**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

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**N’Jangyang has characteristics of modern town**

**Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects development tasks in N’Jangyang in Myitkyina District, Kachin State**

**NAYPYIDAW,** 5 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspected development undertakings in N’Jangyang in Myitkyina District, Kachin State, on 3 April.

Accompanied by Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental personnel, Lt-Gen Ye Myint arrived at Myitkyina airport, and was welcomed by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Tun, Brig-Gen Zaw Tun of Myitkyina Station, senior military officers and officials.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected a newly opened Ayezwop-N’Jangyang gravel road near Gwehtaw village in N’Jangyang Township. The 9-mile long road was built by Kachin State Special Region 2 and Jade Land Myanmar Co Ltd. The project began on 14 November 2005.

In N’Jangyang, he met with departmental personnel and locals. The commander and a local authority explained the background history, location, area and development undertakings of the town. Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that N’Jangyang has been developed to have the required characteristics of a modern town. All should make efforts to develop the town and set up livestock breeding farms. Perennial crops should be grown and terrace farms should be established. The township should grow physic nut according to the target. Departmental personnel should lead locals in implementing development undertakings. Concerted efforts are required to develop the town.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, and Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo provided social assistance to the locals and departmental personnel of the town.

*(See page 8)*

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All should make efforts to develop N’Jangyang and set up livestock breeding farms. Perennial crops should be grown and terrace farms should be established. The township should grow physic nut according to the target.

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

**Thursday, 6 April, 2006**

**Stamp out narcotic drugs as national duty**

In Myanmar society, intoxicated substances such as poppy, marijuana, intoxicating brew and liquor have never been allowed for human consumption and are assumed to be the stuff that harms humans beings.

Myanmar had never seen poppy cultivation and production in the past. However, the colonialists introduced and encouraged poppy cultivation in the nation to serve their own interests. So, the practice of poppy cultivation became well-known gradually in the nation.

In the present era, narcotic drugs such as heroin, Phensedyl and stimulant tablets are posing grave dangers to the entire people of the world.

Successive Myanmar governments have taken measures to wipe out the dangers of narcotic drugs that can destroy all the potentials for progress of the entire mankind.

Since 1999, Myanmar has been implementing the 15-year plan for elimination of narcotic drugs.

In the fight against narcotic drugs through specific plans, the government is mobilizing active participation of local people for eradication of production and abuse of narcotic drugs.

In the process, the government has been exposing and destroying narcotic drugs, and taking punitive actions against drug traffickers and drug addicts.

At the same time, it has been giving encouragement to cultivate poppy-substitute crops and raise livestock suitable for respective regions, and do businesses for raising the social and economic benefits such as poppy-substitute crops and drug addicts.

They discussed preservation of archaeological heritage.

At Archaeological Museum in MraukU, Assistant Director U Nyein Lwin and officials reported on collection of artifacts for the museum. Deputy Director U Myat Swe reported on excavation of ancient Danyawady city to conduct research work.

This morning, the minister inspected Department of Cultural Institute and the Buddhology Museum in Sittway. — MNA

**Preservation of cultural heritage inspected in MraukU, Sittway**

**Yangon, 5 April** — Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, accompanied by Director-General U Kyaw Win of the Archaeology Department, met with Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commandant of Western Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint in Sittway on 3 April.

The minister and his entourage were taken on a guided tour of the museum. The minister inspected various artifacts in the museum.

**U Htein Win accredited to Chile**

**Yangon, 6 April** — The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Htein Win, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Federative Republic of Brazil, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Chile. — MNA

**Ambassador presents credentials to President of Hellenic Republic**

**Yangon, 6 April** — U Than Tun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Hellenic Republic, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr. Karolis Papoulias, President of the Hellenic Republic, on 9 March 2006 in Athens. — MNA

**Culture Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung inspects Archaeological Museum in MraukU.**

**YCDC stride to semifinal win over Kanbawza**

**Yangon, 5 April** — The Myanmar League Closing Cup Knockout Football Tournament for 2005-06 football season continued at Aung San Stadium, here, this afternoon.

YCDC met with Kanbawza in the third match of quarterfinal. In the extra time, Aung Htwe Maung’s silver goal gave YCDC a 1-0 victory over Kanbawza. YCDC crused into the semifinal by stretching its lead in the closing cup.

In the semifinal, YCDC is to play against the winner from the match between Construction and Home Affairs.

**Fixture on 6 April:** Construction vs Home Affairs. — NLM

**Goalkeeper Myo Lwin Oo of Kanbawza defends attacks of YCDC strikers.**

**98 women in Myaing, Yesagyo receive tailoring skills**

**Yangon, 5 April** — Basic tailoring courses conducted by the Education and Training Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs concluded in Myaing and Yesagyo on 31 March.

The two vocational courses held at women’s vocational training schools in Myaing and Yesagyo lasted 14 weeks and could attract a total of 98 trainees — 48 in Myaing and 50 in Yesagyo. The two courses aimed at teaching basic tailoring skills. The Education and Training Department also sold the sewing machines to the trainees by installment as part of an effort to help trainees establish own vocation. Deputy Director- General of the Education and Training Department U Than Shein attended the concluding ceremonies and made the concluding remarks.

**Members of Myanmar and Yesagyo Townships Peace and Development Councils, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, members of townships Women’s Affairs Organiza- tion, Maternal and Child Welfare Association and trainees also attended the concluding ceremonies.**

MNA
Environmentalists hail victory as Japanese firms quit whaling

Tokyo, 3 April—Environmentalists have hailed a victory as key Japanese firms quit the whaling business after a pressure campaign, although the government vowed no change to its controversial annual hunt.

Fishing giant Nissui—a Los Angeles man accused of killing his two children by forcing them into his car and setting it on fire, was arrested on Monday on suspicion of double murder.

Mexican police arrest suspected US cop-killer

Monterrey (Mexico), 4 April—Mexican police arrested one of the FBI’s 10 most-wanted fugitives, sought by US authorities for allegedly shooting dead a deputy sheriff last month.

Police arrested Michael Paul Astorga as he drove through the Mexican border town of Ciudad Juarez early on Monday, said Claudia Banneusos, a spokeswoman for the Chihuahua state prosecutor’s office.

They found three pistols and ammunition in Astorga’s sports utility vehicle and a small quantity of marijuana.

He is being held by Mexican federal police pending possible extradition to the United States, Banneusos said. Astorga, 29, is wanted by the FBI in connection with the shooting of New Mexico Deputy Sheriff James McGrane in March.—MNA/Reuters

Two US air marshals plead guilty to cocaine plot

Houston, 4 April—Two US air marshals pleaded guilty on Monday to plotting to smuggle cocaine by using their positions to clear airport security and could face up to life in prison, federal prosecutors said.

Shawn Ray Nguyen, 38, and Bertie Sholar, 32, were arrested in February in a sting operation where they agreed to carry 15 kilos (33 pounds) of cocaine on a flight from Houston to Las Vegas, Nevada for 75,000 US dollars.

The sting was set up after an informant told authorities that Nguyen, a former US drug agent who lives in Houston, had been involved in drug trafficking, officials said.

The two men, both hired as air marshals in 2002, pleaded guilty to conspiring to possess and distribute cocaine and to taking bribes, US Attorney Don DeGabrielle said in a statement.

They could get up to life in prison for the conspiracy charge, while the bribery charge carries a maximum punishment of 15 years. Sentencing is set for sentencing on 10 July, DeGabrielle said.

