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Thursday, 22 April, 2010

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

Senior General Than Shwe looks into progress of Upper Yeywa Hydropower Project, factories in Yatanarpon Myothit



Senior General Than Shwe looks into progress of Upper Yeywa Hydropower Project.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 April—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspected progress of Upper Yeywa Hydropower Project and factories in Yatanarpon Myothit Project on 15 April.

Accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command, the Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command, the ministers and officials, Senior General Than Shwe arrived at the Upper Yeywa Hydropower Project being implemented by Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 near Taungchay Village of Kyaukme Township at 1 pm.

The Senior General and party were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Myo Myint, senior military officers and officials.

The Senior General viewed progress of ground work with the use of heavy machinery at the main embankment. He also looked into the boulder excavation.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min reported on the aim of implementing the project, progress of task, location of Yeywa Hydropower Project and Upper Yeywa Hydropower Project on Myitnge River, construction of approach roads, conditions of main embankment, diversion tunnel, spillway, power intake structure, power intake tunnel, penstock tunnel, generating

capacity for the project and yearly implementation of project tasks. In his guidance, the Senior General stressed the need to timely complete the Upper Yeywa Hydropower Project as the personnel have work experiences in Yeywa Hydropower Project.

Upper Yeywa Hydropower Project is located on Myitnge River, near Taungchay Village, 20 miles

south of Kyaukme, Shan State (North). It is located 80 miles upstream of the already completed Yeywa dam. By storing water from Myitnge and Namlam rivers, No. 2 Construction of Hydropower Planning Department of the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 is implementing the project with the aims of generating (See page 8)



Senior General Than Shwe views mobile communication devices jointly produced by Elite Tech Manufacturing Co Ltd and Huawei Co Ltd.—MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 22 April, 2010

Choose good men to shape better future

People have to choose their own destiny with fresh mind and new strength in the year 1372 ME.

With a view to shaping a peaceful, modern and developed nation aspired by the entire people, the government has taken systematic measures to fulfill five basic requirements — development of human resources, tapping of more natural resources, promotion of capital and investment and creation of a peaceful and stable atmosphere. At the same time, the government is in the process of gentle transition to a new system.

The State has striven for national development as well as for socio-economic improvement relying on its own resources. Only through the effective use of own natural resources with own technology, will the nation be able to build a better future.

For the perpetuation of the nation and for the people of new generations to be able to discharge State duties peacefully, special emphasis has to be placed on national economic growth, national unity and promotion of national strength.

The seven-step Road Map adopted for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation is the most correct way to shaping a better future of the nation flourishing with democracy. The people, therefore, are urged to enlist the strength of patriotic, good citizens in the drive for building a prosperous nation.

Educative talks at MFF on 24 April

YANGON, 21 April — Talks on change of society, opportunities and challenges will be held at Myanmar Fisheries Federation in Insein Township on 24 April, 2010.

The talks will be jointly organized by Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Myanmar Prawn Entrepreneurs Association and sponsored by Diamond City Hyper Mart.—MNA

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

Pathein-Thalakhwa-Mawtinsoon to help facilitate road transport

NAY PYI TAW, 21 April—Over 40 groups including 17 from the private sector and others from the Ministry of Construction are building the 96-mile-long section of Pathein-Thalakhwa-Mawtinsoon road in Ayeyawady Division, a delta region in the south of Myanmar.

Of the over 40 groups two from the private sector and six from the ministry are engaging in bridge construction work of the section stretching 96 miles

from Chaungha junction to Mawtinsoon via Seintaung.

On 19 April, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint visited the project observing tar layering and bridge and conduit construction. The minister who started his tour from Pathein also inspected work sites of private companies and government bodies building the Pathein-Thalakhwa-Mawtinsoon road sector-wise.

MNA

Home Affairs Minister comforts wounded staff in bomb blasts

YANGON, 21 April — Minister for Home Affairs and Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Maung Oo yesterday went to Yangon General Hospital and comforted the staff of the Home Affairs Ministry wounded in the recent bomb blasts in Yangon.

Before the visit to the hospital, the minister went to Seikkan Township and inspected Seikkan

Township Police Station and instructed officers to be alerted.

The minister also went the Mingala Taungnyunt Township General Administration Department Office and inspected the site chosen to build a building for the office.

MNA

Members of MWEA to attend 2010 China-ASEAN Youth Camp

YANGON, 21 April—Members of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association Daw Win Ei Khaine and Daw Mi

Kyi Kyi Han left here today for the People's Republic of China to attend 2010 China-ASEAN Youth Camp Programme, organized

by All China Youth Federation to be held in Nanning, the People's Republic of China from 21 to 28 April.

Members of MWEA

Daw Khin Thet Maw, Daw Thin Thin Set and officials concerned saw them off at Yangon International Airport.

MNA



LIBRARY OPENED: Officials open MittaU Library contributed by the State in cooperation with local people at Ohnbinsu village in Ngapudaw Township on 17 March. Ngapudaw Township IPRD



Medical Superintendent Dr Nu Nu Tha of Yangon General Hospital accepts cash donation of two vocalists from 2010 Air Bagan Maha Thingyan Pandal, directors, pilots and staff of Air Bagan Ltd. AIR BAGAN LTD

Private company donates bottled water, cash to YGH

YANGON, 21 April — A privated company donated 5,000 bottles of drinking water to patients wounded in recent bomb blasts in Yangon, other patients and staff of Yangon General Hospital today.

Medical Superintendent of the hospital

Dr Daw Nu Nu Tha accepted the KTM brand bottled water and K 100,000 donated by Sand Thida Trading Co., Ltd and presented a certificate of honour to General Manager U Kaung Lwin Oo of the company.

MNA

Donkey bomb kills three, wounds five in Taliban birthplace Kandahar in S. Afghanistan

KANDAHAR, 21 April — Militants fighting the Afghan government in a new tactic, which took many into surprise, using donkey bomb in their former stronghold Kandahar in south Afghanistan Monday killing three kids and injuring five others.

With the new but successful tactic, the militants apparently targeted a pro-government figure Hajji Fazludin Agha who supported President Hamid Karzai during the last August presidential election and killed three kids of his family.

"A cart full of alfalfa and pulled by donkey exploded next to my house unfortunately claimed the lives of three innocent children, all from my family," Fazludin Agha told *Xinhua*.

Three more civilians including two children sustained injuries in the attack, he said.

Two police personnel also sustained injuries in the blast while the police check post was completely smashed, he said.

Meanwhile, witnesses at the site said eight people were injured in the blast.

Internet



Pakistani police officers and members of the media seen through a damaged windshield of a police vehicle at the site of bomb explosion at a market in Peshawar, Pakistan, Monday, on 19 April, 2010. Two bombs, hours apart, exploded in the Pakistani city of Peshawar on Monday, killing scores of people and underscoring the reach of militants despite successive military offensives close to the Afghan border, police said.
INTERNET

Afghan police officers stand by their checkpoint after a bomb planted on a donkey exploded nearby, killing a 15-year-old boy Monday and wounding two police officers and two civilians in Kandahar city, south of Kabul, Afghanistan, on Monday, 19 April, 2010.
INTERNET



Five family members of paramilitary group leader slaughtered in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 21 April—Five family members of local leader of Awakening Council group were killed, among them three children were beheaded, at their home in north of Baghdad on Tuesday, a local police source said. "Four to five gunmen at about 4:00 am (0100 GMT) stormed the house of a paramilitary group leader in the town of Tarmiyah, some 20 km north of Baghdad, killing his wife, his 22-year-old daughter and three boys," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. The attackers then beheaded the three boys before they fled the scene, the source said.

The leader of the paramilitary group, whose group is fighting Sunni extremist militants of al-Qaeda, was on duty at a checkpoint at the time of the attack, the source added. Iraqi security forces sealed off the area and conducted search operation in many houses near the scene, looking for the attackers and carrying out investigation, he said. Earlier in the month, gunmen in army uniforms killed 25 people from three families of government-backed Awakening Council paramilitary groups in the village of Sufiya in Rasheed district in southern Baghdad.

The Awakening Council group consists of armed groups, including some powerful anti-US Sunni insurgent groups, who turned their rifles against the al-Qaeda network after the latter exercised indiscriminate killings against both Shiite and Sunni Muslim communities.—Internet



An Afghan policeman stands guard in front of the site of an explosion in Kandahar on 16 April. Kabul said more than 100 people including dozens of civilians were killed in violence related to Afghanistan's ongoing war against the Taliban in the past week.
INTERNET

US and allies kill, injure Iraqi people

BAGHDAD, 21 April—There has been daily casualties in Iraq since the US and its allies have invaded the country.

Casualties of Iraqi people

The total number of casualties as from the day they invaded the country to 21 April reached 701040 and the total number of seriously injured people reached 1266332, according to the news on the Internet.

