Most important factor in building a new, peaceful, modern, developed and democratic nation is emergence of discipline-flourishing democratic system

Mass rally held in support of Prime Minister’s clarifications on seven-point roadmap

YANGON, 26 Sept — A mass rally, organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association, was held in support of the Prime Minister’s clarifications on the seven policies and programmes of the State (roadmap) in Loikaw, Kayah State, on 23 September. Present on the occasion were USDA central executive committee members, officials of peace groups in Kayah State, members of USDAs in Kayah State, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar National Working Committee for Women’s Affairs, Kayah State War Veterans Organization, Red Cross Society and Auxiliary Fire Brigade, farmers, workers and local people totalling over 6,000.

Before the mass rally, the Bayintnaung Column comprising members of non-governmental organizations, farmers, workers and local people led by column leader Deputy Director of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of Kayah State Dr L Tu Mein Goung took their designated places systematically. At the rally, Pro-Rector of the Loikaw University U Sein Oo presented over the mass rally together with Dr Daw Mary Phaw of Kayah State Peoples’ Hospital, Deputy Director of the Kayah State General Administration Department (Retd) U K Kaw Yi Yo, U Kun Tun Tin, a Pano national, and Secretary of Kayah State USDA U Kyaw Swe as members. Member of Loikaw Town Council of Kayah Indigenous and Natural Resources Development Daw K Thi Myint and Executive of Loikaw Township USDA Daw Aye Aye Khaing acted as masters of ceremonies.

Chairman of the mass rally Pro-Rector U Sein Oo makes a speech at the mass rally. — MNA

On the occasion, the master of ceremonies declared that the mass rally was to support the Prime Minister’s speech on the political roadmap of the State. Next, U Sein Oo made a speech on the occasion. He said: The main objective of today’s meeting is to table a motion and hold discussions on the national development, the national political situation, and the seven stages needed in building a modern and developed nation on the basis of the different phases of the political programme that are included in the address delivered by Prime Minister Khin Nyunt on 30 August 2003. Concerning the development of Myanmar, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said, “It can be seen that today, due to the efforts of the government based on the strength and capabilities of its own national resources and the participation of the entire people, the Union of Myanmar is on the right path to development. Moreover, firm foundation and fruitful results are being attained in respect of favourable conditions for national unity, infrastructures for national economic progress, for national development, for social development, as well as for technology.”

The nation is developing in all aspects due to the cooperative efforts of the Government and all the national races. (See page 16)

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

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National 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

Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution

Kayah national U Po Yai Aung Thein tables a motion at the mass rally. — MNA

Pruhso Township USDA executive Daw Naw He Lay Htoo seconds the motion at the mass rally. — MNA

Dimawhso Township WCWA member Daw Tin Tin Ohn seconds the motion at the mass rally. — MNA

The mass rally in support of the seven-point roadmap of the State in progress. — MNA

Development of agriculture as the base and stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order.

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

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**Perspectives**

Saturday, 27 September, 2003

**Reclaim more land in response to emerging dams**

As the Union of Myanmar is an agro-based country, its national economic life will improve only through systematic development of agriculture. Therefore, the Government has been trying to increase the production of the agriculture sector as one of its national objectives.

Myanmar has a lot of fertile vacant and virgin land. However, in some regions, crops cannot be grown in all seasons due to insufficiency of water for cultivation. Therefore, in accordance with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, water resources are being tapped with the use of modern technologies. Moreover, dams and river water pumping stations are being built wherever possible. In some regions, multi-purpose dams are being constructed not only to irrigate farmlands but also to generate electricity.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party, on 21 September, went on an inspection tour of Yenwe multi-purpose dam project site, Kunchaung hydroelectricity project site and Pyu dam project site in Bago Division and held discussions with responsible personnel. The Prime Minister said that land reclamation and canal-digging work should now be done in advance so that there will be enough cultivable land and all the agricultural work can be carried out as soon as the dams are completed.

The above-mentioned projects and Khabaung multi-purpose dam project are the ones that can be relied not only for agriculture but also for electricity supply. As these projects will be completed one after another, all the necessary measures for agricultural development should be taken in advance to make effective use of the dams immediately on their completion.

The responsible personnel with agricultural services in townships, districts and states and divisions should draw plans for cultivation of crops and disseminate agricultural methods. Local authorities, on their part, should organize the farmers to grow according to the plans.

Bago Division is a region which is suitable for agriculture. Therefore, if the cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy as well as other major crops can be extended, it can become the rice bowl of the nation.

Therefore, we would like to urge all those responsible to reclaim more and more land so that acreage of arable land can be extended when new dams emerge.

**Myanmar delegation attends annual meeting of IMF and WB**

**Yangon, 26 Sept —** The 58th Annual Meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank took place at the meeting hall of the Dibua International Convention Centre, in the United Arab Emirates from 20 to 24 September.

Present at the meeting were finance ministers from 184 member nations of the IMF and the WB, governors, delegates, guests, and representatives of private sectors. The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun also attended the meeting. On 23 September, Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivered an address to the meeting in which he said for the last 15 years Myanmar has made considerable economic progress relying on its own resources. Owing to the action of some member nations of the IMF taken based on political matters against the country, Myanmar missed the opportunities necessary to develop the socioeconomic life during the past 15 years. Nevertheless, Myanmar will commit itself into the effort to accelerate her development pace. Of late, economic sanctions were placed on Myanmar, besides the suspension of financial assistance. At a time when the international communities are giving priority to the dimi-

ation of poverty, the imposition of sanctions is totally against the objectives of the financial institutions. As a member nation, Myanmar objects these unfair and unreasonable sanctions, he said.

During its stay in Dubai, the Myanmar delegation met with Mr. Rapee Asumpinpong, Executive Director of the Southeast Asian member nations of the WB; Mr. Takeo Inokuchi, Chairman of Mitsubishi Sumitomo Insurance Co Ltd; Mr. Jamaludin Mohd Jarjis, Malaysian Finance Minister; and Mr. Seydjid Abdulla, Director-General of OPECF and cordially discussed matters related to mutual cooperation. Maj-Gen Hla Tun and the Myanmar delegation also attended the informal meeting of the ASEAN Finance Ministers. The Myanmar delegation arrived back here by Thai Airways yesterday evening. They were welcomed back at the airport by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thu Ha Kyaw and Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thin Swe and departmental heads, officials concerned, and families of the delegation.

Deputy Minister of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Director-General of the Foreign Economic Relations Department Daw Than Nwe, Officer on Special Duty at the Ministry of Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun also arrived back here together with Maj-Gen Hla Tun.

**Regional development tasks inspected**

**Yangon, 26 Sept —** Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Brig-Gen Than Tun inspected the vocational training school for women in Kengtung, Shan State (East) Regional Development Supervisory Office and Training School for Development of National Races Youths in Border Areas in the town and

fulfilled the requirements on 23 September. In the afternoon, he met with the staff of the Township Development Office Committee and gave necessary instructions. The deputy minister also inspected a vocational training school, offices of the development affair committe-
**Only United Nations can guarantee legitimacy to Iraq**

Following are excerpts from the address of German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder to the United Nations General Assembly on 23 September, 2003.

The German Chancellor said: This year is a special one for Germany’s work in the United Nations. History is both a reminder and guide to us all. Thirty years ago, on September 18, 1973, the United Nations welcomed Germany back into the fold of the family of nations. My predecessor, Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt, paved the way for this move. His standing as an antifascist inspired confidence. His passionate commitment to internationalism went far beyond the policy of detente in the East-West conflict.

We must act resolutely by pursuing an effective multilateral strategy, wherever peace is threatened and human rights are violated.

Our response must be to strengthen the role and commitment of the United Nations in Iraq. Only the United Nations can guarantee the legitimacy required to enable the people of Iraq to speedily rebuild their country under an independent, representative government. Germany stands ready to support such a process: by providing humanitarian, technical and economic assistance or also training Iraqi security personnel.

There is no doubt that we have already made major strides towards realizing our common goals enshrined in the Charter. More countries than ever before have democratic governments. Our concerted efforts have enabled more people than ever before to put poverty behind them.

But the gap between the world’s rich and poor has still not been closed, the fight against hunger, injustice and oppression is still far from won. Eradicating poverty remains an imperative of our policy for peace and stability in Iraq.

