

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence visits tax free markets

YANGON, 10 April — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence visited the tax free markets here this morning.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe arrived at Pantaya tax free market on Mawguntak Road in Dagon Township. He was welcomed by Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council U Hla Soe and officials.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected the vegetable, rice and edible oil shops of Mingaladon Township Peace and Development Council, regiments and units, the Ministry of Industry-1, the Union of Myanmar Rice Merchants Association, Myanmar Oil Merchants and Dealers Association, the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd and Ngwepinle Livestock and Fisheries Co Ltd.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party inspected shops and personal goods shops at the tax free markets in Kamayut, Hlinethaya, Shwepyitha and Mayangon townships.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave instructions on sale of hygienic vegetable, meat and fish and selling at reasonable price at the markets.—MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence inspects tax free market in Mayangon Township.

MNA

INSIDE

Just as usual, revellers led by those at Nay Pyi Taw have been organizing teams and motorised transportation and the pandals manned by the various celebration committees have also been readied in advance. To ensure that there is clean fun and no derogatory scenes occur, the supervisory bodies have also been coordinating efforts well ahead of festival time.

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MIN KYAW MIN

WEATHER

(10-4-2007)

Significant day temperatures

Thayawady	(44°C)
Chauk	(42°C)
Minbu	(42°C)

Forecast for (11-4-2007)

Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Yangon and neighbouring areas

Partly cloudy.

Mandalay and neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 11 April, 2007

Preserve fine traditions and culture in Thingyan Festival

Myanmar's New Year Festival is Traditional Thingyan Water Festival, in which people douse water on each other in frolic to enjoy themselves. The term "Thingyan" derives from the Pali word "Sankanta", which literally means transit. Padauk (pterocarpus) is the golden seasonal bloom when nature lavishes the month of Tagu.

There is no other festival as merry, as boisterous and as joyful as the Thingyan Water Festival, which spells out the end of the old year and rings in the New Year. The festival starts in the month of Tabaung and concludes when it enters Tagu, the first month on the Myanmar calendar.

Splashing water on one another in Thingyan is to clean the misdeeds in the past, wishing the persons being poured water to be cool as water. And it is opportune period for the citizens to perform meritorious deeds.

Indeed, Thingyan is a festival for all to enjoy themselves, and such acts detrimental to clean fun are not tolerated. Merry makers are therefore to follow the rules and regulations laid down by the Maha Thingyan Discipline Enforcement Committee and to avoid wearing decadent costumes and doing activities that are against the traditions and culture of the nation.

While some are enjoying themselves in the festival, some people also mark the New Year wholeheartedly by paying respects to the elderly persons, parents and grandparents, freeing fish and other life, shampooing, bathing and manicuring elderly persons, observing Precepts, cleansing the religious edifices, giving feasts in charity and visiting monasteries to hear sermons. Thus, all should enhance the essence of celebrating the Water Festival.

National people are urged to welcome the New Year by upholding the fine traditions in the Thingyan days of 1368 Myanmar Era.



U Khin Hlaing and Daw Khin Myint (MIC Rubber Factory) and family donate cash to Hninzigone Home for the Aged through Executive Member of the Administration Board of the home U Chit Myaing.

NLM

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

CCDAC to organize contests to mark Int'l Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking



Police Col Hla Min delivers an address at coordination meeting for holding arts contests to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. — MNA

YANGON, 10 April — A work coordination meeting on holding of cartoon, drawing, poster, computer arts and digital poster contests to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held here today.

Chairman of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Head of Yangon Division Police Force Police Col Hla Min delivered an opening address at the meeting. Secretary of CCDAC Vice-Police Col Hse Maung reported on arrangements for holding

the contests.

Participants of the meeting discussed matters on tasks for the contests and the meeting ended with concluding remarks by Police Col Hla Min. The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking falls on 26 June.

Those wishing to participate in the contests may obtain application forms for the contests at the office of the Head of Yangon Division Police Force and must be sent back to the office within 1 and 7 May. — MNA



Prof (Retd) Daw Yi Yi Myint, Adviser of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association, presents certificate of honour to Chairperson of MWEA Daw Khin Myint Myint at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on 9 April 2007. Daw Khin Myint Myint was awarded Agga Maha Siri Suddhamma Theingi Title by the State recently. — MWEA

Two lose limbs in blasts

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April — Two villagers were injured in two mine blasts in Kyaukkyi and Htantabin townships recently.

Aung Aung, 25, of Payagyi Village, Kyaukkyi Township, stepped on the mine planted by insurgents on his way to a jungle near the village to pluck leaves

on 5 April and the mine exploded. His left foot was crushed in the blast.

Similarly, U Aung Than, 45, of Thabyaynyunt Village, Htantabin Township, lost his left foot in the mine blast near the village on 6 April.

He went to fish near the village on 6 April and stepped on the mine planted by insurgents.

The injured were rushed to Kyaukkyi and Htantabin township hospitals. Local authority and local people are in hot pursuit of insurgents. Insurgents have committed destructive acts to jeopardise the community peace and stability and to cause panic among the people.

MNA

Fire breaks out in Mandalay

YANGON, 10 April—A fire broke out at Industrial Zone-2 in Pyigyitagun Township, Mandalay Division this morning. The fire engulfed four houses, rendering 28 people homeless.—MNA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Iraqi official's book blasts US failures in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 9 April—Ali A Allawi, senior adviser to the Prime Minister of Iraq and once served as Iraq's trade, defence and finance minister at different times, blasted US failures in Iraq in his 500-page book *The Occupation of Iraq*, the AP reported Sunday.

"The corroded and corrupt state of Saddam was replaced by the corroded, inefficient, incompetent and corrupt state of the new order," Allawi concluded in the

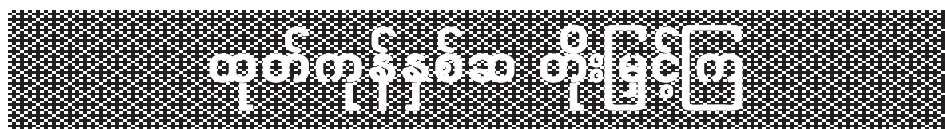
book published by Yale University Press.

Allawi asserted that the United States committed blunders such as disbanding Iraq's Army and purging tens of thousands of members of toppled president Saddam Hussein's Baath Party, with little consultation with the Iraqis.

On US reconstruction failures — in electricity, health care and other areas documented by Washington's own auditors—Allawi wrote that

the Americans' "insipid retelling of 'success' stories" merely hid "the huge black hole that lay underneath", the report said. The US-and British-educated engineer and financier is the first senior Iraqi official to look back at book length on his country's four-year ordeal, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (R) awards the instrument of appointment as the third-term Chief Executive of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) to Donald Tsang in Beijing, China on 9 April, 2007. XINHUA



Swimmer's life at risk after record Amazon trip

SAO PAULO, 9 April — Slovenian Martin Strel,

after braving crocodiles, piranhas, disease and the threat of an imminent heart attack, on Sunday completed a record-setting 66-day, 3,274-mile (5,268-kilometre) swim down the Amazon River and was taken to a hospital.

Thousands of people were on hand in the Brazilian colonial city of Belem as an exhausted Strel, 52, made his final stroke, and was pulled from the water.

On Saturday, Strel had

officially set a Guinness Book of World Records mark when he hit the 3,274-mile point, the swimmer's support team said on his Website www.amazonswim.com.

On Sunday he was back in the water again, riding the early morning tide back upriver 6 miles to end the marathon Amazon swim in Belem at about 11:30 am (1430 GMT).

It was the most challenging of Strel's big-river swims. He has

previously swum 2,488 miles (4,004 kilometres) of China's Yangtze in 2004, 2,360 miles (3,798 kilometres) of the US Mississippi in 2002 and 1,867 miles (3,004 kilometres) of Europe's Danube in 2000.

After arriving in Belem, Strel was placed in an ambulance and medics worked to stabilize his blood pressure, which was at near-heart attack levels, his support team said on the website. — MNA/Reuters

Waist and tragedy

TORONTO, 9 April—Doctors across Canada are being urged to screen every adult and child over age 10 for weight-related health problems using the simplest measure of all: waist size.

A girth greater than 94 centimetres in men and 80 cm in women significantly increases the risk of heart disease and diabetes and should be considered a "new vital sign" as important as blood pressure and heart rate, according to the first Canadian guidelines on the prevention and treatment of obesity.

Based on those limits, nearly 50% of adult Canadians have abdominal or central obesity, the worst kind of fat.

The guidelines recommend measuring waist circumference in children starting at age 10, but experts say there is not enough data yet to give specific cut-offs for children.

"The body mass index is a surrogate measure of body fatness, but it doesn't tell us where the fat is located," says Dr David Lau, professor of medicine at the

University of Calgary and president of Obesity Canada, a non-profit organization. "The ugly fat is fat from inside the belly."

Belly fat consists of subcutaneous fat, or fat just beneath the skin that people can pinch, and visceral fat, a deeper layer of fat that wraps around the intestines and liver.

Visceral fat is considered the greater of the two evils. Research in Dr Lau's lab suggests fat cells inside the belly produce more C-reactive protein than fat in the buttocks or other regions of the body. Produced by the liver, C-reactive protein causes inflammation throughout the body, including the arteries.

People with abdominal fat are at the highest risk of Type 2 diabetes and heart disease and stroke. Belly fat is also the leading cause of a cluster of abnormalities known as metabolic syndrome.

