

Ariyasaccana dassanam, to discern the noble-truths; this is the way to auspiciousness

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■ 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 sends Workers Day Message

Take part in the tasks for approval of draft constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May—The following is the translation of the Workers Day message sent by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe.

Esteemed Workers,

On the Workers Day which falls on 1 May, I honour all blue collar and white collar workers to be able to make progress in production and services and wish you health and happiness.

It is obviously seen that there has been peace and stability and progress in the country due to the correct leadership of the State Peace and Development Council and united efforts of the entire people including workers.

The government has established factories, workshops, industrial zones and industrial regions for modernization and development of the State. Production and services and trade sectors have become
(See page 8)

Lt-Gen Myint Swe meets with officials and entrepreneurs from Myaungdaga Foundry Industrial Zone Project

YANGON, 30 April —Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint met with officials from Industrial Zone Project and entrepreneurs at the management office of Myaungdaga Foundry Industrial Zone in Hmawby Township yesterday.

U Aung Win, Director General of

Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development, reported

on implementation of the project in the zone, Minister Maj-Gen

Khin Maung Myint on measures taken
(See page 8)



Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects the main sub-power station in the industrial zone in Hmawby Township. — MNA

No place for saboteurs in new nation to be built in accord with new constitution

The constitution is going to be approved. Like the devils that are afraid of voices of reciting Kammava, so they are now trying to disrupt the processes for the approval of the constitution. However, if the entire national people cast 'Yes' vote in the referendum, there will be no places for the evil saboteurs to live.

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MAUNG DE DOH

HONOURING THE WORKERS DAY

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 1 May, 2008

Boost production for development of industrial sector

Today, 1 May 2008, is the Workers Day. It is a tradition that Myanmar workers actively participated in anti-imperialists and independence struggle. Now workers and peasants hand in hand with the national people are making endeavours for building a new democratic nation.

Efforts are being made for boosting production of industrial products in the industrial sector which plays a pivotal role in development of the nation and for raising the national economic life.

Nowadays the government is building new factories including those producing import substitute products. There are prospects of increased industrial production as the government is establishing industrial zones and industrial regions.

With the development of the industrial sector, a great number of modern factories and workshops have been established in industrial regions. A large number of job opportunities are on the increase for local people with the introduction of new technology on production.

The government is building a peaceful modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation with the strength of the people laying emphasis on improvement of socio-economic life and security of the people's lives.

The entire Myanmar workers possessing the traditions of anti-imperialist spirit and nationalistic spirit in the successive periods stand tall as the united national force and they will have to continue to discharge the duties of boosting production of the products for development of the industrial sector.

Weather condition delays gas pipe repair work

YANGON, 30 April—The electricity supply to Yangon is decreasing as the repair work of the gas pipe lines which transport natural gas from off shore to four gas-fired power plants has not yet completed due to weather conditions.

Yangon Division Electric Power Supply Board has already announced that those four pipe lines would be repaired from 27 to 29 April. The repair work has not yet completed in time due to weather conditions.

The pipe lines are under repair by Yangon Division Electric Power Supply Board and efforts are being made to supply power to Yangon sufficiently.—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

Commander and Secretariat Member meet local people in Gangaw

Constitution people will approve soon fully guarantees peace and stability



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meeting with local people from 18 villages in Gangaw Township.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—Member of the Panel of the Patrons of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe and Secretariat Member of the USDA Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended a ceremony to hand over Tipitaka Gonyi Building donated by Yaw Sayadaw to Education Department in Kanywa of Gangaw on 24 April.

Next, the commander

and the minister attended a ceremony to meet with the local people held at the pandal in front of Kanywa Basic Education High School. It was attended by the local people from 18 villages totaling over 4,500.

On behalf of the local people, officials concerned reported on regional development tasks to the commander and the minister. After hearing the reports, the commander and the minister made arrangements to fulfill the requirements and made speeches on the occasion.

Afterwards, the

Secretariat Member presented K 300,000 for the prevention against the erosion and presented regional development items, household and personal goods to the local people, exercise books for the students and publications for the library through officials concerned.

Next, he arrived at Sasana Pala Monastery in Gangaw Township and paid homage to Sayadaw Sasanadhaja Dhama-cariya Bhaddanta Sumana and donated alms to the Sayadaw. Afterwards, he attended a ceremony to

meet with the local people held at the monastery. It was attended by the local people from 17 villages numbering over 3,300.

On behalf of the local people, officials concerned reported on regional development tasks to the minister. After hearing the reports, the minister made arrangements to fulfill the requirements and made a speech on the occasion.

Afterwards, the Secretariat Member presented K 400,000, for Chaungkauk village BEPS, development items, household and personal goods for the local people, exercise books for the students and publications for the library through officials concerned.

Next, the Secretariat Member attended a ceremony to meet with the local people held at the pandal in front of Hanthawady village BEMS (Branch). It was attended by the local people from villages totaling over 3,000.

On behalf of the local people, officials concerned reported on (See page 8)



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan cordially converses with local people from six villages in Gangaw Township. — MNA

Obama's lead over Clinton in nat'l poll shrinks to zero

WASHINGTON, 30 April — US Democratic Presidential candidate Barack Obama's lead in the national poll has shrunk to zero after his rival, Hillary Rodham Clinton, won the Pennsylvania primary on 22 April, said a poll released on Monday.

According to the Gallup poll conducted on 24 to 26 April, Illinois Senator Obama and New York Senator Clinton are now

dead even at 47 per cent among 1,240 Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters.

It was the second survey that has been made after Clinton's win on Tuesday in Pennsylvania with nearly 10 percentage points lead over Obama.

These results "suggest that Democratic voters are — for the moment at least — divided right down the middle as to which

candidate they most want to represent their party in November's general election", the poll says.

The polling body also found in the latest survey conducted among national registered voters from 22 to 26 April that Clinton maintains her advantage over Republican presumptive presidential candidate, Arizona Senator John McCain, in the general election preferences at 47 per cent to 44 per cent. Obama and McCain are tied at 45 per cent each, it added.

MNA/Xinhua



A man cries as he looks at the dead body of his neighbours buried in the ruins of a house hit in a US air strike in Baghdad Sadr City. Several people were believed killed in two US air strikes in the Baghdad bastion of Shiite radical leader Moqtada al-Sadr's Mahdi Army militia, an AFP photographer and witnesses said.—INTERNET

Qingdao-Jinan Railway reopens after fatal accident

ZHOUCUN (Shandong), 30 April—The Qingdao-Jinan Railway reopened to traffic early on Tuesday, after more than 20 hours of interruption caused by a train collision that killed 70 people and injured more than 400 on Monday.

At 2:16 am, a cargo train weighing 1,185 metric tons rolled over the restored section of the

railway in Zibo City of east China's Shandong Province, followed by passenger train T196 from Qingdao to Beijing at 2:41 am. Thousands of passengers were stranded at railway stations in Jinan, Qingdao and other destinations following the pre-dawn collision and derailments on Monday, but most were transferred

to long-distance buses.

"So far, the accident site has been cleaned up and the stranded passengers evacuated," said Wang Jun, head of the State Administration of Work Safety. "All the injured have been hospitalized and the dead have been transferred to local funeral homes."

MNA/Xinhua

Moderate quake hits northern California

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 April—A moderate earthquake struck near the coastal city of Eureka in Northern California on Tuesday but there were no immediate reports of damage.

The magnitude 5.2 quake occurred at 8:03 pm (0303 GMT on Wednesday) 35 miles east of Eureka and was felt across the region from the Pacific Ocean to near the Oregon border, the US Geological

Survey reported on its website.

Nearly an hour later, the dispatch officer for the Eureka Police Department said she had not received any reports of damage.

Internet



Civilians flee with their belongings from Somalia's capital Mogadishu on 27 April, 2008. Fighting between Islamist rebels and Somali troops killed 10 people in Mogadishu, and the insurgents took control of the provincial town of Jowhar, residents and officials said on Sunday. In a second weekend of clashes in Somalia's lawless capital, insurgents attacked the Villa Baidoa military base in the south of the city, sparking machine-gun fire and mortar exchanges.—INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US airline says Heathrow is "worst in Europe"

LONDON, 30 April — A senior American Airlines executive said on Tuesday that London's Heathrow was the worst airport used by the company in Europe.

Don Langford, head of customer services Europe for the airline, said its base at Terminal 3 had suffered from a lack of investment and was "a bit of a dump".

"I would have to say that Heathrow is in many ways the worst of all the airports that my company flies to in Europe," he told the BBC.

The damning verdict comes a month after the opening of Heathrow's new Terminal 5 building descended into chaos, with hundreds of flights cancelled and baggage lost.

No comment was immediately obtainable from Heathrow's operator, BAA. — MNA/Reuters

Workers remove the remains of a small plane that crashed into a house in the town of Catia La Mar, in northern Venezuela, on 28 April, 2008. XINHUA



US military deaths in Iraq at 4,058

BAGHDAD, 29 April—As of Tuesday, 29 April, 2008, at least 4,058 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. The figure includes eight military civilians. At least 3,306 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The *AP* count is one more than the Defence Department's tally, last updated Tuesday at 10 am EDT.