The new threats, which no country in the world can tackle effectively on their own, make international cooperation more vital than ever. They also mean new strategies are required.

That is why we need to review whether the instruments available to the United Nations are appropriate to these new challenges.

Within the United Nations we need to muster the strength to launch overdue institutional reforms. My Government fully supports the proposals made by the Secretary General. We must agree how to ensure in future an even better allocation of competencies, capacities and scarce resources.

I also share the view of the Secretary General that the legitimacy of the Security Council depends on how far it is representative of all nations and regions. The Council must be reformed and enlarged to also include representatives of the developing countries. For Germany, let me reiterate that in the context of such a reform we are ready to assume greater responsibility. The world of the 21st century offers us, its inhabitants, ample scope to change it either for better or for worse. Given the immense opportunities and the formidable dangers ahead, we have no choice but to strive for international partnership and to expand and strengthen multi-lateralism. We will be able to make our world more secure only if we also make it more equitable. It was for that purpose, after all, that the international community created the United Nations: that is its mandate.

Let us join together to make the United Nations stronger still, so that it can fulfil its mandate to maintain international peace and security and build a more equitable world.

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder

**Putin stresses United Nations clearly irreplaceable**

Although the structure and functions of the UN were formed in a fundamentally different international situation, time has only confirmed their universal significance. The UN’s instruments are not only in demand today. They, as life itself shows, are simply irreplaceable in key situations.

The following, most important example directly proves this. Despite all the sharp differences over ways to solve the Iraqi crisis, in the final analysis, it is returning to the legal field of the UN.

Russia’s position here is consistent and clear: only the direct participation of the UN in the restoration of Iraq will give its nation the opportunity to decide its future independently.

Iraq will only take a new and worthy place in the global community through the active and practical assistance of the UN in re-building its economy and civil society.

Russian President Vladimir Putin

**Maltese Prime Minister favours greater UN role**

While addressing the 58th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Thursday, the Maltese Prime Minister Dr Eddie Fenech Adami urged for a greater role of the UN in the reconstruction of Iraq.

On the question of Iraq in particular, he said it is critically important for the Security Council to reach early agreement on the role the United Nations must play in the re-establishment of order and legitimacy in that country.

We strongly urge all members of the Council, and in particular the permanent members, to spare no effort in achieving this objective.

Maltese President Vladimir Putin

**Mahathir skeptical about democracy for Iraq**

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Sept — Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad predicted on Thursday that democracy in Iraq would either fail or lead to instability and insecurity for the Iraqi people.

Mahathir, who is in New York for the United Nations General Assembly, said after a meeting with Secretary General Kofi Annan that Iraqis may not be ready for democracy given the experience of the US-led invasion of the country.

Mahathir opposed the US invasion of Iraq and in his speech to the Assembly on Thursday he said he detected a revival of old-style imperialism of the kind practised by the European powers, including in his own country.

"We all carry the baggage of history. But we would willingly leave it behind us if it were not for the fact that history has a nasty habit of repeating itself.

"Today we are seeing the resurgence of European imperialism," he said.

"We are actually faced by the old physical occupation by foreign force. Puppet regimes are installed," he added.

Long an outspoken advocate of Third World and Islamic causes against the policies of the United States and Britain, Mahathir said Iraq was especially prone to instability because of its ethnic diversity.

"All that people think about is whose turn it is to become the government and this is going to happen in Iraq. They (the various groups) are not going to accept with docility a government imposed upon them by others," he said.

Under ousted President Saddam Hussein, Iraqis could at least live in safety if they did not offend the government, whereas weak governments cannot ensure that, he added.

"So the choice is between the devil and the deep blue sea because you are not going to get the kind of stability that you see in some very well-developed democracies," he added.

The United States says it wants to hand over power to a democratically elected Iraqi government as soon as possible but has resorted to violence as a way of forcing Iraqis to comply with its preferences.

"The United States says it wants to hand over power to a democratically elected Iraqi government as soon as possible but has resorted to violence as a way of forcing Iraqis to comply with its preferences."

In the meantime most United Nations observers say Iraq is not ready for democracy.

President Lula da Silva of Brazil

Chinese, Russian PMs call for strengthened UN authority

BEIJING, 26 Sept — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and visiting Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov said Wednesday that the authority of the United Nations and its security council should be consolidated.

The two heads of government made the remarks in a joint communique issued after the eighth regular meeting of the Chinese and Russian prime ministers, which ended here Wednesday.

The two sides reiterated their wishes to further strengthen the partnership in international affairs, in an effort to build an international order based on justice and democracy, strict adherence to the principles of international rules and the aim and principles of the UN Charter, common security, equal sovereignty and mutual respect.

China and Russia support the consolidation of the authority of the United Nations and its security council,, the two heads of government said, emphasizing that dispute and crises should be resolved through political and diplomatic means.

They also agreed that efforts should be made to resume the stability and state sovereignty of Iraq.

MNA/Reuters
Annan orders UN cutbacks in Iraq staff

UN Secretariat, 26 Sept—Russia and many other countries demanded a greater UN role in postwar Iraq Thursday, but a new cutback in UN staff following two bombings highlighted the dilemma of trying to internationalize Iraq’s reconstruction at a time of growing instability.

As the Security Council grappled with a new resolution on Iraq, it was clear that countries large and small want the United Nations to have a more prominent role — especially in overseeing Iraq’s political transition — than the United States has offered so far.

If security is not improved, Secretary-General Kofi Annan will not be able to allow the return, in significant numbers, of international staff needed to oversee more than the minimum humanitarian needs, and a larger UN role possibly helping with a new constitution and elections might be out of the question.

The next steps in Iraq were at the top of the agenda at Annan’s annual lunch with the foreign ministers of the five veto-wielding nations on the Security Council — the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France — who have been at odds over an expanded UN role and a timetable.

The United States wants a new UN mandate to get more countries to contribute troops and money to rebuild Iraq.

Council diplomats said on condition of anonymity that there is no convergence of views with respect to a new resolution.

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The administration of US President George W. Bush has said it is interested in studying the so-called mini-nukes, but not in deploying them.

The mini-nukes would be bombs with a yield of less than five kilotons — less than half the size of the bomb the United States dropped on Hiroshima, Japan in 1945.

ElBaradei said that such research would encourage states with hidden ambitions of developing atomic weapons to go for it.

“Under the 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the United States, Britain, France and Russia were allowed to keep nuclear weapons, though they agreed to negotiate in good faith towards full nuclear disarmament.

US soldiers secure the area of a suicide car bombing near UN headquarters (background) on 22 Sept, 2003 in Baghdad. UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan ordered some international UN staff members of withdraw from Iraq in view of the unstable security situation.

Mahathir says Muslim sympathy for US has ‘vanished’

Lowest, 26 Sept—Muslims around the world have turned against the United States because of its war on Iraq, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said on Wednesday.

He also rejected a suggestion he might be the next secretary-general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

“I think they have done the wrong thing. They have aggrandized matters,” the outgoing leader of the predominantly Muslim country told the Financial Times newspaper in an interview, referring to the United States.

“There is a great deal more anger today in the Muslim world than after the 11th of September. After the 11th of September there was quite a lot of sympathy for what happened to the US, but now it’s all vanished,” he said referring to the 2001 attacks on the United States.

Mahathir, long a critic of the US-led war on Iraq, is due to step down later this year and hand power to his deputy, Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

He said he would not take a role as a senior minister. He also rejected a suggestion he might be the next secretary-general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

“I do not want to escape from the frying pan into the fire,” he said. “I’ve had enough of boiling, cooking in it for 22 years, and I’m not going to involve myself in that.”

IEA chief slams US “mini nuke” plans

VIENNA, 26 Sept—The head of the UN nuclear watchdog sharply criticized Washington’s plans to research into a new type of small nuclear bomb, saying on Wednesday it would send the wrong signal to states considering atomic weapons.

“I have strong reservations, to say the least, when I read that there are plans to research small nukes,” International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Mohamed ElBaradei told US National Public Radio.

“It really sends absolutely the wrong message, that we are not moving towards disarmament, but that we are reversing course,” he said.

