

# Senior General Than Shwe inspects Yeywa hydel Power Project

## Completion of hydel power project, installation of power grid in time stressed

NAY PYI TAW, 21 April — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe this morning inspected Yeywa Hydro-electric Power Project tasks being implemented by the Hydro-electric Power Implementation Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No 1. The project is being undertaken on Myitnge River 31 miles southeast of Mandalay.

First, the Senior General, accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, SPDC Members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, the ministers, senior military offic-



*Senior General Than Shwe inspects Yeywa Hydro-electric Power Project.*

MNA



ers of the Ministry of Defence and officials of SPDC Office, arrived at the project site at 10 am today.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min reported on facts about the project, progress in construction of the diversion tunnel, intake structure and outlet structure, concrete embankment, power intake building, earth work, the main dam and approach road to the tunnel. He also reported on the realization of the guidance of the Head of State given during his previous visit to the project and water resources from upper reaches of the Myitnge River. Deputy Minister U Myo Myint reported on (See page 8)

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 22 April, 2007

### Boost production of potent medicines

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe made an inspection tour of the Pharmaceuticals Factory (PyinOoLwin) and the Department of Medical Research in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division the other day.

In his guidance on the Pharmaceuticals Factory (PyinOoLwin), the Head of State stressed the importance of quality control of the medicines, saying that responsible persons were to assess the potency and side effects of the pharmaceuticals and coordinate regularly for winning the reliance of the people.

The installation of machine parts in the factory will be completed in May 2007. Then it will be able to produce 213 kinds of tablets, capsules, injection, intravenous fluids, syrup and lotion.

Health care consists of three sectors namely educative talks, prevention and treatment in which medical research plays a dominant role. With that context, the government has established another medical research department so that research work is carried out effectively not only in Yangon but also in central and upper Myanmar.

The work of medical research covers two functions. The first is to apply advanced medical science in conformity with the conditions of the nation through the study of western medical science and medicines. The other is to manufacture more effective medicines with the use of various species of herbal plants that naturally grow in various parts of the country.

In compliance with the guidance of the Head of State, responsible persons and medical experts of the Department of Medical Research are thus to work hard together to achieve the goal of manufacturing potent pharmaceuticals on a wider scale to provide better health care to the people.

### Dagon Myothit Bridge across Ngamoeyeik Creek to be closed temporarily

YANGON, 21 April — The Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation) of Yangon City Development Committee issued an announcement that the installation of water pipelines will be carried out along Dagon Myothit Bridge across Ngamoeyeik Creek in the day time from 8 am to 5 pm daily from 22 to 27 April so as to supply more drinking water to Dagon Myothit Townships.

The traffic on the bridge will be temporarily closed during the construction. However, the traffic will be kept open by night from 5 pm to 8 am daily.

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

### Information Minister inspects GTC printing press, photolitho press, feature film branch



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspects Aung San GTC Printing press of Printing and Publishing Enterprise.—MNA

YANGON, 21 April — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspected GTC printing press and photolitho press of Printing and Publishing Enterprise and feature film branch of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise and met service personnel today.

The minister arrived at GTC Printing Press of Printing and Publishing Enterprise in Aung San, Insein Township this morning.

The minister was welcomed by Managing Director of MMPE U Aung Myo Myint, General Manager of PPE U Zaw Min Oo, advisers, factory managers and officials.

The minister inspected the major maintenance of the press and rotary presses and discussed functions

with departmental officials and service personnel.

The minister and party went to photolitho press on Ngadatgyi Pagoda Road in Bahan Township where they were welcomed by Factory Manager U Naing Aung Lwin and officials.

The minister inspected binding room, maintenance of the parts, art and layout room, photo studio, developing room and plate-making room.

General Manager U Zaw Min Oo and Adviser U Kyaw Thu reported on the maintenance of the machines, full operation of the machines and Deputy General Manager (Account) Daw Yin Yin Shwe on welfare of service personnel.

In meeting with the service personnel, the minister said this year was a significant one as the government designated 10 holidays for the New Year. He urged them to discharge their duties in the interests of the people and the nation with new and fresh mind.

He said the machines had shortcomings as they were old. However, targets were realized due to the goodwill towards their job and unity of the workers.

He said officials concerned at different levels are to make efforts for improvement of the quality of the machines, their full operation of the machines in printing textbooks for 2007-08 academic year and long-term use and to supervise the work and to

provide assistance.

He called for careful handling of the machines, relation between condition of the factory and mind of the service personnel, daily, weekly and monthly maintenance of the machines, substitution with local-made parts, coordination among the departments, innovation of spare parts and saving foreign exchange.

He said the factory managers are to make arrangements for health and social needs of the service personnel, cultivation and livestock breeding in the factory compound and fire prevention.

The minister and party proceeded to the feature film branch of MMPE at No 50, Golden Valley in Bahan Township. They inspected optical recording, colour processing, analyzer, printer and black and white processing rooms. They were conducted round by Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint and officials. The minister gave necessary instructions.

The minister visited MMPE (Head Office) at No 28 on Kokkine Avenue in Bahan Township and met the managing director and service personnel.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan visits Photolitho Printing Press.—MNA

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## Police action just a click away

KUALA LUMPUR, 20 April — The policeman at the counter was not helpful or friendly. But there's no need to write a letter to Bukit Aman.

Simply log on to the re-designed police website at [www.rmp.gov.my](http://www.rmp.gov.my) and click on "e-Aduan".

And action will be taken within two weeks.

The public can now air their grouses about police services online, with the assurance that their complaint or query will be acted on promptly.

Another addition to the website is the link "sebut harga", which provides a list of tenders being offered for contracts to upgrade police facilities nationwide.

Federal public affairs assistant director ACP Ahmad Shamsuri Ahmad Mukri said both these features were incorporated into the revamped website, which was launched on March 24, a day before the 200th anniversary celebration

of the police force.

"This is in line with the force's new vision and mission," he said.

"It has been re-designed to be more interactive, offering public access to important or the latest information on police services."

He said with "e-Aduan" the public need not write letters to

complain about rude police officers at counters, lack of traffic personnel or to give tip-offs.

With the new online feature, Ahmad Shamsuri said they would be able to act on a daily basis and get the response from the relevant departments within two weeks.

Internet

## Gunman, hostage dead at NASA space centre

WASHINGTON, 20 April—A gunman has killed a male hostage and himself at NASA's Johnson Space Centre in Texas in the US, just days after 33 people died in the bloodiest school shooting in US history.

A female hostage was found, bound with duct tape but otherwise unharmed, nearly four hours after the stand-off began, police say.

Police believe the hostage was killed at about 1.40pm (local time) when a shot was fired inside a communications and engineering building on the sprawling campus.

The building was evacuated as the gunman barricaded himself inside a room in Building 44.

Police tried to negotiate with the man but all they heard from the room was another gunshot.

When they rushed in the room they found the two men dead and the woman bound at her hands and ankles.

Internet

## 'Ghost yacht' found off Australia

LONDON, 20 April — Emergency services in Australia have launched a search for the three-man crew of a yacht found drifting off the North Queensland coast.

The Kaz II was found with its engine running, and a table laid for dinner, but there were no signs of

any people. An air and sea rescue operation has been launched to retrace the yacht's voyage, and pinpoint the search area.

The boat left Airlie Beach on Sunday bound for Townsville on the first leg of a voyage around northern Australia.

The 12m (40 foot)

catamaran was spotted by a helicopter on Wednesday drifting off the Great Barrier Reef, but a rescue team only reached the boat on Friday, and confirmed that there was no one aboard.

Rescue crews say they are puzzled by the mysterious disappearance.

"The engine was running, the computers were running, there was a laptop set up on the table which was running, the radio was working... and there was food and utensils set on the table ready to eat," said Jon Hall, a spokesman for Queensland's Emergency Management office.

"It was a bit strange," he added. All the vessel's sails were up, although one

was badly shredded, and life-jackets were still on board.

Mr Hall said rescue workers had recovered the boat's Global Positioning System (GPS) device, which might give them more clues as to the crew's whereabouts.

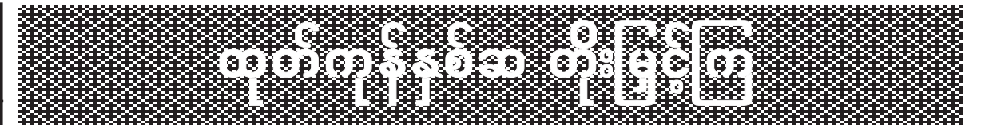
"That will now enable us to track backwards where this yacht has actually been in the last few days, and we're hoping that can pinpoint the search area for the missing crew," he said.

Australian media reported the names of the sailors as skipper Derek Batten, 56, and brothers Peter and James Tunstead, ages 69 and 63.

The three are neighbours in Perth, Western Australia.—Internet



All the vessel's sails were up, although one was badly torn. —INTERNET



A journalist looks at her BlackBerry communication device on Capitol Hill in Washington, on 18 April, 2007. A massive service outage of Research In Motion Ltd's BlackBerry e-mail that frustrated thousands of users across North America earlier this week was caused by a "non-critical" software upgrade, the Wall Street Journal reported on its Web site on Thursday.—INTERNET

## Minnesota University evacuated after bomb threat

WASHINGTON, 20 April — Several buildings of the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minnesota were evacuated Wednesday because of a bomb threat, two days after deadly shootings at Virginia Tech left 33 people dead, US media reported.

A bomb threat note was found at one building in the university early afternoon by a professor. Subsequently, the building and surrounding buildings were evacuated as a precaution. All classes in those buildings for the day were cancelled, and students were told to return to their residence halls.

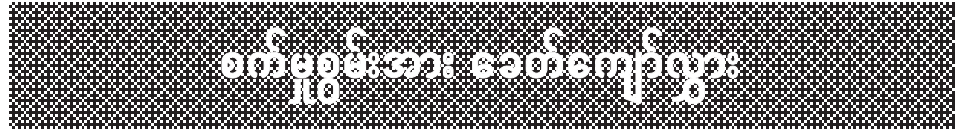
The bomb threat followed similar threats Tuesday which forced universities and middle and high schools to close down in at least 10 states. — MNA/Xinhua



Actress Pamela Anderson walks on the red carpet as she arrives to host Russia's MTV Movie Awards, in Moscow on 19 April, 2007.—XINHUA



**Bolshoi soloists Yelena Andrienko (C) and Vladimir Neporozhny dance during a performance of Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake" with the State Classic Ballet Theatre of Russia at the Mediterranean Conference Centre in Valletta, on 19 April, 2007. The ballet runs until 23 April. — XINHUA**



## India starts rebuilding historic road to China

LEDO, (INDIA), 20 April — India has begun rebuilding a 1,700-kilometres (1,000-mile) long road built during World War II that passes through jungles and mountains and will link the northeast of the country with China via Myanmar.

The Stilwel Road was named after a US general who supervised the

construction of the road as a supply route to the Chinese Army fighting Japanese occupation in World War II.

