Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San attend ceremony to hoist diamond orbs atop Kawmein Pagoda and encycled pagodas in Namhsan

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April – Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San left Bahtoo in Yaksawk Township, Shan State, by helicopter and arrived in Namhsan on yesterday. They were accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, ministers and departmental heads.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party were welcomed there by Shan State (North) PDC Chairman North-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and officials. (See page 8)

Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- National reconciliation
- 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

Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Managing Director U Tun Myint Naing of Asia World Co Ltd formally opened the hospital.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party posed for documentary photo together with those present.

Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence unveiled the signboard of the hospital.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo unveiled the plaque of the hospital and sprinkled scented water on it.

SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, the commander and the ministers also sprinkled the plaque with scented water.

At the hall of the hospital, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint explained that the hospital located in Shan State (North) complete with emergency and ordinary medical wards was built for local people of Namhsan region and its surrounding townships.

The number of hospitals and health centres in Shan State (North) increased up to 59 in 2009-2010 from 34 in 1988-89. At present, Shan State (North) has one 200-bed hospital, two 150-bed hospitals, three 100-bed hospitals, two 50-bed hospitals, 1025-bed township hospitals and 39 16-bed hospitals, totaling 59.

The number of rural health centres touched 39 in 1988, and its number reaches 65 in 2010. A total of 116 doctors were appointed at the region in 1988 and now 258 doctors were assigned duty there. (See page 9)
PERSPECTIVES
Thursday, 8 April, 2010

Drive safely

A ceremony to commence the Second United Nations Global Road Safety Week took place at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road in Yangon. The global road safety week activities set by the UN were carried out from 1 to 7 April.

Data have shown that the number of road accidents across the world has increased day by day and yearly, some 3,000 people die and about 6,000 are injured everyday. Therefore, road safety week activities are carried out all over the world with the aim of reducing numbers of casualties caused by car accidents.

Myanmar Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee in cooperation with non-governmental organizations is taking road safety measures such as holding talks and workshops on traffic rules, giving education about traffic rules at bus lines, bus stops and traffic lights, erecting educative billboards and opening new roads.

Myanmar holds educative talks as well as contests on traffic rules and road safety. Under the supervision of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee, the third Nay Pyi Taw traffic rules educative talks and competitions were held in the compound of Pyinmana on 6 January, 2010.

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The number of road accidents will decrease significantly if motorists and all travelling people follow traffic rules strictly.

No.2 Plywood Factory in Taungup, Rakhine State opened

Nay Pyi Taw, 7 April — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung attended the opening of No.2 Plywood Factory in the compound of No.99 Saw Mill in Taungup, Rakhine State, on 5 April morning.

Myanmar Timber Enterprise Managing Director U Win Tun, Acting Director-General of the Forest Department U Aye Myint Maung and Managing Director U Tun Lwin of Tong Shin formally opened the factory.

The minister formally unveiled the signboard and made a speech. After the ceremony, the minister and party viewed production process of the factory.

The donated cash will be used in providing welfare and health matters for all people in the country including 1000-bed Nay Pyi Taw Hospital equipped with modern health facilities to provide healthcare treatment.

He stated, “The government has opened health facilities all over the country including 1000-bed Nay Pyi Taw Hospital equipped with modern health facilities to provide healthcare treatment.”

The WHO resident representative read the message sent by the director of South-East Asia Region of WHO.

The deputy minister and party viewed commemorative booth.

World Health Day-2010 “Urbanization and Health; Urban Health Matters”

Nay Pyi Taw, 7 April — To mark World Health Day-2010, a commemorative ceremony, jointly organized by Health Ministry and World Health Organization (WHO), was held at the ministry here today with a speech by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe on behalf of the Health Minister.

It was also attended by departmental heads, Chairperson of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Nilar Thaw and its members, resident representative of WHO Dr. Leonard Ortega and other social organization members.

The deputy minister said that this year’s motto is “Urbanization and Health; Urban Health Matters”. The global population increase is interconnected with disease outbreaks. It is required for all people in the world to cope with health problems for it is beyond Health Ministry’s control alone.

To create healthy environment, it is necessary not only to keep personal hygiene but also to carry out environmental sanitation tasks, he continued.

Deputy Health Minister Dr Paing Soe and officials view booth displayed at the ceremony to mark World Health Day-2010.—MNA

SAM donates cash to MMCWA

Nay Pyi Taw, 7 April — Singaporean Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar H.E. Mr. Robert Chua Hian Kong and Chairman of Singapore Association of Myanmar Mr. Teddy Chia presented K4.5 million cash donation of SAM to Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association at MMCWA office here on 5 April.

MMCWA Chairperson Daw Nilar Thaw accepted the donated and presented certificate of honour and commemorative gift.

Vice-Chairperson of the association Daw Wai Tha and CEC members attended the ceremony. The donated cash will be used in providing welfare services to public by the association.

MNA
Gun battle leaves one Afghan child dead, three wounded: NATO

KABUL, 7 April—An Afghan child was killed and three more children injured in a gun battle between Taleban militants and NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Kapisa province, 80km north of Afghan capital Kabul on Tuesday, a press release of the alliance said. “Four Afghan children were wounded today during an engagement between insurgents and ISAF troops in Kapisa province,” the press release added.

It also said, “The children were medically evacuated to an ISAF medical facility. One of the children has been reportedly dead of his wounds.”

However, it did not say if the troops opened fire on ill-fatied children, saying it was unclear who caused the children’s injuries. The incident is under investigation, it further said.

