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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

Workshops and contests will enhance the people's knowledge about information and communication technology in the nation and help the people realize the application of ICT

Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends launching ceremony of Fifth Myanmar ICT Week-2006

YANGON, 28 April — Under the supervision of the e-National Task Force of the Union of Myanmar, the Fifth Myanmar ICT Week-2006 was held at Myanmar Info-Tech Corporation Ltd in Hline Township this morning,

attended by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the e-National Task Force Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Chairman of

Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Chairman of e-National Task Force member of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Aung Myint, Ambassadors and Charges d'Affaires of

foreign missions, responsible persons of social organizations, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, members of BODs of Myanmar Info-Tech Corporation Ltd, chairmen and officials of Myanmar Computer Federation, Myanmar Computer Practitioners Association, Myanmar Computer Industrialists Association, Myanmar Computer Enthusiasts Association and IT companies.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe opened the Fifth Myanmar ICT Week-2006.

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw delivered an opening address.

He said: ICT exhibitions, competitions and talks have been held yearly to mark the establishment of the ICT Park, and this year being the fifth.

As you know, today the world has seen rapid development in exchanging information between one nation and another. In the ever-changing world, information can be received in a short time and that contributes towards exploration of resources, methods of quick communication, and development of production process. So, ICT has become a force that influences daily life and makes changes.

The government is pursuing the resolution to ensure the development of information and communication technology, and in recent years, ICT has made progress remarkably thanks to assistance and encouragement of computer experts from the government sector and private sector, computer industrialists and some persons from abroad.

Now, the drive for the development of Myanmar's ICT has been brought to fruition due to the encouragement, and active participation of ICT experts and industrialists.

(See page 8)

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Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw addresses the opening ceremony of Fifth Myanmar ICT Week-2006. — MNA

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

India rejects US proposal on farmers of developing countries

GENEVA, 26 April — India on Tuesday rejected a recent proposal of the United States seeking to restrict safeguard measures available to farmers of developing countries stating it was “retrograde” and would adversely affect them.

Federal Commerce Minister Kamal Nath, who met WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy in Geneva, said a US proposal received Monday on Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM) in agriculture was very retrograde and against the very spirit of the Doha round mandate agreed upon as it would adversely impact on the interests of developing countries.

Nath, who went to Geneva after attending the Hannover Technology Fair, asked developed countries to realize that agricultural tariffs were a major instrument for protection of farmers against subsidized imports and countries like India cannot be expected to give up that protection.

The heavy farm subsidies given by developed countries must be effectively reduced

below applied levels as these were trade distorting, he added. He said the principal objective of Doha Round of trade negotiations — that development dimension should be at the core of WTO talks — was being sidelined.

There could be no progress in talks due to the intransigence of developed countries of crucial issues of concern to the developing world such as agricultural market access

and domestic support, he said.

On the issue of industrial tariffs or non-agricultural market access (NAMA), Nath made it clear that India had provided market access unilaterally since the Uruguay round. On services, he said India had made revised offers in a number of sectors but this was not matched by offers from the US or the EU.

MNA/PTI

ရုတ်ကုန်နစ်နာသ မိုးမြင့်ကြ



Russian clown legend Oleg Popov poses next to a bust, depicting famous Spanish clown Charlie Rivel, and imitating Rivel's wellknown facial expression as he visits a special exhibition on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the German Circus Roncalli, in Cologne, Germany, on 26 April, 2006.—INTERNET



A resident runs past a shop destroyed by explosion near the place where one of the three explosions took place in the touristic resort of Dahab in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, on 25 April, 2006.—INTERNET

US diplomat's jeep near crashes with Kazakh leader's car

ALMATY, 27 April — US officials said on Tuesday one of their diplomats accidentally steered between vehicles in Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev's motorcade, but a Russian media report said he nearly crashed into the President's car.

“The President's security guards did not shoot to kill only because the Jeep had diplomatic plates,” Tass news agency reported, without

giving a source. “(The Jeep) nearly crashed into the limousine of President Nursultan Nazarbayev.”

The US Embassy said in a statement the unnamed diplomat entered the motorcade when he drove out of the car park of his apartment building in Kazakhstan's commercial capital

Almaty on Sunday. The statement said police pulled the diplomat over, verified his diplomatic status and driving licence. “There was a misunderstanding when (he) tried to pull away before police had finished questioning him,” it said, without elaborating.

MNA/Reuters



Models smile while posing on the limousine version of the Vespa PX 125 during Vespa's 60th anniversary celebrations at the Piaggio Museum in Pontedera, near Pisa, northern Italy, on 27 April, 2006.—INTERNET

Iran says will harm US interests if attacked

TEHRAN, 27 April— Iran said on Wednesday it would harm US interests anywhere in the world if the United States launches an attack, a step Washington says is an option if diplomacy fails to resolve a nuclear standoff.

The comments by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei come two days before the UN nuclear watchdog reports on whether Iran is complying with UN demands to halt uranium enrichment.

Teheran says it will not stop enrichment, which it insists is purely for civilian purposes and not part of what the United States says is an effort to make atomic bombs. “The Americans should know that if they assault Iran their interests will be harmed anywhere in the world that is possible,” Khamenei was quoted as saying by state television.

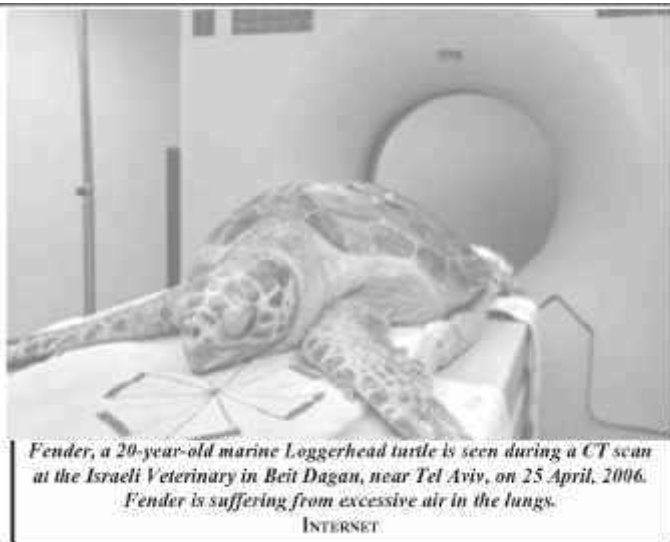
“The Iranian nation will respond to any blow with double the intensity,” he added.

The United States has been pushing to impose sanctions if, as Washington expects, Iran is found in the report by the International Atomic Energy Agency to have

flouted UN demands.

Fellow UN Security Council members Britain and France have supported such a step, but sanctions are opposed by Russia and China, which like the other three permanent members of the Council have the power to veto Council resolutions.

Iran's nuclear energy chief, Gholamreza Aghazadeh, was due to hold talks at the IAEA's Vienna complex on Wednesday but the move looked too late to decisively alter the IAEA's report that is due to be submitted to the Security Council by 28 April.—MNA/Reuters



Fender, a 20-year-old marine Loggerhead turtle is seen during a CT scan at the Israeli Veterinary in Beit Dagan, near Tel Aviv, on 25 April, 2006. Fender is suffering from excessive air in the lungs.

INTERNET

Bank robbery suspects fled in limousine

SAN FRANCISCO, 27 April—San Francisco police arrested a man and woman suspected of robbing a bank and fleeing in style by using a limousine as their getaway car, officials said on Wednesday.

Roy Westry and Cynthia Johnson, both recent parolees in their 40s, were pulled over on Tuesday afternoon by police officers alerted to a nearby bank robbery involving a 2006 Cadillac limousine. The vehicle belong to Westry's employer.

San Francisco Police Department inspector Dan Gardner was not surprised by the choice of getaway car. “This is the second time in a couple of years that a limousine has been used as a getaway car in a bank robbery,” Gardner said. “I've been doing this job a long time and nothing surprises me any more.”

Internet

Russia ignores US, delivers nuclear fuel to India

WASHINGTON, 26 April — Russia has delivered fresh nuclear fuel for two Indian reactors, ignoring a US request for a delay until rules are formally changed to allow such transfers, American officials said in recent interviews.

