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Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing pay homage to famous pagodas in Mandalay, Sagaing

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing paid homage to the Buddha images at historic Shwesaryan Pagoda near Shwesaryan Village in Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Division, on 18 April.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing together with member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command, the ministers, the deputy ministers and officials arrived at the pagoda at 10.30 a.m.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party offered *soon*, fruits, flowers, water, lights and incense sticks to the Buddha image at the eastern archway of the pagoda.

Senior General Than Shwe and party visited Shwesaryan Pagoda and offered *soon*, fruits, flowers, water, lights and incense sticks to Maha Muni Buddha image at the western archway.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and family donated cash for the pagoda through the pagoda board of trustees. The pagoda board of trustees presented the picture of Shwesaryan Maha Muni Buddha image to them.

Senior General Than Shwe signed in the visitors' book. Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party looked into the renovation of ancient pagodas in the precinct of Shwesaryan Pagoda.

At 6.15 p.m, Senior General Than Shwe and party arrived at the Tooth Relic Pagoda (Mandalay) built on Maha Dhammayanthi Hill in Amarapura Township, Mandalay Division.

Senior General Than Shwe and party offered flowers, water and lights to the Buddha images in Gandakutitaik. Senior General Than Shwe presented cash for the Tooth Relic Pagoda (Mandalay) through the pagoda board of trustees.

(See page 8)

***Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing pay homage to Maha Muni Buddha image at famous Shwesaryan Pagoda in Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Division.*—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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 21 April, 2009

Strive for development of human resources capable of serving national interest

The government has opened university of arts and science, university of computer studies and technological university in each region after designating the 24 special development regions for the youths of different regions to have easy access to higher education.

Under the drive, it has opened the Mawlamyine university, university of computer studies and technological university in Mon State.

The students of Mawlamyine university have been able to work on theses, participate in the costal maintenance programme of ASEAN countries and conduct practical training and research into marine science vessels.

With appropriate population, natural resources and capital, Myanmar has been on the path to development. But it needs human resources, a driving force for national development. It is incumbent upon the education sector to fulfill such requirements.

Making better use of such favourable conditions, the youths of today are to try their utmost to be qualified and outstanding in their studies and to become intellectuals and technocrats capable of serving the interest of the State and the people.

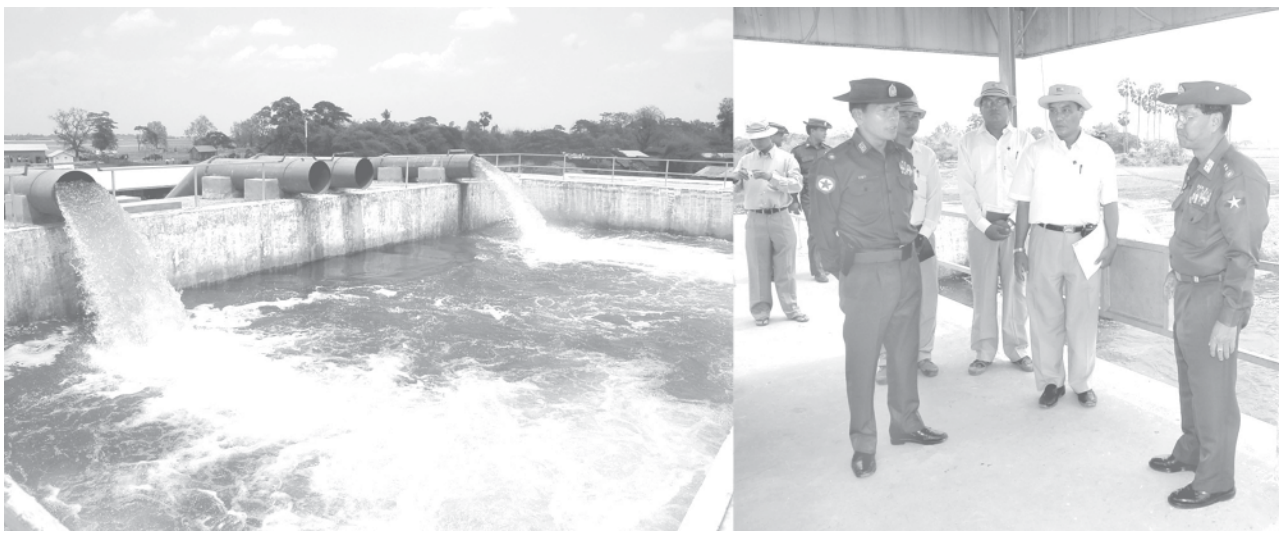
At present, information technology is experiencing rapid development. The countries with superiority in IT are making progress and achieving prosperity.

Therefore, efforts are to be made for the emergence of intellectuals and technocrats who are loyal to the State and desirous of serving the national interest with nationalistic fervour.

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**

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects Latpan, Ngamoeyeik water pumping stations in Hlegu



Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects Ngamoeyeik water pumping station project.—MNA

YANGON, 20 April — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, inspected Latpan water pumping station project and Ngamoeyeik water pumping station project in Hlegu Township today.

During the inspection tour of Latpan water pumping station project being implemented by Water Resources Utilization Department, the In-charge of the project reported them on completion of the main canal of the project and future plans. After giving instructions to officials concerned, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party inspected irrigation through the main canal.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and the commander went to Ngamoeyeik water pumping station project and inspected pumping water into the main canal of the project. After hearing reports on the project, Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave instructions to officials concerned. — *MNA*

Regional development work inspected in Ye Township

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April — Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win, accompanied by Mon State level departmental officials, inspected construction of self-reliant tar road linking Ye Village and Asin Village, paving of Asin Village gravel road and arrangements for construction of Asin-Ye tar road on 6 April. He then left necessary instructions to officials concerned.

MNA

UMFCCI meets Chinese delegation members

YANGON, 20 April— Vice-President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung, U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin and General Secretary Dr Maung Maung Lay, Joint Secretary-4 Dr Myo Thet, Joint Secretary-5 Dr Pwint Hsan and CEC U Myo Thant received a three-member delegation led by Deputy Director-General Mr Wei Ran of the Foreign Office of Guanxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, the People's Republic of China at the office of the federation on 8 April.

They discussed matters related to the visit of a high-ranking delegation of Guanxi Zhuang Autonomous Region to Myanmar, participation of Myanmar businessmen in the 6th China-ASEAN Trade Fair to be held in Nanning, PRC in October 2009, cooperation with the autonomous region in the field of agriculture and establishment of the office for Myanmar trade delegation in Nanning.

MNA

The discussion between UMFCCI and Chinese delegation from Guanxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in progress.

MNA

Village launches self-reliant hydropower generator

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April—Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyo viewed thriving summer paddy plantation and rubber plantations along both sides of Kengtung-Mongphyat-Tachilek Road on 8 April morning.

The commander attended the launching ceremony of self-reliant hydropower generator in Mongtwam-Punako Village. Officials cut the ribbon to launch the generator, and the commander unveiled its signboard. Next, the commander inspected construction of the generator station and supply of electricity.

After leaving instructions on development of the village-tract, the commander presented medicines and sports gear to the village through officials. Later, he cordially greeted the local people.—*MNA*

An Iraqi police officer inspects a car damaged in a suicide bomber attack in Baqouba, the capital of Iraq's Diyala province, 60 kilometers (35 miles) northeast of Baghdad, Iraq, on Monday, 20 April, 2009. A suicide bomber wearing an Iraqi military uniform struck a US military delegation visiting the mayor of violence-wracked Baqouba on Monday, injuring at least eight American soldiers and nine others.

INTERNET

Bomber strikes US soldiers meeting Iraqi officials

BAQOUBA, 20 April— A suicide bomber disguised as an Iraqi policeman killed three officers and wounded eight US soldiers and a civilian on Monday, in the third such attack on security forces in just over a week.

The bomber targeted a joint Iraqi and American foot patrol in Baqouba northeast of Baghdad, military officials said, replicating two recent incidents in which suicide assassins also wore security forces uniform.

"The suicide bomber took advantage of police and he managed to reach them and blow himself up," Baquba's deputy mayor Raad al-Dahalaki said. "He looked the same as them."

An Iraqi official from the city's military operations command said three policeman had been killed and one civilian wounded in the attack which happened near the mayor's office. Neither Dahalaki nor the mayor were wounded.

Baqouba is in the ethnically and religiously mixed Diyala province, considered one of the most dangerous areas in the country, where Al-Qaeda in Iraq and other insurgent groups still launch regular attacks. An American military spokesman said initial reports indicated that "eight US coalition soldiers were wounded," but none had been killed. He did not confirm that three police had been killed and one civilian wounded.—*Internet*

Karzai asks NATO to explain civilian deaths

KABUL, 20 April—The top US general in Afghanistan said Sunday there wasn't enough money in the world to replace the loss of an Afghan civilian, in comments that followed repeated calls by President Hamid Karzai for explanations of civilian deaths.

Gen David McKiernan said international forces do make mistakes — "and for that I apologize" — but that US and NATO forces are working hard to minimize civilian deaths during operations.

Karzai on Saturday asked McKiernan to explain allegations of six civilian deaths in two incidents. It was the second time in three days Karzai brought up the topic with McKiernan. On Thursday, the US general was summoned to the presidential palace to explain other allegations of civilian deaths.

McKiernan, during a news conference Sunday alongside the Afghan defense minister, was asked repeatedly about civilian casualties by Afghan media, underscoring how deeply the topic reverberates here. McKiernan noted that international forces investigate all allegations of civilian deaths and pay compensation for wrongful deaths.

