

Garavo ca, reverence; this is the way to auspiciousness

Established 1914

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XVI, Number 12

8th Waning of Oo Tagu 1370 ME

Monday, 28 April, 2008

■ To approve the State Constitution is a national duty of the entire people today. Let us all cast “Yes” vote in the national interest.

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-Senior General Maung Aye inspects products of Aye Thayar Industrial Zone

NAY PYI TAW, 27 April—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 together with Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, members of the SPDC Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Chairman of Shan State PDC Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, the ministers, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, officials of the Office of the SPDC, on 26 April inspected the statues of King Anawrahta,

King Bayintnaung and Alaungphaya U Aung Zeya built at the entrance to Bahtoo Tatmyo and arrangements for greening works around the statues.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party looked round development of Yaksawk, measures taken for greening and beautifying of Bahtoo and growing of

perennial plants in a motorcade.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party proceeded to Aye Thayar (See page 8)

Salient points about the constitution to be approved through a referendum

I The constitution guarantees better rights to the people, so I would like to urge the people to cast ‘Yes’ vote in the referendum for democracy.

PAGE 7

SAI THEIN



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects vehicles produced at Aye Thayar Industrial Zone in Taunggyi.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 28 April, 2008

Approve the new Constitution for emergence of a democratic nation

Emergence of a peaceful modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation is the goal of the State. It is also the desire of the entire national people.

Now the government is laying down the basic foundations for building of a new democratic nation. The Commission for Drafting Constitution has successfully drawn the draft constitution based on the principles laid down at the National Convention.

On 10 May, the draft constitution (2008) will be approved by the people in the entire nation. Arrangements have been made for convenience of all eligible voters. Programmes on demonstration of voting are being telecast through the media. The people upholding the national interest are ready to go to the polling booths and cast 'Yes' vote for approval of the new constitution that leads to the emergence of a new nation.

Myanmar is a Union nation where over 100 national races reside. The new constitution guarantees the national people to exercise the legislative, the executive and the judicial power. Moreover, the national goals that prevent the country from becoming minions of the aliens and for perpetuation of the Union have been laid down.

The constitution (2008) based on the prevailing condition is the new one drawn for better future of the nation.

Emergence of the State constitution is the national duty of all citizens of the country. A peaceful prosperous democratic nation will soon emerge with the approval of the constitution by the national people with Union Spirit.

Power supply to Yangon City area will be slightly reduced from 6 pm on 27 to 6 pm 29 April

YANGON, 27 April—Offshore gas pipe lines that are sending gas to four power plants will be closed temporarily from 6 pm on 27 April (Sunday) to 6 pm on 29 April (Tuesday), for they will go under repair. During that period, the power generation of the four power plants, namely, Ahlon, Hlawga, Ywama and Thakayta Power Plants will be cut to 100 megawatt out of the current power generation, slightly reducing the alternate supply of power to Yangon City area Yangon City Electricity Supply Board announced.—MNA

Insurgents' mine kills one innocent person in Ye Township

NAY PYI TAW, 27 April—U Than Htun Lin, 40, of Hangan Village, Ye Township, Mon State, was injured when he stepped on a mine planted by insurgents on his way to forests to collect firewood near Padaung hill on 25 April.

He died in Hangan Village at 2 pm while officials concerned were making arrangements for him to undergo medical treatment.

Soon after the news was heard local Tatmadaw column rushed to the village and provided necessary assistance, and then, were in hot pursuit of the insurgents.—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

USDA Secretariat member meets local people in Saw Township



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meeting with local people at Kyaukhtu Village Basic Education High School in Saw Township.—MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 27 April—Secretariat member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met with local people totaling 4300 from 16 villages at Yaw Mingyi U Phoe Hlaing Hall of the office of Saw Township Peace and Development Council on 21 April.

After hearing reports on development tasks being carried out and requirements by officials, the Secretariat member urged them to carry out regional development tasks with momentum.

Next, he presented K 500,000 for the construction of new school building for Kwinchaung Village Basic Education Primary School, K 500,000 for building of water storing tank for Kyaukswe village, materials for the regional development tasks and household and personnel goods for local people, exercise books for students and publications for the library to responsible persons.

Afterwards, the Secretariat member also met with local people totaling 3200 from 12 villages at Kanchaung Village Basic Education Middle School (Affiliated) in the township.

The Secretariat member heard reports on progress of regional development tasks and requirements presented by local people and attended to the needs and delivered an address.

Next, he presented K 200,000 for the roof of Village Health Care Centre (branch) building in Kanchaung village, K 200,000 for the construction of new school building for Nyaungkan Village BEHS (branch), materials for regional development tasks and household and personal goods for local people, exercise books for students and publications for the library to officials.

In the afternoon, the Secretariat member met with local people totaling 5000 from 22 villages at Myayadana hall of Kyaukhtu village BEHS.

The Secretariat member heard reports on regional development tasks being carried out and requirements and gave necessary instructions.

Next, he presented K 300,000 for construction of canal in Minkyit village, K 200,000 for the construction of Pansan village BEPS, a computer set for Kyee village BEHS (Affiliated), materials for the development tasks, household and personal goods for the local people,

citizen wants to earn his living in peace in the framework of law; that as the government is fulfilling the three basic needs of the people peace and stability has prevailed in the nation; that it is the bounden duty of the entire people to ensure the sustainable development of such foundations; that now work is under way for approval of the draft constitution capable of guaranteeing peace and stability, of ensuring further development of socio-

exercise books for the students and publications for the library to the officials.

After the meeting, the Secretariat member cordially conversed with those present.

In the meetings, the Secretariat member Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that at present every one is desirous of peace and stability as the entire national people have realized the value of peace and stability; that being driven by the wish to bring development across the nation every

economic life of the people, and of bringing about national development. He stressed the need for the people to approve the State Constitution in unison so that they can fully enjoy fundamental rights of a citizen.

Next, the minister went to the office of Information and Public Relations Department in Kyaukhtu. He inspected classification of books and wall posters and gave necessary instructions.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents cash and kind to a responsible person. —MNA

Karzai criticizes US-British conduct of Afghan war

NEW YORK, 27 April — Afghan President Hamid Karzai criticized the US and British conduct of the war in Afghanistan, telling *The New York Times* in an interview published on Saturday his government must be accorded the lead

in policy decisions.

Karzai told the newspaper he wanted US forces to stop arresting suspected Taleban members and their sympathizers, saying that fear of arrest along with past mistreatment were discouraging them from

coming forward and laying down their arms.

“It has to happen,” he said of the end to such arrests. Karzai also said in the interview conducted on Friday that he did not have specific details about alleged mistreatment of people in custody.

Ousted from power in 2001 by US-led and Afghan forces, the al-Qaeda-backed Taleban has vowed to topple the Afghan Government and drive out the foreign troops who back it. Nearly 12,000 people, including more than 330 foreign troops, have been killed in violence in the past two years.— *MNA/Reuters*

Rescue workers attend to injured persons after a plane crashed into a group of people during an air show near Eisenach, eastern Germany, on 26 April, 2008.

INTERNET



Plane crashes at German air show, kills one

BERLIN, 27 April — A small propeller airplane crashed into a group of people at an air show near the eastern German town of Eisenach on Saturday, killing a 45-year-old woman and injuring 10 others, police said.

“A small airplane taking off came off the runway and rolled into a group of people,” a police spokeswoman said. The accident happened at the Kindel air field near Eisenach, south of Berlin. She said three people were seriously injured and seven others, including two children aged nine and 14, suffered less serious injuries. The spokeswoman said it was not known what caused the crash.—*MNA/Reuters*

Fire in Connecticut apartment complex leaves 150 homeless

NORWICH, 27 April — A fast-moving fire destroyed a large apartment complex early Saturday, and authorities were looking for one person unaccounted for.

Authorities have confirmed the locations of all but one of the nearly 150 residents, said Fire Battalion Chief Tracy Montoya.



Palestinians gather near a destroyed vehicle near the home of Hamas militant commander Talat Hassan Marouf following an Israeli army raid in Beit Lahiya, in the northern Gaza Strip, on 26 April, 2008. —INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Iraq’s Sadr calls for ceasefire to continue

BAGHDAD, 27 April — Iraqi Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr pulled back from confrontation with the government on Friday, asking his followers to continue to observe a shaky ceasefire and not to do battle with government troops.