The British military has reported 176 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia, three; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, South Korea, one death each.—Internet

Militiamen ambush drives back US patrol in Sadr City

BAGHDAD, 30 April—Dozens of fighters ambushed a US patrol in Baghdad's main Shiite militia stronghold Tuesday, firing rocket-propelled grenades and machine gun bursts as the American push into Sadr City increasingly faces pockets of close urban combat.

US forces struck back with 200-pound guided rockets that devastated at least three buildings in the densely packed district that serves as the Baghdad base for the powerful Mahdi Army militia.—Internet



Two-year-old Ali Hussein is pulled from the rubble of his family’s home in the Shiite stronghold of Sadr City in Baghdad, Iraq on 29 April, 2008. The child, who later died in hospital, was in one of four homes allegedly destroyed by US missiles. —INTERNET

Greenpeace occupies US radar site on Czech soil

PRAGUE, 29 April — Members of Greenpeace occupied on Monday the site in the Brdy military district southwest of the capital of Prague, where a US missile Defence radar base is to be installed, the Czech news agency CTK reported.

Some 20 people have put up tents to protest against the planned building of the radar base, some 90 kilometres southwest of Prague.

Greenpeace mountaineers climbed trees at the site to fix up a giant banner.

The military district head Martin Brezovsky set 2:00 pm local time as a deadline for the activists to leave the site.

“We won’t meet the deadline,” Greenpeace’s Jan Freidinger said.

Defence Ministry spokesman Andrej Cirtek said the protesters have committed an unlawful act.

“The Defence Ministry

has nothing against political meetings if held outside the military district,” said Cirtek.

Greenpeace anti-radar campaign head Martin Kloubek said he does not know how long the activists will stay on the planned radar site, situated near the Misov Village.

The protest is not violent, the participants have not chained themselves to trees, Kloubek said. — MNA/Xinhua

Ukrainian helicopter crashes in Black Sea, 20 dead

KIEV, 29 April — A Ukrainian helicopter crashed onto an offshore drilling platform in the Black Sea on Monday, killing all 20 people on board, an Emergencies Ministry spokesman said.

Nineteen people were killed on impact and one initially survived, but he later died from his injuries, the ministry said. No one on the platform was injured.

The platform, on the West coast off the Crimea, is operated by state energy firm Naftogaz, which also owned the helicopter. “An Mi-8 helicopter with 20 people on board clipped the Tavrida platform with its tail rotor,” Naftogaz spokesman Ilya Savin said, in explaining how the crash happened. —MNA/Reuters

Suicide car bomb kills policeman in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 29 April — A suicide car bomb struck a police patrol in eastern Baghdad on Sunday, killing a policeman and wounding three others, an Interior Ministry source said.

A suicide bomber rammed his explosive-laden car into a police patrol near an intersection near Baghdad’s al-Shaab Stadium, damaging two police vehicles, killing a policeman and wounding three others aboard, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. US and Iraqi security forces sealed off the area as ambulances rushed to evacuate casualties, the source said.

Earlier in the day, a ministry source said that two roadside bomb detonated in a quick succession near an Iraqi Army foot-patrol in the 14th Ramadan Street in Mansour District, killing an officer and wounding four of his soldiers, along with two civilians. —MNA/Xinhua

Israeli Army storms central Gaza, detains nine in W Bank

GAZA, 29 April — In spite of the efforts to reach a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip between Israel and the Palestinians, several Israeli Army tanks and armoured vehicles stormed central Gaza town of Deir el-Ballah on Sunday.

Palestinian security sources and witnesses said that the Israeli Army Forces stormed the eastern Area of the town amid intensive gunfire, while bulldozers razed trees and leveled the ground of some farms in the area. AL-Qassam Brigades, Islamic Hamas armed wing, said in a leaflet that its militants attacked the Israeli Army forces in Deir el-Ballah with RBG missiles and mortar shells. —MNA/Xinhua



A base jumper is seen launching himself from a tower in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Australian police cruising Sydney’s city centre early Wednesday morning were startled when a parachutist floated to earth and landed in front of their patrol car. —INTERNET

Britain’s Prince William on secret Afghan trip

LONDON, 30 April — Prince William, second in line to the British throne, paid a secret visit to Afghanistan to meet British troops there, his office said on Wednesday.

A spokesman said the 25-year-old Prince, who was recently awarded his Royal Air Force wings after a training course, flew a military transport plane for part of the journey to Kandahar.

He spent three hours with British service personnel at the airfield before returning to Britain, the spokesman said.

Permission for the confidential trip on Monday had been given by his grandmother, Queen Elizabeth, and his father, Prince Charles.

MNA/Reuters



Blast kills 15 Afghans, wounds 25

KABUL, 30 April — At least 15 Afghans were killed and 25 wounded on Tuesday in an explosion in eastern Afghanistan, close to the border with Pakistan, a spokesman for NATO-led forces said.

“Initial reports are that 15 local nationals were killed and another 25 were wounded in an explosion in Nangarhar Province,” the spokesman for NATO’s International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said. Residents in the district, south of the city of Jalalabad, said Afghan forces and civilians were among the dead, which they said could total as many as 31.

One resident, reached by phone from Kabul, said the dead included 11 members of the Afghan security forces and two children.

It was not immediately clear what caused the explosion but suicide bombers have carried out attacks in the area in the past. — MNA/Reuters

A police officer patrols Tuesday, April 29, 2008, in Suffolk, Va. Three tornadoes smashed houses, piled cars on each other and injured more than 200 people Monday.

INTERNET



People sit in front of the stock index board in Chongqing Municipality, southwest China, on April 30, 2008. China's benchmark Shanghai Composite Index on the Shanghai Stock Exchange closed at 3693.11 points on Wednesday, up 4.82 percent from the previous close and the Shenzhen Component Index on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange closed at 13504.89 points, up 4.84 percent from the previous close. —XINHUA

Putin, Greek PM to sign South Stream pipeline deal

Moscow, 29 April—Greece and Russia will sign a deal to cooperate on building a major gas pipeline, South Stream, when President Vladimir Putin meets Greek Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis this week, a Kremlin source said.

The source said Karamanlis will meet outgoing president Putin and his successor Dmitry Medvedev, who will be sworn in on 7 May, when he visits Russia on 29-30 April.

Development Minister Christos Falias said earlier this month Greece has agreed to join the Kremlin-backed pipeline project, further boosting energy ties with Russia.

The pipeline, which will be jointly built by Russian

gas export monopoly Gazprom and Italy's energy group ENI, will eventually transport 30 billion cubic metres (bcm) of Russian gas a year to Europe.

Greece will become a transit state on the southern leg of the pipeline which will pump

gas to Italy.

The project, which aims to link Gazprom's Siberian gas fields with Europe and is seen as a competitor to the EU and US-backed Nabucco pipeline, will cost around 10 billion euros (15.66 billion US dollars).

MNA/Reuters

US-based COs mostly positive about China prospects

BEIJING, 29 April—The majority of US-based companies are positive about business prospects in China, with 89 per cent characterizing their five-year outlook as optimistic or cautiously optimistic, according to a survey released here on Monday by the American Chamber of Commerce.

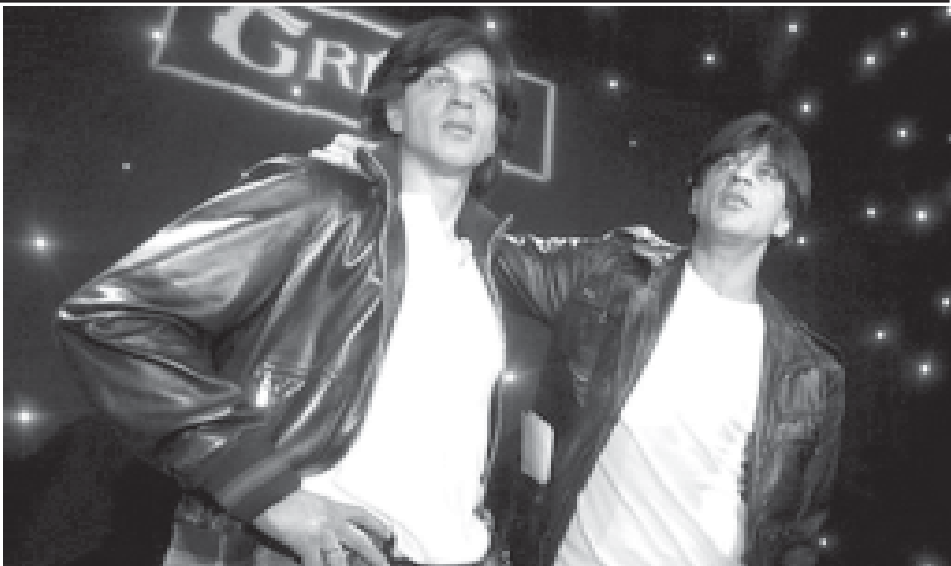
The findings of the 2008 Business Climate

Survey revealed that US companies remained bullish in China as an investment destination, with many planning to expand.

However, despite the positive outlook and improved operating margins, competitive forces and rising costs are increasingly affecting these companies, according to the survey.

While China's continued growth is playing an important role in investment decisions and expansion throughout the country, the rapid growth of the domestic economy has also created a fiercely competitive business environment that is driving significant cost increases, according to the survey.