Internet

Soldiers look at a wrecked bus hit by a suicide bomber in Kirkuk on 15 April, 2009. Iraqi security forces have arrested four children who were recruited by Al-Qaeda to carry out suicide attacks in and around the northern city of Kirkuk, an army general told on Sunday.—INTERNET

Iraqi military investigates gangland-style heists

BAGHDAD, 20 April—Iraq created a military task force Sunday to battle gangland-style crime after the latest bloodshed: gunmen with silencer-fitted weapons killing at least seven people during a daylight heist of jewellery stores.

The swift government response to the robberies appeared to reflect worries by Iraqi officials about a rise in violence in recent weeks and their efforts to display a tough stance.

Although attacks remain well below levels of past years, Iraqi authorities are under pressure to show greater competence as US commanders gradually hand over security duties before their planned withdrawal from most urban bases by 30 June.—*Internet*

Defence Ministry: 2009 a challenging year for Afghans

KABUL, 20 April—Afghan Defence Minister General Abdul Rahim Wardak on Sunday described the current year 2009 as a challenging one and called for strengthening national forces.

"This year is decisive and full of challenges, but the outcome is victory," Wardak told reporters at a joint press conference with US commander of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) General David McKiernan.

The Afghan Defence Minister made these remarks amid Taleban's threat to intensify activities in spring and summer known as fighting season in Afghanistan.

Internet

Policeman killed, eight people injured in N Iraq

MOSUL, 20 April— A policeman was killed and eight people were injured in two attacks in Iraq's northern city of Mosul on Sunday, a local police source said.

A policeman was killed and three others were injured when a group of seven gunmen attacked a police checkpoint in the al-Shifaa neighbourhood in western Mosul, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The policemen traded fire with the attacker, but it was not known whether the gunmen sustained any casualty, the source said. In separate incident, a booby-trapped car detonated near passing US patrol in the Faisaliyah neighbourhood in central Mosul, the source added.—*Internet*

A damaged Norwegian vehicle is carried on a truck after a blast on the outskirts of Mazar-i-Sharif north of Kabul, Afghanistan on 19 April, 2009. A Norwegian intelligence officer serving with the Nordic nation's peacekeeping force was killed by the attack in northern Afghanistan on Friday, the military said.—INTERNET

US asks for elite NZ troops for Afghanistan war

WELLINGTON, 20 April— The US has formally asked New Zealand to send its elite Special Air Service combat troops back to Afghanistan for a fourth tour of duty, the foreign minister said Sunday.

The US request was made following a meeting with US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton in Washington earlier this month, Murray McCully told TV One. While Clinton asked for troops, she did not specifically request the commando unit, he said. The government is likely to agree to send the elite troops, which last served in the untamed southern portion of Afghanistan in 2006.

Internet

Clash leaves five Afghan police, several Taleban militants dead

KABUL, 20 April—Clash between Afghan police forces and Taleban militants left five policemen and several militants dead in Farah Province west of Afghanistan on Saturday, deputy provincial governor Mohammad Yunus Rasouli said on Sunday.

"Taleban militant attacked a police checkpoint, 20 km from Farah city, the capital of Farah province, Saturday night and police encountered them during which five police were killed," Rasouli told *Xinhua*.

Internet

Myanmar thanks PRC for its participation in nation-building endeavours of Myanmar

Myanmar PM

PRC stands by Myanmar in its drive for stability, economic development and national unity

PRC PM

Prime Minister General Thein Sein calls on Premier Mr Wen Jiabao

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April— Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein paid a courtesy call on Premier of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao at the Seven Seas Ballroom of Sheraton Hotel in Sanya, the People's Republic of China at 3.50 pm on 17 April.

Also present on the occasion together with the Prime Minister were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin, Director-General of Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Kyaw, Director-General of Political Department U Kyaw Tint and officials.

The Chinese Premier was accompanied by Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Yang Jiechi, Minister of Commerce Mr Chen Deming, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Wu Dawei, Chinese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Ye Dabo, Director-General of Foreign Affairs Department (Asia Affairs) of PRC Mrs Yang Yanyi and officials.

At the meeting, Premier Mr Wen Jiabao expressed thanks for the presence of Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2009, adding that it is his belief that they will be able to hold the conference successfully despite global financial crisis; and that the conference will contribute much to further strengthening friendly ties between the two countries, for it is based on mutually beneficial cooperation through mutual trust and understanding and exchange of views. The Chinese Premier invited frank discussion on the Sino-Myanmar cooperation.

In his response, Prime Minister General Thein Sein said that the conference will be very fruitful as the participants will exchange views on potential impact of present global financial crisis and the response of Asian region to the crisis; and thanked the PRC for its participation in the nation-building endeavours of Myanmar. And he continued touching upon fruitful results of economic cooperation between the two nations, oil, gas and energy sector, power sector, connection of power lines, rail transportation sector, agricultural sector, industrial sector and development of human resources.

Next, the Chinese Premier said that the agricultural sector of Myanmar will make progress if it is combined with technology and experience of the PRC; **that being a good neighbour of Myanmar the PRC stands by Myanmar in its drive for stability, economic development and national unity; that as Myanmar affairs is an internal affairs it will be dealt with by the government and Myanmar people only; and that since the PRC has already realized the current development in Myanmar it will continue to support Myanmar in the international arena with full understanding.**

In the evening, Premier Mr Wen Jiabao hosted a dinner in honour of Prime Minister General Thein Sein and party and the participants of the conference.—*MNA*

Prime Minister General Thein Sein cordially greets Premier of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao at Seven Seas Ballroom of Sheraton Hotel in Sanya, PRC.

MNA

***Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein holds discussion with Premier of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao at Seven Seas Ballroom of Sheraton Hotel in Sanya, PRC.—*MNA**

PM visits Nan Shan Buddhism Cultural Theme Park in PRC

Prime Minister General Thein Sein visits 108-meter high Guanyin statue near Dakhina mountain, Nan Shan Buddhism Cultural Theme Park, Sanya, PRC.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein who was in Sanya of Hainan Province in the People's Republic of China and party together with Myanmar Ambassador to the People's Republic of China U Thein Lwin, Chinese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Ye Dabo and personnel arrived at Nan Shan Buddhism Cultural Theme Park at 7 am on 17 April. They were welcomed there by Mr Tang, manager of the park, and responsible persons.

The Prime Minister and party enjoyed the beauty of the blooming flowers and observed cultural stone obelisks and arrangements for beautifying the park and facilities for public recreation in a motorcade.

Next, the Prime Minister and party visited the 108-meter feet high Guanyin statue at the beach near Dakhina mountain. The Prime Minister offered joss sticks to the Guanyin statue and said prayers and posed for documentary photos together with personnel. Next, the Prime Minister and party left the park for Ritz Carlton Hotel in a motorcade.—*MNA*

Chinese industrialists call on Prime Minister General Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April—Prime Minister General Thein Sein received the industrialists of Chinese companies at Golden Harvest Ball room in Ritz Carlton Hotel in Sanya Town in Hainan Province of the People's Republic of China on 17 April.

First, Chairman of Yunnan Yikun Hydropower Complex Co Ltd Guan Yiqun, Secretary Lin Jun and Director Xi Yinhua along with Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Ye Dabo called on the Prime Minister at the hotel at 11 a.m.

Next, the Prime Minister received Vice President Ning Kai of China Gezhoub Group International Engineering Co Ltd, Assistant President Yuan Baoyi and International Economic Advisor Gui Yihua and the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar at the same venue.

At 11:45 am, the Prime Minister met with Zhang Jialin, Chairman of China National Petroleum Corporation, Vice Chairman Li Jilin, Director Liu Junfang and the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein received Mr Zhai Danfeng of ZTE Company, Incharge of the company to Myanmar Mr Zhong Bin and Advisor Mr An Yong Gang at 2 p.m.

At 2:30 P.m, Chairman Liu Taung of China Non Ferous Metal Mining Group Co Ltd, Engineer Wang Xiao Wei called on the Prime Minister.

Also present together with the Prime Minister at the meetings were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Myanmar

(See page 6)

Prime Minister General Thein Sein receives President of Yunnan Yikun Hydropower Complex Co Ltd Mr Guan Yiqun and party.
MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein receives Vice President of China Gezhoub Group International Engineering Co Ltd Mr Ning Kai and party.—**MNA**

Prime Minister General Thein Sein arrives in Sanya, Hainan Province to attend BFA Annual Conference 2009

***Prime Minister General Thein Sein being welcomed at Sanya Airport by Vice Governor of Hainan Province Mr Lin Fanglue.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April – At the invitation of the government of the People's Republic of China, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein, accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, the director-general of the Government Office, departmental heads and officials, left here for PRC by special flight at 2.30 pm on 16 April to attend the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2009 to be held in Boao in Hainan Island of the People's Republic of China. They arrived at Kunming Airport at 6.10 pm.

First, Myanmar Ambassador to the PRC U Thein Lwin boarded the plane and greeted the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister and his entourage were welcomed by Consul-General U Myo Tint and wife, embassy staff and families, Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province Mr Gu Zhaoxi, Director-General of Yunnan Province Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mme Zhou Hong and officials. A Chinese young lady and a Myanmar young lady presented bouquets to the Prime Minister.

On arrival at the Best Business Passenger Terminal of the Kunming Airport, the Prime Minister and party were welcomed by Secretary of Yunnan Province Party Mr Bai Enpei and officials.