Internet



A general view of the new developments in Malaysia's administrative capital of Putrajaya outside Kuala Lumpur on 8 April, 2007. — INTERNET



Slovenian marathon swimmer Martin Strel, 52, receives first aid from Brazilian medics and a member of his team (R) after swimming into the Amazon port city of Belem, at the river's mouth, on 8 April, 2007— XINHUA

Six US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 9 April—Four American soldiers were killed in attacks south of Baghdad on Sunday while another two died from wounds suffered in operations north of the capital, the US military said.

The US military said three of the soldiers killed on Sunday south of Baghdad had been hit by a roadside bomb. The fourth soldier was hit by "indirect fire".

It was unclear exactly when the two soldiers who died on Sunday had been wounded. The toll makes it a deadly weekend for American troops after four soldiers were killed in an explosion near their vehicle in Diyala Province north of Baghdad on Saturday.

More than 3,270 American soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the 2003 invasion.—MNA/Reuters

A million species and counting in catalog of critters

WASHINGTON, 9 April — A worldwide scientific effort to catalog every living species has topped the 1 million milestone.

Six years into the programme the total has reached 1,009,000, researchers report.

They hope to complete the listing by 2011, reaching an expected total of about 1.75 million species.

Thomas M Orrell, a biologist at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, said

the finished catalog will include all known living organisms, from plants and animals to fungi and microorganisms such as bacteria, protozoa and viruses.

"Many are surprised that, despite over two centuries of work by biologists and the current worldwide interest in biodiversity, there is presently no comprehensive catalog of all known species of organisms on Earth," Orrell said.

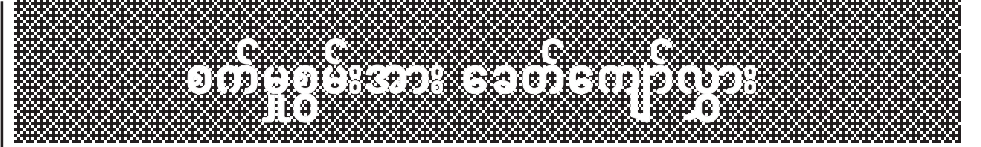
The listing does not

include fossil species from the past.

The Integrated Taxonomic Information System-Species 2000 Catalog of Life provides access to data maintained by a variety of scientific organizations, each specializing in a certain area.

For example, information on dipteran flies is maintained by the Agriculture Department's Systematic Entomology Laboratory at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.

Internet



Lotus-shaped lanterns are released onto a river during Hung Shing festival, the birthday of the god of the seas in Hong Kong's Wui Wo village on 9 April, 2007. — INTERNET

Tourist ship sinks in Peru, no injuries

LIMA, 9 April — A tourist ship sank off the coast of Peru after it was hit by a huge wave on Sunday but there were no casualties or injuries, police said.

The wave hit the ship at 06:30 am local time (1130 GMT) when it was near Paracas Bay, some 250 kilometres from Lima, local police colonel Cesar Mendoza said.

People camping on Peru's beaches during Easter holidays were also hit by the wave, which flooded tents and even some seaside restaurants.

The same wave has prevented six fishing boats from returning to shore in Chincha, Mendoza said.

Police have barred camping on beaches at Cerro Azul, Los Lobos, La Ensenada, Los Reyes and Cerro Colorado.

Julio Villafuerte, director general of the National Meteorology and Hydrology Service, said the wave was caused by strong South Pacific winds, which were typical for April when fog and strong winds also often caused problems. — MNA/Xinhua



The completed rim structure of the Singapore Flyer is seen through trees in Singapore on 9 April, 2007. — INTERNET

Cambodia trains 4,700 vets for preventing bird flu

BEIJING, 8 April — The Cambodian Agriculture Ministry and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) have been cooperating to train about 4,700 vets and villagers for reeducating people to prevent bird flu, FAO officials said on Monday.

They were chosen to give the messages about preventing bird flu to villagers in rural areas, said Yon Fernandez, coordinator of bird flu project from FAO to Cambodia.

Meanwhile, the FAO, in cooperation with the relevant Cambodian ministries, will hold marches to raise public awareness of bird flu in districts throughout eight provinces from 9 to 12 April.

"We chose all these provinces to raise the awareness of people for the danger of bird flu," Yon told Xinhua by phone. Bird flu initially broke out in Cambodia in January 2004 and affected its eight provinces, including Kompong Cham, Prey Veng, Kandal and Phnom Penh. The disease has killed seven Cambodians, and the latest toll occurred on Thursday. — Xinhua

Pilot Miles Barber of Britain gives a thumbs-up before departing the Phuket airport for Malaysia in a micro light aircraft on 9 April, 2007. Barber, who lost his sight nearly 40 years ago, is on a charity flight from England to Australia, and aims to raise nearly \$2 million for eye patients worldwide. — INTERNET



White mouse grounds Vietnam Airlines flight

HANOI, 9 April — A white mouse grounded a Vietnam Airlines flight to Japan for more than three hours with dozens of staff scrambling to find the rodent in the cabin, the state-run carrier said on Monday.

The animal was eventually found in a food compartment of the Boeing 777, allowing the delayed flight to take off from Hanoi to Tokyo late Sunday, said Tran Tien Dung, head of the airline's safety department.

"We delayed the flight for more than three hours and mobilized dozens of staff to find the mouse, which we suspect came

on board in the pocket of a Vietnamese passenger," he told AFP. "We were afraid it might chew through some of the plane's cables."

Dung added that the airline did not plan to take

any action even if the owner of the mouse was identified.

The fate of the rodent was uncertain, with Dung saying only that "we took it away."

Internet



A lab mouse is seen in a file photo. A small white mouse running around a Boeing 777 delayed a Vietnam Airlines flight to Tokyo for more than three hours, newspapers reported on 9 April, 2007. — INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

Egypt opposes to “gas OPEC”

CAIRO, 9 April— Egyptian Petroleum Minister Sameh Fahmi said on Sunday that Egypt is opposed to the idea of establishing an OPEC-style cartel (“gas OPEC”) for gas exporting countries, the official *MENA* news agency reported.

Fahmi made the remarks in a statement he gave before leaving for Doha to attend the 7th ministerial conference of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) scheduled for Monday.

Fahmi said that

Egypt’s rejection to the formation of such a cartel is due to its wish to maintain transparency in international gas markets.

“We refuse the idea of building a body that controls one of the essential sources of global energy,” he said in the statement. Earlier, there were media reports and speculations that the world’s largest producers of natural gas, in particular Russia and Iran, plan to create a gas cartel equivalent to the OPEC which sets quotas and

prices and are due to discuss the issue at the Doha meeting.

As an organization of world’s leading gas producers established in Teheran in 2001, the GECF does not have a fixed membership structure, however Algeria, Bolivia, Brunei, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Indonesia, Iran, Libya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Russia, Trinidad & Tobago, the UAE and Venezuela could be identified as current members.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Tanzania to have full market access to EU countries

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 9 April—Tanzania is set to enjoy better market access to European countries as the European Union (EU) has just offered to remove remaining market access limitations for African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. The improvement of market access to EU countries is to benefit Tanzanian agricultural products especially.

“It (the EU offer) will apply immediately following the signing of an agreement,” said a statement released by the EU. Local English newspaper *Sunday News* quoted EU chief representative to Tanzania Frans Baan as saying that the ongoing negotiations for the

agreement are dealing with some technical issues. “In Tanzania, the fundamental test of the success of EPA (Economic Partnership Agreement) negotiations will be that

they deliver results to the majority of citizens who work in this country’s principal sectors, especially agriculture and fisheries,” said Ambassador Baan.

MNA/Xinhua



Jiang Xiaoyu (second left), executive vice-president of Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad (BOCOG) and three other guests launch the “Olympic Families Tour Beijing” campaign in Beijing on 9 April, 2007. — XINHUA

Chinglish on Beijing’s signs shocks foreigners

BEIJING, 9 April—What strikes foreign visitors the most in Beijing may not be the interesting customs, unique architecture and enticing dishes, but the Chinglish on signs.

China Centennial Altar is a landmark building completed in 1999 to greet

the new millennium. However, a name plate near the front door reads “China Centennial Temple” and another sign about 50 metres away confidently offers “China Centennial Monument”. Some menus of Chinese dishes are also confusing. The “Italian spaghetti” is translated into “ideas’ powder”, which derives from the literal translation of the Chinese name.

A thick wheat-based noodle in Japanese cuisine is literally translated

according to the Chinese name into “fry the dark winter in the sun’s way”, which makes no sense at all.

To Jill, an Australian student in Beijing, the Chinglish translations she has collected serve as a chronic laughing stock.

“It is not too difficult for the foreigners who know some Chinese to understand the Chinglish although the translations are very funny,” said Jill, who has taken almost 100 pictures of the ridiculous translations.

In addition, some English translations seem horrible. In a restaurant menu, the name of a dish made of young chicken is translated into “young chicken without sex”, which makes foreign customers flinch.

MNA/Xinhua



World famous actress Gong Li attends the inauguration ceremony of an apartment building in Shanghai, becoming one of the first batch of holders, on 6 April, 2007. — INTERNET

Malaysia records higher trade surplus in February

KUALA LUMPUR, 10 April—Malaysia recorded a higher trade surplus of 7.6 billion ringgit (2.17 billion US dollars) in February, up 2.7 per cent over the same period last year, the Department of Statistics said on Monday.

Total exports and imports for this February were valued at 41.1 billion ringgit (11.74 billion US dollars) and 33.5 billion ringgit (9.57 billion US dollars) respectively, the

department said in its latest release of Malaysian external trade statistics.