The delivery, which experts say violates international rules, comes as the US Congress is considering whether to approve an agreement that would allow India to obtain nuclear fuel, reactors and technology from the United States and other countries for the first time in three decades.

The Russian fuel for the two Tarapur power plants “has been delivered but it has not yet been used. It’s in a storage facility,” a senior US official told Reuters.

“This kind of activity should not take place, in

our view, until the NSG has acted. It’s not good precedent,” he said.

The United States has asked India to refrain from using the fuel and believes this request will be honoured, he added.

The official, who spoke anonymously because of the sensitivity of the matter, insisted that while the transfer is an “irritant ... (it) has not been a major issue.”

The 45-nation Nuclear Suppliers Group has not yet altered its rules to permit nuclear transfers to India and is not expected to do so until Congress votes.

That could take months because of concern that the US-India civilian nuclear cooperation agreement could undermine efforts to control nuclear proliferation.

“Russia has clearly violated NSG rules,” Daryl Kimball, director of the nonprofit Arms Control Association, said of Moscow’s nuclear fuel delivery.

MNA/Reuters

Three Italians, Romanian killed in Iraq attack

ROME, 27 April—A bomb blast rocked an Italian convoy on a road in southern Iraq on Thursday, killing four people — three Italian soldiers and one from Romania, the Defence Ministry said.

An officer with the Carabinieri was seriously wounded and was taken to a US hospital about 93 miles from Kuwait City, Defence Minister Antonio Martino said.

The roadside bomb targeted a four-vehicle convoy carrying 17 troops to relieve those at the local Iraqi police station in the city of Nasiriyah.

Romano Prodi, who will head the next Italian government, said he had no plans to speed up Italy’s withdrawal because of the bombing. Prodi had opposed the war and has pledged to bring Italian troops home by the end of the year.

“Our position is not changed,” Prodi said at a



Men play snooker near a bridge as the Maglev train passes by in Shanghai, on 26 April, 2006.—INTERNET

More pigs, cattle in Vietnam contract FMD

HANOI, 27 April — The number of pigs, bulls and buffaloes hit by foot-and-mouth disease in Vietnam’s central highlands Lam Dong Province has risen to nearly 4,000, of which nearly 1,500 died, local newspaper Pioneer reported on Thursday.

The disease has recently hit the animals in six out of 12 districts and towns in the province, mainly Duc Trong District. — MNA/Xinhua



Visitors look at a shark as they walk inside a tunnel of Russia’s first oceanarium, recently built in St Petersburg, Russia, on 26 April, 2006. INTERNET



The picture showing Hyundai Motor Co head office in Seoul, South Korea, on 27 April, 2006. INTERNET

US airstrike, rebel attacks kill 13 in Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 April —An airstrike by US-led forces in southern Afghanistan, a Taliban assault on a police station and a roadside bomb attack on a military convoy left 13 people dead in escalating violence, officials said on Tuesday.

Four Afghan soldiers were killed during a US-led operation against Taliban and al-Qaeda guerillas in eastern Kunar Province on Tuesday when their convoy was bombed near the border

with Pakistan, provincial governor Assadullah Wafa said.

On Monday, US-led forces launched an airstrike on a suspected Taliban camp in the Lashkar Gah area of southern Helmand Province killing three fighters, the US military said in a statement.

Also on Monday, Taliban guerillas attacked a police station in the Mianishin District of neighbouring Kandahar Province. They killed one police officer, but lost five

of their own men, a provincial official said.

MNA/Reuters

A Romanian rides a bike in the flooded village of Spantov, 80 km (50 miles) southeast of Bucharest, Romania, on 26 April, 2006.

INTERNET



World Cup tickets deposited in bank

FRANKFURT, 26 April—A travel agent has deposited 12,000 World Cup tickets for Brazil matches in a vault in a German bank for safe keeping until their owners arrive for the tournament that starts on 9 June.

The coveted tickets, which were transported in an armoured car to Cologne, will be kept in the vault of Sparkasse savings bank. They belong to fans who booked their World Cup travel and tickets through a Brazilian tour operator. The fans, who will be based in Cologne, will receive their tickets upon arrival in Germany, Cologne’s Tourist Board said on Wednesday.

Defending champions Brazil expect to have more than 5,000 fans based near them in their campaign to win a sixth title.

Even Brazil training sessions are a hot ticket. More than 45,000 tickets to watch Brazil train in Switzerland before the World Cup quickly sold out within hours on Tuesday.—Internet

Putin says Russia should switch energy focus to Asia

MOSCOW, 27 April— President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday said Russia, the world's second biggest oil exporter, was struggling with "unfair competition" on energy markets, and should focus on supplying Asia.

"Despite the great demand for energy resources, any excuses are being used to limit us in the north, in the south, in the west.

We must look for markets, fit into the processes of global development," he was quoted by Russian news agencies as saying.

"The countries of the Asian-Pacific Region are developing at great speed and need to cooperate with us," he added.

Many European countries have grown uneasy about their growing dependence on Russian energy imports, especially after Moscow cut supplies to Ukraine over the New Year in a dispute over price rises seen by many as politically driven.

State-controlled gas giant Gazprom said last week it would sell its gas elsewhere if its European expansion plans were blocked.

This prompted anger in Europe until it backtracked and said it had not meant to make threats against its customers.

Putin said the construction of a giant oil pipeline that will carry 1.6 million barrels a day to the Pacific coast was a key project to allow Russia to diversify its supplies.

"One of our biggest projects is the pipeline system to the coast of the Pacific Ocean.

MNA/Reuters



A new-type fighter of PLA Air Force carries out training. Implementing a series of important instructions by President Hu Jintao on intensifying military training, the People's Liberation Army (PLA), guided by the scientific development concept, has persisted in reform and innovation and intensified training through scientific measures this year.—INTERNET

Northern Vietnam has large iron ore mines

HANOI, 27 April — Vietnam's northern mountainous region is estimated to have total reserves of 224 million tons of metal minerals, mainly iron ores, according to a local industry agency on Wednesday.

Of the reserves, iron ores account for 213 million tons, titanium (lustrous silver-white metal that exhibits allotropy) 4.8 million tons, mangan (grey metal used in making steel and glass) 3.2 million tons, lead, zinc, copper and tin the remainders, the National Research Institute of Mining and Metallurgy under the Industry Ministry said, noting that most of the mines are located in the seven

provinces of Lao Cai, Thai Nguyen, Tuyen Quang, Lang Son, Ha Giang, Cao Bang and Bac Can.

Vietnam has yet to tap the region's mineral potential due to financial and technological issues, the institute said. The country exploited around 400,000 tons of iron ores in the region each year in the 1995-2003 period. The annual

iron ore-exploiting capacity has increased to some 1 million tons in recent years, partly to serve higher import demand of China.

Since 1955, Vietnam has discovered more than 5,000 mines of mineral ores, including those important to industries such as oil, coal, apatite, iron, copper, aluminum, lead and zinc.

MNA/Xinhua

122-year-old Turkish woman applies for "Guinness Record"

ANKARA, 27 April — A 122-year-old Turkish woman has applied for Guinness Book of Records as the world's oldest living woman, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported on Tuesday.

Seher Bulut, who is living in Adilcevaz Town in southeastern province of Bitlis, was born in 1884, said provincial governor Asim Hacimustafaoglu.

"According to our researches, Bulut has eight children and 250 grandchildren and great grandchildren," Guinness Turkey representative Orhan Kural said. "I applied to Guinness on behalf of Bulut as she is very old. We are waiting for an answer."

Kural added that 117-year-old Maria Esther De Capovilla from Ecuador is currently the oldest living woman of the world. — MNA/Xinhua

Venezuela to supply cheap oil to Nicaragua

CARACAS, 27 April— Venezuela announced on Tuesday a pact to ship fuel to Nicaragua under preferential terms.

The pact said Venezuela would supply 10 million barrels of fuel a year to an alliance of Nicaraguan mayors, many from the leftist Sandinista party, including presidential candidate Daniel Ortega, who is opposed by Washington.

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said his country would accept 60 per cent of payment within 90 days of shipment, while the remaining 40 per cent will be paid off over 25 years at a 1 per cent interest, including a two-year grace period.