In 2009, according to a United Nations report, 2,412 civilians which indicated 14 percent more than 2008, had been killed in the militancy-hit Afghani-stan while more violence is predicted in 2010.

Explosion in E Afghanistan wounds 10 civilians

KABUL, 7 April—A powerful explosion rocked Jalalabed city the provincial capital of Afghanistan’s eastern Nangarhar province Wednesday morning injured 10 non-combatants, spokesman for provincial administration Ahmad Zia Abdulzai said.

“The blast occurred on Mustofiat crossroad in the morning rush hour wounding 10 innocent civilians,” Abdulzai told Xinhua.

He also added the blast took place when a convoy of NATO-led forces was passing the area but caused no loss of life and just a military vehicle was slightly damaged. However, he failed to say if it was a suicide attack or roadside bombing, saying investigation is underway to determine. But added, possibly it was a roadside bomb.

Nangarhar is regarded as a peaceful province in east Afghanistan. Nevertheless, a suicide attack in the province late February claimed the lives of over a dozen people mostly civilians.

No groups or individuals have claimed responsibility for the blast. However, Taleban militants fighting for Afghan and NATO-led troops often carry out such attacks.

Oil tanker fire kills three in north of Kabul

KABUL, 7 April—An oil tanker loaded with diesel oil rammed into a truck and caught fire in the north of Afghan capital city Kabul Wednesday, killing three passersby, an eyewitness said.

An oil tanker attempted to take edge from a coal-laden truck in Khair Khana area north of capital city this morning. As a result it caught fire and burned to ashes three passersby, an eyewitness who introduced himself only name Yasin told Xinhua. Two more shops were also damaged in the incident.

Authorities said the explosion was an accident and dismissed the possibility of a terrorist attack. In the war-torn Afghanistan 10 more civilians sustained injuries as a bomb exploded in eastern Nangarhar province early today morning.

Casualties of Afghan people in invasion of NATO troops led by US

KABUL, 7 April—The NATO troops led by the US have invaded Afghanistan and they are there for a long time.

According to the Internet news, a total of 32748 Afghan people were killed and 39204 injured seriously as from the day when the NATO troops led by the US invaded Afghanistan to 31 March.

US and allies kill, injure Iraqi people

BAGHDAD, 7 April—There has been daily casualties in Iraq since the US and its allies have invaded the country.

The total number of casualties as from the day they invaded the country to 31 March reached 700932 and the total number of seriously injured people reached 1266131 according to the news on the Internet.

Oil tanker fire kills three in north of Kabul

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Iran not to talk with major powers over its nuclear programme

TEHERAN, 7 April— Iran’S Foreign Ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast said Tuesday that Iran will not hold talks with the five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany (G5+1) over its nuclear program, the semi-official ISNA news agency reported.

“Israel and the G5+1 countries’ agenda is Iran’S nuclear issue, our is not,” Mehmanparast said Monday Iran is ready for fuel swap but its conditions need to be met, ISNA reported.

Tehran has insisted that it would be ready to simultaneously exchange the fuel, which is required for the Tehran research reactor, with its low-enriched uranium within Iranian territory. Under the draft deal, most of Iran’s existing low-grade enriched uranium should be shipped to Russia and France to be processed into fuel rods with the purity of 20 percent.

China to reform resource taxes

BEIJING, 7 April—In the meantime, the Ministry of Finance says China will introduce resource tax reform at the top priority for 2010.

Analysts expect the reform will shift tax burdens from coal producers to consumers and will likely boost oil and gas extraction to help balance the budget by boosting China’s property tax system.

China will introduce the tax reform at the meantime, the ministry said in a statement on its website.

Iran’s nuclear case has been moving in its natural path,” he told reporters in his weekly press briefing.

“We believe our nuclear case has been over and it is now moving in its natural path,” he told reporters in his weekly press briefing.

Concerning providing fuel for Tehran’s research reactor, we have already declared our offer, we hope it will bear fruitful results,” said Meham-nparast. Mehmanparast said Monday Iran is ready for fuel swap but its conditions need to be met.

Gaza conjoined twins leave for Saudi Arabia for separation surgery

GAZA, 6 April—Egypt on Tuesday opened its border with Gaza to let two Siamese twins and their family members travel to Saudi Arabia where they will undergo a separation surgery.

The two seven-day-old babies are joined at the abdomen and Gaza hospital cannot separate them.

The father, Yasser Abu Assi, appealed to the Palestinian health ministry for help and Saudi King Abdullah had reportedly ordered that the conjoined twins be admitted at a specialized clinic in the kingdom.

Abu Assi told Xinhua that King Abdullah decided to send an airplane to the Egyptian city of El-Arish in Sinai to pick up the twins and their family.
Russian Cinderella Natalia Vodianova

BEIJING, 7 April—Natalia Vodianova is a Russian supermodel. Born in Grozny (now Nizhni Novgorod) in 1982, she lived with her mother and two half-sisters in unpleasant conditions. When she was 19 years old, she made headway in modeling and married British real-estate heir the Hon. Justin Trevor Berkeley Portman, a half-brother of the 10th Viscount Portman, thus enabling people to remember the cinderella from Russia.