“The largest export revenue earner was electrical and electronic products, valued at 18.7 billion ringgit (5.34 billion US dollars) and accounted for 45.4 per cent of total exports,” said the department. Imports of intermediate and capital goods constituted 83.4 per cent of total imports.

For the first two months

of the year 2007, Malaysia recorded a lower trade surplus of 15.2 billion ringgit (4.34 billion US dollars) as against 16.2 billion ringgit (4.63 billion US dollars) in the same period last year.

Exports expanded by 4.3 per cent to 89.1 billion ringgit (25.46 billion US dollars) while imports expanded by 6.8 per cent to 73.9 billion ringgit (21.11 billion US dollars), it added. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Sony introduces the XDV-100 pocket-size digital TV in Japan. The measurements of the Sony XDV-100 are 98.3x61x15.1mm and the sleek TV weighs only 110g. — XINHUA



A potted azalea is shown in the 500-year-old Zhuozheng Garden during the 11th Azalea Festival in Suzhou, the scenic city of east China's Jiangsu Province on 3 April, 2007. Seven new varieties of azalea on display, including the green azalea were introduced abroad to add shining point to the festival. — XINHUA

American firms focus on Chinese medium-sized cities

XI'AN, 9 April — The foreign commercial service of the embassy of the United States of America in China works is helping the American firms to access Chinese medium-sized cities, US commercial counsellor to China William A Brekke told Xinhua.

"About 50 per cent of the American companies in China are currently based in Shanghai and Beijing. What we do next

is to help the American firms to enter the Chinese medium-sized cities," he said.

He made the remarks when attending the 6th China Western Region International Economic Cooperation Fair in Xi'an, northwest China's Shaanxi Province. The Embassy's Foreign Commercial service has helped bring government representatives from five US states, including

Kentucky, Illinois, North Carolina, Maryland and Idaho to the event.

MNA/Xinhua

An Air India Airbus

A310 is seen after it

made an emergency

landing at the

international airport in

New Delhi on 9 April,

2007. — INTERNET



A potential buyer admires one of the most important Chinese modern oil paintings, "Put Down Your Whip" by Xu Beihong, during a spring sales preview by auction house Sotheby's in Hong Kong. The protest painting by Xu sold at auction on Saturday for 72 million Hong Kong dollars (9.2 million USD), setting yet another record for Chinese painting. — INTERNET

"Blades of Glory" tops box office in N America

LOS ANGELES, 8 April — "Blades of Glory," a skating comedy, topped the box office in North America this Easter weekend, raking in an estimated 23 million US dollars.



The comedy has grossed an estimated 68.4 million dollars since its debut last weekend, according to preliminary box office figures released Sunday by Media By Numbers.

The Encino-based box office tracker will release final figures for the Friday-to-Sunday period tomorrow. The computer-animated Disney flick, "Meet The Robinsons," grossed an estimated 17 million dollars its second week at the box office.

The family comedy "Are We Done Yet?" debuted with an estimated 15 million. The movie, the sequel to "Are We There Yet?" opened on Wednesday.

"Grindhouse," the double feature horror movies, debuted with an estimated 11.6 million.

Another horror movie

debut, "The Reaping," starring Hilary Swank, took in 10 million. It opened on Thursday.

Rounding out the top 12 were "300" (8.8 million dollars); "Wild Hogs" (6.8 million); "Shooter" (5.8 million); "TMNT" (4.9 million); "Firehouse Dog" (4 million); "Premonition" (3.2 million); "Reign Over Me" (2.5 million).

The dozen top-grossing films generated a total of 112.8 million, a 9.7 percent jump from the 102.8 million earned by the 12 highest-grossing movies during the same period a year ago.

Internet

Ship collision leaves 20 missing in east China sea

HANGZHOU, 9 April — A Chinese ship collided with a foreign cargo ship off the east China coast at around 4:00 am Sunday. The foreign ship sank immediately and 20 crew members are missing, according to marine police in

Taizhou City, in east China's Zhejiang Province.

The 6,500-ton cargo ship *Harvest* was en route from Shanghai to Vietnam when it collided with the Chinese cargo ship *Jinhaikun* in Taizhou Bay, east China.

All 20 crew members aboard — 19 Chinese and an Indonesian — are missing.

The 17,061-ton Chinese ship is from Fuzhou, capital of east China's Fujian Province and was bound for Zhangjiagang, Jiangsu Province.

Harvest, loaded with 5,000 tons of steel, was registered in Belize in Central America.

Three patrol boats from Zhejiang marine police, two professional rescue vessels, a helicopter and four fishing boats have converged on the area to try to save the seamen. The Chinese Navy has also sent two escort vessels and a helicopter to assist rescue work.

Internet



5th space tourist to treat ISS crew Martha Stewart meal

BEIJING, 9 April — Charles Simonyi, the world's fifth paying space tourist, will treat his ISS colleagues to a gourmet space meal picked by his "best friend," US lifestyle maven Martha Stewart, media reports said on Sunday.

The menu includes quail roasted in Madiran wine, duck breast confit with capers, shredded chicken parmentier, apple fondant pieces, rice pudding with candied fruit, and semolina cake with dried apricots. Simonyi and Stewart plan the celebratory feast

for 12 April, which Russia observes as Cosmonauts' Day.

The two have been friends for about a decade, and some celebrity-gossip publications have suggested they're romantically linked. Stewart's spokeswoman refused to

confirm the relationship, saying only, "They're best friends."

Martha Stewart, more familiar with product launches than rocket launches, runs a home decorating and cooking business empire.

Internet

Nay Pyi Taw tops the list of sun and fun in the period of extended holidays

Min Kyaw Min

In the merry-go-round of festivals on the Myanmar calendar, Thingyan reigns supreme as the festival full of fun. The cheer that is so much in abundance surpasses all you can find at any other festival.

Mid-summer, when most school children are on their annual end-of-term vacation and when the rising temperature calls for something cool and refreshing, the water-feast, as some choose to call Thingyan, is most welcome.

Revelry provided by the water-throwers and those going around to have water doused on them comes as the central theme. Then, with all the splashing and cheers, the feasts of food big and small provided by those seeking merit are eagerly accepted by the merry-makers.

The predominant bloom of the Thingyan season is, of course, the padauk (*pterocarpus*), the golden petals bathing the emerald leaves and providing appropriate colour harmony. A similar yellow hue is lent by the ngu-shwe-wah (*cassia fistula*). Yingat (*gardenia*) also adds to the beauty of the scene, together with other less-famous blooms.

This year, we are enjoying five days' Thingyan season holidays in a row, with ten days of gazetted holidays preceding 13 April, the ushering in of the festival.

Just as usual, revellers led by those at Nay Pyi Taw have been organizing teams and motorised transportation and the pandals manned by the various celebration committees have also been readied in advance. To ensure that there is clean fun and no derogatory scenes occur, the supervisory bodies have also been coordinating efforts well ahead of festival time.

There will be usual festivities with floats carrying around teams competing in songs and dances

to the delight of all.

Camaraderie, with merry-makers joking and laughing, will form the general scene.

As at all Thingyans, there will be good cheer and laughter all over, for tradition requires that no one should be cross or mean. The spirit of fairplay and familiar kinship will prevail as always.

There is myth and legend surrounding most of the festivals. Common belief is that Thingyan begins when the Thagyamin, the King of Celestial Beings, descends from his abode to earth. There was a time when the prediction of his arrival was an elaborate affair, with royal astrologers in the old capital of Mandalay calculating, the day and time of his arrival. To this day, the practice is very much part of the picture, with the Thingyansar, a sort of almanac, issued for the auspicious occasion.

The celebration of Thingyan is a matter handed down through generations. It is, therefore, appropriate to borrow a relevant excerpt:

"... When the Sun enters the constellation Aswini in the sign Aries, the Thingyan period begins and continues for three days. The popular belief, however, is that during the Thingyan period the Thagyamin (who is the same as the Vedic deity Indra) descends to make his annual visit to the realms of the earth. He brings with him a golden book, wherein he inscribes the names of those who wrought good deeds, and he has also with him another book made of dog's skin, wherein he puts down the names of those who did wicked deeds.

"The story, however, goes that once upon a time a dispute arose in the abode of the celestial beings between the Thagyamin and a certain Bramah concerning certain mathematical calculations. The dispute lasted a long time, neither party would give in and at

last the disputants each wagered his head as to being in the right. The Thagyamin won, and delighted though he was at having to cut off the Bramah's head, a new perplexity beset him.

How was he to dispose of that head? To throw it down to the earth would mean conflagration in the abode of the human beings, to cast it into the sea would make the water boil, to throw it up to the sky would burn the firmament.

"He solved his difficulty, however, by handing it over to the keeping of several natmaidens, and, once a year, when the head of this vanquished mathematician changes hands, the Thagyamin finds it excursion and a sojourn in our midst"

More down-to-earth, Thingyan means transit, either taken from the Pali, sankanta, or Sanskrit, sankranta — the transit of the sun from the zodiacal sign of Pisces to that of Aries. Or, if you will accept it, from the old year to the new.

Whatever the myth or legend, whatever the popular belief or the reason, there's plenty of rhyme and rhythm in the four of five days' waterfest.

There's the sonorous boom of the ozi and the timed thump-thump of the dhotat, both accompanied by the rousing bamboo-clappers and crashing cymbals which add up to the general din and clatter—an essential element of most festivals in Myanmar.

From squirtfuls and bowlfuls, the dousing extends upwards to pailfuls and pumped hoses and water-jets which dislodge even the most hardy revelers from their jeeps. Thingyan water is plentiful.

