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

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

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

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

---

**Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attend inauguration of Bagan Viewing Tower**

YANGON, 10 April — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint Tin Aye, the ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, left here by air at 8.30 am today and arrived at Bagan-NyaungU Airport in NyaungU, Mandalay Division. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party were welcomed by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Brig-Gen Than Tun of Kyaukpadaung Station, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and officials.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Bagan Viewing Tower and Hotel Construction Project of Htoo Trading Co Ltd in Bagan Archaeological Region, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw reported on progress in implementing the Bagan Viewing Tower and Hotel Construction Project in Bagan Archaeological Region in accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe.

Managing Director U Teza of Htoo Trading Co Ltd submitted reports on construction of the tower and facts about the tower.

*(See page 8)*

---

**Sea turtle species identification is key to improving knowledge about these species, their distribution, their natural history and causes and impact of their deaths.**

*Sein Sein Thein (Dagon University)*

---

*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San enjoy scenic beauty of Bagan and buildings of Bagan Hotel Project.— MNA*
PM’s visit to Laos further cements mutual friendship and cooperation

The Union of Myanmar and the Lao People’s Democratic Republic have been able to maintain the amicable friendly relations based on mutual respects and understanding. The friendship between the two nations has been further strengthened through the exchange of visits between leaders of the two countries.

At the invitation of the prime ministers of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Kingdom of Cambodia, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win paid a goodwill visit to those countries from 6 to 9 April.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win during his visit to the Lao PDR met Laotian President Mr Khamtay Siphandone at the hall of the President’s House in Vientiane on 6 April. The Myanmar Prime Minister said in the meeting that the exchange of visits between leaders of the two countries further cements friendly ties of the two countries; that in Myanmar, the National Convention is held; and that the seven-point Road Map will be implemented until it meets with success.

In his meeting with the distinguished Myanmar guest, the Laotian President said that he learned progress of the Union of Myanmar; that he was delighted at the successful convening of the National Convention and hosting of the World Buddhist Summit; that the Laotian Government and its people will always support the Union of Myanmar; and that Myanmar should concentrate on development of the country, ignoring accusations and pressures of destructive and destructive elements.

The visit of the Myanmar Prime Minister to the Lao PDR has been able to highlight progress in political, economic and social sectors of Myanmar. The host nation also has been able to further cement friendship and cooperation with Myanmar, maintaining its good neighbourliness. There have been fine traditions between Myanmar and Laos since yore. Thanks to efforts of the local administrative bodies of the two sides, bilateral cooperation has been promoted at the border.

The Government of the Union of Myanmar has been cooperating with Lao PDR in various spheres and extended a helpful hand to the latter at the 10th ASEAN Summit. Meanwhile, the Lao PDR would like to coordinate with Myanmar to mark the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations with Myanmar.

All in all, we believe that friendship and cooperation resulting from the exchange of visits between leaders of the Myanmar and Lao PDR will contribute much to better serving the interests of the nations.

First Myanmar Flash Movie Competition 12 April

YANGON, 10 April—With the aims of cherishing Myanmar culture and attracting youth to computer science, Myanmar Media Technological Network Co Ltd will organize the First Myanmar Flash Movie Competition with the title Myanmar New Year.

Prize presentation ceremony will be held at the Conference Hall of MICT Park in Hlme Township on 12 April morning. Experts from Myanmar Computer Professional Association will choose the winners in the competition for the first, second and third prizes and two consolation prizes.

The participants are to present their flash movie and anybody may attend the competition.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on inspection tour of townships in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 10 April—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials, gave instructions to departmental officials at division, district and township levels at the office of Myaungmya District Peace and Development Council Office on 8 April morning.

He inspected 86 acres of farmlands being supplied water with CNG powered pump in Danonchaung Village in Myaungmya Township.

At Panmawady River Bridge (Myinkaseik), Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on facts about the bridge and progress of tasks by Senior Engineer Daw Si Than of Bridge Construction Group-3, and gave necessary instructions.

Panmawady River Bridge (Myinkaseik) is a suspension bridge with 360 feet long approach bridge on either side and 540 feet long main bridge, totalling 1,260 feet. On completion, the bridge will be facilitated on Pathein-Kangon-Myingukay Myanmar Road stretching 32 miles which is 33 miles shorter than Pathein-Daka-Eime-Myaungmya Road stretching 65 miles.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected upgrading of Myaungmya-Eime section.

He attended the ceremony to put Gyogon Bridge crossing Eime Creek into service in Eime. The bridge is 136 feet long and 12 feet wide. Its clearance is 9 feet high and 60 feet wide. The bridge was built at a cost of K 40 million.

They joined the rally in opening the building of Gyogon BEHS (Branch) in Gyogon Village. In Eime, he looked into rebuilding the reinforced concrete type Mayang Bridge on Thayetkon Creek in Eime-Myaungmya Road.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with departmental officials in Eime. He also met with officers and other ranks at the local battalion.

Upgrading of buildings in Yangon Int’l Airport

YANGON, 10 April—Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe accompanied by Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung, Director-General U Tun Hlaing of Department of Civil Aviation, Managing Director of Myanmar Airways Col Tin Maung Tun inspected decoration at departure terminal-1 of Yangon International Airport yesterday morning. The minister and party also inspected decoration, construction of Internet Cafe, renovation of ceilings and other maintenance work at the airport and the minister gave necessary instructions. The tasks are being carried out by Htoo trading Co.Ltd. Deputy General Manager of the company Daw Aye Mon conducted the minister and party round the sites.

YANGON, 10 April—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials, gave instructions to departmental officials at division, district and township levels at the office of Myaungmya District Peace and Development Council Office on 8 April morning.

He inspected 86 acres of farmlands being supplied water with CNG powered pump in Danonchaung Village in Myaungmya Township.

At Panmawady River Bridge (Myinkaseik), Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on facts about the bridge and progress of tasks by Senior Engineer Daw Si Than of Bridge Construction Group-3, and gave necessary instructions.

Panmawady River Bridge (Myinkaseik) is a suspension bridge with 360 feet long approach bridge on either side and 540 feet long main bridge, totalling 1,260 feet. On completion, the bridge will be facilitated on Pathein-Kangon-Myingukay Myanmar Road stretching 32 miles which is 33 miles shorter than Pathein-Daka-Eime-Myaungmya Road stretching 65 miles. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected upgrading of Myaungmya-Eime section.

He attended the ceremony to put Gyogon Bridge crossing Eime Creek into service in Eime. The bridge is 136 feet long and 12 feet wide. Its clearance is 9 feet high and 60 feet wide. The bridge was built at a cost of K 40 million.

They joined the rally in opening the building of Gyogon BEHS (Branch) in Gyogon Village. In Eime, he looked into rebuilding the reinforced concrete type Mayang Bridge on Thayetkon Creek in Eime-Myaungmya Road.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with departmental officials in Eime. He also met with officers and other ranks at the local battalion.

Similarly, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Hla Shwe, Provost Marshal Maj-Gen Saw Hla and officials, this morning supervised the functions of the dry day inspection teams at the main points here.

The dry day inspection teams checked dry day pass, driver’s license and wheel tax bill of Tatmadaw and departmental vehicles, wearing of departmental uniforms and breaking of traffic rules from 7 am to 5 pm.

