-communication station and inspected telephone exchange.

Next, they met with executives and members of Tanai Township USDA at the office of the association. Later, they inspected newly-built Wayazut-Kamine road.

MNA

## Tar-hsan Hydropower Project construction begins

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — A ground breaking ceremony of the Tar-hsan Hydropower Project on Thanlwin River in Shan State (East) took place on 30 March.

Hydropower Implementation Department and MDX Group Co Ltd are implementing the project located 33 miles west of Mongtong in Shan State (East) on a joint venture to produce power.

Deputy Minister for Electric Power No 1 U Myo Myint, Deputy Director-General of Hydropower Implementation Department U Win Kyi and Dr Subin

Pinkayan of MDX Group Co Ltd cut the ribbon to launch the implementation of the project.

The concrete dam of the Tar-hsan Hydropower Project will be 2,848 feet long and 746 feet high. On completion, generators to be equipped at the power station will have a total capacity of 7,110 megawatts and the project is expected to produce 35,446 million kwh yearly. Also present on the occasion were officials of Ratchaburi Co, Chkarnchang Co and China Gezhouba Water & Power Group Co Ltd (CGGC) that held shares in the project. — MNA

## F&R Minister leaves for Thailand

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun left here by air for Thailand on 1 April to attend the 11th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting.

They were seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, departmental heads and officials.

The minister was accompanied by Deputy Director U Min Htut. — MNA

## Dy Health Minister attends meeting on equal access to bird flu vaccines

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo arrived back here from Jakarta on 30 March after attending a two-day meeting on sharing human samples of the bird flu virus and equal access to vaccines in the developing world.

The meeting was held on 27-28 March in Jakarta, Indonesia. Health officials from 12 countries where outbreak of bird flu have happened, and representatives from developed nations which developed bird flu vaccines and from WHO were present. Participants of the meeting discussed matters on getting equal access to vaccines as developed nations which are planning to develop commercial vaccines using sample of the H5N1 avian influenza virus sent to WHO.

The meeting concluded with the approval of the 'Jakarta Declaration'. — MNA

## One wounded in insurgent-planted mine blast

NAY PYI TAW, 4 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 U Aung Thein and his two sons namely Maung Min Aung and Maung Aung Lin Tun of Zawki village, Htonegyi village-tract, Kyaukkyi township in Bago Division on 30 March were heading for their plantation, they stepped on a mine on their way planted by insurgents and the blast left twenty-eight-year-old Maung Min Aung wounded at his right ankle.

Injured Maung Min Aung was sent to Kyaukkyi Township People's Hospital. Medical treatment and supplies were provided to the victim, and the authorities concerned and the local people are making arrangements to expose the insurgent terrorists. —MNA



## Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends First Tun Foundation Literary Awards Presentation ...

(from page 16)

Literary Awards Selection Committee U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) gave a speech.

Member of BOD Chairman of the Literary Awards Selection Committee retired Ambassador U Thet Tun explained the purpose of presenting Literary awards. CEC member of MWJA Secretary of the Literary Awards Committee U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) submitted the report of the committee.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented prize to Dr U Ko Ko, Dr U Kyaw Lwin and Dr Tun Aung Kyaw through Dr U Ko Ko for their book in English in the health genre.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win presented prize to U Aung Naing for his book in the history genre; Patron U Thein Tun, prize to Aung Si Hein in the economic genre; MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), prize to U Ye Myint (Forest) in the biography genre; and retired Ambassador U Thet Tun, prize to Daw Khin Yi, wife of Dr Than Tun, for his book in the culture genre.

Afterwards, responsible persons presented prizes to the winners in the child/youth, economic,

health and history genres. Patron U Thein Tun gave gifts to members of the Literary Awards Committee CEC member of MWJA U Myint Kywe (Maung Myint Kywe). Later, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and responsible persons posed for documentary photo together with the prize winners.

MNA



**Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win awards a winner at Tun Foundation Literary Award Presentation Ceremony for 2006. — MNA**



**Lt-Gen Myint Swe awards a winner at Tun Foundation Literary Award Presentation Ceremony for 2006. — MNA**

## The Commerce Journal Vol 7 No 7 in circulation

YANGON, 4 April — The Commerce Journal Vol 7 No 7 has been published to the public.

It features a variety of commercial and trade news, and news of Asian entrepreneurs. Moreover, economic articles written by Maung Sue San, U Han Tun, Aung Thin, Maung Taing Pin, Dr Khin Maung Nyo, Kyi Shawn, Maung Pasoe Gyan, Thein Mya Thein and Kyi Khin are covered in the journal. The journal will try to win the hearts of the readers through its news of export and import commodities prices, local and foreign marketing, border trade, and foodstuff and personal goods in Yangon. — MNA

## Ottwin Pulp Factory nearing completion



**Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo visits Ottwin Pulp Factory in Ottwin Township. — A & I**

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo went to a pulp factory project in Ottwin Township, Bago Division, on 2 April and gave instructions on running of the factory at full capacity.

The factory will use roselle (*Hibiscus sandariffa*) as raw materials for producing pulp, and upon

completion, the factory is expected to produce 5,000 metric tons of pulp a year.

During his inspection tour, the minister called for timely completion of the project, running of the factory at full capacity during a trial-run period, minimizing loss and wastage, security of the factory, welfare of the employees of the factory and cultivation of roselle which will be used

as a raw material for the production of pulp.

At the meeting with the minister, officials concerned reported to him on arrangements for production of paper and pulp at the factory and machinery to be equipped at the factory.

The factory is expected to come into operation in the near future.

MNA

## Minister attends opening of Seminar on Maritime Technology 2007

YANGON, 4 April — A ceremony to open Seminar on Maritime Technology for 2007, organized by Myanmar Maritime University, was held at the hall of the university this afternoon, with an address by Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe.