The administration of US President George W. Bush has said it is interested in studying the so-called mini-nukes, but not in deploying them.

The mini-nukes would be bombs with a yield of less than five kilotons — less than half the size of the bomb the United States dropped on Hiroshima, Japan in 1945.

ElBaradei said that such research would encourage states with hidden ambitions of developing atomic weapons to go for it.

“It sends a message to the ‘wannabes’ that if you really want to have security, prestige, status — go for nuclear weapons, and that’s clearly not the way we want to go,” he said.

After strong lobbying by the United States for action, the governing board of the IAEA on September 12 set an October 31 deadline for Iran to prove it is not secretly developing nuclear weapons as Washington alleges.

Under the 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the United States, Britain, France, China and Russia were allowed to keep nuclear weapons, though they agreed to negotiate in good faith towards full nuclear disarmament.

US Democrats sharpen attacks on Bush for 2004

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept—A lagging economy and persistent violence in Iraq have sent President George W. Bush’s approval ratings sliding, inspiring sharper attacks from Democrats who are growing more confident about their prospects in 2004.

The fall in Bush’s rating, to the lowest levels of his presidency in some polls, has strengthened the hand and outlook of Democrats heading into what potentially could be an intensely competitive 2004 election campaign.

“It is not a pipe dream that we can win next year — it’s for real,” said Joe Carn, a former finance chairman of the Democratic National Committee who is uncompromising in the party’s nomination battle between 10 candidates.

“His approval ratings are going to make the race very tough for Bush,” he said.

Democrats on the campaign trail and in Congress have stepped up their criticism of the President in recent weeks amid a slump in his ratings spurred by continued violence in Iraq along with joblessness and economic uncertainty at home.

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Qiu Baixing, Vice-Minister of Construction, announced the plan at the opening ceremony of China’s first national seminar for privatization of municipal works in Beijing on Wednesday.

Qiu said China will break monopolies in the sector, which includes water supply, gas supply, heating supply, sewage treatment, and waste treatment.

Government policies will change to favour private investors, said Qiu.

“Only in this way can cities attract more capital into the construction of municipal works and then improve the cities’ investment environment.”

According to Qiu, the Chinese Government will gradually abolish some restrictions and urged all local Chinese governments to create stable preferential policies for the use of water and land, and other areas such as taxes, for domestic and overseas investors.

Chinese Government supports opening municipal works

BEIJING, 26 Sept—China will completely open its municipal works to all domestic and overseas investors, and in the process the Chinese Government will gradually change its role from a direct controller to a policy maker.

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Government policies will change to favour private investors, said Qiu.

“The American people increasingly are losing confidence in this President, in his ability to deal with a faltering economy, with his disastrous fiscal policy and now with circumstances in Iraq,” Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota said.

“His approval ratings are going to make the race very tough for Bush,” he said.

Democrats on the campaign trail and in Congress have stepped up their criticism of the President in recent weeks amid a slump in his ratings spurred by continued violence in Iraq along with joblessness and economic uncertainty at home.

Congressional Democrats have attacked Bush’s request for another $7 billion US dollars for Iraq as a sign of his poor economic policy and now with circumstances in Iraq, Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota said.

“We got a jolt of electricity from last week’s entry by retired four-star general Wesley Clark,” he said.

Clark, who announced his intentions to challenge Bush for the 2004 presidential nomination is going to start with an electoral base that party’s nomination battle between 10 candidates.

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MNA/Reuters
**Poll shows Blair’s popularity plummets over Iraq inquiry**

**London, 26 Sept**—British trust in Prime Minister Tony Blair has plunged after the suicide of a weapons expert provoked the worst crisis of his six-year premiership, an opinion poll showed on Thursday.

The latest sounding in the Guardian newspaper made grim reading for the beleaguered Prime Minister as the inquiry into the death of Dr. David Kelly wraps up.

Blair’s ratings have slumped over the summer so that now 61 per cent of voters are unhappy with the job he is doing.

His rating for trustworthiness has fallen nine points since July to just 30 per cent.

An overwhelming 70 per cent say he is far too concerned with public relations and “spin doctoring”.

Throughout the last two months, Blair’s administration has been put under a harsh spotlight by a judicial inquiry into the death of Kelly, who was embroiled in a bitter row between the BBC and the government over Britain’s case for war against Iraq.

After taking 110 hours of evidence and lifting the lid on the once deeply hidden world of British intelligence, Lord Hutton concludes the inquiry on Thursday.

His final report, a “Sword of Damocles” hanging over Blair, is not expected before November.

The BBC, which had accused the government of hyping the case for war against Iraq, returned to the attack on Wednesday.

A source in US President George W. Bush’s administration quoted by the BBC said no weapons of mass destruction had been found by the Iraq Survey Group tasked with looking for them.

“Sword of Damocles” hangs over Blair, is not expected before November.

Foreign Affairs spokesman Michael Ancram said: “If this BBC report is accurate, this is another damaging blow to the Prime Minister’s credibility.

“His has repeatedly used the Iraq Survey Group to stonewall criticism on weapons of mass destruction.

“Little comfort could be gleaned from across the Atlantic. As Bush, Blair’s closest ally, sought foreign leaders’ money and troops to help rebuild postwar Iraq, a senior US official said weapons inspectors would report no proof Baghdad had the banned arsenal used to justify the invasion.”

**Annan urges world to ensure successful outcome in Iraq**

**UNITED NATIONS, 26 Sept—United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Tuesday urged all nations to put aside their views on events surrounding the Iraq war and unite to make Iraq a stable and democratic nation “at peace with itself and with its neighbours”.

“Let me reaffirm the great importance 1 attach to a successful outcome in Iraq. Whatever view each of you may take of the events of recent months, it is vital for all of us that the outcome is a stable and democratic Iraq, at peace with itself and with its neighbours, and contributing to stability in the region,” Annan told world leaders at the start of the general debate of the 58th session of the UN General Assembly.

The UN chief called on nations to take “the extra time and patience” to reach a coherent and workable consensus on Iraq.

“Subject to security considerations, the United Nations system is prepared to play its full part in working for a satisfactory outcome in Iraq, and to do so as part of an effort by the whole international community,” Annan said.

MNA/Xinhua

**Crude oil pipeline to be laid in E China with section on seabed**

**HAMIDABAD, 26 Sept—**The China Petrochemical Shareholding Company has decided to invest 2.2 billion yuan (265 million US dollars) in a four-kilometre crude oil pipeline in east China, with a 53.5-kilometre section on the seabed of Hangzhou Bay.

The pipeline, which will run northwards from Ningbo City in Zhejiang Province to Jiangsu Province, via Shanghai, is expected to be completed in April 2004. It is expected to transport 40 million tons of crude oil annually.

MNA/Xinhua

**UN members urged to help enhance UN role to promote justice**

**UNITED NATIONS, 26 Sept—**The United Nations Security Council on Wednesday urged all UN member states to help enhance the UN role in establishing justice and the rule of law in post-conflict societies.

At a ministerial-level meeting, the Council, through a statement read by its president, Jack Straw, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of Britain, demonstrated an abundant wealth of expertise on the matter within the UN system and in the UN member states.

“Ministers considered that it would be appropriate to examine further how to harness and direct this expertise,” said the statement.

It said: “The Council welcomed in particular the offer by the Secretary-General to the Council to place the promotion of justice and the rule of law at the heart of its work in re-building war-torn countries.”

MNA/Xinhua

**Turkey starts electricity transfer to Iraq**

**ANKARA, 26 Sept—**Turkey on Tuesday started to transfer electricity to Iraq from the southeastern border town of Silopi, the Anatolia news agency reported.

Speaking at a ceremony held on the occasion, Turkish Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Hilmi Gulger said Silopi would be a free energy zone and it is meaningful for a Turkish firm to transfer electricity to Iraq.

The electricity provided to Iraq comes from the TS-1 and TS-2 thermal power plants of the Black Sea Wholesale Electricity Corp.

MNA/Xinhua

**Bomb explodes at Baghdad hotel housing NBC offices**

**BAGHDAD, 26 Sept—**A bomb exploded Thursday outside a hotel where NBC (search) has its Baghdad offices, killing a guard, injuring a network soundman and shattering windows, Iraqi police said.

