Garovo ca, reverence; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Established 1914

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 214 **8th Waning of Tazaungmon 1365 ME** **Sunday, 16 November, 2003**

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects scale model of Tipitika Nikaya building of Tipitika Monastery. —MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attends cornerstone laying ceremony in Tipitika Monastery

YANGON, 15 Nov — The cash donation and cornerstone laying ceremony of Tipitika Nikaya building of Tipitika Monastery was held at the monastery on Sakawa Road in Dagon Township this morning. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the ceremony.

Also present on the occasion were members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee led by Secretary Magway Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kumara, the pro-rector Sayadaw (Academic) of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, Tipitika Ovada Cariya Sayadaws, Tipitika Dhara Tipitika Kovida Sayadaws, member Sayadaws of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee, the Nayaka Sayadaw and members of the Sangha of the monastery, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, members of Ti-Ni Missionary Upahtaka Committee and wellwishers.

(See page 8)

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

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Myanmar women, like men enjoy equal rights throughout Myanmar history according to existing laws

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets members of MNCWA

YANGON, 15 Nov— Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt met members of the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs and officials from the women's sector at Myanma Information and Communication Technology Park in Hline Township this afternoon and gave instructions on promotion of activities in carrying out the tasks of the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs widely and effectively.

Present were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the deputy ministers, members of the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs, members of Work Committee and members of State and Division Women's Affairs Committees.

In his address, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs has been participating in development of the women sector nationwide. He said present activities are not enough for the committee to continue its efforts as there are a lot of tasks to be done. That is why the meeting was held to promote the tasks of the women's sector widely and effectively by MNCWA, he said.

He said 52 per cent of population in the Union of Myanmar are women. It is an enormous force which constitutes more than that of men. Myanmar women, like men enjoy equal rights throughout the Myanmar history according to the existing laws.

It is a practice for women to follow the men's leadership according to Myanma cultural customs emerged from the teachings of Theravada Buddhism which Myanmar people believe in, he added.

In accord with a Myanmar saying "Couples, man and wife, have to do their bit", a husband was designated as the head of the household and a wife supported him as a life partner and they established a family life together, he said.

(See page 8)

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets with members of MNCWA and responsible personnel of the women sector. — MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 16 November, 2003

For further regional development

The Government is seeking various ways and means to promote the development momentum of the agriculture sector, the main economy of the State. Cotton, sugar-cane and beans and pulses are designated as the four major crops in addition to paddy and emphasis has been put on growing these crops.

At the same time, efforts are being made to upgrade the agricultural standard by providing modern farm implements, distributing quality strains and disseminating modern cultivation methods to farmers.

In the country, Ayeyawady Division takes the first position in growing monsoon and summer paddy. Altogether 3.4 million acres of land have been put under monsoon paddy, 1.6 million acres under summer paddy and 1.3 million acres under beans and pulses in the division and thus it can be said that the division is the one on which the State can rely economically.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, on 9 and 10 November, inspected agricultural and livestock breeding tasks and regional development tasks in Ayeyawady Division.

During his inspection tour, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with local farmers and discussed matters relating to making preparations for growing summer paddy and beans and pulses and urged them to strive for realizing the goal of growing 1.6 million acres of summer paddy.

In addition to the agriculture sector, livestock breeding tasks are being carried out in Ayeyawady Division. The incubator of South West Command can produce 2,700 chicken every six days. Moreover, local pedigree chicken are being raised at Apinhnahse Farm near Yangon-Pathein Highway.

Together with the development in the agriculture sector, Ayeyawady Division is witnessing new roads and bridges as construction of roads and bridges for regional development is being carried out with momentum.

Ngawun river-crossing Pathein Bridge is under construction. Over six miles of new road is being built to link Pathein Bridge and Pathein-Chaungtha motor road. Measures are also being taken to connect the approach bridge and old Pathein-Ngwe Hsaung motor road.

It is sure that the bridge will also contribute much towards the smooth flow of commodities, thereby helping raise the economic, social and regional development.

Farmers of Ayeyawady Division are urged to actively take part in efforts to put 1.6 million acres of land under summer paddy and to boost the per acre yield and regional development endeavours.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects teaching and learning activities in Kwinwaing Village BEHS (Branch) in Thandwe Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects regional development tasks in Rakhine State

YANGON, 15 Nov— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, yesterday, left here by air and arrived at Thandwe in Rakhine State at 7 am. He was welcomed there by Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Oo and officials.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to ice and cold storage factory run by Annawahlwan Co.Ltd in Thabyugyaing of Thandwe Township.

Director U Myint Soe and Manager U Kyaw Myint of the company reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on matters relating to renting the ice and cold storage factory from Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, arrangements being made to repair the factory and producing of ice. Maj-Gen Maung Oo made a supplementary report.

After giving instructions to officials, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected the factory. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Affiliated Basic Education High School in Kwinwaing Village. They were welcomed there by Rakhine State Education Officer U Thaung Sein and officials. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than viewed round the school. At the school, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with local people. First, Kyaukkalat Village Tract PDC Chairman U Hla Pu reported on formation of the village tract and education, health, economy and transport of the village tract.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than made a speech saying that he was there to observe the objective conditions of the region and fulfill the needs. He continued to say that only when there is peace and tranquillity in the region will there be better condition to carry out regional development tasks. Eighty percent of the population of the country reside in rural areas and rural area development undertakings are being carried out after laying down the five rural development tasks, he noted. It is required to extend paddy cultivation and in doing so, it is necessary to use quality strains of crops, organic and inorganic fertilizer and extend the sown acreage, he stressed. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than cordially greeted those present.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to Station Hospital in Kwinwaing village. Head of District Health Department Dr Khine Soe and people welcomed them.

After inspecting the hospital, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also met with officers, other ranks and their families of local battalion at the hall of the battalion. He gave instructions on carrying out agricultural and livestock breeding tasks on a manageable scale and income generating of the families. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party next arrived at Amata Resort and Spa Ngapali which is under construction on Ngapali beach in Myabyin Village Tract in Thandwe Township where they were welcomed by Managing Director U Win Aung and officials of United International Group. The managing director reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on construction of Amata Resort and Spa Ngapali hotel. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party were conducted round the construction site by officials.

Amata Resort and Spa Project is being implemented on 5.2 acres of land on Ngapali Beach. Architect U Zaw Moe of Spine Architect made design for the project and the construction is under the supervision of K&W Syndicate.

On completion of the project, the hotel will include 105 rooms with the main building, kitchen room, swimming pool, and two storey building with 12 rooms. They next arrived at the construction site of Ngapali Beach Hotel which is being built by Tun Lin Yaung Company. Director U Zeya Min Din of the company reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on construction of the hotel.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party were conducted round the construction site by officials. Tun Lin Yaung Company is implementing the Ngapali Beach Hotel Project on 4.33 acres of land. It is implemented in two phases— in the first phase, there will be 37 rooms that can accommodate 74 guests and in the second phase, 35 rooms for 70 guests.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than next arrived at local battalion in Thandwe and met with officers, other ranks and their families. After giving instructions on extension of agriculture and livestock breeding tasks Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party left there in the evening.

MNA

Culture Ministry offers *Soon* to Sangha

YANGON, 15 Nov — Staff of the Ministry of Culture offered *Soon* to Sayadaws (Academic) of the State Pariyatti Sasana University and members of the Sangha at Mogok Refectory, Kaba Aye Hill this morning. Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung attended the ceremony and offered provisions to Sayadaws.

Present on the occasion were State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) Rector Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Pandita Bhivamsa, directors-general, deputy directors-general of the department under the ministry, rectors, professors and directors of the University of Culture, departmental officials and staff families. First, the minister and the congregation received the Five Precepts from Rector Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Panita Bhivamsa.

Next, the minister offered provisions to the Rector Sayadaw. Afterwards, Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung presented K 180,000 for offeeering *Soon* donated by staff families of the ministry to Director of Department of Promotion and Propagation of Sasana U Aung Khine.