Mr Bai Enpei hosted a dinner in honour of the Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein at the Best Lounge of the Best Business Center Terminal. The dinner was also attended by Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province Mr Gu Zhaoxi, Director-General of Yunnan Province Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mme Zhou Hong and officials.

The Prime Minister and Mr Bai Enpei exchanged views on friendly ties, border trade and mutual cooperation between the two countries.

Next, the Prime Minister and party accompanied by Myanmar Ambassador U Thein Lwin left Kunming by Air China and arrived at Sanya Airport at 9.30 pm. At the airport the Prime Minister and party were welcomed by Vice-Governor of Hainan Province Mr Lin Fanglue, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Ye Dabo and officials. A Chinese young lady presented a bouquet to the Prime Minister.

Later, the Prime Minister and party left the airport in a motorcade and arrived at Ritz Carlton Hotel in Sanya. – *MNA*

Chinese industrialists…

(from page 5)

Ambassador to China U Thein Lwin, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin, Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department, Director-General U Kyaw Tint of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials concerned.—*MNA*

***Prime Minister General Thein Sein receives President of Z.T.E Co Mr Zhai Danfeng and party.*—MNA**

Prime Minister General Thein Sein receives President of China National Petroleum Corporation Mr Zhang Jialin and party.

MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein…

(from page 16)

Mongolia Mr S Bayar, Prime Minister of New Zealand Mr John Key, President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Abishevich Nazarbayev, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Mr Asif Ali Zardari, Vice-President of Iran Mr Parviz Davoudi, Chairman of Boao Board of Directors for Asia former Philippine President Mr Fidel Ramos and members, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thein Lwin, the Director-General of the Government Office and heads of departments, international businessmen, scholars and guests.

First, Chairman of the board of directors of BFA former President of the Philippines Mr Fidel Ramos extended greetings.

Afterwards, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao delivered address on management for post-financial crisis in Asia.

President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Abishevich Nazarbayev, President of Pakistan Mr Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of Mongolia Mr S Bayar, Prime Minister of New Zealand Mr John Key and Vice-President of Iran Parviz Davoudi also delivered addresses.

Afterwards, Mr Mohamed H Al Mady, Vice-President and Chief Executive Officer of Saudi basic industrial cooperation, and Mr Andrew Forrest, CEO of Fortescue Metals Group Limited, delivered addresses and the ceremony ended.

After the ceremony, participants of the annual conference attended a luncheon hosted by the party secretary of Hainan Province and the governor of Hainan Province.

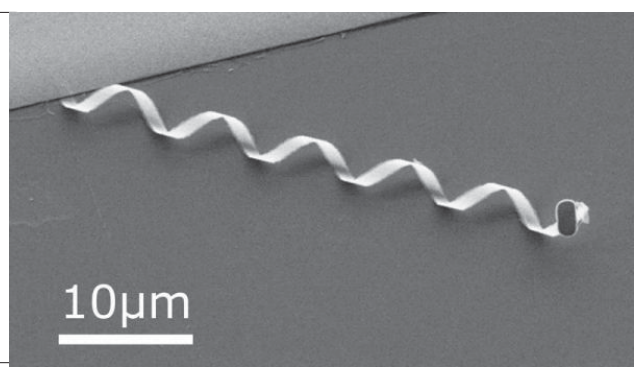
Prime Minister General Thein Sein and party arrived back at Ritz Carlton Hotel at 4.20 pm.

MNA

***Premier Mr Wen Jiabao of the People's Republic of China delivers an address focusing on management of post-financial crisis.*—MNA**

Prime Minister General Thein Sein receives Mr Liu Taung, president of China Non Ferous Mining Group Co. Ltd and party. **(News on page 5)****—MNA**

***Artificial bacterial flagella are about half as long as the thickness of a human hair. They can swim at a speed of up to one body length per second. This means that they already resemble their natural role models very closely.*—INTERNET**



Medical micro-robots made as small as bacteria

ZURICH, 20 April — For the first time, ETH Zurich researchers have built micro-robots as small as bacteria. Their purpose is to help cure human beings.

They look like spirals with tiny heads, and screw through the liquid like miniature corkscrews. When moving, they resemble rather ungainly bacteria with long whip-like tails. They can only be observed under a microscope because, at a total length of 25 to 60 µm, they are almost as small as natural flagellated bacteria. Most are between 5 and 15 µm long, a few are more than 20 µm.

Internet

Senior General Than Shwe and wife…

(from page 1)

Senior General Than Shwe and party visited the Gandakutitaik and gave instructions on systematic maintenance of the pagoda and greening tasks undertaken in the pagoda precincts.

The Senior General and party went to Maha Muni Yokeshindawmyat and the Senior General greeted the shopkeepers who sell religious goods and pilgrims at the eastern stairway.

Senior General Than Shwe offered flowers, water, lights and incense sticks to Maha Muni Yokeshindawmyat. Officials offered the gold foils to Maha Muni Buddha image.

Senior General Than Shwe donated cash for Maha Muni Yokeshindawmyat to the pagoda board of trustees and accepted the picture of Maha Muni Yokeshindawmyat presented by the board.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe signed in the visitors' book and visited Maha Muni Yokeshindawmyat.

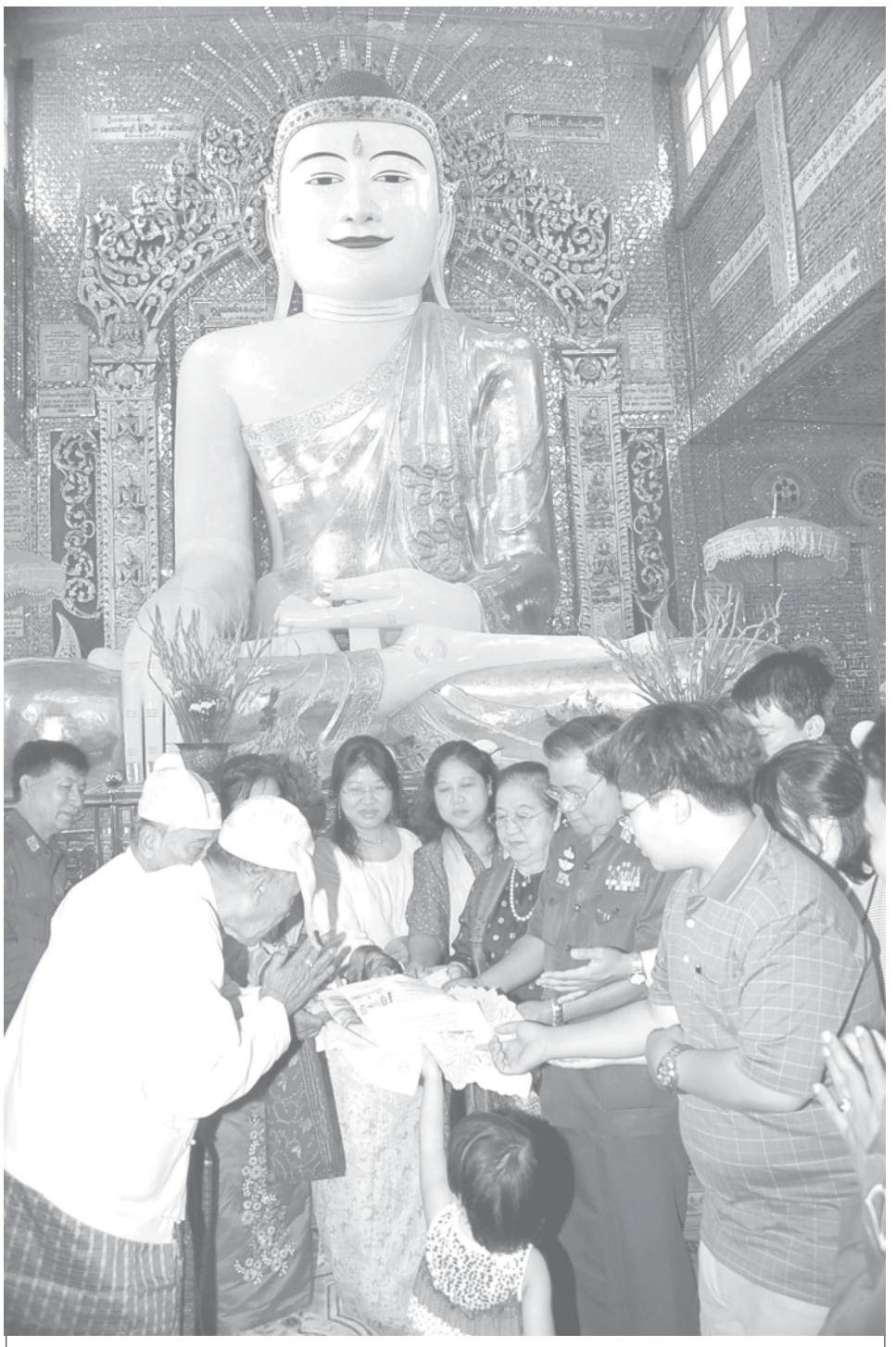
On 19 April, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing left Mandalay for Sagaing. They arrived at Soon-u-ponnyashin Pagoda on Sagaing Hill.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party offered soon, fruits flowers, water, lights and incense sticks to the Yadana Muni Kohtatgyi Buddha image.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and family donated cash for Soon-u-ponnyashin to the pagoda board of trustees that presented the picture of Soon-u-ponnyashin Pagoda to him.

