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Thursday, 2 April, 2009

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April—Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Abdul Hamid bin Pengiran Haji Mohammad Yassin, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Brunei Darussalam to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, at 10.00 a.m. today.

Present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha

Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.—MNA

*Senior General Than Shwe
accepts credentials of
Ambassador Pengiran Dato
Paduka Haji Abdul Hamid bin
Pengiran Haji Mohammad
Yassin of the Brunei Darussalam
at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in
Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA*



State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of Kingdom of Sweden

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April—Mr Lennart Linner, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of

the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, at 10.30 a.m. today.

Present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the

State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.—MNA

*Senior General
Than Shwe receives
Mr Lennart Linner,
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Ambassador of the
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to the Union of
Myanmar, at
Bayintnaung Yeiktha
in Nay Pyi Taw.*

MNA



Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 2 April, 2009

Grow more quality crops and explore new markets

The government is striving for robust national economy through implementation of five-year short-term plans and, since the 2006-2007 fiscal year, it has been targeted to achieve an annual economic growth rate by 12 per cent.

In spite of the fact that the whole world is faced with financial crisis, the government is taking all the necessary measures to facilitate trade and other related sectors. For example, the government has introduced border trade in addition to mercantile trade and is encouraging the private sector to be able to increase rice export by helping explore new markets through various channels.

Thanks to its favourable climatic and topographical conditions, different kinds of crops can grow well in Myanmar and crops of Myanmar fetch good prices in the international market because they are organically grown. Efforts have to be made for increased export of rice, long-staple cotton, rubber and physic nut in addition to beans and pulses that are already in good demand.

Myanmar has had to suffer consequences of the global financial crisis to some extent. However, remarkable progress has been made in trade due to concerted efforts of the government, farmers and industrialists. The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry is made up of 54 associations and a membership of more than 10,000 and the onus is on it to enhance the nation's economic progress.

As the nation's food surplus and production of foodstuffs depend on the yield of crops, extended cultivation of high-quality and high-yield crops will surely contribute to development of the export sector and strong national economy.

Chinese Energy Minister visits Ayeyawady confluence hydropower plant project

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April — Officials of China Power Investment Co. Ltd (CPI) led by Minister of Energy H.E. Mr. Zhang Guobao of the People's Republic of China together with Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. (1) U Myo Myint called on Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win in Myitkyina of Kachin State on 29 March. The commander and

the Chinese minister exchanged gifts at the meeting.

At the briefing hall of Ayeyawady Confluence HydroPower Plant project, the Chinese minister and the deputy minister heard reports on progress in implementation of Ayeyawady confluence hydropower plant project and Chibwaynge hydropower plant project presented by Project Engineer Mr. Shi Su Byan of CPI.—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

Leading Committee for Cleaning and Upgrading Yangon holds meeting 5/2009



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence delivers an address at meeting 5/2009 of Leading Committee for Cleaning and Upgrading Yangon.—MNA

YANGON, 1 April—The Leading Committee for Cleaning and Upgrading Yangon held the meeting 5/2009 at the hall of Yangon City Development Committee here yesterday afternoon with an address by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon

Command Brig-Gen Win Myint gave a supplementary report.

Chairman of YCDC Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials of work committees reported on work done.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave necessary instructions.—MNA

Newly-appointed doctors undergo training for administration & management skills

YANGON, 1 April — Basic Administration and Management Course No 1/2009 for newly-appointed doctors of the Ministry of Health was opened at University of Nursing (Yangon) here on 29 March.

At the ceremony, a total of 933 doctors—180 doctors from University of Medicine-1, 226 from University of Medicine-2, 289 from University of Medicine (Mandalay) and 238 from University of Medicine (Magway) — are assigned duties to hospitals.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint urged the doctors to realize the goodwill of the State and to perform their tasks dutifully at respective hospitals.

Making better use of knowledge and experiences gained during the training, doctors are to provide medical care to people, and to serve the interests of the State which spent a huge amount of money to produce the doctors, he added.

The purpose of organizing the five-week

course is to train the doctors to be able to sort out the problems they might experience in the work and to be able to learn more at hospitals.

The opening ceremony was also

attended by the directors-general of the departments under the Ministry of Health, deputy directors-general, rectors, directors, medical superintendents, invited guests and newly-appointed doctors.—MNA

Tour Gold Cup golf tournament postponed

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April—Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup Tournament will be held at City Golf Course on 14 April, at Yepya Tatmadaw Golf Course on 15 April and at Nay Pyi Taw Golf Course on 16 April.

The tournament has postponed to 14-16 April from 13-15 April announced in dailies issued in 20, 22 and 24 April.—MNA



Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint makes a speech at opening ceremony of Basic Administration and Management Course No 1/2009 for newly-appointed doctors.—HEALTH



Weekend uprising shows Iraqi tensions

BAGHDAD, 1 April—The recent uprising by Sunni paramilitaries here is a sign of growing tension between the former insurgents and the Shiite-led government that runs Iraq — a distrust that could blow up again as the United States draws down its military forces.

The fierce weekend gun battles also dramatize the fact that Iraq, despite its new calm, still hasn't achieved true reconciliation among its religious

and ethnic groups.

As bullets pinged off concrete walls and snipers aimed from rooftops, the city held its breath to see if the outbreak of street fighting in the poor neighborhood of Fadhil would spread, or turn into a problem that grows worse as US soldiers pull back. "We were well respected when we worked with the Americans," lamented Khaled Khodeir al-Luhaibi, a leader of another Sunni group outside

the capital. "When the Americans leave, we will be caught between the Iraqi government that is pursuing us and al-Qaeda, which wants to take revenge on us."

At the heart of the issue is whether Iraqis can put aside the bitterness of Saddam Hussein's legacy. That bitterness was sharpened by Shiite-Sunni bloodletting the last few years, after the US-led invasion toppled his regime in 2003.—*Internet*



A taxi driver is searched at a vehicle checkpoint in Baghdad's Fadhil district, Iraq, on 31 March, 2009.—INTERNET

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,263

WASHINGTON, 1 April—As of Tuesday, 31 March, 2009, at least 4,263 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,425 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The British military has reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.

Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 31,153 US service members have been wounded in hostile action, according to the Defence Department's weekly tally.—*Internet*

People peer through a windshield of a car damaged in a rocket attack in Baghdad, Iraq, on 31 March, 2009.

INTERNET



Confidence at Japanese companies at all-time low

TOKYO, 1 April—The latest probe of Japan's ailing economy points toward a new diagnosis: split personality disorder.

Pummeled by an unprecedented slump in global demand, confidence at major Japanese manufacturers has fallen to an all-time low, a key central bank survey showed on Wednesday.

But the worst may be over for big exporters who plan to boost output this spring amid slimmer stockpiles and nascent expectations for a recovery

in overseas economies.

Meanwhile, the outlook is bleaker than ever for workers, households and non-manufacturers — all casualties of the ongoing cutbacks by Japan's global giants like Toyota and Sony.

Large manufacturers "have been bleeding heavily, but they have reacted the fastest of all corporations internationally by cutting back," said Martin Schulz, senior economist at Fujitsu Research Institute in Tokyo.

"This is why it's such a split situation. It's not good news for the domestic economy, but it is quite good for these companies overall."

The world's second-largest economy, which had relied on overseas demand to drive growth, has been hit particularly hard by a deep global slowdown that has sapped foreign sales of its cars and gadgets. A stronger yen has exacerbated the pain by eroding exporters' earnings abroad.

Internet

A look at forces in Afghanistan

KABUL, 1 April—A look at NATO, US, Afghan government forces in Afghanistan who are battling about 15,000 Taliban and other militants:

—INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE FORCE (ISAF) — as the NATO-led force in Afghanistan is known — has 62,000 troops from 42 countries.

The United States is the largest contributor with about 29,000 troops. Other large contingents are from Britain (8,300 troops), Germany (3,650), Canada (2,850), France (2,800), Italy (2,400), the Netherlands (1,800), and Poland (1,600).

A number of nations maintain only a symbolic presence. Austria and Georgia have just one soldier each in ISAF, while Bosnia, Iceland, Ireland and Luxembourg have less than 10 troops.

—THE UNITED STATES in total has about 38,000 troops in Afghanistan, including roughly 10,000 troops in an Operation Enduring Freedom-led force that is separate from ISAF. President Barack Obama is deploying 21,000 more troops and military trainers.

—THE AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY has 86,000 troops but is expanding to 134,000 troops.

—THE AFGHAN NATIONAL POLICE has 81,000 officers. The US recently began funding a new programme called the Afghan Public Protection Force that will train Afghan men to protect their villages.—*Internet*

Six die in attack on Afghan Gov't building

KANDAHAR, 1 April—Afghan officials say three militants wearing suicide vests attacked a provincial council office in southern Afghanistan after a car bomb exploded outside. At least six people were killed. Sayad Ahmad, an official who works for Kandahar's provincial council, says the assault began with a car bomb explosion outside the council's office.