No.	Subject	Number
1.	Death toll of Iraqi people	701040
2.	The total number of seriously injured people	1266332

Internet

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

KABUL, 21 April—The NATO troops led by the US have invaded Afghanistan and they are there for a long time.

A number of Afghan people are killed and injured due to invasion of the NATO troops led by the US.

Casualties of Afghan people

According to the Internet news, a total of 32764 Afghan people were killed and 39225 injured seriously as from the day when the NATO troops led by the US invaded Afghanistan to 21 April.

No.	Subject	Number
1.	Number of Afghan people killed	32764
2.	Seriously injured Afghan people	39225

Internet

Road accident kills 4, wounds 26 in NE Afghanistan

TAKHAR, 21 April—Road accident in Afghanistan northeast Takhar province left four persons dead and injured 26 others on Tuesday, a local official said. "A passenger bus collided with a truck in Kalafgan district at noon time today as a result four persons were killed and 26 others including women and

children sustained injuries," spokesman of provincial administration Faiz Mohammad Tawhidi told *Xinhua*.

All the injured have been taken to nearby hospitals, he said and added the condition of two injured men are critical.

The reason for the mishap was the reckless driving, the official

further said.

Although there is no statistics about the figures of those killed in road accidents in Afghanistan annually, the casualties of road accidents, is said to be hundreds in Afghanistan. A deadly road accident in northern Baghlan province month ago left 35 dead.

Internet

Bicycle bomb rocks Afghan eastern province

KHOST, 21 April—Bicycle bomb rattled Khost city the capital of Khost province in east Afghanistan Tuesday, police said. "The explosive device planted in a bicycle and parked on a park close to the Provincial Governor Office went off at noon time but fortunately caused no loss of life and property," provincial police chief Abdul Hakim Ishaqzai told *Xinhua*. There were no casualties, he stressed. He also put the attack on the enemies of peace, a term used against Taliban militants.

However, Taliban fighters who often carry out such attacks against government interests have yet to make comment. A donkey bomb in Taliban birthplace Kandahar in south Afghanistan on Monday left three people dead and injured five others.

Internet



The damaged wall of the police headquarters in Kandahar south of Kabul, Afghanistan seen recently.
INTERNET

Denmark to temporarily reopen airspace above 6 km

COPENHAGEN, 21 April— Denmark will temporarily reopen its airspace above an altitude of 6 km for 6 hours Wednesday morning, officials said on Tuesday.

The measure will be effective 2 am to 8 am local time (400 GMT to 1000 GMT), during which only selected

flights are allowed, including aircraft for transporting patients, said Bo Pedersen, communication manager of Naviar, a state aviation company under the Danish Ministry of Transport.

He told Danish TV2 that Denmark will have to close its airspace again after that period, since

volcanic ash clouds from Iceland will probably gather above the country by then.

Based on results of a test flight conducted by the Dutch airline Cimber-Sterling on Monday, the Danish airspace has been divided into two parts along a line from Mors and Randers.—Internet



Lots of people visit the World Expo Park in Shanghai, east China, on 21 April, 2010. The World Expo Park conducts its first trial operation on Tuesday. There will be a total of six trial operations before the World Expo kicks off on 1 May.

XINHUA

Tornado, storms whip Nicaragua, Ecuador

MANAGUA, 21 April — A tornado whipped Nicaragua's city of Tipitapa, affecting some 2,000 people and destroying 411 houses, said the country's army civil defense chief on Tuesday.

The tornado, which occurred on Monday, stormed a number of districts with the town of Marvin Salazar most affected, said General Oscar Perezcassar.

The civil defense has

sent to the affected areas 500 hammocks, food that can last 15 days and materials for setting up tents, he added.

Meanwhile, heavy rains accompanied by hail, tornados and storms have afflicted some northern municipalities since Thursday, cutting off electricity supply and forcing many families to stay in shelters.

In Ecuador, a tropical storm whipped its coastal

province of Manabi, southwest of Quito, killing at least one person, the National Secretariat of Risk Management (SNGR) said on Tuesday.

According to official data, so far this year, such disasters as storms and tornadoes in Ecuador have left 30 people dead, 19 injured, six missing, affecting 34,415 people and damaging 2,203 houses.

Xinhua

Vietnam imports 2.6 mln tons of oil, petroleum in Q1

HANOI, 21 April — Vietnam bought 2.6 million tons of oil and petroleum from foreign markets in the first three months of this year, down 17 percent year-on-year, said the General Department of Vietnam Customs on Monday.

However, the country's import turnover of this commodity went up 30.8 percent year-on-year to stand at 1.58 billion US dollars.

Last month, Vietnamese importers

spent 577 million US dollars on purchasing 921,000 tons of oil and petroleum, up 3.4 percent in turnover but down 2.8 percent in volume over the previous month.

Vietnam's oil and petroleum import in January-March period mostly came from Singapore, China, the Republic of Korea and Malaysia.

Singapore was the Vietnam's largest supplier of oil and petroleum in this period with the volume of

886,000 tons, accounted for 34 percent of the country's total import volume of this commodity, said the department.

China ranked second with 360,000 tons of oil and petroleum shipped to Vietnam in the first three months, down 21.3 percent year-on-year.

Last year, Vietnam paid nearly 6.3 billion US dollars for importing 12.6 million tons of oil and petroleum, said the department.

Xinhua

Singapore reports 9 crew members of tugboat missing

SINGAPORE, 21 April — Nine crew members of a tugboat are missing after their vessel deviated from its planned course off Kuantan, Malaysia, local media reported on Tuesday.

According to local TV broadcaster Channel NewsAsia, the tugboat sounded an alert while it was north-east of Kuantan at about 11:30 p.m. local time on Monday. Suspecting that the boat had been hijacked, the owner reported the incident to the Singapore Port Operation and Control Center.

It was assessed that the boat had steered from its planned route. The vessel, along with the nine men onboard, had

initially departed from South Kalimantan, Indonesia and was heading towards the Gulf of Thailand to unload its cargo.

The broadcaster said that this is the second reported case of a tugboat

being hijacked this year in the region. Earlier in February, another tugboat deviated from its planned course and headed towards the Philippines.—Xinhua



A volunteer leads children to read books in a camp school in quake-hit Yushu County, northwest China's Qinghai Province, on 21 April, 2010. Volunteers from Mianyang City of Sichuan Province began to give classes in this camp school on Tuesday.—XINHUA

6 killed in collision of 2 Colombian military helicopters

BOGOTA, 21 April — Two helicopters collided and crashed on Tuesday in southwestern Colombia, killing six military officers including a general and injuring five others, the military said.

The tragic event occurred during the inauguration of a military base in Tolima, southwest of Colombia, the Colombian Military Forces said in a statement.

The two helicopters — one Bell 222 of

Vertical Aviation and a Huey of the Colombian Armed Forces — crashed when they were lifting off.

Among the dead were Brigadier General Fernando Joya Duarte, a commander in the military force in the south of Tolima, two colonels and three soldiers.

The authorities said a technical commission of the Air Forces had been sent to investigate the accident.

Xinhua



An injured Colombian soldier is carried from an ambulance by rescue workers upon arrival at Neiva airport on 21 April, 2010. At least 6 military personnel died, including General Fernando Joya after two helicopters crashed during lift off them from an army base in Chaparral Tolima province.

XINHUA



A visitor takes photos of pearl exhibits at the 7th China International Pearl Festival kicked off in Huadong International Jewelry City, a jewelry shopping center, in Shanxiah Township in Zhuji City, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 21 April, 2009.

XINHUA

**All
Items
from
Xinhua
News
Agency**

Southern Mexico hit by 5.0-magnitude earthquake

MEXICO, 21 April — An earthquake measuring 5.0 degrees on the Richter scale struck Ometepepec, south Mexico on Monday night, but so far there have been no reports of casualties or damage, the country's National Seismological Service reported.

The tremor occurred at 21:28 local time (0228 GMT), with the epicenter about 8 km southwest of the city of Ometepepec.

The earthquake followed Sunday's 5.5-magnitude tremor near Hidalgo city, also in south

Mexico.

On 4 April, a strong earthquake measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale rocked Mexico's Baja California bordering the United States, killing two people and injuring 233 others.

Internet

ALBA summit celebrates regional integration progress

CARACAS, 21 April — As Latin America celebrates the bicentennial of the beginning of its fight for independence, the eight member nations of the Bolivarian Alliance for America (ALBA) on Monday vowed to further promote political, economic and social integration.

Heads of state and government of ALBA countries gathered on Monday in Caracas for their fourth summit to analyze progress achieved since the organization was founded in 2004.

The Latin American and Caribbean region reached elevated levels of economic cooperation, social advance and political association said the leaders

in a statement. Regional integration and unity should continue, as it is the way led by Latin America's independence leader Simon Bolivar, said Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez.

The summiteers also included Cuban leader Raul Castro, Bolivian President Evo Morales, Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega.