MNA/Xinhua



The Tangaroa wooden raft is seen at the port of Callao in Lima, on 26 April, 2006. The Tangaroa expedition aims to recreate Thor Heyerdahl's legendary Kon-Tiki voyage, from Peru to the Polynesia, across the Pacific Ocean in a balsaraft in 1947. The team, which includes Heyerdahl's grandson Olav, will launch the Tangaroa from Callao on 28 April.—INTERNET

US officer to be charged over Abu Ghraib abuse

WASHINGTON, 27 April — The US Army plans to charge a high ranking officer in connection with the abuse of prisoners at Baghdad's Abu Ghraib prison, The Washington Post and The New York Times reported on Wednesday, quoting his lawyer.

The papers said in their online editions that Lieutenant-Colonel Steven L Jordan, the former head of the interrogation unit at the jail, was expected to be charged on Friday with dereliction of duty, lying to investigators and conduct unbecoming of an officer.

He would be the highest-ranking officer at Abu Ghraib to face criminal charges in connection with the abuse of inmates at the prison.

Photos of inmates being intimidated by

dogs and sexually humiliated were broadcast around the world after the abuses became public in 2004, undermining Washington's efforts to win support for its war in Iraq.

So far 10 low-ranking officers have been convicted and Jordan was the last major figure whose status remained unresolved after other more senior officers have been reprimanded, fined and relieved of command, The New York Times said.

"We're thankful that decision has finally been made, and we look forward to finally reviewing the evidence and making some decisions," Samuel Spitzberg, Jordan's lawyer, was quoted as telling the Post.

The Times quoted Spitzberg as saying Jordan,

a reservist who has remained on active duty for three years, was currently stationed in the Washington area.

The paper added that if Jordan was charged, the next step would be

the military equivalent of a grand-jury investigation to determine whether he would face court-martial, administrative punishment or no penalty.

MNA/Reuters



A Sri Lankan soldier checks a car for explosives at a roadside checkpoint in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 27 April, 2006. Police found five headless corpses near the Sri Lankan capital on Thursday, a senior police officer said, and authorities were investigating if the deaths are linked to a recent upsurge in fighting with Tamil rebels.—INTERNET

China rejects US-proposed resolution on Iran

UNITED NATIONS, 26 April— China, which has veto power in the UN Security Council, rejected on Tuesday a US proposal to order Iran to suspend uranium enrichment work under legally binding provisions of the United Nations Charter.

With China and Russia opposed to sanctions against Iran, the West wants to ratchet up pressure gradually to curb Teheran's nuclear ambitions after a report by the International Atomic Energy Agency, due on Friday.

As a first step, Western

powers want a Security Council resolution that would turn demands in an earlier Council statement on Iran into a legally binding measure under the Chapter 7 provision of the UN Charter.

But China's UN Ambassador Wang Guangya told reporters, "It has

always been China's position that this Iranian nuclear issue has to be solved diplomatically."

"Therefore I think any resolution based on Chapter 7 will not serve the purpose in this regard," Wang said.

The Security Council passed a statement last month asking IAEA Director-General Mohamed ElBaradei to report simultaneously to the Council and the IAEA board of governors by 28 April on whether Iran has halted enriching uranium, a process that can produce fuel for nuclear warheads.

MNA/Reuters

English language hits one billion words

LONDON, 26 April— A massive language research database responsible for bringing words such as "podcast" and "celebutante" to the pages of the Oxford dictionaries has officially hit a total of 1 billion words, researchers said on Wednesday.

Drawing on sources such as weblogs, chat-rooms, newspapers, magazines and fiction, the Oxford English Corpus spots emerging trends in language usage to help guide lexicographers when composing the most recent editions of dictionaries.

The Press publishes the Oxford English Dictionary, considered the most comprehensive dictionary of the language, which in its most recent August 2005 edition added words such as "supersize," "wiki" and "retail politics" to its pages. Oxford University Press lexicographer Catherine Soanes said the database is not a collection of 1 billion different words, but of sentences and other examples of the usage and spelling.

"The corpus is purely

21st century English," said Judy Pearsall, publishing manager of English dictionaries. "You're looking at current English and seeing what's happening right now. That's language at the cutting edge."

As hybrid words such as "geek-chic," "inner-child" or "gabfest" increase in usage, Pearsall said part of the research project's goal is to identify words that have lasting power.

"English gets really creative, really fun. What we're putting in dictionaries is words that will stick around," she said. Launched in January 2000, the Oxford English Corpus is part of the world's largest-funded language research project, costing \$90,000-\$107,000 per year.—Internet

EU slams secret CIA flights

BRUSSELS, 28 April — The United States' Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had run more than 1,000 secret flights in and out of Europe since 2001, an interim report by the European Parliament probe team said on Wednesday.

The European Parliament inquiry into allegations of "extraordinary rendition" charges the US agency with kidnapping terror suspects.

"The CIA has, on several occasions, clearly been responsible for kidnapping and illegally detaining alleged terrorists on the territory of member states, as well as for extraordinary renditions," Italian MEP Giovanni Fava said in his interim report on Wednesday.

The rapporteur made specific reference to several alleged abductions, including the kidnap of

Egyptian cleric Abu Omar in Milan in 2003.

Italian authorities were highly likely to have known the details of Abu Omar's case, he declared.

"It is difficult to imagine the authorities in the member states where this was going on, were not informed. But we are in the early stages and are gathering facts. We are not condemning anyone at this juncture," Fava added.

Investigators used data from Eurocontrol, the EU's air safety agency, to examine records of thousands of flights.

He said the air safety



Cranes are used to construct a floodgate between the Seventeenth Street Canal and Lake Pontchartrain in the Lakeview area of New Orleans on 26 April, 2006. INTERNET

Powerful quake jolts Indonesian island

JAKARTA, 27 April — An earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter Scale struck Indonesia's Simeulue Island early Wednesday, causing panic among residents.

National news agency Antara reported the quake hit the island at 01:26 local

time (18:26 GMT Tuesday), but there was no report of casualties.

The island is located near Aceh Province where more than 130,000 were killed in an earthquake-triggered tsunami on 24 December, 2004.

MNA/Xinhua



Japan's electronics giant Sony employee displays the new portable DVD player DVP-FX810 recently. —INTERNET

China committed to safeguarding world peace

ABUJA, 28 April — Visiting Chinese President Hu Jintao said in Nigeria's capital of Abuja on Thursday that China was committed to safeguarding

world peace and would work with other countries to enhance global security and stability.

"To China, its own development is an integral part of the progress of mankind. China will develop itself by maintaining a peaceful international environment, and its own development, in turn, enables China to promote world peace," said Hu, in a speech at the National Assembly of Nigeria.

The Chinese people will hold high the banner of peace, development and cooperation, pursue an independent foreign policy of peace, peaceful development and continue the opening-up strategy for mutual benefit and win-win cooperation, the Chinese President said.

In the speech entitled "Work Together to Forge a New Type of China-Africa Strategic Partnership", Hu said China was also committed to pursuing common development.

"China draws on progress in world economic and scientific development to develop itself. With its own development, it in turn makes due contribution to the world," he said.

President Hu said China would continue to work for economic globalization to develop in a more balanced way and bring benefit to all. Hu said China was committed to promoting exchanges among civilizations, adding that "China is firm in upholding the diversity of the world and diversified models of development".

MNA/Xinhua



Egyptian Bedouins ride camels in a desert in the Sinai Peninsula on 26 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Six killed in truck crash in Philippines

MANILA, 28 April — Six Filipinos including three children were killed on Thursday when a 10-wheeler delivery truck hit them and later burst into flames in Limay Town, some 120 kilometers to the west of Manila, police said. The truck driver lost control of the vehicle when it hit a rock on Roman Expressway in Barangay (village) Alangan, Limay Town at about 8:45 a.m. Thursday, police told reporters.

The truck then hit a 24-year-old mother, her two daughters at the age of two and one and her niece, who were walking along the highway's shoulder, according to police.—MNA/Xinhua

Value yourself... make healthy choices

Khin Khin Kyaw (Education)

Youths are new generations who can shape a brighter future of a nation. And they are like flowers poised to be in full bloom under the sunshine. So, it is required to ensure that youths will never fall victim to narcotic drugs but they become reliable human resources without any flaw in them.

