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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

Smooth transport facilitates development of regional trade, productivity and services, thereby contributing to education, health and social sectors

Prime Minister General Thein Sein addresses opening of runway of Kengtung Airport

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—Prime Minister General Thein Sein addressed the opening of the runway of Kengtung Airport in Kengtung this morning.

Also present on

the occasion were Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-

Gen Kyaw Phyto, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the director-general of the Government Office, departmental heads, officials, members of social organizations,

traditional cultural troupes of national races and local people.

In his opening speech, the Prime Minister said smooth transport is a fundamental factor for the development of a nation or a region.

Smooth transport facilitates development of regional trade, productivity and services, thereby contributing to education, health and social sectors.

In accord with the guidance of Head of State

Senior General Than Shwe, the government is working hard for the development of the nation, for raising living standards of the people and for ensuring harmonious development of all regions of the Union by laying down development projects.

Thanks to the special development region project, Shan State has developed and witnessed magnificent universities and hospitals in its regions of Kengtung,

Taunggyi, Panglong and Lashio.

National race armed groups have come to the legal fold, and national races have forged reconsolidation and unity with mutual respect and understanding. Border regions with sounds of guns, and bombs and smell of gun powder in the past have now become peaceful and developed like other regions due to the border area development project.

(See page 8)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein addresses the opening of the runway of Kengtung Airport.
MNA

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PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 26 April, 2009

Strive for improvement of Myanmar education standard

The National Education Promotion Conference of the Ministry of Education for 2009 was opened at the University of Veterinary Science in Yezin, Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana the other day with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo.

The government is implementing the 30-year long-term project (from fiscal 2001-2002 to 2030-2031) for promotion of national education. With the effective and successful implementation of the tasks of the project, favourable environment on modern education will emerge through human resources to be developed harmoniously in the respective regions. The achievement of the plans can result in realizing the objectives of the State.

Educational knowledge and experiences, high techniques on educational qualifications and lessons in management submitted at the National Education Promotion Conference can effectively be utilized in the fields of practical teaching and school management.

Papers from higher education and basic education sectors are to be submitted at the conference. They will be really necessary for the respective education levels, and will contribute towards the national education promotion programmes which are surely beneficial to the uplifting of the national education.

It is the duty of teachers to sharpen their skills through the conference to become intellectuals and intelligentsia who can improve the 21st century Myanmar education standard.

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

I&P Deputy Minister inspects departmental tasks in Shan State (East)

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April – Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population Brig-Gen Win Sein together with Head of Shan State (East) Immigration and

National Registration Department U Soe Paing Myint on 13 April met service personnel in Monghsat District and Monghsat, Mongton and Pung-pakhyem

Townships at Monghsat District INR D.

He inspected Myanmar-Thailand Bridge Nos 1 and 2 in Tachilek and Tachilek-Monghsat, Tachilek-Meiyam,

Tachilek-Wunpon and Wunpon-Laos checkpoints on 14 April. In the evening, he met district and township level service personnel and staff of checkpoints at Tachilek District INRD and gave necessary instructions.

On 15 April, the deputy minister visited Tarlay Township INRD and met with service personnel in Mongphyat District and Mongphyat, Mongyawng and Mongyu Townships at Mongphyat District INRD. In the evening, the deputy minister met with service personnel in Kengtung District and Kengtung, Mongping and Tongta Townships at Shan State (East) INRD in Kengtung.



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Win Sein looks into Bridge No. 1 at Myanmar-Thai border in Tachilek—MNA

MNA

MRCS donates K 90 million for 150 houses

YANGON, 25 April—A ceremony to donate K 90 million for construction of 150 houses in the storm ravaged regions by Myanmar Red Cross Society was held at the hall of Fire Services Department in Mayangon Township this morning.

President of MRCS Prof. Dr Tha Hla Shwe and Chief Executive Director Col Khin Maung Hla (Retd) handed over K 90 million for 150 houses to Secretary of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister Chairman of the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Subcommittee Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe who spoke words of thanks.—MNA

Renovation of out-patient ward inspected

YANGON, 25 April—Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe inspected renovation of outpatient ward of the Health Department in Sangyoung Township, here, on 22 April.

The deputy minister met the chairman and members of Yangon West District Peace and Development Council, the chairman and members of Sangyoung Township Peace and Development Council, chairmen and members of wards peace and development councils in the township. He fulfilled the needs after inquiring health care services, prevention of diseases and educative talks on health.—MNA



Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe inspects renovation of OPD in Sangyoung Township Health Department—HEALTH

Overclocking technology contest 1-3 May

YANGON, 25 April—To enhance information and communications technology, the overclocking technology application contest, jointly sponsored by Golden Power Technology and Personal Computer Magazine and organized by Myanmar Computer Professionals Association will be held at Tatmadaw Convention Centre on U Wisara Road, here, from 1 to 3 May.

The contestants can perform the impact of overclocking practically and effectively.

The contest will be categorized as two levels — the presentation and the hardware application. Contestants may take part in the presentation event individuals or in groups formed with three contestants

each in maximum.

Students representing schools, universities and colleges may compete in the presentation event and they have to present their performance within one hour.

The winner for the first prize is K 300,000, the second prize K 200,000 and the third prize K 100,000 respectively.

Those wishing to compete in the contest may take out the application forms from Golden Power Technology at No. 4 on 13th street in Lanmadaw Township beginning 27 April. For further information, may dial 215815, 215811 and 226664.

MNA



Photos to detail US abuse in Iraq, Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 25 April — The White House vowed Friday it will not be distracted by an upcoming disclosure sure to gain attention at home and abroad: hundreds of photos showing US personnel allegedly abusing prisoners in Iraq and Afghanistan in the post-Sept. 11 environment.

The images will show mistreatment at locations beyond the infamous US-run Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, where pictures emerged in 2004 of grinning US soldiers posing with detainees,

some naked, being held on leashes or in painful positions. That revelation caused a huge international backlash against the US.

The Pentagon plans to release the latest photos by 28 May in response to a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union. The move comes after the Justice Department lost its latest round in federal court and concluded that any further appeal would probably be fruitless.

Internet

Afghan security personnel inspect the site of suicide attacks at the governor's office in Kandahar province south of Kabul, Afghanistan on Saturday, 25 April, 2009. INTERNET



Roadside bomb kills Afghan couple

KABUL, 25 April — A couple was killed as roadside bomb struck a motorbike in Helmand Province south of Afghanistan on Friday, provincial administration spokesman Daud Ahmadi said.

"A man along with his wife was riding a motorcycle outside provincial capital Lashkar Gah this morning when a roadside bomb struck the motorbike killing the couple on the spot," Ahmadi told *Xinhua*.

He blamed Taliban militants for planting the bomb, adding that the rebels by carrying out such attacks want to destabilize the province. This is the second bomb blast in Afghanistan on a single day Friday. The previous bomb blast left at least one police dead in the capital city Kabul.—Internet

Major attacks in Iraq since 1 Jan

BAGHDAD, 25 April—Major attacks in Iraq since 1 Jan, when a new US-Iraqi security pact took effect:

- 24 April — Back-to-back suicide bombers strike near Shiite shrine in Baghdad, killing 66.
- 23 April — Baghdad suicide bomber hits Iraqis collecting humanitarian aid, killing 31.
- 23 April — Suicide bomber strikes restaurant north of Baghdad in Muqdadiah, killing 57.
- 6 April — Series of bombings within four hours in Baghdad kill 37 people.
- 26 March — Car bomb tears through market in Shiite area in east Baghdad, killing 20.
- 23 March — Suicide bomber strikes Kurdish funeral north of Baghdad in Jalula, killing 27.
- 10 March — Suicide bomber targets tribal leaders at market in Abu Ghraib, killing 33.
- 8 March — Suicide bomber strikes police academy in Baghdad, killing at least 30.
- 5 March — Car bomb tears through livestock market in Hillah, killing 13.
- 13 Feb — Female suicide bomber targets Shiite pilgrims in Musayyib, killing 40.
- 11 Feb — Twin car bombs explode at a bus terminal and market area in Baghdad, killing 16.
- 4 Jan — Female suicide bomber strikes Shiite pilgrims in Baghdad, killing 38.
- 2 Jan — Suicide bomber hits luncheon at a tribal leader's home in Youssifiyah, killing 23.—Internet



A child injured in a bomb blast gets treatment in a hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, on 23 April, 2009. A suicide bomber blew himself up among a group of Iraqis collecting humanitarian aid Thursday in a mainly Shiite area in Baghdad, killing at least 22 people, the Iraqi military said.—INTERNET



A woman cries while sitting near her wounded husband at a hospital in Baghdad's Kadhimiya district on 24 April, 2009. In a second day of major bloodshed, two suicide bombers wearing explosive vests blew themselves up at the gates of a Shi'ite Muslim shrine in Baghdad on Friday, killing 60 people, Iraqi police said.—INTERNET

United Nations condemns suicide bombings in Baghdad

UNITED NATIONS, 25 April — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Friday condemned the horrific back-to-back bombings that struck Baghdad on Friday and Thursday, reiterating the UN commitment to supporting Iraq in the efforts to achieve lasting peace and national reconciliation.