The US greatly increased airport security after the 11 September attacks and puts air marshals on flights to stop hijackings.—MNA/Reuters

LA man accused of torching car with kids inside

Los Angeles, 4 April—A Los Angeles man accused of killing his two children by forcing them into his car and setting it on fire, was arrested on Monday on suspicion of double murder.

Dae Kwon Yun was being treated for burns over much of his body in a county hospital when he was arrested for the murders of his 11-year-old daughter, Ashley, and 10-year-old son, Alexander, a police spokeswoman said.

“We have witnesses who actually heard Mr Yun arguing with his daughter in Korean and then forcing her into the car right before it erupted in flames,” said officer Grace Brady.

Yun, 54, who was involved in a custody dispute with his estranged wife while living in his sports utility vehicle, had parked in an alley, not far from where his spouse worked, she said. Investigators believe he poured gasoline on the car and forced his children into the back of the vehicle before lighting it with a match and climbing inside.

“He was burned pretty badly, and when the fire department arrived he was found outside his car on the ground,” said Brady. “He was still burning and when they doused him and the vehicles they found two bodies inside. We believe after the coroner’s examination we will be able to confirm that they are his children.” She said the children were “very likely” conscious when their father set fire to the car after a visitation.

“We know that Mr Yun and his wife were estranged, they had been separated, and he was having some gambling problems and was distraught over that and was living in the vehicle.”

Brady said Yun was in critical condition but was expected to survive and face murder charges.—MNA/Reuters

This photo shows the sky at sunset over Tokyo on 4 April, 2006. Japan’s Environment Ministry has ordered workers to leave and lights to go off at its headquarters by 8:00 pm in a fresh campaign to cut greenhouse gases, officials said.—INTERNET

An Indonesian anti-terror troop points his weapon during an exercise outside a hotel in Jakarta on 4 April, 2006. Internet

Local residents inspect the damaged interior of a building after a car bomb blast on Monday night in Baghdad on 4 April, 2006.—INTERNET

Environmentalists have hailed a victory as Japanese firms quit the whaling business after a pressure campaign, although the government vowed no change to its controversial annual hunt.

Fishing giant Nissui is wanted by the FBI in connection with the shooting of New Mexico Deputy Sheriff Grace Brady.

Astorga is wanted by the FBI in connection with the shooting of New Mexico Deputy Sheriff James McGrane in March.

Nissui distributed worldwide by four other firms that have owned whaling company KyodoSenpaku will “soon donate” all of their shareholdings in the firm to public interest corporations, a Kyodo Senpaku spokesman said on Monday.

Its new shareholders will include the Institute of Cetacean Research, the Japanese government-backed agency promoting whaling.

“Environmentalists have hailed a victory as key Japanese firms quit the whaling business after a pressure campaign, although the government vowed no change to its controversial annual hunt.”

Environmental group Greenpeace had launched a letter campaign and threatened to blacklist corporate cereal firms that use whale products distributed worldwide by Nissui.

“Japanese firms quit whaling”

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Japanese firms quit whaling
MOSCOW, 4 April — A bear in the Moscow zoo with a knack for weather forecasting has told Moscovites to hang on to their fur coats and rejoice: spring is here.

The brown Kamchatka bear woke Monday from his hibernation, the Gazeta daily reported Tuesday, and that means without fail that the especially harsh Russian winter of 2005-06 can be declared over.

“For the last 20 years, the Kamchatka bear here has ended his hibernation on hearing the voice of spring,” Gazeta wrote.

“Unlike staff at the meteorological centre, the animal has not made a mistake yet.”

If current conditions are anything to go by, the Moscow zoo’s weather-sniffing bear has hit the bull’s eye again. The capital is relaxing in warm sunshine, with daytime temperatures expected to hover around seven degrees Celsius (45 degrees Fahrenheit) for the rest of the week — a far cry from deadly cold waves seen in January and February.

Thanks to his skills, the weather bear is something of a star. His name is kept secret “so that visitors don’t bother him,” according to Gazeta, and his diet is under close watch. — Internet

A man carries his injured son into a hospital after a suicide bomb attack in Baghdad on 3 April, 2006. — Internet

Beijing-Shanghai high-speed railway to open in 2010

BEIJING, 4 April — China’s first high-speed railway, running between Beijing and Shanghai, will go into operation in 2010, the Ministry of Railways announced on Monday. Construction is about to begin and is expected to be completed in five years, ministry spokesman Wang Yongping said.

Listed as a priority in China’s mid and-long-term railway network programme, it will be the most expensive and technically-advanced rail route in China, he said.

The 1,318 kilometre-long rail line will run parallel to the existing Beijing-Shanghai track, and take in 21 passenger train stations, said Wang. Passenger trains would be able to run at a maximum speed of 350 kilometres per hour, allowing for a five-hour trip between the two cities — nine hours less than the current journey.

When the new railway opened, said Wang, the existing line would be used as a freight line, with an annual capacity of 130 million tons, easing transport pressure along the route. He Huawu, the ministry’s chief engineer, said more than 70 per cent of the technologies to be used in the high-speed railway would be developed in China.

He said investment channels for the railway would be expanded to inspire fund-raising by domestic and overseas investors. — MNA/Xinhua

Moscow zoo bear wakes up and smells the spring

Two killed in freight train collision in New Jersey

NEW YORK, 4 April — A 68-car freight train slammed into a dump truck Monday morning, killing the truck’s occupants, authorities said.

The two victims were unable to escape the burning vehicle, but the two engineers aboard the lead locomotive were unhurt, said Thomas V O’Neill, a spokesman for the New York, Susquehanna & Western Railway.

Flashing lights at a road crossing were operating when the train passed and a locomotive whistle also sounded as the train approached the crossing, which does not have gates, he said.

The train, pulled by three locomotives, did not derail when it hit the truck.

A 68-car freight train collided with a dump truck.

A worker repairs the power lines near the railway station in Shanghai on 4 April, 2006. A new high-speed rail line linking the Chinese cities of Beijing and Shanghai will cost more than $16 billion and will be open to private and foreign investment, a newspaper said on Tuesday. — Internet

Chinese film star Gong Li confirms her appearance in “The Yellow M”

BEIJING, 4 April — Noted Chinese film star Gong Li, who is currently filming ace director Zhang Yimou’s “Wearing Golden Armor Across the City” in the national capital of Beijing, has confirmed her next role will be in James Huth’s English-language movie “The Yellow M”. Based on Edgar P Jacobs’ comic-strip characters Blake and Mortimer, “The Yellow M” will be an adventure thriller centreing on M15 agent Blake and brilliant physicist Mortimer who fight evil in 1950s London.

Gong will play the enigmatic Dr Li Mei, a scientist whose intelligence is matched only by her icy beauty, the Tianjin-based Morning Post reported. The role is fresh to me saying, Rufus Sewell (“A Knight’s Tale”) and Hugh Bonneville (“Notting Hill”) will respectively play Blake and Mortimer.

Gong rose to stardom over a decade ago with art house hits like “Red Sorghum” and “Raise the Red Lantern”.

She recently carved a niche in Hollywood after appearing in “Miami Vice”, “Young NBA: Behind the Mask” and “Memoirs of a Geisha”. — MNA/Xinhua

Two killed in freight train collision in New Jersey

Egypt announces two new human infections of bird flu

CAIRO, 4 April — Two new human infections of bird flu were reported in Egypt on Sunday, as the country is battling the highly contagious disease. Egyptian Minister of Health and Population Hatem el-Gabal said the two new human cases at the Cairo International Airport before departing for France on a visit.

