

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Established 1914

Volume XV, Number 9

10th Waxing of Kason 1369 ME

Wednesday, 25 April, 2007

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

General Thura Shwe Mann looks into upgrading tasks of Yangon International Airport



General Thura Shwe Mann inspects extended building of Yangon International Airport. — MNA



Extended building of Yangon International Airport. — MNA

YANGON, 24 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence went on an inspection tour of Yangon International Airport Extension Project this morning.

On arrival at the Yangon International Airport extended terminal, the General was welcomed by Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Commander of Mingaladon Air Force Base Brig-Gen Zin Yaw, senior military officers and departmental officials. At the briefing hall, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe briefed the General on progress in upgrading of Yangon International Airport Terminal and extension of the runway.

Next, Director-General U Tun Hlaing of Department for Civil Aviation briefed the General on area of extended building of Yangon International Airport Terminal, car parking, construction of four boarding

(See page 8)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 25 April, 2007

Transport, fundamental requirement for national development

Smooth and secure transport lies at the heart of the drive for development of all parts of the Union of Myanmar. Only through better transport between one region and another will it be possible for the nation to enjoy economic growth along with the development in the education and social sectors.

Now the entire nation sees progress in transporting commodities with a growing number of passengers owing to the cumulative development of Nay Pyi Taw.

The Ministry of Rail Transportation has launched new runs between Nay Pyi Taw and respective regions of various directions for ensuring smooth transport such as Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw, Nay Pyi Taw-Bagan-Nay Pyi-Taw, Nay Pyi Taw-Pyay-Nay Pyi Taw, Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay-Nay Pyi Taw, and Nay Pyi Taw-Thazi-Meiktila-Myingyan.

In addition, for the comfort and convenience of local people of Bago Division (East), Mon State, Kayin State and Taninthayi Division, Nay Pyi Taw-Mawlamyine-Nay Pyi Taw express run has been set up since 22 April.

With better transportation, national people will be able to travel to a region from another one in ease in a short time, and local people along the railroads can enjoy fruitful results of development in economic, social, education and health sectors.

The entire national people are, therefore, duty-bound to maintain together the rail coaches and railroads to ensure durability of the transport facilities for secure and smooth transportation necessary for national development.



Dr U Ye Naing and Daw Khin Lay Yi of Building No 866/867 in Tamway Township donated K 100,000 to Hninzigone Home for the Aged to mark the birthday of the latter recently. Joint Treasurer of the home U Maung Maung Gyi accepting the donation. — 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

Stakes driven for construction of Concrete Sleeper Factory (Mottama)

NAY PYI TAW, 23 April — Myanma Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transportation held a stake-driving ceremony for construction of Concrete Sleeper Factory (Mottama) on the bank of Mottama near Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) yesterday. Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Minister U Pe Than, heads of department, officials, social organizations and others.

First, the commander, the minister and party drove stakes and sprinkled scented water on the stakes. The factory will produce concrete sleepers to be used in the upgrading of Nay Pyi Taw-DaikU-Sittoung-Mawlamyine-Ye-Dawei railroad section.

At the briefing hall, General Manager U Thi Han (Civil Engineering Department) of Myanma Railways gave an account of the factory. The commander and the minister gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs.

MNA

Minister inspects DaikU pig farm and feedstuff factory



Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein inspects a pig farm in DaikU.

L & F

NAY PYI TAW, 23 April — Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein together with officials concerned went on an inspection tour of DaikU Pig Farm and Feedstuff Factory of Livestock, Feedstuff and Dairy Enterprise in Bago Division on 21 April.

At the meeting hall, factory manager Dr Pyae Sone briefed the minister and party on accomplishment of the tasks. General manager Dr Than Shwe gave a supplementary report.

Regarding the reports, the minister gave instructions on measures to be taken for meeting the target of the project and preparatory tasks for prevention of foot and mouth disease.

Next, the minister looked into feedstuff, pig farms and production of organic fertilizer and discussed with staff during a meeting. In the afternoon, the minister oversaw Fisheries Department Office in Toungoo District and fulfilled the requirements.

MNA

Mayor inspects water supply tasks

YANGON, 23 April — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected water supply tasks in North Okkalapa Township today.

The officials of YCDC briefed the mayor on laying of pipe line to supply water to Dagon Myothit (North), Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) townships and Dagon Myothit (South) industrial zone.

During his tour, the mayor also inspected laying of pipe lines on Ba Htoo Road in Dagon Myothit (North).

The connection of pipe lines has been carried out 90 per cent of the task, and it is expected that YCDC will supply drinking water sufficiently to Dagon Myothit (South), (North), (Seikkan) townships and industrial zones in Dagon Myothit (South) Townships in the near future.—MNA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Most Americans in favour of stricter gun control

WASHINGTON, 24 April— Most Americans are in favour of stricter gun control, but few say it would have done a lot to prevent the shootings last week at Virginia Tech, according to the latest *New York Times*/CBS News Poll.

Two-thirds of the adults surveyed Friday through Sunday said the laws covering the sale of handguns should be stricter and 27 percent said the laws should be kept as they are now. Only 5 percent said the laws

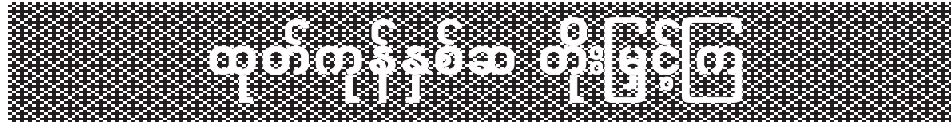
should be less strict.

This question has been asked in the past with similar results. In August 1999, a CBS News poll taken almost four months after the shootings at Columbine High School in Colorado, 64 percent said laws covering the sale of handguns should be stricter. Men and women are equally in favor of making the sale of handguns more difficult. Three-quarters of Democrats support stricter handgun laws, compared

with about half of Republicans and 60 percent of independents.

The public does not support banning handguns altogether, the poll found. Thirty-two percent of the public approves of a ban on the sale of handguns, with the exception of those needed for law enforcement, with 64 percent opposed. This is basically unchanged from the last time the question was asked by CBS News in 2000.

Internet



Belgium's King Albert II (L) and Latvia's President Vaira Vike-Freiberga (R) lay flowers during a ceremony at the Freedom Monument in Riga on 23 April, 2007. Belgium's King Albert and Queen Paola are on a three-day state visit to Latvia.— INTERNET

Police says NASA shooter blamed victim for job review

HOUSTON, 23 April—A space engineer who killed a co-worker and himself at NASA's Johnson Space Centre used a gun bought the same March day as he printed out a negative job report that he blamed on his victim, police said on Saturday.

Houston Police Chief Harold Hurtt described a "nightmare-type situation" in which NASA quality-control engineer David Beverly, shot in the chest and leg by contract worker Bill Phillips, was shot again repeatedly and died on Friday as he was trying to barricade an office to keep Phillips from returning.

"The suspect blamed Mr Beverly for being respon-

sible for his negative job-performance situation," Hurtt told reporters.

Phillips held hostage another co-worker, Fran Crenshaw, until he shot himself dead, Hurtt said. Crenshaw was unharmed.

Hurtt said Phillips had printed out the job report on 18 March, and the same day bought a 5-shot Smith & Wesson revolver, with 20 rounds of hollow-point ammunition.

Phillips came to Beverly at NASA centre on Friday openly holding his gun, Hurtt said. He said Beverly tried to calmly discuss the job issue for several minutes, but Phillips raised his gun and shot Beverly twice.

Phillips then left the room momentarily and came back, overcoming Beverly's attempts at resistance.—MNA/Reuters

Lee Kuan Yew says Singapore must take advantage of globalization

SINGAPORE, 23 April—Singapore's Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew said on Sunday that Singapore is part of a

globalized world and has to take advantage of that world stage.

Singapore has to be as cosmopolitan as other

world class cities like New York and London, for its own survival and success, the Singapore first-ever prime minister told a gathering of young People's Action party members, local television Channel NewsAsia reported.

Talking about Singapore's future, Lee pointed out that it will continue to synthesize, as more immigrants and foreigners settle in.

"If we are dynamic, we will attract talent, we will grow because we have more talent. When I say talent, it means people who add to the dynamism of that society," the television quoted Lee as saying.— MNA/Xinhua



Tourists pick tea leaves at a plantation in the teahill scenic spot in Lingyun county, southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on 22 April, 2007. — XINHUA



US army soldiers with the 10th Mountain Division patrol the main market in Mahmudiya, south of Baghdad, on 23 April, 2007. — INTERNET

Nine US soldiers killed in Iraq bombing

BAGHDAD, 24 April— Nine US soldiers were killed Monday when a suicide car bomb struck near their patrol base in Diyala province, the US military said in a statement.

Twenty other US soldiers and one Iraqi civilian were wounded in the attack, the statement said. Earlier, in a separate incident, the military said a US soldier was killed in Muqtadya, northeast of Baghdad, by a roadside

bomb.

Muqtadya is a city in Diyala province located about 25 miles (40 kilometers) northeast of the provincial capital of Baquba.

