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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Vice-Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives BJP Leader of India

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April – Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye received Shri L.K Advani, Leader of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), at Villa Madici of Taj Mahal Hotel in New Delhi on 3 April.

Present together with Vice-Senior General Maung Aye were Secretary-1 of SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Member of SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Science and Tech-

nology U Thaung, Myanmar Ambassador U Kyi Thein, Director-General of SPDC Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win and Director-General of Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U

Kyaw Kyaw.

Leader of BJP Shri L.K Advani was accompanied by Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs Shri T.S Tirumurti and Indian Ambassador Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye shakes hands with Shri L.K Advani, Leader of BJP, at Taj Mahal Hotel in New Delhi.
MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives Shri L.K Advani, Leader of BJP, at Taj Mahal Hotel in New Delhi. — MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 8 April, 2008

Further strengthen Myanmar-India friendship and cooperation

Myanmar and the Republic of India share borders and have maintained camaraderie in the long history since many years. The exchange of visits between leaders of the two nations contributes much to further cementing mutual friendship and cooperation.

At the invitation of Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Mohammad Hamid Ansari, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye paid a goodwill visit to the Republic of India on 2 April.

During his visit to the Republic of India, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye on 2 April called on Indian President Ms Pratibha Patil at the President's House Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi and discussed matters of the two nations. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye in his discussions said that further cementing friendship and cooperation not only brings benefits to the two countries but also contributes to peace and stability in the region. There can be mutual benefits by combining natural resources of Myanmar and technologies of India, he said.

The Indian President said that India has desire to gear up economic cooperation with Myanmar. India is ready to provide Myanmar with technical assistance, especially information technology and communications. Moreover, it can provide the energy sector of Myanmar with technical assistance. India supports and welcomes Myanmar's political reforms, she said.

Myanmar and the Republic of India are dealing one another as good neighbours based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence.

We firmly believe that the goodwill visit of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye to the Republic of India will surely contribute to further strengthening friendship and economic cooperation between the two neighbours.

U Thein Kyaw and Daw Than Than Htay and family of Lower Kyimyindine Road, Kyimyindine Township donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. Vice-Chairman of the executive committee of the Hninzigon Home for the Aged U Thein Aung accepts the donation. — H



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

Commander attends Shantegyi Ahtet Model Village opening ceremony



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win unveils signboard of Shantegyi Ahtet Model Village. — MNA

YANGON, 7 April – Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win accompanied by Secretary of Yangon Division PDC U Hla Soe and officials attended the opening of Shantegyi Ahtet Model Village in Hlegu Township, Yangon North District on 5 April.

First, Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint and Director U Khin Maung Cho of Yangon Division Development Affairs Committee cut the ribbon to open the archway of the village.

Next, the commander unveiled the signboard of the village and sprinkled scented water on it.

The commander also opened the office of village PDC and Knowledge Bank Library, and presented publications and cash for the library.

Next, the commander and party visited village dispensary. Joint secretary of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Nwe Ni Ohn presented medical supplies to the dispensary and cash and iron tablets to expectant mothers. The commander and party inspected income-generation works of the local people.

Afterwards, the commander delivered an address at the opening ceremony of the model village at the hall of village Basic Education Primary School.—MNA

Entries invited for Dhamma Beikman and San Lwin Literary Awards

YANGON, 7 April – With the aim of propagating Theravada Buddhism, entries were invited to take part in the Dhamma Beikman Literary Award and San Lwin Literary Award set up by Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sasanavara (Dhammacariya, MA) recently.

The entries will be selected for seven genres – Buddha Literature genre (first, second and third prizes), General Dhamma Literature genre (first, second and third prizes), Pitakat Treatises Research genre (first prize), Printed Dhamma Literature genre (first prize) and eight first prizes for Dhammacariya and Pali Pahtamabyan.

Eight first prizes for Dhammacariya and Pali

Pahtamabyan will be awarded to monks, novices and nuns who passed the 2008-09 religious examinations with flying colours. Those wishing to compete in the literary award contest may send two copies of manuscripts to the Dhamma Beikman, not later than 30 September 2009 during office hours.

Application forms are available free of charge at Dhamma Beikman at No 606, second floor, between 5th and 6th streets, the Strand Road (Ph; 211359 and 385193).

MNA

Special Appellate Bench hears Special Criminal Appeal cases

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—The Special Appellate Bench comprising Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court (Nay Pyi Taw) U Htun Htun Oo, Supreme Court Judges of Supreme Court (Mandalay) U Myint Aung and U Sein Hlaing sitting at court room No 1 of the Supreme Court (Nay Pyi Taw) heard six Special Criminal Appeal cases under Section 8 of the Judiciary Law, 2000.—MNA

Executive of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association Daw Cho Thiri Maung poses for photo before departure for Japan, on 6 April, 2008. Daw Cho Thiri Maung will participate in 43rd IATSS Forum Programme in Suzuka in Japan from 7 April to 2 June.

MNA



Kenya's opposition says Cabinet naming delayed

NAIROBI, 7 April — Kenya's opposition said on Saturday that the naming of a power-sharing Cabinet would be delayed, after it and President Mwai Kibaki's side disagreed over the division of ministries.

"The widely expected announcement tomorrow of a new Cabinet that all Kenyans were so keenly awaiting has been delayed," opposition spokesman Salim Lone said in a statement. Kibaki's

spokesman Isaiya Kabira said the government would issue a statement soon.

Bickering over the Cabinet division started almost immediately after the announcement on Thursday that Kibaki's coalition and opposition leader Raila Odinga's Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) would split 40 ministries evenly.

Kibaki and Odinga, who will become the prime minister under a peace deal

brokered in February by former UN chief Kofi Annan, were under heavy local and international pressure to break a month-long deadlock on the Cabinet. The formation of the power-sharing Cabinet is being closely watched by investors as a sign that the east African nation is ready to leave behind the post-election violence that killed at least 1,200 people and displaced 300,000 more.

MNA/Reuters



Motorists stand by their cars stuck in snow on the A3 at Liphook in southern England on 6 April, 2008. After nearly two weeks of baggage chaos and hundreds of cancelled flights, London Heathrow Airport was hit by bad weather on Sunday which forced British Airways to cancel 50 flights.

INTERNET



Egyptian activists are surrounded by anti-riot soldiers during an anti-government demonstration at the lawyers syndicate in Cairo, Egypt, on 6 April, 2008.—INTERNET

Israeli shelling on central Gaza kills Palestinian boy

GAZA, 6 April—A 5-year-old Palestinian child was killed and two injured on Sunday in an Israeli artillery shelling on central Gaza Strip, medics and witnesses said.

The witnesses said an Israeli army tank stationed east of al-Bureij refugee camp in central Gaza Strip fired one shell, which hit a house in the refugee camp, killed one child

and wounded two other civilians.

Medics at al-Alqsa Hospital in the central Gaza Strip town of Deir el-Ballah said that Abdullah Bahar, five years old, was killed and two other civilians wounded by the Israeli tank's shell.

The witnesses said the Israeli artillery shelling at al-Bureij came shortly after Palestinian militants

shot mortar shells at an Israeli army force stationed near the borders between Israel and central Gaza Strip. Saraya al-Quds Brigades, the armed wing of Islamic Jihad (Holy War) movement, claimed responsibility in a leaflet sent to reporters for launching two mortar shells at an Israeli army force east of the refugee camp. —Internet

US police arrests 52 after revel party turns violent

WASHINGTON, 6 April—US police arrested 52 people after a large overnight revel party turned violent early Sunday near Michigan State University (MSU) campus in East

Lansing, Michigan.

