Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects progress of Kengtawng Hydropower Project

Hydropower projects that contribute towards regional and national development to be completed as soon as possible

NAY PYI TAW, 27 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 on 25 April morning inspected progress of Kengtawng Hydropower Project being implemented by Construction-7 of Hydropower Projects Implementation Department of the Ministry of Electric Power No 1 on Namtein Creek, 30 miles northeast of Mongnai, Langkho District, Shan State.

Accompanied by members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and Maj-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State PDC Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thaung Aye, ministers and officials of the SPDC Office, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye arrived at the site of Kengtawng Hydropower Project at 8 am and inspected Namtein Creek (Kengtawng Waterfall) and the scale model of the project site.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min said that Kengtawng Hydropower Project is being implemented to generate 54 megawatts of electricity. The project covers 11 major tasks of which construction of diversion dam (1), diversion dam (2), power intake building, power intake canal, (See page 7)

Kengtawng Hydropower Project is being implemented for ensuring development of townships in Loilem and Langkho districts and uplift of the living standard of local people through supplying of electricity.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Strive together with the people for success of the seven-point Road Map

The graduation parade of the 110th Intake of Defence Services (Army) Officer Training School was held in the parade ground of the training school in Bahtoo Tatmyo on 26 April morning.

The Tatmadaw saved the nation and the people when the multi-colour insurgency broke out soon after the regaining of independence and foreign intrusion, when there emerged the split within the ruling party in 1958 which was so violent that the nation was about to face a bloodbath and when there occurred the danger of national fragmentation in 1962.

In the 1988 unrest during which anarchy reigned, the Tatmadaw took over the State duties to protect public lives and property and saved the nation from falling into an abyss.

Tatmadawmen who have made a vow to safeguard the nation and the people should be specially endowed with strong patriotism, good discipline, loyalty and daring spirit. In the meantime, they should have a wide range of historical knowledge of the nation and the people and strive for the flourishing of Union Spirit wherever place they are assigned to.

Nowadays, the Tatmadaw and the people are working together for the implementation of the seven-step Road Map in the process of transition to democracy in accordance with the wishes of the people, and the National Convention, the first step, is about to come to completion.

We firmly believe that the Tatmadaw will continue to serve the interest of the nation and the people, while striving for the successful realization of the seven-step Road Map.
US officer accused of ‘aiding enemy’ in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 April — The American military has charged a top commander at its main detention centre here with nine violations of military law, including “aiding the enemy,” a rare and serious accusation that could carry a death sentence.

According to a military statement released Thursday, the officer, Lt Col William H Steele, prided aid to the enemy between 1 Oct, 2005, and 31 Oct, 2006, “by providing an unmonitored cellular phone to detainees” at Camp Cropper, an expansive prison near Baghdad International Airport that held Saddam Hussein before he was hanged. Colonel Steele, who oversaw one of several compounds at Camp Cropper as commander of the 451st Military Police Detachment, was also charged with several counts of illegally storing and marking classified information; failure to obey an order; possession of pornographic videos; dereliction of duty regarding government funds; and conduct unbecoming of an officer — for fraternizing with the daughter of a detainee since 2005, and for maintaining “an inappropriate relationship” with an interpreter in 2005 and 2006. There were no further details given to explain the circumstances of the accusations.

Military officials said that Colonel Steele was detained last month and was now in Kuwait awaiting a military hearing to determine whether the case would proceed. They emphasized that he should be presumed innocent.

Quake jolts parts of southern Japan

TOKYO, 27 April — An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.4 jolted several prefectures in southern Japan on Thursday morning, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

No tsunami warning was issued as of the 9:03 am (0003 GMT) quake. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The epicenter of the quake was around 40 kilometres underground in Ehime Prefecture, it said, noting that Hiroshima, Okayama, Tokushima, Kagawa, Kochi and several other prefectures were also affected by the quake.

Fish growing faster as oceans warm

PERTH, 26 April—Researchers believe that some species of Australian fish are growing bigger, much faster, because ocean temperatures are warming up. A CSIRO study has found that increasing ocean temperatures are speeding up the growth rate of wild fish stocks by up to 30 per cent. But while fish in shallow waters are growing rapidly, species in the cooler deeper ocean are growing at a much slower rate.

Lead author Dr Ron Thresher says this will have huge implications for the long-term sustainability of the marine ecosystem. “Some species are probably going to be able to track an environmental temperature by moving up and down the coast or moving up and down in the water column so they stay in their optimal temperature range,” he said.

Research centre targets lung disease

PERTH, 26 April—A new centre at Perth’s Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital will research advances in early detection and treatment of lung disease.

Bruce Robinson from the school of medicine at UWA says Western Australia has one of the highest global rates of asthma and asbestos-related lung diseases, which cost the health system millions of dollars each year.

Professor Robinson says the centre will look at new ways of detecting lung diseases through blood, breath and phlegm tests. “In the past we’ve had to wait until someone actually gets diseased and often when they get diseased it’s too late, at that stage it’s more expensive to treat,” he said.

Professor Robin says earlier detection could save the health system millions of dollars each year. “My colleague Professor Phil Thompson is developing ways of detecting these things in a more timely manner... for example a tiny bit of phlegm you might cough up for example that might be a sign that there’s early damage,” he said.

“...If you can get diseases early then there’s a chance you can stop them progressing, whereas if you get them late, often as I said it’s too late.”