Two young girls from the governorate of Kafr-el-Sheikh, some 125 kilometres north of Cairo, had tested positive for bird flu after “playing with infected poultry,” Gabal told reporters at the airport. — MNA/Xinhua

Ex-Microsoft developer plans trip to space

MOSCOW, 4 April — A former software developer at US giant Microsoft could make a trip to the International Space Station next year aboard a Russian rocket, the RIA news agency reported on Monday.

Hungarian-born Charles Simonyi, who was one of the key developers behind applications such as Microsoft Word, would become the world’s fifth “space tourist”.

“A preliminary contract with Simonyi has been concluded for spring 2007,” Alexei Krasnov, head of manned spaceflight programmes at Russian space agency Roskosmos, told RIA.

Simonyi now runs Intentional Software, which he co-founded in 2002. He is also an experienced pilot.

Japanese entrepreneur Daisuke Enomoto is in training and is expected to fly later this year.

At the moment space tourists take off with a two-man Russian-US crew in a Soyuz rocket, spend just one week at the space station and return to earth with the outgoing crew. The trip comes with a reported price tag of 20 million US dollars. — MNA/Reuters

Chinese film star Gong Li confirms her appearance in “The Yellow M”
Pakistanis say kites are health hazard

ISLAMABAD, 4 April—Lawmakers in northwestern Pakistan on Tuesday approved a law banning kite flying for reasons of public safety, a provincial government minister said.

The bill was unanimously passed by the North West Frontier province assembly, said Sardar Mohammed Idress, minister for local government and rural development in the province’s Cabinet.

The anti-kite flying law follows a similar move by the government in the eastern Punjab province where authorities banned kite flying after seven people were killed by kite strings reinforced with glass and metal coating.

Kite flying is not popular in the northwestern province but in Lahore, the capital of Punjab, kites are pass-ionately flown during an annual festival to herald spring. The festival was marked on 12-13 March.

Many of the deaths occurred in Lahore, where metal-coated strings often cause electricity outages when they fall on power lines.

Idress said the ban in his province was intended to save lives.

“The aim of the law is to protect lives and government and private property,” he said.

However, town mayors in the province will be authorized to give permission locally for kite flying for 15 days in the spring.

Under the law, makers and sellers of kites will have to register with the government, apparently to stop them from selling illegally coated strings.

The strings are often reinforced for kite-flying competitions to enable opponents to cut each other’s kite strings.

Neste Oil to launch 98-octane biogasoline in Finland

HELSEINKI, 4 April—Finland’s Neste Oil Corporation will start retail sales of a gasoline containing a bio-component in Finland on 10 April, the company said in a Press release on Monday.

Neste Oil’s new Futura 98 biogasoline will contain 2 per cent to 5 per cent of a biocomponent, which will be either ethanol or ethanol-based ETBE, the Press release said.

Futura 98 biogasoline can be used in all gasoline engines. Fuel consumption, engine output, and other aspects of performance are all unaffected, it said.

The addition of a biocomponent will not affect colour or odour either. Emissions of carbon dioxide will be lower as a result of the addition of a biocomponent.

The launch of Futura 98 biogasoline in Finland is in line with Neste Oil’s strategy of focusing on high-quality fuels for cleaner traffic, and which is reflected in a number of the company’s operations, including development work on new biofuels.

MNA/Xinhua

Medical scientists discuss global health threats

BEIJING, 4 April—More than 170 medical scientists from 51 countries gathered here on Monday to discuss the most imminent public health threats facing the world.

The agenda for the Second Global Meeting of the Inter-Academy Medical Panel (IAMP) will focus on control and prevention of epidemic diseases, diseases that cross from animals to humans, and traffic accident-related injuries.

MNA/Xinhua

German drivers 56 times safer now

BERLIN, 5 April—German drivers were 56 times more likely to be killed on the roads 100 years ago than in 2005, official data showed on Tuesday.

In the year up to 1907, some 20 years after the automobile was patented by German engineer Karl Benz, there were 4,864 traffic accidents in which 145 people were killed and 2,419 injured, the Federal Statistics Office said.

The data were released to mark the 100th anniversary of German traffic statistics.

The number of vehicles registered in Germany surged from 27,026 in 1906 to 56.3 million last year, a 2,083-fold increase. But road deaths rose by a factor of only 37, the Office said.

Last year, 5,362 people were killed on the roads, continuing a downward trend from a peak of 21,332 in 1970.

“This is a positive development to which official data through its ongoing reporting and analysis of accidents has certainly made a contribution,” the statistics office said.—Internet

Thunderstorms kill at least 23 in US Midwest

WASHINGTON, 4 April—At least 23 people were killed and dozens were injured during thunderstorms that hit eight Midwestern states on Sunday, CNN reported the following day.

Tennessee was hardest hit, with tornadoes striking five counties killing 19 people along a 40-kilometres path. In Gibson County alone, it is estimated that 1,200 buildings were damaged.

Severe thunderstorms, many producing tornadoes, also struck Iowa, Kentucky, Arkansas, Missouri, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana. Strong winds caused at least three deaths in Missouri. Another person was killed when a clothing store collapsed during a storm in Illinois.

The US National Weather Service said it had received preliminary reports of 63 tornadoes.

About a half-dozen tornadoes struck Arkansas and one destroyed nearly half of the town of Marmaduke. In Missouri, the city of Caruthersville was wiped out but there were no known deaths in the city of 6,700.

Severe thunderstorms also struck Indianapolis as thousands of fans left a free concert. — MNA/Xinhua

Bulgarian soldiers take part in an anti-terrorist military drill at the Novo Selo military base near the town of Sliven, some 350 km (217 miles) east of the capital Sofia, on 4 April, 2006.—INTERNET

A truck passes a traffic sign on highway B9 between Mainz and Worms. German drivers were 56 times more likely to be killed on the roads 100 years ago than in 2005, official data showed on 4 April, 2006. INTERNET

Donate blood

A man and his passenger ride a motorcycle through a flooded street in Nanjing, the capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province on 4 April, 2006. A heavy rainstorm hit the city of Nanjing causing traffic chaos.—INTERNET

‘Le Repos’, a painting by Pablo Picasso, is displayed at an auction house in Hong Kong on 4 April, 2006. The painting, which depicts Picasso’s mistress, Marie-Therese Walter, is expected to fetch an estimated of $15-$20 million at a sale in New York in May.—INTERNET

The addition of a biocomponent will not affect colour or odour either. Emissions of carbon dioxide will be lower as a result of the addition of a biocomponent.

The launch of Futura 98 biogasoline in Finland is in line with Neste Oil’s strategy of focusing on high-quality fuels for cleaner traffic, and which is reflected in a number of the company’s operations, including development work on new biofuels.

MNA/Xinhua

Futura 98 biogasoline can be used in all gasoline engines. Fuel consumption, engine output, and other aspects of performance are all unaffected, it said.
Industry.

Japan eyes east Asia free trade pact

Tokyo, 5 April — Japan's trade ministry wants to create an "East Asia" free trade zone including Southeast Asia, China, India and Australia, an official said on Tuesday, in a renewed push for regional economic integration.

The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) is likely to soon unveil a proposal calling for the pursuit of a massive 16-nation trade zone including Japan, the 10 members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), China, South Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand, the official said. “We want to conclude negotiations by 2010," said Takeshi Fujimoto, deputy director for METI's economic partnership division. "Both trying to launch such negotiations as well as trying to conclude them might be considered ambitious," he said.

But with discussions for east Asian (economic integration) on the rise, we don't think it's something you should spend a lot of time studying," Fujimoto said, adding that the Trade Ministry would aim for consensus within the Japanese Government.

