

■ **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

Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein on his departure for Thailand

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe saw off Prime Minister General Thein Sein who left Nay Pyi Taw airport at noon today by air to pay a goodwill visit to Thailand at the invitation of Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand His Excellency Mr Samak Sundaravej.

Also present at the airport together with Senior General Than Shwe were Vice-Chairman of the SPDC Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, members of the SPDC Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing, Lt-

Gen Ye Myint, Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Deputy

Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, senior military officials, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win and heads of departments, Charge de

Affairs of Thai Embassy Mr Prasas Prasasvinitchai and officials.

Members of the Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein are Minister for Foreign Affairs

U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi, Deputy Minister for Con-

struction Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Shwe, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin and heads of departments.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 30 April, 2008

Strive for improvement of maternal and child health

The Ministry of Health is extensively carrying out public health care services to enable the entire people to enjoy longevity in their life. In cooperation with social organizations, NGOs and relevant agencies, the Ministry of Health is making all-out efforts for the successful realization of the task.

Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association is a social organization that is engaged in the drive for improvement of the health standards of the people. The association was formed on 30 April 1991, and it now has the membership of over nine million.

At present, State, Division and District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committees, 325 Township MCWAs and over 20,000 the MCWA (branches) are actively participating in the public health care services.

Enlisting the strength of other social organizations, they are also taking part in the fight against such infectious diseases as TB, malaria, leprosy, DHF and imparting knowledge on maternal and child health. Furthermore, members of the organizations are participating in such activities as national immunizations campaigns, prevention of infectious diseases, personal hygiene and sanitation weeks and supply of drinking water.

All members of MMCWA under the leadership of the association are to continue taking part in the activities for improvement of maternal and child health and reduction of mortality rate of child under 1 and 5 based on their 17 years' experiences coupled with upright volition and loving-kindness.

Talk on Buddha Economic Ethics

YANGON, 29 April—The monthly talk on respective subjects will be held at Mingala hall on the first floor of UMFCCI office tower at No 29, Minye Kyawswa Road, Lanmadaw Township, on 3 May.

The talk is sponsored by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) with the assistance of KMD Co Ltd.

Associate Professor Dr Daw Moe Moe Khine of Management Department of the Institute of Economics will give lecture on 'Buddha Economic Ethics'. Members of UMFCCI and other associations and interested persons may attend the talk. —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

Ngathaing Chaung and Kyonpyaw Tsps get new roads



Minister Col Thein Nyunt meeting with members of USDA and social organizations and townsenders in Laymyathna Township.—PBANRDA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—A 4,200-foot-long and 12-foot-wide new gravel road was opened in Ngathaing Chaung Township in Hinthada District yesterday.

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

Officials concerned opened the Aung Zeya Road, which was constructed by the Township Development Affairs Committee.

With the funds of Ngathaing Chaung Township Development Affairs Committee the earth road was upgraded to gravel road in 2007-08. Thanks to the road, local people can directly travel from Yaykyi Township to Laymyathna Township within a short time.

In meeting with members of USDA and social

organizations, and townsenders at the township hall in Laymyathna, the minister heard reports on upgrading of embankment around the town.

The minister also attended another ceremony to open a tarred road in Kyonpyaw Township. The Mingalar Road, which was built with the funds of Department of Development Affairs and Township Development Affairs Committee, is 3 miles and 0.17 furlong long. The Township Development Affairs Committee started work on construction of the road the road phase by phase in 2006-07 fiscal year. The road serves the local people as an urban-to-rural track.

The minister met with members of Township USDAs and social organizations, and townsenders at the Ayeyamin hall in Kyonpyaw and at Basic Education High School in Yaykyi.

He clarified the development tasks which had been undertaken by the government. —MNA

99th meeting of F&R Ministry and MBA held

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—The 99th meeting of Banks Supervisory Committee of Ministry of Finance and Revenue and the Executive Committee of Myanmar Banks Association was held at the ministry, here, on 26 April.

Patron of BSC Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun made a speech.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe and Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar

U Than Nyein discussed bank services. Officials from the Executive Committee took part in the discussion.

The minister delivered a concluding speech.

Present also on the occasion were directors general and managing directors from departments of the ministry and chairmen, managing directors from Myanmar Central Bank and private banks and executive members.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun speaks at the 99th meeting of Banks Supervisory Committee and Myanmar Banks Association.—F & R

Iran discusses “serious” nuclear ideas with Russia

TEHRAN, 28 April—Iran discussed with Russia on Monday its proposals to defuse a nuclear row with the West, which accuses Tehran of seeking to build atomic bombs.

Iran said earlier this month it would unveil ideas to help end the dispute over its nuclear ambitions, which have prompted three rounds of UN sanctions since 2006 for its refusal to heed UN demands to halt sensitive uranium enrichment work.

But a senior Iranian official said Tehran would never negotiate over its right to nuclear technology, suggesting Iran is not willing to rein in its work in line with UN demands.

“Iran ... has serious proposals regarding the nuclear issue, about what to do to minimize the nuclear threat around the world,” Jalili said without giving specifics about the package. The proposals were discussed with Valentin Sobolev, acting

secretary of Russia’s National Security Council, an Iranian official said. Further talks would be held on Tuesday, he added.

Jalili said the ideas addressed security and political issues and would underpin “talks among influential and major powers, and Iran as a major power in the region can play an important role.” A senior diplomat in Europe said Iran had earlier proposed turning its Natanz enrichment complex into a multilateral operation to counter foreign fears of diversions to bombmaking there, and that this might be among Iran’s proposals.

Internet

A burning vehicle hit during clashes in Baghdad’s Sadr City. Fierce clashes between Shiite militiamen and US and Iraqi forces in east Baghdad have killed at least 38 people, the American military said, amid new political efforts to end the bloodletting.—INTERNET



Israeli fire kills four children in Gaza

GAZA, 29 April—Israeli fire hit a house in the Gaza Strip on Monday while a family was eating breakfast inside, killing four Palestinian children and critically wounding their mother, residents and medical officials said.

An unidentified adult was also killed in the home in Beit Hanoun, on the northern Gaza border. Separately, Israeli soldiers killed a Palestinian gunman from Islamic Jihad during fighting in the town, the faction said.

MNA/Reuters

Clinton leads McCain by 9 points



A truck bearing an anti-government slogan arrives outside Parliament in London on 29 April, 2008. Haulage contractors from the group Transaction 2007 attempted to block Park Lane during a demonstration to highlight the ever increasing fuel charges they feel are being levied on them by the British Government.—INTERNET

UK electoral system at serious risk from fraud

LONDON, 29 April—Britain’s electoral system is at serious risk of large scale fraud, according to a report on Monday.

The Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust (JRRT) report, which comes just three days before this week’s local elections in England and Wales, said far more needs to be done to ensure the integrity of the voting system. Among

the reforms it called for was the requirement for all Britons to produce photographic ID before being allowed to cast their ballot. “It very concerning that ministers tend to focus on “quick fixes” to solve declining turnout and ignore genuine concerns about how easy it can be to cheat the system,” said the report’s author Stuart Walks-Heeg. “There is a genuine risk

of electoral integrity being threatened by previously robust systems of electoral administration having reached ‘breaking point’ as a result of pressures imposed in recent years,” the report said. “Greater use of postal voting has made UK elections for more vulnerable to fraud and resulted in several instances of large-scale fraud.”—MNA/Reuters

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

WASHINGTON, 29 April—Hillary Rodham Clinton now leads John McCain by 9 points in a head-to-head presidential matchup, according to an Associated Press-Ipsos poll that bolsters her argument that she is more electable than Democratic rival Barack Obama. Obama and Republican McCain are running about even.

The survey released Monday gives the New York senator and former first lady a fresh talking point as she works to raise much-needed campaign cash and persuade pivotal undecided superdelegates to side with her in the drawn-out Democratic primary fight.

Helped by independents, young people and seniors, Clinton gained ground this month in a hypothetical match with Sen McCain, the GOP nominee-in-waiting. She now leads McCain, 50 percent to 41 percent, while Obama remains virtually tied with McCain, 46 percent to 44 percent.

Both Democrats were roughly even with McCain in the previous poll about three weeks ago.—Internet

Tornadoes hit Virginia, 200 injured

WASHINGTON, 29 April—Three tornadoes swept through central and southeastern Virginia on Monday, injuring about 200 people and damaging dozens of homes and businesses, officials said.

The city of Suffolk in the southeastern part of the state was hardest hit by the late afternoon storms, said Virginia

Department of Emergency Management spokeswoman Laura Southard. She said earlier reports of a fatality in linked to the severe weather were incorrect.

Injuries and damage were also reported in Colonial Heights in central Virginia, Southard said.

The National Weather Service (NWS) said three

confirmed tornadoes plowed through the region.

