

### 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

## Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Israel

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Mrs Dalia Itzik, Acting President of the State of Israel, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the State of Israel which falls on 24 April 2007.

MNA

## True patriotism

- \* It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- \* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

## General Thura Shwe Mann inspects dredging work in Yangon river

YANGON, 23 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence instructed officials concerned of Myanma Port Authority of the Ministry of Transport in dredging in Yangon River during his inspection tour this afternoon.

Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral

Soe Thein, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Vice-Chairman of Committee for Ensuring Prompt and Regular Freight-handling and Operating Full Capacity Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Secretary Maj-Gen Win Myint, senior military officers and officials concerned welcomed General Thura Shwe Mann and Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence upon their

arrival at Nanthida Jetty at Pansodan Street.

First, General Thura Shwe Mann and party on board Thiha Dipa dredger looked into dredging in the course of Yangon river. Next, Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe and officials concerned presented reports to the General and party on measures being

(See page 8)



General Thura Shwe Mann inspects dredging of Yangon River being carried out by Myanma Port Authority. — MNA

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



## PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 24 April, 2007

### Strive for improvement of health care services

The government has established specialist hospitals in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay in order to fully provide health care services to the people.

In this regard, it is giving priority to producing medical scientists, providing hospitals with advanced medical equipment and building more necessary infrastructures.

In the present day, there has been such a great change in studies that specialization is concentrated on subject-wise rather than generalization.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe on 22 April met with rectors of universities of medicine and medical superintendents of hospitals in Mandalay at the Yangyi Aung Yeiktha of Central Command. At the meeting, Senior General Than Shwe said that constant efforts are to be made in order to keep pace with other nations that have achieved advanced medical sciences.

In accord with the guidance, it is necessary to cooperate with foreign universities of medicine and hospitals in exchanging medical knowledge and experiences and studying medical science.

In view of high prices of medicines and medical equipment patients are to contribute a fair share of the costs without relying on the State funds alone. Therefore, there has emerged two sections at hospitals—one giving medical treatment free of charge and the other giving medical treatment at reasonable prices. Only then will health care services of the State be improved.

This being so, health experts and staff are to strive together with the government to win the trust and reliance of the people in providing health care services.



U Tin Shwe and Daw Hla Kywe and family of Kamayut Township donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Vice-Chairman U Thaung Htut of the Administrative Board of the home recently. — H

## 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

### Foreign Minister felicitates Israeli counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April— On the occasion of the Independence Day of the State of Israel, which falls on 24 April 2007, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Ms Tzipi Livni, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel.

MNA

### Commander inspects preventive measures against DHF, diarrhoea

YANGON, 22 April — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win inspected preventive measures against dengue haemorrhagic fever and diarrhoea being carried out at Mingala Taungnyunt, Bahan and Dagon townships yesterday morning, and gave necessary instructions.

After hearing reports on sanitation works by officials, the commander gave necessary instructions.

Next, the commander looked into sanitation works and proper flow of drainage in Mingala Taungnyunt township and Bahan Township and inspected preventive measures against the disease, sanitation works and education talk on health in Dagon Township. — MNA

### Minister for Education inspects universities, colleges in Yangon

YANGON, 22 April — Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein and party met the principal and faculty members of National Management College in Botahtaung Township today.

The minister instructed officials to strive for opening of management courses and the tourism management course.

At Yangon West University, the minister heard reports on research on renewable energy, opening of chemistry and biology refresher course for basic education teachers and tasks of Red Cross Society presented by faculty members.

The minister inspected thriving sugarcane plantation grown for extracting of renewable

energy ethanol.

Yesterday afternoon,



Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein meets with the principal and teachers at Yankin Education College.— MNA

the minister met the principal and teachers at Thingangyun Education College and heard reports on academic and management matters pre-

sented by officials.

At Yankin Education College, the minister instructed officials to fulfill requirements of

furniture and laboratory apparatus and grow vegetables on the campus of the college.

MNA

### Special Appellate Bench sits

NAY PYI TAW, 23 April— The Special Appellate Bench comprising Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court U Tun Tun Oo, Supreme Court Judges U Myint Thein and U Chit Lwin sitting at court room No-1 of the Supreme Court (Nay Pyi Taw), delivered judgment of two special criminal appeal cases and heard three special criminal appeal cases under Section 7 of the Judiciary Law, 2000 today.

MNA

### Corrigendum

The author of the article "Make complaints, but in a fair and proper way" on page-7 of this daily published on 23-4-2007 is U Han Nyunt (Law). Error is regretted. —Ed

### New building of MRDA to be opened on 28 April

YANGON, 23 April — An opening ceremony of new building for Myanmar Rice Dealers Association will be held on 28 April at 7 am at the new office of the association at the corner of Yuzana and Nwethargi streets in Bayintnaung Brokerage area in Mayangon Township.

The tenth annual general meeting of the association will be held on 28 April at 10 am at the meeting hall of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Road in Lamadaw Township. All members of the association are invited to attend the ceremonies.

MNA



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## Sarkozy, Royal advance to French runoff

PARIS, 22 April—Nicolas Sarkozy and Segolene Royal advanced to a runoff in Sunday's presidential election, presenting France with a fundamental left-right choice between a conservative who could push his anxious nation toward painful change and a socialist who would be the country's first female leader.

Royal is the first woman

to get this close to the helm of this major European economic, military and diplomatic power after a campaign marked by suspense, surprise and unusually dynamic candidates who lured voters to the ballot box in near record numbers.

Sarkozy has the advantage heading into the 6 May runoff. Results from

the Interior Ministry early Monday, based on all polling stations except those voting in embassies overseas, had Sarkozy first with 31.1 percent followed by Royal with 25.8 percent. Turnout was huge at 84.6 percent the highest in more than 40 years and just shy of the record set in 1965.

Internet



Supporters for France's UMP political party presidential candidate Nicolas Sarkozy react to the announcement of results in the first round vote at a theatre in Paris, on 22 April, 2007. — XINHUA

## Mozambique, Cuba strengthen cooperation

LUANDA, 22 April—Mozambique and Cuba have signed a protocol to strengthen bilateral cooperation in economic, technical and scientific areas, *Mozambique News Agency* (AIM) reported from the Mozambican capital of Maputo on Friday.

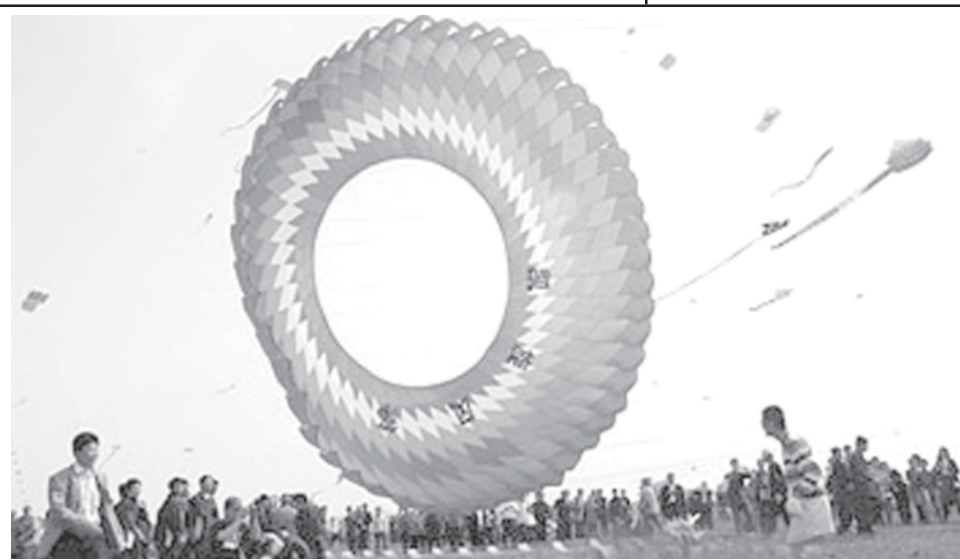
According to a Press release from the Mozambican Foreign Ministry, this protocol was signed during a session of the joint intergovernmental commission that took place in Maputo between Monday and Wednesday.

The Mozambican Youth and Sports Ministry and the Cuban Youth Union have also signed cooperation

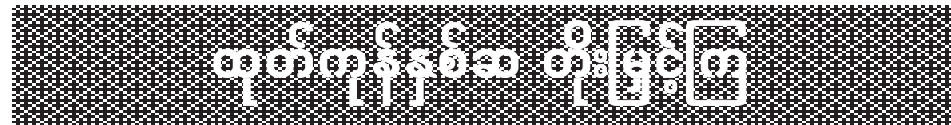
agreements. Participants of the meeting discussed bilateral cooperation and the degree of implementation of the agreements signed at the last session in 2005. It also planned future actions in terms of solidarity between the two countries.

The cooperation between Mozambique and Cuba is mainly centred on health and education, with Mozambican students studying in Cuban schools and Cuban doctors working in Mozambican health units.

MNA/Xinhua



Kite enthusiasts compete for glory at the Third World Kite Championship in Weifang in eastern China's Shandong Province on 21 April, 2007. — XINHUA



The first Chinese-made model of the London taxi "Black Cab" debuted at the 12th Shanghai Automobile and Technology Exhibition on 21 April, 2007. — XINHUA

## Latest Mogadishu battles death toll rises to 113

MOGADISHU, 22 April—Three days of battles in Mogadishu pitting Ethiopian and Somali troops against Islamist guerillas have killed 113 civilians and wounded another 222, a local human rights group said on Friday.