On the platform of the pagoda, Senior General Than Shwe and party viewed the greening of Sagaing Hill and development of east and west banks of the Ayeyawady and Sagaing. They also observed documentary photos of the pagoda in the northern Tazaung.

(See page 9)



***Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and family present cash to board of trustees of Soon-u-ponnyashin Pagoda.*—MNA**

***Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing plant Gangaw, Lumbini trees in Razamanisula Kaungmudaw Pagoda in Sagaing.*—MNA**

Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, and family set free birds to gain merits.

MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife…

(from page 8)

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party arrived at Razamanisula Kaungmudaw Pagoda where the sacred tooth of the Buddha is kept.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party offered fruits, flowers, water, lights and incense sticks to Pinsalawha Buddha images.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and family donated cash for Razamanisula Kaungmudaw Pagoda to the pagoda board of trustees.

Senior General Than Shwe and party set pigeons, doves, owls, parrots and sparrows free and they visited the pagoda.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party set fish free at the Myitta Lake and planted Gangaw, Lumbini Ingyin trees.

At 6 p.m, Senior General Than Shwe and party arrived at Maha Lawkamarazein Kuthodaw Pagoda and offered flowers, lights and water to the Buddha images. They donated cash to the pagoda board of trustees. They visited Maha Lawkamarazein Kuthodaw Pagoda.

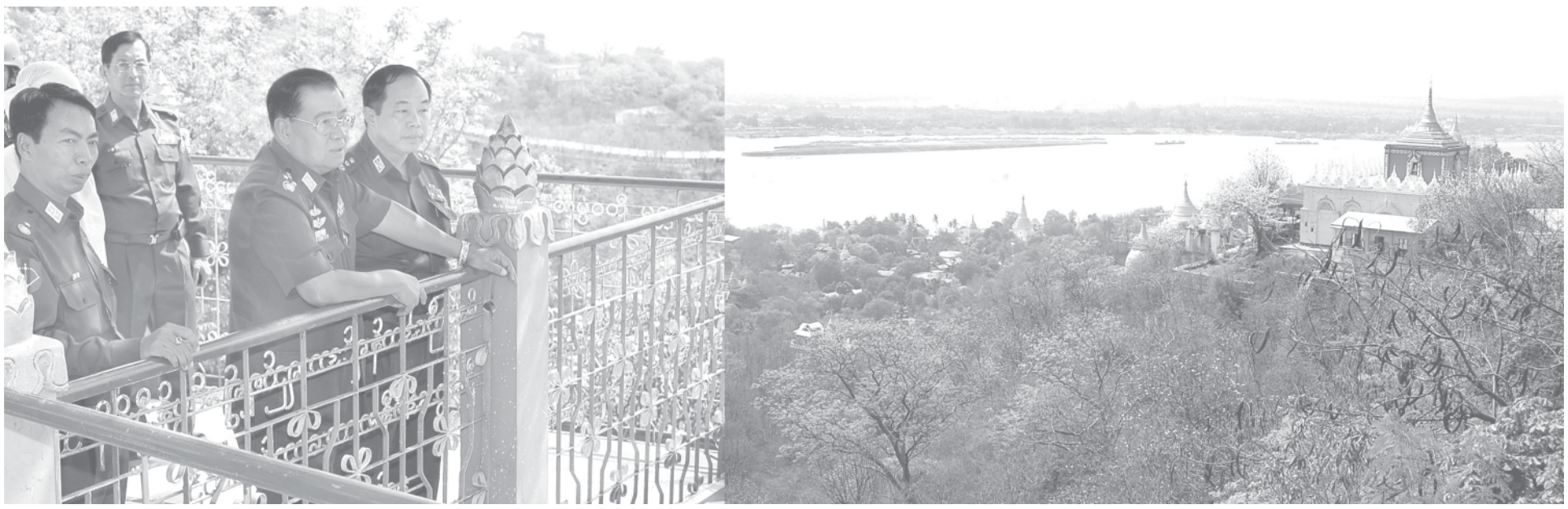
Senior General Than Shwe and party viewed the greening of Mandalay Hill and its environs and scenery of Mandalay and gave guidance. Senior General Than Shwe signed in the visitors' book. The Head of State and party observed documentary photos at the pagoda platform.

The Senior General and party also visited Sandamuni Pagoda and presented cash to the pagoda board of trustees.

Senior General Than Shwe inspected religious structures in the precincts of Sandamuni Pagoda.

MNA

***Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer alms, fruits, flowers, water, lights, joss sticks to Buddha image in famous Shwesaryan Pagoda in Patheingyi Township of Mandalay Division.*—MNA**



***Senior General Than Shwe views progress of the east and west banks of Ayeyawady river, Sagaing and greening of Sagaing Hill from the platform of Soon-u-ponnyashin Pagoda.*—MNA**

C-in-C (Navy) Championship Trophy's Chess contest concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April—The final of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Championship Trophy's Chess Contest for 2009 was held in conjunction with the prize-distribution ceremony at the stadium of Thanlyin Station on 14 April morning.

After the contest, officials presented prizes to the winners, and Commander of Navel Dockyard Command Headquarters Commodore Han Sein, on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), presented the Championship Trophy to Ayeyawady Naval Region Command team, after which the ceremony came to an end.

MNA

Coordination meeting on road network development held

NAY PYI TAW, 19 April—Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein attended a coordination meeting on road networks development project of Ayeyawady delta held at the meeting hall of Public Works of Pyapon District, Ayeyawady Division on 17 April.

At the meeting, the Deputy Minister heard reports on accomplishment of the tasks in their respective work procedures and future plans to be carried out presented by chief engineers, senior engineers and project engineers. Next, the Deputy Minister fulfilled the requirements to finish the project tasks on schedule.—*MNA*

Absence of hostilities more tasteful when peace is restored

Saw Po Si

For me, there was an element of doubt as to whether the news was correct that Saw Nay Soe Mya and members would return to the legal fold. The villagers, like me, felt uncertain about the news and wished the news would come true. What we wanted to know very much at that time was that whether they were going to do really, when and with whom they would come.

Saw Nay Soe Mya, known as Ataylay in the village, attracts adoration and respect of the majority of his subordinates, like his father Saw Bo Mya. Since I was in Maesot, I had known that Ataylay was trying to materialize his father's wish of making peace for a prosperous future of the entire Kayin people. However, some top KNU leaders regarded as betrayers those members who wanted to make internal peace in KNU and those who wanted to return to their native places, and made trouble to them.

In particular, expatriates under the name of anti-government activists who are collaborating with KNU in border areas for political gains, and the internal and international organizations and persons receiving a wide range of foreign aid are out of fear that KNU will return to the legal fold. Apparently, they are using all possible ways and means for KNU to survive because they will no longer get the assistance if KNU has made peace with the government. So, they are worried that their campaigns to destabilize the nation and battles in border areas will come to an end for various reasons. They commit disruptive acts variously whenever KNU plans to make peace. That was why I was worried when I heard the news that there might be hindrances to the plan of Saw Nay Soe Mya to return to the legal fold.

All my worries and doubts subsided only when I learnt that Saw Nay Soe Mya and members had got to Htot-kawkoe Village on 30 March. And I believed that he was determined to put his father's wishes into reality despite a wide range of challenges.

The majority of the group members are from Brigade (6). I was very pleased to see some families from the refugee camp there. At that time I noticed that the returnees sounded very happy to be back to native regions safe and sound, and their joy touched my heart. Government officials extended warmer welcome to them than I expected.

Now, some KNU leaders, anti-government opportunist politicians and anti-government groups in disguise of those engaged in humanitarian work are claiming on pretext of democracy and racial affairs that their armed insurgency is just intended to generate a prosperous future of Kayin State and local people, but their high-flown words can no longer attract the trust of KNU other ranks and Kayin nationals in the refugee camp. In particular, after the family-domination practice was pushed to the forefront at the 14th congress of KNU, the KNU brigades and battalions have done and acted as they wish. What all the present KNU leaders are doing is just for the comfort and convenience of their families, and they do nothing for the sake of Kayin people. Now, KNU is completely under the influence of a single family: the father is the chairman, the daughter is the secretary, the elder son is the chief of central operations and the younger son is the commander of a brigade. No way, such an unsystematic organization can never lay down a correct policy. The leaders stay mostly in foreign countries, and they cannot keep in touch with the prevailing conditions of the people of Kayin State. Kayin people are in favour of peace, whereas KNU leaders provoke instability for dollars.

In addition, according to my firsthand experiences, when the Thai government tightens the restrictions on travelling for KNU members and the refugees, KNU wages armed attacks on some Thai villages in the border areas as though Myanmar government's troops launched artillery attacks on the villages with the intention of inciting border incidents between the two countries. The battalions have to commit such acts so many times under the command of KNU (Central).

Every Kayin national has come to know why the Kayin revolution has proved unsuccessful for nearly 60 years. Due to the practice of wrong policies, KNU has never won the support of the people. In consequence, KNU is in no position to take a stronghold in the soil of the motherland, and has given up its major military bases one after another. It has to depend on the neighbouring country for its survival. Armed insurgents cannot be accepted officially, so the neighbouring country recognizes KNU troops as politicians, refugees or illegal immigrants through a political trick. Indeed, that makes Kayin people feel humiliated considerably. They have to try to win the favour of the country to continue to stay there and curry favour with alien countries for aid.

As a result of armed conflicts, Kayin people have not been able to enjoy a higher living standard, and lagged behind other national races in development. Only when I arrived at my home place could I understand well the great difference between the two conditions of a region before and after peace had been restored.