Lansing Police Chief Tom Wibert told reporters that the suspects involved in the riot could face expulsion, prison time and fines. Between 3,000 and

4,000 revelers attended the event and police had to use tear gas to disperse the crowd. Among the 52 arrested, 28 were the MSU students.

"A few individuals are responsible for what occurred last night and we will hold them accountable," Wibert said.

"To paint their actions with a broad brush covering all MSU students is wrong. We know that a large percentage of the crowd had no affiliation with the university," he added.—Internet



This aerial photo provided by the French Defence Ministry on 6 April, 2008, and taken on 5 April, 2008 shows French cruise ship Le Ponant off Somalia's Participants dressed as Ninjas perform a dance inspired by Ninjas' martial arts at a Ninja festival in Iga, central Japan on 5 April, 2008.—XINHUA

France seeks peaceful end to yacht hijacking

PARIS, 6 April—The French Navy is tracking a luxury yacht seized by pirates off the Somali coast but wants to avoid any use of force to free the 30 crew, French Prime Minister Francois Fillon said on Saturday.

"We are following this

hostage-taking minute by minute. We have dispatched the military means to enable us to monitor the boat from a distance," Fillon told reporters. "All channels of discussion are open to try to resolve this issue without using force," he said, adding. "We are

putting the emphasis on protecting the life of those on board."

Pirates stormed the three-masted yacht, the *Ponant*, on Friday in the Gulf of Aden and took the crew hostage. There were no passengers aboard at the time.—MNA/Reuters

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Floods leave 15 dead, 50,000 homeless in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 7 April—Rampant floods triggered by downpours over the past two weeks in northern Brazil have killed at least 15 people and forced about 50,000 to leave their homes, civil defence officials said on Saturday.

Paraiba state is hardest hit where Paraiba River overflowed its banks, causing at least 15 deaths and about 15,000 people to abandon their homes.

In the states of Piaui, Maranhao, Pernambuco and Ceara, more than 30,000 people have been evacuated, officials said.

The federal government has released 280 million US dollars in emergency funds to help the flood victims.

MNA/Xinhua

Fire destroys landmark building in Quebec

OTTAWA, 7 April—A landmark building in Canada's Quebec City, the country's oldest city, was heavily damaged by fire, local media reported on Saturday.

The armory, built in 1884, broke out in flame Friday evening, much of which collapsed before firefighters brought the blaze under control.

The armory had provided home to Les Voltigeurs, a Canadian Forces reserve unit and Canada's oldest French infantry unit. In addition, it had housed a museum containing First and Second World War memorabilia, along with artifacts of the Riel Rebellion.

The building also contained Canada's largest suspended wood ceiling.—MNA/Xinhua



Participants dressed as Ninjas perform a dance inspired by Ninjas’ martial arts at a Ninja festival in Iga, central Japan on 5 April, 2008.—XINHUA

Peace campaign kicked off in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 6 April — Los Angeles citizens kicked off a 40-hour campaign to promote peace, justice and non-violence on Friday to mark the 40th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King Jr.

As part of the campaign, a symbolic 40-hour ban on murder was proposed by activists Earl Ofari Hutchinson and Eddie Jones.

An amendment by City Councilman Richard Alarcon urged residents to use the 40 hours to “promote peace, justice and non-violence and build a dialogue and awareness of the root causes of violence and killing in our communities”.

“The violence in our communities is unceasing,” City Councilwoman Jan Perry, who

represents part of South Los Angeles, said before the council approved the resolution earlier this week.

Those who may think that this is an empty gesture, I think this will raise the level of discourse not only in our community but hopefully in communities that haven’t been affected as much as we have.”

Xinhua

CIA controlling parts of Ecuador’s intelligence

QUITO, 7 April — Ecuador’s President Rafael Correa accused the CIA on Saturday of controlling many of his country’s spy agencies and passing information to Colombia.

“Many of our intelligence agencies have been taken over by the CIA,” the President said during his weekly radio address.

“Through the CIA, information found here was passed to Colombia to improve their position,” he added.

The President has fired a top intelligence officer and plans to overhaul spy agencies for belatedly informing him about links between Colombian rebels and an Ecuadorian who died in Colombia’s raid

inside Ecuador last month.

Correa also charged that the United States financed some officers in the Ecuadorian spy agencies.

Ecuador broke off diplomatic ties with Colombia after Colombian troops attacked a rebel camp inside Ecuadorian territory on 1 March.

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Lebanese Army on alert

BEIRUT, 7 April — Prior to Israeli war games, Lebanese army commander ordered army brigades in south Lebanon to be on “maximum state of alert” while Hizbollah is reported to be in a “state of readiness”, local daily As-safir reported on Saturday.

Israel starts on Sunday major war games that

would last five days. Israel has informed UNIFIL forces in south Lebanon that the war games would not involve “hostile intentions”.

UN interim forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) spokeswoman Yasmina Bouzaian said the Israeli army “has informed us that it would only carry out maneuvers that do not

involve any hostile intentions”, according to state-run *National News Agency*.

She also revealed that UNIFIL in cooperation with the Lebanese army would be watching the borders with Israel “to prevent any non expected penetration”.

Xinhua

UNGA President calls for intensified efforts to MDGs

UNITED NATIONS, 6 April — UN General Assembly President Srgjan Kerim on Friday called on the international community to make intensified efforts to implement the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a set of eight antipoverty targets that world leaders have agreed to achieve by the Year 2000.

“It is clear that significant progress has been made, but it is uneven and too slow. The key issue is we all have to deliver our commitments scale up our efforts and accelerate progress,” said Kerim in his concluding remarks at a thematic debate.

Kerim called on the international community to provide “additional

long-term assistance” to Africa and the least developed countries (LDCs) for them to catch up with the rest of the world. “In particular, there were strong calls for investment in agriculture, a critical source of income for the poorest of the poor and infrastructure to achieve this,” he said.

Xinhua



Police bomb experts inspect the site where a bomb had exploded in Gampaha on 6 April, 2008. Sri Lanka’s highways minister and at least nine other people were killed on Sunday by a blast near Colombo that was blamed on Tamil Tiger rebels, a security official said.
XINHUA

Clinton’s top strategist quits post

WASHINGTON, 7 April — US Democratic presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton’s top strategist is quitting his post due to his contacts with the Colombian Government over a pending free-trade deal, Clinton’s campaign said on Sunday.

Mark Penn will continue advise the New York senator’s presidential bid, but will give up his job as chief strategist, campaign manager Maggie Williams said.

“After the events of the last few days, Mark Penn has asked to give up his role as chief strategist of the Clinton campaign,” Williams said.

Penn is CEO of public relations giant Burston Marsteller and is president of Penn, Schoen and Berland, his political consulting firm.

Xinhua

Several hundred trailer homes at a trailer site set up by FEMA in Baker, Louisiana, in a file photo. Almost three years after Hurricane Katrina, nearly 40,000 families still are living in vulnerable mobile homes and trailers across the US Gulf Coast with another hurricane season just two months away, the top US disaster official said. —XINHUA



Singapore urges to improve global trade liberalization

SINGAPORE, 6 April— Under the interconnected global trading system, even the fast growing developing economies can not escape the impact of the US sub-prime crisis, however, all countries do improve the multilateral trading system, Singapore's Minister of State for Trade and Industry Lee Yi Shyan said on Friday. Because trade liberalization and a stable, rules-

based World Trade Organization (WTO) are both critical for the global economy, he said at the Warwick commission roundtable here, which discussed challenges facing the multilateral trade system.

He noted that the world has become a better place in the last 60 years because of an open trading system and fairer trade practices. The minister cited the

World Bank's numbers to show the importance of trade liberalization that the global gains from trade liberalization are nearly 300 billion US dollars every year.