Present on the occasion were Rector of

MMU U Thein Tun, departmental officials of departments, resource persons and guests.

First, the minister made a speech on the occasion and Rector U Thein Tun explained facts about Seminar on Maritime Technology for 2007.

Next, the minister

looked into newly-built recreation centre, gymnasiums, lecture halls, and the site chosen to construct the convocation hall and fulfilled the needs.

Afterwards, the minister and party inspected loading of beans bags and X-ray check on goods at MITT and left necessary instructions.

MNA



**Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe delivers an address at opening of Seminar on Maritime Technology 2007. — TRANSPORT**



## Commander, Minister look...

(from page 16)

Brig-Gen Win Myint viewed appliances of ICT and participants who were competing in the computer quiz and cordially greeted officials of the companies and observers.

In the evening, the commander, the minister and party held a meeting with officials of departments and enterprises under the ministry, and the minister discussed information matters to be successfully undertaken.

The following day, they inspected progress in building of Mongpun bridge. They attended

opening of Yadanasi bridge of Yadanasi Sarhintaik in Loilem. The congregation received the Five Precepts from Loilem Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññavamsa.

Next, they formally opened the bridge and donated alms to 108 members of the Sangha. Afterwards, they attended a ceremony to nurture physic nut saplings in Loilem, put physic nut grafts into the bags and gave encouragement to those who participated in the growing of physic nut saplings.

At Loilem District IPRD Office, the commander, the minister and party observed wall magazine and documentary photos on development tasks in the district, and the minister discussed media tasks. Next, they provided books, journals and magazines for Mongpun self-reliance library.

Upon arrival at Shwenyaung youth modern library in Shwenyaung the next day, the commander presented sewing machines and cassettes to officials, the minister, a TV set and the director-general, books.



Next, the minister met and discussed departmental tasks with service personnel of Taunggyi and Loilem District IPRDs during his tours. — MNA

**Commander Brig-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan greet readers at library of Kalaw Township Information and Public Relations Department.**

MNA

## Minister visits gem, gold mining blocks



**Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint visits gem mining block in Mogok. — MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint met with mining entrepreneurs on his inspection tour of gem mining blocks in Mogok Township yesterday and assisted them in the mining in the area.

During his tour, Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint visited blocks of joint venture mining projects and attended to the needs.

At the meeting with the entrepreneurs, the minister called on them for undertaking the systematic

mining in order not to damage the environment. He also urged them to seek a firm market for “Mogok ruby” at home.

Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint also visited gold mining blocks in Singu and Thabeikkyin townships on 2 April.

While in Mogok, USDA CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint met the secretary, executives and organizers of Township USDA. — MNA

## CEC member performs organizing and rural development tasks in Shwebo, Katha districts

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — Central Executive Committee member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint met with executives of Kawlin and Wuntho Township USDAs in Kawlin on 30 March. Central Organizing Committee member of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint also met with chairmen and organizers of Kawlin and Wuntho Township WVOs and attended to the needs.

Next, the minister opened Aungkon village hydropower station in the township. He gave accounts on the implementation of the government to develop the nation and provided exercise books and sports gear to the locals.

On 31 March, the minister met with members of Pinlebu Township WVO and executives and organizers of Township USDA, and fulfilled the requirements.

Next, the USDA CEC member attended the opening ceremony of Pinsauk village rural development centre and presented a set of TV, exercise books, sports gear and publications. He presented K 500,000 for construction of new school building of Youth Development Centre and offered cash and kind to the Sayadaw of Mansilay Monastery.

Later, the minister presented 80 bags of cement, exercise books and sports gear for the Manyugyi village affiliated BEMS in Banmauk Township and attended opening ceremony of the newly-built BEPS in Hekwee Village. — MNA

## Russian General says US could strike Iran but not win

Moscow, 4 April — The United States cannot inflict a military defeat on Iran and any attack would be a huge political mistake, Russia's top general said on Tuesday.

“It is possible to damage Iran's military and industrial potential, but it is impossible to win,” Russian news agencies quoted General Yuri Baluyevsky, head of the Russian general staff, as saying.

“The United States has a contingent in the region capable of launching a strike on Iranian territory.

“However, such possible strikes would be a huge political mistake. Shockwaves from this attack could be felt around the world.”

Washington and its Western allies accuse Iran of wanting to build nuclear bombs, a charge Teheran denies. — MNA/Reuters

## China provides emergency aid to Solomon Islands

BEIJING, 4 April — The Red Cross Society of China has provided emergency aid in cash to the Red Cross Society of Solomon Islands, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said here Tuesday.

China expressed its condolences for the loss and casualties caused by the earthquake catastrophe in the Solomon Islands, Qin told a routine Press conference.

He confirmed there

has been no report of Chinese casualties up to date in the earthquake, adding that the Chinese Government will keep a close eye on the situation.

A series of earthquakes, the largest reported registering 8.1 on the Richter Scale, struck the Western Province of Solomon Islands early Monday morning, triggering tsunami waves that caused further damage.

MNA/Xinhua

## China restaurant forks out \$75,000 for lucky fish

BEIJING, 4 April — A Chinese restaurant has paid 75,000 US dollars for a giant golden-coloured tiger fish, a symbol of wealth and good fortune, state media said on Tuesday. The fish, weighing in at 48 kilogrammes (105 pounds), was caught on

Sunday off the coast of Zhanjiang in the booming southern province of Guangdong, the *China News Service* said.

“The restaurant agreed to display the fish... It is about 1.75-metre long and its scales shine like gold,” it said.