Traditionally, as seen at some of the more conservative pandals in Mandalay, Yangon and Mawlamyine as well as Nay Pyi Taw scented water is sprinkled on those who want it, with eugenia leaves from silver bowls.

While the elderly keep sabbath and the light-hearted seek fun, boys and girls find occasion to cut finger-nails and toe-nails of the aged, shampoo their hair and bathe them as gestures of goodwill and merit.

Long queues of belles with small water-pots on their heads moving towards a pagoda to clean it, or similar lines of merit-seekers on their way to the nearby lake to free fish, preceded by music troupes and clownish dancers form part of the New Year Day scene.

Mirth and merit thus make a natural blend at this colourful festival full of fun, with participants careful enough not to overstep bounds of decency and decorum.

Happy Thingyan!

There is myth and legend surrounding most of the festivals. Common belief is that Thingyan begins when the Thagyamin, the King of Celestial Beings, descends from his abode to earth. There was a time when the prediction of his arrival was an elaborate affair, with royal astrologers in the old capital of Mandalay calculating, the day and time of his arrival. To this day, the practice is very much part of the picture, with the Thingyansar, a sort of almanac, issued for the auspicious occasion.

Commander inspects regional development



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win inspects a lake storing drinking water at Ayeywa ward in Kyimyinding Township. — MNA

YANGON, 9 April — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win visited Ayeywa ward on the west bank of Kyimyindine Township, Yangon West District, Yangon Division, yesterday.

The chairman of Kyimyindine Township Peace and Development Council explained salient points of the region. The commander made arrangements to carry out regional development undertakings. He then looked around the ward.

After inspecting a pond to supply clean water to the ward, the commander paid respects to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Jotisara of Yadanabon monastery. He also presented offertories to the Sayadaw.

In his meeting with departmental personnel, social organizations and ward people, the commander discussed regional peace and stability, the rule of law and regional development.

Later, the commander visited the rural health care centre in Wayonseik ward, in the township, and a post primary school. — MNA

Nay Pyi Taw-Mawlamyine-Nay Pyi Taw express train to run daily beginning 22 April

YANGON, 10 April — For the convenience of increasing number of passengers in Nay Pyi Taw and ensuring smooth transport of commodities, Myanma Railways started running of Nay Pyi Taw-Bagan-Nay Pyi Taw express train on 18 May 2006, Nay Pyi Taw-Pyay-Nay Pyi Taw express train on 25 May 2006, Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay-Nay Pyi Taw express train on 7 June 2006 and Nay Pyi Taw-Thazi-Meiktila-Myingyan express train on 16 July 2006.

The Nay Pyi Taw-Mawlamyine-Nay Pyi Taw express train will run daily beginning 22 April.

In the past, the express train passed through Bago. Now the train will run through DaikU-Myitkyo-Sittoung Road. The newly-built railroad will save 38 miles.

The Nay Pyi Taw-Mawlamyine express train leaves Pyinmana Station at 5.30 am and The Mawlamyine-Nay Pyi Taw train leaves Mawlamyine at 7 am daily. It stops over at Toungoo, DaikU, Einchelays, Hsathwagon, Kyaikto, Thaton and Paung Stations.

MNA

Yangon International Airport Work Supervisory Committee meets

YANGON, 10 April— A meeting of Yangon International Airport Work Supervisory Committee took place at the Department for Civil Aviation yesterday with an address by Patron of the Committee Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe.

Also present at the meeting were Committee Chairman Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun

Aung, departmental heads, responsible persons of international and local airlines.

At the meeting, Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe said a new building of Yangon International Terminal was to be opened soon. The aim of constructing the new building was to help increase the number of tourists and inbound and outbound international flights. Therefore, those

responsible from departments concerned were to strive for the convenience and security of air passengers as modern equipment had been installed at the airport.

Afterwards, officials of the department and airlines took part in the discussions. Later, the meeting came to a close with a concluding remark by Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe.—MNA

Summer computer course opens



Chairperson of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Daw Mar Mar Wai accepts cash donated by a wellwisher. — MNA

YANGON, 10 April — Yangon East District Peace and Development Council and International Language and Business Center (ILBC) opened a summer computer course for young people at the ILBC building in Tamway Township here this morning.

Yangon East District PDC Chairman U Than Aung explained the purpose of opening the course. Next, for the

improvement of mental abilities of the youth, ILBC donated K 500,000 and Dagon (East) Industrial Zone, Thakayta Industrial Zone and Dagon (Seikkan) Industrial Zone K 300,000 each. Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory

Committee Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai accepted the donations. Then, ILBC Principal U Tin Maung Win gave an account of the computer course. A total of 100 trainees are attending the course that will last till 10 May. — MNA

UMFCCI President meets guests

YANGON, 8 April— President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and Vice-Presidents U Win Aung, U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin met with Mr Uano Fumihiro, Chairman of Japanese Chamber of Commerce

and Industry, Yangon (JCCY), at the UMFCCI office here on 4 April.

At the meeting, they discussed trade, investment and economic sectors between the two countries.

Similarly, UMFCCI General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing, Joint Secretary-I Dr

Maung Maung Lay and executives met with Mr Toshiya Imada, New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) of Japan at the UMFCCI office the same day. They discussed matters related to economic cooperation between the two countries. — MNA

DONATE BLOOD

Ministry of Mines holds collective ordination

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Under the auspices of Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and wife Daw San San, the fourth collective ordination ceremony was held in conjunction with a ceremony to initiate young women into nuns at Thiri Yadana Hall of the Ministry of Mines here this morning.

It was attended by Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and

wife Daw San San, directors-general of departments and managing directors of enterprises under the ministry, officials, staff members and their families.

The congregation received the Five Precepts from Presiding Sayadaw of Nay Pyi Taw Thabye Aye Mogok Vipassana Dhamma Yeiktha Kyaungtaik Kammathana-cariya Bhaddanta

Gandamala.

Next, members of the Sangha recited parittas.

After that, the minister and wife presented offertories and K 100,000 to the Presiding Sayadaw of Nay Pyi Taw Thabye Aye Mogok Vipassana Dhamma Yeiktha Kyaungtaik while heads of departments presented offertories to members of the Sangha.

Next, the Presiding Sayadaw delivered a sermon, and the congregation led by the minister and wife shared merits gained.

MNA

Computer courses conclude

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—The Basic Computer Course-3/2006-2007 and Computer Refresher Course 3/2006-2007 organized by Forest Department under the Ministry of Forestry were concluded at the Forest Research hall here this morning, with an address by Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung.

The minister and Director-General of Forest Department U Soe Win Hlaing presented awards to the outstanding trainees. A trainee spoke words of thanks. The six-week course was attended by 59 trainees.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung awards an outstanding trainee. — FORESTRY

ရေခဲထုပ်၊ ရေပူဖောင်း ဆပ်ပြာရည် ဂက်စ်ဘူးဖြင့် ကစားက

- ၁။ လက်ဝယ်တွေ့ရှိသူ - ထောင် (၁) နှစ်
- ၂။ ကစားသူ - ထောင် (၃) နှစ်
- ၃။ ထုတ်လုပ်ရောင်းချသူ - ထောင် (၅) နှစ်

နှင့် ပစ္စည်းကိုသိမ်း

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs tours Kayin, Mon States

YANGON, 10 April—Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Deputy Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Zaw Min, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Khin Kyu, Directors-General and officials met with the staff of Kawkareik Township Development Affairs Committee at the office on 9 April and gave necessary instructions and fulfilled the requirements.

In Hpa-an, Principal Daw Kyi Kyi Lwin of domestic science training

school for women reported on work done.

Next, Vice-Principal U Saw Chit Thein of National Race Youths Development Training School briefed on academic matters and work being done to the minister. The minister fulfilled the requirements and provided cash assistance.

The minister met with the staff of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department, Development Affairs Department, National Race Youths Development, Training School and domestic science training school for women.

The minister and party

arrived in Thaton, Mon State. Executive officer U Aye Swe of Mawlamyine Township Development Affairs Committee reported on arrangements for water supply.

The minister met with staff of Mawlamyine, Thaton, Paung, Bilin and Kyaikto Township Development Affairs Committees and gave necessary instructions.

In Kyaikto Township Development Affairs Committee office, Executive officer U Thet Aung briefed on urban and rural development tasks. The minister fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



Minister Col Thein Nyunt visits National Race Youths Development Training School in Hpa-an. — PBANRDA

Sub-power Station (Ingon) in Kyaukse inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint on 6 April heard a report presented by Township Electric Engineer U Khin Maung Htwe on power supply of Wundwin 33/11 KV Sub-power Station, organizational set-up of staff and the site chosen for construction of the new sub-power station's office.

Next, the minister stressed the need for full power supply to the public and looked into the site chosen for construction of the new sub-power station's office.

On arrival at the 132 KV Sub-power Station (Ingon) in Kyaukse, the minister heard a report presented by Head of the Sub-power Station U Hla Tun on condition of the sub-power station, its power supply and requirements.

Later, Mandalay Division Electric Engineer U Kyaw Thaung reported on arrangements for regular power supply of the sub-power station and

linking of power lines.

Next, the minister called on officials to take steps for full power supply to Kyaukse region as the region facilitated with mills and factories is making progress and contributing to national development, and inspected the use of five 33 KV Remote Control Panels, installation of four 11 KV VCR Panels, Switch Yard and the site chosen for building of residences for service personnel.

After that, the minister inspected construction of the new Kyaukse District Electric Engineer Office and gave necessary instructions.