After that, the congregation shared merits gained and offered *Soon* to members of the Sangha.

MNA

RESPECT-PAYING CEREMONY HELD: Myanmar Engineering Society held a respect-paying ceremony at Yangon Technological University on 15-11-2003. Photos show members of the society paying respects to senior engineers and architects. — NLM

Auto-Exchange Spare Parts Factory opens

YANGON, 15 Nov— The Auto-Exchange Spare Parts Factory of FISCA Enterprises was opened at No 1/B, Pyay Road 9th Mile, Mayangon Township yesterday evening.

The opening ceremony was attended by Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraph Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Economic and Commercial Counsellor Mr Jin Honggen, delegates to Yunan Telecom Group and guests. After the ceremony, those in attendance viewed round the show room of FISCA Enterprises.

Next, officials of FISCA Enterprises presented reports to the ministers and guests on functions of the enterprises.

Afterwards, the ministers and guests viewed round the Auto-Exchange Spare Parts Factory. — *MNA*

Three US troops killed in Iraq as Washington steps up fight against guerillas

BAGHDAD, 15 Nov— Three more US soldiers were killed in attacks in Iraq as the US military on Friday stepped up the fight against armed resistance to its occupation of the country, foiling an alleged plot to fire rockets at an American base. The intensification of the US offensive against alleged guerillas came as Washington explored a faster handover of power to Iraqis in the wake of a surge in violence since the start of the month.

The two soldiers were killed and three more wounded when their convoy was struck by an explosive charge north of Baghdad late Thursday, a military statement said Friday.

"Two Task Force Ironhorse soldiers were killed and three were wounded when the convoy they were traveling in was attacked with an improvised explosive device at approximately 4:30pm (1330 GMT) on November 13," it said.

A 1st Armoured Division soldier died from wounds received when his convoy was struck in a similar bombing attack Friday morning in central Baghdad, another military statement said.

Two other soldiers received shrapnel wounds in that attack.

The latest casualties come amid a surge in violence that has killed more than 41 US soldiers in combat since the start of November.

The deaths also raised to 160 the number of US soldiers killed in combat in Iraq since May 1, when Washington declared major hostilities over.

A military spokesperson also said Friday a US civilian working for the US army was killed and another wounded when assailants opened fire late Thursday on them as they were travelling north of Baghdad.

In an effort to stem rising attacks, US forces stepped up their offensive military operations in Baghdad and further north, in regions considered as strongholds of ousted president Saddam Hussein.

Internet

The scene of the incident in which three US soldiers were killed.—INTERNET

Gunmen hit Portuguese reporters in Iraq

LISBON (Portugal), 15 Nov— Gunmen opened fire on jeeps carrying Portuguese journalists in southern Iraq on Friday, wounding one reporter and kidnapping another, news reports said.

The six journalists were travelling in a convoy of three jeeps from the Kuwaiti border to Basra when they came under attack, Lisbon-based radio TSF reported. They had no military escort.

On an open stretch of road, two vehicles containing five armed men pulled up alongside the convoy and began shooting, one of the journalists — Sofia Lorena of the newspaper Publico — told S.I.C. television by satellite telephone.

The front two jeeps managed to flee and reach Basra but the third attempted to turn around when it was captured, she said.

Maria Joao Ruela, an S.I.C reporter, was shot and wounded in the leg, TSF said.

A TSF reporter in the convoy, Carlos Raleiras, went missing. He was later contacted on his satellite phone by the Portuguese news agency Lusa.

"I've been kidnapped. It's a very confused situation. I can't talk now," Raleiras told the agency. Raleiras was not wounded in the attack, the other reporters said.

The journalists were heading to Basra where Portuguese police are deploying with British forces.

Portugal sent 128 police officers to Iraq as planned Wednesday, but rerouted them to Basra instead of Nasiriyah, where a bombing attack at the Italian paramilitary base killed more than two dozen people.

The journalists were from S.I.C., state television Radiotelevisao Portuguesa, private channel TVI, TSF, radio station Renascenca, and daily paper Publico.

On Thursday, armed men briefly detained three Portuguese journalists on a road near and robbed one of them before US troops arrived.

Armed men in jeeps intercepted the journalists' vehicles, one carrying a reporter and a photographer from daily Jornal de Noticias and the other with a reporter from state radio Radiodifusao Portuguesa, as they approached Basra.—*Internet*

IAEA rejects US criticism of Iran report

VIENNA, 15 Nov— The UN nuclear watchdog on Thursday rejected criticism of its report on Iran's nuclear programme by a senior US official, who said the UN was wrong to conclude it had no evidence Teheran wanted atomic weapons.

In the first US reaction to a confidential report by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Undersecretary of State John Bolton said the agency's conclusion that there was no evidence of a nuclear arms programme was "impossible to believe".

IAEA spokesman Mark Gwozdecky responded: "We stand by the report, but it's confidential and will be considered at next week's (IAEA) board meeting." He declined further comment.

In the report, which was circulated among officials on Monday and obtained by *Reuters,* the IAEA said Iran had a centrifuge uranium enrichment programme for 18 years and a high-tech laser enrichment programme for 12 years, both of which it kept hidden from the United Nations.

The report also said Iran admitted to producing small amounts of plutonium, useable in a bomb and with virtually no civilian uses, and had conducted secret tests of its enrichment centrifuges using nuclear material.

All of these activities could be linked to bomb-making.

"To date there is no evidence that (Iran's) previously undeclared nuclear material and activities referred to above were related to a nuclear weapons programme," the IAEA said in the report.

But the agency also made it clear it had yet to declare Iran innocent of US charges it had a secret weapons programme.—*MNA/Reuters*

Syria says US sanctions will not hurt Damascus

DAMASCUS, 15 Nov— Syria's state media on Thursday brushed off the threat of American sanctions, saying they would not harm Damascus and were only an attempt to force Syria to toe the line on Israel.

The remarks were Syria's first response to a US Senate vote this week to impose economic and diplomatic sanctions on Damascus, which Washington accuses of backing "terrorism".

In an editorial, the *al Baath* daily said the legislation would mean little to Syria, but would damage US interests by aligning them with those of Israel, Syria's arch foe.

"It's clear that the Syria Accountability Act neither serves America nor harms Syria, something reasonable people in Washington grasp completely," it said, arguing that the bill proved Syria's importance to the region.

"The emphasis that US officials, including supporters of 'Accountability', place on Syria's role reflects their anxiety that (Washington's policy of) falling in line with the Israeli project will not benefit the Americans."

The bill to impose sanctions would ban US oil companies from investing in the country's energy industry.

The *al-Thawra* daily echoed the sentiment that the legislation would do little to advance Washington's interests in Iraq or elsewhere.

MNA/Reuters

Indian brands can upstage global players

JAIPUR, 15 Nov— Indian brands that represent a range of goods and services, from airlines to mangoes, have the potential to match or even upstage well-established global brands as all the "key ingredients" of an Indian success story are already there, Ian Batey, the internationally revered marketing guru, said here.

Indian brands like Infosys, Wipro, TCS, Ranbaxy, Tetley, and Reliance have the potential to eclipse Western giants in both size and global brand recognition within the next 10 years, Batey told delegates attending Ad Asia 2003, the ongoing biennial convention of advertising and marketing professionals.

MNA/PTI

Germany to pull plug on nuclear power plant

BERLIN, 15 Nov— Germany switches off on Friday the first of 19 operational nuclear power stations due to be shut down over the next two decades under legislation to phase out nuclear energy.

The 672 megawatt Stade nuclear reactor near the northern port of Hamburg is Germany's second oldest. Work on dismantling the plant, owned by utility E.ON, is due to begin in 2005, once its fuel has been removed.

Germany's Greens made phasing out nuclear power a condition for forming a coalition with Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's Social Democrats (SPD) in 1998.

