

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing see off Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San on their departure for India

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing at 9.30 am today saw off

Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw

Mya Mya San at Nay Pyi Taw Airport where they left by special flight for paying a goodwill visit to the Republic of India at the invitation of Vice-President Mr Mohammad Hamid Ansari of the Republic of India.

Together with Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay

Thet, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, SPDC members Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-

Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and their wives, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, senior military officers, Director-General Col Thant Shin of the Government Office and departmental heads, Charge d'Affaires of the Indian Embassy Mr Manoj Kumar Bharti and wife Mrs Anamika Bharti and officials saw off Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San were accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of (See page 8)



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing see off Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San at Nay Pyi Taw Airport on their departure for India — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 3 April, 2008

For prosperity and development of Mekong region

Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein attended the opening of Summit Meeting of Greater Mekong Subregion held on 31 March in Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, closed-door meeting of Greater Mekong Subregion and signing of Memorandum of Understanding and signing of Joint Summit Declaration.

At the meeting the leaders of the subregion discussed strengthening infrastructure connectivity, ensuring trade and transport, extending economy and investment in the region, enhancing competitiveness and cooperation and conservation of environment.

The Third GMS Summit issued the Joint Summit Declaration covering economic cooperation, the challenges and opportunities ahead and directions for future action and plan of action for GMS development.

Leaders of Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam reaffirmed consolidation of pledges to reach the vision of an integrated, harmonious and prosperous subregion.

The MoU on the Road Map for Implementing GMS Cross-Border Power Trading and the MoU on perpetuation of GMS North-South Economic Corridor and equal development have been signed. Continued efforts are to be made for GMS development through cooperation among the countries in the region.



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents cash and kind to a townselder to be used in education and health care services in Nyaungkon Village in Pale Township.

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

Information Minister makes field trip to supervise regional development tasks in Pale

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April — Secretariat Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met with local people at the pandal in front of Panywa Basic Education High School (Branch) in Pale Township on 30 March.

It was attended by local people totalling over 3,000 from Panywa, Pyawbwe, Aukkyin, Tanal, Kyaukkon, Loattha, Hlawga, Mwayton, Minywa and Nwarku villages. Those concerned from the villages presented reports to the Secretariat Member on progress in carrying out regional development tasks and requirements.

After hearing the reports, the Secretariat Member made arrangements to fulfil the requirements and made a speech on the occasion.

In his speech he said the people are to join hands with the government in the drive for carrying out development tasks in their regions and strive for maintaining favourable conditions created by the government. The entire people are to be aware of the danger of destructive acts disrupting the sovereignty of the State.

Preserving and safeguarding of the peace and tranquillity and development amounts to safeguarding the State and thus the entire people need to take cooperative measures with the government, he urged.

Next, the Secretariat Member presented cash donations to be spent on education and health of the villages. He handed K 500,000 for the new building of Panywa Basic Education High School



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents cash and kind to a townselder to be used in education and health care services in Panywa Village in Pale Township. — MNA

(Branch), K 100,000 for Mwayton village Post-Primary School, publications for rural libraries, exercise books for the students and personal goods for the local people through officials.

Afterwards, the Secretariat Member met with local people at the pandal in front of Nyaungkon village Post-Primary School.

It was attended by local people totalling over 2,500 from Nyaungkon, Nyaungkan, Phokon, Magyikhwa, Kangyi, Zaungjankon, Ywatha, Ywahtin, Leinkon, Shwelaung and Kanpauk villages. Representatives from the villages presented reports to the Secretariat Member on progress in carrying out regional development tasks and requirements.

After hearing the reports, the Secretariat Member made arrangements to fulfill the requirements and gave instructions on cooperative measures in the drive for carrying out regional development

tasks.

Next, the Secretariat Member gave away K 200,000 for the Nyaungkon village Post-Primary School, publications for the rural libraries, exercise books for the students and clothes and personal goods for the local people and then cordially greeted the local people.

Similarly, the Secretariat Member met with local people at Buddha Wihara Sasana Beikman in Pale.

It was attended by local people totalling some 3,000 from 13 villages. Representatives from the villages presented reports to the Secretariat Member on progress in carrying out regional development tasks and requirements.

After hearing the reports, the Secretariat Member made arrangements to fulfil the requirements and gave instructions on cooperative measures in the drive for carrying out the regional development tasks.

Next, the Secretariat

Member gave away K 500,000 for Sasana Beikman, K 300,000 for Pale Township Sangha Hospital, K 100,000 for Nweshauk village BEPS, K 100,000 for Thettaya village BEPS, publications for the rural libraries and clothes and personal goods for the local people and then cordially greeted the local people.

Afterwards, the Secretariat Member met with executives of Pale Township USDA and organizers of wards and villages at the hall of Vocational Training School for Women in Pale Township. Township Secretary U Tint Swe and organizers of wards and villages briefed the Secretariat Member on public welfare tasks for the regional development and organizing matters.

Next, the Secretariat Member gave instructions on public welfare tasks for the regional development and organizing matters and then presented cash assistance to them.

MNA

Republican McCain tacks away from Bush

ALEXANDRIA, 2 April—Virginia : John McCain on Tuesday struck away from the political legacy of President George W Bush, as he sought to plot an obstacle-strewn course back to the White House for Republicans.

The party's presidential candidate also mused on the lessons of his rebellious youth, as he sought to frame his life story as a history of self sacrifice and military service, the culmination of which would be the presidency.

"The point is, I'm not

running on the Bush presidency, I'm running on my own service to the country, my own record in the House of Representatives and the United States Senate and my vision for the future," McCain told ABC television.

"Now we'll have lots of time to portray that, and I'm doing that now."

McCain, 71, has been a fierce supporter of the Iraq war, though challenged the Bush administration's past management of the conflict, and admits his fortunes could be tied to

the way the war develops over the next nine months.

In an appearance at his old boarding school outside Washington, McCain also implicitly criticized Bush for not using the 11 September attacks in 2001 to call Americans to unite in a common national purpose.—Internet

A labourer working at a palm plantation on the outskirts of Medan, North Sumatra, in 2005.

INTERNET



The photo taken on 29th March 2008 shows an ancient painted pottery jar in the recent archaeological excavation in the Haimenkou site of Jianchuan, a county of southwest China's Yunnan Province.

XINHUA

Russia rejects US idea on modifying arms control treaty

Moscow, 2 April—Russia differs with the United States on the extension of a strategic arms control treaty and the two sides are expected to draft a new document in 2009, Russian news agencies reported on Monday.

"Washington believes that we need to move forward by developing and perfecting the Moscow treaty on strategic offensive reductions (SORT). Moscow disagrees with that and suggests using START-1 (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) as a basis by sticking to its strategic offensive arms control measures," Interfax cited an anonymous military

source as saying.

Moscow and Washington, however, have agreed to draft a new document by the end of 2009, the high-ranking official was quoted as saying when commenting on a bilateral talks held in Washington last week on the control of strategic offensive arms.

Russia-US relations were soured by arrays of disputes, including differences on a US plan to deploy missile shield components in Central Europe, as well as on the extension of the START-1 which expires in 2012.

MNA/Xinhua

France will not back Ukraine, Georgia NATO bids

PARIS, 2 April—France will not support bids by the former Soviet republics of Georgia and Ukraine to become members of NATO, putting it at odds with the United States, French Prime Minister Francois Fillon

said on Tuesday.

"France will not give its green light to the entry of Ukraine and Georgia," Fillon told France Inter radio. "France has an opinion which is different from that of the United States on this question."

NATO leaders hold a summit later this week in Romania where Georgia and Ukraine hope to obtain a Membership Action Plan (MAP) —a road map to eventual entry already secured by Croatia, Macedonia and Albania.

US President George W Bush arrived in Ukraine late on Monday ahead of the summit, and officials accompanying him remained optimistic that the alliance could extend the plan to both countries at the summit.

"We think it's very, very, very important (for) Georgia and Ukraine, that we welcome their aspirations to be part of NATO, that we have an active engagement in helping them move in that direction," National Security Council adviser Stephen Hadley told reporters aboard Air Force One.

MNA/Reuters

Pakistan's Federal Cabinet holds first meeting

ISLAMABAD, 2 April—The Federal Cabinet of Pakistan held its first meeting after the first 24 ministers were sworn in by President Pervez Musharraf on Monday.

The meeting was chaired by Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani at the PM House in the capital, the *News Network International* news agency reported.

Gillani directed all the ministers to evaluate the projects of their respective ministries and prepare short-term and long-term plans in accordance with the manifestos of the coalition government. He also advised the members of the Cabinet to adopt a proactive approach and keep people abreast with the progress on various

programmes through media and parliamentary committees.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Sherry Rehman said the Federal Cabinet discussed measures to ensure adequate supply of atta, reduce power shortage and implement minimum wage for workers of 6,000 rupees (around 96 US dollars) per month by immediately amending labour laws.

MNA/Xinhua

Hundreds of kangaroos at an Australian naval defence site have won a reprieve from death, after officials say they have halted a proposed cull.—INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Danish soldier killed in Afghanistan, two wounded

COPENHAGEN, 2 April—A Danish soldier was killed in Helmand Province in southern Afghanistan on Monday and two were wounded in a battle against Taliban insurgents, Danish Army

Central Command said.