The bomb was placed about three feet from the outside wall of the al-Aike Hotel (search) in a hut that housed the hotel’s generator, police said.

Lt. Col. Salman Kareem said the bomb killed a Somali guard in his sleep and broke glass, but otherwise did little damage to the hotel, which is located in south-central Baghdad. Television footage showed damage to a stairway with its railing.

NBC correspondent Jim Avila said there were no signs on the building indicating NBC had quarters there.

A dozen NBC staffers were inside the building when the explosion occurred, and a Canadian soundman, David Moodie, was slightly injured by flying glass.

Internet

**UN urges world to ensure successful outcome in Iraq**

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“He has repeatedly used the Iraq Survey Group to stonewall criticism on weapons of mass destruction.”

Little comfort could be gleaned from across the Atlantic. As Bush, Blair’s closest ally, sought foreign leaders’ money and troops to help rebuild postwar Iraq, a senior US official said weapons inspectors would report no proof Baghdad had the banned arsenal used to justify the invasion.

MNA/Reuters

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MNA/Xinhua

**An Iraqi woman is consoled upon learning of her husband’s death following a bombing explosion at the al-Aike Hotel in central Baghdad.”**

**INTERNET**
US troops raid four wealthy homes in Tikrit

**Tikrit**, Iraq, 26 Sept—US troops raided four wealthy homes in Saddam Hussein's hometown on Thursday in a bid to choke off financing of a string of attacks in northern Iraq involving sabotage efforts against a vital oil export pipeline.

In the pre-dawn raids, two suspects described as "mid-level financiers or money men" were detained, US officials told reporters present at the search-and-seizure raids.

Two other suspects were absent from their homes when troops, backed by armoured cars and helicopters, descended on the four locations in the dead of night in downtown Tikrit.

"Specifically the two individuals detained are suspected of association with the financing and leadership of the Fedayeen, of leading and organizing the Fedayeen in the Tikrit area," Major Bryan Luke of the 1st Battalion, 22nd Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division said.

The Fedayeen are militia loyal to Saddam who have been blamed for attacks on US troops. The US military said it had arrested another financier on Wednesday.

The 27,000-strong division is responsible for security in three volatile provinces.

Eight soldiers were wounded, three seriously, in the attack on a convoy in the north and one guard was killed at the hotel.

Guerrillas opposed to the US-led occupation of Iraq have targeted Westerners, Iraqis cooperating with Bremer's administration, US and British soldiers, as well as attempts to sabotage the sprawling infrastructure of a country which holds the second largest oil reserves in the world.

互联网

**China punishes 12,000 polluting enterprises**

**Beijing**, 26 Sept—About 12,000 Chinese enterprises have been punished for discharging excessive pollutants during a national inspection, Pan Yue, vice-president of the State Environmental Protection Administration announced here Wednesday.

More than 6,800 of these enterprises would be shut down or have production suspended for serious violation of environmental protection laws, said Pan.

During the inspections, which started late June, the administration together with others have investigated five central government departments inspected 150,000 enterprises, most of them metallurgical and chemical plants.

The administration has also published a list of enterprises that had caused serious environmental damage.

The national inspections had greatly curbed emissions of pollutants in some arreas and remarkably improved local environments, Pan said.

互联网

**US backed Iraqi leader’s murder, bombing deepen woes**

**Baghdad**, 26 Sept—The murder of a US-backed Iraqi leader, a bombing at a Baghdad hotel used by a US television network and an attack on US soldiers deepened Washington's troubles on Thursday as it tried to enlist the world's help to stabilise and rebuild Iraq.

US authorities announced Akila al-Hashemi, one of three women on Washington's handpicked Iraqi Governing Council, died from wounds suffered in an assassination attempt five days ago. The council announced three days of national mourning.

"Today the people of Iraq lost a courageous champion and pioneer for the cause of freedom and democracy," the US governor of Iraq, Paul Bremer, said in a statement.

互联网

**In book, Clark sees US errors in Iraq strategy**

**New York**, 26 Sept — The US-led invasion and occupation of Iraq was "a perfect example" of military domination while failing to achieve victory, retired general and Democratic presidential hopeful Wesley Clark wrote in a new book.

Clark, who joined the 2004 race last week, also said he learned in November 2001 that the Bush Administration’s plan for invading Iraq and ousting President Saddam Hussein had been part of a broader five-year military campaign in seven countries that Washington accused of supporting terrorism.

He believed that would be a mistake, Clark wrote in Winning Modern Wars: Iraq, Terrorism and the American Empire to be published by Public Affairs next month.

Clark wrote that a senior military officer told him on a visit to the Pentagon in November 2001 that the US was planning to go against Iraq but there was more to it.

After Iraq, the plan called for targeting Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Iran, Somalia and Sudan.

"He said it with pro-ach — with disbelief, at-most — at the breadth of the vision," Clark wrote. "I moved the conversation away, for this was not something I wanted to see moving forward either."

"What a mistake! I reflected as though the terrorism were simply coming from those states," said Clark, whose book is a military, diplomatic and strategic analysis rather than a personal account of his long military career.

Clark, a four-star Army General, was Supreme Allied Commander in Europe from 1997 to 2000.

Clark, 58, said that speculating during the summer, when he was still writing the book, that he might participate in the 2004 election against Republican President George W Bush "had no bearing on my analysis".

He argued in the book that by pursuing Iraq, the US war against the al-Qaeda global network of Islamist militants blamed for the September 11 attacks was subordinated.

"Of the Iraqi military campaign, Clark wrote that the "brilliance of the tactics and leadership" in the battlefield "disguised fundamental flaws in strategy."

"Needless risks were taken with the force structure; there was inadequate planning for the postconflict phase; and vital international support was carelessly disregarded."

"It has thus far been a perfect example of dominat- ing an enemy force but failing to secure the victory."

互联网

**AFP reports ambush leaves seven US soldiers wounded in Iraq**

Baghdad, 26 Sept — Seven US soldiers were wounded when their convoy was ambushed today in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, Agence France-Presse reported, citing a spokesman for their unit, the 101st Airborne Division.

One vehicle was destroyed and another damaged when two bombs exploded alongside a main road near the city’s telecommunications center, AFP cited Major Troy Cate as saying. After the blasts, gunfire shot at the convoy and fled when the soldiers returned fire, he said. Ten US soldiers have been killed and 122 wounded in and around Mosul since April 22, Cate told AFP.

The blast in Mosul, at about 9:30 a.m. Iraqi time, came just after a bomb killed an employee of a hotel in the center of the capital, Baghdad, used by a team from the US television network NBC, killing a Somali security guard. The bomb, left on the pavement beside the hotel, shattered windows and sent debris flying.

It was the third deadly bomb attack in Baghdad since Monday, and comes ahead of a report expected to lay open President Bush to further criticism over his main justification for going to war — his argument that Iraq posed a threat to the world.

In November 2001 that the US administration had been preparing for a war in Iraq since 1998 but there was more to it.

September 11 attacks was subordinated."

"Needless risks were taken with the force structure; there was inadequate planning for the postconflict phase; and vital international support was carelessly disregarded."

"It has thus far been a perfect example of dominat- ing an enemy force but failing to secure the victory."

AFP

"He said it with re-
Towards a Society for All Ages

Ha Tun (Tawtay)

The United Nations designated the first of October as the International Day for Older Persons in 1999. The Union of Myanmar has annually observed that day since then.

The purpose of the observance of the International Day for Older Persons is to elevate Myanmar’s admirable tradition of caring for their elderly parents. Moreover, it helps reflect the entire Myanmar people’s attitude to give priority to welfare of older persons in accord with the ways to auspiciousness.

A tradition firmly rooted in the Myanmar culture for thousands of years is the family system in which grandparents, parents, children and grandchildren live together. It can be regarded as an admirable custom to give seat to their elderly parents in the front room. Myanmars fulfill all the requirements of and take care of their parents. In return, the old persons living in the same home together with their children and grandchildren and sharing joys and sorrows contribute towards welfare of the other family members as much as they can. They are deeply delighted to do so.

I would like to present how to observe the International Day for Older Persons in Myanmar.

Now, the ageing population in the world is growing day by day. All the world’s people, therefore, ought to pay more attention to the caring for the increasing number of the aged.