The centre-left government agreed with industry in 2000 to phase out all reactors by about 2025, but the question of what happens afterwards remains a source of controversy.

Nuclear power generates nearly a third of Germany's electricity and the government is divided over which other energy sources should replace it.

MNA/Reuters

Two tourists walk in front of 'Moai' statues, near the town of Hanga Roa on Easter Island, 4,000 km (2,486 miles) west of Santiago, October 20, 2003. Easter Island's mysterious 'Moai,' giant head statues carved out of volcanic rock, are in danger of being destroyed by years of tropical rains and wind as well as careless humans and farms animals.—INTERNET

Bush loses credibility with public over Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 15 Nov — President George W Bush credibility has suffered a notable decline as a result of the Iraq war and its aftermath, according to a new poll released Thursday by the University of Maryland's Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA).

The percentage of people who now believe that Bush and his administration were presenting evidence they knew to be false to justify the decision to go to war last March has doubled from ten percent five months ago to 21 percent in the new PIPA polls, which conducted its survey of more than 1,000 adults contacted at random from October 31 through November 10. Moreover, there was an 11 percent rise in the percentage of respondents who say Bush's performance on Iraq would make them next year's presidential elections—from 31 percent in September to 42 percent—according to PIPA director, Steve Kull.

"For the first time, the president's handling of Iraq has shifted from a net positive to a net negative for his electoral prospects," Kull told reporters Thursday.

The poll, the latest in a series that has tried to assess in depth the evolution of US public's foreign-policy attitudes, suggests that the public remains highly conflicted about the Iraqwar.

While a clear majority believe that the administration took the country to war on incorrect assumptions based on faulty—or little or no—actual evidence, a plurality still believe that it was the best thing Washington could do, and an overwhelming majority of 77 percent believe Washington now has the responsibility to remain in Iraq until a stable government can be put in place.

"The majority's views about the decision to go to war are nuanced," Kull said.

"It believes there were legitimate concerns that prompted the decision, while at the same time it believes the threat was not imminent and the decision was taken precipitously, without proper international support."

In many ways, the public has now returned to its pre-war skepticism about going to war in the first place. Until the eve of the March 20 invasion, majorities of the public consistently favored giving more time to UN arms inspectors to find whether ousted Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and to the effort to marshal more support from US allies, according to numerous polls. Once the war was launched, however, strong majorities rallied behind the decision to go to war and told pollsters that Bush had waited long enough for a diplomatic solution.

Some 61 percent of respondents in the latest PIPA poll now say that the US should have taken more time to find out about Iraq's alleged WMD program, and 59 percent say it should have taken more time to build international backing.

The poll also found that a majority of Americans now believe that the evidence that the US had on Iraq did not meet appropriate international standards for going to war without the approval of the UN Security Council.

Internet

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US civilian killed in northern Iraq

TIKRIT (Iraq), 15 Nov—An American civilian working for the US army was killed and another wounded when assailants opened fire on them as they were travelling north of Baghdad, a military spokeswoman said.

"Yesterday (Thursday) at approximately 1:00 pm (1000 GMT) two civilian vehicles were travelling north near Balad when attackers drove up from behind and fired automatic weapons at them," said Major Josslyn Aberle.

"One civilian was killed and the other was wounded," said Aberle, a spokeswoman for the 4th Infantry Division in Tikrit.

She said the two were Americans working for the US army in Iraq. Balad is located 70 kilometers (45 miles) north of the capital.

Internet

A bomb which detonated as a US convoy passed killed two American soldiers and wounded three on 13 November, the US Army says. A military spokesman said the attack happened near the town of Samarra at around 4:30 pm on Thursday. US Army troops are pictured in a file photo. — INTERNET

China draws on global wisdom in sci-tech planning

BEIJING, 15 Nov — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said here Thursday that China is open to the advice of overseas experts in the process of drafting a medium and long-term plan for the advancing of science and technology.

Wen said China adopts an open approach in drafting a plan that is oriented to the world and the future.

Wen made the remarks in a meeting with overseas experts attending a forum on science and technology development planning for the coming two decades in Beijing.

Wen said that in the new situation of rapidly advancing science and technology in the world, drafting the national plan requires a strategic study that focuses on the overall situation, strategic priorities and long-term prospects.

He said the forum has been designed to solicit the opinions and advice of Chinese and international experts who specialize in different areas. He called for the experts attending the meeting to continue to contribute their wisdom to the advancing of science and technology in China.

Noting that scientific and technological advances have become a powerful driving force of China's social and economic development, Wen said the country must pursue a route of new industrialization in its effort to build a well-off society. To this end, China is drafting a long-term plan of scientific and technological development so as to enhance the nation's innovative capacity and competitiveness.

Among the attendees of the meeting are State Councillor Chen Zhili, Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) Xu Kuangdi and Minister of Science and Technology Xu Guanhua.

MNA/Xinhua

Anti-war demonstrators opposing US Defence Secretary Donald H Rumsfeld's visit to Japan march through Tokyo streets with a banner reading 'Rumsfeld is terrorist and Bush too' Friday night, on 14 Nov, 2003. — INTERNET

Findings dampen hope of water on dark side of Moon

LONDON, 15 Nov — Scientists dampened hopes of finding large amounts of water on the dark side of the Moon on Wednesday with new evidence showing that if any deposits existed, they are in short supply.

Data from the Clementine and Lunar Prospector space missions in the 1990s had suggested there could be significant supplies of water, vital to support life and human colonies on the Moon, stashed in the craters near the poles.

But after conducting a radar survey of craters constantly in shadow at the lunar poles, Bruce Campbell of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC and his colleagues said they did not uncover any evidence of thick ice deposits.

"Any lunar ice present within the regions visible to the Arecibo radar must therefore be in the form of distributed grain or thin layers," Campbell said in a report in the science journal *Nature*.

The wavelengths from the radio telescope at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico that can penetrate deep into the craters did not produce strong echoes which would have indicated large chunks of ice.

Weaker echoes suggest any water that is there would probably be embedded in rock. If there is water, it would probably have been deposited when comets, which are comprised largely of ice, collided with the Moon over billions of years.

Scientists believe most of the water would have evaporated into space but some may have collected in the shadowed craters at the lunar poles.

The presence of water on the Moon is also important because it could also be used for rocket fuel and to establish a refuelling station on the Moon for solar exploration trips.

Campbell and his team believe their findings suggest either fewer comets collided with the Moon than with other planets or that there was a rapid loss of ice on the lunar surface. — *MNA/Reuters*

Malaysian PM urges civil servants to fight graft

KUALA LUMPUR, 15 Nov — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi Thursday urged civil servants to make a pledge not to be involved in corruption as one of initiate measures to fight the menace.

Abdullah, who is also the Home Minister, said the fastest way in doing so was not to accept or be involved in corruption.

"If we pledge to ourselves, understand (our) responsibility, we will not want to be involved in corruption and corruption will not occur," he said when opening the Home Ministry's Quality Day 2003 in Putrajaya near here.

Abdullah hoped that corruption would no longer exist among civil servants after they made the pledge.

Abdullah also called on the ministry's departments and agencies to be the role model for other government bodies in improving services to the public.