The Army said the soldiers battled the Taliban alongside British troops in an offensive supported by tanks, artillery and helicopters.

Denmark has about 550

combat troops in Afghanistan. Three soldiers were killed this month and ten have died in combat so far, while three others were killed in 2002 while trying to dismantle a mine.

MNA/Reuters





This undated photo provided by the USGS Alaska Science Centre shows a black-capped chickadee, the most affected birds of ‘long billed syndrome’. ‘Long-billed syndrome’ has been recorded in about 160 birds by a Skagit County researcher, mostly in Western Washington and southern British Colombia and mostly since 2000.—INTERNET

Two US soldiers killed by attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 2 April — Two American soldiers were killed in insurgent attacks in Iraq, the US military said on Tuesday.

A soldier assigned to Multi-National Division-Baghdad was killed on Monday when a roadside bomb explosion hit his vehicle at about 4:00

p.m.(1300 GMT), in northeast of Baghdad, a US military statement said.

Another soldier assigned to Multi-National Division-Centre was announced dead on Saturday in Germany after being wounded by a roadside bomb explosion on 23 March in south of Baghdad, another statement said.

The latest deaths bring the number of US soldiers killed in Iraq to more than 4,010 since the Iraq war broke out in 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures. — MNA/Xinhua

Gas explosion injures seven in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 2 April — At least seven people suffered major burns on Monday, including three children, when a cooking gas tank exploded at a taco stand in Monterrey, the capital of the northern Mexican state of Nuevo Leon, police told media on Monday.

The incident occurred earlier on Monday when three children who were playing close to the stand

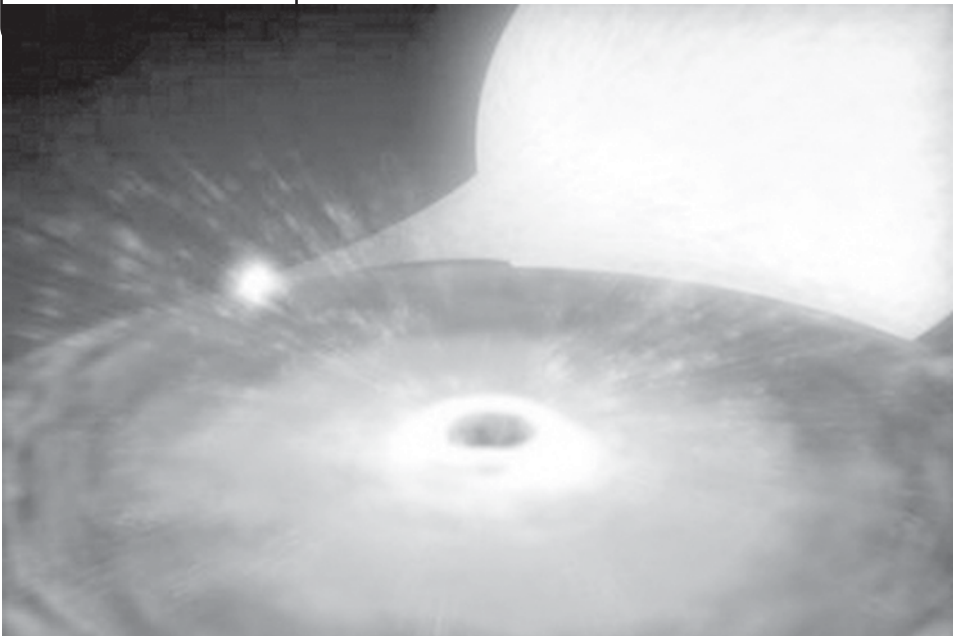
pulled over the tank, causing a flame to leap out and trigger a more serious explosions which shattered windows in a dozen buildings.

Police named Sanjuan Rios Palomo 56 the stand’s owner, and three children who are all four of the five years old as the worst injured.

MNA/Xinhua

An artist’s impression of the lowest-mass known black hole belonging to a binary system named XTE J1650-500. The black hole has about 3.8 times the mass of our sun, and is orbited by a companion star.

INTERNET



Civilian killed by US ship gunfire near Suez condemned

CAIRO, 2 April — Egypt's Shura Council (Upper House of the Parliament) Monday denounced the killing of an Egyptian civilian by shots from a US Navy chartered ship last week at Suez Port.

The incident was rejected and deplored at all levels, the official MENA news agency quoted Shura Council Speaker Safwat el-Sherif as saying.

The government should have banned the

US ship from sailing through the Suez Canal and interrogated the perpetrators, Shura Council members said.

The lawmakers expected the government would do everything possible to protect Egyptian sovereignty and the rights of Egyptian people.

“Egyptian sovereignty over the Suez Canal is a red line that cannot be crossed,” said Mohammed

Bassyouni, head of the Shura Council Arab and Foreign Affairs and National Security Committee.

“We are still waiting for the outcome of Egyptian and US investigations into the Suez shooting incident before an official Egyptian stance is announced,” said Bassyouni.

MNA/Xinhua

A model presents a creation by Spanish designer El Caballo at the Russian Fashion week in Moscow, Russia, on 1 April, 2008.—INTERNET



Ecuador sues Colombia over anti-drug spraying

QUITO, 1 April — Ecuador said on Monday it had sued Colombia in international court over drug crop fumigation along its frontier in reaction to a Colombian raid that killed a rebel leader across the border earlier this month.

The 1 March bomb attack on a Colombian rebel camp inside Ecuador has

frayed ties between both countries, and briefly raised the threat of war after Ecuador and Venezuela moved troops to their borders with Colombia.

Ecuadorean President Rafael Correa had warned he would take action against Colombia on Monday and tensions between the Andean

neighbours remained high after Quito accused Bogota of waging a smear campaign to tie Correa to the leftist rebels.

“Ecuador asks the court to declare Colombia’s air fumigation a violation of Ecuador’s sovereignty,” Foreign Minister Maria Salvador told reporters in Quito.

MNA/Reuters

US, ROK conduct over 200 cases of aerial spying in March

PYONGYANG, 1 April — The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Monday accused the United States and South Korea of committing more than 200 cases of aerial espionage against it in March, the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported.

The US forces perpetrated more than 110 cases of aerial espionage against the DPRK, and the South Korean forces at least 90 cases, said the report, quoting a military source.

MNA/Xinhua

Cubans allowed to stay at tourist hotels

HAVANA, 1 April — Cuba has lifted a ban on its nationals staying at hotels formerly reserved exclusively for foreigners, hotel employees said on Monday. It was the latest step to liberalize the Communist-run state under new President Raul Castro, who has ended bans on Cubans buying computers, DVD players and cellular telephones.

“Anyone can stay at hotels as of midnight last night, as long as they have ID and the money to pay for a room,” said the night porter at the Chateau Miramar hotel in western Havana.

Employees at several five-star hotels managed by Spanish chain Sol Melia confirmed this. Cubans can also rent cars and use other tourist facilities

previously limited to foreigners, industry sources said.

The ban on staying in hotels at tropical beach resorts was a source of frustration for Cubans since their country opened up to tourism in the early 1990s and gave rise to criticism of Cuba for having an “economic apartheid” system.

MNA/Reuters

ECONOMIC NEWS

GMS countries decide to strengthen tourism

VIENTIANE, 1 April — Leaders from the six Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) nations agreed here Monday to make progress on tourism and human resource development in the region.

In the Joint Summit Declaration signed at the third GMS summit held in the capital city of Laos, leaders of the member nations of GMS say the

GMS member countries will strengthen the sustainable management of natural and cultural tourism sites, promote the joint marketing of tourism in the subregion, and strengthen the Mekong Tourism Coordinating Office.

According to the joint declaration, the six countries of GMS, which include Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, will imple-

ment the new strategic framework and action plan for cooperation in education, health, labour, and other social development areas.

They will also support the mandate and mission of the Mekong Institute, and enhance the prevention and control of communicable diseases in border areas, according to the declaration.

MNA/Xinhua



Show attendees use the Nokia N810 Internet Tablet WiMAX Edition in the Nokia Cafe in the Sky, 180 feet above the ground, during the CTIA Wireless convention in Las Vegas, Nevada on 1 April, 2008. —INTERNET

Climate for Africa growth more conducive

ADDIS ABABA, 1 April — China and India's explosion of trade with Africa and greater investment and tolerance by traditional partners have boosted the continent's development climate, Ethiopia's Prime Minister said on Monday.

"The external environment has been more conducive for African development. We have more latitude to be authors of our own destiny," Prime Minister Meles Zenawi told a meeting of finance and economy ministers in the Ethiopian capital.

China's trade with Africa grew to 40 billion US dollars in 2005 compared with 364 million US dollars in 1978, while India's rose to 11 billion US dollars from 613 million US dollars in the same period, according to UN and African Union figures.

Analysts say that the influx of money, combined with the no-strings-attached trade and aid policies of both nations, has helped make Western donors who traditionally dictated the terms in Africa ease restrictions on its funding.

MNA/Reuters

EU has failed to justify beef hormone ban

GENEVA, 1 April — The European Union has failed to justify its ban on imports of hormone-treated beef, the World Trade Organization said in a ruling published on Monday.

But in a mixed verdict the WTO panel also found the United States and Canada had broken trade rules when they extended sanctions on EU exports in response to the EU's revised ban.