Interior Ministry spokesman Zemer Bashary says that three militants with suicide vests and AK-47 assault rifles then entered the office just before noon Wednesday.

Bashary says that police killed two of the suicide bombers and a third one blew himself up. Bashary says five civilians and a police officer died in the assault.—*Internet*



Afghan policemen secure the site of a blast in Kandahar in 2008. At least three people were killed and 16 wounded Wednesday in an attack that included a suicide blast at provincial council offices in the Afghan city of Kandahar, a health official told.

INTERNET



Afghan people gather near the damaged vehicle of mayor Sahki Mirullah after an explosion in Khost, Afghanistan, on 31 March, 2009. The roadside bomb killed the mayor of the provincial capital Sahki Mirullah, and seriously wounded his driver, said Tahir Khan Sabari, the deputy provincial governor.—INTERNET

Israel's Netanyahu vows to seek peace with Arabs

JERUSALEM, 1 April—Benjamin Netanyahu, taking office as Israel's new leader on Tuesday, promised to seek "full peace" with the Arab and Muslim world, but refused to utter the words the world was waiting to hear: "Palestinian state." The well-spoken, US-educated hawk took pains to portray himself as a pragmatist, telling a packed parliament that Israel does not want to rule the Palestinians. "Under the permanent



In this photo released by the Israeli Government Press Office, Benjamin Netanyahu makes his first speech as Israel's new Prime Minister in the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, in Jerusalem, on 31 March, 2009.—INTERNET

status agreement, the Palestinians will have all the authority to rule themselves," Netanyahu said in comments that appeared to hark back to a decades-old notion that peace could be achieved through limited Palestinian autonomy.

His words drew a sharp reaction from Palestinian

negotiator Saeb Erekat. "I want to say to Mr Netanyahu that the only way the Palestinians can rule themselves, by themselves, is through ending the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and establishing an independent Palestinian state," Erekat said.

Internet

Chavez promotes 'petro-currency' over dollar

DOHA, 1 April—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez tried on Tuesday to court Arab support for another swipe at America as its economy stumbles: a proposal for a new, oil-backed currency to challenge the global prominence of the dollar.

The idea never reached the full agenda of a summit of leaders from South America and the Arab League—and has little hope of gaining any momentum among the US allies in the Middle East. But it managed to reflect broader sentiments at the gathering: That Western financial leadership has been deeply eroded by the economic meltdown.

Chavez set the tone moments after arriving in Qatar, proposing a "petro-currency" that would have the backing of oil-rich nations such as Venezuela and its Arab partners in OPEC. Chavez has tried before, with little success, to undercut the dollar's role as the world's leading commercial currency.

The dollar, however, is facing real pressures elsewhere.—*Internet*



Venezuela's Hugo Chavez waves to Photographers during the opening session of the Arab-South American Summit in Doha, Qatar, on 31 March, 2009.—INTERNET

Mexican businessmen flee to US to avoid crime

MEXICO CITY, 1 April—A Mexican business leader says "a significant number" of businessmen working along the US-Mexican border have transferred their offices to US cities to escape a wave of crime and extortion threats in

Mexico.

The head of the Mexican Employers' Federation says business owners in the border cities of Tijuana and Ciudad Juarez have moved their operations to San Diego and to El Paso, Texas.

Internet

Explosion in Moldova rips pipeline for Russian gas

CHISINAU, 1 April—A Moldovan government department says an explosion has ripped through a pipeline carrying Russian gas to the Balkans and reduced supplies to the region. A spokeswoman says no one was injured.

The emergency situations department's spokeswoman Liliana Puscasu says the 5.30 am (0230 GMT) blast created a crater measuring 1,080 square feet (110 square meters) and was heard six miles (10 kilometers) away. The cause was not given.—*Internet*

Red River drops more, feeding optimism in Fargo

FARGO, 1 April—Flood waters have fallen below most of the sandbag levees protecting Fargo, feeding optimism that the city had tamed the Red River, at least for now.

By early Wednesday, the river had fallen to 37 1/2 feet—still far above flood stage but below the top of the city's permanent floodwalls, which are topped with another 5 feet of sandbags.

"This should give us a sigh of relief," Mayor Dennis Walaker said.

While the lower water levels took pressure off the floodwalls, engineers and

National Guard troops braved a blinding snowstorm on Tuesday to monitor the dikes for signs of stress.

Officials insist the city isn't safe just yet. Forecasters say the river could begin rising again in coming days, when more snow begins to melt. But even future crests aren't expected to approach the levels feared over the weekend.

Frigid temperatures are limiting the amount of snow and ice that would normally melt and flow into the waterway, the National Weather Service

said.

But the storm added to the challenge of monitoring the dikes by dumping about 10 inches of snow in Fargo, producing a messy mix of mud and ice. Engineers in hard hats, life vests and steel-toe boots walked along earthen dikes, struggling to see through the blowing snow as they conducted inspections.

In neighbouring Moorhead, Minn., National Guard members went door-to-door in flood-prone areas to make sure sandbags were not leaking.—*Internet*



Ed Samuelson, left, and Curt Gebro attempt to salvage belongings from Red River floodwaters in Dick Knutson's basement on 31 March, 2009, in Fargo, ND The water was up to the ceiling and they are in the process of pumping it out.—INTERNET



More Americans need free food from food banks

LOS ANGELES, 1 April—Food banks in Los Angeles have seen the increase of demand for food in the past several months and even some middle-class families have turned to food banks for help, and that reflects the trend in the United States, Los Angeles Regional Food Bank spokesman Darren Hoffman said on Tuesday in an interview.

Hoffman told *Xinhua* that demand for food support increased 41 percent

in 2008 than the previous year, and although no statistics have been made available, he still felt the increase in the past months affected by the current financial crisis.

And the number of Americans need food support is alarming. According to Hoffman, in Los Angeles County, about 1.5 million people need some kind of help, but Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, the largest in the county, can only help 700,000 peo-

ple. Nationwide, more than 36 million Americans, including 12.4 million children, are food insecure, according to a report released by the US Department of Agriculture in 2007. Feeding America, an organization serves more than 200 food banks that provide food to the food pantries, estimated that the actual number of Americans forced to skip meals and survive without adequate nutrition is even greater.—*Xinhua*



Al Maha Desert Resort & Spa is an exclusive oasis in the Dubai Conservation Reserve. The 42 luxurious suites, each with private temperature-controlled pools, offer awe-inspiring sand dune views.—XINHUA

S Korea sees record-high trade surplus in March

SEOUL, 1 April—South Korea's trade surplus hit a record high of 4.6 billion US dollars in March thanks to a sharpfall in imports and a rise in ship exports, a government report showed on Wednesday.

According to a report by the Ministry of Knowledge and Economy, the country's exports topped 28.3 billion US dollars, down 21.2 percent from a

year earlier, while imports fell 36 percent annually to 23.7 billion US dollars.

The monthly surplus stood over the previous record of 3.8 billion US dollars, which the nation marked in April 1998 when the country was striving to tackle the Asian Financial Crisis.

The ministry attributed the March trade surplus to favorable exchange rates, more working days and

efforts to increase trade-related financing.

"Export volume in March climbed 2.9 billion US dollars from February, while imports only gained 1.2 billion US dollars as prices for weak crude oil and natural resources curbed payment related costs," Kang Myung-soo, the head of the ministry's export-import division, told South Korea's *Yonhap News Agency*.—*Xinhua*

ADB expands trade support for developing countries amid global crisis

MANILA, 1 April—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said on Wednesday that it has expanded its Trade Finance Facilitation Program (TFFP) to 1 billion US dollars, a move expected to generate 15 billion dollars in much-needed trade support in the coming five years.

The worldwide financial downturn has caused a dramatic reduction in the availability of the financ-

ing that companies rely on to trade, exacerbating an already dire global economic situation, ADB said in a press statement, adding that the shortage of trade financing has hit developing nations particularly hard as many major international banks focus on rebuilding their capital and reducing risk.

"Access to trade finance in times of crisis is vital to cushioning the shock of the global down-

turn on international trade," said Philip Erquiaga, Director General of ADB's Private Sector Operations Department.

"If the world is to emerge from the current economic malaise, it will require a focus on international trade which can help fuel virtually the only growth in evidence, which is in developing countries," he added.

—*Xinhua*

Mexican Senate approves Mexico-China investment promotion agreement

MEXICO CITY, 1 April—An agreement between Mexico and China on boosting investment was approved on Tuesday by the Mexican Senate.

The agreement, signed in Beijing on 11 July, 2008, was approved with 72 votes in favor and 11 against.

The press office of the Senate told *Xinhua* that the agreement, to which some changes have been made, will be sent to the president for signing into effectiveness. This agreement is aimed to create better condition for China-Mexico mutual investment and commercial cooperation.—*Xinhua*

Cambodian New Year falls on early morning of 14 April

PHNOM PENH, 1 April—New Year on the Cambodian calendar will fall at 01:36 local time of 14 April (1836 GMT of 13 April), Chinese-language daily newspaper the *Commercial News* said on Wednesday.