MNA/Reuters



## Bush, Democrats clash over Iraq war funding

WASHINGTON, 4 April — President George W Bush and Democrats in charge of Congress clashed again on Tuesday over funding for the Iraq war with no end likely soon to a defining battle over how long American forces will stay.

At a White House Rose Garden news conference, Bush skewered Democrats for going on a spring recess without approving 100 billion US dollars for US troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, a day ahead of leaving on his own Easter vacation in Texas.

He repeated what has been a near-daily vow to veto legislation approved last month by narrow margins in the Senate and the House of Representatives that

would impose a troop withdrawal timetable. If he vetoes the legislation, lawmakers would have to begin anew on a funding bill.

“Democrat leaders in Congress seem more interested in fighting political battles in Washington than providing our troops what they need to fight the battles in Iraq,” Bush said.

“If the President vetoes this bill he will have delayed funding for troops

and kept in place his strategy for failure,” Reid said.

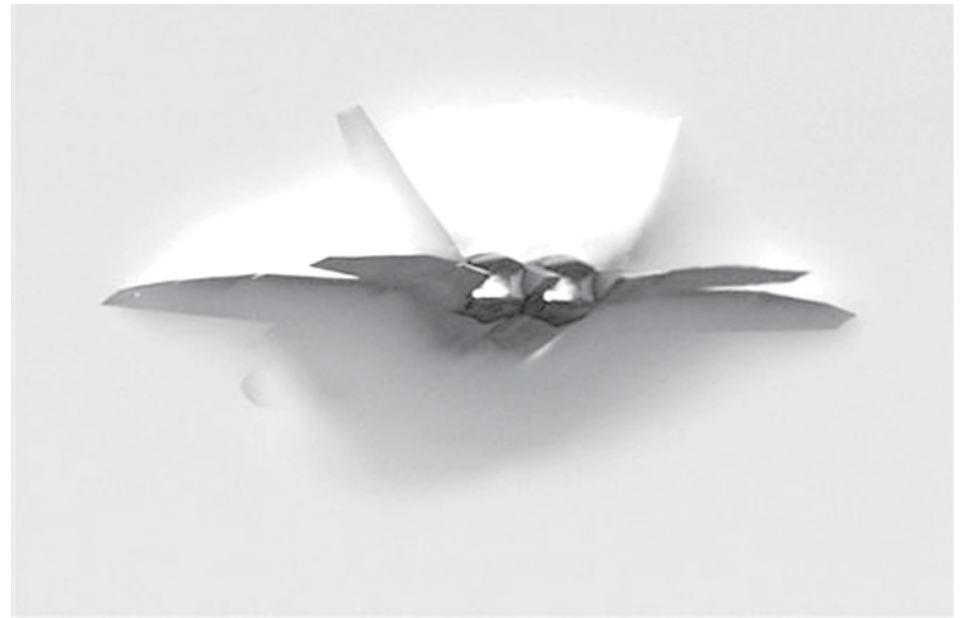
Both sides believe they have the moral high ground. White House officials believe Americans will side with Bush and see Democrats as jeopardizing US troops, while Democrats believe they will be viewed as saving the United States from an even worse outcome in Iraq.

West Virginia Democratic Senator Robert Byrd said Bush was pushing “partisan hogwash” and “tripe”.

“I hope that the White House will put a little more effort toward responding to the will of this country and a little less toward the tired ‘scare-and-dare’ rhetoric,” Byrd said.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s office urged Bush “not to assign blame to Congress for doing its job”.

MNA/Reuters



*An F-22-A Raptor flies through the air as condensation clouds form around the aircraft during 42nd Naval Base Ventura County Air Show at Point Mugu, on 1 April, 2007, near Ventura, California. The aircraft is not flying supersonic. — INTERNET*

## Pentagon’s top official on Asian affairs resigns

WASHINGTON, 4 April — The Pentagon’s top civilian official on Asia and Pacific affairs, Deputy Under Secretary Richard Lawless, has resigned, US defence officials said on Tuesday.

Lawless cited personal reasons for his resignation, according to one official. He will leave his post in a few weeks, that official said.

Lawless, a Korea expert, played a major role in negotiations with US allies South Korea and Japan over the realignment of US forces and

military bases in those two Asian countries.

His departure comes as defence officials, analysts and lawmakers focus on China as a potential military peer and possible threat to the United States. The Pentagon is due to give Congress a report on China’s military power within weeks.

It also comes as American military officials try to improve ties with the Chinese military, a move to give US officials better insight into China’s strategy and intentions. Efforts during Lawless’ tenure have boosted dialogue between US and Chinese military officials.

MNA/Reuters



*Singer Beyonce performs on NBC’s “Today” show in New York, on 2 April, 2007. — INTERNET*

## 9 tons of acid spills on road in southern Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 4 April — Nine tons of hydrochloric acid spilled onto the road Tuesday in southern Malaysia after a lorry crashed into the back of a tanker carrying the corrosive liquid.

Both drivers emerged unhurt from the accident which took place around 10:40 am Tuesday local time (0240 GMT) in the southernmost state of Johor, local newspaper *The Star* reported on its website.

The tanker carrying 18 tons of hydrochloric acid had stopped at a traffic light when the 10-ton lorry, with a full load of sand, rammed into it, causing a four-inch-wide

(10.16 centimetres) puncture on the tank.

Rescue staff used soda ash to neutralize the acid and applied high water pressure to wash the acid from the road. No injury was reported in the website.

Only half load of the acid carried by the tanker spilled as only the back part of the tank’s two compartments was punctured, added the report.— MNA/Xinhua

## Vietnam establishes Space Technology Institute

HANOI, 4 April — Vietnam’s Space Technology Institute, which mainly involves in developing satellite technologies, equipment, remote sensing technology and application, and space dynamics, was inaugurated Tuesday.