Military plans to test brain injury therapy

DENVER, 7 April—The US military plans clinical trials next year to see if breathing pure oxygen in a pressurized chamber helps brain injuries to heal, or at least relieve the headaches, mood swings or other symptoms. About 300 service members with mild to moderate injuries will participate in the trials of hyperbaric oxygen therapy in Colorado, California, North Carolina and Texas. Col. Richard Ricciardi (rih-CHAR-dee) of the Defence Center of Excellence said Thursday the therapy is unproven but merits clinical trials. He says the theory is that more oxygen dissolves in the blood when the body is under pressure, and therapy is unproven but merits clinical trials.

‘Titans’ battles to No. 1 spot with $61.4 million

LOS ANGELES, 7 April—The gods of Mount Olympus are the new rulers of the weekend box office. The ancient Greek action remake “Clash of the Titans” has debuted at No. 1 with $61.4 million. Adding Thursday night preview screenings, the movie has totaled $64.1 million.

Gerard Butler not grabbing Aniston’s butt

BEIJING, 7 April—Jennifer Aniston’s co-star in “The Bounty Hunter” Gerard Butler has denied the claims that he touched the former “Friends” star recently.

US study links anxiety with depression

LOS ANGELES, 7 April—Anxiety may modify depression for better or for worse, indicating a link between the two, US researchers suggest.

By using functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI), researchers at the University of Illinois looked at brain activity in subjects who were depressed and not anxious, anxious but not depressed, or who exhibited varying degrees of depression and one or both types of anxiety.

The researchers took into account two types of anxiety: anxious arousal, the fearful vigilance that sometimes turns into panic; and anxious apprehension, better known as worry.

In the study, brain scans were done while participants performed a task that involved naming the colors of words that had negative, positive, or neutral meanings. This allowed the researchers to observe which brain regions were activated in response to emotional words.

They found that the two types of anxiety produce very different patterns of activity in the brain. Anxious arousal lights up a region of the right inferior temporal lobe (just behind the ear). Worry, on the other hand, activates a region in the left frontal lobe that is linked to speech production.

The worriers were better able to ignore the meaning of negative words and focus on the task, which was to identify the color — not the emotional content — of the words.

Children of the Miao ethnic group strike stools to greet guests at the “Kedao” show held in Liutang Town of Shibing County, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, on 3 April, 2010. “Kedao”, or inscribed bamboo wood, developed into a type of singing style among the Miao people, who sing with bamboo sticks inscribed with lyrics in hand popular in the region of Liutang. “Kedao” was inscribed on the list of the National Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2006.

Resorts and beaches got crowded on Sunday as Filipinos tried to enjoy the last day of a long holiday and had their fun under the sun with some refreshing splash, an activity enjoyed mostly by children and youths.

Natalia Vodianova.
13-year-old American boy aims to challenge Mt Qomolangma

LOS ANGELES, 7 April—A 13-year-old California boy has set out for Nepal to pursue his dream of becoming the youngest person to scale Mount Qomolangma, the world’s highest mountain.

Jordan Romero aims to reach the summits of the highest peaks on all seven continents. The idea came to the teenager in 2005 when he was 9 and saw a school mural of the seven summits.

“I just want to show kids how to be healthy; to get outside, exercise and make good choices about the food and drinks they put in their mouths,” Romero said in a posting on a website named after him.

Romero, a native of Big Bear Lake in San Bernardino County, stopped to visit friends near Los Angeles on Monday before boarding a flight bound for Hong Kong.

He and his team members are expected to arrive in Asia on Tuesday. They will continue toward Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, and from there set off for the Nepalese-Chinese border where the Himalayas are located.

Youth relations vital to bolster Pak-sino partnership

ISLAMABAD, 7 April—Strong youth relations between Pakistan and China are vital to inject new ideas to all-weather Pakistan-China partnership in the 21st Century, said speakers in a conference held here Tuesday.

The conference on the Pakistan-China partnership in the 21st Century was aimed at informing, educating and inspiring the youth of Pakistan on the unique relationship cherished by both China and Pakistan. A large number of Chinese and Pakistani thinkers, educationists and media persons participated in the conference, which is organized by the Pakistan-China Institute and reputed school, Roots School System at the Pakistan National Art Gallery.

In his remarks, Pakistani Senator and Chairman of the Pakistan-China Institute Mushahid Hussain Syeds said that the initiative has been launched to promote strong relations and partnership in a new sector between the two countries.

Apple to preview new iPhone OS

BEIJING, 7 April—Apple will host an event on Thursday to preview the future operating system software for the iPhone, according to media reports Tuesday.

According to Reuters, Apple sent an e-mail invitation to the media for a gathering at its headquarters on 8 April, offering a sneak peek into the future of the iPhone OS 4.0 version.

This comes just a few days after the April 3 release of iPad. Apple’s tablet PC. Reportedly over 300,000 units were sold on the first day.

The company is expected to launch its next-generation smartphone later this summer.

Last year, Apple gave a sneak peek to iPhone OS 3.0 on 17 March, but the OS was made available three months later.

The iPhone was launched in 2007 and so far, more than 40 million devices have been sold.

Wall of Gum in Seattle: interesting, but disgusting

A gum wall in Seattle is not only one of the offbeat attractions in the U.S., but also one of the most germ infested tourist spot in the world.

Located in Post Alley, under Park Place Market, the Gum Wall, which also known as the Wall of Gum, has its beginning in the early 1990s.

Theatre patrons began placing their gum on the wall while waiting in line to buy tickets. At first, they would use the gum to stick small coins to the wall, but the tradition of coins disappeared later and the gum remained.

It continues to grow in popularity and, therefore, in length and width and height. Now it is filled with thousands of pieces of chewing gum, of all colors.