ALBA member countries are Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivia, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Venezuela. The group has a total population of nearly 70 million and a total GDP of over 636 billion US dollars.—Internet



A medical worker of the Chinese public security frontier defense troop helps Zhaxi Deleg of the Tibetan ethnic group injured in the earthquake to bandage up his leg in Gyegu Town of Yushu County, northwest China's Qinghai Province, on 20 April, 2010.—XINHUA

Italy, Lebanon pledge to boost Middle East peace efforts

ROME, 21 April — Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi on Tuesday promised to help increase the European Union's role in Lebanon and in the peace negotiations between Israel and Palestine.

He made the pledge here when meeting with Lebanon's Premier Saad Hariri to discuss bilateral and global issues. The meeting primarily focused on the need to boost efforts for the Middle East peace process.

In a joint press conference at the end of the meeting, Berlusconi said: "I will commit myself to promote a wider EU foreign policy focused on the Middle East and on a greater interest for Lebanon."

Both prime ministers agreed on the need to push forward with the Israel-

Palestinian talks in order to reach a common peace solution, which is on top of their agendas.

Hariri stressed that there "was no better time than now" to move ahead. "Today we stand before a real opportunity for a regional peace which is centered on the Palestinians' right to return to a state of their own, with its capital in Jerusalem, as well as Israeli withdrawal" from the Palestinian territories.

"But we need to work together," he added. "The challenges we face today and the obstacles hindering peace will increase every day we fail to reach an end to this 63-year old conflict."—Internet

UNSG's Message on International Mother Earth Day

22 April 2010

Mother Earth — our only home — is under pressure. We are making progressively unreasonable demands on her, and she is showing the strain. For all of human history we have depended on nature's bounty for sustenance, well-being and development. Too often we have drawn on nature's capital without putting back. We are now beginning to see the consequences of failing to safeguard our investment.

Climate change and the depleted ozone layer are among the starkest examples. Biological diversity — the incredible variety of life on Earth that sustains us — is in rapid decline. Freshwater and marine resources are increasingly polluted; soils and once-prolific fisheries are growing barren.

The impact of our neglectful stewardship is being felt most by the world's most vulnerable people: those who live on the desert margins; indigenous communities; the rural poor; the inhabitants of the squalid slums of the world's expanding megacities. If they are to break out of the poverty trap and prosper, they need — at the very minimum — fertile land, clean water and adequate sanitation.

Environmental sustainability — the wise management of Mother Earth's bounty — is one of eight Millennium Development Goals adopted a decade ago by United Nations Member States. The deadline for achieving the goals is 2015. This September, I will convene a summit in New York to review progress towards the MDGs and develop an agenda for action — a practical, results-oriented plan, with concrete steps and timelines. Protecting Mother Earth must be an integral component of our strategy.

Without a sustainable environmental base, we will have little hope of attaining our objectives for reducing poverty and hunger and improving health and human well-being. For these reasons and more, the General Assembly has proclaimed that each year on 22 April we will observe International Mother Earth Day. I call on all governments, businesses and citizens of the world to give our Mother Earth the respect and care she deserves.—UNIC



Israeli air tanker and F-15 fighter jets perform an aerial demonstration above the Mediterranean Sea near Tel Aviv during a celebration for Israel's Independence Day, on 20 April, 2010. Israel celebrated its 62nd Independence Day off Tel Aviv coast from 19 April to 20 April.—XINHUA

EADS to bid on 35 billion US tanker project

WASHINGTON, 21 April — European aviation giant EADS on Tuesday announced it will enter the bid for US Air Force's 35-billion-dollar aerial refueling tankers program, and it will submit its proposal on 9

July. "We will offer a modern, more capable tanker in response to the Defense Department's decision to encourage competition for this major taxpayer investment," said EADS North

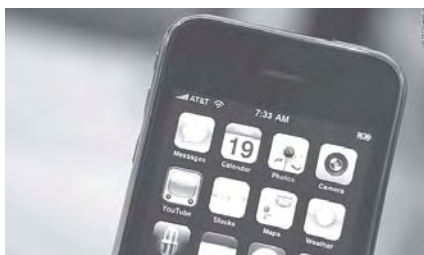
America Chairman Ralph D. Crosby, Jr.

The company said it's in discussions with potential US partners to build a "winning team" for the bid against Boeing, the US defence contractor.—Internet



Firefighters try to cool a burnt oil tank on the outskirts of northwest Pakistani city of Peshawar, on 19 April, 2010. The NATO tank was attacked by unidentified militants on Monday. XINHUA

Apple soars with 90% increase in profits



iPhone sales and related revenue gained 124 percent to \$5.4 billion for Apple, easily exceeding the \$3.8 billion in revenue from desktop and portable computers.

INTERNET

NEW YORK, 21 April—Apple on Tuesday reported a 90 per cent increase in second-quarter profit, far surpassing bullish Wall Street estimates with a 49 per cent increase in revenue.

The consumer computer products group had been expected to record earnings per share of \$2.46 on sales of about \$12bn; instead, it reported \$3.33 a share, or \$3.1bn in total, on sales of \$13.5bn in the

three months to 27 March. Stock in Apple rose more than 5 per cent in after-market trading.

Steve Jobs, chief executive, said the new iPad computer had been well received since going on sale on 3 April and promised “several more extraordinary products in the pipeline for this year”. Analysts expect a new version of the iPhone to be released as early as June.

Apple’s desktop computer sales rose 40 per cent on a volume basis from the second quarter a year ago, while portable MacBook computers gained 28 per cent.

The biggest surprise was the iPhone. Shipments more than doubled, thanks in part to the addition of new carriers, such as Vodafone in the UK. However, iPod units slipped 1 per cent.

Internet

Commuter train collision near Rome slightly injures 50

ROME, 21 April—About 50 people were slightly injured when two commuter trains collided outside of Rome on Tuesday, the ANSA news agency reported.

A train running on the Rome-Viterbo line rammed into another one on the Montebello-Flaminio line while it was stopped at the La Celsa station just north of Rome,

the report said.

An investigation has been started to determine the cause of the accident that caused minor damage to both trains.—Xinhua

Man gets 8 years for hiding terrorist in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 21 April — Indonesia’s South Jakarta District Court sentenced Saefudin Zuhri on Tuesday to eight years in prison for harboring Malaysian-born terror mastermind Noordin M. Top, once the most wanted terror suspect in the region, last year, the Jakarta Post reported on Wednesday.

“The panel of judges found beyond

doubt the accused guilty of involvement in terrorism and sentenced him to eight years in prison,” Presiding Judge Heriyanto said while reading out the verdict.

The panel of judges rejected the defendant’s claim that he did not know the person he affectionately called “Abang” was in fact Noordin M. Top. The judges said that

photographs of Noordin had been posted in public by police long before Zuhri was arrested.

Heriyanto said the punishment was meant to be vindictive, but to serve as a warning so the defendant would not repeat the offense.

Zuhri’s lawyer Ashludin Hatjani said he was considered whether to appeal the decision.—Xinhua

Latest James Bond film on hold



Daniel Craig is the latest James Bond in the hugely popular movie series.

The big-screen adventures of James Bond are on hold because of the financial woes of MGM, the studio that distributes the movies, producers said.

The 23rd Bond film was in pre-production for a release next year.

“Due to the continuing uncertainty surrounding the future of MGM and the failure to close a sale of the studio, we have suspended development on BOND 23 indefinitely,” producers Michael Wilson and Barbara Broccoli said in a joint statement. “We do not

know when development will resume and do not have a date for the release of BOND 23.”

MGM has been on the brink of bankruptcy as it works with creditors to find a new owner. The James Bond series is the longest-running film franchise in history, with the first movie about the world’s most famous fictional spy — “Dr. No” — released in 1962. The movie franchise and merchandising are controlled by EON Productions. Wilson and Broccoli took over the 007 franchise from Albert “Cubby” Broccoli in 1995.

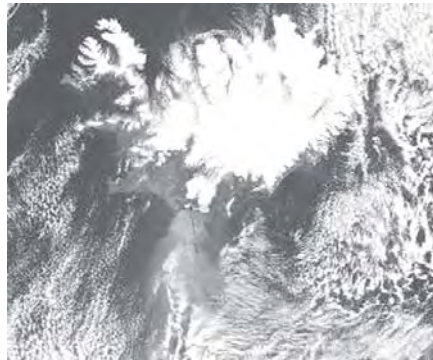
Research plane flies into volcanic ash

The German airline Lufthansa said it would send a research plane into the volcanic ash cloud covering much of Europe to determine ash concentrations.

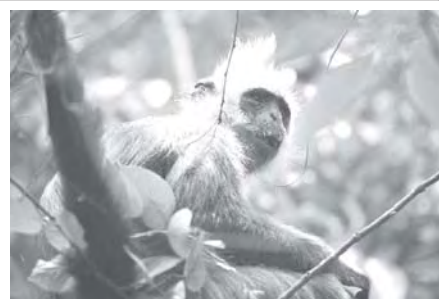
The aircraft will carry a container from the Max Planck Institute that will collect precise data about the volcanic ash cloud that is being emitted by Iceland’s erupting Eyjafjallajökull volcano. Officials said the flight is the first such wide-scale

scientific measurement carried out in European airspace.