Earlier Monday, a suicide car bomber targeted a gathering of police vehicles in Baquba, killing six police officers, including a police general, a Diyala province police official said. Despite the daily attacks across Iraq,

thousands of Iraqis took to the streets Monday to protest a concrete wall surrounding Adhamiya, a Sunni neighbourhood in Baghdad.

The US and Iraqi militaries say the wall is a temporary structure to prevent insurgent attacks. But many Baghdad residents fear walls will exacerbate the sectarian divide that is fueling the insurgency in the Iraqi capital.—Internet



A general view of Queen's Pier in front of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre in Hong Kong's financial Central District during the evening of 23 April, 2007. — INTERNET

Microsoft to build R&D parks in Beijing, Shanghai

BOAO (Hainan Province), 23 April—Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates announced here his company will build research and development parks in Beijing and Shanghai in a bid to expand its business in China.

Gates said the parks will be built to meet the growing research and development demand in China and help ameliorate Microsoft's relationship with its clients and partners.

The chairman did not offer details of the new move.

Gates attributed Microsoft's success to

innovation and teamwork, saying that the move will hopefully help the company establish a sound relation with its trade partners and the Chinese Government to tap human resources and promote regional prosperity.

Microsoft established its first China-based office in Beijing back to 1992, since then the company has dedicated to long-term research and development in the country.

The company established the China R&D Group in January last year, a milestone of its development in the

world's most populous country.

China is embracing unprecedented opportunities, said the group chairman Zhang Yaquin, the Microsoft products made in China will increasingly embody Chinese talents' originality, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Putin calls day of mourning to pay respects to Yeltsin

Moscow, 24 April — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday declared a day of mourning for Boris Yeltsin, who he said had helped give birth to a "new democratic Russia". Russia will pay its respects with a national day of mourning on 25 April, Putin said. "He was the first Russian president. With this title he has for ever entered the history of the country and the whole world," Putin said at the Novo-Ogaryovo presidential residency outside Moscow. "A man passed away, thanks to whom a whole new epoch was born. New democratic Russia was born, a free state open to the world. The state in which power truly belongs to the people," Putin said.

MNA/Reuters

Study says fast food boosts blood pressure

TORONTO, 23 April—A single fast food meal can quickly send your blood pressure soaring, a new University of Calgary study suggests.

And this immediate pumping up of blood pressure levels could provide a key mechanism through which high fat meals produce heart disease over time, the paper's lead researcher says.

"We can measure this response after only one meal, which is remarkable," said Tavis Campbell, a health psychology professor at the school.

"Most Canadians eat these sorts of fast food meals on a fairly regular

basis... and if we can see the effects after one sitting, it's really striking to think about people who do this (two or three times a week)."

Internet



Weapons, drugs, money and jewellery seized during several anti-narcotics operations in Mexico are displayed during a news conference at the headquarters of the Attorney General in Mexico City on 23 April, 2007. — INTERNET

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Pope visits Italy's "shoe city", gets 15,001 pairs

VIGEVANO (Italy), 23 April — Pope Benedict got 15,001 pairs of shoes on Saturday. During a visit to this northern city known as Italy's shoe capital, a local consortium gave one pair for himself and 15,000 more pairs for the needy around the world.

The Pope was given burgundy-coloured loafers designed and manufactured by the Moreschi firm and made from kangaroo hide.

Those destined for the poor include boots and other types of footwear. Local industrialists are due to send them directly to charities chosen by the Vatican.

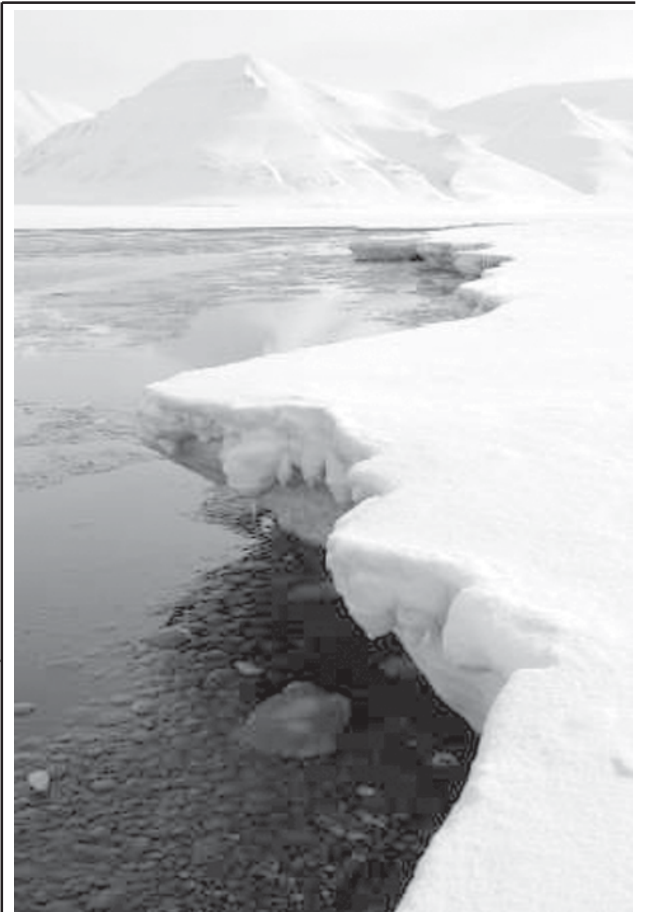
Pope Benedict last year made a splash in the

fashion world by appearing in a pair of stylish, bright red loafers and there has been speculation that Italian designers such as Prada may have contributed to the papal

wardrobe.

The sartorial twist contrasted with Pope John Paul, a confirmed ascetic who was known for his brown, sensible shoes.

MNA/Reuters



Ice breaks away from a frozen coastline near the Norwegian Arctic town of Longyearbyen, on 23 April, 2007. — INTERNET

Six killed in bomb attacks in southern Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 23 April — Six people were killed and ten others wounded when a car bomb followed by a roadside bomb detonated near a school in southern Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source said.

"A car bomb parking near the al-Shumoos school in the Saidiyah District detonated at about 4:30 pm (1230 GMT), killing five people and wounding 25 others wounded," the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

"The first attack followed by a roadside bomb (that) detonated near a police patrol which arrived at the scene to secure the area, killing a policeman and wounding five others," the source added.

US and Iraqi security forces cordoned off the scene after the bombings, the source said. The double attack also heavily damaged the police station building and destroyed dozens of police vehicles and civilian cars, he added.

Insurgents often attack Iraqi security forces, accusing them of collaboration with US-backed Iraqi Government. 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

ECONOMIC NEWS

China's strategic oil reserve to equal 30 days imports in 2010

BOAO (Hainan), 23 April—China is to maintain a strategic oil reserve amounting to the equivalent of 30 days of imports by the year 2010, a senior official said here Saturday.

Chen Deming, vice-minister of the National Development and Reform Commission, made the remarks at the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2007 held in Boao, a coastal town in

southernmost Hainan Province.

China's plan for its strategic oil reserve capacity is based on two factors, one is the country's financial power and the other is the conditions of the world oil market, Chen said at a symposium on energy and resources of the annual conference.

As international oil price is still at a high level, China will be prudent in building up its strategic

oil reserve and try not to cause sharp fluctuations in oil price, he said.

China has started building four strategic oil reserve bases in Dalian, Qingdao, Ningbo and Zhoushan respectively. The first one in Ningbo of eastern China's Zhejiang Province has been put into operation.

MNA/Xinhua



Twins at a Twins Festival in southern China's Guangzhou on 22 April, 2007.

INTERNET

Garuda Indonesia seeking loans to buy 25 boeing planes

JAKARTA, 24 April — Flag carrier Garuda Indonesia needs a fund of nine trillion rupiah (about 990.6 million US dollars) to buy 25 brand new Boeing 737-800s in the company's efforts to modernize its aging fleets, local Press said on Monday.

Garuda said the deliveries were expected in 2009-2012 to replace its 737 series which had attained the age of eight to 10 years, reported leading economic daily Bisnis Indonesia.

"If a plane is priced between 35 million and 40 million dollars, then we need...a fund of up to nine trillion rupiah," Garuda President Emirsyah Satar was quoted as saying.

Garuda now operates 48 planes of mostly 737 series.

The company has asked Boeing to send first eight new planes in 2009, 10 in 2010, five in 2011 and two in 2012, said the Indonesian language newspaper. — MNA/Xinhua

Pressure increases on Wolfowitz to go

LONDON, 23 April — A group of top former World Bank executives has urged Paul Wolfowitz to resign, as the Bank's watchdog warned his actions were undermining the ability of the institution to carry out development work.

The 42 senior executives wrote a letter to the *Financial Times*, published on Monday, advising Wolfowitz to give up the presidency for the good of the Bank following a controversy over the promotion of his

girlfriend, Shaha Riza.

"We believe that he can no longer be an effective leader," said the letter, which was signed by former World Bank No 2 under Wolfowitz, Shengman Zhang, amongst others.