According to a METI estimate, such a regional free trade pact would boost Japan's gross domestic product (GDP) by around 5.0 trillion yen (42.5 billion US dollars) and the total GDP of countries taking part by around 25.0 trillion yen, he said.

Japanese actress Hitomi Kuroki poses with Hitachi Ltd's new plasma TV "Woo" at an unveiling in Tokyo on 4 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Bangladesh firm plans to export version of Tamiflu

Dhaka, 5 April — A Bangladesh company plans to ramp up production of a local version of Tamiflu for export, as nations around the world stockpile the anti-viral drug to try to limit the impact of a feared pandemic of bird flu.

Tamiflu, made by Swiss drug maker Roche, is among a very small number of drugs that can help limit the severity of the H5N1 avian flu virus in humans if given early enough. Beximco Pharmaceuticals Limited (BPL), the country's leading drug manufacturer, said it planned to export its version of Tamiflu, called Oseflu, a senior company official said on Monday.

"We have already produced 5,000 capsules and will have another 200,000 in next two months for export," said Nazmul Hassan, chief executive officer of BPL, which is listed in Bangladesh and Britain.

Oseflu would also be introduced in the domestic market if needed, Hassan said. He said Beximco would charge 1.80 US dollars per capsule from local and overseas buyers.

Hassan said the company did not have a licence to make the drug from Roche, and at present all ingredients were imported but it would try to produce the ingredients locally in the future. — MNA/Reuters

UN rushes aid to quake site after Iran seeks help

United Nations, 5 April — The United Nations is rushing food, tents and other emergency goods to western Iran after a strong earthquake struck the region and the government welcomed international help, UN officials said on Monday.

The series of earthquakes which hit on Friday has affected an estimated 100,000 people in and around the cities of Doroud and Boroujerdi, said the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Nearly 1,300 people have been killed and more than 10,000 injured in the disaster, the office said.

Fifty of 130 villages in the Boroujerdi area were completely destroyed and about 10,000 homes either damaged or completely wrecked by the quake, the UN office said. Many people have begun sleeping outdoors for fear of aftershocks and additional earthquakes in an area where temperatures often drop sharply overnight, OCHA said.

The World Food Programme has allocated 50,000 US dollars for urgently needed tents and blankets and have transported 170,000 US dollars in water storage containers, water purification units, generators, kitchen sets, tents and other relief supplies to the area from a UN warehouse in Brindisi, Italy.

The UN Children's Fund UNICEF is making available 100,000 US dollars plus 10,000 blankets and 300 tents that had been stored in Bam, Iran, the site of a devastating 2003 quake that killed some 31,000 people.

The UN Population Fund has contributed 100,000 US dollars, the UN Development Programme 150,000 US dollars and the World Health Organization 50,000 US dollars, an UN statement said.

Nepali porters carry expedition supplies from the village of Lukla, Nepal on 1 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Chinese Premier arrives Fiji for visit, economic forum

Suva, 5 April — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao arrived here on Tuesday, starting his official visit to the island country of Fiji.

It is the maiden visit, paid by a Chinese Premier to the island countries in the Pacific Ocean.

Wen said the tour at the invitation of Fijian Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase, who hosted a ceremony to welcome Wen and the whole Chinese delegation when Wen's special plane landed on Nadi, a major tourist and civil aviation destination in the Pacific Ocean.

In a written speech delivered at the airport, Wen said though the vast Asian Nations (ASEAN), 10 members of the 16-nation trade zone including Japan, the massive 16-nation trade efforts of the two countries, great strides have been made in friendly and cooperative relations between China and Fiji marked by increasingly frequent exchanges at all levels, productive interaction and cooperation in trade, economy, culture, education, health and other fields and deepened friendship and mutual understanding between the two peoples.

It serves the fundamental interests of the two peoples and contributes to prosperity and development in the region to enrich and development in the two peoples and mutual understanding between the two peoples.

It is the first Pacific island country to establish diplomatic relations with China in 1975, which ushered in a new era in bilateral relations, he said.

According to the Chinese Premier, in the past 30 year since then, thanks to the concerted efforts of the two countries, great strides have been made in friendly and cooperative relations between China and Fiji, marked by long-standing exchanges and friendship between the two peoples.

Fiji was the first country in the South Pacific region to establish diplomatic relations with China, the official said.

A delegation of 50 officials from the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture paid by a Chinese official said.

It is 20 days since the quake on 14 April, which killed and more than 1,300 injured in the disaster, the office said. It is the second major earthquake in two days to hit Iran.

It serves the fundamental interests of the two peoples and contributes to prosperity and development in the region to enrich and friendship and cooperation, he said.

Chinese soldiers train to use artillery in Wudi County, east China's Shandong Province on 4 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Nepali porters carry expedition supplies from the village of Lukla, Nepal on 1 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Japan eyes east Asia free trade pact

Tokyo, 5 April — Japan's trade ministry wants to create an "East Asia" free trade zone including Southeast Asia, China, India and Australia, an official said on Tuesday, in a renewed push for regional economic integration.

Japan, keen not to fall behind China, has stepped up its pursuit of free trade agreements in recent years but progress has been slow, with negotiations often complicated by Tokyo's desire to protect the nation's agriculture industry.

The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) is likely to soon unveil a proposal calling for the pursuit of a massive 16-nation trade zone including Japan, the 10 members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), China and Fiji far apart, there are long-standing exchanges and friendship between the two peoples.

Fiji was the first Pacific island country to establish diplomatic relations with China in 1975, which ushered in a new era in bilateral relations, he said.

According to the Chinese Premier, in the past 30 year since then, thanks to the concerted efforts of the two countries, great strides have been made in friendly and cooperative relations between China and Fiji, marked by increasingly frequent exchanges at all levels, productive interaction and cooperation in trade, economy, culture, education, health and other fields and deepened friendship and mutual understanding between the two peoples.

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Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao speaks during the opening of the China-Pacific Islands Countries Economic Development and Cooperation Forum in Nadi, Fiji on 5 April, 2006. —INTERNET
Working Together for Health

Dr Khin Maung Lwin

After reading the World Health Day 2006 package, I immediately understood the “Change”. We’ve been celebrating WHO Birthdays for so many decades highlighting one theme at a time like surprising birthday cakes, differing one after another, but never mentioning about the owner of the birthday. Actually, WHO, as a figurehead to the global health workforce, deserves “something”. As part of the workforce, we too deserve something. What kind of “something” do we need? A “Recognition”? Yes. An “Appreciation”? Yes. A “Protection”? Yes. An “Empowerment”? Yes.

“Working for Health” doesn’t reflect our real image. We are devoting as “Lifelong Devotees for Health”.

Let’s start with health staffs first. Let’s see how a mid-wife survives as someone among the lowest strata in health hierarchy. Immediately after training, she is posted to a remote community to organize a rural health sub-centre. Sometime, there is one already. Sometime, she needs to start from the scratch. She needs to organize the village community to have a health post and that subject was not included in her curriculum during training.

She knows how to assist in deliveries. Ante-natal and pre-natal care are her routine. However, there are additional chores in practice. Nutrition, immunization, reproductive health, multi-drug therapy, DOTS, school health, environmental sanitation, safe water supply, food hygiene, personal hygiene, etc. In addition, she might handle emerging public health issues like arsenicism, fluorosis, lead poisoning, mercury poisoning, SARS, avian influenza or natural disasters like tsunami, floods, draught and man-made disasters.

Though she is a health staff member, she also belongs to social welfare, rural development, agriculture and the latest role that she plays as a birds-watcher to get earliest detection of avian influenza. Amid heavy workload, she is surviving. Even after retirement, many midwives continue serving as skilled senior citizens and opinion leaders up to the last breath.