"We call on both sides to cease the war immediately without any pre-

condition," Sudan Ali Ahmed, chairman of the Elman Peace and Human Rights Organization which tracks the casualties, told *Reuters* in Mogadishu.

Ahmed said the figures were compiled from hospitals, counts on the street, and visits to homes by members of his group.

"Today was one of the

worst days of shelling yet. Since last night, it has been non-stop," Ahmed added, saying the world should give the same attention to the violence in Somalia as it does to the conflict in Sudan's Darfur region.

"If this continues for a month, it will be a major, major catastrophe."

MNA/Reuters

## Afghan bombings kill nine and wound more than 40

KABUL, 22 April—Two bombings, one of them a suicide attack, rocked the eastern town of Khost on Sunday, killing nine people and wounding more than 40, officials said.

The suicide bomber was on foot and blew himself up in a busy market square as the police were pursuing him. The blast killed eight people and wounded at

least 40, including several children, according to the provincial health chief, Dr Gul Muhammadin Muhammad. Six people were in critical condition, he said. The three officers who were chasing the bomber were among the wounded, and the senior officer was in critical condition, said the provincial police chief, Col Muhammad Ayub.

The other bomb, made of explosives packed into a video camera, exploded in a video store, killing the owner, Colonel Ayub said. He added that the attack, which also

wounded seven people, might have been the result of a private feud.

In the suicide bombing, three police officers were patrolling the area when they noticed the bomber and began to follow him, Colonel Ayub said. "They wanted to arrest him alive, and our police fired a warning shot in the air, to let people know there was a threat," he said. "He was fleeing from the area, and when he saw that he was going to be caught he blew himself up."

The eight people killed in the attack included workers from tea houses and restaurants, day laborers waiting for work and some passers-by, Colonel Ayub said.

The town of Khost has suffered many killings and suicide attacks in recent months. It lies close to the border with Pakistan.

Internet





A dresser does Chinese opera makeup on a student's face while opera directors and actors meet students at the Peking University Centennial Hall on, 20 April, 2007. — INTERNET

## Malaysia wants 100,000 foreign students

WINDHOEK, 22 April— Malaysia aims to double to 100,000 the number of foreign students at local tertiary learning institutions by 2010, *Bernama* reports Higher Education Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed as saying. He said the government would embark on a dual-pronged approach to achieve the government's goal of turning the country into a centre of education excellence.

The government, public and private universities had started their promotional campaigns to

attract students from potential countries, he added. The targeted countries are China, Indonesia, West Asia and African nations such as Kenya and Botswana. Mustapa is here as part of the delegation of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who made a three-day visit to Namibia aimed at enhancing trade and investment links between the two countries.

Namibia was the last leg of the prime minister's eight-day three-nation tour of Africa. Earlier, he

visited Sudan and Kenya. Abdullah returned home early yesterday. In Putrajaya, Higher Education Ministry director-general Datuk Prof Dr Hassan Said said the admission of foreigners into public universities would not affect local students.

*Internet*

South Korean siren Jeon Ji-hyun shows off her new hairdo in a recent photo album. Her long, straight, naturally-dark hair had been her symbol for the ten years since she entered the showbiz industry. — INTERNET



A model poses for photo session at Shanghai Auto Show on 21 April, 2007.—XINHUA



## India's first underground car park inaugurated in Kolkata

KOLKATA, 22 April— The country's first underground computerized car park, "Parkomat" built at a cost of 340 million rupees was inaugurated here Friday by West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee.

The car park, which can accommodate 280 cars, was constructed in joint collaboration between Simplex Project Limited and the Kolkata Municipal Corporation.

Speaking at the inauguration, Bhattacharjee said that a heritage committee had been formed which would work towards preservation of heritage buildings.

He also said that the river front from the metropolis to Bandel in Hooghly District would be beautified.

*MNA/PTI*

## Even moderate drinking raises sleep apnea risk

NEW YORK, 22 April— The more alcoholic drinks that men have at any time of day — not just before bedtime — the greater are the risks of breathing problems during sleep, a new study shows. However, this effect was not seen among women.

Sleep-disordered breathing has been associated with high blood pressure and blood vessel disease, and many studies have found that drinking alcohol before going to sleep increases the likelihood of abnormally shallow breathing or even episodes in which breathing stops, Dr Paul E Peppard and colleagues from the University of Wisconsin-Madison

report. However, whether or not light-to-moderate drinking, at any time of the day, affects breathing during sleep has not been clear, they report in the *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*.

To investigate, the researchers looked at 775 men and 645 women

participating in a sleep study.

Two hundred eighty-one men (36 percent) and 332 women (51 percent) did not drink. The majority of the rest (42 percent of men and 41 percent of women) re-ported, on average, having less than one drink per day.

*Internet*

## Sri Lankan spy plane crashes

COLOMBO, 22 April — A Sri Lankan Air Force spy plane crashed during a mission against Tamil Tiger rebels in the northeast of the island Friday.

The Israeli-built drone was lost at Pulmoddai while it was carrying out a reconnaissance over the region, an Air Force spokesman said.

He said the ground-based controllers lost contact with the spy plane and later helicopters were deployed to recover the aircraft.

Sri Lanka's military has lost four drones since 1997. — *MNA/PTI*

## Headless body of woman found in London's Thames

LONDON, 22 April — Police have launched a murder inquiry after finding the headless body of a woman in the River Thames.

The clothed body, which was also missing its hands, was discovered in a bag at the South Dock Marina in Rotherhithe, southeast London, on Thursday morning.

Police said they believed the bag had been in the water for at least a day before being reported by passers-by.— *MNA/Reuters*

## Roadside bomb hits US patrol in eastern Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 22 April — A roadside bomb went off near a US patrol in eastern Baghdad district on Saturday, damaging a US Humvee and wounding two US soldiers, a well-informed police source said. "A roadside bomb detonated around midday near a passing US patrol in the Baladiyah District, damaging a Humvee and wounding two soldiers aboard," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. The US troops cordoned off the scene after the incident, he added.— *MNA/Xinhua*

## Five killed in head-on collision in Canada

OTTAWA, 22 April— A head-on collision involving two vehicles killed five people in eastern Canada, police said Friday.

The fatal accident took place near the eastern Ontario city of Peterborough, 125 kilometres northeast of Toronto, just after 11:00 pm on Thursday (0400 GMT, Friday), said the Ontario Provincial Police.— *MNA/Xinhua*



## ECONOMIC NEWS

## Timber mill uses forest waste as electricity alternative

CANBERRA, 23 April— A timber mill on the north coast of New South Wales is the first in Australia to use forest waste to generate electricity.

Big River Timbers near Grafton has secured government funding for the project, which it says will halve its \$500,000 power bill.

Director Jim Bindon says the idea came from a trade show in Germany a decade ago and he expects the rest of the industry to follow.

“We believe that we’ve got an obligation to try to utilise the resource that we use to its absolute maximum and I think the timber industry has been

long criticized for not utilizing its waste stream as well as it could,” he said.

“Our view is that generating power is probably the best way to utilize that waste — certainly [with] electricity costs, we don’t see them going down in the future.”—Internet



Members of a historical re-enactment society from Galicia, Spain take photos during a parade marking the 2,760th anniversary of the founding of Rome on 21 April, 2007. — XINHUA

## Beirut named tourism destination for 2007

BEIRUT, 21 April — The Arab tourism ministerial council on Friday named the Lebanese capital of Beirut as the destination of Arab tourism for 2007 in a bid to shore up Lebanon’s economy on the aftermath of last summer’s war, LBC TV channel reported. The council made the decision at its 10th session meeting, which kicked off on Thursday, the report said. The Arab

tourism ministers lauded the Lebanese Tourism Ministry’s vision to boost the sector’s activities by holding a media forum on 22 June that will include seminars on culture and tourism in Lebanon.

As a destination country for tourism, Lebanon’s economy largely depends on tourism and related businesses.

However, last summer’s conflict between Israel and Hizbollah in

southern Lebanon and the continued political crisis scared most of foreign tourists away from the resort country.

In addition, the meeting underlined the need to promote inter-Arab tourism and achieve tourism integration as a step toward full economic integration among Arab states. The ministers also called for the promotion of joint tourism activities, such as Arab festivals, and recommended the unification of hotel charges and transport facilities.

In this regard, a work team grouping Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Sudan and the Palestinians will present a development programme for pan-Arab tourism products.

MNA/Xinhua



Students of the Aoyama Kimono Gakuin, a school where students learn how to put on a kimono, demonstrate how to put on a bridal kimono during a fashion show in Tokyo on 22 April, 2007.

INTERNET

## Mozambique launches sugar expansion project

LUANDA, 22 April — Mozambican Prime Minister Luisa Diogo has said that the sugar production of the country could reach half a million tons by 2009, according to Mozambique News Agency on Friday.

Diogo was speaking at

the formal launch of the project to expand production at the Xinavane and Mafambisse sugar companies, in both of which the main shareholder is the South African Tongaat-Hulett Group, the report said.

She said, over the last

nine years, about 300 million US dollars has been invested in four operational sugar plantations and mills, namely, Xinavane and Maragra in Maputo Province and Mafambisse and Marromeu in the central province of Sofala.

The rehabilitation of these four companies has had significant results in production.

“We have the prospect of doubling this to 500,000 tons by 2009,” she said.

