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Thursday, 29 April, 2004

State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe sends congratulations to President of South Africa

YANGON, 29 April— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Thabo M Mbeki, on his re-election as President of the Republic of South Africa. —MNA

The Union of Myanmar The State Peace and Development Council The Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Law (The State Peace and Development Council Law No. 4/2004) The 10th Waxing of Kason 1366 M.E. (28th April, 2004)

The State Peace and Development Council hereby enacts the following Law:-

Chapter I Title, Application and Definition

1. This Law shall be called the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Law.
2. This Law shall apply to providing assistance in criminal proceedings with States parties to an international convention or regional agreement to which the Union of Myanmar is a State party or with the State that has entered into bilateral agreement or with the State that will provide reciprocal assistance though not a State party to the international convention or regional agreement or bilateral agreement with respect to investigation, prosecution and judicial proceedings in criminal matters.
3. The following expressions contained in this Law shall have the meanings given hereunder:
 - (a) **Offence means** the offence, punishable with imprisonment for a term of one year and above under any existing law. The said expression also includes offences punishable with imprisonment for a term of one year and above under the law of any requesting foreign State;
 - (b) **Assistance means** providing assistance in investigation, prosecution and judicial proceedings in respect of an offence for the purpose of this Law;

(See page 10)

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Honorary Myanmar Consul-General to Busan of ROK

YANGON, 28 April — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt received Honorary Consul-General of the Union of Myanmar to Busan of the Republic of Korea Mr Won Bae Dahn at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyintha at 4.30 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Director-General U Soe Tint of the Government Office and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department. — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

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Circulation

22,653



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Honorary Consul-General to Busan of Republic of Korea Mr Won Bae Dahn. —MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 29 April, 2004

Strive For speedy completion of power projects and make thrifty use of electricity

The Government of the Union of Myanmar is making every endeavour for the nation to be able to catch up with the development of other countries in the world. It hardly need be emphasized that the electric power sector plays a very important role in all our efforts for the national development.

The development of the electrical power sector can surely contribute to socio-economic growth. Therefore, electric power projects are being implemented wherever possible in the nation to fulfil its electricity needs.

The National Electric Power Development Coordination Meeting was held at the meeting hall of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) on 27 April and Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address at the meeting.

The Head of State, in his address, emphasized that all should understand every situation of the nation, including the projects, and that the key departments will have to make earnest efforts in implementing the projects and the related departments will have to render effective support to them.

The step-by-step implementation of the electric power development projects must be based on the national resources and other conditions of the nation.

For the electric power development, the government is implementing the plans for the national grid and the projects for supplying electricity to respective regions.

The purpose of the plans for the national grid is to supply electricity to the hubs of the nation and main industrial zones. The regional projects are specially intended for economic and social development of respective regions.

Eleven electric power projects are being implemented for the national grid. They are Monechaung, Paunglaung, Tikyit, Yenwe, Shweli, Kengtawng, Pyu-chaung, Khabaung, Kunchaung, Shwegyin and Yeywa power projects. Out of these projects, the three, namely, Monechaung, Paunglaung and Tikyit power projects are nearing completion and they will be able to generate a total of 475 megawatts.

Another four projects for the national grid are to be implemented within four years. Similarly, projects for regional use are also under way.

We would like to urge all those responsible to put their energies into their work for speedy completion of the projects and the entire people to make systematic and thrifty use of electricity.

ကုသကာကွယ် မူးယစ်အန္တရာယ်

၁။ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲလျှင် အသက်ရောင် အသားဝါရောဂါ၊ အသွေးခြောက်ရောဂါ၊ အသွေးကင်ဆာရောဂါ၊ သွေးဆိပ်တက်ခြင်းနှင့် နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ အဆုတ်ရောဂါများ ခုခံအားကျဆင်းမှုရောဂါ (AIDS) နှင့် စိတ်ပိုင်းဆိုင်ရာရောဂါများစသည့်တို့ ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သည့်အဖြစ်၊ စီးပွားရေးနှင့် လူမှုရေးများ ထိခိုက်ပျက်ပြားခြင်း၊ ဥပဒေအရ အရေးယူခံရခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

၂။ ထို့ကြောင့် အဆိုပါဒုက္ခများမှကင်းဝေးစေရန် မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးကို လုံးဝ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

၃။ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲသူများသည်သတ်မှတ်ဆေးရုံများတွင် မှတ်ပုံတင်၍ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Maritime Courses (Myeik Camp) opened

YANGON, 28 April—The Basic and Advanced Maritime Course No 1/2004 (Myeik Camp) for new generation youths, co-organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Central) and the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Office, was opened at Pale Yadana Hall in Myeik on 26 April morning.

Present on the occasion were Commander of Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Commander of Taninthayi Naval Region Command Captain Win Shein, senior military officers, local authorities and guests. First, Commander Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Captain Win Shein gave speeches.

Next, the commander accepted donations from wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them. Altogether 70 trainees — 50 at the basic course and 20 at the advanced course — are attending the course which will last five weeks.

MNA



Coastal Region Command Commander Brig-Gen Ohn Myint delivers an address at the opening ceremony.— MNA

Basic Aviation Course opened

YANGON, 28 April—The Basic Aviation Course No 1/2004 (Namhsan Camp) for new generation youths, co-organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Central) and the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office, was opened at the hall of Namhsan Station on 26 April morning, attended by Brig-Gen Thura Myint Thein of Namhsan Station, senior military officers, departmental officials and guests. Altogether 50 trainees are attending the course which will last five weeks.— MNA

Basic & Advanced Maritime Course (Mandalay Camp) opened

YANGON, 28 April—The Basic and Advanced Maritime Course No 1/2004 (Mandalay Camp) for new generation youths, co-organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Central) and the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Office, was opened at the office of Mandalay Division USDA in Chanayethazan Township on 26 April morning.

Present were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Nay Win, Commander of Naval Training Command Captain Maung Oo Lwin, local authorities, Secretary of Mandalay Division USDA U Tin Maung Oo and guests.

Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint and Captain Maung Oo Lwin delivered speeches on the occasion. Altogether 75 trainees — 50 at the basic course and 25 at the advanced course — are attending the five-week course.

MNA

Press Conference on Ninth Thailand Exhibition 2004 held

YANGON, 28 April—The Press Conference on Ninth Thailand Exhibition 2004, to be organized by Office of Commercial Affairs of the Thai Embassy with the permission of the Ministry of Commerce under the economic cooperation between Myanmar and Thailand was held at Mingala Hall of Kandawgyi Hotel this morning. The Thai Exhibition 2004 will be held at Yangon Trade Centre on Upper Pazundaung Road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township from 5 to 8 May.

Also present on the occasion were Thai Ambassador Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal, Adviser to the News and Periodicals Enterprise U Tin Kha, Director (News) U Hla Tun, chief editors and editors of Myanma News Agencies (Internal) and (External), Patron of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club U Hla Htway, President U Sao Kai Hpa and members, Commercial Counsellor of the Thai Embassy Mr Matyawongse Amatyakul, officials and guests.

First, the Thai Ambassador and the Thai Commercial Counsellor explained that the Thailand Exhibitions had been held for eight times, here, from 1998 to 2003, and the ninth exhibition will be held on a grand scale in May 2004. In the ninth exhibition, altogether 140 Thai

companies of prominent manufactures & exporters from Thailand will display their products such as auto parts & accessories, chemical products, children products, construction material & hardware, cosmetics & fashion accessories, electronic products, food products, beverage & packaging, furniture, garments & textile, household products & kitchenware, leather products, footwear, machinery tools & parts, pharmaceutical & sanitary products, service trade and stationery at 175 booths. As special events in this show, the Display Thai Fresh Fruits & Fruit Carving Contest and the Technology-Transfer Presentation on Beauty & Health will be held. As a result of holding the Thailand Exhibitions successively, Thai merchants could get opportunities to further strengthen ties with Myanmar merchants. In this year's exhibition, traders and businessmen may visit the exhibition on 5 and 6 May fixed as trade days with a view to organizing discussions between Myanmar and Thai businessmen. May 7 and 8 are the days for the general public without charge.

The ambassador and the commercial counsellor answered the queries raised by the journalists.

MNA



Press conference on Ninth Thailand Exhibition 2004 in progress. — MAN



လယ်ယာလုပ်ငန်းနှင့်တွင်
မြေအန္တရာယ်ကွယ်ခံနိုင်မှုများကို
ဝတ်၍ သွားလာလုပ်ကိုင်ကြပါ။



ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
ဆေးသုတေသနနှင့်စီးပွား
အမှတ်(၅) စီမံကလေး၊ ခရိုင်မြို့နယ်
ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊
(ရွှေတိဂုံဘုရားတောင်ဘက်မှစီမံခန့်ခွဲ)

Spain to float Iraq proposal to France, Germany

MADRID, 28 April— Spain will discuss with anti-war allies Germany and France how to find a solution to the conflict in Iraq within the United Nations framework, a Spanish government source said Tuesday.

"The idea is to see if Spain, France and Germany can help the United States find a solution in Iraq...and devise a formula for an international presence there that would not be perceived as an occupation by most of the population," the source said.

New Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, whose first decision on taking office was to withdraw troops sent to Iraq by his predecessor, said Tuesday the last of Spain's soldiers will have left Iraq by May 27.

Zapatero will discuss Iraq during talks with German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder in Berlin Wednesday and with French President Jacques Chirac in Paris Thursday.

The Socialist leader is a strong advocate of acting within the United Nations framework.

Any joint Spanish-French-German initiative would probably unfold in the UN Security Council — all three are members — though the source said the form it might take had not been decided.

Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos has mentioned the possibility of sending Arab forces into Iraq, and of a future international presence that would not include soldiers from countries which have been a part of the US-led coalition.

Under Zapatero's predecessor, Jose Maria Aznar, Spain was a staunch supporter of the US-led invasion of Iraq last year and sent forces there after the fall of Saddam Hussein.

France and Germany were the leading opponents of military intervention in Iraq and neither joined the coalition.

Zapatero was elected on 14 March, three days after the train bombings that killed 191 people in Madrid. During the election campaign, he had pledged to withdraw troops from Iraq unless the United Nations took political and military control of the country by June 30.

Internet

Sisters of dead US soldier not going back to Iraq

MADISON (Wisconsin), 28 April— The soldier-sisters of a Wisconsin military policewoman killed while serving in Iraq, said on Tuesday they had decided not to return to Iraq to serve out combat duty with their Wisconsin National Guard units.

Rachel and Charity Witmer, who returned home to bury their sister, said they were swayed, in part, by the possibility that their highly publicized dilemma could make them targets in Iraq and endanger their comrades.

"During the last two weeks, we have been mourning the loss of our sister, Michelle, our hero," said a

statement from the sisters read by a family spokeswoman at the Wisconsin National Guard headquarters.

"We have been faced with a profoundly difficult and complex decision. It is by far the most difficult decision we have ever made," the statement said.

Neither Rachel Witmer, 24, a specialist with the Guard's 32nd Military Police Company, nor Charity Witmer, Michelle's 20-year-old twin and a medic with the 118th Medical Battalion, appeared at the news conference. It was attended by their mother, Lori Witmer.

Michelle, who was also a specialist in Rachel's unit, was killed when a convoy in which she was riding was attacked in an April 9 ambush near Baghdad.

Their unit's tour of duty was recently extended by 120 days, an outcome of the military being stretched by conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Before the military had informed the Witmer family that the sisters did not have to return to Iraq under its bereavement policy, John Witmer, the sisters' father, said they should not have to go back because the family had "sacrificed enough." The appeal prompted an outpouring of sympathy. The sisters' commanders in Iraq have asked that they not return because of their high visibility, a National Guard spokesman said.

"A decision to return to Iraq could expose our fellow soldiers to increased danger, and that we would not do," the sisters' statement said.