Three killed in oil tanker blast in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 26 April — Three people were killed when an oil tanker careened across the street, hit a roadside house, and exploded at Karang Anyar village in West Java early Wednesday morning.

An eyewitness who only gave his name as Marsis said the driver of the tanker and two other passengers were killed in the accident which occurred at about 3.30 am local time on Wednesday.

“The bodies of the tanker’s driver and two other passengers have been evacuated to Pasarrenggera clinic in Solabang,” the witness was quoted by local Antara news agency as saying.

Meanwhile, local police chief Adjunct Senior Commissioner Sugiono, who was informed about the accident said, the tanker hit the house belonging to a resident identified as Tafakur and then exploded into flame which then licked through two other houses. The ill-fated tanker carrying crude oil was on its way to Balongan oil refinery in Indramaya, West Java.

A new study says some fish are growing bigger and faster as ocean temperatures rise.
**Myanmar section of wartime Sino-Indian road rebuilt**

KUNMING, 27 April — A ceremony to celebrate the rebuilding of the Myanmar section of the famous wartime Stilwell Road, now also known as the Sino-Indian Road, has been held in Kambaiti on the Sino-Myanmar border.

The Myanmar section of Stilwell Road is part of the 176-kilometre section of road that links Myitkyina in Myanmar with Tengchong in Yunnan in southwest China.

Completion of the Myanmar section will reduce travel time from Tengchong to Myitkyina from eight hours to three, according to Liu Ping, deputy governor of Yunnan, who was present at the ceremony.

According to Wang Caichun, chairman of the Tengchong County Association for China-Foreign Exchanges, the Chinese Government provided 1.23 billion yuan to finance reconstruction of the road, about two thirds of which was used for the Myanmar section.

The Stilwell Road, or Ledo Road, was built by Chinese troops and Allied Forces in 1945 to transport supplies to the beleaguered Chinese Army after the Yunnan-Myanmar Road, a critical lifeline in China’s war of resistance against Japan, was cut off by Japanese troops in 1942.

It was later renamed Stilwell Road after General Joseph Stilwell, the commander of the Allied Forces in Southeast Asia, who commanded US forces in the China-Myanmar-India theatre in World War II.

The road began in Ledo, a small town in northeast India, and rolled westward through Myitkyina in Myanmar to Kunming in Yunnan Province. In just 10 months, more than 50,000 tons of guns, bullets and food were carried by US trucks to China to support the fight against Japan.

After the war ended, many sections of the road reverted to jungle footpaths due to a lack of maintenance.

But the segment in Yunnan Province was preserved and gradually became part of China’s No. 320 national highway, a vital communication artery in southwest China.

Of the 679 kilometres of the Stilwell Road between China’s Tengchong and Kunming cities, 460 kilometres are open to motor vehicles.

The 61-kilometre section of the Stilwell Road in India is also operational.

About two thirds of the 360-kilometre section between the Indian border and Myitkyina is open to traffic.

MNA/Xinhua

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**Fifty Malaysian pupils down with food poisoning**

KUALA LUMPUR, 26 April—Some 50 Malaysian pupils were sent to hospital Wednesday for suspected food poisoning after drinking milk provided by their school in the northwestern state of Kedah.

Those pupils from a school in Sungai Petani area, aged between seven and 11, complained of vomiting and diarrhea several hours after drinking from the milk cartons supplied by the school.

Seven were warded while the rest received outpatient treatment, the national news agency Bernama reported.

Those students were first taken to a nearby clinic before transferring to the hospital.

The report said the expiry date suggested on the milk cartons is 27 December, 2007.

For the Sungai Petani area, this is the second suspected “milk poisoning” case in barely two weeks that took place in a school. On 16 April, 18 pupils complained of similar symptoms after drinking milk provided under the school’s food programme.

MNA/Xinhua

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**US marijuana grows stronger than before**

WASHINGTON, 27 April—The marijuana being sold across the United States is stronger than ever, which could explain a growing number of medical emergencies that involve the drug, government drug experts said on Wednesday.

Analysis of seized samples of marijuana and hashish showed that more of the cannabis on the market is of the strongest grade, the White House and National Institute for Drug Abuse said.

They cited data from the University of Mississippi’s Marijuana Potency Project showing the average levels of THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, in the products rose from 7 per cent in 2003 to 8.5 per cent in 2006. — MNA/Reuters

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**US Congressman introduces articles to impeach Cheney**

WASHINGTON, 26 April—US Congressman Dennis Kucinich has introduced certain articles to impeach Vice-President Dick Cheney, basing his decision on Cheney’s initial push to send the United States into war with Iraq, CNN reported on Wednesday.

“The Vice-President is beating the same drums of war against Iran that he beat against Iraq under false pretenses, and he’s doing it all over again, against Iran,” Kucinich was quoted by the report as saying.

“And I say that it’s time to stand up to that. Our country couldn’t afford this last war. We can’t afford to go into another one.

And somebody has to challenge the conduct of this Vice-President,” he said.

Kucinich, a Democratic presidential candidate from Ohio, introduced three articles of impeachment before giving a Press conference on Capitol Hill later on Wednesday.

He said Cheney fabricated the threat of weapons of mass destruction to justify going to war with Iraq, made up a connection between the Iraqi government and al-Qaeda and that he is threatening war against Iran now, which he added violates the Constitution.