“You are the best who

committed and were patient with the decision to cease fire, and were the most obedient to your leader,” said a statement from Sadr, read out by a cleric during Friday prayers at a major mosque in Sadr’s eastern Baghdad stronghold, the

Sadr City slum.

“I wish you would continue your patience and your belief.”

Sadr’s Mehdi Army militia members have been battling US and government forces since Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki launched a crackdown against them in the southern city of Basra a month ago. Although Basra has since become quieter, fighting has continued in and around Sadr City.

The statement comes less than a week after Sadr threatened to launch an “open war until liberation” if attacks on his followers by US-backed government troops did not cease.

MNA/Reuters

Sharpton vows to ‘close this city’ after officer acquittals

NEW YORK, 27 April — Hundreds of angry people marched through Harlem on Saturday after the Rev Al Sharpton promised to “close this city down” to protest the acquittals of three police detectives in the 50-shot barrage that killed a groom on his wedding day and wounded two friends.

“We strategically know how to stop the city so people stand still and realize that you do not have the right to shoot down unarmed, innocent civilians,” Sharpton told an overflow crowd of several hundred people at his National Action Network office in the historically black Manhattan neighbourhood. “This city is going to deal with the blood of

Sean Bell.”

Sharpton was joined by the family of 23-year-old Sean Bell, a black man and a friend of Bell who was wounded in the 2006 shooting outside a Queens strip club. Two of the three officers charged were also black.

The rally at Sharpton’s office was followed by a 20-block march down Malcolm X Boulevard and then across 125th Street, Harlem’s main business thoroughfare, where some bystanders yelled out “Kill the police!”

Fifty of the marchers carried white placards bearing big black numbers for each of the police bullets fired at Bell and his friends.—*Internet*



Bystanders watch as protesters march with placards signifying the number of bullets fired by New York Police detectives during the November 2006 killing of Sean Bell, on 26 April, 2008 in New York. Three NYPD detectives were acquitted Friday in the shooting of Bell during a barrage of 50 gunshots outside a Queens strip club on Bell’s wedding day. —INTERNET



Rescue workers secure Nathan Bowman to a rescue stretcher after he survived a 500 foot fall into an inactive strip mine, on 25 April, 2008 in Coaldale, Pa. Bowman tumbled down a jagged slope and then free-fell several hundred feet, his descent broken by a rock ledge not far from the bottom of the pit, said Coaldale Police Chief Timothy Delaney, who helped direct the rescue effort.—INTERNET

Egypt sends police reinforcements to Gaza border

ISMAILIA (Egypt), 26 April — Egypt sent hundreds of police officers to the sealed Rafah border crossing with the Gaza Strip on Friday to boost security and prevent any attempt by Palestinians to breach the frontier, security sources said.

They said Egypt was responding to information it received that thousands of Palestinians planned to gather on the Gaza side of the border after Muslim

Friday prayers to protest an Israeli-led blockade.

"The strengthening of security comes as a precautionary measure to prevent any operation by the Palestinian side to storm Egyptian territory," one of the sources said, speaking on customary condition of anonymity. "Hundreds of policemen concentrated in Rafah and some armoured vehicles were sent to inside the Rafah crossing and in front of its gate," the source added. Gaza militants blasted open the border in January in a move that

allowed hundreds of thousands of Gazans to stream across the frontier at Rafah to stock up on food and fuel for 10 days before the frontier was resealed. Egypt wants to prevent a repeat of that incident.

Security sources put the number of police sent to the crossing on Friday at between 300 to 400, and identified them as officers already in Rafah Town who had been on standby to go to the border. The sources said there was no specific threat to the frontier.

MNA/Reuters

South Sudan clan attack kills 95, disrupts census

JUBA (Sudan), 26 April — An inter-clan cattle raiding attack has killed 95 people in semi-autonomous south Sudan and wounded 42 others in violence that disrupted the start of a national census, a southern official said on Friday. The attack took place early on Tuesday, the same day counting started in Sudan's first census since 1993.

Amid the fighting, Lakes State Information Minister Agad Chol told Reuters, "census materials were burned". The minister did not say how the materials came to be set alight, but added that replacements had been ordered and southern soldiers had been sent to the area to restore calm.

MNA/Reuters

Truck flows into Chicago rail station, two dead

CHICAGO, 27 April — An 18-wheeler truck crashed into a rapid transit station in Chicago at rush hour on Friday, killing two people and injuring 21, some critically, officials said.

The truck left a freeway ramp then crashed through a glass wall, hitting an escalator carrying passengers between the street and the elevated rail platform at the Chinatown station south of downtown

Chicago.

"It was out of control," a 14-year-old boy who saw the accident told the Chicago Tribune. He said it appeared the truck driver was trying to turn but lost control.

The fire department said the injuries ranged from relatively minor to critical.

Chinatown is on the Red Line, a major north-south route combining subway, surface and elevated tracks.

MNA/Reuters

Take care in Paris, Sweden urges young women

PARIS, 26 April — Sweden has urged its young women not to go out alone in Paris at night after a Swedish teenager was abducted and murdered in the French capital.

The charred body of

Sussanna Zetterberg, 19, was discovered on Saturday in woods outside Paris just hours after she left a nightclub in the heart of the city. "I am in a taxi, the driver is odd," Zetterberg said in a text message to a friend. She was not heard from again.

A postmortem showed she had been stabbed, a judicial source said. French Press reported she had also been shot four times and was found with her hands tied behind her back.

Prosecutors are investigating whether there are any links with a case in February when another 19-year-old Swede was raped by a man who had posed as a taxi driver.

MNA/Reuters

Iranians vote in run-off parliamentary election

TEHERAN, 26 April — Iranians voted on Friday for Iran's run-off parliamentary election which is likely to have no impact on the firm control of conservatives after the disqualification of many reformists in the first round.

Conservatives won a majority of seats in the 290-member Parliament in the first round of the election in March. Iranians will cast

their votes to elect 82 lawmakers out of 164 running candidates in 100 cities, including the capital Teheran. Moderate opponents of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said the vote was unfair because the unelected Guardian Council, which filters candidates on their commitment to Islam and Iran's clerical system, barred many of them from

running in March. Reformists, who secured more than 30 seats in the first round, have called for a high turn out because it would give the opposition a bigger voice. The new Parliament will begin work in May. The country's most powerful figure, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, urged Iranians to vote in a live television broadcast.—MNA/Reuters

Philippine airlines vying for more Macao flights

MANILA, 26 April — Two biggest Philippine airlines are both seeking more frequent flights to Macao, eyeing to expand their market shares in the

China travel boom.

Philippine Airlines (PAL) spokesperson Rolando Estabillo told online edition of Philippine Daily Inquirer

that PAL plans to launch five flights on weekly basis between Macao and Manila, starting 1 May.

PAL only recently introduced a twice-weekly service to Chinese western duo cities of Chongqing and Chengdu. With five new flights a week to Macao, plus flights to Shanghai, Xiamen, Hong Kong and Beijing, PAL will have a total of 56 flights a week to China by May, the report said.

Meanwhile, the budget carrier Cebu Pacific Air, also the flagship domestic airline in the Philippines, is seeking four times a week flights between Macao and Clark Freeport, north of Manila.

MNA/Xinhua



A hunter holds an eagle during a ceremony marking the 10th anniversary of Kazakhstan's Eagle Hunting Federation in the village of Nura some 150 km (93 miles) east of Almaty on 26 April, 2008.—INTERNET



Residents collect trash at a dump yard in the Shiite holy city of Najaf, 160 kilometres (100 miles) south of Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 April, 2008.—INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

EU businesses cautiously optimistic about Eco future

BRUSSELS, 26 April — European businesses remained cautiously optimistic about the economic future amid increasing uncertainties, according to a survey released on Thursday.

“Despite the numerous headwinds, Business Europe so far remains cautiously optimistic and sees no risk of a recession on this side of the Atlantic,” the umbrella organization of European business

federations said in its spring economic outlook, which was based on a survey of its members.