A statement, issued here by Ban's spokesperson, said "the secretary-general condemns the appalling suicide bombings since yesterday in Baghdad and Diyala, which reportedly killed at least 140 people including a large number of visiting Iranian pilgrims."

Ban "expresses his deepest condolences to the families of the victims," the statement said. "The Secretary-General is particularly dismayed by reports that one of the bombers was a woman accompanied by a five year old child. No cause or grievance can justify such reprehensible acts."

"The secretary-general joins the people of Iraq in rejecting these attempts to incite further violence in the country," the statement said. "He reiterates the United Nations' commitment to supporting Iraq in the efforts to achieve lasting peace and national reconciliation."

Internet

Three people killed in Iraq's Diyala violence

DIYALA (Iraq), 25 April — An Iraqi soldier and two civilians were killed and seven others wounded in two separate attacks in the volatile province of Diyala on Friday, a provincial police source said.

The soldier was killed when he and other soldiers were trying to defuse a roadside bomb in the provincial capital Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Three more soldiers were wounded by the blast, the source said.

Separately, another roadside bomb detonated in the northern al-Sa'adiyah town, some 70 km north of Baquba, killing two civilians and injuring four others, the source said.

Iraqi security forces rushed to the scene and immediately launched an investigation into the incident, he added.

Diyala was also the scene of violence on Thursday when a suicide bomber struck people inside a restaurant near the town of Maqdadiah, some 100 km north-east of Baghdad, killing 48 people, among which 43 are Iranian Shiite pilgrims, and wounding 70 others, 50 of them Iranians, while they were taking a rest during lunch time in the restaurant after they crossed the border through the Mundhriyah border point in Diyala to visit the holy Shiite shrines in Iraq.

Internet

US must prosecute Bush lawyers

VIENNA, 25 April—The US is obligated by a United Nations convention to prosecute Bush administration lawyers who allegedly drafted policies that approved the use of harsh interrogation tactics against terrorism suspects, the UN's top anti-torture envoy said on Friday.

Earlier this week, President Barack Obama left the door open to prosecuting Bush administration

officials who devised the legal authority for gruesome terror-suspect interrogations. He had previously absolved CIA officers from prosecution.

Manfred Nowak, who serves as a UN special rapporteur in Geneva, said Washington is obligated under the UN Convention against Torture to prosecute US Justice Department officials who wrote memos that defined torture in the narrowest way in

order to justify and legitimize it, and who assured CIA officials that their use of questionable tactics was legal.

"That's exactly what I call complicity or participation" to torture as defined by the convention, Nowak said at a news conference. "At that time, every reasonable person would know that waterboarding, for instance, is torture."

Internet



Loris firefighter Jeremy Lupo works to protect a home from a wildfire in Horry County, SC on 23 April, 2009.—INTERNET



A woman wears a mask as she takes subway in Mexico City, capital of Mexico, on 24 April, 2009. The government of Mexico City is launching a massive vaccination campaign throughout the city against swine flu, which has possibly killed dozens nationwide.—XINHUA

US-Russia talks on nuclear reduction begin

ROME, 25 April—US and Russian negotiators emerged optimistic Friday after talks aimed at creating a new treaty to reduce their nuclear weapon stockpiles.

The goal is to replace the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, or START, before it expires in December. The deal capped the number of warheads and reduced

ways of delivering them. Both sides have said they are ready for further cuts.

Friday's one-day meeting focused on procedural issues, setting the agenda for further discussions. More meetings will take place in Washington and Moscow in the next two

months ahead of President Barack Obama's first visit to Russia in July.

The new treaty is considered the first step in the no-nuclear agenda embraced by Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in a joint 1 April declaration.

Internet

Italy to send envoy to Somalia for talks on hostage release

ROME, 25 April—Italy will send a political envoy to Somalia in an effort to speed up the release of the crew of an Italian tugboat seized off the African country's northern coast, the Italian foreign ministry said on Friday.

Italy's former foreign undersecretary Margherita Boniver will travel to the east African country as a special envoy of Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini.

Boniver is known for her humanitarian work, as she founded the Italian branch of Amnesty International in 1973. Earlier this year, she was sent to Kenya to help negotiate the release of two Roman Catholic nuns kidnapped on the border with Somalia.

Internet

Iran tells Washington to stop the language of threats

TEHERAN, 25 April—An influential Iranian cleric urged the United States Friday to stop threatening Iran with more sanctions if it wanted to hold talks with the Islamic state over its disputed nuclear work.

"It is better if they do not repeat the threats so the atmosphere which is becoming ready in Iran more or less (for talks) is not destroyed," former president Ali Akbar Rafsanjani told worshippers at Friday prayers.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton Wednesday threatened Iran with crippling sanctions if it did not suspend its disputed nuclear programme.

Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad reiterated this week that Teheran had no intention to halt its nuclear work, which the West fears is a cover to build bombs.—Internet



Bomb disposal experts load a bomb after defusing it on Museum Island in Berlin, Germany, early on 25 April, 2009. German police say a World War II bomb uncovered during construction at the Neues Museum in central Berlin has caused evacuations and traffic jams.—INTERNET

World War Two bomber recovered from Lake Michigan

CHICAGO, 25 April—A World War Two naval dive bomber was recovered from the bottom of Lake Michigan Friday, 65 years after it crashed on a training mission off Waukegan, about 60 kilometres north of Chicago.

It's known that the pilot survived, but it's not clear which aircraft this is, because definitive identification numbers can't be found on the plane.

Nevertheless a marine salvage company in Illinois working with a naval aviation museum, found the aircraft using sides can sonar in 315 feet of water, 27 miles out from Waukegan.—Internet

Unexploded WWII bomb found at German museum site

BERLIN, 25 April—German police say a World War II bomb uncovered during construction at the Neues Museum in central Berlin has caused evacuations and traffic jams.

Police would not confirm reports that the apartment of Chancellor Angela Merkel, who lives nearby, needed to be evacuated.

A Berlin police statement says the 220-pound (100-kilogram) unexploded bomb appears to be a type used by the Russians during the war. Officers evacuated a 985-foot (300-meter) area around the bomb Friday afternoon, disrupting nearby train and streetcar service.

The statement said experts were working to dispose of the bomb Friday evening.

Unexploded bombs from World War II are still found frequently in Germany. Disposing of them sometimes involves precautionary evacuations like Friday's.

Internet



Dutch firms to build network of charging stations for electric cars

BRUSSELS, 25 April—Dutch electricity grid companies have agreed to build a national network of charging stations for electric cars to encourage the purchase of this type of clean vehicles, Dutch media reported on Friday.

Eleven companies which manage the regional electricity grids decided to build at least 10,000 such charging stations by 2012. The whole country will be covered by

the scheme with the exception of the region of Rotterdam. The cost of the project is estimated at some 15 million euros (20 million US dollars) and will be paid by the grid companies themselves.

The grid companies want to end “the chicken and the egg” dilemma in which consumers do not buy electric cars because there are no recharging points, and power companies don’t want to build

recharging points because no one has electric cars.

At the moment, hardly any electric cars are being sold in the Netherlands and it is hoped the new initiative will help stimulate the market.

An important reason is their price. Electric Cars Europe converts Volkswagen Golfs to run on batteries and a revamped vehicle costs about 100,000 euros (132,500 dollars).—Xinhua



Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang (C) listens to advice and suggestions from scholars, experts and entrepreneurs during a conference on the recycling economy in Beijing, capital of China, on 23 April, 2009. Li on Thursday made an inspection tour in some factories and companies in Beijing to collect information on the development of recycling economy. —XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency



Mexican policemen remove rubble from a building where an auditorium inside collapsed in Mexico City on 23 April, 2009. At least 13 people were injured in Mexico City on Thursday when the roof of a concert hall collapsed in the central neighbourhood of Roma, the city’s Civil Protection Department said.—XINHUA

Global crisis pushing 35 million back into poverty in Europe, C Asia

WASHINGTON, 25 April—The global crisis is pushing some 35 million people back into poverty and vulnerability in Europe and Central Asia, the World Bank said Friday.

“After enjoying a decade of strong growth and poverty reduction, the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA) are now seeing the global economic and financial crisis push almost 35 million people back into poverty and vulnerability, or about one-third of the people that had es-

caped from it over the last ten years,” the World Bank said at its regular regional economic briefing at the World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings.