With trade protectionism on the rise, Lee urged that all countries must push on to maintain the momentum of global trade liberalization and conclude the Doha Round.—MNA/Xinhua



South Korean employees of the Hynix Semiconductor at a branch of the company in Seoul in 2007. Hynix Semiconductor said on Sunday it has developed what it calls the fastest data-processing one-gigabit memory chip for cellphones and other mobile applications. —INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

Chinese carmaker Chery builds own engine block plant

HEFEI, 7 April— Chinese carmaker Chery Automobile has started the construction of a foundry plant of engine blocks with an investment of more than 2 billion yuan (286 million US dollars) to meet its demand of car production.

The foundry plant, covering an area of 214,300 square metres, will also make crankshafts, exhausts and other parts, according to Chery officials.

The project's first phase will be completed at the end of this year with an annual production capacity of 800,000 casts, and the whole plant is scheduled to be completed in 2010 with six production lines to make 2.4 million pieces annually.

A ground-breaking ceremony was held in Wuhu, east China's Anhui Province, on Wednesday. Engine blocks have become a bottleneck for the development of Chery, which aims at both domestic and overseas markets, the company officials said.

The 11-year-old company, based in Wuhu, plans to raise its annual output to one million vehicles by 2010.

Internet

Internet

France's influential "Le Monde" daily faces job cuts

PARIS, 7 April — The new management team at France's establishment newspaper, *Le Monde*, has proposed shedding 130 staff, including a quarter of its journalists, in an effort to stem heavy losses. Eric Fottorino, who was recently appointed as chief executive of the *Le Monde* group, told staff on Friday the tough restructuring plan

was needed to keep the paper afloat.

"To reject it would surely deny us any chance of success and would put the future of the group in danger," Fottorino and his deputy, David Guiraud, said in a statement published on the website of *Le Monde*. Unions said the proposed cuts were unacceptable. *Le Monde* has announced losses of 20 million euros (31.4 million US dollars) for 2007, after registering a loss of 14.3 million euros in 2006. Its debt mountain stands at 150 million euros.

Fottorino said he wanted the group to balance its books in 2009 and register a profit in 2010. To do that, it needed to find 15 million euros of structural savings, he wrote. — MNA/Reuters



European chefs work in a kitchen for a lavish dinner at a Thai luxury hotel in Bangkok, on 5 April. Despite a moral snub from several star French chefs, a Thai luxury hotel group ploughed ahead with a meal it claimed would help bridge the divide between the rich and poor.—INTERNET

Argentina cuts down gas shipment to Paraguay

BUENOS AIRES, 7 April — Argentina began to cut down gas shipment to Paraguay due to the increase of the country's export taxes, Paraguay's Gas Chamber (Capagas) has said.

The decrease of gas

shipment was verified by many enterprises operating in the gas sector, Capagas President Pedro Balotta was quoted by Paraguayan local daily "ABC Colour" as saying Friday.

The tax increase caused export gas prices to rise by 25 to 40 per cent.

"For this month (April),

we had a 75-US-dollar increase per ton, and 50 per cent of the increase was exclusively triggered by the tax factor," said Balotta.

The president assured that consumers would not suffer a lack of gas supplies in April despite the price hike.

MNA/Xinhua

A visitor takes photos of a technical element of the LHC (large hadron collider) in its tunnel during the LHC (Large Hadron Collider) Open day at the European Particle Physics laboratory (CERN) in Geneva, Switzerland, on 6 April, 2008.—INTERNET



Skybus Airlines shuts down operations

CHICAGO, 7 April — Skybus Airlines Inc, a low-cost US carrier, has shut down its operations due to rising jet fuel costs and the weak economy, the company said.

The shutdown began on Saturday and comes less than a year after the Columbus, Ohio-based company began flying. Skybus, which operated flights to 15 US cities, announced its decision to shut down on its website.

The company became the third US airline to shut down its operations this week, following similar moves by ATA Airlines Inc and Hawaii-based Aloha Airlines.

Big airlines are beginning to shrink to cope with toughening operating conditions. On 18 March, Delta Air Lines Inc unveiled plans to cut 2,000 jobs and scale back flights.

The combination of rising fuel costs and the weakening economy has stalled the airline industry's modest recovery from the 2001-2006 downturn. Oil prices which are directly related to jet fuel costs, remain above 100 US dollars a barrel. — MNA/Reuters



A general view of the Llosa del cavall reservoir is seen in Sant Llorençs de Morunys, north of Solsona, on 5 April, 2008. Spain’s northeast Catalonia region will need to import water by ship and train from May to ensure domestic supplies if the current drought persists, the regional government said in a report.—INTERNET

G-8 ministers to talk about development assistance

TOKYO, 6 April—The Group of Eight (G-8) member nations’ ministers in charge of development issues convened here Saturday to talk about strengthening cooperation in helping African nations and other developing countries with more Official Development Assistance (ODA).

At the opening ceremony, Japanese Foreign Minister Masahiko Komura expressed his “deep regret” over the slide of ODA by donor countries in 2007, saying such a situation posed a grave challenge to continued assistance toward developing countries and menaced the realization of the UN’s Millennium Development Goals and anti-global warming efforts.—MNA/Xinhua

Two Filipino Govt soldiers killed by left-wing rebels

MANILA, 6 April—Two Filipino Government soldiers were killed and another wounded by the left-wing New People’s Army (NPA) guerillas in San Remigio town in Antique, central Philippines, said the military on Saturday.

Quoting reports from the field, Army spokesman Ernesto Torres said

the soldiers were on their way back to their headquarters after providing security to a local town mayor when they were waylaid by the rebels on Friday.

Torres said some 20 rebels set off a landmine before opening fire on the government soldiers were travelling on foot, killing two soldiers

MNA/Xinhua

Hundreds of demonstrators attend a march for the release of kidnapped Colombian politician Ingrid Betancourt in Nice, southeastern France, on 6 April, 2008.

INTERNET

44,000 overseas college students return to China in 2007

BEIJING, 6 April—Some 44,000 Chinese who studied abroad returned home last year, 4.79 per cent more than in 2006, the Ministry of Education said on its website.

Meanwhile, 144,000 Chinese nationals went abroad for study, up 7.94 per cent from 2006.

Among last year’s

returnees, 8,513 studied at government or company expense or on scholarships, while 36,000 paid their own way.

Those departing for studies abroad last year included 15,810 people who were funded by the government, a company or by scholarships. The rest were self-

financed.

About 1.21 million Chinese studied abroad from 1978 to 2007, and 319,700 returned during that period, statistics show.

At present, 657,200 Chinese students are enrolled by foreign colleges and universities.

MNA/Xinhua



WB embark afforestation programme in 12 Nigerian states

LAGOS, 6 April—The World Bank would embark on afforestation programme in 12 northern states of Nigeria, an official of Nigerian Forestry Association (NFA) was quoted as saying in Kaduna on Friday.

Alhaji Abdullahi Mohammed, the president of NFA, was quoted by the official *News Agency of Nigeria* as saying that the states include Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Kwara, Borno, Bauchi, Zamfara, Yobe, Niger, Sokoto and Jigawa.

The programme, which will be jointly sponsored by the World Bank and an NGO, Advance Global Limited, will take off in the 2008 rainy season.

Mohammed, who is also the director of Forestry Resources under the Ministry of Environment, said the programme would involve farmers in the states.

MNA/Xinhua

WHO official says Egyptian man dies of bird flu

CAIRO, 7 April—An Egyptian man has died of the deadly H5N1 strain of the bird flu virus, bringing the number of fatalities in Egypt to 21, a World Health Organization official said on Saturday.

Cairo-based WHO official John Jabbour told *Reuters* the 19-year-old victim had died on Friday after falling ill following contact with infected birds.