The road has long since fallen into disuse, parts of it disappearing due to lack of maintenance.

People and goods, mainly tea and timber, from northeast India will be able to reach China in two days on the route joining the oil and tea-rich Assam State with western China's Kunming City.

"It will boost the local

economy, especially tourism," said Bedanta Gogoi, a local entrepreneur in Dibrugarh, a busy commercial town near the town of Ledo, where the road starts in India.

China has already converted its own stretch of road into a six-lane highway for a distance of about 680 kilometres (420 miles) from Kunming to Myanmar and also helped rebuild much of the road in Myanmar.

MNA/Reuters

## Top US Senate Democrat tells Bush that Iraq war is lost

WASHINGTON, 20 April — US Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said on Thursday he told President George W Bush the Iraq war was lost and the recent US troop increase had accomplished nothing.

Reid, the Senate's top Democrat, described part of a meeting with Bush at the White House on Wednesday — the same day bombs killed almost 200 people in Baghdad in the worst day of violence since a US-backed security crackdown was launched there earlier this year.

"This is the message I took to the President," Reid said at a news conference.

"Now I believe myself... that this war is lost, and that the surge is not accomplishing anything, as indicated by the extreme violence in Iraq yesterday," said Reid, of Nevada. "I know I was like the odd guy out yesterday at the White House, but at least I told him what he needed to hear, not what he wanted to hear," he added. Suspected Sunni al-Qaeda militants detonated a string of bombs in mostly

Shi'ite areas of Baghdad on Wednesday. The worst was a truck bombing that killed 140 people in the deadliest single insurgent attack since the 2003 US-led invasion.

The White House and its Republican allies call such timetables "surrender dates" and say Bush will reject them. The President accuses Democrats of trying to micromanage the war, and has vowed to veto any bill that includes a pullout date.

Reid said his message for Bush was to recall a turning point in the Vietnam War, in the mid 1960s, when Reid said President Lyndon Johnson decided to send thousands more troops to Vietnam despite knowing the conflict was not winnable.

"The (Iraq) war can only be won diplomatically, politically and economically, and the president needs to come to that realization," Reid said. — MNA/Reuters

## Two NATO soldiers killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 21 April — Two NATO soldiers have been killed in separate blasts in southern Afghanistan, the alliance said on Friday.

The defence ministry in Amsterdam said one of the dead was a Dutch soldier — the first combat casualty in the country — who died after stepping on a land mine in Helmand province, the main opium producing area in the world's largest producer.

PI in line with a new NATO policy, the alliance statement did not identify the nationality of the second victim — such announcements are left to the home country of casualties.

Five Dutch soldiers died in Afghanistan last year,

two in a helicopter crash, one in a fighter plane crash and one in an armored vehicle accident while the fifth was a suicide.

Violence has been increasing after the traditional winter lull. Last year saw the worst fighting since US-led forces ousted the Taliban in 2001 and many security analysts warn this year would be worse.

The brunt of the fighting is being born by US, British, Canadian and Dutch soldiers, mainly in the Taliban's southern heartland bordering Pakistan. — Internet

## At least nine killed in Baghdad suicide car bomb

BAGHDAD, 20 April — At least nine people were killed and 21 others wounded when a suicide car bomb attack rocked Baghdad's district of Jadriyah on Thursday, an Interior Ministry source said. "A suicide bomber blew up an explosive-laden car at about 1:25 pm (0925 GMT) at the Jadriyah neighbourhood setting ablaze a nearby fuel tanker," the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Several civilian cars were burning at the scene, the source said.

Earlier, the source said at least three people were killed and ten others wounded by the blast.

He said the death toll could rise as the area was crowded with people.

MNA/Xinhua



**Model Lauren Bush (R), niece of US President George W Bush, poses at the first anniversary of the opening of the Pinko store in Paris on 19 April, 2007. — XINHUA**



**A tour boat is anchored on the partially dried-up river bed of the Yangtze River in southwest China's Chongqing municipality on 20 April, 2007. — INTERNET**

## ECONOMIC NEWS

## Indian company buys US iron ore firm

MUMBAI, 20 April — Essar Global Ltd, India's leading industrial company, has signed an agreement to acquire Minnesota Steel LLC, a US-based iron ore firm, local media reported Thursday.

According to *Daily News Analysis* published in Mumbai, the deal will cost Essar Global 80 million to 90 million dollars.

The Minnesota Steel LLC controls 1.4 billion tons of iron ore in the Mesabi Iron Range in northeast Minnesota in the United States. "Our investment in Minnesota Steel is exciting as it gives us a cornerstone in the North American market. From this we will further expand our global steel business," said Shashi Ruia, Essar Global chairman.

Moreover, the deal marked the first step of Essar Global to set up steel making facility with an annual capacity of 1.5 million tons and investment of 1.65 billion US dollars.

The facility will include iron ore mining, ore processing, direct reduction and steelmaking on a single site.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese workers roll the Chevrolet Volt E-flex Fuel Cell variant concept vehicle into position for the Shanghai Auto Show in Shanghai, China, on 19 April, 2007. The E-Flex Fuel Cell variant — the second propulsion system developed for the Chevrolet Volt — uses GM's new fifth-generation fuel cell propulsion technology and a lithium-ion battery to provide up to 300 miles of petroleum and emissions-free electric driving. — INTERNET

## Kenya, Malaysia vow to strengthen economic ties

NAIROBI, 20 April — Kenya and Malaysia on Wednesday agreed to strengthen economic ties by boosting cooperation existing between the two countries to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development.

A communique issued

*Young Chinese actress Liu Yifei has signed recently with William Morris Agency, one of the three top American agencies, becoming the second Chinese actress in this company.*

INTERNET

following a meeting in Nairobi between visiting Malaysia Premier Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and his host, President Mwai Kibaki, said the two leaders signed a memorandum of understanding in the planning and implementation of road projects and in science and technology.

The communique said the two countries agreed that establishment of a joint commission and joint trade committee would spur business and also establish foundations for commercial relationship.

It was hoped that Kenya would particularly benefit from transfer of technology and in private sector participation in road construction from Malaysia, which has advanced technology in that field.

It said Kenya also would benefit from Malaysia's technical training assistance and in technical areas such as infrastructure development, e-government and ICT.

The two leaders agreed to continue to support each other over issues concerning sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Kenya National

Economic and Social Council have been collaborating with the National Economic Action Council of Malaysia as Kenya prepares to implement Vision 2030.

Kenya being one of the principle beneficiaries from Africa of the Malaysian technical cooperation programme, it was agreed that memorandum of understanding on education between the two countries should be embarked on as soon as possible.

Prime Minister Badawi praised his host for assuming the chairmanship of both the Inter-Governmental Authority of Development (IGAD) and the East African Community and hailed Kenya's positive role in facilitating the peace process in Sudan and Somalia.

MNA/Xinhua

*The Napster "Cat" logo is shown on the floor at a launch event for the new Napster online music service, in this 9 Oct, 2003 file photo in New York City. Retail chain Circuit City and Web music service Napster said on Friday they would jointly offer a subscription service with access to millions of songs, the latest effort to compete with Apple Inc's popular iTunes music store. — INTERNET*

## India sets \$160b export target in 2007-08

NEW DELHI, 20 April — India announced Thursday that it will cancel service tax on all exports and take up other measures to realize an export target of 160 billion US dollars for this fiscal year.

Indian Commerce and Industry Minister Kamal Nath told reporters that the country has met the export target of 125 billion dollars for the fiscal year of 2006-07 and aimed to achieve 160 billion dollars in 2007-08 and 200 billion dollars in 2008-09.

As one of the efforts to boost export, the government will extend the popular Duty Entitlement Passbook scheme which enables post export replenishment and remission of duty, he said.

And preferential tax policies will be cooked to benefit to exporters of coconut oil, soybean oil, potato flakes, meals and

flours, cardamom and food preparations like soups, pasta, sauces and bakery products, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



## Susilo urges private sector to help tackle jobless

JAKARTA, 20 April — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said on Wednesday the private sector should help the government in dealing with the growing jobless figure by creating more jobs.

"The government can only provide less than 1 million jobs a year for new recruits in government agencies," he said when opening a seminar on employment issues at the State Palace here.

The private sector should lead the efforts to tackle the protracting unemployment problems because in fact the vast majority of employed citizens work for private companies, he said. "It's not the government alone who holds responsibility for job creations."

According to the Central Statistics Agency, open unemployment in Indonesia hits 10.93 million or 10.28 per cent of the labor force.

MNA/Xinhua



**Bollywood star Abhishek Bachchan (C) gestures leaves his residence for his wedding to Bollywood actress Aishwarya Rai (not pictured) in Mumbai on 20 April, 2007. The wedding of India's hottest Bollywood couple, Abhishek Bachchan and Aishwarya Rai will take place on Friday evening, a union that many say will create Bollywood's ultimate power couple. Rai is a former Miss World and Bachchan is the heir to India's most celebrated film family. — INTERNET**

## Poll shows Iraq biggest factor in US presidential race

WASHINGTON, 20 April — The Iraq war looks set to be the biggest factor affecting the way US voters cast their ballots in next year's presidential election, according to a poll published Thursday.

Forty-three per cent of the respondents in the USA Today/Gallup poll said the conflict would be the most important issue when they decide who to vote for in 2008.

The poll found that 57 per cent of the respondents thought the Iraq war was a mistake while 41 per cent were of the opposite opinion.

Economy ranked second in importance, with 15 per cent of those surveyed saying it would be the biggest issue at the

polling station. Next was healthcare (10 per cent), homeland security (7 per cent), education (6 per cent) and illegal immigration (5 per cent).

Only 3 per cent chose terrorism as their most important issue.

Among the Democratic presidential candidates, Senator Barack Obama of Illinois and former senator John Edwards of North Carolina were separately favoured by 52 per cent of those surveyed. Hillary

Clinton, a senator from New York, was favoured by 45 per cent.

Among Democratic voters and those leaning toward the party, however, Clinton is supported by 31 per cent, followed by Obama with 26 per cent and John Edwards with 16 per cent.

Former vice president Al Gore, who has not announced candidacy for next year's presidential election, was favoured by 15 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

## Fighting in Mogadishu kills at least seven

MOGADISHU, 20 April — Renewed fighting between Ethiopian troops and Somali insurgents killed at least seven people in the capital Mogadishu and injured dozens more overnight, residents said on Wednesday. One said the clashes were as intense as a four-day flare-up at the end of March that killed 1,000 people and sent more than 200,000 fleeing the city.

The insurgents, drawn from a local clan and a militant Islamist movement, are fighting against the Somali Government, its Ethiopian military backers, and African peacekeepers, for control of a city in chaos for the last 16 years. Residents said heavy shelling rocked the southern area of Mogadishu overnight, and some mortars fell close to the presidential palace. Calm had returned by early Wednesday, but war-weary inhabitants braced for more violence. It was not clear what sparked the latest flare-up.