Nearly 90 million of the region’s 480 million people — about 18 percent of the population — have moved out of poverty and vulnerability since 1999. But these gains are at risk as a result of the financial crisis, according to a press release obtained by Xinhua.

Today, almost 40 percent of the 480 million are

still considered poor or vulnerable. But the number of poor and vulnerable people is now expected to rise throughout the region, increasing by about 5 million people for every 1 percent decline in GDP, says the press release. By the end of 2009, poverty and vulnerability is expected to rise by 5 percent, which means almost 25 million more poor or vulnerable. And this will further increase by an additional 10 million to a total of 35 million people by the end of 2010.—Xinhua

Toyota recalls about 259,000 Camry sedans in China over brake flaw

BEIJING, 25 April—Guangzhou Toyota began Friday to recall 259,119 Camry sedans in China to fix faulty brake systems, according to the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine.

The cars were produced between 15 May, 2006 and March 3, 2008, the agency said. Guangzhou Toyota started selling the cars in China in 2006, priced at about 200,000 yuan (29,294 U.S. dollars) to 250,000 yuan.

The agency’s statement said brakes on these cars could fail, due to a design flaw in the vacuum pump. Under normal use, the defect could impede brake-pad function and the stopping distance might exceed limits, said the statement.—Xinhua

US new home sales decrease by 0.6% in March

WASHINGTON, 25 April—New home sales in the United States fell by 0.6 percent in March to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 356,000 units, the Commerce Department reported Friday.

The new home sales was better than the 340,000 units that analysts had expected. However, March sales pace was down 31 percent compared with March 2008.

The median price of a new home, a typical market price where half of new homes are sold for more and half sold for less, dropped to 201,400 dollars, down a record 12 percent compared with March 2008. In a separate report issued Friday, the Commerce Department reported that orders for US manufactured durable goods dropped by 0.8 percent in March.—Xinhua

British economy suffers deepest recession in 30 years

LONDON, 25 April—The British economy shrank 1.9 percent in the first quarter of 2009, which was much worse than expected and was the biggest quarterly decline in GDP since the third quarter of 1979.

The economy was even worse than that seen in the fourth quarter of 2008. GDP in Britain in the first quarter of this year plummeted 4.1 percent year-on-

year, which was the largest annual decline since 1980, according to the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Figures from the ONS showed that GDP has now contracted for consecutive three quarters and confirmed that the British economy has been in steep recession. Britain has been viewed as the last advanced country to step out of recession. “Any recovery looks some distance away,” said Howard Archer, chief British and European economist from IHS Global Insight. “But we expect the economy to contract at a slowing rate through the rest of 2009 and the first quarter of 2010 before stabilizing. So GDP contraction of 4 percent or more looks very much on the cards for 2009.”—Xinhua

83-year-old Yoga instructor, Bette Calman, performs Yoga moves in Melbourne, Wednesday April 22, 2009. Bette moved to Melbourne to retire 8 years ago, only to find herself back in action again after her daughter Susie, who is also a Yoga instructor, was pestering for fill-in teachers. Despite her senior age, Bette is still practicing and teaching Yoga, teaching up to 11 classes a week. Bette has been practicing Yoga for over 40 years, and has no intention on stopping anytime soon.

XINHUA



FAA says bird strikes pose threat to planes

LOS ANGELES, 25 April — Birds struck planes at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) for 940 times between 1990 and 2008, posing a serious threat to planes, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said on Friday.

Of the 940 bird strikes, 36 resulted in substantial damage, ranging from a cracked windshield to emergency landings, according to the FAA.

This was the first time that the FAA has made a complete database on bird strikes available to the

public. Birds caused January's US Airways emergency landing in the Hudson River, New York City, which prompted more focus on the issue.

Planes taking off at LAX have hit pigeons, gulls, hawks, ducks and doves, said the FAA.

The FAA also reported bird strikes at nearby airports, including 218 at Bob Hope Airport in Burbank, 148 at Long Beach Airport and 214 at John Wayne Airport in Orange County.

"I strongly caution anyone against comparing

one airport's bird strike numbers to another airport's bird strike numbers because our database is based on a voluntary reporting system," said FAA spokesman Ian Gregor. "Thus, an airport that is extremely diligent in reporting bird strikes will appear to have more incidents than an airport that is less diligent in its reporting of these events."

Over the next four months, the FAA will streamline the bird strike database to make it more user-friendly.

Internet



Workers collect articles at the site of roof collapse in Langfang, a city in north China's Hebei Province, on 24 April, 2009. At least 10 people were killed and 15 others injured after the roof of a clothing factory collapsed in Langfang on Friday. —INTERNET

SMFG wins priority in talks to buy Nikko

TOKYO, 25 April—Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (SMFG) has been granted preferential negotiating rights to buy Nikko Cordial Securities from US financial giant Citigroup, according to news reports.

SMFG offered the highest bid of 500 billion yen (5.2 billion dollars) among three major Japanese commercial banks in a tender set by Citigroup, the *Nikkei* business daily and *Kyodo News* said.

SMFG is expected to hold negotiations with Citigroup on a more detailed assessment of Nikko Cordial's assets, with an eye to striking a deal as early as next month, *Kyodo* said.

Internet

Fifteen injured after Air Canada flight hits turbulence above Pacific

OTTAWA, 25 April—Eleven passengers and four crew on an Air Canada flight suffered injuries after the aircraft hit turbulence and was forced to make an unscheduled landing in Hawaii, Canadian media reported on Friday.

The flight, en route from Sydney, Australia to Vancouver, was carrying 256 passengers and 17 crew members, the Canadian Television (CTV) reported.

"The aircraft was about an hour northeast of Honolulu when it encountered turbulence related to a thunderstorm in the area and that resulted in injuries to some people on board," Air Canada spokesperson Peter Fitzpatrick told CTV Newsnet on Friday.

Internet

Tainted water sickens 12 students in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 25 April — Contaminated water sickened a dozen of students at a Los Angeles junior high school, but the incident did not appear to have been deliberately tampered with, the FBI reported on Friday.

The students became sick after drinking bottled water sold through a vending machine at La Mesa Junior High School early Thursday afternoon, according to authorities.

Twelve students were taken to four hospitals with complaints of headaches, nausea and dizziness. A doctor from Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital told ABC7 that all four students treated there were released after evaluation.—Internet

NEWS ALBUM



Kite fest! : People fly their kites during the International Kite Festival held from April 18 to April 26, 2009, in Berck-sur-Mer, northern France.

Man bites python

A Kenyan man bit a python who wrapped him in its coils and hauled him up a tree in a struggle that lasted hours, local media said Wednesday.

Farm manager Ben Nyaumbe was working at the weekend when the serpent, apparently hunting for livestock, struck in the Malindi area of Kenya's Indian Ocean coast.

"I stepped on a spongy thing on the ground and suddenly my leg was entangled with the body of a huge python," he told the *Daily Nation* newspaper.

When the snake coiled itself round his upper body, Nyaumbe resorted to desperate measures: "I had to bite it."

Honda unveils dog-friendly car

Dog-crazy Americans will soon be able to buy a pet-friendly car with a cushioned dog bed in the trunk, fitted with a built-in water bowl and fan and a ramp to help less agile dogs climb in.

With the help of a rescue dog named Sammy, Japanese car maker Honda Motor Co unveiled the pet friendly version of its Element utility vehicle at the New York Auto Show.

It features easy-wash seat covers, a fitted dog bed with restraints to keep Sammy safe in the event of a crash, and a paw logo on the side. Honda said the car would go on sale across the United States from the fall of this year.

Honda spokesman Sage Marie said it was designed with both safety and comfort in mind. "(It's) a car we think is of interest to many of today's dog-crazy consumers," he said.

Sewing machine frenzy in red mercury hoax

Saudi police are investigating the origins of a hoax that had hundreds of people believing that old sewing machines may bring fortune because they contained an elusive, and probably mythical, substance known as red mercury.

Saudi newspapers on Tuesday published pictures of Saudis proudly posing next to old sewing machines awaiting prospective buyers at traditional markets.

The English-language Saudi Gazette newspaper said some buyers were willing to pay up to 200,000 riyals (\$50,000) for an old Singer sewing machine proven to contain red mercury.

Study says China's Great Wall is longer than thought

The Great Wall of China is even greater than once thought.

A two-year government mapping study has uncovered new sections of the ancient Chinese monument that total about 180 miles (290 kilometres), according to a report posted on the State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping Web site.

Using mapping technologies such as infrared range finders and GPS devices, experts discovered portions of the wall — concealed by hills, trenches and rivers — that stretch from Hu Mountain in northern Liaoning Province to Jiayu Pass in western Gansu Province, the official *China Daily* reported Monday.

The newly mapped parts of the wall were built during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) to protect against northern invaders and were submerged over time by sandstorms that moved across the arid region, the study said.



