NAY PYI TAW, 29 April — Mr Antonio de Faria E Maya, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Portugal to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, Nay Pyi Taw at 10:00 am today. Present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.— MNA

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PERSPECTIVES
Thursday, 30 April, 2009

Work towards a modern developed nation

The goal of the entire people of Myanmar is emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation and therefore they are working in concert with the government to realize their goal.

Nowadays, as the border areas development project, the special development project and the rural development project are being implemented in each and every region of the nation, there have been remarkable improvements in transport, education, health, economy and security, especially in the border regions.

Shan State (East) is the easternmost region of the nation and has common borders with neighbouring countries. This being so, it is a strategic area for regional relations and security. In the past, Kengtung and its environs lacked peace and security owing to frequent outbreaks of fighting among national races, a legacy left by the divide-and-rule policy of the colonialists.

Border areas where reports of guns and blasts of bombs were quite common in the past are now able to keep pace with inner regions of the Union as far as development is concerned. It is mainly due to prevalence of peace and stability, unity and amity among national races and their united efforts. Without sticking to any isms, all the national races should cultivate Union Spirit and try their level best to maintain such favourable environments as the rule of law and community peace.

The government has been steadfastly working towards a new democratic nation the entire people have longed for in line with the seven-step Road Map. And as the constitution has been approved by the vast majority of national people, elections are going to be held in the year 2010.

A peaceful, modern and developed nation will surely emerge in the near future if the national brethren of the Union continue working, hand in hand with the government, towards their cherished goal.
Australia to send extra troops to Afghanistan

Canberra, 29 April—Australia will send an extra 330 soldiers to Afghanistan, responding to an appeal from close ally the United States for more troops to combat Taliban militants, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said on Wednesday.

The troops and a small number of police would help train Afghan security forces and secure presidential elections in August, Rudd said.

They would bring Australia’s military contingent in the country to around 1,550, making it the largest contributor outside the NATO alliance.

“Australia will not bow to the threat of terrorism in Afghanistan. We will continue to stand by our American ally in confronting this threat,” Rudd told reporters in Canberra.

Australia, a close Washington ally, was an original member of the US-led coalition that arrived in Afghanistan in 2001 tooust the Taliban and al Qaeda fighters. But with 10 Australian soldiers killed in Afghanistan since 2001, public support has began to wane.

An Australian National University poll on Wednesday found 53 per cent support for Australian participation in the war.—Internet

10 rebels killed, two suspects detained near Afghan capital

Kabul, 29 April—Afghan troops on Wednesday backed by the US-led Coalition forces killed 10 militants and detained two suspects in a battle that erupted during a patrol in Logar Province, some 60 km south from Afghan capital Kabul, said a Coalition statement.

The combined forces patrolled to a village in Baraki Barak district where intelligence sources had indicated Taliban operatives were gathered while they encountered enemy forces on route to the targeted compounds, the statement said.

It added that an estimated 10 militants were killed during the battle and two suspects were arrested as the combined forces searched the targeted compounds.—Internet

Iraqi security forces arrest suspected car bombers

Baghdad, 29 April—Iraq’s Interior Ministry said on Tuesday that Iraqi security forces arrested a policeman and six suspected al-Qaeda members who were involved in car bombings in Baghdad earlier this month.

The suspected group is responsible for some 27 attacks, including car bombings, stealing cars and killing their drivers to use their cars in bombings, Interior Ministry spokesman Maj Gen Abdul Kareem Khalaf told reporters.

Khalaf said that three of the captured were arrested in Baghdad and the rest in Iraq’s western province of Anbar.—Internet

First US death from Swine Flu reported

President Barack Obama confirmed the first death outside of Mexico from swine flu on Wednesday, as the number of confirmed cases of the disease continued to rise in Europe.

Dr. Richard Besser, acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said on Wednesday in an interview that the first American death of the disease was a 23-month-old child in Texas. He gave no other details about the child.—Internet

Costs soar for Iraqi military training

Baghdad, 29 April—Iraq is falling far behind schedule in creating a system to maintain its own military equipment, costing American taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars to fill in the gaps, according to a new US audit.

Some of the fundamental worries among American commanders as they left the US military exit Iraq from the end of 2011: Will Iraqi security forces be able to handle tasks as basic as keeping their vehicles on the road? The US has spent billions of dollars to develop Iraq’s security forces with an emphasis in recent years on developing Iraq’s maintenance and supply capabilities—seen as essential for the country to maintain a self-sufficient force after the lifeline from Washington is trimmed back. It’s part of the Pentagon’s wide-ranging plans to train and upgrade Iraqi security forces from street-level police units and rebuild Iraqi naval and air power.

But the audit—by the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction—found a pattern of negligence and shortcomings by the Iraqi military in planning for the basic needs of the military: repairing and maintaining equipment and supplying troops.—Internet

Residents chant slogans as they demonstrate in Kut, 150 km (95 miles) southeast of Baghdad, on 27 April, 2009. Hundreds of Iraqis protested against US forces on Sunday after US soldiers killed a policeman and a woman in an overnight raid that was condemned by the provincial governor.—Internet

Israeli PM will bend on Palestinian state

Jerusalem, 29 April—Israel’s defence minister said in an interview published on Tuesday that he expects Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to agree to the principle of Palestinian statehood—something the Israeli leader has balked at doing since taking office a month ago.

Netanyahu is coming under increasing pressure from Washington to resume peacemaking with the Palestinians, a process designed ultimately to create a Palestinian state that would live alongside Israel peacefully within fixed borders.

In what could be seen as a mild slap from the US, Israel’s ceremonial President, Shimon Peres, will meet President Barack Obama next week, before Netanyahu travels to Washington in mid-May. A statement from Peres’ office said he would attend next week’s conference of AIPAC, the pro-Israel lobby, and meet Obama.

Peres, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, is a world-renowned Mideast peacemaker, while Netanyahu has a hawkish reputation. Netanyahu took office on 31 March amid predictions of a clash with the Obama administration over peacemaking.—Internet

Blood-stained stretchers are seen after victims of a suicide bombing were brought into the Kazimiyah hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, on 24 April, 2009.—Internet
**Sinopec’s net profit rises 85.1% in Q1**

BEIJING, 29 April — China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Sinopec) reported on Tuesday that its net profit in the first quarter rose 85.1 percent year on year, because of lower international crude oil prices and adjusted refined oil prices on the domestic market.