An Apsara, or fairy lady in Cambodian folklore, in black costumes and on a horse, will descend from heaven to the land of the kingdom at that time, to safeguard Cambodia during the New Year season, astrologers told the paper.

Prior to the New Year time, people can set up a table in front of their houses with 11 kinds of fruits and candles on sacrifice to welcome the fairy lady's arrival, they added.

The government has set 14 to 16 April as national holiday to celebrate the New Year.—*Xinhua*

All items from Xinhua News Agency



Alaska's Mount Redoubt volcano shoots ash thousands of feet into the air, on 30 March, the latest in a series of emissions that has dusted the state's largest city, Anchorage, and disrupted operations at Anchorage's airport.—XINHUA

Strong quake rocks Sumatra, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 1 April—An earthquake with magnitude of 6.1 struck Bengkulu Province of Sumatra Island on Wednesday, but there was no report of damage or casualties, the local meteorology and disaster management agency said here.

The quake jolted at 13:29 Jakarta time (0629 GMT) with epicenter at 227 kms southwest Bintuhan of the province and 30 kms under sea bed, Sutiyono, an official of the agency who goes with single name, told *Xinhua*.

The intensity of the quake was felt at 3 to 4 MMI (Modified Mercally Intensity) at Bintuhan and 2 to 3 MMI at Manna, he said.—*Xinhua*

Two mild earthquakes hit northern Nicaragua

MANAGUA, 1 April—Two earthquakes measuring 5 and 4.1 on Richter scale shook on Tuesday the north zone of Nicaragua, damaging 28 houses and affecting 81 people.

Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies (INETER) said that the 5-magnitude quake was felt at 11:50 am local time (1750 GMT). The epicenter was located 62.7 km underground and some 154 km north of Managua.

The second earthquake was registered at 11:57 a.m. local time (1757 GMT), its epicenter was located 78.1 km underground.—*Xinhua*

Obama's health nominee Sebelius reveals tax errors

WASHINGTON, 1 April —Kathleen Sebelius, named as US Health Secretary by President Barack Obama, became his latest nominee to reveal income tax issues, saying on Tuesday she paid nearly 8,000 US dollars to settle errors over three years.

Sebelius, the governor of Kansas, must pass a confirmation process in Congress before she can lead Obama's overhaul of

the 2.5-trillion-US-dollar US healthcare sector to cut costs and provide coverage to an estimated 46 million uninsured Americans.

"Unintentional errors" involving charitable contributions, mortgage interest and business expenses were revealed in a review of her and her husband's tax returns by a certified accountant, prompting them to file amended returns, Sebelius

wrote to top members of the Senate Finance Committee.

"As a result of these amendments to our 2005, 2006 and 2007 returns, we paid a total of 7,040 US dollars in additional tax and 878 US dollars in interest," she said in the letter to Max Baucus, the Democratic head of the committee, and Charles Grassley, its ranking Republican.

MNA/Reuters



A police officer searches columns outside the Bank of England in central London after a suspect packet was found nearby, on 31 March.—INTERNET

Malaysia to host 6th World Chambers Congress

KUALA LUMPUR, 1 April — Malaysia will host the 6th World Chambers Congress (WCC) in Kuala Lumpur on 3-5 June, the organizer, The Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM), said in a statement on Wednesday.

With the theme "Leading Sustainable Growth and Change", the biennial congress held for the first time in Southeast Asia comes at a time where regional and global business leaders need to forge newer alliances and cooperation to move ahead, the statement said.

"It may be a financial or economic crisis but therein lies the opportunity to survive and emerge even stronger than before," the President of FMM Mustafa Mansur said.

Participants from 38 countries representing leading companies and industries have confirmed their participation, FMM said, adding that a total of 1,300 participants from 100 countries are expected to attend the 6th WCC.

Current issues of the global financial crisis as

well as challenges to the international business country will be highlighted at the 6th WCC.

Implications and impacts of these challenges to food, water and energy and also the economic implications for climate change are also on the agenda.

Experts and captains of industries will discuss these issues and provide new perspectives and directions for global businesses to survive in today's downturn, the statement said.

Internet

Israel swears in new government

JERUSALEM, 1 April — Israel's new government led by second-term Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is being officially sworn in on Tuesday night.

In the late night ceremony in the Parliament presided by Speaker Reuven Rivlin, the ministers in the new

government are taking the oaths of office and signing the official documents one by one on the podium.

Immediately before the beginning of the swearing-in, the 120-seat Parliament ended a six-hour debate and voted 69 to 45 with five abstentions in favor of the configuration of the 32nd government.

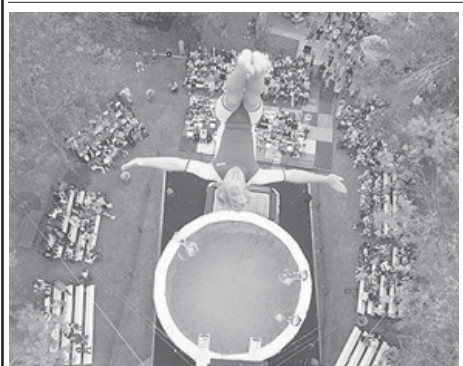
The new government contains 30 ministers and seven deputy ministers, marking one of the largest in Israel's 61-year history. The Prime Minister also serves as financial strategy minister, a supervising ministerial position in the Finance Ministry.

MNA/Xinhua

NEWS ALBUM



Extreme sportsman Jochen Schweizer opened Europe's fastest high-tech wind tunnel in Bottrop, western Germany. The flight chamber, which has a diameter of 4.30 metres (14 feet) and reaches a height of up to 17 metres, simulates a free-fall speed of up to 270 kilometres (168 miles) per hour.



Woman accused of biting, punching son's principal

A Rhode Island woman is accused of punching and biting her 11-year-old son's school principal after she was told the boy was being suspended.

Police say 30-year-old Aleyda Uceta also bit an officer trying to arrest her after Friday's incident at Roger Williams Middle School in Providence.

She is charged with assault on school officials, assault on police officers and resisting arrest.

Police say Uceta punched Principal Rudolph Moseley Jr in the face and bit his left arm after he told her that her son would be suspended for three days for refusing to go to a room for misbehaving students.

Attempts to reach Uceta by phone for comment were unsuccessful.

World champion diver and cancer survivor Bill Brown, of Orlando, Fla., performs a double somersault with a half twist dive during a high dive performance at the Space Center Houston in Houston. The High Dive Spectacular included Brown's signature dive off an 85-foot high dive platform, twisting and turning at 55 miles per hour before splashing down into only nine and a half feet of water.

55-year-old New Zealand woman set Cook Strait record

A 55-year-old woman from New Zealand North Island resort of Rotorua has swum Cook Strait in nine hours 23 minutes, becoming the oldest person to do the feat.

Pam Dickson completed the 26km swim on Friday on her first attempt, despite suffering hypothermia and swimming in a circle for the final 800 meters because she was so cold and disoriented.

She said the water temperature was 18 degrees when she began the swim, but it then dropped to 16 degrees in the final 4 km.

Her guide, veteran Strait swimmer Philip Rush, said it is illegal to wear wet suits in such swims, including in the English Channel.

He said Dickson's crossing was a "great effort" in gusty winds of up to 30 knots, which made conditions difficult for both the swimmer and her support crew.

Dickson, a massage therapist and grandmother of nine, said she's jumping with joy at her feat, but will probably not rest for too long.

She has competed in many Ironman races and marathons and is considering doing the Rotorua marathon in May.

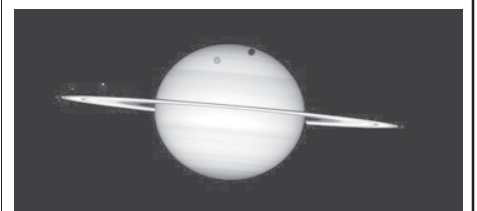


Image by Hubble Space Telescope taken, on 24 Feb, 2009, of four moons of Saturn passing in front of their parent planet. The giant orange moon Titan casts a large shadow onto Saturn's north polar hood. Below Titan, near the ring plane and to the left is the moon Mimas, casting a much smaller shadow. Farther to the left, and off Saturn's disk, are the bright moon Dione and the fainter Enceladus.

Keep children away from violent computer games

It is necessary to keep children away from violence-related computer games, said three Austrian psychologists based on their latest research results.

According to Friday's reports of Austrian media, in their latest research titled "Violence and Violence Prevention," three scientists from the Psychology Department of Austria's University of Vienna suggested that a "zero-tolerance" attitude should be adopted in dealing with youths who play violent computer games. Youths should stay away from those violent games as they "do no good but only harm."



Local industries manufacturing import-substitute products

Article: Ye Naung + Ko Htwe

With a view to developing the industrial zones, export quality products and manufacturing the import-substitute products, many industrial zones have been established across the nation.

Shwepyitha Industrial Zone set up in Yangon Division is located in Yangon North District. The industrial zone was established in 1990, and a total of 115 factories are being operated at the zone, according to the industrial zone management committee.