The European Union, Canada and the United States all claimed victory in the latest twist of the 12-year-old dispute. US beef exports will not resume immediately and both sides are likely to appeal.

Brussels called on the United States and Canada to lift the trade sanctions, while Washington and Ottawa urged Brussels to let in hormone-treated beef.

But trade experts said the United States and Canada had come out the real winners. "There's a little bit in this decision for both parties, but primarily it's a US victory," said Brendan McGivern, a partner at the law firm White & Case. — MNA/Reuters



Web search engine page Google is shown on a computer screen with a black background to support Earth Hour in this photo taken in Toronto, recently.

INTERNET

Philippine economy to maintain high growth in 2008

MANILA, 1 April — The Philippine economy is expected to grow 5.9 per cent in 2008, maintaining the momentum after achieving its fastest growth pace in three decades last year, the World Bank says.

Vera Songwe, the World Bank economist based in the Philippines, told a Press conference on Tuesday that the high expectation of growth is sustained by expected fiscal reforms and institutional changes in the government. The World Bank's forecast, though lower than a previous government expectation of 6.3-7 per cent, places the Philippines among the fastest growing economies in the Southeastern Asia region, local TV network GMA News said. —MNA/Xinhua

PM says Vietnam puts top priority on curbing inflation

HANOI, 1 April — The Vietnamese Government's current key tasks are curbing inflation, maintaining macroeconomic development, and ensuring social welfare and sustainable growth, of which inflation reduction is its top priority, said Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung.

To this end, the

government will ask localities and relevant agencies to tighten monetary policies, and cut down on expenses and public investments funded by the state budget, local newspaper *People* on Monday quoted an article written by the Prime Minister. —MNA/Xinhua

Iraq signs \$6b Boeing, Bombardier plane deal

BAGHDAD, 1 April — Iraq signed a 5.9-billion-US-dollar contract with US firm Boeing and Canada's Bombardier to purchase at least 50 airplanes, a government spokesman said on Monday.

The purchase, previously announced in February, is the country's first major aircraft order

since at least the 1980s.

Iraq is working to rebuild its fleet after most of it was destroyed during the 2003 US-led war.

It resumed international flights in 2004.

Under the contract, Iraq agreed to buy 40 Boeing 737 and 787 airplanes for its national carrier, with the option to purchase 15 more, the

government said. It also signed a 400-million-US-dollar contract with Bombardier to buy 10 jets.

Iraq's national carrier Iraqi Airways now flies only to neighbouring countries, but aviation officials say it hopes to expand its network from the Middle East into Europe and China.

MNA/Reuters



Vietnamese workers work at a sportswear production line for Nike at the Nha Be garment company in Ho Chi Minh City. —INTERNET

Malawian President concludes first China tour

BEIJING, 1 April—Malawian President Bingu wa Mutharika left here Sunday night, concluding his first state visit to China.

Mutharika had held talks with Chinese President Hu Jintao and met with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao. The two heads of state reached extensive consensus on developing a healthy, steady, sincere and

friendly bilateral relationship, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

Mutharika also co-chaired the opening ceremony of the Malawian Embassy in Beijing with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi. Besides Beijing, Mutharika also visited Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province, Shen-

zhen, a booming city of south China's Guangdong Province, and Shanghai, China's eco-nomic hub.

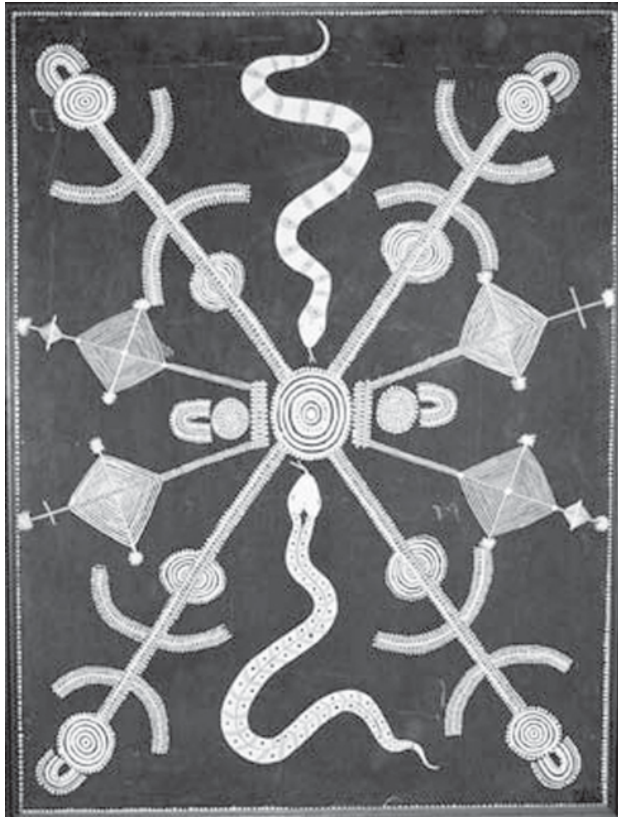
Mutharika started his visit to China on 24 March as guest of Hu Jintao. This is his first China tour.

China and Malawi established diplomatic relations on 28 December, 2007.

Xinhua



A worker displays the castor-oil plant at the Brasil Ecodiesel factory in Iraguara, northeast Brazil, on 31 March, 2008.—XINHUA



An Aboriginal painting titled "Meeting of Men of Snake Totem" by Kaapa Mbijana, one of seven paintings stolen from the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, is seen in this undated handout photograph obtained on 1 April, 2008.—XINHUA

Report says S Korea might face mortgage crisis

SEOUL, 1 April—South Korea might suffer a bursting property bubble in the manner of the US subprime mortgage crisis as mortgage-backed loans account for 47 per cent of total bank loans, local economists warned on Monday.

In a report published by the *Chosun Daily*, the Hyundai Research Institute said mortgage-backed loans account for 47 per cent of total bank loans, as loans to small and medium-sized companies in real estate development and construction have surged since 2001. In Japan, just before the housing bubble burst in the early 1990s, banks had only 26 per cent of mortgages.

The institute warned of a "hard landing" for the mortgage market, which would lead to an increase in credit delinquency and a fall in the value of collateral. The bursting bubble would ultimately result in the bankruptcy of financial institutions, the institute said.

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Cambodia establishes diplomatic relationship with Qatar

PHNOM PENH, 2 April — Cambodia and Qatar on Tuesday signed an agreement to establish the diplomatic relationship, Cambodian Government spokesman Khieu Kanharith said.

The two countries agreed to select 1 April as the day to establish the diplomatic relationship, he told reporters at a Press conference following talks between Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and visiting Qatar Premier.

"We also requested seven projects from Qatar and they agreed with all requests," he said.

The requests include helping to train oil and gas

experts for Cambodia, allowing Cambodian labour force to work in Qatar, bringing more investments, a direct flight from Doha of Qatar to Cambodia, strengthening gas and mines cooperation and buying rice products from Cambodia, Khieu Kanharith said. Both sides will create a law about investments promotion, he added.

Sheikh Hamad bin Jassem bin Jabor Al Thani, the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar, arrived in Phnom Penh on Tuesday to pay an two-day visit to Cambodia.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi Olympic Committee official dies of wounds

BAGHDAD, 1 April—The Iraqi Olympic Committee said Monday that its assistant secretary-general died of wounds sustained from gunmen attack last week.

"Dr Ra'ad Jaber died of wounds in a Baghdad hospital on Sunday after being attacked by gunmen in the Sa'doun Street in central Baghdad on Wednesday," Hussein al-Amidi, the acting secretary-general of the committee, told *Xinhua*.

Jaber was accompanied by members of the Iraqi basketball federation when the gunmen attacked them, Amidi said. Ra'ad Salman, an Iraqi basketball referee was killed instantly during the attack while Fikrat Toma, coach of national basketball team, escaped the attack with a gunshot wound in his thigh, he said.

The attack came as fierce clashes between Shiite Mahdi Army militiamen and the US-backed Iraqi security forces spiraled in several southern Iraqi cities in addition to Baghdad.

The clashes erupted on last Tuesday has caused hundreds of Iraqi casualties.—Xinhua

Phone scams rise in Singapore in first quarter of 2008

SINGAPORE, 1 April—Singapore's police said on Monday that they have received several reports of phone scams in the first

quarter of this year.

A notable new trick employed by these fraudsters is that the telephone number of a

police department or courts, even the emergency call 999, would appear in the caller ID of the victim's phones, the police said in a statement.

The fraudsters had posed as Supreme Court staff and police officers and informed their victims that they were involved in criminal cases or court hearings and directed them to transfer money into a bank account to clear their name.

Other scams use the "kidnap scam". The swindlers trick their victims into transferring money into a bank account by alleging that their family members had been kidnapped.—Xinhua

A dead Mako shark which was washed onto rocks is photographed at Queenscliff beach in Sydney on 1 April, 2008.—XINHUA



State Constitution (2008), the most appropriate one for Union of Myanmar

Tekkatho Myat Thu

Myanmar people are now working together independently and harmoniously in their own interests. A citizen can realize the taste of sovereignty or independence to a greater degree if he compares the evil consequences of the colonial rule the colonialists exercised in the nation for more than 100 years with the fruitful results of peace and stability and development the people are enjoying at present.