Net profit totaled 11.219 billion yuan (1.64 billion US dollars) in the first quarter, due to the country’s adjusted refined oil pricing mechanism since the beginning of this year, the company said in a statement to the Shanghai and Hong Kong stock markets.

Sinopec saw its net profit drop by 69 percent to about 6 billion yuan in the first three months of 2008 because of China’s price ceilings on refined oil products and global oil price rises.

The slump in the international crude oil prices has given a positive boost to the performance of Sinopec, the country’s top refiner, as the government launched the new pricing mechanism for refined products in 2009, which ensured profits of oil refiners, despite the still weak demand in the domestic market.

The company predicted its net profit for the first half of 2009 would increase by more than 50 percent year on year.

In contrast, PetroChina Company Limited, reported on Monday its net profit in the first quarter slid 35.3 percent year on year to 18.956 billion yuan, pulled down by the low price of crude oil and less demand.

PetroChina is the leading oil producer of China, with most crude oil it refined produced by the company itself, while Sinopec has over 70 percent of its crude oil imported.—Internet

**India’s Bharti Airtel Q4 profit jumps 21 pct**

MUMBAI, 29 April — India’s top mobile phone company Bharti Airtel reported Wednesday that fourth-quarter net profit jumped by 21 percent year on year, boosted by a rise in the number of cellular phone users.

For the full year, the New Delhi-based company announced a 26 percent jump in net profit to 84.69 billion rupees (1.68 billion dollars) on a 37 percent increase in revenues to 369.61 billion rupees.

Net profit for the three months to March 31 rose to 22.39 billion rupees from 18.5 billion rupees in the same period last year as revenues grew 26 percent to 98.2 billion rupees, the company said.

The firm based its figures on US accounting standards.—Internet

**Egypt puts the bite on Gaza tunnel smugglers**

RAFAH, 29 April — Once a profitable business, Abu Abdallah’s tunnel under the border between Egypt and the Gaza Strip has been out of work for three weeks due to an Egyptian security crackdown on smuggling.

The Palestinian network of some 3,000 tunnels, created to thwart Israel’s blockade of the coastal territory ruled by Hamas Islamists, was reduced to hundreds by bombing during Israel’s three-week offensive in January.

Now Egyptian police efforts are also biting into Gaza’s underground supply system, which supplements the tightly restricted flow of aid commodities allowed in by the Israelis.

“Tunnel business has dropped to 20 percent of what it was before the war on Gaza because of Israeli destruction and the stepped-up security campaign by Egypt,” said Abu Abdallah.

The Egyptian effort was “more effective” than Israeli bombs, he said. They not only blow up the tunnels but also stop contraband goods reaching Egyptian cities near Gaza. —Internet

**US stocks trade flat as upbeat economic data offset flu concerns**

NEW YORK, 29 April — Wall Street traded flat on Tuesday, as bigger-than-expected increase in consumer confidence and a slower drop in home prices offset concerns about the swine flu outbreak and the banking industry.

The US Conference Board, an economic research group, said its consumer confidence index rose to 39.2 in April, up from a revised 26.9 in March. The reading marks the highest level since November and surpasses the reading of 29.5 economists had expected.

Moreover, the Standard & Poor’s Case-Shiller index showed home prices in 20 major cities tumbled by 18.6 percent in February from a year ago. It is the first time the index didn’t set a record since January 2007 and was slightly better than January’s 19 percent decline.

Airlines stocks still got hammered on Tuesday on fears that worried travelers would stay home, as the deadly swine flu virus is rampant in Mexico.

Banking stocks were traded lower after the US government said Bank of America Corp and Citigroup Inc may need more capital.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 8.05 points, or 0.10 percent, to 8,016.95. The Standard & Poor’s 500 index dropped 2.35 points, or 0.27 percent, to 855.16. The Nasdaq composite index fell 5.60 points, or 0.33 percent, to 1,673.81.—Internet

**Mexico City swine flu losses at $57 million a day**

MEXICO CITY, 29 April — A leading business group estimates that canceled events and closure of movie theaters, night clubs, museums and other establishments to prevent the spread of swine flu is costing Mexico City at least $77 million pesos ($57 million) a day.

Arturo Mendicuti, president of the city’s Chamber of Trade, Services and Tourism, says the figure represents a 36 percent drop in revenue generated by tourism and services in the Mexican capital.—Internet

**Boats are seen docked during the Boat Asia show in Singapore, on 23 April, 2009. Luxury boat makers are trying to survive the global financial storm by slashing prices and creating bargains for millionaires looking to play off Asia’s coastlines.** —INTERNET
**Expo will lift nation’s economy: top city official**

BEIJING, 29 April— The 2010 World Expo in Shanghai, the largest metropolis and an economic powerhouse in eastern China, will spur the nation’s economy at a time when the global financial crisis has not yet bottomed out, according to a top city official. The six-month expo, due to open in May next year, will lift China’s economy, with investments and employment opportunities, boosting consumption in the tourism and commerce sectors, Shanghai’s Party Chief Yu Zhengsheng, who is also the vice-chairman of the expo’s organizing committee, was quoted by Wednesday’s China Daily as saying. “This year, ahead of the expo, is going to be very critical and we are actively pushing our preparations for the massive event in an orderly manner,” he said. Most foreign participants have started constructing their exhibition halls, and by the end of this year, all the landmark venues for the expo, such as the China Pavilion and the Expo Center, will complete construction, Yu said. The metropolis is also on track to finish construction of its tunnels, rails and roads well in time for the event, and will continue with its efforts to improve the environment around the expo venue, he said.—Xinhua

**10 dead, dozens injured in California tour bus crash**

LOS ANGELES, 29 April— At least 10 people were killed and dozens more injured on Tuesday when a tour bus carrying French tourists crashed on a highway in California, hospital officials said.—Xinhua

**At least 10 people were killed and dozens more injured on Tuesday when a tour bus carrying French tourists crashed on a highway in California, hospital officials said.—Xinhua**

**Five suspected cases of swine flu found in Austria**

VIENNA, 29 April— Five suspected cases of swine flu had been found in Austria by Tuesday evening and the final result will not be available until Wednesday, Austrian Health Minister Alois Stoeger said on Tuesday.