“One of the tornadoes hit the Lawrenceville area in Brunswick County,” said NWS meteorologist Brian Hurley. “The second tornado developed to the north of Colonial Heights ... The other more significant tornado occurred in the city of Suffolk.”—Internet



A firefighter is seen outside a strip mall that was destroyed after a tornado hit Suffolk, Virginia on 28 April, 2008.—INTERNET

Obama, Clinton will know when to quit

GRAHAM (North Carolina), 29 April—Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama will know when to pull out of the US presidential race in order to unify the party for the general election, the chairman of the Democratic Party said on Monday.

In a round of network television appearances, Howard Dean warned that a prolonged battle between Clinton and Obama could hurt the party's chances in November's election against Republican John McCain.

"Either of these candidates, if it's time for them to go, they'll know it, and they will go," Dean

said on ABC's "Good Morning America".

"They don't need pushing from people like me or anybody else, or the newspapers or anybody else," he said.

"You know when to get in, and you know when to get out. That's just part of the deal."

Clinton, a New York Senator, said she thought the tough race had been good for the Democratic Party because it fired up voters' interest.

"So we're going to go through these next

contests. We're going to see where we end up.

And we will take stock of where we are after they finish," she told reporters during a stop at a fire station in Graham, North Carolina.

North Carolina Governor Mike Easley will endorse Clinton on Tuesday at an event in Raleigh, a source close to the Clinton campaign said. Obama picked up the endorsement of New Mexico Senator Jeff Bingaman.

MNA/Reuters

South Korea's first astronaut Yi So-yeon, left, is helped by an airport officer upon her arrival at Incheon International Airport in Incheon, west of Seoul, South Korea, on 28 April, 2008. Yi and other crews of the Soyuz capsule that landed last week in Kazakhstan hundreds of kilometers (miles) off-target after an unexpectedly severe descent was in serious danger, according to a Russian news agency.—INTERNET



Chinese lottery buyers awarded for \$4.9b public welfare fund

BEIJING, 28 April — Chinese lottery players are awarded a special honour for their 34.4 billion yuan (about 4.9 billion US dollars) contribution for the public good last year, according to Sunday's Beijing News.

Chinese lottery buyers have made the greatest contribution to public welfare fund collection, exceeding the country's individual and enterprise

donations, which stood at 22.3 billion yuan in total in 2007, according to China Association of Social Workers under the Ministry of Civil Affairs.

The association put the lottery buyers, together with 149 philanthropists and 325 enterprises, into its annual charity ranking list.

The 149 philanthropists and 325 enterprises, respectively donated 1.7 billion yuan and 5.5 billion

yuan.

In 2007, China's lottery sales reached 101.7 billion, an increase of 18 billion yuan or 20 per cent over 2006, setting a 20-year record in China's lottery history.

In China, a minimum of 35 per cent of takings must go to the welfare sector. For a 2 yuan lottery ticket, 70 cents is spent on public welfare.

MNA/Xinhua

"NY Times" says US asserts new interrogation rights

NEW YORK, 28 April — Recent letters from the Justice Department to Congress state that US intelligence agents working to prevent terror attacks can legally use interrogation techniques banned by international law, *The New York Times* reported on Sunday.

President George W. Bush issued an executive order last summer in which he said the CIA would observe international regulations regarding detainee treatment.

The letters indicate the Bush Administration now

contends these boundaries may be stretched in some interrogations.

A 5 March letter from the Justice Dept to Congress makes clear the Bush Administration has not defined which interrogation methods might violate the Geneva Convention's bans on "outrages upon personal dignity," the *Times* said.

The letters were provided by the staff of Senator Ron Wyden, an Oregon Democrat and member of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

MNA/Reuters

Motorboat capsizes, kills three in Germany

BERLIN, 28 April — Three people died when a motorboat capsized in a canal in East Frisia, north-western Germany, on Saturday evening, German news agency DPA reported on Sunday.

One man died at the scene when the vessel capsized in water just over a meter deep, a baby and a four-year-old boy died later in hospital, police in the state of Lower Saxony was quoted as saying.

According to the DPA, another eight people boarding the boat were sent to hospital, suffering from cold and shock.

MNA/Xinhua

Three US soldiers killed in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 29 April — Three US soldiers were killed in a mortar or rocket attack in eastern Baghdad on Monday, the US military said.

The soldiers were killed as a result of indirect-fire attack in eastern Baghdad, the US

military said in a statement.

The statement issued on Monday did not give a more exact location of the incident, but Sadr City and other militia strongholds are in that area, which has been the scene of fierce fighting over the past month between militants

and US and Iraqi forces.

The latest deaths brought the number of US soldiers killed in Iraq to more than 4,055 since the outbreak of US-led invasion in 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

MNA/Xinhua

Four killed, two missing in Chile's marine accidents

SANTIAGO, 28 April — Four people were killed and another two missing in two separate accidents in waters off the southern Chilean coast, Chilean Navy said Saturday.

One accident happened in the Montt port as three security guards went fishing at night despite the local fishing ban. Their fishing boat capsized in a storm, killing the three. — MNA/Xinhua

Barrage of rockets fired at Baghdad's Green Zone

BAGHDAD, 29 April — A barrage of about a dozen rockets struck near Baghdad's fortified Green Zone diplomatic and government compound on Sunday evening in what appeared to be one of the biggest strikes in weeks.

The rockets could be heard whistling past from the east of the Iraqi capital as they flew in the direction of the riverside compound and exploded,

Reuters correspondents on the opposite river bank said.

The strikes took place during a heavy sandstorm. US forces normally use helicopters to retaliate against fighters who target the Green Zone, but sandstorms prevent the helicopters from flying, letting fighters strike with impunity. US and Iraqi forces say Shiite militiamen have fired more than 700

rockets and mortars over the past month, many aimed at the Green Zone and most fired from the capital's Sadr City slum, stronghold of the Mehdi Army militia of Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr.

US forces have occupied the part of Sadr City closest to the centre in an effort to reduce the rocket attacks, but have not moved further into the slum. — MNA/Xinhua



Forensic officers and policemen work in the area where fifteen men were killed in a gun battle in Tijuana, on 26 April, 2008. — XINHUA



Overseas Chinese students cheer for the Olympic torch relay in Pyongyang, capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 28 April, 2008. Pyongyang is the 18th leg of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games torch relay.—XINHUA

Hamas downplays Israel's rejection of truce offers

GAZA, 28 April — The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) on Saturday played down Israel's rejection of the movement's ceasefire vision which was sent by Egyptian mediators to the Israeli Government.

Mahmoud Zahar, a Hamas leader who took part in the talks with the Egyptian mediators, said in Gaza that his movement "doesn't take the (Israeli) official response from the media and it is unconcerned with what is said because we don't hold a direct dialogue with Israel." On Friday, Israel dismissed the proposal by Hamas for a conditional six-month truce in the Gaza Strip, calling it a ruse aimed at allowing the Palestinian Islamist group to recover from recent fighting. "What we take is that comes from the Egyptian side because it mediates between us and the occupation," Zahar told reporters after he returned to Gaza from Egypt, adding that his movement "expects to get an answer after less than one week". —Xinhua



Visitors view the exhibits at an exhibition in the Hubei Museum of Art in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, on 25 April, 2008. —XINHUA

German train derailed, injuring 25

BERLIN, 28 April — A total of 25 people were injured when a high-speed German Inter-City Express (ICE) train carrying 170 passengers derailed late Saturday in central Germany, German media reported on Sunday.

The accident happened when an ICE train collided with a flock of sheep inside a rail tunnel near Fulda, according to German news agency DPA.

The train came off the track south of Fulda, about 80 kilometres northeast of Frankfurt, after hitting and killing 20 sheep, German television N-TV quoted police spokesman Klaus Arend as saying.

The 170 passengers on board were evacuated to a nearby community centre.

The ICE train left Saturday evening from Hamburg and was southbound for Munich on Germany's major north-south rail link. —Xinhua

Four killed in attacks N-E Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 28 April — Three soldiers and a policeman were killed and two civilians injured in gunfire and bomb attacks in Diyala Province on Saturday, a provincial police source said.

A roadside bomb struck an Iraqi Army patrol in the al-Wajihyah town near the capital city of Baquba, some 65 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, destroying a military vehicle and killing an Army officer and two of his soldiers aboard, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident, an Iraqi police officer was shot dead by unknown gunmen who attacked his patrol in the Shiekh Saad village near Baquba, the source said. In addition, two civilians were wounded when a roadside bomb planted in front of a house in the al-Hay neighbourhood in central Baquba, he said.

Xinhua

Palestinian factions envoys arrive in Egypt

CAIRO, 29 April — Representative of four Palestinian group arrived in Egypt on Monday for talks aiming at a Palestinian-Israeli ceasefire deal, the Egyptina official MENA news agency reported.