Lufthansa said the project utilizes a specially equipped Lufthansa Airbus A340-600 carrying a 1.6-ton container that is able to obtain precise data on the make-up of the atmosphere. A dedicated air inlet system feeds ambient air into the container, which is then evaluated by the flying laboratory’s diverse measuring systems.



Thick ash poured from Iceland Eyjafjallajökull volcano when the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) on NASA’s Aqua satellite acquired this image on 17 April, 2010. The ash in this image is at two different altitudes.



A white-headed langur is seen at the Bapen Nature Reserve in Fusui County, southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 20 April, 2010. The number of the endangered species of long-tailed monkey on China’s top-level protection list has enjoyed an obvious growth from about 600 in 2005 to 786 in 2009, according to the reserve.

News Album



A larval tube-anemone fishes for food with the tentacles it will use as an adult as seen in an undated handout photo released on 18 April, 2010. The ocean depths are home to myriad species of microbes, mostly hard to see but including spaghetti-like bacteria that form whitish mats the size of Greece on the floor of the Pacific, scientists said on Sunday.

Honour Fifth Conference of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association

Khin Maung Tun (Lanmadaw)

The government reconstituted the Myanmar Writers Association into the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association in November 1993.

The first conference was held at the Institute of Nursing on Bogyoke Aung San Street in Yangon on 29 and 30 December 1993 to give birth to the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association. On the second-day session, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe attended the conference together with his members.

In line with the resolution passed at the first conference of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, the conference is held once every four years. Prior to the first conference, respective Township Writers and Journalists Associations elect new executives and representatives. At the central level, new central executive committee members are chosen by ballot. Two years after the conference, the Central Executive Committee of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association organizes discussions for successful realization of the conference adopting follow-up programmes, and reviewing the works done over the past two-year period and so do Township Writers and Journalists Associations.

Under the aegis of the Ministry of Information, respective work committees of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association are now gearing up to organize the fifth conference of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association.

Now, Township Writers and Journalists Associations have elected new township executives and representatives through conferences. They are now waiting in the wings to attend the central level conference due to take place soon.

At the fourth conference of the Myanmar

“When Election Law and Political Parties Registration Laws are enacted, the rights to form political parties will be bestowed upon politicians for democratization process. That is the most appropriate as well as the best way for democratization to comply with the wishes of the people, national unity, and building a peaceful, developed nation. Here, I would like to urge literary professionals to make sustained efforts to enable the persons concerned to be well convinced of this sense in the national interest.”

Writers and Journalists Association held at the Karaweik Palace Hotel on 28 June 2008, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan in his speech said, “To continue to work in accordance with the constitution is the safest and shortest way to introduce democracy as aspired by the people, to achieve national reconsolidation, and to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation. In this regard, persons and organizations outside the law need to return to the legal fold. Then, we can make preparations to generate a better future.

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sense in the national interest.

“In conclusion, I would say that the influence of literary professionals on the public is great. So, I would like to call on you:—

- to relay correct concepts and convictions to the people,
- to serve the interest of the literary world and fellow literary professionals,
- to participate in national duties and bounden duties with national awareness,
- to do your bit in building a democratic nation, and
- to work collaboratively for successful completion of the conference.”

In his address, the minister stressed the importance for literary professionals to choose the correct ways in the national interest, and to share nation-building duties.

Now, the terms of the CEC members of the MWJA elected systematically (democratically) at the fourth conference will soon expire. New CEC members will be elected at the fifth conference and future plans will be adopted there.

The Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association comprises strata of producers, distributors and publishers apart from writers, journalists and media professionals.

As a gesture of honouring the fifth conference, I write this article and urge the entire literary professionals to honour the provisions enumerated from Chapters 1 to 14 of the constitution of the MWJA, to work in concert for successful completion of the forthcoming conference, and to organize the people through literary works to choose the most appropriate and the best way to democracy in consistence with the motto of the MWJA “Promote national prestige and integrity, and literature”.

Translation: MS

At the fourth conference of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association held at the Karaweik Palace Hotel on 28 June 2008, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan in his speech said, “To continue to work in accordance with the constitution is the safest and shortest way to introduce democracy as aspired by the people, to achieve national reconsolidation, and to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation. In this regard, persons and organizations outside the law need to return to the legal fold. Then, we can make preparations to generate a better future.”

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend merit-sharing ceremony for Wayri Zeya Yanaungmyin Kyauktaik in Kyaukse

NAY PYI TAW, 21 April— Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attended the merit-sharing ceremony for already-renovated Wayri Zeya Yanaungmyin Kyauktaik in Yaynar Monastery in Hsukon Ward in Kyaukse of Mandalay Division on 18 April.

It was also attended by members of the Sangha led by Sayadaw Agga Maha Suddhamajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Aloka of Inyaungminkyaung Monastery in Kyaukse Township, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the chairman of Mandalay Division PDC, the minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, the minister for Industry-1, the minister for Science and Technology, senior military officers and departmental officials, townselders, members of social organizations, wellwishers and guests.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party presented a golden velvet fan to Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tejaniya Lankara of Yaynar Monastery and offered provisions to members of the Sangha.

Next, the Senior General and wife and the congregation received the sermon delivered by



Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and family offer alms to a Sayadaw at the merit-sharing ceremony for already-renovated Wayri Zeya Yanaungmyin Kyauktaik.—MNA

Photo shows already-renovated Wayri Zeya Yanaungmyin Kyauktaik in the compound of Yaynar Monastery in Kyaukse.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe looks into progress...

(from page 1)

hydropower, supplying water to Yeywa Dam from Upper Yeywa Hydropower Plant on completion and developing the region.

On arrival at Yatanarpon Myothit construction project near Mandalay-PyinOoLwin Road in PyinOoLwin Township, the Senior General and party were welcomed by Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Thein Tun and officials.

The Senior General visited Asia Mega Link Factory of Asia World Co in Soft Based Factories Area Zone and production of Mobile Base Station

Terminal (BTS) in cooperation of ZTE Co. Officials conducted the Senior General round the factory. The

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Aloka and shared the merits gained.

After the ceremony, Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party offered lunch to members of the Sangha.—MNA

factory will produce 120,000 GSM Mobile Handsets and 1200 Mobile BTS yearly.

At Solar Cell Factory of Yatanarpon Teleport Production Co, the Senior General looked into production of solar cell plates and handsets for Mc Will (Multicarrier Wireless Information Local Loop). Responsible persons of the factory explained production process and the minister gave a supplementary report.

At Elite Tech Manufacturing Co Ltd, the Senior General viewed production of BST and handsets for CDMA-450 MHz and CDMA 800 MHz Mobile system being jointly undertaken by Huawei Co Ltd.

Later, the Senior General viewed the international level ICT training school being jointly conducted by Yatanarpon Teleport Co and MCC Group displayed at MCC Training Institute Yatanarpon and progress of Yatanarpon Myothit.

MNA

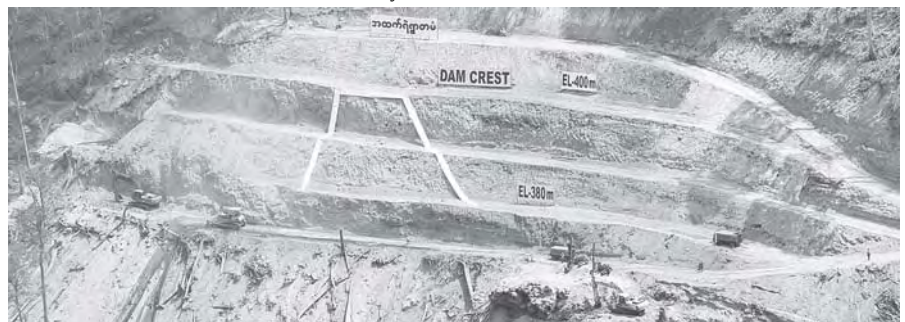


Photo shows Upper Yeywa Hydropower Project site.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife attend ceremony to share merits for Dhamma Beikmandaw at Lawkamanaung Shwegugyi Pagoda in Kyaukse



NAY PYI TAW, 21 April — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attended a ceremony to share merits for Dhamma Beikmandaw religious building constructed at Lawkamanaung Shwegugyi Pagoda in Inyaung Village in Kyaukse Township on 17 April.

The ceremony

held at the village was attended by Members of the Sangha led by Presiding Sayadaw of Myataung Monastery in Mandalay Abhidhaja Maharattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Sasana Bhivamsa and Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Bhamaw Monastery in Mandalay Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Agga Maha



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing paying homage to Buddha image at eastern archway of Lawkamanaung Shwegugyi Pagoda.—MNA

Pandita Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa, and Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of the Man-

dalay Division Peace and Development Council, the Minister for Industry-1, the Minister for Science and Technology, the Deputy minister for Health, senior military officers, members of so-

cial organizations and local people.