Khayaybin Street of Ward 42 in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone of Shwepyitha Township, Proven Technology Industrial Company is manufacturing Toyo brand batteries to be used in automobiles, locomotives, coaches of train, communication devices, lifts, folk lifts, bogey and industries in addition to the special purposes.

On 31 July 2002, Two Golden Horse Battery Factory was opened in the industrial zone of Kaungkha Village in Lashio Township, Shan



Workers producing Toyo brand batteries at the factory of Proven Technology Industrial Company.



Batteries being manufactured at DGH extended battery factory of Two Golden Horses Industrial Company with the use of modern machinery.

Shwepyitha Industrial Zone is formed with various workshops and factories such as the cold storage for prawns, crabs and octopuses, the wheat flour mills, the factories manufacturing electrical transformers, cables, electronic apparatuses and fluorescent lamps by applying modern technology.

Moreover, various brands of batteries that are essential for the domestic transport sector are being manufactured as the import-substitute products.

At No. 94 (A/B) on

State (North). Monkey brand batteries manufactured by the factory are being distributed to the market.

During the six-month distribution period, the batteries achieved success in the market. Therefore, DGH extended battery factory was opened on 1 February 2009.

With the aims of saving foreign exchange, developing the region, innovating the modern technology, providing employments and enabling the local people to use the products at fair prices, the Two Golden

Horses Battery Factory was established.

The import-substitute quality cardboard paper is being manufactured at Mya Kantha Paper Factory, over three miles from Muse of Shan State (North).

The factory is located near the road to Muse 105th Mile and it is producing cardboard papers to be used in making paper boxes for the factories of Yangon, Mandalay and other major towns.

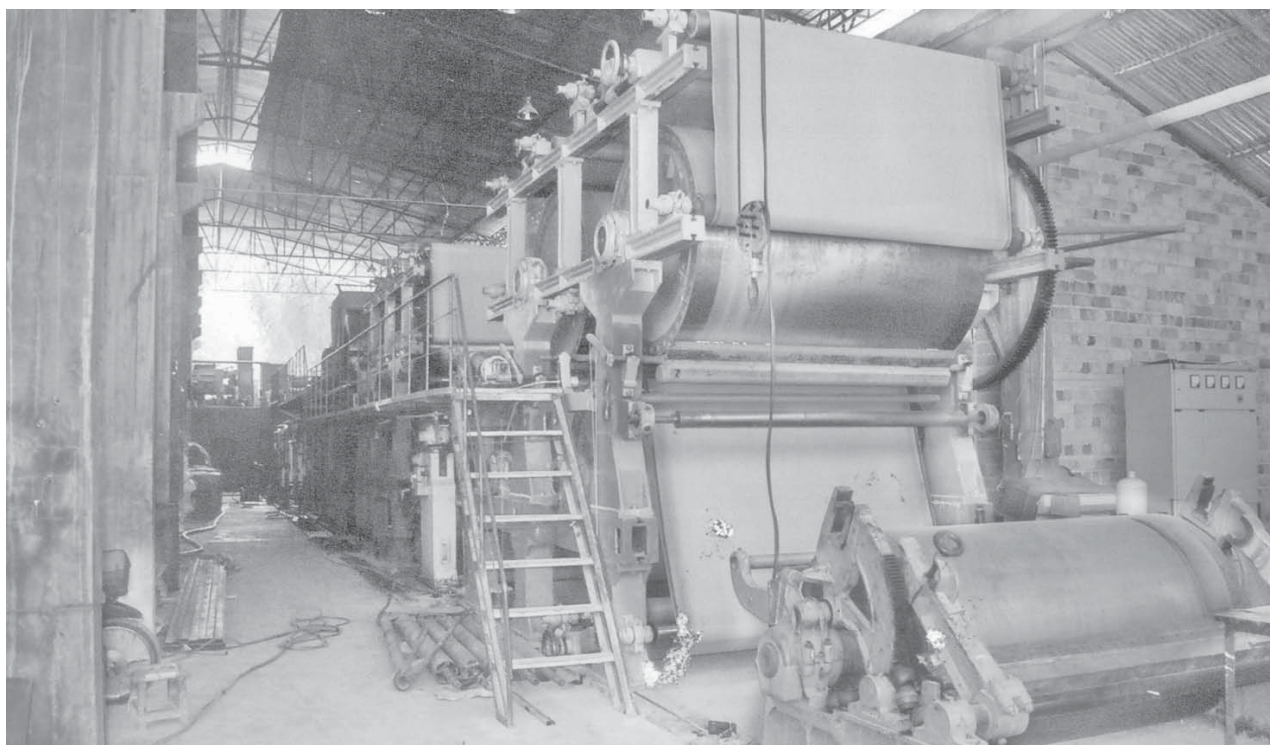
The factory produces 20 tons of cardboard paper

daily and sends the products to the customers by truck.

The raw materials for the factory are available nearby towns and villages. The paper is sold at about K 500,000 for one ton.

The price of paper from the factory is K 70,000 to K 80,000 cheaper than the foreign-made products, and it is reasonable price for the local users.

Translation: TTA
Kyemon: 16-3-2009



Import-substitute cardboard paper being produced at the factory in Muse of Shan State (North).



Senior General Than Shwe receives Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Abdul Hamid bin Pengiran Haji Mohammad Yassin, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Brunei Darussalam at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw.
(News on page 1)

MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein receives Indonesian Agriculture Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein received Indonesian Agriculture Minister Dr Anton Apriyantono at the meeting hall of the Government Office here this morning.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin, Director-General of International Organizations and

Prime Minister General Thein Sein greets Indonesian Agriculture Minister Dr Anton Apriyantono at the meeting hall of the Government Office.—MNA

Economic Department U Thant Kyaw of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Director-General of Agriculture Research Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation Dr Toe Aung, Deputy Director-General of Agriculture Planning Department U Than Aye, Deputy Managing Director of Myanma Industrial Crops Development Enterprise U Kyi Win, Pro-rector of University of Agriculture Dr Aung Kyi. Indonesian Agriculture Minister Dr Anton Apriyantono was accompanied by Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Sebastianus Sumarsono, Director-General of Agriculture Dr Ato Suprpto and Head of Asia Sub Division, International Cooperation Bureau Mr Yusral Tahir.

MNA



Commander, minister supervise regional development tasks in Kyaukpyu, Yanbye

YANGON, 1 April—Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe inspected water supply tasks, progress in building the new library, the dam, and the tarred road and progress in digging drains on 29 March.

Next, the commander and the minister met with

departmental officials at the township level, members of social organizations, townsenders, and local people totalling 1,200 in Yanbye Township.

Afterwards, the commander and the minister presented medicines, clothes, exercise books, publications, sports gear for the rural people and 1020 cement

bags and 450 corrugated iron sheets and K 15.5 million for the rural library, the dispensary and basic education schools and LED florescent lamps for villages.—MNA



Bangladeshi Ambassador Major-General Abu Roshde Rokonuddawla, ndc, psc cordially greets Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win at 38th National and Independence Day of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on 31 March 2009.—MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe inspect distribution of water.—TRANSPORT





Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador Mr Lennart Linner of the Kingdom of Sweden at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw. (News on page 1)—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador Mr Newton Gunaratna of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw. (News on page 16)—MNA

UMEHL opens Ruby Mart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April—A ceremony to open the Ruby Mart of the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd was held at the mart between the feeder roads of Yangon-Mandalay Highway to Sagaing and Yadanapura in Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay, this morning, attended by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and wife, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, the deputy commander, departmental officials, the managing director and directors of Myawady Trading Ltd, officials and guests.

Lt-Gen Tin Aye took the salute of the band of MCDC.

The commander, the mayor and the managing director formally opened the Ruby Mart.



SPDC Member Lt-Gen Tin Aye unveils the signboard of Ruby Mart.—MNA



Lt-Gen Tin Aye formally unveiled the signboard of the mart and sprinkled scented water on it. Next, they visited the mart.

Personal and consumer goods, electronic equipment, toys and other items are available at reasonable prices.

Moreover, electronic accessories and personal goods produced from factories of UMEHL are being sold at the special room.

MNA

Seinle Shwepyi news journal in circulation

YANGON, 1 April—Seinle Shwepyi news journal came out recently.

The journal covers various items of news, articles and stories including documentary photos of concerted efforts of the Government, the People and the Tatmadaw in the event of storm Nargis.

The journal is available at Sarpay Beikman in Kyauktada Township and Pan Shwe Pyi Bookstall on Theinbyu Road in Botahtaung Township. Manuscripts may be sent to No. 8 on the second floor of Panyan Tower at the corner of Dhammazedhi and Bagaya Roads in Sangyoung Township, Tel: 538302.

MNA

“Yein” dancing contests to be held at Yangon Mayor Pandal

YANGON, 1 April—“Yein” dancing troupes are invited to participate in the dancing contests at Yangon Mayor’s Pandal here during Maha Thingyan Festival 1370 ME.