MNA/Xinhua



Indian actor and Bollywood leading man Shah Rukh Khan, right, poses next to his life-size wax model displayed at Paris' Grevin Museum, on 28 April, 2008. Khan, 43, has acted in more than 50 movies. He is also a film producer and television host.—INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

Contract signed to heighten Russaires Dam

KHARTOUM, 29 April —The Sudanese Government and two Chinese companies on Sunday signed a contract of heightening the Russaires Dam on the Blue Nile River at the cost of 396 million dollars.

Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir and a number of Cabinet ministers and high-ranking officials attended the signing ceremony held at the Friendship Hall, as well as representatives of

the two Chinese companies — the Sinahydro Corporation and the China International Water and Electric Corporation.

Addressing the ceremony, Sudanese Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Kamal Ali Mohammed said the heightening of the Russaires Dam comes in implementation of the National Comprehensive Strategy and the Nile Water Agreement signed by

Sudan and Egypt in 1959.

He said the heightening of the Russaires Dam is the second phase aimed to increase the stored water from three billion to 7.3 billion cubic metres and increase the electricity power generation by 50 per cent, adding that the heightening of Russaires Dam will double the electricity generation of the Sennar Dam and will boost the capability of the Merowe Dam on the Nile River.—MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam wins rice tender in Philippines

HANOI, 29 April — Vietnamese firms have won a bid to sell 102,000 tons of rice to the Philippines, according to local newspaper *Vietnam Economic Times* on Monday.

The 25-per-cent broken rice priced at 1,200 US dollars per ton, the highest-ever price, will be delivered from now to June, the paper quoted the Vietnam Food Association as reporting.

Vietnamese businesses have signed contracts of shipping abroad 2.4 million tons of rice with delivery slated for this year, of which nearly 1.4 million tons worth 566 million dollars have been handed over to customers. —MNA/Xinhua

British oil refinery strike pushes high oil price

LONDON, 29 April — Oil prices have hit a fresh high just below 120 US dollars a barrel after a strike at a British refinery disrupted production from the North Sea.

Light crude on the US market hit a high of 119.93 US dollars a barrel before edging down to 119.40 US dollars on Monday. The

previous record mark of 119.90 US dollars a barrel was achieved on Friday.

In London, Brent crude rose 72 cents to 117.06 US dollars a barrel on Monday. BP (British Petroleum) shut down a key North Sea pipeline after staff walked out of the Grangemouth refinery in Scotland in a two-day

strike over pensions.

The BP-run pipeline from the Forties oil fields in the North Sea relies on steam and electricity from the Ineos refinery at Grangemouth. Providing a third of British oil output, the closure of the Forties pipeline has raised fears about supply shortages.

MNA/Xinhua



Sales of Mazda 6 sedans rose 47 percent in the first quarter from a year earlier to 17,589.

XINHUA



A celebration was held in Luwan Gymnasium in Shanghai on 29 April, 2008, marking the 100-day countdown of the 29th Olympic Games. Shanghai will host the Olympic torch relay next month and 12 soccer matches in August.—XINHUA

Hizbollah militants briefly detain Frenchman in Beirut

BEIRUT, 29 April — A Frenchman said on Sunday that he had been briefly detained on Saturday by militants of Hizbollah in Beirut.

Karim Pakzad, a French delegate to a Socialist International Meeting in Beirut, told a news conference here that he was stopped and questioned by armed

men who “spoke on behalf of Hizbollah” while he was taking a picture of a “beautiful mosque” at the airport road Saturday.

He said they questioned him for five hours before freeing him, adding that “this kind of behaviour can not be accepted in Lebanon or anywhere else.”

Lebanese Progressive

Socialist Party leader Walid Jumblat, who hosted the press conference, said there should be only one authority in Lebanon which has the right to interrogate people.

The airport road, which lies in southern Beirut, is a stronghold of Hizbollah, whose arms are a controversial issue in the country. — Xinhua

Chinese soldiers leave for UN peace mission in Liberia

BEIJING, 29 April — A 283-member team of Chinese soldiers left here on Monday for an eight-month UN peacekeeping operation in Liberia.

They formed the second batch of the seventh peacekeeping team that China has sent to the African country. The first batch of 275 soldiers departed on 18 April. The seventh team, 558 in total, is comprised of 240 transportation troops, 275 engineers and 43 medical staff, according to the Ministry of Defence. The engineering troops will build roads and bridges, and maintain airports and water and power facilities in Liberia. The transportation staff will be in charge of troop transport and logistics, while the medical unit will care for the sick and wounded and conduct epidemic prevention work.—Xinhua



A soldier participates in a civil defence exercise to guard civilians against terror attacks by chemical gas spraying and blasting at a subway station in Seoul on 29 April, 2008. XINHUA



Pascal Boisson (R), a French passenger injured in the train collision, receives a bunch of flowers presented by a Chinese nurse at Zibo Traditional Chinese Medicine Hospital in Zibo, east China’s Shandong Province, on 29 April, 2008.—XINHUA

Sri Lanka, Iran sign six agreements

COLOMBO, 30 April — The visiting Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Sri Lankan President witnessed the signing of six agreements between the two countries Monday night and vowed to push the relations to a new level. Officials from the Sri Lankan Presidential Secretariat said Tuesday that among the major agreements were the Financial Assistance for the Expansion of the Sapugaskanda Oil

Refinery and the Uma Oya project, Iran’s Development Assistance to Sri Lanka, and the Establishment of Political Consultation Mechanism.

Addressing journalists after bilateral talks and the agreements signing ceremony, Ahmadinejad pointed out that comprehensive cooperation between the two countries would provide security for both.

“We are seeking justice and fair play in the world.

Sri Lanka and Iran have agreed to cooperate in all spheres for the mutual benefit of each other,” said the Iranian President. He said there had been a constructive dialogue for the betterment and economic prosperity of the two countries whose cooperation has been increasing, and has the capacity to increase further. President Rajapaksa thanked his Iranian counterpart for the economic aid.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

China, Surinam agree on furthering military cooperation

BEIJING, 29 April — China and Surinam agreed to step up military cooperation during the talks between the defence ministers of the two countries here on Monday.

“China values its ties with Surinam as well as that between the two militaries,” said Chinese

Defence Minister Liang Guanglie.

Liang, who is also state councillor, applauded the recent growth in relations between the two nations, saying that China will explore with Surinam new fields and new approaches to step up the ties between the Armed Forces.

Visiting Surinamese

Defence Minister Ivan Fernald said the cooperation between Surinam and China bears strategic significance and Surinam will join with China to continue to expand the friendly cooperation between the two armies in fields such as military personnel training.

Xinhua

Hamas denies plot against Egypt’s nat’l security

GAZA, 29 April — Islamic Hamas movement on Sunday denied plotting any operation threatening Egypt’s national security.

“The Egyptian national security and the Arab security are both red lines that Hamas can not cross,” said Mohammed Nasser, a member of Hamas politburo.

Nasser’s remarks were made following reports that Egyptian authorities arrested two members of the Muslim Brotherhood opposition party, who, with Hamas, planned to prepare an unmanned aircraft.

The reports did not clarify what

the aircraft was designated to be used for. Nasser said the Palestinian factions “carry out resistance works without harming Egypt’s national security”.

He also said that such reports were motivated by holding “hostile to the Palestinians, the Egyptians and the Arabs”.

The reports come as Egypt mediates between Hamas and Israel to broker a ceasefire in the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip. Hamas has handed over its position to Egypt, and is waiting for response from the Israelis.

Xinhua

● Towards the new nation
Will ratify Constitution.

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

No place for saboteurs in new nation to be built in accord with new constitution

Maung De Doh

Maung De Doh: Hi, Bagyi Toe and Uncle Myo. Come and take a seat. Where do you come from?

Bagyi Toe: We are at the old age. So, we took a walk together and held discussions in the morning. And we happened to drop in on you. You are discussing and writing articles about the constitution. We have to find someone to chat because people by nature want to speak a lot when they are old.

Maung De Doh: Yes, it is a pleasure for me to chat with patriotic and well-experienced elderly persons who participated in Anti-Fascist Resistance like Bagyi Toe and knowledgeable pensioners like Uncle Myo.

Bagyi Toe: Well, I noticed some of the persons who took a walk in the morning listened to the radio for some news. Some news stories said that some persons are trying to disrupt the referendum in which the draft constitution will be approved. Then, I wonder what politics is. When I was young, I used to do politics. In the Japanese period, I was just a teenager. I joined Asia Youths' Asiayon to participate in the movements. They were underground movements for Anti-Fascist Resistance. When Bogyoke and patriots launched the Anti-Fascist Resistance, I joined the resistance troops. But I didn't want any titles and medals for my performances. So, I didn't apply for titles and medals. I took part in the movements because it was the concern of the entire people, not because I wanted titles and medals.

As far as I am concerned, politics is a very noble term. Actually, politics is an affair that is carried in the national interest. I understand so. If something is done in the national interest, it is national politics. However, nowadays, the term 'politics' is wrongly defined a lot. I would say, if some groups try for power, saying that they will serve the national interest only after they have come to power, it is called power politics. If they deceive the people that the nation will have a prosperous future only after their party has come to power, and they give priority to their self-interest rather than to the public interest when they come to power, it is called party politics. And if they use violence, claiming that the nation will develop only after the ruling government is removed through violence, it is called violent politics. Indeed, they are seeking self-interests in disguise of national interests. So, as British General Lord Mountbatten once said that politics became a haven for waifs and strays. How stupid it was to blast some automobiles of ordinary people with the intention of creating public panic for disrupting the referendum. What is the use of doing so for the owners, human society and the

State? That is just violence, not politics.