MNA/Xinhua

WIDESPREAD RESISTANCE AND PROTESTS AGAINST OCCUPATION FORCES IN IRAQ

An injured Italian soldier is carried onto a plane by colleagues to be evacuated to Italy at a military airbase in Nassiriya, southern Iraq on 14 November, 2003. Eighteen Italians were killed by suicide bombers at a military police base in southern Iraq. — INTERNET

US Army soldiers stand next to paramedics truck in Baghdad, Saturday on 15 Nov, 2003, as they evacuated at least four soldiers wounded when a roadside explosive device went off.
INTERNET

Troops of US Army's 4th Infantry Division run with their weapons at ready as they search around the Diala river where Iraqi militants hide outside Baquba early on 13 November 2003. — INTERNET

Pakistanis burn a US flag in Lahore on 14 November, 2003. The group was protesting against the killing of civilians in Iraq and demanded the withdrawal of US-led forces from Iraq. — INTERNET

South Korean demonstrators hold banners during a protest against US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's visit to Seoul on 15 November, 2003. About 3,000 South Koreans staged a noisy protest in central Seoul on Saturday, a day before Rumsfeld's visits to Seoul, to reverse a controversial decision to send more troops to help post-war reconstruction in Iraq.
INTERNET

Iraqi boys with their father watch an US Army soldier securing an area of Baghdad after a roadside bomb blast injured two soldiers, on 14 Nov, 2003. US troops blocked the road for about an hour and called residents through loudspeaker to help them capture those who planted the bomb. — INTERNET

Portuguese journalist abducted in Iraq, another wounded

BASRA, 15 Nov— The US-led coalition launched an investigation into the abduction of a Portuguese journalist in war-torn southern Iraq in an ambush that left another reporter wounded.

"We are still trying to locate him. We haven't got any update," said Allison Simmonds, a spokeswoman for the British forces leading the multinational troops in southern Iraq. "We always take these things seriously."

An Egyptian reporter with pan-European EuroNews TV network told Portuguese private television SIC he had spoken to the kidnappers via mobile phone and they were demanding 50,000 dollars (42,550 euros) for the release of the journalist.

A number of foreign reporters have been killed covering the US-led invasion of Iraq and its aftermath, but this is the first kidnapping of a journalist since the conflict began in March.

Earlier the kidnapped reporter, Carlos Raleiras, managed to get in touch with the radio station he works for in Lisbon via his mobile phone and issue a plea for help.

"I am waiting for someone who speaks Arabic to please call me. I have to stop talking, OK?" he told private radio TSF as voices could be heard in the background.

Two cars carrying armed men pulled up beside the convoy of three jeeps carrying Raleiras and other Portuguese journalists to Basra just ten minutes after they crossed the border from Kuwait, SIC reported.

The gunmen shot at the tires of the first jeep which Raleiras was driving, striking one of the two other occupants of the car, SIC television reporter Maria Joao Ruela, in the leg.

When Ruela and the other passenger got out of the car, the attackers climbed in and made off with Raleiras still inside, the wounded reporter told SIC from Basra where she underwent surgery at a British military hospital.

The ambush was the second in two days on Portuguese correspondents in southern Iraq.

On Thursday two reporters and a photographer working for the Diaro de Noticias newspaper and RDP radio were ambushed on the road between Nasiriyah and Basra by armed men who stole one of their jeeps.

The three escaped unharmed. —*Internet*

US Army troops secure an area of Baghdad after a roadside bomb blast injured two soldiers on 14 November, 2003. — INTERNET

Report says Singapore, China in talks on FTA

SINGAPORE, 15 Nov— Singapore and China have started working-level talks on a bilateral free trade agreement (FTA), local Press reported on Friday.

Singapore Trade and Industry Minister George Yeo made the remark in an interview with the Japanese business daily *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* in Singapore on Thursday, said Channelnewsasia, a local English-language television, on its website.

Yeo was quoted as saying that Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong may propose launching formal negotiations on the FTA when he visits Beijing next week. If the two countries agree to sign a free trade agreement, Singapore will be the first member country of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to have such a pact with China, said the television report

MNA/Xinhua

US Internet media giant to enter online music market

LOS ANGELES, 15 Nov— US Internet media giant CNET Networks announced Friday that it is acquiring the assets of online music distributor MP3.com, a step to enter the online music market.

News of the deal first surfaced in an e-mail sent by MP3.com to its customers and posted to its site late Thursday. In the e-mail, MP3.com informed users that its web site would no longer be accessible in its current form and that CNET Networks plans to reintroduce the music site with new features and services.

San Francisco-based CNET Networks operates an array of technology-oriented web sites including CNET.com, Builder.com, GameSpot, mySimon.com and News.com.

CNET Networks representatives said the company aims to augment its position as a provider of interactive content through the acquisition, with plans to enter the online music market through MP3.com. However, revamped site would not compete with music download services such as Napster. Instead, the company plans to turn MP3.com into a source of information for digital music.

MP3.com was once the standard-bearer for digital visionaries looking to the Internet to undermine the power of the traditional music business.

MNA/Xinhua

UN says full return to Iraq still uncertain

NICOSIA, 15 Nov — A top UN official involved in deciding when staff should fully return to Iraq said Friday it was hard to envision such a move until security improved. "It is hard to envision we would be able to carry out the full range of activities we would like to do ... until security improves," Kevin Kennedy, chief of the Humanitarian Emergency Branch of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, told Reuters.

Kennedy and other top UN officials were meeting in Cyprus to make a recommendation to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the return of staff toIraq.

Most staff were pulled out after an August 19 attack on the organization's headquarters in Baghdad killed 22 staff and visitors, including the head of the operation, Sergio Vieira de Mello.

Kennedy said the discussions would end at the weekend when a recommendation would be made to Annan.

"The security situation is not uniform throughout the country and there are parts where we can work — more safe and secure than other parts," Kennedy said.

"It is not a uniform picture and we'll adjust operations region by region."

After the August attack, Annan drastically reduced staff in Iraq and earlier this month withdrew the last 20 from Baghdad after a week of violence that included the bombing of the Baghdad headquarters of the International Committee for the Red Cross.

Annan also put two security officials on leave after an independent panel issued a scathing report on safety precautions before the August bombing of the Baghdad UN offices.

"Everybody is concerned about their security...I think people are also frustrated because there is important work to do and (we) are unable to do it to the extent we would like to at the moment. It's frustrating," said Kennedy. About 40 or so foreign staff remain in northern Iraq where it is safer. Some 4,000 Iraqi staff are still on the UN payroll throughout Iraq.

Asked if it was unlikely there would be a full return of international staff, Kennedy replied: "I wouldn't say it's unlikely and there are a variety of ways to go back — longer term, shorter term or visits. We hope to be back as soon as we possibly can."

Internet

WHO says developing world faces mounting diabetes risk

GENEVA, 15 Nov— An explosion in diabetes cases over coming decades could compound the problems of health care in the developing world, already battling killer diseases such as AIDS, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Friday.

Population growth and changing diets could cause the number of sufferers in the developing world to more than double in 30 years to around 285 million from 115 million at present, the United Nations agency said.

"Even as these countries are struggling to address the problems of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, they must also prepare to deal with the onslaught of diseases that come with changes in lifestyle and ageing," said Dr. Catherine Le Gales-Camus, WHO assistant director-general.

Diabetes, which is caused by too much glucose in the blood, can lead to kidney failure, blindness and problems of circulation that can result in the amputation of limbs. In a statement marking World Diabetes Day, the WHO said it was stepping up efforts to help developing countries tackle the increased risk of diabetes through information programmes to raise awareness of the importance of diet and exercise.

"Much of the projected increase is preventable through attention to diet and physical activity in the population," Le Gales-Camus added.

The number of diabetes cases around the world has jumped to some 170 million from little over 30 million 20 years ago, largely due to unhealthy diets, obesity and lack of exercise. The WHO estimates that it kills around 800,000 people a year.

While most diabetics in developed countries will be 65 or over in 2030, in developing countries the majority will be in the 45-65 age range when they should still be able to work, the WHO added.—*MNA/Reuters*

Volkswagen AG Chairman Bernd Pischetrsrieder (foreground) poses for photographers by a new Golf 5 car with Executive Vice President Detlef Wittig (behind Pischetrsrieder) and Wigfried Bockelmann (far left), R&D board member, at a press preview of the Tokyo Motor Show in Makuhari, east of Tokyo. The Tokyo Motor Show opens to the general public on 25 Oct. —INTERNET

Chairman of ninth 47-member plenary meeting of Fifth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Vice-Chairman Sayadaw of SSMNC Dawei Sayadaw reads out the Saraniya Ovadakatha of the SSMNC chairman Sayadaw. — MNA

First day session of ninth 47-member plenary meeting of the fifth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee commences

YANGON, 15 Nov — The first day session of the ninth 47-member plenary meeting of the fifth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held at the Vijaya Mingalar Dhammathabin Hall on Kaba Aye Hill here this morning.