"Until the forces are separated, this kind of thing will keep happening," said Ahmed Diriye Diriye, spokesman for the city's dominant Hawiye clan, which is trying to maintain a shaky truce with Ethiopian soldiers who back up the Somali Government.

MNA/Reuters



**A model displays a creation designed by Dutch design students during a dress rehearsal for the fashion show 'Usedom Baltic Fashion Guest' at the Baltic seaside resort Heringsdorf about 250 kilometres north of Berlin on 20 April, 2007. — INTERNET**

## Bush, Senate leader disagree over Iraq-Vietnam link

TIPP CITY (Ohio), 20 April — President George W Bush and US Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid debated from afar on Thursday whether the Iraq war had turned into Vietnam as they sought the upper hand in a battle over war funding.

A day after a White House meeting that failed to resolve differences over Bush's request for 100 billion US dollars to fund wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the President argued his case for the money during a 90-minute session before a largely friendly audience in Ohio.

Asked to compare Iraq to Vietnam, a war that still weighs on the American psyche three decades after it ended, Bush said a premature US withdrawal from Iraq could lead to chaos and death the same way war broke out between Vietnam and the Khmer Rouge of Cambodia after the fall of Saigon in 1975.

"After Vietnam, after we left, millions of people lost their life. My concern is there would be a parallel there," Bush said, adding that "This time around, the enemy wouldn't just be content to stay in the Middle East, they'd follow us here."

MNA/Reuters

## Killer Cho enraged, menacing in video sent to NBC

WASHINGTON, 20 April — The man who massacred 32 people at Virginia Tech railed against wealth and debauchery and portrayed himself as a defender of the weak in a video sent between killings and shown by NBC on Wednesday.

The US network said it received what it described as a "multimedia manifesto" from Cho Seung-Hui, including photographs and a lengthy text and video clips, mailed during his shooting rampage on Monday before he killed himself.

The package contained an 1,800-word diatribe expressing rage

and voicing admiration for the students who carried out the 1999 Columbine High School massacre. In his resentful monologue spoken directly to the camera, Cho mixed religious references with disgust at what he called the hedonism around him.

"Thanks to you I die like Jesus Christ, to inspire generations of the weak and the defenseless

people," Cho said, adding: "When the time came I did it. I had to." The video showed the 23-year-old student speaking against several backgrounds with a fierce expression on his face, while photographs showed him posing with weapons, including the two handguns he apparently used in the killings, a hammer and a knife. — MNA/Reuters



**Polish people present flowers to Warsaw's Ghetto Heroes Memorial in Warsaw, Poland, on 19 April, 2007. — XINHUA**

# Victory of collective endeavours of State, people and Tatmadaw (or) fruits of anti-narcotics campaign

*Htet Khaung*

There were only few people in the past who did not know Golden Triangle region. But it was known as the world's largest producer of opium poppy, a deadly crop that may wipe out the entire mankind. Opium did not originate in the Golden Triangle region. Buddhist Myanmar's loathe the intoxicants in accord with their religious teachings, and stay away from cultivating opium poppy or producing and trading narcotic drugs. Due to their belief in Theravada Buddhism, Myanmar people know that trafficking in narcotic drugs is not a proper livelihood despite the high profits.

But when Myanmar fell under British rule, the colonists used opium as a strategic weapon to prolong their subjugation of Myanmar. As the colonialists wickedly spread the practice of opium addiction among the sincere Myanmar nationals, opium trade began to flourish in Myanmar society.

Throughout the successive eras after the regaining of independence, Myanmar tried to root out the evil practice of abusing and trading opium that was tarnishing the Myanmar society. After 1989, the Tatmadaw government launched the 15-year narcotics elimination plan to reduce poppy cultivation and opium production in addition to the priority task of eradicating narcotic drugs. Myanmar was able to proclaim Mongla Special Region 4 in Shan State (East) as an opium free zone on 22 December 1997. Illicit cultivation of opium poppy ended totally in Kokang Special Region 1 in 2003, and Wa Special Region 2 was declared an opium free zone in June 2005. Those were some of the significant successes Myanmar has achieved in trying to wipe out the narcotics once and for all.

Myanmar has been achieving sustainable success as she is eliminating the drugs as a national task just with the internal strength. However, some Western powers and the media under their control are ignoring the fact. They are slandering Myanmar as the main culprit of the problems harming the youths of the West, saying that as Myanmar is turning a blind eye to drugs production and trafficking, Golden Triangle region has become the second largest opium producing area in the world and that the country is the main distributor of narcotic drugs to West Europe. Actually, the West is not without any knowledge about Myanmar's relentless efforts and success in rooting out the narcotic drugs and the requirement of international cooperation. It is knowingly slandering Myanmar, while using the problem of drugs as a political weapon. On the other hand, there are just and fair international organizations that are cooperating with Myanmar in combating the drug menace. Their views and assessments on Myanmar enable the international community to see Myanmar as it really is.

The UNODC report of 2007 stands as a firm evidence. The report clearly portrays the condition of Golden Triangle region in 2006.

The UNODC report said that opium production in Myanmar, which was the second largest distributor,

continued to fall in 2006; that UNODC provided assistance to community-based projects of the region and tasks to reduce drug consumption and rehabilitation programmes; that according to UNODC survey in the Golden Triangle region, opium production in Myanmar, Laos and Thailand in 2006 decreased by 29 per cent when compared with 2005; that poppy cultivation in Myanmar fell by 34 per cent as it then had only 21,500 hectares of poppy fields; that when compared with 1998 when the poppy cultivation area was 130,300 hectares, the decline in the cultivation of the crops was 83 per cent; that Wa Special Region 2, which once was the largest poppy growing area of Myanmar, was proclaimed an opium free zone; that it was the result of Myanmar government's endeavours during the five years up to 2005 to root out opium till the entire Myanmar became an opium free zone in 2014.

The report also said that UNODC was providing assistance for former opium farmers for the development of opium-substitute businesses; that it was providing humanitarian aid to Kokang and Wa special regions, especially in food production, economic, basic business and education sectors; that it built Namhu Dam, with capacity to irrigate 80 hectares of land in Hotaung Township in 2005 for regional development; that Mongpauk region saw a 21 per cent rise in irrigated land in 2006 when compared with 1999 as total irrigated area of the region reached 785 hectares in that year.

Three townships in northern Shan State were said to have cultivated during the off-season to escape destruction by authorities. A surprise survey of Myanmar Government and UNODC was conducted but found no poppy cultivation in the region. Over 1000 drug addicts of five townships in Mongpauk and Weinkaw regions quit their addiction to drugs at UNODC-run rehabilitation centre covered by the project to reduce drug consumption in Wa region during the period from 2004 to 2006.

A national conference was organized in Yangon to draft an anti-trafficking in persons law. The conference gave the green light to the task of drawing a project to give protection to victims of human trafficking and witnesses and to help victims sold into human trafficking abroad to return home. The opening of UNODC-aided border area liaison offices has helped enhance regional cooperation in eradicating narcotic drugs. UNODC opened its branches in Bangkok and Myanmar and ran a UN-sponsored anti-human trafficking course for Mekong Subregion, attended by officers working in border areas.

The UNODC in cooperation with Myanmar government launched a project to address the cause of HIV/AIDS among intravenous drug users. Moreover, it in cooperation with the Ministry of Health has reinforced the national AIDS task force. In August, it kicked start a community-based programme to reduce drug consumption in Lashio and opened treatment and rehabilitation centres for drug addicts in Hsenwi and Tachilek townships. It held talks and training programmes at three police training

schools of Central Police Training Depot and two anti-drug units of Myanmar Police Force to help implement HIV/AIDS control project.

It also said that in the mid-1990s, Laos stood as the third largest poppy producer, and then its poppy production had fallen drastically.

Notorious Golden Triangle Region is partly covered by Myanmar's far-flung area or border areas, so Myanmar's drug-elimination efforts are interrelated with border areas development projects. So Chairman of the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe laid down five objectives in that regard. As a policy, a programme—to eradicate poppy cultivation by setting up businesses in border areas—was added to the five objectives. The 15-year drug elimination plan (1999-2014) has been launched since 1989. The border areas development project has been put into practice earlier, therefore that helped expedite the implementation of the drug-elimination plan in a short time.

In an attempt to ensure progress of border areas, the government has given priority to the building of social and economic infrastructures in the poppy-growing regions. As a result, there have emerged other economic opportunities for poppy growers and their dependence on poppy cultivation has decreased dramatically.

Thanks to the systematic approach to the issue, Myanmar's poppy production was in a sharp decline during the border areas development plan. According to the data collected in cooperation with the Counter Narcotic & Crime (CNC) of the US, Myanmar's poppy cultivation decreased by 81 per cent and poppy production by 88 per cent in 2004 if compared with that in 1996. Despite such tangible results, certain powerful countries have still refused to recognize Myanmar's success, thus showing their inconsiderate attitude.

In the past, measures were taken on a large scale for elimination of drug production such as destroying poppy fields by spraying them with the use of aeroplanes and launching major operations. However, the drive did not show much success. When development projects necessary for poppy farmers were launched, the regions started to enjoy development, and with regional development there emerged alternative farming and other economic opportunities. Moreover, holding educative talks on evil consequences of narcotics on a wider scale in border areas served as a factor for dramatic reduction in poppy growing and production.

Here, self-opinionated countries should take into consideration a notable point that according to the 2007 report of UNODC, in 2006 Afghanistan made a record poppy production of 6100 tons, accounting for 92 per cent of the world poppy production and an increase by 49 per cent. In particular, poppy production of the southern part of Afghanistan increased sharply, amounting to 60 per cent increase if compared with that in 2005. Its poppy acreage stood 115,000 hectares, which contributed towards 30 per cent of world consumption. Helmand Province's poppy production reached 162 per cent when compared with that in 2005. Only six of 34 provinces of the nation could be announced poppy free areas. UNODC's 2006 opium survey in Afghanistan said that drug-related crimes and corruption encouraged not only drug cases but also terrorist acts in the west Asia. Laos, where internal armed conflicts has ended, was virtually free from poppy in 2006. In the mid-1990s, Laos was ranked the third largest poppy

(See page 9)

**Now with peace and stability restored in the entire nation including border areas, apart from the drive for reduction of poppy production, the government has been taking measures effectively to wipe out the problems on narcotic drugs produced with the use of raw materials and precursor chemicals imported from neighbouring countries. Especially, it has placed emphasis on law enforcement so that border towns such as Tachilek, Myawady and Kawthoung will become drug free zones.**



## Senior General Than Shwe inspects ...

(from page 1)

qualities of RCC concrete, the purpose of using RCC concrete on the project site, do's and don'ts in quality control of RCC concrete and Yeywa hydel power project included in the list of world's largest RCC concrete dams.

Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint reported on installation of 230 KV power lines—Yeywa-Belin, Belin-Shwesayan, Belin-Meiktila and Meiktila-Thazi—and construction of Belin subpower station. He also briefed on progress in installation of 230 KV Shweli-Mansan-Shwesayan power line for power supply from Shweli (1) Hydel power project being implemented in Namkham township and arrangements for arrival of equipment to be used for power grid.