Uncle Myo: Yes, Bagyi Toe. In reality, the constitution is not just for any particular person, organization, party, or group. Frankly speaking, it is not just for Tatmadaw government or NLD, either. It is national politics that concerns the whole nation and entire people. The constitution doesn't concern policies and political concepts. A constitution is necessary for all countries, Socialist, Communist, imperialist, kingdom or feudal. A constitution can be called social contract that prescribes the responsibilities, authority and rights of the people and the government.

If someone puts me a question, is a constitution essential, I must reply that it is not. But, in the times of emergency, the people are helpless, and are at the mercy of the ruling government. If there is a constitution, every citizen with grievances may submit a complaint to the Supreme Court. The people can recall the representative under the right of recall if they no longer like him. If they assume that the President or members of the governing body are incompetent in discharge of duties and commit corruptions, they can remove them by impeaching them through the hluttaw concerned. In short, State power can be derived from the public, the ultimate owner of State power, only when there is a constitution.

Maung De Doh: I wonder why saboteurs are not happy with the drive for the approval of the constitution for entrusting State power to the people.

Uncle Myo: In my opinion, it is because there will be no places for them in the new State. I'm sure the new constitution is not beneficial to them. So, they dislike it, and they will continue to try to disrupt the process for the approval of the constitution.

As you Ko De Doh once said, the constitution is a nutrient for a country. In a family, some of the family members like very much the meals the mother cooks, some like the meals fairly, and some dislike them. Perceptive children will have the meals even if they don't like them much. Negligent ones might turn violent and shout at the dinning table. In the end, they might overturn the table. Then, their acts cannot bring any benefits to them and they have intention that others cannot have meals.

Maung De Doh: The new constitution carries a checks and balances system. And there will be Tatmadaw member representatives who will safeguard national security. So, saboteurs who want to break up the nation and the lackeys groups of the colonialists will not be in a position to come to power and do at will even if they come to power. I think therefore they are committing destructive activities in order that there cannot be a new

constitution.

Bagyi Toe: I think in the process of holding the referendum, the people will understand more than ever who are constructive forces and who are destructive forces. I have witnessed that the Tatmadaw government has devoted itself to nation-building tasks at unprecedented levels. In the past, the people of our village in Anya region had to spend the whole night to fetch a pot of drinking water in handscooped wells in the dry creek. The villagers could take bath only once or twice a week. They had to feed green watermelon to cattle. Now, the people are leading an easy life due to the tube-wells of the underground water tapping stations. Now, they don't need to be worried about food because now they can grow paddy with the use of irrigation water. Recently, I went to my native village to attend the ceremony to initiate 101 children into novices, the situations of the village were unlike in the past. Almost all the households have a TV and a motor cycle. Unlike in the past, the people no longer need to wait the whole night to take a Z-craft to cross the river. The new bridge is a magnificent facility. They are tangible proofs.

The constitution is part of the nation-building drive. I notice the government is taking measures systematically in this regard. To regain power, the people just need to go to the polling booth and cast 'yes' vote.

I have heard of saboteurs many times in my life. They are committing various forms of destructive acts such as blasting trains, kidnapping, collection of distortion money, murder, instigation of riots in rural areas, murders when the government's administrative mechanism is no longer effective, if they are not in a position to commit any acts, they dissuade the monks from sitting for oral examinations, creation of public panic among the national people, inventing rumours, spreading slanderous news stories, detonation of bombs among the people, misleading of the people into considering that the nation will be in ruin soon. They are committing subversive acts, and criticizing the people who serve in the national interest.

Now, the constitution is going to be approved. Like the devils that are afraid of voices of reciting Kammava, so they are now trying to disrupt the processes for the approval of the constitution. However, if the entire national people cast 'Yes' vote in the referendum, there will be no places for the evil saboteurs to live.

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.**

Senior General Than Shwe sends Workers Day Message...

(from page 1)
greater and wider owing to the improvement of various production sectors such as agriculture, meat and fish, forestry, mining and energy.
Now there are unprecedented job opportunities in the country. The government is laying down plans to provide qualified human resources for those opportunities in the regions.
The government has been making arrangements for the blue and white collar workers to provide welfare and worksite safety and to enjoy deservedly their opportunities and rights as there are a lot of job opportunities.
At a time when the achievements have been made in political, economic and social aspects due to the active cooperation of the national people under the leadership of the government, I urge the entire workers to continue to participate in the tasks for

realization of the targets of the economic plans of the State.
As is known to all, the State Peace and Development Council has laid down the seven-step Road Map for emergence of a peaceful modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation and is implementing them.
In accord with the seven-step Road Map, the National Convention was held. Over one thousand delegates of national races and all walks of life representing the entire people took part in the discussions at the National Convention. After successful holding of the National Convention the draft constitution in conformity with the new nation was drawn in accord with the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention. The approval of the draft constitution will be sought through referendum this May.

I would like to urge the mass of the workers to take part in the tasks whatever role they are in for approval of the draft constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar drawn in accord with the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention attended by delegates of the workers.
I urge all blue collar and white collar workers in all seriousness to actively take part in the tasks for building a peaceful modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation together with the entire people

- for raising the national economic life and development of production and services sectors
- for approval of the draft constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and success of the referendum
- for success of the seven-step Road Map.

MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe meets...

(from page 1)
for power supply, entrepreneurs on requirements and Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win on arrangements for fulfilling the needs.
Lt-Gen Myint Swe urged the entrepreneurs to implement the projects in unity as soon as possible with the assistance of the departments concerned.
He inspected the main sub-power station in the Industrial Zone and was conducted round the station by Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and officials.
At the briefing hall, Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint reported on installation of three 100-MVA transformers, connection of power lines in the switch yard and installation of 230-KV power grid linking Myaungdaga main sub-power station and Kamanat (Bago). Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave necessary instructions.
On completion of the projects in Myaungdaga Foundry Industrial Zone, there will be more power supply for the people in Yangon.—MNA

Commander and Secretariat...

(from page 2)
regional development tasks to the minister. After hearing the reports, the minister made arrangements to fulfill the requirements and made a speech on the occasion.
Afterwards, the Secretariat Member presented K 200,000 for Hanthawady BEMS (Branch), K 100,000 for Koatka village station, development items, household and personal goods for the local people, exercise books for the students and publications for the library.
In his meetings with the local people, he said that the Government is building infrastructures with added momentum for all-round development of the country, especially placing emphasis on education, health and transport sectors. The Govern-

ment is implementing dams, embankments, river water pumping stations and underground tapping water projects. In addition, it is focusing on implementation of five rural development tasks. Peace and stability play an important role in ensuring sustainable development. The people in some world nations are encountering troubles daily because there is no peace and stability. As regards, the people are to value peace and stability that is basic for the development. It is required of the people to weigh the prevailing situations of the nation in order not to be caught in the instigation of internal and external destructive elements. The State Constitution all the entire people will approve soon fully guarantees peace and stability for the people. Based

Billboards set up in Yangon North District to hail Referendum



A ceremony to erect a billboard to hail the Referendum in progress in Taikkyi. — MNA

YANGON, 30 April — The ceremonies to set up billboards, to hail the Referendum for approval

on the prevailing conditions of the country, the constitution has been drawn the most suitable for the people. He urged those who are patriotic and favour development, peace and stability to go to the polling booth and cast vote for the referendum.

After the meetings, the Secretariat Member cordially greeted the local people. Upon arrival at the construction site of Government Technological University of the Ministry of Science and Technology in Gangaw, officials concerned reported on progress in building the university to the Secretariat Member. After hearing the reports, he gave instructions on utilization of the quality construction materials and inspected the construction works.

MNA

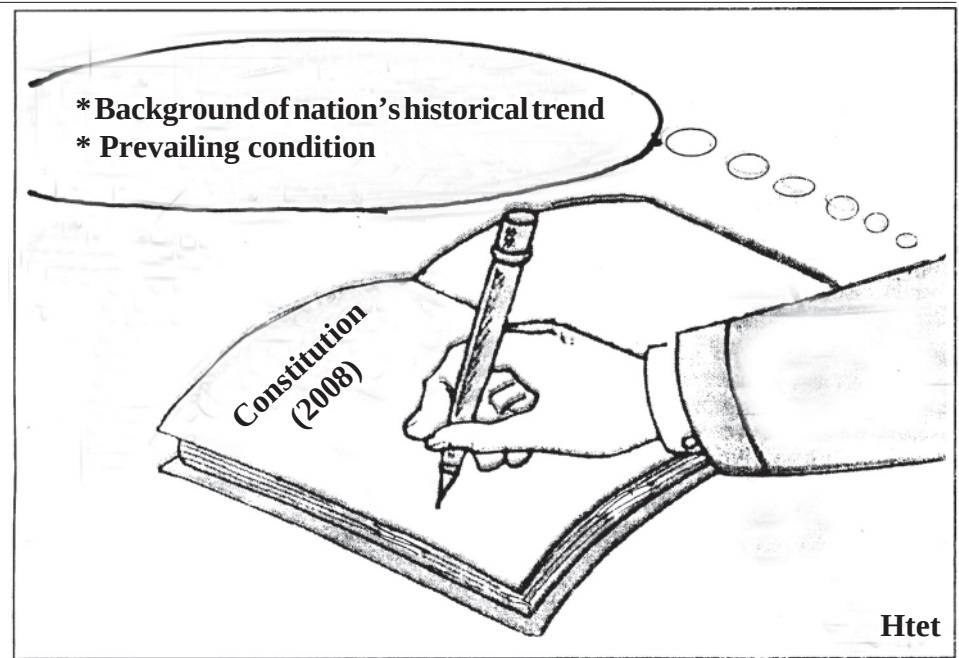
of the draft State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, were held at the designated places in four townships, Yangon North District.