World’s biggest rabbit 1.3 m tall (Al-6-1)

Dariusyaa bunny which measures four feet three inches (1.3 m) from its nose to tail and weighs 22 kg, has replaced his mother Alice to be the world’s biggest rabbit.

Darius, only 12 months old, eats 12 carrots, six apples and two cabbages per day, said Annette Edwards, his breeder.

Annette said: “He is very gentle and I wonder if this has helped him grow bigger than the rest. But he also runs around, so the combination of food and exercise has worked out for him.”

She added, “The frightening thing is that Darius is still growing so he could be absolutely massive by the time he reaches full size.”

Annette Edwards, 59, has bred four of the world’s biggest rabbits at her home in Worcester, Britain, and is now awaiting confirmation of Darius’s Guinness record.

In this photo, Pedro Manuel Alcolado Menendez, a senior researcher with Cuba’s Institute of Oceanology, looks at a giant squid at the Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, Fl.

Rare Yangtze finless porpoises spotted in China lake

Scientists and tourists have recently been spotting groups of the rare Yangtze finless porpoise in China’s largest freshwater lake, Lake Poyang, raising hopes the endangered mammal is making a comeback.

Guo Ming, a tourist from Shanghai, said he saw six finless porpoises frolicking and leaping out of the water for five minutes at waters in Xingxi County in eastern China’s Jiangxi Province. On, 11 March a traffic police officer, Xiong Limin, took photos of nine porpoises at the mouth of the Ganjiang River, the largest tributary flowing into Poyang Lake.

“They swam from east to west, about 50 meters from each other. They disappeared after half an hour,” Xiong said.

The amateur sightings coincide with a survey by scientists from the Hydrobiology Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The researchers caught and released 18 of the mammals between March 2 and 11 in the river’s waters in Duchang County, Jiangxi.
Nay Pyi Taw, 7 April—The opening of Aung Thabyae Cinema constructed by G4 Group Company was held at the archway of the cinema near Nay Pyi Taw Fountain Garden on Zabuthabyae Road in Thabyaegon Ward in Nay Pyi Taw Zabuthiri Township here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Tin Ngwe, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, departmental heads, Chairman of G4 Group Company U Yan Win and directors, guests and officials.

The mayor, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Directors of the company U Tha Hay and U Tin Hsan formally opened the air-conditioned cinema has 300 seats.—MNA

Meeting of Air Bagan Myanmar Open 2010 held
YANGON, 7 April—Jointly organized by Myanmar PGA and Asian Tour, a meeting of golfers who will take part in Air Bagan Myanmar Open 2010, with a title sponsor by Air Bagan Ltd and presenting sponsor by International Beverages Trading Co.Ltd (IBTC), took place at Pan Hlaine Golf course here this evening.

Present at the meeting were Managing Director of Air Bagan Ltd U Htoo Thet Htwe and responsible persons, Secretary of Myanmar PGA U Chan Han and Myanmar selected golfers, professional golfers, invited persons and media men.

Tournament Director Mr Jittisak Tamprasert delivered an address at the meeting. The total amount of cash award is US$ 300,000 and the winner golfer will get US$ 50,000.

A total of 144 golfers will partake in the tournament. The cooperative sponsors of the tournament are Elite-Tech, Sedona Hotel (Yangon) (Official Hotel) and Srixon (Official Ball).—MNA

Tournament Director Mr Jittisak Tamprasert and responsible persons pose for a photo.—MNA
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San...

First, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party paid homage and offered fruits, flowers and water to the Maha Muni Buddha Image kept in Gandhakutitaik on Waintonsan (Shwesagabin) Hill in Namhsan.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party offered Shwethingans to the Buddha Image. SPDC Member Lt-Gen Tin Aye made cash donations for the funds of the Buddha Image to the pagoda board of trustees.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party then viewed all-round renovation of the Maha Muni Pagoda.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party attended a ceremony to hoist the Seinbudaws (diamond orbs) atop Kawmein (Myote) Pagoda and encycled pagodas in Namhsan, Kyaukme District, Shan State (North).

At the auspicious time, they hoisted the Seinbudaws and sprinkled scented water on them. Later, the ceremony came to an end.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Thein Soe addressed the opening ceremony of Election Laws, Rules and Manual Guide Course conducted by UEC at Mingala Hall in City Hall here this morning.

The ceremony was attended by UEC members, departmental officials, state/division/district level law officers, officers from Immigration and National Registration Department, officers from General Administration Department nominated as secretaries of state/division/district sub-commissions and officials.

Chairman U Thein Soe said in his address that the State Peace and Development Council has issued Union Election Commission Law, Political Parties Registration Law, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Regions or State Hluttaw Election Law on 8 March and Political Parties Registration Rules and Rules of respective Hluttaw Election have also been issued.

He continued to say that manual guides for sub-commissions, returning officers and polling station staff have been issued and it is needed to understand duties and responsibilities of the commission stated in Article 8 of Union Election Commission Law.

He urged trainee officers to learn the laws, rules and manual guide clearly to enable to organize the elections due to be held in 2010. He also called for collaboration in pursuing the successful election.

The chairman cordially greeted the trainee officers. A total of 252 trainees are attending the course from 7 to 9 April.

MNA

Photo shows 50-bed People’s Hospital in Namhsan. (News on page -1)—MNA

UEC opens Election Laws, Rules and Manual Guide Course
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San on pilgrimage in Lashio

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, and party paid homage to famous pagodas in Lashio yesterday.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party visited Yantaingaung Hsutaungpyae Myo-U Pagoda where they were welcomed by the chairman of Pagoda Board of Trustees and officials. In the chamber, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife, and party offered flowers and water to the Buddha Image.

Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing presented cash to the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife, and party proceeded to Sasana (2500) Pyilonchantha Pagoda where they were welcomed by the Pagoda Board of Trustee Chairman and officials concerned.

In the chamber of the pagoda, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party offered flowers and water to the Buddha Image. They looked round the all-round renovation of the pagoda and made cash donations. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party left Sasana (2500) Pyilonchantha Pagoda at 6.10 p.m.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greets local people.—MNA

Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, presents optical glasses to the local people with eye complaint.—MNA

The commander presented solar-powered lamps to Namhsan Township Dentist Dr Tun Shwe.

U Tun Myint Naing donated K 50 million to Medical Superintendent Dr Thaung Dan Oo for the funds of the hospital.

At the hospital, Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, and party presented optical glasses and medicines to the local people with eye complaints given medical treatment by eye specialist Lt-Col Daw Yupar Aung and party of No. 2 Military Hospital.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party visited the township people’s hospital. They paid homage to members of the Sangha with eye complaints at the Sangha Ward.

New Namhsan Township People’s Hospital has medical ward, operation theatre, maternal ward, child ward and Sangha ward.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party viewed development of Namhsan by car. In the afternoon, they left for Lashio. —MNA

Those wishing to form political parties submit applications

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—Chin National Party today submitted application to the Union Election Commission for its formation as a political party. —MNA
Student uses skin as input for mobile devices

New study shows rising water temperatures in US streams, rivers

Jim Carrey, Jenny McCarthy splitup

Peking Opera attracts audience in Shanghai

Science Daily, 7 April—A combination of simple bio-acoustic sensors and some sophisticated machine learning makes it possible for people to use their fingers or forearms — potentially, any part of their bodies — as touchpads to control smart phones or other mobile devices.

The technology, called Skinput, was developed by Chris Harrison, a third-year Ph.D. student in Carnegie Mellon University’s Human-Computer Interaction Institute (HCII), along with Desney Tan and Dan Morris of Microsoft Research. Harrison will describe the technology in a paper to be presented on 12 April, at CHI 2010, the Association for Computing Machinery’s annual Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems in Atlanta, Ga.

The diminutive size that makes smart phones, MP3 players and other devices so portable, however, also severely limits the size and utility of the keypads, touchscreens and jog wheels typically used to control them. “With Skinput, we can use our own skin — the body’s largest organ — as an input device,” Harrison said “It’s kind of crazy to think we could summon interfaces onto our bodies, but it turns out to make a lot of sense. Our skin is always with us, and makes the ultimate interactive touch surface.”

In a prototype developed while Harrison was an intern at Microsoft Research last summer, acoustic sensors are attached to the upper arm. These sensors capture sound generated by such actions as flicking or tapping fingers together, or tapping the forearm. This sound is not transmitted through the air, but by transverse waves through the skin and by longitudinal, or compressive, waves through the bones.

Chris Harrison demonstrates Skinput technology.

New study shows rising water temperatures in US streams, rivers

Washington, 7 April—A new study by a team of ecologists and hydrologists has shown that water temperatures are increasing in many streams and rivers throughout the United States, according to a press release issued Tuesday by the University of Maryland.

The research, published in the journal Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment, documents that 20 major U.S. streams and rivers — including such prominent rivers as the Colorado, Potomac, Delaware, and Hudson — have shown statistically significant long-term warming.

By analyzing historical records from 40 sites located throughout the United States, the team found that annual mean water temperatures increased by 0.009-0.077 Celsius degree per year. Long-term increases in stream water temperatures were typically correlated with increases in air temperatures, and rates of warming were most rapid in urbanized areas.

The analysis indicates that 20 of the 40 streams studied showed statistically significant long-term warming trends, while an additional 13 showed temperature increases that were not statistically significant.

BEIJING, 7 April—In Shanghai, the Tianchan Yifu Stage is presenting the Peking Opera production “The Legend of Xiao He”. The play was first created only six years ago. And the current production has undergone extensive revision in hopes to become part of the National Stage Classic Program.

“The Legend of Xiao He” is mounted by the Shanghai Peking Opera Theater. Leading the cast are Chen Shaoyun and An Ping. Both of them are nationally renowned performers.

The story is set in the chaotic times of late Qin Dynasty, when military leaders around China were vying for control of the crumbling empire. At its debut in 2004, The Legend of Xiao He won wide acclaim for its plot design, music, and choreography. In the years since, the play has become popular across China. In spite of its past success, the current production has undergone another round of rigorous revision. The plot and script were made more concise; the stage sets and costumes were also made more elaborate. After two performances in Shanghai, the show will go to Shenzhen to contend for the 9th China Arts Festival Award. Also, this revised version will be entered to become part of the 2010 National Stage Classic Program, a project operated by the Culture Ministry of China.

BEIJING, 7 April—Jim Carrey and Jenny McCarthy both posted the news of their break-up on Twitter on Wednesday.

Carrey’s representative also confirmed this to the media, “Jim and Jenny have recently decided to end their five-year relationship.”

On his Twitter account, Carrey, 48, wrote, “Jenny and I have just ended our 5yr. relationship. I’m grateful 4 the many blessings we’ve shared and I wish her the very best! S’okay!”