The institute’s functions include researching into designing and assembling small satellites, applying space technologies in life, and constructing space

facilities, including laboratories and earth stations, according to *Vietnam News Agency*.

Under a national strategy on research and application of space

technology until 2020 recently approved by the government, Vietnam will master technologies and techniques regarding production of small satellites, launching

equipment, and earth stations in the 2011-2020 period.

Between 2006 and 2010, Vietnam will intensify application of space technology in four main spheres, namely communications, hydro-meteorology, natural resource and environment, and satellite-based positioning.

Under the strategy, by 2010 space technology should be widely applied in the fields like posts and telecommunications, radio and television, meteorology, agriculture and transport.

In May 2006, US firm Lockheed Martin Commercial Space Systems won a bid to build and launch Vietnam’s first communication satellite.

MNA/Xinhua



*The magnet core of the world’s largest superconducting solenoid magnet is seen in March 2007. Equipment critical to the world’s greatest atom-smasher, the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in Switzerland, failed during a test, the European organization for nuclear research CERN said on Tuesday.*

INTERNET



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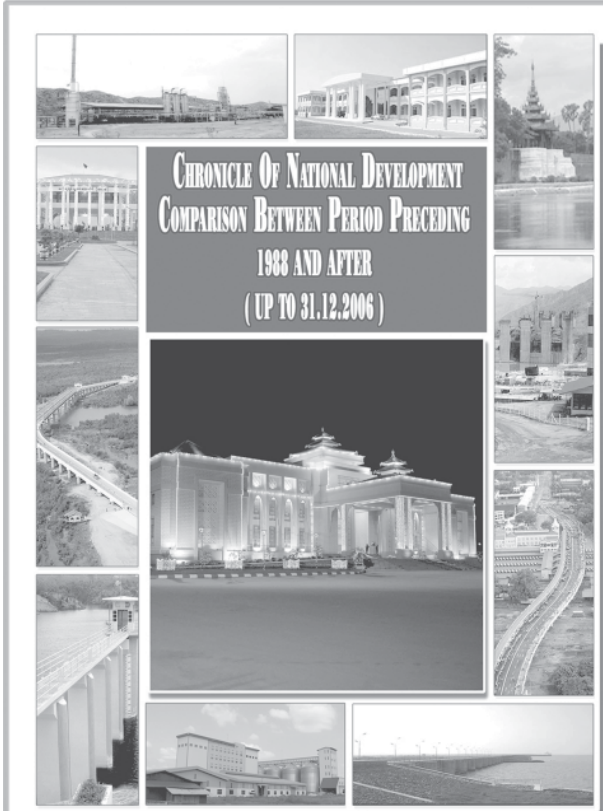
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(TENDER NO. 1(T) MPE/ LPG (1)/ 2007-2008)**  
1. Sealed Tenders are invited by the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of Mixed LPG (1,800 ± 5%) Metric Tons.  
2. Tender closing Date : (10-4-2007) at (12:00) noon.  
3. Tender opening Date : (10-4-2007) at (13:00) hrs.  
4. Tender Documents and detail information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing (5-4-2007) on payment of one hundred (100) FEC per set.  
5. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.  
Managing Director,  
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

Cyclone to hit northeast Madagascar again

ANTANANARIOV, 3 April—Still recovering from the cyclone which incurred heavy losses in lives and property in northeast parts of Madagascar two weeks ago, another cyclone is to hit the same area again on Tuesday. The cyclone, Jaya, was 400 kilometres from northeast coast by 9 am local time (0600 GMT) Monday morning, Leon Guy Razafindrakoto, an engineer at the Weather Forecast Department here, told *Xinhua* by telephone.  
With a speed of 20 kilometres per hour towards the west, Jaya brought a wind of 160 kph, Razafindrakoto said, adding that it would reach the northeast around 4 pm (1300 GMT) on Tuesday.  
The tropical cyclone Jaya not only represents a serious menace to the Indian Ocean island country but to the scheduled national referendum Wednesday on revision of the Constitution.  
According to *Midi*, a daily newspaper published here on Monday, a lot of voters would not be able to go to the polls due to the threatened cyclone.  
Jaya could aggravate the situation in the area which was hit in mid March by the cyclone storm, codenamed Indlala, said the daily. Statistics provided by the executive secretary of the National Council of Management of Risk and Catastrophe showed that 88 people have died of the natural disaster while tens of thousands were left homeless by Indlala.—*MNA/Xinhua*

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Singaporean firm to build oil refinery in Vietnam

HANOI, 3 April —A Singaporean company has planned to build an oil refinery complex with investment of 1.2 billion US dollars in Vietnam's central Phu Yen Province, local newspaper *Labour* reported on Monday.  
Under a memorandum of understanding signed between the SP Chemicals Company and the provincial People's Committee on 30 March, the future refinery with annual capacity of 1.5 million tons is expected to come into operation in 2012.  
The construction of Vietnam's first oil refinery started in central Quang Ngai Province in November 2005. Capitalized at some 2.5 billion US dollars and expected to become operational in late 2008 or early 2009, the Dung Quat refinery with an annual refining capacity of 6.5 million tons of crude oil is of significance in ensuring energy for the country, said Vietnam's National Oil and Gas Group PetroVietnam the project's investor. Vietnam is making preparation for the construction of its second oil refinery named Nghi Son in central Thanh Hoa Province. The Vietnamese Government has recently approved a plan on constructing the third oil refinery with annual processing capacity of at least seven million tons in southern Ba Ria Vung Tau Province.  
*MNA/Xinhua*