I learnt that Saw Nay Soe Mya made a field trip to Htot-kawkoe, Myainggyingu and Phayagon regions for his firsthand experiences, and then he explained the positive changes to KNU leaders. The real conditions of peace regions are in contrast with what KNU subordinates are informed. KNU leaders, who lead a luxury life in foreign countries and command to wage battles in the mother country, intimidated their troops saying that the latter would be captured and killed if they tried to return to the country. The leaders also tell the followers that peace groups are now starving, and that if they get to the country, they will get into troubles.

So, I let governmental authorities know the news about Saw Nay Soe Mya and members' plan to return to the legal fold and did all what should be done for our convenience. In that regard, I had plucked up enough encouragement to face the consequences if KNU leaders regarded us as traitors. Actually, betrayers are those who disrupt peace movements, not those who are seeking peace.

I must admit that when we drove down to the forest to fetch the members, many of them asked me if they would be arrested or welcomed with open arms, and if they would have their basic needs fulfilled enough. And I also worried about that till the vehicle left Myawady. When we arrived at Thingan Nyinaung, we were surprised by the scene. Tatmadaw members and their family members warmly welcomed us and hosted a lovely lunch to us. Along the route, local people accorded a rousing welcome to us as though we were their relatives.

Previously, whenever we collected extortion money in villages, the villagers could not hide their fears at all, but when we passed through the villages on our way, their eyes were glowing with satisfaction. When I was reunited with my friends and old colleagues at Htot-kawkoe, I had an emotional feeling beyond words. A major-general, the chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council, extended a warm welcome to us with a big smile, thus getting rid of all my doubts, and my eyes were in tears out of joy. I think local Kayin people welcomed Saw Nay Soe Mya, recognizing the role of a son of Kayin leader Saw Bo Mya, not that of an ordinary KNU member.

The returnees of us had our basic needs fulfilled and were provided with long-term assistance and jobs, far better than expected. Under the deception of KNU, we claimed the words of well-being of Kayin people and liberation of Kayin State, but now the words are replaced with the words of peace. That is a slogan for a prosperous future of the entire Kayin people.

The people are all national brethren. However, in the post-independence period, we resorted to the armed insurrection at the instigation of the colonialists. The people suffered all the evil consequences of the insurgency for nearly 60 years. It is disheartening to learn that some KNU leaders persist in the exercise of the wrong policy under the pretext of political and racial affairs and human rights under the influence of the neo-colonialism. Kayin people have realized that those who fall victim to the wrong policy are none other than KNU rank and file and they themselves. No one can deny that the regions of national race peace groups have developed a lot.

Only after our arrival at the motherland, would we witness the objective conditions of our regions and understand the value of peace all the more. It has come to the knowledge of us that the fruit of peace between national brethren is so tasteful. KNU members will understand the government's benevolent attitude towards them more than ever after they make peace and have close relations with the government.

The people have a strong desire to see the KNU remnants' returning to the legal fold in order that they come to realize how tasteful peace is.

Translation: MS

Kyemon: 12-4-2009

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KNU members will understand the government's benevolent attitude towards them more than ever after they make peace and have close relations with the government.

China starts building 3rd-generation nuclear power reactors using Westinghouse technologies

SANMEN, 20 April—China on Sunday started the construction of its first third-generation pressurized water reactors using AP 1000 technologies developed by US-based Westinghouse.

The reactors, located in Sanmen of east China's Zhejiang Province, will also be the first in the world using such technologies.

The Sanmen Nuclear Power Plant will be built in three phases, with an investment of more than 40 billion yuan (5.88 billion US dollars) injected in the first phase.

The first phase project will include two units each with a generating capacity of 1.25 million kw.

The first generating unit will be put into operation in 2013, and the second, in 2014. The plant will eventually have six such units.

"It is the biggest energy cooperation project between China andthe United States," said Zhang Guobao, vice minister in charge of the National Development and Reform Commission and also head of the National Energy Administration.

"It will contribute to the human kind's peaceful use of nuclear power," he said.

China launched bidding in 2003 for its nuclear power stations of the third generation. Foreign companies including Westinghouse, France's Areva and Russia's AtomStroy Export are major bidders. —*Xinhua*

Photo taken on 18 April, 2009 shows the foundational construction site of the No 1 unit of the first phase of the Sanmen nuclear plant in Zhejiang Province. The Sanmen nuclear plant, with the world's first nuclear plant using the AP1000 technologies, a type of third generation nuclear power reactor introduced by America's Westinghouse company, started the construction recently. —XINHUA

Chinese actress Tang Wei (L) and Hong Kong singer Prudence Liew attend the Hong Kong Film Awards in Hong Kong on 19 April, 2009.—XINHUA

Indonesia retains position as 3rd most optimistic market

JAKARTA, 20 April—Indonesian capital market retains its position as the third most optimistic market in Asia Pacific region in the first quarter this year, but investors still take cautious stance to invest in the country, a survey revealed here.

The result of a survey carried out by the Netherlands-based financial service giant ING places Indonesia in the third position after India and China, or equals to it was in the corresponding period last year.

Indonesia ranked No 3 after China and India in the first quarter last year.

"The ongoing optimism is likely because investors felt that Indonesia's economy was cushioned to an extent by high commodity prices and fuel prices correction," the Jakarta Post Monday quoted ING Securities Indonesia President Robert Scholten as saying.

However, despite the encouraging outlook, he said that ING survey also showed investors' sentiment index for Indonesia fell to 96 points in the first quarter this year from 109 points in the same period last year.

Xinhua

Hopes run high for warmer US-Cuba relations after Americas summit

PORT OF SPAIN, 20 April—While US President Barack Obama and his 33 hemispheric neighbuors wrapped up a summit here on Sunday, hopes are soaring high for a potential thaw of a half-century cold war between Washington and Havana.

At the opening ceremony of the Fifth Summit of the Americas held in Trinidad and Tobago, Obama vowed to seek a "new beginning" with Cuba, the only country in the continent that is excluded from the summit.

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Mexico calls for region-wide response to drug trafficking, crime

PORT OF SPAIN, (Trinidad and Tobago), 20 April—Mexico's President Felipe Calderon on Sunday called for a response to drug trafficking and organized crime that spans the continent.

In his closing speech at the Fifth Summit of the Americas, Calderon also said that a document on the topic had been well received by the 34 heads of state attending the event.

This document called for the adoption of sales controls on high-caliber weapons, strengthening cross-border policies, and preventing drug consumption.

Speaking with Patrick Manning, prime minister of the three-day summit's host country Trinidad and Tobago, Calderon said "better days are coming for the Americas."

He added that after debating prosperity, energy security, governability and the economic crisis, nations in the region had reached a consensus on the final document, although not necessarily with unanimity.

Xinhua

Egyptian toddler hit by bird flu

CAIRO, 20 April— The Egyptian Health Ministry said Sunday that a baby girl aged one year and a half has contracted bird flu virus, bringing the human cases of the fatal avian influenza to 66 in the populous country.

The girl, Ibrahim al-Manar who comes from Kafr El-Sheikh governorate north of Cairo, is now in critical condition despite taking the drug Tamiflu, the press center of the ministry said in a telephone interview.

Earlier on Friday, Hadiye Salah Ragab, a 25-year-old woman, who comes from a northern neighbourhood of Cairo, was admitted to hospital after contracting the deadly virus.—*Xinhua*

Photo taken on 14 April, 2009 shows the 1956 Dodge custom royal lancer D-500 on display in Walter P. Chrysler Museum in Detroit, the United States. XINHUA

Barbie to throw birthday bash in Beijing

BEIJING, 20 April — Always as a global girl, the world most famous face, "Barbie" celebrates her 50th anniversary globally.

The fashion icon will throw a grand birthday bash at Beijing's China Century Monument this upcoming Labor Day holiday in May.

By the time, Chinese fans of Barbie will be able to see a big display of about 2,000 Barbie dolls from 139 collections including Princess, Wedding, Holiday angel and Hollywood series.

Xinhua

Disney presents first black princess

WASHINGTON, 20 April — Disney's anointing of its first black princess, Tiana, is a milestone with an important message, say some US culture experts.

"If this figure takes off, you're looking at 30 or 40 years of repetition and resonance," said Tricia Rose, who teaches popular culture and African American studies at Brown University.

"The Princess and the Frog," set for release in November will star Tiana as a beautiful black princess from New Orleans. Tiana is the first Disney princess in more than a decade and the first ever to be black, *The Washington Post* reported on Saturday.

Tiana's appearance comes with Michelle Obama's emergence as the nation's first lady and the Obama girls — Sasha and Malia — living what for many girls seems to be a fairy tale life in the White House, the *Post* reported.

In the movie, Tiana conveys this message: balance is important in life and women need both love and a career — not just a prince — to find happiness, said Cori Murray, entertainment director for Essence magazine.

"She's the first modern American (Disney) princess, and that she's black sends a huge message," Murray said.

Internet

'Slumdog' child's father denies trying to sell her

MUMBAI, 20 April—The father of "Slumdog Millionaire" child actress Rubina Ali has denied trying to sell his daughter, after a British newspaper claimed he was willing to put her up for adoption at a price.

Indian media said Monday that Rafiq Qureshi described the News of the World report on Sunday as lies, although he accepted meeting a man claiming to be from the Middle East who approached them with an offer for the nine-year-old.