The entire people of various national races are the ultimate owners of national sovereignty which is in force in the whole country. In the present period, the population of each nation is growing, and the people are no longer in a position to get together to make decisions by their own to deal with the public affairs. So, there has emerged a system in which people's representatives are elected and assigned duties to serve the public interests in compliance with the wishes of the people. This is to be termed "representative democracy".

Adoption of the principles of how the people's representatives will have to exercise the people's sovereign powers is called the drawing, prescribing and exercising the State constitution. At present time, every country chooses the pattern of the State structure, the system to exercise sovereign powers and promulgate the fundamental rights of the citizens according to its historical background, the desire of the people, prevailing conditions and future plans. Therefore, it is fair to say that every country practises the constitution that has been formulated and approved in accord with the wishes of the people.

Myanmar has a long history. It regained its sovereignty on 4 January 1948 after warding off the colonial rule. It drew the first-ever State constitution in 1947 and practised it. In 1974, it exercised the second State constitution or the State constitution of the Union of the Socialist Republic of Myanmar.

The State constitution (2008) is designed to be based on the prevailing situations and to shape a prosperous future of the nation, after taking lessons from the loopholes and defects of the first and second constitutions.

The fundamental principles and detailed basic principles for the 15 chapter headings adopted by the National Convention that was successfully over on 3 September 2007 have become the sections and sub-sections of the third and the best constitution. From 3 December 2007 to 19 February 2008, the 54-member Commission for Drafting the State Constitution completed the drafting the constitution on the basis of the principles the National Convention had adopted. In May 2008, all the eligible voters from the four corners of the nation will cast votes and approve the draft of the constitution.

Throughout the National Convention, the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles received media coverage and they were published into books for public knowledge. Therefore, they have come to the knowledge of the majority of the people. Here, I would like to present some salient points about the State constitution (2008).

Taking lessons from the defects of the parliamentary democracy system under which the three sovereign powers: (1) legislative power, (2)

executive power and (3) judicial power were vested exclusively upon a single person, the three sovereign powers will be entrusted to three bodies. The parliamentary democracy system is a system under which the leader of a party that has won the majority of the seats exercises the executive power, takes the position of the Head of State, makes laws at will because the majority of the MPs are its, and gives instructions, puts pressure, and interferes in the judicial affairs. In practice, a person alone is unable to exercise all the three sovereign powers, and he tends to make more and more mistakes. So, the countries with this system are often in a mess and often sees the government changes.

Unlike that, in the State constitution (2008), the legislative power is bestowed upon the representatives-elect of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; the executive power, on the President the Electoral College has elected; and the judicial power, on the High Court of the Union. Then, the powers are shared with respective subordinate bodies, persons and levels in accordance with the law. There is a system of check and balance to sure that the three responsible bodies that take responsibility for and exercise the three sovereign powers are not given carte blanche to do what they like. In this regard, there is a notable point that in some countries with stable governments and long-lasting constitutions, the three sovereign powers are delegated to three bodies, rather than to a single person. The present constitution empowers the three powers to and holds the three bodies responsible. So, there will not be a dictator in the country.

If we study today's countries especially Union countries, we will see some powerful Union countries take measures for their perpetuation, while suppressing any movements of any parts trying to secede from them. Nevertheless, they are trying to break up developing countries and Union countries. Myanmar has been on the edge of collapse due to internal and external instigation more than one time. Thus, the State constitution (2008) carries a section "No part of the territory of the Union, namely regions, states and self-administered areas, etc. shall ever secede from the Union" to ensure perpetual existence of the Union.

Myanmar is a Union where multicultural national races make their homes together. A certain country is made up of 50 states, but all practically belong to the Whites. And they do not contain separate provinces of national races. Unlike them, in Myanmar, Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan are the states of national races. And in a region, many different national races live together. Shan State, for instance, is home to many national races such as Shan, Pa-O, Danu, Palaung, Wa, Lahu, Akha, Lisu, Gong, Kachin, Bamar, Myaungsi, Taungthu and Taunggyo. Similarly, in the divisions, Kayin, Mon, Shan, Rakhine, Chin and Kachin live together with Bamar.

At the National Convention, the delegates held discussions and coordinated to form self-administered areas for every national race that has a reasonable size of population living in a state. They are (1) Wa self-administered division, (2) Pa-O self-administered zone, (3) Palaung self-administered zone, (4), Danu self-administered zone, (5), Kokang self-administered zone, and (6), Naga self-administered zone.

In addition, this State constitution prescribes some principles that ensure that national races have the right to participate in the exercise of the legislative, executive and judicial powers. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw made up of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw consisting of representatives-elect of national races is the body of high legislative power. Representatives-elect will have to represent the various national races concerned at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and participate in making laws. The forthcoming constitution prescribes state/region hluttaws that are unprecedented in Myanmar. The state/region hluttaws will have the right to exercise the legislative power. Even self-administered areas will be vested with the legislative power prescribed by the constitution.

The President is the Head of State and the administrative authority. Power will be shared to different levels such as Vice-Presidents, governing body (ministers), state/region chief ministers, self-administered area leading bodies, and those in-charge of districts, townships, wards and village-tracts.

National races numbering more than 100 can exercise legislative and executive powers by standing for election to state/region hluttaws and self-administered zones. Every national race whose population constitutes more than 0.1 per cent of the nation's population has the right to elect a representative from among its population to the region or state hluttaw concerned.

In this regard, there is no discrimination against or in favour of any particular national race. All citizens are of equal status before the law and can enjoy equally the fundamental rights of citizens. The 1947 constitution carried 23 sections on fundamental rights of citizens, the 1974 constitution, 26 articles, and the 2008 constitution, 50 sections. Every citizen irrespective of race has the right to express, profess the religions of their choice, do any business, the right of defence and the right of appeal to the Supreme Court of the Union.

And they have the right to impeach and remove people's representatives elected to practise sovereign powers such as legislative (MPs), executive (the President and governing bodies), judicial (judges including the Chief Justice), the attorney-general for the auditor-general for (a) treason, (b) violation of the provisions in the Constitution, (c) misconduct, (d) being disqualified for the Presidency or Vice-Presidency under the Constitution, and (e) incompetent discharge of duties assigned to him in accord with the law. And the voters can recall the representatives-elect they have elected.

There are several principles in the chapter "Provisions on State of Emergency" that in times of emergency such as insurgency or violence and alien intrusion, the President shall assign duties to the Commander-in-Chief of Defece Services and fix time frames in accordance with the law, and the administrative body (government) led by the President can continue to take State duties.

By studying some salient points I have presented, everyone will realize that the 2008 State constitution is the most suitable one for the people of the Union.

Translation: MS

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of HE Mr Douglas Harvey Monroe Gibson as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of South Africa to the Union of Myanmar.

Mr Gibson was born in Germiston, South Africa on 8 August 1942. He is a BA Law (SA) and Hons BA (SA) degree holder. After gradu-

ation, he became an attorney and conveyancer involving in major property, commercial and electoral litigation.

He started his political activities in 1965. In 1990 he was elected as Member of Parliament for Yeovile and was re-elected in 1994, 1999 and 2004.

While in parliament, he served as the Democratic Party (DP) spokesperson on several issues including Justice, Safety and Security, Correctional

Services, Defence, Transport and Foreign Affairs. In June 2007 he was appointed DP spokesperson for Finance. Mr Gibson was also Chief Whip of the Opposition from 1994 to 2007. He is married and has an adult son.

Mr Gibson will serve as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of South Africa to the Union of Myanmar with his office based in Bangkok.

MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife...

(from page 1)

Defence and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Chairman of Sagaing Division PDC

Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife Daw Myint Myint Soe, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Science and

Technology U Thaung, Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Maj-Gen Sein Win of the Ministry of Defence, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the SPDC Office, departmental heads and officials. — MNA

Minister Col Thein Nyunt hears report on facts about a gravel road opened in Mawlamyinegyun. — PBANRDA

Central Command clinches title in MOC Chairman's Cup Men's Round-robin Hockey Tournament

YANGON, 2 April — The final match of Myanmar Olympic Committee Chairman's Cup Men's Round-robin Hockey Tournament, organized by Myanmar Hockey Federation, was held at Theinbyu Artificial Turf Hockey Pitch in Mingala Taungnyunt Township yesterday.

Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint viewed the final match and presented prizes to the winning teams.

At the final match, Central Command team played a 1-1 draw against Tatmadaw Hockey Committee team.

A total of 11 teams competed in the tournament. Central Command

team grabbed the Cup, standing at the top of the table on 28 points with 9 wins and one draw in 10 matches.

The runners-up were No 11 LID, getting the second top of the table on 25 points with 8 wins, one draw and one loss in 10 matches while Tatmadaw Hockey Committee team stood third on 22 points. Yangon Command team won fourth prize on 21 points with 6 wins, three draws and one loss in 10 matches.

President of Myanmar Hockey Federation Brig-Gen Myint Soe and Secretary of MOC Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik awarded medals and prizes to the best individual players. — MNA



Filling Stations open in Thingyan

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April — Fuel Stations and CNG Filling Stations in Yangon Division under supervision of the Ministry of Energy will be opened during the Maha Thingyan holidays as usual.

MNA

Daw Thar Htet High School get-together

YANGON, 2 April — The old students of Basic Education High School No 2 (Hline) (Daw Thar Htet High School) will organize the ninth ceremony to

pay respects to the teachers at Theinga Shwewah Hall of the school at 9 am on 6 April.