"He has lost the trust and respect of Bank staff at all levels, provoked a rift among senior managers, developed tense relations with the board, damaged his own credibility on good governance — his flagship issue —

and alienated some key shareholders at a time when their support is essential for a successful replenishment of the resources needed to help the poorest countries, especially in Africa."

The letter concluded: "There is only one way for Wolfowitz to further the mission of the Bank: he should resign."

Upping the pressure on Wolfowitz, a former deputy defence secretary who helped plan the US-led invasion of Iraq, the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) issued a critical statement that was

carried on the *FT's* website.

The newspaper said the "formal statement" would be considered by the World Bank's board this week.

"The institution is at a critical juncture where its development effectiveness is being jeopardized by serious governance problems that have recently come to light," the IEG said. "A proper and quick resolution of this problem is vital for the organization's continued effectiveness in development."

MNA/Reuters

Vietnam to double rubber acreage by 2015

HANOI, 24 April — Vietnam has targeted to grow one million hectares of rubber trees by 2015, up from over 500,000 hectares in 2005,

according to local media on Monday.

To this end, the local rubber industry should implement projects on planting 1000,000 hectares of the trees in Laos and another 100,000 hectares in Cambodia, newspaper *Vietnam News* quoted Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung as saying at the inauguration of the Vietnam Rubber Group on Sunday.

The Vietnam Rubber Group, formerly state-owned Vietnam Rubber Corporation, has eyed to grow 5,000 hectares of rubber trees in the country, and 5,000-6,000 hectares in Laos, and Cambodia, and gain turnovers of 12 trillion Vietnamese dong (750 million US dollars) in 2007. — MNA/Xinhua



Virginia Tech students cross the drill field as they return to class in Blacksburg, Virginia, on 23 April, 2007. — INTERNET



German actor Patrick Stahnke and actors Maïke Boerdam-Strobel and Gino Emnes (L-R) from the *Netherlands* pose in front of the Brandenburg Gate during a photocall to promote the 'Best of Musical' show in Berlin on 23 April, 2007.

INTERNET

Asian news media urged to report "voice of Asia"

BOAO (Hainan Province), 23 April—A senior editor of China's official *Xinhua* news agency on Sunday called on Asia's media to strengthen regional cooperation to make world news coverage more fair and reasonable.

"Asian media, especially those in developing countries, should seek active participation in the world's events and cooperate more on the

coverage of regional breaking news," said Liu Jiang, deputy editor-in-chief of *Xinhua*, addressing the annual conference of the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA).

"The voice of Asian people, asking for peace, development and cooperation, should be heard through our media reports," Liu told a sub-forum of the BFA, which opened Saturday in the south China town of

Boao.

He said Asia had the fastest growing economies in the world, was an engine of the global economic development, and deserved better media coverage by news organizations in the region.

The media shouldered responsibility for the pursuit of "a harmonious Asia and a harmonious world" and increased cooperation was vital.

MNA/Xinhua



People walk past books hanging from the ceiling of a bus stop during Book Day in Madrid on 23 April, 2007. Spain celebrates Book Day on the anniversary of the death of Spanish writer Miguel de Cervantes, author of the famous book "Don Quijote de la Mancha". — INTERNET



Over 12,000 estimated to be infected with HIV/AIDS in Beijing

BEIJING, 23 April — With an estimated 12,000 people in Beijing infected with HIV/AIDS, the municipal public health bureau says the disease has entered a new phase and is expected to spread faster. The bureau says there are 3,462 people who are officially registered as HIV carriers or AIDS sufferers in the capital city but there are likely three

times that number who either do not know they have the virus or have yet to seek medical attention.

Statistics reveal by public health bureau on Thursday also show that among the reported cases, 686 are Beijing residents, 2,634 are people from other provinces, and 142 are foreigners.

Drug addicts account for 1,357 of the reported cases, 924 cases were transmitted through sexual intercourse, 535 by blood transmission, 46 from mother to infant, and about 600 were untraceable.

The public health bureau plans to set up HIV/AIDS monitoring network this year, that will cover all groups.

The municipal government also plan to build at least one AIDS prevention clinic in every one of the city's 18 districts and counties before the end of 2008. — MNA/Xinhua

A model displays a creation of Macedonian designer Nikola Bulevski Bule during Skopje fashion week on 23 April, 2007. INTERNET

Gunmen kill 21 workers in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 23 April — Gunmen killed 21 workers of a textile plant in Mosul in northern Iraq on their way home on Sunday, local police told *Xinhua*.

"Unidentified gunmen attacked a car carrying workers from a textile plant in Mosul, killing 21 people," the source said on condition of anonymity, adding the workers were en route home east of Mosul. All of the victims belonged to Iraq's Yazidi religious minority, which has about 500,000 faithfuls, the source said. The Yazidis are primarily ethnic Kurd and most live near Mosul in Iraq. Mosul, 400 kilometres north of Baghdad, has witnessed bloody attacks in recent days. — MNA/Xinhua

At least three dead after landslide in n-w China

TAIYUAN, 23 April — At least three construction workers have died after a landslide buried 13 workers at a construction site in Hejin City, northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

The accident occurred around 11:30 am on Sunday at Banpo primary school in Xiahua Township, 300 kilometres southwest of the provincial capital Taiyuan, said an official in the Hejin City government surnamed Chai.

Rescuers had recovered three bodies and pulled out one survivor who was being treated by medical staff, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Four killed in Nigerian helicopter crash

LAGOS, 23 April — Four people were killed recently as a helicopter belonging to the Nigerian Navy crashed in southern Imo State, sources reaching here said. A highly placed security source said the helicopter came down around 9:30 pm (2030 GMT) as it approached the Owerri Airport.

It was escorting another helicopter carrying materials for Saturday's presidential and National Assembly elections in the state from Abuja, the source added. The Nigerian Navy has confirmed the crash, saying they "had onboard the pilot, the copilot and two technicians. It appears they all lost their lives.

"This is coming less than six months after a Nigerian Air Force plane crashed in southern Benue State, killing some top Army generals. — MNA/Xinhua

Over 100 killed in latest clashes in Mogadishu

NAIROBI, 23 April — A Somali human rights group said on Saturday that at least 113 civilians have been killed and more than 200 injured in three days of fighting in the Somali capital, Mogadishu. The Elman Peace and Human Rights agency said in a statement that it compiled the figures from humanitarian groups, hospitals, and counting of bodies abandoned in the streets.

The chairman of the Elman organization, Sudan Ali Ahmed, said the shelling which took place on Friday was one of the worst days of fighting yet and called on the warring factions to

ceasefire to avert a looming humanitarian crisis.

"We call upon the Ethiopians and the insurgents to stop fighting

without any conditions. Otherwise, if they continue fighting many people will die and that is pointless," Ahmed said.

MNA/Xinhua



Dancers compete in the national scissors dance competition in Villa Maria southern Lima, on 22 April, 2007. — INTERNET

Durability of lesser-known species

Rector U Win Kyi (1)

Durability is important in testing the usefulness of a tree species. Concerning durability, tree species are divided into five groups — very durable species; durable species; moderately durable species; non-durable species; and perishable species. Species that can be used more than ten years are included in the very durable species; and species that can be used about one year are included in the perishable species. But this designation is only for the tropic zones. As for the frigid zones, timbers that can be used more than 25 years are included in the very durable species; and species that can be used less than five years are included in the perishable species. As timber species in frigid zones are less vulnerable to insects and fungus, they have longer durability.

When 54 lesser-known species are tested, Kyoh and Htwani are found to be included in very durable species; Kyetyoe, Phankha, Phetthan, Pynma, Sit, Htaukkyant, TaungOoShit, Taung Peinne; Taungphetwun, Thabye, Thadi, Thitkatoe, Thitmangyi, Yamane, Yintaik and Yinma, durable species; Binga, Chinyok, Hnaw, Kokko, Lesa, Phyaikhseik, Hseikche, Tawthayet, Thante, Thingadu, Thitphayaung, Thitseint, Thithswelwe, Yinsat, Yon, and Zaungpale, moderately durable species; Bai, Bonmaeza, Deedu, Htwabok, Khuthan, Maulettanshe, Myaukngo, Nabe, Taungmaeoak and Taungthayet, non-durable species; and Gwe, Myaseik, Letpan, Myaukthwegyi, Myaukthwethay, Shaw, Thaphan and Thitphayaung, perishable species.

Trees can be used as construction materials many times more than other uses. We do not need to choose durable species in making furniture and indoor materials; but species including rubber and Thitseint that can be easily destroyed by insects should not be used for this purpose. On the other hand, it is important to use durable species in constructing bridges, buildings and boats large and small and making sleepers, fence posts, garden furniture. Hence, wood preservation techniques for ensuring durability of lesser-known

species have become important.

If we can upgrade a species with five-year durability to last fifteen years, we can reduce cost for consumers and help preserve valuable resources of the nation. Painting a house or timber fences with oil dreg annually, sharpening the tops of the fence posts to prevent them from soaking much rain water and covering the top of fence posts with tin sheets are easiest techniques to lengthen the durability of a species.

For example, the condition of Bamboo shingles used in roofing a hut of research unit of Yezin University in January 1979 are still good at present, although they are



Bamboo shingles used in roofing a hut of research unit of Yezin University in January 1979 are still good at present.