MNA/Xinhua

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**US and Iraqi soldiers secure the scene of a roadside bomb attack in Baghdad**

WASHINGTON, 26 April — US and Iraqi soldiers secure the scene of a roadside bomb attack in Baghdad on 26 April, 2007. A roadside bomb killed two people and wounded 10 near the Shorja market in central Baghdad, police said. — INTERNET

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MNA/Xinhua
ICBC’s profits soar 52% in first quarter

BEIJING, 27 April—The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, the country’s biggest lender, said on Wednesday its after-tax profits in the first quarter rose 51.6 per cent year-on-year to 18.9 billion yuan (2.42 billion US dollars).

The bank’s non-performing loans (NPL) ratio declined from last year’s 3.79 per cent to the current 3.6 per cent, while its NPL provisional coverage ratio increased from 70.6 per cent to 74.5 per cent, substantially reducing risks.

“The high increase in earnings reflect the bank’s enhanced profitability and great potential thanks to the bank’s reforms and the listing of its shares,” the bank said in a statement.

In the first quarter, the bank saw its outstanding loans increase by 167.3 billion yuan, or 4.6 per cent, as loans to individuals and small enterprises grew by 39.2 billion yuan and 27 billion yuan respectively.

Savings deposits expanded by 194.3 billion yuan, or 6.3 per cent, while a large capital flow from term deposits into wealth management business led the bank’s sales of individual wealth management products to surge 91 per cent to 166 billion yuan.

The bank’s service fee and commission income rose 53.8 per cent to 6.5 billion yuan in the first quarter, 11.8 per cent of the period’s operating income.

Chinese shares rose to another record high on Wednesday, with heavy-weight bank stocks leading the stock market.

“The pearls sold at about what we estimated them to make and more than double the last world record price for a seven-row necklace,” Rahul Kadakia, head of jewellery for Christie’s America, said after the auction.

The previous record was set by Christie’s in Geneva in November 2004 at 3.1 million US dollars, for a two-strand natural pearl necklace, it said.

The necklace was auctioned as part of Christie’s “Magnificent Jewels” sale. The sale totalled 39.1 million US dollars.

According to KUNA, it is the Kuwaiti company’s second project as it had entered into an earlier oil field project in Indonesia.

The Kuwaiti company is now con-sidering several projects in Yemen, Mauritania, north Iraq and Libya, added al-Yahia.

The pair of pandas selected for Hong Kong play at the China Panda Protection and Research Center in Wolong, Sichuan Province recently. Both pandas were born there in August 2005. The male young panda presently identified as No 606 weighs 60 kilograms and the female, No 610, 61 kilograms.

MENA/Xinhua
Mexico tornado death toll reaches ten

SAN ANTONIO, 26 April — A tornado killed 10 people and injured more than 80 when it slammed into towns on Texas-Mexico border overnight, officials said on Wednesday.

Seven people were killed when the tornado passed through the small town of Eagle Pass, Texas, and three people died in Piedras Negras, Mexico, just across the border.

Five of the Eagle Pass dead were in a single family whose mobile home was picked up and thrown down by the storm.

Meanwhile, mortar attacks in Baghdad and mortar attacks in Baghdad on Wednesday, an Interior Ministry source said.

A roadside bomb went off near a gas station in Baghdad’s northeastern neighbourhood of Shaab, killing two people and wounding eight others, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. The blast also damaged several civilian cars and nearby buildings.

Two killed in bomb attacks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 26 April—Two people were killed and 14 others wounded in a roadside bomb and mortar attacks in Baghdad on Wednesday, an Interior Ministry source said.

A roadside bomb went off near a gas station in Baghdad’s northeastern neighbourhood of Shaab, killing two people and wounding eight others, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. The blast also damaged several civilian cars and nearby buildings.

Meanwhile, mortar rounds landed on the residential area of Abu Dshier in the morning, wounding six people, according to the source.

Acer recalls 27,000 laptop batteries for overheating

BEIJING, 26 April — One of the world’s largest computer maker Acer Inc announced a recall on Wednesday for 27,000PC batteries which may overheat and cause a fire, despite it claimed its laptop PC users do not need to replace any batteries six months ago.

The recall is being made in cooperation with the US Consumer Product Safety Commission. The announcement followed a number of high profile laptop PC battery recalls related to Sony-made cells. The recalls started with Dell Inc last August, and continued on to nearly every major PC vendor in the world, including Lenovo Group Ltd and Sony Corp itself.

Acer is the latest company to warn of faulty Sony-made lithium-ion batteries. Up to now, over 9.6 million laptop PC batteries have been recalled.

No users have reported problems with overheating batteries in Acer laptops, the company said, but it is still working with the consumer agency to conduct the voluntary recall. The company has provided a list of TravelMate and Aspire brand notebook PCs sold in the US between May 2004 through November 2006 that contain faulty batteries.

A Web site set up for the battery recall lists affected laptop models which contains the TravelMate series with 4-digit model numbers beginning with 242, 320, 321, 330, 422, 467, 561, C20, and the Aspire series beginning with model numbers 556, 560, 567, 910, 941, 980 and offers users instructions about how to replace the battery.

Roadside bombing kills seven Afghan soldiers

KABUL, 26 April — A roadside bombing killed seven Afghan soldiers in Waza Khwa District of the eastern Pakiika province on Wednesday, provincial governor Akram Khapalwak told Xinhua.