Only people with motives can be motivated. In this case, salary or income plays minor role. Respect and recognition by the surrounding community play major roles to change her becoming a devoted public servant. Unfortunately, she needs to restart the whole process when she gets transfer to another community. It becomes a tough job for her again.

Same as her, most of our public health workforce has limited formal education with unlimited tasks ahead in reality. We end up with community health development, a holistic health performance. By playing a role as a community developer, we gain a lot from experiential learning. Between thriving communities and public health workforce, there are limited options. By choosing shares expertise. WSSCC lobbied for global recognition. UNDP organized community-based activities. PSI, SC (UK), SC (US), SC (Japan), AMI, AMDA, BAJ, World Vision, Maltese International, Care Myanmar, Partners and other INGOs play their roles effectively and efficiently.

NSW success story is in line with World Health Day 2006 package. It is demonstrating country leadership. It based on Country-led action supported by global solidarity and national political will. Studies by third parties indicated that major mobilizers during NSW are health volunteers.

I really appreciate WHO in presenting such paradigm shift. “Countries that train aspiring health workers to be technically competent and psychologically prepared to serve the poor under harsh conditions, supported by management, have shown heartening results in health workforce performance, motivation and retention” is clear enough for ethical training health learners need to learn “by heart”.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 6 April, 2006 7
N’Jangyang has characteristics of modern town...

(from page 1)

At the new hospital construction project site, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard a report on salient points of the project and the construction of Ayezwop-N’Jangyang road. The commander gave a supplementary report. Officials also reported to Lt-Gen Ye Myint on construction of the General Administration Department office and a building for other government departments. Together with officials, Lt-Gen Ye Myint visited the satellite telephone exchange and the project to build a basic education middle school. He made arrangements for the smooth implementation of the project.

At Tat Oo Aung Hsupan monastery, he paid respects to the Sayadaws and presented offerings to them. He also observed the convergence of Maykha and Malikha Rivers and Myitson-Myitkyina Road. — MNA

Commander, Mayor inspect upgrading of roads

YANGON, 5 April — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin yesterday morning inspected upgrading of roads in downtown Yangon.

They viewed tarmacking of U Chit Maung Road in Bahan Township. Next, the commander and the mayor inspected repaving of U Htaung Bo Road in Dagon Township and Anawrahta Street in Kyauktada Township with the use of asphalt concrete. They also oversaw cleanliness of the lane between 17th street and 18th street and Maha Bandoola Street and Strand Road in Latha Township.

They inspected the tax-free market on Kyaukkasan Street in Tamway Township, and instructed officials to manage sales of commodities to the people at reasonable price.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint meets departmental officials and local people in N’Jangyang. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint presents a TV set and periodicals to staff and local people of N’Jangyang. — MNA

7th ASEAN-OSHNET Coordinating Board Meeting hosted

YANGON, 5 April — The 7th ASEAN-OSHNET Coordinating Board Meeting hosted by Myanmar took place at Sedona Hotel this morning, attended by Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Win Sein, representatives of ASEAN nations, departmental heads, Japanese experts and observers.

First, the deputy minister and Executive Director of Secretariat of ASEAN-OSHNET Dr Johari Basri made opening speeches.

Altogether 35 representatives of 10 member nations of ASEAN attended the meeting and it will last for two days. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects...

(from page 16)

inspected Kamawet sluice gate. It is 90 feet long and 15 feet high and its watershed area is 2.6 square miles and capacity is 465 acre feet. On completion of the sluice gate, it will supply water to 150 acres of summer paddy and crops and it can also prevent salt water from flowing to the farmland.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party met Tatmadaw members and families of Thaton and Kyaikto stations. Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected construction of Winkan-Thongwa-Hsinhtwin Road in Kyaikto Township and provided cash to Tatmadaw members participating in the project.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo went to Winkan Village in Kyaikto Township where he was welcomed by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and officials. They inspected Kyonpaku Bridge linking Kyakto Township and Shwegyin Township. The Bailey wooden bridge, 200 feet long and 16 feet wide, was built by units and regiments under South-East Command.

The two commanders and officials concerned reported on construction of the bridge and roads. Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented cash awards to service personnel who participated in the project. Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected construction of basic education primary school and classrooms in Winkan Village. He contributed cash for construction of the school. — MNA

Executive Director Dr Johari Basri speaking at 7th ASEAN-OSHNET Coordinating Board Meeting. — MNA

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win inspects Tax-free Market in Tamway Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects Winkan-Thongwa-Hsinhtwin Road in Kyaikto Township. — MNA
5,542 acres of physic nut plantation…

(from page 16)

Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented physic nut seed s to departmental personnel, social organization members and families of the local station. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and the commander viewed participation of the local people and families of Tatmadawmen from the local station at the ceremony to grow physic nut saplings, and demonstration on running of machines with the use of biodiesel.

In Shan State (East), 5,542 acres of land have been put under physic nut plantations.

Next, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party inspected Kengtung-Mongkhun-Mongkhok-Monghsat-Mongtung Road and thriving summer paddy and rubber plantations. They also viewed regional development.

They met with Tatmadawmen and family members of local battalions in Nataungmu Village of Pungpahkyem Township and Mongtwam, and presented cash assistance and refreshments to them.

In Mongkhok, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met with Tatmadawmen and families of Mongkhok Station, departmental personnel and social organization members at Mongkhok BEHS. He presented refreshments to those present.

Minister inspects forest plantations

YANGON — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung visited Moeswe reserved forest in Pyinnmana Township on 1 April, where he heard a report on mixed plantation of 13 timber species including teak and Pyingadoe.

Officials also explained pilot plantation plots, research work, teak plantations, and methods to extend the use of bamboo. The minister said that as Moeswe is located near Naypyidaw city it should be developed into a world-class research, training and recreation centre, with extended research and commercial plantations.

In Taungdwingyi Township, he visited Kinmutaung reserved forest, which saw the setting up of a 300-acre teak plantation in 2004-2005 and an 800-acre plantation in 2005-2006. After hearing reports on the plantation plans, the minister stressed the need to curb timber smuggling.

At his meeting with staff in Magway, he urged them to work with goodwill and stay away from bribery.

During his inspection of a fuel wood plantation in Daungne public protected forest, Brig-Gen Thein Aung urged staff to grow local species and physic nut. The minister also inspected a nursery in Yenangyoung Township and a neem plantation in Chauk Township.

USDA membership applications presented in Magway Township

YANGON — Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min arrived at Cooperative Training school in Magway on 1 April, met with officials of Cooperative Department and gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, Joint Secretary-General of Union Solidarity and Development Association Col Zaw Min attended the ceremony to present the membership applications of Amimyay Agricultural Producers Cooperative Syndicate. He accepted the 3,226 applications held at BEPS, Phayapyo Village in Magway Township through Magway Division USDA Secretary U Maung Maung Hu.
Staff, family members ordained

YANGON, 5 April—The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation held its 14th ordination and novitiation ceremony at the assembly hall on Thiri Mingala Lane on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here on 2 April. Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo and wife Daw Ni Ni Win and heads of department offered alms to members of the Sangha.

Joint-Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Dwipakadharai Dwipatakavida Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Jagarabhivams delivered a sermon, and merits were shared. Alms and food were offered to members of the Sangha. A total of 194 staff members and children were ordained and 61 boys novitiated. — MNA

Fifth lucky draw of Topsyne, best selling award presented to sale persons

YANGON, 5 April—The Apple Cosmetic opened its fifth lucky draw for medicated make-up named 'Topsyne' and presented best selling awards to salespersons at Panda Hotel this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were officials of Apple Cosmetic, sale persons and media persons. Managing Director Daw Li Li introduced cosmetic items such as medicated cream, pimple cream, varities of shampoo and skin care. Directors U Khin Nyunt and Daw Le Le Shan presented best selling awards to sale persons.