28 years old now. Those shingles are made of Kyathoung species bamboo. First, bamboo shingles were soaked in water for about a week to get rid of starch that is a favourite food of insects. Then, they were treated according to procedures for about five days. Afterwards, they were boiled in oil dreg for about eight hours. This method ensures a bamboo species to last four or five

times longer than its normal durability.

There are agents as well as techniques for greater durability of a tree species. Mainly, there are two ways — non-pressure methods and pressure methods. The degree of durability differs based on the type of methods and agents, and the regional and surrounding condition.

Non-pressure methods are applied to species with better treatability, and pressure methods, to species with difficult treatability. Durability of a tree species gets longer with its higher power to let dissolved agent soaks through it. Treatability is categorized into five groups. Of the experimented 54 species, Bai, Htwabok, Gwe,

Khuthan, Myaukngo, Myaukthwegyi, Myaukthwethay, Taungmaeoak and Thaphanthit are included in the very easy treatability group; Binga, Deedu, Myahseik, Lein, Letpan, Maulettanshe, Phyaikhseik, Shaw, Tawthayet, Thitpangan, Yintaik and Yinsat are included in easy treatability group; Hnaw, Myaukchaw, TaungOoShit and Taungthayet are included in the average group; Chinyok, Nabe, Htaukkyant, Taungphetwin, Thitseint, Thithswelwe and Zaungpale are included in moderately difficult group; Bonmaeza, Htwani, Kyoh, Kokko, Lesa, Phankha, Sit, Thante, Thingadu, Thitkatoe, Thitmangyi, Thitphayaung, Yinma and Yon are included in difficult group; and Kyetyoe, Phetthan, Pynma, Hseikche, Taung Peinne, Thabye, Thadi and Yamane are included in very difficult group.

With this article, I introduce the methods to enhance the durability of tree species that are important in widening the use of lesser-known species in Myanmar

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin: 24-4-2007

For example, the condition of Bamboo shingles used in roofing a hut of research unit of Yezin University in January 1979 are still good at present, although they are 28 years old now. Those shingles are made of Kyathoung species bamboo. First, bamboo shingles were soaked in water for about a week to get rid of starch that is a favourite food of insects. Then, they were treated according to procedures for about five days. Afterwards, they were boiled in oil dreg for about eight hours. This method ensures a bamboo species to last four or five times longer than its normal durability.

General Thura Shwe Mann looks into upgrading tasks of Yangon International Airport ...

(from page 1)

bridges, installation of five lifts and three escalators and progress in building of the runway; project director U Maung Kye of Asia World Co Ltd on progress in upgrading of the airport and Deputy Superintending Engineer U Kyaw Hlaing of Airport Construction Project Special Group-2 of Public Works on construction of 3100 x 200 ft runway and 3100 x 100 ft taxi way and future plans.

In response to the reports, General Thura Shwe Mann made



General Thura Shwe Mann hears report presented by Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe. — MNA

a speech on the occasion, saying that the Government has spent a large sum of money on upgrading of Yangon International Airport in accordance with the prestige and standard of the State to meet international norms. Special emphasis is to be placed on keeping the airport clean and tidy by taking into account of the con-

venience and comfort of the passengers. Departments concerned are to cooperate and coordinate each other in order to off good service to the passengers.

Next, the General oversaw progress in upgrading of the airport. After giving necessary instructions, the General left the airport.

MNA

Foreign Minister bids farewell to Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April— Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr Hor Namhong, and party left here by air this evening.

The Cambodian guest was seen off at the Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and departmental heads of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials concerned.

Minister U Nyan Win presented the documentary photo album and VCD on the delegation's visit to Nay Pyi Taw to Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister at the airport.

MNA



Minister U Nyan Win bids farewell Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Mr Hor Namhong at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

MNA

Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister visits City Hall in Nay Pyi Taw



Secretary of Nay Pyi Taw Development Affairs Committee U Tun Kyi presents a souvenir to Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Mr Hor Namhong in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia Mr Hor Namhong, accompanied by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hul Phany, arrived at the city hall here this evening.

They were welcomed by Secretary of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Tun Kyi, members and heads of departments.

Secretary U Tun Kyi briefed the guest on location and area of Nay Pyi Taw, construction of the Hluttaw Building, offices, staff quarters, markets, hotel zone, open air theatre, roundabouts,

bridges, golf courses and roads. He replied to the queries raised by the visiting Deputy Prime Minister.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia signed in the visitors' book. Secretary U Tun Kyi presented the photo of the Nay Pyi Taw City Hall.

The Deputy Prime Minister and party toured Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Foreign Minister hosts dinner in honour of Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April— Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win hosted a dinner in honour of Mr Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of

Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, at Royal Kumudra Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone yesterday evening.

Also present at the dinner were officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hul Phany.

MNA

Mawlaik TV retransmission station starts programmes

YANGON, 24 April— Under the TV retransmission programme, the building

of Mawlaik TV retransmission station was completed on 7 April.

Beginning 8 April the local people can enjoy TV programmes.

MNA

Commander, minister inspect Lagunpyin Dam in Hlegu Township



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspect condition of main canal of Lagunpyin Dam in Hlegu Township. — MNA

YANGON, 24 April— Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo yesterday evening inspected the main canal

of Lagunpyin Dam in Hlegu Township, Yangon North District, and heard a report presented by Director U Kyaw Thein of Yangon Division Irrigation Department on irrigating of the dam and durability of the main canal.

Next, the commander

and the minister stressed the need for officials concerned to strive for durability of the main canal and attended to the needs.

After that, the commander and the minister proceeded to Ngamoyeik River Water Pumping Project near

Mokhso Nyaungbin in Hlegu Township where they heard a report presented by Director-General of U Hla Myint Maung of Water Resources Utilization Department on the salient points of the project.

After hearing the report, the commander spoke of the need to strive for early completion of the project and looked into the project site.—MNA

Minister attends opening of on-job training course

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April — A ceremony to open a course on-job training, organized by the Ministry of Immigration and Population, was held at the meeting hall of the ministry, here this morning, with an address by Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Win Sein, directors-general, deputy directors-general, directors and officials concerned of the Ministry

of Immigration and Population and Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the course in-charge, instructors and trainees.

First, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe made a speech on the occasion, saying that the purpose of opening the course is to step up departmental functions effectively and improve the competence of the service personnel. At present, the ministry is carrying out work to issue citizenship scruting cards to the public speedily and

easily as part of a drive in the country. In the drive to issue the cards, the ministry is making efforts to enable the public who should have to hold the cards. Concerted efforts will be made for realization of the tasks by joining hands with other departments and social organizations. The trainees are to apply knowledge gained from the course in the practical fields.

A total of 14 trainees are attending a four-week course.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe delivers an address at opening of on-job training course of Ministry of Immigration and Population. —MNA

Commander, Minister urge industrialists to produce quality machine parts

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April — Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thuang Aye and Ayethaya Industrial Zone In-charge Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi held a meeting with executive directors of the foundry plant and industrialists at the meeting hall of the plant in Ayethaya Industrial Zone, Taunggyi yesterday morning.

At the meeting, Secretary U Tet Toe of Supervisory Committee for Ayethaya Industrial Zone briefed the commander and the minister on progress of work in the zone and foundry plant manager U Than Shwe on production of the machine parts of the plant.

Next, the minister made a speech on the occasion, saying that the Government has spent a large sum of foreign exchange on building the industrial zones with the intention of improving industrial services. Local industrialists have already started enjoying profits as they put shares in industrial services. Concerted efforts will be made for producing a variety of quality products. Experts and technicians necessary for the industries will have to be nurtured gradually. Tasks will be carried out to manufacture trucks and passenger autos.

Afterwards, the minister inspected production process of wheel drum, fly wheel, alloy pulley, physic nut milling machines, line pulley, frame, light truck and auto parts in the plant and urged industrialists to produce quality machine parts.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi views assembling of a light truck in Ayethaya Industrial Zone in Taunggyi. — ENERGY

217 drug-related cases exposed in March

YANGON, 24 April— The Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force and the Customs Department exposed 217 drug-related cases in March 2007.

They seized 93.9254 kilos of opium in 56 cases, 1.36484 kilos of heroin in 69 cases, 2.9395 kilos of opium oil in ten cases, 4.8233 kilos of low-grade opium in 12 cases, 28.1011 kilos of marijuana in 17 cases, 18,387 stimulant tablets in 34 cases, 3.39 kilos of opium speciosa in eight cases, nine kilos of ephedrine in one case, 195 bottles of buprenorphine injection in one case, one case in failure to register and eight other cases.

Action was taken against 322 persons— 253 men and 69 women — in 217 cases.— MNA

Minister inspects Warkadok Dam in Bago Township

YANGON, 24 April — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspected Warkadok Dam Project in Bago Township yesterday.

On his tour, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo gave

instructions on timely completion of the dam and inspected the spillway, the tower and the main canal of the dam and construction work of the main dam.