Present on the occasion were members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Adviser at the State Peace and Development Council Office U Arnt Maung, Director-General of the Religious Affairs Department Dr Myo Myint, Director-General of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Sann Lwin and departmental officials. On behalf of the chairman of the SSMNC the Sayadaw of Myingyan Koehsaung Monastery, Vice-Chairman of the SSMNC Dawei Gawthitayama Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Acinnabhivamsa presided over the meeting. Joint-Secretary of the SSMNC Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddahna Osadhabhivamsa acted as master of the ceremonies.

The master of the ceremonies announced the number of the Sayadaws present and the meeting was valid. The SSMNC vice-chairman Sayadaw read out the Saraniya Ovadakatha of the SSMNC chairman Sayadaw.

Afterwards, the minister supplicated on religious affairs. Joint-Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Dvipitakadhara Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa presented the brief report on tasks carried out during the third term of the fifth SSMNC (Third Branch). Next, Vinicchaya, Sasana and academic matters were discussed.

The meeting continues tomorrow. Wellwishers Major Aung Kyaw Myo-Daw May Kyu Kyu Khaing of Yawmingyi Yeiktha in Dagon Township, Daw Mya Mya family of Phonegyi Street, Lanmadaw Township, the association for sundry matters of the SSMNC and U Tin Sein-Daw Kyin Thein and family of 27th Street, Pabedan Township and U Hnin Sein-Daw Mya Nyein and family at the corner of Salin and Natsin streets in Kyimyindine Township offered meals and dessert to the Sayadaws who attended the meeting on 12, 13, 14 and 15 November. — *MNA*

Dear Little Sister, they are so admirable

Khin Myanmar

Oh, Dear Little Sister, the Government formed the Myanmar Women's Sports Federation on 21 March 1991, with the aim of promoting the health and fitness and the sports of women to bring out brilliant new generation athletes, transforming the activity of small groups into the mass activity for physical, mental and moral development and better health and fitness of women leading to strengthening the national defence force, and raising the women's sports standard.

The Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs, the Ministry of Sports and the Myanmar Women's Sports Federation held a national level conference on women and sports at International Business Centre from 28 to 29 September 2003. At the opening of the conference, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered an address, saying, "At present, the Government is accelerating its efforts in multi sectors for development of the Myanmar women and enabling them to stand shoulder to shoulder with their counterparts of the world. In striving for the nation to catch up with the world countries, the Government has upheld the conviction — the rise in the national sports standard will help raise the national dignity. Thus, it is trying to promote sports as a national task. The Government's efforts in implementing the task are: for physical, spiritual and moral development of women and promoting of the women's sports to reach the world level. Now outstanding women athletes are continuously emerging in the nation. Women are now taking part energetically in the sports federations, sports management activities and health sector for their long-term development. As the Myanmar women have been enjoying equal rights with men throughout history, they have been able to show their ability together with the latter in all sectors. Outstanding athletes are continuously emerging in the women's sports sector."

In 1924, Myanmar women played a fund-raising soccer match for cyclone victims. But there were criticisms those days that playing football was against the traditions and culture of Myanmar women. Myanmar women started to take part in the weightlifting in 1936. After 50 years, Myanmar women were able to play a role in weightlifting.

Due to the encouragement of the Government, women athletes, who have won the admiration of not only the nation, but also the world, are emerging. In addition to regional sports events, they are also winning medals in the international competitions within a short span of time. The Myanmar women athletes even won the Women and Sports Trophy for Asia of the International Olympic Committee.

Many outstanding women athletes have brought honour to the nation. In the XVIII Southeast Asian Games, Myanmar women won one gold, three silver, and four bronze in weightlifting; four bronze in taekwondo; one silver in traditional martial arts; two bronze in traditional rowing; one silver and four bronze in judo; a bronze medal in soccer; two gold, one silver and five bronze in track and field. In the XIX SEA Games, they won one gold and one silver in sepak takraw; three gold and one silver in weightlifting; one gold, two silver and one bronze in traditional rowing; three bronze in international rowing; one silver and five bronze in track and field; one silver in soccer; one silver in shooting; one silver in swimming; one silver and one bronze in taekwondo; one silver and two bronze in wushu; and one bronze in yachting. In the XIII Asian Games, they won one silver in sepak takraw; one gold and one silver in 1998 cane ball contest; and three silver in weightlifting. In the XX SEA Games, the Myanmar women won three gold, one silver in traditional rowing; two silver in track and field; one silver in karatedo; two bronze in traditional martial arts; and two bronze in swimming; In the XXI SEA Games, they won two gold in judo; one gold in rowing; one gold in swimming; two gold in shooting; four gold in weightlifting; two gold in wushu; and one gold in yachting totalling 13 gold, nine silver and 19 bronze. They were so admirable, Dear Little Sister.

The State honoured the victorious athletes on grand occasions. At the 2003 World Women's Day which falls on 3 July, wushu gold medalist Ma Khaing Khaing Maw and victorious disabled athlete Ma Nyunt Nyunt Win were honoured at a grand ceremony. At the XV Asian Games in Manila, the Philippines, Ma Yin Yin Khaing won two gold, one in 400-metre race and another in 800-metre event. The State honoured her at Mya Yeik Nyo (Royal) Hotel on 27 September 2003 evening and presented her a prize of US $ 600 and K 2.3 million. Ma Yin Yin Khaing, who is a staff of Yangon City Development Committee, was promoted from assistant supervisor to deputy supervisor. You should emulate her, Dear Little Sister.

At present, the Government is making efforts to raise the standard of Myanmar sports till reaching the international level. Thus, Dear Little Sister, I wish you to strive to become an outstanding athlete who brings honour to the nation.

*****

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin: 18 October 2003.

People's Desire

- **Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views**
- **Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation**
- **Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State**
- **Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy**

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**

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 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**

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party and congregation receive the Five Precepts from Pro-rector (Academic) Bhamo Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa (D. Lttt). — MNA

Prime Minister …

(from page 1)

The corner-stone laying ceremony of the building was held at the pandal in the monastery. First, the Prime Minister inspected the scale model of the building.

Next, Chairman U Aye Pe of Upahtaka Committee (Main) explained the purpose of construction of the building. Preceded by the Sayadaws led by Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee the Magway Sayadaw, the Prime Minister and party took the respective positions at the sites for the building. The corner-stone laying ceremony commenced with three-time recitation of *Namotassa*, and State Calendar Adviser U Kyaw read out the stone inscriptions.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister placed the silver casket at the centre of the foundation of the building.

The Prime Minister, the commander, the ministers and the chairman of the Upahtaka Committee laid the corner stones at the same time. Meanwhile, members of the Sangha recited parittas. Next, the Prime Minister laid the stone plaque in the middle of the foundation and sprinkled scented water on it.

After the ceremony, the Prime Minister performed rituals of golden and silver showers to mark the successful completion of the ceremony.

Later, a cash donations presentation ceremony for construction of the building was held at the monastery.

First, the Prime Minister and the congregation kept still and silent for one minute in memory of the fine practices, concentration, and wisdom of the Mingon Tri-pitika Dhara Dhamma Bhandagarika Sayadaw.

Next, the Prime Minister and the congregation took the Five Precepts from the pro-rector Sayadaw (Academic) of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Bhamo Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa (D-Litt).

The Prime Minister presented offertories to the Magway Sayadaw, and the commander, ministers, mayor, and deputy minister to members of the Sangha.