Few Asian smokers try to quit, study says

NEW YORK, 3 April —More and more Asians are becoming smokers, but very few are making an effort to quit, an international team of researchers reports.  
Public health efforts, the researchers say, must focus on getting the word out about the health dangers of smoking and helping people to kick the habit, noting that if efforts only target preventing people from starting smoking in the first place, "160 million current smokers will die before 2050, with the vast majority of deaths occurring in China".  
To analyze patterns of smoking in Asia, where the habit has only relatively recently become established, as well as in Australia and New Zealand, Dr Rachel Huxley of The George Institute for International Health in Sydney, Australia and colleagues reviewed 31 studies on smoking, quitting and lung cancer. The studies included a total of 480,125 people.  
Awareness of the health risks of smoking is low in China, the researchers say, noting that in one study they reviewed, 70 per cent of Chinese smokers called the health dangers of smoking "negligible" and just 4 per cent thought the habit was related to heart disease.  
One study found that two-thirds of UK smokers expressed a desire to quit, they note, while nearly three-quarters of China's 320 million smokers said they had no intention of doing so.  
Twenty-two per cent of men in Australia and New Zealand were current smokers at the study's outset, the researchers found, as were 14 per cent of women.  
*MNA/Reuters*

Vietnam rice export down in first quarter

HANOI, 3 April—Vietnam exported 710,000 tons of rice worth 229 million US dollars in the first quarter of this year, posting respective year-on-year declines of 43.3 per cent and 33.2 per cent, according to the country's General Statistics Office.  
The rice were mostly exported to the Philippines, Cuba, Indonesia, Malaysia and Japan.  
Vietnam is predicted to ship 150,000-170,000 tons of rice to Japan in 2007, up from 130,000 tons in 2006, some 120,000 tons in 2005 and 80,000 tons in 2004.  
Among nearly 100 rice export markets of Vietnam which purchased over 4.7 million tons of the local commodity totalling 1.3 billion dollars last year, the Philippines, Malaysia and Cuba consumed some 60 per cent of the total volume.  
The Vietnamese Government has recently decided that the rice export volume should be 4-4.5 million tons in 2007 to ensure food security.— *MNA/Xinhua*

**Turkish Customs seizes 358 kilos of heroin**  
ANKARA, 3 April—Turkish State Minister Kursad Tuzmen said on Monday Turkish Customs Guard teams seized 358 kilos of heroin last week, Turkey's official *Anatolia* news agency reported.  
During a Press conference in Customs under secretaries in Ankara, Tuzmen said that the teams seized around 305 kilos of heroin in a truck in Edirne Border Pass linking Greece and Bulgaria last Thursday, and 53 kilos seized in Istanbul Pendik Ro-Ro seaport on the next day.— *MNA/Xinhua*



# ပညာရေးနှင့် ဓာတ်မိမ့်ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## French TGV sets conventional train speed by 574.8 kph



**TGV beat the world train speed record on Tuesday. —XINHUA**

BEIJING, 4 April — A new world speed record of 574.8 kph was set on Tuesday by a double-decker French train of 25,000-horsepower and special wheels.

The black and chrome V 150 train surpassed the record of 515.3 kph set in 1990 by another French train along a stretch of the high-speed line European East. The train fell only just short of the speed record for all forms of train travel — 581 kph — held by a Japanese magnetic levitation (Maglev) train.

By pulverizing its own speed record

for conventional railways — and almost matching the Maglev — France hopes to propel itself to the forefront of a growing international market for high speed rail technology.

The train is known as TGV (Very High-Speed Train), whose objective was to reach a speed of 150 meters per second, or 540 km/h, in a project involving three French companies, namely, Alstom Transport Company, RFF and SNCF. The train, which is constructed by Alstom Transport Company, has a total length of 106 meters and weighs 268 tons. It is equipped with two engines, three TGV Duplex coaches and two AGV bogies engines. In total, this train develops a 19.6-megawatt power, which is more than 25,000 horsepower, compared with 9.3 megawatts, or 12,500 horsepower for a conventional TGV. —Internet

## Hailstorms hit S China, killing 13 and destroying homes, crops

BEIJING, 3 April — Hailstorms have ravaged southern parts of China since Sunday, killing 13 people, closing an expressway and destroying crops on at least 81,300 hectares of farmland, officials said Monday.

Seven people were

killed and one was injured when a bus was hit in a landslide caused by the hailstorms in mountainous Chongqing Municipality on Monday, while the others were killed by falling roofs and lightning on Sunday and Monday, according to the

Chongqing office of disaster relief. More than one million people were affected in 12 counties of Chongqing and economic loss stood at 198 million yuan, according to the office. The hailstorms also led to the collapse of 158 houses and damaged crops on more than 80,000 hectares of farmland in Chongqing. —MNA/Xinhua

## Six US soldiers killed by roadside bombs in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 April — Six US soldiers were killed in roadside bombings southwest of Baghdad over the weekend, marking one of the deadliest periods for American troops since a new security crackdown was launched in the Iraqi capital.

The US military said in a statement on Sunday that two soldiers were killed by an explosion during a patrol on Saturday. Four more were killed when another roadside bomb detonated on Sunday near a unit responding to the first attack. —MNA/Reuters

## World Health Day celebrated in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 3 April — Singapore and the World Health Organization (WHO) jointly hosted a high-level debate on “International Health Security” to celebrate World Health Day here Monday.

Director-General of WHO Margaret Chan, who is paying a three-day visit to Singapore from 1 to 3 April, called for all countries to build and strengthen health security systems and share responsibility in tackling the international health threats.

She said changes in the way humanity inhabits the planet and globalization have led to the emergence of more new diseases and amplification of the power of outbreaks.

She added that all

nations are at risk and that no country can hide an outbreak thanks to the world's electronic transparency. She presented the debate with a panel of international experts, including Norway Foreign Minister Jonas Store, Singapore's Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Balaji Sadasivan and Hong Kong-based Cathay Pacific Airline's Chief Executive Officer Philip Chen.