The dam is under construction near

Taungsatinn Village in Bago Township. It will store water this rainy season and will supply water to Monyungyi Lake in summer to contribute to the greening of the 30-mile radius of Yangon.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and an official formally open a road in Lanmadaw Township to mark First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement. (News on Page 16)— MNA

Cultural and moral course opens



Daw Mar Mar Wai delivers an address at opening of cultural and moral course organized by Yangon South District WAO. — MNA

YANGON, 24 April— A cultural and moral course, organized by Yangon South District Women's Affairs Organization was opened at Sasana Beikman in

Thanlyin Township on 23 April morning.

Patron of Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai delivered an opening speech and

presented publications on culture to President of the District WAO Daw Khin Win Myint. A total of 203 trainees are attending the course that lasts until 26 April.—MNA

Citizenship Scrutiny Cards issued in Taikkyi Township

YANGON, 24 April—A ceremony to issue Citizenship Scrutiny Cards by Taikkyi Township Immigration and National Registration Department was held at the office of Taikkyi Township Union Solidarity and Development Association on 22 April.

It was attended by Head of Yangon North District INRD Deputy Director U Soe Paing Myint, Chairman of Taikkyi Township Peace and Development

Council U Mya Kyaw, Head of the Township INRD U Tun Tun Wai, the secretary of the Township USDA, members of social organizations, fire brigade and Red Cross Society and local people.

Before issuing cards to the people, Head of Yangon North District INRD Deputy Director U Soe Paing Myint explained the programme to issue the cards to the people in a speedy and proper way.

After the ceremony, the head of the District INRD inspected the issuing of cards to the people by the Township INRD and staff in cooperation with members of social organizations and fire brigade and red cross society.

MNA



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu being welcomed by Mrs Ruth Schatz at reception to mark the Independence Day of the State of Israel in Yangon on 24 April 2007. MNA

Torrential rains with strong winds downpour in some townships

YANGON, 24 April — Some buildings and trees collapsed and lamp posts and cables were damaged due to strong winds and torrential rain in Gangaw Township, Magway Division, on 22 April.

Similarly, torrential rain downpoured with strong winds in some villages in Nyaungshwe

Township, Myittha Township and Metmang Township in Kengtung District and in Mongton and Myitkyina on 18, 19 and 20 April. The bad weather caused damages to buildings, lamp posts and cables and trees also collapsed in the areas. Some crops were also damaged due to hailstones.

A fire broke out in DaikU in Bago Division on 20 April due to electric circuit and two makeshift tents and a chicken farm were destroyed in the fire. A total of 53 houses were destroyed in a fire that broke out in Myittha Village in Monyo Township on 23 April. The fire also left 58 households homeless. — MNA

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Singapore Air Force showcases new networked capability

SINGAPORE, 24 April— The Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) demonstrated its Networked Air Defence capability at an air base on Monday morning.

Singapore's Minister for Defence Teo Chee Hean officiated at the demonstration which showcased the Singapore Air Force's ability to see further, respond faster and deal more effectively with any aerial threat, the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

The demonstration featured the networking of existing and new sensors, ground-based air defence weapons, and command

and control systems to shorten the Singapore Air Force's sensor-to-shooter cycle.

"The new Networked Air Defence capability enhances the RSAF's current multi-layered air defence system with better awareness, improved responsiveness, greater precision and overall system robustness," the ministry said.

The event also featured the declaration of

operational capability of the Giraffe Agile Multiple Beam (AMB) Radar, the Upgraded I-HAWK surface-to-air missile (SAM) system, the Mechanized Iгла air defence weapon system and the Enhanced Remote Weapon Display (ERWD) system.

The ERWD enhances early warning and command and control by providing an integrated air picture to the RSAF's air defence fire units.

"The integration of innovative air defence concepts, advanced technologies and well-trained people, under the Networked Air Defence system of the Air Defence and Operations Command (ADOC), is another significant milestone in the transformation of the third Generation RSAF," said the statement.

MNA/Xinhua



Kids in traditional Han costume attend the first class at a newly-opened old-style private school in northeast China's Dalian on 22 April, 2007.

Internet

India says will not be pressured on US nuclear deal

NEW DELHI, 24 April — India will not be hurried into concluding a landmark but controversial nuclear cooperation deal with the United States, despite the latter's frustration over an impasse in negotiations, an Indian official said on Monday.

While New Delhi understands Washington's urgency to clinch the deal before campaigning for the 2008 US presidential election gains momentum, it could not give in to new terms in the pact and more talks were needed, he said.

"Both sides would have wanted to move faster, but there are real issues which need to be resolved," said the official, who has been closely involved in negotiating the deal over the last two years. "How can we shy away from that?"

"Perhaps there is a sense there that this Administration is coming to its last phase and there is therefore an understandable anxiety that if this is not wrapped

up soon then it might become difficult," he told Reuters, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"For us, whether there is pressure or no pressure, we have to make certain whatever are the key issues those are satisfactorily resolved."

The deal, the main showpiece of a blossoming friendship between the two countries, would allow India to buy US nuclear fuel and equipment and boost power production despite not having signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty and tested nuclear weapons.

It was approved by the US Congress and signed by President George W Bush in December, but US officials have said they

have been frustrated and disappointed since by the pace of progress over a bilateral agreement required to finalize the deal. — MNA/Reuters



Lu Lugang (1st, R), the first customer of opening his RMB deposit account, displays his deposit receipt at a branch of the American Citibank in

Shanghai, on 23 April, 2007. —INTERNET

Bangladesh mulls services sector regulations for foreign cos

DHAKA, 24 April — As some countries now await permissions for starting their business in services sector in Bangladesh, Bangladeshi Government mulls domestic regulations, The Daily Star reported on Sunday.

As many as nine countries have already submitted their letters of expression of interest to the Commerce Ministry in this regard.

"There are some such applications pending. These should immediately be addressed to maintain a good relations with the countries concerned," The Daily Star quoted a high

official of the Ministry of Commerce as saying.

Repatriation of huge profits by some foreign telecommunication companies to their countries has worried the government and prompted it to actively consider measures to control the services sector.

The telecoms and hospitality sectors are

opened up to the alien firms according to a commitment given by the Bangladeshi Government to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in May 1997.

Bangladesh is entitled to restricting its services sector as per the WTO rules for the least developed countries (LDCs). — MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam raises foreign ownership limit on local banks

HANOI, 24 April— A single foreign strategic investor can now hold up to 15 per cent stake in a Vietnamese bank, up from

10 per cent currently, according to a new decree issued by Vietnamese Government recently.

The decree leaves

open the opportunity for the government to raise the limit to 20 per cent on a case by case basis, but it still maintains the total foreign ownership cap at 30 per cent, while the maximum stake a non-strategic foreign investor can hold remains at 5 per cent and a foreign bank at 10 per cent, local newspaper Vietnam News reported on Monday.

Strategic foreign investors must commit to assisting their Vietnamese partners develop banking products and services, and improve corporate governance and technology. And they can only sell their shares to other foreign or local investors after five years from first purchasing them, according to the decree issued last Friday.

MNA/Xinhua



America's Cup challenger BMW Oracle Racing of the U.S. sails before the start of their Round Robin 1 Flight 4 race which was cancelled due to lack of wind at the Louis Vuitton Cup in Valencia on 23 April, 2007. — INTERNET

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Thein Aung B.Sc,R.L,D.B.L Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel:254037 G .P.O Box:666 Yangon. 25 April 2007

Denmark's Crown Princess gives birth to baby girl

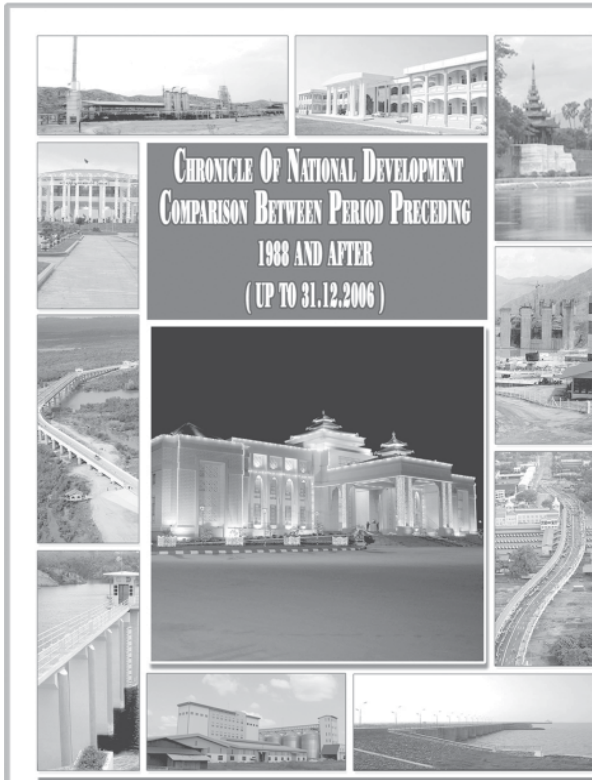
COPENHAGEN, 23 April—Denmark's Australian-born Crown Princess Mary gave birth to her second child on Saturday, a healthy baby girl, her husband, Crown Prince Frederik said.