All the teachers near and far away including retired teachers have been invited to attend the ceremony without fail. The old students wishing to donate cash and kind may dial Headmistress Daw Khin Sein (Tel: 534936), U Min Zaw (Tel: 653595) Ex-240, Daw San San Win (Tel: 725608), U Ohn Kyu (Tel: 09-5101286), U Ye Naing Lin (Tel: 09-5100393), U Kyi Than (Tel: 721751), U Jimmy (Tel: 09-5118138), U Myo Myat Thu (Tel: 09-8034710) and U Myo Khin (Tel: 09-5187546). — MNA

Development activities supervised in Mawlamyinegyun Township

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April — A ceremony to open the gravel road linking Mawlamyinegyun and Techaung village, built by Mawlamyinegyun Township Development Affairs Committee, was held at the archway of the road in Mawlamyinegyun yesterday.

CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt attended the ceremony.

An official reported on facts about the road and assistance provided by the ministry and the development to construct it. A local resident expressed words of thanks.

After the officials concerned had opened the road, the minister inspected it.

The Mawlamyinegyun-Techaung road is

7,900 feet long and 10 feet wide, benefiting 9,616 residents due to the easy access.

At the township DAC office, the minister heard reports by officials on urban and rural development tasks and future work programmes, and fulfilled the needs.

He held a meeting with members of social organizations and townsenders at Mawlamyinegyun Township Hall.

The minister saw to the requirements of officials on Township development affairs.

He also met with members of social organizations at the meeting hall of Kyonmange Township.

The minister explained the activities carried out by the government to gain tranquility, peace and law and order for ensuring equitable development of all regions of the nation. — MNA



Central Command team plays against Tatmadaw Hockey Committee team. — MHF

5th Policy Roundtable on Biofuels Development, challenges and implications to food security and Building Capacities for Agriculture Competitiveness held

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April— The 5th Policy Roundtable on Biofuels Development, challenges and implications to food security and Building Capacities for Agriculture Competitiveness of Transition Countries in Southeast Asia was held at Golden Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel zone here at 9 am today.

The roundtable discussion was organized by Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Korean-FAO Association and SEARCA of South East Asian



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivers an address at 5th Policy Roundtable on Biofuels Development, challenges and implications to food security and Building Capacities for Agriculture Competitiveness of Transition Countries in Southeast Asia. — MNA

Functions of Mandalay General Hospital...

(from page 16)

Yesterday, the minister and party met and gave instructions to Acting Rector Dr Lwin Ko and faculty members, the head of Mandalay Division Traditional Medicine Department and staff, the Principal and staff of the Traditional Medicine Institute and employees of the Traditional Medicine Factory at University of Traditional Medicine.

Director-General Dr Tin Nyunt explained the endeavours of the government for development of traditional medical science. Acting Rector Dr Lwin Ko spoke words of thanks.

The minister and party viewed the use of ATIZ book snap computerized photo copier at the library.

On his inspection tour, the minister met rectors, faculty members and trainers of University of Nursing, University of Dental Medicine and Midwifery Training School at the lecture hall of the University of Nursing and instructed them to make efforts for uplift of nurses' efficiency. — MNA

Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO).

It was attended by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, representatives of Myanmar, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam and the Republic of Korea, officials of FAO Asia and Pacific Region office and

guests.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivered an address on the occasion. He said that today roundtable discussion is opportune time. Prices of stable foods are rising mainly because of natural calamities due to climate change, the affect on production of crops and the switch of food crops to biofuel. The discussion is about biofuel production program, food crops

programs in a number of ways such as utilization of land, water, investment, resources and human resources.

Myanmar is striving for extended production of crops to ensure self-sufficiency in food and to export the surplus and bring about economic development. Myanmar is blessed with a vast area of land for cultivation of energy generating crops including

physic nut and marine resources. At present, physic nut are being grown in the States and Divisions for self-sufficiency in energy and reducing the import of fuel. In that regard, work is well under way for growing 3.23 million hectares in three years.

Next, Director Dr Arsenio M Balisacan of SEARCA gave a speech and Research and Development Department

Manager Dr Arnulfo G Garcia of SEARCA explained the roundtable discussion.

After the ceremony, ministers and officials had a documentary photo taken. Representatives discussed each sector and the discussions ended in the evening.

The roundtable discussion continues tomorrow.

MNA

Wellwishers donate sports gear to MMPA Football team

YANGON, 2 April — A ceremony to donate sports gear and soft drinks worth K 680,000 to Myanmar Motion Picture Assiayon Football team was held at the Hall of MMPA here on 31 March.

At the ceremony, Myanmar Towards Co Ltd donated soft drinks, Managing Director U

Kyaw Naing of Kyaw Naing Associates and Jo Jo: fourteen pairs of soccer boots, Managing U Zaw Win of Just Fashion: 26 pairs of sport suit, Managing Director U Zaw Min of Zaw Min Trading five footballs, shin guard and 12 pairs of foot wear to MMPA Football team. Chairman of

MMPA U Myint Thein Pe accepted the donations and U Kyaw Naing explained the purposes of the donation.

Next, Chairman of MMPA Football team subcommittee U Win Kyi spoke words of thanks.

After the ceremony, the officials of Just Fashion Co Ltd gave presents to the attendees.

MNA



U Kyaw Naing presents sports gear to U Win Kyi, Chairman of the football subcommittee of MMPA. — MMPA



CASH DONATED TO MMA : Professor Dr U Kyaw Myint Naing, Chairman of Myanmar Medical Association (Central) accepts FEC 10,000 donated by Dr Reddy's Laboratories Ltd in Yangon on 28 March, 2008. Dr Reddy's Laboratories Ltd donated cash to the funds for construction of the building for MMA. — H

Malaysia Fair

YANGON, 2 April — Malaysia Higher Education, Health and Tourism Fair Myanmar 2008 will be held at the Ball Room (2) of the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda road from 10 am to 6 pm from 4 to 5 April. Those interested are welcomed to attend it free.

MNA



Water colour making a comeback

Hnin Chit

Art exhibitions have become very popular recently and they are staged frequently in Yangon. However, water colour paintings are rare at the exhibitions. We got a chance to see water colour paintings created by 19 artists at Snow Flake Art Gallery in Sangyoung Township. A total of 77 water colour paintings are exhibited at Fresh Transparent Art Exhibition which continues till 7 April.

When I visited the exhibition on 1st April, the weather was hot. But, I forgot the hot weather when I arrived at the exhibition because the paintings caught my attention. Those who bring the water colour sunshine into the Snow Flake Art Gallery are Hla Tin Tun, Pathein

Ko Ko Aung, Aye Min, Saw Tint Wai and Nay Winn Aung.

The water colour painting was born as an early art when painting came into existence in the world. In Myanmar, painting was at its height in Bagan Era. It became revitalized in Inn-wa Era. After Myanmar lost the independence, painting was not popular in the country. Water colour painting made a comeback around 1920. Sarpay Beikman (Literature House) had organized water colour painting exhibitions from 1957 to 1960. Later, the popularity of oil painting had increased in the country. Painting and Sculpture Council (Headquarters) organized a water colour painting exhibition at the Tatmadaw Hall (Envoy

Flake Art Gallery to get the water colour painting back on track in Myanmar.

Altogether 77 paintings exhibited at the gallery are naturalistic paintings and capture natural scenes.

The painting entitled “Apples and vase” shows two apples and a vase. That work was created by Lun Pe, a student of famous Artist U Lun Kywe. Lun



“Sunshine and Water” created by Win Myint Moe.



“Ngu”, the name of a seasonal flower, created by Nay Winn Aung.

created by Artist Hla Tin Tun is also an artistic and naturalistic work.

Other paintings at the exhibition also capture Myanmar culture and attract visitors. I lost myself in creations of artists.

The paintings exhibited at Fresh Transparent Art Exhibition bring back the fading water colour drawing techniques into the modern world. I was pleased to see excellent water colour paintings at the exhibition.

Translation : AMS



“Apples and Vase” created by Lun Pe.

Mg Mg Thein, Aung Thein, Kyi Win (Today), Lun Pe, Mya Thaung, Win Myint Moe, Hla Thein Aung, Thein Myint Thein, Zaw Win (Kyimyindine), Tin Mya, Hla Htun, Ko Maung Kyaw Than, Mg Oo (Paung), Sangyoung

Hall) from 1 to 7 May, 1979. Since then, the number of water colour paintings displayed at exhibitions has decreased in Myanmar. Nineteen artists collected their water colour paintings and the Fresh Transparent Art Exhibition at the Snow

Pe is an amateur artist.

“Ngu” (the name of a seasonal flower) was created by Artist Nay Winn Aung. Ngu blossoms near Kaung-hmu-daw Pagoda of Sagaing as a token of paying homage to the pagoda which was

constructed in gratitude for breastfeeding of a mother.