Departmental personnel, townselders, members of social organizations and local people erected 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." in front of the Hlegu Township People's Hospital in Hlegu, "To approve the State Constitution is a national duty of the entire people today. Let us all cast "Yes" vote in the na-

tional interest." in front of Myoma market in Hmawby Township, "Democracy cannot be achieved by anarchism or violence, but by Constitution." at the junction of Yangon-Pyay and Phayalay Roads and "Let's approve Constitution to shape our future by ourselves." in front of Htantabin Township Peace and Development Council Office.

MNA



● For flourishing of democracy Ratify Constitution

● Let's get democracy by voting at polling booth

18th Annual General Meeting of MMCWA...

(from page 16)

In the evening, MMCWA President Daw Khin Saw Hnin hosted a dinner to mark the successful conclusion of the 18th annual general meeting of MMCWA at the office of the association in Nay Pyi Taw.

It was attended by Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and wife Daw Swe Swe Oo, member of National Health Committee Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Khin Khin Win and Vice-President Daw Khin Lay Myint, the president and the vice-presidents, the CEC members and central council members of MMCWA, chairpersons of State/Division MCWSCs, the secretaries and joint-secretaries, responsible persons of social organizations and guests.

MMCWA President Daw Khin Saw Hnin spoke words of thanks.

Next, the President presented gift to Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

Afterwards, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint presented awards to Yangon, Mandalay and Bago Division (East) MCWSCs which stood first, second and



MMCWA President Daw Khin Saw Hnin presents award to Supervisory Committee for Shan State (North) MCWA.

MNA

third in implementing social activities for 2007 and consolation prizes to Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions.

MMCWA President Daw Khin Saw Hnin presented first, second and third prizes to Shan State (East), Mon State and Shan State (North) MCWSCs and consolation prizes to Kachin State and Shan State (South).

Next, Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint presented best paper awards to Ayeyawady Division, Shan State (East) and Magway Division MCWSCs and special prizes to Yangon and Sagaing Divisions. Vice-President Daw Aye Aye presented awards to Rakhine, Chin, Kayah States and Bago Division (West).

Vice-President Daw Aye Aye also presented cash award to artists who performed entertainments at the dinner.—MNA

Horticultural show, contest, seminar on 4 May

YANGON, 30 April – Jointly organized by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Myanmar Fruit and Vegetables Producers and Exporters Association, the 2nd Horticultural contest, show and seminar will be held at Myaepadethakyun, here, from 4 to 7 May.

The fruits, vegetables and flowers to be taking part in the contest are mango, cucumber, watermelon, banana, guava, pineapple, jack fruit, papaya, asparagus, chilly, rose, chrysanthemum, lily, carnation, anthurium, cymbidium and orchid (foreign species). Fruit and vegetables produced from states and divisions, packaging process booth, agricultural equipments, pesticide, seeds and fertilizers and educative booths will be displayed at the show.

Paper reading session and seminar will be held. Local and foreign experts and technicians will give talks on horticulture. The talks will be held at Western Park Royal, Kandawgyi and every one may take part in discussion.

Those interested may contact Myanmar Fruit and Vegetables Producers and Exporters Association, Ph: 01 703754, 01 514226 and 09 5134273. — MNA

18th AGM of MMCWA passes three resolutions, 11 future tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April —The 18th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association which was held from 28 to 30 April passed three resolutions and 11 future tasks today.

Three resolutions are :

1. To follow instructions of the National Health Committee as guidance and carry out the instructions;
2. To disseminate knowledge among the people to prevent impacts of the climate change in accordance with the slogan "Climate change and health", and
3. To actively carry out tasks of MMCWA, joining hands with governmental departments and social organizations and NGOs which share aims with the association.

Eleven future tasks are :

1. With the aim of decreasing the mother and child mortality rate, to provide health care to pregnant women and to hand over pregnant women who are expected to have difficulty in labour in time and to help pregnant women give birth to babies by skilled persons. (To conduct these tasks extensively in rural areas and suburbs)
2. To nurture local mid-wives and to polish their mid-wifery skills continuously.
3. To take preventive measures against malaria, Tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS and seasonal infectious diseases; to inform nearest health departments in case of breaking out of infectious diseases.
4. To take measures to disseminate knowledge on nutrition and on preparing meals and food in hygienic conditions among families.
5. To make efforts for improvement of health and sanitation work in the environs and use of safe water and full use of fly-proof latrines.
6. For family members to take traditional medicine course, to provide family health care service with the application of traditional medicine and cultivate medicinal plants
7. To carry out school health activities, to create healthy atmosphere for the children and to carry out measures for declaration of rubbish free schools, Aedes free schools and tobacco free zone
8. To open more pre-primary schools for development of children, for every school-going age child to complete primary education and to provide assistance for learning in middle and high schools
9. To upgrade education promotion programmes
10. To enhance micro-credit scheme to generate family income and to conduct vocational courses
11. To raise momentum of education, social and economic aspects and health care services by mobilizing ten-house in-charge members and to report the register of births and deaths in the wards to the nearest health care units.

MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint presents award to Supervisory Committee for Bago Division (East) MCWA.

MNA

Free eye surgeries to be performed in Mandalay

YANGON, 30 April— A medical team comprising Myanmar and Japan eye specialists will give free medical treatment to cataract patients in Mandalay from 3 to 5 May.

The free medical treatment programme was organized by Ministry of Health and Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and Development Association and will be conducted at the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital in Mandalay.

Those wish to receive medical treatment may contact the office of Mandalay Division USDA and the outpatient department of the hospital.

MNA

Medvedev to visit China on first foreign trip

Moscow, 30 April — Russia’s president-elect Dmitry Medvedev said on Tuesday he would travel to China as part of his first foreign visit following his inauguration next month. “As I promised ... I

will first go to Kazakhstan, a country that is close to us, and from Kazakhstan I will go to China. That will be my first international trip,” Medvedev said in a question-and-answer session at a Russian newspaper.

Medvedev takes over from Vladimir Putin as Russia’s President on 7 May. Putin, who has been President for eight years, says Russia’s ties with China have never been better.— MNA/Reuters

Armed gang robs security van in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 30 April — An armed gang Monday robbed a security van at the office building of Mexico’s state oil company Pemex stealing 477,000 US dollars.

Seven armed robbers attacked the security van when the guards were putting cash into automatic teller machines inside the office building, Pemex said in a statement.

After a number of gunshots, the assailants overwhelmed the van’s crew and several passers-by before stealing some

five million pesos (477,000 dollars).

The gang fled in a green Ford Expedition pick-up along Marina National Avenue after the raid, said the statement, adding that nobody was injured in the incident.

An investigation showed that the robbers had used four old cars with license plates from the central Mexican state of Hidalgo to block roads around the Pemex building ahead of the attack.

MNA/Xinhua

Guatemalan police seize 470 kilos of cocaine

MEXICO CITY, 30 April — Guatemalan police have seized 470 kilos of cocaine at an illegal runway between the northern province of Peten and the Caribbean Province of Izabal, official sources said.

The drugs, seized Friday, were brought into the country on a small airplane apparently from Colombia. It landed at the clandestine runway in the northern region of Guatemala.

The crew members abandoned the plane and fled, Guatemala’s Interior Ministry’s spokesman Ricardo Garcia said, adding that the drugs allegedly belonged to Mexico’s Gulf Cartel.— MNA/Xinhua



National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets perform a cultural dance during the visit of India’s Defence Minister A K Anthony to the NCC special national integration camp in New Delhi on 29 April, 2008.—INTERNET



Director-General of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Jacques Diouf (L-R), UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon and World Bank President Robert Zoellick attend a news conference in Bern on 29 April, 2008. UN agencies and the World Bank will set up a task force on food to deal with the unprecedented rise in global food prices.—INTERNET

British PM says NATO’s Afghan mission in trouble

LONDON, 30 April — British Prime Minister Gordon Brown told his allies that NATO’s mission in Afghanistan was “critically” short of key troops and equipment, the *Daily Telegraph*

reported on Tuesday.

Brown has repeatedly tried to persuade allies including France and Germany to bear more military burden in Afghanistan, but the daily said his efforts had largely

failed.

The newspaper said according to a “confidential Foreign and Commonwealth Office paper” it obtained, there was a catalog of problems and weaknesses in

Western attempts to stabilize the country.

The three-page document, which summarized the British view of Afghanistan, was drawn up at Brown’s request to be distributed to Western allies.