First Myanmar Flash Movie Competition 12 April

YANGON, 10 April—With the aims of cherishing Myanmar culture and attracting youth to computer science, Myanmar Media Technological Network Co Ltd will organize the First Myanmar Flash Movie Competition with the title Myanmar New Year.

Prize presentation ceremony will be held at the Conference Hall of MICT Park in Hlme Township on 12 April morning. Experts from Myanmar Computer Professional Association will choose the winners in the competition for the first, second and third prizes and two consolation prizes.

The participants are to present their flash movie and anybody may attend the competition.

YANGON, 10 April—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials, gave instructions to departmental officials at division, district and township levels at the office of Myaungmya District Peace and Development Council Office on 8 April morning.

He inspected 86 acres of farmlands being supplied water with CNG powered pump in Danonchaung Village in Myaungmya Township.

At Panmawady River Bridge (Myinkaseik), Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on facts about the bridge and progress of tasks by Senior Engineer Daw Si Than of Bridge Construction Group-3, and gave necessary instructions.

Panmawady River Bridge (Myinkaseik) is a suspension bridge with 360 feet long approach bridge on either side and 540 feet long main bridge, totalling 1,260 feet. On completion, the bridge will be facilitated on Pathein-Kangon-Myingukay Myanmar Road stretching 32 miles which is 33 miles shorter than Pathein-Daka-Eime-Myaungmya Road stretching 65 miles. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected upgrading of Myaungmya-Eime section.

He attended the ceremony to put Gyogon Bridge crossing Eime Creek into service in Eime. The bridge is 136 feet long and 12 feet wide. Its clearance is 9 feet high and 60 feet wide. The bridge was built at a cost of K 40 million.

They joined the rally in opening the building of Gyogon BEHS (Branch) in Gyogon Village. In Eime, he looked into rebuilding the reinforced concrete type Mayang Bridge on Thayetkon Creek in Eime-Myaungmya Road.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with departmental officials in Eime. He also met with officers and other ranks at the local battalion.

First Myanmar Flash Movie Competition 12 April

YANGON, 10 April—With the aims of cherishing Myanmar culture and attracting youth to computer science, Myanmar Media Technological Network Co Ltd will organize the First Myanmar Flash Movie Competition with the title Myanmar New Year.

Prize presentation ceremony will be held at the Conference Hall of MICT Park in Hlme Township on 12 April morning. Experts from Myanmar Computer Professional Association will choose the winners in the competition for the first, second and third prizes and two consolation prizes.

The participants are to present their flash movie and anybody may attend the competition.
Singapore, Bahrain sign open skies agreement

SINGAPORE, 8 April — Singapore and Bahrain on Thursday signed an open skies agreement (OSA) here, which enables airlines of the two sides to fly freely on any route between and beyond the two countries without limits on frequency of flights.

According to a statement by the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS), airlines of the two parties are also allowed to use each other’s airports as the base to launch cargo flights to third countries.

Bahrain’s Minister of Transportation Sheikh Ali Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, said that the OSA will complement and support the economic collaboration efforts between the two countries.

“The Like Changi Airport, Bahrain International Airport serves a much wider hinterland of air traffic, and there is potential for both airports to feed air traffic to each other, as well as to the Gulf and Southeast Asia hinterlands,” Yeo noted.

“Like the OSA lifts all restrictions on flights between Singapore and Bahrain, via and beyond to any third country,” Yeo added, ‘‘Gulf Air will have the flexibility to expand its network in Asia and Australia, using Singapore as a gateway’’.

Yeo said that Singapore has so far inked nine OSAs with countries including the United States, New Zealand and Brunei, and Singapore is now engaging in OSA talks with Australia, according to the minister.

Yeo told Xinhua at the signing ceremony that he appreciated the progress China had made in the civil aviation sector in the past five years, with its civil aviation market having been much more liberalized. As the island state attracts great significance to the development of the industry in China, Singapore Airlines (SIA) has increased the route and frequency of its flights to China, Yeo said.

He hoped that a similar OSA can be reached between China and Singapore, and bilateral cooperation in the field of civil aviation be further strengthened.

——MNA/Xinhua

New air route expected to further China-S Korea tourism, trade

QINGDAO, 9 April — Chinese Customs officials say they have seen growing tourism and trade between Weihai in east China’s Shandong Province and Inchon of South Korea since a new air route opened between two cities last week.

The route connecting Weihai, a small seaside city, and Inchon in northwestern South Korea, opened on 27 March. Twelve inbound and outbound flights a week are operated by Air China, Shandong Airlines and Korean Aero Service Co, Ltd, said Customs officials in Qingdao, a port on China’s east coast.

By 31 March, 10 flights had flown the 45-minute, 450-kilometre route, carrying 724 inbound and outbound passengers and 10 South Korea-bound shipments worth more than 20,000 US dollars in total, according to the Qingdao Customs.

——MNA/Xinhua

US soldier killed in bomb attack in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 8 April — One US soldier was killed in a bomb attack in the northern Iraqi province of Kirkuk on Friday, the US military said in a statement.

An improvised explosive device was detonated at midday near Hawija, some 240 km north of Baghdad, the statement said.

Earlier in the day, the US military said that a US marine was killed in a motor vehicle accident in the restive city of Fallujah on Wednesday. Over 1,540 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003.

——MNA/Xinhua

Good city should properly handle transportation problems

BEIJING, 9 April — Life will be boring, if people cannot walk in a city, said Zhang Yonghe, a well-known Chinese architect, here on Thursday.

At the “Sino-French Architectural Forum” held at the Beijing City Planning Exhibition Hall, Zhang with more than 180 Chinese and French architects were invited to deliver speech and have discussed issues such as city planning, sustainable development, traffic, reform of old downtown, commercial architecture and project technology and material.

Zhang, also director of the Architectural Study Centre of China’s prestigious Beijing University, said a good city should properly handle transportation problems, as more and more cities are plagued by surging traffic jams.

French architect Jerome de Boisseson said developed countries including France are also confronted by the traffic problem as increased private cars and parking lots break into public space of the city.

Quite a few Western cities came to realize the importance of public transportation, and some cities like Boston in the United States even dismantled some of the highways, which were originally typical construction of the city,” he said.

——MNA/Xinhua

Iraqis rally on second anniversary of occupation

BAGHDAD, 10 April — Tens of thousands of Iraqis rallied across Iraq on Saturday, demanding a swift withdrawal of foreign forces two years after they toppled former president Saddam Hussein.

The demonstrators, most of them supporters of radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, chanted “No, no to terrorism,” “No, no to America” and “No, no to occupation” as they marched through Baghdad streets toward Firdus Square (Paradise Square) where a towering statue of Saddam was pulled down two years ago.

Sadr’ supporters were all dressed in orange prison jumpsuits and in handcuffs, in a clear reference to the outfits US authorities use for detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Some supporters brandished the notorious picture of a naked Iraqi detainee with wires attached to his body, a reminder of the Abu Ghraib Prison scandal.

The effigies of US President George W. Bush, British Prime Minister Tony Blair and toppled Saddam were burned in the streets.

Police vehicles cordoned off the main roads in central Baghdad and two major bridges across the Tigris River that bisect the city.

US forces kept a distance from the rally.