Next, artistes opened a lucky draw. — MNA

BOD member U Khin Nyunt presents gift to a best selling agent. — MNA

General Secretary of UMFCCI observes harvest of paddy

YANGON, 5 April—General Secretary of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Chairman of Myanmar Rice Dealers Association U Sein Win Hlaing and party visited Yedalabaung Village in Hlegu Township on 3 April and observed the harvesting of 100 acres of Shwenanth Paap under the supervision of MRDA. Shwenanth Paap can be harvested after 120 days of cultivation and it yields over 160 baskets per acre.

UMFCCI General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing views harvesting of paddy plantation. — UMFCCI

MOI’s staff in Lashio receive fire drill

LASHIO, 30 March—In an effort to get ready to fight a fire, staff of the Ministry of Information in Lashio were drilled on 30 March by Shan State (North) Fire Services Department at the sub-printing house in Lashio.

During the fire drill, the officers of Shan State Fire Services Department briefed them on preventive measures against fire and demonstrated the use of fire extinguishers.

Officials of Information and Public Relations Department, Myamna Radio and Television and Myamna Motion Picture Enterprise and staff of the sub-printing house participated in the drill.

KYEMON DAILY

Water supply facilities opened in rural areas

LASHIO, 30 March—As part of an effort of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs to supply safe drinking water to rural areas, Township Development Affairs Departments under the ministry have equipped water supply facilities in rural areas.

PynOol wn Township Development Affairs Department opened the water supply facility in Thayetchaung Village in the township on 19 March. So far, 20 water supply facilities have been constructed in rural area in PynOol wn Township by the Township DAD.

Similarly, a water supply facility was opened at Kanzaunkan Village in Kyikha, Chin State, on 27 March. — KYEMON DAILY

An official of Kyikha DAD turns a tap as a resident in Kanzaunkan Village in Kyikha in Chin State that fetches water at a water supply facility in the village.

KYIKHA DAD
Bird flu brought under control in Shwebo, KhinU Townships and Mandalay District

Press release on measures undertaken in central Myanmar

Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries issued a press release on death of chicken in central Myanmar.

1. Death of chicken: The LBVD carried out restriction and control measures on prevention and control of disease regarding the death of chicken and quails in Shwebo District, Sagaing Division from the first week of February 2006 to 26-3-2006 and Mandalay District, Mandalay Division from 8-3-2006 to 26-3-2006.

   (A) Death of chicken/those destroyed

   Out of 60,929 fowls at 93 poultry farms 6,731 died in Shwebo District (Shwebo, KhinU, Kanbalu and YeU) from the time of chicken death to 26-3-2006, altogether 24,836 fowls were culled and buried. In Mandalay District (Pyigyidagun, Amarapura, Chanmyathazi, Chanayethazan, Maha Aungmye and Aungmyethazan) 2,060 fowls died at 99 poultry farms where 111,919 were kept and 96,159 were destroyed. Therefore, 8,791 fowls died and 120,995 fowls and 560 eggs were destroyed and buried in those districts.

   (B) Death of quails and those destroyed

   Altogether 1,941 quails at two quail farms in Shwebo District and 115,650 quails in 44 quail farms in Mandalay District and 50,515 eggs were killed/destroyed and buried. Therefore, 117,591 quails and 50,515 quail eggs were killed/destroyed and buried.

   (C) Finding of bird flu virus

   After the initial outbreaks in the cull zone in Kanbalu, KhinU, YeU, Pyigyidagun, Amarapura, Chanmyathazi, Chanayethazan, Maha Aungmye and Aungmyethazan Townships, investigation was made at 47 poultry farms. A total of 433 samples (blood, inner organs of the chicken and trachea) were collected and examined through rapid test and HA, HI and PCR processes. The H5N1 virus was detected in 26 samples of 35 chicken farms.

2. Control of disease: Under the supervision of local authorities the LBVD is taking measures on disease control in the cull zones in cooperation with Health Department, Development Affairs Departments, Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation and breeders and with the assistance of disease control experts from international organizations. All the fowls in the farms from one kilometre radius of the farm where the virus was found were culled for risk prevention. The destruction included 120,995, fowls, 112,414 quails, 50,515 quail eggs and 560 eggs.

   The farms and other materials were sprayed with pesticides. The ban on sale and transport of animals and their products was imposed after the control and restricted and control areas were designated between 3 kilometres and 7 kilometres from the infected farm. It was found that there was no evidence of human and other animal infections from the H5N1. The situation is now under control in affected townships of Mandalay Division.

3. The latest condition up to 26-3-2006: The disease has been brought under control in Shwebo, KhinU except in Kaboe Village in Kanbalu Township and Mandalay District; control measures continue at Kaboe Village.

4. Cooperation with international organizations: Regional Coordinator of FAO Dr K Watanabe and Regional Coordinator of USAID of the United States Dr John MacArthur in cooperation with the LBVD made a field trip to the affected areas in Mandalay and Shwebo Districts and took emergency measures on control of the disease. Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein received the FAO and WHO resident representatives to Myanmar and discussed bird flu control programmes. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and a regional laboratory in Australia provided educative posters and laboratory equipment. Myanmar received protective gear, testing kits and others worth about US $100,000 provided by FAO, JICA and the regional laboratory in Australia. Three experts from FAO, JICA and DLD of Thailand together with Dr K Watanabe will conduct disease control in Mandalay and Shwebo for two weeks beginning 28-3-2006.

5. Rehabilitation: Under the programme of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the Myanmar Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Development Bank and the Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation will jointly take measures for rehabilitation of the affected chicken runs.

6. Regions that have not been infected: To ensure normal rate of consumption and trade of domestic chickens and chicken products in such regions, State/Division Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Departments will hold coordination meetings and issue animal health certificates to livestock breeders and traders to distribute products with the permission of respective local authorities.

Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
China to save ancient books by using Egyptian techniques

BEIJING, 4 April—China will borrow Egyptian techniques used to preserve the murals in the pyramids to save China’s ancient books.

"China’s ancient books may be destroyed by acidification within a hundred years if repair techniques are not improved," said Zhang Zhiqing, director of the rare book department of the National Library of China.

Zhang made the remarks at a forum on cooperation between China and Egypt on ancient book protection techniques held recently in Nanjing, capital of East China’s Jiangsu Province.

China has a large number of ancient books and many are in very rough shape. About one third of them are in urgent need of repair, Zhang said.

The chemical alum was used in China’s traditional technique of repairing ancient books, but it actually caused acidification, Zhang explained. "We are now borrowing the techniques of Egypt which they use to repair the wall paintings of the pyramids," said Dai Xueyan, an organizer of the forum.

China will send students to Egypt to study conservation technologies, and Egyptian experts will be invited to China to train more professionals in the field, Dai said. —MNA/Xinhua

Kidnapped Colombian politician has FARC child

BOGOTA (Colombia), 4 April—A Colombian politician taken hostage more than four years ago by leftist rebels has had a child by one of her captors in a secret jungle prison camp, according to reports to be published on Tuesday.

Colombian news programmes were filled with reports about the baby boy on Monday, with commentators speculating about the effect the existence of a child might have on attempts to swap rebel hostages for guerrillas held in government jails.