MNA/Reuters

US toll in Iraq hits 115 for month

BAGHDAD, 28 April— A US soldier was killed Tuesday by insurgents in Baghdad, bringing the American combat death toll for April to 115 — the same number of US combatants killed in the two-month invasion of Iraq a year ago.

Tuesday's death occurred when Shiite gunmen attacked a patrol near the Baghdad Shiite neighbourhood of Sadr City, Brig General Mark Kimmitt said. A US soldier also was wounded, he said.

The district is a stronghold of radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's Al-Mahdi Army militia.

So far, 714 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year. Of those, 513 died as a result of hostile action and 200 died of non-hostile causes.

Since May 1, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 574 US soldiers have died — 403 as a result of hostile action and 171 of non-hostile causes. — Internet



A convoy of 33 vehicles carrying Spanish troops heads for the Kuwaiti frontier from their bases in the Najaf and Diwaniya area of Iraq on 27 April, 2004. — INTERNET

UNSG urges eco, trade reforms for global development

UNITED NATIONS, 28 April — United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged on Monday governments to conduct quick economic and trade reforms in order to reach the millennium development goals.

The millennium development goals, adopted in 2000, include halving the poverty rate by 2015, hiking rates of education and controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Under the consensus

reached in the 2002 Monterrey conference for development financing, developed nations have increased official development assistance and eased external debt burdens of developing nations, Annan

told a joint meeting of the UN Economic and Social Council, the Bretton Woods Institutions and the World Trade Organization.

MNA/Xinhua

China's "steel capital" welcomes world businessmen

SHENYANG, 28 April— China's "steel capital", Anshan City in northeast China's Liaoning Province, became the hot spot for businessmen from home and overseas at the 2004 China Anshan International Economic and Trade Symposium which was opened here.

"Anshan City is the first target of our investment during China's great move to rejuvenate its northeast, the old industrial base of China," said Mao Keqiang, chairman of Northern American Enterprises Investment Group.

As the centre of China's northeastern old industrial base, Anshan is famous for its abundant ore resources. So far, 51 ore types have been discovered in Anshan and 37 are under exploitation.

Anshan boasts one-fourth of China's iron ore storage, 80 per cent of China's magnesite storage, or one-fourth of the world's total and 40 per cent of China's talc content.

Moreover, Anshan is also a city famous for its unique tourism resources. In Qianshan Mountains east of Anshan, a mountain with a naturally formed stone Buddha has attracted Buddhists from home and overseas.

An eight-metre tall jade Buddha sculpted entirely from jade and weighing 260.76 tons is another marvel of Anshan and was listed in the Guinness Book of Records in 2002.

As China's iron and steel industry base, Anshan had been a city both thriving and dependent on the iron and steel industry with an annual iron and steel output covering over half of the country's total yield.

But with the decline of northeast China's old industrial base, the development of Anshan City had been retarded because of its single economic structure and backward enterprise system.

With the launch of rejuvenating the northeast China by the Chinese Government this year, the Anshan municipal government has been trying to seize this opportunity to develop.

MNA/Xinhua

Traffic accidents daily claim 300 lives in China

CHONGQING, 28 April — Death toll from traffic accidents has been on the rise in China in recent years, with an average of some 100,000 lives lost annually since 2001, according to the national meeting on road safety.

This meant close to 300 people were killed daily on average, said Zhang Jianfei, head of the highway department of the Ministry of Communications Monday at the meeting held in Chongqing Municipality in southwest China.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi man throws gasoline onto a burning US Army Humvee in Baghdad on 26 April, 2004. — INTERNET

Swedish leader to press Bush on UN role in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, 28 April—Swedish Prime Minister Goran Persson said on Tuesday that he planned to encourage US President George W Bush to get the United Nations more involved in Iraq.

Sweden, which opposed last year's US-led invasion of Iraq without prior UN Security Council approval, believes "it would not be possible to end the war without UN support," said Persson, who is scheduled to see Bush at the White House on Wednesday.

Sweden, which has sent troops to Afghanistan, Liberia and Kosovo, has no plans to send soldiers to Iraq but will continue to provide humanitarian aid, Persson said after talks with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in New York.

"It will be of course for me extremely interesting to hear the opinion from the US President about how he looks upon the possibility to include the multilateral aspect in solving this conflict," Persson said.

"That is something that many of us have asked for, for

many a year. We thought that it would have been a huge advantage to have the support in the UN Security Council before the war started," he said.

To win the international community's support and cooperation for its policies in Iraq, Washington should "respect the UN structures," give the world body a role commensurate with the tasks at hand, and provide it with adequate security, he said.

The United States must also do what it can to provide the new Iraqi interim government due to take power by July 1 with "the best possible conditions to prepare the upcoming elections." Under a timetable set out in its transitional constitution, Iraq would elect a new national assembly by the end of January 2005.

Internet

Chinese FM spokesman says Iraqi sovereignty inseparable

BEIJING, 28 April — The sovereignty of Iraq is of course inseparable after the handover of its power which is scheduled for June 30, said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan here Tuesday.

"The Iraqi people should run their own country after the handover of its power so as to let the United Nations play its due role and create conditions for a lasting, secure, stable and peaceful Iraq in future," said Kong at a regular Press conference.

However, the situation in Iraq is turning increasingly more turbulent instead of moving toward a good direction, Kong acknowledged. "China is very concerned about that."

To settle the Iraqi issue, China holds that the voices of the Iraqi people from various strata should be heard on such major issues as transition and election, said Kong, adding that primary consensus can be reached according to their voices while the Iraqi sovereignty can be resumed based on the consensus. — MNA/Xinhua

Number of diabetic cases in India, China, US rising

HOUSTON, 28 April — India, China and the United States tops the list of countries with the maximum number of diabetes cases and this number is expected to more than double by 2030, a report said Monday.

Researchers estimate that 366 million people, or 4.4 per cent of the world's population, will be diabetic by 2030 that's up from 171 million, or 2.8 per cent of the population, in 2000.

MNA/PTI

New mineral found on the moon

WASHINGTON, 28 April — A new mineral formed by repeated bombardments from meteorites and other space debris has been found in a meteorite that fell to Earth from the Moon in 2000, researchers reported on Monday.

The finding shows that "space weather" can help create materials not seen on Earth, they reported in this week's issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The new mineral is named Hapkeite, after Bruce Hapke, an emeritus professor of geology and planetary sciences at Cornell University in New York, who predicted its discovery.

Airless bodies such as the Moon, Mercury, and asteroids have an inorganic soil made of crushed rocks called regolith.

In theory, it is formed by the impact of micrometeorites travelling at high speed. The heat from their impact melts and vaporizes metals, which are then redeposited on rock fragments as tiny, scattered beads in a glassy coating.

MNA/Reuters

ဝက်ပုဂ္ဂိုလ်များ အား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero explains his reasons for pulling Spanish troops out of Iraq during a Parliamentary debate in Madrid, on 27 April, 2004. Zapatero promised to have all Spanish troops out of Iraq by 27 May, 2004. — INTERNET

Spanish troops to leave Iraq by 27 May

MADRID, 28 April—The last of Spain's troops in Iraq will have left by May 27, Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero said Tuesday.

Zapatero told parliament troops from the Plus Ultra II brigade, Spain's core force in Iraq since last year, had now pulled out and that the only forces remaining in the country were support and logistics troops who would carry out the withdrawal.

Spanish troops have already left Iraq's holy Shiite city of Najaf, where rebel Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr is holed up with his militia, officials said. US forces killed dozens of insurgents there in battles overnight.

"It is foreseen that by 27 May there will not be any Spanish troops in Iraqi territory. All of them will be in Spain or in international waters on their way to Spain," Zapatero said.

With the main Plus Ultra II brigade gone, about 900 Spanish troops remained, all of them belonging to the special unit carrying out the withdrawal, newspaper El Pais said. — INTERNET

Egypt adheres to liberating Arab lands occupied since 1967

CAIRO, 28 April — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said recently that his country adheres to the commitment to liberating all the Arab lands occupied by Israel since 1967.

Mubarak made these remarks in a keynote speech to the Egyptian people and the Arab world on the occasion of Sinai Liberation Day.

The President said that the peace treaty signed by Egypt and Israel 25 years ago has paved the right way for establishing just and overall peace in the region and laid down the foundation of establishing comprehensive peace between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

Yet he stressed the Egyptian staunch stand that all the Arab lands occupied since 1967 in Palestine, the Syrian

Golan Heights and south Lebanon should be liberated and an independent Palestinian state should be established.

As for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's plan to withdrawal from Gaza Strip and some West Bank Jewish settlements, Mubarak said "the withdrawal itself is a welcomed step, especially that it comes within the context of implementing the first phase of the roadmap".

But he noted that "the success of any pullout depends on close coordination and direct negotiations with

the Palestinian National Authority".

Mubarak said that "ending the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories according to the borders of June 4, 1967 and the right of the Palestinian refugees to return home are two core issues and part of the final status settlement". He urged the international community, especially the European Union and the international quartet, to draw up clear timetables for the two conflicting parties to abide by their commitments to the roadmap step by step.

MNA/Xinhua

Annan cautions US against attack on Fallujah

UNITED NATIONS, 28 April—United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged on Monday the US-led coalition to work out a political settlement for the military standoff in the restive Iraqi city of Fallujah.

"I think basically the US itself has been very careful about how it handles the situation in Fallujah," Annan told reporters upon his arrival in the UN Headquarters.

"Anytime one is forced to fight in built-up areas, it is a very tricky and a very dangerous situation because you

want to protect civilians," he said.

"I hope they (the US-led coalition) will succeed in working out a political settlement. I know they have succeeded with the ceasefire, but I hope they will find a way out without having to fight their way into Fallujah," he

added.

US troops launched offensives on Fallujah, a city inhabited by Sunnis, on 5 April after four US contractors were killed there. The offensives have reportedly left over 800 Iraqis dead and more than 1,000 wounded.

MNA/Xinhua



British Army soldiers guard a convoy of tanker trucks after an attack in the southern city of Basra on 26 April, 2004. — INTERNET

NZ man confirmed to be detained in Iraq

WELLINGTON, 28 April — New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) has confirmed that a man from New Plymouth is being detained in Iraq, New Zealand Press Association reported Tuesday.

Andreas Schafer's family first feared he was being held in Iraq about a month ago after receiving an email suggesting he had been detained by the American-led Coalition Provisional Authority which administers the country.

However fears were held for his safety after the MFAT checked through diplomatic channels and found he was not being detained by American authorities. MFAT spokesman Jonathan Schwass said Tuesday that the MFAT this week received information confirming Schafer had been detained in Iraq.

He refused to comment on who was holding Schafer, other than to say it was not an guerrilla group.

Schafer was alive and well, but the MFAT was seeking more information on where he was being held and why, Schwass said.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia puzzled over US sovereignty plan for Iraq

MOSCOW, 28 April — Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Tuesday expressed bewilderment over the United States' plan on partial power transfer for Iraq.

"It has already been announced that the Americans don't intend to give back full sovereignty. But then we need to know what will happen. Will this be occupation?" Lavrov was quoted by Russian news agencies as saying.

"If it's occupation, what kind of sovereignty will be handed over on June 30?"

He said the new Iraqi government should be formed on a transparent basis and includes representatives of all opposition forces, but no terrorists.

"I am becoming increasingly convinced

that it would be more in the political and practical interests of everyone, including the coalition, if the government were to be formed with the participation of all Iraqi political forces," the minister said.

He said the UN Security Council and Iraq's neighbours should take part in forming the Iraqi government.