Now, the world’s population is over 6.300 million and the life span of the people is longer than it was in the past. As the world population consists of youths, adults and elderly persons, the motto to mark the International Day for Older Persons is designated as “Towards a Society for All Ages.”

Myanmar, being a member of the United Nations, always puts emphasis on the objectives and plans of the UN. And Myanmar has laid down the following objectives to observe the International Day for Older Persons in conformity with the motto.

(a) to make the people become aware of the conditions of older persons
(b) to make continued efforts for taking care of the older persons in the years after 1999.
(c) to ensure participation of NGOs, journalists, private organizations and youths in these tasks.

Systematic measures are being taken for holding of the ceremony to mark the International Day for Older Persons in the nation on a grand scale. The Work Committee for Holding the Ceremony to Mark the International Day for Older Persons has been formed with Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint as patrons and Director-General of the Social Welfare Department U Sitt Myaung as chairman.

As preliminary measures for the ceremony, donations of cash and medicines were made at the Hninizong Home for the Aged on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Bahan Township on 20 September.

Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa addressed the ceremony and handed over K 100,000 and medicines to the Hnizong Home for the Aged through Chairman of the Management Committee for the Home U Maung Tin.

This year’s awards will be presented to the oldest man and woman of respective states and divisions in the nation. And Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Motion Picture Asayjon, Myanmar Music Asayjon, Myanmar Thabin Asayjon, Myanmar Artistes and Artisans Asayjon and the Sports and Physical Education Department will each donate K 50,000 and medicines to every outstanding persons aged over 80. Besides, respective officials will personally present K 100,000 each and medicines to large homes for the aged and K 50,000 each and medicines to homes for the aged. They will present the donations to 39 State-acknowledged homes for the aged across the nation. Furthermore, rice and cash assistance is being provided for 37 out of the homes for the aged including the ones founded by social and religious organizations in the whole country.

The UN acknowledged that the average life span of the people was 46 years in 1950, compared with 66 years now. In the past, one in every ten people was an older person, compared with one in every five people now. The number of the ageing population is growing rapidly in the developing countries. And persons aged 60 and above make up seven per cent of the population of the South East Asian nations in 2000 and it is estimated to reach up to 13 per cent in 2025. According to the official estimates, 6.8 per cent of Myanmar’s population (52.4 million) are aged 60 and above, 8.1 per cent in 2000, and 8.1 per cent in 2003 and it will increase reaching up to 12.1 per cent in 2025.

In accord with the teachings of our parents and grandparents, we Myanmars pay respects to our grandparents, parents and teachers at the beginning and end of the year. As it has been expressed by the Minister, the government will each donate K 50,000 and medicines to the Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Chairman of the Management Committee for the Home U Maung Tin.

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp every day by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of electricity

* Use daylight as the main source of light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
* Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

Efficient use of fuel

* Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
* Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US $5.5 million in a year
* The amount, US $5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

The Objectives of the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

- to vitalize patriotism and nationalism in all citizens
- to preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage
- to perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts
- to preserve Myanmar national character
- to nurture spiritual development of the youths
- to prevent influence of alien cultures
Most important factor in …

(f) Participation of the Tatmadaw in the national political leading role of the future State—have been laid down.

The delegate groups were formed, the panel of chairmen were elected and the papers were presented effectively utilizing the natural resources, for building firm infrastructures.

The future political programme to march towards a modern and developed nation is our own programme. It is the programme to firmly materialize the discipline-flourishing democracy that will glorify our history and strengthen the national characteristics, without tarnishing the national prestige and integrity of our people.

Those attending the mass rally to support the seven-point roadmap of the State. — MNA.

Loikaw Township USDA member Daw Kathy Myo Myint acting as master of ceremonies at the mass rally.

No photos accompanying this page.
Most important factor in …

The emergence of a new enduring constitution is the most important factor in building the future nation. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance, saying that whatever policy is practiced in the nation a constitution is required, and it must be the enduring constitution that could serve the interest of the entire national people.

The seven future policies and programmes are:

1. Resumption of the National Convention that has been adjourned since 1996.
2. After the successful holding of the National Convention, step by step implementation of the process necessary for the emergence of a genuine and disciplined democratic system.
3. Drafting of a new constitution in accord with basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention.
4. Adoption of the constitution through national referendum.
5. Holding of free and fair elections for Pyithu Hluttaw (Legislative bodies) according to new constitution.
6. Convening of Hluttaw attended by Hluttaw members in accord with the new constitution.
7. Building a modern, developed democratic nation by the state leaders elected by Hluttaw, and the government and other central organs formed by the Hluttaw.

The political roadmap of the State to continue to be implemented for the emergence of the modern developed democratic nation and of a new enduring constitution in conformity with the 12 political, economic and social objectives is crucial for the State and the people.

Those in attendance at the mass rally to support the seven-point roadmap of the State. — MNA

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Those in attendance at the mass rally to support the seven-point roadmap of the State. — MNA

The new light of Myanmar Saturday, 27 September, 2003
Most important factor in … aware of this fact. Everybody should be aware of the fact that the country was under the control of the imperialists for over 100 years and later she became independent. Independent Myanmar came into existence after sacrificing many lives, blood and sweat. 

Thus, a peaceful, modern and developed Myanmar is to be built uplifting Our Three Main National Causes. In the development of the Union, the non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty are main issues to stand tall among the nations of the world. He seconded the motion 

calling on the entire people to take part in their respective sectors actively with full Union Spirit for success of the seven future political programmes tabled by U Po Rai Aung Thein. 

Mr. Minister of Dimanwso Township Working Committee for Women’s Affairs Daw Tin Tin Ohn seconded the motion tabled by U Po Rai Aung Thein, calling on the entire people to take part in their respective sectors actively with full Union Spirit for success of the seven future political programmes tabled by U Po Rai Aung Thein.

In 1988, the number of deans and faculty members were only over 5,600 and now the number has increased reaching up to 16,600. 

In 1988, the universities opened masters degree courses as the highest level, in comparison with masters degrees on thesis, masters, and PhD degrees now have been opened. 

With a view to enabling the students in Kayah State to pursue higher education, Loikaw College was upgraded to Loikaw University on 14 May 2003. 

Moreover, a government technological college and a computer college were opened. In Kayah State, there were 16 rural health care centres in the past and now the number has increased up to 19. 

And there were four stations in the past and now the number has increased reaching up to 8. Besides, a nursing and midwifery training school was opened in Loikaw.

Border areas development projects met with significant success. 

The government established the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development of the border areas and raising the living standard of the national races. So far, the border areas development project has benefited 68 townships of 18 regions in seven states and seven divisions.

In a bid to build up a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation, the most important factor is the emergence of a disciplined democratic system that does not affect the historical traditions of the Union of the national races who have lived keeping eggs and nest intact for thousands of years; that does not affect the national prestige and integrity and characteristics of the people and nation. 

She quoted the message sent on the occasion of the 46th Union Day on 12 February 1993 by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior Gen Than Shwe in which the Head of State said national races live in the Union of Myanmar and they are kith and kin based on Union spirit although they have different culture, customs, languages and social style. 

The 1947 constitution was abolished and the 1974 constitution was annulled. At a time when Myanmar is moving its democratic path, efforts are to be made to draft the constitution for the emergence of a new firm and makes the nations harmonized with the Twelve Objectives being implemented in accordance with the 1947 policy — Our Three Main National Causes. The top priority is to be given to the seven future policies, and the people should notice that the essence of the policies is emergence of a real democratic nation. 

Implementation of the seven-step plan, the real democratic nation can be built up by overcoming various difficulties and difficulties through the might of the national unity, Union Spirit and national cause. 

In conclusion, she said that she resolutely seconded the motion presented by U Po Rai Aung Thein. Afterwards, the chairman sought the approval of the members of the Union for the motion that is in harmony with the mass rally for democracy.

The master of ceremony and chairman confirmed the motion.

The mass rally unanimously approved the motion, and the chairman confirmed the motion.

The master of ceremony presented several resolutions of the mass rally for active participation of the entire national people by doing their bit for the successful implementation of the seven future policies and programmes tabled by U Po Rai Aung Thein. 

The mass rally concluded by chanting the slogan. 