Now, narcotic drugs are posing grave dangers to the entire mankind of 6300 billion world people. Narcotic drugs are intoxicant substances such as poppy, marijuana, intoxicating brew, alcohol, cocaine, heroin, pethadine, LSD, morphine, methadone, ADT and pheno tablets.

In Myanmar, the government is taking a leading role in implementing the projects for prevention and control of narcotic drugs as national duty. Indeed, narcotic drugs are not native to Myanmar but just evil legacy the colonialists intentionally left in the nation. Successive governments have made efforts to eradicate narcotic drugs in the nation and in the process, the Tatmadaw launched the operations "Moe Hein", "Nga Ye Pan", "Taung Yan Shin", "Taung Hteik Pan" and "Aung Moe Hein". Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law was enacted in 1993. And two strategies, three tactics and three techniques are being employed for elimination of narcotic drugs. The two strategies are: to exert all-round efforts so as to accelerate the anti-drug campaign as a national concern, and to gradually eliminate the practice of poppy cultivation, while improving the economic and social life of the national races

and the border areas.

Myanmar is making all-out efforts individually as well as in cooperation with neighbouring countries and international organizations in the fight against narcotic drugs. As a result, Mongla Special Region (4) in Shan State (East) was declared as poppy free zone in April 1997, Kokang Special Region (1) in 2003, and Wa Special Region (2) in 2005. The 15-year Narcotic Drugs Elimination Plan (1999-2014) and the New Destiny Project are being implemented in harmony with the border areas and national races development project. The government is giving encouragement to cultivation of poppy-substitute crops, breeding livestock and running business enterprises for strengthening the economy and raising the standard of living of local people in the regions of border areas where poppy was grown.

In 17 years (1988-2005), the Tatmadaw Government managed to reduce poppy sown acreage to 9,840 from 61,562, and destroyed 172,959.82 acres of poppy plantations. It also destroyed 104,197 pyis (small basket) of poppy seeds entrusted by local people to it. It held ceremonies to destroy seized narcotic drugs 19 times in Yangon and 38 times in states and divisions. It established 577,085 acres of poppy-substitute crops and 147,389.50 acres of perennial crops. The first five-year phase of the 15-year Narcotic Drugs Elimination Plan showed success, and the government is making sustained efforts to maintain the achieved momentum in implementing the second phase. The

report the UNODC issued said that Myanmar's poppy cultivation dropped by 13 per cent in 2002, by 24 per cent in 2003 and by 29 per cent in 2004.

The Opium Yield Survey conducted annually in collaboration with the US has also shown a drastic decline of 88 per cent in 2004 if compared with 1996 levels. Cultivation of poppy also declined by 81 per cent during the same period. The remarkable achievement is a testament to the vow of the government, enthusiastic participation of local authorities, local national race leaders and national people, rising standard of living of the people in border areas thanks to the border areas development project, the 24-region development project and the five rural development tasks, and the achievement gained in the first phase of the 15-year Narcotic Drugs Elimination Plan.

According to the WHO, the world sees five million deaths a year due to the diseases related to smoking. Ninety per cent of the cause of lung cancer is due to smoking.

It is needed to be free from diseases to be able to lead a healthy life and to be convinced of the trap of narcotic drugs in line with the two aims of the Ministry of Health — to enable every citizen to enjoy longevity and to be free from diseases. As producing healthy human resources is an important national task in a bid to build a new nation, emphasis is to be placed on making sure that new generation youths are free from the bad habit of drug abuse.

Every youth, citizen and nation is to stay away from cases of narcotic drugs and take an active role in the movements with self-consciousness for prevention and control of narcotic drugs to be able to serve the interests of the world people. All are therefore urged to contribute towards the emergence of reliable human sources of youths free from drug abuse, while actively taking part in the campaign for wiping out narcotic drugs, the common enemy of the entire human beings.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 27-4-2006

It is needed to be free from diseases to be able to lead a healthy life and to be convinced of the trap of narcotic drugs in line with the two aims of the Ministry of Health — to enable every citizen to enjoy longevity and to be free from diseases. As producing healthy human resources is an important national task in a bid to build a new nation, emphasis is to be placed on making sure that new generation youths are free from the bad habit of drug abuse.



The introduction of hair-growing medicine 101 in progress. — MNA

101 Hair Regrow Centres to give free treatment

YANGON, 28 April—Hair-growing medicine 101 was introduced to the people at the Grand Plaza Park Royal here on 20 April, with a speech by Mr Kao Guan Kun who invented hair-growing medicine.

A total of 101 bald and hairless persons who first get registered at 101 Hair Regrow Centre-1 (Ph: 251230) at 115, 20th Street, Latha Township, and at 101 Hair Regrow Centre-2 at 15, Thabyenyo Street, Sangyoung Township (Ph: 708317) before 31 July can enjoy free treatment. — MNA

Fish breeding camp inspected in Nyaungdon Township

YANGON, 28 April — Vice-Chairman of the Central Organizing Committee of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Vice-Admiral Kyi Min (Retd), Member Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials this morning inspected Thazin Yay Kyaw Fish Breeding Camp being undertaken by the MWVO (Headquarters) in Nyaungdon Township, Maubin District, Ayeyawady Division.

At briefing hall, in charge of the camp Maj Aung Win Zaw reported on fish breeding and production at the camp, and measures to be taken for raising fish in the monsoon season to the Vice-Chairman and party.

After that, the Vice-Chairman and party observed the tasks.—MNA

Workshops and contests will enhance...

(from page 1)

In a bid to implement a plan for ICT development, the government promulgated the Myanmar Computer Development Law in 1996, and under the law, the Myanmar Computer Development Council, the Myanmar Computer Federation, the Myanmar Computer Scientists Association, the Myanmar Computer Industrialists Association and the Myanmar Computer Enthusiasts Associations were formed in 1998.

And owing to the leading role of the e-National Task Force that was formed in 2000, and harmonious cooperation of the Myanmar Computer Federation and other computer associations that represent the private sector, the Myanmar ICT is picking up development momentum.

The ICT Master Plan Framework drawn for 2000-2005 has expedited the implementation of the ICT development plans, and the ICT Parks stand magnificently as part of the master plan.

Under the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) set up for the period from 2006 to 2010, the Myanmar ICT Development Master Plan / Action

Plan (draft) has been written with the assistance of the Republic of Korea.

As regards the drawing of cyber law, the Electronic Transactions Law that will make substantial contribution toward e-Government and e-Commerce was promulgated in 2004. It is heartening to learn that the Telecommunications Law and the Intellectual Property Right (IPR) Law that are parts of cyber laws have been drafted.

As part of the functions of ICT standardization, Myanmar computer fonts have been standardized, and a unicode system Myanmar font has been launched to be used on computer. In various fields, computer programmes can be used smoothly in Myanmar in accordance with these standards. Moreover, every national across the country who can read and write Myanmar can apply information on computer. So, I would say there will be great opportunities to help digital culture flourish, close down digital gap, and enhance the people's efficiency in information technology.

In the education sector, measures are being taken for the development of human resources

through ICT. Multimedia classrooms that are common in high schools, e-Education centres, data broadcasting system, and Intranet in the academic field depicts the development of the ICT sector. Now, two universities of computer studies and 24 government computer colleges have been opened for the development of human resources in the ICT sphere. Computer degree courses are also conducted in many other universities.

The Myanmar Computer Federation and other computer associations conduct on-job training courses and hold cross certification examinations regularly for strengthening the ICT capacity and human resources development.

The government on its part now has linked all the ministries with one another with the use of broad band system to be able to carry out governmental functions through ICT. Basic computer management systems are being built in governmental departments.

In addition, a plan that can be called international level Cyber City has been laid down. Under the plan, production blocks for software producers at home and abroad for the development of ICT indus-



Lt-Gen Myint Swe formally opens the Fifth Myanmar ICT Week. — MNA

tries, production blocks for hardware producers, teleport facilities that can provide communication systems to exchange information with international community, conferencing facilities for holding seminars for exchanging technologies, exhibition halls and shopping centres to show and sell products, training centres for the development of human resources, Research & Development (R&D) centres, and schools will be constructed in line with the characteristics of a city.