Lavrov's comments came a day after US Secretary of State Colin Powell said Monday that an interim Iraqi government, due to take office on July 1, would have to cede some sovereignty. — MNA/Xinhua



US soldiers patrol al-Abbassiyat area on the outskirts of Najaf on 27 April, 2004. Dozens of Iraqis were reported killed in heavy clashes with US-led troops near this Shiite holy city as Britain quashed speculation that it would rush more troops to Iraq. — INTERNET



Spanish troops leave Najaf

MADRID, 28 April — Spanish troops have left Iraq's holy Shiite city of Najaf, where rebel Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr is holed up with his militia, for their main base at Diwaniya, state radio reported on Tuesday.

"It was carried out today and was carried out according to plans, with all security measures and without any problems," General Jose Manuel Munoz told state radio. The pullback appears to be a first stage in Spain's plan — announced by new Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero earlier this month — to withdraw Spain's 1,400 troops from Iraq.

The Defence Ministry

was unable to confirm the report and the general declined to give more details on how the operation was done.

But Spain's Deputy Prime Minister Maria Teresa Fernandez de la Vega said in a television interview the pullback seemed to be happening. "And we are reassured to see that it (the withdrawal) is progressing and our troops are fulfilling the objectives we had set out," she said. — MNA/Reuters

France wants full transfer of power in Iraq

PARIS, 28 April — France said on Tuesday it wanted a full transfer of authority to an interim Iraqi government, due to take office on July 1, after US Secretary of State Colin Powell said the government would have to cede some sovereignty.

France reiterated its line on the transfer of power in Iraq following Powell's comments on Monday, and after the United Nations' special envoy to Iraq said on Saturday it would not be easy to meet a June 30 deadline to form the interim government.

"I refer you to what we have always advocated, which is the restoration of the effective sovereignty of Iraq in the hands of this transition government," French Foreign Ministry spokesman Herve Ladsous told a regular Press briefing. — MNA/Reuters

Cambodia, Pakistan sign three agreements

PHNOM PENH, 28 April — Cambodia and Pakistan Tuesday have signed three pacts aiming to strengthen cooperation between the two countries.

Visiting Pakistan Prime Minister Zafarullah Khan Jamali and his Cambodian counterpart Hun Sen signed memorandum of understanding on combating terrorism and transnational crimes.

Both leaders also signed the joint declaration as well as an agreement on the promotion and protection of investment between the two countries. Before the signing ceremony, Jamali held talks with Hun Sen. They exchanged views over regional and international issues of common

concern. Both sides agreed to strengthen closer cooperation and relations between the two nations.

"So this is the start and we will go and build up an embassy in Phnom Penh," Jamali told reporters after the signing ceremony. "And we ask Cambodia to support our membership in ARF (ASEAN Regional Forum)," he added.

Pakistan agreed to offer 10 million US dollars of low interest loan as a gift for the first visit to Cambodia. Hun Sen

said that he would use the money for infrastructure.

Jamali arrived in Phnom Penh on Tuesday morning and his visit is part of a nine-day tour that also includes Laos, Thailand, China and Hong Kong. "This is the first official visit by a Pakistan Prime Minister to Cambodia. And the visit is also the first step toward enhancing relations and cooperation between our two countries," said Cambodia's Foreign Minister Hor Namhong earlier.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi police deploy in force in Fallujah

FALLUJAH (Iraq), 28 April — Hundreds of Iraqi police fanned out on the streets of the restive town of Fallujah on Tuesday but the police commander said it was not clear when they would begin joint patrols with besieging US forces.

An agreement between the US-led administration and Fallujah civic leaders set a Tuesday deadline for guerrillas to hand over heavy weapons and said joint patrols between US Marines and police in the city would resume "as early as" Tuesday.

The police chief told Reuters he was waiting for news from the Americans on whether they would join his men.

Witnesses said the number of police on the streets was much larger than

at any time since US Marines began a siege of the city on 5 April. Guerrillas have met attempts by US forces to probe into the town with heavy firing.

"We have increased the number of police on the streets on this day because the agreement goes into effect today," Iraqi Police Colonel Sabbar al-Janabi told Reuters.

He said he would hold talks with US officials at a military base in the outskirts of the city of 300,000.

"I want to find out if we will be going on joint patrols today."

Witnesses said US forces clashed with guerrillas in the area of a highway north of Fallujah, 30 miles west of Baghdad, in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

US helicopters fired rockets and the sound of heavy artillery was also heard during the clashes, which lasted about one hour.

Information on casualties was not immediately available. — MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi man searches through the rubble of his house in Fallujah, Iraq, 60 kilometers, 37 miles west of Baghdad, Iraq on 27 April, 2004. — INTERNET

Chinese forest to compete for World Heritage listing

XI'AN, 28 April — The inland province of Shaanxi, northwest China, has sped up its preparations for putting a 900-year-old forest of steles on the World Heritage List.

The Forest of Steles, based in the provincial capital of Xi'an, has a collection of more than 3,300 steles and grave stones built during various historical periods of China, with the earliest dating back to the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD), said Zhao Liguang, deputy curator of the Xi'an Steles Forest Museum.

The Popular Stele of Daqin Nestorianism, which stands out for the small cross at the top, engraved in AD

781 to mark the opening of a Nestorian church. The Nestorians, an early Christian set, who were differed from orthodox Christianity in their belief that Christ's human and divine natures were quite distinct.

Other tablets include the Stone Classics of Kaicheng from the Tang Dynasty (618-907) inscribed with the thirteen Classics and historical records, totalling 650,000 Chinese characters. It is also a treasure house of Chinese

calligraphy by famous calligraphers from the Han to the Qing (1644-1911) dynasties.

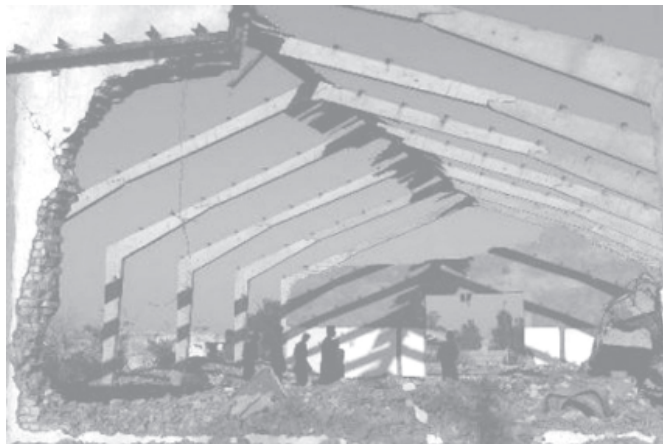
The stele forest, dubbed the "largest stone library in China", was first built in the Song Dynasty (960-1279), Zhao said.

Some of the steles recorded the introduction of religion into China and cultural and non-governmental exchanges between China and Syria, Persia, India and Japan during the Tang Dynasty (618-907).

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi boy walks on the rubble of a house that was destroyed on 12 April in Samarra, 90 kms north of Baghdad, Iraq.



Iraqi men search through the rubble of an old Iraqi army camp, which was bombed during the war, near Baghdad, on 26 March.



Iraqi man Mohammedal-Rahmani retrieves his belongings from his house, which he and neighbours said was destroyed by a tank the day before, in the northern town of Samarra on 29 March, 2004.

Images of Iraq



Iraqi men search through the rubble in the centre of Basra, southern Iraq, after at least three explosions on 21 April, 2004.



A man walks through the debris outside Baghdad's Mount Letana Hotel on 18 March, the morning after a powerful bomb detonated in front of the building.



As residents try to return to their homes in Fallujah, Iraq, a girl cries during a melee at a checkpoint on the outskirts of Fallujah on 20 April, 2004.



A wounded boy is carried to an ambulance after one of three car bomb explosions in the southern Iraqi city of Basra, on 21 April, 2004.

New and fast developments throughout Myanmar



Aerial view of Salingyi Textile Factory Project in Sagaing Division.



Opening ceremony of Government Technical Institute (Mohnyin) being seen on 10-2-2004.



Mogaung Bridge on Nankaung Creek in Mogaung Township, Kachin State was opened on 10 February, 2004.

From the song “Mann Taung Yeik Kho” to eternity

Myint Soe (Na-ta-la)

This year's Thingyan Water Festival was somewhat significant for me. It was a festival with extraordinary aspects. At the invitation of Chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, cultural troupes of various national races of border areas arrived in Yangon beginning 1 April. They were accommodated at the hostels of Bayintnaung Transit Centre No 1. All the 17 invited troupes arrived in Yangon two or three days later. They practiced yein dances with the assistance of instructors of the Ministry of Culture, and also the traditional dances.

While I was visiting the cultural troupes one day, I noticed a girl with a hsan-yit (style of hairdo with a top knot and the circular fringe) dancing alone. She was not included in any of the 16-member yein groups practicing at the place, but she was dancing to their same tune and style. Later I came to know that when all the dancers of the cultural troupes were divided into 16-member yein groups, and she was left alone, not included in any of the troupes.

Her name was Ma Cho Win. Little Ma Cho Win was crying because she thought that she would not have the opportunity to dance. She was an ethnic Kadu from Pinlebu/Bamauk region, Sagaing Division. Thus, she was practising as a reserve. Her height was a little shorter than others.

While watching her, I recalled the late famous actor Win Oo and Sanda Lin, who acted as his daughter in a movie “Hmon Shwe Yi”. In the movie, Sanda Lin, desirous of becoming a dancer, had to practise secretly. (Because her father Win Oo did not want her to become a famous dancer like her mother played by famous actress Khin Than Nu). But when she got an opportunity to dance, she was able to dance skillfully as her mother. For me “Hmon Shwe Yi” is always new.

Fortunately, there arose an opportunity for her to dance. All the other cultural troupes had their own programmes to perform a traditional dance. But the Kadu troupe had no such programme. The other troupes were going to perform their traditional dances on the stages of Thingyan pandals. TV Myanmar and Myawady TV would telecast their performances. Thus, something should be done, or else, the Kadu group would have to feel small among others.

A way was found. It was one item of the Kadu traditional dance, and the little Ma Cho Win was skilled in performing it. But other members of her group could not play the traditional drums. But it was not a problem, because Maung Bo Shine and his Myanmar orchestra troupe would do the job. Maung Bo Shine won many medals in the junior orchestra contests at the annual Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.

Thanks to the officials who arranged the programme, little Ma Cho Win got the opportunity to perform the dance — the Shwe-O Zi Dance of the Kadu Land. All the members of her group were happy, and Maung Bo Shine and his troupe became Kadus for about a week.

Another significant group was the Mon cultural

troupe. It had never visited Yangon during the Thingyan Festival in the past. At the invitation of the chairman of the WCDBANR, a 52-member troupe from the region upstream the Ye Creek in Mon State arrived Yangon on 1 April and stayed in the city till 14 April. There was another Mon cultural troupe to participate in the Yangon Thingyan Festival. It was from the southern region of Ye town. Moreover, an invited troupe from Chaungcho (Ayemontha) region in Taninthayi Division also comprised Mon nationals. What a coincide! There were three Mon troupes in Yangon during the Thingyan! Similarly, two Kayin cultural troupes — one from Mawchi region in Kayah State, and another from Hlaingbwe region, Kayin State — met in Yangon. There were two troupes — a Kadu troupe and a Naga troupe — from Sagaing Division alone. In the previous years, usually there were two ethnic Shan troupes — a troupe from Indawgyi region Kachin State, and another troupe from Myawady region, Kayin State, — comprised in the invited guests.

The above-mentioned para clearly proves that various nationalities are residing in the territory of the Union of Myanmar, and that all the regions and parts of the Union are like mini-Unions where various national races are living in unity and amity.

In addition to visiting famous pagodas in Yangon including those in Kyauktan and Thanlyin, the Mons from the region upstream the Ye Creek were able to take part in the Yangon Thingyan Festival. While visiting the Union National Races Village in the city to watch the dance rehearsal for the opening ceremony, the Mon troupe entertained the hosts with a yein dance with the song ‘Mann Taung Yeik Kho’.