In a list of “critical areas to fill”, the document said NATO would still need three infantry battalions, more helicopters, more aircraft and more training teams to help the Afghan Army.

It also raised concerns about the situation after November this year, when more than 2,300 US Marines are to be withdrawn from the south, where British forces are based.— MNA/Xinhua

Wild elephants kill children in Bangladesh villages

COX’S BAZAR (Bangladesh), 30 April — Two children were trampled to death and a man maimed as straying wild elephants destroyed two villages over the last 24 hours in southeastern Bangladesh, officials

said on Monday.

A girl was killed and six bamboo houses flattened as elephants ravaged a village near Cox’s Bazar District town, 400 kilometres (250 miles) from the capital Dhaka on Monday.

A boy was killed and a man seriously injured when wild elephants

strayed into another village in the same district on Sunday. Five houses were levelled by the rampaging elephants.

In both the attacks, the villagers fled their homes but later returned with drums and firecrackers to scare off the herds of wild elephants.

MNA/Reuters

Bird flu virus detected in Denmark

STOCKHOLM, 30 April — Bird flu virus has been detected on a farm in Denmark’s central Fyn island, the country’s veterinary department announced Monday.

Some 2,000 chickens on the farm in Stenstrup on the island will be culled Tuesday to contain the spread of the disease, the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration said

in a statement .

Initial checks show that the virus detected is not the deadly H5N1 strain that has ravaged Southeast Asia over the past two years. — MNA/Xinhua

Venezuelan capital, 8 states hit by power cut

CARACAS, 30 April — A major power outage hit Venezuela’s capital and eight states on Tuesday, and emergency officials called for calm as the blackout caused traffic chaos.

Caracas’ metro train system ground to a halt, traffic lights went out and mobile phone services

collapsed across the country.

A government official said the power failure was caused by a snapped cable and that it expected electricity supplies would be restored within a few hours.

“We have some electrical failures in several states across the country,”

Luis Curvelo, head of Venezuela’s emergency services, told television station Globovision.

He called on the population to remain calm.

Initial reports did not suggest oil refineries were affected, although the power was out in the oil-producing states of Falcon and Zulia.—MNA/Reuters

Members of Sichuan Emei Centennial Wushu Troupe perform with swords during the Chinese Wushu Festival, a rendezvous of leading Chinese martial arts factions as Shaolin, Wudang and Emei, in a folk culture village in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, on 29 April, 2008. —XINHUA

Images of the Day

A model displays a natural pearl and diamond necklace as it is auctioned during a jewellery sale by Christie's in Dubai, on 29 April, 2008. The necklace was sold for the final and highest price of the auction \$1,743,400.—XINHUA



In this photo, released by New Zealand Fisheries Department shown is a giant squid caught in the Ross Sea, Antarctica. New Zealand scientists have begun thawing the world's largest squid to try to unlock some of the secrets of one of the ocean's most mysterious beasts. The 495 kilogram (1,089 pound), 8-meter (26-ft.) long colossal squid was removed from its freezer on 28 April, 2008, and put into a tank filled with a saline solution, the first step of a plan that will eventually put it on public display. —INTERNET



A polar bear jumps into the water at St-Felicien Wildlife Zoo in St-Felicien, Quebec March 6, 2008. XINHUA



Four-year-old Peruvian Milagros Cerron (front, C) rides a tricycle with the help of Lima Mayor Luis Castaneda (front, L) during her birthday ceremony at Lima's City Hall, Lima, capital of Peru, on 28 April, 2008. Milagros has been dubbed the 'Little Mermaid' because of a rare birth defect in which her legs are joined together.—XINHUA

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Extension of Tender Closing Date & Time
Tender Closing Date & Time, 9.5.2008 (Friday) (12:00 Noon), of Tender No. 1/MR/INDIA(ML) 2008-2009 for the Supply of Spare Parts for Locomotives YDM-4 (India) which was advertised in the New Light of Myanmar (on 4.4.2008 and 5.4.2008), the Mirror (on 5.4.2008 and 6.4.2008), Myanma Alin (on 7.4.2008 and 8.4.2008), is extended to 30.5.2008 Friday (12:00 Noon). For further enquires, Please call 95-1-291982, 95-1-291985, 95-1-291988.

With Gratitude
The family of Daw Mya Kyi (Mrs. T.O. Brown) would like to convey their heartfelt gratitude for all those beloved friends who have shown their love and compassion by their support and participation in various ways throughout the funeral proceedings.
Family of Daw Mya Kyi

Two arrested for factory fire in Casablanca

RABAT, 29 April— The owner and manager of a mattress factory in Casablanca were detained Sunday after at least 55 people were killed in a fire which broke out in the factory, Morocco’s official news agency MAP reported.
Factory owner Adil Moufareh and his son Abdelali, the factory’s manager, have been detained for questioning. Poor safety measures and locked doors which trapped workers were blamed for the tragedy, during which at least 55 people have been confirmed dead and six others were hospitalized, local police said.
MNA/Xinhua

Italy eyes minimum income rules for immigrants

ROME, 29 April—Italy’s next government should create a minimum income requirement for immigrants, including those from other European Union countries, the man expected to be Italy’s new Foreign Minister said. Franco Frattini, who holds the EU’s top justice and security post and is a longtime ally of prime minister-elect Silvio Berlusconi, said the income requirement would become necessary for visits of more than three months.
“We need a national law that establishes a minimum income below which foreigners cannot stay in our country for more than 90 days,” Frattini said in an interview published on Monday in *Il Giornale* newspaper, owned by Berlusconi’s brother.
MNA/Reuters

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M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.,
for **BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 1 May 2008

Sri Lanka uncovers child trafficking racket

COLOMBO, 29 April—Sri Lankan officials arrested three people when they uncovered a child-trafficking racket after three children were deported

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U Myint Lwin, Advocate,
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Ph : 371 990
1.May.2008

from Singapore for having false documents.
The Child Protection Authority of Sri Lanka said on Monday investigations were under way to find the people behind the child smuggling, which had taken place over several months, adding the group had smuggled “a considerable number” of children.
“We have arrested three people and the investigations are going on,” said Jagath Wellawattha, chairman of the authority.
Wellawattha said the investigations began when Singapore authorities deported three children, an 11-year-old girl and two 16-year-old boys, who had tried to go to Britain on

forged Malaysian passports. The children were taken from Sri Lanka to Malaysia where false Malaysian passports were prepared for them to enter Britain via Singapore, Wellawattha said.
MNA/Reuters

Ukraine PM tells Russian PM all gas debts settled

KIEV, 29 April—Ukraine has paid off its debts to Russia for its gas imports, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said on Monday at a meeting with her Russian counterpart Viktor Zubkov.
A row over Ukraine’s gas debts caused Russia’s export monopoly Gazprom to briefly cut supplies in early March, threatening deliveries to

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P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 1 May 2008

Mass intestinal virus infection kills 20 in E China

HEFEI, 29 April—A total of 20 children have died and 1179 others fallen ill in an outbreak of a lethal intestinal virus in Fuyang City, east China's Anhui Province, since March.
The enterovirus 71 has sickened a total of 1,199 children and kills 20 of them by Sunday night, the municipal government of Fuyang said Monday night, quoting statistics from local hospitals and centre for disease control.
By Sunday night, 341 children remain in hospital for further medical observation, of whom, 27 are said to be in critical conditions and eight terminally ill.
Hospitals in Fuyang, in northwest Anhui, started to take in children with fever, along with blisters, ulcers in the mouth, or rashes on the hands and feet, in early March. Some of the victims were diagnosed with brain, heart and lung damage.
All of the victims were aged below six, of whom, the majority being children under the age of two. Enterovirus 71 can cause hand, foot and mouth disease which usually starts with a slight fever followed by blisters of ulcers in the mouth and on the hands and feet.
MNA/Xinhu

36 prisoners tunnel out of Brazilian jail

BRASILIA, 29 April—A group of 36 prisoners tunneled their way out of a prison in northeast Brazil Saturday morning, said Brazilian officials.
The escape happened at a jail in Campina Grande, Brazil’s northeast state of Paraiba. The prisoners dug a six-metre-long tunnel from the prison’s courtyard to the street outside, which goes right between the prison's two sentry boxes.
Till now, only one escaped prisoner has been recaptured.
Pedro Adalson, director of the Penitentiary Administration of Paraiba state, called the escape a “product of negligence”.
MNA/Xinhua

Drive with care

Study shows tomato dishes protect skin

LONDON, 29 April — British researchers have found adding cooked tomatoes to the daily diet improved the skin’s ability to protect against harmful UV rays, according to a BBC report on Monday.

Researchers at the universities of Manchester and Newcastle found adding five tablespoons of tomato paste to the daily diet of 10 volunteers could help ward off skin damage by providing some protection against the effects of UV rays. Damage caused by these rays can lead to premature aging and even skin cancer.

In a study, the

researchers gave 10 volunteers around 55 grammes of standard tomato paste which contains high levels of cooked tomatoes and 10 grammes of olive oil daily, with a further 10 participants receiving just the olive oil.

After three months, skin samples from the tomato group showed they had 33 per cent more protection against sunburn, the equivalent of a very low factor sun cream, and much higher levels of procollagen, a molecule which gives the skin its structure and keeps it firm.