The dancing contests are divided into three categories – 12-member troupe for pre-primary school level, 12-member troupe and 16-member troupe for office, schools and other organizations level.

Those wishing to participate in the contests may enroll at Yangon City Development Committee not later than 7 April. More detailed information is available at Ph 379693; 374822 and 378003.

MNA



Kunlong Township on track of development

Article and Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

(from page 16)

We saw Kunlong Bridge between mile post Nos 51/2 and 51/7 on Hsenwi-Kunlong-Hpong-Mongmao Road, the township's pride and joy, spanning the Thanlwin River linking the southern and northern regions. It has a 19.68-foot-wide motorway and two 4.5-foot-wide pedestrians on it. It can withstand 40 tons of loads.

It is a major suspension bridge essential for smooth commodity flow between Yangon, Mandalay and Kyukok (Pansai) and Muse. The



U Myint Shwe, Chairman of Kunlong Township Peace and Development Council.

Laukkai in the north, and Hsenwi in the west.

The fallow lands on the mountain ranges in Kunlong used to be poppy fields. Now, rubber, corn, soya bean, groundnut, sesame, green pea, monsoon and summer paddy are grown as poppy-substitute crops.

per acre yield of monsoon paddy was 126.55 baskets; summer paddy, 150.66 baskets; local farmers were gearing up to grow summer paddy on an extensive scale; model paddy fields had been set up and modern planters to increase the per acre yield of sum-

mer paddy to as many as 250 baskets; that the self-reliant water supply committee distributed safe water to the urban areas; and that the water flowing down from the mountains was stored in a lake and water was supplied to the houses through pipelines.

township Development Affairs Committee was planning to open a five-day bazaar alternately.

The area along the Union Highway in the township has now changed a lot with fine houses and buildings. The township has en-



Per acre yield of summer paddy is 150.66 baskets in Kunlong Township.



A two-year-old poppy-substitute rubber farm in Farfein village-tract.

24 steel girders of the bridge are held by the main string. It was inaugurated on 22 December 1965, but is still in good conditions due to careful maintenance by the Tatmadaw government.

Standing at an altitude of 1473 feet, Kunlong has a cool climate. It shares border with the People's Republic of China in the east, Lashio in the south,

Kunlong Township is constituted with six wards, 25 village-tracts, 168 villages and over 7000 houses. Its main business is agricultural farming, and grows Hsinshweli monsoon and summer paddy, and other crops in the main.

Chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council U Myint Shwe explained that in the township, the

He added that the township had seven markets — Kunlong Myoma market, Hili village market, Namhu village market, Kanyein village market, Nel-kywun village market, Wawchon village market, and Pankham village market — for convenience of local people in trade of goods; that the

joyed economic growth due to the success in cultivating rubber, monsoon and summer paddy, beans and pulses and corn. So, Kunlong Township in Shan State (North) has developed significantly with lush and green crop plantations.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin: 1-4-2009



A scene of an area along the Union Highway in Kunlong Township.

Philippines orders curfew as rebel deadline passes

MANILA, 1 April—The Philippines imposed a curfew and a state of emergency on Tuesday on a remote southern island where an Islamic militant group has threatened to kill one of three Red Cross workers it holds hostage.

Provincial Governor Abdusakur Tan issued the proclamation of emergency minutes after the expiry of a rebel ultimatum to authorities to withdraw troops from much of Jolo Island. The Abu Sayyaf group had said it would execute one of the hostages if their demand was not met by 2 p.m. (0600 GMT).

"We're preparing for the worst," Tan told reporters. "We're not taking this sitting down," he added. There was no immediate word on the fate of the hostages after the expiry of the deadline.

Tan had earlier said the rebel demands were impossible to meet. The emergency order allows security forces to set up checkpoints and gives them wide powers to

apprehend and search suspects.

Filipina Mary Jean Lacaba, Swiss national Andreas Notter and Italian Eugenio Vagni, all staff of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), have been held in the jungles of Jolo since January 15. They were abducted after a visit to a local prison where the Red Cross is funding a water project.

MNA/Reuters

WHO says Drug resistant tb is a "time bomb"

BEIJING, 1 April—Health officials gathered in Beijing on Wednesday warned against deadly drug-resistant strains of tuberculosis, which are spreading fastest in developing countries that lack the infrastructure to tackle the disease.

Over half of new cases of tuberculosis are resistant to multiple drugs right from the start, and not as a direct result of substandard treatment, the head of the World Health Organization (WHO) warned.

"This is the true alarm bell. This tells us that resistant strains are now circulating in the general population, spreading widely and largely silently in a growing pool of latent infection," director-general Margaret Chan said. "Obviously this is a situation set to spiral out of control. Call it what you want, a time bomb or a powder keg, any way you look at it this is a potentially explosive situation."—MNA/Reuters

Mortar attack kills Filipino carpenter in Afghanistan

MANILA, 1 April—A Filipino carpenter was killed while another was seriously injured in a mortar attack inside a US airbase in Kandahar in Southern Afghanistan two weeks ago, the Philippine Government said on Tuesday.

Esteban Conejos, Undersecretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs, said Norbert Malana Hobayan instantly died on March 20 after being hit by a rocket fire inside the base.

Kandahar is home to the largest US military installation in Afghanistan. The other Filipino, Rolando Triceno, who

also works inside the base, is recuperating at the Kandahar Air Base Hospital, Conejos said.

He said the government will investigate how the two Filipinos were able to work inside the base considering a deployment ban being imposed by Manila on Afghanistan.

In a statement, the Department of Foreign Affairs reiterates its advisory to the public not to travel to or seek employment in Afghanistan due to the unstable and volatile security situation in that country.—MNA/Xinhua

S Korean fighter jet crashes

SEOUL, 1 April—A South Korean KF-16D fighter jet crashed in waters west of the Korean Peninsula on Tuesday, South Korea's Yonhap news agency said.

According to Yonhap, the KF-16D fighter crashed into the Yellow Sea, about 40 kilometres off Taean County, South Chungcheong Province, at local time 12:20 pm (0307 GMT on Tuesday).

The two pilots aboard the aircraft escaped successfully and were rescued by a pair of helicopters, said the South Korean Air Force, adding that the two pilots were not in critical conditions.—MNA/Xinhua



Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, right, and Chinese President Hu Jintao look on before their meeting ahead of the G20 summit in London, on 1 April, 2009.—INTERNET

EU commits \$80m for Afghanistan

THE HAGUE (Netherlands), 1 April—The European Union (EU) will commit 60 million euros (80 million US dollars) at the international conference on Afghanistan, EU External Relations Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner said on Tuesday.

The money will be in addition to the 700 million euros (925 million dollars) already allocated for Afghanistan for 2007-2010, she told reporters.

The additional 60 million euros will be used primarily for election observation, policing and rural development, she said.—MNA/Xinhua

US WWII shipwreck found off Australia

CANBERRA, 1 April—The wreck of the first American ship sunk during World War II has been located off Australia's southern coast, ocean researchers said on Wednesday.

The freighter *MS City of Rayville*, carrying a cargo of lead, wool and copper from South Australia to New York, hit a German mine and was lost on 8 November, 1940, a year before the United States entered the war.

One sailor died in the sinking off Cape Otway

in southeast Victoria state while 38 other crew were rescued in lifeboats. The United States entered the war on 8 December, 1941, the day after a surprise Japanese attack on the Pearl Harbor naval base.

Researchers mapping

the seabed for Australia's Deakin University said they located the wreck almost 69 years after its sinking, lying upright on its keel and forming an artificial reef covered in marine life.

MNA/Reuters

Chinese population would be 1.7 bln without family planning

UNITED NATIONS, 1 April—A top Chinese family planning official said here on Tuesday that if China has not implemented its family planning policy, its total population would have exceeded 1.7 billion in 2008.

Taking the floor at the 42nd session of the UN Commission on Population and Development, which opened here on Monday, Li Bin, China's Minister in charge of the National Population and Family Planning Commission, said: "At present, China has a total population of 1.328 billion. Without the implementation of the family planning policy, total population in China would have exceeded 1.7 billion in 2008."

Overpopulation is one of China's primary problems, said Li, adding that thanks to the family planning efforts, the total fertility rate (TFR) of Chinese women has declined from 5.8 in 1970 to below replacement level in 1991 and is now stabilized at around 1.8.

MNA/Xinhua



A farm is surrounded by flood water from the Red River on 29 March, 2009 near Fargo, North Dakota.—INTERNET

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SIRI BHUM VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SIRI BHUM VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.4.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GATI MAJESTIC VOY NO (92509)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI MAJESTIC VOY NO (92509) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.4.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S GATI COAST TO COAST
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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Myanmar Reg. No. 4/1712/2009 (5 March 2009)

In respect of "Pharmaceutical products and substances as well as preparations for health care purposes; medical disinfectants" in **Class 5**:
Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the mark shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
For Mepha AG
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
Unit 701-702, Traders Hotel,
Yangon, Union of Myanmar
utm.kcy@mptmail.com.mm
Dated 2 April 2009

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Reg. No. 4742/2001
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Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for Tenaris Connections BV (Netherlands)
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 2 April 2009

**Drive
with care**

24 killed
in road
accident
in India

NEW DELHI, 1 April—At least 24 pilgrims were killed and some 75 injured when a truck they were riding overturned on a road about 100 kilometres from Chandigarh, Punjab state in northwest India, early Tuesday morning, said the police.