Twenty-one representatives from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Popular front for the Liberation of Palestine, Popular Resistance Committees and the Popular Struggle Front arrived at Egyptian border town of Rafah on route to Cairo.

Earlier in the day, representatives from other Palestinian factions headed for Cairo via Rafah for the Egypt-sponsored talks.

The envoys of these Palestinian factions, at the invitation of Egypt that has been leading the efforts to broker the truce, will participate in the two-day talks set to start on Tuesday, said the report. —Xinhua

Chinese V-P urges further opening-up in central regions

WUHAN, 28 April — Chinese Vice-Premier Wang Qishan on Saturday called for further reform and opening-up in the central regions.

The central regions needs to boost awareness of reform, innovation, opening-up, market, and the rule of law, Wang said when he addressed the opening of the Third Central China Investment and Trade Expo in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province.

China unveiled the strategy of "The Rise of Central China" in 2004, following boosting policies on the West and Northeast, amid efforts to promote a coordinated regional development.

The central regions include provinces of Shanxi, Anhui, Henan, Jiangxi, Hunan and Hubei.

The vice premier ordered local authorities not to develop economy at the cost of environment and take on the old growth mode of high energy consumption and pollution.

The provinces should make good use of local advantages to speed up the construction of regional bases of raw materials, grain, culture and tourism, he said.

The regions should also speed up the construction of railways, roads and water transport infrastructures and build a services-oriented government to create a fair investment environment for both domestic and overseas investors, Wang added.

Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency



Firemen and residents search for victims trapped from the rubble of destroyed houses after an air strike in Baghdad's Sadr City April 29, 2008.—INTERNET

Cuba announces pension increase for retirees

HAVANA, 28 April — The Cuban Government announced on Sunday a pension increase for retirees covered by the country's social security system.

As of May, retirees who receive pensions of 202-360 pesos will have a 40-peso increase and those who get 361-399 pesos will get an increase to 400, according to the plan. The plan, which is to cost 809.9 million pesos a year, would raise the minimum pension of retirees by more than 20 per cent — from 164 pesos to 200 pesos, the state-run Juventud Rebelde daily reported. —Xinhua

● For flourishing of democracy Ratify Constitution

● Let's get democracy by voting at polling booth

Myanmar's new constitution with essence

Tekkatho Myat Thu

It is said that the Earth has existed for 4550 million years. It has an area of 196,940,000 square miles—57,506,000 square miles of the land and 139,434,000 square miles of the water surface. The world's highest part (mountain) is 29035-foot-high Mt Everest and lowest part, the Dead Sea, is 1394 feet deep. The deepest site in the world is 35840 feet deep Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean.

The world population stood at over 6500 million in 2006. The number of world countries is 194 and 192 of which are UN members. The last two UN members are Swaziland (2002) and Montenegro (2006).

According to Almanac (2007) of Time Magazine, of the continents, Asia Continent is the largest land mass with an area of 17,212,000 square miles, Africa Continent, the second largest with over 11 million square miles and North America Continent, the third largest with over nine million square miles. Australia Continent is the smallest with over 3.1 million square miles, and Europe Continent, the second smallest with over 3.8 million square miles. In 50 centuries, the world saw about 25,000 wars, half of which took place in Europe. Both the First World War and Second World War started in Europe while the colonialist countries vied each other for colonies. The First World War claimed 10 million lives and the Second World War, 60 million.

The terms 'colonialist' and 'colonialism' are also known as imperialist and imperialism as well as emperor and emperialism.

Europe enjoyed industrial development following the colonizing of other countries by the emperors of Mongo, Moghul, Turkey, Ottoman, Russia and Persian empires. Then, France, Britain and Dutch began to colonize other countries for the improvement of capitalism.

Britain had a large number of factories, but it did not have enough raw materials such as cotton, silk, bronze, iron, zinc and fuel oil. The supply of the products far exceeded the domestic demand. Then, they began to colonize other countries in order to get raw materials and fuel such as coal, oil and gas at low expenses, deal with a growing number of customers, and make new investments.

Britain, France, Dutch, Belgium, Spain, Portugal and the US colonized 77 per cent of the world land or enslaved 75 per cent of world population. And they exploited natural resources of their colonies for more than 100 years. In consequence, the colonies went through tough times, while the colonialist countries became in the list of world's richest countries.

Japan, Germany and Italy that enjoyed industrial development late vied with the old colonialist countries for the share of colonies. When no shares of colonies were left, Hitler of Germany, Mussolini of

Italy, and Tojo of Japan formed themselves into three Axis powers and fought the colonialist countries and their colonies.

The countries fell under alien subjugation due to gap of modern armed power although they had national defence forces and patriotic spirit. However, they fought back the colonialists through mental prowess (political means) and physical prowess (armed revolt) risking their life and limb.

When it drew near to the World War II, the independence struggles of the colonies were in full swing. They fought back the colonialists who were getting into crises, vying each other for colony share. Many colonies including Myanmar managed to regain their independence. In its birth in 1945, the UN was made up of 51 countries, and now, with 192 countries. Colonialism was annulled according to the UN Charter. The UN also strove for enabling the remaining colonies to regain independence.

At the peak of WWII, the US was intact due to its location—the Atlantic Ocean in the east and the Pacific Ocean in the west. When many of the factories were ravaged in Europe, the US whose factories were operated round the clock became rich in the time of war. While the Soviet Russia was playing the leading role in propagating Socialism, the US provided cash and kind to European industrial (colonialist) countries through Marshall Plan to survive capitalism. Just as the World War ended, the US formed NATO with northern European imperialist countries. The NATO in Europe served as the fortress of the US as well as its European headquarters to attack Socialist countries if necessary. NATO expanded its domination to Eastern Europe and former Soviet Russia countries, till it was within the reach of Moscow. NATO military bloc formed under the pretext of defending Europe made the remnant Yugoslavia split into six parts. And it invaded Serbia in March 1999. Then, it ousted the Communist government. NATO troops provided protection to Kosovo to secede from Serbia in order that the latter became weak. NATO has invaded Afghanistan and stationed its troops in the country since 2001, thereby implying that it was a military bloc.

The UN has abrogated old form of colonialism. Now, they are exercising neo-colonialism, under which they make various accusations against their targeted countries to destabilize the latter. In addition, they incite civil wars and regional wars and try to overthrow the ruling government. In the process, they install puppet governments and mastermind the plots, interfere in the internal affairs of the targeted countries. That is neo-colonialism.

Today, the world super power is not complacent about interfering in the affairs of international community for hegemony. It is invading other countries on the pretext of anti-terrorism and democracy. And it

has formed puppet governments. It has failed to withdraw its troops from Iraq and Afghanistan for seven years.

More than 100 nations including Myanmar were colonized for over 100 years by European colonialist countries such as Britain, France, Dutch, Belgium and Demark. However, they claim themselves to be democracy advocates.

The female guest in Myanmar once said that today the world no longer saw old colonialism or neo-colonialism. Indeed, she committed perjury to protect the acts of the colonialists.

I would like to present some points stated in page 660 of Time Almanac (2007). The title is 'Are there still any countries that have colonies?' It says that there are 61 colonies that are under the rule of eight colonialists. They are six colonies under Australia, two each under Demark and the Netherlands, 16 under France, three each under New Zealand and Norway, 15 under Britain and 14 under the US.

Myanmar was under the yoke of the British for over 100 years. It regained independence on 4 January 1948. However, it suffered the multi-coloured insurgency, the evil legacy of the colonialists, for more than 40 years. Nevertheless, today, the nation has enjoyed peace and development in various sectors. Therefore, it completed the drafting of the constitution (2008) to exercise multi-party democracy system in discipline in February 2008. It is based on the principles adopted by 1080 National Convention delegates of various national races, different regions and social classes.

To present short and to the point,

- (1) Myanmar is an independent country.
- (2) Independent Myanmar (people of the Union) has the right to create self-determination.
- (3) Myanmar people took time to draw the draft of the State constitution (2008) without any defects. The constitution will guarantee genuine discipline democracy. So, it will be approved definitely. In the referendum to be held on 10 May, the people of the Union of Myanmar will approve it by casting 'Yes' vote.
- (4) Nonetheless, certain elements are criticizing the draft constitution that is the best and the most appropriate one of its kind with full essence.

The new constitution formulated by Myanmar (independent people) is designed to serve the interests of and to help introduce democracy to the people. Moreover, it is going to be approved by Myanmar people. So, it has earned a good reputation. At the same time, the voices of objection to the constitution by the imperialist countries and axe-handles are producing the stink of colony.

Translation: MS

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

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

18th Annual General Meeting of MMCWA continues



Second day session of 18th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April — The 18th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association continued for the second at the meeting hall of the association here today.