——MNA/Xinhua

Motorola opens research lab in India

NEW DELHI, 8 April — US communications company Motorola announced on Thursday it has set up an applied research laboratory in Bangalore, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

The Motorola Labs in India, which is the company’s 11th such facility worldwide, will conduct applied research in converged networks, automatic networking technologies, enterprise and service delivery applications and embedded systems and physical sciences.

“The research activities will be in line with our vision of seamless mobility, uninterrupted access to information, entertainment, communication, monitoring and control,” Motorola’s Chief Technology Officer Padmasree Warrior said.

The telcom major declined to specify the investment, it said substantial funds would be made available from the $85 million US dollars it had budgeted for its software research and development in India.

“We are initially hiring about 50 people, including PhD scientists and high-end technologists to undertake research projects and create intellectual properties for our global research and development organization,” Warrior said.

The company’s other research laboratories are located in the United States, Britain, France, China and Japan, employing about 1,000 scientists and technologists.

Motorola vice-president for South-East Asia Amir Sharma said the company would invest 17 million US dollars and hire about 500 people annually to ramp up its Indian operations. About 40 per cent of software products that go into the latest mobile handsets are being developed in India.

——MNA/Xinhua

Indian carrier Jet Airways will make its maiden flight to Malaysia on 9 April, marking growing economic ties between Kuala Lumpur and New Delhi. —INTERNET

A salesman stands next to a Rover 75 car in a Beijing showroom on 8 April, 2005. —INTERNET
Expert says three Philippine volcanoes act up

MANILA, 8 April — The Philippine Institute on Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) Thursday said that it is closely monitoring at least three volcanoes in Luzon and Visayas after indicating “abnormal” activities for the past months.

Phivolcs director Renato Solidum said at a Press briefing at the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) building that ash emissions and frequent volcanic earthquakes have been monitored in the past months on Mayon Volcano in Albay, Taal Volcano in Batangas and Kanlaon Volcano in the boundaries of Negros Oriental and Negros Occidental.

Solidum said that Taal Volcano, whose last eruption was on October 1977, started displaying abnormalities since October 2004.

“Taal is currently under alert level No. 1. Some seismic disturbances have been detected over the past weeks,” Solidum said.

“The main crater is off-limits to the public because sudden steam explosions may occur or high concentrations of toxic gases may accumulate,” Solidum said.

Kanlaon Volcano has been placed on alert level No 1 since last month due to nine ash eruptions that were recorded since 21 January while Mayon Volcano has been on alert level No 2 due to inflated crater glow and volcanic earthquakes.

The Phivolcs has placed a six-kilo-metre permanent danger zone on Mayon volcano while a four-kilometre radius danger zone were set on Kanlaon Volcano.

Solidum, however, said that there is still no need to evacuate residents living near the Volcanoes. “We only started evacuation at alert level No 3,” said Solidum, assuring that explosion is not imminent. MNA/Xinhua

China objects US decision to restrict imports of China’s textiles

BEIJING, 8 April — A spokesman of the Ministry of Commerce said here Thursday that China “firmly objects” to the US decision to launch investigations aiming to restrict Chinese textile imports and hopes that the US will alter its decision.

“We hope the US Administration will... fully recognize the extreme sensibility and huge negative impact of the special restrictions on textile goods, ... and take prudent and responsible attitude towards making restrictions and reverse the decision of launching investigations,” spokesman Chong Quan said in a statement.

The US Administration announced Monday that it will launch a special restrictive measures investigation on cotton trousers, cotton knit shirts and cotton or man-made fabric underwear imported from China.

The US Administration made the decision without application from US manufacturers and based on preliminary figures. Chong said that China would send a “wrong signal” to US manufacturers and set a “bad example” for other members of the World Trade Organization. All quotas on textile trade were eliminated from 1 January this year and the previous round of world trade liberalization. But the United States and the European Union have recently announced similar restrictive measures against Chinese exports of textile goods.

The spokesman said the US decision has gone against provisions concerning China’s accession to the WTO and the internal procedures of the United States and would “harm the multi-lateral trade regime.”

Also on Thursday, Chong said in a separate statement that China objects “strongly objects to the European Union’s recent restriction guidelines on imports of Chinese textile goods. According to the statement, the EU action would create “new unstable factors” for China-EU textile trade and would have a negative impact on the global textile trade.

The European Commission (EC), the EU’s executive arm, issued on Wednesday special guidelines on measures against textile and clothing imports from China.

Chong stressed that China would work with the United States to properly resolve the issue through dialogue and cooperation within the bilateral framework in the spirit of development, equality and mutual benefit. MNA/Xinhua

Biological pest control effective to save coconut palms in S-E Asia

BANGKOK, 8 April — A tiny parasitic wasp are reared in a large scale under the initiative of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to save coconut palms trees from pest damage in Southeast Asia.

The small wasp parasitoid named Asecodes hispinarum is natural enemy of the coconut hispine beetle, which can destroy palm leaves and significantly reduce coconut yields, the FAO said in a statement issued here on Thursday.

“ Biological control has proven to be the most effective and we are currently mass-rearing a small wasp parasitoid, Asecodes hispinarum, which attacks the larvae of the beetle, to control the spread of the pest and bring it to non-economically damaging levels,” the statement quoted FAO biological pest control consultant and expert Wilco Liebregts as saying.

Coconut plantations in the Maldives, Nauru, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and China have been invaded by coconut hispine beetles in the past five years, according to the statement.

New to continental Southeast Asia, this invasive pest has rapidly spreading and causing massive damage there for lack of natural enemy. If left uncontrolled, the beetle infestation would cause in excess of one billion US dollars damage in Vietnam alone, according to a FAO study.

Though local authorities have taken emergency measures to prevent the pest invasion, chemical control proved not only expensive and ineffective but also a serious health risk to farmers, families and consumers, the FAO statement said. MNA/Xinhua

US soldiers involved in drug-trafficking in Colombia have immunity

BOGOTA, 8 April — Five US soldiers arrested for drug-trafficking in Texas have “privileges and immunity” as personnel of the US Embassy in Bogota, US Ambassador to Colombia William Wood said on Thursday.

The five soldiers, who were supposed to support anti-narcotics operations in southern Colombia, were arrested on 29 March while carrying 16 kilos of cocaine to their country.

Wood said they were part of “the military personnel” of the embassy, thus avoiding the possibility of being extradited to the Andean country.

The Colombian Government recognized “several weeks ago” the “official status” of the US troops involved in drug-trafficking, he added.

Under a bilateral treaty signed in 1974, the US embassy last January received a list “with the names of the military personnel temporarily assigned to the Embassy of the United States”, Wood said. Since the soldiers’ names appeared on the list, their “official status” was acknowledged and thus they have immunity, the ambassador noted.

“The incident is regrettable, but this is not the first time we have had to face this situation,” he said. “We have been committed to applying the law to whoever is involved (in drug-trafficking).” MNA/Xinhua

Two killed, several wounded in US shooting incidents

WASHINGTON, 8 April Two people were killed and several others were wounded in separate shooting incidents in the United States on Thursday, media reports said. In Laurel, Delaware, the suspect, Allison L Norman, shot one person to death and wounded two others.

In Laurel, the shooting rampage in neighbouring Salisbury, Maryland, killing one person and wounding two others, before he was arrested by police.