The report said European businesses continued to expect EU economic growth to average 2 per cent this year with a further decline in the unemployment rate to 6.8 per cent, roughly in line with an earlier forecast made by the European Commission.

BusinessEurope

expected the economic growth in the euro zone to stand at 1.7 per cent this year. In 2009, it expected growth to stabilize, averaging 2.1 per cent in the EU and 1.8 per cent in the euro zone.

However, the report acknowledged that down-side risks to the scenario largely dominate in the context of the unresolved credit market crisis.

MNA/Xinhua



A view of the security checks at the new Terminal 5 of Rome's Leonardo Da Vinci Fiumicino International Airport, during a Press visit, on 24 April, 2008. Rome's main airport will open a new terminal next month for some flights to the United States and Israel that require extra security checks.—INTERNET



Various brands of high quality rice on display in a wholesale food supplier's shop in Mumbai, India, on 26 April, 2008.—INTERNET

Vietnam offers loans of \$287.5m to job seekers

HANOI, 26 April — Vietnam will offer preferential loans of 4.6 trillion Vietnamese dong (287.5 million US dollars) to local job seekers by 2010, according to local news paper Pioneer on Friday.

The preferential loans coming from the national fund for job creation are being given to unemployed and underemployed people, small- and-medium sized enterprises, farms, craft villages, youths, and those who want to work abroad. Under a national job creation programme, Vietnam has eyed to ensure work for 49.5 million people, including creating eight million new jobs by 2010. —MNA/Xinhua

Subsidized fuel consumption in Indonesia may hit 41b litres

JAKARTA, 26 April — The consumption of cheap and subsidized fuel products in Indonesia could jump to 41 billion litres this year because of rapid growth in motor vehicle population and illegal uses, an official said Thursday.

The estimated growth

represents a 15 per cent rise from the initial fuel consumption projection of 35.5 billion litres, said Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Purnomo Yusgiantoro.

“Without proper controlling measures over subsidized fuel distribution, the consumption could hit 41 billion litres,” he told reporters here.

MNA/Xinhua

"It's not logical to impose a ban. If there's any future shortage, it would likely come from hoarding by traders and exporters,"

Nuchjarin Panarode, an economist at Capital Nomura Securities in Bangkok, told Reuters.

Thai rice prices surged to 1,000 US dollars a ton on Thursday, nearly three times their level in January, intensifying fears of social unrest in Asia as millions of the region's poor find themselves struggling to pay for staple goods.

MNA/Reuters

Shoes are displayed for sale on the ground at a market in the city of Kabul, Afghanistan on 26 April, 2008. INTERNET



Canadian economist says gas price to hit \$2.25 in 2012

OTTAWA, 26 April — The price of gas will surge to 1.40 Canadian dollars (1.40 US dollars) this summer and over 2.25 US dollars by 2012 as oil supplies continue to decrease, a Canadian economist projected on Thursday.

Jeff Rubin, chief

strategist and chief economist at CIBC World Markets in Toronto, said that global oil production has decreased in the past two years, straining supply. "Whether we have already seen the peak in world oil production remains to be seen, but it is increasingly clear that

the outlook for oil supply signals a period of unprecedented scarcity," Rubin said in a statement.

“Despite the recent record jump in oil prices, oil prices will continue to rise steadily over the next five years, almost doubling from current levels.”—MNA/Xinhua



A man operates a jackhammer on the stomach of Mustafa Dasan, a Taekwondo instructor, during a public show in Amman on 26 April, 2008. Dasan, 54 and father of six, on Saturday broke 5,000 kg of marble and cement bricks in one minute and sixteen seconds in the presence of Jordanian referees. — XINHUA

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

China needs 2,800 aircraft from 2007 to 2026

BEIJING, 27 April — Chinese Mainland will need to add more than 2,800 passenger aircraft and freighters in the 20 years through 2026, European plane maker Airbus forecast.

The demand, valued 329 billion US dollars, represents 11.6 per cent of the world total for more than 24,000 new aircraft during the period, it noted.

China's demand for passenger aircraft is only second to the United States in the period, said John Leahy, Airbus Chief Operating Officer for Customers.

An estimated 2,670

passenger aircraft and 130 cargo planes will be added into the mainland's fleet, according to Airbus' 2007-2008 Global Market Forecast (China). The passenger fleet would triple in size by 2026. — Xinhua

Plane crash lands at Memphis airport

WASHINGTON, 26 April — A plane with 75 people on board made an emergency landing at Memphis International Airport Thursday after reporting engine trouble, airport officials said.

The Flight 4230 was bound for Atlanta and it turned around shortly after taking off from the Memphis Airport, said Janice Young, a spokeswoman for the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority. No one was injured, she added. Xinhua

Kenyan leaders finish peace mission on reconciliation

NAIROBI, 27 April — Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki and Prime Minister Raila Odinga completed a three-day reconciliation tour of Rift Valley Province after a series of public rallies in several regions on Saturday.

The Kenyan leaders said there was need for Kenyans to coexist peacefully and to shun tribalism. Kibaki urged area residents to coexist peacefully.

"We should not divide ourselves along tribal lines, let us work and live together as brothers and sisters," said the President.

He also asked Kenyans to support the Grand Coalition Government as it undertakes to reconcile the country. "Together with Raila I have made a commitment to form one government that would reconcile Kenyans," he said.

President Kibaki said residents should dialogue with one another and supplement government efforts in finding a lasting solution to the challenges facing them.

He said the Coalition Government should be

given time to deliver on campaign pledges and address challenges resulting from the post election violence.

"The Coalition Government will resettle internally displaced persons in camps and those living with relatives without bias," he said.

Prime Minister Raila Odinga in his address said the Ogiek community who has been seeking for their resettlement for years that they would be issued with title deeds by the Coalition Government. — Xinhua

Syria rejects US allegations on existence of N-activities

DAMASCUS, 26 April — Syria has denounced "the fabrication and forging of facts" of the US Administration over the existence of nuclear activities in the Arab country, the official SANA news agency reported on Friday.

"Syria categorically rejects the US

allegations," the report quoted an official Syrian Foreign Ministry source as saying in a statement.

"Such a US Administration campaign is fundamentally aimed at deluding the US Congress and the world public opinion by allegations to give an

excuse for the Israeli raid on Syria in September last year," said the statement. According to Syria, its air defences on 6 September, 2007 opened fire at Israeli warplanes which entered its airspace at dawn and forced them to leave.

In response, Israel said they were unaware of any such incident.

The Bush Administration also declined to comment on Syria's allegations at the time.

Syria accused in the statement that the United States might have helped the raid, saying "this administration, as it seemed, was a party in carrying out the raid".

"It is clear that such a move by the US Administration comes in the framework of the negotiations connected with the DPRK nuclear file," added the statement. Xinhua

Investigation launched into riot at Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 26 April — Los Angeles police on Thursday launched an investigation into a riot involving hundreds of immigration detainees at a county-run facility.

The riot, which broke on Tuesday, prompted guards to use tear gas grenades to restore order. Two detainees were badly injured, according to a Los Angeles Times report.

The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department has contracted with the US Department of Homeland

Security to house about 900 detainees awaiting deportation at the Mira Loma Detention Centre, according to sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore.

Those who instigated the riot may be prosecuted on criminal charges, authorities said.

"Any incident not only puts the lives of the detainees but also the lives of the sheriff's officers and department personnel in harm's way," said Virginia

Kice, a Los Angeles regional spokeswoman for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). "We are committed to doing everything we can to ensure safe, secure and humane conditions for those in our custody."

Tuesday's riot started as a morning fight between two detainees from rival gangs, then escalated by 1:30 p.m. into a "melee" in the detention centre's outdoor yard, authorities said. Xinhua



A farmer harvests tulips which are in full bloom in Lisse, the Netherlands, on 26 April, 2008. The Netherlands, which is the world's largest flower producer and exporter, occupies more than 60 percent of the world's flower trade. XINHUA

Lebanese prison riots end, hostages freed

BEIRUT, 26 April — Riots at Lebanon's largest prison ended peacefully on early Friday, when prisoners freed seven guard hostages and got in return promises to improve their living conditions, local As Safir daily reported.