Stoeger told a press conference that there are four patients in capital Vienna, whose test results for swine flu (H1N1) showed positive.

**US confirmed swine flu cases rise to 64, five hospitalized**

WASHINGTON, 29 April— The number of confirmed human swine flu cases in the United States has risen to 64, with at least five patients having been hospitalized, a health official said on Tuesday.

“I fully expect we will see deaths from this infection,” as swine flu cases are investigated, said Richard Besser, acting director of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta (CDC). According to Besser, the hospitalizations include three in California and two in Texas. Their ages range from seven to 54.—Xinhua

**Spain confirms 2nd case of swine flu**

MADRID, 29 April— Spain’s Health and Social Policy Minister Trinidad Jimenez confirmed on Tuesday the second case of swine flu infection in the country.

The patient is a 24-year-old male student from University of Valencia, who made a study trip to Mexico with another student from Almansa (Albacete), who was the first confirmed case of swine flu in Spain. Health authorities said that both infected men are out of risk and are recovering at hospitals.—Xinhua

**Three more die of swine flu in Mexico City, authorities say measures working**

MEXICO CITY, 29 April— Three more people died in the last 24 hours of swine flu, Mexico City officials told a Tuesday press conference, adding that local authorities had ordered the closure of more public places. The total number of deaths in the city believed to be related to swine flu is now 25, while 89 people are in hospital with swine-flu symptoms, said Armando Ahued Ortega, head of the city’s health department. He said that 31 people had been hospitalized on Monday while 14 had been discharged from hospital.—Xinhua

**Total confirmed swine flu cases rise to 13 in Canada**

OTTAWA, 29 April— Canada reported seven more confirmed cases of swine flu on Tuesday, bringing the total number of cases in the country to 13.

All the new cases are mild ones, with four in Ontario, one in British Columbia and two in Alberta, health officials said. All the Ontario cases were found in the Toronto area and have been linked to Mexican travel, David Williams, the province’s acting chief medical officer of health told a news conference in Toronto.

The illnesses so far appear to be mild and “it’s like flu season continuing,” he said.—Xinhua

**New York City-sized ice collapses off Antarctica**

BEIJING, 29 April— A New York City-sized Antarctic ice shelf has broken into icebergs this month after the collapse of an ice bridge widely blamed on global warming, a scientist said on Tuesday. “The northern ice front of the Wilkins Ice Shelf has become unstable and the first icebergs have been released,” Angelika Humbert, glaciologist at the University of Muenster in Germany, said of European Space Agency satellite images of the shelf. Humbert told Reuters about 700 sq km (270.3 sq mile) of ice — bigger than Singapore or Bahrain and almost the size of New York City — has broken off the Wilkins this month and shattered into a mass of icebergs. She said 370 sq kms of ice had cracked up in recent days from the shelf, the latest of about 10 shelves on the Antarctic Peninsula to retreat in a trend linked by the UN Climate Panel to global warming. The new icebergs added to 330 sq kms of ice that broke up earlier this month with the shattering of an ice bridge apparently pinning the Wilkins in place between Charcot island and the Antarctic Peninsula.

**Soldiers sneak up onto the “hijacked” plane in the anti-hijacking exercise held at Tianhe Airport in Wuhan, capital of central China’s Hubei Province, on 28 April, 2009.—Xinhua**

**All items from Xinhua News Agency**

**Xinhua**
Russian ship seizes 29 suspected pirates

MOSCOW, 29 April—Russian news agencies, citing the nation’s Defence Ministry, say a Russian warship has seized a vessel with 29 suspected pirates on board near the coast of Somalia.

RIA Novosti and other agencies say a Russian anti-submarine vessel seized the ship on Tuesday along with automatic rifles, pistols and ammunition found on board.

The reports say a Russian tanker fended off an attack by the same group earlier Tuesday.

Russia and other nations patrol the region as part of an international effort to deter pirate hijackings in the busy shipping lane off the Somali coast.— Internet

Seychelles security officers lead a suspected Somali pirate (C) off a Seychelles coast guard vessel in the capital Victoria, on 28 April, 2009. A Spanish warship has arrested nine suspected pirates believed to be behind an attack on an Italian cruise ship and handed them over to Seychelles, the head of an anti-piracy taskforce said on Tuesday.— Internet

Attacks kill seven Mexican police in Tijuana

TIJUANA, 29 April—Seven police officers were assassinated in about an hour’s time in what authorities said on Tuesday was a coordinated effort that followed months of relative calm in a border city stricken by drug-fueled violence. Two other officers and a convenience-store employee were injured.

Several people were held briefly for questioning after Monday night’s attacks and released, said Jose Manuel Yepiz, spokesman for the Baja California state attorney general’s office.

“There is very strong indignation in the police,” Julian Leyzaola, Tijuana’s public safety secretary, told a news conference. “We do not know the motive. We do not know where these attacks come from.

After four officers were killed by gunfire outside the convenience store, police officers hummed with “narcocorridos,” or drug ballads. One voice threatened over the airwaves that 30 officers would be killed.

Obamas wants to work closely with India

WASHINGTON, 29 April—As President Barack Obama completes his first 100 days in office this week, his top aide Tuesday said the recent actions by the US indicates that it wants to work closely with India as a partner in addressing the “increasingly dire” situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Karl F Inderfurth, a Democrat and South Asian expert, said there are “encouraging signs” to show that Obama Administration is keen to build on the foundation laid by his predecessors Bill Clinton and George W. Bush and take the Indo-US relationship to the next level.

“The meeting between Obama and the Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on the sidelines of the London G-20 Summit early this month was an important one,” Inderfurth, who served as Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs during Bill Clinton’s regime, told PTI in an interview.

“(It the meeting) demonstrated that the United States fully recognizes the role India plays on the world economic scene,” he said.

MNA/PTI

Leopard population declines fast in E India

The leopard population in eastern India has been declining fast with 44 leopards killed in the eastern state of Assam in the past three years alone, said the local daily Mail Today on Saturday.