The study suggested

the antioxidant lycopene, found at its highest concentration when the tomatoes have been cooked, was behind the apparent benefit.

“The tomato diet boosted the level of procollagen in the skin significantly. These increasing levels suggest potential reversal of the skin aging process,” Lesley Rhodes, a dermatologist at the University of Manchester, was quoted as saying. — MNA/Xinhua



A small peninsula, that used to be a thick pine forest on the entrance of Montenegro’s main resort of Budva, is being turned into a Dubai-style skyscraper hotel, surrounded by a dozen luxury villas. ‘Experience the Wild Beauty’ is Montenegro’s newest tourist slogan. — INTERNET

Highways closed down in Argentina due to smoke cloud

BUENOS AIRES, 29 April — Argentine officials Sunday shut down a number of highways due to low visibility triggered by farmland burning that has been affecting a large part of Argentina for some weeks.

To prevent accidents, officials closed different stretches of highways 8, 9 and 12 which cross the provinces of Buenos Aires, Entre Rios and Santa Fe.

Buenos Aires Province and its surrounding areas have been affected by farmland burning in the delta zone of the Parana River, which has caused a dense smoke cloud, smothering cities and routes. Rosario city and the villages of Zarate,

Baradero and San Pedro are the most affected by the smoke cloud.

The government has been unable to stop the hundreds of farmland fires due to strong winds.

MNA/Xinhua

H5 strain of bird flu virus detected in N-E Japan

TOKYO, 29 April — Japan’s northeastern Akita Prefecture has detected the H5 strain of the bird flu virus in several dead and dying swans in the past week, officials said on Monday. Japanese media report said three dead swans and one dying swan were found last Monday near Lake Towada, with the virus being detected in three of them. Another dead swan and two dying swans were later found on the shores of the lake from Wednesday to Saturday.

Links between the virus and the swans’ death are yet to be confirmed, prefectural government officials said, adding that no widespread deaths of birds or animals had been reported in the region. — MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to investigate rice speculation

HANOI, 30 April — Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung has required the Ministry of Public Security to investigate false rumour on rice insufficiency and the commodity’s speculation, which has caused soaring prices in recent days and panic buying.

Accordingly, the ministry will focus on inspecting paddy and rice millers and traders, and coordinate with relevant agencies to timely detect and prevent speculation of the grain, local newspaper *Youth* re-ported on Tuesday.

People in Vietnam’s southern Ho Chi Minh City rushed to buy rice, causing rice scarcity and price hike of up to 100 per cent several days ago. However, rice prices and buyers in the city have sharply decreased since Monday, said the paper.

The Prime Minister has also asked local food traders to ensure sufficient rice supplies and stabilize local rice market.

MNA/Xinhua



A Pakistani labourer throws a bag of potatoes onto a truck at the market in Islamabad. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on 29 April, ordered a top level task force to take on the global crisis caused by rising food prices and urged key producer nations to end export bans.

INTERNET

Russia launches rocket with Israeli satellite

MOSCOW, 29 April — Russia launched a carrier rocket on Monday to send an Israeli communications satellite into space, news agencies reported.

The Russian booster *Zenit-3SLB* with the upper-stage rocket *DM-SLB*, which lifted off from the Baikonur spaceport in Kazakhstan at 9 a m Moscow Time (0500 GMT), has placed the Israeli communications satellite *AMOS-3* in the terrestrial orbit, *Interfax*

quoted Lieutenant-General Alexei Zolotukhin, top spokesman for the Russian Space Forces, as saying. In several hours the Israeli satellite, which weighs 1,300 kilos and has a service life of about 18 years, will be placed on a geostationary orbit at an altitude of 36,000 kilometers, the spokesman said.

The rocket had been scheduled to orbit the Israeli satellite on 24 April, but was postponed as the

ground equipment was not ready for the launch.

The satellite, worth some 170 million US dollars, will join the *AMOS-2* satellite and replace *AMOS-1* to increase capacity, expand coverage and enhance direct cross-Atlantic links connecting the Middle East to Europe and the US East Coast, *RIA Novosti* reported, quoting the fleet’s operator, the Space Communications Ltd.

MNA/Xinhua



People purchase food at an outdoor market in New York City. A “biofuels frenzy” and other misguided policies have led to the global food crisis in which prices have soared and rice consumption is outpacing production, threatening a billion people with malnutrition, experts said Tuesday. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Twente beat NAC Breda 3-0 in Dutch playoff semifinal

AMSTERDAM, 30 April — Twente Enschede cruised to a 3-0 home victory over nine-man NAC Breda on Tuesday in the semifinal, first leg of a playoff to decide the second Dutch Champions League qualifier.

Defender Rob Wilaert headed home an Orlando Engelaar free kick after 32 minutes to open the scoring before Breda had Patrick Mtiliga sent off for a second booking in the 64th minute and Ron Stam for a straight red card 13 minutes later.

Romano Denneboom doubled the lead 11 minutes from time and Stein Huysegems added a third in stoppage time to make the second leg, in Breda on Sunday, a formality.

Heerenveen host Ajax Amsterdam on Thursday in the first leg of the other semi-final. The winner of the final goes forward to next season's Champions League third qualifying stage. —MNA/Reuters



Brazil's Paulo Carvalho celebrates after defeating Colombia's Oscar Negrete Padilla at the end of a boxing qualifying fight for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, in Guatemala City, on 29 April, 2008. INTERNET

Wonder strike puts Scholes on brink of redemption

MANCHESTER (England), 30 April — Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson said he was delighted it had fallen to Paul Scholes to score the match winning goal as the Old Trafford club booked a place in the Champions League final on Tuesday.

Scholes missed United's 1999 European Cup triumph through suspension, but Ferguson confirmed the long-serving midfielder would be the first name on his team sheet for the final in Moscow after he secured a 1-0 aggregate win over Barcelona. —MNA/Reuters



Fernando Torres, seen here, has been living a dream in the Champions League this season but the Liverpool striker wants one more fairytale in his side's semi-final second leg against Chelsea on Wednesday. —INTERNET

Nalbandian recovers to edge past Calleri in Barcelona

BARCELONA, 30 April — Third seed David Nalbandian recovered from a shocking start to beat Argentine compatriot Agustin Calleri 1-6, 7-6, 6-3 on Tuesday and become the first man into the third round of the Barcelona Open.

Calleri, a semifinalist here last year, raced through

the first set in 26 minutes. Nalbandian served poorly and allowed his opponent, ranked 60, to take the initiative. Nalbandian then squandered a 4-0 lead in the second set and was forced into a tiebreak which he won 7-2.

He broke the Calleri serve in the first game of the decider and repeated the

feat in the ninth game to clinch victory. He next meets 14th seed Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland or Kazakhstani lucky loser Yuri Schukin. Guillermo Coria's struggle to regain top form after injury continued. He was beaten 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 by Russian Teimuraz Gabashvili in the first round. —MNA/Reuters



Beijing conducted a big marathon relay to mark the 100-day countdown of the coming Olympic Games on Wednesday. XINHUA

Eriksson unlikely to stay at Man City

LONDON, 30 April — Sven-Goran Eriksson is unlikely still to be at Manchester City manager next season, his agent said on Tuesday.

British media have speculated the former England coach would resign or be sacked after City's Thai owner Thaksin Shinawatra said earlier this month he was unhappy with the Premier League club's recent form and wanted change.

Asked whether the Swede would still be at the helm at the beginning of next season, Eriksson's agent Athole Still told Sky Sports News: "It's looking odds against."

"If Dr Shinawatra was going to give a ringing message of support I think we would have heard it."

Eriksson, popular with fans after a respectable first season that included doing a rare double over city rivals and league leaders Manchester United, said he had met Thaksin at the weekend but declined to give details about their discussions.

"The chairman and I spoke at the weekend but I do not wish to comment any further," he said in a statement on the club's website (www.mccfc.co.uk).

MNA/Reuters

Inter say Ronaldinho price too high



Ronaldinho

ROME, 30 April — Inter Milan President Massimo Moratti said on Tuesday Ronaldinho was expensive and the club were unlikely to try to outbid city rivals AC Milan to sign him from Barcelona.

"The price of

Ronaldinho is a little high," Moratti told reporters on Tuesday. "We are following the affair but I don't think we are the most interested. Others have officially said they are. There is no derby (to sign him)."

Barcelona President Joan Laporta said that the player was worth at least 40 million euros (62.30 million US dollars).

AC Milan agreed personal terms with the Brazil forward earlier this month but the transfer has stalled over the Spanish club's asking price.

MNA/Reuters

Blatter hopes Spain bid to host World Cup in 2018

MADRID, 30 April — Sepp Blatter, president of soccer's governing body FIFA, has said it was about time Spain hosted another World Cup.

"I remember the World Cup in 1982," Blatter was quoted as saying in Spanish media on Tuesday. "It broke a number of records, the first with 24 countries, 17 stadiums and 14 cities something which has never been repeated."

"It is time for Spain to organize another (World Cup)... For this reason I hope they present their candidacy for 2018."

Blatter, was speaking at a meeting for Spanish football representatives in Zurich. He also praised the standard of the Primera Liga.

"No other league can match the quality of the football played in Spain. It is the only five-star league," he said.