A 25-year-old woman died of bird flu last month.

MNA/Reuters



Undated photo shows Yemeni security forces patrolling a remote area in Saada Province. Fifteen people were killed in Yemen during fierce gun battles between Shiite rebels and members of a tribe loyal to the government, witnesses said on 6 April, 2008.—INTERNET

Egyptian FM calls for more coop between Asia, M-E

SHARM EL-SHEIKH (EGYPT), 7 April — Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit here on Saturday called for more cooperation between Asia and Mideast to achieve a better future for the two regions.

Abul Gheit made the remarks in his address at the second Ministerial Meeting of Asia-Middle

East Dialogue (AMED), expecting this meeting to boost cooperation and development of the two regions.

He noted that the first AMED meeting laid foundation for the full development of relations between the two regions, while the second ministerial AMED meeting was held under

the condition of great changes in the international arena and the fast developing steps of globalization.

He expressed the belief that this meeting will further strengthen cooperation between the two regions in political, economic, cultural and scientific fields.

MNA/Xinhua

Palestinian FM says peace treaty with Israel by year end

SHARM EL-SHEIKH (EGYPT), 7 April — Palestinian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information Riyad al-Malki said on Saturday that he believes an extensive peace agreement between the Palestinians and Israel is likely to be inked by the end of 2008.

Malki expressed his believe to Xinhua on the

sidelines of the second Ministerial Meeting of Asia-Middle East Dialogue (AMED), which staged in the Egyptian Red Sea resort Sharm el-Sheikh on Saturday.

Malki told Xinhua that technically the Palestinians and Israel could sign a peace agreement by the end of this year.

Meanwhile, the senior Palestinian official called on the international community, including the United States to make more efforts to promote the peace process and put pressure on Israel, which should stop building settlements and end the military operations in the Palestinian territories.

MNA/Xinhua

UAE, Montenegro establish diplomatic relations

ABU DHABI, 7 April — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Republic of Montenegro have established diplomatic relations of the ambassadorial level, the official *Emirates News Agency* reported on Saturday.

The diplomatic relations between the UAE and Montenegro start from 4 April, 2008, a

joint statement by the two countries was quoted as saying.

The joint statement was signed Friday in New York by UAE's Permanent Representative to United Nations Ahmed Abdul Rahman Al Jaramain and his Montenegrin counterpart Nebojsa Kaludjerovic.

The statement expressed the desire of the

two governments to strengthen friendly relations and cooperation between them based on the principles and goals of the UN Treaty, the international law and the international conventions ensuring mutual respect, nonintervention in internal affairs, national sovereignty, freedom and territorial integrity.

MNA/Xinhua



Adaaze Igwe (C), the 2008 Most Beautiful Girl in Nigeria beauty pageant is crowned by the last year winner Munachi Abi (L) in Lagos recently. Igwe will represent Nigeria in the Miss World beauty pageant to be held on 4 October in Ukraine.—INTERNET



An Indian girl, born with four eyes, two noses and two mouths rests in her father's lap at the Saini Village of Noida, some 55 kms from New Delhi, on 5 April. The parents of the girl say that the toddler is doing well and that they have no plans for a surgery.—INTERNET

Hurricane price tags soaring on crowded US coast

MIAMI, 7 April — The damage caused to US coastal cities by hurricanes promises to rise into the stratosphere, raising concerns about a possible 500 billion US dollars storm and prompting calls for tougher building codes.

Devastating hurricanes like 1992's Andrew and Katrina of 2005 have failed to put a dent in massive construction along the hurricane-vulnerable Atlantic and Gulf coasts, where

millions of people face evacuation when a storm threatens.

Katrina, which swamped New Orleans, was the costliest natural disaster in US history, with damages of 80 billion US dollars.

But a study published earlier this year found that a 1926 hurricane that struck Miami would have caused 157 billion US dollars in damage, adjusting for inflation and current building.

The study suggested there could be a 500 billion US dollars hurricane by the 2020s.

"It's not that far fetched. The damages seem to be doubling every 10 years," said Max Mayfield, former director of the US National Hurricane Centre. "As we continue to build at the coastline, the damage is going to continue to go up. There's no way around that."

MNA/Reuters

Iraq students freed after mass kidnapping

BAGHDAD, 7 April — A group of at least 40 students kidnapped by gunmen on Sunday near the northern city of Mosul have been freed by Iraqi security forces, police said.

"The kidnapped students have been freed by the Iraqi Army and police," said Brigadier-General Khalid Abdul-Sattar, security spokesman in Iraq's Nineveh Province, where Mosul, Iraq's third largest city, lies.

Earlier, he said 42 male university students had been seized, one of the biggest mass abductions since the US-led invasion in 2003. He later said the total number of students captured had been 40.

The gunmen had set up a fake checkpoint and stopped two buses in the village of al-Jirin full of students returning to classes after a weekend break. One of the buses escaped, police said, but male students from the other bus were loaded onto trucks and taken away.

Abdul-Sattar gave no details of the operation to free the students.

MNA/Reuters

Police suspect 4 groups for blasts in Kathmandu

KATHMANDU, 7 April — Nepali police suspect four armed groups operating in Nepali capital Kathmandu Valley for several blasts on Saturday and Friday, a leading website THT Online reported on Sunday.

Holding a Press conference at the Metropolitan Police Range on Saturday, Metropolitan Police Commissioner Hem Bahadur Gurung said, "We suspect the hand of the Kalibaba Samuha, Nepal Defence Army, Tarai Ekata Parishad, and Rashtriya Bibhuti Sena in yesterday's (Friday) blasts."

MNA/Xinhua

Myanmar Ambassador and wife host dinner to Myanmar delegation led by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—The Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San at 6 pm on 3 April arrived at the residence of the Myanmar Ambassador in New Delhi, the Republic of India and they were welcomed there by Myanmar Ambassador U Kyi Thein and wife Daw Mar Mar Shein, Military Attaché Col Nay Win and wife, Consul-General U Soe Paing and wife, embassy staff and their families, Myanmar doctors serving with WHO based in New Delhi and Myanmar scholars in New Delhi.

Vice-Senior General

Maung Aye and wife cordially greeted the welcoming party.

Next, the embassy staff, Myanmar doctors and Myanmar scholars in New Delhi led by the Myanmar Ambassador, the Military Attaché and the Consul-General paid respects to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife.

After that, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye and Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence presented gifts to the embassy staff and their families.

Next, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San greet staff of Myanmar Embassy, Myanmar doctors working for WHO and scholars in New Delhi. — MNA

Oo, Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Minister for Foreign

Affairs U Nyan Win and Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw

Min met with the Myanmar Ambassador, the Military Attaché,

embassy staff and families and other staff at the hall of the residence.

At the meeting, the Secretary-1 explained the purpose of the visit of the Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council to India, achievements in friendship and co-operation between the two countries, the attitudes toward the State the embassy staff need to bear in mind in shouldering their duties, assistance to be provided to Myanmar people abroad and latest developments in Myanmar politics.

Next, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min explained matters on work being carried out to hold referendum for approval of the State constitution in the process of transition to a democratic state and what should be done by Myanmar citizens who have been in India in the interest of the State and the people.

Afterwards, the Myanmar Ambassador and wife hosted a dinner to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo meeting with the ambassador, staff and their families in New Delhi. — MNA

Myanmar, India discuss energy, electric power sectors

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi Lwin, Managing Director of Myanma Petro-

chemical Enterprise, called on Minister of Oil and Gas Mr Murli Deora of India at the office of the minister in New Delhi on 3 April.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to exploration of oil and gas at the Rakhine off shore, the refinery of Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise and other win-win cooperation between the two countries.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi received the chairman of Engineers India Ltd and members and the chairman of Angelique International

Ltd on 2 April and members separately at Maha Rajha Hotel and discussed opportunities for win-win cooperation in petrochemical sector between the two countries.