A non-government organization called Aaranyak has been conducting research in 30 forest divisions of Assam for over one year and it has found that most of the casualties were felines which strayed into human habitations and were killed by the villagers, said the report.

Lack of awareness for protecting the animals, destruction of natural habitat, little or no compensation for killing animals, declining prey base and a demand for leopard parts such as skins have led to a 50 percent decline of the leopard population over the past one decade, according to the report.

The Indian leopard, a very famous member of the big cats family in the country, is now regarded as a threatened, if not endangered specie by animal protection groups.

Leopard targets: 100cs

One of the biggest threats to the leopard’s survival is the threat of poaching and attacks by villagers, who kill them for their skins and body parts as they come too close to human settlements. According to a recent study by the Wildlife Institute of India, poaching and human-wildlife conflict were the main reasons for the decline in the leopard population.

Another major threat is the shrinking of the leopard’s habitat due to encroachment by human settlements. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species categorizes the leopard as a vulnerable species, indicating that it may face extinction in the near future unless effective conservation measures are taken.

The government of India has launched several initiatives to protect the leopard, including the creation of special reserves and the implementation of anti-poaching measures. However, more needs to be done to address the root causes of the leopard’s decline.

Smog linked to inducing asthma in children

Childhood asthma rates could increase as much as 30 percent with exposure to higher levels of traffic-related air pollution, a California study suggests.

The study, published in the journal Environmental Health Perspectives, is the latest to come from the Southern California Children’s Health Study, a project pioneered by the Air Resources Board in 1990s.

The eight-year study followed 217 non-asthmatic children from a wide area of Southern California. Home air monitors allowed scientists to compare the children’s exposure to air pollution and newly diagnosed cases of asthma.

Live shark left outside office

A live shark dumped on the doorstep of an Australian country newspaper office had local police puzzled on Thursday, with authorities vowing to charge the person who left it with animal cruelty.

The juvenile Port Jackson shark, which measured around 70 centimeters in length, was left in darkness outside the office at Warrnambool, on the coast of southeast Victoria state.

“We arrived and poured some water on it just to see if it was still breathing and it kicked around for a little while, Constable Jarrod Dwyer told state radio.

“I walked over to McDonalds and borrowed a bucket off them and filled it up with water, and we picked the shark up and put it inside and then drove it down to the breakwater and released it back into the water,” he said.

-packed

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MMCWA 19th annual meeting continues

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—The 19th annual meeting of MMCWA continues for second day.—MNA

Dr Daw Nan Thuzar presents annual reports (2008) of Shan State (South) MCWSC.
MNA

Dr Daw Nan Kein Phaung Tint presents annual reports (2008) of Shan State (North) MCWSC.—MNA

The 19th annual meeting of MMCWA continues for second day.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—The annual meeting of the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association went on for the second day at its office here this morning, attended by MMCWA President Daw Khin Saw Hnin.

MMCWA Vice-President Daw Aye Aye presided over the meeting.

MCWSC Dr Daw Khin San Lwin presented respective annual reports (2008). Vice-President Daw Aye Aye assessed the reports.

Director-General Dr Tun Naing Oo of the Department of Medical Research (Central Myanmar) under the Ministry of Health chaired the paper reading session.

The secretaries of state and division MCWSC read papers on health.

The meeting chairperson added some facts to the reports.

Also present on the occasion were CEC members, and joint-secretaries.

The meeting continues tomorrow. MNA

150th founding anniversary of Yadanabon Mandalay to be marked

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—The 150th founding anniversary of Yadanabon Mandalay will be marked on a grand scale from 14 to 18 May.

Literary competition (basic education, higher education and open levels) will be held at University of Mandalay and No 14 Basic Education High School, book show and book sale festival at Yadanapura Hall, painting, sculpture, gold embroidery, Myanmar arts and photo shows at Mandalay City Hall, Myanmar cane ball and Myanmar martial arts at Shwemantaung sports ground, Myanmar traditional boxing at Bahtoo Stadium, bodybuilding and physical culture and Myanmar traditional fashion contest at the National Theatre. Entertainment programmes will be held at National Theater from 30 April to 3 May. Five modern music bands will perform entertainment programmes during the festival days of 14 to 18 May. Documentary movies, drama and Anyeint will be presented every night during the festival days.

Starting from 28 April, paper reading sessions were held and 19 resource persons will read out the papers up to 30 April.—MNA

Discussion on Protecting Older People: Cyclone Nargis One Year On held

YANGON, 29 April—Discussion on Protecting Older People: Cyclone Nargis One Year On, organized by Help Age International, was held at the Ballroom of Traders Hotel here this morning.

It was attended by governmental and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), UN agencies, donors and guests.

Regional representative Mr Eduarodo Klien of Help Age International Asia/Pacific explained matters on findings after storm Nargis and work to be done.

Deputy Director-General U Aung Tun Khang of Social Welfare Department discussed the matters on rehabilitation and reconstruction in storm-hit regions undertaken by the government, elder care being undertaken by Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. Those present took part in the discussions on basic requirements of older people in storm-hit regions and works to be fulfilled. Afterwards, responsible persons replied to the queries raised by those present.—MNA

Cookery and bakery course opened

YANGON, 29 April—The Rehabilitation and Reintegration Working Group of the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation conducted the cookery and bakery course at the Institute of Social Welfare under the Social Welfare Department in Mayangon Township here yesterday noon.

Leader of the working group Daw Tin Tin Nwe explained facts about the MWAF and cottage industries and formally opened the course.

Fifty women from Mayangon Township attended the course that continued today. MNA

Discussion on Protecting Older People: Cyclone Nargis One Year On in Progress at Traders Hotel.—SWD

Discussion on Protecting Older People: Cyclone Nargis One Year On held at National Theater from 30 April to 3 May. Five modern music bands will perform entertainment programmes during the festival days of 14 to 18 May. Documentary movies, drama and Anyeint will be presented every night during the festival days.
YANGON, 29 April—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the coordination meeting of management committee for industrial zones in Yangon Division at the meeting hall of Yangon Command Headquarters, here, yesterday afternoon.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe urged officials concerned to render assistance in the drive for development of industrial sector in Yangon Division and to carry out the tasks for the improvement of agro-based industrial sector.