MNA/Reuters

Germany's Andreas Kloeden cycles during the prologue of the Tour de Romandie cycling race in Geneva on 29 April, 2008. —INTERNET

Italy coach Donadoni hints at Del Piero recall

ROME, 30 April — Italy coach Roberto Donadoni has hinted he may recall in-form Juventus captain Alessandro Del Piero for Euro 2008.

The 33-year-old World Cup winner has not played for his country since giving a poor performance in a goalless Euro 2008 qualifier against France in September.

MNA/Reuters



Refresher course on prevention against recruitment of minors opened



Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe delivers an address at the opening ceremony of educative refresher course on prevention against recruitment of minors into army (1/2008).—MNA

YANGON, 30 April—Jointly organized by Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and UNICEF, a refresher course on prevention against recruitment of minors into army (1/2008) was held at the social welfare school in Mayangon Township on 28 April.

In his opening address, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen

Maung Maung Swe briefed on measures taken for prevention against recruitment of minors into army in Myanmar.

Acting Resident Representative of UNICEF Ms Juanita Vasquez also delivered an address. A total of 36 trainees from Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Education are participating in the 5-day course.

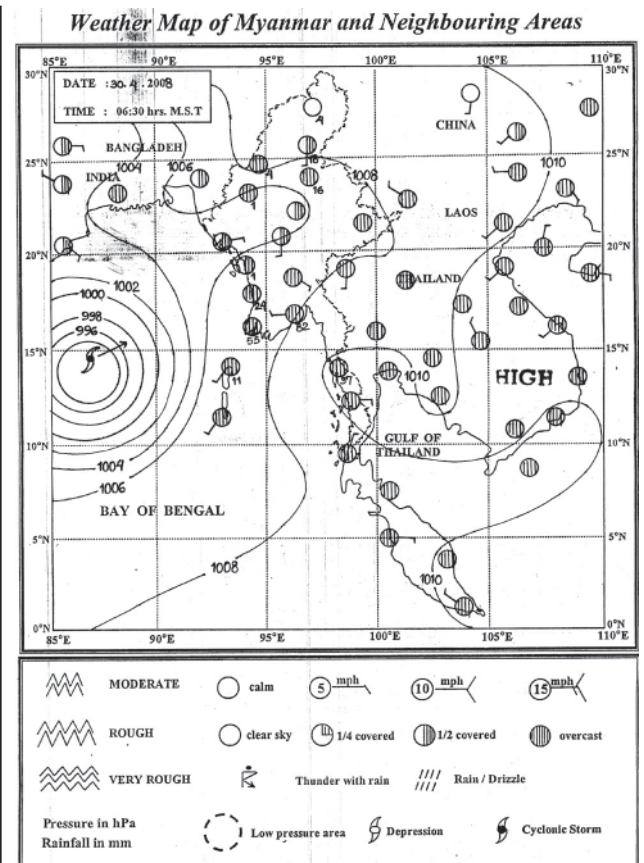
Next, Minister Maj-

Gen Maung Maung Swe met with employees of the Social Welfare Department in Yangon Division at No 4 Pre-Primary School in Ahlon Township. At the meeting, the minister urged them to actively participate in implementing tasks for success of the Seven-Step Road Map.

Afterwards, delegate to the National Convention Director-General of

the Fire Services Department U Myint Tun, Deputy Director-General of the Social Welfare Department U Aung Tun Khaing, Director-General of the Fire Services Department U Zaw Win and U San Maung, a delegate to the National Convention, briefed on the draft constitution. The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the minister.

MNA



WEATHER

Wednesday, 30 April, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division, rain or thundershower have been isolated in Shan, Chin and Kayah States, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Rakhine State and Bago Division, widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Bago and Yangon Divisions and isolated heavyfalls in Kayah and Mon States and Ayeyawady Division. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below April average temperatures in Kayah State, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below April average temperatures in Shan State, (7°C) to (8°C) below April average temperatures in Bago Division, (9°C) to (10°C) below April average temperatures in Kayin and Mon States, Yangon Division and about April average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thaton (10.08) inches, Kayan (6.34) inches, Theinzayat (6.10) inches, Hpan (4.21) inches, Yangon (Central) (3.74) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (3.50) inches, Hmawbi (3.43) inches, Zaungtu (3.42) inches, Bago (3.38) inches, Yangon (Mingaladon) (3.34) inches, Phyarpon (3.11) inches, Kyaukkame (2.68) inches, Mudon (2.60) inches.

Maximum temperature on 29-4-2008 was 81°F. Minimum temperature on 30-4-2008 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 30-4-2008 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 29-4-2008 was (Nil) approx.

Rainfall on 30-4-2008 was (3.34) inches at Mingaladon, (3.50) inches at Kaba-Aye and (3.74) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (6.10) inches at Mingaladon, (8.11) inches at Kaba-Aye and (6.34) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (16:20) hours MST on 29-4-2008.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (10:30) hrs MST today, the severe cyclonic storm (NARGIS) over Southwest Bay and adjoining West Central Bay has moved Northeast direction and lay centered at about (520) miles Westsouthwest of Patheingyi, remain stationary as a severe cyclonic storm. It is forecast to move Northeast wards. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 1-5-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Chin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and isolated 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 Coast. 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 1-5-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-5-2008: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-5-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

“Storm News”

(Issued at 19:00 hours MST on 30-4-2008)

According to the observations at (17:30) hrs MST today, the severe cyclonic storm (NARGIS) over the central Bay of Bengal is centered at about (480) miles Southwest of Patheingyi. During the past (6) hrs, it has not appreciable further intensified and moved Northeast slowly. It is forecast to move Northeastwards slowly the next (12) hrs commencing evening today.

Under the influence of this storm, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Rakhine, Mon, Kayin and Kayah States, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago Divisions, scattered to fairly widespread in Taninthayi Division and Shan State. Frequent squalls with rough seas are likely off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) to (45) mph.

China donates \$600,000 for de-mining in E Cambodia

STUNG TRENG (Cambodia), 30 April— China has donated 600,000 US dollars for Cambodia to clean the mines and unexploded ordnances (UXO) along National Road No 7 from Kratie province to Stung Treng Province in the country's eastern part bordering Laos, said government official here on Tuesday.

“The finance has helped the people avoid risking their lives,” said Sun Chanthol, Minister of Public Works and Transportation, while attending the inauguration ceremony of the national road.

MNA/Xinhua



Thursday, 1 May
View on today

7:00 am

- မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Cute little of dancers

7:50 am

- Dance of national races

8:00 am

- အတီးဖြင့်ပွဲ

8:15 am

- Musical programme

8:30 am

- International news

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:10 pm

- “အနုစိက စေတနာ”

4:20 pm

- Dance variety

4:40 pm

- အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ- တတိယနှစ်(ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)

5:00 pm

- Song to uphold National Spirit

5:15 pm

- “လက်တွေ့ပြချင်လို့” (ပြီးငွေစိုး၊ မြတ်ကေသီအောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)

5:40 pm

- ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ချင်သံ

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- ဖွံ့ဖြိုးအောင်မြင်မှုမနောမြေတစ်ခွင် (အပိုင်း-၂)

6:50 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “လေဒီယာနှင့်ဆုံဆည်းခြင်း” (အပိုင်း-၂၇)

7:40 pm

- “စိတ်အားထက်သန်ဆန္ဒအမှန်”

8:00 pm

- News

13. News

- International news

15. Weather report

- “အတည်ပြုကြံ့ခိုင်အခြေခံဥပဒေ”

- “ရှိတာကပိုကောင်းပါတယ်”

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

- “ဘဝဆက်တိုင်း”

- (အပိုင်း-၁၈)

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:

Victory within reach

- Our strong belief it is
Approval of the constitution
Will be soon achieved
- Men are so satisfied
Women are so gratified
Heading for polling booth
With unanimous vote to approve
Within reach is victory

Zaw Min Min Oo (Trans.)

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

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

18th Annual General Meeting of MMCWA concludes



President of MMCWA Daw Khin Saw Hnin delivers concluding address at 18th Annual General Meeting of MMCWA. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—The third day session of the 18th annual general meeting of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the meeting hall of MMCWA, here, this morning and the meeting concluded successfully at noon.

It was attended by President of MMCWA Daw Khin Saw Hnin, Vice-Presidents Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and Daw Aye Aye, the CEC members, members of central council, the chairpersons, the secretaries and joint secretaries of State/Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committees.

MMCWA President Daw Khin Saw Hnin presided over the meeting and Secretary Dr Daw Wai

Wai Tha acted as the master of ceremonies.

Members of the Central Council made suggestions and held discussions on annual reports and papers submitted by State/Division MCWSCs.

After hearing reports on activities implemented by State/Division MCWSCs, MMCWA Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint made suggestions and President Daw Khin Saw Hnin reviewed and approved them. The meeting was recessed at 10.30 am.

In the afternoon session, members of central council made suggestions and held discussions on health, education, economic and social matters to lay down future plans.

Next, the meeting chairperson reviewed the annual reports, papers and general suggestions and gave accounts of the association's future tasks. Those present took part in discussions on laying down three resolutions and 11 future tasks. The chairperson sought the approval of the meeting and approved it.

The meeting came to an end successfully with the concluding remarks by President Daw Khin Saw Hnin.

Three resolutions and 11 future were laid down at the annual general meeting.

(See page 9)