Norman was charged with first-degree murder and handgun violations, the reports said. MNA/Xinhua
**YANGON, 10 April —** Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win and party visited the most ancient university of Vietnam built in 17th century AD in Hanoi at 5 pm on 7 April. Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party were welcomed by officials of the Cultural Department. The officials explained ancient stone inscription and literature in the university. Next, Vietnamese traditional cultural troupe entertained the Myanmar delegation with traditional music. — MNA

---

**Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party visit most ancient university of Vietnam. — MNA**

---

**Singapore, Panama conclude free trade agreement**

**SINGAPORE, 10 April —** Singapore and Panama have reached a free trade agreement (FTA) after three rounds of talks beginning in February of last year, said a statement from Singapore’s Ministry of Trade and Industry on Friday.

The Panama-Singapore FTA is a comprehensive agreement that seeks to liberalize bilateral engagement in areas beyond trade in goods and services, “the statement said.

Terms on investment, customs procedures, competition policy, government procurement, financial services, telecommunications, e-commerce and dispute settlement are also included in the agreement.

The FTA enables 98 per cent of Singapore’s exports to Panama to enjoy duty free access five years after it takes effect, and will immediately eliminate all duties for Panamanian products entering Singapore.

**Mekong countries discuss flood management, mitigation**

**HANOI, 9 April —** Representatives from countries interested in the Mekong River gathered in Laos, discussing measures of dealing with floods which have claimed many lives in the Mekong Basin, according to local sources on Friday.

Experts from member countries of the Mekong River Commission (MRC), including Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam; its dialogue partners, China and Myanmar, as well as experts from Japan, Germany, France and Nepal attended the 3rd Mekong Flood Forum which opened in Vientiane on 7 April. The meeting touched on such issues as disaster preparedness, early warning systems, forecasting tools, capa-city building, and the economic value of floods.

---

**29 killed in Iraq violence**

**BAGHDAD, 10 April —** Tens of thousands of Shia protestors poured into central Baghdad on Saturday to demand that US troops leave Iraq as 29 people were killed in attacks on the second anniversary of Saddam Hussein’s downfall.

On Saturday, violence against Iraqi security forces and civilians killed 29 and wounded scores more in separate incidents.

In the most deadly attack, an improvised explosive device (IED) killed 13 Iraqi soldiers and wounded seven others on Saturday morning at the main highway through Latifiyah, south of Baghdad, a Defense Ministry official said. On the same road just outside Latifiyah, attackers gunned down five civilians, a medical source said. The region populated by a mix of Sunnis and Shias, is called the ‘triangle of death’ for its high rate of murders and kidnappings.

Also south of Baghdad, four drivers were killed and four others wounded in an ambush on a 14-truck Trade Ministry convoy travelling between Kut and the capital, an Interior Ministry source said. The route from Kut, 175 kilometres southeast of Baghdad, has become a regular target for insurgents.

In Baghdad, Sayed Fadel al-Shoq, a deputy to Sadr was killed, and another deputy was injured in the southern Dura district as they drove to an anti-US protest, a Sadr official said.

In the northern city of Mosul, a suicide car bomber in an Opel killed a police officer and a civilian and wounded 14 others, including 11 policemen, medical sources and police said. An Iraqi soldier and a civilian were killed in a roadside bomb in Mashahda, 30 kilometres north of Baghdad, an army captain said.

---

**Pakistani President to visit Philippines**

**MANILA, 10 April —** Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf will pay a state visit to the Philippines from 18 to 20 April at the invitation of his Philippine counterpart Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, said the Philippine Presidential Palace on Friday.

The visit will be the first state visit by a Pakistani Head of State to the Philippines since diplomatic relations were established between the two countries in 1949.

---

**A US tank blocks a bridge across Baghdad’s Figris River in an anti-US protest to mark two years since the city fell to coalition troops on 9 April, 2005.**

**Internet**
Endeavours being made for development of economic …

(from page 16)

of Foreign Affairs Mr Le Cong Phung and senior officials.

In the discussions, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win said his visit was to promote friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He praised Vietnam for its economic progress. He said concerted efforts are being made on self-reliance basis for development of all sectors in his country and achievements have been made.

He said tasks are being carried out for transformation of centralized economy into market-oriented economy, especially, rights are given to do business in export and import and private sectors. Private and cooperative enterprises play a vital role in production sector, he said.

Endeavours are being made for development of economic and social infrastructures and for smooth political transition. Success has been gained after the implementation of the policies laid down. At the National Convention discussions are being made for sharing of executive, judicial and legislative powers between central government and states and regions, he added.

We accept that national solidarity and internal political stability is important. If there is no outside interference through various ways and means, rapid progress will be made. Nations like Vietnam, an old friend, understand our country and continued efforts are to be made for success in accord with the seven-point Road Map, he added.

President Mr Tran Duc Luong said that Myanmar is not a country sharing the border with Vietnam. However, he regards Myanmar as a close neighbour. Both nations had the same experience on national struggle. Vietnam regards Myanmar as a trusted friendly nation and wishes to enhance the existing and future relations, he added.

He noticed that Vietnamese people have enjoyed developments in economic and social sectors under the leadership of the State Peace and Development Council led by Senior General Than Shwe. He also learnt that economic growth rate is on the increase and thanked Myanmar for its support of Vietnam’s admissie to WTO. He spoke of the need for nations upstream Mekong River not to harm the interests of those nations from lower Mekong River in exploiting marine resources in the river.

Continuing, he said, Vietnam supported Myanmar at the regional and international meetings, especially, admission to the ASEAN and ASEM held the previous year. He said he believes that after laying down the seven-point Road Map by the State Peace and Development Council, introduction of democracy in the country will be successful. Peace and stability is very important for a nation, he emphasized.

Next, the two Prime Ministers met in the parlour. At 10.30 am, the meeting of the Union of Myanmar and the SRV was held at the meeting hall of the Office of the Government. Also present together with Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win were Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Zaw Min, Ambassador to SRV U Tin Latt, Director-General U Soe Tint at the Prime Minister’s Office and departmental heads.

The Vietnamese Prime Minister was accompanied by Minister at the Office of Government Mr Doan Mang Giao, Minister for Culture and Information Mr Pham Quang Nghi, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Le Cong Phung, Deputy Minister for Trade Mr Phan The Rue, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development Mr Deep Kinh Tan and senior officials.

At the discussions, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win delivered an address, saying that the Union of Myanmar and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam have the same background history. In retrospect, the two countries have had friendly relationship with exchange of goodwill visits of the leaders of the two countries. During the goodwill visits, they signed agreements and memoranda of understanding between the two countries. For ensuring promotion of bilateral trade, a joint trade committee was formed. The trade volume between the two countries multiplied about three times in 2003 compared with that in 2002. Furthermore, evidence of more progress had been seen in 2004. Thus, the Government always invites foreign investments to Myanmar. The Prime Minister added that he invites entrepreneurs from Vietnam to invest in Myanmar. He said that he believed today’s discussions would be further cementing friendly relationship and cooperation between the two countries. More cooperation will be carried out in the two countries.

In his address, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai said that the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, being a friend of Myanmar, observes progress of Myanmar without losing sight. It was known that they recognized internal stability and building the country, implementation of the seven-step Road Map and successful completion of the second meeting of the National Convention.