Soon after that, McCarthy too Tweeted about their break-up. “I’m so grateful for the years Jim and I had together. I will stay committed to Jane and will always keep Jim as a leading man in my heart,” she wrote. Jane is Carrey’s adult daughter from his first marriage.

Carrey and McCarthy began dating in 2005; the two had supported each other through many life events.

They regularly appeared on red carpets together and at autism events, as McCarthy’s son Evan was previously diagnosed with the condition. Also the couple had been through the birth of Carrey’s first grandchild after Jane gave birth to a son in February.
Another S Korean navy sailor found dead from sunken warship

SEOUL, 7 April—A South Korean navy sailor was found dead on Wednesday from the rear portion of a navy warship that sank late last month into waters near the tense maritime border, the second confirmed death in the naval tragedy, local media reported. A civilian diver found the body, which is yet to be identified, during operations to salvage the sunken 1,200-corvette Cheonan, Seoul’s YTN television said. Other 44 crew members still remained unaccounted for. The news came as military authorities here were still scrambling to determine the cause of the incident, sparking much speculation here.

In a press conference Wednesday on interim results of the ongoing investigation by a group of experts, government officials and civilians, investigators said the warship was on the normal route and crew members were performing their regular duties. The authorities were seeking help from experts in the United States in determining the cause, investigators told reporters.—Xinhua

The man who would be king

NEPAL, 7 April—In a large room garishly furnished with a bright yellow carpet in Kathmandu’s Narayanhatt Palace, King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah appears to be smiling. It is not the real former monarch, of course. Since the spring of 2008 when Gyanendra was unceremoniously forced from his throne, the last in a line of Hindu monarchs stretching back 239 years, the only royalty to be found in this jarringly designed 1960s palace-turned-museum exist in photographs and portraits, such as the one in which the former ruler appears to be suppressing a grin. But is it an omen? Perhaps so. Two years after he was stripped of his title and ordered from his palace, the former king wants his old job back...

Seizing on seemingly widespread discontent with Nepal’s political parties and growing public anxiety over everything from power cuts to the failure to agree a constitution, the 62-year-old apparently believes he may be the solution to Nepal’s problems. In his first proper interview since losing his throne, Gyanendra recently claimed he did not believe the institution of Nepal’s monarchy was over. “I don’t think it has ended... When you turn the pages of history of the nation, such coming and going has been consistent,” he told a local television channel.

He said that in the two years since the republic had been declared, the security forces had been faced with and when asked directly whether he wished to return, he said: “The people’s views and their opinion is paramount, so I feel everyone will have to abide to such views.”

Bushfire chief Nixon refuses to quit

AAP, 7 April—Christine Nixon says she won’t resign as head of Victoria’s bushfire reconstruction after admitting she went out for dinner on the night of the fires that killed 173 people because she “had to eat”. The state’s police chief at the time, Ms Nixon has said that after receiving a briefing about the fires as they savaged Victoria at around 5pm on February 7 last year, she went to a pub for dinner with friends. Victorian Opposition Leader Ted Baillieu, Family First senator Steve Fielding and the police union have all called for Ms Nixon to resign or be sacked from her job as head of the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority (VBRRA).

But Ms Nixon says she won’t resign and her future is in the hands of two groups. “One is the fire-affected communities and the thousands of people I’ve met and dealt with over the last 13 months and the government will have to make that decision,” she told Fairfax Radio on Wednesday.

Ms Nixon explained she left the Integrated Emergency Co-ordination Centre (IECC), after being told people could die, because she was hungry.

Women arrested taking corpse on plane

LONDON, 7 April—Two women have been arrested at a British airport after they reportedly put their dead relative in a wheelchair, stuck some sunglasses on him and tried to smuggle his corpse onto a flight.

Police said on Tuesday the women were detained at Liverpool’s John Lennon airport “on suspicion of failing to give notification of death” of a 91-year-old man.

The BBC and other British media reported that the women placed the man, a relative of theirs, into a wheelchair and covered his face with sunglasses in a bid to get him aboard a flight to Berlin.

The women, aged 41 and 66, were detained on Saturday and had been released on bail, police said.

They had not been charged and police said inquiries were continuing.
SLEEPING PROFESSOR LEFT ON PLANE

VANCOUVER, 7 April—A self-admitted heavy-sleeping British professor says he was appalled to wake up in a Canadian airport service hangar 90 minutes after his flight landed.

Sports law Professor Kris Lines of Staffordshire University told The (Vancouver) Province he’s alarmed by the response he got from the Air Canada Jazz airline when he complained about the 6 March incident.

“I’d been a vulnerable passenger, a young girl or elderly, it could have been a lot worse,” he said. “The other implication is that if I was a terrorist, then I’ve got an hour-and-a-half after the plane’s landed, all by myself, in a secure area on a plane.” Lines, 31, flew from Calgary, Alberta, to Vancouver that day and said he hadn’t been drinking alcohol, but was tired from being awake for 24 hours.

Lines said he’s concerned with the response he got to his e-mail complaint from the airline.

“Although there was no excuse for the incident that occurred, it appears the flight attendant on this occasion was dealing with several wheelchair passengers and coordinating their departure from the aircraft,” representative Mary Ann Morgan wrote.

Coral disease outbreak studied in Hawaii

HONOLULU, 7 April—A University of Hawaii rapid response team says it is investigating an outbreak of a coral disease called Montipora White Syndrome.

The outbreak was found in Kaneohe Bay on Oahu, Hawaii’s third largest and most populous island.