I am very pleased to learn that Myanmar Info-Tech Corporation has invented e-Procurement and certification authority under the leadership of the e-National Task Force, and they are available now. Thanks to establishment of Public Access Center (PAC) and data center, Industrial Development Information Systems (IDIS) for ICT development has made significant contribution towards socio-economic development.

Departmental officials, entrepreneurs, the

people and observers at this exhibition can have an opportunity to assess the present condition of ICT in Myanmar and prospects. And ICT companies have a good opportunity to introduce their products and services.

A total of 150 pavilions of 71 companies are staged in the Fifth Myanmar ICT Week movements, and arrangements are being made for exhibiting modern ICT booths, and holding workshops, programming contest, Web Development contest, and Networking contest. I believe these workshops and contests will enhance the people's knowledge about information and communication technology in the nation and help the people realize the application of ICT. It is also encouraging to know that programmes have been set up to exhibit the Myanmar ICT Week in the month of April, summer vacation, for the students to visit the exhibition.

In conclusion, I would like to call on the

e-National Task Force, Myanmar Info-Tech Corporation, Myanmar Computer Federation and other computer associations to make efforts with added momentum and to further cooperate with organizations at home and abroad for the ICT development.

I wish all of you a great success in the Fifth Myanmar ICT Week.

Member of the ICT Week Organizing Committee BOD member of Myanmar Info-Tech U Tin Win Aung reported on arrangements for holding the ICT Week-2006.

Next, documents on ICT progress in Myanmar were presented.

In the ICT Week, ICT workshops and seminars, products and service launching and programming contests and web development contest will be held at the Myanmar Info-Tech Building in Hline Township up to 4 May, and the ICT Exhibition at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall in Dagon Township from 29 April to 1 May.

MNA

The government on its part now has linked all the ministries with one another with the use of broad band system to be able to carry out governmental functions through ICT. Basic computer management systems are being built in governmental departments.

Information Minister inspects Shan State (East) IPRD, Sub-printing House (Kengtung)

YANGON, 28 April — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, accompanied by Director-

General U Chit Naing of Information and Public Relations Department and Managing Director U Soe

Win of News and Periodicals Enterprise, inspected functions of Shan State (East) IPRD and Sub-Print-

ing House (Kengtung) of NPE on 25 April.

At Shan State (East) IPRD, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan viewed the wall magazine at the TV room. At the library, the minister met officials of IPRD, Myanma Radio and Television, NPE and Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise.

Head of Shan State

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan visits Kengtung sub-printing house.

MNA

(East) IPRD and staff officers of Kengtung, Mongphyat and Tachilek District IPRDs reported on tasks of respective district departments, opening of self-reliant libraries and future tasks.

Assistant Engineer U Nyunt Hlaing of Lwemwe TV Re-transmission Station reported to the minister on functions of TV re-transmission, power supply and maintenance tasks at the station. Editor-in-charge U Tin Kyaw of Sub-Printing House (Kengtung) briefed the minister on printing and publishing of Kyemon and Myanma Alin newspapers

in Shan State (East), and progress of tasks, and Staff Officer U Saw Naing of MMPE on showing of documentary films.

The minister gave necessary instructions. Next, they inspected the Sub-printing House (Kengtung). Managing Director U Soe Win of NPE and officials reported to the minister on printing of newspapers with the use of two Shinohara-66 sheet-fed off-set presses. The minister inspected the building of the sub-printing house, the warehouse and its environs, and cordially conversed with staff.

MNA



Kengtung ring road inaugurated

YANGON, 28 April— The inauguration of Kengtung tarred ring road was held at the pavilion at the top of the road in Shan State (East) on 25 April.

Deputy Director of Kengtung Township Development Affairs Committee U Khin Kyaw presented facts about the facility.

Secretary of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw and Director of the committee U Tin Hlaing formally opened the road.

Chairman of Shan State (East) PDC Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing unveiled the signboard to mark the opening ceremony.

The commander inspected the road and cor-

dially greeted local people.

The 660 feet long and 12 feet wide road constructed by Kengtung Development Affairs Committee is aimed at ensuring regional development, smooth transport and brisk commodity flow in the region. The remaining part, 2,540-foot section, will be upgraded into a tarred one in 2006-2007 fiscal year.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, local authorities, departmental heads, members of social organizations and local people. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and party inspect newly opened circular town road. — MNA

Progress witnessed in Wamhsaw Model Village...

(from page 16)

As part of realizing the one of the social objectives — Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation, the specialist teams from Loilem District General Hospital gave health care service to 177 patients at the rural health care branch in Wamhsaw Model Village.

Loilem District MCWSC and District WAO held the discussions together with MCWA members and local women of Wamhsaw Model Village, totalling 135.

Majority of local national races in Mongshu Township grow paddy, groundnut and soya bean, pineapple, apple and other perennial crops.

They breed pig, poultry and cow on a manageable scale to earn family income.

A 14,000-gallon-capacity water tank was built to supply water to local people and agricultural farms.

Furthermore, Wamhsaw Model Village is facilitated with power supply, telephone and postal service.

In the time of the Tatmadaw Government,

Mongnaung-Mongshu Road, Keshi-Mongkai Road, Mongshu-Laikha Road, Mongshu-Lashio Road and Mongshu-Tangyan Road have been constructed in the region for better transport and smooth and speedy flow of commodities.

It is obvious that Wamhsaw Model Village meets success in implementing the development region plan, the border area development plan, and rural development tasks due to prevailing peace and stability and the unity of the local national people.

MNA

53,554 villages facilitated with ...

(from page 16)

established throughout the country. Out of 3,247 villages in Shan State (East), 1,985 villages have been facilitated with self-reliant libraries.

Due to book donations of local people with goodwill, self-reliant libraries were established in Shan State (East). In conclusion, the commander thanked the wellwishers for their book donations, and urged those to maintain the libraries for their durability.

Next, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivered an address.

He said that today is education age. The Government is giving priority to uplift of education standard to keep abreast of other nations. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe himself supervises building the Myanmar society to become a constant learning society. Hence, youths have the opportunity to easily learn education of

international level.

As 70 per cent population of the nation are rural people, self-reliant village libraries are being set up in rural areas to disseminate knowledge to the rural people. The implementation of the plan to establish the libraries started in 2004-05.

Up to 18 April 2006, a total of 53,554 self-reliant libraries had been opened in the whole country. In Shan State (East) alone, there are 1,985 libraries.

Book donation ceremonies have been held for 11 times and 1.7 million books worth K 120.3 million, and K 56 million have been donated by public wellwishers. The minister said in carrying out the tasks for opening self-reliant libraries, there are five work programmes to be implemented — to motivate the rural people to read in order to broaden their knowledge, to raise funds for collecting new books, to try to build library buildings in villages where there have been no

libraries; to arrange for collecting furniture in the libraries and to conduct training for producing skilled librarians. Therefore, he said, local authorities, library committees, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association and the staff of the Ministry of Information are to cooperate in implementing these tasks. After that, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Chit Naing accepted books, audio visual equipment and cash donated by wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.

At the ceremony, 89 wellwishers donated 51 TVs, 11 cassettes and 35 radios worth K 5,349,450, 4,646 books on various subjects and periodicals worth K 779,000, and K 2,711,500 totalling K 8,839,950.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing accepts TV sets donated by District PDCs of Shan State (East). — MNA

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo accepts cash donations of departments concerned from Shan State (East). — MNA



16th AGM of MMCWA concludes

YANGON, 28 April — The 16th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association concluded this afternoon at the office of the association after its second day session had been held. It was attended by MMCWA President Daw Khin Khin Win, Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint, CEC members, chairpersons, secretaries and joint-secretaries of State and Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committees.