Later, the commander and ministers accepted K 126,660,881 donated by 69 wellwishers including K 34,828,181 by U Chan Tun and daughter Daw Nyunt Yi of Sangyoung Township, K 10 million by Daw Hse (Ngwe Hse, Ngwe Yadana Co), K 5 million by Dr U Win Myint, Daw Khaing Khing Oo and family, K 5 million by U Win Htein, Daw Win Yin Myint and family, K 2.5 million by Daw Shu Kyu of Dagon Township, K 2.5 million by Hsinmin U Tin Shwe, Daw Kyi Kyi and family, K 2 million by Architect U Zaw Win of GMS Management System Architectural Co Ltd, K 2 million by Dr Thein Tun, Dr Daw Than Toe and family, and K 2 million by (U Hla Win Naing (a) U Kyaw Sein), wife Daw Tin Tin Khaing and family, and presented certificates of honour to them.

Next, the Magway Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing the merits gained. After the ceremony, the Prime Minister performed the rituals of golden and silver showers to mark the success of the ceremony. — *MNA*

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt places stone plaque on the cornerstone at cornerstone laying ceremony of extended building of Titipitaka Nikaya Monastery. — MNA

Myanmar women, like men enjoy equal rights…

(from page 1)

Although the men and women have equal rights, every Myanmar woman always gives first priority to their husband. Those who do not understand such Myanma noble practice make accusations on Myanmar women saying they do not enjoy equal rights like men, he added.

There are different practices such as women enjoying the first priority and the children not paying much respect to their parents do exist in some other countries that do not understand Myanma noble traditions, he said.

In Myanmar society marital life of the husband, the head of the household and the wife, a life partner, came from the Buddhist customs and it is a Myanma traditional custom preserved by ancestors, he said.

He said in the course of Myanmar history Myanmar women had never lost their rights. Brilliant and outstanding woman entrepreneurs emerged and they discharged their duties in the respective roles.

As Myanmar women are respected deservedly, the men treat them with respect. There are women organizations such as MNCWA, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women's Sport Federation and Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association carrying out the tasks for development of the women sector, he said.

The women organizations led by women are discharging various duties voluntarily for development of the women sector, enjoyment of their rights and in order not to lose their rights.

They also care carrying out the tasks on prevention of violence against women and being ill-treated and trafficked.

He said the government is providing assistance continuously to social organizations related to women for success of their noble tasks. It is obvious that there is no loss of women's rights and their role is also in the fore front. As they get rights and opportunities in all sectors, Myanmar women have more efficiency than men in some sectors including education, health, economy, culture and sports, he added. This vividly shows that Myanmar women have equal rights like men and achieve success in Myanmar women sector, he said.

With the intention of imposing pressures politically on Myanmar, some Western powers have been manufacturing accusations as if Myanmar women were subjected to oppression, as if Myanmar women lost the rights, and as if Myanmar women were trafficked.

In addition, in an attempt to drive a wedge among the national races, the Western powers have been making fabrications to the effect that Shan women were sexually abused and trafficked.

The inernal and external destructive elements have been making attempts for disintegration of the Union in collusion with some Western powers that opposed to the interests of Myanmar are making such accusations to tarnish the image of Myanmar and Myanmar women and harm national unity.

Those who opposed to the interests of Myanmar in collusion with the internal destructive elements are using the media that are against Myanmar, to mislead the persons who do not know about Myanmar.

This being the case, the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs is required to make strenuous efforts keeping pace with changes to be in line with the condition of political, economic and social objectives of the State for further improvement of Myanmar women's rights and development of Myanmar women's sector.

In collaboration with the UN agencies which are cooperating with Myanmar out of goodwill and the NGOs which are providing assistance to Myanmar in social sector, it is required to make more efforts for development of Myanmar women's sector.

That is why the MNCWA will have to be upgraded with the aim of enhancing the role of women in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation; of safeguarding against the women's rights; of improving the economic, health and education sectors of women and safeguarding the security of women's life; of nurturing the women to be imbued with a sense of cherishing the traditions and customs of national races;

(See page 10)

Drug dealers sentenced

YANGON, 15 Nov— Members of Pyu Township Myanmar Police Station, Bago Division, acting on information, searched Shwe Myitta Passenger Bus with number plate (5/Kha 7016) at Pyu Highway Gate on 30 May, 2003 and seized 1.2247 kilos of marijuana from passenger Ma Ei Ei Hlaing aboard the vehicle.

In connection with the case, action was taken against Ma Ei Ei Hlaing, daughter of U Soe Tint of Natyaykan Ward, Pyu Township and the owner of marijuana, Ma Hla Hla Win (a) Le Le, daughter of U Soe Tint of the same ward and another culprit, Ma Thin Thin Khine, daughter of U Akhon of No 3 Bahtoo Street, Theingonpaing Ward under Sections 15/19(a)/21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Pyu Police Station.

Toungoo District Court on 8 October handed sentenced Ma Hal Hla Win to 15 years' imprisonment under Section 19 (A) and Ma Thin Thin Khine to 5 years' imprisonment under Section 15 and the court released Ma Ei Ei Hlaing from custody under Section 258 (1). — *MNA*

Regional development projects inspected in Mon State

YANGON, 15 Nov — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, arrived at the Sittoung Bridge between Bago Division and Mon State on 13 November morning.

They were welcomed there by Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Commanding Officer of local light infantry division Col Thet Naing Win and officials.

Together with the commander and officials, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded to Kyaikto Township and viewed harvesting and threshing of Lonthwemhwe strain paddy on the 20-acre plot in Letpya Village. Officials reported on cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, beans and pulses and edible oil crops, and arrangements made for ensuring regional rice sufficiency in Mon State. The commander gave a supplementary report.

During the cordial meeting with local farmers, Lt-Gen Maung Bo called for use of hybrid paddy strains. Only then, will the income of the farmers increase, he noted. It is also needed to have farm machinery and agricultural methods from Myanma Agricultural Enterprise, he remarked. He repeated calling for extended cultivation of pepper, a quick cash crop, and minimizing loss and wastage. So far, Mon State has harvested over 670,000 million acres of paddy, and arrangements are being made for cultivation of summer paddy on over 140,000 acres.

They attended the opening of the multimedia teaching centre of No 1 Basic Education High School in Kyaikto Township. The headmistress and the chairman of the school board of trustees formally opened the centre. The commander unveiled the signboard of the centre. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party viewed the multimedia classrooms.

The headmistress reported on opening of the multimedia teaching centre; the chairman of the school board of trustees, on sustained efforts for emergence of the teaching centre. Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented tapes for teaching aids to the principal.

Families of Thaton Station donated K 940,000; Kyaikto Township Peace and Development Council, K 400,000; parents and old students, K 6 million; and Zabeibyu family, K 1 million to the multimedia teaching centre through the commander, who next spoke words of thanks.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects a multimedia classroom in Kyaikkhami BEHS, Thanbyuzayat Township. — MNA

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that the government has been implementing the development projects for all-round development of the nation and raising economic and social sectors of the people. It also is taking systematic measures for promotion of the education standard of the people, he added.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded to The-ein Village in Paung Township and inspected the rural health care centre. Head of Mon State Health Department Dr Tin Win Kyaw and officials reported on carrying out health care services monthly by specialists of the department at the village. Lt-Gen Maung Bo assessed the reports and attended to the needs.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the library of the village and presented publications, and books donated by the Ministry of Religious Affairs to Village Chairman U Maung Chaw and Librarian U Ohn Hlaing.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected upgrading of Thaton-Mottama road section. They headed for Thaton-Mottama road section extension project. Officials reported on work progress and future tasks. Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions on meeting the set standard, timely completion of the project, and carrying out tasks with goodwill.