The pilgrims were going from a Hindu shrine for celebrating a religious festival in the northern state of Himachal Pradesh, when the accident took place, said the police.

All the injured were rushed to hospital in Chandigarh, state capital of Punjab, and about 10 of them were in serious conditions, said the police. The police have registered a criminal case against the driver of the mishapped truck, as he was suspected to be carrying too many passengers.—*Internet*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PDZ MAJU VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PDZ MAJU VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.4.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PERKAPALAN DAI ZHUN SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV XIANG DA VOY NO (9010)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG DA VOY NO (9010) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.4.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Marriage Announcement

By the agreement of parents of both sides
in Yangon
**Nay Oo Hlaing
&
Hnin Nu Nge**
Have the pleasure of announcing their marriage at
Tamway Township court on 15.1.09
**Parents of both sides
Nay Oo Hlaing+ Hnin Nu Nge**

Russia wants more say for
emerging economies

GENEVA, 1 April—This week's G-20 summit should push forward International Monetary Fund and other reforms to give emerging countries more say in global finance, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Yakovenko said on Monday. Yakovenko, speaking at the United Nations offices in Geneva, said a technical conference should be convened soon after the London meeting "to agree on key elements of the global financial architecture" that would give more power to developing states.—*MNA/Reuters*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.4.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KMA I VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KMA I VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.4.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S KMA SHIPPING LINE
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

China hails US climate pledges,
OPEC fears for oil

BONN, 1 April—China and other nations hailed US pledges to do more to fight global warming on Monday but OPEC dampened celebrations by predicting that a planned UN climate treaty would damage the economies of oil exporters.

"We welcome this positive change in attitude and approach by President (Barack) Obama and his team," China's climate Ambassador, Yu Qingtai, told reporters at UN climate talks in Bonn attended by 175 nations.

The Obama Administration made its UN climate debut at the start of the 11-day meeting on Sunday, promising to cut US emissions of greenhouse gases by between 16 and 17 per cent, or back to 1990 levels, by 2020—far more ambitious than goals set by former president George W Bush.

Yu said China, which many experts say has overtaken the United States as top greenhouse gas emitter, would slow the growth of its emissions by 2020 as part of a new UN pact to be agreed in Copenhagen at the end of 2009. — *MNA/Reuters*

Fighting kills at least 14 in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 1 April—Fighting between Somali police and Islamist gunmen killed eight people in Mogadishu on Monday, witnesses said, raising the stakes as a new president tries to bring stability to the failed Horn of Africa state.

Clashes between hardline Islamists from the al Shabaab group and a rival militia also killed six people in the central Bay region, but officials from all factions declined to comment.

MNA/Reuters



Scientists identify potential new drug for AIDS

LONDON, 1 April—A modified amino acid may have the potential to treat AIDS virus-infected patients who are not responding to antiretroviral drugs, according to a new study published on Wednesday.

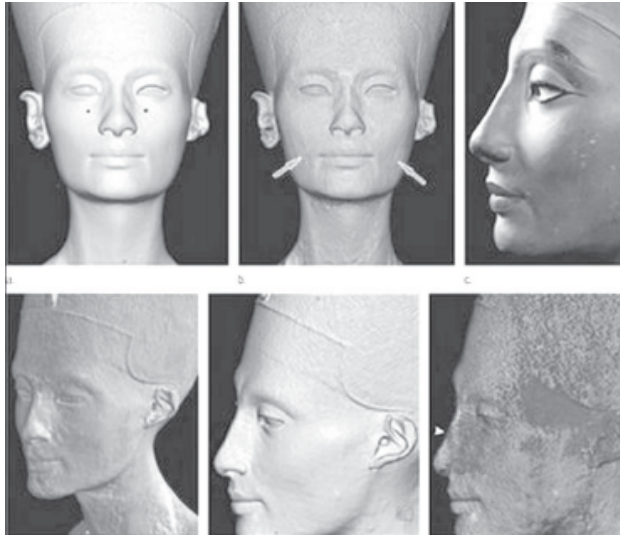
Researchers, from Imperial College London, the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, and Innsbruck Medical University, said when they applied the modified amino acid called D-1mT alongside antiretroviral drugs to monkeys they were able to reduce the levels of the simian form of HIV, known as SIV, in the blood.

Currently, drug cocktails known as highly active antiretroviral

therapy or HAART are commonly used to treat AIDS, but not effective for around one in ten patients, partly because some develop drug resistance.

In the new study, which appears in the *Journal of Immunology*, the researchers treated 11 SIV-infected rhesus macaques with drug cocktails for at least four months, but eight of them were not responding completely and still had higher SIV levels. All the macaques were then given daily doses of D-1mT. After six days, only three had detectable virus levels and after 13 days the virus could only be found in two of them, at very low levels, the researchers said.

Internet



In this undated photo composite released Tuesday, on 31 March, 2009 by the Radiological Society of North America, the bust of Nefertiti is shown. Researchers in Germany have used a modern medical procedure to uncover a secret within one of ancient Egypt's most treasured artworks — the bust of Nefertiti has two faces. The differences between the faces, though slight — creases at the corners of the mouth, a bump on the nose of the stone version — suggest to Dr. Alexander Huppertz, director of the Imaging Science Institute at Berlin's Charite hospital and medical school, that someone expressly ordered the adjustments between stone and stucco when royal sculptors immortalized the wife of Pharaoh Akhenaten 3,300 years ago.—INTERNET

Two women die of dengue in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 1 April—Two women from the Argentina's northern province of Chaco died after receiving medical treatment for dengue for several days, the Health Ministry said on Tuesday. Local inhabitants said the situation in the province is getting worse every day, blaming Chaco's governor Jorge Capitanich for hiding the real information on dengue cases.

The province's Health Secretary Sandra Mendoza said there are around 3,000 cases of dengue, despite

the national Health Ministry has reported only 1,529.

But the non-governmental organization Nelson Mandela-Argentina said there are 11,363 people with symptoms of dengue, among them 4,500 have been confirmed as dengue.

Meanwhile, officials from local hospitals said the existing medical service is not enough to assist the large number of people who are suffering from high neural and muscular pain.—Internet

In this images released by the London 2012 Olympic Delivery Authority, on 31 March, 2009, shows a steel cross beam is lifted into place on the Aquatics Centre roof. on 24 March, 2009. A sweeping, wave-shaped roof, has begun to be lifted into place on the Olympic aquatics center that will be used for the 2012 London Games.—INTERNET

UK drug addict given 10 years for killing toddler

LONDON, 1 April—A drug addict who killed his girlfriend's baby son by hitting him so hard that his intestine ruptured was jailed for 10 years on Tuesday. Brandon Muir, aged 23 months, died after being attacked by Robert Cunningham, in March last year.

At the High Court in Glasgow, Judge John

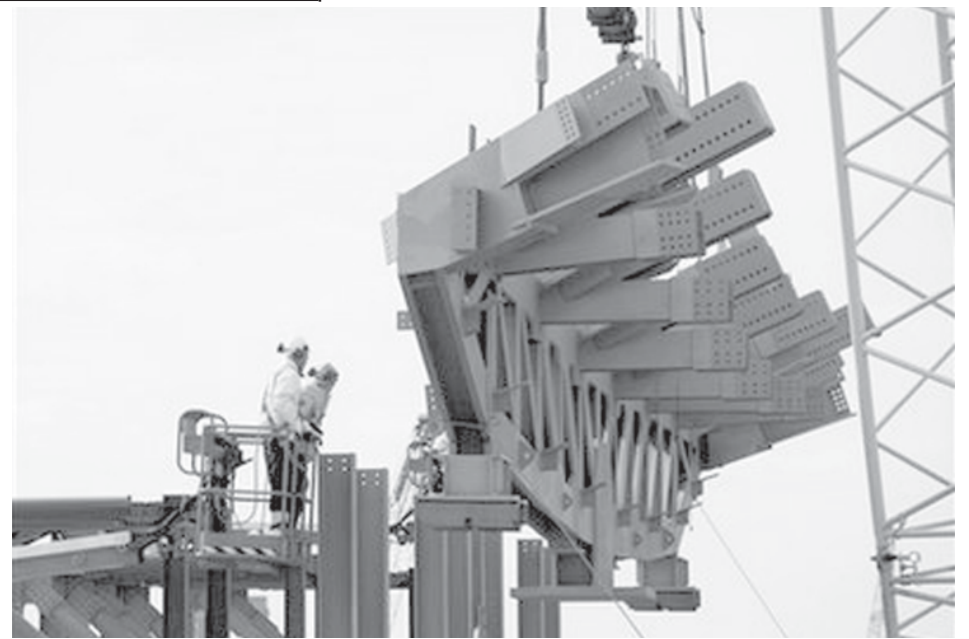
Morris sentenced him to 10 years in jail for killing the toddler at the flat in Dundee that he shared with the boy's mother Heather Boyd.