Senior General Than Shwe stressed the need for completion of hydel power project tasks together with the installation of power grid in time. He next gave guidance on making efforts to domestically produce accessories and transformers to be used in the installation of power grid. He urged officials concerned to implement the project step-by-step by conducting feasible study of water resources on the upper reaches of the Myitnge river. Afterwards, the Senior General presented baskets of fruits to Project Director Mr. Stewart of Colenco Power Engineering Co Ltd, Project Manager Mr Zhou of Cowrie China Gezhouba Water and Power Group Co Ltd and Project Director U Myint Zaw of Construction No 2 under the Hydel Power Implementation Department.

After that, the Senior General inspected samples of RCC concrete, and machinery to be used in the construction of the main dam. Next, he viewed construction tasks and party on a motorcade inspected the diversion tunnel, progress in construction of main conveyor system, RCC concrete mixer, and power intake building. They also

tion. On completion of the project, 790 megawatts of electricity will be generated. In order to block the Myitnge River, the roller compacted concrete dam measuring 2264 feet in

Yeywa hydel power project is one of the world's largest RCC concrete dams. Later, the Senior General and party viewed round the development of Bahtoo Tatmyo



with the use of heavy machinery and the project area. The Senior General

inspected laying of concrete on the main dam and construction of power sta-

length and 433 feet in height is under construction.

and Kalaw in Yeksauk township in Shan State.

MNA





## CNG Filling Station No 008 (Pale) opened

YANGON, 21 April — A ceremony to open the CNG Filling Station No 008 (Pale) was held in front of the station on No 3 Highway in Mingaladon Township this morning.

Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay cut the ribbon as opening the station.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win unveiled the signboard of the station.

Director U Myint Htay and General Manager U Thein Htay of Myanma Gas and Oil Enterprise conducted the

commander, the deputy minister and party round the station.

The CNG filling station was installed with modern compressors and NGV-4 filling nozzles. As a result, the station can rise filling of the gas to the numbers of vehicle from 400 to 800 per day.

MNA



The opening of CNG Filling Station No 008 in progress.—ENERGY

## Measures taken as to control of bird flu in Yangon Division

YANGON 22, April — Altogether seven poultry farms in Mayangon, Hlinethaya, North Okkalapa, Mingaladon and Hmawby Townships in Yangon Division were struck by an outbreak of H5N1 bird flu from 28-2-2007 to 30-3-2007.

As part of the disease prevention programme, altogether 65,812 poultry from the affected farms as well as farms that are close to the affected farms were culled, and disinfection was carried out at the affected farms 32 times.

According to laboratory tests, of 675 samples from the affected farms, 24 were found to be infected with H5N1 virus while 289 samples from other farms in Yangon Division were not found to be infected with H5N1 virus.

H5N1 virus was detected in 6 samples of the dead crows when 561 samples of the dead crows, sparrows, pigeons and other birds were tested.

Those from the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department made field trips right down to the 205 poultry farms in the five townships and monitored the disease 70 times from 1-3-2007 to 21-4-2007. But there was no unusual death of poultry.

In cooperation with experts from FAO Integrated Project, FAO Regional Bangkok, FAO International Consultant and USAID, veterinarians of LBVD were in the fight against bird flu from 6-3-2007 to 21-4-2007.

Restriction on transport and sale of poultry as well as poultry products in the five townships was lifted.

As part of further programmes, those from LBVD are to make field trips to farms 3 to 7 kilometres away from the affected farms as well as farms of the states and divisions where they will monitor the virus in three months in order that the country can be declared a bird flu-free nation to OIE.

The LBVD has requested the people and breeders to come forward with information on the dead birds, to ensure bio-security and cooperate with the department in order to be able to prevent the recurrence of bird flu.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min cut the ribbon to open new DaikU-Sittoung railroad.—MNA

## Commander, Ministers attend...

(from page 16)

He added that 5-mile Kyeeni-Chauk railroad, 123.8-mile Pyinmana-Myohaung railroad, 16.19-mile Pyawbwe-Phayangahsu railroad and 322.5-mile Kyangin-Pakokku railroad are under construction. In addition, arrangements have been made for construction of Katha-Bhamo railroad. In conclusion, the minister thanked for attendance of the officials and local people at the opening ceremony of the railroad.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Ministers for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaug Lwin and U Pe Than, departmental heads, local authorities, social organizations and local people.

A local expressed gratitude for construction of the railroad.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min, Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and the deputy ministers sprinkled scented water on the train. The commander and the minister formally opened the new railroad. Next, they inspected the train and rode on it.

The 24-mile new DaikU-Sittoung Railroad is 38-mile shorter than the 62-mile old DaikU-Bago-Sittoung Railroad. Traveling of the people from states and divisions in the upper Myanmar to Mawlamyine of Mon State and Dawei of Taninthayi Division as well as those from Mon State and Taninthayi Division to towns in the upper Myanmar by train, they transited their trips at Bago Station or Yangon Station due to lack of direct linkage to the destinations in the past. Hence, the travellers faced hard-

ships of time and cost. Thanks to opening of the DaikU-Sittoung Railroad, the passengers will have easy access to their destinations through the route from Myitkyina of Kachin State to Dawei of Taninthayi Division without stopping over at Bago. Furthermore, national people from Mandalay and Bago Divisions, Mon and Kayin States and Taninthayi Division can travel from one place to another easily. The newly-opened DaikU-Sittoung Railroad will contribute to economic development of the respective regions, further cementing of national unity and flourishing of the Union Spirit.

Myanma Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transportation is striving for timely completion of Pyawbwe-Phayangahsu Railroad that will have accessible to Shan State (South) and Kayah State.

MNA

## Victory of collective endeavours...

(from page 7)

producer. In seven years, it managed to reduce poppy production by 93 per cent. So, it was no longer likely to be a poppy exporter, UNODC said.

So, it can be deduced from above-mentioned points that increased production and sales of narcotic drugs are interrelated with internal armed conflicts, terrorist movements and internal political unrest. Apparently, considerable achievement of Myanmar drug elimination campaigns has been largely due to the fact that ex-national race armed groups that in the past used force to handle internal political issue have realized the benevolent attitude of the government and returned to the legal fold and are now joining hands

with the government and the people in the nation-building tasks.

Now with peace and stability restored in the entire nation including border areas, apart from the drive for reduction of poppy production, the government has been taking measures effectively to wipe out the problems on narcotic drugs produced with the use of raw materials and precursor chemicals imported from neighbouring countries. Especially, it has placed emphasis on law enforcement so that border towns such as Tachilek, Myawady and Kawthoung will become drug free zones.

Certain western powerful countries' turning a blind eye to the prevailing situations of Myanmar and abetting anti-government groups and terrorist insurgent

groups are serving an encouragement to boosting production of narcotic drugs. In other words, the acts of the countries accusing Myanmar of ignoring drug cases that are posing dangers to the entire mankind are indeed fueling the dangers of narcotics.

Studying the report of the UNODC, one can notice that the mistaken acts of certain elements that are unwilling to recognize the fruitful results of drug elimination movements the Myanmar government and people are implementing with nationalistic fervour. These fruitful results represent the victory of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw. However much any bloc or country is making slanderous accusations, Myanmar will continue to pursue its goal.

(Translation: TMT+MS)

## Dairy increases Parkinson's risk in men

**BEIJING, 20 April** — A study in US shows that consuming large amounts of dairy products may increase the rate of Parkinson's disease in men, but the reason remains unknown, media reported Friday.

The findings are based on detailed dietary and lifestyle information collected from 57,689 men and 73,175 women who took part in a cancer prevention study. Over 9 years, 250 men and 138 women were diagnosed with Parkinson's disease.

Men with the highest levels of dairy consumption were 60 percent more likely to develop the disease than those who consumed the least amounts of dairy, the study found.

Men in the highest-intake group consumed an average of 815 grams of dairy per day, which is roughly equivalent to three to four glasses of milk; those in the lowest-intake group consumed 78 grams of dairy per day, on average.

It's not clear what effect dairy foods might have on women's risk of the disease. Nor is it known why there is a relationship seen in men, said the lead study author Dr Honglei

Chen, a researcher at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

Larger studies are needed to find out which dairy products might be responsible, and why, according to Chen.

Milk, rather than dairy products like yogurt and cheese, explained most of the association, according to Chen. — INTERNET



*An Iraqi cancer patient being treated in Jordan displays her painting during a charity workshop, sponsored by Iraqi council businessmen to support cancer patients in Iraq, in Amman on 20 April, 2007. — INTERNET*



*Faye Wong, the pop queen who quit showbiz for her family, may return next year to sing the theme song for the Beijing Olympic Games! — INTERNET*

## South Africa, Spain sign defence agreement

**JOHANNESBURG, 21 April** — South Africa and Spain signed a defence cooperation agreement on Thursday.

South African Press Association reported that South African Defence Minister Mosiuoa Lekota signed with his Spanish counterpart Jose Antonio Alonso Suarez during his official visit to Spain.

The agreement would focus on cooperation in peacekeeping and other military matters.

Lekota's spokesman Sam Mkhwanazi said it also paved the way for

cooperation in other fields, with the specific details still to be worked out.

South African military officers are already attending staff courses in Spain and that country hopes to send officers to South Africa next year.

While in Spain, Lekota would also deliver a lecture on peacekeeping in Africa at the Royal Elcano Institute.

MNA/Xinhua

## Strong quakes hit East China Sea, but tsunami unlikely

**BEIJING, 21 April** — A string of earthquakes, the strongest of which registered 6.5 on the Richter Scale, jolted the East China Sea on Friday morning, but it is unlikely the tremors will generate a tsunami off the coast of China, said China's Seismological Monitoring Network.

At least four earthquakes occurred in less than two hours this morning, with the first striking at 8:26 am (Beijing Time) with a magnitude of 6.3, the network reported.

The other three, with magnitudes of 5.6, 6.5 and 6.0, occurred at 8:31 am, 9:46 am and 10:23 am.

The epicenter, at 25.7 degrees north latitude and 125.1 degrees east Longitude, was about 350 kilometres to the east of Taipei and about 450 kilometres from the nearest coastline of the Chinese Mainland, the network said.

No casualties have been reported.

"The chances of a tsunami are very slim," said Zhang Yongxian, vice director of the network, explaining that the earthquakes all measured below 7.5 on the Richter Scale, a magnitude considered capable of causing a tsunami.

Zhang also said that the continental shelf beneath China's coasts was relatively flat and the sea water was not very deep, two factors that would reduce the risk of a tsunami.

"Parts of Taiwan might be influenced by the tremors, but any damage is unlikely," Zhang said.

MNA/Xinhua

## WHO: motorcycle accidents threaten youth health

**MANILA, 19 April** — The World Health Organization (WHO) said here on Thursday with a report that deaths and disabilities resulting from motorcycle accidents involving youngsters have become a worldwide health hazard.