International Federation of Women Entrepreneurs and Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association meets

The afternoon session of the 10th Global Conference of Women Entrepreneurs in progress. — MNA

In education sector, highly-qualified human resources are being nurtured and produced employing advanced technologies for the development of the nation. 

Efforts are being made with might and main for the promotion of the nation’s education standards. 

There were only 33,000 basic education schools in 1988, and now there are over 40,000 schools in 2003. And there were over 170,000 teachers and there are over 220,000 teachers in 2003. 

Thanks to the three ‘Rs’ — Thanks to the three “Rs” of education, that is, reading, writing and arithmetic, of which reading and writing are the most important, there has been increasing of self-reliance. 

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Thanks to the three ‘Rs’ — Thanks to the three “Rs” of education, that is, reading, writing and arithmetic, of which reading and writing are the most important, there has been increasing of self-reliance.
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

Kayah State is situated in eastern Myanmar and bounded on the north by Shan State, on the east by Thailand and on the south and west by Kayin State. The photo shows famous Taungkwe Pagoda in Loikaw, Kayah State.

The Government has been laying down and implementing plans for bringing about all-round development in the whole country. For extension of agricultural tasks, dams and reservoirs are being built spending a large sum of money. By opening the Loinanpha Dam, agricultural works can now be extended further in Kayah State. The dam will irrigate 2,150 acres of land. It was built on Tikellya Creek near Loinanpha village, Dimawhsso Township, Kayah State and was commissioned into service on 6 March 2002.

The government is endeavouring for equitable development of all regions in the country. As a result, people living in different regions of the nation are now witnessing significant progress in their respective regions. In Kayah State also, infrastructures for various sectors have been built. The number of educational infrastructures have increased significantly compared with the period before 1988. The photo shows the Government Computer College in Loikaw, capital of Kayah State.
Chinese President meets Russian PM

BEIJING, 26 Sept — Chinese President Hu Jintao said here Wednesday that opening the China-Russia strategic partnership of cooperation signifies the fundamental interests of the two peoples.

At a meeting with Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov, who is here for an official visit, Hu said in recent years, China and Russia had made full use of the cooperative mechanisms between the two governments and actively implemented the important consensus reached by their leaders.

Stronger and deeper strategic cooperation was the common choice and complied with the fundamental interests of the two peoples, which was conducive to regional and world peace, stability and development, Hu said. China would strictly follow the China-Russia joint treaty on good-neighbourly friendship and cooperation and other important documents, and join Russia in pushing forward the strategic cooperative partnership.

Hu said economic and trade cooperation was an important component of strategic cooperation, which was significant to boosting economic growth and building the foundations of good-neighbourly friendship and cooperation. Hu urged the two sides to balance interests and further improve economic and trade cooperation under the principle of mutual benefit and support to still gain new power to the strategic cooperative partnership.

Kasyanov said he was glad to see cooperation proceeding with important achievements. The Russian Prime Minister, who led a high-level delegation of officials from Russia’s central and local governments on the visit, said governments and enterprises of the two sides had held in-depth discussions on further bilateral economic and trade cooperation.

Russia hoped the two sides could work together to adjust trade structure and increase investment so as to uplift bilateral trade volume. —MNA/Xinhua

Russian PM pledges to keep promise on oil pipeline plan

BEIJING, 26 Sept — Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov said here Wednesday the Russian government was keeping its promise and abide by the agreement reached on the construction of the oil transmission pipeline between Russia and China.

Kasyanov said at a joint news conference after formal talks with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao that the cooperation in oil and natural gas was a priority in economic cooperation, and the two sides exchanged views fully during his visit.

He reiterated the commitments Russia made in meeting China’s needs of oil and natural gas during the talks, and the Russian side “will live up to the commitments”.

The cooperation in oil and natural gas area was being implemented vigorously, said the Russian Prime Minister.

—MNA/Xinhua

Illegal labour ring smashed in Germany

BERLIN, 26 Sept — Police smashed a illegal labour ring in northern Germany on Wednesday.

Officials in the northern city of Oldenburg said 10 persons were arrested in the mass swoop.

The chief suspect was a 37-year-old Turkish man who was believed to have headed the ring that smuggled workers from Romania and Bulgaria to Germany to be mental labour.

One officer said police officers raided 25 homes in three towns near Oldenburg.

In Wednesday’s action, police also arrested 31 suspected illegal workers into custody. Police said the illegal workers were brought to Germany on tourist visas and then given low-wage jobs. —MNA/Xinhua

International freight association to convene in Bali

JAKARTA, 26 Sept — The International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA) will hold its World Conference from September 29 to October 3 in Bali, the organizer said.

The congress titled “Role of the Forwarder in the Logistics and Supply Chain”, was expected to draw up to 1,000 participants from across the world, the Indonesian Forwarders Association (INFA), the organizer, was quoted on Wednesday by The Jakarta Post reporters.

The forum is meant to support the government’s programme of hiring foreign tourists to Indonesia, especially Bali.

—MNA/Xinhua

Chinese President Hu Jintao and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin met here Wednesday afternoon for a one-on-one meeting.

The two leaders had their talks before the closing ceremony of the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations.

Russia’s Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov, who is on the four-day official visit to China, is scheduled to leave Beijing for Japan Wednesday evening.

—MNA/Xinhua

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WHO pledges to do everything in fight against HIV “AIDS”

NAIROBI, 26 Sept — A senior World Health Organisati

New Zealand to build nuclear test monitoring station in Fiji

WELLINGTON, 26 Sept — New Zealand is to build a nuclear test monitoring station in Fiji to help official sources here today.

New Zealand’s Health Minister Annette King signed a contract on behalf of the government with the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) for the installation of a radionuclide station in Nadi, Fiji.

New Zealand’s National Radiation Laboratory (NRL) will build the one million NZ dollars station, which is part of a worldwide network of 32 monitoring stations designed to help enforcement of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty.

NRL Director Jim Turnbull said in a statement that it “continues to enhance New Zealand’s credibility in the international disarmament arena.” The Nadi station will join three other radionuclide stations operated by the NRL in New Zealand and the Cook Islands.

The NRL is also in the final stages of completing the installation of an infrasound station on Chatham Island, according to Turnbull. The test ban treaty, signed by more than 160 countries, including New Zealand, is intended to stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and lead to disarmament.

However, the treaty can only be effective if there is a monitoring system in place, Turnbull said.

“NRL’s involvement right from the beginning has put New Zealand at the forefront of implementing and enforcing the treaty, which is an achievement all New Zealanders can be proud of,” he said.

The National Radiation Laboratory, a business unit of New Zealand Ministry of Health, has operated a comprehensive radioactivity monitoring programme since 1997.

But Musharraf disagreed. “The fate of the Palestinian people is the principal factor in determining public and political perceptions in the entire Islamic world. It is only progress towards a just peace that can marginalize the extremists,” he said.

Algeria’s President Abdelaziz Bouteflika also used this week’s high-level meeting to warn against “the tendentious association of terrorism with a religion, a civilization or a geographical area”.

Bangladesh sets criteria for shrimp export

DHAKA, 26 Sept — The Bangladesh Government has decided to maintain the exact standard of exportable shrimp by setting up a set of criteria, reported the Financial Express Thursday.

The decision was made by the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) recently in a bid to boost the export of the frozen shrimp.

Under the decision, the exporters have been made mandatory to test shrimp at the appointed chlorophenol laboratory before export.

The exporter, moreover, will have to collect their standard control certificates from the Department of Fisheries Standard Control (DFSC) with a declaration that the shrimp is free from antibiotics.

Besides, before releasing shrimp from the farms, shrimp farmers will also have to collect certificates from the DFSC declaring that they do not use fish feed or fish meal which contains antibiotics.

To ensure the hygienic environment in the shrimp farms, all open latrines on the farms should be replaced with sanitary latrines supplied by the Department of Public Health and functioning as soon as possible.

The farmers will enjoy duty-free facilities for importing all types of shrimp testing kits in accordance with the decision. The country earns $1.21 billion US dollars from exporting frozen foods in the fiscal 2002-2003 against a target of $313.14 million dollars. The EPB has set an export target of $370 million dollars for the current fiscal 2003-2004.