On 3 April, Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi held talks with chairmen of Indian Pil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Gas Authority of India Ltd and Essor Oil Ltd respectively. At the meetings, they frankly discussed matters on cooperation in oil and gas off shore exploration, (See page 10)



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi receives the chairman of Angelique International Ltd and party at Taj Mahal Hotel in New Delhi. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye visits Akshardham, Bahai Temples in New Delhi

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April
— The goodwill delegation led by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San visited Akshardham Temple and Bahai Temple in New Delhi on 3 April.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and delegation members arrived at Akshardham Temple where they were welcomed by officials. Officials concerned explained the history and the art works at the temple to the delegation members.

After that, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party were again welcomed to the temple according to traditions. Next, the delegation visited the temple and viewed the art works, paintings and statues at the temple.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party went to Bahai Temple where they were welcomed by officials. Officials concerned conducted them around the temple and had documentary photos taken there.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party have photo taken at Bahai Temple in New Delhi.— MNA

Minister U Soe Tha, Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein attend meeting between Myanmar entrepreneurs and Indian entrepreneurs

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April— A meeting between Myanmar entrepreneurs led by President of Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and Indian entrepreneurs led by Minister for Commerce Shri Jairam Ramesh and

President of Indian Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Mr Daya Krishna Goyal was held at meeting hall of FICCI on 3 April.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development

U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein who accompanied Vice-Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye during his visit to India.

First, President of FICCI Mr Daya Krishna

Goyal and President of UMFCFI U Win Myint extended greetings.

Minister for Commerce of Republic of India Shri Jairam Ramesh and Minister for Commerce of Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein explained prospects for further promoting of

bilateral economic cooperation and trade.

Next, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha explained economic development in Myanmar, trade and investment opportunities and projects being implemented by the two nations.

They also discussed matters on further promoting of trade and investment through exchange of visits by members of the two federations.

Afterwards, the two sides signed MoU on economic cooperation between the two countries.

They cordially held discussions and the meeting ended at 6 pm.

MNA

Ministers U Soe Tha and Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein meet with entrepreneurs of India.—H



Myanmar, India discuss...

(from page 8)
refinery, conversion of gasoline-fired vehicles into CNG-fired vehicles and petrochemical issues. Similarly, Courses of Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min received the chairman of

Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd and members at the hotel and discussed matters on production of electric and machinery tool and Hydraulic steel structure. Minister Col Zaw Min also held talks with

Managing Director D.K Mittal of Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Ltd and members about cooperation in hydropower projects in the basin of Chindwin. MNA



Minister Col Zaw Min holds talks with officials of Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd in New Delhi. — MNA

PBANRDA Minister attends course conclusion ceremonies

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt attended ceremonies to conclude Advanced Management Course No 16, International Relations Course No 6 and Computer Course No 2 held at the hall of the ministry's office on 4 April. The ceremony was attended by directors-general and deputy

directors-general of departments under the ministry, Secretary U Tun Kyi and heads of department of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, officials, course instructors and trainees. After making a speech, the minister presented Model Trainee Award to U San Tun Aung in Advanced Management Course No 16, Model Trainee Award to Daw The Nay Kyaw in International Relations

Course No 6, Model Trainee Award to U Than Naing Win in Computer Course No 2 and presented completion certificates to the representatives of trainees. Afterwards, the directors-general presented gifts to the course instructors. A total of 80 trainees from the departments under the ministry and Nay Pyi Taw Development Affairs Committee attended the 12-week courses.—MNA



Year 2008 World Health Day marked

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April—The commemorative ceremony of World Health Day jointly organized by Ministry of Health and World Health Organization (WHO) was held at the ministry here this morning. In his speech, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint said climate changes are taking place worldwide today due to global warming and changes in life styles and human behaviours. And these factors are related to greenhouse effect. The harmonious existence of human beings and the environment is vital in helping decrease health problems stemming from climate change. Therefore, humans are needed to adapt to their life styles in conformity with changing environmental conditions. Another way is that humans are to create their own environment that is suitable to their life styles. According to this year's World Health Day motto *Protecting Health from Climate Change*, the people are urged to take preventive measures with public health awareness and to have a healthy, balanced diet so that they can stay healthy. Next, acting resident representative of WHO Dr Hans Kluge of Director Dr Samlee Plain Bang Chang of South East Asia region of WHO and the ceremony was concluded. After the ceremony, the minister, deputy ministers and guests viewed round the World Health Day commemorative educational publications, books and documentary photos. The motto of this year's World Health Day is "*Protecting Health from Climate Change*". MNA

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Coordination meeting on private health care services laws held

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April —Coordination meeting on directives as to private health care services laws was held at the meeting hall of Department of Health here yesterday morning. It was attended by Vice-Chairman of Private Health Care services Central Committee Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, directors-general, deputy directors-general, medical superintendents, professors/heads of department, directors, heads of State/Division Health Departments, and officials. Vice-Chairman of Private Health Care services Central Committee Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo gave an opening

speech on the occasion. He said the necessary notifications and directives are to be issued to be in line with the private health care services laws issued on 5 April 2007. The purposes of the law are to ensure development of public health care sector in accord with the national health policy, to enable

private health care sector to take part in national health care activities, to effectively utilize resources of private health care sector in public health care services, to enable the people to have their choice in receiving medical treatment through the establishment of more private health care centres and to enable the private

health care centres to provide health care at reasonable rate. And the deputy minister spoke of the need to form the necessary organizations in order to improve the performance of private health care sector and urged those present to make suggestions while the respective state/division/

district/township supervisory committees are to take systematic measures in the process. Later, Data (draft) compiled by officials of Health Department were presented, and those in attendance gave suggestions. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the deputy minister.—MNA

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint delivers an address at a ceremony to mark World Health Day.
HEALTH





Images of the Day

The Russian Soyuz TMA-12 space ship that will carry new crew to the International Space Station is seen on the launch pad at the Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan, on 6 April, 2008.—INTERNET



A man in traditional attire parades during a street carnival in Togo's capital Lome, on 5 April, 2008. Groups from Brazil, Belgium and Togo participated in the first Lome international carnival that started on Saturday.—INTERNET



An Afghan woman carries flowers made of cloth in Kabul, Afghanistan on 6 April, 2008.—INTERNET



Performers march with drums during the traditional provincial dance 'Tanigumi', with bamboo decorations on their back, at an opening ceremony for the men's field hockey qualifying tournament for the 2008 Summer Olympics in Kakamihara city, Gifu, central Japan, on 5 April, 2008.—INTERNET



Nepalese Army soldiers take part in a horse race festival in Kathmandu, on 5 April, 2008.—INTERNET

Otters are fed by a visitor at Phnom Tamoa zoo, 40 km (25 miles) southeast of Phnom Penh on 5 April, 2008.—INTERNET

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Int'l Class 30: Coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar, rice, sago, tapioca, coffee substitutes; malt for food; flour and preparations made from cereals, bread, pastry and confectionery, ices; honey, treacle; yeast, baking powder, salt, mustard; vinegar, sauces (condiments); spices; ice.

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U Myint Lwin, Advocate, LL.B, DBL
Diploma in Legal Aspects of Marine Affairs(UK)
Email : MYINT.Advocate@mptmail.net.mm
Ph: 371 990

8.April.2008

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV COSMIC LEADER VOY NO (88)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV COSMIC LEADER VOY NO (88) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.4.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMAR PORT AUTHORITY where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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: EASTERN CAR LINER LTD**
Phone No: 256924/256914

Six drug trafficking suspects arrested in Colombia

BOGOTA, 7 April – Six Colombian drug trafficking suspects have been arrested here and in Melgar municipality of central Tolima Province, the Investigations Technical Corpse (CTI) said on Friday.