A remote-controlled bomb attacked a vehicle carrying some Afghan soldiers at around 9:00 am (0430 GMT) in the district, Khapalwak said.

Seven soldiers were killed and one injured, he said, adding the vehicle was totally damaged.

No one has claimed responsibility, but Taleban militants have frequently carried out similar attacks.

عتمدلا: التحريك.]
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects progress of Kengtawng Hydropower Project

(from page 1)

silt lake and water channel has been completed by cent per cent. The water control lake, pre-stressed pipeline, power plant, sub-power station and outlet channel of the plant are under construction. The whole project has been completed by 73 per cent.

Next, the minister submitted a report on arrangements for implementation of Upper Kengtawng Hydropower Project on Namtein Creek, 10 miles southwest of Kengtawng.

Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint briefed Vice-Senior General Maung Aye on installation of the power grid for supply of electricity to be generated from Kengtawng Hydropower Project.

After hearing the reports, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave instructions saying that Kengtawng Hydropower Project is being implemented for ensuring development of townships in Loilem and Langkho districts and uplift of the living standard of local people through supplying electricity. Furthermore, Upper Kengtawng Hydropower Project will be implemented not only to supply water to the Kengtawng Hydropower Project but also to generate electricity. It is necessary to install power grid in time to supply electricity to be generated from these two projects to the region. He urged them to strive for implementation of the hydropower projects as soon as possible to contribute towards development of the region and the State.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented gifts to officials from Construction-7 of Hydropower Projects Implementation Department that is engaged in the project.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected progress of Kengtawng Bridges No 1 and No 2 of the project and conservation of forests in the project area. They also inspected laying of pre-stressed pipeline and construction tasks.

Afterwards, they looked into construction of the power plant. Next, they posed for the documentary photo near Kengtawng Waterfall.

On completion, Kengtawng Hydropower Project to be installed with three 18-megawatt generators will produce 54 megawatts. According to the feasibility survey, Upper Kengtawng Hydropower Project will generate 60 megawatts. After conducting the detailed surveys, Kengtawng and Upper Kengtawng Hydropower projects will emerge along Namtein Creek.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party viewed the development of Kengtawng in a motorcade.
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye …

officials of the SPDC Office, departmental heads, graduate officers and their parents and relatives.

First, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greeted the graduate officers individually.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye had the dinner together with the graduate officers and their parents and relatives.

After the dinner, Myawady Band and Myawady Anyeint troupe performed entertainment to them at the theatre. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents gifts to the officials of No-7 Construction. — MNA

Technological development gap can make...

(time, holding such seminars with the aim of ensuring the development of the education sector as well as national education promotion amounts to bringing about fundamental requirements for national development.

He said that Myanmar like other countries is trying its utmost to keep abreast of the global nations, while making all-out efforts for development of economic, education and health sectors of the nation that lagged behind in development for various reasons. At the same time, it has to build infrastructures for political, economic and social sectors.

To ensure sustainable development of the Union of Myanmar, home to various national races, such matters as national solidarity, flourishing of Union Spirit and stability of the State are essential. This being the case, efforts are being made in all seriousness for nationalistic spirit, with which the people are desirous of safeguarding the Union from disintegration, to be alive and dynamic, he stressed.

Therefore, in implementing the national education promotion programme, efforts are being made for the emergence of an education system that contributes to national development, stability of the State and perpetuation of the Union, he noted.

It is required to achieve such aims as to ensure sustainable progress of science and technology that can help the nation to keep pace with other nations, to produce human resources in all sectors, to restore peace and stability, to create equal learning opportunities being taken inward, outward and in-depth.

In terms of volume, ten tasks of the 30-year education promotion programme are being implemented along with 30 projects and over 100 sub-projects at over 40,500 basic education schools and over 150 universities and colleges across the nation.

In the process, priority has been given to success of educational activities based on parallel education system and development of electronic infrastructures covering e-Learning Centre and Computer Network.

In implementing such huge and subtle tasks, systematic steps need to be taken in order that all the objectives can be materialized.

Upholding these attitudes and opinions, teachers are to draw school curriculums most effectively for students by applying their experiences, theories and practicality in their teaching. Educational seminars produce educational projects, plans and work programmes that are a combination of educational guide-

The Head of State also gave guidance that the students are to be nurtured to possess patriotism and Union Spirit since their primary education level through education.

The Head of State also gave guidance that the students are to be nurtured to possess patriotism and Union Spirit since their primary education level through education.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein speaking at opening ceremony of National Education Promotion Seminar for 2007. — MNA

The national education promotion programme is meeting with success in all spheres since measures are being taken inward, outward and in-depth.

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The national education promotion programme is meeting with success in all spheres since measures are being taken inward, outward and in-depth.
Technological development gap can make...

(from page 8)

That was why the Head of State gave guidance that the main duty of the education sector was to try to enhance teaching and learning abilities. He also pointed out that in drawing international level school syllabuses and curricula, accepting that the objective is ‘education for the State, education for the nation’ instead of ‘education for the education’s sake’, an educational system that is beneficial for the State must be adopted. He laid down work programmes — to improve teachers’ teaching and learning abilities; to upgrade school curriculums and syllabuses to meet the international standards; to fully use effective teaching aids; and to work together to have the good image of schools.