The emergency response team, which includes scientists from Hawaii’s Institute of Marine Biology, the US Geological Survey and Bishop Museum in Honolulu is documenting the extent, spread and potential causes of the disease.

Montipora White Syndrome affects prominent coral species — red rice coral or Montipora capitata — and rapidly kills colonies within weeks. Scientists said they discovered more than 100 colonies of red rice coral have been killed by the disease, which appears to be most prominent in South Kaneohe Bay. The cause of the disease is, as yet, unclear, officials said.

“Given that these reef resources play an important role in the culture and economy of Hawaii, understanding these outbreaks and their causes can help us prevent or at least mitigate the impact of future events,” researchers said.—Internet

Earth’s orbit tied with climate changes

SANTA BARBARA, 7 April—A US geologist says she’s discovered a pattern that connects regular changes in the Earth’s orbital cycle to changes in the planet’s climate.

University of California-Santa Barbara Assistant Professor Larissa Liesiecki performed her analysis of climate by examining ocean sediment cores taken from 57 locations around the world and linking that climate record to the history of the Earth’s orbit. The researchers said it’s known the Earth’s orbit around the sun changes shape every 100,000 years, becoming either more round or more elliptical. The shape of the orbit is known as its “eccentricity” and a related aspect is the 41,000-year cycle in the tilt of the Earth’s axis.

Glaciation of the Earth also occurs every 100,000 years and Liesiecki found the timing of changes in climate and eccentricity coincided.

“The clear correlation between the timing of the change in orbit and the change in the Earth’s climate is strong evidence of a link between the two,” Liesiecki said. She also said she discovered the largest glacial cycles occurred during the weakest changes in the eccentricity of Earth’s orbit — and vice versa, with the stronger changes in orbit correlating to weaker changes in climate.—Internet

Sleeping professor left on plane

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Children of part-time mothers ‘less obese than those of stay-at-home mums’

MADAGASCAR, 7 April—Women who do not work are more likely to have fatter children than those who work part-time, according to new research. The study found that children whose mothers worked part-time were less likely to be overweight.

The study looked at the impact of mothers’ hours of paid work on children’s lifestyle and weight between the ages of four and seven years.

It found that children whose mothers worked part-time were less likely to be overweight.

They also watched less TV, ate less junk food and were more physically active than children whose mums worked full-time or were stay at home mums.

The study, by the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute in collaboration with the University of New England and the Australian National University, has just been published by Social Science and Medicine.

Professor Jan Nicholson, of the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute, said the study - the first of its kind on maternal working hours - demonstrated the positive impact of part-time work for mothers with young children.

She said: ‘What we’re seeing is that mums who work part-time are better able to balance their work demands with family life and are more able to monitor their children’s eating habits and activities, which has direct health benefits for children.’

Madonna lays first brick of new Malawi girls’ academy

MALAWI, 7 April—MADONNA laid the first brick of her new girls’ academy outside Malawi’s capital yesterday.

The singer said as she placed the brick with the inscription “DARE TO DREAM” that it had been one and there never will be one.”

The statement marks Bullock’s first public remarks since reports of James’ alleged philandering surfaced.

Just right after the actress won an Oscar in March for her role in “The Blind Side,” at least four women came forward to speak about alleged affairs they had had with James, who has had nearly five-year marriage with the actress. James released an apology and even entered rehab for “personal reasons” early last year.

His attorney, Joe Rann, said in a statement Monday that James wanted to save the marriage. “When all is said and done, he wants the same people who were living in his house before all this happened to still be living there. And he wants to save his marriage with the woman he loves more than anything in his life.”

Sandra Bullock: “There is no sex tape”

NEW YORK, 7 April—US Oscar-winning actress Sandra Bullock Wednesday denied media reports that there is a sex tape with her dead husband of two years Jesse James. Bullock spoke out in response to an online report that James possesses a graphic sex tape, which he could possibly use as leverage in a divorce case.

She strongly denied in a statement to People.com that such a tape exists. “There is no sex tape...There never has been one and there never will be one.”

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Egypt hosts meeting on recovery of ‘stolen treasures’

CAIRO, 7 April—Global culture officials are to meet to discuss how to recover ancient treasures which they say have been stolen and displayed overseas.

Sixteen countries will be represented at the two-day conference in Cairo. It has been organised by Egypt’s Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA), which wants many pharaonic items returned from Western museums.

The SCA said the forum would discuss “the protection and restitution of cultural heritage.”

Representatives will include cultural officials from Greece, Italy and China, all of which have lost ancient artefacts over the centuries which that they now want back.

The US recently returned a 3,000-year-old wooden sarcophagus to Egypt.

Oldest American dies

NEW ORLEANS, 7 April - An Iowa woman who became the oldest living American less than a month ago has died. Neva Morris of Ames, Iowa, was 114 years, 245 days old. The North Crest Community nursing home says she died on Tuesday with her son-in-law at her side.

Morris became the oldest living American on March 8. The Gerontology Research Group of Los Angeles says Eunice Sanborn of Jacksonville, Texas, is now the oldest living American at 113 years, 260 days old.

Morris’ son-in-law, Tom Wickersham, said last month that Morris had vision and hearing loss but was “quite mentally alert.” She also liked to sing “You Are My Sunshine” nearly every day.
Woods in next-to-last group for Masters' 1st round

Augusta, 7 April—Another day at Augusta National brought Tiger Woods closer to the very reason he came to the Masters.