The weapons and telecommunication equipment of the suspects were also seized in the raid. It is a "very important blow against organized crime" in the country as their telecommunication outfits were confiscated, said CTI's director Marilu Mendez. — MNA/Xinhua

Guinea's Conte snubs prime minister over Libya deal

CONAKRY, 7 April—Guinea's President Lansana Conte has annulled a Libyan investment deal signed by Prime Minister Lansana Kouyate, in the latest sign of tensions between the veteran leader and the consensus premier.

A presidential decree read on state television late on Friday cancelled the acquisition by a Libyan state company of stakes in three hotels in the West African state, the world's largest bauxite exporter.

"The President apparently decided it was not normal to exonerate the Libyans from all tax during 10 years, according to the texts signed by the Prime Minister," said a source at the Finance Ministry.

MNA/Reuters

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Reg. No. 1243/2008



Reg. No. 1244/2008

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Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.,
for **Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Lion Corp.**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 8 April 2008

Don't Smoke**TRADE MARK**

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Tin Ohnmar Tun
B.A (LAW) LL.B, LL.M (UK),
P.O.Box 109
Ph: 723043
(For. Domnarn Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand.)
Dated: 8 April, 2008

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV BANG PA KAEW VOY NO (157)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG PA KAEW VOY NO (157) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 7.4.2008 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 WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO, LTD**
Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

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Reg. No. 1043/1998

in respect of "pharmaceutical preparations and substances for human use, especially antihypertensive agents".

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in respect of "pharmaceutical preparations".

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Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.,
for **Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 8 April 2008

Abbas authorizes Egypt to talk with Hamas

GAZA, 7 April—Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas of Fatah movement authorized Egypt to hold talks with rival Hamas faction on several issues, an aide to Abbas said on Saturday.

The issues include reinforcing a ceasefire between armed Palestinian groups in the Hamas-ruled Gaza and Israel, according to Nabil Shaath, Abbas' representative in Egypt.

Shaath added that opening the borders between Egypt and Gaza, brokering prisoner exchange between Hamas and Israel and resuming talks between Hamas and Fatah were also among the topics.

According to Shaath, "Fatah monitors and supports these talks which were also discussed between Abbas and Egyptian, Jordanian and Saudi leaders". Hamas seized control of Gaza Strip by force in June and routed security forces of Abbas. Since then, Israel imposed a tight closure on the coastal territory while Hamas ruled the territory, neglecting a firing decision by Abbas.

MNA/Xinhua

Height genes make 6-cm difference in body growth

BEIJING, 7 April — Scientists have identified a cluster of key genes which together can make a height difference of up to 6 centimetres, according to a study published in Sunday's Nature Genetics.

The study by British scientists entailed sifting through samples from more than 30,000 people of European descent to look for common variations in the genetic code that help determine height. They identified 20 regions

of the genome, also known as loci, which provide insights into how the body develops normally.

"The number and variety of genetic regions that we have found show that height is not just caused by a few genes operating in the long bones," said Tim Frayling of the Peninsula medical school, Exeter, who led the study.

"Instead, our research implicates genes that could shed light on a whole range

of important biological processes. By identifying which genes affect normal growth, we can begin to understand the processes that lead to abnormal growth — not just height disorders but also tumor growth, for example."

Unlike other body size characteristics such as obesity, 90 percent of normal variation in human height can be attributed to one's DNA heritage rather than nutrition.

Xinhua



A general view of the Waibaidu Bridge, which has been dismantled into two parts, at the Bund in Shanghai on 6 April, 2008. Shanghai's oldest bridge across the Suzhou River, the Waibaidu Bridge, which has a history of at least a century, is dismantled and taken to dry docks for refurbishing and will be reset after nine months repair, local media reported.—INTERNET

Movie legend Charlton Heston dies

BEIJING, 7 April — Oscar-winning US actor Charlton Heston, whose chiseled features and commanding presence won him epic roles from Moses to Michelangelo, died on Saturday night at the age of 84, his family said. Heston, a former president of the influential National Rifle Association lobbying group,



Oscar-winning US actor Charlton Heston
INTERNET

died at his home in Beverly Hills with his wife Lydia at his side, the family said in a statement.

The actor, who won the 1959 best actor Oscar for the title role in Ben Hur in which he did many of his own chariot race stunts, had announced in 2002 that he was suffering symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. —Xinhua

Family members bailed in Shannon Matthews probe

LONDON, 7 April — Detectives investigating the kidnapping of schoolgirl Shannon Matthews in Yorkshire have released on bail two members of her stepfather's family, police said on Saturday.

Identified by media reports as Alice Meehan,

49, and Amanda Hyett, 25, the mother and sister of Shannon's stepfather Craig Meehan, the two women were arrested on Friday as part of the investigation into the nine-year-old's kidnapping.

The 25-year-old had been arrested suspicion of assisting an offender

and the 49-year-old on suspicion of attempting to pervert the course of justice.

Nine-year-old Shannon's disappearance in February sparked a huge search before she was found safe and well last month.

On Thursday, Craig Meehan, 22, was remanded in custody on charges of possessing indecent images of children.

He has lived with Shannon's 32-year-old mother Karen for around five years.

Shannon was found hidden in the base of a bed at a house a mile from her family home in Dewsbury last month, 24 days after she went missing following a school swimming trip.

MNA/Reuters

Swiss village vows to fight Champagne name ban

CHAMPAGNE (Switzerland), 7 April — The Swiss wine-growing community of Champagne voted on Saturday to fight an attempt to restrict use of the village's name to French wine.

In a traditional Swiss open-air vote, villagers said they would push to continue using the name Champagne, limited under international trade rules to the French sparkling wine region, for their own produce.

A mechanical excavator decked with a French flag tore out the sign bearing the name Champagne at the entrance of the village in a symbolic protest at its loss of identity.

In Switzerland's bilateral accords with the European Union, the Swiss Government conceded in 1999 that the name Champagne would be reserved for the famous French wine. — MNA/Reuters



Member of the international space crew, So-Yeon Yi of South Korea autographs a wall at Baikonur, on 3 April. The crew is set to take off from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on 8 April.—INTERNET



New James Bond villain gets subprime era twist

CERR PARANAL, (Chile), 7 April — Gone are the days of James Bond villains with bleeding eyes or scars and fluffy cats — the fictional super-spy's latest adversary has been given a contemporary twist for the subprime era. Mathieu Amalric, who plays nefarious

businessman Dominic Greene in the new Bond adventure 'Quantum of Solace', will have no physical villain traits and says his evil character's anonymity makes him all the more real — and frightening.

"It's so difficult to know who are the villains

today. They look like wallpaper," Amalric, one of France's leading screen stars, said during an interview with Reuters on a remote desert mountainside in northern Chile that will serve in the movie as an eco-tourism hotel and his lair. "Maybe they're in banks, maybe they are the insurance companies, maybe they're in labs, even in the subprime crisis," he said.

MNA/Reuters

Model Emma Peh of China, left, walks down the runway with other models during the ck Calvin Klein Spring/Summer 2008 collection fashion presentation at the Singapore Fashion Festival Closing Show on 6 April, 2008 in Singapore.—INTERNET

SPORTS



Cardiff City's Joe Ledley (2nd L) scores against Barnsley during their English FA Cup semi-final soccer match at Wembley Stadium in London on 6 April, 2008.—INTERNET

Inter beat Atalanta to regain four-point lead

MILAN, 7 April — Inter Milan restored their four-point lead in Serie A after goals from Patrick Vieira and Mario Balotelli secured a 2-0 win at Atalanta on Sunday.