Next, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin gave supplementary reports on requirements of the work.

Afterwards, chairmen of management committees for industrial zones, officials concerned and industrialists briefed Lt-Gen Myint Swe on sector-wise measures and requirements of the work.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and the mayor attended to the needs. The meeting then ended with the concluding remarks made by Lt-Gen Myint Swe.

ASEAN Fashion Plus Fair to be held

YANGON, 29 April—The ASEAN Fashion Plus Fair and Bangkok International Fashion Fair and Bangkok International Leather Fair 2009 (BIFF and BIL 2009) will be held in Bangkok, Thailand from 13 to 16 August.

Cloth, clothing cosmetics and jewellery as well as other finished goods can be put on display at the fair. Seminars for cooperation and investment will also be held.

Exhibitors from Myanmar may contact the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry dialing 214344-49.—MNA

Tobacco Kills

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—Mr Antonio de Faria E Maya, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Portugal to the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw. (News on page 1)—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Mr Antonio de Faria E Maya, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Portugal to the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw. (News on page 1)—MNA

Taungyamachaung (Wetkhok) Bridge opened

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—Taungyamachaung (Wetkhok) Bridge was opened in Yesagyo Township on 27 April.

The bridge lies on Pathein-Monywa Road (Kazunma-Monywa section).

Also present were Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and local people.

The commander spoke on the occasion and the deputy minister reported on the bridge.

The commander and guests greeted those present at the ceremony.

The commander and the deputy minister formally opened the bridge and unveiled the stone plaque. The RC Bailey bridge can withstand 13 tons of loads.—MNA
Article and essay competitions (open) to mark World Environment Day

YANGON, 29 April—The National Commission for Environmental Conservation will hold article and essay competitions (open) with the 2009 motto of "Your Planet Needs You—Unite to Combat Climate Change" as a gesture of hailing World Environment Day.

Every world people need to pay special attention to climate change, to take more cooperative measures in UN conventions on climate change, to reduce carbon dioxide emission, to make more invest in the environmental conservation technology, to preserve natural environment that can absorb carbon, to control carbon dioxide emitted from industries and other services and to combat the climate change problems in cooperation with world nations.

The competitors must write at least 10 pages of A4 size for the articles and 7 pages of A4 size for the essays with the use of computer (With-Inwaw Font size 17 or Myanmar Unicode Myanmar 2 Font size 17 Line Spacing 1.5 Lines).

Hansome prizes will be presented to winners at the ceremony of marking World Environment Day 2009.

Articles and essays attached with the name of the competitor, national registration card and complete address are to be sent to the National Commission for Environmental Conservation Office No 28, Nay Pyi Taw not later than 22 May.—MNA

Use of Bio batteries demonstrated in An Township

NAI PYI TAW, 29 April — Chairman of Rakshine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Than Shwe met with local people in Gaelaung Village-tract at Gaelaung model village in An Township on 27 April and demonstrated the ways for making bio batteries.

After the meeting, the commander and the minister presented books, clothes, journals, magazines, LED fluorescent lamps and bio batteries to the villagers through officials concerned.—MNA

Vice-Mayor inspects preventive measures against DHF

YANGON, 29 April — Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa today inspected preventive measures against Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever being carried out in Yankin Township in Yangon East District.

At the Township Executive Office Office, the officials reported to the vice-mayor on progress work in preventive measures against DHF, households of the township and drinking water supply.

Next, he looked into sanitation work being carried out by the Health Department of YCDC and Mayangon townships today.—MNA

Electric Power -2 Minister visits electricity supply tasks in Muse

NAI PYI TAW, 29 April—Minister for Electric Power No.2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myant, on 26 April, inspected Switch Yard, being constructed to supply electricity to Namkham, Muse and environs with electricity from Shweli hydropower plant and gave instructions on timely completion of tasks and safety of workers.

The minister visited 66/11 KV (5) MVA Namkham sub power station and heard reports on matters related to the sub power station on 27 April.

Out of the whole project, construction of control building has been completed by 80 percent, switch yard, 10 percent and electrical installation 100 percent, and electricity will be supplied to Namkham, Muse and Kyugok (Pansai).

The minister then met with staff and attended to the need and tasks undertaken. In Namkham, the minister gave instructions on plans for supply of electricity from Shweli-Namkham-Muse66 KV power grid.

The minister visited Muse District Electrical Engineers’ Office, township Electrical Engineers’ Office and 66/11 KV(10) MVA Muse sub power station. —MNA

Toll gate fees to be paid from No 3 Junction of Yangon-Mandalay Expressway to Nay Pyi Taw C Junction beginning 30-4-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kinds of vehicles</th>
<th>from No 3 Junction to Pyu</th>
<th>from Pyu to Nay Pyi Taw</th>
<th>from No 3 Junction to Nay Pyi Taw</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles under 1 ton</td>
<td>K 1,500</td>
<td>K 1,000</td>
<td>K 2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles under 3 tons</td>
<td>K 3,000</td>
<td>K 2,000</td>
<td>K 5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles under 5 tons</td>
<td>K 4,500</td>
<td>K 3,000</td>
<td>K 7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles under 10 tons</td>
<td>K 7,500</td>
<td>K 5,000</td>
<td>K 12,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Public Works Ministry of Construction
Information Minister attends opening of libraries, meets locals in Meiktila District

Importance of peace and stability stressed

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meets with officials of district/township departments, social organizations members and local people of 11 village-tracts and 14 wards in Shante Village, Meiktila Township.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attends opening of Pyithu Alinyaung library in Thagara village, Thazi Township.—MNA

Minister Kyaw Myint meets with the President of the China Medical Board (CMB) and other related universities under the Medical Science Department and cooperation between them.

Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers for Health Dr Maung Maung and Dr Paing Soe, directors-general, the rector of the University of Medicine -1 (Yangon), directors and officials concerned.