Making a keynote speech at the debate, Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said that responding to the changing global landscape and health security threats required new strategies and new attitudes in cooperation between

stakeholders.

He urged all countries to share information such as bird flu viral samples, and be more open and transparent. “Finally, even as we discuss principles of cooperation, openness and transparency, we need to focus on translate the plans on paper into concrete actions on the ground,” he said.

More than 200 senior government officials and private sector leaders from Southeast Asia attended the event, which also discussed possible strategies to respond to the international health threats, such as avian and pandemic influenza outbreaks, and HIV/AIDS.

MNA/Xinhua



**Roger Federer poses with the Laureus World Sportsman of the Year award in this undated photo released by Laureus Academy on 2 April, 2007. —XINHUA**

## Tough times at Harry Potter firm

LONDON, 3 April — Harry Potter publisher Bloomsbury saw its annual profits drop 74% in 2006, a year in which there was no new book in the best-selling fantasy novel series.

Reporting its 2006 results, its pre-tax profit dropped to £5.2m from £20.1m in 2005, when the most recent book about the teenage wizard was released.

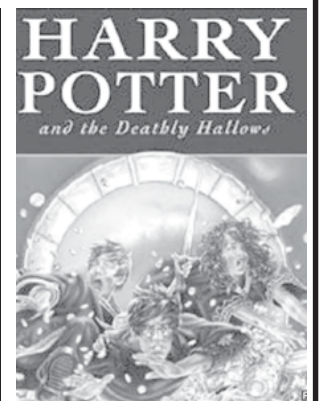
The results were not a surprise as Bloomsbury warned in December that its full-year

profits would be down.

The seventh and final Harry Potter book is set for release in July this year. Bloomsbury chairman Nigel Newton said 2006 was “a challenging year”.

Its turnover for the year fell 32% to £74.8m from £109.1m in 2005.

Mr Newton said the firm now had a growth strategy in place that included developing new authors, internet-based initiatives, and acquisitions, “all of which we believe will enhance and



**The seventh and final Potter book is due out in July. —INTERNET**

strengthen our position as a leading publisher”.

Internet



**Apartment buildings are seen in Beijing on 3 April, 2007.**

INTERNET



SPORTS



*Bayern Munich's Daniel Van Buyten scores the equalizing goal against AC Milan's Brazilian goalkeeper Dida during their UEFA Champions League quarter-final soccer match in Milan, on 3 April, 2007.—INTERNET*

FA to take no action against Spurs over fan attack

LONDON, 4 April — Tottenham Hotspur will not face action from the Football Association over a fan who tried to attack Chelsea midfielder Frank Lampard after their FA Cup quarterfinal replay at White Hart Lane.

The fan, who has been banned from Tottenham's ground for life, ran on to the pitch and took a swing at Lampard after the final whistle of Spurs' 2-1 defeat by Chelsea on 19 March.

The England midfielder ducked and the fan was grabbed by stewards.

Having investigated the events, an FA spokesman said on Tuesday: "After reviewing a video of the incident and receiving a full report from Spurs, there will not be any disciplinary action.

"We're satisfied that on the day the stewards took the appropriate course of action." — MNA/Reuters



*Ahmad Hussam (L) of Egypt's Zamalek fights for the ball with Khalid Nimer of Jordan's al-Faisali during the first leg of their 4th Arab Champions League (ACL) semi final soccer match at Amman International Stadium, in Amman on 3 April, 2007. —INTERNET*

FIFA happy with better pace of S Africa 2010 preparations

JOHANNESBURG, 4 April — South Africa has picked up the pace of stadium construction and is back on track in its preparations to host the 2010 World Cup, a senior FIFA official said on Tuesday.

Urs Linsi, the general secretary of soccer's world governing body, told reporters in Johannesburg he was impressed by the work that had been done on World Cup stadiums and related buildings since the beginning of the year.

"I think progress is really clear. We are very pleased with what has happened in South Africa in the past two months," he told a Press conference following a meeting of the country's World Cup organizing committee.

Linsi, however, cautioned that officials needed to ensure the construction of five new stadiums, including the main FNB stadium in Johannesburg, and refurbishment of five others was completed on time.

His optimistic remarks came amid reports FIFA was growing increasingly impatient with what it saw as the slow pace of stadium construction in South Africa, the first nation on the African continent to host the World Cup.

But the country's 2010 preparations faced a new challenge on Tuesday when a South African environmental group asked a high court to block construction of the 68,000 seat stadium in Cape Town, one of nine World Cup host cities. The Cape Town Environmental Association said the proposed 2.9-billion-rand (403-million-US-dollar) stadium at Green Point violated environment regulations. Cape Town Mayor Helen Zille vowed to fight the group's application.

MNA/Reuters

Thai inmate wins women's world title at Bangkok Hilton

BANGKOK, 4 April — Thai inmate Samson Sor Siriporn boosted her chances of freedom by beating Japan's Ayaka Miyano to win the vacant women's WBC light-flyweight title at the notorious "Bangkok Hilton" prison on Tuesday.

Under the gaze of dozens of prison guards, Siriporn, a convicted drugs dealer, battled through the unforgiving Thai heat to score a unanimous points victory and kick-start parole proceedings for her early release.

"I've been in jail for a long time now, I hope this will see me released early," said Siriporn, flanked by mean-looking guards and surrounded by photographers.

"When I'm free I'll carry on fighting. I want to fight all over the world." Fighting in a makeshift ring in the grounds of the infamous Klong Prem Prison with the Thai crowd chanting "fight, fight", Siriporn was on the attack from the start and repeatedly forced Miyano on to the ropes with a barrage of punches.