It was attended by President of MMCWA Daw Khin Saw Hnin, Vice-Presidents Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and Daw Aye Aye, CEC members, members of central council, chairpersons of State and Division Supervisory Committee for MCWAs, secretaries and joint secretaries.

Vice-President Daw Aye Aye presided over the meeting and Joint Secretary-2 Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay acted as master of ceremonies.

Joint secretaries of the supervisory committees for state/division MCWAs presented the annual

reports of the respective associations. Joint-Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Shan State (South) MCWA Dr Daw Nan Thuzar, Joint-Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Shan State (North) Dr Daw Nan Kein Hpaung Tit, Joint-Secretary of Shan State (East) MCWA Dr Daw Zin Mar Oo and Joint-Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Ayeyawaday Division MCWA Dr Daw Saw Thandar Myint read the annual reports of the respective associations.

Afterwards, a paper reading session followed and Supervisory committees for state/division MCWAs presented papers and Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint presided over the session.

Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Kachin State MCWA Dr Khin Maung Win read the paper on "smiles from Jain-Hpaw Region"; Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Kayah State MCWA Dr Than Tun Myint on "Towards the goal of elimination of diseases caused by iodine deficiency" and Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Kayin State MCWA Dr Htay Naung on "study of systematic breast feeding"; Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Chin State MCWA Dr Khin Maung Si on "Handing down knowledge in the region where Taungzalat flower blooms"; Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Sagaing Division MCWA Dr Kyaw Shein on "mothers, babies and

and Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Bago Division (East) MCWA Dr Ngwe San on "study on prevention against dengue fever".

During the afternoon session of the meeting, Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Bago Division (West) MCWA Dr Than Win read a paper on "disability by birth"; Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Magway Division MCWA Dr Maung Maung Aung Kyaw on "knowledge on health and receiving treatments of mothers in Magway Division who were taken fatally ill due to pregnancy"; Secretary of the Supervisory Com-

mittee for Mandalay Division MCWA Dr Khin Maung Tun on "Let's do welfare tasks for mothers and children in the Snow City"; Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Mon State MCWA Dr Htay Aung on "study of State (North) MCWA Dr Sai San Win on "join hands to help with sympathy"; Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Shan State (East) MCWA Dr Myint Aung on "life-long dental health" and Secretary of the Supervisory Committee for Ayeyawady Division MCWA Dr Aye Ko Ko on "study of the quality of heads of ten-household who are members of MCWA".

After the papers were presented, President of the paper reading session Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint discussed matters related to the papers and the meeting ended. The annual meeting will continue tomorrow. — MNA



Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint, Vice-President of MMCWA.—MNA



Daw Aye Aye, Vice-President of MMCWA.—MNA



Secretary Dr Than Tun Myint of Kayah State MCWA.—MNA



Dr Than Win, Secretary of Bago Division (West) MCWA.—MNA



Secretary Dr Kyaw Shein of Sagaing Division MCWA.—MNA



Dr Daw Zin Mar Oo, Joint-Secretary of Shan State (East) MCWA.—MNA



Dr Htay Aung, Secretary of Mon State MCWA.—MNA

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

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

Seminar on promotion of national...

(from page 16)
The government firmly believes that the prosperity of the nation and its people mainly depends on strength of intellectuals and intelligentsia and the power of nationalistic spirit, patriotism and Union spirit. That is why priority is being given to the important role of education in the national development, he added. With the concept, the government is implementing national education promotion pro-

found projects through practical processes, he underscored. Since 1998, the government has launched educational reform, promotion programmes and implemented various kinds of projects one after another. Education staff made efforts for enhancing the quality in various sectors including basic and higher education, formal and non-formal education sectors, regular courses at the universi-

10,000 faculty members at 156 higher institutions and the number of university students has increased up to nearly 530,000. There were 79 teaching programmes and 38 research programmes in the past. Now there are 214 teaching programmes and 2,900 research programmes. He said departments of human resource development conducted diploma courses and the universities also con-



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo addresses at the opening ceremony of seminar on promotion of national education 2008.—MNA



grammes that can bring about science and technology of international standard and are capable of producing qualified experts who value culture, customs and social norms, he said. The national education promotion programmes are very wide and they are long-term projects. Keeping abreast of the greater development of science and technology, it is necessary to implement correct and

ties and colleges, parallel education system of departments of human resource development. Moreover, the government facilitated modern teaching aids at workshops and laboratories and built electronic networks, infrastructures and better foundation for education, he said. In 1988 there were 5,189 faculty members at 32 universities and colleges and 112,000 students. Now there are over

ducted M.Phil and Doctorate courses. In basic education sector in 1988, there were about 174,000 teachers with some 5.24 million students. Now there are over 265,000 teachers with over 8 million students. Arrangements have been made for changing of one-way education system to the one that can make a choice of various professional careers. Therefore, education and society are

related, he said. Under the guidance of the Head of State standard of education is being upgraded. Moreover, programmes for upgrading of curriculum and syllabus and enhancing of teachership are being carried out in combination with diversification and specialization. Continuing, he said, learning opportunities and quality of education in the whole country have improved. These are the brief clarifications on development of better educational foundations, endeavours for education promotion programmes, the objectives of the State and achievements, he said. The Secretary-1 urged the teachers and scholars to make continued efforts for development of different branches of study that are

U Thaung Tun presents Credentials to King of the Belgians
NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—U Thaung Tun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Belgium presented his Credentials to His Majesty King Albert II, King of the Belgians, on 9 April 2008 in Brussels. MNA

World Malaria Day 2008 marked

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April — The ceremonies to open World Malaria Day 2008 and the national malaria week were held at the Ministry of Health here today. Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo deliv-

ered an address on the occasion. Next, WHO Resident Representative Prof Adik Wibowo read out the message of the Regional Director of South East Asia. After the ceremony, the deputy minister and party browsed books,

booklets, photos and posters displayed at the ministry to mark the World Malaria Day 2008 and the national malaria week. The motto of the World Malaria Day 2008 is Malaria — a disease without borders.—MNA

practical for prosperity of the nation and its people. At a time when the education is leading the various sectors promotion of education can shape the future of the State as desired. He spoke of the need for students and the people to build the strength of national education in order to gain knowledge and distinguish between right and wrong. In conclusion, he urged the teachers to achieve better educational atmosphere and foundations while participating in national education promotion programmes with momentum. Next, the Secretary-1 greeted the teachers and scholars and observed development tasks of basic and higher education at the education development booth. The seminar will continue tomorrow. MNA

Commander and Minister meet with USDA members in Gangaw

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—Member of the Panel of Patrons of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Central) Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe and Secretariat Member of USDA Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met with secretaries, executives and members of division/district/township/ward and village USDAs at the office of Gangaw District USDA in Gangaw on 23 April.

Secretary U Aung Myint of Gangaw District USDA and secretaries of township/ward and village USDAs gave reports on regional development tasks and organizational works.

The commander and the minister saw to the needs and clarified the accounts on serving the interest of the people. Later, the minister presented cash to the members.

MNA

POEM:

Let's cast 'Yes' vote

- * Serene will be a lake
With magnificent scenery
Only with lotus on its surface
- * Majestic won't be a coach
Without any pennon and flagstaff
At any communal events
However much decorated with harness
And created very artistically
To make it more impressive
- * Even a hamlet or
Country with its territory
As large as an ocean
Will become golden land
With economic development
And a prosperous future
People can lead peaceful life
Enjoying equal rights
Only when territory delineated
With enduring State constitution
And rules and regulations
- * That is the case
Let's march to polling both
To cast 'Yes' vote
Considering cause and effect
So that nation gets constitution
Like coach and flag, lake and lotus
Matching each other best

Yan Gyi Aung (Trs.)

Two murderers in Thingangyun MEB incident arrested

YANGON, 29 April — The two men who made their way into Myanmar Economic Bank in Thingangyun Township, Yangon Division and stabbed a bank employee to death were arrested by members of Yangon Division Police Force twenty days after they had committed the crime.

The incident was that when Manager U Khin Aye, Accountant (Grade-3) U Aye Kyaing and Supervisor U Sein Shwe Maung of Myanmar Economic Bank in Thingangyun Township entered the bank after sitting and chatting outside at about 8 pm on 8 April, the two men who were already inside scuffled with them, hitting and stabbing them, and fled.

U Khin Aye suffered two cuts to his chin, U Aye Kyaing, two open injuries to the back and one open injury to the right ear, U Sein Shwe Maung, one stab wound to the chest, one cut to the right forearm and one bruise to the chin as a result of the violent fight. U Sein Shwe Maung died of serious injuries.

Thingangyun Police Station filed the case under Section 302/326/114.