Security Chief General. Ashraf Rifi, who participated in a nine-hour-long negotiation with the prisoners in

Roumieh, northeast of Beirut, said in a Press conference Friday morning that they would examine prisoners' demands and consider implementing a law which calculates nine months of prison as one year.

"Some of their demands will be met," Rifi was quoted as saying. The security official said the prisoners handed over

the seven hostages and returned to their cells after negotiating their demands with Internal Security Chief Antoine Shakuri in the presence of Judge Jean Fahad, local An Nahar daily reported.

The prisoners at Roumieh demanded improvement in their living conditions and a reduction of their sentences. Xinhua

● **Towards the new nation
Will ratify Constitution.**

* **We remain ever united whoever tries
to divide us
And will cast “Yes” vote**

Salient points about the constitution to be approved through a referendum

Sai Thein

The State constitution that will soon be approved through a referendum guarantees all possible rights for national races democratically.

The forthcoming constitution is designed to serve the interests of the State and national races many times more than the 1947 constitution and the 1974 constitution.

The constitution delegates the three sovereign powers—legislative, executive and judicial powers—even with ethnic minorities. At the central level, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw consisting of the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Pyithu Hluttaw will exercise the power of the whole Union.

The Amyotha Hluttaw will be formed with an equal number of representatives each from seven Regions and seven States. The Pyithu Hluttaw will be formed with the hluttaw members elected constituency-wise by the people. In this regard, various national races live in each of the townships across Myanmar. So, there will be national race representatives to the Pyithu Hluttaw among the representatives.

According to the constitution, Shan State will have a state hluttaw and a state government. A self-administered division and four self-administered zones have been designated in Shan State. Therefore, national races living in Shan State will have an opportunity to become representatives to Shan State hluttaw and members of the self-administered division and self-administered zone leading bodies.

Various hluttaws that will exercise the legislative power at the central level open the door to equal rights for national races. Similarly, Region hluttaws and State hluttaws will be formed.

In the past, according to the 1947 constitution, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Chamber of Nationalities, the parliament formed with those two hluttaws, Kachin

State, Kayah State, Kayin State and Shan State councils were vested with legislative power. At that time, there was a division only: Special Division of the Chins and it was not delegated legislative power.

According to the 1974 constitution, the number of states increased to seven, but they had no hluttaws that could exercise legislative power. It can be deduced from these points that the draft constitution guarantees equal rights to the national races without any discrimination against or in favour of a particular national race.

A better right is that there will be one self-administered division and five self-administered zones, and they will exercise legislative power.

The constitution prescribes a principle under which every ethnic minority that has not got self-administration and whose population stands at least 10,000 will be bestowed with the right to enjoy legislative and executive powers by sending a representative to self-administered division or self-administered zones.

And every national race that has not got Region, State, self-administered division or self-administered zone with a population which constitutes 0.1 per cent of the population of the State will have the right to elect a representative from among its population to the Region/State hluttaw concerned. Similarly, the representative will become the minister for national race affairs in the Region/State government concerned.

Regarding the sharing of executive power, there will be the Union government at the central level. In electing the President or the head of the Union government, there is no restriction that the President shall be from a particular national race. Each of the three presidential electoral colleges of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will have to elect a presidential candidate.

The three presidential electoral colleges are the

college formed with Pyithu Hluttaw members, the college formed with Amyotha Hluttaw members, and the college formed with Tamtadaw member representatives. Each college will have to elect a vice-president each.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will have to elect the President from among the three Vice-Presidents nominated by the three colleges. The other two nominees will become Vice-Presidents. So, the President and Vice-Presidents will be the persons from among the people of national races elected by the hluttaw members.

So, there will be no attachment to any particular party or national race, or localism in electing the President.

Respective Region and State governments will be formed and they will have the rights to exercise executive power. So, respective Regions and States can exercise executive power by forming Region/State governments concerned.

In addition, there is no restriction which Union government ministers and Region/State government ministers shall be from a particular national race. Therefore, every citizen (every national race) with qualifications set for Hluttaw members may become a minister or deputy minister. The process of entrusting judicial power is the same as that of sharing legislative and executive powers.

Frankly speaking, the upcoming constitution prescribes principles the most firmly for democracy. That is to say it can guarantee democracy best. Without a constitution, national people cannot enjoy democracy. Thus, national people should cast ‘Yes’ vote without fail in the referendum.

Apart from present states and divisions, there will be one self-administered division for Wa national people, and self-administered zones for Kokang, Danu, Pa-O, Palaung and Naga national races.

The remaining national races will have more rights to elect hluttaw members on the basis of population. They have better rights in sharing powers.

The constitution carries a chapter ‘Amendment of the State Constitution’. There is a right to make necessary amendments after the constitution has been exercised for a certain period. That is to say that the constitution is flexible. In conclusion, the constitution guarantees better rights to the people, so I would like to urge the people to cast ‘Yes’ vote in the referendum for democracy.

Translation: MS

The upcoming constitution prescribes principles the most firmly for democracy. That is to say it can guarantee democracy best. Without a constitution, national people cannot enjoy democracy. Thus, national people should cast ‘Yes’ vote without fail in the referendum.

● **For flourishing of democracy
Ratify Constitution**

● **Let's get democracy by voting
at polling booth**

The government is giving encouragement to private industrialists to be familiar with industries that call for huge investment. Of State-owned factories, those suit the private sector are being privatized.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects a biofuel-used stove at Aye Thayar Industrial Zone.— MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye looks into a biodiesel-used bellow at Aye Thayar Industrial Zone.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye...
(from page 1)
industrial zone where they met with officials concerned and industrialists.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, in-charge of the industrial zone, explained works being carried out to produce light trucks with a speed of over 60 miles per hour, to manufacture quality spare parts from foundry plants, progress of establishment of private industries and increased production year by year.

The minister continued to explain the production of machine parts from foundry plants, investment volume and income, manufacturing of different kinds of automobiles, and arrangements for manufacturing of others kinds of machines so that automobiles can be assembled there.

Concerning the reports, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that it is necessary for the State to develop both agricultural sector and industrial sector. In Pinpet regions in Shan State (South) industries such as iron plants and cement plants are being established. The government is giving encouragement to private industrialists to be familiar with industries that call for huge investment. Of State-owned factories, those suit the private sector are being privatized. He spoke of the need for private
(See page 9)



Vehicles seen at Aye Thayar Industrial Zone in Taunggyi.—MNA



Vehicles produced by Aye Thayar Industrial Zone in Taunggyi.—MNA

* To ratify Constitution Let's go to the polling booth

● For ratification of Constitution Let's go to polling booth to cast "Yes" vote.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye...

(from page 8)

industrialists to strive to be able to run industries on a wider scale and added that only when private sector makes progress will the nation develop and prosper.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party viewed the products of the industrial zone including biofuel-used stoves, biodiesel-used bellows, liquid bio-fertilizer, auto parts, fertilizer, fibre and plastic products, hydro power machines, farm equipment such as power tillers, thrushers, physic nut crusher, maize grain refinery.

They also inspected production of body frames of Micro Bus, automobile workshop and manufactured heavy and light trucks.

In later evening, Secretary-General of the USDA and CEC member U Tin Naing Thein met with secretaries, executives and members of Division, District and Township USDAs at the office of the Shan State USDA in Taunggyi. Secretary of Shan State PDC U Nyan Lin explained organizational works and the Secretary-General gave necessary instructions to them.—MNA

Billboards erected in Loilem to hail Referendum

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—Hailing the Referendum that is to be held for the approval of the draft Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, ceremonies to set up billboards were held at Myoma market in Loilem, Shan State (south) today.

Billboards saying "To approve the State Constitution is a national duty of the entire people today : Let us cast "Yes" vote: Democracy cannot be achieved by anarchism or violence, but by Constitution" were set up by departmental officials, townselders and members of social organizations.—MNA

The wise one dispels intoxication through non-intoxication

When the wise one dispels intoxication through non-intoxication, he having ascended the tower of wisdom —being himself free from sorrow and being himself wise— looks at the sorrowing people and the unwise as one, standing on a mountain, views those on the plains.