People walk along the Tiger Mountain Great Wall, northeast of Dandong, in northeast China's Liaoning Province. Built during the Ming Dynasty and restored in the 1990's, the wall here is the eastern starting point of the Great Wall that stretches across northern China and forms part of China's border with North Korea.

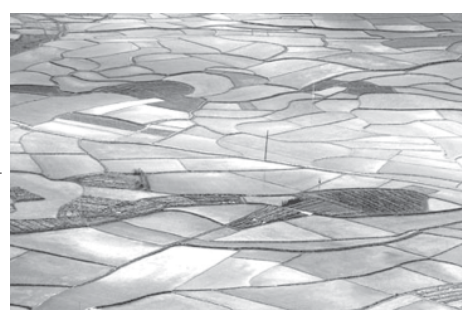


Photo taken shows colourful paddyfields in Xianhui Township of Zhaoping County, southwest China's Guangxi Autonomous Region. The patches of paddyfields form a watercolour painting in the spring.



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects development...

(from page 16)

The Prime Minister went to Keuntung University where he was welcomed by acting rector Dr Daw Chaw Khin and faculty members.

The acting rector reported on the history of the university, subject specialization, the number of students and teachers and lecture halls.

The Prime Minister gave necessary instructions and fulfilled the requirements.

The Prime Minister inspected completed two-storey lecture hall and the hall under construction. He gave instructions on cultivation of flower plants and shade trees in the campus.

The Prime Minister arrived at Techno-

logical University (Kengtung) where he was welcomed by acting principal Dr Daw Aye Aye Khaing and

faculty members. The acting principals reported on the history of the universities,

peaceful modern and developed nation. Myanmar is rich in natural resources and she needs a large

trialized nation.

He said the world today is developing and therefore the country needs to catch up with international communities. The government has created conditions for

continued study of IT technology, he added.

He urged the teachers to nurture the students to be brilliant who will serve the interests of the nation and to make continued study

Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence and Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyo gave supplementary reports.

The Prime Minister gave necessary instructions and inspected



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects two-storey teaching hall of Kengtung University.—MNA



faculty members.

The acting principals reported on the history of the universities,

peaceful modern and developed nation. Myanmar is rich in natural resources and she needs a large

themselves to be proficient in the respective fields.

The Prime Minister also urged them to train the students to be well-disciplined ones with good morale and Union spirit, those who abide by the law and to carry out social and economical activities beneficial to

local regions.

The Prime Minister went to the site of Pyi Nyein Aye low-cost housing project implemented by Triangle Region Command near Wanmaing Village in Kengtung Township.

Lt-Col Win Naing Htwe of the command reported on progress of work and Maj-

the low-cost houses whose floor is concrete and roof is galvanized iron sheets.

The project, which includes a primary school, a playground, a market and a park, is being implemented for retired service personnel who will settle in Kengtung. A plot of land is also provided for them.

MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein greets acting principals and faculty members of Technological University (Kengtung) and University of Computer Studies (Kengtung).—MNA

logical University (Kengtung) where he was welcomed by acting principal Dr Zaw Min and

subject specialization, the number of students and teachers and lecture halls. Deputy Minister for Sci-

number of technologists to exploit the resources for national development and to establish an indus-

Teachers are urged to train the students to be well-disciplined ones with good morale and Union spirit, those who abide by the law and to carry out social and economical activities beneficial to local regions.



Technological University (Kengtung).—MNA





Smooth transport facilitates development of regional...

(from page 1)

The Prime Minister continued to say that the reason the State has developed with sound infrastructures is due to the transport facilities such as roads and bridges that have been built across the nation. As for the air

transports and socio-economic improvement of the people although there cannot be economic benefits. Particularly, focus has been on development of Kengtung region as it had been without peace and stability and security for many years due to armed

Focus has been on development of Kengtung region as it had been without peace and stability and security for many years due to armed insurgency.



Prime Minister General Thein Sein unveils the stone plaque to mark the opening of the runway of Kengtung Airport.—MNA

modern, developed democratic nation will emerge only when national unity can be forged. Now the fourth step of the seven-

from the past history of Myanmar.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister said the people are to continue to march toward the goal of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation through the strength of national unity. Such development infrastructures including Kengtung Airport have been built with own resources. So all the local people are to value and maintain these infrastructures so as to ensure regional development that can bring national development.

Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyo reported that the airports in the region were

extended for enabling the local people to travel to Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and other major towns by air. In the past, he recounted that Kengtung Airport had 4700 feet long, 70 feet wide and 12 inches thick runway where only Fokker F-27 flights carrying 44 passengers could land. He said that the new runway, 8000 feet long, 150 feet wide and 18 inches thick asphalt concrete, has been built. Therefore, he continued to say that not only Fokker F-28 jets carrying 85 passengers but also Y-8 aircraft with 134,400 pounds of load can land on the airport. The apron, 600 feet long, 160 feet wide and 18

inches thick concrete, has also been constructed, he added. He said that if the local people participate in the respective sectors by applying the facilities provided by the government, the region will gain development momentum.

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe also submitted the reports that as Kengtung is a strategic town in Shan State (East), the government upgraded Kengtung Airport step by step. At present, the runway and the apron of the airport have been extended, he added. The minister said that the 6000 feet long and 50 feet wide runway of Heho Airport (See page 9)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein cordially greets the attendees.

MNA

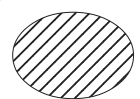
transport sector, there were only 21 airports in 1988 and the number has now reached 32. Again, the number of airports where Fokker F-28 Jets can land has risen from 7 to 26.

In the time of the State Peace and Development Council, construction of reliable motor roads and airports has been extended in hilly Shan State. Likewise, new railroads have been built with difficulty. Shwenyaung-Yaksawk railroad, Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Hsaikhoung-Namhsan railroad and Aungban-Loikaw railroad have been built and the railroad to Namhsan is being extended to reach Kengtung. Such construction tasks were carried out so as to ensure contacts among national

insurgency. Besides Taunggyi-Namhsan-Kengtung motor road and railroad, the runway of Kengtung Airport has been built. With the development of the State plus regional peace and stability, it is certain that motor roads, railroads and airlines will develop more and more, noted the Prime Minister.

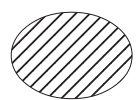
The region will develop more relying on Kengtung airport. So the local people are to try for boosting agriculture and livestock breeding tasks. Since the Tatmadaw government took over State duties, it has worked with Union Spirit in cooperation with the national people to consolidate national unity, mutual respect and understanding with the concept that a peaceful,

step Road Map of the State has been completed and the fifth step is being taken. Therefore, for the successful implementation of the Road Map, all the national people are to work unitedly and cooperatively based on Union Spirit and nationalism conceived



The extended runway of Kengtung Airport.

MNA



People are to continue to march toward the goal of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation through the strength of national unity.





Smooth transport facilitates development of regional...

(from page 8)
was extended to the 8500 feet long and 100 feet wide new runway where Boeing 737-400 can land. Likewise, 4750 feet long and 100 feet wide runway of Tachilek Airport was upgraded to 7050 feet long and 100 feet wide facility for landing of F-28 aircrafts. At Monghsat Airport, the runway was upgraded for landing of F-27 aircrafts, he added. Nowadays, the minister said that the government is carrying

out development of other airports after extending the runway and the apron of Kengtung Airport.

Afterwards, U Sai Lio of Kengtung spoke words of thanks for efforts of the government.

The Prime Minister greeted local people.

Next, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyto and Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe formally opened the



Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyto and Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe formally open the runway of Kengtung Airport.—MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyto.—MNA

runway.

The Prime Minister unveiled the stone inscriptions and sprinkled scented water on it together with Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, the commander and the minister.

The Prime Minister and party posed for documentary photo together with local people.

Afterwards, they inspected the runway by car.

At the project hall, the Prime Minister heard reports on development of Kengtung Airport, extension of the runway and landing of aircrafts presented by the minister and attended to the needs.

Previously,

runway of the airport was 4700 feet long, 70 feet wide and 12 inches thick tarred facility. At that time, Fokker F-27 aircraft only could land on the runway.

Public Works of the Ministry of Construction constructed 8000 feet long and 150 feet wide new runway for landing of Y-8 aircrafts

and 600 feet long, 160 feet wide and 18 inches thick concrete apron.

At present, Fokker F-28 aircrafts and Y-8 aircraft can land at the airport that can contribute to development of the region and better transportation of Shan State (East).

MNA

Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Hsaikhoung-Namhsan railroad and Aungban-Loikaw railroad have been built and the railroad to Namhsan is being extended to reach Kengtung. Such construction tasks were carried out so as to ensure contacts among national races and socio-economic improvement of the people although there cannot be economic benefits.



Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe.