The Yangon Division Police Force launched an

investigation into the case and found out that the two men were Zaw Gyi (a) Zaw Zaw Tun of Ward 16/1 and Than Htwe of Ward 16/3 of Thingangyun Township, who were on the run after committing the interference of the duty of patrol police of Thingangyun Police Station in 2007.

Zaw Gyi (a) Zaw Zaw Tun was arrested at the house of Daw San San Myint, his elder sister of No Ma/274, 9th Thunanda Street, Hsa Ward, North Okkalapa Township on 25 April while Than Htwe was arrested at "U U" Noodles Factory of Industrial Zone-1 in Ward 65, Dagon Myothit (South) Township on 28 April.

The two men were ex-convicts who had committed murder and slashing and were on the run after committing the interference of the duty of patrol police.

As they found it difficult to live their life they entered the bank for stealing but had to scuffle with the bank employees. And action is being taken against them according to law.

MNA

Specialists give free medical treatment to eye patients in Lashio

YANGON, 29 April —Organized by Shan State (North) Union Solidarity and Development Association, Ministry of Health and members of social organizations, a ceremony to mark the completion of providing free medical treatment to eye patients was held at the Town Hall in Lashio on 27 April.

First, Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut extended greetings. At the cash donation ceremony, Myanmar Women's Affairs Orgnaization (central) donated K 1 million, Managing Director U Aung Myat of Mother Trading Co K 20 million, wellwishers from Shan State(North) K 3.6 million,



Specialists give medical treatment to a person with eye complainant.—MNA

under the auspices of Dhmma Duta Ashin Chekinda, Dr Daw Khin Khin Yi (Shine Hope) and donors 15 million, Dr Sai Mauk Kham and Daw Nan Shwe Mon (Ulikha Clinic) K 400,000 and Asia Eye Specialist Clinic K 500,000. The officials accepted the donations.

After the cash donation, Joint Secretary U La Sai of Shan State (North) USDA explained free

medical treatment for patients with eye complainant.

Next, the commander and wellwishers presented cash, eye glasses and medicine to eye patients. The medical team comprising 12 eye specialists and six nurses was supervised by Head of the management department of MWAO Dr Daw Khin San Nwe. They conducted free medical treatment for people with eye complainants from 23 to 26 April in Lahsio, Hopong, Thadi, Kutkai, Muse, Mongyai, Tangyan, Namkham, Kyaukme, Namtu, Sibwe, Nawngkhio, Monglon, Namsang, Mongnge and Mabein.

A total of 6,247 eye patients received treatment. A total of 531 patients received eye surgeries and 2160 received glasses.

MNA



Dr Daw Khin San Nwe helps an eye patient to wear eye glasses.—MNA



Commander, USDA Secretariat Member meet residents in Htilin, Gangaw townships
Cast “YES” vote for ratification of the constitution which fully guarantees the sovereignty of the State and rights of the people



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meets with residents in Gangaw Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April — Secretariat Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met with residents from 12 villages in Htilin Township at the village of Hteintaing on 23 April and donated cash and kind to

local people. Over 3,200 local people attended the meeting and responsible personnel reported to the minister on regional development tasks. Afterwards, the minister attended to the needs. At the meeting, the minister contributed K

200,000 to the funds for construction of a school building in Hteintaing Village; K 100,000 to the funds for generating hydro power in Ohndaw Village and K 100,000 to the funds for construction of school building in I-ma Village, donated K 100,000 each to primary schools in Akyi-wah-bin, Innar and Hinkhwat-gon villages. He also donated exercise books to school children and books on general knowledge to libraries.

During the trip, the secretariat member also met with over 2,600 residents from 23 villages in Gangaw Township. At the meeting, responsible personnel reported to the minister on needs for regional development and the secretariat member attended to the needs.

Afterwards, Secretariat Member of the USDA Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan donated K 500,000 to construction of

a two-story building for Min Village’s Basic Education High School and kind to local people. He also donated exercise books to school children and books to the libraries.

After the meeting, Secretariat Member of USDA Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe met with residents from 11 villages in Htilin Township at the Basic Education High School in Yemyatni Village.

At the meeting, the commander and the minister delivered addresses and attended to the needs for regional development.

Secretariat Member of the USDA Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan donated

K 700,000 to responsible personnel for regional development and exercise books and books on general knowledge to school children and libraries.

In his address at the meetings, USDA Secretariat Member Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said the people, joining hands with the government, have also participated in implementing regional development tasks while the government is making efforts for all-round development of the country. The USDA will help the local residents with their efforts as much as possible. The higher the socio-economic life of the people is, the nearer the goal of a modern, developed, peaceful and discipline flourishing democratic nation is.

The people will have to participate in the referendum to approve the constitution that can guarantee the peace, tranquility and economic development and safeguard the rights of citizens. It is the best time for the people to show that they cherish genuine independence, they aspire perpetuation of sovereignty, they loathe foreign interference and manipulation, they are equipped with ardent patriotism, they oppose puppet government with strings of colonialists by casting “YES” vote for ratification of the constitution which fully guarantees the sovereignty of the State and rights of the people, he said.

After the meetings, the minister cordially greeted those who attended the meeting. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan provides assistance to a responsible person in Htilin Township.—MNA

Billboards erected in Yangon South District to hail Referendum

YANGON, 29 April — The ceremonies to set up billboards, to hail the Referendum for approval of the draft State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, were held at the designated places in Yangon South District today.

The billboards were erected near the jetty and

at the top of Baho Road in Seikkyi Khanaungto Township, at the Dalla terminal in Dalla Township, at the junction of the road in Twantay Township, at Myoma ward in Kawhmu Township, in front of the park in Bogyoke Road in Kungyangon Township.

Billboards saying

“Let’s approve constitution to shape our future by ourselves; Democracy cannot be achieved by anarchism or violence, but by Constitution;” were set up by departmental officials, townselders and member of social organizations in the five townships.—MNA



Ceremony to erect a billboard to hail Referendum in Twantay, Yangon South District in progress.—MNA

Images of the Day



Visitors view the exhibits at an exhibition in the Hubei Museum of Art in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, on 25 April, 2008. Forever Games, exhibiting the works of contemporary Russian artist Leza Lido, opens on Friday here displaying nearly 50 pieces of her painting and installation artworks.

INTERNET



It's that time of the year again, when the manliest of all athletes — those who wear their secondary sex characteristics loud and proud, sometimes even in the shape of Dutch windmills or elaborate cuckoo clocks — get together to compete at the International German Beard Competition. Held this year in Pullman City — a theme park, deep in the heart of the southern German state of Bavaria — the competition is likely to be a real bonanza for hairy men who like to brush, curl and wax their facial hair in front of each other.—INTERNET



The Holsten Gate, photographed on 25 April, 2008, is the landmark of Luebeck, a city in northern Germany. The gate was built between 1464 and 1478 by Hinrich Helmstede and modeled after gates in Flanders. It houses a museum that features exhibits on Luebeck's early history, urban development and shipping industry. Because of its location in the trading zone of the Baltic Sea, Luebeck grew to be the political and commercial hub of northern Europe. The city became the leader of the powerful Hanseatic League, a shipping, legal and commercial association of more than 200 cities.—INTERNET



An orangutan clings precariously to overhanging branches in a desperate bid to spear a passing fish. It is the first time one has been seen using a tool to hunt. The image taken in Borneo on the island of Kaja is part of a series taken for a new book, *The Thinkers Of The Jungle*, which also includes the first photograph of an orangutan swimming.

XINHUA

Liu Suozhu, a 48-year-old man from central China's Henan Province, drives an unmodified car along two steel wires 45 meter above the Miluo River in Hunan Province on 27 April, 2008. He drove the car 230 meters down the wire, setting a new national record.—XINHUA



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Reg. No. 1631/2008 in respect of "Class 11: Valves (Level controlling of water)".

Reg. No. 1632/2008 in respect of "Class 17: Pipes, pipes installations and apparatus, pipe fittings, pipe fittings apparatus, rubber rings, flexible hoses, suction hoses, thread tapes of plastic materials".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for The Nawaplastic Industries (Saraburi) Co., Ltd.
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 30 April 2008

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U Myint Lwin, Advocate, LL.B, DBL
Dip in Marine Affairs(UK)
myintadvocate@mpmail.net.mm
Ph: 371 990 30.April.2008

Drive with care

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Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.,
for HONDA GIKEN KOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA
P. O. Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 30 April 2008

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 1st May (Thursday) May Day 2008, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

As the wharves, warehouses and Chellan offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 1st May 2008 (May Day) and 19th May 2008 (Full Moon Day of Kasone) being the public Holidays. Goods will be received, shipped or delivered on payment of Holiday fees.

Afghan President escapes assassination bid

KABUL, 28 April—Afghan President Hamid Karzai was hussled away but escaped unhurt after an assassination attempt during an official celebration in the capital, Kabul, on Sunday.