Dhammapada-28



Statues of Anawrahta, Bayintnaung and Alaung Phaya U Aung Zeya at the entrance to Bahtoo Tatmyo.— MNA

Billboards set up in Yangon West District to hail Referendum



Ceremony to erect a billboard to hail the Referendum in Ahlon Township in progress.— MNA

YANGON, 27 April—Hailing the Referendum that is to be held for the approval of the draft Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, ceremonies to set up the billboards were

held at the designated places in the seven townships of Yangon West District this morning.

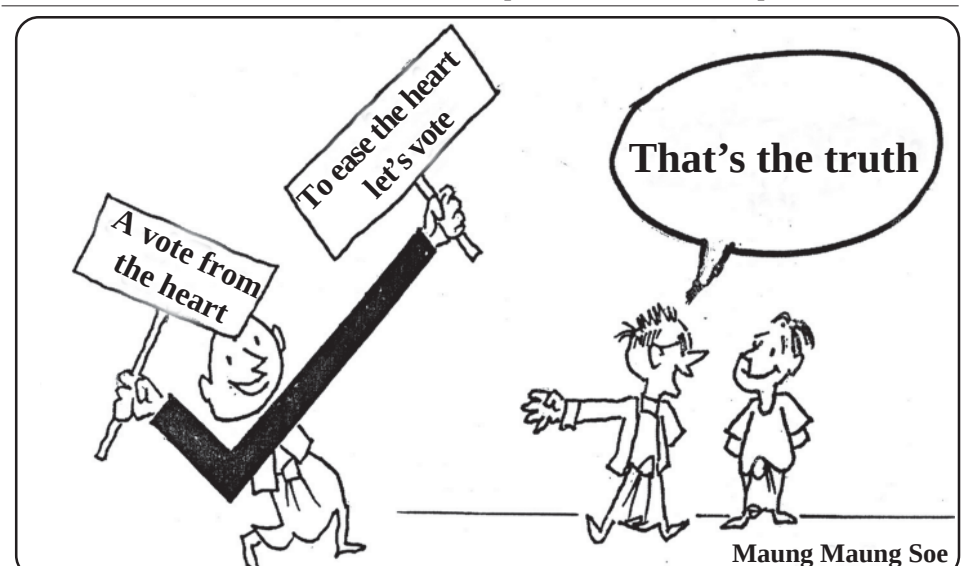
The billboards saying "Let us all who are equipped with ardent patriotism, who cherish

genuine independence, who aspire perpetuation of sovereignty, who loathe foreign interference and manipulation, and who oppose puppet government with strings of colonialists, vote "Yes" for ratification

of the Constitution; To approve the State Constitution is the national duty of the entire people today; Let's cast "Yes" vote in the interest of the nation; Let's approve Constitution to shape our future by ourselves; Democracy cannot be achieved by

anarchism or violence, but by Constitution" were erected by departmental personnel, townselders, members of social organizations and local people at Hledan Junction in Kamayut Township, Hline sports ground in Hline Township, Thamine

Junction in Mayangon Township, Shwegondine Junction in Bahan Township, Myaynigon Junction in Sangyoung Township, in front of Thiri Mingalar Market in Kyimyindine Township and Htawlikwe in Ahlon Township. — MNA



Merits shared for completion of Yarpyay Dhamma Dipani Beikman



Lt-Gen Myint Swe and congregation share merits for completion of Yarpyay Dhamma Dipani Beikman at Zeyawady Monastery.—MNA

YANGON, 27 April — A merit sharing ceremony for completion of Yarpyay Dhamma Dipani Beikman was held at the compound of Zeyawady Monastery in Nyaunggon ward in Dala, Yangon South District this morning.

Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Tejosara Bhivamsa administered the Five Precepts to

the congregation headed by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

It was followed by recitation of *Parritas*.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe donated alms to the Vice-Chairman Sayadaw.

Deputy Mayor Col Maung Pa, wife and wellwishers offered rice, edible oil and provisions to the members of Sangha.

The congregation later shared merits gained and offered “soon” to the members of the Sangha.

After the merit sharing ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe offered flowers, water and lights to Maha Thingyan Pagoda in the monastery, and donated cash to the funds of Naungdawgi Pagoda.

MNA

Taukpyo Dam opened ...

(from page 16)

Next, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint also made a speech.

Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin formally unveiled the stone inscription.

The commander and the deputy minister formally opened the dam and they posed for photos.

The commander and party inspected the dam.

Taukpyo earth dam built on Taukpyo Creek is the 210th one for the nation and 27th one for Nay Pyi Taw area. It is 1,400 feet long and 57 feet high. The water storage capacity of the dam is 2,500 acre feet and water storage starts this monsoon. The reinforced concrete conduit pipe is 186 feet long. The spillway is 735 feet long and 15 feet wide. The dam can supply water to 300 acres of farmland.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin unveils the stone plaque of Taukpyo Dam.— MNA

Industry-2 Minister receives Chinese guests

YANGON, 27 April — Managing Director of Xj Group Coporation of the People’s Republic of China and party at the ministry here on 23 April

They held discussion on construction project of diesel-engine plant.—MNA



Ceremony to explain the employment permit system of ROK at Shwe Inwa service agency Co Lt in progress.— MNA

Employment Permit System (EPS) of ROK explained

YANGON, 26 April — The two Ministries of Labour of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Korea signed the ministerial agreement on employment for Myanmar youths through Employment Permit System (EPS) on 28 November 2007.

Deputy Director Ms Kim Yoon Hye and party of the Ministry of Labour of ROK explained the salient points as to the EPS to the youths at Shwe Inwa Service Agency Co Ltd of Myanmar War Veteran Organization yesterday.

Under the agreement, matters related to appointment of overseas workers and management are carried out by only Korea

Human Resources Development Organization and Shwe Inwa Service Agency. No other private companies are permitted to do the said matters. Jobs can be sought only for those who have passed the Korean language test. The Ministry of Labour has given permission of employment for Myanmar youths to Shwe Inwa Service Agency Co Ltd. For further details, log on to Homepage-(www.hrdkorea.or.kr) and contact the above-mentioned company.

MNA



Mondex, a 5-year-old Chihuahua, poses as he walks the aisle dressed as a scuba diver during a dog show at a mall in suburban Manila on 27 April, 2008. Mondex bagged first place during the fashion show category.—INTERNET

Images of the Day



An animal-shaped float runs on a street in Sassenheim, the Netherlands, on 26 April, 2008. Flower farmers of west Netherlands' coastal provinces hold a float pageant in late April annually to greet the spring.—XINHUA



Chinese students wait to see South Korea's last bearer of the Beijing Olympic torch relay at the city hall plaza in Seoul on 27 April, 2008. INTERNET



South Korean performers jump on a traditional seesaw in central Seoul on 27 April, 2008.—INTERNET



AS Roma's Amantino Mancini (R) celebrates with his team mate Daniele De Rossi after scoring against Torino during their Italian Serie A soccer match at the Olympic Stadium in Rome on 27 April, 2008. INTERNET



The newlyweds bow to each other during a wedding ceremony in the National Aquatics Center, also known as the "Water Cube", in Beijing, China, on 26 April, 2008. A group wedding was held for seven couples here on Saturday, some of the newlyweds are the builders of the Water Cube. XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOYNO (TBH-223)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOYNO (TBH-223) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.4.2008 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

US-contracted ship fires toward Iranian boat

WASHINGTON, 26 April — A cargo ship contracted by the US Military Sealift Command fired "a few bursts" of warning shots in the Gulf at small boats believed to be Iranian, US defence officials said on Friday.

"They were able to avoid a serious incident by following the procedures that we use," said Commander Lydia Robertson, a spokeswoman for the US Navy's Bahrain-based Fifth Fleet. The Westward Venture, a cargo ship chartered by the US Department of Defence, was travelling north in international waters in the central Gulf at around 8 am local time on Thursday when the incident took place, Robertson said.

The ship was approached by two unidentified small boats and its crew issued "standard queries" to the vessels by radio but did not receive a response, she said. The ship then fired a flare, which also produced no response, she said.

The boats continued to approach the cargo ship and its onboard security team fired "a few bursts" of machine gun and rifle warning shots, Robertson said.