Young motorcyclists make up a significant percentage of injuries and fatalities among road users, particularly in low and medium-income countries, the WHO Office of West Pacific Region based in Manila said in the report.

Factors such as speed, no helmets, risk-taking behavior and drink-driving contribute to the rising trend, the WHO said.

In low and medium-income countries, "vulnerable road users" including motorcyclists make up a larger

proportion of those injured or killed than the rest of the world, the report said.

In these countries, helmets are rarely used, partly because of their cost and partly because of a lack of helmets for young passengers, the WHO said. On the other hand, many countries do not strictly enforce laws covering the use of helmets, it added.

The WHO report indicated that most motorcycle deaths are a result of head injuries.

While wearing a helmet correctly can cut the risk of death by almost 40 percent, and the risk of severe injury by 72

percent.

Every day, some 1,000 people under the age of 25 years are killed in road accidents worldwide,

and 85 percent occur in low and medium-income countries, according to the WHO statistics.

INTERNET



*The World Health Organization said on Thursday with a report that deaths and disabilities resulting from motorcycle accidents involving youngsters have become a worldwide health hazard.*

INTERNET

## Singapore, New Zealand navies conduct maritime exercise

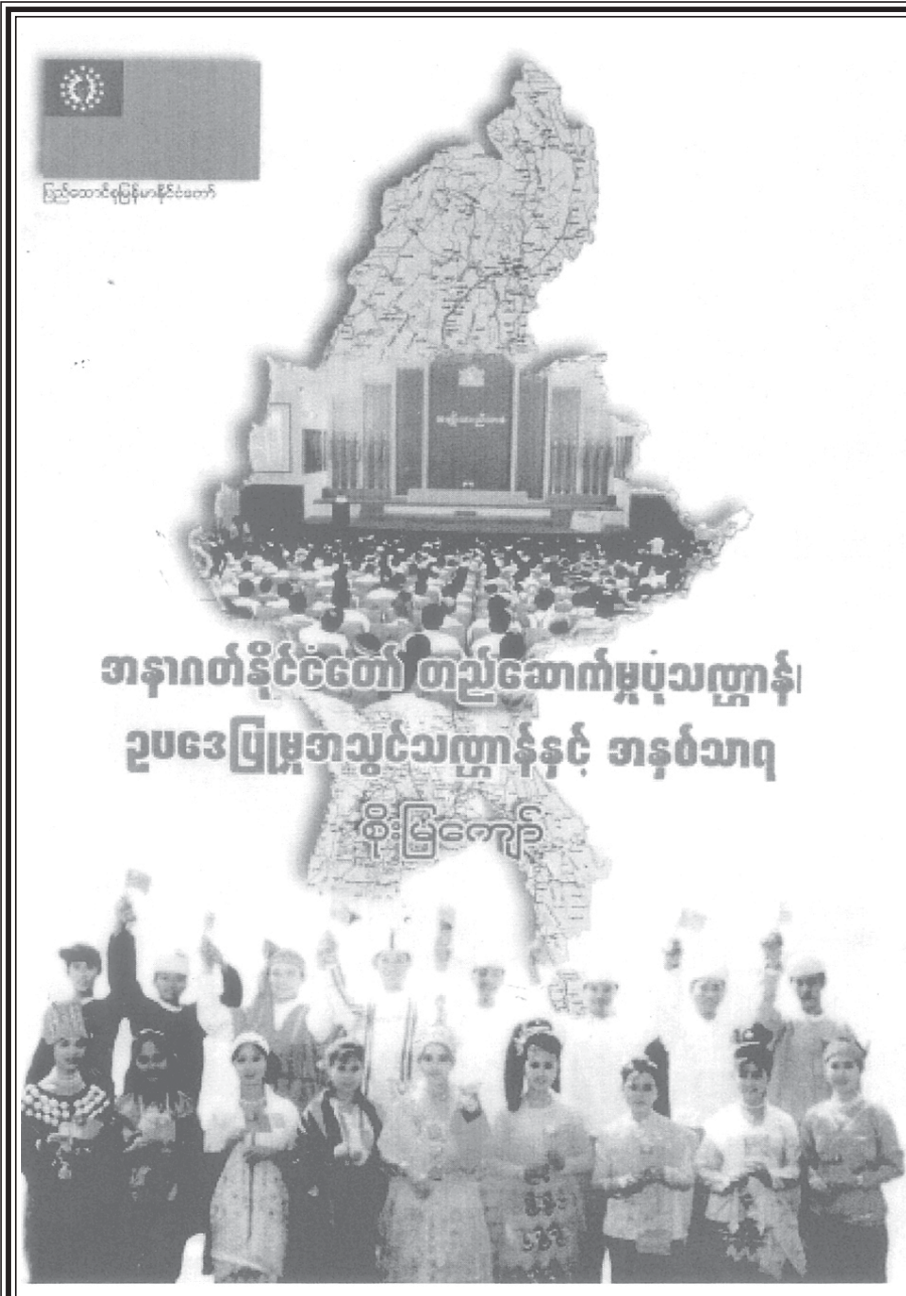
**SINGAPORE, 21 April** — The Singapore and New Zealand navies on Friday concluded a joint maritime exercise which started on Monday.

This exercise, named LION ZEAL 07, comprised both shore and seaphases, Singapore's Defence Ministry said in a statement.

The shore phase included a planning and tactical gaming exercise at the Tactical Training Centre, while the sea phase saw the two sides exercising together under both maritime security and conventional warfare scenarios.

This exercise was the eighth in the series of bilateral exercises, which began in 1999, said the statement.

MNA/Xinhua



- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံသတင်းများကို လေ့လာကြည့်သောအခါ အနာဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ပုံဖော်မှန်းမျှော် ကြည့်ရှုရလာပြီ ဖြစ်သည်။
- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တွင် ပေါ်ပေါက်လာမည့် ဥပဒေပြုမှုနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်းသည့် အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ထင်လင်းစွာ ပုံဖော်လာရေးအတွက် စာရေး သူ၏တွေ့ရှိချက်များကို တိုင်းရင်းသားပြည်သူများအား အကိုးအထောက် မှန်ကန်စွာဖြင့် လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းဝေငှထားသည့် —

**စိုးမြင်ကျော် ၏**

**အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန် ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ**

- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အခန်း (၁) ခန်းနှင့် အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အပိုင်း (၁၃) ပိုင်းပါရှိသည်။
- ရောင်းစုံ သရုပ်ဖော်ပုံများနှင့် စာမျက်နှာ (၁၅၀)၊ ရောင်းဈေး ၃၅၀/-

**ထွက်ပြီ**

- စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။  
ဖုန်း - ၃၈၁၄၄၈၊ ၂၄၉၀၃၁
- သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။  
ဖုန်း - ၂၉၄၃၀၆

**HK's schools join "Fruit Day" to promote healthy eating habit**

HONG KONG, 21 April — More than 220,000 students from 350 local primary schools enjoyed nutritious fruit at school here Thursday in support of "Fruit Day," a major event under the "EatSmart@school.hk" campaign.

A study conducted by the Department of Health of the Hong Kong Government in March 2006 said that only around half of the 9,000 primary school students from 44 schools interviewed ate fruit twice or more each day, reflecting the

consumption of fruit had been inadequate among school children in Hong Kong.

However, scientific evidence revealed that adequate consumption of fruit and vegetables could lower the risk of developing many diseases including heart disease, stroke and certain types of cancers, therefore, children aged 6 to 12 should eat one to two servings of fruit a day to keep their health at its best.

Speaking at a ceremony to mark the "Fruit Day" at St. James Primary School in Wan Chai, Director of Health of Hong Kong Dr P Y Lam said the event is aimed at encouraging schools and parents to foster a school environment conducive to healthy eating and fruit consumption to protect children from diet-related diseases. — MNA/Xinhua



**Fidel V Ramos, former president of the Philippines attends the kicking-off ceremony of the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Golf Invitational 2007 in Boao, Qionghai of south China's Hainan Province on 20 April, 2007. Over 1,300 delegates will attend BFA annual conference 2007 here from 20 to 22 April, with the theme "Asia Winning in Today's Global Economy: Innovation and Sustainable Development". — XINHUA**

**Green tea may help prevent autoimmune diseases**

WASHINGTON, 21 April — Green tea may help protect against autoimmune disease, researchers from Medical College of Georgia reported Thursday on the latest issue of the journal *Autoimmunity*.

Researchers studied an animal model for Type I diabetes and primary Sjogren's Syndrome, which damages the glands that produce tears and saliva. They found significantly less salivary gland damage in a group treated with green tea extract, suggesting a reduction of the Sjogren's symptom commonly referred to as dry mouth. Dry mouth can also be caused by certain drugs, radiation and other diseases.

Approximately 30 per cent of elderly Americans suffer from degrees of dry mouth, says Dr. Stephen Hsu, a researcher in the MCG School of Dentistry and lead investigator on the study. Only 5 per cent of the elderly in China, where green tea is widely consumed, suffer from the problem.

"Since it is an autoimmune disease, Sjogren's Syndrome causes the body to attack itself and

produce extra antibodies that mistakenly target the salivary and lacrimal glands," he says. There is no cure or prevention for Sjogren's Syndrome.

Researchers studied the salivary glands of the water-consuming group and a green tea extract-consuming group to look for inflammation and the number of lymphocytes, a type of white blood cells that gather at sites of inflammation to fend off foreign cells.

The group treated with green tea had significantly fewer lymphocytes, Dr. Hsu says. Their blood also showed lower levels of autoantibodies, protein weapons produced when the immune system attacks itself, he says.

Researchers already know that one component of green tea — EGCG — helps suppress inflammation. "So, we suspected that green tea

would suppress the inflammatory response of this disease. Those treated with the green tea extract beginning at three weeks, showed significantly less damage to those glands over time," says Dr. Hsu.

Researchers also suspect that the EGCG in green tea can turn on the body's defense system against TNF-alpha — a group of proteins and molecules involved in systemic inflammation. TNF-alpha, which is produced by white blood cells, can reach out to target and kill cells.

"The salivary gland cells treated with EGCG had much fewer signs of cell death caused by TNF-alpha," Dr. Hsu says. "We don't yet know exactly how EGCG makes that happen. That will require further study. In some ways, this study gives us more questions than answers." — MNA/Xinhua

**ADVERTISEMENT**

**Los Angeles reports rise in child killing**

LOS ANGELES, 20 April — The number of youngsters killed by a family member increased slightly from 2004 to 2005 in Los Angeles County, according to child-abuse reports released Wednesday.

The reports also showed a rise in adolescent suicides and infant deaths in Los Angeles County, which comprises 88 satellite cities. The three annual reports on child abuse, child fatalities and abandoned infants were released by the Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICCAN).

In 2005, 33 children were killed by a parent, family member or caregiver, up from 30 in 2004, according to the reports.