Stone Age man dumped fish supper for steak and vegetables

LONDON, 26 Sept — Stone Age man swapped a diet of fish for one of meat and vegetables as soon as the opportunity arose, according to researchers at Bradford University in northern England.

“In Britain it happened very quickly, in a generation or two,” team leader Michael Richards told Reuters. “We had expected to find a mere switchover, but this was a virtual dietary revolution.”

Richards’ team studied dietary change during the Neolithic period between 5,200 and 4,500 years ago, using carbon isotopes to assess how the rate of change coincided with the emergence of a domesticated lifestyle from one based purely on opportunistic hunting.

It published the results in the science journal Nature.

“Out went the mackerel, fish and instead we find a wholesale switch to other meats. We have found huge quantities of cattle bones as well as pigs in the settlements from this period,” Richards said.

And it wasn’t just the inland dwellers who suddenly gave up fish in favour of meat and vegetables. Richards’ team found an equally sharp and rapid change in the diets of even coastal inhabitants.

“It was a complete dietary makeover. We have no evidence that there were suddenly no fish in the sea. The people simply stopped eating fish,” he said, adding that there was no obvious explanation for the sudden change other than the desire for a change in diet allied with a more static lifestyle.

Stone Age man dumped fish supper for steak and vegetables

British Air-ways to resume flights to Pakistan

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Flights had been suspended in September 2001 because of security concerns.

The government followed devastating attacks on US cities when hijacked planes slammed into New York and Washington, killing around 3,000 people and leading to the outrage of war in Afghanistan.—MNA/Reuters

Islamic leaders urge US to stop ganging up on Palestinians

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Sept — Islamic world leaders are urging Washington to stop ganging up on Palestinians in the name of the war on terrorism, warning this could fuel Muslims’ perception that the campaign was targeting them.

In speeches at the United Nations this week, leaders of Algeria, Indonesia, Pakistan and Syria said they feared the global battle against terrorism, the United States’ top priority, was being used as an excuse to target the Palestinians’ desire for an end to Israeli occupation.

Kuwait, meanwhile, slammed a US campaign to accuse its neighbour, Saudi Arabia, of being involved in terrorism.

“The war against terrorism must be fought comprehensively, on a global front,” Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf told the 191-nation UN General Assembly on Wednesday.

“It must not be hijacked by those who seek to use it as an excuse to suppress other peoples. It must not be allowed to engender a clash of civilizations — a clash between Islam and the West,” he said.

The United States and its ally Israel say Palestinian violence is itself the problem in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. They argue Palestinian militant groups must be shut down before there can be progress on a Middle East peace plan.

And it wasn’t just the open latrines on the farms which had been replaced with sanitary latrines supplied by the Department of Public Health and functioning as soon as possible.

The farmers will enjoy duty-free facilities for importing all types of shrimp testing kits in accordance with the decision. The country earns $1.21 billion US dollars from exporting frozen foods in the fiscal 2002-2003 against a target of $313.14 million dollars. The EPB has set an export target of $370 million dollars for the current fiscal 2003-2004.

But Musharraf disagreed. “The fate of the Palestinian people is the principal factor in determining public and political perceptions in the entire Islamic world. It is only progress towards a just peace that can marginalize the extremists,” he said.

Flights had been suspended in September 2001 because of security concerns.

The government followed devastating attacks on US cities when hijacked planes slammed into New York and Washington, killing around 3,000 people and leading to the outrage of war in Afghanistan.—MNA/Reuters
Oliveira strike gives Valencia 1-0 win over AIK

STOCKHOLM, 26 Sept — Valencia’s Brazilian striker Ricardo Oliveira gave them a 1-0 win at AIK Stockhom in the first leg of their UEFA Cup first round match on Wednesday.

Oliveira scored in the 65th minute after his strike partner Juan Sanchez set him up inside the area for the only goal.

AIK had started the game more aggressively and outplayed Valencia, who took few risks throughout the match, during the opening spell.

Stefan Ishitizaki came close to giving the home side the lead with a close-range shot that Valencia goalkeeper Andres Palop kept out with a spectacular save.

Oliveira had Valencia’s best chance of the opening period when his effort was saved by Hakan Svensson in the 21st minute. A minute before halftime AIK striker Daniel Hoch was left unmarked in the penalty area but failed to reach a long pass.

Valencia began to get on top after the break and pushed a AIK back into their own half, but they created few chances until Oliveira popped up to score what proved to be the winner.

Spurs win 3-0 in first match since Hoddle sacking

LONDON, 26 Sept — Tottenham Hotspur won 3-0 at first division Coventry City in the League Cup on Wednesday in their first match since they sacked manager Glenn Hoddle.

Spurs strikers Frederic Kanoute and Robbie Keane combined twice to score a goal each in the opening 23 minutes of the second round match at Highfield Road.

Substitute Rohan Ricketts increased the lead in the 56th minute with a fine shot from the edge of the box, his first goal for Tottenham.

Hoddle, who had been in charge at Spurs since April 2001, was sacked on Sunday following a 3-1 premier league defeat at home to his former club Southampton on Saturday.

FA charge six Arsenal, two United players

LONDON, 26 Sept — Six Arsenal players and two from champions Manchester United have been charged with improper conduct after a fracas in Sunday’s bad-tempered 0-0 draw at Old Trafford, the Football Association (FA) said on Wednesday.

Arsenal, as a club, have been charged with misconduct, while the individual charges apply to Ashley Cole, Lauren, Jens Lehmann, Ray Parlour, skipper Patrick Vieira and Martin Keown.

Roma prove too strong for Macedonia’s Vardar

ROME, 26 Sept — AS Roma opened their UEFA Cup challenge with a 4-0 win on Wednesday, outclassing Macedonian side Vardar at the Olympic Stadium.

Even without their usual strike partner ship of Francesco Totti and Antonio Cassano, both of whom started on the bench, Roma easily controlled the opening half in which Vardar failed to create a single shot on goal.

The Italian side took the lead in the 12th minute when defender Traianos Dellas connected with midfielder Gaetano D’Agostino’s corner, looping a header into the top right corner of Vardar keeper Gogo Jovcev’s net.

Eight minutes later, they scored their second. Delias sent a long ball over the top of the visitors’ defence to midfielder David De Rossi, who timed his run to perfection, brought the ball down and chipped it over Jovcev.

Roma’s dominance continued after the break, Norwegian international striker John Carew, a close-season signing from Valencia, striking with a header in the 54th minute and Marco Delvecchio sealing the result with the last kick of the match.

It was the Italian club’s first home European win since they beat Barcelona in February 2002 and leaves them with a seemingly easy round tie.

Genclerbirligi sink Blackburn 3-1 in UEFA Cup

ANKARA, 26 Sept — Two goals from Genclerbirligi striker Souleymane Youla helped the Turkish side to a convincing 3-1 win over England’s Blackburn Rovers in the first leg of their round UEFA Cup match on Wednesday.

Security was high at the Ankara stadium but there were no signs of trouble among the capacity crowd in a match seen as a test ahead of next month’s potentially volatile Euro 2004 qualifying decider between England and Turkey.

Genclerbirligi looked more dangerous team in the first half and finally scored in the 42nd minute when Azerbaijan’s Josip Skoko fired a half-volley past Brad Friedel after the goalkeeper had made a couple of saved clearance. The home side extended their lead a minute later when the 21-year-old Youla, joint top scorer in the Turkish league this season, struck a fierce left-foot shot past the helpless Friedel from just inside the penalty area.

Blackburn got back into the match through midfielder Brett Emerton, who slotted home from eight metres on 57 minutes after striker Andy Cole wriggled free inside the area to set up his third goal in the opening spell.

Spurs striker Frederic Kanoute and Robbie Keane combined twice to score a goal each in the opening 23 minutes of the second round match at Highfield Road.

Substitute Rohan Ricketts increased the lead in the 56th minute with a fine shot from the edge of the box, his first goal for Tottenham.

Hoddle, who had been in charge at Spurs since April 2001, was sacked on Sunday following a 3-1 premier league defeat at home to his former club Southampton on Saturday.

Second division Swindon Town, Hoodie’s first club as a manager, were on the verge of a shock victory at Leeds United.