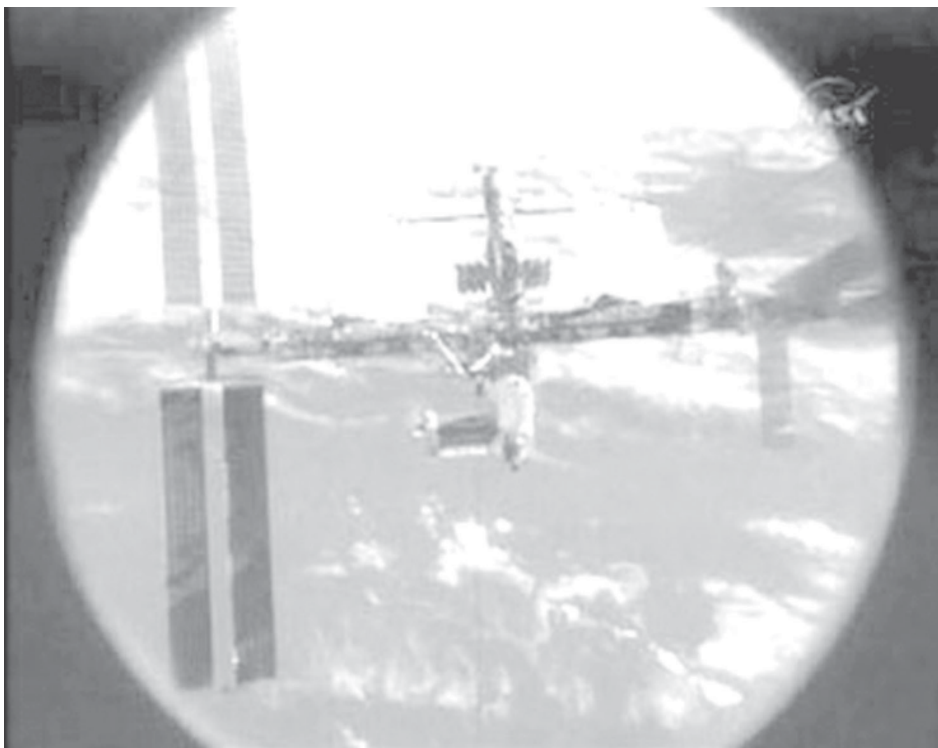
Artist Win Myint Moe created his work of “Sun

shine and water” at Chaungtha Beach on 26, March 2008 while the sun is shining on the beach.

“Open Market”



“Open Market” created by Hla Tin Tun.



The International Space Station is seen from a camera mounted on the shuttle Endeavour in an image courtesy of NASA TV, on 24 March, 2008.— INTERNET



A glass jellyfish captivates a visitor to a special exhibit at Dresden's Museum of Technology and Industry on 27, March. The glass sea creature models, made by artists Leopold Blaschka (1822-1895) and Rudolf Blaschka (1857-1939), will be presented next to large color photographs at the museum until 18 May.—INTERNET

Images of the Day



A model presents a creation by Indian designers Prriya & Chintan during the final day of India Fashion Week in Mumbai on 2 April, 2008. INTERNET

“No cell phones when you vote”, Italians told

Rome, 2 April — Italians were told on Tuesday that they will have to leave their beloved cell phones outside the ballot box when they vote in a national election this month.

A statement from the Interior Ministry said cell phones “or any other device that can take still pictures or video clips” will have to be checked outside the polling station during the April 13-14 election.

Mobile phones are ubiquitous in Italy. Last year Eurostat said that by 2005 there were more mobile phones than people Italy — 122 phones per 100 residents.

The ruling, the first of its kind, was apparently issued to head off corruption.

Officials fear that some voters, particularly in small towns and rural areas, may take a picture or video clip of their paper ballot after they have filled it out behind a curtain and before they have deposited it into a box.—MNA/Reuters



Pandas sleep at the China Giant Panda Protection and Research Center in Wolong, in southwest China's Sichuan province, on 1 April, 2008. Eight pandas chosen by an online poll were unveiled at the center last Saturday and will be sent to Beijing Zoo on 24 May. —INTERNET



An interior view of the Olympia stadium in Berlin, Germany, on 2 April, 2008. The IAAF Track and Field World Championships 2009 will take place at the Berlin Olympia stadium from 15 Aug until 23 Aug, 2009. —INTERNET



A Harp seal pup lays on an ice floe on 27 March in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence in Canada.—INTERNET

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US tour bus

overturns, 19

Korean passengers injured

WASHINGTON, 1 April—A tour bus crashed on a highway in the US state of Vermont on Monday morning, leaving at least 19 Korean passengers injured, local police and media reported.

The Dream Tours bus from Maryland overturned around 10 am local time when it was travelling southbound on the snowy Interstate 89 to Boston with 27 people on board, including the driver, according to WPTZ TV channel.— MNA/Xinhua

Ayeyarwaddy Division, Patheingyi Township
At the head of Patheingyi Suspension Bridge
Ngwesaung - Chaungthar Junction
FESTIVAL OF OFFERING GOLD LEAVES TO
BAMBOO BUDDHA IMAGE

Since 25-12-2003 (Thursday), ancient pagodas in Kanni meat-free religious zone have been undergoing all-round renovation with the generous contributions-in cash or kind or voluntary labour-of organizations at the divisional level, engineers who constructed the Patheingyi Suspension Bridge, local people and well-wishers across the country.

On such a holy ground, there has now emerged a new Bamboo Buddha Image, the construction of which started on 8-11-2007 (Thursday) and finished on 9-12-2007 (Sunday).

Now, arrangements are being made to offer pure gold foils to this holy image, starting at 9:00 am on 6-4-2008 (Sunday), till the end of the water festival.

On such an auspicious occasion, we, as usherers-in-to-heaven, are happy to offer you this golden opportunity of getting yourself personally involved in this meritorious act of gold-foil offering ceremony.

Agenda:

Buddhist Era : 2551
Myanmar Era : 1st Waxing Day of Tagoo, 1369
Christian Era : April 6, 2008 (Sunday)
Time : 9:00 AM

Remarks:

No invitations are sent out.
Your kind presence will be highly appreciated.

Organizer:

U Aung Myint Tun (B.Ag)

Contact:

U Tun Tun
(Machinery & Equipment
Division (South), Yangon.
Ph: 09 517 6649

U Htin Oo (Patheingyi)
Ph: 042- 22357

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U Than Maung, Advocate
For HUGO BOSS Trade Mark Management GmbH & Co. KG,
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
Unit 701/702 Traders Hotel,
Yangon, Union of Myanmar.
Dated 3 April 2008 utmkcy@gmail.com

Twin quakes jolt N Philippines

MANILA, 1 April—Two earthquakes rocked the Philippines’ northernmost province of Batanes on Tuesday morning, state seismologists said.

No earthquake-related damages have so far been reported, according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs).

The first quake was recorded at a magnitude of 5.1 at 9:31 am local

time (0131 GMT), Phivolcs said.

The quake’s epicentre was traced 63 kilometres southeast of Basco, Batanes with a depth of 27 kilometres from the earth's surface. A second and slightly milder quake was felt more than 20 minutes later at 9:57 am local time (0157 GMT).

The epicentre of the 4.6-magnitude earthquake was traced 50 kilometres

Chinese man jailed for ATM windfall

GUANGZHOU, 1 April — A south China court on Monday rescinded the life sentence given to a migrant worker who took 175,000 yuan (24,400 US dollars) from a faulty ATM, instead jailing him for five years.

The Intermediate People’s Court of Guangzhou in the southern Guangdong Province convicted Xu Ting of theft and fined him 20,000 yuan, in addition to his jail term. It also demanded that Xu return his windfall to the bank. “The judges reached their verdict taking into account the fact that Xu’s theft took place when there was something wrong with the ATM, so, compared with a premeditated crime, he didn’t have so much a malicious intention,” said Gan Zhengpei, a judge with the court, explaining why Xu’s sentence was reduced.—MNA/Xinhua

southeast of Basco, Batanes.

The Phivolcs said it does not expect the twin quakes, both tectonic in origin, to wreak damage in the affected towns or produce any more after-shocks.

Meanwhile, the Hong Kong Observatory recorded the first disturbance at a slightly higher magnitude.

MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV XIANG FENG VOY NO (8017)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG FENG VOY NO (8017) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.4.2008 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 CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

S Korean equipment to be used in space research

SEOUL, 1 April — South Korean scientific equipment was approved by Russian authorities to be used in a space research helped by Russia, the South Korean Government said Monday.

"The green light given by the rocket company and state-run laboratory will permit all 18 experiments to be conducted according to plan," said the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, adding that the Energia Rocket and Space Corporation and Institute for Biomedical Problems has certified test devices and biospecimens that will allow the astronauts to conduct tests in space. —MNA/Xinhua

Study: 7-8 hours of sleep best for keeping healthy weight

OTTAWA, 1 April — If you want to keep a healthy weight, sleep seven to eight hours a day and no more or less, scientists have discovered. A new study conducted by obesity researchers at Laval University in Quebec City suggests that seven to eight hours is just the right amount of sleep, with people who get too little and those who get too much actually putting on weight as a consequence.

The study showed that

people who slept five to six hours a night and people who averaged nine to 10 hours a night put on more weight when followed over a six-year period as compared to people who got the recommended seven to eight hours of shut-eye.

The researchers followed 276 adults aged 21 to 64 years, over half of whom were drawn from families where at least one parent and one offspring were obese by BMI measures. —MNA/Xinhua



Pig disease reoccurs in Vietnam

HANOI, 1 April — Central Ha Tinh Province has become the first Vietnamese locality being affected by Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS)

Workers assemble a sports cars at the new factory of German car company Wiesmann in Duellmen, Germany, on 2, April, 2008.