The intense afternoon heat took its toll on Miyano, who twice fell to the canvas as a result of Siriporn's relentless attacks, which drew rapturous applause from the few thousand prison staff, factory workers and taxi drivers who flocked to see her fight for freedom.

Siriporn's sparring partners also watched the fight, while glamorous transvestites in high heels and skimpy outfits were allowed out of their cells to parade around the ring with placards at the beginning of each round.

Siriporn fended off a brief fightback in the penultimate round to outpoint her opponent 97-93, 98-92, 100-91 and become the first prisoner to win a world boxing title.—MNA/Reuters



*Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant, left, dives for a loose ball in front of Denver Nuggets' Linas Kleiza during the first half of basketball game in Los Angeles on 3 April, 2007.—INTERNET*

Romario gets chance to score 1,000th goal at Maracana

RIO DE JANEIRO, 4 April — Vasco da Gama have switched Wednesday's cup tie against Gama to the Maracana because striker Romario hopes to score the 1,000th goal of his career at the famous stadium.

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) confirmed the

switch for the Copa Brasil second-round, second-leg tie, which was previously due to be staged at Vasco's more modest Sao Januario Stadium.

Romario, 41, says he has scored 999 goals so far although he openly admits the total includes goals scored in youth, junior and testimonial games.

Vasco president Eurico Miranda said Romario would be banned from giving pre-match interviews on the pitch.—MNA/Reuters



*Yomiuri Giants starting pitcher Chiang Chien-ming from Taipei throws the ball against Chunichi Dragons during the first inning of the Japanese Baseball League games in Tokyo on 3 April, 2007.—INTERNET*



*Geoff Ogilvy, from Australia, hits from the sand on the second hole during practice for the 2007 Masters golf tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga, on 3 April, 2007. First round play begins on Thursday.*

INTERNET

Zheng to return to Shandong for east Asian tournament

BEIJING, 4 April — China skipper Zheng Zhi will return from his loan spell in England to lead Chinese champions Shandong Luneng at the East Asian Champions Cup in June, officials said on Tuesday.

Shandong will host the fifth edition of the annual round-robin tournament for the club champions of China, Japan and South Korea as well as one invited team — this year China's runners up Shanghai Shenhua — from June 7-13. Zheng has impressed since his move to struggling Premier League club Charlton Athletic late last year but their fate will be long decided by the time Japan's Urawa Reds and South Korea's Seongnam visit Jinan.

"Zheng Zhi is on loan and his name is still in the Shandong Luneng squad," Chinese Super League chief Lang Xiaonong told a news conference on Tuesday. "He'll be back to play then."

The versatile Zheng will need to be at his best if Shandong are to break China's duck in the tournament, which was won by Japan's Kashima Antlers in 2003 with Korean clubs dominating since.—MNA/Reuters



# Largest ever drug bust in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 4 April — Police arrested 14 Cambodians, three Chinese and one Thai, together with three tons of chemicals for drug production on Sunday, possibly the largest ever drug bust for the kingdom, local media reported on Tuesday.

The suspects were caught respectively in Phnom Penh and Kompong Sepu Province, where they founded a laboratory on a piece of land of 20 hectares to produce “ice” and ecstasy pills, said Chinese newspaper the *Commercial Daily*.

Experts from the United States were helping the Cambodian police conduct analysis of the

advisers, reported another Chinese newspaper the *Jian Hua Daily*.

A number of senior government and military officials had been detained for investigation in relation with the case, it added.

Officials said that the weekend haul likely represented Cambodia’s biggest ever seizure of precursor chemicals for drugs, reported English

seized 17 types of chemicals in order to make out their total value and specific production purpose, it added.

Police believed that the land in Kompong Sepu belonged to a Deputy Prime Minister of the Cambodian Government, but local officials alleged that it was under the ownership of one of the Deputy Prime Minister’s personal

newspaper the *Cambodian Daily*.

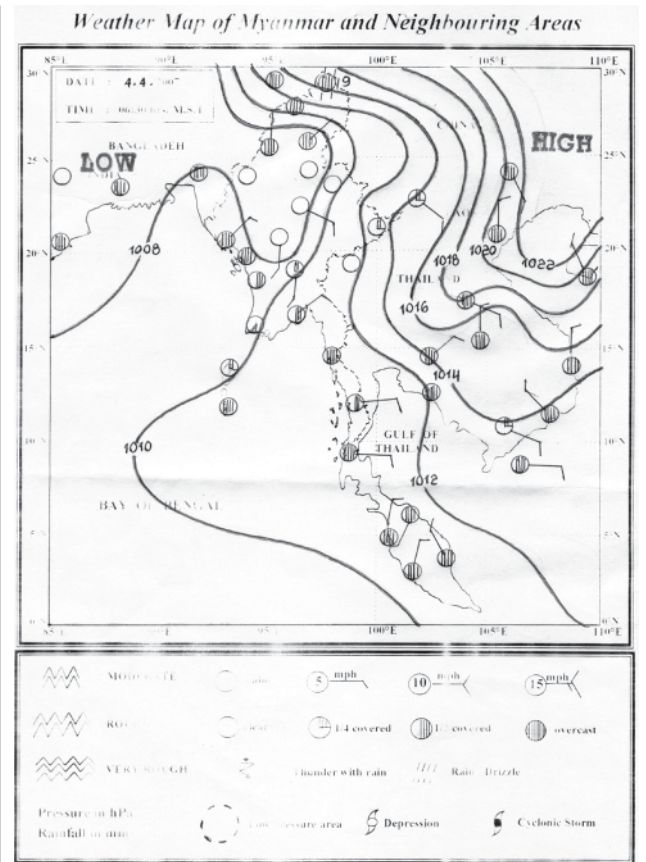
In terms both of the quantity of chemicals seized and the scale of the police investigation, the operation was the first for Cambodia, it added.