MNA

New roads opened in Lanmadaw, Latha, South Okkalapa Tsps

YANGON, 25 April—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice Chairman Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa opened three 650 feet long and 20 feet wide asphalt concrete roads and four 750 feet long and 20 feet wide asphalt concrete roads in ward 1 in Lanmadaw Township and eighteen 840 feet long and 18 feet wide asphalt concrete roads in ward 1 in Latha Township, at the respective

roads this morning.

Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Secretary U Aung Than Win and officials inaugurated the new roads by cutting the ribbon and inspected the new roads.

Next, they also opened 925 feet long and 12 feet wide Migathi 21st and 22nd tarred roads in Ward 12 and 673 feet long and 13 feet wide Balika new tarred road in Ward 10 in South Okkalapa

Township.

The mayor and vice- mayor sprinkled scented water on stone inscriptions and strolled along the new roads.

Afterwards, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin went on Thamardi 1st street in Hsa/Ka ward in Thingangyun Township and friendly met with local people. He coordinated upgrading of tarred road, proper flow of water at drains and getting drinking water.—MNA

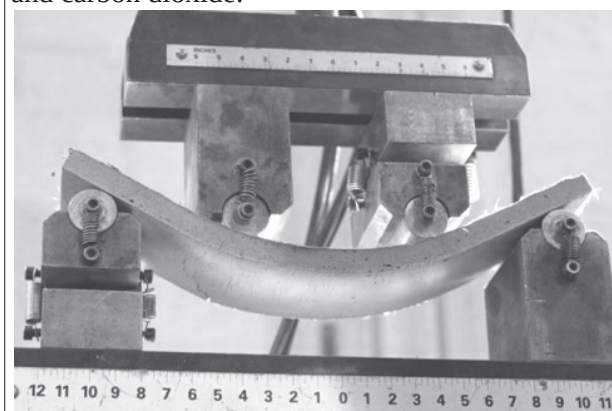
Self-healing concrete for safer, more durable infrastructure

LANSING, 25 April —A concrete material developed at the University of Michigan can heal itself when it cracks. No human intervention is necessary—just water and carbon dioxide.

A handful of drizzly days would be enough to mend a damaged bridge made of the new substance. Self-healing is possible because the material is designed to bend and crack in narrow hairlines rather than break

and split in wide gaps, as traditional concrete behaves.

“It’s like if you get a small cut on your hand, your body can heal itself. But if you have a large wound, your body needs help. You might need stitches. We’ve created a material with such tiny crack widths that it takes care of the healing by itself. Even if you overload it, the cracks stay small,” said Victor Li, the E. Benjamin Wylie Collegiate Professor of Civil Engineering and a professor of Materials Science and Engineering.—Internet



May the whole Kayin State enjoy peace

Article and Photos: Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)



Maj-Gen Htein Maung, Chairman of KNU/KNLA Peace Council.



Captain Saw Nay Soe Mya.

(from page 16)
wooden floors, and three houses with CI sheet roofs and brick walls. There is a plan to upgrade 19 streets in the village stretching three miles and one further to gravel ones.

During our stay at the village, we had an opportunity to meet

Hpahtee (uncle) Htein Maung and Saw Nay Soe Mya and heard words of peace from them. The words of peace of those who really aspire to peace are so sweet.

Saw Nay Soe Mya said, "Many of the remnant KNU members want to return to the legal fold,

but they are still there because leaders do not allow them to get out of the refugee camp, and they threaten and coerce them not to be

tasks hand in hand with the government. So, local people are now in a position to enjoy the taste of development resulting

our region has developed a lot due to peace."

U Saw Chit Thu of Shwekokko Village said, "Long ago, our region

Eugenia) for sale in Myawady. I mean that I don't want any nationals to go through hard times in the refugee camp in the



Hpa-an University.

away from the camp. Some members who fled were pursued and killed."

Pessimistic elements inside and outside of the nation and certain foreign radio stations stick to their policy of destabilizing the nation, instead of showing great compassion for local people of Kayin State.

Despite a variety of challenges, the government has been trying to achieve national reconsolidation fully in pursuance of the national duty "Our Three Main National Causes". So far, 17 major national race armed groups and over 20 small groups have returned to the legal fold. Now, they are carrying out regional development

from peace.

On our tour of Kayin State last year, we witnessed the development of Phayagon peace region, and Shwekokko and Myitta Lin Myaing villages in Myawady in Kayin State. We also heard the words of peace from some local people in fa-

lacked peace. We made peace and returned to the legal fold in 1997 and since then, we have been working for development of our region. At that time, our region had only seven huts. Now, the number of the households has risen to more than 1500 because many people including

neighbouring country."

The higher the number of those who favour peace and are convinced of objective conditions, the greater peace the whole Kayin State will be able to enjoy. And the tasks for development Kayin State will pick up momentum due to the



Newly-built streets in Htot-kawkoe village.

vour of peace.

Phado Aung San said, "Myanmar is, indeed, a peaceful land. Our country will be transformed into a discipline-flourishing democratic one in line with the State constitution, and I am very pleased with that. Now, I can enjoy the taste of peace more than ever. But, while I was engaged in armed insurgency, my heart was filled with worries and anxieties all the time. Now,

those from the refugee camp in the neighbouring country have settled down here. The government has provided us with assistance for education, health care and regional development."

U Saw Mokthon (a) U Saw Mao Tho said, "I would say, there is no country like our country. Our motherland is the best for us. We can earn our living even if we collect thabyeban (sprig of

harmonious cooperation of local people.

It was in the evening I left Hpa-an, the capital of Kayin State. When we were close to Thanlwin Bridge (Hpa-an), we were greeted by Mt. Zwegabin, the emblem of Kayin State. Then, I happened to say a prayer straight from my heart for peace of Kayin State.

Translation: MS



University of Computer Studies (Hpa-an) that produces human resources.



Kadappana Sluice Gate inaugurated in Kyauktan Township

YANGON, 25 April—Kadappana Sluice Gate, built by Construction (6) of Irrigation Department, was inaugurated near Kadappana Village of Kyauktan Township this morning, with an address by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Myint Swe said that Kadappana Sluice Gate is the 221st irrigation facility across the nation and the 19th facility in Yangon in the time of the State Peace and Development Council. The sluice gate will drain out the surplus water from the wetland and low-lying lands of



Lt-Gen Myint Swe unveils the stone inscriptions of Kadappana Sluice Gate.—MNA

Thongwa and Kyauktan townships into Kadappana Creek in the rainy season and prevent the flow of seawater into the farmlands, he said. Kadappana Sluice Gate installed with 27

valves is a drive for irrigation facilities of greening 30-mile radius Yangon International Airport, he noted. In conclusion, Lt-Gen Myint Swe urged the local people to maintain

the sluice gate for its durability and abide by the dam laws.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint made a speech. He said that the Head of State had given guidance on undertaking of five rural development tasks. In Yangon Division, he said that there are nine dams, six reservoirs for drinking water and for agricultural purpose and three supporting dams. Moreover, he continued to say that a total of 22 river water pumping projects were implemented in the division. A total of 115 sluice gates like

Kadappana Sluice Gate had been built in Yangon Division, he added. Thanks to these irrigation facilities, Yangon Division is able to cultivate crops all the year round, prevent inflow of seawater and green 30-mile radius Yangon, and he thanked the Head of State, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and local people for construction of the sluice gate.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo also made a speech.

Next, a local spoke words of thanks for construction of the sluice gate.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and

the minister cordially greeted the local people and sprinkled scented water on the stone inscriptions.

They formally opened the sluice gate and posed for documentary photo together with the local people.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party looked into the sluice gate. Lt-Gen Myint Swe heard reports on construction of Kadappana Sluice Gate presented by the Director of Construction (6) of Irrigation Department and gave necessary instructions.

Later, the minister reported on boosting production of agricultural produce.

MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint and Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo formally open Kadappana Sluice Gate.—MNA



Kadappana Sluice Gate near Kadappana village. —MNA



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.4.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Plants absorb more carbon under hazy skies

LONDON, 25 April—British scientists say they've found plants absorb carbon dioxide more efficiently under Earth's polluted skies than they would in cleaner settings.

"Surprisingly, the effects of atmospheric pollution seem to have enhanced global plant productivity by as much as a quarter from 1960 to 1999," said lead author Lina Mercado of the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology. "This resulted in a net 10 percent increase in the amount of carbon stored by the land once other effects were taken into account."

The scientists said an increase in microscopic particles released by human activities, and subsequent changes in cloud cover, caused a decline in the amount of sunlight reaching Earth's surface from the 1950s up to the 1980s.

Internet



An Indian model displays a creation by the students of a fashion institute in Hyderabad, India, on 23 April, 2009.