“This was the dream we had when we started to rehabilitate the sugar companies, and it’s a dream that is becoming reality”, Diogo declared.

The expansion of the Xinavane and Mafambisse companies will cost

177 million dollars — 143.9 million to be invested in Xinavane and 33.1 million in Mafambisse.

Most of this will come from Tongaat-Hulett, but, as a minority shareholder, the Mozambican state is investing 15 million dollars. —MNA/Xinhua

## COSCO inks contracts with four domestics to build 66 ships

BOAO (Hainan Province), 22 April — COSCO Group, China’s leading shipping and logistics service provider, inked here on Saturday contracts with four domestic shipyards to build 66 ships.

Zhang Fusheng, a COSCO spokesman, did not disclose the total value of these shipbuilding contracts but said they summed up to a record amount for the shipping giant.

The move is to help

meet China’s strong demand for shipping as the country’s fast economic development gives rise to more imports of energy resources and more auto imports and exports, said analysts.

Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the Standing Committee of China’s National People’s Congress, attended the signing ceremony on the sidelines of the annual conference of the Boao Forum for Asia. The 66 ships — including container ships,

bulk cargo ships, oil tanker and car carriers — will have a total deadweight tonnage of 5.14 million.

They will be built by four domestic firms, including China Shipbuilding Industry Corp, COSCO Shipbuilding Industry Co and COSCO Shipyard Group, and will be delivered between 2008 and 2010. —MNA/Xinhua

Flowers blossom at Gardenex, a garden and flower show held in the Coco-Cola Dome in Northriding, Johannesburg, on 21 April, 2007.

XINHUA







**A woman and child react after a British raid in Basra on 22 April, 2007. British forces raided two houses in eastern Basra, killing a man who was taking a rifle from a cupboard believing his intention was to open fire upon them, the British military said. Two other people were arrested and a number of weapons were seized. — INTERNET**

## US soldier killed in roadside bomb in S-W Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 22 April — One US soldier was killed and two others wounded by a roadside bomb southwest of Baghdad on Saturday, the US military said.

The attack occurred when their unit was conducting a foot patrol in an area located some 24 kilometres southwest of the capital, the military said in a statement.

More than 3,315 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003,

according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

In southern Iraq, media reports said that a Polish soldier was killed and four others wounded when their convoy was hit by a roadside bomb Friday

night in Diwaniyah, 180 kilometres south of Baghdad.

Upto 20 Polish soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the war broke out in Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

**Ashlee Simpson.** *Ashlee Nicole Simpson (born 3 Oct, 1984) is an American pop rock singer, songwriter and an occasional actress. She is sister of famous pop singer Jessica Simpson. —INTERNET*



## Train accident in Indonesia injures 50

JAKARTA, 22 April—At least 50 people were seriously injured after a high-speed train derailed and went off the tracks at Kersamanah Village in Garut District, West Java early on Saturday.

The seven-carriage Citra Jaya economic train with hundreds of people on board, hurtled off the rails at 2:00 am, leaving several coaches on their sides and one held half on the tracks, Antara news agency quoted Kersamanah Village head Yaya Warya as saying.

He said a downward slide of the soil under the railway lines might have caused the train, which was travelling from Jakarta to Central Java, to sway and then career off the tracks.

Twenty-six of the seriously injured were taken to Malangbong and Limbangan hospitals in Garut for treatment, but so far there was no report of fatality.— MNA/Xinhua

## Three trapped miners rescued in China

CHANGSHA, 22 April —Rescuers finally succeeded Saturday morning in pulling out three coal miners who have been trapped in a flooded shaft for five days in central China's Hunan Province, local authorities said.

The trapped miners were very weak and rushed to a local hospital immediately.

Too much silt underground had hampered the rescue operation, rescuers said. To date, three miners of the 12 trapped had been pulled out alive and bodies of five others were found with the rest four still missing.

The coal mine flood occurred at around 3:40 pm on Monday at Changcheng Mine in Huangfengqiao Town, Zhuzhou City when 31 miners were working underground.— MNA/Xinhua

## Pilot killed in US Navy plane crash during airshow

WASHINGTON, 21 April — A US Navy aircraft crashed on Saturday during an airshow in Beaufort, South Carolina, and the pilot was killed, US media reported.

CNN said it was not known if the pilot was able to eject during the crash, but FOX News quoted a local newspaper in South Carolina saying that the pilot was killed and the coroner was on his way to the scene of the crash.

The plane that crashed some 30 minutes into the airshow was Number Six of the six Navy Blue Angel jets flying at the show. There were controversial reports regarding the cause of the crash. Some said it hit a tree and went down, other indicated the plane

clipped power lines.

TV reports said some houses at a neighborhood in Beaufort were on fire, and there were no reports of casualties on the ground so far. The Blue Angels were based in Pensacola, Florida, and flew F/A-18 Hornets.

In Florida, a small plane carrying five passengers

crashed Saturday off the coast of Fort Lauderdale Beach, and it was not yet known whether there were any survivors.

On Friday night, another small plane, a Cessna 182, crashed off the Florida Keys, and three people aboard the plane were believed dead.

Internet



**Members of the Blue Angels aerobatic team perform during the Andrews Air Show at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland in this 20 May, 2006 file photo. A jet fighter flown by the US Navy Blue Angels demonstration team crashed on 21 April, 2007 in South Carolina and a number of houses were on fire, CNN said. — XINHUA**

## Two killed in Sadr City car bomb attack

BAGHDAD, 22 April — At least two people were killed and five others wounded in a car bomb attack in Baghdad's eastern neighbourhood of Sadr City on Saturday, an Interior Ministry source said.

"A car bomb went off shortly after 2:00 pm (1000 GMT) at the Sadr City neighbourhood, killing at least two people and wounding five others," the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. Several nearby buildings and civilian cars were damaged by the blast, he said.

Sadr City is a predominant Shiite neighbourhood which is the stronghold of the Mahdi Army, a militant group loyal to the radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr. Violence persists in Baghdad despite the presence of tens of thousands of US and Iraqi soldiers across the capital in a major security crackdown aimed at curbing insurgency and sectarian violence in the war-torn country.— MNA/Xinhua



**Somali civilians flee the scene of a mortar attack in Mogadishu's Bakara district. Mortar shells and machine gun clashes between Ethiopian soldiers and Islamist insurgents killed at least 55 civilians on Saturday and swelled the exodus from the Somali capital. — XINHUA**



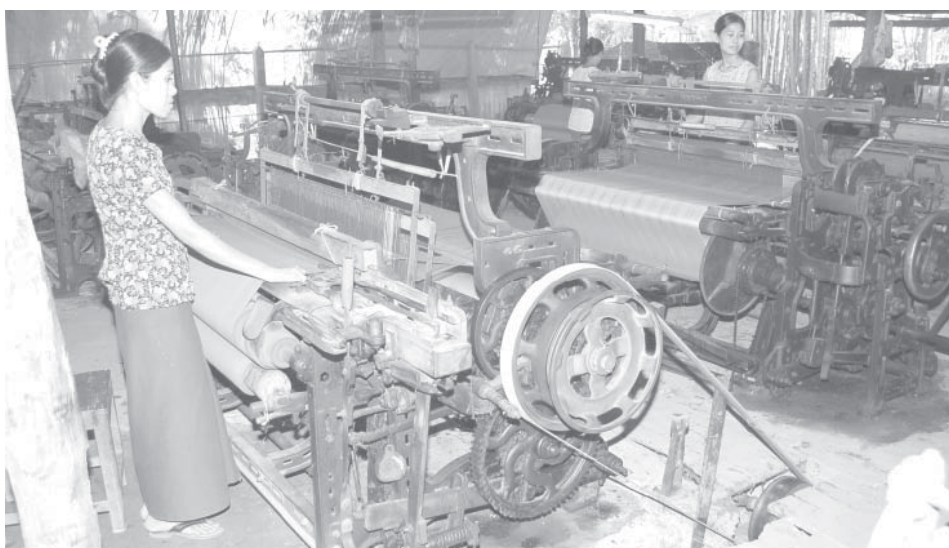
# Mudon produces export quality silk fabrics

*Interviewed by Nu Nu Yee and Tin Tin Win  
Photos by Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)*

Mudon in Mon State has been well-known for a wide range of its quality blankets and fabrics for many years. And its products are standard-size ones and last long and the colours of the products are very fast.

Mudon is 18 miles from Mawlamyine. On both sides along the road to the town are rubber plantations along with paddy fields that touch the horizon. Paddy output of Mudon exceeds the local

Kayin State. Kawparan Village is three miles from primary school, ward office, clinic and library. blankets lasted longer than other regions' as before



*A female worker at work.*



*We use ordinary cotton threads and selon threads to weave fabrics. (Daw Mya Shwe)*

## ONE VILLAGE, ONE PRODUCT



*Silk threads are processed with the use of machines.*

demand and the rice surplus is distributed to Taninthayi Division and

Mudon. The village is like a small town with fine houses, playgrounds,

The village has a good reputation for its product "Mudon blanket", which is produced on a manageable scale as the cottage industry of local families.

In an interview, Daw Mya Shwe who yearly takes part in the weaving contest and has won prizes said that weaving blankets was their family business.

She had three looms and a loom produces a roll of two-unit blanket in a time, she said. She also explained the production process.

Then she took orders with the system of receiving raw materials and returning finished products to the customers, she said.

She added, Mudon

weaving the blankets, two or four cotton threads were twisted into thicker ones.