At the briefing hall of the 500 KV Main Sub-power Station (Belin) construction project, the minister heard a report on the project and the construction of residences for service personnel.

The minister gave instructions on timely completion of the project and meeting the set standard and inspected the building of staff residences.—MNA

Mexico City's artificial beaches welcome nearly 100,000 visitors

MEXICO CITY, 10 April — The four free-of-charge artificial beaches in Mexico City have attracted up to 99,615 visitors in recent five days, which has been a significant success, the city's governance secretary told a Press conference on Monday.

No serious accidents have taken place during these days, though there were some minor incidents. The visitors have enjoyed themselves and got refreshed here, said Jose Angel Vila, Mexico City's governance secretary.

The first of the four artificial beaches, which is located in southern Mexico City's Villa Olimpica, was opened on 3 April, and the other three were opened the next day.

At the request of residents in the southwest of the city, a fifth beach will

be open in Magdalena Contreras next week, which will have a half-Olympic-size swimming pool, a playground for children and soccer fields, Vila said.

People are coming to Mexico City from the neighbouring states of Puebla, Morelos and Hidalgo, he added.

The beaches were closed on Monday for maintenance, but will be open again on Tuesday, and will remain open to the public till the end of the summer.

Mexico City's National Autonomous University and the National

Polytechnic Institute are taking sand and water samples to guarantee cleanliness, Vila said.

The first four beaches cost two million pesos (180,000 US dollars) in total. The project was modeled on previous artificial beach projects in France, Italy, Japan, the Czech Republic, Germany and Hungary.

MNA/Xinhua



A girl dances during a beauty contest, part of the celebration for the International Roma Day in Karlovo, some 130km (80 miles) east of capital Sofia, Bulgaria on 8 April, 2007. — INTERNET

Chopper carrying Filipino senatorial candidate crash-lands

MANILA, 10 April — A helicopter carrying an influential Filipino politician and senatorial candidate crash-landed Monday afternoon on a rugged mountain town in the northern Philippines, slightly hurting three passengers on board, said Air Transportation Office (ATO) and police.

The ATO operation centre in Manila said the chartered R-44 chopper left Manila domestic airport for an election campaign in the province. The helicopter encountered strong gusty winds and heavy fog, forcing him to crashland the aircraft in a village in Mountain Province.

Ruling out sabotage, police said on board was pro-administration senatorial candidate Chavit Singson and his two aides, who suffered minor wounds in the head and feet after the chopper hit trees, rolled, and slid down upon descent along the rugged terrains of the village.

Singson is also the governor of the northern province of Ilocos del Sur and a close ally of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

ATO said another chartered helicopter was sent to Bontoc to fetch Singson and his party back to Manila.

MNA/Xinhua

NY apartment fire injures 53, including 14 firefighters

NEW YORK, 10 April — A fire in a 17-storey Bronx apartment building injured 53 people Sunday night, including 14 New York City firefighters, the fire department said Monday.

Five of the building's occupants were seriously injured and two of them were in a critical condition, police said.

According to the fire department, an electrical wire under a bed caused the massive fire, which broke out at 8:43 pm Sunday (0043 GMT Monday) in the building on East 175th Street, in Mount Hope.

Residents said there was some sort of explosion before everyone tried to get

out by trying to clamber down fire escapes, while firefighters carried others down ladders to safety.

It took firefighters more than 90 minutes to get the blaze under control.

Most of the injured suffered from smoke inhalation as some residents, unable to flee the burning building, stuffed towels under their apartment doors to keep out the acrid smoke, authorities said. — MNA/Xinhua



Two girls wearing specially decorated hats during Easter Day Parade at the 5th Avenue in Manhattan, New York on 8 April, 2007. People displayed their outfits with flowers, coloured eggs, and animal shaped decorations while attending the parade to celebrate the Easter. — XINHUA

Malaysian police bust major drug trafficking syndicate

KUALA LUMPUR, 10 April — Malaysian police said Monday it has busted a major drug trafficking syndicate and seized 32 suspects.

Police crippled the syndicate, suspected to have been active in the Selangor, Johor and Kedah States, last Saturday, following a series of raids in several states, seizing 80.6 kilos of ice drug.

"This syndicate had a wide international network and the drugs it processed were for the Southeast Asian market," Narcotics Criminal Investigation Department Director Abang Abdul Wahab Abang Julai said at a Press

conference here.

Among the 32 people arrested, aged between 20 and 63 years, some even had overseas working experience as chemists, the national news agency Bernama reported.

Meanwhile, a large sum of cash was seized during the operations, including 3,650,100 ringgit (about 1.04 million US dollars), 327,000 Singapore dollars (about 216,556 US dollars) and 220,000 US dollars. — MNA/Xinhua



A four-month-old polar bear plays with a minder at a Berlin zoo, on 8 April, 2007. As the only bear born of artificial breeding in 30 years in Germany's zoos, it becomes the apple of everyone's eye. — XINHUA

UK wishes to sign Treaty of Amity, Cooperation with ASEAN

MANILA, 10 April — Britain is considering signing within the year the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the local daily *Philippine Daily Inquirer* website on Monday quoted a British official as saying.

Upon a visit to the Philippines during the Easter holiday, British Minister of State Kim Howells told Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo that London wants to sign the TAC before the ASEAN Charter is in place or before the European Union signs it for its member-states,

said the report. The draft ASEAN charter was presented during the ASEAN summit in Cebu in January, and is scheduled to be completed by July, discussed and endorsed in November at the next ASEAN summit in Singapore.

France became the first EU member to sign the TAC with ASEAN in January in Cebu, which was regarded as the first step for the signatory state to formally engage ASEAN. As a preparatory step for joining ASEAN, Timor Leste also signed the TAC in January.

Signatories to TAC also agree to engage the 10 ASEAN member-states diplomatically and never through force.

MNA/Xinhua



A Great Blue Heron takes off from a residential rooftop in Phoenix, Arizona, on 7 April, 2007. The Great Blue Heron is the largest heron in North America with a wingspan of nearly seven feet. Herons can be found throughout North America and their habits are near sources of water. Although there are man made lakes near Phoenix it is unusual to see a Heron in the city.

INTERNET

Indonesian Air Force to ground aging planes

JAKARTA, 10 April — The Indonesian Air Force said on Monday it planned to ground aging planes including British-made *Hawk MK-53s* and US-made *OV-10 Broncos* while at the same time seeking replacement from other countries.

“We are now preparing to change old jet fighter *Hawk MK-53s* and training plane *OV-10s* whose airworthiness expire in 2010,” Air Force Chief Air Marshal Herman Prayitno told reporters here.

The Air Force currently has six *Hawks* and eight *Broncos*, both will be above 30 years by 2010.

Prayitno said the Air Force has been contacting planes manufacturers in China, Czech Republic, South Korea and Brazil to select replacement for the two types of airplane.

In an interview with English daily *The Jakarta Post* published Monday, Prayitno said the current condition of the Air Force’s planes is that less than 50 per cent are ready, on average.

“For example, of our 10 *F-16* jet fighters, only four are ready to fly,” he said.

He said over the next 15 to 20 years, the Air Force will have at least 10 fighting squadrons from the current seven squadrons. — MNA/Xinhua



Spaceflight participant Charles Simonyi of the US is seen through the hatch of the Russian Soyuz TMA-10 spacecraft after docking with the International Space Station in this televised view from NASA TV on 9 April, 2007.

INTERNET

US Space tourist docks with “Space Station”

KOROLYV (RUSSIA), 10 April — US space tourist Charles Simonyi arrived at the *International Space Station (ISS)* on Monday with a hamper of gourmet food to spice up his fellow cosmonauts’ space-food diet.

The capsule carrying Simonyi — who paid 25 million US dollars for his trip into orbit — and two Russian cosmonauts docked with the *ISS* two days after they lifted off from a Russian launch pad in the Central Asian steppe.

Applause rang out at the Russian mission control centre outside Moscow as live monitors showed the capsule with the three men on board manoeuvring

into position and then locking on to one of the station’s ports.

“We are very happy to have reached the ... moment of docking,” said Alexei Krasnov, head of piloted flight with Russia’s space agency Roskosmos.

He said of Simonyi, the world’s fifth space tourist: “It is very nice to see a person who has fulfilled his long-standing dream.” — MNA/Reuters

Archaeologists excavate past glories from N China tombs

HOHHOT, 10 April — Archaeologists have unearthed more than 5,000 items dating back 2,000 years from a complex of 385 tombs uncovered at a construction site in north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

The local cultural relics and archaeology authorities estimate the tombs cover an area of 50,000 square metres and must have been

constructed sometime from the Warring States period (475 to 221 BC) to the Yuan Dynasty (1271 to 1368).

They believe 285 of

the tombs belong to the Warring States period, 43 belong to dynasties of the Qin (221 to 207 BC) and the Han (206 BC to 220), 13 belong to the Wei (220

to 265) and the Jin (265 to 420), and 23 belong to the Liao (916 to 1125) and the Yuan.

Chen Yongzhi, vice-director of the regional cultural relics and archaeology institute, said the Warring States tombs are oblong shaped and were built in the middle and late periods of the Warring States.

Most of the Warring States tombs were small and simple, Chen said.

Judging from the entombment process and funerary objects found in a large Warring States tomb, the occupant might have been a high-ranking general, the expert said, adding the funerary objects unearthed from the tomb included bronze weapons, a carnelian cup, and a pottery jug and pot.