"The small boats left the area a short time later," Robertson said by telephone. — MNA/Reuters



TRADEMARK CAUTION
YANGZHOU SHUANGHUI
POWER LINE HARDWARE
MANUFACTURE, a company incorporated in P.R.China at Shuanggou Town, Jiangdu, Jiangsu Province, P.R.China, is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following Trademark:-



Reg:No. 4 / 7828 / 2007
In respect of : Int'l class 6:
Non-electric cable joints of metal; Non-electric cable linkages of metal; Cables and pipes (clips of metal for-); Clips of metal for cables and pipes; Binding screws of metal for cables; Iron fish-plate bar; U-shaped clasp (climbers; iron shoe); Combalong head; Aluminum alloy tackle.
Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trademark shall be dealt with according to law.
U Myint Lwin, Advocate, LL.B, DBL
Dip in Marine Affairs(UK)
myint.Advocate@mptmail.net.mm
Ph : 371 990 28.April.2008

Five Lebanese boys wounded by cluster bomb explosion

BEIRUT, 26 April — Five Lebanese boys were wounded on Thursday by a cluster bomb explosion in south Lebanon, local Naharnet news website reported.

The report identified the boys as Hasan al-Muallem, 13, and his brother Hussein, 15, Ahmed Zreik 11, and his brothers Hussein, 10, and Ali, 12.

It said the children were wounded after they touched the bomblet left by Israeli Army, which they had found outside a home in the village of Adshit in southern Lebanon.

The Israeli troops reportedly left behind or dropped one million lethal ordnances and cluster bombs during its war with Lebanese Hizbollah in summer 2006, around 40 per cent of which failed to detonate on impact, according to the United Nations. — MNA/Xinhua

Nine women killed by carbon monoxide poisoning in Beijing

BEIJING, 26 April — Nine women died and one is still critically ill after suffering carbon monoxide poisoning when they were bathing with a gas water heater in a rented apartment in Beijing, local public security authority said on Friday.

Six women were found dead in an apartment in Chaoyang District at around 9 am on Thursday. Three died after treatment in hospital. Another one was critically ill, said a Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau official. The women, aged 20

An injured Iraqi man is taken to hospital in the Shiite enclave of Sadr City, Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 April, 2008. Since Friday morning the two main hospitals in Sadr City have received the bodies of 8 people who were killed in sporadic clashes and 29 wounded people, according to health officials. — INTERNET

China loans to prioritize balanced growth, environment

MANILA, 26 April — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide China loans up to 1.5 billion US dollars every year from 2008 to 2010 to focus on programmes that will promote integrated rural and urban development and environmental protection, the regional bank said on Friday.

In the freshly-released Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) with China, the ADB said the priority sectors identified under

the strategy are transport and communication, energy, water supply and sanitation, agriculture and natural resources, and finance.

In addition to loans, the ADB also expects to provide 20 million US dollars annually in grants to fund CPS projects.

A CPS is the primary planning instrument guiding ADB's operations in a developing member-country, as well as the monitoring and evaluation tool to track the country's

performance during the course of the CPS.

The previous CSP for China focused on pro-poor growth by improving the access of the poor to economic benefits. Through the programme, the ADB said it funded 24 public-sector projects totalling 4.26 billion US dollars, extended 49.67 million US dollars in technical assistance, and provided 395.7 million US dollars in private-sector project assistance.

MNA/Xinhua

Private airports allowed in India

NEW DELHI, 26 April — The Indian Government has cleared the Aviation Ministry's proposal to allow private airports, airstrips and helipads for exclusive use by those who build them,

The Times of India, a local leading newspaper, reported on Friday.

"This move will pave the way for more airports, better connectivity in far-flung areas and lesser burden on operational airports. Without this, the aviation sector would not have achieved its potential. India needs 400-

500 airports and this is a step in that direction," Indian Aviation Minister Praful Patel was quoted as saying. Private airports would help ease the burden on busy airports like those in Delhi and Mumbai, and reduce traffic delay as well, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

UNCTAD says South-South cooperation booming

ACCRA, 26 April — South-South trade had surpassed two trillion US dollars in 2006, with the volume of exports showing a three-fold increase in 1996-2006, according to statistics released by the UN Conference on Trade and Development

(UNCTAD) at its quadrennial meeting being held here from 20 to 25 April.

"The rapid growth of China, India, Brazil and others and the rising fortunes of the new South, meant that the old adage 'when the United States catches a cold, the rest of us get double pneumonia' was no longer true," said Robert Davies, deputy Minister for Trade and Industry of South Africa, at a roundtable about South-South trade held during the Accra meeting of the UNCTAD.

He urged strengthening of regional commodity markets, trade facilitation, inter-and-intra-regional connections.

Davies said developing countries need to carry on with their reforms and other efforts to boost trade capacities and diversify markets.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

NASA to develop nano-satellites

WASHINGTON, 26 April — NASA's Ames Research Centre announced on Thursday it will cooperate with m2mi Corp, a California-based company, to develop very small satellites, called nanosats.

"NASA wants to work with companies to develop a new economy in space," said NASA Ames Centre Director Pete Worden.

"m2mi has great technology that fits excellently with our goals, while enhancing the commercial use of NASA-developed technologies."

Nanosats are small satellites weighing between 11 and 110 pounds (about 5 to 50 kilos).

Under the agreement, NASA and m2mi will cooperate to develop a fifth generation telecom-

munications and networking system for Internet protocol-based and related services.

Fifth Generation, or 5G, incorporates Voice Over Internet Protocol, video, data, wireless, and an integrated machine-to-machine intelligence layer, or m2mi, for seamless information exchange and use.

A large number of these satellites, called a constellation, will be placed in low Earth orbit for this new telecommunications and networking system, according to NASA.

MNA/Xinhua



An unidentified family member of a shark attack victim is consoled as she leaves a lifeguard station in Solana Beach, California on 25 April, 2008. A man was attacked and killed by a shark in the ocean near San Diego on Friday, the first person to die in a shark encounter off the Southern California coast in nearly 50 years.—INTERNET

Relatives of 14-year-old Palestinian girl Maryam Marouf, wait for her funeral in Beit Lahiya town in the northern Gaza Strip on 26 April, 2008. Marouf was killed on Saturday during clashes between Israeli troops and Palestinian militants in the town of Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza Strip, medical workers said.—INTERNET



Researchers say praise as good as cash to brain

CHICAGO, 26 April — Paying people a compliment appears to activate the same reward centre in the brain as paying them cash, Japanese researchers said on Wednesday.

They said the study offers scientific support for the long-held assumption that people get a psychological boost from

having a good reputation.

"We found that these seemingly different kinds of rewards — a good reputation versus money — are biologically coded by the same neural structure, the striatum," said Dr Norihiro Sadato of the Japanese National Institute for Physiological Sciences in Okazaki, Japan. "This provides the

biological basis of our everyday experience that personal reputation is felt as rewards," Sadato said in an e-mail.

Sadato's team studied 19 healthy people using a brain imaging technique known as functional magnetic resonance imaging, or fMRI. In one set of experiments, people played a gambling game in which they were told one of three cards would yield a payout. The researchers then monitored the brain activity triggered when the subjects got a cash reward.

In a second set of experiments, people were told they were being evaluated by strangers based on information from a personality questionnaire and a video they had made.

MNA/Reuters

Transatlantic trade row looms over biodiesel

BRUSSELS/WASHINGTON, 26 April — European biodiesel producers said they were asking Brussels on Friday to impose punitive import duties on US biodiesel but their US rivals said they would hit back with a complaint of their own. In a move which could trigger a new transatlantic trade row, the European Biodiesel Board (EBB) said it was formally requesting the EU's executive Commission to hit US imports with anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties due to unfair subsidies.

"Since 2007, as a result of these measures, there has been a dramatic surge in US biodiesel exports to the EU, thus creating a severe injury to the EU biodiesel industry," the EBB said in a statement.

The international trade in biofuels has surged due to growing demand for

alternatives to fossil fuels as a way to cut greenhouse gas emissions and slow climate change.

The EU has set itself a target of using biofuel for 10 per cent of its transport fuel by 2020, something that will require large amounts of imports, EU officials say.