It was encouraging to

production process, he explained that white cotton threads were dyed.

Then they were processed and woven into

are distributed directly to Bogyoke Market in Yangon and are exported.

It sometimes receives orders from Malaysia. A one-yard square piece of fabric is priced more than 2000 kyats, and a longyi (sarong) with highest quality, more than K 20,000 kyats.

It is heartening to know that the clothes made with the fabrics produced in Mudon are worn on ceremonial occasions, and they have earned a



*A woman weaving a blanket.*

see a wide range of Mudon blankets with different colours and designs.

One of its products is light and strong cent per cent cotton Marsayaik longyi (sarong) and it has been fashionable in the nation for many years. Now silk fabrics from Mudon are distributed at home and abroad.

We Myanma Alin editorial staff members also visited Aung Myinmo weaving industry of U Aung Baw on Kyaukwaing Street in Myomathit Ward, Mudon. It has nine looms with five workers and produces 15 silk longyis a day.

Regarding the



*Blankets produced in Kawparan Model Village, Mudon.*

fabrics. To produce silk fabrics, cotton threads and silk threads were mixed and then woven. Patterns were embroidered into the fabrics with the use of machines.

The products with modern designs from Aung Myinmo weaving industry

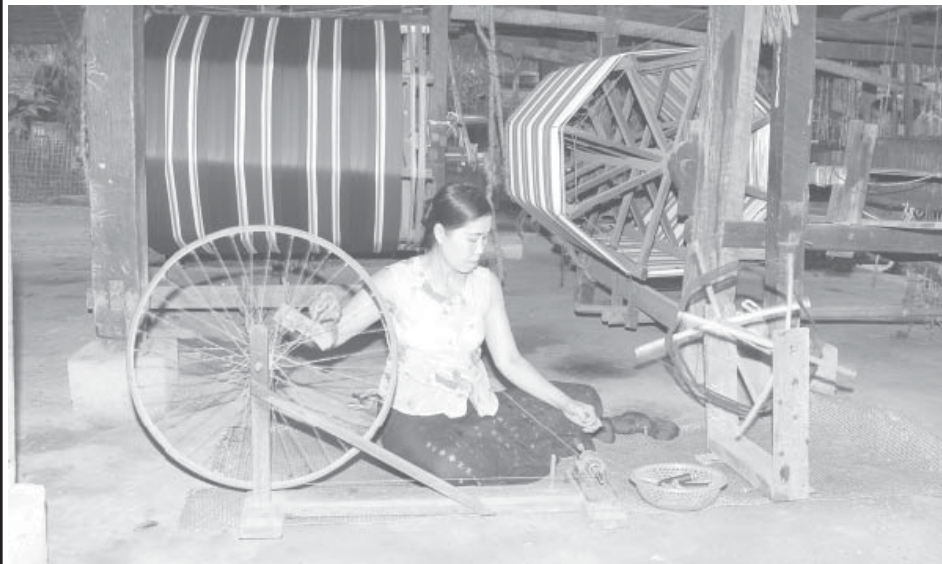
foothold in the international market. Mudon blankets and fabrics therefore enhance the image of the region and the nation.

**Translation: MS**

*Myanma Alin:*

23-4-2007

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*Cotton threads are wound into reels.*



## General Thura Shwe Mann inspects...

(from page 1)

taken for ensuring smooth and secure water transport services and development of the port and river systems by the use of dredgers.

In response to the reports, General Thura Shwe Mann gave necessary instructions, inspected developments in Yangon river and returned to Nanthida Jetty.

Upon arrival at Bo Aung Kyaw No 3 Jetty, General Thura Shwe Mann oversaw X-Ray check on cargo containers and then Director-General of Customs Department U San Thaung briefed him.

Following the inspections of measures being taken for ensuring smooth and secure water transport services and development of the port and river systems at Sule No 5 jetty, jetties from Sin-oh-dan to Wadan and Asia World jetty in Ahlon, the General left there in the evening.—MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann inspects X-ray check on cargo containers at No 3 Bo Aung Kyaw jetty.— MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin gives a present to a passenger. MNA

## Express trains run between...

(from page 16)

They also presented gifts to passengers aboard to mark the launching ceremony. The down-train left Pinyinman Station at 5 am yesterday with a total of 191 passengers aboard.

The down-train is scheduled to leave Nay Pyi Taw at 5.30 am and the up-train is scheduled to leave Mawlamyine at 7 am daily. As the express trains run between Nay Pyi

Taw and Mawlamyine via DaikU-Hsathwargon rail link which was inaugurated yesterday, the distance of railroad is 38 miles less than the route through Bago.

The express train is scheduled to stop at 11 stations along the route. A first class ticket is sold at K 1,420 three days in advance and an ordinary class ticket at K 1,150 one day in advance at the

respective stations.

Myanmar Railways has launched runs of Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw train on 11 July, 2005; Nay Pyi Taw-Bagan-Nay Pyi Taw train on 18 May 2006, Nay Pyi Taw-Pyay-Nay Pyi Taw train on 25 May, 2006; Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay-Nay Pyi Taw train on 7 June 2006 and Nay Pyi Taw-Thazi-Meikhtila-Myingyan train on 16 July 2006. — MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win and Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min present gifts to passengers.— MNA

## Minister receives Sri Lankan religious delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 23 April — Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung received the religious delegation led by Pradeep Nilanga Dela of Buddha Tooth Relic Chamber of the Democratic Socialist

Republic of Sri Lanka at the minister's office here today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Director-General U Myo Kyaw of Religious Affairs Department,

Director-General Dr Myo Myint of Promotion and Propagation of Sasana and Pro Rector Dr Myint Kyi (Admin) of International Theravada Buddha Missionary University.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung meets Pradeep Nilanga Dela of Sri Lanka.— MNA

## Five members resign from Toungoo Township NLD

YANGON, 23 April — Five Members of Toungoo Township National League for Democracy in Bago Division including Maung Nay Tun, Maung Maung Lay, Maung Maung Than and Maung Ko Ko resigned from the party of their own accord on 24 March sending their resignation letters to NLD Headquarters and authorities concerned.

In their resignation letters sent to Toungoo Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommittee, they said they quit the party of their own volition as they had lost faith and interest in the NLD and its leaders as well as in their party politics.

MNA



# First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement launched

YANGON, 23 April — The opening ceremony of the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement organized by Yangon Division Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee was held at International Business Centre on Pyay Road, here today.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win delivered a speech.

He said a global issue that concerns people from all walks of life of the world nations is traffic

The resolution passed by the UNGA on 26 October 2005 said one of the programmes to be implemented collectively by the world nations was to organize the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement from 23 to 29 April 2007, calling for the launch of the movement in respective countries, he added.

He said the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement would speed up Myanmar's road safety measures and all-round efforts are to be made for ensuring road safety for



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win delivers an address at ceremony to launch First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement. — MNA

presented prizes to winners of essay, poster and painting competitions on road safety.

This morning, the

## Minister inspects border check points

NAY PYI TAW, 23 April — Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein visited border check points in Lwejel, Bhamo District, Kachin State, yesterday and called for promotion of trans-border trade between two countries.

He inspected the check points and also

urged officials concerned to cooperate with traders to promote the socio-economic life of locals by boosting trans-border trade.

During his inspection tour of the check points, Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein met with traders at check point in

Lwejel, Bhamo District, and urged them to carry out trading systematically and to invest in the production of goods in an attempt to boost the bilateral trade.

At the meeting, the minister replied to the queries raised by traders.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and guests view items of First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement. — MNA

accident. It is required to seek better ways and means to prevent increasing loss of human resources and property and to draw the attention of the people, he said.

the people.

Next, UNDP Resident Representative Mr Charles Petrie read the message of the UN Secretary-General. Officials concerned

commander and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin formally opened the concrete road built by YCDC between Parami Road and Ywamakaung Road in Insein Township.

MNA

## Corrigendum

Please read NGV-1 filling nozzles instead of NGV-4 in the third column of the news item "CNG filling station No 008 (Pale) opened" on page 9 of 22 April issue of NLM.

MNA

## Health care services of Mingaladon Specialist Hospital inspected

YANGON, 23 April — Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint this morning inspected health care services and extended building tasks at the Specialist Hospital in Mingaladon Township, Yangon Division.

Officials concerned reported to the minister who looked into the OPD, male medical ward and extension ward, medical store, X-ray unit, laboratory, female medical ward, extension ward and others.

Next, the minister fulfilled the requirements of lab equipment, beds, mattresses and test kids.

After that, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint met with Medical Superintendent of Waibagi Specialist Hospital Dr Aung Kyaw Oo and professors, specialists, Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint,

the Secretary of the District Peace and Development Council and officials at the meeting hall of the hospital.

At the meeting, the minister stressed the need for officials concerned to strive for hospitals and medical centres to effectively provide

medical services to the people, to win the trust and reliance of the people in giving medical treatment and to engage in greening and beautifying tasks of the hospitals.

Next, the minister provided the hospital with medical equipment and furniture. — MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint inspects extended building of Specialist Hospital in Mingaladon Township. — HEALTH



Mr Charles Petrie, Resident Representative of UNDP reads out the UN Secretary-General's message.

MNA



## Joint investment company will enhance Pakistan-China ties

**BOAO, 23 April—** The Pakistan-China Joint Investment Company will help cement ties between the two countries, Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz said here at the ongoing annual conference of the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA).