According to recent official anti-drug reports, Cambodia saw more cross-country drug trafficking cases in the past years, as the regional Mekong River was repeatedly utilized as an important passage for such crimes.

Drug rings had been attempting to develop Cambodia into a transit point and production base of their products, the reports said.

In 2005, Cambodia cracked 346 drug-related cases, arrested almost 400 drug traffickers and seized 330,000 ecstasy pills.

MNA/Xinhua



## WEATHER

Wednesday, 4 April, 2007

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder-showers have been scattered in Kachin State, isolated in upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine, Shan and Mon States, Yangon Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Shan, Kayin and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Chin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Myinmu (45°C), Monywa, Mandalay, NyaungU and Magway (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Machanbaw (0.67) inch and Putao (0.39) inch.

Maximum temperature on 3- 4 -2007 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 4- 4 -2007 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 4- 4 -2007 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 3- 4 -2007 was (9.5) hours approx.

Rainfall on 4- 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 (8) mph from South at (17:20) hours MST on 3-4 -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 5- 4-2007:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Shan and Mon States, Bago and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

**Forecsat for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 5-4-2007:** Fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 5-4-2007:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 5-4-2007:** Fair weather.



World-renowned saxophonist Kenny G impressed his fans in Beijing with a fabulous series of classics at the Beijing Exhibition Theatre on Saturday night, 31 March, 2007. “Super Girl” Li Yuchun also performed live on stage to show her support of the star. — INTERNET



Thursday, 5 April  
View on today

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယက အဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိကာ၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am

- တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသီရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

- Dace of national races

8:05 am

- တံတားမြစ်ငယ်အသစ်သွယ် လူမှုစီးပွားကြွယ်

8:15 am

- ခါသကြိန် အဆိုအကများ

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Let's Go

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- Musical programme

4:45 pm

- အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရက္ခဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒ အထူးပြုများ) (ရက္ခဗေဒ)

5:00 pm

- Musical programme

5:10 pm

- “စည်းကမ်းလိုက်နာ ဘေးကင်းမှာ” (ကျော်ရဲအောင်၊ ချစ်သူ၊

- ဇော်ဝင်းမောင်၊ မော့စ်၊ လင်းဇာနည်ဇော်၊ ပွင့်) [ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်ဇော်၊ မြင့်စိုး (ဝ/သရန်ကုန်)]

5:20 pm

- လှပဝင့်ကြွားဖောင်တော်ကြီး ဆိပ်ခံတံတား

5:30 pm

- ကြွယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

5:45 pm

- ခါသကြိန် အဆိုအကများ

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- သီရိဂေဟာ

7:00 pm

- Discovery

7:10 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သစ်ရွက်ကလေး၏ ရင်ခုန်သံ” (အပိုင်း-၁၂)

8:00 pm

- News
- International news
- Weather report
- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အကြင်နာနွေဦး” (အပိုင်း-၂၅)
- The next day's programme



## Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends First Tun Foundation Literary Awards Presentation Ceremony 2006

YANGON, 4 April — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence delivered an address at the first prize-presentation ceremony for literary awards of Tun Foundation (2006) at the hall of Myanmar Banks Association on Sibin Road in Yankin Township here this morning.

In his address, Lt-Gen Myint Swe said that the government has been presenting prizes for literary awards annually. Today's ceremony was to present literary awards 2006 sponsored for the first time by Tun Foundation. The government had laid down 12 state objectives and is



*Lt-Gen Myint Swe delivers an address at presentation of Tun Foundation Literary Awards (2006). — MNA*

implementing them. Under the leadership of the Ministry of Information, literati are bringing about first to third points of the

social objectives. Lt-Gen Myint Swe praised the Tun Foundation for its efforts to encourage the literature that is serving

the interest of the State. Lt-Gen Myint Swe urged the Tun Foundation to continue its contribution to flourishing of the lit-

erature.

Chairman of Tun Foundation Bank Patron of the Literary Award Committee U Thein Tun

extended greetings. Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association Patron of the (See page 9)

## Commander, Minister look into departmental functions

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — A ceremony to open the office of the Information and Public Relations Department of Kalaw Township, Shan State, was held at the department on 31 March.

It was attended by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thaung Aye, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyo of Kalaw Station, Director-General U Chit Naing of the IPRD, departmental officials of Taunggyi and Kalaw townships, members of social organizations and guests.

After opening the signboard of the department, the commander and the minister viewed wall magazines, documentary photos on mass movements in the district, township Women's Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association and cultivation of physic nut plants, and cordially greeted book enthusiasts at the library.

Upon arrival at First ICT Exhibition for 2007 staged at Taunggyi Town Hall, Commander Brig-Gen Thaung Aye, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Deputy Commander of Eastern Command

(See page 10)



*Commander Brig-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan visit 1st ITC Exhibition at City Hall in Taunggyi in Shan State. — MNA*

## Two members resign from NLD

YANGON, 4 April—Member of Wetlet Township National League for Democracy in Sagaing Division U Win Bo of Hanlin Village submitted his resignation letter of his own volition on 26 February and member of Sagaing Township NLD U Myo Win of Kaingbyin Village on 28 February to the NLD (HQ) and local authorities.

In the letters they sent to Sagaing Division Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-commission, they said that they no longer took interest in the NLD and in the party politics; and so they resigned from the NLD of their own accord.

MNA

### INSIDE

PAGE 7

#### ONE VILLAGE, ONE PRODUCT



It is required to control and improve the quality of artistic works and innovate the designs.

Now, Myanmar is exerting innovations in manufacturing wickerwork of artistic designs with the use of forest resources to penetrate the markets more both locally and internationally.