10 THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 30 April, 2009
Yaypon Bridge inaugurated... (from page 16)

In his speech, the commander said that Yaypon Bridge, which is important for Taninthayi Division, is the 224th bridges among 180-foot and above long bridge across the nation and the 9th bridge in the division. Construction of bridges one after another indicates the status of the State, skills and innovations of Myanmar engineers, unity and strength of the entire people. Taninthayi Division is important one for national economic sector as oil palm, rubber, areca palm and cashew thrive in the division. Thanks to completion of Yaypon Bridge, it contributes to development of education, social and health sectors, thereby facilitating smooth transport and swift flow of goods between Taninthayi Division and other regions. Besides, transport between Taninthayi Division and other states and divisions has become smoother due to the newly-built bridges. Thanks to inauguration of Yaypon Bridge, raw materials and manufactured goods of agro-based industries, fisheries and cottage industries in Dawei District and Taninthayi Division can be transported to other regions at a low cost within a short time.

Local people will enjoy the fruits of education, health and social sectors through better transport.

The commander concluded his speech, calling for systemic use and maintenance of development infrastructures including newly-opened Yaypon Bridge implemented by the State for the benefits of posterity.

Next, the managing director briefed facts about the bridge and a local spoke words of thanks.

Afterwards, they opened the bridge and posed for a documentary photo together with departmental officials and guests.

Then, they sprinkled scented water on the stone inscriptions of the bridge and strolled along the bridge.

MNA

Warning on global human flu

1. Swine flu in humans: Swine flu has been detected in the people in Mexico, the US, Canada and New Zealand from 17 to 25 April 2009. There were over 1,300 cases and over 80 were killed.

2. The flu is caused by a new virus. It is mixed with four genes and can spread quickly. Now there are cases of such flu in some countries. Regarding the disease, the World Health Organization announced that it is international public health State of emergency. The Ministry of Health is undertaking preventive measures against transmitting to humans through avian flu. In some countries there was an outbreak of swine flu among the people. The Ministry of Health is carrying out the tasks to fight against the disease.

3. The symptoms of swine flu are body heat, runny nose, coughing, aching, headache, lethargy, difficult breathing. They are like the symptoms of other diseases. If these symptoms appear, do not go to crowded public places such as work and schools. Take a rest at home. Make contact with the nearest health centres. Go to the hospital when one has high fever, long coughing, difficult breathing and lethargy. If the disease is serious, go to the hospital immediately. Wear surgical masks in order not to spread the disease.

4. It is found that the disease spread from people to people. Like SARS, it can become a pandemic. Therefore, the people are requested to keep in mind the following points.

(a) Using handkerchief when coughing
(b) Wash the hands with soap properly
(c) Carrying out personal hygiene measures
(d) Sleeping well
(e) Eating nutritious food
(f) Taking exercises
(g) Breathing fresh air

5. In order to prevent flu infection, those who take care of the people infected with flu, wear surgical masks.

6. The Ministry of Health has made arrangements for prevention of the spread of such flu from other countries. News and information will be announced in time and the people are requested to follow the notice of the ministry.

MNA

Opening ceremony of Yaypon Bridge in progress.—MNA

Informative seminar on swine flu held

YANGON, 29 April—An informative seminar on swine flu, jointly organized by Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), was held at the meeting hall of the department in Insein township yesterday.

Chief Technical Advisor of FAO Dr. Murray Maclean and Deputy Director-General of LBVD Dr. Aung Gyi discussed current outbreaks of swine flu and human flu in the world nations, cooperative measures being taken by countries and governments, WHO, FAO, OIE and departments concerned, points to be followed by pig breeders and the public and preventive measures being taken in Myanmar. The officials replied to the queries raised by those present. The seminar was attended by officials of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Feedstuff and Dairy Enterprise, Yangon City Development Committee, Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation, Myanmar Pig Breeders and Producers Association and media persons totalling 60.

MNA

The Government of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department

Warning on Swine Flu

1. Swine flu in humans: Swine flu has been detected in the people in Mexico, the US, Canada and New Zealand from 17 to 25 April 2009. There were over 1,300 cases and over 80 were killed.

2. Symptoms in swine: The symptoms of the swine flu are sudden illness, vomiting, coughing, runny nose, sneezing, difficult breathing, red eyes, inflammation, loss of appetite. These symptoms can also be found in normal coughing and other sickness due to the weather changes.

3. Points to be followed in prevention against swine flu

(a) If found symptoms of sickness in pigs, they are to be kept in quarantine, and inform the LBVD.
(b) Take care of bio security in the farm where a large number of pigs are raised
(c) Wash hands and legs clean after cleaning the pigsty
(d) Use face masks and gloves when handling the unhealthy pigs
(e) Ban the sale of unhealthy pigs in the markets.
(f) Do not raise the pigs of unknown origin, especially those smuggled from other country
(h) If pork is cooked at 70°C and above, there will be no infection.

4. Prevention of swine flu: There is no case of swine flu in Myanmar. It is necessary for pig breeders and those who keep pigs on commercial scale and seller to participate in the preventive measures against the disease in cooperation with Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation, Development Committees and local authorities.

MNA

Ministry of Health

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 30 April, 2009

11

Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO ( )
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.4.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378361/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TAMAN VOY NO (247 )
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMAN VOY NO (247 ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.4.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378361/376797

Norway calls for cooperation on Arctic riches

MIDNIGHT SUN, (Norway), 29 April—Norway’s foreign minister on Tuesday called for peaceful cooperation in the Arctic as the region’s five bordering countries vie for potentially lucrative natural resources.

“High North, low tension,” Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Stoere said prior to opening the international conference in the northern Norwegian town of Tromsoe on the Arctic’s melting ice.

“We will as responsible governments and coastal states be able to manage the challenges and opportunities of this region without gliding into conflict and negative competition,” he told reporters.