Yesterday morning, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, together with the commander and officials, visited Kyaikkhami Hsutaugpyae Yayle Hsandawshin Pagoda in Thanbyuzayat Township. They paid reverence to the pagoda and viewed progress in renovation of the pagoda and left instructions.

They next attended the opening of multimedia teaching centre of Kyaikkhami BEHS in the township. The headmistress and the chairman of the school board of trustees formally opened the centre.

The commander pressed the button to unveil the signboard of the centre. Lt-Gen Maung Bo viewed the skill demonstration of the students. The students presented gifts to Lt-Gen Maung Bo and the commander. Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented cash assistance to them.

At the opening ceremony, a teacher reported on opening of multimedia teaching classrooms; and the chairman of the school board of trustees on collective efforts made for establishment of the centre. Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented teaching aid tapes to the principal.

Afterwards, the cash donations presentation ceremony followed. Daw Yee Yee Win presented cash donation made by member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife Daw San San Yee for the classrooms; U Chan Sein, K 520,000 donated by Kyaikkhami Township Ward 6 Peace and Development Council; U Tun Kyi-Daw Saw and family, K 100,000; U Soe Win-Daw Khaing Wah Wah Lwin and family, K 200,000; townselders, K 200,000; on behalf of the minister for Religious Affairs, Director-General of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Tun Mya Aung, publications, through the commander.

Deputy Director-General of No 1 BED (Lower Myanmar) U C Thaung Za Tuan reported on endeavours being made for opening of multimedia classrooms at all the high schools in Mon State and educational progress of the students.

The commander delivered a speech, saying that in the knowledge age, education is better than any others. At a time when information and communication technology is making progress in the world, students are to be well rounded in information and communication technology at the multimedia teaching classrooms. He expressed his thanks to the wellwishers.

On the occasion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that the government has been taking measures to enable the nation to keep abreast with international level education standard through the multimedia teaching centres based on computers. With extended opening of the centres, the students will be able to polish their educational qualifications, he noted. He took pride in continuing donations made by local administrative bodies, various organizations and local people for extended opening of the centres at the basic education schools in Mon State.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and the commander and party posed for documentary photos together with the teachers, members of the school board of trustees and students.

MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo presents teaching aids to the Headmistress at the opening ceremony of multimedia classrooms of No 1 BEHS, Kyaikto Township. — MNA

Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung formally unveils the signboard of Multimedia Classrooms of Kyaikkhami BEHS in Thanbyuzayat. —MNA

U-14 tennis players to be selected

YANGON, 15 Nov — The Myanmar Tennis Federation will host the ITF 14 and Under ASIAN Championships 2004 Zone 2 tennis tournament including 14 countries on 5 January, 2004. Tennis players under 18 of the MTF to take part in the above tournament will be selected in advance at 8 am on 4 December, 2003.

Those wishing to compete in the tournament may dial Tel-372360, Tel-381991 and Tel-381992 of the MTF (Theinbyu Tennis Court) during office hours for further information. — *MNA*

Myanmar women…

(from page 8)

of implementing the tasks for prevention of violence against women and rehabilitation; of taking measures as a national task for reducing and eliminating the trafficking in women and children; of cooperating with the international organizations, regional bodies and organizations at home and abroad in taking measures for women's rights in accord with the national culture and traditions.

The MNCWA which is to be upgraded will have to take measures for development of the women's sector, safeguarding of Myanmar traditional culture, customs and characters, non-disintegration of the Union and further strengthening of the national unity as well as for the national development while discharging the national duties. The women's sector is to participate in the five rural development tasks in accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe for economic development in rural regions, alleviating poverty and creating job opportunities.

The women's sector is also to take part in the tasks for development of Myanmar women's life, social life security and improvement of the living standard.

The MNCWA is an orgainzation that is leading the women mass which are of great force is capable of improving the women's sector and strengthening the national economy. It is also an organization that is of paramount importance for the State. Therefore, the officials concerned are to make concerted efforts in upgrading the MNCWA.

After the ceremony, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greeted those present on the occasion. — *MNA*

83rd Anniversary National Day

10th Waning of Tazaungmon

1365 ME

18-11-2003

83rd Anniversary National Day Objectives

- **Keep national spirit alive and dynamic and uplift of national prestige and integrity**
- **Uplift of national education**
- **Perpetuation of independence and sovereignty of the State**
- **Success of seven-point future policy programme of the State**

Oakposu-Thilawa railroad section opened

YANGON, 15 Nov — The opening ceremony of Oakposu-Thilawa railroad section in Yangon South District was held in front of Oakposu railway station in Thanlyin Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear Admiral Soe Thein and senior military officers, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor of Yangon Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Ministers for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin and U Pe Than, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Rail Transportation, departmental heads and local authorities, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Women's Affairs Working Committee, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross Society, Auxiliary Fire Brigade, pom pom troupes and bands, students and local people.

Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min made a speech. He said the railroad was constructed, in accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, to transport import and export containers to and from Thilawa terminal. Myanma Railways, in the interest of the people, extended 1021.10 miles of railroads including Oakposu-Thilawa railroad, increasing the total length of railroads from 1976.35 miles before 1988 to 2997.45 miles now. The minister urged the local people and staff of Myanma Railways to maintain the railroad for its perpetuity.

After the ceremony, the commander, the minister and those present left for Thilawa railway station by train and greeted the local people along the railroad. The railroad, which will cut the transport charges for containers, is 8.33 miles long, and a total of 25 large and small bridges were constructed on the railroad. The local people are pleased with the arrangements of MR for plying three up-trains and down-trains between Yangon Railway Station and Thilawa railway station daily.

MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects the first train to ply along newly opened Oakposu-Thilawa railroad section. — MNA

World Postal Day letter writing

YANGON, 15 Nov— Under the programme of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, the International Writing Competition hailing the World Postal Day under the title of 'I am writing to tell you how young people can help reduce poverty' was held at the designated Basic Education Schools from 10 am to 12 noon today.

During the competition, officials of the Directorate of Telecommunications, Education Planning and Training Department, No 3 Basic Education Department (Yangon) and Myanma Posts and Telecommunications viewed competitors at No 2 Basic Education High School, Dagon Township, No 1 BEHS Latha, Township, No 1 BEHS, Pabetan Township and No 3 BEHS, Botahtaung Township. — *MNA*

Pathein Government Technological College

Article by Myo Myint Oo & photo by Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

Pathein Government Technological College. Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

A nation must be economically strong and have a great deal of highly-qualified human resources in building up a modern developed nation. In the process, the government has been implementing national economic plans and national education promotion plans simultaneously.

With a view to producing more highly-qualified human resources, more and more universities, colleges and institutes are being constructed the length and breath of the nation.

The staff of the Myanma Alin daily interviewed Principal of Pathein Government Technological College Daw Yee Myint.

Myanma Alin: Well, at first, we would like to know the establishment of the college.

Daw Yee Myint: The college was opened on 27 December 1999 and then it was shifted to Plot No 168, Apin Hnase Village, Kangyidaunt Township on 1 August 2001.

Myanma Alin: We would also like to know the subjects prescribed and the number of the students.

Daw Yee Myint: This academic year, a total of 100 students are studying in Civil Engineering course, 102 in Electronic Engg course, 159 in Electrical Engg course, 98 in Mechanical Engg course, 12 in Machine & Tools Design course, 46 in Machtronics Engg, 75 in Information Technology course and 19 in Bio-Technology course.

Myanma Alin: How many staff are there in the college?

Daw Yee Myint: Altogether 108 staff — one administrative officer, 23 other ranks and 84 academic staff.

Myanma Alin: How many pedagogical aids has the college got from the Ministry of Science and Technology?

Daw Yee Myint: In 2000-2001 academic year, the ministry imported teaching and learning aids and provided 17 kinds of aids to the college for Civil Engineering course, 10 for Electronic Engg course, nine for Electrical Engg course, 17 for Mechanical Engg course and eight for Information Technology course. And it also purchased pedagogical aids in the nation and provided 10 kinds of aids for Civil Engineering course, nine for Electrical Engg course, and a set of language lab and three sets of electronics library.