INTERNET

over the past four months after the disease has recently hit 2,500 pigs in the province.

The disease has broken out in the two districts of Cam Xuyen and Thach Ha, and Ha Tinh City in the province, local newspaper Youth on Monday quoted the provincial veterinary bureau as reporting. Local veterinary agency has isolated and disinfected affected farms to prevent the disease from spreading.

PRRS was first recognized in the United States in the mid-1980s and is now present in most pig producing countries. The symptoms include reproductive failure, pneumonia and increased susceptibility to secondary bacterial infection.

MNA/Xinhua

Scientists discover 10 new planets outside solar system

WASHINGTON, 1 April — An international team of astronomers has found 10 new extra-solar planets, planets that orbit stars other than our sun, University of California, Santa Barbara, announced on Tuesday.

The new international collaboration is called "SuperWASP," for Wide Area Search for Planets. In the last six months the SuperWASP team has used two batteries of cameras, one in Spain's Canary Islands and one in South Africa, to discover the 10 new extra solar planets.

Two participating astronomers from the US are Rachel Street and Tim Lister, who are working at the Las Cumbres Observatory Global Telescope Network (LCOGTN), affiliated with UCSB. "

"The flood of new discoveries from SuperWASP will revolutionize our understanding of how

planets form," said Lister in the statement released by UCSB. In order to discover these planets, astronomers look for "transits," moments when the planets pass in front of the star, like an eclipse, as

viewed from the Earth. This technique of locating the planets gives more information about the formation and evolution of the planets than the gravitational technique.

Internet

Plantronics unveils New Discovery 925 Bluetooth Earpiece Collection in Las Vegas on 1 April, 2008 . New VFrame(TM) Design, Award-Winning Audio Technology and Distinct Colour Palette deliver the Ultimate in Wireless Headset Performance and Style.

INTERNET



Philippines to ban commercial sales of kidneys to foreigners

MANILA, 1 April — The Philippine Government will ban commercial sales of kidneys of the Filipinos to foreigners under the guise of medical tourism, reported the official Philippines News Agency Monday. The Department of Health has asked hospitals to strictly follow the existing rules on kidney donation and transplantation that limit to 10 per cent the number of foreign transplant patients, while a new government order is yet to come into

force to ban such abuse of the poor Filipinos, said the News Agency.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said that the government will investigate and punish members of the medical community who promote commercial organ donation and violate the rules, according to the News Agency.

A new policy declares kidney transplantation is not part of medical tourism in the country. However, foreign patients are still

allowed to go to the Philippines to have their transplants here, it added.

"Organ transplant is not included and we do not advertise transplants in our medical tourism," Duque said. A previous government policy allowed foreign patients to come to the Philippines for kidney transplants, which has enabled hundreds of foreigners to get a kidney from Filipino donors for around 100,000 pesos (2,500 US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua



Liang Xiaoli, contestant, said, "Folk opera is a challenge to a singer, especially the performing and the breath control."

INTERNET

SPORTS

Ferguson says United rode their luck at Roma

ROME, 2 April — Alex Ferguson said his Manchester United side rode their luck on the way to a 2-0 win at AS Roma in Tuesday's Champions League quarter-final first leg.

"It's a marvellous result for us. We showed discipline and composure on the ball, but I don't think we were any threat in the first half," Ferguson told a news conference.

"We rode our luck in the second half. Roma had some good chances in the first 15 minutes and failed to take them and that's when you get a little break in a football match."

Cristiano Ronaldo's first-half header and Wayne Rooney's 66th minute goal put the English champions in a commanding position ahead

of next Wednesday's return at Old Trafford.

Roma came away with nothing after being the better team for long spells at the Stadio Olimpico and Ferguson warned his players not to think they had already made the last four.

MNA/Reuters



Liverpool's Fernando Torres (L) goes for the ball during a team practice session at the Emirates Stadium in London on 1 April, 2008. Liverpool will face Arsenal in their Champions League quarter-final, first-leg soccer match in London on Wednesday.—INTERNET



Manchester United's Patrice Evra (R) competes for the ball against AS Roma's Ludovic Giuly during their Champions League quarterfinal, first-leg soccer match at the Rome Olympic stadium.—INTERNET

Roddick planning to marry model Decker

MIAMI (Florida), 2 April — World number six Andy Roddick is planning to marry 20-year-old model Brooklyn Decker. "The couple wanted to tell their family and close friends first but good news travels fast," said a note on American Roddick's official website (www.andyroddick.com).

"With their hectic travel schedules, Andy and Brooklyn plan to enjoy their engagement and will wait to set a wedding date." — MNA/Reuters

South Korea's Gwangju hit by food poisoning

SEOUL, 2 April — A South Korean soccer team has been hit by food poisoning after eating a tainted beef dish at a club dinner, forcing their match to be postponed.

Players from Gwangju Sangmu were sickened after eating a Korean dish of raw beef mixed with rice at a famous restaurant in their home city, an official from Korea's professional soccer league said by telephone on Tuesday. —MNA/Reuters



Winning the Grand National is the priority for 12-times champion National Hunt champion jockey Tony McCoy. The gruelling event takes place at Aintree, Liverpool, on Saturday.—INTERNET

Toppmoeller sacked as Georgia coach

MOSCOW, 2 April — Georgia's German coach Klaus Toppmoeller has been sacked by the country's soccer federation because of the team's disappointing results, Interfax news agency reported.

"The removal of the head coach from his job was dictated by the extremely mediocre performances of the national side under his management," the news agency quoted soccer federation president Nodar Akhalkatsi as telling reporters.

MNA/Reuters

Milan's Berlusconi backs Ancelotti, keen on Shevchenko

MILAN, 2 April — AC Milan President Silvio Berlusconi has backed coach Carlo Ancelotti despite the club's problems and has reiterated his desire to bring back Andriy Shevchenko. Milan were dumped out of the Champions League by Arsenal last month and are sixth in Serie A, four points adrift of a European Cup spot for next season.

"Carletto is going very well," Berlusconi told Tuesday's Gazzetta dello Sport, referring to Ancelotti by his nickname. "You change in order to improve. For Milan who could I find better?" Ukraine striker Shevchenko had seven successful seasons at Milan before leaving for Chelsea in 2006 but he has struggled in English soccer.

MNA/Reuters



Bojan strike gives Barcelona win over Schalke

GELSENKIRCHEN (Germany), 2 April — Barcelona struck early through teenager Bojan Krkic and survived a series of late scares to claim a 1-0 win over Schalke 04 in their Champions League quarterfinal first leg on Tuesday.

Barcelona, bidding for a second Champions League title in three seasons, took the lead when Thierry Henry's cross from the left set up the 17-year-old Bojan to divert the ball into the roof of the net.

The Catalans kept control in the first half but one goal seemed to be the extent of their ambition and they were almost made to pay.

Fabian Ernst and Halil Altintop saw shots slip just wide with the keeper beaten midway through the second half and Soren Larsen put a free header past the post as the Germans hurled players forward.

Marcelo Bordon brought a fingertip save from Victor Valdes in the dying seconds and Barcelona held on to take a valuable lead into the second leg at the Nou Camp on 9 April.

The prize is a semifinal against Manchester United or AS Roma. —MNA/Reuters



Thierry Henry (L) of Barcelona controls the ball during the Champions League quarterfinal first leg soccer match against Schalke 04 in Gelsenkirchen, on 1 April, 2008. Barcelona won 1-0.—XINHUA

UEFA bans Bordeaux and Benfica players

BERNE, (Switzerland), 2 April — UEFA banned two Girondins Bordeaux players on Tuesday for a total of five European club matches after ugly scenes during their UEFA Cup defeat by Anderlecht.

Benfica striker Oscar Cardozo was also suspended for three games after being dismissed during a round of 16 first leg match against Spanish side Getafe.

European soccer's gov-

erning body issued a three-match ban to Bordeaux's Benoit Tremoulinas, who was sent off in the 72nd minute of the round of 32 second leg match for stepping on the knee of an Anderlecht player.

Teammate Johan Micoud was given a two-match ban for "insulting comments" aimed at an assistant referee following the February 21 game, according to a statement on UEFA's website (www.uefa.com).

UEFA's disciplinary body also banned Bordeaux masseur Marc Venet from carrying out his functions for two European matches for tripping one of the assistant referees in the tunnel after the game.

MNA/Reuters

Nine-year-olds in US plotted to tie up, hurt teacher

ATLANTA, 2 April — Nine-year-olds at a school in the US state of Georgia brought a broken steak knife, handcuffs and electrical tape to school in a plot to injure their teacher, authorities said on Tuesday.

Teachers at Centre Elementary School in Waycross, Georgia, uncovered the plot on Friday when a pupil reported that a child in the third grade had brought a weapon into the school.

“The plan was to handcuff the teacher, put tape over her mouth and hit her over the head with the paperweight and possibly cut her,” said Lieutenant Duane Caswell of Waycross police, adding that some students said the knife was simply there to cut the tape.

MNA/Reuters

Cambodian economy continues to grow rapidly

PHNOM PENH, 2 April — Cambodian economy continues to grow rapidly, while the GDP increased by almost 10 per cent in 2007, in line with the 2000-20006 average of 9.5 per cent, a Press release from the World Bank Resident Mission here said on Tuesday.