INTERNET

Fossil may offer 'missing link' proof

PITTSBURGH, 25 April—A 24-million-year-old fossil thought to be a "missing link" in evolution has been discovered in northern Canada, researchers said. Carnegie Museum of Natural History paleontologist Mary Dawson was a member of an international team that found the fossil, the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* said on Thursday.

The find — reported in Thursday's issue of the journal *Nature* — may be the "missing link" between land carnivores and seals, sea lions and walruses, the newspaper said. San Diego State University biologist Annalisa Berta — who was not a part of the team that discovered the fossil — told the newspaper it is a "fabulous discovery."

Internet



Delta Airlines jets at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport. A Delta Airlines plane flying from New York to Tel Aviv, Israel, was diverted to Boston due to an unruly passenger who tried to make his way into the cockpit, local television reported.—INTERNET

Study finds worm is actually two species

GOTHENBURG, 25 April—Swedish scientists say animals that seem identical may belong to utterly different species, meaning there may be more species on Earth than thought. University of Gothenburg researchers led by Professor Christer Erseus and doctoral student

Daniel Gustavsson used DNA analysis to discover one of the Earth's most common segmented worms is actually two types of worm.

"We could be talking about a large number of species that have existed undiscovered because they resemble other known

species," said Erseus. Both species differ in one of the examined genes by 17 percent — twice as much as the equivalent difference between humans and chimpanzees. And, said Erseus, as the advanced DNA technology is tested increasingly within various animal groups, it might mean our perception of the Earth's biodiversity needs to be revised.

Internet

Genetic impulsivity predicts alcoholism

INDIANAPOLIS, 25 April—Genetic predisposition to impulsivity is a trait predictive of alcoholism, US researchers report. Nicholas Grahame of the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis School of Science used selective breeding for 30 generations to produce mice that were high-volume alcohol drinkers and others that avoided consuming alcohol.

The genetically different mice were presented with a choice between a small, immediate reward and a large, delayed reward. By adjusting the quantity of

the immediate reward up and down based on choice behavior, the task allowed the researchers to test the impulsivity of the rodents.

The study, published online ahead of print of the July issue of the journal *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, found the mice with high alcohol preferring genes were more impulsive than their low drinking counterparts — demonstrating that predisposition to impulsivity is predictive of alcoholism.—Internet

Floods, mudslides leave 16,000 homeless, three dead in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 25 April—Floods and mudslides from heavy rain have led to three deaths and left more than 16,000 people homeless in Brazil, local media said on Friday.

In the northeastern Maranhao state, the persistent rain which began in early April has already affected 40,000 people, 13,000 of whom were left homeless. Two people died in mudslides in the state capital Sao Luis, and 13 municipalities declared state of emergency.

According to the local Civil Defence department, about half of those who were left homeless are now living in public shelters, while the other half are in the houses of their friends or relatives.

Internet

China UnionPay's ATM business expands in Middle East, Africa

BEIJING, 25 April—China UnionPay's automatic teller machine (ATM) network has expanded to 61 countries and regions after it recently started service in nine Middle East and African countries, sources with the company said on Friday.

The nine countries are the United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen, Jordan, Djibouti and the Republic of Congo.

The economic and trade relations

between China and the nine countries have become closer in recent years, with a total bilateral trade volume of 22 billion US dollars in 2008. Some 250,000 Chinese visited those countries for work and travel.

"It not only marks an important step in expanding our business in the Middle East, West Asia and Africa, but also a crucial move for our global reach," said Xu Luode, president of the company.

Internet



Department of Emergency Operations Applications team members (L-R) Kenneth Fields, Appollo Hy, Mickey Williams and Robert Bohn are seen in the Centres for Disease Control Emergency Operations Centre as they monitor the swine flu outbreak from the CDC headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia 24 April, 2009. A strain of flu never seen before has killed up to 60 people in Mexico and has also appeared in the United States, where eight people were infected but recovered, health officials said on Friday.—INTERNET

Scientists identify 39 bacterial pathogens

BERLIN, 25 April —German scientists say they have identified 39 bacterial pathogens that use toxins to manipulate human host cells to create infections.

The researchers from the Max Planck Institute for Biochemistry and the Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine said several bacterial pathogens use toxins to manipulate human host cells, but until now scientists have been able to identify only a few of the proteins that interact with bacterial toxins. In the new study, researchers succeeded for the first time in systematically investigating the cellular target sites

of the bacterial toxins.

“Surprisingly, the toxins are not optimally adapted to the structures of human proteins,” said Matthias Selbach of MDC. While binding relatively weakly to individual human proteins, they are able to influence several different proteins simultaneously, he said. “A single bacterial toxin seems to function like a master key that can access different host cell proteins in parallel,” Selbach said. “Perhaps it is due to this strategy that bacteria are able to attack very different cells and, thus, to increase their survival chances in the host.”—Internet

Anti-malaria parasite chemical developed

LEEDS, 25 April—British scientists say they have created chemical compounds that kill the most deadly malaria parasites, including those resistant to existing drugs. The University of Leeds researchers said the compounds work by preventing the enzyme dihydroorotate dehydrogenase, which is essential to the growth of the parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*, from working.

“Without this enzyme, *Plasmodium falciparum* is unable to grow and therefore it dies,” said lead researcher Glenn McConkey. “The inhibitors developed at Leeds bind to the ... en-

zyme in the parasite and stop it functioning, preventing the proliferation of the parasites, which live in red blood cells. In addition, our chemicals are equally effective against parasites that have developed resistance to drugs.” Internet

German doctors: 40-pound tumor removed from woman

BERLIN, 25 April—A German doctor said Friday that surgeons have successfully removed a 40-pound (18 kilogram) malignant bone tumor from a Saudi Arabian woman.

Dr Heinz Zurbrugg, a surgeon at the private Capital Health clinic in Berlin, said the 35-year-old had only a few weeks to live when she arrived in Germany for care in September.

But he said that after five operations by the surgeons, no traces remain of the bone tumor that once ballooned from her

pelvis and represented a third of her body weight.

He said she is now well enough to return home and that if follow-up exams continue to show no sign of any tumor, the next steps will be to reconstruct the partially removed pelvis and give her

an artificial hip.

The woman, who spoke on the condition that her identity not be disclosed, said she traveled to Germany after doctors in Riyadh said they would have to amputate her leg to remove the bone tumor.—Internet

Astronomers study galaxy's gamma rays

WEST LAFAYETTE, 25 April—An international team of astronomers has used a US radio telescope to study the brightest galaxies that the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope can see. Yuri Kovalev at the Max Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy in Germany said the study solidifies the link between an active galaxy's gamma-ray emissions and its powerful radio-emitting jets.

Kovalev and colleagues used the world's largest radio telescope —

the National Science Foundation's Very Long Baseline Array — a set of 10 radio telescopes located from Hawaii to St. Croix in the US Virgin Islands and operated by the National Radio Astronomy Observatory. When the signals from these telescopes are combined, the array acts as a single enormous radio dish more than 5,300 miles across, resolving details about a million times smaller than Fermi can and 50 times smaller than any optical telescope.—Internet

Vietnamese woman dies of bird flu

HANOI, 25 April —Vietnamese Ministry of Health confirmed on Friday that a 23-year-old Vietnamese woman from northern Thanh Hoa Province died of bird flu.

The woman developed symptoms similar to bird flu patients on 16 April and was taken to local hospital for treatment.

She died on 22 April. Test by the National Institute of Infectious and Tropical Disease showed that she has contracted the deadly H5N1 bird flu virus.

The neighbourhood that the woman hailed from has recently reported death of a large number of fowls for unknown reasons.

This is the fourth person who died of bird flu in Vietnam so far this year.

Internet

Third bird flu death in Egypt this week

CAIRO, 25 April—A 33-year-old woman died on Friday from the H5N1 strain of bird flu, the third death from the disease in Egypt this week, the health ministry announced.

The woman, from Kafr el-Sheikh province, was the 26th person to die in Egypt from the strain since it was first identified in the Arab world's most heavily populated country in 2006. The woman was hospitalised on 15 April with a high fever and respiratory problems, the ministry said in a statement reported by the official news agency MENA.

Her case is the 68th recorded since the outbreak of the disease in Egypt in 2006. Most of the victims in Egypt have been young girls or women, who are generally in charge of looking after poultry in rural areas. Health ministry spokesman Abdurrahman Shahin told AFP on Friday the situation was “worrying.” Egypt has seen an increase in bird flu cases over the past two months. The World Health Organisation (WHO) called in March for an investigation into why many of the victims have been young children.

It reported on Wednesday that a 25-year-old Cairo woman died from bird flu, the second victim felled by the disease this year after the death of six-year-old boy announced the previous day.

The ministry said on Thursday that a 34-year-old woman, Wafaa Abdel Hamid Abdel Jawwad from Tanta north of Cairo, has contracted the illness.