The book, Latest News From the War, by journalist Jorge Botero, tells the story of Clara Rojas, a single 41-year-old lawyer kidnapped by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, while campaigning for the vice presidency.

Botero, known for his close contacts with the FARC, said he confirmed the existence of the child, now about two years old, with top FARC commanders. —MNA/Reuters

Work to start within year on Shanghai-Hangzhou maglev railway

SHANGHAI, 4 April—Construction work is expected to start by the end of this year on the maglev railway between China’s largest metropolis Shanghai and Hangzhou, a famous tourist destination and capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province.

The feasibility study of the project which uses a magnetic track is expected to go into operation before 2010 when Shanghai will host the World Expo.

Total cost of the project is estimated at 35 billion yuan (around 4.3 billion US dollars). —MNA/Xinhua

CLAMS DAY NOTICE

MV SRI MONG KOL VOY NO (441)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SRI MONG KOL VOY NO (441) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2006 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
MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MZ ADVANCE CONTAINER
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Venezuelan weekend warriors train for US invasion

CHARALLAVE (Venezuela), 4 April—Catching his breath after weaving through burning tires, crossing trenches and crawling under barbed wire, Diego Rivero says he is ready to repel any US military invasion of Venezuela.

Rivero, a chauffeur, joined students, teachers and housewives last weekend to begin training in the Territorial Guard, a civilian reserve created by President Hugo Chavez to resist the assault he believes Washington is planning.

"The gringos don’t have the guts, but if they do invade then we have to be ready," said Rivero, mud-spattered and breathless under the sweltering sun, after making it through the bayonet assault course at Fort Guaicaipuro near Caracas.

The United States has dismissed Chavez’ invasion talk as a ridiculous invention designed to stir up his supporters, many of whom are poor.

But with Chavez accusing the United States of trying to oust him and US officials saying the self-styled socialist revolutionary threatens regional stability, US-Venezuelan relations are in tatters.

Chavez on Sunday said he would have a nasty welcome waiting for US forces — arrows covered with Indian poison. —MNA/Reuters

Women of Bharwad community carry dung cakes in Ahmadabad, India, on 4 April, 2006. Dried cow dung is used as fuel for cooking in India.—INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENTS

China will send students to Egypt to study conservation technologies, and Egyptian experts will be invited to China to train more professionals in the field. Dai said. —MNA/Xinhua
US Air Force plane crashes, all on board survive

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE (Delaware), 4 April — A US Air Force C-5 Galaxy cargo plane crashed and broke apart short of the runway at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware on Monday but all 17 people on board survived, the Air Force said.

There was no precise information about injuries but many of those on the plane were taken to hospital, Air Force spokesman Captatin John Sheets said. There were 14 crew members and three civilian contractors on board, he said. The plane took off from Dover and was due to fly to US Naval Station Rota in Spain before heading to Kuwait. It encountered trouble once in the air and returned to the base, crashing as it tried to land.

“After taking off there was some type of in-flight emergency, and when it returned to the base it landed short of the runway,” said Sheets, a spokesman at Scott Air Force Base, which is affiliated with the Dover base. The plane lay on a field few hundred yards (metres) from the runway, with the cockpit broken away and a wing damaged. The tail section was about 200 yards (metres) from the rest of the plane, near a building. Rescue workers sprayed the plane with protective foam and there was an odor of jet fuel in the air, but no sign of fire was evident. — MNA/Reuters

Iranian Revolutionary Guards prepare to fly a remote controlled plane, to be shot down by an Iranian made Misagh shoulder launched missile (background) during naval manoeuvres in the Persian Gulf and Sea of Oman on 4 April, 2006. — INTERNET

China, Australia agree on all-round cooperation

CANBERRA, 4 April — China and Australia have agreed to build a relationship of all-round cooperation for mutual benefit and win-win outcomes in the 21st Century, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said here Monday.

“This means that China and Australia should have consultation and dialogue on political, economic and cultural issues, as well as other major international issues,” Premier Wen said at a joint Press conference with Australian Prime Minister John Howard. Wen, who held talks with Howard prior to the Press conference, described the common understanding reached between them after an in-depth exchange of views in the talks as “very important”.

Speaking of the specific countenance of this relationship, Wen said there are four major aspects. First, China and Australia should enhance the mutual visits and discussions between the leaders of the two governments, according to the Chinese leader.

Second, China and Australia should work together to enhance economic cooperation on all fields.— MNA/Xinhua

Sino-Beninese cooperative partnership advances smoothly

LOST, 4 April — The cooperative partnership between China and Benin has developed smoothly and turned out to be productive since the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations in 1972.

China, also a developing country, has become one of Benin’s most important partners in various areas, including economy, culture, education and health.

China has rendered more than 100 billion CFA Francs (about 180 million US dollars) in aid to the West African country since 1972, which is the key source of fund to more than 30 projects in agriculture, industry and public infrastructure.— MNA/Xinhua

South Korea, Indonesia to cooperate in nuclear energy

JAKARTA, 4 April — South Korea and Indonesia will cooperate in the development of nuclear energy soon, ministers of the two countries said here on Monday.

The statement was made by visiting South Korean Foreign and Trade Minister Ban Ki-Moon and his Indonesian counterpart Nur Hassan Wirajuda at a joint Press briefing after their meeting. “South Korea offers Indonesia the development of nuclear energy, including development for electricity,” said Wirajuda.

South Korea would provide technical and physical assistance, said the minister. Wirajuda said that Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was impressed by the development of nuclear technology in South Korea.

“We are following with keen interest progress made by Korea in nuclear energy,” he said, without giving further detail.— MNA/Xinhua

World’s retail giants buy 200b yuan worth of goods in China

BEIJING, 4 April — Foreign retail giants are continuing their expansion in China both in terms of opening stores and buying huge quantities of goods to sell overseas.

According to a local newspaper, the world’s leading retailers, including Walmart, Carrefour and Metro, will purchases goods in China worth more than 200 billion yuan (about 25 billion US dollars) this year.

The world’s largest retailer spent a whopping 18 billion US dollars worth of goods in China in 2004 up five billion from the year before, reported the newspaper, which did not quote figures from last year.


Japanese electric vehicle manufacturer Axe unveils the new electric motorcycle EV-X7 which is powered by new hybrid magnetic motor SUMO and developed with its partner company Genesis Corp in Tokyo on 4 April, 2006. — INTERNET

Chinese models dressed in plus-size clothes pose during a small fashion show for plus-size women at the 14th China International Clothing and Accessories Fair in Beijing, on 4 April, 2006. — INTERNET

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The France-based Carrefour, also from France, bought 3.2 billion US dollars worth of commodities in China in 2004. The figure rose to 4.58 billion dollars in 2005. — MNA/Xinhua
Riquelme inspires Villarreal victory over Inter

VILLARREAL (Spain), 5 April — Villarreal’s fairy tale debut in the Champions League continued on Tuesday when a 1-0 victory over Italian giants Inter Milan sent them into the semifinals on the away goals rule.

Argentine defender Rodolfo Arruabarrena levelled the aggregate score at 2-2 when he headed compatriot Juan Roman Riquelme’s clipped free kick over Inter keeper Francesco Toldo 13 minutes into the second half. The Primera Liga side, whose first taste of European football came just over four years ago when they played in the Intertoto Cup, will meet Arsenal or Juventus in the semifinals.

The Spaniards controlled the game for long periods with their trademark brand of patient football but scoring chances were at a premium in a tight, tactical game. It was not until the outstanding Riquelme earned his side a free kick after he had been brought down by Luis Figotto that the Spaniards were given the chance to claim their historic victory.