The Head of State also gave guidance that the students are to be nurtured to be endowed with patriotism and Union Spirit starting from their primary education level through education. Today’s educational seminar discussed national education promotion programmes as well as drawing and upgrading of international level school curriculums and syllabuses in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, extension of advanced research work, improvement of teaching-learning situation of basic education schools and plans for good images of the schools.

The Secretary-1 said in drawing international level school curriculums and syllabuses, teachers are to try to keep track of advancing arts and sciences and technologies of the world; to fulfil the needs of the changing world and Myanmar society; to provide the students with good educational opportunities and train them to be able to be competent, innovative and mature; to extensively use modern teaching methods and teaching aids; to teach the students to be able to be competent; to teach the students to be able to make use of their abilities later; to improve the assessment system; and to conduct advanced research work.

So rapid and delicate is today’s science and technology improvement that it has a lot of influence over various sectors. Therefore technological development gap can make a nation and its people lag behind in development. At such a time progress of a nation and its people rests on technological development.

Since the primary level, students should be nurtured to possess such moral principles as morality, good characters, honesty, observance of disciplines, and altruism.

In particular since young, students should be inculcated with a good habit of cherishing and upholding Myanmar traditions, culture, national prestige and integrity, national norms and social values.

And students should be trained since at the primary level in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State to uplift the dynamism of their spirit of cherishing motherland, patriotic spirit, Union Spirit and nationalistic fervour.

IPRD personnel urged to undertake durability of self-reliant village libraries

YANGON, 27 April —
Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met personnel of Information and Public Relations Department at the Ministry of Information, here, this afternoon, and instructed them to expedite tasks for maintenance and development of village self-reliant libraries of IPRD.

First, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan heard reports on progress in establishment of self-reliant libraries in states and divisions, tasks carried out for their durability, future tasks, speeding up of local people’s reading capability and arrangements for organizing the local people to donate cash and books to the libraries presented by assistant directors of State/Division IPRDs.

Director-General U Chit Naing of IPRD gave a supplementary report on tasks to ensure durability of the libraries and future tasks. In his speech, the minister said that at the meeting, officials of IPRD are to evaluate strong and weak points of tasks in setting up village self-reliant libraries in states and divisions and their durability. One of the 14-point functions of service personnel under the Ministry of Information is to carry out information tasks using initiative. Hence, they are to discharge their duties with talents to achieve success by observing examples of tasks. As today is education age, IT age and ICT age, media plays a very important role and a powerful status. Information can be disseminated to the people through media and IT. Therefore, media personnel of the Ministry of Information are to place emphasis on development of the nation. The personnel are to uplift the living standard of the people through media and protect them against the penetration of alien media. He added that IPRD plays a role in providing information to the public. Therefore, efforts of staff of the department have benefitted the people. Especially, personnel are to strive for carrying out nine tasks of the department using initiative in addition to political, organizing, economic and administrative outlooks. In conclusion, the minister urged all to undertake durability and development of the libraries and organize the local people to establish libraries in the villages. Also present on the occasion were officials of the departments and enterprises under the ministry.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein views displays at opening ceremony of National Education Promotion Seminar for 2007.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan speaking at a meeting on sustainable development of self-reliant rural libraries.—MNA
Three roads inaugurated to mark UN Global Road Safety Week

YANGON, 27 April—Tomark the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week Movement, three roads were inaugurated in Yangon Division today. Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa cut the ribbon to open Thirimangal township road. — MNA

Mayor Col Thein Nyunt hosts dinner in honour of Vietnamese delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 27 April — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Mayor Col Thein Nyunt hosted a dinner in honour of Vice-President Mr Tran Thong Khanh and Vietnamese delegation members at Royal Kumudra Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone yesterday evening and exchanged gifts. Also present at the dinner were Deputy Minister for PBANRDA Col Tin Ngwe, the secretary, the joint secretary and members of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee.

Seminar on Thinking Technology held

YANGON, 27 April — A seminar on an Introduction to Thinking Technology was held at Yangon Division Peace and Development Council office today. A total of 140 members of division/township WAOs participated in the seminar which was organized by Administration Department of Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization. The seminar was opened with an address by Patron of Yangon WAO Daw Mar Mar Wai and Chief Executive of MIEC PMC Group U Kyaw Thu gave talks on thinking technology.

OIE official visits chick farm

YANGON, 27 April — Dr Gardner Murray, President of OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, accompanied by OIERCU regional coordinator Dr Ronello Abila and Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department today made a field trip to the chicken farm in Mayangon Township where bird flu broke out in the last week of February, 2007. — MNA

Fires break out in four townships

YANGON, 27 April — Forty-eight houses were destroyed in a fire in Shwenyaung Village in Taunggyi Township, Shan State (South) on 23 April. A fire also broke out in Natail Township, Thayawady District, on the same day and four houses were destroyed and left four households homeless.

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Technical development gap can make...

(from page 9)

Necessary education plans are to be laid down so that the citizens can uphold and practise the spirit of loving the mother country and the people, the spirit of following rules and regulations, noble spirit, loving the mother country and the people, the spirit of national cohesion since they are in their youth till they have become intellectuals and intelligentsia. In addition, teachers are to train and educate their pupils at every opportunity.