The company, which will focus on investment in shares, industry and infrastructure, is expected to provide convenience for Chinese entrepreneurs to invest in Pakistan, said Aziz at the BFA Annual Conference 2007 in south China's Hainan Province.

He said the company will aid Chinese investors in exploring opportunities in Pakistan and provide financial support for projects that Chinese firms have bid in the country.

Aziz said Chinese entrepreneurs are

competitive, efficient and adept at business operations, and have succeeded in the bids for 75 to 80 per cent of major projects in Pakistan. The figure shows exciting development of cooperation and exchanges between the two countries, he said.

Pakistan is located at the converging point of the Middle East, central and South Asia, and is a transport, trade and energy corridor that connects East Asia with the Middle East, Aziz said.

MNA/Xinhua



## US Congress set to defy Bush on Iraq war

**WASHINGTON, 23 April—** A fight between the US Congress and President George W Bush over the Iraq war is set to come to a head this week when Democrats are expected to send him 100 billion US dollars to pay for continuing combat while setting timetables for withdrawing troops.

Bush has promised to veto any bill setting dates for removing US combat soldiers from the Iraq war, now in its fifth year.

But when a Democratic-controlled panel of Senate and House of Representatives members meets on Monday to iron out differences between their respective bills, the product is expected to contain 2008 withdrawal dates.

Many lawmakers have been speculating those dates might be non-binding, as sketched out by a Senate-passed bill.

"The longer we continue down the President's path, the further we will be from responsibly ending this war," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid last week. Reid has not backed off his Thursday comment that the war in Iraq was "lost".

The Nevada Democrat, who called for a change of course in Iraq, made his remarks during a week in which he and Bush traded barbs and as violence and killings in Iraq again spiked.

MNA/Reuters

*A blind tourist from Japan feels a terracotta warrior at Emperor Qin's Terracotta Warriors and Horses Museum in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, on 22 April, 2007. Seven blind tourists from Japan visited the museum on Sunday.*

XINHUA

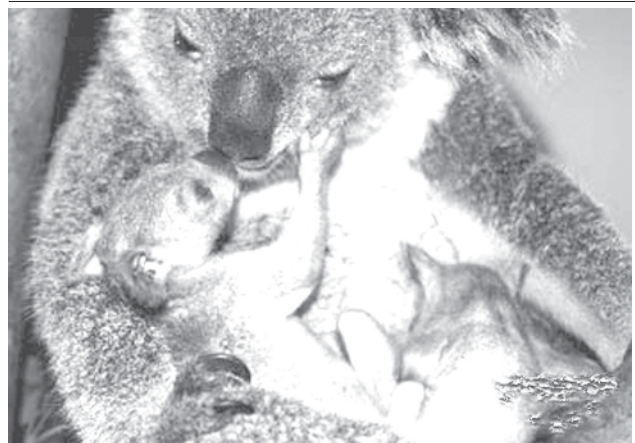
## Greek FM, Abbas meet in Athens

**ATHENS, 23 April —** Greek Foreign Minister Dora Bakoyannis expressed Greece's steadfast support and underlined the need to seek a solution to the Palestinian issue based on the RoadMap plan and the criteria set by the "Quartet".

She made the remarks here on Sunday during her meeting with visiting Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, who was in Athens on Saturday on a working visit, as part of his tour to European capitals.

Bakoyannis pointed out that, for the resumption of direct aid from the European Union to Palestine, the statements and actions of members of the Palestinian Authority should also be taken into account in addition to the three criteria of the Quartet.

MNA/Xinhua



*A pair of newly born twin koalas made their first presence with their mother in Guangzhou's Xiangjiang Safari Park on Tuesday, 17 April, 2007. Six koalas arrived in Guangzhou, southern China's Guangdong Province, from Australia in April last year. — INTERNET*

## Former Russian president Yeltsin dies

**MOSCOW, 23 April —** Former Russian president Boris Yeltsin has died at the age of 76, a Kremlin spokesman said Monday.

The former president "died a sudden death in Moscow on Monday," the *Itar-Tass* news agency quoted Kremlin source as saying.

The White House mourned Yeltsin as "a historic figure" and offered condolences to his relatives, according to reports reaching here.

Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, also Yeltsin's once top opponent, has sent condolences to the widow of Yeltsin, Naina, according to *Itar-Tass*.

Xinhua

## Twins Festival held after birth of twin koalas

**BEIJING, 23 April —** The first Twins Festival in southern China's Guangdong province will be held from 22 April to 31 May, 2007, in order to celebrate the birth of the world's only existing koala twins in a local wildlife park.

China News Service reports that 100 pairs of twins participated in the event on Sunday. Their ages range from 6 months to 56 years old.

The twin koalas, born in Xiangjiang Safari Park in Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong, made their first public appearance on 17 April, 2007.

Records show there have only been one pair of twin koalas in history before. They were born in an Australian college laboratory in 1960. The new-born twins are the only ones naturally-born, and the only pair existing today.

It is reported that Hong Kong pop star duet

Twins are contacting the park, and that they are eager to pay the living expenses of the twin koalas in the future.

Besides the Twins Festival, an exhibition on animal twins will also be held in the park. Rare animal twins including pandas, white tigers, and lemurs, will be exhibited.

Internet

## British journalist held for filming Kenya police

**NAIROBI, 23 April —** A British journalist and Kenyan colleague have been arrested and interviewed by Nairobi anti-terror officers for filming a police station while researching a story on disputed terror arrests.

Dan Edge and Susan Kurumba were taken into custody recently under suspicion of "terror-related activity" for shooting footage of the outside of Kileleshwa police station in the capital of the east African nation, their companies said.

"The arresting officer completely overreacted by confiscating their tapes and calling the anti-terrorism police," said John Gatibaru, general manager of local production company Vivid Features, which employs Kurumba.— MNA/Reuters

*China's car companies should shift gear and focus less on expansion and more on product innovation in order to compete in the global marketplace.*

INTERNET







Participants attend the seminar "Universal Banking: the Next Innovation and Boost to Asia's global Growth", a sideline of the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) annual conference 2007 in Boao, Qionghai of south China's Hainan Province on 22 April, 2007. XINHUA

## Asia-Pacific trade ministers defend bilateral deals

BOAO(China), 23 April – Two trade ministers from Asia-Pacific nations on Saturday defended bilateral and regional trade agreements as potentially contributing to, not detracting from, the global trade regime.

The proliferation of bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs) and regional trade agreements (RTAs) in recent years is seen by some as a threat to the future of the World Trade Organization and the ongoing Doha Round of trade negotiations.

Lim Hng Kiang, Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry, said that bilateral, sub-regional and regional trade deals were complementary to a

multilateral trade regime.

Lim said that while there was some danger that a proliferation of such deals could be like "taking away brick by brick" from the global trade regime, that did not have to be the case if those agreements were held to high standards.

"My counter-image is: We want a global trading regime as epitomized by WTO and Doha, but every bilateral and every RTA should be a brick building towards that potential," he told the Boao Forum for Asia

being held in the southern Chinese island province of Hainan.

Lim said that with multilateral negotiations like Doha often getting watered down, regional deals were able to set higher standards.

The Doha Round all but collapsed last year over deep differences especially over agriculture, but ministers from a number of trading powers said earlier this month that they would aim to hammer out a deal by the end of this year.

MNA/Reuters

## Countdown for India's 1st commercial satellite launch begins

CHENNAI, 23 April — The countdown for India's first commercial satellite

### Sewage floods into Firth of Forth

LONDON, 23 April — The public have been warned to avoid contact with water in the Firth of Forth near Edinburgh in Scotland after the discharge of millions of litres of untreated sewage.

People going to the shore have been told to make sure they thoroughly wash their hands before eating following the spillage from an emergency outflow at Leith after a pumping station failed.

The sewage has been pouring into the sea at a rate of 1,000 litres a second since 4:30 pm on Friday.

A spokeswoman for Thames Water, which runs the station in a consortium on behalf of Scottish Water, said engineers hoped to stem the flow by Sunday evening.

They were working to install two temporary pumps after the failure of a pump which normally sends the sewage to the nearby Seafield final treatment plant.

The sewage has already been diluted and screened to remove solid material but the BBC said local people had reported finding human waste on the shore.

MNA/Reuters

launch from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on 23 April began at 1830 hours Saturday, officials said.

The PSLV-C8 rocket, which will put the 352-kg Italian satellite *Agile* in space along with India's 185-kg *Advanced Avionics Module (AMM)* will blast off at 1530 hours Monday after a 42-hour countdown.

The rocket is the 11th in its series. As it is carrying a much lighter payload, it will fly without six solid propellant strap-on motors, officials of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) said.

The *Agile* and *AMM* both weigh about 540kg. The "core-alone" PSLV will have a lift-off weight

of 230 tons. In its standard configuration, the 44-metre PSLV has a lift-off mass of 295 tons.

The *Agile* is an X-ray and gamma ray astronomical satellite of the Italian Space Agency and will be placed in a circular orbit 550 kilometres above the earth.

It has payloads to investigate gamma ray bursts, pulsars and supernova remnants and is equipped with scientific instruments capable of imaging distant celestial objects in X-ray and gamma ray regions of the electromagnetic spectrum.

The Italian satellite is being supported by the Italian Space Agency,

Italian Institute of Astrophysics and Italian Institute of Nuclear Physics.

India's *AMM* is being sent into space on ISRO's workhorse launch rocket to test advanced launch vehicle avionics systems like mission computers and navigation and telemetry systems.