The man, posing as a wealthy Arab sheikh, was in fact a reporter at the weekly tabloid. The tactic has been employed successfully in the past in sting operations against the rich and famous in Britain.

"They kept saying we will give you a lot of benefits and it will be good for your daughter, but I declined," Qureshi was quoted as telling reporters. "The reports that I wanted to sell Rubina are false."

Rubina, who played the young Latika in the hit film and still lives in Mumbai's teeming slums, was also quoted as saying: "I want to remain with (my father)."

The News of the World claimed Qureshi demanded 20 million rupees (400,000 dollars, 310,000 euros) for Rubina during a meeting with the "sheikh" at a Mumbai hotel.

Internet

"Slumdog Millionaire" child actor Rubina Ali (C) breaks down as she is carried by her father Rafiq Qureshi (2-L) and neighbours through the Behrampada slums after arriving back from the Oscars in Mumbai in February. Rubina's father has denied trying to sell his daughter, after a British newspaper claimed he was willing to put her up for adoption at a price.—INTERNET

Antique putter found in garage

STOCKPORT, 20 April—The wooden putter used to make the final winning shot in the 1939 British Open was found stored away in a garage in England, sources say.

The Daily Telegraph reported on Saturday that the club was used by English golfer Dick Burton at the 1939 tournament on the Old Course at St Andrews in Scotland.Golfer Garry Bingham, 50, had gotten the club about 20 years ago, and stashed it away, not realizing its value, the newspaper reported.

The Telegraph said Burton gave the putter away to his aunt Ethel as an apology after he and her husband got drunk at her hotel.

Bingham reportedly inherited the club 20 years ago when Ethel died. The antique putter is believed to be worth more than $22,000.

"I'm not after making money off it, that's not what it's about. I loved the golfing history and it's something I'm proud to have," Burton said. "It's like having a piece of history. It's a real family heirloom."

Internet

Plane hijacked at airport in Jamaica's Montego Bay

KINGSTON, 20 April – An airport spokeswoman says a plane has been hijacked while on the tarmac near Jamaica's resort city of Montego Bay.

Spokeswoman Elizabeth Scotton says there have been no injuries and no passengers are aboard the *Boeing 737* at Montego Bay's Sangster International airport. She says the situation is on-going. Scotton says she cannot confirm reports that a gunman is holding members of the crew hostage on the plane. CNN reported that seven people are being held hostage.

Internet

Antarctic ice is growing, not melting away

PERTH, 20 April — Ice is expanding in much of Antarctica, contrary to the widespread public belief that global warming is melting the continental ice cap.The results of ice-core drilling and sea ice monitoring indicate there is no large-scale melting of ice over most of Antarctica, although experts are concerned at ice losses on the continent's western coast.

Antarctica has 90 per cent of the Earth's ice and 80 per cent of its fresh water, *The Australian* reports. Extensive melting of Antarctic ice sheets would be required to raise sea levels substantially, and ice is melting in parts of west Antarctica. The destabilisation of the Wilkins ice shelf generated international headlines this month.

However, the picture is very different in east Antarctica, which includes the territory claimed by Australia.East Antarctica is four times the size of west Antarctica and parts of it are cooling. The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research report prepared for last week's meeting of Antarctic Treaty nations in Washington noted the South Pole had shown "significant cooling in recent decades".

Internet

Redeployment sparks many suicides

LUBBOCK, 20 April—The number of soldier suicides this year is most likely due to the redeployment of soldiers with psychiatric illnesses, a US researcher says.

David Rudd, Texas Tech University professor and author "Interpersonal Theory of Suicide," said the more a person is exposed to violence or death, the more that person loses anxiety about death. This specifically applies to soldiers living in a war zone because the interaction with death makes it more probable that these people will kill themselves when they get depressed or anxious.

"It's a consequence of killing people," Rudd said in a statement. "War is about killing people and when you train young men and women to kill people, some of them are going to have a difficult time doing it. And then if they end up killing civilians as well as combatants, they're going to have an even more difficult time."Fear of death tends to be protective to someone who is at risk of suicide, Rudd said.

Internet

Palestinians wait to cross the Rafah border point into Egypt from the Gaza Strip on 18 April, 2009. Egypt reopened its Rafah border with the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip for two days to enable students and the sick to cross, a security official said.—INTERNET

Nanoparticles boost cancer treatment

SEATTLE, 20 April—US researchers say combining nanoparticles with a scorpion venom compound can cut the spread of cancerous brain tumor cells by 98 percent.The University of Washington said the nanoparticles more than double the effectiveness of chlorotoxin, a small peptide isolated from scorpion venom.

"People talk about the treatment being more effective with nanoparticles but they don't know how much, maybe 5 percent or 10 percent," Miqin Zhang, professor of materials science and engineering, said on Friday in a release. "This was quite a surprise to us."The findings are published in the journal *Small*.

Researchers said adding nanoparticles can improve a therapy by increasing the length of time the combination lasts in the body. Nanoparticles also boost effectiveness of treatment compounds because therapeutic molecules tend to clump around each nanoparticle, the report said. —*Internet*

High stakes in Hurricane Katrina flooding trial

NEW ORLEANS, 20 April —More than three years after Katrina stirred up the waters and washed out levees along a 75-mile, man-made shipping channel dubbed "hurricane highway," a judge could soon decide whether the Army Corps of Engineers owes residents and businesses damages because of the massive flooding.

Arguments are set to begin Monday in the trial, which will be heard and decided by a judge, not a jury.

And much is at stake: If the five residents and one business in this initial lawsuit are victorious, more than 120,000 other individuals, businesses and government entities could have a better shot at claiming billions of dollars in damages.

The residents argue the corps' poor maintenance of the Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet, a shipping channel dug in the 1960s as a short-cut between the Gulf of Mexico and New Orleans, led to the wipe-out of St Bernard Parish and the city's Lower Ninth Ward when Katrina struck in August 2005.

They are asking for damages between $300,000 and $400,000 for each individual.

Internet

***With the Louisiana Superdome in the background construction workers work on a street project in New Orleans, on 15 April, 2009. —*INTERNET**

US to boycott UN anti-racism meeting

NEW YORK, 20 April — The United States will not attend the United Nations meeting on racism in Geneva, Switzerland, the State Department announced on Saturday.

In a brief statement, Robert Wood, a spokesman for the Department, said the document produced for approval by the conference next week is a big improvement on earlier drafts. But he said it still contains a one-sided view of the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians and has added statements on "incitement" that appear to call for restrictions on freedom of speech.

"Unfortunately, it now seems certain these remaining concerns will not be addressed in the document to be adopted by the conference next week," Wood said. "Therefore, with regret, the United States will not join the review conference."

The conference, officially known as the Durban Review Conference, is a followup to the World Conference Against Racism 2001 held in Durban, South Africa, in 2001. Australia, Canada, Israel and Italy also plan to stay away.

Human Rights Watch urged the United States to participate in the 2009 conference. In a statement, the group said US participation "is essential to put to rest the tainted history" of the 2001 Durban, South Africa, conference on racism, where US and Israeli representatives walked out when Arab states sought to define Zionism as racist.—*Internet*

Limits set on Antarctic tourism

BALTIMORE, 20 April — Nations with ties to Antarctica have agreed to limit tourism, say scientists and diplomats working together to protect the fragile ecosystem.

The restrictions would require member countries of the Antarctic Treaty to prevent ships with more than 500 passengers from landing in Antarctica and to allow a maximum of 100 passengers on shore at any given time, the BBC reported on Saturday.

The agreement was reached on Friday at the 32nd Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in Baltimore, where nearly 400 people are to meet during the next two weeks to discuss environmental protection and scientific research on the continent, *The Sun* newspaper in Baltimore reported.

The agreed tourism limit won't become binding until ratified by each of the 28 nations that signed the initial Antarctic Treaty 50 years ago.

Visits to Antarctica, primarily from cruise ships, rose from 6,700 in 1992-93 to more than 45,000 last year, the BBC reported. —*Internet*

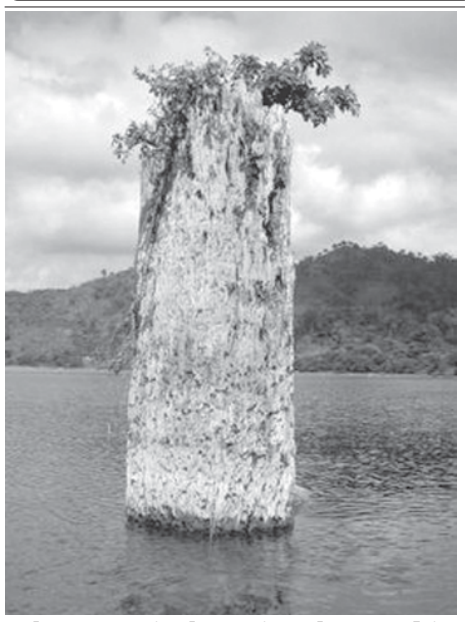
Sudan bus crash kills 21

KHARTOUM, 20 April—Twenty-one Sudanese were killed on Sunday when a bus they were travelling in collided with a truck, police said.

Fifteen people were also injured in the accident, which took place on a road 40 kilometres (25 miles) south of the capital Khartoum, a police officer said.