At the meeting, resource persons submitted their papers representing the respective states and divisions of the country. They were Secretary Dr Maung Maung Myint representing Kachin State; Dr Tun Lwin representing Kayah State; Secretary Dr Htay Naung representing Kayin State; Secretary Dr Maung Maung Aung Kyaw representing Chin State; Dr Kyaw Shein representing Sagaing Division; Secretary Dr Maung Maung Hla representing Taninthayi

Division; Secretary Dr Htay Aung representing Bago Division (East); Secretary Dr Aye Nyein representing Bago Division (West); Secretary Dr Aung Win representing Magway Division; Secretary Dr Khin Maung Tun representing Mandalay Division; Secretary Dr Tin Win Kyaw representing Mon State; Secretary Dr Khin Aung Cho representing Rakhine State; Secretary Dr Hla Myint representing Yangon Division; Secretary Dr Sai Kham Hlaing representing Shan State (South); Secretary Dr Sai San Win representing Shan State (North); Secretary Dr Zin Mar Oo representing Shan State (East); and Secretary Dr Swe Win representing Ayeyawady Division. Next, matters related to the papers were discussed and Daw Khin Khin Win, the presiding chairperson, took part in the discussions and approved resolutions and work programmes (draft) of the association. Then the meeting ended with concluding remarks by Daw Khin Khin Win. — MNA



MMCWA Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint.

MNA



MMCWA Treasurer Daw Khin Than Win.

MNA



Joint-Secretary of Kachin State MCWA Dr Daw Myint Myint Than.

MNA



Joint-Secretary of Kayah State MCWA Daw Khin Nyo. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Kayin State MCWA Dr Thi Thi Win. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Chin State MCWA Daw Mary. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Mon State MCWA Dr Daw May Thet Swe. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Rakhine State MCWA Dr San San Kyi. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Shan State (South) MCWA Dr Thin Thin Lay. — MNA



Chairperson of Shan State (East) MCWA Daw Kyu Kyu Hla. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Shan State (North) MCWA Dr Nan Kein Phaung. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Sagaing Division MCWA Dr Yi Yi Lwin. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Bago Division (East) MCWA Dr Tin Tin Win. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Bago Division (West) MCWA Daw Ohnma. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Magway Division MCWA Daw Tin Tin Htwe. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Mandalay Division MCWA Dr Daw Khin May Thit. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Yangon Division MCWA Dr Nweni Ohn. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Taninthayi Division MCWA Dr Thanda Myo Win. — MNA



Joint-Secretary of Ayeyawady Division MCWA Dr Saw Thanda Myint. — MNA

Cash donated to Yangon General Hospital

YANGON, 28 April — Singapore Association of Myanmar (SAM) donated K 7 million to the Bio-medical Engineering Workshop of Yangon General Hospital this morning.

The donation ceremony was attended by Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Nu Nu Tha, the Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr Thambynathan Jasudasen members of SAM, professors and members of management committee of the hospital.

First, the Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar explained the purpose of donation and presented the cash donation to the medical superintendent. Next, the medical superintendent presented certificate of honour. — MNA



YGH Medical Superintendent Dr Nu Nu Tha accepts K 7 million donated by Singaporean Ambassador Mr Thambynathan Jasudasen.

HEALTH

Basic cultural dance and playing harp course opened in Hpa-an

YANGON, 28 April — A ceremony to open the No 1 basic cultural dance and playing harp course of the Education and Training Department of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs took place at Women's Vocational Training School (Hpa-an), attended by Kayin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Khin Kyu and officials.

Altogether 40 trainees are attending the 14-week course. After the ceremony, the director-general inspected the University for Development of National Races (Hpa-an).

MNA

Avian flu under control

Fowl, egg trade permitted under close scrutiny

YANGON, 28 April — The occurrence of bird flu that broke out in 13 townships of Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions in early March this year, came to stop due to effective control measures taken by local authorities, division bird flu control committees, Myanmar Police Force, Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Health Department, Livestock Breeding Federation and livestock breeders.

The disease can be controlled in KhinU Township to maximum 34 days and in Kyaukse Township to minimum 20 days.

The personnel concerned found no avian-related fowl deaths and no evidence of the disease as they are checking chicken death rates at the farms, making diagnoses after a series of tests and conducting blood and other related tests.

After testing 625 blood samples and 60 trachea samples, no H5N1 has been found in Mandalay and Sagaing divisions up to now.

Selling and transporting of chicken, duck and eggs were temporarily prohibited in the disease-hit townships as soon as the flu broke out there.

Although the townships are still barred from doing inter-township trade of fowls and eggs, they are now permitted to conduct intra-township trade.

Poultry products were prohibited even in states and divisions free from avian flu. But now inter-region trade have been permitted in those states and divisions and they can transport fowls and eggs to the once affected townships. Up to yesterday, Shan State (South) transported sterilized 325,000 eggs to Mandalay and 107,000 sterilized eggs to Kyaukpadaung, and Ayeyawady Division transported 13,605 chicken, 320 ducks and 830,00 eggs to Yangon Division.

The products were transported under the permission of local authorities and bird flu control committee based on the certification of L B V D and regional laboratories.

The TV Myanmar is broadcasting and the dailies and weeklies are issuing control measures and instructions against the flu. As for the education campaign against the disease, flyers are being distributed and billboards erected. The L B V D will extend its field public education campaign and other related works in Shwebo and other regions in Sagaing Division with the assistance of Japanese government and in cooperation with UNICEF and the Health Department.

MNA



ဤကိစ္စကို တုံ့ထိထူးထူးဆောင်ရွက်ရန်အတွက် အထူးသတိပြုရန်အချက်များ

INSTRUCTION FOR THE PREVENTION & CONTROL OF HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA



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Prevention of Avian Influenza to Human in suspected case






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Public awareness poster for the village level

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**U OHN MAUNG
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Senegalese PM hopes to strengthen cooperation with China

BEIJING, 27 April—Visiting Senegalese Prime Minister Macky Sall said here Wednesday that he hopes to further strengthen cooperation with China in various fields, on the basis of friendship, mutual respect, partnership and mutual support.

Sall said Senegal and China have maintained good relations since the resumption of diplomatic ties not long ago. The two sides conduct frequent high-level exchanges and increasing cooperation between companies. The bilateral relations show active momentum of development, he said.

China and Senegal resumed diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level on 25 October, 2005. Sall reiterated that the Senegalese Government and the Senegalese Democratic Party (SDP), the governing party, will continue to adhere to the one-China policy.

Sall, also deputy secretary-general of the SDP, is leading a SDP delegation on a nine-day visit to China from 23 April to 1 May, at the invitation of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

MNA/Xinhua

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GATI SUVIDHA VOY NO (73806)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI SUVIDHA VOY NO (73806) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.4.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Two bombers kill themselves in Egypt's north Sinai

CAIRO, 27 April—Two men blew themselves up in Egypt's north Sinai on Wednesday, one near an airport used by an international observer force and one near the northern town of El Arish, security sources said.

The bombs, which followed three deadly explosions in the east

Sinai resort of Dahab on Monday, killed only the bombers, an Interior Ministry statement said.

It was not immediately clear if all the incidents were related but most members of the group blamed for attacks in Sinai over the past two years came from the El Arish area.

A spokesman for the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) group, which supervises the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, said the first bomber appeared to target two of its vehicles but there were no MFO injuries.

The second man blew himself next to a police car outside a police station in Sheikh Zuwayed, near the northern coast town of El Arish. The car was empty and there were no other casualties, the security sources said.

MNA/Reuters



Mother giraffe looks onto her nine-month-old child at the Frankfurt Zoo, central Germany, on 27 April, 2006.—Internet

Straw praises China's increasingly active role as global player

LONDON, 27 April—British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw on Wednesday praised China's increasingly active role in international affairs.

"There are many examples of where China has shouldered its new responsibility as a global player and bolstered the work of the international community," said Straw at a seminar discussing the rise of China at Smith

Institute, a socio-economic think tank in London.

"China played a crucial role in stabilizing the markets in the Asian financial crisis of 1997. It is working with international partners on the challenge of avian flu," he said.

China has also played a very positive role in the six-party talks on the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula, and

"can bring to the table a degree of political leverage" which no other country has, he added.

Talking about China's economy, Straw said China is "a fifth of humanity to the global economy", and has become such an integral part of the global economic landscape.

"There is always going to be a great deal of interest in China's economic policies and

progress. We need and want China to succeed. We need and want China to maintain political stability and to continue stable and sustainable growth," he said. Straw also hoped China to shoulder more responsibilities and play a leading role in world affairs as its weight builds and its impact around the globe gets deeper.