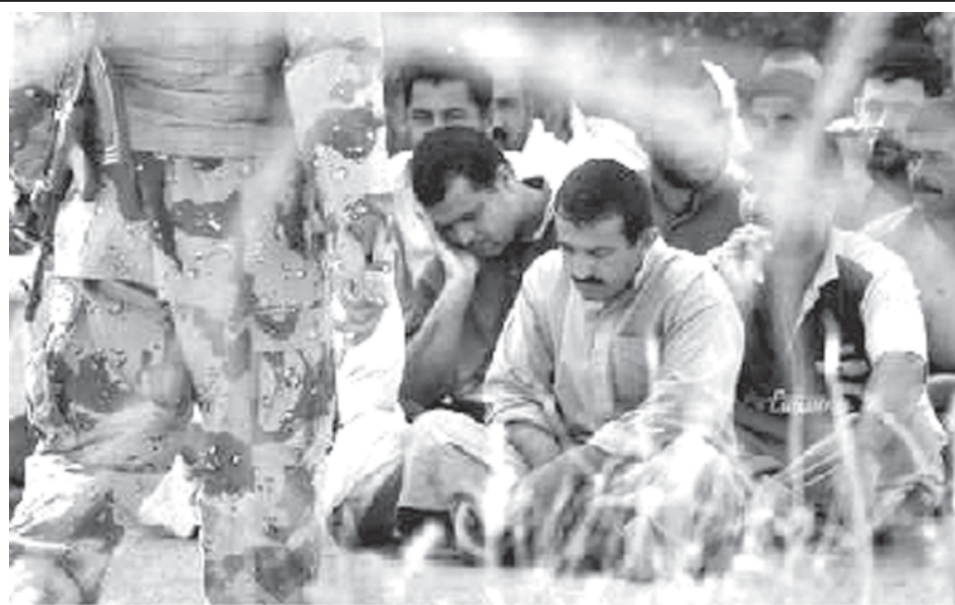
A *Dual Launch Adapter (DLA)* has been employed in PSLV-C8 and *Agile* is mounted on top of the DLA while the *AMM* will be mounted inside the DLA.

PSLV has so far launched six small foreign satellites into high polar sun-synchronous orbits of 550 kilometres to 800 kilometres

MNA/PTI



Kirsten Flipkens of Belgium reacts after losing a point to Venus Williams of the US during 2007 Fed Cup quarter-finals in Delray Beach, Florida on 21 April, 2007. — XINHUA



Adult males are rounded up for questioning during an operation by US army soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division and Iraqi troops near Mahmudiya, south of Baghdad on 21 April, 2007. —INTERNET

## Flight stewardess crowned Miss Singapore Universe

SINGAPORE, 23 April — Flight stewardess Jessica Tan, 24, was crowned Miss Singapore Universe on Sunday night, beating 16 other finalists.

On top of receiving 25,000 Singapore dollars (about 16,556 US dollars) cash, Tan will represent Singapore to compete in the Miss Universe 2007 international pageant held in Mexico City in May.

She was also crowned Miss Body Beautiful in the Sunday night final, which was live broadcast by the local television station Mediacorp's Channel 5.

Miss Singapore Universe is an annual beauty contest held in Singapore to select the country's representative to the Miss Universe pageant.

MNA/Xinhua



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

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

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

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U Myint Lwin, Advocate, LL.B, DBL  
Dip in Marine Affairs(UK)  
MYINT.Advocate@mptmail.net.mm  
Ph: 371 990 24.April.2007

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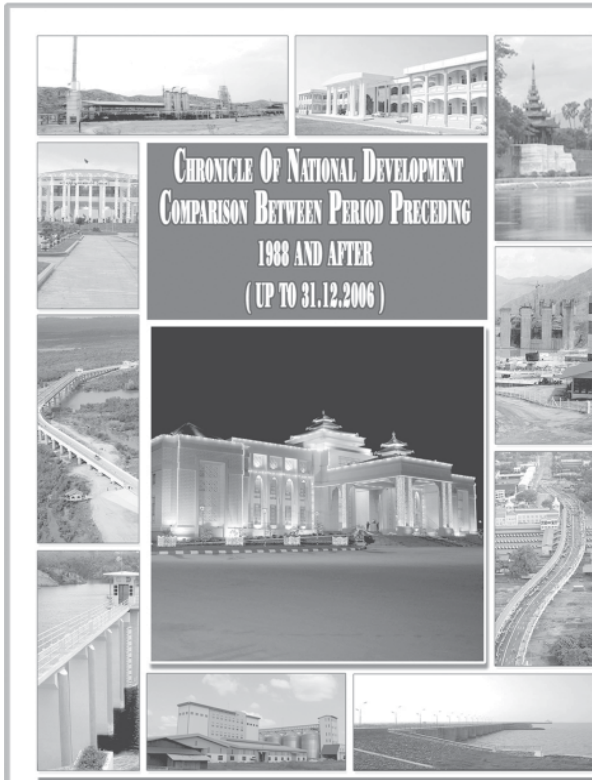
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2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51<sup>st</sup> Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon starting from 25.4.2007 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982,291985(201555 Ext 601,602,605,612)  
Deputy General Manager  
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botahtaung, Yangon

**Two kidnapped Turkish engineers released in Nigeria**

ANKARA, 22 April — Two kidnapped Turkish engineers were released in Nigeria on Friday, Turkish semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

Nigerian officials contacted with Turkish Embassy in Abuja and said the two engineers would go to the Turkish Embassy later, diplomatic sources were quoted as saying, adding that their health conditions are good.— *MNA/Xinhua*

**Large amount of drugs seized in Turkey**

ANKARA, 22 April — Turkish security forces have seized a large amount of drugs during the operations in Turkey, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported on Friday.

The Hakkari Police Department was quoted as saying that acting on a tip-off, the security forces stopped and searched an automobile in an operation in Hakkari Province in eastern Turkey.

During the search, they found 91.3 kilos of heroin stashed in 176 packages in the cache of the car, said the department, adding that five people were detained for their alleged involvement in illicit drug trafficking.

*Anatolia* also reported Thursday that Turkish gendarmerie had seized 97 kilos of hashish in a truck in

Muradiye town of Van Province in eastern Turkey. The gendarmerie teams found the hashish hidden in the body of the truck during road controls, said *Anatolia*, adding that the driver of the truck was detained and an investigation in underway.

In addition, Turkish police also confiscated 43 kilos of hashish earlier in a truck heading from southern city of Adana to Ankara during an operation the capital and three people were detained in connection with the incident.

Turkey is located on an important drug smuggling route linking Asia, the Middle East and Europe. Turkish security forces have seized 6,663 kilos of heroin and 6,002 kilos of hashish in 2005.

*MNA/Xinhua*

**Thai state telecom Co seeks submarine fibre-optic link to US**

BANGKOK, April 22 — The board of directors of Thailand's state-owned CAT Telecom Plc. has approved a plan to co-invest with eight other countries plus Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in a submarine fibre-optic construction project which will link Southeast Asia with Australia and the United States.

According to *Thai News Agency*, CAT Telecom president Phisal Jorphochaudom said CAT will ask the Cabinet later this month to approve the plan.

The proposal has each participant, including Brunei, India, the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Australia, the US and Hong Kong SAR, contributing 1.98 billion baht (58 million US dollars) to hire ASN-NEC Co to lay the submarine network linking Southeast Asia with Australia and the US.

Upon completion, the submarine fibre-optic network will link the region with the US to provide broadband Internet service.

The new network will be the seventh of its kind which links Thailand with several countries and will enable this country to become a telecommunication hub within the next five years, said Phisal.

*MNA/Xinhua*



ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Riders compete in the second leg of the Portugal Motocross MX1 Grand Prix in Agueda, northern Portugal on 22 April, 2007. — INTERNET

## Russia starts developing new generation missile

Moscow, 22 April — Russia has started to develop a new type of missile amid Russia-US disputes on anti-missile system deployment in central Europe, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported on Saturday.

The research work has been launched and the new generation of missile is expected to be put into service in 10 years, *ITAR-TASS* said, quoting Deputy Long-Range Aviation Commander Anatoly Zhikharev as saying.

The report did not give further details of the new

missile.

The Russian Strategic Missile Troops at present have six types of fourth and fifth-generation missile systems. Four are silo-based and two are mobile.

Washington in January proposed installing parts of its anti-missile shield in Central Europe,

including some interceptor missiles in Poland and a radar system in the Czech Republic.

Washington said the missile defence system is not targeted at Russia, but the sensitive plans nevertheless have drawn sharp criticism from Moscow.

MNA/Xinhua

## Snipers kill crocodile in South China after death of nine-year-old child

NANNING, 22 April — A crocodile was killed by snipers on Saturday to recover evidence of Friday's tragedy in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

The crocodile was shot dead at 8 pm Saturday with approval of the local forestry department.

The snipers lured the crocodiles with pork and shoot one that crawled ashore to death with seven bullets. Legal medical experts anatomized body of the creature and found remains of a human being, therefore confirmed the missing child was eaten by the crocodiles.

The tragedy occurred at about 6pm on Friday, when a pupil surnamed Liu and three other children from Xiantian Primary School

climbed over the fence of a crocodile pool which had been temporarily closed.

The children shot the animals with catapults and beat them with wooden sticks. One of the irritated alligators bit Liu's clothes and dragged him into water, where he was eaten by a swarm of alligators.