500 British nationals screened by Goa health dept

PANAJI, 29 April—Taking precautionary steps against any possible outbreak of swine flu in the state, health officials in India’s western coastal state of Goa have so far screened around 500 British nationals who flew in here ten days ago. The move comes following the instruction from the Union Health Ministry to screen passengers arriving from UK, US, France, Canada and New Zealand at the airports, officials said here Tuesday. Moreover, tourists hailing from these countries, who reached here 10 days ago or prior to that, would be tracked down and asked to report to the nearest medical centre, they said.—MNA/PTI
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**HÄAGEN-DAZS**

Myanmar Reg. No. 49/30/2000 [1 January 2009]

In respect of "Dairy products, yogurt, frozen yogurt" in **Class 29**;

"Ice cream, frozen confections and ice cream made with yogurt, sorbet, sherbet, ice cream bars and frozen yogurt bars, frozen dessert cakes made with ice cream" in **Class 30**;

"Restaurante services—including the preparation and serving of ice cream and other dairy products, ice cream cakes, pastries, coffee, teas and carbonated beverages for on and off premises consumption; ice cream shop services" in **Class 43**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the said mark shall be dealt with according to law.

U Thun Maung, Advocate
For General Mills Marketing, Inc.
Gro Kevin Chia Yangon Ltd.
Unit 701-702, Traders Hotel, Yangon, Union of Myanmar
chavang@mytele.net

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Reg. No. 4/389/09

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See Win
Advocate
5/302/5 | Sakura Tower
Ph: 255055/255407
For Hilborne, Hawkins & Co.

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**EFILON**

Reg. No. 272/1971

In respect of "tide fasteners made of both metal and plastics".

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U Myint Lwin, Advocate, L.L.B.
Dip in Maritime (UK)
myintlwin@mytele.net
Ph: 371-90
30 April 2009

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**Drive with care**

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**Envoys more optimistic for climate treaty**

WASHINGTON, 29 April—Top climate envoys said they were more optimistic about sealing a global warming deal this year after a US-led meeting of major economies, but they sparred on the level of their commitments.

US President Barack Obama, who champions aggressive action against global warming, invited negotiators from 17 other major economies including developing powers such as China and India to meet in Washington.

The talks came as the clock ticks to a December meeting in Copenhagen that is meant to approve a new global treaty to slow down the planet’s rising temperatures.

“I come out of this meeting a bit more optimistic,” Todd Stern, the chief US negotiator on climate change, told reporters. Stern acknowledged that much of the conversation was general in scope but said it was not a “head-butting exercise.”

“Believe me, I’m not trying to oversell,” Stern said. “I would not downplay or underestimate the difficulty of getting an agreement in Copenhagen.”

His remarks were echoed by German Environmental Minister Sigmar Gabriel, who said: “I’m quite optimistic that we will succeed in December.”

But he said that emerging countries still did not want to make binding commitments on how much they will cut carbon emissions blamed for global warming.

—Internet

**Researchers find first common autism gene**

WASHINGTON, 29 April—Researchers have found the first common genetic link to autism and said on Tuesday it could potentially account for 15 percent of the disease’s cases.

Three studies, two in the journal Nature and one in Molecular Psychiatry, suggest changes in brain connections could underlie some cases.

While the findings do not immediately offer hope for a treatment, they do help explain the underlying causes of the condition, which affects as many as one in 150 children, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“These findings establish that genetic factors play a strong role in autism spectrum disorder,” National Institutes of Health acting director Dr Raynard Kington said in a statement. “Detailed analysis of the genes and how they affect brain development is likely to hold better significance for diagnosing and treating children with autism.”

—Internet

**Telescope snaps most distant object**

WASHINGTON, 29 April—Astronomers tracking a mysterious blast of energy called a gamma ray burst said on Tuesday they had snapped a photograph of the most distant object in the universe — a smudge 13 billion light-years away.

Hawaii’s Gemini Observatory caught the image earlier this month after a satellite first detected the burst. “Our infrared observations from Gemini immediately suggested that this was an unusually distant burst, these images were the smoking gun,” said Edo Berger of the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics.

Distortions in the light signature of the object show it is 13 billion years old — at the speed of light, 13 billion light-years away. A light-year is 6 trillion miles (10 trillion km). This makes it easily the most distant object ever seen by humanity, Berger said.—Internet
Gerets stuns Marseille with decision to quit

Marseille, 29 April—Marseille coach Eric Gerets dropped a bombshell here on Tuesday as he told his title-leading players he would be quitting the club at the end of the season.

The Belgian coach - whose contract terminates at the end of June - has been at the club since September 2007 and has turned them into title contenders after years of failing to challenge seven-time champions Lyon.

Gerets, who turns 55 in May, told French radio station RTL in an interview to be broadcast on Wednesday that he felt he had no option but to quit since Robert Louis-Dreyfus, the largest shareholder in the club, to his mind had criticised him in an interview with L’Equipe in January.—INTERNET

Heynckes targets Champions League place for Bayern

MUNICH, 29 April—In the wake of Jurgen Klinsmann’s sacking by Bayern Munich, caretaker coach Jupp Heynckes said Tuesday his goal is to ensure his side qualify for the Champions League in his five games in charge. “A club like Bayern Munich must want to play football,” stormed 37-year-old Guardiola, who has worked wonders with the side since replacing the sacked Frank Rijkaard for this season.—INTERNET

Guardiola slams Chelsea’s negative, physical tactics

BARCELONA, 29 April—Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola reacted angrily at what he saw as the referee’s leniency towards English side Chelsea’s physical approach in their 0-0 Champions League semi-final first leg match.

Chelsea were away with mission accomplished after they stood firm against a barrage from Barcelona at the Camp Nou and became the first side this season to stop Barca from scoring at home.

As expected Barca took the game to Chelsea and enjoyed the vast majority of the possession but they were unable to find a way through for the first time at home this season in the competition.

Petr Cech made a couple of important blocks from Samuel Eto’o and substitute Alexandr Hleb but too often they were restricted to strikes from distance.

“It is difficult to play against a team which doesn’t want to play football,” stormed 37-year-old Guardiola, who has worked wonders with the side since replacing the sacked Frank Rijkaard for this season.—INTERNET

Tennis queen Safina steamrollers into second round

STUTTGART, 29 April—Russia’s Dinara Safina celebrated her first match as world number one by needing just 51 minutes to blitz Italy’s Sara Errani 6-0, 6-1 in the first round of Stuttgart’s WTA tournament on Tuesday.

The Russian dominated to win the first set in just 26 minutes against Errani, ranked 37th, and it took the 21-year-old Italian 40 minutes to even win a game as the Russian hit five aces in her opening match here.