At the ceremony, the congregation led by Senior General Than Shwe and the congregation accepted the Nine Precepts from Sayadaw

Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa and donated offertories to the Members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sasana Bhivamsa administered sermon and the congregation shared the merits gained.

After the ceremony, Senior General Than Shwe and wife offered soon (a day meal) to the Members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, the Senior General and wife paid homage to the Buddha Statue at the pagoda and visited the pagoda. Before the ceremony, Senior General Than Shwe and wife also attended a ceremony to enshrine relics into and to fix umbrellas of two pagodas in Tawdwin Village in Kyaukse Township on 17 April morning. At the ceremony, the two Yanaung and Manaung pagodas were also consecrated.—MNA



Photo shows Dhamma Beikman of Lawkamanaung Shwegugyi Pagoda in Inyaung Village of Kyaukse Township.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe attending the ceremony at which General Thura Shwe Mann drives stake for construction of Yadanatheinga Bridge.—MNA

Efforts to be made...

(from page 16)

Ayeyawady River to link Singu of Pyin Oo Lwin District and Kyaukmyaung region of Shwebo Township, the searching of alignment for the bridge, the lengths of main bridge and approach roads, the prospects of transport facility of Singu to be linked with Mandalay-Madaya-Bhamo-Myitkyina Road and with Mogok, Momeik and Mabein, and easy transport of the bridge to connect with Mandalay-Shwebo-Myitkyina Road on the west bank of Ayeyawady River, to link with Chin State through Shwebo-Khin U-Ye U-Kalewa Road and Shwebo-Ayadaw-Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa-Kalay Road via Nwenein-Kyaukmyaung-Shwebo.

The minister also reported on project of soil test and preliminary engineering works, gathering of machine, vehicles, heavy machinery and materials, progress of other Ayeyawady River crossing bridges, completion of bridges across Thanlwin and Sittoung rivers and construction of seven roads across Bago mountain ranges.

In his guidance, the Senior General stressed the need to lay down sound foundations in the transport sector in building a modern and developed nation. On completion of the bridge with approach roads, the local people can enjoy fruit of development and the region will develop quickly.

The Senior General then greeted the local people.

Yadanatheinga Bridge will link Singu of Pyin Oo Lwin District on the east bank of Ayeyawady River and Kyaukmyaung-Nwenein Village of Shwebo Township on the west bank. The bridge will have 28 feet wide motor way and three feet wide pedestrian way on either side. The bridge will be 2480 feet long.

The lower structure of the bridge is of RC pile foundation and RC post type. The upper structure will be

of steel frame and RC floor. Its clearance will be 158 feet wide, and the facility can withstand 60-ton loads.

At Shweli-3 Hydropower Project in Momeik Township, the Senior General and party were welcomed by Chairman of Kachin State PDC Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Soe Win and officials.

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min reported on the aim of implementing the project, feasibility study for the main embankment, location of the project near Shweli-1 and Shweli-2 hydropower projects on Shweli River, progress of the approach roads of the project, construction of the main embankment, spillway, power intake structure, temporary embankment, saddle dyke and conduit and the arrangements for implementation of the project tasks.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye and Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence and the commanders submitted the reports on project and regional conditions. Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint reported on the plans for supply of electricity to the power grid network and installation of power lines.

After hearing the reports, the Senior General gave guidance on efforts to be made for ensuring good conditions of motor ways for transport of materials to Shweli-3 Hydropower Project and timely completion of the project. Next, he viewed progress of the project.

Shweli-1 Project will generate 600 megawatts and Shweli-2, 640 megawatts. On completion, three hydropower plants will be located along the river.

At Upper Hsedawgyi Hydropower Project in Madaya Township, Minister Col Zaw Min reported on arrangements for construction of a regulating dam upstream Hsedawgyi Multi-purpose Dam Project in Madaya Township, duties assigned to Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation for construction of Hsedawgyi Regulating Dam and Ministry of Electric Power No. 1

for implementation of the hydropower buildings, permission for national companies to carry out electricity production and supply task and conducting of Htoo Trading Co Ltd in jointly implementing Upper Hsedawgyi Hydropower Project.

Chairman of Htoo Trading Co Ltd U Te Za reported on the purpose of jointly implementing the project, work experience and preparations of the company, conditions of main embankment, water diversion tunnel, spillway, power intake structure, water tunnel and intake canal, main sectors of the project and year-wise tasks.

He also submitted the reports on implementation of Coal-fired Power Plant Project in Htantabin Township, Htakha Hydropower Project to be implemented on Htakha Creek, three miles southeast of Htanga Village of Machanabaw Township.

In his guidance, the Senior General stressed the need for the company to take care in implementing the gravel-filled main embankment of Upper Hsedawgyi Dam. He viewed progress of main embankment and spillway.

Thanks to construction of Upper Hsedawgyi Dam, electricity can be generated and the inflow of silt will be blocked. In addition, the dam will supply water to Hsedawgyi Dam and generate electricity at Hsedawgyi Hydropower Plant and prevention against the floods in the region.—MNA

Prime Minister awards PDC (Yangon) in Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup

NAY PYI TAW, 21 April—Prime Minister General Thein Sein attended the prize presentation for the winners in the Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup Golf Tournament on 16 April.

At the prize presentation ceremony, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt and Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun awarded the winners in the singles' event and the teams' event at Royal Golf & Country Club golf course, City Golf Course and Nay Pyi Taw Golf Course.

Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe gave

most par, most birdie, longest drive, nearest to pin and most eagle prizes to the respective winners for three golf courses.

Minister Col Thein Nyunt presented second prizes to Zaw Zaw Latt of PDC (Kachin) team with 213 strokes and Navy Club with 1131.

Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin gave first prizes to Thein Zaw Myint of Kaung Myat team with 209 and PDC (Yangon) with 1105.

Later, Prime Minister General Thein Sein presented the gold trophy of Tour Gold Cup to PDC (Yangon) team with 1105 strokes in three golf courses.

MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein presents gold trophy of Tour Gold Cup to PDC (Yangon) team.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin awards PDC (Yangon) team. (News on page 10)—MNA



Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe awards Thein Zaw Myint of Kaung Myat team. (News on page 10)—MNA



Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun presents prize to Navy club. (News on page 10)—MNA

Added sugar can increase heart attack risk

ATLANTA, 21 April—Added sugars—especially in processed foods and beverages—may increase heart disease risk factors, US researchers said.

Study co-author Dr. Miriam Vos, assistant professor of pediatrics at Emory School of Medicine, and colleagues analyzed nutritional data and blood lipid (fat) levels in more than 6,000 adult men and women from 1999 to 2006. The highest-consuming study subjects ate an average of 46 teaspoons of added sugars per day, while the lowest-consuming study subjects ate an average of just 3 teaspoons daily.

The study, published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, found those who ate more added sugar were more likely to have higher cardiovascular disease risk factors—including higher triglyceride levels and higher ratios of triglycerides to high-density lipoprotein, the “good” cholesterol.

Internet

Exercise machine helps avoid low-back pain

MONTREAL, 21 April—Most adults will suffer from low-back pain in their lifetime, but Canadian scientists say they could benefit from using an exercise machine. Christian Lariviere, a professor at the Institut de recherche Robert-Sauvé en santé et en sécurité du travail, conducted the study with Université de Montréal researchers Bertrand Arseneault, Rubens A. Da Silva, Sylvie Nadeau, Andre Plamondon and Roger Vadeboncoeur.

The researchers had study subjects ages 18-65 complete exercises, while being attached to electromyography sensors used to measure the level of activity and fatigue in various muscles during exercise.

The exercise machine was designed specifically for back muscles. Test subjects could also use the machine in a semi-sitting position.

The study showed using this machine was beneficial, the researchers said.

“If you want to bring about physiological change to help the development and endurance of back muscles, you must focus your training on those specific muscles and not other muscular groups such as hip extensors,” Lariviere said in a statement.—*Internet*

China ready to end HIV/AIDS entry ban

BEIJING, 21 April—China appears ready to lift a decades-old travel ban on HIV-positive foreigners.

Insiders said the ban may be dropped after the State Council, China’s Cabinet, decided on Monday to make changes to laws barring foreign HIV sufferers from entering the country. Currently, foreigners suffering from mental disorders or infectious diseases like leprosy and HIV/AIDS are denied entry.

Although no timetable was disclosed, the changes are likely to be announced before the official opening of

Shanghai Expo on 1 May, which is expected to attract 4 million visitors from abroad, suggested Hao Yang, deputy director of the Ministry of Health’s disease prevention and control

bureau.

Rules on the long-term stay, residence and immigration of HIV/AIDS sufferers will be clearly defined in the near future, he noted.