The jury agreed with prosecutors that he applied pressure to the child's abdomen "by means unknown" which led to his organ damage and death, the *Press Association* reported.

The boy was severely ill and vomited in the hours after the assault, but drug users Cunningham and Boyd, both 23, failed to get medical assistance.

Boyd was originally charged with killing her child along with her partner but was acquitted during last month's trial.

MNA/Reuters



15 killed by tornado in India

NEW DELHI, 1 April — At least 15 people were killed and more than 150 injured when a tornado struck the eastern Indian state of Orissa on Tuesday night, said police on Wednesday. The tornado left trails of devastation in the Kendrapara district of Orissa, where 11 villages were severely hit by the furious storm which pulled down more than 300 houses, toppled electric poles and uprooted trees, said police.

The injured included elderly and children and at least 25 of them were in serious conditions and being treated in hospital, said police.—Internet



Cambodian PM bans cockfighting nationwide

PHNOM PENH, 1 April—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen has outlawed cockfighting across the country, in his latest efforts to prohibit various gambling activities, national media said on Wednesday.

"I am announcing today the closure of all cockfighting arenas, including the cockfighting arena of (Deputy Prime

Minister) Sok An in Bati District of Takeo (Province)," Chinese-language daily newspaper the *Commercial News* quoted him as telling a road inauguration ceremony in Sihanouk Province on Tuesday.

Sok An, a well-known cockfighting aficionado, used to keep the arena in Takeo for fun and gambling.

"It is said that Sok An opened a cockfighting arena. (If) the Deputy Prime Minister can indulge in cockfighting, they why can't others? Now, I am ordering Sok An, do you hear? I tell (you) to close the Tonle Bati (arena), or I will bring in Armed Forces to surround it," he added.

The crackdown on cockfighting followed Hun Sen's earlier ban on slot machines, sports betting and all other forms of gambling in a reputed bid to reverse a decline in social morality.

MNA/Xinhua

A Fortescue Metals Group-issued photo shows the mining group's Cloudbreak operations in Western Australia's remote Pilbara region. Shares in the firm have surged after Australia approved a deal with a Chinese-owned firm which the Perth-based group has said could open the door to more investment from Beijing.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Shearer given eight games to save Newcastle



Alan Shearer

from relegation. Shearer, 38, a hero to the Magpies' fans for his exploits on the pitch, had long been tipped as a future manager of the club but he could never have envisaged taking over in such difficult circumstances.

Newcastle are currently third from bottom of the Premier League, two points adrift of Blackburn, the club currently occupying the last survival spot.

Shearer, who has no coaching experience, has just eight games to save the club from the financially calamitous consequences of relegation and Chelsea's visit on Saturday means he could hardly have a tougher start to his rein.

Newcastle turned to Shearer as it became clear that, under the temporary management of caretaker boss Chris Hughton, the club was drifting towards disaster after a run which has seen them win only one of their last 12 league matches. Hughton had taken charge of the first-team in February after Joe Kinnear, who was only appointed as an interim boss following the departure of Kevin Keegan in September, underwent a heart bypass.—Internet

Panama defeats Haiti in friendly 4-0

PANAMA CITY, 1 April—Panama beat Haiti 4-0 in a friendly match on Wednesday thanks to a hat trick by forward Blas Perez.

Luis Tejada scored Panama's first goal just 4 minutes into the exhibition game, while Perez, who plays for Pachuca in the Mexican league, followed with scores at 57, 72 and 87 minutes.—Internet

Venezuela surprises Colombia in Cup qualifying

PUERTO ORDAZ, 1 April—Venezuela tightened South American qualifying for the 2010 World Cup with a 2-0 victory over Colombia on Tuesday night.

Colombia squandered the opportunity to move into fifth place in qualifying, while Venezuela is eighth, but, with 13 points, trails Colombia by just one. The Venezuelans are even with Ecuador in points, trailing on goal differential. Ecuador hosts Paraguay on Wednesday.

Substitute striker Nicolas Fedor opened the scoring after 78 minutes,

then midfielder Juan Arango curled home a free kick in the 83rd minute.

The Colombians played with 10 men for the last 72 minutes after midfielder Abel Aguilar was sent off for two yellow cards, the second for upending Alejandro

Rooney can be England's answer to Raul

LONDON, 1 April—Fabio Capello believes Wayne Rooney can emulate Real Madrid icon Raul by becoming England's figurehead for the next decade.

Few players in Real's illustrious history have ever been more closely associated with the famous white shirt than Raul.

The Spain forward has scored over 200 goals and made more than 500 appearances for Real since his debut in 1994, as well as helping the club win six La Liga titles and three Champions Leagues.

Raul's leadership and eye for goal make him the quintessential Real player, while he is also Spain's all-time leading scorer with 44 goals.

Capello has first-hand experience of Raul's influence after coaching him during two spells as Real manager and he believes Rooney has the ability to have a similar inspirational effect on England.

The Italian jokingly called Rooney a "crazy man" after his sending off for Manchester United against Fulham earlier this month. But that remark hid Capello's huge admiration for a player who has rediscovered his appetite for international football

Moreno of the Columbus Crew of MLS.

Colombia still trails fifth-place Uruguay by two points. The top four teams automatically make the field for South Africa 2010, with the fifth-place team going into a playoff for a berth.—Internet



under his new coach.

Rooney's relatively barren goal-scoring run in the latter days of Sven Goran Eriksson's reign continued under Steve McClaren, but he has scored seven times in his last four matches, including two against Slovakia on Saturday.—Internet



England striker Wayne Rooney poses with the FA.com player of the year award before a training session for the forthcoming World Cup Qualifying match against Ukraine, London Colney. Fabio Capello believes Rooney can emulate Real Madrid icon Raul by becoming England's figurehead for the next decade.—INTERNET

Deco earns Portugal 2-0 win over South Africa

LAUSANNE, 1 April—Portugal ended a three-match victory drought here on Tuesday, beating South Africa 2-0 in a friendly largely thanks to two corners from Deco.

The Chelsea midfielder was the pivotal element in Portugal's game until

he was substituted by Cristiano Ronaldo, serving full back Bruno Alves early in the first half and AEK Athens striker Edinho on 57 minutes with easy close-range headers.

Portugal took the lead within minutes as an unsteady and disorganised South African defence struggled to contain Nani on the right wing.

But the Portuguese ultimately failed to take advantage of the space left to them early in a leisurely first half. South African goalkeeper Itumeleng Khule and Blackburn's Aaron Mokoena formed a solid last rampart against the Manchester United player, allowing the Bafana Bafana to edge back into the game on a chilly evening in Lausanne.

Eduardo was rarely troubled until shortly before half-time, when he scrambled the ball clear from the feet of a South African striker in Bafana Bafana's clearest chance of the match.

Carlos Queiroz's side started the second half on top with a burst of pressure that pushed the South Africans back into their goalmouth.—Internet



Portugal's Bruno Alves celebrates after he scored the first goal in Lausanne, during a friendly game South Africa versus Portugal on the sideline of the FIFA World Cup South Africa 2010. Portugal won 2-0.—INTERNET

Southampton on the brink

LONDON, 1 April—Championship club Southampton are on the brink of becoming English football's first major casualty of the credit crunch after missing an end-of-March deadline to secure new financing.

Trading in the shares of the club's parent company, Southampton Leisure Holdings, were suspended on Wednesday, a day after the expiry of the

deadline for securing new funds.

The company warned that it would not be viable without fresh funds, which are likely to prove difficult to find in the current economic climate.

"The company is currently in discussions with a number of parties concerning the injection of additional finance into its business," Southampton Leisure Holdings said in

a statement.

"Unless this funding is secured, the company will be unable to continue as a viable business for the forthcoming 12 months and is therefore unable to publish half-yearly report to 31 December 2008 by 31 March 2009 which it is required to do under the AIM (stock market) rules."

Internet

Scotland axe Rangers duo over drinking spree

GLASGOW, 1 April—Scotland captain Barry Ferguson and goalkeeper Allan McGregor have been dropped from the side to face Iceland in a crucial World Cup qualifier on Wednesday, the Scottish Football Association confirmed on the morning of the match.

Amid reports that the Rangers duo had stayed up drinking into the early hours at the team hotel after the squad's return from a 3-0 defeat by Holland on Saturday, an SFA spokesman confirmed a "breach of team discipline" had taken place.

"This has been dealt with within the squad," he added. "The focus of today

is victory this evening and we will be going all out for three points."

Manager George Burley had been considering dropping McGregor and recalling regular first-choice goalkeeper Craig Gordon, but the decision to omit Ferguson, Scotland's most experienced midfielder, represents a huge gamble for such an important game.