A Presidential Palace source said Karzai was safe, but the Taleban, which claimed responsibility for the attack, said three of its fighters were killed.

"Yes, he is safe and fine," said the palace source, declining to be named.

Government ministers along with leaders of other political factions were seen ducking down on a dais after gunfire sounded at the celebration to mark the 16th anniversary of fall of the Communist government to the Mujahidien.

State television cut off live transmission of the event. Sounds of gunfire could be still heard after television stopped coverage. The celebration, organized under tight security for days, was cancelled.

A Taleban spokesman said its insurgents were behind the firing at Karzai who has survived several assassination attempt against his life in recent years.

"We had our people there who fired at Karzai," Zabihullah Mujahid told a Reuters from an undisclosed location. — MNA/Reuters

British youth charged over school attack

LONDON, 28 April — A 16-year-old boy is due to appear in court on Saturday charged with wounding another youth who was stabbed in the grounds of a London school, police said.

The victim, also 16, was airlifted to hospital suffering from a number of injuries after being stabbed on the front lawn of Salesian College, Battersea, south London, on Thursday. His condition is described as stable.

The accused, who has not been named, is charged with Grievous Bodily Harm and violent disorder and is due to appear at South Western Magistrates' Court.

Five other unnamed youths, aged between 14 and 17, from south London, have been charged with violent disorder and will appear at the same court. — MNA/Reuters

Seventeen killed in Mexico drug battle near US

TIJUANA (Mexico), 28 April— Seventeen Mexican drug gang members were killed near the US border on Saturday, their bodies scattered along a road after one of the deadliest shootouts in Mexico's three-year narco-war. Rival factions of the Arellano Felix drug cartel in Tijuana on the Mexico-California border battled each other with rifles and machine guns in the early hours of the morning, police said.

Fourteen bodies were lying in pools of blood on a road near assembly-for-export maquiladora plants on the city's eastern limits. The corpses were surrounded by hundreds of bullet casings and many of their faces were destroyed.

The 15th body was found nearby. Two more men died in hospital on

Saturday evening, police said. Six men were wounded and another six were arrested, but some gang members are thought to have escaped.

Two of the dead were believed to be senior hitmen for the Arellano Felix cartel and were identified by large gold rings on their fingers. The rings carried the icon of Saint Death, a ghoulish figure that gangsters believe protects them, police said. — MNA/Reuters

Communist rebels kill four soldiers in Philippines

MANILA, 28 April— Communist rebels killed four soldiers in a clash in the southern Philippines on Saturday, a day after they abducted two troops in the same area, police said.

"Two soldiers and two militiamen (part-time soldiers) were killed in the 30-minute gun battle,"

Colombia says FARC rebels fire mortars from Ecuador

BOGOTA, 28 April— Colombia's Army on Saturday said FARC guerillas opened fire on its troops with home-made mortars from across Ecuador's border in the latest incident to test frayed relations between the Andean neighbours.

Ecuadorean President Rafael Correa broke off diplomatic ties with Colombia last month during a regional crisis when Colombian troops killed a top FARC commander in an attack on a base hidden over the border inside Ecuadorean territory.

Army Commander

General Mario Montoya said rebels had launched gas cylinder mortars from the Ecuadorean side of the frontier to attack Colombian soldiers in southern Putumayo Province, where armed groups often grow coca to make cocaine.

"These bandits from FARC have once again

fired five cylinders filled with explosives from Ecuadorean territory against Colombian troops who were providing security to an oil company," Montoya told reporters.

One soldier was wounded in the attack, he said.

MNA/Reuters

Iran youth who killed love rival faces execution

TEHERAN, 29 April— A 17-year-old Iranian youth who knifed and killed a rival suitor for a girl has been sentenced

to death by a court in Teheran, a newspaper said on Sunday.

The accused attacked the victim after finding out he was talking to the girl in question, the Etemad daily said.

"I have killed him but not intentionally," the young man, identified only with his first name, Safar, told the court.

"I did this because I was inexperienced and was angry. I ask them (the family of the victim) to forgive me," he said.

MNA/Reuters

Indonesian sports eager to wean off tobacco sponsors

JAKARTA, 28 April— Indonesian sports associations are trying to wean themselves off sponsorships from tobacco companies, as the government looks to follow the example of other Asian nations who have banned the practices.

"I agree that ideally, tobacco companies should not sponsor any sporting events," State Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs Adhyaksa Dault was quoted Saturday in major newspaper The Jakarta Post as saying.

"But we can't ban their sponsorship now because we don't have other potential sources of funds," he said.

Current restrictions for tobacco advertising on broadcasting hours and for junior sports events may be extended to a ban in the next five years, the Minister added.

MNA/Xinhua

Indian rocket blasts into space

NEW DELHI, 28 April — An Indian rocket blasted into space on Monday, carrying a cluster of 10 satellites, according to local media reports.

The PSLV rocket lifted off at 09:20 a m local time (0350 GMT) from the Sriharikota space station

in southern India.

The rocket is carrying an unprecedented payload including an Indian remote-sensing satellite, a mini satellite and eight so-called nanosatellites developed by German and Canadian research institutions.

MNA/Xinhua



India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) C-9 blasts off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota, around 80 kilometres (50 miles) north of Chennai, India, on 28 April, 2008. Setting a world record, India's Polar rocket Monday successfully placed ten satellites, including the country's remote sensing satellite, into orbit in a single mission according to a news report. —INTERNET

Russia joins WHO's anti-tobacco convention

MOSCOW, 28 April — Russian President Vladimir Putin ratified the World Health Organization's (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, the presidential Press service reported on Friday.

The State Duma, the Lower House of Parliament, approved the bill on 11 April, and the Federation Council, the

Upper House of Parliament, endorsed it on 16 April. Within the framework of the convention, Russia will have to gradually ban all advertisements of tobacco products in five years.

Warnings of potential health risks must take up no less than 30 per cent of the cigarette pack's surface area. The

document also envisions a gradual reduction of smoking in public places.

The convention was adopted at the 56th World Health Assembly in May, 2003, with the aim of launching a programme to prevent the negative consequences of tobacco consumption. A total of 168 countries have already ratified the convention.

MNA/Xinhua

Drug addiction on rise in Turkey

ANKARA, 28 April — Figures show drug addiction, including heroin and cocaine, is on the rise in Turkey during the past few years, local newspaper *Today's Zaman* reported on Sunday.

“Studies and statistics indicate that Turkey is one of many countries suffered from problems related to drug and drug addiction,” said the report quoted Mustafa Necati Ozfatura, the chairman of Green Crescent Fight against Alcohol and Cigarette Abuse, as saying.

“It is estimated that there are around four million drug addicts in Turkey, a significant increase over the past few years,” said Ozfatura, adding that the country used to be an itinerary stop for drug smuggling, but now it is a base. — MNA/Xinhua

Thai police seize over 1,000 fake passports in raid

BANGKOK, 28 April — Thai authorities have seized more than a thousand fake Asian and Western passports and arrested a man in one of the biggest anticounterfeiting operations in recent years, police said on Sunday.

Mohammed Karim, a 56-year-old from Bangladesh, was nabbed in a Bangkok townhouse late on Saturday where they found a sophisticated passport making operation and more than 1,000 finished and unfinished documents, Police Major-General Chaktip Chai-chinda said.

The passports were for several countries including the United States,

New Zealand, France, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia and Malta. Police seized two computers, a scanner, three printers and rubber stamps for several countries.

“This guy is rich. He has a BMW. He said he made about 300,000-400,000 baht per month

(around 10,000 US dollars),” Chaktip said.

The passports were sold to a group of Thai sold them to gangs engaged in prostitution, terrorism and smuggling, he said. If convicted, Karim faces up to 20 years in jail.

MNA/Reuters

California wildfire rages, 1,000 people evacuated

LOS ANGELES, 28 April — A wildfire that began along a popular hiking trail forced 1,000 people to evacuate their homes in the hills northeast of Los Angeles on Sunday, officials said.

The cause of the nearly 400-acre (162-hectare) fire, which started on Saturday

afternoon as Southern California logged near-record temperatures, was still under investigation, said Elisa Weaver, a spokeswoman for the city of Sierra Madre, California.

Fifty people celebrating a wedding at a mountain campground were lifted from the area

by helicopter after the fire cut off their exit trail. No one in the group was harmed.

Temperatures are expected to climb to 97 degrees Fahrenheit (36 degrees Celsius) on Sunday.

Low winds and humidity, however, were expected to help the firefighting effort. “A lot of that area hasn't burned in 40 years, but the weather has been on our side,” Weaver said.

Between 400 and 500 homes were under a mandatory evacuation order, Weaver said, though only one building — a small storage shed — had been burned.

The blaze was expected to take up to four or five days to contain fully.