Internet



Japanese traditional drumming group Yamato performs onstage at Zagreb’s sport hall as part of its world tour, on 19 April, 2010.—INTERNET

Supplements may lower breast cancer risk

PONCE, 21 April—Supplements of vitamin D and calcium may help reduce breast cancer risk, US researchers said.

Jaime Matta, a professor in the Ponce School of Medicine in Puerto Rico, said supplements of vitamin D may help reduce breast cancer risk by 30 percent

and supplements of calcium may reduce the breast cancer risk by 40 percent.

“It is not an immediate effect,” Matta said in a statement. “However, we did see a long-term effect in terms of breast cancer reduction.” Matta said the findings suggest

calcium supplements act to enhance DNA repair—a process involving more than 200 proteins. If DNA is not repaired, it can lead to mutation and cancer, the study said.

“We’re not talking about mega doses of these vitamins and calcium supplements, so this is definitely one way to reduce risk,” Matta said. Matta and colleagues compared 268 women with breast cancer and 457 healthy controls.

The study findings were presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in Washington.—*Internet*

Vitamin K may protect against lymphoma

ROCHESTER, 21 April—Vitamin K—found in green leafy vegetables—may protect against non-Hodgkin lymphoma, U.S. researchers said.

Researchers at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., said the risk of developing non-Hodgkin lymphoma—cancer of the immune system—was approximately 45 percent lower for those whose vitamin K intake was in the top quarter, vs. those whose intake of the vitamin was in the bottom quarter.

The fat-soluble vitamin known for its effect on blood clotting seems to play a role in inhibiting inflammatory cytokines which may play a role in the disease, the researchers said.

“These results are provocative, since they are the first work we have done on the connection between vitamin K and non-Hodgkin lymphoma, and this is a fairly strong protective effect,” lead investigator Dr. James Cerhan said in a statement.—*Internet*



Iraqi soldiers man a checkpoint in Baghdad after 2 April attack that killed 25 people in a nearby village.

INTERNET

Computers better than doctors at diagnosing fever

EDINBURGH, 21 April — A computer has proved more accurate in diagnosing severe fever in children than doctors using their clinical judgment, researchers have found. Specialists in Australia who developed the computerised diagnostic model say it may improve early treatment in children with conditions such as pneumonia and meningitis who need an urgent administration of antibiotics.

One of the toughest tasks in medicine is distinguishing between children with ordinary viral illnesses, from which they normally recover without treatment, and those with bacterial infections which require an urgent administration of antibiotics. Family doctors have sleepless nights worrying about whether they have made the right call.

Now researchers at the Westmead Children's Hospital in Sydney have developed a 28-item checklist which, when used with a statistical modelling technique, successfully distinguishes between the two. They began by recording 40 clinical features in 15,000 cases of children presenting with fever at the emergency department of the hospital. The children were then followed for two weeks to discover what happened to them.

Internet



A girl smiles as she takes part in a parade at Madeira Island Flowers Festival in Funchal.
INTERNET

Teenage girls go on trial for homophobic attack

LONDON, 21 April — A gay man was beaten to death by two drunken teenage girls in a homophobic attack which was likened to a scene from the violent 1970s film *A Clockwork Orange*, a British court heard yesterday.

Ian Baynham, 62, was stamped on and kicked in the head by 18-year-olds Rachel Burke and Ruby Thomas, who set upon him after their friend Joel Alexander, 19, had punched the man to the ground, the Old Bailey was told.

Mr Baynham was attacked as he walked through Trafalgar Square, in central London, with his friend Philip Brown, in September last year.

He died in hospital 18 days later. The jury heard that the attack started after Mr Baynham and Mr Brown had been subjected to abuse; Ruby Thomas allegedly called the pair "fucking faggots".

Brian Altman QC, prosecuting, told the court: "The scene is Trafalgar Square at the very heart of London, one of this city's most famous open spaces, home to the National Gallery, Nelson's Column, the famous plinths and late that evening, a scene of despicable violence.—*Internet*

Killer heard praying in bugged car

LONDON, 21 April — A man whose prayers for forgiveness were overheard by police who bugged his car after the murder of his girlfriend's mother had his minimum jail term increased by the Court of Appeal in London.

The three-judge court agreed that the original 13-year minimum term was "unduly lenient" and added five years to his sentence.

Unemployed George Maben (46), of Rosehill, Surrey, whose family are from Dungannon, must now serve at least 18 years behind bars.

He was jailed for life at the Old Bailey last November. His "confession" was played to a jury which found him guilty of murdering 65-year-old Maureen Cosgrove.

Internet

Researchers find rare bat species

LEEDS, 21 April — A type of bat never seen before in the UK has been discovered visiting caves in the country, researchers have confirmed. Alcathe's bat, which is about the size of the end of a person's thumb, has been discovered in Yorkshire and Sussex. The bats were found in woodland in Ryedale in the North York Moors National Park and in the South Downs.

The animals were identified by experts from the University of Leeds



A rare species of bat has been discovered visiting caves in the country.
INTERNET

and University of Sheffield during a Europe-wide study of bat population ecology and genetics. Alcathe's bat was discovered in Greece in 2001 and is a native of continental Europe, but until now it was presumed that the English Channel acted as a barrier which had prevented it reaching the UK. Alcathe's bat may well be present in many other parts of the country, researchers said.

The research team believe the bat is actually resident in the UK but has not been spotted before because its appearance is so similar to other bat species.—*Internet*

Somali pirates seized 21 Pilipino sailors

MANILA, 21 April — Another batch of 21 pilipino sailors on board a Liberian vessel were snatched by heavily armed Somali pirates Wednesday morning.

The Philippine Embassy in Nairobi, in a

report to the Home Office in Manila Wednesday, said the Panamanian-flagged, Liberian-owned bulk carrier *Voc Daisy* was seized by Somali pirates in the Gulf of Aden, 190 miles southeast of

Salalah, Oman.

Philippine Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Esteban Conejos said the Philippine government coordinating with the vessel's local manning agency to determine the condition of the Filipino seafarers.

The European Union Naval Force said at the time of the attack, the ship was heading west from Ruwais, United Arab Emirates making its way to the eastern rendezvous point of the International Recommended Transit Corridor (IRTC), for onward transit through the Suez Canal.

"MV *Voc Daisy* was able to raise the alarm before the four armed pirates, carrying three AK47s and one RPG, stormed onboard and cut their lines of communication," an EUNAVFOR statement said.

Internet

Women climbers in close race for highest peaks

KATHMANDU, 21 April — Two of the world's top female climbers are vying to become the first woman to conquer the world's 14 highest mountains. The rivals and their teams are each preparing to make an assault on their final peaks — and either could win.

Spanish climber Edurne Pasaban has just one more climb to make after scaling a deadly Himalayan peak on Saturday. But her chief rival, South Korea's Oh Eun-sun, is also on the slopes of her 14th mountain. Competition between the



Spanish climber Edurne Pasaban has just one more tough climb to make.
INTERNET

two climbers is mounting in the final weeks of the race to scale all the world's peaks higher than 8,000m (26,250ft).

Pasaban climbed one of the most lethal Himalayan peaks, Annapurna, on Saturday, leaving her with just one more to scale to become

the first woman to bag all the world's 14 "eight-thousanders". The 36-year-old Basque from northern Spain reached the top of the 8,091m mountain alongside several other Spanish climbers, a spokesman for her team told AFP news agency.—*Internet*

Mexican mounted police are seen wearing surgical masks at Alameda Square in Mexico City, May 2009. Last April's discovery of a previously unknown flu virus in Mexico and the United States sparked fears of a deadly pandemic and set off a chain of unprecedented action by health authorities.—INTERNET



Poverty hurts kids' growth, development

BOSTON, 21 April—The growth and development of children is hurt when they live in poverty — unstable housing and uncertain supplies of food and heat, US researchers said.

Researchers at Boston Medical Center and colleagues at Children's HealthWatch found the cumulative effects of poverty influence a child's wellness, but study and interventions often ignore "material hardships" that can have health impacts on

children.

Children's HealthWatch researchers tracked 7,000 children ages 4 months to 36 months, waiting for care at one of five urban primary-care clinics or hospital emergency rooms. The study, published in the journal *Pediatrics*, found as scores on a cumulative index of the hardships increased, the odds of normal growth, health and development decreased.

"The current findings raise serious concerns about

the future well-being of America's young children, given rising poverty among families with young children and many households' inadequate wages and benefits to meet fluctuating food, housing and energy costs," lead author Dr. Deborah Frank, director of Boston Medical Center's Grow Clinic, said in a statement. "We know that deprivations in early life can become biologically embedded, forcing children onto negative trajectories that jeopardize their health, their school readiness and their ability to earn a living as adults."