Frederik, 39, said the birth at Copenhagen University Hospital took six hours and had been as beautiful and impressive as that of the couple's first child, Prince Christian, in October 2005.

"One wasn't as scared as the first time," he told a news conference. The baby princess, third in line to the Danish throne after her father and her older brother, had been expected at the beginning of May.

In a statement the royal court said the baby princess weighed 3,350 grammes (7.41 pounds) at birth and was 50 centimetres (20 inches) long.

MNA/Reuters



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**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO SEALED TENDERS**

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Stores which will be purchased in Euro and Myanmar Kyat;

Sr.No	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
i.	12(T)1/MR(ML) 2007-2008	Steel Materials for New Construction of Locomotives	1-Lot
ii.	12(T)2/MR(MC) 2007-2008	Steel Materials for New Construction of Passenger Coaches	1-Lot
iii.	12(T)3/MR(ML) 2007-2008	စက်ခေါင်းအရန်ပစ္စည်းများ (ရာဘာပစ္စည်းနှင့်သတ္တုစပ်ပစ္စည်းများ)	1-Lot

Closing Date. -25.5.2007 (Friday) (12:00) Hours

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st 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

**MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY(1)
MYANMA FOODSTUFF INDUSTRIES
INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER**

1. Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Foodstuff Industries, for supply of the following Raw Materials which will be purchased in US Dollar/Euro.

Sr No	Tender No	Description	Quantity	Closing Date & Time
1.	1(T)	Malt	1080 MTon	2.5.2007 (16:00)hr
2.	3(T)	Hop Pellet	2160 Kg	—
3.	5(T)	Hop Extract	720 Kg	—
4.	7(T)	Filter Sheet	2880 pcs	—
5.	9(T)	Labelling Glue	3520 Kg	—
6.	11(T)	Monoethylene Glycol	21.6 MTon	4.5.2007 (16:00) hr
7.	13(T)	Chemicals	6 Items	—
8.	15(T)	Standard Supercel	2560 Kg	—
		Hyflo Supercel	2880 Kg	—
		Stabiquick-83	720 Kg	—
		640ml Amber Colour Bottle	2400000 pcs	—
		Crown Cork	2680000 pcs	—

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the General Manager (Marketing) Myanma Foodstuff Industries, Office No 37, Nay Pyi Taw and 192, Kaba Aye Road, Bahan Township, Yangon Starting from 11-4-2007 during the office hours.

3. For Further Details Please call 067-408276, 01-561054

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Solomon Islands holds mourning day for tsunami victims

CANBERRA, 23 April—The Solomon Islands is holding a day of national mourning on Monday to commemorate the victims of a 8.1-magnitude earthquake and tsunami that hit the country earlier this month. The Solomons Government has declared a public holiday on Monday and planned memorial services for the capital of Honiara and other centres around the country, Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio reported.

Governor General Nathaniel Waena and Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare are expected to attend a service in Honiara Monday. Meanwhile, Jackson Kiloe, premier of Choiseul Province, has appealed to the government to relocate the provincial capital of Taro to higher ground.

Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation has quoted Kiloe as saying Taro was spared physical destruction, but that the emotional and psychological effects of the disaster were felt by everyone. Kiloe urged the national government to support the process of relocating the provincial capital to the main island.—MNA/Xinhua

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Google to add video conferencing tech

BEIJING, 23 April — Search engine giant Google announced that it would add video conferencing software to its acquisition arsenal, according to media reports on Monday.

Google will acquire the video conferencing software and take on Marratech's technical team, it said on Saturday.

The deal "will enable from-the-desktop participation for Googlers in videoconference meetings wherever there's an Internet connection," Douglas Merrill, vice president of engineering, wrote in a Google blog posting. "It will be used in combination with our

current video-conferencing equipment."

Google could provide no further details on additional functionality, when it will debut or whether or not it will be a free service.

If it is offered free of cost, the offering could be a hit to Cisco, which last month shelled out 3.2 billion dollars to acquire WebEx, another provider of video conferencing capabilities. It would also serve as competition to Microsoft's LiveMeeting and Adobe Connect.

A Google spokesman had no comment on whether the Marratech acquisition was an effort to go after those rivals.

Marratech technology is based on research that started in 1995 at the Centre for Distance-Spanning Technology (CDT) at Lulea University of Technology in Sweden. It was initially conceived as distance learning technology but later morphed into e-meeting and web collaboration software.

The company's technology runs on Windows, Mac or Linux environments utilizing a broadband connection, though it does not yet support Microsoft Vista or Mac OS X v.10.5, according to the company's website.

Internet



A "scissors" dancer competes in the national scissors dance competition in Villa Maria, southern Lima, on 22 April, 2007. —INTERNET

Asia faces fast growing cancer risk

BEIJING, 23 April — The total of cancer cases in Asia is projected to balloon from 4.5 million in 2002 to 7.1 in 2020, straining health systems in countries that can least afford it, according to experts quoted by media Monday.



About 600,000 new cases of lung cancer. INTERNET

Indian publisher wins international award

KOLKATA, 22 April — S Anand of Chennai has been declared winner of International Young Publisher of the Year Award at the London Book Fair in April, 2007.

The award carries a cash prize of 7,500 pounds with a free stall at the London Book Fair for 2008.

The award is a collaboration between the British Council and London Book Fair, launched in 2004, aiming at strengthening creative leadership, networking and capacity building in international publishing industry, particularly in transitional economies.

Anand earlier won the Indian Young Publisher of the Year award in India in February, 2006, which was organized by the British Council and Oxford Bookstore.

Other international finalists were from Argentina, Egypt, Hungary, Malta, Romania, Slovenia, South Africa and Syria, a British Council release said here Friday. — MNA/PTI



Australia's Great Barrier Reef is seen in this undated aerial file picture. Scientists say climate change could devastate Australia's Great Barrier Reef. —INTERNET

Speaking at Lancet Asia Medical Forum in Singapore, Richard Horton, editor of the British medical journal Lancet, warned Asia — which already has most of the world's stomach and liver cancer cases — may account for about 58 percent of all cancer cases in the world by then.

Donald Maxwell Parkin, a research fellow at Oxford University in Britain, also stated that Asia may account for about 65 percent of all cancer cases by 2050.

"Population growth will increase the number of cases," Parkin said at the start of the two-

day forum.

Once considered a disease of wealthy nations, cancer is increasingly afflicting developing countries due to tobacco and alcohol abuse, unhealthy diets and the lack of exercise, experts said.

Cancer of the lungs, stomach and liver are the biggest problems in Asia followed by breast and colon cancers, they noted. "This will put a tremendous burden on patients, their families and the health care system in each country," said Khaw Boon Wan, Singapore's minister of health. — Internet



A woman walks through an exhibition featuring rarely seen works by Claude Monet at Wildenstein & Company in New York on 19 April, 2007. —INTERNET

Pfizer HIV drug under scrutiny by FDA panel

BEIJING, 23 April — A new HIV drug by Pfizer faces safety concerns by US government regulators at a meeting next week, and if approved, would be the first in a new class of drugs to treat the virus that causes AIDS.

The Food and Drug Administration will ask a panel of outside experts whether risks of cancer and infection are serious enough to limit Pfizer's ability to market Mar-

aviroc, a twice-a-day pill designed to fight HIV. The panel is scheduled to vote Tuesday on whether the drug should be approved.

The FDA is not required to follow the experts' recommendation, but it often does.

Maraviroc is in a class of drugs called CCR5 antagonists, which block HIV from entering white blood cells through a pathway present in the majority of patients who

carry the virus.

Pfizer did not uncover any cancerous side effects while testing its drug on patients, but similar studies by other companies have raised safety concerns.

British drug maker GlaxoSmithKline plc decided to scrap its drug aplaviroc in 2005 after signs of liver damage appeared in some patients.

Internet

SPORTS



Vancouver Canucks' Jeff Cowan (L) falls into the net behind Dallas Stars goalie Marty Turco during the first period of Game 7 of the Stanley Cup Western Conference hockey quarterfinals in Vancouver, British Columbia, on 23 April, 2007.—INTERNET

Santos coach Luxemburgo in drainage row

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 April — Santos coach Vanderlei Luxemburgo was involved in a row over the drains at Sao Paulo's Morumbi stadium following his team's 0-0 draw with Bragantino in the Paulista championship.

Luxemburgo was furious after a torrential downpour left the pitch waterlogged and suggested stadium owners Sao Paulo, arch-rivals of Santos, may have turned off the drainage system.

"I've never seen so much water on the Morumbi pitch," the former Brazil and Real Madrid coach told reporters.

"It was strange that the water didn't drain away. I don't know if they opened up the system or not.

"It's odd that this happens at a stadium which wants to host games in the 2014 World Cup."

Stadium manager Jose Goncalves denied the system had been deliberately switched off.

"We can prove that the drains were working. Sao Paulo had no motives to make anyone's life difficult," he said in radio interview.

The first leg also ended goalless and Santos qualified for the final on having the better overall record. — MNA/Reuters



Spain's Rafael Nadal celebrates after beating Switzerland's Roger Federer during the Monte Carlo Masters final on 22 April 2007. Nadal won 6-4, 6-4 to extended his all-time winning streak on clay to 67 matches. The win also meant Nadal won his third straight Monte Carlo title.