Second-placed AS Roma's 3-2 win over Genoa on Saturday had cut the gap to a point but champions Inter returned to form with a clinical display after three league games without a win.

Vieira's 21st-minute header was controversial however, after he climbed all over Atalanta defender Maximiliano Pellegrino to convert Balotelli's corner.

Balotelli, 17, scored his first league goal when he rounded the keeper in the second half following a counter-attack. The forward, who has impressed in the Italian Cup this season, was given a surprise start with Zlatan Ibrahimovic out injured.

"It was good match at a difficult venue. Patrick has scored a very important goal. Balotelli is a young lad with great quality," Inter coach Roberto Mancini told Sky television. —MNA/Reuters

Rangers held to a thrilling 3-3 draw at Dundee United

GLASGOW, 7 April — Rangers wasted the chance to move nine points clear of champions Celtic in the Scottish Premier League when they were held to a thrilling 3-3 draw at Dundee United on Sunday.

They now top the standings on 75 points from 30 games after Celtic crashed 1-0 at home to Motherwell on Saturday to lie second seven points behind.

"Some slackness, defensively, lead to a terrific game. I don't think anyone could argue about the result," Rangers manager Walter Smith told BBC radio. "If it ended up 5-5 it would not have been out of place."

United went ahead in the first half with a scrambled effort from Norwegian defender Christian Kalvenes in the 37th minute which sparked a goal spree.

Willo Flood floated in a free-kick from the right which Darren Dods headed against Rangers keeper Allan McGregor from six metres and Kalvenes pounced to send a header against the right post then bundle in the rebound from a metre.

MNA/Reuters



Tsegaye Kebede of Ethiopia, centre, runs in the early metres of the Paris marathon, on 6 April, 2008 on the Champs-Elysees avenue in Paris. Kebede won the 26-mile (42.2 kilometres) course in 2 hours, 6 minutes, 37 seconds, just ahead of Moses Arusei of Kenya who finished second in 2:06.47, while James Rotich of Kenya was third in 2:07.10.—INTERNET

United three points clear after 2-2 draw at Boro

LONDON, 7 April — Manchester United ended the weekend three points clear of Chelsea with five Premier League games remaining after being held to a 2-2 draw at relegation-threatened Middlesbrough on Sunday.

United led through Cristiano Ronaldo but af-

ter two well-taken goals by Boro's record signing Afonso Alves either side of halftime, the champions needed an equalizer from Wayne Rooney 16 minutes from time.

United lead the way with 77 points to the 74 of Chelsea, who won 2-0 at Manchester City on Sat-



Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo (2nd R) scores against Middlesbrough during their English Premier League soccer match at The Riverside stadium in Middlesbrough, northern England, on 6 April, 2008.—INTERNET

Bayern move nine clear after win over Bochum

BERLIN, 7 April — Bayern Munich moved nine points clear in the Bundesliga with seven games to play after showing character to match their quality in a 3-1 win at home to VfL Bochum on Sunday.

Bayern, heading for a 21st German league title, went behind to a long-

range shot from Mimoun Azaouagh in the fourth minute and they were in deeper trouble when Mark van Bommel was red-carded in the 27th minute.

The Bavarians began the fightback with a Lucio header four minutes later before a second-half Franck Ribery penalty and a late strike from Christian Lell saw them home. "We showed unbelievable spirit to turn the game around," coach Ottmar Hitzfeld told Premiere TV.

Bayern have 57 points from 27 games, followed by Schalke 04 on 48 after their 1-0 win at home to Hansa Rostock on Saturday.

Hamburg SV, beaten 1-0 at resurgent VfB Stuttgart on Saturday, drop to third with 47, ahead of Werder Bremen on goal difference after their 2-1 win at Hertha Berlin.

MNA/Reuters

urday. Arsenal are third on 71 after drawing 1-1 with fourth-placed Liverpool.

United, who have a far superior goal difference to the two other contenders, host Arsenal next weekend and still have to visit Chelsea.

Middlesbrough are now four places and nine points clear of the relegation zone and should begin to relax.

United started well and deserved their early lead secured when Ronaldo tucked in his 27th league goal of the season from a low Michael Carrick cross. —MNA/Reuters

Bayern Munich's Italian forward Luca Toni (L) fights for the ball with VfL Bochum's Anther Yahia during their German Bundesliga first division soccer match in Munich, on 6 April, 2008.—INTERNET



PSV beat Heracles 2-0 to close in on title

AMSTERDAM, 7 April — PSV Eindhoven closed in on the Dutch league title on Sunday, scoring a goal in each half to beat Heracles Almelo 2-0.

Timmy Simons fired home the opener in the 12th minute from 20 metres out and Peruvian Jefferson Farfan curled a free-kick around the wall to seal the victory 10 minutes before time.

With two matches remaining, PSV are top with 68 points, five clear of Ajax Amsterdam who cruised to a 4-1 home win over Graafschap Doetinchem with Klaas Jan Huntelaar scoring a hat-trick.

George Ogararu set up Huntelaar to open the scoring after three minutes and the striker headed home his second five minutes later.

MNA/Reuters

Ferdinand injury doubt for Champions League tie

LONDON, 7 April — Manchester United's England defender Rio Ferdinand faces a battle to be fit for Wednesday's Champions League quarterfinal, second leg at home to Roma.

Alex Ferguson was hoping his England centre back had not suffered a serious injury after being forced off in the second half of Sunday's 2-2 Premier

League draw at Middlesbrough.

With Nemanja Vidic already sidelined for at least two weeks, the last thing United need is an injury to Ferdinand who limped away with 20 minutes left at the Riverside Stadium.

"We got a few bumps and bruises, but we'll assess things on Monday," Ferguson told MUTV. —MNA/Reuters

Sevilla derail Villarreal's title push

MADRID, 7 April — Villarreal failed to take their chance to close on leaders Real Madrid when they fell 2-0 at Sevilla in the Primera Liga on Sunday.

Real Mallorca had held the champions to a 1-1 draw on Saturday, but Villarreal were pegged back by Brazil striker Luis Fabiano who raced clear to score his 23rd of the campaign midway through the first half.

Diego Lopez made a string of important saves to keep the visitors in the game, but gave away a penalty three minutes from time, which Mali striker Frederic Kanoute put away. It was Villarreal's first defeat in ten.

MNA/Reuters

Snow forces BA to cancel 114 flights at Heathrow

LONDON, 7 April — After nearly two weeks of baggage chaos and hundreds of cancelled flights, London Heathrow Airport was hit by bad weather on Sunday which forced British Airways to cancel 114 flights.

Two runways at Heathrow were briefly closed for de-icing as snow fell in London and air traffic control reduced the number of take-off and landing slots.

Twelve BA flights were cancelled on Saturday after airport operator BAA was unable to fix a software glitch in the system that matches passengers' luggage to their flight. But that problem had been fixed by Sunday.

"In the early hours of

this morning, the software problem in Heathrow Terminal 5 was resolved and the baggage system is functioning well," said BAA, which is owned by Spain's Ferrovial.

"The principal challenge for Heathrow is the snow and ice around the airport. We have well-rehearsed procedures in place to deal with this weather and all areas of the airport have been extensively de-iced and treated." — MNA/Reuters

Texas removes 183 women, girls from sect ranch

HOUSTON, 7 April — Texas officials investigating a potential child abuse case said on Saturday 183 girls and women had been removed from a ranch that is home to a breakaway Mormon sect linked to jailed polygamist leader Warren Jeffs.

Texas Child Protective Services spokeswoman Marleigh Meisner said the 183 consisted of 137 girls and 46 women, but she could not discuss why they were taken from the ranch or whether they had left voluntarily.