MNA/Xinhua

Bank Holiday
 All banks will be closed on 1st May (Monday) May Day 2006, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.
 Central Bank of Myanmar

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
 MV ZHE HAI 316 VOYNO (059)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZHE HAI 316 VOYNO (059) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.4.2006 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.

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DRIVE WITH CARE

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီမှုများတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ရန်



People visit the Fifth China International Defence Electron Expo at the Beijing Exhibition Hall in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 April, 2006. Approximately 300 exhibitors from at home and abroad took part in the exhibition, opened on Wednesday.—INTERNET

Good weather boosts Kenya's March tea output

NAIROBI, 26 April — Kenya's tea output for March rose to 19.8 million kilogrammes from 11.6 million kilogrammes compared to the previous month reversing the declining trend that had been experienced since the last quarter of 2005, tea regulators said on Tuesday.

The Tea Board of Kenya (TBK) attributed the increased production to favourable weather conditions in tea growing regions leading to the recovery of withered tea bushes. However, the board said the output for January-March lagged behind the output for the same period last year by 35.4 million kilogrammes

due to the effects of the drought that was more pronounced during the first two months of the year. "In view of the ongoing rains, production for the April-June period is expected to surpass the output for the same period last year," the board's Managing Director Phrasia Mwangi said in a statement.

MNA/Xinhua

Small island countries need in-depth studies on climate change

PORT LOUIS, 27 April — Climate change research organizations have been urged to give more attention and to provoke in-depth studies on the impacts of climate change that can affect small island developing countries (SIDS) adversely.

Addressing the 25th plenary session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) opened on Wednesday in capital Port Louis of the island country Mauritius, Environment Minister of the country Anil Bachoo said the possible impacts of climate change on SIDS are currently not fully appreciated partly due to lack of information and detailed scientific research.—MNA/Xinhua



A view of the Mount Lawu volcano, which is 10,712 feet (3,265 m) is seen from the Selo village, near Indonesia's city of Boyolali, on 26 April, 2006.—INTERNET.

Cargo ship reaches "International Space Station"

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 27 April — An unmanned Russian cargo ship arrived at the International Space Station on Wednesday carrying 2-1/2 tons of supplies and an experimental satellite to test technologies for future space-based robotic telescopes.

The Progress space-raft settled into a docking port on the station's Zvezda module at 1:41 pm EDT (1741 GMT) as the outpost sailed 220 miles (350 kilometres) above the Mediterranean Sea, nearly over the coast of Greece.

"Everything went very smoothly ... absolutely no problems," NASA commentator Rob Navias said

from Mission Control Centre in Houston.

The cargo ship, which was launched Monday from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, was the first to arrive since the station's new crew reached the orbital complex on 1 April.

Expedition 13 commander Pavel Vinogradov, a Russian cosmonaut, and NASA flight engineer

Jeffrey Williams are scheduled to remain in orbit for six months.

In addition to fuel, food, repair gear and other supplies, the Progress ship contains the first of three small spherical satellites developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to demonstrate automatic precision flying.

MNA/Reuters



A pedestrian walks past the Boeing World Headquarters office building in Chicago, on 26 April, 2006. Boeing said on Wednesday that first-quarter profit rose a greater-than-expected 29 percent, as sales of its commercial planes offset a drop in revenue at its defence unit.—INTERNET

Guidebook useful for irritable bowel patients

NEW YORK, 27 April — Patients with irritable bowel syndrome can use a self-help guidebook to reduce the number of office visits, improve

symptoms and lower health care costs, a new report suggests.

The findings suggest that primary care physicians should offer patients with functional abdominal symptoms information on what they can do to manage their condition, lead author Dr Andrew Robinson, from Hope Hospital in Manchester, Britain, and colleagues report.

The researchers assessed the outcomes of 420 patients, treated at 54 primary care centres, who were randomly assigned to receive a self-help guidebook, a guidebook plus a self-help meeting, or no extra care (control group).

MNA/Reuters

New drug could reduce heart attack damage

LONDON, 27 April — A new drug that blocks a protein could reduce the damage and scarring caused by heart attacks, British scientists said on Wednesday.

The drug interferes with C reactive protein (CRP) which is produced in large amounts in the body after a heart attack.

"By blocking the protein we reduce the extent of damage in a heart attack, and that in turn reduces the size of the scar," Professor Mark Pepys, of University College London, who headed the research team, said in an interview. Heart attack is a leading cause of death in developed countries. Patients often survive an attack but if there is extensive damage they are more likely to suffer heart failure.

"Reducing the immediate damage is thus critically important," said Pepys, who reported the findings in the journal *Nature*.

In animal studies, Pepys and his team found the drug was effective in reducing the damage caused by the protein and produced no serious side effects.

The researchers are in discussions with pharmaceutical companies and hope to begin human trials within a year or two. Everyone has CRP but it is normally at low levels. When a person has a heart attack there is a dramatic rise in the protein. The higher the level of the protein, the poorer the prognosis of the patient.—MNA/Reuters



Italy's Francine De Paola, left, and Bulgaria's Maryna Markevich wrestle during the women's free style wrestling 72-kg for the bronze medal at the European Wrestling Championships in Moscow, on 26 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Dott beats Robertson on final frame

SHIELD (England), 27 April — Britain's Graeme Dott clinched the final frame to beat qualifier Neil Robertson 13-12 for a place in the semifinals of the world championship on Wednesday.

Defending champion Shaun Murphy was 10-6 down against Peter Ebdon going into the final session in their quarterfinal match.

Ebdon needs three more frames to book his place in the last four.

Robertson, who became the first Australian to reach the last eight at The Crucible since Eddie Charlton in 1983, launched a stirring comeback from 9-4 and 12-8 down to level at 12-12 but Dott held on for victory.

"I was very disappointed to lose because I think I was by far the better player throughout the whole match," Robertson told reporters.

"My positional play is so much better and I really believe I'm one of the best players in the world now," added the 24-year-old.

MNA/Reuters

Zidane makes early decision to help Real's plans

MADRID, 27 April — Real Madrid's France midfielder Zinedine Zidane says he announced his retirement on Tuesday to give the club time to prepare for next season.

"The club need to build a team so that they can win again," Zidane told Real Madrid television on Wednesday. "By announcing my retirement now it gives them the chance to go and look for new players before the World Cup, if that is what they want to do. "They have always been good to me so it is the least I could do for them."

The 33-year-old said on Tuesday he would retire after leading France at the World Cup in Germany, despite having a year left on his contract with Real.

Zidane also highlighted the Madrid club's recent lack of success, their worst run in 52 years, as a key factor in his decision.

"We haven't won anything for three years and I

haven't been playing the way I would like for two," Zidane added. "I always play to win and when you can't you have to be realistic." Looking ahead to the future Zidane said he would like to continue being linked to Real.

"I want to stay close to this club because they have given me so much," he said. "It won't be in the front line but in some kind of project, something to do with the children. This idea still needs to be developed."

MNA/Reuters

Morocco federation suspends five players for doping

RABAT, 27 April — Morocco's soccer federation has suspended five players from four leading clubs after they tested positive following a surprise anti-doping crackdown, the governing body said on Wednesday. "The result of the unexpected anti-doping tests of the five players from four clubs was positive. The Federation's bureau decided to suspend them pending a final decision later on," the federation said in a statement.

The Royal Moroccan Football Federation did not name the players or their clubs but added: "It was decided to make the anti-doping tests periodic and the tests will take place before and after the championship matches". —MNA/Reuters

Barcelona reach final in 0-0 draw against Milan

BARCELONA, 27 April — Barcelona reached the Champions League final for the first time in 12 years on Wednesday after a goalless home draw with six-times winners AC Milan sent them through deservedly 1-0 on aggregate.

Leading 1-0 courtesy of Ludovic Giuly's goal in the San Siro, Ronaldinho-inspired Barcelona were in positive mood from the start but squandered a host of chances.

Didá saved well from Samuel Eto'o twice in the first 20 minutes, Juliano Belletti failed to connect in front of goal early in the second half and Didá did well to block a close-range header by substitute Henrik Larsson in the 75th.

The misses did not matter however, as Milan, seeking their third final appearance in four years, looked second best throughout.