Internet



People rest in shade under trees in New Delhi, capital of India, on 19 April, 2010. Heat waves hit New Delhi since April and the high temperature here kept over 40 degrees centigrade for a successive 12 days, with the highest 43.7 degree centigrade on 18 April, a record-breaking temperature for 52 years.—INTERNET



A worker checks a solar-powered environmental structure at the National Mall in Washington DC, the United States, on 19 April, 2010. A massive Climate Rally will be held in the US capital on Sunday to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day.—INTERNET

Obesity gene linked to brain shrinkage

LOS ANGELES, 21 April — More than one-third of the US population is at risk for diseases such as Alzheimer's due to a variant of the obesity gene, US researchers

said.

Researchers at the University of California, Los Angeles, found the same gene — allele, from the fat mass and obesity associated gene, the FTO gene, which increases risk of gaining weight — is also linked to brain shrinkage. Senior study author Paul Thompson, a UCLA professor of neurology and colleagues said the FTO variant puts more than one-third of the US population at risk for a disease, such as Alzheimer's. The researchers generated three-dimensional "maps" of brain volume differences in 206 healthy elderly subjects using magnetic resonance imaging from 58 sites in the United States.

Internet

Tapeworm brain infections increasing

MAYWOOD, 21 April— A US study suggests tapeworm brain infections that can cause epileptic seizures appear to be increasing in Mexico and bordering US southwestern states.

Loyola University Health System researchers said as many as 10 percent of Mexican citizens might be infected with the disease neurocysticercosis.

The scientists led by Assistant Professor Dr. James Belmares said neurocysticercosis is caused by a tapeworm found in pigs. They said a person can become infected with the parasite by eating undercooked pork and that person then can excrete tapeworm eggs, which can spread the disease through food, water or surfaces contaminated with feces.

Neurocysticercosis is most common in poor rural communities in developing countries with poor sanitation and hygiene and where pigs are allowed to roam freely and eat human feces.

Once inside the stomach, the tapeworm egg hatches, travels through the bloodstream and ends up in the muscles, brain or eyes where it can grow to more than a half inch long and become enveloped in a fluid-filled cyst.

Internet

New drug target found for Alzheimers

CHAMPAIGN, 21 April— US scientists say they've identified a potential drug target for Alzheimer's disease — a receptor embedded in the membrane of neurons and other cells.

The University of Illinois researchers led by Professors Kevin Xiang and Charles Cox said a protein fragment associated with Alzheimer's disease —

amyloid-beta protein — activates a receptor called the AMPA receptor, increasing activity in the affected neurons and eventually leading to cell death.

In the study, the researchers focused on the beta-2 adrenergic receptor, a protein that — like the AMPA receptor — resides in the cell membrane. Neurotransmitters and hormones normally

activate the beta-2 adrenergic receptor, but amyloid-beta also induces a cascade of events in the neurons when it does so, the researchers found.

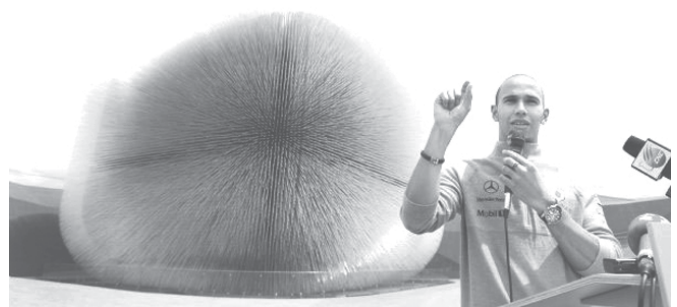
Cox said the receptor offers an attractive alternative target because amyloid-beta binds to a different part of the receptor than that normally engaged by neurotransmitters and hormones.—Internet

New class of drug kills lymphoma cells

NEW YORK, 21 April— US and Canadian scientists say they have created a class of drugs that target the protein BCL6, which causes the most common type of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Researchers from Weill Cornell Medical College and colleagues said the experimental compound may effectively block the cancer-causing actions of BCL6 by attaching to a critical "hot spot" on its surface, thus killing the cancer cells. "BCL6 mediates its cancer-causing actions by attaching to other proteins," said Dr. Ari Melnick, a Weill Cornell associate professor who led the study. "Traditionally protein-protein interactions have been viewed as being too difficult to block with small-molecule drugs."

Melnick and his team said they identified a critical "hot spot" that appeared to be amenable to designing a drug. Dr. Alexander Mackerell of the University of Maryland then used computational modeling to identify chemical structures that could attack the hot spot.—Internet



Great Britain's Lewis Hamilton of McLaren F1 team answers questions to the media in front of the UK Pavilion in World Expo Park in Shanghai, east China, on 15 April, 2010. Hamilton is here for the F1 Grand Prix slated on Sunday.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Dazzling Inter stun Barca to take Champions League semi-final lead



MILAN, 21 April—Inter Milan produced a stunning performance to beat holders Barcelona 3-1 in the Champions League semi-final, first leg at the San Siro on Tuesday. Goals from Wesley Sneijder, Maicon and Diego Milito extinguished Pedro's opener for Barca and sent the nerazzurri faithful into

raptures ahead of next week's second leg at the Camp Nou.

It was a tactical masterclass from Jose Mourinho as his team wiped out memories of the footballing lessons Barca gave them in the group stages back in September and November. The Portuguese boss said even if his team don't reach the final in Madrid, he will be satisfied. "It gives me great pride to say that we could go to Madrid to play the final or we will come home from Barcelona with our heads held high," he said.—*Internet*

Ranieri has eyes on double

ROME, 21 April—AS Roma coach Claudio Ranieri insisted on Tuesday that his team are determined to reach the Coppa Italia final despite being embroiled in a title race with Inter Milan. Roma travel to Udine on Wednesday in the semi-final, second leg hoping to defend their 2-0 lead over Udinese from February's first leg.

But Ranieri said he will not be taking it lightly despite the team concentrating on their Serie A campaign in which they lead Inter by

one point with just four games left as they go in search of their first title since 2001. He is determined to reach the May 5 final in Roma's home stadium. "I'd be disappointed if we didn't make the final in our own city," he said.—*Internet*



AS Roma coach Claudio Ranieri

South Africa confirm North Korea friendly, Estonia match called off



Members of the South African national football team posing in the southern German city of Herzogenaurach.

INTERNET

HERZOGENAUACH, 21 April—World Cup hosts South Africa on Tuesday confirmed a second friendly during their training camp in Germany as they will take on North Korea on Thursday, 22 April. Bafana Bafana will take on the Asians at 6 pm local time with the match to be played at the SV Wehen Wiesbaden Stadium in Frankfurt. North Korea had originally wanted to face South Africa at their training camp in Spain but changed their minds and will travel to Germany for the encounter.

The time and location of South Africa's friendly against China was also confirmed on Tuesday with the sides to do battle on Wednesday, 28 April at the Offenbach Kickers FC Stadium with kickoff at 8:30 pm. The ash cloud from the Icelandic volcano caused the cancellation of a third friendly as Estonia have said they cannot leave their base in northern Europe for the planned match on Saturday, 24 April.—*Internet*

Haiti team trains in Texas ahead of Argentina friendly

SAN ANTONIO, 21 April—Haiti's football squad, forced out of Port-au-Prince after a devastating January earthquake, is training in rural Texas ahead of a 5 May friendly against World Cup-bound Argentina. San Antonio Sports, a non-profit group, organized the training camp for the players, who have gone from sleeping in the streets for three months to being treated to specially prepared meals and shopping trips for precious goods.

"I eat well here. I sleep well. But I cannot help but think of my friends and family who don't have that," Haiti forward Charles Herold said. "I can't get that off my mind." Families back home are in tents and struggling for basic needs while the players enjoy special treatment even as they think of less for-



Costa Rica's Alvaro Saborio (right) vies for the ball with Haiti players during a match at the Ricardo Saprissa stadium in San Jose.—INTERNET

tunate loved ones who might still face danger back home. "All the guys talk about it," forward Eliphene Cadet said. "There are still tremors now. That's our biggest worry." — *Internet*

Franck Ribery's season to forget



Franck Ribery

PARIS, 21 April—Four years after his fairytale breakthrough at the 2006 World Cup, Franck Ribery is reeling from a season ravaged by injury, transfer rumours and now allegations of relations with an under-age prostitute. Revelations about the human trafficking case in which Ribery and his France team-mate Sidney Govou were called

as witnesses sparked a media storm at the weekend that refuses to be calmed. Bitterly for Ribery, his nightmare season had looked like it was about to turn a corner.

Bayern Munich announced to no great surprise on Tuesday morning that Philipp Lahm would be taking Ribery's place at the Press conference prior to the first leg of their Champions League semi-final with Lyon the following day. "This is, of course, an issue for us," conceded Bayern's director of sport Christian Nerlinger.—*Internet*

Tennis ace Hewitt makes winning Barcelona return

BARCELONA, 21 April—Lleyton Hewitt returned to the Barcelona Open for the first time since 2002 with an opening-round 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 defeat of Turk Marsel Ilhan on Tuesday. But two more seeds were sent out on the clay on Day Two, with Frenchman Jeremy Chardy upsetting Spanish number 14 Albert Montanes 6-3, 7-6 (7/1) and 92nd ranked home qualifier Daniel Gimeno-Traver defeating Argentine number 10 Juan Monaco 6-2, 3-6, 6-2. Simone Bolelli secured an upset when 2004 winner and ninth seed Tommy Robredo had to quit with a back injury to give his Italian opponent a 6-7 (7-9), 6-4, 3-1 win.