They are indeed aimed at implementing wide and delicate education programmes in the education sector to achieve educational goals in next 30 years. Now fruitful results have been achieved due to guidance on education occasionally given by the Head of State and effective educational policies of the State. Moreover various education programmes have yielded fruits resulting from effective educational management, educational seminars, practical education plans and work programmes, and harmonious cooperation of the Ministry of Education and related ministries, social organizations and the people.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 urged responsible persons to lay down prudent education plans and work programmes through coordination to realize the guidance of the Head of State on education promotion, making curricula and syllabuses meet international level, enhancing teaching skills of teachers, and inculcating students since at primary level with patriotism, Union Spirit, and good habit of following rules and regulations.

The ministers, the chairmen of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the deputy ministers, members of MEC, the director-general of SPDC Office, departmental heads, directors-general, deputy directors-general and officials of various departments under the Ministry of Education, rectors, pro-rectors, professors and heads of departments, principals of Education Colleges, education officers from states and divisions, representatives and guests attended the seminar.

After the opening ceremony, the Secretary-1 and party viewed the booths on development of basic and higher education sector, research on six common diseases, research works featured in international research journals, economic research, educational research, research on renewable energy sources, research on science and applied science, research on social science, researches on national linguistics and national prestigious and integrity, researches on nation-building endeavours and booths, laboratory apparatuses and materials used in conducting researches.

The preliminary discussions on basic education sector of National Education Promotion for 2007 are being held form 25 to 28 April and the seminar on higher education sector from 27 to 29 April. — MNA
S Africa seeks China’s investment in infrastructure construction

BEIJING, 27 April — South African Ambassador to China Ndumiso Ndima Ntshinga said here Wednesday that South Africa hopes Chinese companies could invest in the country’s infrastructure construction.

South Africa welcomes investment from Chinese companies and hopes to expand economic and trade ties with China, Ntshinga told reporters before a reception held to celebrate the 13th Freedom Day of South Africa.

In the past 13 years, Ntshinga said, great changes have taken place in South Africa and the infrastructure construction cannot meet the demand of its economic growth.

As South Africa will host the 2010 World Cup, Ntshinga said the infrastructure including roads, airports and harbours need to be renovated and the two sides can have cooperation in these areas.

South Africa also seeks to promote bilateral cooperation in culture and education and hopes to enhance people-to-people exchanges, the ambassador added.

South Africa held the first national election without racial discrimination on 27 April, 1994, in which Nelson Mandela was elected president. 27 April was then set as the South African Freedom Day.

Ntshinga appreciated China’s support, saying “we are very seriously committed in our pursuit for further expansion of our relations with China”.

China and South Africa forged diplomatic ties on 1 January, 1998. Alongside with the reception, the embassy also held an exhibition of South African enterprises in China to give publicity to their business.

Children with asthma have more emotional problems

NEW YORK, 27 April — Children with asthma may be at increased risk of certain behavioural, emotional and developmental problems, particularly if the asthma is severe, the results of a new study suggest.

Using data from a national health survey, researchers found that of more than 100,000 US children and teenagers, those with asthma were more likely to be diagnosed with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), depression, anxiety and learning disabilities.

More severe asthma increased the risk, as did living in a disadvantaged social or economic environment, according to the study, published in the Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics.

Compared with children whose parents described their asthma as mild, those with severe asthma were three to four times more likely to have ADHD, depression or any behavioral or learning disorder.

It is not possible to tell from this study why asthma was linked to behavioural and emotional difficulties, according to lead author Dr. James A. Blackman of the University of Virginia Children’s Hospital in Charlottesville.

But, he told Reuters Health, it is a reasonable guess to say the physical effects of the disease, or the medications used to treat it, could contribute to depression, difficulty concentrating or other problems.

On the other hand, Blackman noted, children with additional challenges, like ADHD or learning disabilities, may have a tougher time sticking with their asthma treatment plan — thereby worsening their asthma.
Suicide attack on Iraqi police station kills nine

BAGHDAD, 26 April—Nine people were killed and 16 others wounded in an attack by a suicide bomber inside a police station northeast of Baghdad on Wednesday, police said.

The bomber walked into the police station in Balad Ruz, 50 kilometres southeast of Baquba, the capital of Salah al-Din Province.

Diyala is a region with a mixed population of Sunni Arabs and Shites where US forces are engaged in fierce fighting with entrenched insurgents and al-Qaeda militias.

— MNA/Reuters

22 dead, six still missing in N China coal mine accidents

SHEBAZHANG, 26 April—Twenty-two miners have been confirmed dead and six others are missing after gas outburst at accidents Thursday and Friday in north China’s Hebei Province, rescuers said on Tuesday. Nine miners died in an accident Thursday in Dashuncun coal mine. The other accident occurred Friday noon in Ta’er coal mine, trapping 11 miners underground, said a spokesman with emergency rescue headquarters.

By 8:00 am Tuesday, the bodies of all 11 miners trapped in the Ta’er coal mine had been recovered. Meanwhile, rescuers pulled another dead miner from the Dashuncun coal mine, pushing the death toll to 11. Rescuers said there is little hope for the six others.

Gas concentrations in both mines are still over safety limits, said rescuers. At Dashuncun coal mine, about 1,200 tons of coal fragments were spewed out when the accident occurred.—MNA/Xinhua

Gun battle leaves nine dead including five militants in Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 April—Gun battle between Afghan police and Taliban insurgents in Afghanistans southern Ghazni Province left nine people, including five insurgents dead, provincial police chief Ali Shah Ahmadzai said Wednesday.