XINHUA

2010 World Cup teams will not stay in host cities

JOANNESBURG, 24 April — Visiting teams qualifying for the 2010 soccer World Cup in South Africa will not be allowed to set up base camps in Johannesburg, Cape Town or other cities hosting games, a South African official said on Monday.

Dennis Mumble, the general manager of FNB stadium and a member of the 2010 World Cup local organizing committee, said the decision was prompted by a desire to see other communities share in the prestigious tournament.

"We shall spread the benefits beyond the nine host cities," Mumble was quoted by SAPA news agency as saying in a speech at a conference outside Johannesburg. "It opens up responsibilities for non-host cities."

Mumble urged smaller towns to ensure that they had enough accommodation and adequate security to meet the demands of the more than two dozen teams and hundreds of thousands of tourists expected to arrive in South Africa for the championship.

South Africa, the first African nation to host the World Cup, is under growing pressure to make sure that a large number

of its 45 million people as well as other parts of Africa share in the economic spoils of the tournament.

Mozambique is among the neighbouring nations pushing to host a base camp. The former Portuguese colony, whose capital Maputo is only about two hours from Nelspruit, one of the host cities, also hopes to lure World Cup tourists to its famed beaches.

The prospect that teams and their supporters could end up in smaller cities and towns or even neighbouring countries comes as South Africa speeds up construction and renovation of 10 soccer stadiums that will be used for the World Cup.

International soccer body FIFA had criticized local organizers for what was perceived to be a slow start by the host nation in its preparations but officials said last month that construction appeared to be back on track.— MNA/Reuters



Crewmembers of America's Cup challenger Areva Challenge of France wait for wind after the start their Round Robin 1 Flight 4 race was cancelled due to lack of wind at the Louis Vuitton Cup in Valencia on 23 April, 2007. — INTERNET

Brazilian player booked for kissing ref

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 April — A Brazilian defender was booked for kissing the referee during a match at the weekend.

Television pictures on Monday showed Cabofriense defender Cleberson giving referee Ubiraci Damasio a peck on the cheek after having a foul awarded against him during a 3-1 defeat by Botafogo at the Maracana.

The two were initially involved in a friendly exchange but the referee's mood quickly changed as he pulled out a yellow card and could be seen to say: "You can't kiss me."

"I didn't know it was against the rules," said Cleberson afterwards.

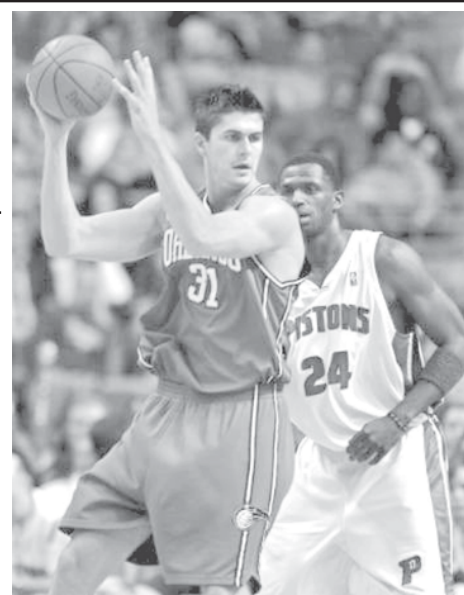
MNA/Reuters

Guidolin dismissed as Palermo coach

ROME, 24 April — Palermo have dismissed Francesco Guidolin as coach and appointed assistant Renzo Gobbo in his place, the Serie A club said on Monday.

Sunday's 4-3 defeat to relegation-threatened Parma proved the final straw for 51-year-old Guidolin, in his second stint at the Sicilian club after leading them to the top-flight in 2004.

Palermo started this season strongly and were considered possible title contenders but a loss of form, compounded by an injury to leading striker Amauri, has left them in danger of missing out on Europe next season.— MNA/Reuters



Orlando Magic forward Darko Milicic (L) is pressured by Detroit Pistons forward Antonio McDyess during the second half of Game 2 of their NBA Eastern Conference playoff game in Auburn Hills, Michigan on 23 April, 2007. —INTERNET

Mantilla wins on comeback after skin cancer

BARCELONA, 24 April — Felix Mantilla made a winning return to the ATP Tour at the Barcelona Open on Monday, 14 months after he was diagnosed with skin cancer.

The Spaniard, whose last match was a first-round defeat by Argentine Guillermo Coria at the 2005 US Open, beat Farrukh Dustov, a qualifier from Uzbekistan, 6-4, 1-6, 6-0 to reach the second round.

Ninth seed Dimitry Tursunov and number 10 Radek Stepanek both went out on a day when most of the cheers were reserved for 32-year-old Mantilla, who came through in glittering style in the city of his birth.

Mantilla missed the whole of 2006 and had played just one Challenger event in Italy this month before Monday's match.

The 1999 Barcelona Open champion's reward for his victory was a match with fellow Spaniard Carlos Moya, the former French Open champion and world number one.

"It's very special for me," Mantilla said. "I never expected it. The level of tennis is

so high now so to come back after 18 months and to play and win a match is a big surprise to me."

Mantilla was preparing for the 2006 season when doctors diagnosed skin cancer in a mole on his back. Had the cancer not been caught as early as it was, Mantilla said, there was a possibility he could have died within 12 months.

"I wanted to come back as I did not want to end (his career) that way," he said. "To win today is probably as big as winning a tournament for me — people probably don't realise that but it is true."

Russian Tursunov, seeded ninth, looked at sea as he was ousted 6-4, 6-4 by Spaniard Oscar Hernandez, the world number 98.

In the second round, Hernandez will now play German Benjamin Becker, who beat Russian Igor Kunitsyn 7-6, 6-4.

Stepanek's struggles continued as the 10th seed was beaten 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 by 33-year-old Romanian Andrei Pavel, who has slipped to 108 in the rankings.— MNA/Reuters

JPMorgan joins Dubai commodities exchange

ABU DHABI, 24 April — The US-based financial services firm JPMorgan has been approved as a broker clearing member of Dubai Gold and Commodities Exchange, local newspaper *Gulf News* reported on Monday.

The announcement of JPMorgan's joining in DGCX followed news that DGCX had just completed another record trading week in which over 36,000

contracts were traded at a notional value of more than 1.5 billion US dollars, the report said.

"With the exchange continuing to trade at record

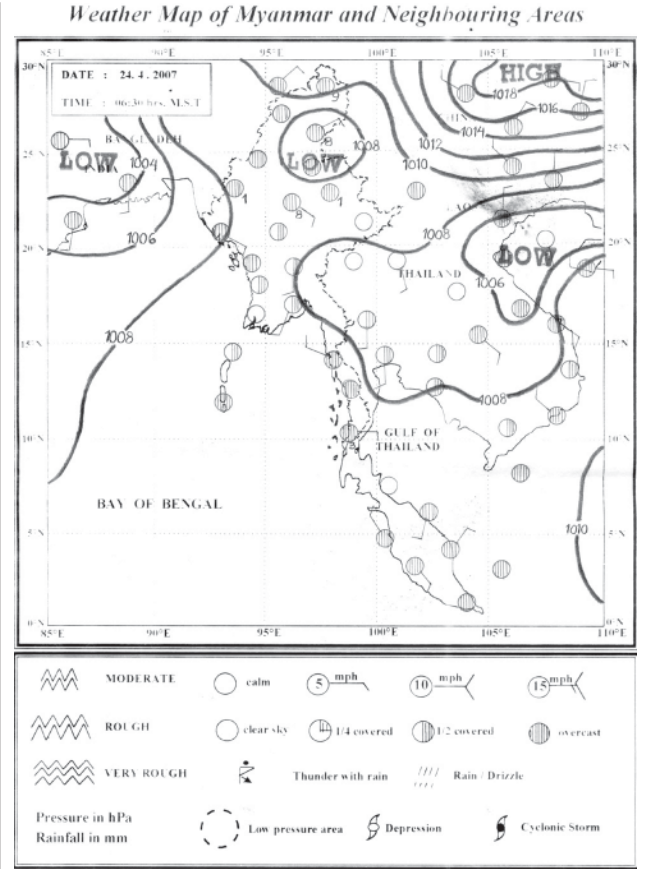
levels and with more exciting contracts in the pipeline ... the trading community is very much focused on Dubai and the DGCX. With JPMorgan on board and

committed to the DGCX we can only see our influence and importance increase," DGCX chairman Colin Griffith was quoted as saying.

The membership of DGCX will offer JPMorgan's clients "exciting opportunities in the commodity derivatives market" and is "another major step forward in the continued expansion of our commodities business," Jerome Kemp, global co-head of the company's futures and options business, said.