MNA/Reuters

Yahoo to expand data sharing among friends online

SAN FRANCISCO, 26 April — Yahoo Inc is working to rewire the dozens of services across its site so that users can manage all information about themselves in a single place and share it with friends across the Web.

"We are not building another social network,"

Chief Technology Officer Ari Balogh told more than 1,000 attendees at the Web 2.0 Expo conference in San Francisco on Thursday. "We are building social into everything we do."

The effort is part of a larger plan to make it easier for users to share information about

themselves with other Yahoo users and on websites that run applications using Yahoo features, seeking to help the world's biggest Internet media company keep pace with social networks like Facebook and MySpace.

MNA/Reuters



Workmen prepare the Galileo (GIOVE-B) satellite of the European Space Agency on its launch pad at Kazakhstan's Baikonur cosmodrome, on 23 April, 2008. —XINHUA

Indian population to touch 1.20b by 2011

NEW DELHI, 26 April — Indian Home Minister Shivraj Patil has said the population is expected to reach 1.20 billion by 2011, according to a report posted on the website of the Indian Home Ministry Friday.

The minister made the prediction on Thursday when he was inaugurating a two-day data users' conference for the 2011 Census, organized by the Registrar General and Census Commission Thursday.

He said the endeavour of the census organization should be to release the scheduled 2011 census data within two to three years from the date of completion of census.—MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Injured Kahn out as Bayern celebrations delayed

BERLIN, 27 April — Bayern Munich will be without goalkeeper Oliver Kahn and striker Miroslav Klose for Sunday's home game with VfB Stuttgart. Captain Kahn suffered a pinched nerve in his back in Thursday's 1-1 UEFA Cup semifinal first leg draw against Zenit St. Petersburg and said he would only play on Sunday if leaders Bayern had a chance to clinch the Bundesliga title.

Werder Bremen's 3-3 draw at Karlsruhe on Saturday and Schalke 04's 1-0 win at Hamburg SV means second-placed Werder and Schalke, in third, retain faint hopes of snatching the championship.

MNA/Reuters

Ten man Lyon salvage draw with Benzema double

PARIS, 27 April — Olympique Lyon recovered from going 2-1 down and the dismissal of Fabio Grosso to draw 2-2 at home to Caen on Saturday to edge closer to a seventh successive Ligue 1 title.

France striker Karim Benzema, the league's top scorer, made it 1-0 on 33 minutes before grabbing his 19th goal of the season with a superb free kick early in the second half.

Caen had been 2-1 up at halftime after goals by Argentine midfielder Juan Eduardo Eluchans and forward Lilian Compan.

Lyon were reduced to 10 men at the interval when Italy defender Grosso received a red card for slapping Caen forward Yoan Gouffran in the tunnel.

With three matches left Lyon have 72 points from

35 games, four points ahead of second-placed Girondins Bordeaux who drew 0-0 at home to mid-table Nice. Paris St Germain, in danger of being relegated for the first time, beat Auxerre 3-1 after a two-goal show from Amara Diane.

MNA/Reuters



Colombia's Maria Duque-Marino returns a ball to Belgium's Yanina Wickmayer in their Fed Cup world group play-off in Mons, Belgium, on 26 April, 2008.

INTERNET

Ferguson blames officials for dubious penalty

LONDON, 27 April — Manager Alex Ferguson blamed officials on Saturday for making a mistake in awarding Chelsea a late penalty in Manchester United's 2-1 loss at Stamford Bridge.

"It's a major decision that's cost us the game," Ferguson told Manchester United TV. "To give a penalty for that in a game of such importance, on the linesman's say-so, is absolutely diabolical."

Assistant referee Shaun Proctor-Green flagged for the 86th minute spotkick after a Michael Carrick handball.

Michael Ballack, who had headed Chelsea ahead in the first half, sent goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar the wrong way to give his side a win that pulled them level on 81 points with United at the top of the table.

"Granted, the ball hit his (Carrick's) hand but he

couldn't get out of the road," Ferguson said.

"He didn't lift his hands above his shoulders or above his head, and the ball was going straight to Rio Ferdinand anyway. The referee should have seen that."

"Earlier, when (Cristiano) Ronaldo came on, he was grappled almost to the floor by Ballack at a United corner and it was a clear penalty kick. —MNA/Reuters



Cottbus' Michal Papadopoulos, 2nd left, fights for the ball with Rostock's Gledson da Silva, left, and Heath Perce during the German first division Bundesliga soccer match between Energie Cottbus and Hansa Rostock in Cottbus, Germany, on 26 April, 2008. Cottbus won the game 2-1.—INTERNET



Bochum's Stanislav Sestak, 2nd from left, scores during the German first division Bundesliga soccer match between VfL Bochum and MSV Duisburg, in Bochum, Germany, on 26 April, 2008.

The match ended 1-1.—INTERNET

Benfica back to winning ways against Belenenses

LISBON, 27 April — Benfica kept their Champions League qualification hopes alive with a 2-0 home victory over Belenenses on Saturday.

The win lifted Benfica to third in the Portuguese championship on 48 points, two ahead of Sporting and one behind Vitoria Guimaraes who occupy the second automatic qualification place. Sporting host seventh-placed Maritimo on Sunday, the same day Guimaraes entertain champions Porto who hold an unassailable 20-point lead.

MNA/Reuters

Bremen, Schalke keep Bundesliga hopes alive

BERLIN, 27 April — Werder Bremen and Schalke 04 kept alive their slim hopes of catching Bundesliga leaders Bayern Munich on Saturday.

An 86th-minute equalizer from Boubacar Sanogo gave Bremen a dramatic 3-3 draw at Karlsruhe to hold on to second place on 54 points while Schalke, third also with 54, beat Hamburg SV 1-0. Bayern lead the table with 63 points with five matches remaining and play VfB Stuttgart at home on Sunday. Bayern could have clinched their 21st German championship against Stuttgart if Werder had lost and Schalke had not won.

Bremen came from behind twice to snatch a crucial point in Karlsruhe and stay ahead of Schalke on goal difference in the second-place battle for direct Champions League qualification.—MNA/Reuters

Don't smoke

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle

1	F	O	O	L		3	S	P	A	R	S	E	L	7	Y	
	A		W		8	T		O		E		N		I		
9	T	E	N	O	R		10	S	A	T	I	A	T	E		
	A						I	T		R		C		L		
11	L	E	12	T		13	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	E	D	
			R					R		A		M		E		
14	P	L	E	N	15	T	Y		16	A	T	T	E	N	D	
	I		M		R		17	T				N				
18	L	U	B	R	I	C	A	T	19	E		20	T	I	21	P
	G		L		V		R		A						A	
22	R	A	I	L	I	N	G		23	C	A	24	T	E	R	
	I		N		A		E		H		A				T	
25	M	E	G	A	L	I	T	H		26	T	R	A	Y		

Spurs pull off coup by signing Croatian Modric

LONDON, 27 April — Croatian midfielder Luka Modric, one of the most promising young players in Europe, has agreed terms to join Tottenham Hotspur, the Premier League club announced on Saturday.

The 22-year-old will join Spurs from Dynamo Zagreb in the post-season transfer window subject to passing a medical and obtaining a work permit. "The club is delighted to announce that it has reached agreement with Dinamo Zagreb for the transfer of Croatian midfielder, Luka Modric," Tottenham said in a statement on their website (www.tottenhamhotspur.com).

"Personal terms have been agreed with the player and he will now undertake a medical and apply for a work permit." Modric was quoted on the BBC website (www.bbc.co.uk) as saying: "I'm happy to be joining such a big club. It will be a real pleasure to play in the English league. —MNA/Reuters

Weakened Barcelona side lose 2-0 at Depor

MADRID, 27 April — A second-string Barcelona side were beaten 2-0 at Deportivo Coruna in the Primera Liga on Saturday.

Coach Frank Rijkaard was clearly focused on next week's Champions League semifinal second leg against Manchester United, retaining only three starters from Wednesday's 0-0 first-leg draw.

Juan Rodriguez and Pablo Amo took advantage of sloppy marking to put Depor in front in the second half as Barca effectively bowed out of the title race.