The leading cause of those deaths was "multiple traumas," and 79 per cent of those children were less than 5 years old when they died, according to the reports.

Children's fathers or their mother's boyfriends were responsible for most of those crimes, said the reports.

In 2005, 15 youths — 11 boys and four girls — took their own lives, up from 13 in 2004. They ranged in age from 12 to 17, and the most common method of suicide was hanging, followed by self-shooting.

Signs that a child may be contemplating suicide include depression, anxiety, isolation, a lack of interest in regular

activities and a drop in grades, said Michael Pines with the Los Angeles County Office of Education.

"Children that are desperate, they need to be recognized, and we need to intervene early on," Pines said. "Schools and parents need to work together to intervene early so that kids get help."

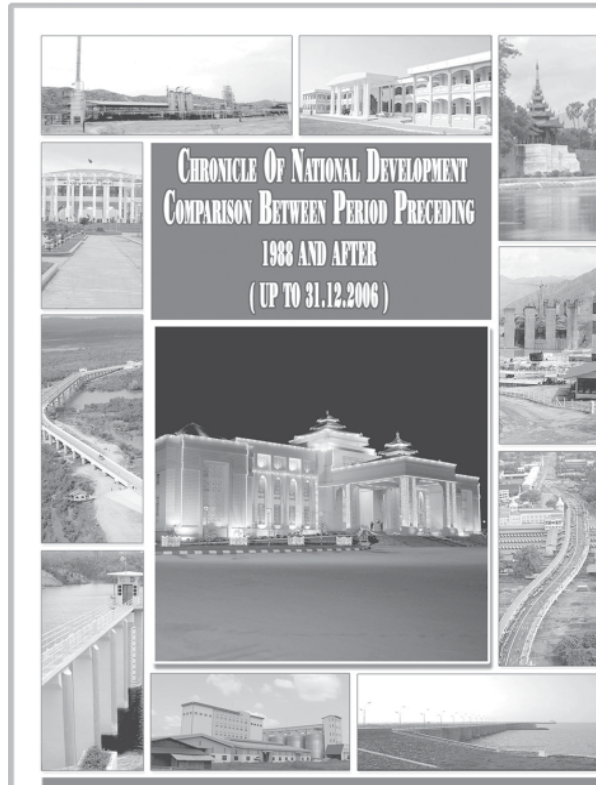
The reports also showed that 140 children died from accidents — usually traffic collisions — in 2005.

Another 109 children died of "undetermined" causes, according to ICCAN, up from 84 in 2004. Twenty-five of those children were infants who were "co-sleeping" with one or more adults at the time of their deaths.

The slight increase in those statistics is not cause for immediate concern, said Deanne Tilton Durfee, the council's executive director, who noted abuse-related homicides reached an all-time high of 61 in 1991.

"Every child's death is alarming, but the increases were very small compared to the overall decline, so right now we're not alarmed by that," Durfee said.

MNA/Xinhua



**CHRONICLE OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**COMPARISON BETWEEN PERIOD PRECEDING 1988 AND AFTER (UP TO 31 - 12 - 2006)**

- \* This book features firm evidences, correct data and figures and documentary photos.
- \* This book reflects the success in building the infrastructure according to the political, economic and social objectives for the brighter future of the State.
- \* Illustrated with charts and colourful photos.
- \* Published by the Ministry of Information.

Now On Sale USD 3.00

**Available at**

- 📖 Sarpay Beikman Book Shop, 529-531, Merchant Street, Yangon ☎ 01-381448, 249031
- 📖 Sarpay Beikman Book Shop, No-55, Thabyaygon Market, Nay Pyi Taw
- 📖 News and Periodicals Enterprise Book Shop, 212, Theinbyu Street, Yangon ☎ 294306
- 📖 Hotels, Supermarkets and Shopping Malls in Yangon.

**Home-grown marijuana on the rise in California**

LOS ANGELES, 20 April — The number of home-based marijuana growing operations in California has increased rapidly, local media reported Thursday.

In the past month, police have broke dozens of home operations and seized more than two thousand marijuana plants worth millions of US dollars in several cities in Southern California, the Los Angeles Times reported. In Northern California, federal, state and local law enforcement authorities have raided and shut down 50 home-growing operations since last year.

Authorities have called on communities to take a more aggressive stand against marijuana now or face the possibility of increased crime in their suburban neighbourhoods.

"It's not just a matter of marijuana being sold for profit," Los Angeles County Undersheriff Larry Waldie told the newspaper. "People have to protect the stuff with weapons, and (the homes) become a target for criminals."

Waldie said the problem has grown so serious so quickly that

he planned to bring up the issue when he meets next month with managers in the cities that contract with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Federal drug investigators linked the marijuana-growing homes to a Vietnamese crime ring based in San Francisco, but Los Angeles County sheriff's detectives do not

know if it is connected to the operations in Southern California.

MNA/Xinhua

**Egypt crash kills 15 children on way to school**

CAIRO, 20 April — At least 15 Egyptian secondary school students were killed on their way to school on Wednesday when a truck they were riding in collided head-on with another vehicle south of the Egyptian capital, security sources said.

The driver of the truck was also killed, and eight other students who were riding in the back of the truck were injured in the crash, the latest in a series of deadly Egyptian transport accidents.

The sources said the collision occurred when a heavy truck tried to overtake another vehicle in the Giza Province, colliding head-on with the private truck taking the students to school.

The dead students, 14 girls and a boy, were between 15 and 16 years old. Security sources had earlier said all 16 dead were students. — MNA/Reuters

**Twenty four Taliban militants killed in S Afghanistan**

KABUL, 20 April — Afghan and the US-led coalition forces killed 24 Taliban militants in Helmand Province of southern Afghanistan, a coalition statement said Thursday.

Four Taliban rebels attacked an Afghan and coalition patrol in Sangin District on Wednesday night, the statement said, adding the patrol fought back and captured three militants.

The forces then received intelligence about enemy activity involving an estimated 40 Taliban fighters, and manoeuvred to gain contact with the enemies, it added.

Coalition air support was requested to engage the rebels, the statement said. Up to 24 Taliban fighters were killed and four vehicles destroyed during the prolonged seven-hour battle, the statement said, adding two coalition soldiers were injured slightly.

MNA/Xinhua

**Ghana gold pit collapse kills nine illegal miners**

ACCRA, 20 April — Nine illegal gold miners, six of them women, were killed in Ghana this week when the abandoned pit they were working in collapsed, police said on Wednesday.

Nine bodies were recovered from the pit which caved in on Monday near Wassa Akropong in the Western Region of Ghana, Africa's second biggest gold producer after South Africa.

"It is an illegal operation. It collapsed, they got trapped inside," said Western Region Police Commander Kofi Arthur, who added that one person survived the accident.

Between 300,000 and 500,000 small-scale artisanal miners, known locally as galamsey, are estimated to be working in Ghana. Pit accidents and cave-ins at unsupervised sites are common.

Monday's accident occurred not far from a legal concession operated by US-based Golden Star Resources Ltd, which sent a rescue team to the collapsed pit.

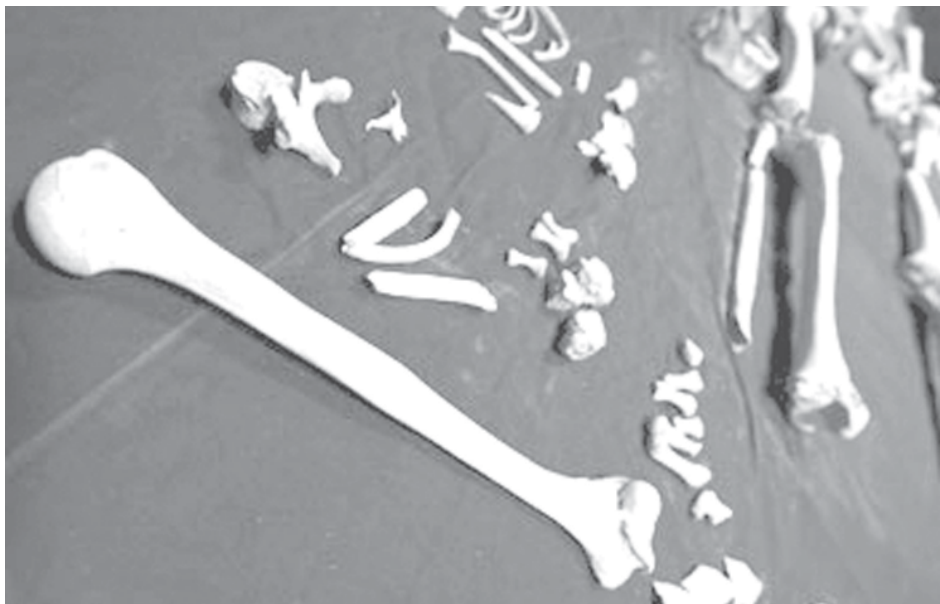
Some galamsey are legally registered and have their own concessions. But most work illegally on or near the concessions of large foreign gold companies, often in makeshift pits where they use hammers and chisels to hack out gold-bearing ore.

In recent months, authorities have moved to evict illegal miners from legal concessions held by big mining companies.

In December, four people were shot and wounded at the mining town of Prestea during an eviction operation.

MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးနှင့် ဆက်စပ်ပစ္စည်းတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



*Bones of children are displayed in Tula, Mexico on 19 April, 2007. The grisly find of the buried bones of 24 pre-Hispanic Mexican children may be the first evidence that the ancient Toltec civilization sacrificed children, an archeologist studying the remains said on Monday. The bones, dating from 950 AD to 1150 AD and dug up at the Toltecs' former capital Tula, north of present day Mexico City, indicated the children had been decapitated in a group. — XINHUA*

## China confiscates fake TVs built from clapped-out parts

**BEIJING, 20 April** — Chinese market regulators have confiscated 534 counterfeit TV sets built from worn-out, discarded parts, including cathode ray tubes extracted from illegally imported clapped-out sets, in Taizhou City, east China's Zhejiang Province.

The TV sets look attractive in nice new casings and bear the names of 18 different international and domestic brands, including Sony, Philips, Hisense and Changhong.

The TV sets were found in a warehouse during a raid by industry and commerce bureau officials, according to a story by Market News.

The warehouse had sold

a total of 102 fake TV sets for nearly 90,000 yuan (11,500 US dollars), according to the officials.

The warehouse owner, surnamed Chen, said he purchased the fake TV sets from an underground factory in south China's Guangdong Province at prices as low as 80 yuan (10.40 US dollars) a set.

In these workshops, workers take illegally-

imported discarded TV sets to pieces to salvage the tubes, a key component, despite the risk of exposure to toxic or radioactive substances without protective clothing.

Producers also collect TV circuit boards, casings, packing boxes, quality certificates, instruction books and bar codes.

MNA/Xinhua

## Simon Cowell top pop climber in Britain's rich list

**LONDON, 20 April** — Acerbic "Pop Idol" judge Simon Cowell, who delights in insulting wannabe singers on both sides of the Atlantic in the hit talent show, is the pop world's star riser in the latest *Sunday Times Rich List*.