The Vietnam realized the sanctions imposed on Myanmar in the name of democracy and human rights as it has been subject to sanctions posed by western nations. Vietnam, on its part, opposes such acts.

He believed Myanmar would reach the peaceful and stable democratic society it desires under the collective leadership headed by Senior General Than Shwe. He disclosed that Vietnam’s foreign policy is to enhance cooperation with Myanmar based on friendship. He said that Vietnam always expresses gratitude to Myanmar Government and people for their support of Vietnam’s independence struggle. He added that cooperation between the two countries is to be enhanced.
Vietnamese Prime Minister hosts dinner in honour of Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party

YANGON, 10 April — Myanmar Delegation led by Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win of the Union of Myanmar on a goodwill visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was hosted a dinner by Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai of the SRV at the State Guest House in Hanoi at 7 pm on 7 April.

Also present at the dinner were the ministers, the deputy foreign minister, the Myanmar Ambassador and departmental heads.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win proposes a toast at the dinner.

SRV Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai hosts a dinner in honour of Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party in Hanoi.— MNA

Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai of the SRV was accompanied by the ministers, the deputy ministers, senior officials and the ambassadors from ASEAN countries.

At the dinner, the two Prime Ministers proposed toasts. During the dinner, the artistes of Vietnamese cultural troupe entertained the guests with the songs.

Next, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party arrived back at Hanoi Daewoo Hotel in Hanoi.— MNA

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win leaves for Cambodia

YANGON, 10 April — Myanmar Delegation led by Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win of the Union of Myanmar on an official visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam went to Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi at 8 am local time on 8 April to leave for Cambodia.

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the SRV Le Cong Phung, Vice-Chairman of Office of the Government Mr Nguyen Van Lam and party, Myanmar Ambassador U Tin Latt and wife Daw Htwe Htwe Mya and staff of Myanmar Embassy and office of Military Attaché bade farewell to the Prime Minister and party at the airport. The Prime Minister and party left for Cambodia by special flight.— MNA

Vietnamese cultural troupe members entertain the distinguished Myanmar guests at the dinner. — MNA

Vietnamese Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Le Cong Phung sees off Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win at Noi Bai International Airport. — MNA
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye...

(from page 1)

At 9 am, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and his wife Daw Mya Mya San and party attended the ceremony to inaugurate Bagan Viewing Tower. Also present on the occasion were departmental heads, division members, local people, staff of the company and guests.

Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Managing Director U Teza of Htoo Trading Co Ltd cut the ribbon to open the tower. Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveiled the plaque of the tower and sprinkled scented water on it.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San and party went on to the 11th floor by lift and enjoyed scenic beauty of Bagan, renovation of pagodas and stupas in Bagan and their environs. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye signed in the visitors’ book.

On the 10th floor, they viewed scenes of Bagan and buildings of Bagan Hotel project near the tower. Next, they looked into business rooms, offices and shops on the 9th and 10th floors. The ninth and 10th floors are for restaurant decks. The View Deck is staged on the 11th floor and the opening view deck on the top floor.

Bagan Viewing Tower was built by applying modern technologies and it was decorated with Myanmar handicraft and works of Bagan era. It is installed with three 11-person-capacity lifts.

Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Htoo Trading Co Ltd Managing Director U Teza formally opened Bagan Viewing Tower. —MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveiled the plaque of Bagan Viewing Tower. —MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein sprinkled scented water on the plaque of Bagan Viewing Tower. —MNA

Bagan Viewing Tower is 198 feet high and 54 feet in diameter. The 13 storeys tower was built with the use of modern technology designed to withstand storms and earthquakes. Business centre, offices and shopping mall are allotted on the ground floor, waiting lounges on the first floor, the meeting room, Bagan History Video Showroom and coffee shops on the second floor, store rooms on the third floor and offices on fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh floors.

The ninth and 10th floors are for restaurant decks. The View Deck is staged on the 11th floor and the opening view deck on the top floor. Bagan Viewing Tower was built by applying modern technologies and it was decorated with Myanmar handicraft and works of Bagan era. It is installed with three 11-person-capacity lifts.

MNA
YANGON, 10 April — At the invitation of Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Phan Van Khai, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win accompanied by Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and departmental heads arrived at Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at 9.10 am local time on 7 April.

First, Myanmar Ambassador to SRV U Tin Latt and Governor of Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of SRV Mr Nguyen Thanh Sam welcomed the Members of Myanmar Delegation on board.

The Prime Minister and party were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of SRV Mr Le Cong Phung, Vice-Chairman of Office of the Government Mr Nguyen Van Lam, members of reception group, Myanmar Ambassador U Tin Latt and wife Daw Htwe Htwe Mya and staff of Myanmar Embassy and office of Military Attaché.

Later, a Myanmar girl presented a bouquet to the Prime Minister who alighted from the aircraft.

To attend the welcoming ceremony, the Prime Minister and party, a Myanmar girl presented a bouquet to the Prime Minister.

Then, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai went to the dais and took the salute of the Guard of Honour.

Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai presented the ministers, the deputy ministers and senior officials to the Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win. Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win also presented the members of Myanmar delegation to the Vietnamese counterpart.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and SRV Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai take the salute of the Guard of Honour.

— MNA
YANGON, 10 April — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win, who was on a goodwill visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, called on Mr Nong Duc Manh, General Secretary of Communist Party of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the headquarters of the party in Hanoi on 7 April morning.

Also present at the call were Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, Myanmar Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam U Tin Latt, Director General of the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint and departmental heads, Leader of External Affairs Department of Communist Party deserves to be congratulated on its efforts to raise the living standard of Vietnamese people. Likewise, Myanmar is striving its utmost to develop the sectors of politics, economy and social affairs.

At the call, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win said the purpose of his visit to Vietnam was to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the two nations. He went on to say that national economy is increasing more than 8.5 percent in each year. Now the National Convention is in progress as a first step after the seven-point Road Map of the State has been laid down. The country’s ultimate goal is to build up a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. All in all, the Prime Minister said he is grateful to the good neighbours for their support and understanding of Myanmar.

Next, Mr Nong Duc Manh said the Prime Minister’s goodwill visit coincides with the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Reciprocal visits of senior officials indicate that there has been a traditional relationship between the two countries for decades. He said that he believes that Myanmar will achieve its goal of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Vietnam is a sincere and good neighbour of Myanmar. Vietnam is safeguarding sovereignty and adhering to the principles of non-interference and mutually beneficial cooperation, he said.
To the Zoologists, it is a country with some of Asia’s most threatened turtle species; loggerhead Turtle Hawkshill Turtle, leatherback Turtle and Olive Riddley Turtle. In March 2005, (5) scholars of Dagon University and (21) officials of Department of Fishery visited Gayetgyi Island, Nga Oo Thaung, Ma Sein Sein, Nga Mau Thaung Island to have thorough look at the present situation of sea Turtles in Ayeyawady Division.

The Sea turtle, heritage of the world has decreased recently. Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC) has conducted Sea turtle conservation programme. U Cho Hla Aung (DOF official) as conservator on Sea Turtle Population statistic and Tagging programme has disseminated the format in Myanmar. We altogether (26) trainees attended the course in Gayetgyi Island to collect the population statistics on sea turtles in Myanmar and to plan Sea Turtle conservation in future. These efforts will be initiated by the trainees. Regarding tagging programme, the trainees agreed to organize local peoples. With suitable handling of turtle eggs in hatchery, sex fixing of turtles depends on the temperature during development of embryo. Higher temperature produces females and lower temperature gives males. Suitable temperature management in hatcheries is required for natural sex ratio of Sea Turtles. We have observed for detailed relationship of temperature fluctuation and sex fixing was recognized at first step. For the future research we have to find out the critical temperature and timing when embryo was affected by temperature through its developing stage. Also the critical temperature should be examined for each nesting beach as its own characteristic.