The conflicts took place in the wake of the attack on a local Construction Company in Qarabagh District Tuesday evening during which four local employees were killed, he added. “In sharp retaliation police raided militants yesterday evening, killing five rebels and injuring five others,” Ahmadzai told Xinhua.

Five more rebels were captured, he added.

However, he failed to identify the name of the construction company saying it was an Afghan company building roads and streets in the area. Militancy and conflicts have claimed the lives of more than 900 people this year in Afghanistan. — MNA/Xinhua

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(01-394-956)
Hunts, Supermarkets and Shopping Malls in Yangon.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GEE HONG VOY NO (708)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEE HONG VOY NO (708) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 28.4.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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BRITISH POLICE ARREST 21 IN CRACK COCAINE RAIDS

LONDON, 26 April—Police said they arrested 21 people on Wednesday in a series of dawn raids across England against a multi-million pound crack cocaine network.

More than 400 officers from six forces raided addresses in London, the West Midlands, North Yorkshire, County Durham, Northumbria, Middlesbrough, Stockton and Hartlepool.

The raids followed a lengthy investigation against a largely Jamaican gang believed to be shipping crack cocaine. The arrests included 11 men and four women held in raids in the northeast. Six other people were arrested in east London. — MNA/Reuters

Senior officials of China, ASEAN meet in east China

HEFEI, 26 April—Senior officials of China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on Wednesday concluded their annual consultations in east China’s Anhui Province.

Assistant Chinese Foreign Minister Cui Tiankai and senior officials of ASEAN countries attended the meeting. They focused their discussions on how to deepen future cooperation and exchanged views on issues of common concern.

They also discussed follow-up actions on implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea. They adopted a document defining central concepts in China-ASEAN relations.

ASEAN was founded in 1967 and now groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. — MNA/Xinhua

TRADE MARK CAUTION

AstraZeneca AB, a company incorporated in Sweden, of SE-151 85 Sodertalje, Sweden, is the owner of the following Trade Mark—
Ecuador reduces fossil fuel use in Galapagos Islands

QUITO, 26 April — Ecuador’s government launched Tuesday a plan to reduce the use of diesel and gasoline in the Galapagos archipelago, a world heritage site.

The Zero Fossil Fuels Programmes in the Galapagos Islands, 1,000 kilometres from the continent, encourages people to utilize wind and solar energy to generate electricity.

Ecuador also called for the use of bio-diesel in fishing boats and introduction of electric automobile to preserve the Islas Encantadas, one of the enchanted isles in the region.

Six years ago, an enormous oil spill in the Galapagos Marine Reserve, caused domestic and international concern.

Ecuador’s Energy Minister Alberto Acosta said the program will require an investment of 32 million US dollars. Ecuador’s government will finance 40 per cent of the programmes and international organizations 60 per cent.

ICRC conference calls for law to expedite disaster response

PANAMA CITY, 26 April — The International Red Cross Conference on disaster response in the Americas ended here Tuesday with a list of recommendations for a possible law on international assistance for catastrophes.

The meeting was the third within the framework set up at the international conference of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Red Crescent Societies, in Geneva in 2003.

Representatives from some 32 nations attended the conference, calling for stronger laws, norms and principles on international participation and for an appropriate and efficient international disaster response.

The proposals from the three conferences will be taken to a November meeting of the ICRC in Geneva.

Panama Red Cross National Rescue director, Jorge Aleman, told media that the conference had agreed that new laws were needed to expedite regional disaster response, because rescue efforts are held back by migration, Customs and excise procedures.

Red Cross rescuers had frequently had to wait several days for visas, and clear paperwork, he said.

The draft proposals will also be discussed in June at an ICRC meeting in the Ecuadorian city of Guayaquil.

An elephant is scrubbed by mahouts ahead of the “Poornam” festival in Trichoor, in the southern Indian state of Kerala, on 26 April, 2007. The festival is celebrated with a colourful procession of decorated elephants and drum concerts. — INTERNET

80% young Singaporeans support IP protection

SINGAPORE, 26 April — A survey issued on Wednesday, the eve of World Intellectual Property Day, found that eight in ten young Singaporeans support IP protection.

The online survey with 630 Singaporeans aged between 14 and 35 was the first such study commissioned by the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS).

A majority of 82 per cent respondents said people deserve to have their ideas and creations protected.

But 42 per cent said that piracy and counterfeiting are acceptable, citing that it is fine if the price of the original product is beyond their means.

Only 22 per cent felt bothered by IP infringement and only 28 per cent of those surveyed thought about the legal consequences when downloading. — MNA/Xinhua

Wen says China must keep energy, emission “promises”

BEIJING, 26 April — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao told officials to keep their “solemn promise” to the Chinese people to reduce industrial emissions and energy consumption, state media reported on Wednesday.

China aims to reduce emissions of major industrial pollutants by 10 per cent and cut the amount of energy used to generate each dollar of national income by 20 per cent between 2006 and 2010.

But local officials and industries chasing growth have ignored the targets and last year sulphur dioxide emissions actually grew 1.8 per cent, while China’s energy consumption only improved 1 per cent against an official target of 4 per cent.

“…”
SPORTS

Wenger: Biggest challenge
LONDON, 27 April — Arsene Wenger has admitted that leading Arsenal back to glory is the biggest challenge of his career. The Gunners have slipped into the shadows in the last couple of years, with Chelsea and Manchester United the dominant forces in the Premiership.