After the performance, Director-General of the Department for Progress of Border Areas and National Races Col Than Swe honoured the troupe. During the festival days, they visited the pandal of the Ministry of Home Affairs and performed dances there. Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing also honoured them. Jeinphaw, Rawan, Kokang, Wa, Akha, Yun, Shan, Pa-O, Kayan, Mon, Kayin, Thet, Kadu and Naga national races merrily took part in the Yangon Thingyan Festival. They also proudly performed Thingyan yein dances and the respective traditional dances.

They stayed, visited places and danced together in Yangon for about 20 days. They exchanged knowledge of traditions and cultures, and learned each others' dances, music and language.

It was like building a firm mini-Union during the Thingyan days. Love and friendship cultivated among the national races during the time was invaluable for the nation. ‘Mann Taung Yeik Kho’ sung together in harmony by the members of the cultural troupes during the Thingyan cool water festival will live in the hearts of all the national races of the Union for many years.

(Translation: TMT)

Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 28 April — The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts to sink tube-wells for supply of sufficient safe water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce.

One 200 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 250,000; one 400 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000; and one 200 feet deep four-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000.

Those wishing to donate cash for the tube-well sinking projects for rural areas may contact the Director-General (Tel: 01-245420 & 253088), the Deputy Director-General (Tel: 01-240118), the Director (Engineering) (Tel: 01-291967), the Directors (Sagaing Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 071-21012), the Director (Magway Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 063-23164) and the Director (Mandalay Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 02-54657).— MNA

သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ယာဉ်မတော်တဆမှုများမှအချို့သည် ခါးပတ်မပတ်ကြ၍ မလိုလားအပ်သော ထိခိုက်ဒဏ်ရာရ သေဆုံးမှုများဖြစ်ကြရသည်။ သို့ပါ၍ ခါးပတ်ပါရှိသော ဆလွန်း၊ဗင်နှင့် စတော့ရင်ဝပ်ရှပ် အပါအဝင် ခါးပတ်ပါသောယာဉ်များပေါ်တွင်မောင်းနှင်စီးနင်းကြသူများအနေဖြင့် ခါးပတ် ပတ်၍စီးနင်းကြရန်သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

Efficient use of electricity

- * Use daylight as the main source of light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- * Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of fuel

- * Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- * Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US\$ 5.5 million in a year
- * The amount, US \$ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased



မီးသုံးစွဲလျှင် အသိယှဉ် အစဉ်သတိ အမြဲရှိ

အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကာကွယ်ရေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ယခုအခါတွင် နွေရာသီရောက်လာပြီဖြစ်သဖြင့် ရာသီဥတု ပြင်းလာပြီ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထိုအပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ချွေးထွက်လွန်ပြီး နွေရာသီအတွင်းရှိ ရေနံဓာတ်ဆားများ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများပြားပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် မိတ်နင့်ယားဖုများထွက်လာခြင်း၊ ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ မူးမော်ခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ ချွေးခြောက်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့အပြင် အသက်အန္တရာယ် ဖြစ်ပေါ်ရသော အခြေအနေအထိ ဖြစ်တတ်ပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် မလိုလားအပ်သော အကျိုးဆက်များ မဖြစ်ပေါ်စေရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ရန်အလက်များကို လိုက်နာကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) နံနက် (၁၀)နာရီမှ ညနေ (၅)နာရီအတွင်း လွှတ်တံခေါင်းပြင်၊ မြစ်ကမ်းနား၊ ရေအိမ်သည့်တို့တွင် ရေချိုးခြင်းမှရှောင်ကြဉ်၍ အရိပ်၍ အေးမြသောနေရာများတွင် နေပါ။
- (၂) နေပူထဲမှပြန်လာပြီး ချက်ချင်းရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၃) နေပူထဲတွင် ပြင်းထန်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုများ မပြုလုပ်သင့်ပါ။
- (၄) အရက်သောက်ခြင်းသည် အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်လွယ်စေခြင်းနှင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြင်းထန်စွာ ခံစားရခြင်းကြောင့် ရှောင်ကြဉ်သင့်ပါသည်။

- (၅) နေ့ခင်းဘက် အပြင်ထွက်သည့်အခါတိုင်း အရိပ်လုံလောက်စွာ ရရှိနိုင်သည့် ထီး၊ ဦးထုပ်များ ဆောင်ပါ။
- (၆) အလင်းရောင်ပြန်သော အမြူရောင်၊ သို့မဟုတ် အရောင်ဖျော့ဖျော့ အဝတ်အထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၇) ပွပျော့ချောင်းချည် ချည်ထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၈) ချွေးထွက်လွန်ပါက ကိုယ်တွင်းရှိ ရေနံဓာတ်ဆားဆုံးရှုံးမှုကို ပြန်လည်ဖြည့်တင်းနိုင်ရန် ဓာတ်ဆားရည်သောက်ပါ။
- (၉) ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ပါက ရေအေးဖတ် နှိုင်းနိုင်တိုက်ပါ။
- (၁၀) ဆီးချိုရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေးတိုးရောဂါအခါရှိသူများ၊ ကလေးသူငယ်များနှင့် သတ်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများအနေဖြင့် နေ့လယ်နေ့ခင်းတွင် အရိပ်၍ လေဝင်လေထွက်ကောင်းသော နေရာမျိုး၌ နားနေပါ။
- (၁၁) မိတ်ဖု၊ ယားနားများထွက်ပါက ရေအေးဝတ်ကပ်ခြင်း၊ သနပ်ခါးလိမ်းခြင်းတို့ကို ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူချိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းနှင့် အတက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် ပြသပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Commander inspects paddy cultivation and storage of paddy in Lashio

YANGON, 28 April —Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council (North) Commander of North East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint and officials inspected orange farm of North East Command in Lashio on 25 April.

The commander, the minister and party inspected plantations of macadamia and coffee, Hsinshweli special high yield sunflower, special high yield hybrid paddy and summer paddy cultivation.

They went to Hsinshweli Peasant Hall where the deputy commander reported on cultivation of paddy in cooperation with the Tatmadawmen and staff of Myanmar Agriculture Service. The commander and the minister gave instructions and inspected summer paddy cultivation.

They went to Myanmar Agriculture Service of Shan State (North) Office and inspected storage of paddy in the warehouses. — MNA

Meeting to upgrade Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) held

YANGON, 28 April—The coordination meeting to upgrade the environs of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) was held at the hall of Water Plaza of Central Forest Zone in Kandawgyi Gardens this morning, attended by Chairman of the Upgrading Work Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

At the meeting, the commander gave a speech. Next, members of the Work Committee Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Aung Thein, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu and Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Nyi Hla Nge and departmental officials reported on matters related to the upgrading tasks. The commander attended to their requirements and gave instructions on timely completion of the tasks meeting the set standard.

Next, the commander inspected progress in construction of the Agricultural Museum, upgrading tasks in the Relaxation Zone, landscaping and construction of the Recreation Zone.— MNA



Commander maj-Gen Myint Swe delivers an address at the work coordination meeting to upgrade environs of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Yangon Zoological Gardens. — PUPR

Competitions to be held to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

YANGON, 28 April— The coordination meeting for holding the Yangon Division Cartoon, Painting, Poster, Computer Art and Poster Competitions to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking which falls on 26 April 2004 was held at the meeting hall of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Drug Abuse Control Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were divisional and district authorities, the commander of Wireless and Traffic Police Force, departmental officials and guests.

First, the commander gave a speech. Next, Yangon Division Police Force Commander Police Col Aung Daing reported on the competitions and Deputy Divisional Police Commander Police Lt-Col Win Myint on formation of sub-committees and tasks to be carried out. Next, those present took part in the discussions.

Contestants may take out the applications for the competitions at the Office of Yangon Division Police Force from 5 to 12 May and may submit the applications during the period from 13 to 19 May.— MNA

Third Consulative Meeting of Working Committee of APAEC held

YANGON, 28 April — The Third Consulative Meeting of Working Committee of ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation 2004-2009 was held at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road this morning.

Present at the meeting were Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, directors-general and managing directors of the department and enterprises under the Ministry of Energy, invited personnel of the Ministry of Electric Power, the Ministry of Mines, the Ministry of Forestry and the Ministry of Industry-2, Myanmar delegates to energy sector who will take part in the discussions, members of the APAEC, officials of ASEAN Secretariat, delegates to ASCOPE, HAPUA, AFOC, EE&C-SSN, NRSE-SSN and REPP-SSN, the executive director of the Central Bureau of ASEAN Energy and officials concerned. At the meeting, the deputy minister and the executive director of Central Bureau of ASEAN Energy made speeches and the programme of the meeting followed. The meeting continues tomorrow. — MNA

Provisions donated to Ovadaçariya Sayadaws of Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 28 April — A ceremony to donate provisions to Ovadaçariya Sayadaws of the Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees was held at the ancient Buddha images Tazaung of the pagoda this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Aungmyebonsan Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pañindabhivamsa and members of the Sangha, No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tin Hsan, Chairman of Yangon West District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and members of the pagoda board of trustees, social organizations and guests.

The commander and party received the Five Precepts from the Vice-Chairman Sayadaw. Next, the commander and officials offered offertories to the Sayadaws. Later, the Vice-Chairman delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.— MNA

Regional development tasks inspected in Kawthoung

YANGON, 28 April — Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, accompanied by Brig-Gen Khin Zaw Win of Khamaukkyi Station, Col Myint Tun of Kawthoung Station and officials, inspected Palontonton Bridge Project site on 23 April morning.

After hearing the reports by the officials, the commander attended to the needs.

The commander looked into construction of Kawthoung hospital with the donations of Adaman Club Co Ltd in Aye Mya Thaya ward, Kawthoung. Officials reported on facts about the project. The commander gave instructions on timely completion of the project. At the meeting with departmental personnel at Myinzuthaka Hall in the town, the commander elaborated on regional development tasks. He visited Wizaya Mingalar Monastery in Khamaukkyi and offered rice, edible oil and provisions to the Presiding Sayadaw. The commander inspected construction of a new ordination hall and refectory and left instructions. Next, the commander inspected construction of Kawthoung-Bokpyin road section and oil palm farms along the road and gave necessary instructions. — MNA

Construction of roads, bridges inspected

YANGON, 28 April — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein and officials concerned inspected Yangon-Samalaung road section which is being built during the open season on 27 April.

Similarly, the minister and party looked into tasks being carried out for Samalaung-Maubin road section, Maubin-Kyaiklat road section with the use of chemical liquid and Kyaiklat-Pyapon gravel road in open season.

On arrival at Pyapon bridge construction site, the minister heard reports on progress in construction of bridges presented by Deputy Superintending Engineer U Khin Maung Sai of Bridge Construction Special Group-7.

The minister fulfilled the requirements.—MNA

General Banking Course for officers opens

YANGON, 28 April —General Banking Course No 3 (Officer Level) of the Banks Supervisory Committee was opened at the Central Bank of Myanmar this morning.

Present were Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, members of the Banks Supervisory Committee, the directors-general and managing directors of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue executives of Myanmar Banking Association, course instructors and guests.

Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun and Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe delivered speeches.