Sea Turtles are highly migratory and most probably they like the waters of Southeast Asian region. Therefore, Department of Fishery conducted research and extension for sea turtle conservation. Sea Turtles have been used since time immemorial for food and other commodities. Their importance in trade dates back millennia, whether it was cilipea, leather, live turtles, meat, oils or tortoise shell that was trafficked.

Recently, Sea Turtles have become important for non-consumptive use, tourism, educational and scientific research activities that provide opportunities for employment and information service as well as other economic gains. A less apparent, but irreplaceable value is as ecological resources. These reptiles are unique components of complex ecological systems, the vitality of which is linked exploitable products as well as ecosystem services. Because they migrate thousands of kilometres and take decades to mature, turtles serve as important indicators of the health of coastal and marine environments on both local and global scale. In addition to the value as natural material-resources, these animals have immeasurable worth as cultural assets. Marine turtles are model flag ship species for their distribution, their natural history and causes and impact of their deaths. Accurate species identification is expected of fishermen, scholars, NGO’s and Fishery Department. Not only Department of Fisheries but also other Departments like Forestry and Education must be involved in the conservation and management of Sea Turtles. The long term success of any conservation programme requires trained personnel and support of the public.

* * *
TRADE MARK CAUTION

TRADE MARK CAUTION
BAXTER INTERNA-
TIONAL INC., a Delaware cor-
poration located at One Bax-
ter Parkway, Deerfield, Illinois 60015, U.S.A., is the Owner of the Following Trade Mark.

Reg. No. 2979/1993
in respect of “pharma-
caceutical and medica-
l and prepara-
tions”. Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mun Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
Reg. No. 2653/2004
in respect of “bean in Class 31”. Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mun Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for BAXTER INTER-
TIONAL INC.
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 11 April 2005

BANGLADESH REAFFIRMS ADHERENCE TO ONE-CHINA POLICY

DHAKA, 9 April—The Bangladeshi Government reaffirmed adherence to the "one-China policy", opposing Taiwan's membership in any international organizations, in response to a joint communiqué issued by the two governments here on Friday.

The communiqué says the Bangladeshi side reiterated its respect for the United Nations sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China. It is the sole legal government representing the whole of China, and that Taiwan is an inalienable part of the Chinese territory. Bangladesh opposes Taiwan's membership in any international organizations.

The two sides believed that the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries would contribute to the stability and development of the bilateral relations.

The visit of Premier Wen Jiabao was a great success and further raised the bilateral relations between China and Bangladesh to new heights, "says the communiqué.

Both sides declared the Year 2005 as the "Year of China-Bangladesh Friendship" in celebration of the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations, according to the communiqué.

It says the two sides reviewed the progress of bilateral relations since the establishment of diplomatic relations 30 years ago and highly praised the fruitful cooperation between the two countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in the fields of political affairs, economy, social development, culture, etc.

It notes the two sides believed that consolidating and further developing traditional China-Bangladesh relations and exploring new areas of cooperation, served the fundamental interests of the two countries and the two peoples, and contributed to regional peace, stability and development.

The two sides agreed to establish a Comprehensive Partnership of Cooperation featuring long-term friendship, equality, and mutual benefit.

It says the two sides agreed to continue the frequent contacts and exchange of visits between the senior leaders of the two countries, intensify the friendly exchanges between government agencies, parliaments, political parties, non-governmental organizations of the two countries, and to work together to promote the comprehensive interests of economic and stable development of the bilateral relations.

According to the communiqué, the two sides agreed to maintain and develop the principles of diplomatic consultation mechanisms between the two countries to ensure the smooth development of bilateral relations and important international issues in a timely manner.

HK CUSTOMS SEIZES 1.9M HK DOLLARS WORTH OF DRUGS

HONG KONG, 9 April — Hong Kong Customs officers on Thursday cracked two trafficking cases at the Hong Kong International Airport, seizing 5.4 kilograms of cannabis resin and 4.1 kilograms of ketamine with a total retail value of about 1.9 million Hong Kong dollars, a government Press release said on Friday.

A Nepali man, two Malaysians — one man and one woman, aged 30 to 35, were arrested. Under detention by Customs pending further investigation, they will be charged later with trafficking in dangerous drugs.

On Thursday afternoon, Customs officers of the Drug Investigation Bureau raised suspicions over a Nepali man who had arrived in Hong Kong by circuitous route (from Nepal to Hong Kong via Bangkok, Thailand). When he was collecting his baggage that had reached Hong Kong on 6 April, the man went through Customs clearance.

After a search, Customs officers found in a concealed compartment at the bottom of his travel bag, 5.4 kilograms of cannabis resin with a retail value of about 480,000 Hong Kong dollars.

The 35-year-old Nepali man was arrested. It is believed that the drugs syndicate attempted to evade Customs investigation by the circuitous route.
Premier Wen Jiabao confident of China-India ties

BEIJING, 9 April — The Sino-Indian relations are “at prime time now”, said Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao in a recent interview with Press Trust of India.

He will begin his visit to India on Saturday, whose trip coincides with the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

“There is no fundamental conflicts between China and India and both sides need to learn from each other,” Wen told the Indian media in Beijing.

China and India, the world’s two most populous nations and fast growing economies, have improved their relations dramatically in recent years.

Bilateral trade soared to 13.6 billion US dollars in 2004, 13 times the volume of ten years ago. India is China’s largest trade partner in South Asia while China has become India’s second largest export market and third import market.

“The economic and trade relations have developed rapidly with cooperation fields widened and contents deepened,” said Wen. “There exist great potentials for such relationship,” Wen added.

Besides, the Premier said, the two countries have made new progress in cooperation in trade, culture, technology, education, tourism and international affairs and are all confident of their future relations.

“The prosperity of China and India represents not only the rise of the whole Asia, but also the progress of the developing countries,” Wen said, describing the two countries as sincere friends instead of rivals.

“The common development and friendship between China and India are in the interests of the two peoples,” the Premier said. Premier Wen’s India visit will come up with a series of important agreements in various fields.

Most HK people concern hair problem

HONG KONG, 9 April — One of Hong Kong’s largest commodity store Watsons on Thursday announced the results of a survey about hair and self-confidence which shows 96 per cent of interviewees believed hair problem could affect social life.

Watsons conducted a survey last month which successfully interviewed 1,564 Hong Kong people. The survey aimed to gauge the impact of hair on social relationships. Results of the survey indicated that hair can affect a person’s mood, self-confidence and social performance.

Seventy per cent of people think that waking up with bad hair will affect their mood the most, much worse than failing to find the right outfit or having a dull look on their face.

“Hair is the index of health and vitality and bad hair is one of the biggest social turnoff because instinctively, people like to be with healthy people,” said clinical behavioural psychologist Lee Po Nang.