MNA/Reuters



A patch of brush flares up as firefighters work to contain a wildfire near Sierra Madre, California on 27 April, 2008. —XINHUA

B'desh faces 60% rise of trade deficit in current fiscal

DHAKA, 28 April — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) projects that high prices of food and oil will push up Bangladesh's trade deficit for the current fiscal year (July 2007- June 2008) to around six billion US dollars. The high trade

imbalance will also push the current account balance into deficit, which had around one billion US dollars surplus in the last fiscal year, an IMF report was quoted by leading English newspaper *The Daily Star* as saying on Sunday.

“The pressure on the balance of payments has intensified significantly and our current account balance is now negative for the first time in several years,” Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam said in a letter to the IMF recently.

MNA/Xinhua

Six dead after bus falls off mountain in China

WUHAN, 28 April — At least six people were dead and 31 others injured after a bus fell off a mountain in a scenic spot in the central Hubei Province on Saturday afternoon.

The accident occurred at 6:30 pm in the Shuangfeng Mountain in Xiaogan City when the bus, with 35

students and a teacher aboard, was on its way back from the scenic spot to Wuhan, the provincial capital, local police said.

One student died at the scene while another five students died later in hospital.

All the injured were receiving treatment in

hospital. Doctors said some of the seriously injured needed to be transferred to a better-equipped hospital in Wuhan by Sunday night.

The passengers were all from the Wuchang Online Education Centre affiliated to Wuhan University, police said.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Torch arrives in Vietnam to warm welcome

HO CHI MINH CITY, 29 April —The Olympic torch arrived in Vietnam on Monday night under tight security as activists said they planned demonstrations over Hanoi and Beijing's competing claims for South China Sea islands.

Scores of Chinese and Vietnamese with national flags and Beijing 2008 Olympics flags greeted the torch at Ho Chi Minh City Airport as it came from Communist ally North Korea, which unlike China and Vietnam remains an isolated country.

The torch was to be paraded in the city, still called Saigon by many, on Tuesday evening. Vietnam has good overall relations with China and the reception was expected to be warm, but not fervent as it was in Pyongyang.

MNA/Reuters



Denver Nuggets Anthony Carter (2nd L) goes up to shoot past Los Angeles Lakers Kobe Bryant (L) and Lamar Odom (2nd R) as the Nuggets J.R. Smith looks on during the first half of Game 4 of their NBA basketball playoff series in Denver, Colorado, on 28 April, 2008.—XINHUA

Race for Champions League places heats up in Portugal

LISBON, 29 April — Sporting beat Maritimo 2-1 and champions Porto thrashed Vitoria Guimaraes 5-0 in the Portuguese Premier League on Sunday as the battle for Champions League places heated up.

With two matches left, Porto stretched their lead at the top of the standings to 23 points while Sporting and Guimaraes were level on second place on 49 points. Benfica, who beat Belenenses 2-0 at home on Saturday, are fourth one point behind.

Porto, who rested several key players went ahead when defender Bruno Alves headed home a free-kick from defender Lino after 53 minutes.

Winger Ricardo

Quaresma scored twice in succession, the first with one angled shot to the far post after 59 minutes and 12 minutes later with an individual effort.

Argentine striker Ernesto Farias and Brazilian striker Adriano completed the 23rd victory in 28 matches for Porto. —MNA/Reuters

Five-goal Cruzeiro sound warning to Boca

RIO DE JANEIRO, 29 April —Cruzeiro warmed up for their Libertadores Cup tie with Boca Juniors by thumping arch-rivals Atletico Mineiro 5-0 in the Belo Horizonte derby on Sunday. Cruzeiro capitalized on defensive blunders to go two goals ahead in less than 20 minutes in the first leg of the Mineiro championship final.

Bolivia striker Marcelo Martins scrambled the first following a mistake by goalkeeper Juninho and Atletico defender Marcos put through his own goal six minutes later. Midfielder Ramires hooked the third over Juninho in the 38th minute before 19-year-old forward Guilherme and Wagner completed the rout in the second half with breakaway goals. —MNA/Reuters

Scholes seals final spot United run out 1-0 victors over Barcelona

London, 29 April— Manchester United made sure it will be an all-English UEFA Champions League final with a 1-0 victory over Barcelona.

In a pulsating encounter at Old Trafford, Paul Scholes' unstoppable first-half strike was enough to secure an aggregate success for Sir Alex Ferguson's side following the goalless draw at Camp Nou.

Barcelona kept battling until the final whistle but United were heroic in defence and limited the Spanish side to few, if any, clear-cut openings.



Manchester United's Paul Scholes scores against Barcelona during their Champions League semi-final second leg soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England, April 29, 2008.

INTERNET

Injuries contributed to United's demise in the semi-finals 12 months ago and Ferguson was dealt a double blow prior to kick-off when Wayne Rooney and Nemanja Vidic were

both ruled out with the problems they picked up against Chelsea at the weekend.

The best chance of the first leg came when Barca conceded a penalty in the opening minutes and within 60 seconds United almost repaid the favour as Scholes brought down Lionel Messi just outside the area.

Messi failed to make the most of the free-kick but the young Argentine was a real menace early on as Barcelona carried on where they left off last week and dominated possession. —Internet

Buonanotte inspires River, Boca lose unbeaten record

BUENOS AIRES, 29 April — Midfielder Diego Buonanotte scored twice to inspire River Plate to a 4-2 win over Argentinos Juniors on Sunday and keep them level with Argentine championship leaders Estudiantes.

Boca Juniors lost their unbeaten record in the competition when they were beaten 1-0 at San Lorenzo and dropped to fourth.

Buonanotte, 20 and one of Argentina's most promising players, opened his account in the 32nd minute, outfoxing his marker before scoring with a well-placed left-foot shot. Alejandro Delorte equalised before halftime but Buonanotte put River back in front four minutes after the re-start when the 1.60-metre midfielder scored with a deflected long-range shot. —MNA/Reuters



China's Liang Wenbo competes during the second round match against Northern Ireland's Joe Swail at the Snooker World Championships in Sheffield, England, on 28 April, 2008. Qualifier Liang Wenbo became the first Chinese to reach the quarter-finals of the snooker world championship when he came through a tense deciding frame against Joe Swail to win 13-12 on Monday. —XINHUA

FA to investigate Stamford Bridge fracas

MANCHESTER (England), 29 April — Manchester United are happy for the Football Association to investigate the incidents at Stamford Bridge which followed their 2-1 defeat by Chelsea, manager Alex Ferguson said on Monday.

United players Patrice Evra, Gary Neville, Paul Scholes, Gerard Pique, Park Ji-sung and John O'Shea were warming down after Chelsea's 2-1 victory on Saturday when ground staff asked them to move to another area of the pitch.

MNA/Reuters



Finnish McLaren- Mercedes Formula One driver Heikki Kovalainen is taken out of his car after he crashed during the Spanish Grand Prix at the Circuit de Catalunya in Montmelo, near Barcelona, Sunday.—INTERNET

Real Betis have stadium ban for bottle incident reduced

MADRID, 29 April — Real Betis had an initial two-match stadium ban for a bottle-throwing incident reduced to one game by Spain's Sporting Discipline Committee (CEDD) on Monday after an appeal.

Betis received the punishment after Athletic Bilbao goalkeeper Armando was cut on the face when a fan threw a bottle of water at him during a league match at their Manuel Ruiz de Lopera stadium in March.

"According to the resolution, the action of people in helping to detain the person who committed the illegal act was taken into consideration," the Primera Liga club said in a statement on their website (www.realbetisbalompie.es).

Fans behind the goal helped identify the aggressor to stadium security after the incident and he was later arrested by the police.

A 40-year-old Betis fan was charged with a public disorder offence and causing injury before being released on bail. Armando needed stitches just below his eye.

MNA/Reuters

Altogether 34 armed group members exchange arms for peace

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April — The State Peace and Development Council upholding Our Three Main National Causes has been making all-out efforts for national reconsolidation and bringing about harmonious development the length and breadth of the nation.

Knowing the endeavours and genuine goodwill of the government and realizing their destructive acts, the armed groups had exchanged arms for peace individually or in group.