“Garment exports rose by almost eight per cent in 2007, while tourist arrivals jumped by nearly 20 per cent and construction activity doubled. With exports decelerating somewhat, GDP growth in 2007 was driven by consumption and investment,” said World Bank Country Economist Stephane Guimbert.

“Economic prospects

for 2008 remain strong, although risks have increased substantially,” he added.

Indeed, he said, the slowdown of exports and the rapid growth of domestic demand have enlarged the trade deficit, and inflation also has picked up in recent months, adding to the government’s policy challenges.

Growth in developing East Asia will decline by around one to two percentage points to around 8.5 per cent in 2008 as a result of the unfolding financial turmoil in the United States and the resulting global slowdown, said the World Bank’s latest six-monthly review of the East Asia and Pacific region’s economies. — MNA/Xinhua

US truckers disrupt traffic to protest fuel prices

NEW YORK, 2 April — US truckers caused minor traffic snags in parts of the country on Tuesday to protest soaring costs for diesel, according to members of a major trucking association and law enforcement officials.

The mild disruptions from New Jersey to Chicago came in the midst of a week-long effort by independent truckers to get federal help easing the strain of high fuel prices through public protests or work stoppages.

“Our fuel costs have doubled over the past five years and the cost of doing business has doubled,” said one Florida-based driver. “Our industry is in ruins and the rest of the economy is going into a huge tailspin.”

On the New Jersey Turnpike, one of the most heavily traveled highways in the United States, hundreds of people took part in a protest at a service area and truckers reportedly were driving at slow speeds to back up traffic.

“There are some localized minor disruptions. We have taken enforcement actions which resulted in issuing summonses,” said Liertsnant Gerald Lewis, a spokesman for the New Jersey State Police.

MNA/Reuters

Six anti-Qaeda fighters killed in north of Baghdad

TIKRIT (Iraq), 2 April — Six fighters affiliated to anti-Qaeda Awakening Council groups were gunned down by unknown gunmen in Salahudin Province, a provincial police source said on Tuesday.

“Gunmen in a convoy of vehicles approached on Monday evening a checkpoint manned by local Awakening Council fighters in an area near the al-Tharthar Lake and opened fire, killing six fighters,” Colonel Hasan Ahmed from the provincial

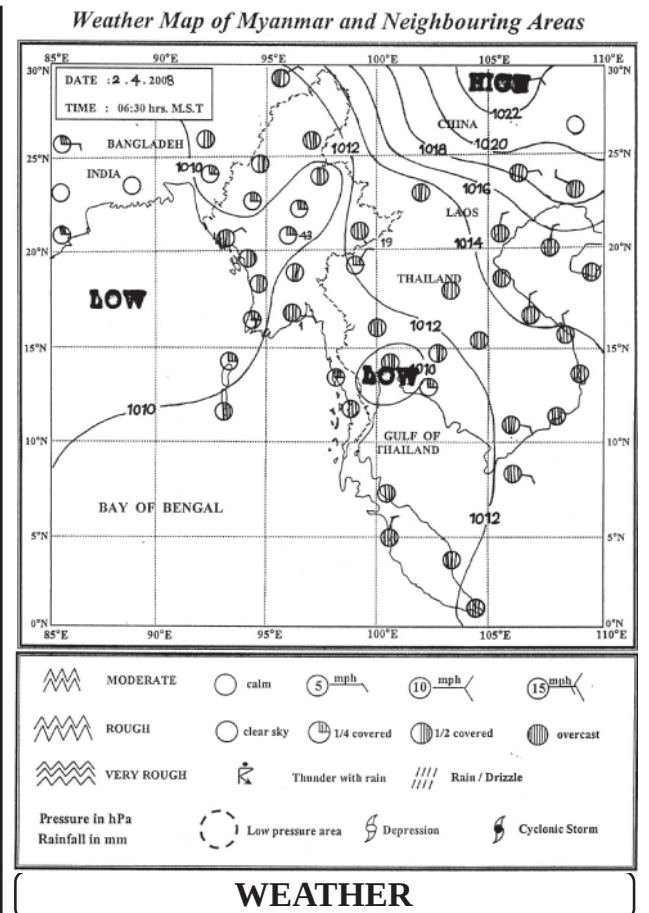
police command told Xinhua.

The gunmen were pretending as they were in a wedding procession in order to approach closer to the checkpoint, Ahmed said.

The area where the incident took place located

between Salahudin and Anbar provinces, which has long been a stronghold of the al-Qaeda in Iraq network despite many offensives launched by US and Iraqi security forces to clear the vast open area, he added.

MNA/Xinhua



Wednesday, 2 April, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Shan State, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions, scattered in Kachin, Kayah States and Bago Division, isolated in Chin, Kayin and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions with locally heavy fall in Mandalay Division. Day temperatures were (3°C) above April average temperatures in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below April average temperatures in Kayin, Mon and Kayah States, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below April average temperatures in Bago and Yangon Divisions and about April average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Chauk and Magway (38°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (1.03) inches, Kyaukpadaung (2.34) inches, Kayan (1.89) inches, Namhsan (1.81) inches, Meikhtila (1.70) inches, Yamethin (1.62) inches, Pyinmana (1.03) inches and Loikaw (0.95) inch.

Maximum temperature on 1-4-2008 was 87°F. Minimum temperature on 2-4-2008 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 2-4-2008 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 1-4-2008 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 2-4-2008 was (0.08) inch at Mingaladon, (0.04) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.28) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (1.42) inches at Mingaladon, (1.54) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.83) inch at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 1-4-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 3-4-2008: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Mon States, Yangon Division, isolated in Shan State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 3-4-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 3-4-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 3-4-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Thursday, 3 April
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု
ဆရာတော်ကြီး၏
ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy
exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:55 am

5. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား
ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ
(နာမည်ကျော်ကြား စစ်ကိုင်းမြို့မှ
ကြိမ်ထည်လက်ရာများ)

8:15 am

6. Musical programme

8:30 am

7. International news

8:40 am

8. “ရေမြင့်ကြာတင့်”
(ခန့်စည်သူ၊ ဧရာ၊
ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်း၊
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. Musical programme

4:25 pm

3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်
ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား
သင်ခန်းစာ-စတုတ္ထနှစ်
(ဥပဒေပညာအထူးပြု)
(ဥပဒေပညာ)

4:40 pm

4. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

4:55 pm

5. Song of national

races

5:10 pm

6. Local Talent

5:25 pm

7. Musical programme

5:40 pm

8. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:00 pm

9. Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report

6:35 pm

11. “ဆုံစည်းခွင့်”
(ဖိုးသောကြာ၊ မင်းထက်ကျော်စင်၊
မြတ်ကေသီအောင်၊ ချစ်သူဝေ၊
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-သိန်းဟန်-ဖိုးနုစံ)

6:50 pm

12. Musical programme

7:00 pm

13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
“လေဒီယာနှင့်ဆုံစည်းခြင်း”
(အပိုင်း-၂၀)

7:50 pm

14. ထေရဝါဒဗုဒ္ဓသာသနာတော်
ထွန်းကားပြန့်ပွားရေး
ဆရာဒကာလက်ထံတို့ညွှော
ကြိုးပမ်းဆောင်ရွက်မှု
(အပိုင်း-၄)

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
“ဘဝဆက်တိုင်း”(အပိုင်း-၁၃)

People's Desire

- ★ We favour stability.
- ★ We favour peace.
- ★ We oppose unrest and violence.

Functions of Mandalay General Hospital, Universities of Medicine, Traditional Medicine and Nursing supervised

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April — Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint met medical superintendents of hospitals, rectors, specialists and matrons at the lecture hall of Mandalay General Hospital in Mandalay on 31 March.

At University of Medicine (Mandalay), the minister instructed faculty members to turn out qualified doctors from Universities of Medicine for ensuring uplift of the health standard of the people.

Acting Director-General Dr Chit Soe of Medical Science Department reported on assistance being provided to the quali-



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint meeting with rectors and faculty members of University of Nursing, University of Dental Medicine, Mid-wifery Training School and Nurses Training School. — MNA

fied technicians from Universities of Medicine and related universities, Deputy Director-General

Dr Than Zaw Myint on fulfilling of financial needs and buildings for human resources development

and Director-General Dr Tin Nyunt of Traditional Medicine Department on providing of health care

services with the use of traditional medicines.

The minister and party inspected the library and

students learning the computer application and its applied subjects.

(See page 9)



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspects Finished Wood Factory at No 4 Industrial Zone in Hlinethaya Township. — MNA

Forestry Minister inspects finished wood factories in Hlinethaya

YANGON, 2 April — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected National Pride Finished Wood Factory of Fly Man Company Ltd at No 3 Industrial Zone in Hlinethaya Township here yesterday.

He viewed sawn timber produced at the factory, packaging of value-added wood products for export, production process of the factory and functions of packaging machines.

At Finished Wood

Factory of Asia Wood Co at No 4 Industrial Zone, the minister also inspected packaging of furniture for export, value-

added wood products, production of furniture and operating of the factory.

MNA

State Constitution (2008), the most appropriate one for Union of Myanmar

By studying some salient points I have presented, everyone will realize that the 2008 State constitution is the most suitable one for the people of the Union.

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TEKKATHO MYAT THU