Most passengers on public transport in Sudan, Africa's largest country, are poorer people who cannot afford private vehicles.—*Internet*

***A technician examines an overhauled helicopter at the helicopter overhaul base in Tianjin Binhai International Airport in north China's Tianjin, on 14 April, 2009. —*XINHUA**



A large tropical tree is submerged in Lake Bosumtwi, Ghana in this undated handout photo. Large tropical trees submerged in 15-20 meters of water provide evidence of severe, long lasting droughts just a few centuries ago. The recent decades-long drought that killed 100,000 people in Africa's Sahel may be a small foretaste of monstrous "megadroughts" that could grip the region as global climate change worsens, scientists reported.

Saudi man divorces wife by text message

A Saudi man has divorced his wife by text message, a newspaper said on Thursday. The man was in Iraq when he sent the SMS informing her, she was no longer his spouse. He followed up with a telephone call to two of his relatives, the daily *Arab News* reported.

A court in the Red Sea city of Jeddah finalised the split—the first known divorce in Saudi Arabia by text message — after summoning the two relatives to check they had received word of the husband's intention, the paper said.

Saudi Arabia practises a strict form of Islamic Sharia law, and clerics preside over Sharia courts as judges. Under the law a man can divorce his wife by saying "I divorce you" three times.

The Saudi man was in Iraq to participate in "what he described as 'jihad'," according to the *Arab News*. Many Saudis have gone to fight with al Qaeda militants against the Iraqi government and US forces.

Pa politician has drive-through window

A politician in northeastern Pennsylvania has been getting some ribbing from his colleagues for it, but he said having a drive-through window at his office is working great.

State Rep Kevin Murphy said his office in Scranton has the drive-through to make it easier for his constituents to see him. He said senior citizens, the disabled and those who have children in the car especially like the convenience of not having to walk into the office to drop off or pick up paperwork.

The first-term Democrat said he personally staffs the drive-through most on Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m to 5 pm.

Kansas couple married for 67 years die hours apart

Residents of a northeast Kansas town are mourning the deaths just hours apart of an elderly couple who were married 67 years. Arnita Yingling died in her sleep early Saturday at the family's home in Troy. She was 93. Six hours later her 95-year-old husband, Lyle, died at a nursing home in the nearby town of Wathena.

At their funeral on Wednesday, friends and relatives described the two as inseparable. Some found comfort knowing neither would have to live without the other.

NEWS ALBUM

Polar bears Bill, right, and Lara react, at their first meeting, at the Zoom Erlebniswelt zoo, in Gelsenkirchen, Germany. Polar bear Bill came from the zoo in Bruenn, Czech Republic, as a new partner for female polar bear Lara.

Court fines mother for phoning son too much

An Austrian woman who bombarded her son with phone calls over a two-and-a-half year period was fined by a court for stalking him, Austrian media reported on Thursday.

The 73-year-old woman, who phoned her son up to 49 times a day was fined 360 euros (324 pounds) by the court in the southern city of Klagenfurt.

"I just wanted to talk to him," the woman told the court, according to Austrian newspaper Kleine Zeitung. "I can't talk to my son, nor my daughter. I've never seen my grandchild — who is already 15-years-old," she said.

SPORTS

Ferguson says Grand Slam misery will make United stronger

LONDON, 20 April—Sir Alex Ferguson insists his decision to field a depleted side in the weekend FA Cup semi-final defeat to Everton will benefit Manchester United's long-term future.

Everton's manger David Moyes (left) and Manchester United's manager Sir Alex Ferguson are seen during FA Cup semi-final at Wembley Stadium, North London, on 19 April. Everton will face Chelsea in the final after Moyes' side secured a 4-2 penalty shoot-out victory over United.—INTERNET

Ferguson, who said his side will be back to full strength for this week's Premier League clash with Portsmouth, revealed he took the decision to make more changes than planned when he saw the impact of the Wembley pitch on the Arsenal and Chelsea players in the previous day's tie.

In all the manager made eight changes from the starting line-up that beat FC Porto four days previously and fielded a side packed with youngsters and fringe players. But he is adamant he will have all his big names back against Portsmouth on Wednesday including ankle injury victim Wayne Rooney.—*Internet*

Hope for home comforts for struggling Newcastle

Newcastle United's manager Alan Shearer

LONDON, 20 April—Alan Shearer admits Newcastle will have to win their last three home matches to have any chance of avoiding relegation from the Premier League.

Shearer's side slumped to a lacklustre 1-0 defeat at Tottenham on Sunday which left the Magpies four points from saefty with only five matches to play.With tough trips to Liverpool and Aston Villa in Newcastle's last two away matches, Shearer knows they must beat Portsmouth, Middlesbrough and Fulham at St James' Park.

"We'll be expected to win those and we have to win those starting with next Monday against Portsmouth. My attention is now on that must-win game," he said.Newcastle will have to improve dramatically to win any of those matches on the evidence of their woeful effort in north London.—*Internet*

Hughes challenges Robinho to inspire City into Europe

Manchester City's Brazilian forward Elano (left) celebrates scoring during their English Premier League football match against West Bromwich Albion at The City of Manchester Stadium in Manchester. ManCity won 4-2.—INTERNET

MANCHESTER, 20 April—Mark Hughes wants Brazilian star Robinho to prove his worth by inspiring Manchester City's bid for European football.

Robinho, City's record 32 million pounds buy, ended his goal drought stretching back to 28 December in Sunday's 4-2 victory against West Brom. The former Real Madrid star has struggled during the second half of the season and was dropped by Hughes for City's previous league game against Fulham.

But he remains City's most talented player and Hughes hopes he can recapture his early-season form to lift the Blues to a top-seven finish.Hughes said: "We are pleased Robby is back on the goal trail. It is his first in 2009 and important for him.—*Internet*

Valencia make 10-man Sevilla pay the penalty

MADRID, 20 April—Two penalties helped Valencia down 10-man Sevilla 3-1 on Sunday pushing them up to fourth to boost their hopes of Champions League football next season.

Sevilla had taken a ninth minute lead through French centre-back Julien Escude but David Villa equalised from the spot and Juan Mata converted another penalty seven minutes from time before substitute Pablo Hernandez added a third to kill off the game.

Valencia go three points above Atletico Madrid and Villarreal and close to within five points of third-placed Sevilla.

It was a heated game with 12 yellow cards and one red while Sevilla coach Manolo Jimenez was also sent to the stands late on for protesting from the touchline."When it was 11 against 11 we were better than Valencia and could have gone into the break two or three goals up," said Jimenez.

Internet

Valencia's Juan Mata

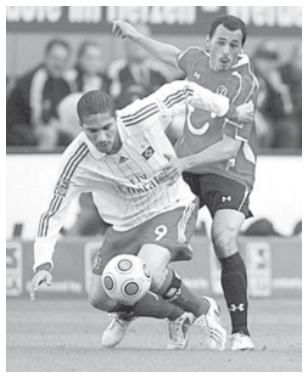
Petric double keeps Hamburg in title race

BERLIN, 20 April—Croatia striker Mladen Petric's double kept Hamburg firmly in the Bundesliga title race on Sunday as their 2-1 win over Hanover left them level with Bayern Munich and just three points behind leaders Wolfsburg.

Hamburg are still in the hunt for winning the treble of German Cup, UEFA Cup and Bundesliga titles.Petric, who took his tally for the season to 12, opened the scoring with the game barely begun as Jerome Boateng floated the ball in from the right and the striker volleyed home after just two minutes.

Hanover pulled a goal back on 69 minutes when substitute Mikael Forssell slotted home a 70th minute penalty, but Hamburg were not to be denied and they now stand on 51 points alongside Bayern.

Internet



Hamburg's Peruvian striker Paolo Guerrero (L) vies for the ball against Hanover's midfielder Sergio Pinto during the first division Bundesliga football match of Hamburger SV against Hanover in Hamburg, northern Germany. Hamburg won 2-1.—INTERNET

Hot shot Inzaghi sends Milan second

AC Milan's forward Filippo Inzaghi (R) celebrates with teammate English midfielder David Beckham after scoring his third goal against Torino during their Italian Serie A football match at San Siro Stadium in Milan. Milan won 5-1.—INTERNET

ROME, 20 April—Veteran Filippo Inzaghi fired a hat-trick to send AC Milan second in Serie A following a 5-1 win over Torino at the San Siro on Sunday. It was Inzaghi's second hat-trick in his last six matches and took his tally during that period to nine goals to continue his remarkable resurrection this season.He was not even a regular first team starter until last month and this was only his 10th league start of the campaign.

While it is Inzaghi's name that will dominate the Monday headlines it was his combination with former England captain David Beckham that was the true architect of this victory.Even so, the Englishman paid tribute to his team-mate.—*Internet*

Marseille's Latin connection saves day, Lyon slump

Marseille's forward Brandao (C) celebrates after scoring during the French L1 football match Lorient vs. Marseille, at the Moustoir Stadium, in Lorient, western France. Marseille won 2-1.—INTERNET

PARIS, 20 April—Marseille claimed what could end up being a priceless come-from-behind 2-1 win at Lorient on Sunday to extend their advantage at the top of the French league.

Kevin Gameiro put Lorient into an eighth-minute lead but Argentina defender Renato Civelli pulled Marseille level on the hour mark with Brazilian striker Brandao grabbing the 80th minute winner.The win pushed Eric Gerets' side up to 64 points, two clear of Bordeaux, who came through their tricky assignment with perennial champions Lyon the 1-0 winners later Sunday.—*Internet*

Lisicki makes title breakthrough in Charleston

CHARLESTON, 20 April—German 16th seed Sabine Lisicki clinched her first career title on Sunday with her big serve, high-tempo game giving her a 6-2, 6-4 win over Danish fifth seed Caroline Wozniacki.