During the period of October, November and December 2007, in the area of Coastal Region Command, Private Saw Wai Hmu of Battalion-10 of Brigade-4 of KNU armed group, bringing in together with one Winchester, one round of ammunition and one hand grenade, Saw Khway Lay with the rank of Sed-Lt of Company-2 of Battalion-10, bringing in together with one AK-47 automatic rifle, one magazine and 37 rounds of ammunition, Kyaw Kyaw with the rank of Sergeant bringing in together with one Winchester and four rounds of ammunition;

In the area of South-East Command, Private Tha Cho of ABSDF armed group, bringing in together with one M-16 automatic rifle, three magazines and 76 rounds of ammunition; In the area of Eastern

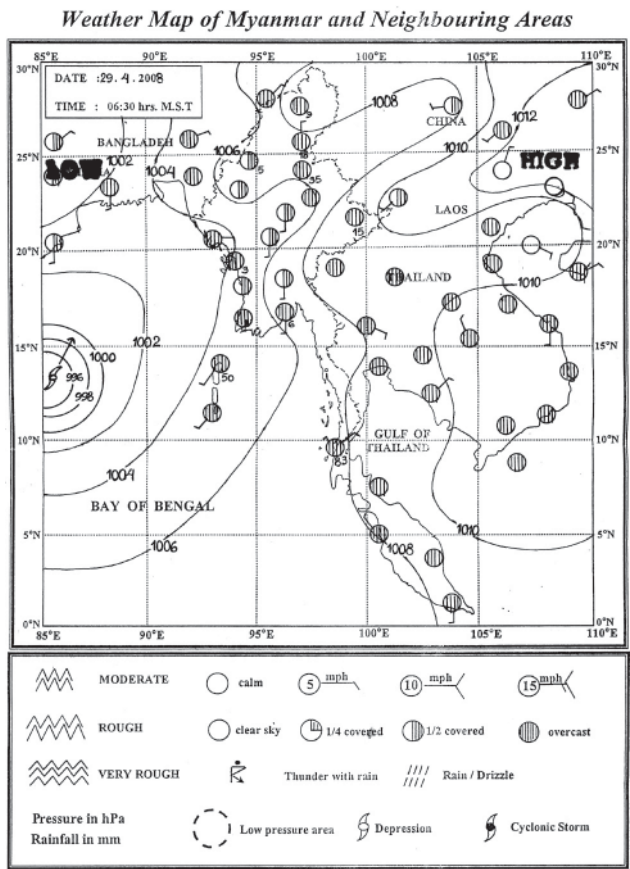
Command, Private Saw Bwe Htoo (a) Ahti of KMPP armed group bringing in together with one AK-47 automatic rifle, one magazine and 30 rounds of ammunition and Private Sai Lon and Private Sai Yon of SSA (Ywet Sit) armed group;

In the area of Triangle Region Command, Private Gandamar of SSA (Ywet Sit) armed group;

In the area of Southern Command, Saw Gay Ge with the rank of Cpl, Privates Saw Ohn Oh, Saw Jho Aung, Saw Kaba Lay Soe, Saw Tha Ba Lay Htoo, Saw Phe Mor and Saw Do Htoo (a) Saw Mu Too of Battalion-5 of Brigade-2 of KNU armed group, Private Saw Le Mu of Hokee Refugee Camp, and General Worker Ommar Lin of Battalion-9 of Brigade-3 of KNU armed group; In the area of Western Command, old members of Arakan Army (AA) armed group U Tun Way, U Shwe Thein, U Sein Hla Maung, U Nyi Nyi Naing, U Khine Maung Win and U Hla Thein together with 11 family members exchanged arms for peace.

Altogether 34 members who exchanged arms for peace during that period were accord a warm welcome by the respective Tatmadaw camps and provided with necessary requirements. It is learnt that there are still armed group members who are going to follow suit.

MNA



WEATHER

Tuesday, 29 April, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin State, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Bago Division, scattered in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, isolated in Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, with isolated heavyfall in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (5°C) to (6°C) above April average temperatures in Chin State, Lower Sagaing Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in Eastern Shan State, (8°C) below April average temperatures in Ayeyawady Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below average temperatures in Kayin and Mon States, Yangon Division and about April average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Shwebo (42°C) and Chauk (41°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthoung (3.28) inches, Kyaikkhami (2.09) inches, Coco Island (1.97) inches, Pyarpon (1.65) inches, Yay (1.46) inches, Bhamo and Myitkyina (1.38) inches each and Bago (1.34) inches.

Maximum temperature on 28-4-2008 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 29-4-2008 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 29-4-2008 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 28-4-2008 was (2.3) hours approx.

Rainfall on 29-4-2008 was (0.24) inch at Mingaladon, (0.40) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.63) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (2.76) inches at Mingaladon, (4.61) inches at Kaba-Aye and (2.60) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (7) mph from Southwest at (14:30) hours MST on 28-4-2008.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, the severe cyclonic storm (NARGIS) over West Central Bay has moved slowly and it is centred at about (540) miles West of Coco Island. It is forecast to move initially Northerly direction and recurves later Northeast direction. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 30-4-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered to fairly widespread in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine, Shan, Mon and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, isolated in Kayah State, Magway and Mandalay Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (45) mph.

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 30-4-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-4-2008: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30-4-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Obama's ex-pastor confronts media in Washington

WASHINGTON, 29 April — Barack Obama's former pastor, the Revend Jeremiah Wright, blasted news media he said had sensationalized his remarks in an often confrontational appearance at a reporters' club on Monday. But the Chicago preacher stood by the fiery sermons that have dogged Obama's Democratic presidential campaign since they gained public attention in March. —MNA/Reuters

"Storm News"

(Issued at 19:00 hours MST on 29-4-2008)

According to the observations at (18:00) hrs MST today, the Severe Cyclonic Storm (NARGIS) over West Central Bay has moved slowly and centered at about (585) miles West-Northwest of Coco Island. It is forecast to move slowly Northeast direction during the next (24) hrs.

Under the influence of this storm, rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered to fairly widespread in Rakhine, Mon, Kayin States, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions during the next (24) hrs commencing afternoon today. Frequent squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely off and Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) to (45) mph.



Cash Donated: U Tun Aung Pyu, U Thein Myint, U Ye Htut Thein and U Kyaw Win Tun of Micro Finance Project of UNDP Office recently donated K 160,00 to the International Institute of Abhidhamma through Chairman and Pro-Rector of the institute as well as retired ambassador U Mya Than at the donation centre.—H



Wednesday, 30 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. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:05 am

5. ရခိုင်ချောင်တံတား

8:15 am

6. The Mirror images of
the musical oldies

8:30 am

7. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial songs

4:10 pm

2. Dance of National
Races

4:25 pm

3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ-
ဒုတိယနှစ်
(သမိုင်းအထူးပြု) (သမိုင်း)

4:45 pm

4. Songs to uphold
National Spirit

5:00 pm

5. ဂ္ဂဟယုံလင်အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်

5:20 pm

6. ရသပေါ်လွင်သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm

7. Evening news

6:30 pm

8. Weather report

6:35 pm

9. မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်တွေ့

6:55 pm

10. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်

7:20 pm

11. နွဲ့ဖြိုးအောင်မြင်မနောမြေတစ်ခွင်
(အပိုင်း-၁)

7:30 pm

12. "အတည်ပြုကြိုဆိုအခြေခံပဒေ"

7:40 pm

13. "စိတ်အားထက်သန်ဆန္ဒအမှန်"

8:00 pm

14. News

15. International news

16. Weather report

17. လပတ်စိုးလေဝသနှင့်
ဓလေ့ခန့်မှန်းချက်

18. "သပြေကုန်းရွာမှရွှေအမြီးများ"

19. Myanmar Movie

"အချစ်သည်လေပြည်"

(အပိုင်း-၂)

(ဒွေး၊ စိုင်းဘိုဘို၊ ဖြိုးငွေစိုး၊

အိန္ဒြာကျော်စင်၊ စမိုင်းလ်၊ နဝရတ်)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကိုအောင်မင်းသိမ်း)

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:

Let's express support

Capitalism, socialism
Or democracy
Whatever system is adopted
A constitution is needed
As it suits to our national characters
Let's express our support

Aye Mya Thida (Kalaw)

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

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

Seminar on promotion of national education opened

Promotion of education can shape future of the State as desired

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April – A seminar on promotion of national education 2008 of the Ministry of Education was opened at University of Veterinary Science in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo.

Also present were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, the ministers, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, officials of the Ministry of Education, professors of universities and degree colleges, pro-rectors, principals of education colleges, state, division and district education officers, delegates and guests.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said rapid development of science and technology in the world and progress of information technology leading to globalization greatly affect society and mankind.

He said the nations of the world are giving priority to promotion of education in connection with economic, trade, finance, production, defence, social sectors. He said the government is implementing projects for promotion of education that can practically bring about the prosperity of the nation and its people in conformity with advancement of science and technology.

The 30-year long-term projects are being under-

taken in agriculture, fish and meat, forestry, industrial and health sectors in addition to education sector under the guidance of the Head of State for all-round development of the nation, he said.

He said this year is the end of the second year of five-year plan of the 30-year long-term projects and it is the start of the third year of the five-year plan.

(See page 8)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo greets attendees and teachers at the opening ceremony of seminar on promotion of national education 2008.—MNA