England goalkeeper Paul Robinson saved the premier league side by coming upfield to head a 90th-minute equalizer and send the match into extra time.

Swindon were 2-0 up after 74 minutes but Leeds pulled one back through Irish defender Ian Harte three minutes later and the visitors then had keeper Bart Grienik sent off two minutes from time for a second bookable offence.

Brazilian striker Mario Jardel scored twice for Bolton Wanderers in their 3-1 home win over division Walsall.
YANGON, 26 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence attended a coordination meeting on regional rice sufficiency of Taninthayi Division at the Kyunyadana meeting hall of Myeik District Peace and Development Council Office yesterday morning.

In the meeting were Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Coastal Region Command Commander Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung, Deputy Commander Col Hone Naing, and officials.

The commander, the deputy minister and officials reported on agricultural undertakings and food sufficiency.

In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said Myanmar being an agrarian country, the Head of State always gives guidance on giving priority to agricultural development. The regional rice sufficiency will ensure the rice sufficiency of the country. Geographically, Taninthayi Division is good for the agricultural undertakings. Therefore, emphasis should be placed on regional rice sufficiency. The State is striving for the production of surplus rice, sufficiency of edible oil, boosting the production of export pulses and beans, cotton and industrial crops. As for the local rice sufficiency, various means including extended cultivation, cultivation of high yield and quality strains and double cropping are to be employed.

While emphasis is placed on paddies, extended cultivation of other crops must also be carried out. Correct and precise statistics on agriculture sector must be compiled and agricultural technologies must also be disseminated to farmers by responsible officials. In conclusion, he urged people of Taninthayi Division to strive for local rice sufficiency, production of surplus and export meat and fish, and extended cultivation of oil palm and rubber. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived at the sea prawn breeding camp of Golden Myeik Co Ltd in Shwe-paw Village of Santawut Village-attract in Myeik Township by boat and inspected the production and breeding of sea prawn.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party also inspected the fish breeding ponds of Nyen Chan Yaw Co. He also visited Myeik General Hospital and comforted the patients there. At the midwifery training school of the hospital reported to Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party on strength of medical staff and health care services.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that the State Peace and Development Council is striving to enable Myanmar to keep abreast of world nations, setting up plans for enlisting the strength of health and fit national people.

He said that the government, with national outlook, was providing health care services for the entire people. He also urged health personnel, who were providing medical services to the people in accord with the national health policy, to discharge their responsibilities earnestly.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo makes a speech at the coordination meeting on regional rice sufficiency in Taninthayi Division. — NMA

YANGON, 26 Sept — Under the sponsorship of the Chinese Embassy (Office of the Cultural Counsellor) in Myanmar, a “Beautiful China” Picture Exhibition was opened at the Multipurpose Room of the National Museum on Pyay Road this morning. Present on the occasion were departmental heads, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun and officials, invited guests from foreign embassies in Myanmar, Myanmar foreign correspondents, the director-general of the Department of Cultural Institute and officials. First, the Chinese Ambassador explained the purpose of holding the Picture exhibition.

Next, Brig-Gen Aung Thein extended greetings. Later, Brig-Gen Aung Thein and Mr Li Jinjun formally opened the exhibition. Afterwards, those present on the occasion viewed the photos displayed at the exhibition and saw the documentary film on Chinese development and pleasantness. The Picture exhibition will be kept open from 10 am to 5 pm till 3 October.

OBITUARY

Daw Nyunt Nyunt
Age 75
(Dorothy-Mrs Maung Maung Gyi)

Daughter of (U Ba Tin A.T.M)—(Daw Khatun) of Mawli Qu Sixway, wife of Capt (Col) Maung Maung Gyi), MN, Ambassador retit, mother of Capt Tin Gyi-Thida Linn, (Mariner Enterprise Ltd), Daw Khin Saibi, Staff Officer, MRTV-3, Capt Nyunt Gyi, Daw Nyunt Nyunt Htway (Mariner Enterprises Ltd), grand mother of Kay Zin Soe, Moe Pwint Hpyu, Aung Lynn Myat Gyi, Thei Htoo Nyunt and Thaw Htoo Nyunt, expired at home at No 11F Mayikha Road, Mayangone, Yangon, at 9.35 am on 25th September, 2003, and buried the same day at the Yayway Muslim Burial Grounds. Friends and relatives please take this as the only intimation.

Bereaved Family

Correction


Correction

Most important factor in …

(from page 1)

Now, I would like to present a concise report on the national development. Efforts are being made for emergence of human resources in all fields of the education sector, and that is the national task. In order to provide opportunities for education, basic education schools, universities and colleges have been opened across the country. As a result, in 1988 the number of basic education schools stood over 33,000. However in 2003, this has increased to over 40,000 including branch schools and affiliated schools. With a view to providing the rural areas with the opportunities to get basic middle school education, post-primary schools have been opened in the country. There were only over 600 hospitals in 1988, there were only over 600 hospitals including specialist hospitals, in 2003, the number of hospitals has reached over 750. Similarly, 84 local dispensers and over 1,400 rural health centres have been established in all parts of the country.

With regard to higher education, more universities and colleges have been opened in the 24 special development zones established in 14 States and Divisions for human resources development. Due to the opening of new universities and colleges, the number of university students and colleges has increased from 32 in 1988 to 154 at present. As the government has greatly expanded post-graduate Masters and Doctorate Courses, during the period between 2001 and 2003, over 9,000 students obtained the Masters Degree and over 200 received their Doctorates.

With respect to the Technical Education Sector, there are now four Universities of Technology, two Universities of Computer Studies, one Maritime University, one Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University, 26 Government Technical Colleges, 24 Government Computer Colleges and nine Government Technical Institutes.

In endeavouring for the development of the nation, it is necessary for the people not only to have higher standards of education, but also to be healthy and strong. Thus, the number of hospitals, which are the basic requirement for the health sector, has increased. In 1988, there were only over 600 hospitals including specialist hospitals, in 2003, the number of hospitals has reached over 750. Similarly, 84 local dispensers and over 1,400 rural health centres have been established in all parts of the country.

Now, I would like to present the political sector that is included in the second part of the Prime Minister’s address. In his address, the Prime Minister said, “Political reforms were carried out step by step for the transformation to a genuine multi-party democracy system. Our endeavours were not made in a haphazard way but to ensure the best possible future after studying the weaknesses and strength of the democracy system that had been practised in the past as well as to treat the historical wounds that have not been healed yet.”

Democracy can only materialize after taking into account the historical background and objective conditions of the country concerned. It is also a truth that democratic practices differ from one country to another. There exist differences between the countries that practice democracy today and the historical background, geographical conditions as well as the culture and character of the people of our country.

It is an undeniable fact that because of these differences, we cannot directly copy or import a democratic system that is being practiced abroad. Neither can such a change be effected overnight.

Now, I will present the seven stages of the future political programme included in the third part of the Prime Minister’s address. The most important factor in building a new, peaceful, modern, developed and democratic nation is the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic system that does not affect the national solidarity of the people of our country. Therefore, we will have to continue to work for the laying down and realization of the seven steps (the roadmap) in the political programme for the emergence of a new enduring State Constitution and building of a new modern developed nation in accordance with the national policy of Our Three Main National Causes as well as twelve political, economic and social objectives.

The seven stages of the future political programme are:

1. - Re-convening of the National Convention that has been adjourned since 1996.
2. - After the successful holding of the National Convention, step by step implementation of the process necessary for the emergence of a genuine and disciplined democratic system.
3. - Drafting of a new constitution in accordance with basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention.
4. - Adoption of the constitution through national referendum.
5. - Holding of free and fair elections for Pyithu Hluttaw (Legislative bodies) according to the new constitution.
6. - Convening of Hluttawas attended by Hluttaw members in accordance with the new constitution.
7. - Building a modern, developed and democratic nation by the state leaders elected by the Hluttaw; and the government and other central organs formed by the Hluttaw.

Efforts were initiated in 1992 for reconvening the National Convention. The six objectives of the National Convention—

(a) Non-disintegration of the Union
(b) Non-disintegration of the national solidarity
(c) Perpetuation of the national sovereignty
(d) Flourishing of a genuine multi-party democratic system
(e) Further flourishing of worldly values—justice, liberty and equality in the nation

(See page 8)