He turned his head from side to side so he could make eye contact with fans as he walked off the green. He looked more at ease as he tried to make good on his pledge to be a better person.

But as much as Woods talks about repairing his image from a sex scandal, he ultimately will be judged by the number on his scoreboard.

"Why do you think he's here?" said Jack Nicklaus, whose 18 majors remains the benchmark. Woods is chasing, "I don’t think he’s here for his health or anything. He’s here to play golf. That’s what he is. He’s a very good golfer. It’s his first major of the year. He’s taking large steps to get his life back in order, and he wants to play golf.

"He’s excited about wanting to play, and I think that’s great for him. And I think that’s great for the game."

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Messi magic smashes Arsenal's Champions League dreams

Barcelona, 7 April—Argentinian superstar Lionel Messi's first ever four goal haul saw holders Barcelona reach the Champions League semi-finals here on Tuesday in a 4-1 defeat of English side Arsenal in their quarter-fi nal second leg clash to win 6-3 on aggregate.

The 22-year-old world player of the year - who went into the match with three hat-tricks already in 2010 - destroyed Arsenal after Danish striker Nicklas Bendtner had briefly given the visitors hope with the opening goal. Bendtner scored on the counter-attack after 18 minutes, but then Messi stole the show with a hat-trick before half-time and a late strike two minutes before the end with Arsenal already beaten.

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger, whose Ar senal side had lost to Barcel ona in the 2006 final, was gracious in defeat.

Translated Inter could win Champions League: Mourinho

MOSCOW, 7 April—Italian champions Inter Milan have shed themselves of their inferiority complex regarding the Champions League and could even go all the way and win it, claimed their colourful Portuguese coach Jose Mourinho.

The 47-year-old was speaking after a Wesley Sneijder freekick had seen Inter beat Russian side CSKA Moscow 1-0 in their quarter-final second leg clash to complete a comfortable 2-0 aggregate victory and book a place in the last four for the first time in seven years.

Mourinho, who is the first coach to guide three different teams to the semi-finals although Bayern Munich’s Louis van Gaal could join him if they beat Manchester United on Wednesday, said that Inter would approach the semi-finals - where they will play Barcelona - in a completely different mental state.

Former Spain coach Clemente gets Valladolid job

MADRID, 7 April—Spanish Primera Liga side Valladolid have appointed former Spain coach Javier Clemente as their new manager until the end of the season, the club said on Tuesday.

Clemente, who managed the Spanish national team between 1992 and 1998, replaces Onesimo Sanchez, who was sacked on Monday after just over two months at the helm of the club which is at risk of relegation.

The 60 year-old has coached other Spanish league sides including Athletic Bilbao, Espanyol, Getxo and Real Betis.
**Russia to launch seven more Glonass navigation satellites**

MOSCOW, 7 April—Russia planned to launch seven more satellites for its Global Navigation Satellite System (GLONASS) by the end of 2010, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said on Tuesday. “We will launch another seven satellites by the end of this year, including six Glonass-M and one Glonass-K,” Putin said at a conference on GLONASS development plans, quoted by Russian news agency. The GLONASS cluster would have no less than 27-28 units by then, which could provide a truly global coverage, the Prime Minister noted.

Internet

**Weather**

Wednesday, 7th April, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.

MST. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin State, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in Chin, Shan, Kakhine, Kayah and Kayin States, Bago Division, (5°C) to (6°C) above April average temperatures in Kachin and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions, (7°C) to (8°C) above April average temperatures in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (45.8°C), Minbu (45.6°C), Magway (45°C), Monywa, Mandalay, Myingyan, Nyaung U and Aunglan (44°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (0.40) inch and Machanbaw (0.28) inch.

Maximum temperature on 6-4-2010 was 103°F. Minimum temperature on 7-4-2010 was 78°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 7-4-2010 was 65%. Total sun shine hours on 6-4-2010 was (9.6) hours approx.

Rainfall on 7-4-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (21:30) hours MST on 6-4-2010.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 8th April 2010: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Shan, Mon, Kayin and Rakhine States, Bago, Yangon and Ayeawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 8-4-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 8-4-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 8-4-2010: Partly cloudy.
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VOA, BBC—sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB—generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Union Election Commission issues announcement on formation of state and division sub-commissions

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—The Union Election Commission of the Union of Myanmar today issued the Announcement No. 3/2010 on formation of state and division sub-commissions.

The announcement states that in exercise of the powers stipulated in Article 8(c) of the Union Election Commission Law, Kachin State, Kayah State, Kayin State, Chin State, Sagaing Division, Taninthayi Division, Bago Division, Magway Division, Mandalay Division, Mon State, Rakhine State, Yangon Division, Shan State and Ayeyawady Division sub-commissions have been formed to supervise the successful holding of the Hluttaw elections in 2010.

Offices of the sub-commissions will be opened at the respective State and Division General Administration Department offices.

The sub-commissions formed and assigned with this announcement are to make supervision for the respective elections to be free and fair and in accord with the election laws and rules.

AROUND THE WORLD

Explosion in E Afghanistan wounds 10 civilians

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—The Union Election Commission of the Union of Myanmar today issued announcements on formation of the district sub-commissions and assignment of duties to them.


Offices of those district sub-commissions will be opened at the respective District General Administration Department offices.—MNA

A wounded Afghan boy rests on a hospital bed after a bomb blast in Jalalabad on 7 April, 2010. At least one civilian was killed and 15 wounded after a bomb blast in the eastern city of Jalalabad, police said.