Cowell, who once told a contestant "You remind me of a pet poodle", has an estimated wealth of 100 million pounds—up from 60 million last year. He has overtaken singer Robbie Williams.

David Beckham, who has signed a five-year deal with the Los Angeles Galaxy soccer team, maintains his position as the world's richest footballer, increasing his wealth by 25 million pounds to 112 million.

The wealthiest man in Britain is steel magnate Lakshmi Mittal who has increased his fortune to more than 19 billion pounds.

Britain is a magnet for billionaires from all over the world, with inherited, home-grown wealth now very much in the minority — The Duke of Westminster is the only one of the five wealthiest in the list to be born in Britain.

MNA/Reuters



*Children hold a carp streamer as they walk down a street at Sensoji temple in Tokyo on 20 April, 2007. Carp streamers, a symbol of good health and strength for children, are a traditional part of celebrations for Children's Day, which will take place on 5 May. — Internet*

## Scientists say Amur leopard close to extinction

**Moscow, 20 April** — Logging, building, farming and poaching have virtually killed off the Amur leopard, environmentalists said on Wednesday.

There are only 25 to 34 of the graceful animals still living in the wild, WWF said at a news briefing in Moscow to report on the results of a census of leopard numbers in Russia's Far East. At least 100 would be needed to guarantee the species' survival. "The numbers are very disappointing and the long-term prospects

are that they will not be able to survive unless urgent measures are taken," said Igor Chestin, head of WWF in Russia. He said he had hoped to report at least 35 leopards.

Oleg Mitvol, the head of Russia's state environmental watchdog, told the briefing he wanted to unify three protected areas where the leopards live.

That might result in better control of hunting of the leopards' prey and stem the encroachment of towns and farms on their habitat. — MNA/Reuters

## China plans qualification test for performing artists

**BEIJING, 20 April** — China's cultural authorities are introducing a national qualification programme for actors, singers and dancers.

The programme, expected to start later this year, is open to all current and aspiring performing artists, said Guo Wei, an official with the Centre of Cultural and Artistic Talents (CCAT) with the Ministry of Culture.

"We hope the qualification will provide an authentic reference for art troupes and organizations in eva-

luating staff and recruiting new actors, singers or dancers," said Guo.

Sources with the CCAT said the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Labour and Social Security have been planning the programme for more than four years.

"The purpose of such a programme is to improve the professional

level of China's art circles and discover more talented artists," said an official with the CCAT, who declined to be named.

The programme would consist of two parts: a performance and a written test of professional knowledge.

Guo said the programme is currently operating on a voluntary

basis. "It is not compulsory now, but we hope it could be widely recognized in the future so that it could become authoritative."

MNA/Xinhua

*A model presents a creation by Indian designer Arjun Khanna at a fashion show in New Delhi on 19 April, 2007. — INTERNET*



# SPORTS

## Wenger disappointed by Dein exit

LONDON, 19 April— Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger has spoken of his "huge disappointment" after vice-chairman David Dein's departure.

Dein, credited with bringing Wenger to Arsenal in 1996, left Arsenal on Wednesday because of "irreconcilable differences" with the board.

Wenger told Arsenal TV Online: "It's a huge disappointment because we worked very closely together."

The Frenchman, whose contract runs out in May next year, attended an Arsenal board meeting on Thursday.

Wenger said he was on good terms with the other club directors, but gave no clue as to whether he intends to extend his contract.

"My position is that I am linked with the club very strongly," added Wenger.

"The relationship with the rest of the board has always been very good and we try always to have a good understanding."

Earlier on Thursday Arsenal chairman Peter Hill-Wood had reassured fans that Wenger would stay at the club.

"The relationship that Arsene has with the board is good," said



Arsene Wenger

Hill-Wood. "He is on contract until 2008 and we hope he will extend beyond that."

Hill-Wood added: "It's well known that Arsene and David have got on very well over the past 10 years and I am certain that Arsene will miss him."

Dein, who holds 14% of shares in the parent company of the Gunners, will cease to be a director after leaving because of differences concerning the direction and ownership at the club.

Dein, 63, is thought to be in favour of Stan Kroenke's involvement at the club after the American billionaire recently bought a 9.99% stake in the club, and that has put him at odds with Hill-Wood.

But the chairman has been keen to stress that Dein's departure was not due to a lack of transfer funds available to Wenger.

Internet

## Alkmaar set up Dutch Cup final against Ajax with 6-0 win

BRUSSELS, 21 April — AZ Alkmaar reached their first Dutch Cup final since 1982 with a 6-0 thrashing win over NAC Breda on Thursday.

Simon Cziommer opened the scoring for the home side on the 41st minute with a Moussa Dembele pass in the area as Alkmaar dominated from the start.

Shota Arveladze converted a penalty to double the lead at 51 and Cziommer scored his second 7 minutes later. Maarten Martens added two in 60 and 63 minutes, before Iceland's Gretar Steinsson completed the rout eight minutes before time.

Alkmaar will meet Ajax Amsterdam, 3-1 winners over RKC Waalwijk on Wednesday, in the final on 6 May in Rotterdam. —MNA/Xinhua

## Derby victory sends Luton down

LONDON, 21 April — Derby County moved back into an automatic promotion spot in the second division with a 1-0 home win over Luton Town which spelt relegation for the visitors.

Lewin Nyatanga's 35th-minute goal helped Derby leapfrog Birmingham City into second place in the table. The top two teams automatically go up to the Premier League, with the next four fighting it out in the playoffs for the third promotion place.

Sunderland are top with 82 points from 43 matches. Derby are a point behind but have played a game more while Birmingham have 80 points from 43.

Bottom of the table Luton have 37 points from 44 games. —MNA/Reuters

## Werder Bremen beat Aachen to top Bundesliga

BERLIN, 21 April — Werder Bremen rallied with three second-half goals, including a spectacular one from inside their own half, to beat Alemannia Aachen 3-1 on Friday and move to the top of the Bundesliga.

Schalke 04, with 59 points, could reclaim the top spot on Saturday if they beat Energie Cottbus at home.

Werder, on top for the first time since early February, have 60 points with four matches left. Stuttgart are third with 55 points and host Bayern Munich, in fourth on 53, on Saturday. After Aachen shocked the hosts with Sergio Pinto's rebound goal in the second minute, Denmark's Daniel Jensen got a deserved equaliser five minutes after the interval and Sweden's Markus Rosenberg put Werder ahead five minutes later.

Diego made it 3-1 with the last kick of the match in the third minute of stoppage time, his shot heading into an empty Aachen goal from more than 60 metres away.

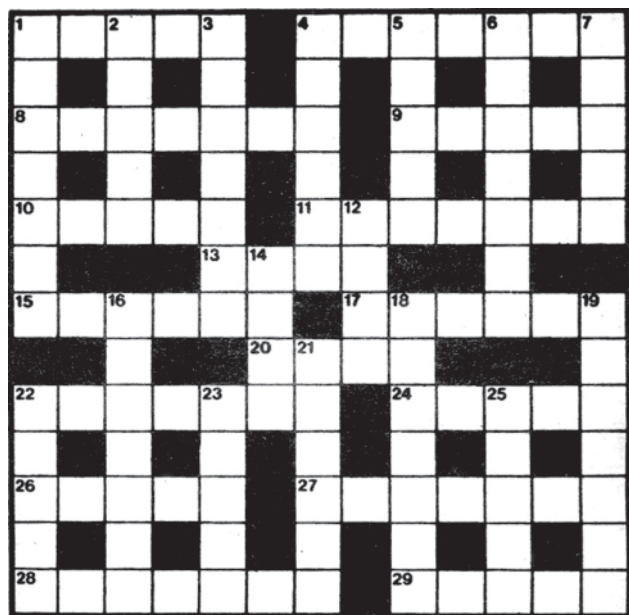
MNA/Reuters

Relief  
Goosen of  
South  
Africa  
takes  
a shot  
on the 14th  
hole  
during  
the Asian  
Open  
golf  
championship  
in  
Shanghai  
on 20 April,  
2007.



INTERNET

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

- 1 Bury
- 4 Being afraid
- 8 Wind
- 9 Take a dip
- 10 Female relative
- 11 Odd
- 13 Adam's third son
- 15 Enrol
- 17 Purpose
- 20 Number of Muses
- 22 Crazy (sl.)
- 24 Armistice
- 26 Cake decoration
- 27 Malignant
- 28 Unvarying
- 29 Outmoded

### DOWN

- 1 Vast
- 2 Tantalise
- 3 Reparation
- 4 Wooded area
- 5 Warning light
- 6 Concentrated
- 7 Diving bird
- 12 Lean
- 14 Sicilian volcano
- 16 Disembarkation
- 18 Irritated
- 19 Tripled
- 21 Line on weather-map
- 22 Wild rose
- 23 Boy's name
- 25 Inapt

## HOLDERS Al Ahli progress in African Champions League

JOHANNESBURG, 21 April — Holders Al Ahli beat South Africa's Mamelodi Sundowns 2-0 on Friday to record a 4-2 aggregate victory and proceed to the group phase of the African Champions League.

The Egyptian team were joined in the last eight by JS Kabylie of Algeria and Sudan's Al Hilal.

Al Ahli captain Shady Mohamed converted a penalty and playmaker Mohamed Aboutrika signalled his return from injury with a breakaway goal in a third round second leg tie at the Cairo International Stadium watched by an estimated crowd of 30,000.

The home team opened the scoring in the 69th minute when Sundowns defender Benson Mhlongo conceded a penalty with a reckless challenge.

Aboutrika, voted the best player of last year's competition, made it 2-0 in the 81st minute with a deft chip over the goalkeeper. — MNA/Reuters

## Beckham returns to Real Madrid squad after knee injury

MADRID, 21 April — David Beckham has returned to the Real Madrid squad for Saturday's game at home to Valencia after six weeks out with a knee ligament injury.

The former England captain suffered a strain to the lateral ligament in his right knee in a league match against Getafe at the start of March and has not played since.

Beckham, who will turn 32 next month, is leaving Real Madrid at the end of the season after agreeing to sign a five-year deal with MLS side LA Galaxy worth 250 million US dollars. — MNA/Reuters



Emmanuel Adebayor threatens the Spurs goal. — INTERNET

# Tottenham 2-2 Arsenal

LONDON, 21 April — Jermaine Jenas scored a spectacular last-minute equaliser to earn Spurs a fortunate point against Arsenal in a thrilling north London derby.

He beat Jens Lehmann from 25 yards in the dying seconds after Arsenal had dominated at White Hart Lane.