The Catalans stay third on 61 points, one behind Villarreal who visit Real Betis on Sunday, and 11 adrift of leaders Real Madrid. If Villarreal fail to beat Betis and Real win at home to Athletic Bilbao in Sunday's late game, Bernd Schuster's side will retain their league crown with four matches left to play.

MNA/Reuters



Inter Milan Argentine forward Julio Cruz, right, heads the ball and scores against Cagliari during their Italian major league soccer match, at the San Siro stadium in Milan, on 27 April, 2008. At centre is Cagliari defender Paolo Bianco and left is Inter Milan Argentine defender Nicol.—INTERNET

Iran denies confrontation with US ship in Gulf

TEHERAN, 27 April— Iran on Friday denied any military confrontation between its boats and US ships in the Gulf, the state media reported.

A senior official of the elite Revolutionary Guards rejected the Western reports that an American ship had opened fire on Iranian patrol boats in the Gulf, said the English channel Press TV.

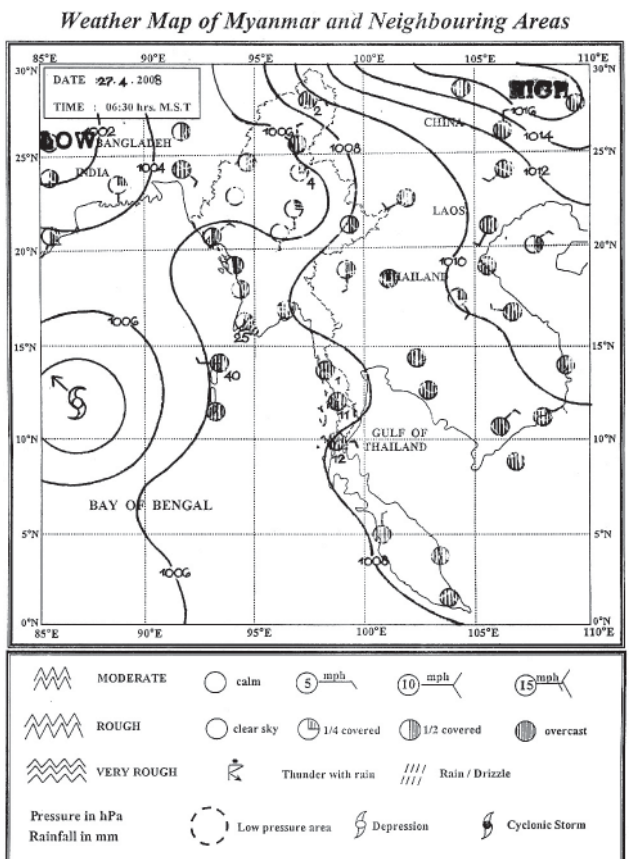
“If UK or US vessels had fired at Iranian boats, based on previous experiences, they would have faced the harshest reaction by Iranian forces,” the official was quoted as saying.

US officials said on Friday that a vessel

contracted by the US Navy in the Gulf fired warning shots on two Iranian fast boats on Thursday.

The US ship Westward Venture, contracted by the US Military Sealift Command to carry military cargo to Kuwait, fired upon the boats after attempts to get the Iranian boats’ attention failed, FOX News quoted Pentagon sources as saying, adding the ship was about 80 kilometres off the coast of Iran when the fast boats approached.

MNA/Xinhua



Indonesia to restrict opening hours of malls to save energy

JAKARTA, 27 April— Indonesia planned to reduce the opening hours of malls and supermarkets in the country to save the consumption of energy, Development Planning Minister Paskah Suzetta said here on Thursday.

The ministers said that the soaring prices of oil and electricity had led the government to provide more subsidies on the energy consumed by the shopping centres.

Suzetta said that most of the energy consumed by the centres had been subsidized by the government.

Currently, the government had prepared the regulation on it, he said.

“We are discussing the regulation and it will be issued in the near future,” said Suzetta.

However, he did not elaborate how many hours the cut would be.

Suzetta said that the opening hours of the malls

and shopping centres in Indonesia from morning to evening was not effective.

He said that the malls and supermarkets in developed countries, such as in Japan, only opened from 10:00 am to 18:00 pm every day. The only Asia-Pacific

OPEC member country, Indonesia, has struggled to cope with the skyrocketing global oil price.

The country electricity supplies have not sufficiently met with the growing domestic demand.

MNA/Xinhua

Vikings acquitted in 100-year-old murder mystery

OSLO, 27 April—Tests of the bones of two Viking women found in a buried longboat have dispelled 100-year-old suspicions that one was a maid sacrificed to accompany her queen into the afterlife, experts said on Friday.

The bones indicated that a broken collarbone on the younger woman had been healing for several weeks—meaning the break was not part of a ritual execution as suspected since the 22-metre (72 feet) long Oseberg ship was found in 1904. “We have no reason to think violence was the cause of death,” Per Holck, professor of anatomy at Oslo University, told Reuters after studying the two women who died in 834 aged about 80 and 50.—MNA/Reuters

Monday, 28 April
View on today

7:00 am
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်
ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:50 am
4. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထားကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ (မြန်မာ့လက်မှုအနုပညာစဉ်ထည်လုပ်ငန်း)

8:15 am
5. Song of national races

8:30 am
6. International news

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:15 pm
2. မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာတော်ဓလေ့ကျေးလက်တေးသံများ

4:30 pm
3. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

4:45 pm
4. တံငါတံတား

5:00 pm
5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ-တတိယနှစ် (စီးပွားရေးပညာအထူးပြု) (စီးပွားရေးပညာ)

5:15 pm
6. Songs to uphold National Spirit

5:30 pm
7. “လူကူးမျဉ်းကျားမှကူးမယ်”

6:00 pm
8. Evening news

6:30 pm
9. Weather report

6:35 pm
10. အလှူရှာမယ်လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်

6:55 pm
11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်တယ်---ချစ်တယ်” (အပိုင်း-၁၆)

7:40 pm
12. “စိတ်အားထက်သန်ဆန္ဒအမှန်”

8:00 pm
13. News
14. International news
15. Weather report
16. “ရှိတာကပိုကောင်းပါတယ်”
17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မေတ္တာမျဉ်းပြိုင်” (အပိုင်း-၂၀)(ဇာတ်သိမ်း)
18. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်

Let us all

- * who are equipped with ardent patriotism,
- * who cherish genuine independence,
- * who aspire perpetuation of sovereignty,
- * who loathe foreign interference and manipulation, and
- * who oppose puppet government with strings of colonialists,

VOTE “YES” for ratification of the Constitution.

POEM:

Cast “Yes” vote

O dear good old friends
To the polling booth we go
A ballot we take
And cast “Yes” vote
The right we all have
In ratifying Constitution
Participate we together
And cast vote
Good old friends

(Pyinnya Thu)

● **Democracy cannot be achieved by anarchism or violence, but by Constitution.**

● **Let’s approve Constitution to shape our future by ourselves.**

Taukpyo Dam opened in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 27 April — Taukpyo Dam was opened in Taungnyo village-tract, 21 miles north-west of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana this morning.

The dam was built by Construction Group-5 of Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin attended

the opening ceremony and delivered an address.

He said that irrigation networks are being implemented for agricultural development, greening of the regions and power supply in Nay Pyi Taw Command. Summer paddy acreage can be extended with the opening of the dam. With an increase in the per capita income of farmers and their living

standard, urban and rural areas will improve soon, he said.

He spoke of the need to maintain dams, diversion weirs and other related canals for durability.

He also told the officials concerned to conserve trees in the catchment area and abide by dam and irrigation laws.

(See page 10)

Commission for Holding Referendum and Mandalay Division, District and Township Sub-commissions meet

NAY PYI TAW, 27 April — The Commission for Holding Referendum and Mandalay Division, District and Township Sub-Commissions held work coordination meeting at the meeting hall of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Office in Mandalay yesterday morning.

Chairman of Commission for Holding Referendum Chief Justice U Aung Toe made an opening speech on the occasion.

Next, Member of the Commission Attorney-General U Aye Maung delivered an address and

Chairman of Mandalay Division Sub-Commission U Khin Maung Than explained works carried out, followed by a general round of discussions.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the Commission Chairman.

MNA



Newly opened Taukpyo Dam at Taungnyo village-tract in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana.—MNA