Instructors from banking services, the Auditor-General's Office, Supreme Court, the Institute of Economics and Cooperative Degree College will give lectures at the course. The two-month course is being attended by 49 trainees from the Central Bank of Myanmar, State-owned and private banks.— MNA



Minister for Finance & Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivers an address at the opening ceremony. — F&R

The Union of Myanmar

The State Peace and Development Council

The Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Law

The State Peace and Development Council Law No. 4/2004

The 10th Waxing of Kason 1366 ME 28th April, 2004

(Continued from page 1)

- (c) **Investigation** includes inquiry, search and seizure of exhibits relating to the offence by a police officer or person authorized by the Central Authority or the Judge;
- (d) **Performance of judicial proceedings** includes all activities of the judge under any existing law, with respect to an offence;
- (e) **Property means** corporeal and incorporeal property of every description, whether tangible or intangible, movable or immovable. This expression also includes interests, rights and ownership in respect of the property;
- (f) **Document means** writing, mark, figure alphabet or symbol upon any substance including information and record or any mark or symbol that can be interpreted by any means or any object that can interpret sound, image or writing spontaneously or a map, design, picture and any similar object;
- (g) **Record means** any data recorded or marked upon any substance and which can be read or understood by any person personally or by a computer system or by the use of any other device;
- (h) **Restraining Order** means any order issued with the intention of restraining property related to offence in the possession of any person;
- (i) **Central Authority** means the Central Authority formed under this Law to provide mutual assistance in criminal matters among States.
- Chapter II**
Aims
4. The aims of this Law are as follows: —
- To enable rendering of assistance in criminal matters in accordance with international conventions, regional agreements and agreements among States;
 - To enable liaison and communication with the international organizations, regional organizations and foreign countries in carrying out criminal matters;
 - To enable laying down and carrying out appropriate means and measures for providing assistance among States, in respect of investigation, prosecution and judicial proceedings in criminal matters;
 - To enable effective prevention and suppression of other serious crimes including terrorism, financing of terrorism, transnational organized crimes and crimes related to money laundering.
- Chapter III**
Forming the Central Authority and Duties and Powers Thereof
5. The Government shall form the Central Authority for rendering assistance among States in criminal matters, comprising the following persons: —
- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| (a) Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs | Chairman |
| (b) Deputy Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs | Vice Chairman |
| (c) Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Member |
| (d) Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance and Revenue | Member |
| (e) Deputy Minister, Ministry of Immigration and Population | Member |
| (f) Deputy Chief Justice | Member |
| (g) Deputy Attorney General | Member |
| (h) A Representative from the Ministry of Defence | Member |
| (i) Director General, General Administration Department | Member |
| (j) Director General, Myanmar Police Force | Secretary |
| (k) Chief of Police General Staff Myanmar Police Force | Joint Secretary |
6. The functions and duties of the Central Authority are as follows:
- granting or refusing to provide assistance after scrutiny of the request;
 - giving opinion to the Government with respect to entering into agreement between States on mutual assistance in criminal matters;
 - laying down necessary training programmes for personnel from relevant departments and organizations for enhancement of skill and technology in implementation of this law;
 - liaising and coordinating, as may be necessary if requested issue is also involved with another State;
 - coordinating with the relevant government departments, organizations and persons in respect of the requested issue;
 - informing the relevant government department and organization to carry out matters related to the request and handing over the performances of the relevant government department and organization to the Requesting State;
 - Requesting and obtaining assistance from a foreign State in criminal matters.
7. In implementing its duties and powers under Section 6, the Central Authority may, if necessary, assign duty to any member of the Central Authority or a body headed by any member and comprising other suitable persons.
8. The Chairman of the Central Authority or the Secretary assigned by the Chairman has the right to perform the matters to be carried out immediately out of the duties and powers of the said Authority, and such performance shall be submitted to the Central Authority and approval obtained therefrom.
9. The Government may, if necessary amend, alter, suspend or cancel any performance made by the Central Authority in respect of the assistance requested
- Chapter IV**
Requesting Assistance and Refusal
10. Any foreign State requesting assistance of Myanmar in criminal matters shall:
- if it is the State Party to the international convention or regional agreement to which the Union of Myanmar is a State Party or the State which has bilateral agreement with the Union of Myanmar request assistance directly to the Central Authority;
 - if it is the State Party to the international convention or regional agreement to which the Union of Myanmar is not a State Party or the State that has not entered into bilateral agreement with the Union of Myanmar, request to the Central Authority through diplomatic channel.
11. Any foreign State may, in making a request under section 10, with respect to investigation, prosecution and judicial proceedings in criminal matters include and request the following matters
- Taking evidence or statement from any person;
 - rendering service so that judicial documents shall have effect;
 - examining objects and sites;
 - identifying or tracing money or property to be used for evidentiary purpose to be relevant to the offence;
 - executing searches, seizures, control, issuing restraining order and confiscation of exhibit;
 - obtaining information, documents to be used for evidentiary purpose, records and expert opinion;
 - providing originals or certified copies of relevant documents and records to be used for evidentiary purpose;
 - exposing the residential address of offender, location of the exhibit and other necessary information;
 - other matters in respect of which the Central Authority has agreed to give assistance.
12. The requesting State shall, in making a request mention the following facts in Myanmar language or English language
- name and designation of the authority making the request
 - statement setting out a summary and nature of the case relevant to the request;
 - necessary identity, address and nationality of the person concerned;
 - procedures for rendering assistance in matters for obtaining evidence;
 - period and limitation during which the request is to be complied with;
 - information to be exposed and evidence to be obtained;
 - statement to perform confidentially if the matter is required to be performed confidentially;
 - extract of relevant laws, rules and procedures exercised in one's own State in respect of the assistance of requested and reasons thereof;
 - name, function and responsibility of the person conducting investigation, prosecution and judicial proceedings in one's own State;
 - other necessary information.
13. The requesting State may, in urgent circumstance make request orally by telephone facsimile, electronic mail or other electronic means including computer network. In making such request the original letter of request shall be sent to the Central Authority without delay.
14. The Central Authority may -
- on receiving the request of any foreign State, request after scrutiny, necessary additional information and supporting evidence for the execution in conformity with the existing laws.
 - meet with the person or body of persons assigned by the authority of the requesting State and make inquiry and request supporting evidences.
15. If the Central Authority, on receiving the request and on finding that the request is in conformity with the following facts may grant the request:
- the offence relating to the request being an offence covered by sub-section (a) of section 3;
 - having no infringement with any fact that is ground for refusal contained in section 18;
 - the request being in conformity with the forms terms and means and ways prescribed by the Central Authority;
 - upon the expenses incurred by the Union of Myanmar for rendering assistance having been coordinated and agreed between the two countries.
16. In respect of mutual assistance in criminal matters, if the Central Authority is desirous of granting the request to the State which is neither the State Party to the Convention or regional agreement nor has bilateral agreement, it may do so on condition that such requesting State has already agreed to grant the request of the Union of Myanmar on reciprocal basis.
17. In respect of a request of any foreign State, if the Central Authority is of the opinion that, it interferes with an ongoing investigation, prosecution or proceeding in the Union of Myanmar it may postpone the request in whole or in part in consultation with the requesting State.
18. The Central Authority shall not refuse the request of any foreign State on the ground of it being a bank and financial institutions secrecy. Provided that if it is found on scrutiny that it infringes one of the following facts the request may be refused in whole or in part:
- not being in conformity with the stipulations of this Law;
 - encroaching on the sovereignty of the State, its security prevalence of law and order or public interests;
 - there being cause to believe that the race, sex, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, political opinion or personal stand of any individual is encroached;
 - there being a prohibition of conducting investigation, prosecution and judicial proceedings of an offence similar to the offence requested, under the existing law of the Union of Myanmar;
 - being an offence of military nature actionable under the Defence Services Act, 1959;
 - the subject matter relating to the request being contrary to the laws of Myanmar;
 - being a request incidental to matters reserved in the international convention to which Union of Myanmar is a State Party.
19. The Central Authority shall, on refusing the request of any foreign State reply to the requesting State giving reasons for so refusing.
20. (a) The Central Authority shall, on deciding to grant the request of any foreign State assign duty to the relevant government department and organization to execute in conformity with the stipulations.
- (b) The government department or organization assigned duty under sub-section (a) shall, for enabling the reply to the Requesting State, submit to the Central Authority urgently the condition of completion or the condition of being unable to perform, giving complete reasons.

(See page 11)



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UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT MYANMA SHIPYARDS INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed tenders are invited by Myanma Shipyards, for supply of the following M.S Plates and Angles which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty
1.	T(1) MS/2004-05	Ship construction material complying with Lloyd's (OR) ABS Grade A	
		M.S Plates	
		(8' x 30') x 6mm (or) (6' x 20') x 6mm	500 Tons (Approx:)
		(8' x 30') x 8mm (or) (6' x 20') x 8mm	
		(8' x 30') x 10mm (or) (6' x 20') x 10mm	
		M.S Angles (6M in Length)	
		65 x 65 x 6mm	50 Tons (Approx:)
		75 x 65 x 8mm	
		100 x 75 x 7mm	
		125 x 75 x 8mm	

Tender Closing Date : 28th May, 2004 (10:00) Hours

Tender Opening Date : 28th May, 2004 (14:00) Hours

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Assistant General Manager (Store), Myanma Shipyards, Sinmalike, Kamayut, Yangon, starting from 17th May, 2004 during the office hours.

3. For further detail please call 536521
Assistant General Manager (Store)
Store Department, Myanma Shipyards,
Sinmalike, Kamayut, Yangon.

India's "IT" workforce to hit two million in 10 years

NEW DELHI, 28 April — India's IT labour force will grow into a formidable army of two million in the next 10 years as against an IT workforce of 650,000 at present and 6,800 in 1986.

The threefold increase in availability of IT professionals will ensure that wage inflation pressures are curbed, according to a recent report carried on the *Economic*

Times, a New Delhi-based English newspaper.

The supply of IT professionals will outstrip demand within four years.

The paper cited a report on Indian IT as saying that there will be 48,000 surplus IT professionals in India in 2008. As of now, nearly one-third of the world's software engineers are from India.

While the projected

growth in the availability of skilled professionals will help the Indian IT industry maintain its edge over rivals, the English factor is also working to the advantage of India, the paper said. Statistics show that 7 per cent of India's population can speak English, making it the second largest pool of English speakers after the United States. — *MNA/Xinhua*

ပြည်တွင်းပြစ်ကိုအားပေးပါ

စက်ပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရန်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ မြန်မာ့ဆေးဝါးနှင့်အိမ်သုံးပစ္စည်းလုပ်ငန်း ကြီးကြပ်မှုအတွင်းရှိ စက်ရုံများအတွက် လိုအပ်သော စက်ပစ္စည်းများကို ဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်။
၂။ တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူမှုအချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါလိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV GEE HONG VOY NO (408)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEE HONG Voy No (408) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29-4-04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 upto 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: M/S EAGLE CORPORATION
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV EASTERN HERO VOY NO (93)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EASTERN HERO Voy No (93) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30-4-04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY 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 upto 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: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA LTD,
JAPAN

Phone No: 256924/256914

Boao Forum for Asia aims to be world-class forum

BOAO (Hainan Province), 28 April — The Boao Forum for Asia (BFA), which ended its annual conference here Sunday afternoon, is expected to develop into a world-class forum through progress by taking three substantial measures, Long Yongtu, secretary-general of the BFA from China, said Monday.

The BFA, which began in Boao, in China's southernmost Hainan Island Province, in 2001, is a non-governmental and non-profit international organization.

First, the forum will follow conventional international rules and practices in organizing to meet demands of delegates of all levels and from all walks of life and sectors, Long said. For example, it will arrange more small discussions and seminars between business leaders and between businessmen and politicians.

This will help enterprises seek business ties and opportunities and also enable the forum to serve as a high-level platform for business negotiations and talks, according to the secretary-general.

Second, the forum will hold a series of special meetings in the future, to let Asia and the world as well to hear voices from the BFA all the time, the secretary-general said, adding that the BFA has planned an Asian development and cooperation summit in June, an international energy forum in July, the Asian education forum in August and the world tourism conference in September.

In order to engage in more Asian countries and regions, the forum will especially hold some meetings held in West Asia, Central Asia and South Asia to expand its influence in these regions.

MNA/Xinhua

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Dated: 29 April, 2004.

Mexico to invest more money to increase gas production

MEXICO CITY, 28 April — The Mexican Government will invest about 1.578 billion US dollars in the Burgos Integral Project this year, an amount 55 per cent higher than that allocated in 2003, to boost its production to 1.1 billion cubic feet of natural gas a day.