Internet

Spain coach confident despite injury concerns

MADRID, 21 April—Spain coach Vicente del Bosque said on Tuesday he was confident his squad would go to the World Cup in good shape despite fitness doubts over stars such as Liverpool forward Fernando Torres. "There's still a month and a half to go before we get to work and I think there is time for pretty much everyone to be fine," said the former Real Madrid coach, who added that injuries were "part and parcel of things for this stage of the sea-



Spanish national football coach Vicente del Bosque, said on Tuesday he was confident his squad would go to the World Cup in good shape despite fitness doubts over stars such as Liverpool forward Fernando Torres.—INTERNET

son. I think almost everyone will get there in good shape."—*Internet*

Mexican golf star Lorena Ochoa retires

MEXICO CITY, 21 April—Lorena Ochoa is retiring, just as Annika Sorenstam did two years ago, leaving the struggling LPGA Tour without its No 1 player again and depriving the sport of one of its great ambassadors. Ochoa, probably the best-known athlete in Mexico who is not a soccer player, announced her surprise decision on Tuesday and will discuss her plans on Friday.



Mexico's Lorena Ochoa

The 28-year-old Mexican got married last year, setting off speculation she might be putting golf aside to raise a family. She has been No 1 in the world the last three years and won 27 times over the last six.

"Lorena Ochoa confirms her retirement from the LPGA, as news reports in some media have said today," her statement said. "The reasons and more details on the matter will be given by Lorena personally in a Press conference on Friday in Mexico City. Lorena will share this news of a new stage in her life with her sponsors, family members and friends." The LPGA told *The Associated Press* it would not comment until Friday's news conference.

Internet



Swiss tennis player Roger Federer (L) and his girlfriend pose as they arrive for the Laureus World Awards ceremony in Barcelona on 22 May, 2006.
XINHUA

Fire breaks out at Singapore's Chinatown area

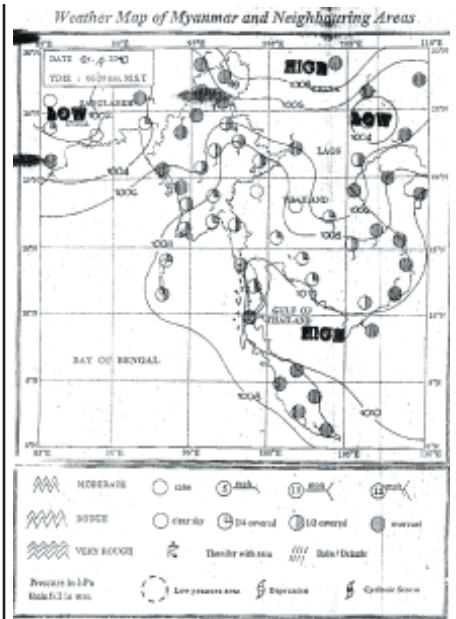
SINGAPORE, 21 April—A fire broke out at the People's Park Complex in Singapore's Chinatown on Wednesday afternoon.

The building caught fire at around 4 pm local time. Blaze and black smoke could be spotted on the fourth and fifth floors of the building.

Two fire-engines have arrived to put off

the fire. The police are at the scene and they have cordoned off the area. Only buses are allowed to get through the nearby streets. The overpasses have also been closed.

The local TV broadcaster Channel NewsAsia said that people have been evacuated and no injuries are reported yet.—Xinhua



WEATHER

Wednesday, 21st April, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin State, scattered in Shan State and upper Sagaing Division, isolated in lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay Division, (5°C) to (6°C) above April average temperatures in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, (8°C) below April average temperatures in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and about April average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Minbu (42.5°C) and Mandalay (42°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Putao (2.17) inches, Machanbaw (1.46) inches and Mogok (0.28) inches.

Maximum temperature on 20-4-2010 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 21-4-2010 was 78°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 21-4-2010 was 65%. Total sun shine hours on 20-4-2010 was (10.2) hours.

Rainfall on 21-4-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (21:30) hours MST on 20-4-2010.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 22nd April 2010: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Kachin, Chin and Shan States and upper Sagaing Division, isolated in Rakhine State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 22-4-2010: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-4-2010: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 22-4-2010: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (22-4-2010)(Thursday)

Transmissions

Local - (09:00am~11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission- (22-4-10 09:30 am ~ 23-4-10 09:30 am) MST

Times

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Current Affairs "Living and Working in Myanmar" (Jade and Gem)
- * News
- * Documentary "The Land of Pagoda"
- * Myanmar South Sea Pearl
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * Export Item Villa Fish and Dried Fish Products
- * Live Concert
- * News
- * Myanmar International Airport

Oversea Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Current Affairs "Living and Working in Myanmar" (Jade and Gem)
- * News
- * Documentary "The Land of Pagoda"
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * Hukaung Valley Rattan Survey
- * News
- * Mandalay's Classical Night(Yee Yee Thant)
- * News
- * Current Affairs "Living and Working in Myanmar" (Jade and Gem)
- * News
- * Documentary "The Land of Pagoda"
- * Amazing Hotel in Myanmar (The Hotel Amara)
- * News
- * Live Concert
- * News
- * Thanakha, a Myanmar Cosmetic
- * Myanmar Movies "Mystery of Snow"

Myanmar



Thursday, 22 April
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning News

7:40 am

4. အပွင့်လှပစွာ (ယဉ်ပေးထွန်းတေးရေး-

ဂီတစာဆိုမျိုးနွယ်ဆွေ)

7:50 am

5. Nice and Sweet Song

8:00 am

6. Song of National Races

8:10 am

7. Dance Variety

8:20 am

8. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:35 am

9. Martial Programme

8:40 am

10. International News

8:45 am

11. "စက်မှုနှင့်မြို့နယ်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေး"

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:10 pm

2. Cute Little Dancers

4:20 pm

3. Martial Programme

4:30 pm

4. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:40 pm

5. နိုင်ငံရေးအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ

4:50 pm

6. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (မြန်မာမှုပညာအထူးပြု) (မြန်မာမှုပညာ)

5:05 pm

7. Songs For Uphold National Spirit

5:15 pm

8. မဲဆောင်းတံတား (ချင်းပြည်နယ်)

5:30 pm

9. မဟာနိဗ္ဗာန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်

5:45 pm

10. "ဝတ်သင်ရောင် တကွယ်ပါ"

6:00 pm

11. Evening News

6:15 pm

12. Weather Report

6:20 pm

13. ပျော်ရွှင်စေသော

နေ့ရက်များ "ချစ်သူကော်မီ" (အပိုင်း-၃)

(သုရလင်းမေတ္တာ၊ နန်းဆုရတီစိုး၊ ယုဇနပိုင်မြင့်စုပုံချစ်)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ- အောင်ကျော်သူရ)

6:40 pm

14. ထူးဆန်းထွေလားကုန် သိပ္ပံမြင့်ချင်းကပ်ခြင်း)

7:00 pm

15. နိုင်ငံခြားလတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နောင်ဖွဲ့မေတ္တာ"

(အပိုင်း-၂၇)

8:00 pm

16. News

17. International News

18. Weather Report

19. နိုင်ငံခြားလတ်လမ်းတွဲ

- "နန်းဆီရောင်ဘဝ"

- (အပိုင်း-၈)

20. နိုင်ငံခြားလတ်လမ်းတွဲ

- "ချစ်တေးသံသာ"

- (အပိုင်း-၃၆)

- ★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
- ★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

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

People's Desire

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

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

Efforts to be made for soonest completion of Yadanatheinga Bridge to benefit local people

Senior General Than Shwe inspects Yadanatheinga Bridge, Shweli-3 Hydropower, Upper Hsedawgyi projects

NAY PYI TAW, 21 April—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe made an inspection tour of Yadanatheinga Bridge Construction Project, Shweli-3 Hydropower Project and Upper Hsedawgyi Hydropower Project on 16 April.

The Senior General, accompanied by

Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, command commanders, ministers and officials, arrived at Yadanatheinga Bridge Construction Project near Nwenein Village in Shwebo Township of Sagaing Division at 9.15 am.

They were welcomed



Senior General Than Shwe inspects progress of Shweli-3 Hydropower Project.—MNA



by Chairman of Sagaing Division PDC Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe, officials and local people.

The Senior General and party attended the ceremony to drive stakes for implementation of the project.

General Thura Shwe Mann pressed the button

to drive stake for the bridge construction project. The Senior General inspected the alignments of the bridge and the approach road.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint reported on the plan for construction of a two-way bridge across (See page 10)