MNA/Xinhua



Cast members Paris Hilton (L) and Nicole Richie pose during a news conference for the television show “The Simple Life 5” in Los Angeles on 9 April, 2007. —INTERNET

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Consignees of cargo carried on MV EASTERN FORTIS VOYNO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 9.4.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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Yangon University of Foreign Languages
Invitation for applications**

1. The Centre for Human Resource Development (Yangon University of Foreign Languages) will be opening Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Thai Language, French (Translation/Interpretation) and Russian (Translation/Interpretation) evening classes.

2. The opening date of the courses is 7th May, 2007 and admission forms will be accepted beginning from 23-4-07. Those who wish to receive further information please enquire at Yangon University of Foreign Languages during office hours.

Ph 514371-extension-202

**Centre for Human Resource Development
Yangon University of Foreign Languages
Notice**

1. The Centre for Human Resource Development (Yangon University of Foreign Languages) in collaboration with TOPA, 21st Century Language School, Tokyo, Japan, will open the Japanese Language Special Basic Course No-34.

- (a) Instructors from TOPA, 21st Century Language School, Tokyo, Japan will serve as course instructors.
- (b) Full-time Course (10 weeks, 200 hours)
- (c) Course will start on 7th May, 2007.
- (d) Those who passed the BEHS Examination in the 'A' list or those who passed the matriculation examination can apply.

2. Those who wish to receive further information please enquire at Yangon University of Foreign Languages during office hours.

Ph 514371-extension-202

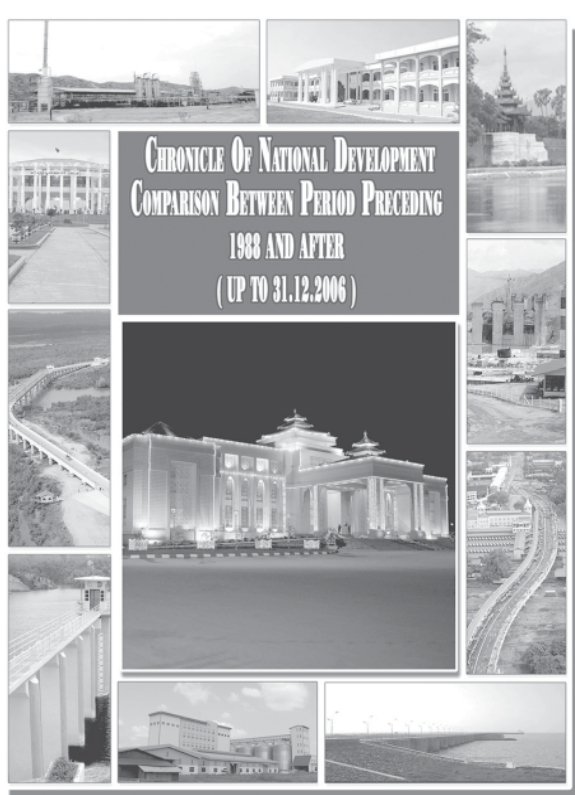
**Six killed in Colombian
gas leak accident**

BOGOTA, 9 April—Six members of a Colombian family were killed on Sunday when a gas leak occurred in their house in southern Bogota, police said.

Antonio Sanchez, 35, his wife Marlene Lopez, 32, their three daughters, youngest of whom is only 12, and their 11-year-old cousin, died after being poisoned by the gas leaked from the kitchen stove they used for cooking.

"During the cooking process a spill put out the stoves flame and allowed the fuel to fill the family home," said Colonel Edgar Martinez.

MNA/Xinhua



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HOLIDAY NOTICE**

April 12th to 21st 2007 being the public Holidays, wharves, warehouses and chellan office will be closed. Goods will be received, shipped or delivered on payment of Holiday fees.

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All Banks will be closed on 12th April (Thursday) to 21st April (Saturday) Myanmar New Year Holidays 2007, under the Negotiable Instruments Act.
Central Bank of Myanmar

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Fat 'counters vitamin C benefits'

LONDON, 8 April—The presence of fat in the stomach may override the anti-cancer effects of vitamin C, research suggests.

In laboratory experiments, a team at the University of Glasgow simulated what happens in the human stomach.

They found vitamin C (ascorbic acid) mopped up potential cancer-causing compounds that are made when saliva and food mixes with stomach acid.

But when they added fat to the mix, the ascorbic acid could no longer convert the hazardous compounds into safe ones.

The scientists say their findings show how diet might be linked to certain stomach cancers.

Nitrite, which is present in saliva and comes from nitrate in our diet, is thought to be able to trigger gastric cancer.

When it is swallowed and enters the acidic environment of the stomach, nitrite spontaneously forms nitrosating species, and these are able to convert a range of other stomach chemicals into potential cancer-causing agents called N-

nitrosocompounds.

Antioxidants like ascorbic acid protect against the formation of these nitrosocompounds by converting the nitrosating species into nitric oxide.

However, when fat is present, it reacts with the nitric oxide to reform nitrosating species, the scientists found.

Lead author Emilie Combet said: "These results show that the presence of lipid can markedly alter the protective effects of antioxidants, and how a diet rich in fat can directly influence gastric biochemistry."

Internet



*Oranges are a good
source of Vitamin C.*

INTERNET

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 Used in respect of:- “Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations; dietetic substances adapted for medical use, food for babies; plasters, materials for dressings; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; preparations for destroying vermin; fungicides, herbicides”. (International Class 05)

TERGITOL

Reg.Nos.4/3861/1998,4/2193/2004&4/2318/2004
 Used in respect of:-“Industrial chemicals, namely, cleaning compositions, wetting out agents, emulsifying agents, compositions for accelerating the penetration of liquids into solid materials, and agents for increasing the miscibility of liquids”. (International Class 01)

Any unauthorized use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above marks will be dealt with according to law.

Tin Ohnmar Tun
 B.A(LAW) LL.B, LL.M(U.K)
 P.O. Box. 109, Ph:248108/723043
 (For Shearn Delamore & Co.,Malaysia)
 Dated: 11 April,2007.

TRADEMARK CAUTION
 PT. TEMPO SCAN PACIFIC Tbk., a company incorporated in Indonesia at Jl. HR. Rasuna Said kavling 11, Jakarta 12950, Indonesia is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following Trademarks:-



Reg : No.4/1564/2007

In respect of : Pharmaceu-tical preparations, medicine for human purposes influenza and/or common cold prepara-tion, to relieve symptoms such as runny nose, nasal congestion, fever, headache, and myalgia.



Reg : No.4/1565/2007

In respect of : Health supple-ment for human health pur-pose. Health supplement con-taining vitamins and minerals, to help to prevent and to make correction of vitamins and minerals deficiency. It also beneficial in other conditions like anemia, recovery state/ reconvalescence, supporting healthy bone and teeth growth in children. Fraudulent imitation or unau-authorized use of the said Trade-marks shall be dealt with ac-cording to law.

U Myint Lwin, Advocate, LLB,DBL
 Dip in Marine Affairs(UK)
 MYINT.Advocate@mptmail.net.mm
 Ph : 371 990 11.April.2007

TRADEMARK CAUTION
 CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA of 30-2, Shimomaruko 3-chome, Ohta-ku, Tokyo, Japan is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark -



(Reg. No. IV/2072/2004)

in respect of -
 “Int'l Class 9: printers, copying machines, facsimile machines, scanners; multifunctional machine of the aforementioned goods; accessories and computer software of the aforementioned goods”.

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use or any other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Thein Aung B.Sc,R.L,D.B.L Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
 E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
 Tel:254037 G.P.O Box:666
 Yangon. 11 April 2007

JOB VACANCIES AT THE EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA

The Embassy of Malaysia is seeking to recruit the motivated & committed persons of the highest integrity to work at the Embassy.

- 1. Security Guard - one post**
 - a. Healthy; Male; Age (21 - 40) years
 - b. Minimum three years working experience
 - c. Able to speak English
- 2. Messenger - two posts**
 - a. Healthy; Male; Age (21 - 35) years
 - b. Able to communicate in English
 - c. Holding a valid driving license
 - d. Previous working experience would be an advantage.
 - e. Cooperative, diligent & responsible persons

Please send your application with updated CV, the latest photos, a copy of driving license (for messengers), other credentials and references to the Head of Chancery, the Embassy of Malaysia, No. 82, Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, Yangon **before 27 April 2007**. Only those candidates with the interested qualifications and experiences will be contacted for subsequent interview.

Canadian study: Memory pill to be reality in future

BEIJING, 9 April — The world’s first memory pill could be a reality in the future after Canadian scientists identified a gene mutation in the brains of mice that affected their memories, media reported on Monday.

The discovery was made when researchers suppressed the activity of the gene in mice before they swam around a water maze, noting that altered mice performed better. — *Internet*

Chinese taijiquan fights shingles



Chinese Taijiquan.—INTERNET

BEIJING , 9 April — A new study suggests that Chinese martial art taijiquan offers benefits beyond improving fitness and balance: It may help prevent shingles, a painful skin condition.

The study is published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society quoted by the media Monday.

Taijiquan, becoming increasingly popular in the West, is well known as a good low-impact exercise for older people, but researchers at the National Institute on Aging (NIA) find that it can also affect the immune system.

Though it remains unclear how it

affects the immune system, health experts are encouraged by the positive results. One in five people who have had chickenpox will get shingles later in life, usually after age 50, and the risk increases as people get older,” said NIA Director Richard J Hodes, MD “More research is needed, but this study suggests that thetaijiquan interven-tion tested, in combination with immunization, may enhance protection of older adults from this painful condition.”

One hundred and twelve healthy adults took part in the study between the ages of 59 and 86. All participants had previously had chickenpox.