Pertamina still possess terminal and gas pumps in East Timor, which ceased from Indonesia in 1999. Pertamina still possess terminal and gas pumps in East Timor, which ceased from Indonesia in 1999. He said state-run oil and gas company Pertamina will use its terminal and gas pumps in East Timor, which ceased from Indonesia in 1999. Pertamina still possesses terminal and gas pumps there (East Timor), he said, Indonesia and East Timor have held several talks on control and supply, but the volume and value of the supply have not been decided, he added.

Nepal to set up academic centres on folk literature

KATHMANDU, 9 April — The Nepali Government is providing assistance in the establishment of academic centres in all of the country’s five development regions in order to carry out research on folk literature, a government official said on Friday.

“The Royal Nepal Academy is in the process of preparing a master plan for conducting research of various languages and folk literature and it was ready to work together with the local-level organizations and institutions for protecting the beauty of the Folk Literature.” Member for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Buddhraj Bajracharya told reporters.

The academy needs to increase its collaboration with various community-level organizations across the country, Bajracharya said. He called on the Royal Nepal Academy to become more active in identifying Nepali culture and literature by Australia, he said in the international arena by promoting academic relations at the international level.

India attaches importance to Chinese Premier’s visit

NEW DELHI, 9 April — In a major step towards resolution of the vexed boundary question, India and China are expected to sign six political parameters and guiding principles taking into account security interests, welfare of people living around the border region and other key factors.

We attach great importance to the visit of Premier Wen Jiabao to India,” Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran told reporters here on Friday.

The two leaders are expected to review the current state of bilateral relations and discuss ways and means to further strengthen the constructive and cooperative partnership keeping in view the current international situation and the global and strategic perspective of bilateral relations, the Foreign Secretary said.

He also noted that Wen visited India in 1994 as a senior member of the Communist Party of China, but “this is, however, his first visit as the Prime Minister of China, a country with which we enjoy friendly and good neighbourly ties”. Over a dozen agreements are likely to be inked during the visit covering cooperation in civil aviation, trade, Customs, water resources and culture. The two sides are also expected to firm up a vital protocol on confidence-building measures during Wen’s four-day visit to India from Saturday.

Singapore introduces new loan scheme for SMEs

SINGAPORE, 9 April — Singapore launched a new programme to help small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) take out loans with little or even no collateral, Channel NewsAsia reported on Friday.

The SME Access Loan scheme will pool debts from different SMEs and then sell them in the form of bonds in the capital market so as to spread out the overall risk and get loans for those who are at higher risk level.

Initiated by the Standards, Productivity and Innovation Board (Spring Singapore) and International Enterprise Singapore (IE Singapore), the programme aims to securitize some 100,000 Singapore dollars (about 180 million US dollars) within six months.

DBS Bank will help manage this loan and securitization programme for about 100,000 SMEs in the city state, who have had difficulties in borrowing from banks.

The scheme is expected to deepen the growing corporate bond market here, which is worth 100 billion Singapore dollars (about 60 billion US dollars), according to the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

Japanese actor Yuya Yagira, who won the best-actor award in the last Cannes Film Festival in France, attends a cherry blossom viewing party hosted by the Japan’s Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi at Shinjuku Gyoen park in Tokyo on 9 April, 2005.

INTERNET
**Sports**

**Japanese Open badminton tournament**

Tokyo, 10 April — World number one Lin Dan breezed past Dane Kenneth Jonassen 17-14, 15-10 on Saturday to set up the men’s singles final against fellow Chinese Chen Hong at the Japan Open badminton tournament here.

Chen Hong overcame Athens Olympic gold medalist Taufik Hidayat of Indonesia 15-9, 15-5 to reach the final on Sunday.

Also in the women’s play, world number one Xi Xingfang of China defeated Pi Hongyan of France 11-7, 11-5.

Xie thus made the final against compatriot Zhang Ning, the Athens Olympic and world champion who struggled to beat Wang Chen of Hong Kong, 11-6, 6-13, 11-19 in Saturday’s semifinals.

Xie, who took the top ranking announced Thursday after winning six tournaments in a row including the most prestigious All England, stretched her singles match winning streak to 34 after the 33-minute semifinal.

“I was able to control the game pretty well today. I think I did everything I wanted to do today,” said the 24-year-old Xie. — MNA/Xinhua

**Answers to yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle**

```
A M O C O D E
R E P E L
O P I N I O N
R R L V L
R E B O N I E
S T I R
N V D E T M I R
E M O M A N S
P E A R N
T R A N S O M
E A L T O S S
A U C H O N
H E A L S
S R F E O G
E V E N T
T E N D
```

**Davenport to meet Farina Elia in Florida final**

**Washington, 10 April** — Top-ranked Lindsay Davenport of the United States and Silvia Farina Elia of Italy will meet in the final of the Amelia Island tennis championship in Florida after the two won their semifinal victories on Saturday.

Defending champion Davenport swept aside Nadia Petrova of Russia 6-0, 6-3 in 48 minutes, and 12th seed Farina Elia demolished unseeded Virginie Razzano of France 6-1, 6-3.

Davenport hammered 29 winners and held off a rally from seventh seed Petrova, who was forced to play two matches on Friday to reach the last four of the rain-hampered event.

The 28-year-old American, looking for her third Amelia Island title, captured the first set in just 17 minutes, but was pushed harder in the second place before breaking Petrova in the seventh and ninth games to clinch the victory.

“I knew she was coming off two tough matches yesterday and that she could possibly be a little fatigued,” Davenport was quoted as saying.

“Yesterday (losing the first set 6-1 to Venus Williams) was a big wake-up call, so I wanted to get off to a better start today,” she added.

Despite winning six of her seven matches against Farina Elia, Davenport expects a tough test on Sunday.

“The one time I lost to her was actually on grass, which you probably wouldn’t call,” she said.

“But on this surface, I definitely have to be more focused and I can’t take anything for granted.”

Farina Elia, who reached the last four when Serena Williams retired from the quarterfinal with a sprained ankle, dictated play right from the start in her semifinal against Razzano. — MNA/Xinhua

**United humiliated while Chelsea survive scare**

**London, 10 April** — Manchester United were humiliated 2-0 at Norwich City while leaders Chelsea were only eight minutes away from their first home defeat this season before substitute Didier Drogba salvaged a 1-1 draw with Birmingham City.

Second-placed Asean clawed the gap with Chelsea to 11 points with a 1-0 win at Middlesbrough with six matches to go. Manchester United, however, were left 14 points adrift in the third place after their 20-match unbeaten league run was snapped by Norwich who scored two goals in 11 minutes through Dean Ashton and Leon McKenzie.

“I was not only Norwich’s fourth league win, all at home, and it ended a run of five defeats. They remain three points adrift at the bottom.”

While Manchester United suffered stunning loss, the Champions-elect Chelsea were lucky to escape in Stamford Bridge before Birmingham.

On-loan Uruguyan Walter Pandiani shocked Chelsea by giving Bir- mingham the lead in the 65th minute. His goal could have ended the Lon- don side’s 33-match un- beaten run at home in all competitions going back to February 2004.

However, Drogba sidefooted home when he pounced on a fine lay-off by Frank Lampard to extend his side’s unbeaten league run to 23 games.

The relegation battle at the opposite end of the table looks like it has plenty more twists left in it, as Southampton’s re- cent revival fell flat as they were despatched 3-0 by a professional Blackburn Rovers outfit.