The win sparked wild scenes in the Madrigal stadium, where the vast majority of the 22,000 fans cheered the home team’s lap of honour.

Villarreal made an ambitious start following their 2-1 defeat in last week’s first leg at the San Siro. Roared on by the capacity crowd, Villarreal shifted up a gear midway through the half and put the Italians under heavy pressure, pinning them back for a lengthy spell midway through the half.

Midfielder Marcos Senna went close with two fierce drives and Juan Pablo Sorin tested the Inter centre-backs as he piled forward to join the attack.

Riquelme then took centre stage as he stepped up to run the show in midfield. He gave Toldo a scare with a dipping shot over the bar after he had teased his way past the Inter back four.

Milan late show kills off Lyon

MILAN, 5 April — Late strikes from Filippo Inzaghi and Ukrainian Andriy Shevchenko gave AC Milan a 3-1 victory over Olympique Lyon on Tuesday to send the Italian side into the semifinals of the Champions League.

The first leg in France ended goalless at 1-1 with two minutes of normal time remaining. Lyon were set to head into the semfinals of the competition for the first time on the away goals rule.

That would have been as much as Gerard Houllier’s Lyon deserved after an enterprising and positive display in front of 79,000 fans at the San Siro Stadium.

Milan looked to have run out of ideas and energy but, as so often, Shevchenko and Inzaghi took full advantage of the opportunities that came their way to turn the tie around.

Shevchenko’s goal took him one clear of Real Madrid’s Raúl in the all-time list of European Cup scorers with 52 goals.

Right from the outset Lyon had the best chances — largely thanks to another jittery display from Milan’s increasingly shaky Brazilian keeper Dida.

Dida made a hash of a backpass in the 18th minute, misfiring to the edge of the area but Lyon forthright Sylvain Wiltord was unable to make anything of the opportunity, firing his shot wide.

The Milan keeper then rushed out of his area but failed to collect a long ball forward and from the scramble Florent Malouda, a surprise inclusion in midfield for Lyon, attempted a lob which fell just over the bar.

Dida did better to parry a wicked free-kick from Juninho which bounced awkwardly in front of the Milan keeper as the French side continued to apply pressure.

Birmingham climb out of relegation zone

BIRMINGHAM (England), 5 April — Birmingham City hauled themselves out of the Premier League relegation zone with a 1-0 victory over Bolton Wanderers at St. Andrews on Tuesday.

Czech midfielder Jiří Jarosík, on loan from champions Chelsea, lashed in a 20- metre shot after 37 minutes to clinch the three points for Steve Bruce’s side and damage Bolton’s hopes of qualifying for Europe.

Birmingham moved up from 19th to 17th in the table with 28 points, one more than West Bromwich Albion and Portsmouth.

Portsmouth, though, have seven games left, one more than their two rivals. Doomed bottom club Sunderland have 11 points.
Russia to boost investment in special economic zones

**Moscow, 5 April** — Russia’s Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin said on Monday that Russia would earmark 78.8 billion roubles (about 2.8 billion US dollars) to develop the country’s first special economic zones (SEZs). SEZs hosting industrial manufacturing enterprises would get 23.1 billion roubles (about 800 million dollars) of the total investment, while 55.7 billion (about two billion dollars) would go to zones focusing on technology promotion, said Kudrin at a theme conference presided over by President Vladimir Putin.

The first three SEZs, in Tomsk, Zelenograd, and Saint Petersburg, will start operating this year, and the remaining three will open later, once necessary infrastructure projects are completed.—MNA/Xinhua

Third round of Kosovo talks ends with little progress

**VIENNA, 5 April** — A third round of talks on the future status of Kosovo ended here Monday between officials from Serbia and Kosovo with no final agreement being reached. UN mediatorAlbert Rohan, who chaired Monday’s session, said stark differences remained on both sides, though they had reached consensus on certain issues.

Monday’s discussions were based on a report drafted by the UN office on the status of Kosovo, after summarizing the results of the previous two talks. They focused on the financing of the Serb minority in Kosovo, municipal boundaries, and the relations between Kosovo’s Serb minority and Serbia.

MNA/Xinhua

**WEATHER**

**Wednesday, 5 April, 2006**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunderstorms have been widespread in Kachin State, scattered in upper Sagoa Division, isolated in Shan and Chin States, weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (5°C) above normal in Taungtho Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Rakhine State and Yangon Division, (4°C) below normal in Kachin State, (5°C) below normal in upper Sagoa Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Monbu, Magway, Aunglan and Sagoa (40°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Putao (0.72) inch.

Maximum temperature on 4-4-2006 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 5-4-2006 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 4-4-2006 was (70%). Total sunshine (9.9) hours approx on 4-4-2006.

Rainfalls on 5-4-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch in central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from South at (18:30) hours MST on 4-4-2006.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 6-4-2006:
Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms in Kachin, Chin and Northern Shan States, upper Sagoa Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine State, Ayeawady, Yangon and Taungtho Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of rain or thunderstorms are likely in Northern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Naypyidaw and neighbouring areas for 6-4-2006:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 6-4-2006:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 6-4-2006:** Generally fair weather.

A civilian walks past a tulip garden in Srinagar, India, on 4 April, 2006. The horticulture industry in Kashmir generates a revenue of about US $ 10 million annually, according to Indian business reports.—INTERNET

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR** Thursday, 6 April, 2006 15

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5,542 acres of physic nut plantation grown in Shan State (East) in 2006

NAYPYIDAW, 5 April — The plan is being implemented to put 148,105 acres of land under physic nut plantations in Shan State (East) in 2006. At present, 2,570,000 physic nut saplings are being nurtured. A ceremony to grow physic nut plants was held at the highland farm-land of Triangle Region Command in Wamkan Village of Monglat Village-tract in Kengtung Township yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence said that departmental personnel are to provide necessary assistance to the local growers to grow physic nut plants, mill its seeds and sell bio-diesel to the market under the supervision of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council.

Hence, departmental personnel and members of social organizations are to organize the local people to cultivate physic nut plants for benefiting the State as well as themselves.

Departmental personnel and members of social organizations are to organize the local people to cultivate physic nut plants for benefiting the State as well as themselves.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects Winphanon Dam in Mudon

NAYPYIDAW, 5 April — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint inspected Winphanon Dam in Mudon Township on 1 April.

Director of Irrigation Department U Khin Maung Tint reported on data of the dam and Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing on cultivation of summer paddy through irrigation. The Winphanon earth Dam, 1,800 feet long and 178 feet high, is situated on Winphanon Creek. Its watershed area is 8.05 square miles. The water storage capacity at full brim is 45,900 acre feet. It was built with the aim of supplying water to 4,500 acres of summer paddy and 5,000 acres of other crops. Altogether 5,065 acres of summer paddy have been grown for this year.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and the commander inspected maintenance of the dam, outlet conduit and irrigating system from sluice gate to the canals. Lt-Gen Maung Bo went to the site of Kamawet sluice gate and met village people. He explained government’s efforts for regional and border area development, implementation of the five rural development tasks and rapid progress due to the cooperation of local authorities. With the prevalence of peace and tranquillity in the country, regional development tasks can be carried out extensively and a modern developed democratic nation can also be built, he said.

He also spoke on extended cultivation of physic nut, maintenance of the dam for durability. Lt-Gen Maung Bo attended to the needs of the local people and (See page 8)

Weather Forecast for 6-4-2006

Naypyidaw & neighbouring areas
Generally fair weather

Yangon & neighbouring areas
Partly cloudy

Mandalay & neighbouring areas
Generally fair weather