With plenty of power at the baseline blended with some delicate dropshots Safina, who turned 23 on Monday, began her Stuttgart campaign in style at the first indoor stadium on the WTA tour to host a clay-court tournament.—INTERNET

Hughes denies Man City move for Eto’o

MANCHESTER, 29 April—Manchester City manager Mark Hughes on Tuesday denied that the club had begun talks with Barcelona aimed at bringing Samuel Eto’o to the English Premier League club.

A meeting between City chief executive Garry Cook and Barca President Joan Laporta in London on Monday triggered a flurry of reports suggesting a 40-million-pound bid (58 million dollars) for the Cameroon striker was in the offing.

But Hughes claimed the talks were simply part of an effort to establish closer links to Europe’s top clubs following the takeover of City by the Abu Dhabi United Group, who financed last year’s 32-million-pound purchase of Robinho.

“There has been speculation about players all year,” Hughes told Manchester radio station Key103. “It is something that we accept and has become predictable.

“The meeting was not about individuals but how both clubs can help each other.”—INTERNET

Djokovic overcomes Montanes to move into third round

ROME, 29 April—Serbian world number three Novak Djokovic overcame a tough first set tiebreak to ease through to the third round of the Rome Masters here on Tuesday beating Spaniard Albert Montanes 7-6 (7/5), 6-0.

The titleholder took just over an hour-and-a-half to overcome the durable Spanish player. Montanes - ranked 33 in the world - looked to have the first set in the bag when he led Djokovic 4-2 in the first set tiebreak but the Serbian recovered to take five of the next six points and in the process the set.

It was no contest in the second set as he ran away with it.—INTERNET

Ferguson says Nani going nowhere

MANCHESTER, 29 April—Sir Alex Ferguson has insisted Nani has a future at Manchester United and attributed the Portuguese winger’s lack of first-team opportunities this season to the form of Korean rival Park Ji-Sung.

“I think it’s because he has not had enough chances,” Ferguson said before the English Premier League club’s home game against Wigan Athletic on Saturday. “The meeting was not about individuals but how both clubs can help each other.”—INTERNET

Dementieva digs deep to beat local hero

STUTTGART, 29 April—Olympic champion Elena Dementieva needed more than two hours to survive a scare from local heroine Anna-Lena Groenefeld before winning 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 here on Tuesday at Stuttgart’s WTA event.

Having had few problems in the first set, the Russian pin-up was put under pressure by Groenefeld, from Saarbrucken in the second, and Dementieva could only defend one of the three break points against her.

But the Russian, who won gold at the Beijing Olympic Games last August, regained control in the third set before admitting she had found it hard going to be back on clay.—INTERNET
Almost 90 ill in suspected food poisoning case in N-W China’s Gansu

LANDER: 29 April—Local health authorities said 87 people from three villages in northwestern China’s Gansu Province were evaluated for food poisoning early Wednesday.

The authorities in Yuzhong County, which administers the villages, said 28 of those people were hospitalized and 59 more were under observation. No deaths have been reported so far.

The problems surfaced on Tuesday at noon at Xuanmata, Xiaoahuizi and Xieulu villages. The victims developed symptoms such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

The county launched an emergency plan for food-safety incidents, and 42 doctors and nurses were dispatched to provide emergency services.

Local police are investigating vendors who sold niangpi, a traditional steamed snack made from wheat. These items are believed to be behind the food poisoning cases. Niangpi is popular in the northwest, including Gansu and Qinghai.

Niangpi, a traditional steamed snack made from wheat.

Local Transmission
- Signature Tune
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- Traditional Rice Cakes and Gram Pretzel
- Ayeyawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-I)
- Modern Myanma Song
- Unforgettable Traditions of PaO National
- National Races Village (Shan & Bamar)
- A Sector of Thaninthei’s Economy “Marine Products”
- Ayeyawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-IV)
- National progress through Regional Development
- One Day Trip to Sanka Village
- Products made from Myawaddy Water Hyacinth
- Variety Dances of Marionette “Dance of Garland”
- Woods Finishing Industry
- Progressive images of Rakhine State
- Ayeyawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-V)
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

External/ North America Transmission
- Signature Tune
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- Traditional Rice Cakes and Gram Pretzel
- Apiary Tours
- Ayeyawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-I)
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- Ayeyawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-V)
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

WEATHER

Wednesday, 29 April, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 0930 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thunderstorms have been scattered in Mon State, Bago and Yangon Divisions, isolated in Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States, lower Sagaing and Mandalay divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in Kachin State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthei Divisions.(5°C) to (6°C) above April average temperatures in Chin State and upper Sagaing Division.(3°C) to (4°C) below April average temperatures in Rakhine, kayin, MonStates and Bago Division and about April average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Chank, Myingyan, Monywa and NgaungU (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Central Yangon (0.95) inch, Thayawady (0.86) inch and Myingyan (0.5) inch.

Maximum temperature on 28-4-2009 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 29-4-2009 was 77°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 29-4-2009 was 68%. Total sunshine hours on 28-4-2009 was (6.5) hrs approx. Rainfall on 29-4 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, (0.20) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.95) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (1.14) inches at Mingaladon, (2.01) inches at Kaba-Aye and (5.16) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (17:00) hours MST on 28-4-2009.

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 30-4-2009:

Rain or thunderstorms are likely to be scattered in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, Bago and Yangon Divisions, isolated in Kachin, Rakhine and Kayah States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Ayeyawady and Taninthei Divisions and partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thunderstorms in the Southern Myanmar area.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 30-4-2009: Isolated rain or thunderstorms.

Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-4-2009: Isolated rain or thunderstorms.

Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30-4-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms.

Degree of certainty is (60%).
Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of the Republic of Sudan

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April — Mr Mirghani Mohamed Salih, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Sudan to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha here at 11:00 am today. Present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.—MNA

Yaypon Bridge in Taninthayi Division inaugurated

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April — The opening of Yaypon Bridge on Yangon-Mawlamyine-Ye-Dawei-Myeik-Kawthoung Road was held at the pavilion near the bridge on 27 April, attended by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Managing Director U Khin Maung Hse of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction, senior military officers, division, district and township level departmental officials, members of social organizations, teachers and students, guests and local people. (See page 11)