Wenger, though, has built a solid foundation for the future as Arsenal have a raft of young stars coming through the ranks.

The Frenchman has always maintained that the rising stars have the potential to go to the very top, but he is aware that it is up to him to lead them to glory.

“It is the biggest challenge of my career because I am desperate to bring them as far as they can go and I feel there is a lot of potential in there,” said Wenger.

“I have to make them realise that a sports life passes quickly and that you have to quickly be mature. “The whole world knows how he is,” said Wenger.

He was referring to spot-kicks both against United, then he is lying.

“Mourinho always has to say something big in their lives now then they never will. “It’s a great opportunity for them.

“It’s great to score in a UEFA Cup semifinal,” said Soldado, who is on loan from Real Madrid until the end of the season, as he will miss next week’s second leg after picking up a booking moments before the goal.

It was a bitter-sweet game for Soldado, who is on loan from Real Madrid until the end of the season, as he will miss next week’s second leg after picking up a booking moments before the goal.

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Two out of three Americans say country going wrong

WASHINGTON, 27 April — Two out of three Americans think the country is on the wrong track, according to an NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll released on Wednesday.

Only 22 per cent of Americans think the country is moving in the right direction, while 66 per cent think it is on the wrong track, the poll of 1004 adults taken 20-23 April showed.

That compared with 58 per cent who saw the country heading down the wrong track and 25 per cent who saw it moving in the right direction in a NBC/WJ poll taken in March.

NBC News said the poll numbers point to one compelling reason why that should be the case: the war in Iraq.

Asked if the situation in Iraq has improved, deteriorated or stayed the same over the last three months, just 12 per cent said it had improved while 49 per cent said things were getting worse. Some 37 per cent saw no change in the situation.

Asked if the war could still be won, 55 per cent said it could not while 36 per cent said it could.

And some 56 per cent of those polled backed Democratic efforts to impose a deadline for withdrawal of US troops, while 37 per cent shared President George W. Bush’s view that no deadline should be set by Bush’s view that no deadline should be set by...

Pakistan seeks peace through strength in South Asia

ISLAMABAD, 27 April — Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz Thursday said Pakistan seeks peace through strength in South Asia and will never compromise on its nuclear programme or its minimum deterrence needs.

He was speaking at the handing-over ceremony of the final production batch of Hatf-III Ghauri missiles to Army Strategic Force Command in Rawalpindi, the state-run Radio Pakistan reported.

The Ghauri missile is a short-range ballistic missile with a range of 290 kilometres. The Radio Pakistan report noted that the Ghauri ballistic missile system, successfully fired as part of a training exercise in December 2006, now forms an integral component of Pakistan’s strategic land delivery system, which also include the Shahsheel series and the Ghauri intermediate range ballistic missiles.

“Pakistan is a declared and fully established nuclear power with its minimum deterrence needs successfully achieved and its capability operationalized through a variety of delivery means,” Aziz was quoted as saying.

Ghauri missile, which was named after the 11th Century Muslim conqueror Mahmud of Ghauri, and powered by a single stage solid propellant engine, can deliver either a conventional or nuclear payload, according to the private News Network International news agency. — MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring areas

Friday, 27 April, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Chin State, fairly widespread in Kayin and Shan States, scattered in upper Sagain and Mandalay Divisions, isolated in lower Sagain, Magway, Bago and Tanintharyi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (13°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan, Chin and Kayin States. Lower Sagain, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Tanintharyi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Mon State and Ayeawady Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Thayawady (34°C), Pyinmanna, Chauk, Minbu and Magway (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myinkha (1.30) inches, Hkamb (0.52) inch, Namuam (0.47) inch, Taunggyi (0.40) inch, Patu, Magway and Heho (0.32) inch each and Hakha (0.31) inch.

Maximum temperature on 26-4-2007 was 103°F. Minimum temperature on 27-4-2007 was 80°F. Relative humidity at 09:30-hours MST on 26-4-2007 was 97%.

Rainfall on 27-4-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 26-4-2007 was 0.00 hours approximately.

Rainfall on 27-4-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (14:30) hours MST on 26-4-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 28-4-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin, Chin, Shan, Mon, Kayin and Kayah States, upper Sagain, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Tanintharyi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 28-4-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 28-4-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 28-4-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Weather outlook for first weekend of May 2007: During the coming weekend, isolated rain or thundershowers are possible in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.
The 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

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

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 political objectives

Four economic objectives

Four social objectives

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends graduation dinner of 110th Intake of Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School

NAY PYI TAW, 27 April — The graduation dinner of the 110th Intake of Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School was held at the hall of the training school in Bahtoo Tatmyo, Yaksawk Township, Shan State, yesterday evening, attended by 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.

Also present at the dinner were members of the SPDC Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and Maj-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State PDC Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thuang Aye, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lan Tha, Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min, Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Kalaw and Bahtoo Stations,

Secretary-1 attends opening ceremony of National Education Promotion Seminar for 2007

NAV PYI TAW, 27 April — The opening ceremony of the National Education Promotion Seminar for 2007 was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Education, here, this morning with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

In his address, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that at present each and every nation is vying for development of modern science and technology for prosperity of its own nation and people, adding that at such a

Today’s education sector has seen a great deal of educational opportunities. Even far-flung and rural areas have got basic education schools. Likewise universities and colleges can be seen in the major cities of the states and divisions.

Secretary-1 views displays at National Education Promotion Seminar for 2007.