Andriy Shevchenko put an early chance into the side netting and had a 69th-minute headed goal controversially ruled out for a push on Carlos Puyol that had the visiting bench protesting wildly.

But Barcelona goalkeeper Victor Valdes did not have a serious save to make all night and the Italian side can have few complaints over the two legs.

In the 17 May Paris final Barcelona will meet Arsenal, who also advanced 1-0 on aggregate after a goalless draw at Villarreal on Tuesday, reaching the final for the first time.



China's Wang Liqin returns the ball during a third-round match of Group A against Denmark's Michael Maze at the 48th World Team Table Tennis Championships in Bremen, north Germany, on 26 April, 2006. China beat Denmark 3-0. —INTERNET

Lehmann shows Arsenal the stairway to heaven

LONDON April 27 — Jens Lehmann's dramatic late penalty save against Villarreal is further proof that Arsenal have been leading a charmed life in Europe. Misfiring in domestic football, where their cup campaigns ended long ago and only a UEFA Cup slot looks secure, Arsenal have become the first London club to reach a European Cup final. Lehmann's inspired dive to stop Juan Roman Riquelme's 89th minute spot-kick on Tuesday gave them a fortuitous 0-0 draw on the night and a knife-edge 1-0 aggregate win. "When you are in football you can be close to being in hell but you can rise to heaven just like that," the German keeper told the British media after his heroics at El Madrigal.

"A couple of days ago I did think Riquelme would take their penalties. So I watched some videos and I noticed he goes to the left because of his body shape so I guessed which way he was going to go."

But Lehmann, whose save helped set a European record of 10 consecutive clean sheets, also said: "It's really a question of luck. And I was lucky."

Lehmann's prowess, or good fortune, was celebrated

Barcelona's last final appearance was the 4-0 defeat by Milan in 1994, two years after they had beaten Sampdoria for their solitary success in Europe's top club competition. —MNA/Reuters



Barcelona's Ronaldinho from Brazil (C) tries to keep control of the ball against AC Milan Andrea Pirlo (L) and Germano Ivan Gattuso during the second leg of their Champions League semifinal soccer match at Nou Camp stadium in Barcelona, on 26 April, 2006. —INTERNET

Ferrero outslugs Martin to reach last 16 in Barcelona

BARCELONA, 27 April — Former French Open champion Juan Carlos Ferrero outslugged fellow Spaniard Alberto Martin 6-4, 7-6 to reach the Barcelona Open third round on Wednesday.

The 10th seed, runner-up to Rafael Nadal last year, was a break down at 4-3 in the first set but bounced back with three games in succession to move ahead.

Ferrero, the world number 28, led 3-0 in the second but Martin hit back to force a tiebreak only for his compatriot to romp through it 7-1.

Ferrero will next meet either another former French Open champion from Spain, Albert Costa, who is due to retire after the tournament, or eighth seed Dominik Hrbaty of Slovakia.

Ninth seed Tomas Berdych was a casualty, losing 7-6, 6-3 to unseeded Spaniard Albert Portas, while Finn Jarkko Nieminen and Russian Evgeny Korolev also reached the last 16.

Later on Wednesday, top seed and French Open champion Nadal begins the defence of his title with a second-round match against fellow Spaniard Feliciano Lopez.

MNA/Reuters

on Wednesday in British newspapers with headlines such as "Jensational", "Super Mann" and "The Saviour". Several noted the irony that Germany's goalkeepers have previously dashed English footballing hopes from the penalty spot after England were knocked out of the 1990 World Cup

and Euro 96 in shootouts.

Arsenal certainly rode their luck in Spain, where they gave their most disappointing performance of an impressive European campaign that has combined their famed attacking flair with some unexpected defensive grit.

MNA/Reuters



West Ham United's Lionel Scaloni, left, tackles Liverpool's Jan Kromkamp during their English Premier League soccer match at the Upton Park stadium, London, on 26 April, 2006. —INTERNET

53,554 villages facilitated with self-reliant libraries in the country and 1,985 libraries in Shan State (East)

YANGON, 28 April — A ceremony to mark the opening of 1,985 self-reliant village libraries in Shan State (East), organized by the Ministry of Information, was held at Sabin Thayar Hall in Kengtung on 25 April, attended by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Deputy Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Wai Lin, Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi, departmental heads, local authorities, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Women's Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, War Veterans Organization, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigade, wellwishers and locals.

The commander said that the Information and Public Relations Department has set up self-reliant village libraries across the nation to enhance the knowledge of rural people . So far, 53,554 libraries have been (See page 9)



Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla present a 21-inch TV and 150 books for village libraries to Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. — MNA

Progress witnessed in Wamhsaw Model Village of Mongshu Township

YANGON, 28 April — With a view to bringing about equitable development in all main regions in Shan State, the Government has been setting up Taunggyi, Lashio, Kengtung and Panglong as special development regions.

At the same time, progress can be witnessed in all parts of the townships in Shan State. With prevalence of peace and stability, Wamhsaw Model Village of Mongshu Township located on Mongnaung-Mongshu Road is being equipped with development facilities.

On 24 March morning, a ceremony to hand over a new building measuring 120 feet by 30 feet to the Basic Education Middle School was held in Wamhsaw Model Village, attended by departmental officials and locals.

Mongshu Township Education Officer U Myint Soe explained progress of the township. In the basic education sector, 8,994 students are attending at one BEHS, two BEMSs, 37 BEPSs and four monastic education schools at which 180 teachers were appointed. In the previous year, 111 out of 223 candidates passed the matriculation examination with the pass rate 49.78 per cent. A total of 345 eighth standard students are pursuing education BEMS in Wamhsaw

Model Village.

At self-reliant Armanthit Library in the village, the chairman of the library supervisory committee and the librarian accepted 100 assorted books donated by Loilem District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Htwe Htwe Hla; 100 assorted periodicals by Daw Ohnma Myint of District Women's Affairs Organization; novels and periodicals in Shan language and journals by Township USDA Joint-Secretary U Myo Min Aung; and 450 books by local people.

Afterwards, the collective physic nut plants growing ceremony followed. Members of USDA, MCWA and WAO and local people participated in growing physic nut plants. So far, Mongshu Township has put 235 acres under 8346900 physic nut saplings against the target of 5,500 acres. In nine townships of Loilem District, physic nut plants have been cultivated on 8,791 acres of land against the target of 48,500 acres in 2006, and 45,267,460 saplings are kept at the nursery.

Shan, Lishaw, Lahu, Yinnat national races are residing in Wamhsaw Model Village, and they joyfully participate in traditional festivals.

(See page 9)

U Sai Saung Si (a) U Nelson resigns as member of SNLD and Pyithu Hluttaw

YANGON, 28 April — U Sai Saung Si (a) U Nelson (National Registration No-13/kamana (Naing) 009824), member of Shan Nationalities League for Democracy and chairman of Kyaukme Township SNLD Central Executive Committee and member of Pyithu Hluttaw from Kyaukme Township Constituency-2 resigned from the party on the grounds that he no longer wanted to perform his duties at the party and he wished to participate in national and regional development tasks in cooperation with local authorities. He submitted copies of his resignation to Kyaukme Township SNLD Central Executive Committee, Kyaukme Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commission and SNLD (Yangon) on 6 April 2006.

U Sai Saung Si had already put up his resignation to Multiparty Democracy General Election Commission (Yangon) on 27 April. In the resignation letter, he mentioned that he resigned of his own accord from the member of Pyithu Hluttaw from Kyaukme Township Constituency-2.

In the letter sent to MDGEC, U Sai Saung Si said he attended the National Convention representing SNLD. He walked out of the NC in 1995-96 due to the decision of the party to boycott the convention. Since then he had been in disagreement with the party and believed that attending the convention is a correct decision for him. He mentioned he continued to support the National Convention. SNLD seems to give much reliance on external elements and to be associated with armed insurgent groups. Their acts can lead to the disintegration of national solidarity and the Union. In addition, the party is in no position to serve the interest of the regional people. Because of the above-mentioned reasons, he said, he resigned from the SNLD and as a member of Pyithu Hluttaw.

MNA

Mongshu Township USDA Executive U Myo Min Aung presents books for Armanthit Library of Wamhsaw Model Village to librarian U Sai Panti.

MNA