Lisicki had knocked out Venus Williams in the third round and the 19-year-old proved it was no fluke with a deserved victory in the one million dollar tournament over her 18-year-old opponent who had taken the Ponte Vedra Beach claycourt trophy last weekend.

Internet

***German 16th seed Sabine Lisicki, clinched her first career title on Sunday with her big serve, high-tempo game giving her a 6-2, 6-4 win over Danish fifth seed Caroline Wozniacki.*—INTERNET**

Resting in Peace in Christ
Dr Cay Thein @ Tony Tan (Lashio)
69 years old

Residing at No 31 Nantha Road, Ahlon Township beloved son of (Martin Tan) and (Daw Thein Tin) and Martina Tan, husband of (Nang Huang Noon) and (Naw Greta), Father of Matthew @ Matthew Tan @ Saw Kyaw San Lynn, Khin Cho Oo @ Camille Thein, (Cecilia Tan @ Mi Tu), Khin Mar Lwin @ Margaret Tan, Martin Thein @ Martin Tan and Saw Siri, brother of Patrick Tan, Valerie Tan, Matilda Fone, Rosalind Kyi, Myra-Tan-Johnson, Linda Tan, Noel Tan, Noeline Tan, Raymond Maung and Regina Naing, passed away on 15-4-2009, at 6:20 a.m., was cremated at Ye Way Cemetary on 16-4-2009 one week memorial prayer service will be held at No 31 Nantha Road, Ahlon Township at 5:00 pm. on 21-4-09.

Remaining Family Relatives

Seven cows rescued from muddy English river

BURNHAM-ON-SEA, ENGLAND, 20 April — Rescuing seven cows from a muddy English estuary turned out to be a complicated operation involving 20 firefighters and two hovercraft, officials said.

By the time the firefighters arrived Friday afternoon, some of the cows were buried up to their necks in mud, the BBC reported. Investigators said they believe the animals stampeded into the River Parrett in Somerset, possibly frightened by gunfire.

More than 20 firefighters were called to the scene. They used ropes and tractors to drag the animals to dry ground. A Burnham Area Rescue Boat spokesman said the hovercraft — Spirit of Lelaina and Light of Elizabeth — provided safety for the firefighters and helped herd the cows out of the river.

"The cattle were returned to their very grateful owner," the spokesman said. "Throughout the rescue the RSPCA were in attendance, and, as far as we know, the cattle were none the worse for their ordeal. We used ropes, mud mats, tractors and other equipment to help free the trapped animals." —*Internet*

MRTV-3
Programme Schedule
(21.4.2009) (Tuesday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

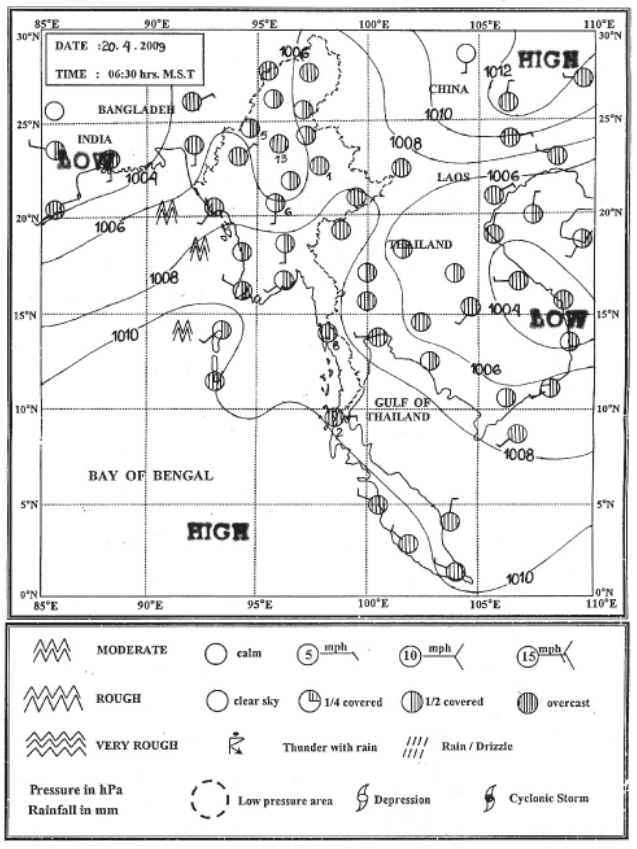
* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
* Modernized Umbrellas evolved from the Yesteryear
* The Historical Sites of Taung Tha Man
* Travelling on the Chin Mountain Ranges
* Profile of Myanmar Native Orchids
* Palm Leaf Inscription
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
* Nan Pan Market Day
* Mandalay, a close distance
* Resort for Rest and Recreation (Inle Khaung Taing Village)
* Delicious Sein Talone Mangoes
* Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Evening Flight in Monywa)
* Conservation of Sea-turtles
* Mosaic Painting of Myanmar
* Three Dimensional Gems Studded Painting
* Let's Drink Strawberry Juice
* Modernized Umbrellas evolved from the Yesteryear
* The Historical Sites of Taung Tha Man
* Travelling on the Chin Mountain Ranges
* Profile of Myanmar Native Orchids
* Palm Leaf Inscription
* Education breaks through the Darkness
* Let's Speak Myanmar "Mingalabar"
* Myanma Bamboo Xylophone (or) Pattala
* New, Modernized Myanmar Food
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Monday, 20 April, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin, Mon States and Bago Division and scattered in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) above April average temperatures in Taninthayi Division, (3°C) below April average temperatures in Bago and Yangon Divisions and about April average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions.The significant day temperatures were Myingyan (42˚C) and NyaungU (41˚C) . The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myawaddy (1.65) inches, Shwegyin (1.02) inches, Sagaing (0.79) inche, Pinlaung (0.71) inch and Mandalay (0.59 inch.

Maximum temperature on 19-4-2009 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 20-4-2009 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 20-4-2009 was 75%. Total sunshine hours on 19-4-2009 was (7.9) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 20-4-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, at Kaba-Aye and at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (1.06) inches at Mingaladon, (1.58) inches at Kaba-Aye and (2.84) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (21:30) hours MST on 19-4-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 21st April 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Kachin State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 21-4-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-4-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-4-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

TV Myanmar

Tuesday, 21 April
View on today

7:00 am
1. ဓောင်တန်းသာသနာပြုဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am
5. Dance of national races

8:00 am
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am
7. Song of yesteryear

8:20 am
8. "အသွင်မတူတမူထူးခြားဝန်မြစ်ကူး(မြို့တွင်း)တံတား"

8:30 am
9. International news

8:40 am
10. Musical programme

8:50 am
11. "အလျော်အစား"
(အကယ်ဒမီဇင်ဝိုင်း၊ ဌေးသွန်း)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ–ကျော်ဇော်လင်း)

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:20 pm
2. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:30 pm
3. "ကျေးငှက်တင်ပါတယ် D.O.T.S"
(လွင်မိုး၊ ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း၊ အိန္ဒြာကျော်ဇေ၊ ခင်သန်းနွယ်)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ– စိုးကျော်ဆန်း)

4:50 pm
4. Musical programme

5:00 pm
5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရုက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရုက္ခဗေဒ)

5:15 pm
6. Songs to uphold National Spirit

5:25 pm
7. The mirror images of the musical oldies

5:35 pm
8. "စက်ခေါင်းသစ် ယန္တရားသစ်ဖြင့် မြန်မာ့မီးရထား"

5:45 pm
9. သူရွေးသီရာတေးကဗျာ

6:00 pm
10. Evening News

6:30 pm
11. Weather report

6:35 pm
12. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:50 pm
13. ဆိုလိုက်ကြစို့

7:15 pm
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နွဲ့ဆိုးဆိုးသူကိုယ့်ချစ်သူ" (အပိုင်း–၂၇)

8:00 pm
15. News
16. International news
17. Weather report
18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူ့သံစဉ်" (အပိုင်း–၉)

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Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe welcomed back Prime Minister General Thein Sein who arrived back here today from Boao, Hainan Island of the People's Republic of China, after participating in the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2009 in Boao.

The Prime Minister was welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-Chairman of SPDC Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the SPDC General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command and the ministers, the deputy ministers, departmental officials, Charge d' Affaires ai of Chinese Embassy to Myanmar Mr. Wang Zong Ying and officials. Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, the director-general of Government Office and departmental officials also arrived back on the same flight.

MNA

***Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Thein Sein on PM's return from PRC after attending Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) for 2009 at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.*—MNA**

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends Boao Forum for Asia 2009

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein attended the opening ceremony of Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2009 held at the Convention Hall in Boao International Conference Center in Boao, Hainan, the People's Republic of China on 18 April.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein left Ritz Carlton Hotel in a special motorcade at 8.30 a.m and arrived at the center. He was welcomed by Chairman of Boao Board of Directors for Asia former Philippine President Mr Fidel Ramos and officials.

The Prime Minister had documentary photos taken with leaders, heads of state and the Chairman of Boao Board of Directors for Asia attending the 2009 Boao Forum for Asia.

The Prime Minister attended the opening ceremony of Boao Forum for Asia 2009 at the Convention Hall.

The forum was attended by Chinese Premier Mr Wen Jiabao, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan-Dung, Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea Mr Michael Somare, Prime Minister of Albania Sali Berisha, Prime Minister of

(See page 7)

***Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends the opening ceremony of Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) for 2009 held at Boao International Conference Center in Boao of Hainan Province, PRC.*—MNA**