The Energy Secretariat (SE) said Tuesday in a communique that the Burgos Integral Project developed by the oil company, Mexican Petroleum (Pemex), is part of the general strategy to increase gas production in the wake of growing demand.

The Burgos project covers the northern states of Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Coahuila, with an extension of more than 50,000 square kilometres. Burgos is the most important non-associated gas field in Mexico.

MNA/Xinhua

Honduran ship with cocaine seized in int'l waters

PANAMA CITY, 28 April — A Honduran ship loaded with 2.1 kilos of cocaine has been seized by the Panamanian, US and Colombian naval authorities, a Panamanian official said Tuesday.

The ship called *Miss Lorraine* also had a Honduran crew and was captured Monday in international waters some 96.5 kilometres north of Colon, in Panama's Exclusive Caribbean Economic Zone, said the official from the National Maritime Service.

The ship left Colon last Saturday and was heading for the Honduran Roatan Island with electrical household appliances and furniture, while the drugs "could have been loaded from a fast motorboat", he added. — *MNA/Xinhua*

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Tarceva drug extends life in lung cancer patients

ZURICH/NEW YORK, 28 April — An experimental lung cancer drug extended patients' life-expectancy by a third in a late-stage clinical trial reported on Monday, a potential breakthrough that pumped adrenalin into biotechnology shares.

The drug, Tarceva, which is being developed by OSI Pharmaceuticals Inc., Genentech Inc. and Roche Holding AG, was tested in patients who had failed to respond to chemotherapy.

"It's a giant leap forward for lung cancer patients," said Dr. Roy Herbst, chief of the lung cancer division at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

About 170,000 lung cancer sufferers die in the United States every year, of whom 30,000 could benefit from the drug, Herbst said.

The results, which were a surprise because of Tarceva's failure in an earlier trial to improve survival when combined with chemotherapy, caused OSI's shares

to more than double and drove Genentech's shares up nearly 12 per cent.

The drug is one of a new class that blocks the epidermal growth factor signal, which promotes cell growth.

"To achieve a survival benefit in any kind of cancer is very hard, so this is an event on a par with the data on Avastin," said Jim Birchenough, an analyst at Lehman Brothers.

Avastin, a colorectal cancer drug developed by South San Francisco-based Genentech and approved earlier this year, extends life expectancy by an average of five months. It validated an approach to cancer therapy known as anti-angiogenesis that starves tumours of the blood supply they need to grow.

While details of the Tarceva trial data will not be disclosed until the American Society of Clinical Oncologists' meeting in June, the results lifted the shares of all three partners, as well as other companies developing drugs based on the same technology.

Some are skeptical.

"If patients live another five or six weeks, that's again, but not that much of a gain," said Len Lichtenfeld, a spokesman for the American Cancer Society. Lung cancer patients typically live about four months from the time of diagnosis. Tarceva, if approved, would be used alone as a second- or third-line treatment for patients who do not respond to standard therapy. — MNA/Reuters

Louvre officials worried about damage to Mona Lisa

PARIS, 28 April — The Mona Lisa is showing signs of wear and worried officials at the Louvre Museum in Paris have ordered tests to check the condition of Leonardo da Vinci's 500-year-old painting.

"The thin panel of poplar wood, on which this mythical image is painted, is more warped than it was previously," the museum said in a statement on Monday.

The Louvre has ordered an in-depth scientific and technical study of the masterpiece to determine the materials used and the state of the painting, which is particularly sensitive to changes in temperature, it said.

The portrait of the woman with the enigmatic smile will remain on public view throughout. The tests are due to begin in 2005, when the painting is scheduled to move to a gallery of its own following a 4.5-million-US-dollar refurbishment.

The Mona Lisa has taken on a brownish cast due to the accumulation of dust and dirt and chemical changes to the varnish covering its surface, but the museum has so far resisted pressure to restore the painting to its original colours. — MNA/Reuters

Top British policeman traces Diana's fatal Paris drive

PARIS, 28 April — Britain's most senior police officer inspected on Monday the site of the car crash that killed Princess Diana and spawned a host of conspiracy theories.

London's Metropolitan police commissioner, Sir John Stevens, walked into the Paris road tunnel where Diana was killed along with her lover Dodi Fayed and chauffeur Henri Paul.

Stevens also visited the

Ritz Hotel in central Paris where the couple had been staying before racing off in their chauffeur-driven car with paparazzi photographers in hot pursuit.

"This is a very intricate investigation. Every single

aspect of conspiracy theories and the like will be looked at by my team and then we'll be reporting to the coroner," Stevens told reporters.

"I would say that's incredibly cynical," he said.

Stevens is conducting an investigation into the circumstances surrounding Diana's death which he was asked to carry out by Britain's Royal Coroner Michael Burgess, who accompanied him on the trip. — MNA/Reuters

Measles deaths drop worldwide

GENEVA, 28 April — The number of people, mostly children, killed by measles each year dropped by 30 per cent over three years, putting the world on track for a targeted 50-per-cent fall by 2005, United Nations agencies said on Tuesday.

But the World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN's Children's Fund (UNICEF) said more money and continued commitment by government leaders in affected countries was needed to meet the goal. Although a safe, effective and inexpensive vaccine has been available for the past 40 years, measles remains the leading killer amongst children of all diseases preventable by vaccines, the agencies said in a statement.

"We have to keep up the

work and the funding as still far too many children's lives are lost to measles," said UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy. The 30-per-cent fall to 610,000 deaths was achieved between 1999 and 2002, the latest year for which figures are available. Africa registered the strongest improvement with a 35-per-cent reduction.

In all, 311,000 people died in Africa, 196,000 in South-east Asia and 70,000 in the east Mediterranean area in 2002.

MNA/Reuters

"Living bandages" heal burns with patients' cells

LONDON, 28 April — British scientists have developed "living bandages", made from a patient's own cells, which speed healing for burns and diabetes sufferers.

The biological bandages, launched at the British Burns Association meeting on Tuesday, have been used successfully on patients with severe burns and diabetics with chronic wounds.

"It is a convenient way of using the patient's own cells to heal wounds," Professor Sheila MacNeil, of the University of Sheffield, said in an interview.

"This is a simple dressing to take laboratory-expanded cells and deliver them back to patients' wounds."

MacNeil, who developed the bandages called Myskin with her Sheffield colleague Professor Robert Short, said the bandages can be placed on wounds five to seven days after a sample of cells has been taken from the patient and grown on specialized discs in the laboratory.

After the bandage has been applied to the wound, the discs release the cells and prompt new layers of skin to grow in the damaged areas. The bandage is removed after the cells have migrated to the wound. Doctors have been using patients' own cells to heal wounds for years. Myskin, which was developed after 10 years of research, takes the technique further because the cells are grown on the bandage surface and it is put directly on to the patient's wound. "It makes it simpler all round," said MacNeil. "You can get a much faster healing than you would have done without them."

Myskin has been successfully used on a young boy suffering burns to his legs and chest from a bonfire accident, a 28-year-old with similar injuries and an 80-year-old man who had been badly burned on his face and body.

MNA/Reuters

US unveils new design for \$50 note

WASHINGTON, 28 April — US Government officials unveiled Monday the new 50 dollar note design with enhanced security features, and subtle background colours of blue and red, and images of a waving American flag and a small metallic silver-blue star.

The new design is part of the government's ongoing efforts to stay ahead of counterfeiting and protect the integrity of US currency, said officials from the Treasury Department, the Federal Reserve and the United States Secret Service at a news briefing.

The new 50 dollar note, which will be issued in late September or early October, is the second denomination in the Series 2004 currency. The first was the 20 dollar note, which began circulating in October 2003.

The officials said that the new 50 dollar notes will be safer, smarter and more secure currency: safer because they will be harder to fake and easier to check; smarter to stay ahead of tech-savvy counterfeiters; more secure to protect the integrity of US currency.

MNA/Xinhua

Nicole Kidman dazzles UN diplomats

UNITED NATIONS, 28 April — Movie star Nicole Kidman dazzled the world's top diplomats when she took time out from making the first commercial film at United Nations headquarters to mingle with ambassadors and UN officials.

Facing a crush of about 500 guests, Kidman, an Australian, and director Sydney Pollack, a New Yorker, were feted at a cocktail party on Monday night in the UN General Assembly lobby hosted by Australia's UN Ambassador John Dauth and his New York Consul-General, Kenneth Allen. The reclusive Sean Penn, co-star of the film "The Interpreter," stayed away from the reception, presumably because the Press was invited, UN sources said.

The movie is the first permitted on UN premises after Secretary-General Kofi Annan was persuaded it would be seen by millions of people the organization could never reach otherwise and would not conflict with UN values.

Oscar-winner Kidman said making a movie at the United Nations was not that much different from other sets, but the experience was rewarding, although being restricted to filming on weekends was somewhat unique. Kidman plays a UN interpreter from a fictitious African nation who overhears an assassination plot against her troubled country's leader and becomes a target herself. Penn plays a secret service agent mistrustful of her claims. "It is a wonderful script, wonderful characters, believe me," Kidman said after the ceremony. — MNA/Reuters

Chile, Dominica sign cooperation accords

SANTIAGO, 28 April — Chilean and Dominican foreign ministers signed two cooperation accords in the Chilean capital of Santiago recently and vowed to further strengthen the "excellent" bilateral ties.

Chilean Foreign Minister Soledad Alvear and her Dominican counterpart, Francisco Guerrero, who landed in Santiago on Sunday, signed the agreements and a joint statement after a working meeting.

At a ceremony in the Diplomatic Academy, Alvear conferred her Dominican counterpart the Merit Order medal in Great Cross grade for his contribution to strengthening the historical ties between both nations. — MNA/Xinhua



Contestants for Miss Universe China perform during the final rehearsal in Kunming, Yunnan Province, on 27 April, 2004. Winner of the final on 28 April will represent China in the Miss Universe 2004 pageant in Quito, Ecuador on 1 June. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Maradona improving, has drip removed

BUENOS AIRES, 28 April — Diego Maradona, who has been in intensive care for eight days with heart and breathing problems, is improving and has had an intravenous drip removed, according to a hospital statement issued on Monday.

The 43-year-old Argentina World Cup winner can tolerate liquids, is breathing without the aid of an artificial respirator and will start a diet later on Monday, added the statement released by the Suizo-Argentina clinic in Buenos Aires.

However, Maradona remains in intensive care and still requires another drip for a lung infection.

"Although there has been an evident improvement, the outlook is still cautious," read the statement.

Maradona, who has put on so much weight he is scarcely recognizable from his playing days, was taken to hospital on April 18 with a swollen heart and breathing difficulties. Doctors later said he also had pneumonia.

His fans have kept a vigil outside the hospital and join the media in the scramble for the official bulletins which are handed out in what has become a midday ritual.

MNA/Reuters



Portuguese soccer players Luis Figo (R) and Pauleta Resendes (L) wait for the ball during a training session in Coimbra stadium, on 27 April 27, 2004. Portugal will face Sweden on Wednesday in a friendly soccer match in preparation for the Euro 2004 Championship. —INTERNET

Totti says No pressure ahead of Serie A showdown

ROME, 28 April — The pressure will be off second place AS Roma when they face leaders AC Milan in next weekend's title showdown at the San Siro Stadium, according to captain Francesco Totti.

"We'll go (to the San Siro) in the right frame of mind because we've got nothing to lose," Totti was quoted as saying in *Corriere dello Sport* on Monday.

The Italy international struck twice as Roma beat Empoli 3-0 on Sunday and closed in on Milan, who drew 0-0 against Udinese.

The results gave Roma 70 points, six behind Milan with three games remaining. Champions Juventus are third on 63 points.

"Second place is almost certain and the game in Milan will be our last chance (to challenge for the title)," Totti said.