The woman, who had been in close contact with infected poultry, was treated with antiviral drug Tamiflu and is in stable condition, it said.

Internet



An Egyptian health department worker disinfects a house in a village in Al-Abiyat, north of Cairo in 2005. A 33-year-old woman died on Friday from the H5N1 strain of bird flu, the third death from the disease in Egypt this week, the health ministry announced.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Bundesliga title is everything, insists Luca Toni



Bayern Munich striker Luca Toni

BERLIN, 25 April—Bayern Munich striker Luca Toni says his side must defend their Bundesliga title or risk

being part of a lost generation as they look to over-haul leaders Wolfsburg starting on Saturday against Schalke.

"We will only be remembered if we win the title," said Italy's Toni, who has scored 12 league goals this season. "If we do not do it, it will have been a lost year."—*Internet*

Ferguson confident Tevez will stay

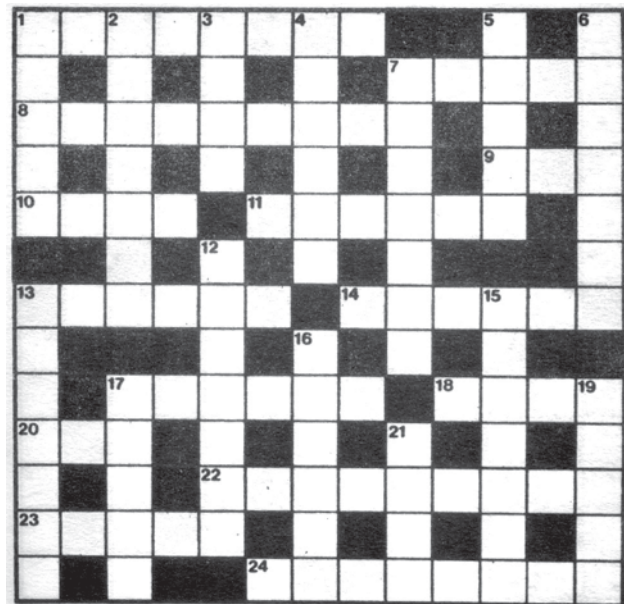
MANCHESTER, 25 April—Manchester United are confident Argentina striker Carlos Tevez will stay at the club when his loan period expires at the end of the campaign.

"He (Tevez) should be here next season, I certainly hope so," manager Alex Ferguson told reporters. "I think he genuinely wants to stay and that's something we are trying to work towards. I've told him that repeatedly and there's not much more I can do."

Media reports from Tevez's homeland this week suggested the player was unhappy at being left out by the Premier League leaders for some important games and may find a new team for next season. "Of course we are vulnerable because he is on loan, no question about that," added Ferguson. "That is our weakness."

—*Internet*

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Eats flesh of own species
- 7 Depart
- 8 Propagate
- 9 Young wolf
- 10 Long, narrative poem
- 11 Compose
- 13 Untilled
- 14 Sniff
- 17 Engineless plane
- 18 Croquet arch
- 20 Strong rod
- 22 Top floor of bus, e.g. (5,4)
- 23 Alias William II
- 24 Liquor bottle

DOWN

- 1 Utter imprecations
- 2 About marriage
- 3 Golf-club
- 4 Entertained
- 5 Comedy of buffoonery
- 6 Outdoor team game
- 7 Merciful
- 12 Hurtful
- 13 Anut
- 15 Very forcible
- 16 Place of worship
- 17 Abrupt in manner
- 19 Card game
- 21 Ground space

Fabregas charged with improper conduct after Hull match

LONDON, 25 April—Cesc Fabregas has been charged with improper conduct in relation to an alleged spitting incident at the end of Arsenal's FA Cup match against Hull City last month, the English FA said in a statement on Friday.

Hull manager Phil Brown, who has also been charged with improper conduct, told reporters after the match that Spanish midfielder Fabregas had spat at Hull's assistant boss Brian Horton after the final whistle. Fabregas faces two charges, the other concerning his conduct in running on to the pitch at the end of a match he did not play in.—*Internet*

Davydenko laughs off Nadal upset chance

BARCELONA, 25 April—Russia's Nikolay Davydenko laughed off



Nikolay Davydenko of Russia waves to supporters after winning a match against Czech Radek Stepanek at the Barcelona Open tennis tournament. Davydenko won 7-6, 6-2, 6-2.—*INTERNET*

his chances of beating claycourt king Rafael Nadal in Saturday's Barcelona Open semi-finals. Davydenko, who made the last four here in 2005, has the unenviable task of ending the world number one's 23-match victory run on clay.

"Say the odds are 100 percent for Rafa," the Russian joked when pressed to predict how he would fare against the Spaniard who has won the last four editions of the tournament at the Real Club. "You never know about tomorrow, but I'm not going to worry about it now. I'm going to relax and enjoy my life."

—*Internet*

Van Gaal candidate to become Belgium coach

AMSTERDAM, 25 April—The Belgian Football association has talked to AZ Alkmaar coach Louis van Gaal about its vacant national coach post, NOS-TV said on its website (www.nos.nl) on

Friday. Van Gaal, who won the Dutch title last weekend with Alkmaar, is a candidate to replace Rene Vandereycken, who was sacked after two losses to Bosnia Herzegovina three weeks ago.—*Internet*

Ochoa takes 3-shot lead in Corona Championship

MORELIA, 25 April—Defending champion Lorena Ochoa shot her second straight bogey-free 8-under 65 on Friday to take a three-stroke lead over Suzann Pettersen in the LPGA Tour's Corona Championship.

Ochoa, the top-ranked Mexican star who also won the 2006 tournament at Tres Marias, eagled the par-5 eighth hole and had six birdies.—*Internet*

Ferguson wants Giggs to win PFA Player of Year award

MANCHESTER, 25 April—Winning the PFA Player of the Year award for the first time would be a fitting reward for Ryan Giggs's contribution to the game, according to Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson. The 35-year-old



Ryan Giggs

Welsh winger is one of five Old Trafford players competing for the accolade on Sunday, alongside winger Cristiano Ronaldo, goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar and central defenders Rio Ferdinand and Nemanja Vidic.

Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard, who won the vote in 2006, completes the list of six nominations. "I hope he (Giggs) wins it," Ferguson told reporters on the eve of Saturday's home match against Tottenham Hotspur. "I think he has played 31 games this season, which the way you use your squad today is good." Hopefully he is rewarded for his contribution to the game and he thoroughly deserves it.—*Internet*

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

26-4-2009

Bolton	1 - 1	Aston Villa
Everton	1 - 2	Manchester City
Fulham	1 - 0	Stoke City
Hull City	1 - 3	Liverpool
WBA	3 - 0	Sunderland
West Ham Utd	0 - 1	Chelsea
Man Utd	5 - 2	Tottenham



Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo (C) scores from the penalty spot during their English Premier League soccer match against Tottenham Hotspur in Manchester, northern England on 25 April, 2009.

—*INTERNET*

Lyon suffer new title blow with PSG stalemate

PARIS, 25 April—Lyon's chances of an eighth successive French league title suffered another blow on Friday when they were held to a 0-0 draw by fellow championship hopefuls PSG. The draw left Lyon in third place, three points behind leaders Marseille who have a game in hand with just four matches left to play.

The champions' home form is beginning to turn into their Achilles heel in the title race as they have now won just three of their last 12 matches at the Stade Gerland. They also face a tough run-in to the campaign with trips to Marseille and Toulouse still to come.

PSG had their best opportunity when top scorer Guillaume Hoarau was denied by Hugo Lloris in the Lyon goal in the 58th minute, but Lyon could have won the game six minutes from time when Karim Benzema saw a shot come back off the post.—*Internet*



Zola agrees new West Ham contract

LONDON, 25 April — West Ham manager Gianfranco Zola has agreed a new four-year contract with the Premier League club, according to a report on Saturday.

Hammers chief executive Scott Duxbury told Sky Sports News that Zola and his assistant Steve Clarke have both completed talks over new four-year deals, which should be signed within the next 48 hours.

Zola and Clarke have turned West Ham's season around after taking over



West Ham manager Gianfranco Zola, seen here in January 2009, has agreed a new four-year contract with the Premier League club.

INTERNET

from Alan Curbishley in September, leading the east London club into seventh place.—Internet



Germany's tennis player Sabine Lisicki plays a ball against China's Jie Zheng during a Women's Fed Cup Tennis match of World Group between Germany and China in Frankfurt, central Germany, on Saturday, 25 April, 2009. Lisicki won in 2-1 sets.

INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (26.4.2009) (Sunday)

Transmissions

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

Local Transmission

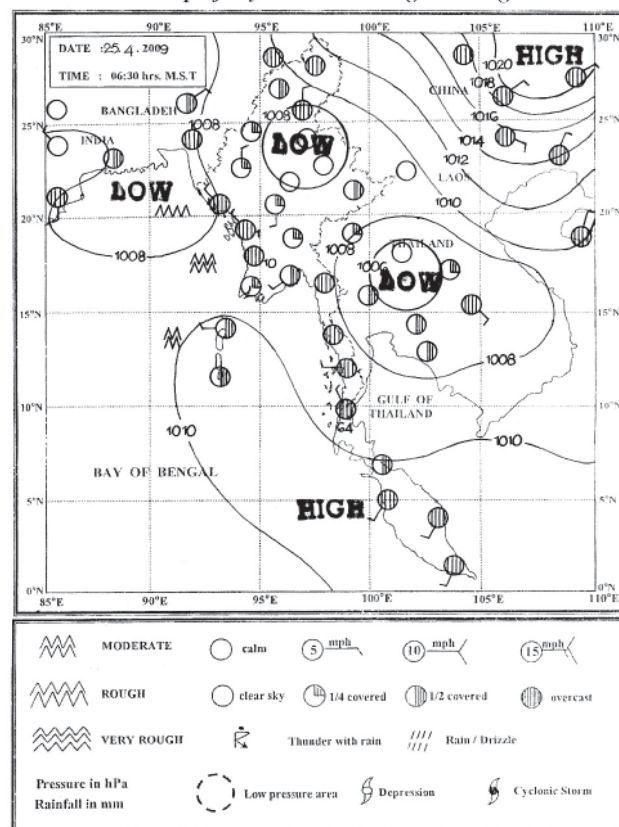
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Blue Sea
- * Kachin hand-woven material
- * Healthy Babies, Sweet Smiles
- * Shwe Nan Daw Kyaung
- * Upper Sedawgyi Multi-purpose Supporting Dam Project
- * The Game of "Gone Nyin Doe"
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Safari in Style
- * Prime Minister's trip to China Strengthens bilateral relations
- * The Art of Sculpture from Sagyin Hill
- * King Alaung Mintaya's Palace Site
- * Traditional Chin Cuisine
- * Coloured Glass Ball...Expert
- * Tradition of Offering Elephant Figurines
- * Hukaung Valley Rattan Survey (Part-IV)
- * Upper Sedawgyi Multi-purpose Supporting Dam Project
- * Kachin hand-woven material
- * Healthy Babies, Sweet Smiles
- * Shwe Nan Daw Kyaung
- * Promote Sino-Myanmar Cooperation
- * Myanmar Orchestra (Thichinkhant)
- * Enjoy our Shan Food
- * Ayeyawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-I)
- * The prosperous and pleasant Myawady
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 25 April, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Rakhine State, isolated in Shan and Mon States, Taninthayi Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in Kachin and Chin States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions, (3°C) below April average temperatures in Mon State and Taninthayi Division and about April average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (45°C), Minbu (44°C), Monywa, NyaungU and Magway (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthoung (2.52) inches, Manaung (1.02) inches and Namsam (0.47) inch.

Maximum temperature on 24-4-2009 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 25-4-2009 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 25-4-2009 was 71%. Total sunshine hours on 24-4-2009 was (9.7) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 25-4-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (1.06) inches at Mingaladon, (1.58) inches at Kaba-Aye and (2.83) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (20:30) hours MST on 24-4-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 26th April 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Taninthayi Division, isolated in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 26-4-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 26-4-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-4-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).



Sunday, 26 April
View on today

7:00 am

1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ

7:50 am

5. Nice and sweet song

8:00 am

6. မိုးယွန်းကြီးရေထိန်းတံခါး

8:10 am

7. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:15 am

8. "ကောင်းခြင်းမေတ္တာ"

(ထွန်းထွန်းနိုင်၊ ရန်ပိုင်စိုး၊
ပိုင်စောထွန်း၊ မင်းသူ၊ မြင့်မြင့်နိုင်၊
ခင်မိုးမိုးအေး၊ ချစ်စန်းဦး)
[ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မိုး (ပဲရစ်)]

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Musical programme

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:10 am

2. Round up of the week's international news

11:20 am

3. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
"အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ"
(အပိုင်း-၄၀)

12:20 pm

4. Golf magazine (TV)

12:40 pm

5. မြန်မာ့ဒီဇိုင်းဇာတ်လမ်း
"ဘဦးရေကျေးနေသည်"
(မြို့သောကြာ၊ အရိုင်း၊ ရတနာခင်)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဥက္ကဋ္ဌစိုး)

2:35 pm

6. Dance of national

8. Sing and enjoy

6:00 pm

7. "အနိုင်အနွှဲ"

(စိစိ၊ ကောင်းမြတ်)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့)

2:45 pm

8. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. အချစ်ပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:15 pm

3. နိုင်ငံခြားအလေးထားကျေးလက်
ထုတ်ကုန်များ

4:25 pm

4. Musical programme

4:35 pm

5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ
ပထမနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု)
(ဓာတုဗေဒ)

4:50 pm

6. Song to uphold
National Spirit

5:00 pm

7. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး

5:15 pm

8. Sing and enjoy

6:00 pm

9. Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report

6:35 pm

11. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ်
"Pocket Dragon
Adventure"

6:55 pm

12. တစ်မျက်နှာတစ်ကွက်စာ

"ပိယမောင်"

(ဒိန်းဒေါင်း၊ အိတ်နု၊
သူဇာပွင့်၊ ဝါဝါ၊ မယ်လနီ)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ထင်ထင်)

7:10 pm

13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"ချစ်သူသက်ထား"
(အပိုင်း-၈)

8:00 pm

14. News

15. International news

16. Weather report

17. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ်
"ဒိုင်နိုဆော့ဒီသားစုစွန့်စားခန်း"
(အပိုင်း-၂)

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"ကျေးဇူးတင်ပါတယ်"



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects development of Kengtung

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—Prime Minister General Thein Sein, together with Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the director-general of the Government Office and heads of departments, left here by Myanmar Airways and arrived in Kengtung at 9.45 am today.

The Prime Minister and party were welcomed at Kengtung Airport by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyto, senior

military officers and departmental officials.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspected development of Kengtung in a motorcade. He went to the site of Namhsan-Kengtung railroad project near Kengtung-Taunggyi Road and inspected construction of Kengtung railway station.

Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min reported on facts of the project, survey of the axis, earth work of Namhsan-Tarkaw and Tarkaw-Kengtung sections, work for construction of bridges

and embankment, programmes to be undertaken and use of machinery with audio and visual aids. Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, the commander and officials gave supplementary reports.

The Prime Minister gave instructions for speedy implementation of the projects.

The 198-mile Namhsan-Kengtung railroad project includes 40 stations, 1,039 bridges and seven tunnels.

(See page 7)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects construction of Kengtung railway station yard.—MNA

May the whole Kayin State enjoy peace

Article and Photos: Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)

On the third tour of Kayin State we made recently, we dropped in Htot-kawkoe Village in Kawkaeik District to witness to what extent it had enjoyed development.

As known to the public, Htot-kawkoe region previously lacked stability and peace, and lagged behind other regions in development, as a result.

However, the region is now on the verge of remarkable development due to the fact that local people have had their wishes of peace fulfilled.

Chairman of KNU/KNLA Peace Council Maj-Gen Htein Maung and members broke away from KNU and returned to the legal fold with the strong determination that they would do their bit in the tasks for peace, stability and development of Kayin State on 11 February 2007.

The group led by

Maj-Gen Htein Maung was accorded a rousing welcome by the government and the people. Authorities promptly took measures for development of the village.

We left Hpa-an for Htot-kawkoe in the early morning, and we were greeted by a Thingyan shower en route.

Captain Saw Nay

Soe Mya, son of late chairman of KNU/KNLA Saw Bo Mya, and 71 members and 88 dependants totaling 159 bringing 24 assorted arms and ammunition together with them joined Htot-kawkoe Village where KNU/KNLA Peace Council is based, on 30 March. Their returning to the legal fold can be regarded as a good

omen of greater peace of the whole Kayin State.

On our way through Nabu feeder road, we noticed lush and green plantations of rubber and teak on both sides along the road to the village.

Upon arrival at Htot-kawkoe Village, we were informed that the government had built houses, a hospital, a health

care centre, a school, a Win Thuzar Shop, constructed roads, and Nabu and Pata dams by damming the Pata Creek.

Moreover, the government provided them with 102 pigs, 18,200 chickens, 100 goats and 100 acres of paddy fields, grown 1500 acres of rubber, dug fish- ing ponds and bred 60,000

fishes.

This year, they have put 125 acres under paddy and are running 453 acres of rubber at the rate of three acres a household.

They have had their basic needs fulfilled including clean water, electricity, 50 houses with CI sheet roofs and

(See page 10)



A panoramic scenery of Zwegabin mountain.—MNA