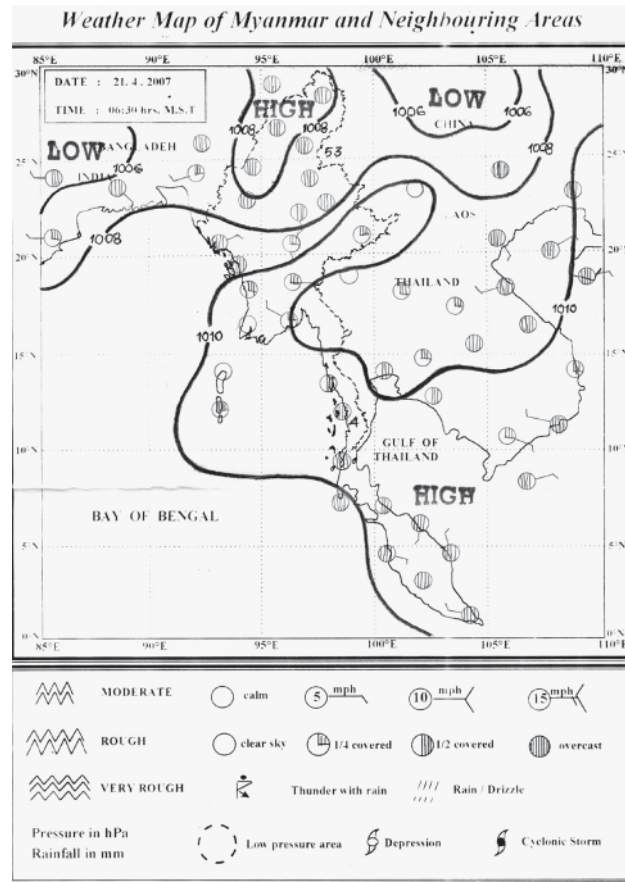
Robbie Keane headed Spurs in front after 30 minutes, and Arsenal hit the woodwork three times before Kolo Toure turned in Cesc Fabregas' free-kick.

Emmanuel Adebayor headed a second after 77 minutes before Jenas struck.

Spurs' point helped their quest for Uefa Cup qualification, but they have still not beaten Arsenal for 18 games.

Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger was left frustrated at the final whistle as they are forced to wait to clinch a Champions League place.

INTERNET



## WEATHER

Saturday, 21 April, 2007

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder-showers have been widespread in Kachin State, fairly widespread in Taninthayi Division, isolated in Shan and Rakhine States, Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (5°C) above normal in Ayeyawady Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Kayin, Kayah and Mon States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Minbu (43°C), Monywa, Magway and Thayawady (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myitkyina (2.12) inches, Mogok (0.32) inch, Maungtaw and Myeik (0.16) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 20-4-2007 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 21-4-2007 was 79°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 21-4-2007 was 61%. Total sunshine hours on 20-4-2007 was (9.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 21-4-2007 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 (15) mph from Southwest at (12:15) hours MST on 20-4-2007.

**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 22-4-2007:** Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Chin and Shan States, Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. 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 Upper Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 22-4-2007:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 22-4-2007:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 22-4-2007:** Partly cloudy.

Premiership		
21 April, 2007		
Tottenham	2-2	Arsenal
Watford	1-1	Man City
Charlton	1-1	Sheff Utd
West Ham	1-0	Everton
Fulham	1-1	Blackburn
Liverpool	2-0	Wigan
Bolton	1-3	Reading
Man Utd	1-1	Middlesbrough

Internet

**TV Myanmar**

**Sunday, 22 April**  
View on today

<p><b>7:00 am</b></p> <p>1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ရွက်ပုံ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာဟာရဋ္ဌ ဂုဏ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာအရမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ ဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်</p> <p><b>7:25 am</b></p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p><b>7:30 am</b></p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p><b>7:40 am</b></p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p><b>7:55 am</b></p> <p>5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ(၃၈)ဖြာ မင်္ဂလာ</p> <p><b>8:05 am</b></p> <p>6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p><b>8:15 am</b></p> <p>7. လယ်ယာစီးပွားမြှင့်တင်ရေး ဝန်ထမ်းများ၏ အောင်မြင်မှု</p> <p><b>8:20 am</b></p> <p>8. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p><b>8:30 am</b></p> <p>9. International news</p> <p><b>8:45 am</b></p> <p>10. Say it in English</p> <p><b>11:00 am</b></p> <p>1. Martial song</p>	<p><b>11:15 am</b></p> <p>2. Musical programme</p> <p><b>11:25 am</b></p> <p>3. Round up of the week's international news</p> <p><b>11:40 am</b></p> <p>4. Yan Can Cook</p> <p><b>12:00 pm</b></p> <p>5. "မမုန်းလေနဲ့ငယ်လို့" (ရန်အောင်၊ ဒွေး၊ မေသန်းနု၊ အိန္ဒြာကျော်စင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စင်ရော်မောင်မောင်)</p> <p><b>1:45 pm</b></p> <p>6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p><b>2:00 pm</b></p> <p>7. ပေါင်းစည်းအင်အား ဧရာဝတီမြစ်ကူးတံတားများ</p> <p><b>2:10 pm</b></p> <p>8. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းအမွေ</p> <p><b>2:15 pm</b></p> <p>9. "သတိနဲ့ယှဉ်အသိနဲ့ပြင်" (အပိုင်း-၂) (ဝါးခယ်မရဲမောင်၊ ဘုန်းလျှံ၊ မြတ်ကောသီအောင်၊ ရတနာခင်၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း၊ ပြည့်ဖူးခိုင်၊ နီနီရွှေရည်၊ ဆောင်းနင်းဝေ၊ ဝိုင်းစုခိုင်သိန်း၊ အိုင်းရစ်လေပြေဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)</p> <p><b>2:25 pm</b></p> <p>10. ပေါင်းလောင်းရေလှောင်တံ နှင့်လျှပ်စစ်ခါတ်အားပေးစက်ရုံ</p> <p><b>2:30 pm</b></p> <p>11. "သစ်ကောင်းတစ်ပင်" (နဒီစိုး၊ ပြည့်စုံရှင်၊ ကျော်မျိုးဟိန်း၊ မိုးယံထက်၊ ရန်ပိုင်စိုး၊ မောင်ဂဠုန်) [ဒါရိုက်တာ- မိုးယံထက် (သစ်တော)]</p> <p><b>2:45 pm</b></p> <p>12. International news</p>	<p><b>4:00 pm</b></p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p><b>4:15 pm</b></p> <p>2. Songs to uphold National Spirit</p> <p><b>4:30 pm</b></p> <p>3. English for everyday use</p> <p><b>4:45 pm</b></p> <p>4. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)</p> <p><b>5:00 pm</b></p> <p>5. Song of national races</p> <p><b>5:15 pm</b></p> <p>6. Sing and enjoy</p> <p><b>6:00 pm</b></p> <p>7. Evening news</p> <p><b>6:30 pm</b></p> <p>8. Weather report</p> <p><b>6:35 pm</b></p> <p>9. သီရိဂေဟာ</p> <p><b>7:05 pm</b></p> <p>10. "သီးနှံစိုက်ပျိုးအထွက်တိုး" [စပါးပန်းတိုင်အထွက်နှုန်း တင်း(၁၀၀)ထွက်ရှိရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ရမည့်နည်းပညာ]</p> <p><b>7:15 pm</b></p> <p>11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သမားတော်"(အပိုင်း-၁၉)</p> <p><b>8:00 pm</b></p> <p>12. News</p> <p>13. International news</p> <p>14. Weather report</p> <p>15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ပန်းနှင်းဆီ" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)</p> <p>16. The next day's programme</p>
---	---	---

**Radio Myanmar**

**Sunday, 22 April**  
Tune in today

**8:30 am** Brief news

**8:35 am** Music:  
-5 Miles to empty  
... Ry Factor

**8:40 am** Perspectives

**8:45 am** Music:  
-Chains  
... S & M

**8:50 am** National news / Slogan

**9:00 am** Music:  
-Tell me  
... Cleve

**9:05 am** International news

**9:10 am** Cultural Images of Myanmar

**9:20 am** Music:  
-Comic Girl  
... Classic

**1:30 pm** News / Slogan

**1:40pm** Children delight (story)

**1:50pm** Songs for children

**9:00pm** Weekly news review

**9:20 pm** Article

**9:30 pm** A place in the sun ...  
Stev'e Worder  
-You're having my baby ... Paul Anka

**9:45 pm** News / Slogan

**10:00 pm** PEL

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

**Four political objectives**

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

**Four economic objectives**

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

**Four social objectives**

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

# Commander, Ministers attend opening of 24 miles long DaikU-Sittoung Railroad

**There will be direct access to Dawei from Myitkyina**



Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko addresses inauguration of new DaikU-Sittoung railroad.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 April — A ceremony to commission DaikU-Sittoung Railroad into service was held at DaikU Station in DaikU this morning, attended by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council

Yangon-Mawlamyine-ye-Dawei Railroad, west of Sittoung Bridge in Waw Township. In building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, secure and smooth transport plays a key role.

The Head of State had given guidance saying that better transport will contribute to development of economic, social and administrative sectors of respective regions. For ensuring development of the region, not only the roads in the region but also the roads linking other regions are to be better. Therefore, development tasks have been undertaken in Bago

Division with the assistance of the government in line with the guidance of the Head of State. At present, local people enjoy fruits of development in various sectors. Hence, the local people are to harmoniously take part in the respective sectors for development of the division.

Later, the commander praised workers of Myanmar Railways for their performance in construction of the railroad within one year and four months.

Afterwards, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min delivered an address. He said that in accord with the

guidance of the Head of State, the 24-mile long DaikU-Sittoung Railroad was constructed as a shortcut one between Yangon-Mandalay Railroad and Yangon-Mawlamyine-ye-Dawei Railroad. As a result, there will be direct access to Dawei from Myitkyina. In addition, Nay Pyi Taw-Mawlamyine-Nay Pyi Taw train will ply along the railroad starting from 22 April.

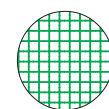
The minister continued to say that there are 21 bridges including four over-100-foot ones along the DaikU-Sittoung Railroad. On inspection of Insein Locomotive Shed on 20 May 2003, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance that the transport and motor transport sectors play a pivotal role in the State; and hence, it is necessary to uplift the capability of the rail trans-

port sector. Therefore, Myanmar Railways is striving to upgrade railroads, construct new railroads and build passenger carriages and wagons. There were 1,976.35 miles of railroad in 1988. In the time of the Tatmadaw government, a total of 1,166.44 miles of railroad have been constructed including the newly-opened DaikU-Sittoung railroad.

Hence, there are 3,142.79 miles of railroad in the entire nation. Furthermore, the number of railway station has increased up to 804 from 487 in 1988. Although there were 5,650 bridges in 1988, the Tatmadaw government built 4,032 bridges to date. Hence, there are 9,682 small and major bridges throughout the nation.

(See page 9)

**Thanks to opening of the DaikU-Sittoung Railroad, the passengers will have easy access to their destinations through the route from Myitkyina of Kachin State to Dawei of Taninthayi Division without stopping over at Bago.**



Minister  
Maj-Gen  
Aung  
Min.

MNA