JPMorgan is one of the leaders in the futures and options brokerage business, offering clearing services in 68 global exchanges and electronic trading access to 36 of them.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Tuesday, 24 April, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, scattered in Mandalay Division, isolated in Chin, Shan and Rakhine States, lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan and Kayin States and Magway Division, (5°C) above normal in Rakhine State, (3°C) below normal in upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Chauk and Thayawady (43°C) each, Minbu and Magway (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maungdaw (1.89) inches, Pyin Oo Lwin (0.74) inch, Machanbaw (0.55) inch, Mawlaik (0.51) inch, Sagaing (0.47) inch, Putao (0.39) inch, Hsipaw, Myitkyina and Mandalay (0.32) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 23-4-2007 was 105°F. Minimum temperature on 24-4-2007 was 79°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 24-4-2007 was 69%. Total sunshine hours on 23-4-2007 was (9.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 24-4-2007 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 (11) mph from Southwest at (7:15) hours MST on 24-4-2007.

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 25-4-2007: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Chin, Northern Shan and North Rakhine States, Sagaing, Mandalay 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 isolated rain or thundershowers in the upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 25-4-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 25-4-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 25-4-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Bombers kill 23 in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 24 April — Suicide bombers killed 23 people in a series of attacks in Iraq on Monday, including one in a Baghdad restaurant near the heavily fortified Green Zone compound that killed three, Iraqi police said.

Near the northern city of Mosul, a suicide car bomb killed 10 people and wounded 20 in an attack on the office of a Kurdish political party, police said.

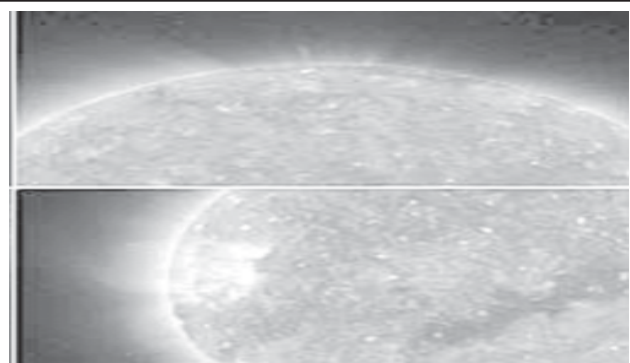
In the city of Baquba, a suicide car bomber rammed his vehicle into a police building, killing 10 people and wounding 10 others, police said.

Police in Baghdad said a suicide bomber had walked into the restaurant near the Green Zone in the mixed area of the Karradet

Mariam neighbourhood. They said 10 people were wounded.

A suicide bomber earlier this month killed one lawmaker and wounded

two dozen other people in an attack on Parliament inside the Green Zone. The compound houses various government buildings and embassies. — MNA/Reuters



NASA released the first three-dimensional images of our sun sent back from its twin Solar Terrestrial Relations Observatory (STEREO) spacecraft, according to media reports on 23 April, 2007. — INTERNET

Radio Myanmar

Wednesday, 25 April

Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Iron horse ... Motor head
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -I need you ... Gil
- 8:50 am National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Tarzan & Jane ... Toybox
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -Hey you ... Shakira
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music: -Too many lovers ... Crystal Gayle -Please be the one ... Reba
- 9:00 pm Variations on a tune "The end of the world" -The letter man -Claudine louget
- 9:15 pm Article
- 9:25 pm Music at your request
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Wednesday, 25 April View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌ ဂုရု၊ 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
- 7:55 am
 5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:05 am
 6. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:20 am
 7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:30 am
 8. International news
- 8:45 am
 9. Happy and Educational English Summer Course MRTV
- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
 3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (စီးပွားရေးပညာ အထူးပြု) (စီးပွားရေးပညာ)
- 4:45 pm
 4. Song of national races
- 5:00 pm
 5. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:10 pm
 6. Classical Song
- 5:20 pm
 7. ရှုဖွယ်စုံလင် အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်
- 5:30 pm
 8. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်
- 6:00 pm
 9. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
 10. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
 11. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညာဏ်ရှင်
- 7:05 pm
 12. Discovery
- 7:15 pm
 13. "မပြောမပြီးမတီးမမြည်" (နေရဲလင်း၊ မောင်မောင်မြင့်၊ ရှင်ဖုန်းအိမ်ချယ်၊ မိုးဇော်၊ နိုင်ဆူသွယ်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်မောင်မြင့်)
- 7:35 pm
 14. အာဆီယံနိုင်ငံအချင်းချင်း ပေါင်းစပ်ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း
- 8:00 pm
 15. News
 16. International news
 17. Weather report
 18. "ကံ...ကံ၏အကျိုး" (ကျော်သူ၊ ရီလေယံ၊ မေသဉ္ဇာဦး၊ မြတ်ကေသီအောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်နှင်းမိုး)
 19. The next day's programme

*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

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein received Mr Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and party at the State Peace and Development Council Office here today.

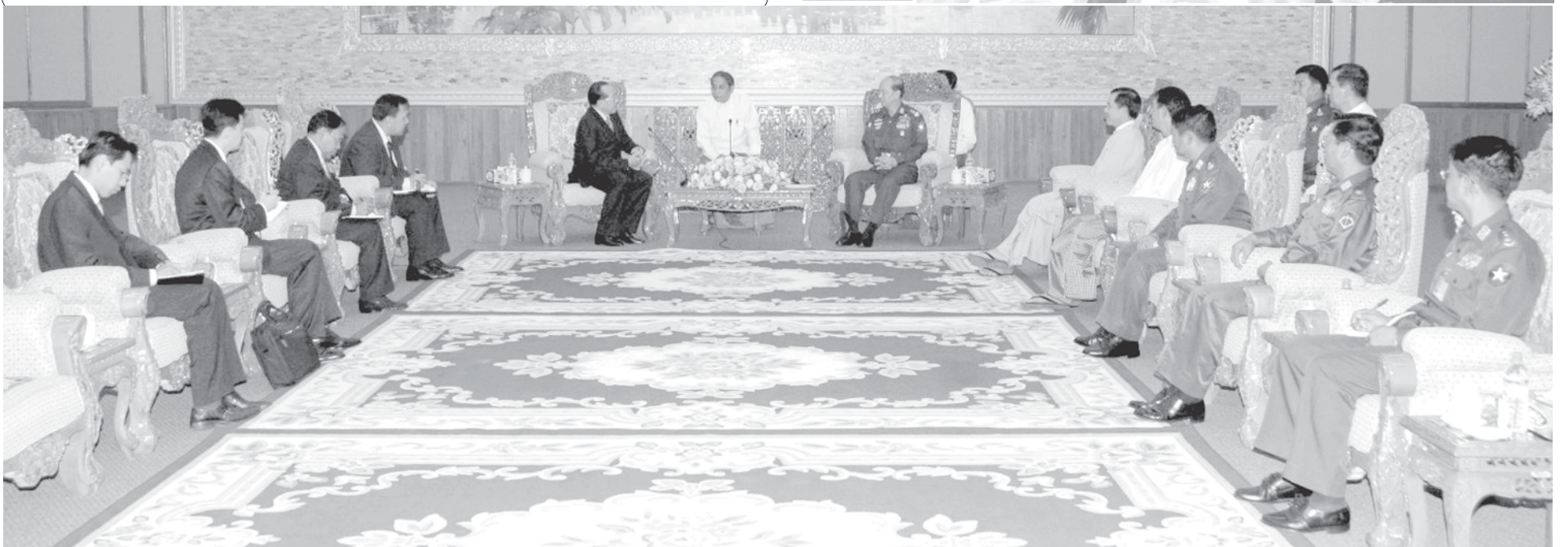
Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha,

Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin, Director-General of the Protocol Department U Kyaw Kyaw and Ambassador of Cambodia to Myanmar Mr Hul Phany. After the meeting, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Mr Hor Namhong posed for a documentary photo. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives Mr Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Kingdom of Cambodia, and party in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein welcomes Mr Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Kingdom of Cambodia, in Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA



Roads opened to mark First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement

YANGON, 24 April—Newly-constructed tarred roads were put into commission to mark the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement here this morning.

The opening of the tarred road on Kaingdan Street in Lanmadaw Township here took place at the junction of Anawrahta and Kaingdan streets. Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Yangon Division Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee Chairman Yangon Command Deputy Commander Col Kyaw Kyaw Tun and Chairman of the committee for construction of the road U Myo Khaing formally opened the facility.

The 760 feet long and 24 feet wide road was built

with the contributions of the people and the YCDC.

The commander, the mayor and the deputy commander also attended the inauguration of the 580-foot-long and 18-foot-wide tarred road section of 16th Street (Lower) at the junction of Maha Bandoola Street and 16th Street in Lanmadaw.

They attended the ceremony to unveil the billboard to mark the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement at the corner of Shwedagon Pagoda Road and Bogyoke Aung San Street in Pabedan Township. The commander formally unveiled the billboard.

Later in the morning, the mayor addressed the ceremony to mark the movement of No 2 BEHS in Latha Township. It was organized by the Yangon Division Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee.

MNA

INSIDE

If we can upgrade a species with five-year durability to last fifteen years, we can reduce cost for consumers and help preserve valuable resources of the nation. Painting a house or timber fences with oil dreg annually and covering the top of fence posts with tin sheets are easiest techniques to lengthen the durability of a species.



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RECTOR U WIN KYI 1