Only 18 members of the group had been placed in the legal custody of the state agency, she said by telephone.

Local media reports said sect leaders had earlier refused to let authorities search the compound but local prosecutor Allison Palmer told Reuters the situation has been "defused". —MNA/Reuters

Henan beauty salon fined for 1,700-dollar haircuts

ZHENGZHOU 7 April — A beauty salon in central China's Henan Province has been fined 500,000 yuan (71,225 US dollars)

by the local pricing authority for charging two girls 6,000 yuan each for a haircut.

The Paul Interna-

tional Beauty Salon, registered in 2004 in Zhengzhou City, was fined on Saturday for defrauding consumers by failing to publish price lists of its products and services. The 500,000-yuan fine was the maximum for the offence, a Zhengzhou municipal price bureau official said.

The salon failed to tell the girls the price of a permanent wave and the shampoo they used, the official said.

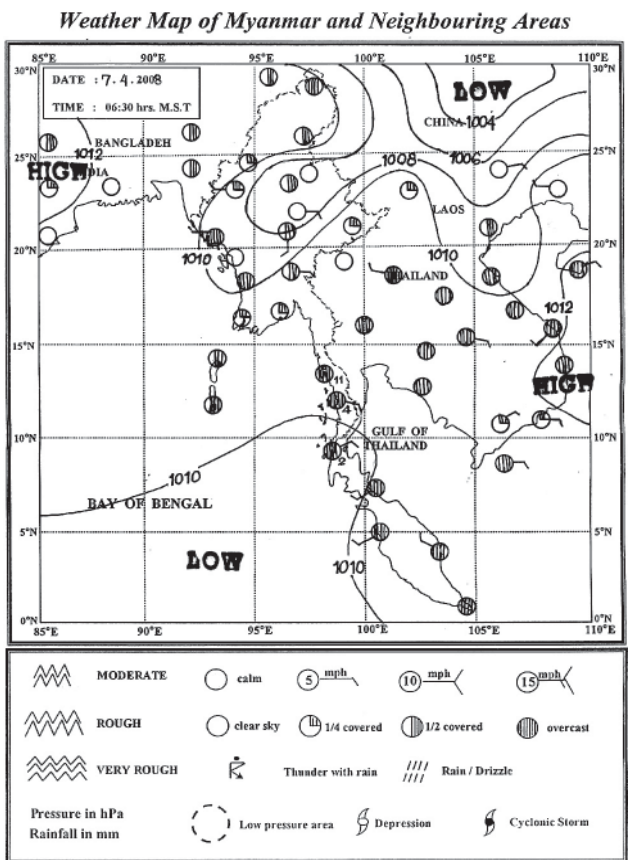
It was ordered to stop operating on Thursday, but the bureau did not ask it to repay back the girls in its penalty notification.

The bureau said the salon's actions were abominable and badly affected the industry.

MNA/Xinhua



Petra the koala is seen receiving her medication after an operation at Sydney Wildlife World in this 5 March, 2008 file photo. Australia's unique tree-dwelling koalas may become a victim of climate change, new research reported on Saturday shows. —INTERNET



WEATHER

Monday, 7 April, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Taninthayi Division, scattered in Kachin State, isolated in Shan State, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in Chin, Shan, Rakhine States, lower Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (5°C) above April average temperatures in upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady Divisions, (7°C) above April average temperatures in Kachin State and about April average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Chauk and Minbu (42°C) each, Nay Pyi Taw, Myingyan, Magway and Taungdwingyi (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Zaungtu (2.52) inches, Loilem (0.51) inch, Dawei (0.43) inch, Namhsan (0.28) inch and Bhamo (0.04) inch.

Maximum temperature on 6-4-2008 was 101°F. Minimum temperature on 7-4-2008 was 77°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 7-4-2008 was 69%. Total sunshine hours on 6-4-2008 was (4.5) hours approx.

Rainfall on 7-4-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (1.69) inches at Mingaladon, (1.85) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.83) inch at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from North at (15:30) hours MST on 6-4-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 8-4-2008: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Shan, Mon, Kayin and Kayah States, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Chin State and upper Sagaing Division and generally fair 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 likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 8-4-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 8-4-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 8-4-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).



Tuesday, 8 April
View on today

7:00 am

1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

7:50 am

5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မော်(၃၈)ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ

8:00 am

6. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:30 am

7. International news

8:40 am

8. Local talent

8:50 am

9. Musical programme

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

4:25 pm

3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်

ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား

သင်ခန်းစာ—ဒုတိယနှစ်

(သမိုင်းအထူးပြု) (သမိုင်း)

4:40 pm

4. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:55 pm

5. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

5:10 pm

6. ဆိုဗီယက်ယူနီယံ

6:00 pm

7. Evening news

6:30 pm

8. Weather report

6:35 pm

9. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:50 pm

10. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညက်ရှင်

7:10 pm

11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“ချစ်တယ်—ချစ်တယ်”

(အပိုင်း—၁၃)

8:00 pm

12. News

13. International news

14. Weather report

15. Musical programme

16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“မေတ္တာမျဉ်းပြိုင်”(အပိုင်း—၁၉)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye pays homage to ancient pagodas, stupas in Sanchi



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San visit ancient stupa in Sanchi, Bhopal . — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 7 April — The Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, accompanied by Myanmar Ambassador U Kyi Thein, Military Attaché' Col Nay Win and Indian Ambassador Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra, left Taj Mahal Hotel in New Delhi for Airbase Airport at 8 am on 4 April to pay a visit to Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh State. They were seen off at the airport by Minister of State for Commerce of the Republic of India Shari Jairam Ramesh and Head of Protocol Department of Ministry of External Affairs Mr Sunil Lal and officials.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived at Bhopal Airport by Indian special flight at 8.40 am and were welcomed by Governor Mr Pukhraj Maroo and State Police Chief Shri Landra Shrivastav

and officials.

At the lounge of the airport, responsible officials accorded a warm welcome to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party. Next, they went to one of world's archaeological sites, Sanchi, where Sanchi stupas lie to the northeast of Bhopal. Assistant In charge P.L. Meana and officials welcomed Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party and gave an account of ancient stupas and monasteries.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party paid homage to the stupa built by King Asoka with the sacred relics of the Buddha in the 3rd Century BC and ancient Buddha images and had a documentary photo taken.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye visited the ancient stupas and monasteries built by King Asoka and studied works of ancient cultural heritage.

He then signed in the visitors' book.

Sanchi region has been a region of ancient cultural heritage since time immemorial. In the time of King Asoka, the sacred relics of the Buddha, Shin Sari Putta and Shin Mogglun Mathes were enshrined into the pagodas and stupas. With the passage of time, religious buildings fell into ruin and were in a state of dilapidation although new monasteries, pagodas and stupas emerged. Only in the early 19th Century, religious edifices of ancient cultural heritage were excavated and maintained.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife offered lights to the Buddha Image kept in Sri Lanka Ordination Hall built by Sri Lanka Buddhist Association. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye made cash donations for the maintenance of the religious edifices and for the propagation of Buddhism. The Sayadaw of the ordination hall presented a replica of a golden stupa as a Dhamma gift.

Later, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party returned to Bhopal and then went to Jamnagar, Gujarat State.— MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San donate cash to a Buddhist Monk to be spent on preservation of religious buildings in Sanchi, India. — MNA

Dailies to appear in turn during New Year holidays

YANGON, 7 April — Dailies of the News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information will be published in turn during the Myanmar New Year holidays.

Kyemon Daily and The New Light of Myanmar Daily will not appear on 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 April. During these days, Myanma Alin will be in circulation and it will take holidays on 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 April. On these days, Kyemon Daily and The New Light of Myanmar daily will resume circulation.—MNA