“Goals from Morten Gamst Pedersen and Steven Reid sandwiched an own-goal from Anton Jakobsson to seal what was a desperate afternoon for Saints fans.”

And that afternoon was made even grimmer by Portsmouth’s 4-2 win over Charlton Athletic in Alan Pern’s first game as Pompey manager.

England’s Luke Donald, level with Hensby, was forced to stop with four holes left to play.

American Chris DiMarco is at four-under par with four holes left to play.

England’s Luke Donald, level with Hensby, was forced to stop with four holes left to play.

World number one Vijay Singh, Retief Goosen and Phil Mickelson were lurk- ing dangerously — all three at two-under. Both Singh and Mickelson, the defending champion, have seven holes to do on Sunday morning, while Goosen five.

Tiger Woods and Ernie Els will be thankful to have their rounds interrupted by nightfall, giving them a chance to regroup.

The 29-year-old Woods was two-over par after 12 holes and if it had not been Woods, but instead a mere golfing mor- tality, the score could have been three times worse.

The three-times Masters champion had to use all his magic scrambling ability to save par as his driver let him down.

Woods attempted to end his major slump got off to a watery start when he hit his eagle putt off the 13th green, his fourth hole, into Rae’s Creek to run up a bogey and go two-over par.

The former world number one could only look on in stunned disbelief as his ball raced pass the hole and went running down the bank.

El, trying to wipe out last year’s one shot defeat to Mickelson, got off to the worst possible start when he opened bo- gey, bogey.

When he walked off the 11th hole after play was stopped for the day he stood three-over and a lot of work left to do to get back into contention.

Only eight of the 31 groups managed to complete the first round. But the weather forecast for the rest of the tour- nament is good. — MNA/Xinhua

**British teenager to fight Olympics boxing final rematch**

**Havana, 10 April** — Cuba’s Olympic boxing champion Mario Kindelan will fight in an Athens Olympics boxing final rematch against British teen- ager Amir Khan in May or June, according to Cuban sports official on Saturday.

Angel Iglasias, vice-president of the Cuban Sports Institute (INDER), told BBC in Liverpool, England, that the expected fight could not be held prior to April 30 as reported by British media.

He said the encounter of the Olympic gold and silver medalists is expected as a top event of a series in which other members of the winning team will participate, and the date has to be put off due to logistic difficulties. Iglasias assured that Kindelan would take the fight before his retirement.

— MNA/Xinhua

**Olympics boxing final rematch**

**Britain’s Olympic hero Lori Jones makes her dream come true**

London, 10 April — Britain’s Olympic boxing hero Lori Jones has announced her retirement from the sport after winning bronze at London 2012.

The 29-year-old lightweight boxer, who won bronze in the lightweight division at the London Olympics four years ago, had previously announced that she was quitting professional boxing.

“I’ve had an incredible journey from 2008 to 2012 and I am so proud of what we achieved together as a team,” she said.

“I am retiring as I believe I have achieved what I set out to achieve as a fighter and as a person.

“I am happy that I have been able to inspire others to follow their dreams and I hope to do the same for the next generation of fighters.”

— MNA/Xinhua

**The New Light of Myanmar** Monday, 11 April, 2005
Greece welcomes Turkey’s gesture on lifting “casus belli”

ATHENS, 10 April—Greek Foreign Minister Petros Molyviatis welcomed on Friday statements of Turkish officials concerning the lifting Ankara’s long-standing “casus belli” (“cause of war” threat) against Greece if it decided to extend its territorial waters in the Aegean Sea.

“These statements are an important step toward the continued improvement of Greek-Turkish relations,” he said, commenting on a proposal made by the Speaker of the Turkish National Assembly Bulent Arinc earlier Friday.

“It is Greece’s standing goal to constantly improve Greek-Turkish ties and I believe that the Turkish Government shares this position and also wishes a new period in Greek-Turkish relations,” he said.

He stressed that re-affirming this common desire to improve bilateral ties was one of the main goals of his upcoming visit to Turkey next week.

Arinc reportedly proposed lifting the “casus belli” against Greece, while Turkish Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul later said Arinc’s statement was part of Ankara’s policy for the resolution of all Greek-Turk.

WEATHER

Sunday, 10 April, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin and Mon States. Upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Maungdaw (0.47) inch. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Chin, Northern Shan States, Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Eastern Shan State, Mandalay, Taninthayi and Ayeyawady Divisions, (4°C) below normal in Kachin State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Maypyay (43°C), Mandalay, Myingyan and Aunglan (42°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 9-4-2005 was 101°F. Minimum temperature on 10-4-2005 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 10-4-2005 was 68%. Total sunshine hours on 9-4-2005 was (10.5) hours approx. Rainfalls on 10-4-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (0.63) inch at Yangon Airport, (1.69 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (0.32 inch) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from South at (12:15) hours MST on 9-4-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 11-4-2005:

Except for the possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Kachin and Rakhine States, Upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain in Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11-4-2005: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 11-4-2005: Partly cloudy.
Endeavours being made for development of economic and social infrastructures and for smooth political transition

Vietnam regards Myanmar as trusted friend, wishes to enhance existing and future bilateral relations

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win calls on Vietnamese President Mr Tran Duc Luong at Presidential Palace in Hanoi.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party discuss with Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai and party at Office of Government in Hanoi.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party discuss with Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai at the Presidential Palace.

Dailies in alternative circulation during Thingyan

Yangon, 10 April— Dailies of the News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information will be published in turn during Thingyan holidays. Myanma Alin Daily and The New Light of Myanmar Daily will not appear on 13, 14 and 15 April (Thingyan Akyo, Aky and Akyat days). During these days, Kyemon will be in circulation and it will take holidays on 16, 17 and 18 April (Thingyan Atet Day and Myanmar New Year Day). On these days, Myanma Alin and The New Light of Myanmar will resume circulation.

Myanmar-SRV discussions further cemented friendship and cooperation between the two countries

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win discusses with Vietnamese counterpart.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party discuss with Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai and party at Office of Government in Hanoi.

Endeavours being made for development of economic and social infrastructures and for smooth political transition

Vietnam regards Myanmar as trusted friend, wishes to enhance existing and future bilateral relations

Prime Minister Li Gen Soe Win calls on Vietnamese President Mr Tran Duc Luong at Presidential Palace in Hanoi.

Prime Minister Li Gen Soe Win and party discuss with Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai and party at Office of Government in Hanoi.

Prime Minister Li Gen Soe Win and party discuss with Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai at the Presidential Palace.

Dailies in alternative circulation during Thingyan

Yangon, 10 April— Dailies of the News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information will be published in turn during Thingyan holidays. Myanma Alin Daily and The New Light of Myanmar Daily will not appear on 13, 14 and 15 April (Thingyan Akyo, Aky and Akyat days). During these days, Kyemon will be in circulation and it will take holidays on 16, 17 and 18 April (Thingyan Atet Day and Myanmar New Year Day). On these days, Myanma Alin and The New Light of Myanmar will resume circulation.

Myanmar-SRV discussions further cemented friendship and cooperation between the two countries

Prime Minister Li Gen Soe Win discusses with Vietnamese counterpart.

Prime Minister Li Gen Soe Win and party discuss with Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai and party at Office of Government in Hanoi.