For three months, half of the group took part in taijiquan classes, and the other half attended health education classes. Six months following the study, the taijiquan group showed nearly twice the immunity level to shingles than did the health education group.— *Internet*

Heart disease: It’s not just for men

BEIJING, 9 April — For years, doctors have been fighting the perception that heart disease is a mainly male affliction, but in fact more than three-quarters of American women will get heart disease in their lifetime. Heart disease may kill more women than cancer. Most women aren’t aware of the risk

they face and even their doctors are only just beginning to realize there are critical differences between men’s and women’s heart health.

According to an American Heart Association study, initially done in 1997, that found only 30 percent of women were aware that heart disease

and stroke were their greatest health threats.

Part of the reason heart disease is so widespread among women is a notable lack of research and understanding among doctors of how the disease shows up in women, and how it should be treated.

The most common symptom of a heart attack is chest pain or discomfort. But warning signs also include pain or discomfort elsewhere in the upper body, including the arms, back, neck or stomach. Women in particular may experience shortness of breath, exhaustion, nausea or vomiting, and back or jaw pain. — *Internet*



Heart disease.—INTERNET



US space tourist Charles Simonyi (L) and Martha Stewart meet during a farewell ceremony at Baikonur Cosmodrome on 6 April, 2007. — XINHUA

SPORTS

Mourinho baits Man Utd over title

LONDON, 8 April—Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho has taunted Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson by claiming United are "lucky" not to be playing the Blues next week.

Chelsea cut United's lead at the top of the Premiership to three points at the weekend after beating Tottenham, while United lost to Portsmouth.

Mourinho said: "United are very lucky they don't have to play here next week. Can you imagine them here next weekend?"

"That's the game where they will slip up, against us, so they're very lucky."

The Premiership champions face relegation-threatened West Ham on 18 April, while



Mourinho is relishing Man Utd's trip to Stamford Bridge

United's next game is at home to struggling Sheffield United.

And the top two go head-to-head at Stamford Bridge in the penultimate game of the season in a match which may decide the destination of the title.

Before this weekend's games Ferguson had bemoaned Tottenham getting just 36 hours recovery time from their Uefa Cup quarter-final in Seville.

When you think other people are stupid it is not a good quality.—*Internet*

Celta Vigo sack coach Vazquez as relegation looms

MADRID, 10 April—Relegation-haunted Celta Vigo have sacked coach Fernando Vazquez.

"Celta have ended Vazquez' period as coach and would like to thank him for all the work he has done," said a statement on the club's website (www.celtavigo.net) on Monday. The Primera Liga team acted after Sunday's 4-2 defeat at Recreativo Huelva left them third from bottom with nine games left this season.

Celta have the worst home record in the league, with one win from 14 games at the Balaidos stadium.

In February, the board gave Vazquez their backing after a run of 10 matches without victory, saying he would remain as coach until the end of the season.

Vazquez, 52, joined the club in 2004 and led Celta to promotion to the top flight in his first season.

Last year they finished sixth in the league to qualify for the UEFA Cup.—*MNA/Reuters*

Arsenal's Francesc Febregas (L) fights for the ball with Newcastle United's Emre during their English Premier League soccer match in Newcastle on 9 April, 2007.
INTERNET



Manchester City's DaMarcus Beasley, centre, scores his side's 2nd goal against Fulham during the English Premiership soccer match at Craven Cottage, London on 9 April, 2007. —INTERNET

Chelsea boss pays tribute to magnificent Drogba

VALENCIA (Spain), 10 April — Manager Jose Mourinho paid tribute to Ivory Coast striker Didier Drogba on the eve of Chelsea's Champions League quarterfinal second leg in Valencia.

"He's more than a goalscorer, he's the kind of player who even if he doesn't score still makes an important contribution," Mourinho told a news conference on Monday.

"His work rate is unbelievable. He's the kind of

player I have to play every game...so there's no rest for the boy. He's been magnificent all season."

Drogba scored Chelsea's equalizer in last week's 1-1 draw at Stamford Bridge, taking his tally for the season to 30 goals, and also played in the 1-0 win over Tottenham Hotspur at the weekend.

Mourinho said he could not follow Valencia coach Quique Sanchez Flores' example by giving his leading striker a break.

"Quique rested nearly all of his team at the weekend and I couldn't afford to do that," said the Portuguese coach. "That's the difference between a team trying to win just the Champions League and a team trying to win everything."

"We are (also) second in the Premier League and in the semifinals of the FA Cup." —*MNA/Reuters*

Woods rues bogey-bogey finishes

LONDON, 9 April—An angry Tiger Woods was left to regret mistakes made earlier in the tournament as everybody at Augusta reflected on Zach Johnson's surprise win on Sunday.



Phil Mickelson helps Zach Johnson into his winner's prize

Woods finished two shots behind Johnson in a tie for second having carded a 72.

With that went his chance of a third straight major title, a 13th career major and a fifth Green Jacket.

With his 72 matching his best round this week, it was the first time Woods failed to shoot at least one under-par round at Augusta since winning here in 1997.

"It was a little bit frustrating," he said. "I just made a couple of mistakes out there today."

Woods, however, was not the only big name left disappointed by his Augusta effort, defending champion Phil Mickelson saw his hoped-for Sunday challenge come unstuck with a triple-bogey at the 1st. —*Internet*

Doctor says Maradona better but has hard fight ahead

BUENOS AIRES, 10 April — Argentine soccer great Diego Maradona is responding well to treatment for alcohol abuse, but his personal doctor said on Monday the hardest part of his recovery has just begun.

A daily medical report on Monday said Maradona was recovering from alcohol-induced hepatitis but was still being sedated to ease his withdrawal symptoms.—*MNA/Reuters*

102, too old for hole-in-one? McLean says No!

BEIJING, 9 April — Elsie McLean, a 102-year-old woman, surprised even herself on Sunday that she made a hole-in-one on the par-3, 100-yard fourth hole at Bidwell Park in California.

McLean now is the oldest golfer ever to make a hole-in-one on a regulation course, surpassing a 2001 ace by a 101-year-old man in Florida.



Elsie McLean is playing golf.

Because of the slope of the green, McLean and her partners couldn't see where her ball landed after she teed off. She thought she lost her ball.

Her friends, Elizabeth Rake and Kathy Crowder, found it in the cup.

"I said, 'Oh, my Lord. It can't be true. It can't be true.' I was so excited. And the girls were absolutely overcome," McLean said. It was McLean's first ace.

McLean, who has been featured in golf magazines before, will appear on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" on 24 April to celebrate her accomplishment.

"For an old lady," she said, "I still hit the ball pretty good." —*Internet*

Benfica saved by last gasp Simao penalty

LISBON, 10 April — An injury-time penalty by Simao Sabrosa earned second-placed Benfica a 2-2 draw at bottom club Beira Mar in the Portuguese Premier League on Monday.

Champions Porto, who crushed Vitoria Setubal 5-1 on Friday, are three points clear at the top with 56 from 24 matches.

Sporting occupy third position on 52.

Winger Ratinho put Beira Mar in front after a goalmouth scramble in the 23rd minute.

Benfica, who meet Espanyol in their UEFA Cup quarterfinal second leg on Thursday, equalized with a long-range shot by substitute Mantorras

after 83 minutes.

Beira Mar went back in front when midfielder Delibasic headed in a cross from the left by winger Mateus.

But Benfica levelled again after Simao was fouled and the Portuguese international converted the spot kick.

—*MNA/Reuters*

Vietnam detected 568 cases of human trafficking in 2 years

HANOI, 10 April — Vietnam uncovered 568 cases of trafficking women and children with the total victims numbering 1,518 from 2005 to 2006, according to local newspaper *Vietnam Economic Times* on Monday.

In the two-year period, Vietnamese police and border forces also detained 790 people involving in trafficking women and children, and local courts sentenced 58 people over 15 years in prison and 249 others between seven and 15 years in prison on the

charge of human trafficking, the newspaper quoted a report at a recent national conference on anti-human trafficking as saying.

Between 2005 and 2006, a total of 1,280 Vietnamese women and children trafficked to foreign countries managed to come back home. Of the returns, 122 were handled via diplomatic channels.

Vietnamese relevant agencies have identified nearly 6,000 local women and children as being trafficked to foreign countries so far, and nearly 8,000 other as being absent in their hometowns for a long time, many of whom are thought as victims of human trafficking rings.

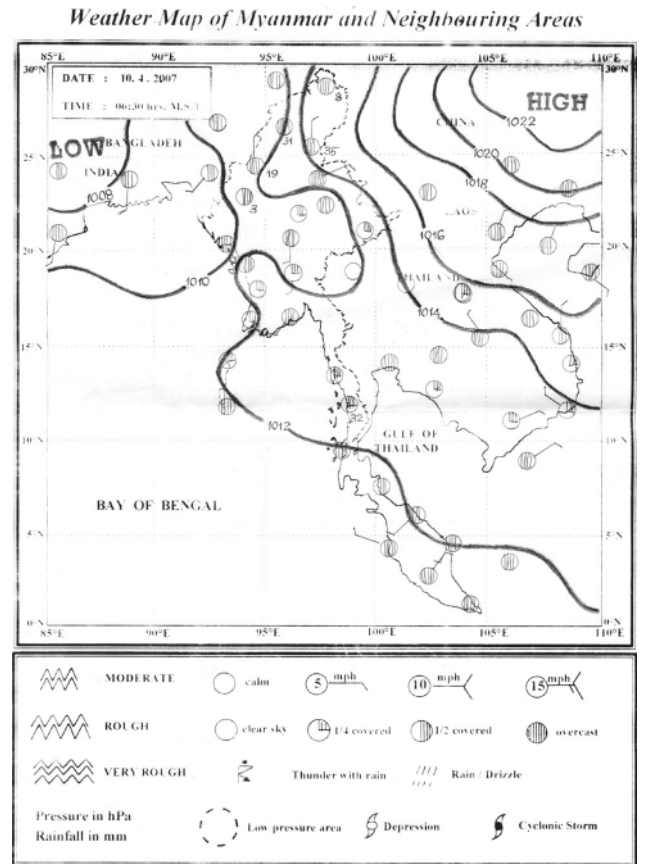
Many Vietnamese women and children in poor areas, especially those in border provinces, have been cheated and trafficked to foreign countries, mainly to work as prostitutes or slaves.