The pool, which had been used to stage crocodile shows, is located in a recreational park in a holiday resort called Yintan, or Silver Beach, in Beihai City of Guangxi. It had been sealed off for auction. — MNA/Xinhua

## Police arrest 14 in raid on N-E China drug factory

XJ'AN, 23 April — Police have arrested 14 people and seized almost 50 kilogrammes of narcotics in a raid on a drug-making factory in northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

Police seized 4.33 kilogrammes, or 43,567 pills, of solid methamphetamine and 44.6 kilogrammes of powdered methamphetamine, and materials used for making drugs.

MNA/Xinhua



Chelsea's coach Jose Mourinho gestures ahead of their English Premier League soccer match against Newcastle United in Newcastle on 22 April, 2007.

INTERNET

## China experts identify cancer-preventing gene type

HONG KONG, 22 April — Scientists in China have identified a gene variant which appears to protect Chinese people from various types of cancer.

In the latest issue of the journal *Nature Genetics*, the experts said they had studied the DNA of nearly 10,000 Chinese people over 6-1/2 years and had found that the gene variant appeared far more frequently in those who were cancer-free.

"We have identified a variant of the CASP8 gene that appears to be associated with lower risk of lung, oesophageal, gastric, colorectal, cervical and breast cancers in Chinese people," Dongxin Lin of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences in Beijing wrote in an e-mail

to *Reuters*.

It is well known that the gene caspase-8 (CASP8) regulates cell death. Programmed cell death, or apoptosis, is important because it prevents cells from dividing and spreading uncontrollably, a process that can result in cancer.

However, scientists know little about the variants of this gene and the roles they play in cancer susceptibility.

Between January 1997 and July 2003, researchers in various cancer institutes in Beijing examined the DNA of 5,000 patients with lung, oesophageal, colorectal, cervical, stomach and breast cancer, and 4,972 others who were cancer-free.

The gene variant showed up in 25 percent of those who were cancer-free, and in 20 percent of those who had cancer.

Explaining how this gene variant might have benefited its carriers, Lin said: "Carriers may have lower apoptotic cell death of T lymphocytes (white blood cells) when they fight with malignant or premalignant cells."

"The immune status is very important in cancer development, and genetic variation in the immune system is associated with predisposition to cancer," Lin said. — *Internet*

## Thai top tennis star engaged with Canadian beauty queen

BANGKOK, 22 April — Thailand's tennis ace Paradorn Srichaphan is to announce his engagement with Miss Universe 2005 Natalie Glebova, local media reported on Saturday.

A top-line report by local English newspaper *The Nation* said that the star couple are set to announce their engagement at a Bangkok Hotel on Tuesday, quoting sources.

A good friend of Natalie reported told the news-paper that Natalie, a Canadian of Russian descent, was not only

wearing an engagement ring but also confirming to friends that it was an engagement ring.

The report said the two first met at the court of Thailand Open last year, when she gave him a peck on the cheek and since then developed a special relationship as they met and seen together frequently both as brand

ambassador for a Thai brewery.

MNA/Xinhua

A Russian theatre company is planning to stage a new ballet on the life and death of Britain's Princess Diana, the *Izvestia* newspaper reported recently. — INTERNET





# SPORTS

## Benfica stay in title hunt with victory at Maritimo

LISBON, 23 April — Benfica regained second place in the Portuguese Premier League with a 3-0 win at Maritimo on Saturday.

Porto, with five matches to play and a game in hand at home to Belenenses to come on Sunday, top the table with 59 points followed by Benfica on 57.

Sporting, two points behind Benfica, need to defeat Naval on Sunday to reclaim second spot. The two Lisbon rivals meet next weekend at the Luz Stadium.

Italian winger Fabrizio Miccoli, back after injury, scored twice for Benfica.

He put the visitors ahead after 55 minutes before adding a second 24 minutes later following a pass from playmaker Rui Costa. — MNA/Reuters

## Fergie calls for ruthless United



Sir Alex Ferguson

LONDON, 22 April — Sir Alex Ferguson believes Manchester United's ability to capitalise on their chances against Milan will determine their European fate.

Two years ago, United came up short against the Rossoneri, losing both legs of their UEFA Champions League knockout tie by single goals. Ferguson's team have the opportunity to avenge that defeat at Old Trafford on Tuesday's semi-final and the Scot believes clinical finishing is invariably the decisive factor at top level football.

"We created chances

against Milan two years ago and we will create chances against them on Tuesday," said Ferguson.

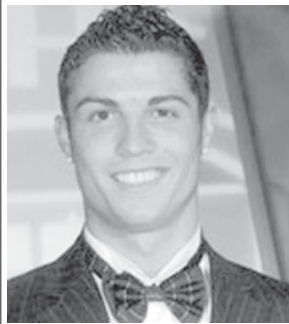
"The vital question is 'Can we take them?'"

"When we played in the San Siro, Milan had three good chances and scored once, we had five and didn't score at all. At this level, if you don't take your opportunities when they arise, you only have yourself to blame."

United suffered a setback in their Premiership bid with Saturday's 1-1 draw against Middlesbrough — a match that highlighted the team's defensive frailties. Rio Ferdinand suffered a recurrence of a groin injury against Boro and the defence that takes to the field against Milan will be entirely makeshift.

Ferguson expects his team's backline to be severely tested by the perennial Champions League contenders. — Internet

## Ronaldo takes PFA double



Cristiano Ronaldo

he scooped both awards on Sunday evening at the Grosvenor House Hotel.

Ronaldo becomes only the second player in history to achieve the remarkable feat, the other being Sky Sports' own Andy Gray — who won both awards some 30 years ago in 1977.

Ronaldo held off competition from Chelsea's Didier Drogba in second and team-mate Paul Scholes — who came third — to take the main award. Steven Gerrard, Ryan Giggs, and Cesc Fabregas were also in the running.

Ronaldo succeeds Gerrard and is the first United player to take the Player of the Year prize since Ruud van Nistelrooy in 2000.

In contrast, it is the third year in succession that a United player has taken the Young Player of the Year award - with team-mate Wayne Rooney winning the honour in 2005 and 2006. — Internet

LONDON, 22 April — Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo has been named both PFA Player and Young Player of the Year.

The Portuguese winger was widely expected to take the main award and his remarkable season continued as



AC Milan's Cafu' (L) fights for the ball with Cagliari's Antonino D'Agostino during their Italian Serie A soccer match at the San Siro stadium in Milan on 21 April, 2007. — XINHUA

## Rangers win over Hearts delays Celtic crowning

GLASGOW, 23 April — Rangers beat Hearts 2-1 on Saturday to delay Celtic's coronation as Scottish Premier League champions for 24 hours.

Celtic top the standings with 78 points from 33 games, 10 ahead of Rangers, and can clinch their 41st title on Sunday with a win at Kilmarnock.

Hearts are fourth, four points behind Aberdeen, who drew 2-2 against a Hibernian side that had two sent off.

Hearts snatched a first-half lead against Rangers when Lithuanian Andrius Velicka surged through to crack a low shot beyond keeper Allan McGregor into the far corner of the net in the 15th minute.

But Rangers tied up the points after the break with two fine goals from Gavin Rae and Barry Ferguson.

Rae sent a header into the net in the 51st minute from Allan Hutton's cross and Ferguson crashed a superb shot home in the 78th. Aberdeen came from behind to strengthen their bid for a UEFA Cup place.

Hibs took the lead through Damon Gray in the 19th minute when he pounced on a mistake by Andy Considine to drag the ball around the keeper and slot it into the net.

Aberdeen captain Russell Anderson headed his side level six minutes later from Barry Nicholson's corner on the right. — MNA/Reuters



Real Madrid's David Beckham (L) battles for the ball with Valencia's Hugo Viana during their First Division soccer match at Madrid's Santiago Bernabeu stadium, on 21 April, 2007. — XINHUA

## Italy, France, Russia all lead in Fed Cup

LONDON, 23 April — Flavia Pennetta clawed her way out of trouble, helped by an injury to Chinese opponent Peng Shuai, to give defending champions Italy a 2-0 lead in the Fed Cup quarterfinals on Saturday.

Italy's likely semifinal opponents, France, had a much easier first day with Nathalie Dechy and Tatiana Golovin both recording straight sets singles wins over Japan.

In Moscow, former champions Russia also took a 2-0 lead, over Spain, after Nadia Petrova overcame early nerves in the opening rubber.

The fourth quarterfinal, between the United States and Belgium, was starting later on Saturday in

Delray Beach, Florida.

Italian captain Corrado Barazzutti admitted he had been on tenterhooks as he watched Pennetta go 0-6, 3-5 down against Peng in Castellaneta Marina, deep in southern Italy. After Pennetta broke

back, saving three matchpoints and turning the game around to take the second set 7-5, Peng began to struggle after aggravating a hamstring injury and retired at 0-3 down in the third.

MNA/Reuters

## Dinamo Zagreb, Red Star Belgrade stay in command

BELGRADE, 23 April — Croatian league leaders Dinamo Zagreb beat bottom team Kamen Ingrad Velika 1-0 on Saturday to stay 11 points clear of second-placed Hajduk Split, who won 4-2 at Medjimurje Cakovec. In Serbia, Red Star Belgrade also moved a step closer to retaining the title after a 2-1 home victory over Mladost Apatin sent them 10 points clear of city rivals Partizan, who are at home to Vojvodina Novi Sad on Sunday.