Failure to beat Iceland would severely dent Scotland's hopes of claiming second place in group nine and clinching a place at next year's World Cup finals in South Africa via the play-offs.

Internet



China rejects computer spy claims as “Ghost of Cold War”

BEIJING, 1 April—China on Tuesday rejected a report suggesting it may be involved in using computer networks to spy on exiled Tibetans and foreign governments, accusing its authors of being possessed by “the Ghost of the Cold War”.

China has been repeatedly accused of using the Internet to secretly enter computer networks abroad to carry out sabotage and gather intelligence, and it has repeatedly denied such claims. A report from the Toronto-based Munk Centre for International Studies in Toronto said at least 1,295 computers in 103 countries were breached by the spying, which it said was based in China but could not be definitively linked to the government.

A spokesman for China's Foreign Ministry dismissed such claims as rumour and said his government was committed to protecting Internet security. “Nowadays the problem is that there are some people abroad avidly concocting rumours about China's so-called Internet espionage”, spokesman Qin Gang told a regular news briefing.

MNA/Reuters



SeaWorld animal trainers in Orlando have their hands full with four baby Asian small-clawed otters, seen, on 30 March, 2009.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (2.4.2009) (Thursday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

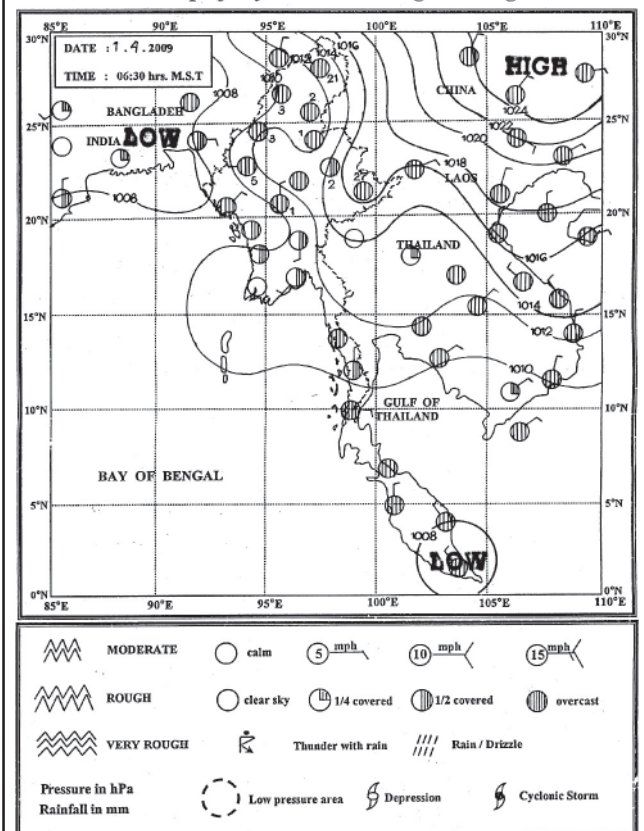
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Fantastic Scenic Sunsets of Myanmar
- * Myanmar Traditional Fan
- * The Folk Art of making Ornaments with Leaves
- * Thingyan Dance
- * Beach Souvenir Sea Shell Decorations
- * TheWalking-sticks Industry of Ywalut Village
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Blue Sea
- * Thingyan Dance
- * Beach Resort of Chaung Tha
- * Fossilized Wood Picture
- * Travelogue (Taunggyi)
- * Myanmar's Medicinal Orchid
- * The Fortress City beside the Ayeyawaddy
- * Intricate Art of Silversmith
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Fantastic Scenic Sunsets of Myanmar
- * Myanmar Traditional Fan
- * Bayin Nyi Naung Yadana Cave
- * Thingyan Dance
- * Beach Souvenir Sea Shell Decorations
- * TheWalking-sticks Industry of Ywalut Village
- * The Folk Art of making Ornaments with Leaves
- * Exhibition Centre Introducing Hkakaborazi National Park
- * Pride of Place in Bagan (The Ananda Temple)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Wednesday, 1 April, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin, Chin States and upper Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan State, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, isolated in Magway Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in Kachin and Mon States, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, (4°C) below April average temperatures in Shan State, (6°C) below April average temperatures upper Sagaing Division and about April average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Minbu and Magway (42°C) each and Chauk and Thawady (41°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.20) inch, Mengsat (1.34) inches, Kengtung (1.06) inches, Machanbaw (0.98) inch, Falam (0.87) inch and Putao (0.83) inch.

Maximum temperature on 31-3-2009 was 101°F. Minimum temperature on 1-4-2009 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 1-4-2009 was 61%. Total sunshine hours on 31-3-2009 was (9.2) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 1-4-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, (0.20) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (16:30) hours MST on 31-3-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 2nd April 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Mon States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 2-4-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-4-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-4-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Thursday, 2 April
View on today

7:00 am

1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:45 am

4. Nice and Sweet song

7:50 am

5. Dance variety

8:00 am

6. Musical programme

8:10 am

7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

8. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

8:35 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Dance of national races

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:05 pm

2. Cute little dancers

4:10 pm

3. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:30 pm

4. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

4:40 pm

5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)

4:55 pm

6. Songs to uphold National Spirit

5:00 pm

7. ရန်ကုန်မန္တလေး အမြန်လမ်းမကြီး (၁)

5:15 pm

8. “ဆုံဆည်းခွင့်” (မင်းထက်ကျော်စင်၊ ဖိုးသောကြာ၊ မြတ်ကောသီအောင်၊ ချစ်သူဝေ) [ဒါရိုက်တာ-သိန်းဟန် (ဖီနပ်စ်)]

5:30 pm

9. ခါသင်္ကြန်အဆိုအကများ

5:40 pm

10. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:00 pm

11. Evening news

6:30 pm

12. Weather report

6:35 pm

13. ပျော်ရွှင်စေသောနေ့ရက်များ “ဒန်းစီးချစ်သူ”

- (စိုးရန်အောင်၊ ခင်ရူပ၊ အောင်လွင်၊ ညီထွက်၊ အေးမင်း၊ ယုဇနဗိုလ်မြင့်၊ နှင်းယုဆွေ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်ကျော်သူရ)

6:55 pm

14. ထူးဆန်းထွေးလာများကိုသိပ္ပံဖြင့် ချဉ်းကပ်ခြင်း

7:15 pm

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ကုန်သွယ်မှုနံတိုင်း” (အပိုင်း-၆၃)

8:00 pm

16. News

17. International news

18. Weather report

19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

- “မေတ္တာလမ်းဆုံ” (အပိုင်း-၁၂)

20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

- “မြူရီးဝေဝေချစ်သက်တည်” (အပိုင်း-၁၂)

21. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာ ဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်



State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

NAY PYI TAW, 1 April — Mr Newton Gunaratna, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General

Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, at 11.00 a.m. today.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-

1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.—MNA

**Senior General
Than Shwe receives
Mr Newton
Gunaratna, newly-
accredited Ambassa-
dor of the Demo-
cratic Socialist
Republic of Sri
Lanka to the Union
of Myanmar, at
Bayintnaung Yeiktha
in Nay Pyi Taw.**

MNA



MRTV-4 (Free to Air) channel with VHF antenna

YANGON, 1 April—Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV) under the Ministry of Information is transmitting MRTV-4 (Free to Air) channel around Yangon.

MRTV will change its transmission system through VHF channel (11) for enabling the viewers to receive the programmes easily.

Public residing

around Yangon may receive MRTV-4 (Free to Air) channel clearly by using normal VHF TV antenna starting today.

MNA

Bus lines during Water Festival

YANGON, 1 April—Transport services of some Bus lines under All Private Bus-line Control Committee (Yangon) will be suspended during

Maha Thingyan Festival from 13 to 16 April.

Some 1102 cars from 67 bus lines will run regularly from 6 a.m to 6 p.m. The bus fare is normal.

All bus lines will re-run starting from 17 April (Myanmar New Year Day), announced the committee.

MNA

Kunlong Township on track of development

Article and Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)



Kunlong Suspension Bridge on the Union Highway linking Yangon-Mandalay and Kyukok (Pangsai) and Muse is seen at the entrance to Kunlong, with the Shan Yoma mountain range in the background.

We members of the media team from the Myanma Alin Daily made a trip to Lashio to inform the people about the development of northern Shan State. After a tour of Lashio, Hopang, and Tangyan, we proceeded to Kunlong accompanied by Manager of Shan State (North) Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise U Win Hlaing Oo under the arrangements of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council. Lashio is a four-hour drive or 85 miles from Kunlong. The tarred road linking the two towns passes through hills and the slopes of the maintain ranges.

On the one side of the road are the walls of the mountains and hills, and on the other side, ravines, gorges and gullies. From the car, I had a good view over many farms of rubber plants at the age of about two years old grown with the contour system. Manager U Win Hlaing Oo explained that the barren hills in Farfein and Nyochan village-tracts were put under rubber; and that rubber was grown as poppy-substitute plant in 70 acres on the hills in 12 village-tracts in Kunlong Township, and rubber plantations proved successful.

(See page 10)