"I've always believed we could win the title, even when it seemed beyond us. I'm appealing to all our fans to follow us to the San Siro."

To win on Sunday Roma must reverse a series of poor results against the division leaders. — MNA/Reuters

Besiktas chairman to quit next month

ISTANBUL, 28 April — Besiktas chairman Serdar Bilgili will quit next month after being abused by fans at a derby match with Istanbul rivals Fenerbahce on Sunday.

Champions Besiktas, playing at home, lost 3-1 to Fenerbahce, virtually ending their chances of retaining the league title and leaving them with only a slim chance of reaching the Champions League next season.

Bilgili told a news conference on Monday he had decided to call an extraordinary general meeting within a month and would not put his name forward as a candidate for the chairmanship.

Bilgili said the abuse at Sunday's game came from parts of the stands where club congress members were sitting.

"The situation in the stands at the match hurt me inside. We are divided against one another," he said.

"I sit in the Besiktas chairman's seat and will not allow insults directed towards that seat... Hence I decided to call an extraordinary general meeting within a month.

"I will not be a candidate. My decision is final," he said.

With three games left Besiktas are third in the league, eight points behind Fenerbahce and six points behind Trabzonspor. The top two are guaranteed Champions League places. — MNA/Reuters

Beckenbauer says Bayern almost no chance of title

BERLIN, 28 April — Bayern Munich president Franz Beckenbauer says the champions have virtually no chance of catching Bundesliga leaders Werder Bremen despite their 1-0 win over TSV 1860 Munich.

Bayern failed to shine and looked short of ideas in midfield against their city rivals on Sunday but closed the gap on Werder after the leaders wasted a host of opportunities in a 0-0 draw at VfL Bochum.

"We're now six points behind (Werder Bremen) but if we play like this, how is that going to work?," Beckenbauer said. "We won't be champions playing like that."

"I've seen a lot in my life but never seen anything like the second half — there was nothing there," Beckenbauer said.

"It was worse than watching Obergiesing against Untergiesing," he added, referring to two amateur teams in Munich that play in a regional league.

Werder, chasing a fourth title and their first since 1993, have 68 points with four games to play. Bayern are second on 62 points and VfB Stuttgart third on 60.

MNA/Reuters



Brazilian player Gustavo Kuerten returns a shot to Thomas Johansson of Switzerland during their match of the Open Seat Godo tennis tournament in Barcelona, Spain, on 27 April, 2004. Kuerten won the match 7-6, 4-6, 7-6. — INTERNET

Thorpe to defend 400m freestyle title at Athens

CANBERRA, 28 April — Olympic and world champion Ian Thorpe will be able to defend his 400-metre freestyle title at the Athens Olympic Games after his teammate Craig Stevens has waived his qualification.

"I'm excited about swimming the event because I won my first Olympic gold medal in the event," Thorpe told a packed news conference at Sydney's Olympic pool Tuesday. "I'm not worried about the pressure that comes with it, a little concerned, but not worried."

Thorpe got disqualified from the 400 for a false start after slipping off the blocks during last month's Austral-

ian trials where he qualified for the 100 metres and 200 metres as well as the three relays. He lost an appeal against the disqualification but was thrown a lifeline when Stevens, who finished second to Grant Hackett at the trials, gave up his spot on Monday, saying he wanted to concentrate on his other events, the 1,500-metre freestyle and 4x200-metre freestyle relay.

"I wouldn't have swum

this race if I wasn't satisfied about the decision Craig had made and how he made the decision," said Thorpe. "I know Craig's decision was what he wanted to do, not what anyone else wanted him to do."

"I discussed with him what he had been through in the last month, and after that I thanked him for making the decision that he'd made."

MNA/Xinhua

Figo explodes after sending-off triggers Real defeat

MADRID, 28 April — Real Madrid midfielder Luis Figo has launched a fierce attack on referee Alfonso Perez Burrull after he was sent off in Sunday's 2-1 defeat by arch-rivals Barcelona.

"He was arrogant and didn't give anything in our favour," the Portuguese international told reporters. "I want the referees to blow for what they actually see, not for what they want to see."

With the score at 1-1 midway through the second half the former Barcelona winger was sent off after picking up a second booking for a reckless challenge on defender Carles Puyol.

Until then Barca had been on the ropes but Figo's dismissal paved the way for Frank Rijkaard's side to take control.

Barca snatched their first victory at the Bernabeu in more than six years when Xavi clipped the ball over Real keeper Iker Casillas following a brilliant lofted pass from Ronaldinho four minutes from time.

Figo's outburst is an indication of the tension at Real after a month of disappointments at a club expected to sweep all before it this season.

A surprise 3-2 extra-time defeat in the King's Cup final by Real Zaragoza on March 17 was quickly followed by a shock exit from the Champions League against Monaco.

Real have frittered away an eight-point lead in the Primera Liga and now trail Valencia by a point at the top of the table.

To make matters worse they have lost their last two games at the Bernabeu and Barcelona have closed to within four points of them in the standings.

Real benefitted from controversial refereeing decisions to scrape a 1-1 draw against Valencia earlier in the season and to edge a 2-1 win against Atletico Madrid last week.

Now they fear they might pay the price in the title run-in.

"We are suffering because of that penalty we were given in the last minute of the Valencia match," said Figo.

"From that day the referees have been scared and are giving everything against us. They are deliberately going against us in nearly every game."

With four games to go Valencia, who were held to a 1-1 draw at fifth-placed Athletic Bilbao on Sunday, lead the table on 70 points, one ahead of Real and five clear of Barca.

Real travel to play Champions League semifinalists Deportivo Coruna next weekend, Valencia host Real Betis and Barca entertain city rivals Espanyol.

MNA/Reuters



Thierry Henry celebrates after Arsenal clinched the Premier League title after a 2-2 draw with Tottenham. Henry has been showered with praise after being named Players' Player of the Year for his sensational season with English champions Arsenal. —INTERNET

France coach Santini expresses interest in Spurs job

LONDON, 28 April — French national coach Jacques Santini said on Tuesday he was interested in managing English Premier League club Tottenham Hotspur.

Santini, who had a perfect record steering holders France to the European championship finals in Portugal starting on June 12, said he would be open to discussion if approached by Spurs.

"If Tottenham contact me and they want to talk then I will listen," Santini was quoted as saying in the London Evening Standard.

"I have always thought that one day I might manage abroad and the Tottenham job would interest me if they wanted me to go there."

Spurs have been without a manager since they sacked former midfield favourite Glenn Hoddle in September.

MNA/Reuters

Chelsea appeal against Desailly ban

LONDON, 28 April — Chelsea have appealed against captain Marcel Desailly's three-match ban for elbowing Monaco's Fernando Morientes during their Champions League semifinal last Tuesday.

The appeal will be heard by European soccer's governing body UEFA on Friday and the result known before Chelsea's home leg with Monaco on May 5, the club said on their web site.

The 35-year-old France captain's ban was based on video evidence as referee Urs Meier did not see the incident, during the match which Monaco won 3-1.

MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3



29-4-2004 (Thursday) (Programme Schedule) Morning Transmission (9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment"
- 9:06 Lawka Nanda Sanctuary Garden
- 9:10 **Headline News**
- 9:12 Novitiation Ceremony
- 9:15 **National News**
- 9:20 Off-shore Fishing boat Construction
- 9:25 Royal Rose
- 9:30 **National News**
- 9:35 Kayin Traditional Vegetable Curry (Tarlabaw)
- 9:40 Song "Commencement of Dry Summer"
- 9:42 Oboe: Myanmar Musical Instrument
- 9:45 **National News**
- 9:50 Let us preserve the Watershed Areas
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

29-4-2004 (Thursday) Evening Transmission (15:30 - 17:30)

- 15:30 Signature Tune Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 15:36 Lawka Nanda Sanctuary Garden
- 15:40 **Headline News**
- 15:42 Novitiation Ceremony
- 15:45 **National News**
- 15:50 Off-shore Fishing Boat Construction
- 15:55 Royal Rose
- 16:00 **National News**
- 16:05 Kayin Traditional Vegetable Curry (Tarlabaw)
- 16:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Commencement of Dary Summer"

- 16:12 Oboe: Myanmar Musical Instrument
- 16:15 **National News**
- 16:20 Let us preserve the Watershed Areas
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment"
- 16:30 **National News**
- 16:35 Myanmar Traditional Pickled Tea
- 16:40 Interview with an Ornamental Fish Breeder
- 16:45 **National News**
- 16:50 Lacquerware made from Porcelain and glaze
- 16:55 Nay Yar Daw Khin
- 16:58 A Prospective Industry in Shan North
- 17:00 **National News**
- 17:05 Song "Dream of Ngwe Saung"
- 17:10 Opening performance song and dance
- 17:15 **National News**
- 17:20 Biological Expedition to Hponkan Razi Region (IV) (Ziadam Village- Wang Mung Camps 1&2)
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Evening Transmission (19:30 - 23:30)

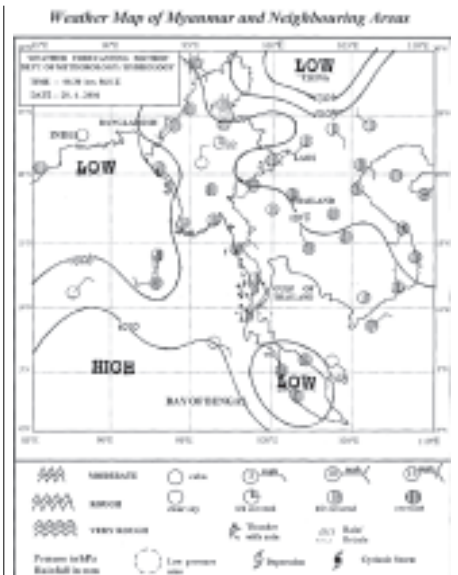
- 19:30 Signature Tune Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 19:36 Myanmar Elephants from Myanmar Forest
- 19:40 **Headline News**
- 19:42 Illustrious handiwork in Kyeethe
- 19:45 **National News**
- 19:50 Current Affairs "Checklist of Myanmar's Rich Biodiversity"
- 19:55 An Exulting Male Dance
- 20:00 **National News**
- 20:05 Myanmar Traditional Flower Arrangements (Decoration with Glaze)
- 20:10 Songs On Screen "Flowers Lovers"
- 20:15 **National News**
- 20:20 Myanmar Performing Arts Showroom
- 20:25 Song "Where does love begin?"