Croatia midfielder Luka Modric gave champions Dinamo the win when he drilled in a fierce shot from 12 metres on the hour. — MNA/Reuters



Raphael Jacquelin of France poses with the trophy during the award ceremony after winning the Asian Open golf championship in Shanghai on 22 April, 2007. — INTERNET



Rafael Nadal of Spain returns the ball to Roger Federer of Switzerland during their final match in the Monte Carlo Masters Series tennis tournament in Monaco on 22 April, 2007. Nadal defeated Federer. — INTERNET



# Guinness record set for reciting Tao Te Ching

**HONG KONG, 23 April** — A total of 13,839 citizens recited China's philosophical classic "Tao Te Ching" together at Hong Kong Stadium Saturday afternoon, setting a new Guinness record for "most people reading aloud simultaneously in one location".

As the prelude of the "International Forum of Tao Te Ching", the rally attracted over two thousand citizens and guests. Leaders of six religious groups including Buddhism, Confucianism, Catholicism and Muslim officiated at the rally.

This event echoes the expansion of the site of the original podium in Xian, Shaanxi Province where the author of Tao Te Ching, Lao Zi, first delivered his lectures. To commemorate this event, various Taoist bodies in Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland

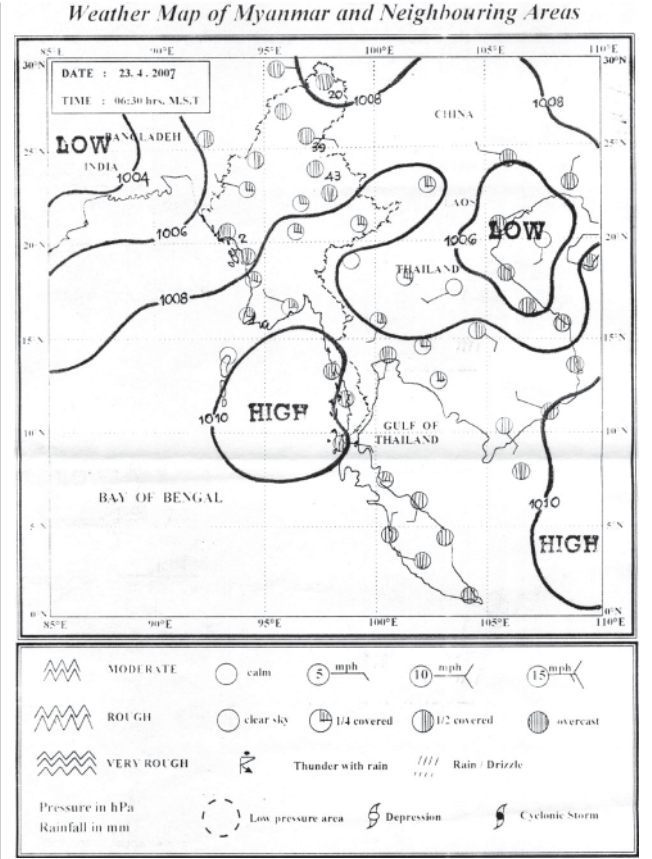
decided to organize an International Forum of Tao Te Ching this month.

Andrea Banfi, the returning officer from the Guinness Book of World Records announced the making of a new record and delivered a certificate to that effect.

According to Guinness Book of World Records, all participants in the rally had to sign a declaration proclaiming their willingness to take part in this record making event. During the reciting, every 20 participants were closely monitored by a person designated by the organizers to verify that they actually participated in the recitation.

The previous record for "most people reading aloud simultaneously in one location" was made in Gary, Indiana on June 1, 2004, which gathered an assembly of 6,210 participants in this recitation event.

MNA/Xinhua



## WEATHER

Monday, 23 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, isolated in Chin and Rakhine States, Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining areas.

Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan and Kayah States, (5°C) above normal in Ayeyawady Division, (3°C) above normal in Chin State, upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Chauk, Minbu and Thayawady (42°C) each, Nyaung U, Pyinmana, Magway and Hpa-an (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded Bhamo (1.69) inches, Myitkyina (1.54) inches, Haka (1.03) inches, Putao (0.79) inch and Maungdaw (0.47) inch.

Maximum temperature on 22-4-2007 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 23-4-2007 was 78°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 23-4-2007 was 64%. Total sunshine hours on 22-4-2007 was (10.1) hours approx.

Rainfall on 23-4-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (13:30) hours MST on 22-4-2007.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 24-4-2007:** Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers in Kachin State, isolated in northern Rakhine, Shan and Chin States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 24-4-2007:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 24-4-2007:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 24-4-2007:** Partly cloudy.

## Five orphan babies killed in Sarajevo fire

**BELGRADE, 23 April** — Five orphan babies were killed on Sunday in a fire at a Sarajevo orphanage, said reports reaching here from the Bosnian capital.

The fire broke out early morning in Sarajevo's Ljubica Ivezić Orphanage, killing three boys and two girls while injuring 17 babies and a nurse working at the orphanage, police and prosecutors said.

(0350 GMT) and the fire at the orphanage's baby ward was put out half an hour later.

The authorities do not

know what caused the fire, and an investigation has begun, said a police spokesman.

MNA/Xinhua



Mexican volunteers hold posters during a rally to mark Earth Day which falls on 22 April at Zocalo Square in Mexico City, capital of Mexico, on 21 April, 2007. — XINHUA



Tuesday, 24 April  
View on today

- 7:00 am
  1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရာဇဂူ ဝုရ၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ ဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
  2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
  3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
  4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
  5. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

- 8:05 am
  6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:10 am
  7. Song of yesteryear
- 8:20 am
  8. မဒေးရေလှောင်တံခံ
- 8:30 am
  9. International news
- 8:45 am
  10. Let's go
- 4:00 pm
  1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
  2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
  3. English for everyday use
- 4:40 pm
  4. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရက္ခဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (ရက္ခဗေဒ)
- 4:55 pm
  5. Dance of national races

- 5:10 pm
  6. "အားဆေး" (မိုးဒီ၊ ဇော်ထက်အောင်၊ ဆောင်းအိန္ဒြေထွန်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)
- 5:15 pm
  7. ခံစားနာဆင်တေးဇာတ်ဝင်
- 5:25 pm
  8. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm
  9. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
  10. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
  11. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ
- 6:50 pm
  12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သစ္စာ ဘဝပင် ခြားသော်လည်း" (အပိုင်း-၁၃)
- 8:00 pm
  16. News
  17. International news
  18. Weather report
  19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရေသူမလေးဒုတိယချစ်ပုံပြင်" (အပိုင်း-၄)
  21. The next day's programme



Tuesday, 24 April  
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music:
  - One step closes ... Air Supply
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music:
  - Why ... Tiggy
- 8:50 am National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am Music:
  - Book of love ... Hit N' Hide
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music:
  - Yor're my babe ... Dhonna
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time music:
  - Story of love ... OTT
  - When I'm gone ... Michael Schenker
- 9:00pm English speaking course level (II), Unit (27)
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Weekly Sport Reel
- 9:30 pm Music at your listening pleasure
  - Sometimes ... Britney Spears
  - Do you still need me? ... La Boucle
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



## Express trains run between Nay Pyi Taw, Mawlamyine

**New railway section provides better transportation to upper Myanmar from lower regions**

NAY PYI TAW, 23 April — Myanma Railways launched the direct railway service from Mawlamyine in Mon State to Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The launching ceremonies of the Nay Pyi Taw-Mawlamyine-Nay Pyi Taw express train was held at Pynmana Station and Mawlamyine Station yesterday.

The Myanma Railways constructed the new railway section linking DaikU and Sittoung to provide better transportation to upper Myanmar

from Taninthayi Division, Mon State and Kayin State.

At the ceremony held at Mawlamyine Station, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win and Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min formally opened the ceremony at 7 am. The up-train is to arrive at Nay Pyi Taw Station at 9.15 pm.

After the opening ceremony, the commander and the minister

inspected the train, which has a 180 hp engine, and presented gifts to passengers to mark the launching ceremony.

The ceremony was also attended by Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Pe Than, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Zaw Min, officials concerned and local people.

Similarly, the launching of the down-train from Nay Pyi Taw to Mawlamyine was held at Pynmana Airport the same day, and Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin and Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin sprinkled scented water on the engine before the express train left the station.

(See page 8)

**The down-train is scheduled to leave Nay Pyi Taw at 5.30 am and the up-train is scheduled to leave Mawlamyine at 7 am daily.**



Commander Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win and Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min greeting passengers. — MNA

## Prime Minister felicitates Israeli counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April— General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Ehud Olmert, Prime Minister of the State of Israel, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the State of Israel which falls on 24 April 2007.

MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin sprinkles scented water onto Nay Pyi Taw-Mawlamyine-Nay Pyi Taw express train. — MNA

## Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister arrives at Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 23 April — At the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Mr Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport via Yangon by air this afternoon.

The visiting Deputy Prime Minister was welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, departmental officials and officials concerned.

Later in the afternoon, Minister U Nyan Win met the Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister at the former's office and discussed matters related to bilateral cooperation.

Also present at the

meeting were departmental officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hul Phany.

In the morning, the Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and party visited the Gems Museum in Yangon before leaving for Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win welcomes Mr Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Kingdom of Cambodia.

MNA

## INSIDE

### ONE VILLAGE, ONE PRODUCT

One of its products is light and strong per cent cotton Marsayaik longyi (sarong) and it has been fashionable in the nation for many years. Now silk fabrics from Mudon are distributed at home and abroad.



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