The Vietnamese Government adopted four projects on combating trafficking of children and women in the 2005-2010 period, which focus on strengthening propaganda and education on preventing children and women from being trafficked in the community, intensifying fights against human trafficking, building up legal documents on the issue, and giving stronger support to victims.

MNA/Xinhua



A man jumps over the seam of a high frame during a training camp to develop physical abilities in Ganzhou, east China's Jiangxi Province, on 8 April, 2007. — INTERNET



WEATHER

Tuesday, 10 April, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, scattered in Chan State, lower Sagaing Division, isolated in Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kayin State, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Bago Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Thayawady (44°C), Chauk and Minbu (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myitkyina (1.50) inches, Hkamti and Myeik (1.26) inches each, Homalin (0.90) inch, Kalay (0.59) inch, Mogok (0.28) inch and Kanbalu (0.27) inch.

Maximum temperature on 9-4-2007 was 101°F. Minimum temperature on 10-4-2007 was 74°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 10-4-2007 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 9-4-2007 was (9.3) hours approx.

Rainfall on 10-4-2007 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 (7) mph from Southwest at (17:15) hours MST on 9-4-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 11-4-2007: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated to scattered in Kachin, Shan, Chin and Northern Rakhine States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy 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 continuation of rain or thundershowers in the Upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 11-4-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 11-4-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 11-4-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

"Untimely Rainfall Warning"

Issued at (11:30) hours MST on 10th April, 2007
According to the observation at (09:30) hours MST today, rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated to scattered in Kachin, Shan, Chin and Northern Rakhine States, Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions during next (48) hours commencing noon today. It may be accompanied by lightning, hail and strong winds at times.

Condolences U Htay Ko (B.Sc (Maths) Manager, Win Guest House 45 year

We would like to express our deepest sympathy for U Tint Lwin (Chief Engineer, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications) and Daw Khin Mar Nwe for the demise of their brother U Htay Ko on 5-4-2007.

ZTE-Myanmar Office



Wednesday, 11 April
View on today

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာသဒ္ဒမ္မဂူရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဒမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

- အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:00 am

- ကူးလူးဆက်သွယ် ချစ်ကြီးနွယ် (ကရင်၊ မွန်)

8:15 am

- အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

- ခါသကြိမ်အဆိုအကများ

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Happy and (Educational) English Summer Course MRTV

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (သမိုင်းအထူးပြု) (သမိုင်း)

4:40 pm

- Song of national races

4:55 pm

- မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:10 pm

- Classical song

5:20 pm

- ခါသကြိမ်အဆိုအကများ

5:30 pm

- ရူဖွယ်စုံလင် အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်

5:40 pm

- ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- သုတစုံလင်ရွှေဥတော်ရှင်

7:05 pm

- Discovery

7:15 pm

- "အား...နာတယ်" ခန့်စည်သူ၊ မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်၊ ဧရာ၊ မျိုးမျိုးခိုင် (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)

7:30 pm

- The mirror images of the musical oldies

7:40 pm

- ခါသကြိမ်အဆိုအကများ

7:50 pm

- မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာနှစ်သစ်ကူး မဟာသကြိမ် (၁၃၆၇ခုနှစ်၊ နှောင်းတန်ခူး လပြည့်ကျော်(၄)ရက် သကြိမ်အတက်နေ့)

8:00 pm

- News

18. News

19. International news

20. Weather report

21. Myanmar movie:

- "မျက်နှာများတွဲကောင်းကင်" (အပိုင်း-၁)(ဆေးရောင်စုံ ရုပ်ရှင်အကယ်ဒမီ) (ရန်အောင်၊ လွင်မိုး၊ တင့်တင့်ထွန်း၊ အိန္ဒြာကျော်စင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်မျိုးမင်း) (ရင်တွင်းဖြစ်)

22. The next day's programme

Minister for Industry-2 inspects factories in Mon State

YANGON, 10 April — Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin and officials inspected the site for tyre factory in Bilin Township on 7 April.

The minister gave instructions on survey of the factory, coordination with departments concerned for land ownership and construction of road to the factory.

On 8 April, the minister inspected Mayangon rubber farm in Kyaikto Township. He discussed earning foreign

exchange, production of quality rubber, systematic packaging, minimizing wastage and loss, extended cultivation of high quality rubber and fire preventive measures.

The minister also inspected Mayantaung rubber farm and cashew farm in Thaton Township. He visited Thagara industrial zone yesterday. The minister inspected the construction of the factories.

MNA

Fingerlings to be sold for Myanmar New Year Day

YANGON, 10 April —To enable the people to release fingerlings on 17 April (Myanmar New Year Day), Yangon Division Fisheries Camp (Hlawga), Laydaunkan Camp and Kandawgyi Aquarium under the Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries will sell fingerlings at Kaba Aye Hill (Mingalar Kandawgyi), Shwepyitha Township (Thadukan Pagoda), Shwedagon Pagoda (Thwaysekan) in Bahan Township, Tooth Relic Pagoda, Kyauktawgyi Pagoda, Aquarium (Fresh Water) (Kandawgyi).

Those wishing to buy more than 1,000 fingerlings in advance may dial 01-222962, 228624, 211382, 635196, 611120, 708519 or 555613. — MNA

Thingyan Festival to be marked upholding fine traditions

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—The Maha Thingyan Water Festival for this year falls between 13 and 16 April (between the 12th Waning of Hnaung Tagu and the First Waxing of Kason in 1368 Myanmar Era).

Myanmar people have observed the Thingyan Festival for more than 1000 years in accordance with the national characters such as performing meritorious deeds, paying respects to elderly persons, enjoying themselves in a peaceful way and showing amity and forgiveness.

The government has designated the 10-day period starting the day before the Eve of Thingyan (Akyo Day) as the New Year vacation of the Union of Myanmar for

enabling the people to splash water on each other in frolic, cleanse pagodas and stupas, visit monasteries to observe Precepts, pay respects to elderly persons and give feasts in charity and service personnel to enjoy rest and recreation after working all-year round.

Now local authorities and responsible bodies are making arrangements for the people to participate in the forthcoming festival in a peaceful way without any harm.

Previous water festivals, the entire nation did not see any undesirable consequences thanks to the people's upholding fine traditions and participants' preventing their partners from violating the rules and regulations.

In the New Year festivals and water festivals of some countries, many people lost their lives every year due to excessive drinking and over-indulgence in amusement and reckless driving.

In Thailand, 467 people were dead, 5,985 injured along with 5,327 traffic accidents in last year's water festival, and 449 people lost their lives in the 2007 New Year period.

Therefore, the people are urged to uphold Do's and Don'ts laid down by the authorities to avert evil consequences and to enjoy themselves without any harm during this year's water festival.

MNA



BELJING, 10 April — China's seas generated 2.09 trillion yuan (\$270 billion), or just over 10 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) last year, according to a report on the country's marine economy in 2006.

The report, issued by the State Oceanic Administration (SOA), said last year's output value of marine industries, including fishing, transport, oil and gas exploitation, tourism and shipbuilding, rose 13.97 percent year on year. The growth rate was 3.3 percentage points higher than that of the country's economy. —XINHUA

NLD attempting to harm interests of the State and the people 73 members of Kangyidaunt Township NLD resign

YANGON, 10 April — Seventy three members of Kangyidaunt Township National League for Democracy resigned from the party of their own accord on 16 March sending their resignation letters to NLD Headquarters and authorities. Among those who quit the party were six members of Kangyidaunt Township NLD in Patheingyi District in Ayeyawady Division including U Win Tin and U Soe Myint of Kunya Village (East), U Kan Win and U Kasin of Kunya Village (West) and U Shwe Dwe and U Kan Aye of Thabawngu Village; four from Khonzingon Village including U Win Myaing and Daw Alice; three from Kyutan Village including U Saw Kale Dee and U Sit Aye; four including U Than Shein of Gwegon Village and U Win Sein and U Hla Htay of Lahakalu Village; four from Kanyuntkon Village including U Stalin and U San Thauang; four from Ywaygon Village including U Tun Kyaing and U Natali; three members comprising U Tha Hla of Migyoungtaya Village, U Myo Khaing and U Shwe Myaing of Magukyan Village; three members from Begarat Village including U Thet Lwin and U Than Lwin; four members from Shwegon Village including U Tin Tun and U San Toe; U Nyo Win and U Tin Zaw of Yway Village; and three members from Kyaiklat Village including U Shwe Win and U Than Soe.

In their letters sent to Kangyidaunt Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-commission, they said they resigned from the party of their own volition as they had lost faith and interest in the party as well as its leaders who are attempting to harm the interests of the State and the people, not doing mere party politics. — MNA