- 20:30 **National News**
- 20:35 How To Make Chinlone
- 20:40 Conservation of Sea-turtles
- 20:45 **National News**
- 20:50 Myanmar Traditional Gold Leaf Works
- 20:55 Scenic Beauty of Falam and Cultural Dance
- 21:00 **National News**
- 21:05 Indulge yourself with Traditional gourmet at Yangon's chic "Green Elephant"
- 21:10 Song "Dakukuku"
- 21:12 Myanmar Marine Products For All Nations
- 21:15 **National News**
- 21:20 Biological Expedition to Hponkan Razi Region (III) (Awadam Village-Ziadam Village)
- 21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment"
- 21:35 Lawka Nanda Sanctuary Garden
- 21:40 **Headline News**
- 21:42 Novitiation Ceremony
- 21:45 **National News**
- 21:50 Off-shore Fishing Boat Construction
- 21:55 Royal Rose
- 22:00 **National News**
- 22:05 Kayin Traditional Vegetable Curry (Tarlabaw)
- 22:10 Song "Commencement of Dary Summer"
- 22:12 Oboe: Myanmar Musical Instrument
- 22:15 **National News**
- 22:20 Let us preserve the Watershed Areas
- 22:25 Song "Everlasting"
- 22:30 **National News**
- 22:35 Myanmar Traditional Pickled Tea
- 22:40 Interview with an Ornamental Fish Breeder
- 22:45 **National News**
- 22:50 Lacquerware made from Porcelain and glaze
- 22:55 Nay Yar Daw Khin
- 22:58 A Prospective Industry in Shan North
- 23:00 **National News**
- 23:05 Song "Dream of Ngwe Saung"
- 23:10 Opening performance song and dance
- 23:15 **National News**
- 23:20 Biological Expedition

- to Hponkan Razi Region (IV) (Ziadam Village- Wang Mung Camps 1&2)
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

29-4-2004 (Thursday) & 30-4-2004 (Friday) Evening Transmission (15:30 - 17:30)

- 23:30 Signature Tune Greeting
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 23:36 Lawka Nanda Sanctuary Garden
- 23:40 **Headline News**
- 23:42 Novitiation Ceremony
- 23:45 **National News**
- 23:50 Off-shore Fishing Boat Construction
- 23:55 Royal Rose
- 24:00 **National News**
- 00:05 Kayin Traditional Vegetable Curry (Tarlabaw)
- 00:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Commencement of Dary Summer"
- 00:12 Oboe: Myanmar Musical Instrument
- 00:15 **National News**
- 00:20 Let us preserve the Watershed Areas
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment"
- 00:30 **National News**
- 00:35 Myanmar Traditional Pickled Tea
- 00:40 Interview with an Ornamental Fish Breeder
- 00:45 **National News**
- 00:50 Lacquerware made from Porcelain and glaze
- 00:55 Nay Yar Daw Khin
- 00:58 A Prospective Industry in Shan North
- 01:00 **National News**
- 01:05 Song "Dream of Ngwe Saung"
- 01:10 Opening performance song and dance
- 01:15 **National News**
- 01:20 Biological Expedition to Hponkan Razi Region (IV) (Ziadam Village- Wang Mung Camps 1&2)
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"



WEATHER

Wednesday, 28 April, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin, Kayah, Kayin States, lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Kayin State, Magway, Ayeyawady Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan, Chin, Rakhine States, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were (44°C) in Magway, (43°C) in Minbu. Noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were (1.97) inches in Shwegyin, (1.26) inches in Mandalay.

Maximum temperature on 27-4-2004 was 41.0°C (106°F). Minimum temperature on 28-4-2004 was 26.4°C (76°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 28-4-2004 was 66%. Total sunshine hours on 27-4-2004 was (10.2) hours approx. Rainfall on 28-4-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 5 mm (0.20 inch) at Yangon Airport and 12 mm (0.47 inch) at Kaba-Aye and 3 mm (0.12 inch) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from Southwest at (17:30) hours MST on 27-4-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is cloudy in the South Bay, Andaman Sea and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 29-4-2004:** Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Mon, Kayin States, Ayeyawady, Yangon, Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in lower Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 29-4-2004:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the afternoon evening. Degree of certainty is (60%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 29-4-2004:** Partly cloudy.

ခရစ်တော်၌အိပ်ပျော်ခြင်း

ဒေါက်တာ ခင်မာဝေ

Rose (a) Marie

Ph.D. Biological Sciences (Japan)

အချိန်ပိုင်း တွဲဖက်ပါမောက္ခ၊ နိဂုံးနည်းပညာဓာတုဗေဒ

သိပ္ပံနှင့်နည်းပညာဝန်ကြီးဌာန

အသက် (၅၄) နှစ်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ပါရမီရိပ်သာ၊ မြစ်ဝယ်လမ်း၊ အမှတ်(၃၀)နေ၊ အငြိမ်းစားသံအမတ်ကြီး ဦးခင်မောင်လေး-(ဒေါ်ခင်မမ)တို့၏ သမီးကြီး၊ ဒေါက်တာခင်မာဆွေ-ဦးသန့်စင် (ဒု-အင်ချုပ်-ဗိသကာ) (ပဆေ)၊ ဦးခင်မောင်ထွန်း (ကျောက်မျက်-ငြိမ်း)၊ ဒေါ်မြင့်မြင့်သန်း (ပါမောက္ခ)သတ္တဗေဒ၊ မြိတ်တက္ကသိုလ်၊ ဒေါ်ခင်မာအေး၊ ဒေါ်ခင်မာထွေး၊ ဦးသန့်ရွှေ-ဒေါ်မိုးဆန်းတို့၏ အစ်မကြီး၊ မောင်ကျော်သန့်စင်၊ မစုနန္ဒာ၊ မောင်ရဲလင်းမြတ် (TTC)တို့၏ ကြီးကြီးသည့် ၂၇-၄-၂၀၀၄ (အင်္ဂါနေ့) မွန်းလွဲ ၁၂-၀၅ နာရီတွင် ရန်ကုန် ဆေးရုံကြီးတွင် ခရစ်တော်၌ အိပ်ပျော်သွားပါသဖြင့် ၂၉-၄-၂၀၀၄ (ကြာပတ်နေ့) နံနက် ၁၀-၃၀ နာရီတွင် (St-Jude) ဘုရားရှိခိုးကျောင်း(ရန်ကင်း)၌ ဝတ်ပြုဆုတောင်းပွဲ ပြုလုပ်ပြီး ရေဝေခရစ်ယာန်သမီးကြီး ဂုဏ်သိက္ခာပေးသဖြင့် ပါမမည်။

(နေအိမ်မှ ကားများနံနက် ၉-၁၀ နာရီတွင်ထွက်ပါမည်။)

ကျန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု



Thursday, April 29
View today:

- 7:00 am
- 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am
- 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
- 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
- 5. Dance of national races
- 8:00 am
- 6. အရေပြေပုံ
- 8:10 am
- 7. Dance Variety
- 8:20 am
- 8. ဖြူစရာခန်းကတား

- 8:30 am
- 9. International news
- 8:45 am
- 10. Let's go
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
- 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
- 3. English For Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm
- 4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm
- 5. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့ ပညာရေးရပ်တန့်သွား သင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယပန်း (သမ္မာအထူးပြုများ) (သမ္မာ)
- 5:20 pm
- 6. Cute little dancers
- 5:35 pm
- 7. Musical programme
- 5:55 pm
- 8. နိုင်ငံအဝန်း သစ်တောစိုက်ပျိုးခြင်း

- မိုးလင်းခရီးစဉ်
- 6:10 pm
- 9. ဗဟုသုတသွယ်ဆိုကြပေ
- 6:30 pm
- 10. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
- 11. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
- 12. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "မိုးနတ်မယ်" (အပိုင်း-၁၇)
- 7:30 pm
- 13. Musical programme
- 7:45 pm
- 14. အန္တရာယ်ကင်းစေး ဆေးကင်းရေး ကျန်းမာရေးပြပွဲအသိပေး
- 8:00 pm
- 15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. Myanmar Video Feature: "အသွယ်စာကြွေပုံ" (အပိုင်း-၁)
- လှမ်း၊ နိဂုံးနည်း
- ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဟိန်းနိုး
- 19. The next day's programme



Thursday, April 29

Tune in today:

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: Don't go away (Fun Factory)
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: I'll be there for you (Solid Harmonie)
- 8:50 am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: Secret (Madonna)
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: Come into my life (Emilia)
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch Time Music - Miles to go (Celire Dion)
- Life affair (Tiffany)
- Listen to my heart (Cartoons)
- All out of love (OTT)
- 9:00 pm Aspects of Myanmar - The most Significant occasion in Myanmar, Novitiation ceremony
- Article
- 9:10 pm Pouri
- 9:20 pm Favourite songs chosen by music lovers
- 9:30 pm
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

Bago Yoma greening tasks coordinated

YANGON, 28 April — Under the guidance of the Head of State to implement the five-year plan for greening Bago Yoma beginning May, the Ministry of Forestry held a work coordination meeting at the Central Forest Development Training and Education Centre this afternoon. Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended the meeting and delivered an address on the occasion.

At the meeting, the deputy minister for Forestry reported on the preservation of natural forests, cross-breeding, the establishment of forest plantations, the conservation of existing forests, the setup of model villages, the nurturing of forests owned by local people, the launching of educational campaigns to attract the public attention, the application of wood-substitution fuel, the undertaking of water supply, the designation of teak reserves, and the conducting of forest research.

In response to the reports, the commander said that Myanmar is a country



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses meeting on greening of Bago Yoma.

PUPR

rich in land, water and forest resources, adding that in particular Bago Yoma region is where valuable teak and hardwood are produced in the world. He continued that despite the Ministry of Forestry's efforts to conserve the forests, the danger of deforestation might loom large and harm the natural environment on account of the expanding population, the cutting of trees in discriminately for firewood and illegal timber extraction.

He also spoke of the need to maintain watershed areas and forests as irrigation facilities were provided

to make successful the agricultural undertakings of local people.

Later, he urged local authorities and officials concerned to organize the local people into adapting themselves to the practice of systematic timber extraction in line with the guidance of the Head of State.

Afterwards, the first session of the meeting went into recess. In the second session of the meeting, local authorities, departmental officials and responsible personnel of the Forest Department took part in discussions. — MNA

Seminar on Reproductive Health Information System commences

YANGON, 28 April — The opening of the Seminar on Reproductive Health Information System organized by the Ministry of Health was held in conjunction with prize presentation at the Institute of Nursing on Bogyoke Aung San Street here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, Myanmar

UN Fund for Population Activities and WHO and officials and guests.

The minister delivered a speech.

In his speech, he said that the Ministry of Health has been implementing the national health plan for betterment of the people's health standard. In the process, priority is given to family health care project, he said.

In raising the reproduc-

Up to now, Myanmar does not need to practise the family planning yet, but has to give priority to reproductive health care in building a modern, developed nation, he said.

Reproductive health plan was implemented with the funds of the UN Fund Population Activities and the WHO, and it covered 86 townships.

Arrangements are being made for increasing the number of the townships up to 93 in 2004, he said. Greater success will be achieved through discussions of representatives of the project townships and officials from states and divisions, he said.

Next, resident representative of UN Fund of Population Activities Mr Najib M Assifi delivered a speech.

The minister presented prizes for outstanding performance in information on reproductive health to 21 health staff.

At the seminar, Secretary of the National Health Committee Director-General of the Health Planning Department Dr Kyi Soe, Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and officials gave talks on reproductive health.

The seminar continues till 30 April.

MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint speaking at seminar on Reproductive Health Information System.— MNA

Coord meeting on Manufacturing and Selling Myanma Handicraft and Souvenirs held

YANGON, 28 April — A coordination meeting on manufacturing and selling Myanma Handicraft and Souvenirs was held at the meeting hall of Ministry of Cooperatives on Bogyoke Aung San Street yesterday afternoon, with an address by Chairman of Subcommittee for Manufacturing and Selling Myanma Handicraft and Souvenirs Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo.

Also present on the occasion were the director-general of the Cooperative Department, the director-general of the Cottage Industries Department, the acting managing director of the Cooperatives Exports and Imports Enterprise, the chairman of the Central Cooperatives Society, the chairman of the Industrial

Production Cooperatives Syndicate, the chairman of Yangon Division General Economic Syndicate, delegates and officials of the Ministry of Commerce and officials and private entrepreneurs.

At the meeting, the Minister gave instructions on production for high quality Myanma handicraft and souvenirs, distribution of handicraft and souvenirs, production of import-substitute products, sale of souvenirs for tourists.

He said that the arrangements are to be made for export of quality products, the establishment of a sale promotion team for handicraft and the extended formation of new cooperatives societies.

Concerning the suggestions made by those present

at the meeting, the directors-general of the Cooperatives Department and the Cottage Industries Department gave supplementary reports. The minister made concluding remarks. — MNA

Maternal and Child Welfare Association President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Vice President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and CEC members, departmental heads, resident representatives of

tive health sector, part of the family health care project, measures are being taken in conformity with the socio-economic environment based on health ground, he said.



Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivers an address at meeting on Manufacturing of Myanma Handicraft and Souvenirs.— COOPERATIVE