Myanma Alin: What are the arrangements for transport of the students to and from the college?

Daw Yee Myint: Administrative bodies concerned have made arrangements for running some private bus lines to and from the college during the school hours.

Myanma Alin: May we know the formation of the college?

Daw Yee Myint: The college compound has an area of 27.45 acres. It has six lecture rooms, four workshops, one recreation hall for the faculty members and one residence for the principal. The college is facilitated with a 1,200-foot 11 KVA Line, a sub-power station, a 440-Volt transformer, a 2,060-foot power line, a four-inch tube-well, a water pumping station, a 1,600-gallon water tower tank and a 3,200-gallon underground tank. And, now a three-storey building is under construction.

Myanma Alin: Is there anything else you would like to express?

Daw Yee Myint: Pathein Government Technological College has been making continuing efforts for bringing about highly-qualified human resources following the instructions of the ministry.

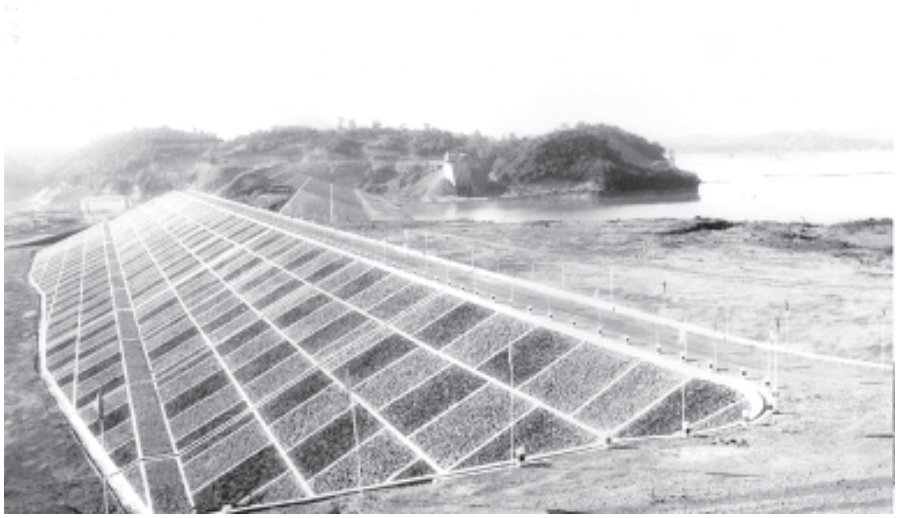
Myanma Alin: Thank you.

*****

(Translation: MS)

(Myanma Alin: 7-11-2003)

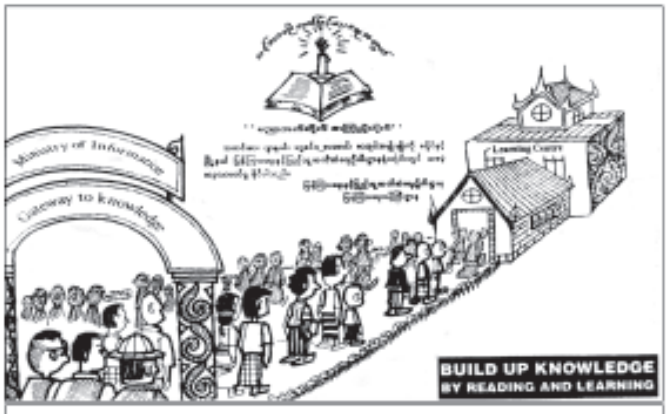
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country



Mone Creek Multi-purpose Dam Project is situated two miles north of Sedoktara in Minbu District, Magway Division. The project is being implemented to irrigate the farmland through Mezali Diversion Weir when there is not enough water for the farmlandin the rainy season, to generate hydel power, and to prevent flooding of Mone Creek. —PHOTO: MNA

The Photo shows the Institute of Medicine in Magway. It is the symbol of endeavours made by the State Peace and Development Council for development of various sectors of the country.
PHOTO: MNA

The 8,989 feet long Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway) links Magway and Minbu. The construction of the bridge started on 20 January 2000 and was commissioned into service on 24 November 2002. — PHOTO: MNA



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မြည်တွင်းပြန်ကုဒ်အားပေးပါ

■ဆို့ခဲဒုက္ခကိုပြည်၊ ခဲပြေပြန်ကိုညှိ၊ ဗဟောဒိတိုးဖောက်၊ ဓာတုခဲကိုပြေတ်၊
ပြစ်ကိုစကျွတ်၊ တည့်ဆောက်စံသည့် လစ်ဟင်းအားများပြင့်
ပံ့ပြိုးဝေစည် မြန်မာပြည်

■ဘုရား၊ ကျောင်းကန်၊ သာသနိက အဆောက်အအုံများ၊ ပညာပြင်း
တာတမံ၊ စက်မှုကြီးများ သစ်လွင်လှပသော အဆောက်အအုံများပြင့်
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■မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် ဒဂုန်တာရာလေတပ်မတော်အစိုးရ၏ဆောင်ရွက်ရုက်များကို
ပကတိအတိုင်း ဆွေမြေငဲ့ခဲ့ပဲ့

ပံ့ပြိုးဝေစည် မြန်မာပြည်
(၁၉၈၈– ၂၀၀၃)

❋ မြို့ရွာနယ် ကေဒါလက်ဝေသ ဟန်ချက်ညီ ပံ့ပြိုးတိုးတက်မှုများကို မာတ်ပုံများ၊
ကိန်းဂဏန်းများပုံပြဂရပ်များ၊ ဇယားများဖြင့်ပုံနှိပ်ထုတ်ဝေထားပါသည်။

ထွက်ပြီ

❋ဈေးဝယ်ဓာတ်စာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၅၂၉ တုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊
ဖုန်း- ၃၈၁၃၅၀
❋သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလွှပ်ရှားမှုဓာတ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂ သိမ်မြုလမ်း၊
ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း- ၂၂၉၃၀၆
❋ဈေးဝယ်ဓာတ်စာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ရတနာပုံဈေးသစ် (ဂုတိယထပ်) မန္တလေးမြို့။

Eight injured in quake in Gansu province

LANZHOU, 15 Nov — As of 2.30 pm Thursday, eight people were confirmed injured in the earthquake earlier in the day in northwest China's Gansu Province with no deaths reported, according to local officials.

The eight injured, all from Zhongzai Township of Minxian County, have been hospitalized. Two of them, one old elderly and one child, were in a critical condition, said Wei Zhirong, secretary of the county committee of Communist Party of China.

In addition, according to the Gansu Provincial Seismological Bureau, more than 10 houses collapsed in the tremor and the bureau has dispatched work teams to the quake-hit areas for a further investigation.

The earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter Scale hit the area between Minxian, Lintan and Jone counties in Gansu at 10.35 am (Beijing Time) Thursday.

According to the Chinese seismological monitoring network, the epicentre of the quake, 150 kilometres south of Lanzhou, capital of Gansu, is located at 34.7 degrees north Latitude, 103.9 degrees east Longitude. —*MNA/Xinhua*

World's oldest person dies in Japan aged 114

TOKYO, 15 Nov— The oldest person in the world, Mitoyo Kawate, died in Japan on Thursday at the age of 114, two weeks after receiving the designation.

Kawate died of pneumonia in hospital in the southwestern city of Hiroshima, a Japanese Health Ministry official said.

The ministry official said that Japan's oldest woman was now 113-year-old Ura Koyama, who lives in the southwestern city of Fukuoka.

According to the Gerontology Research Group, the oldest American, Charlotte Benkner of North Lima, Ohio, celebrates her 114th birthday on November 16.

Kawate became the oldest person after the death on October 31 of fellow Japanese Kamato Hongo at the age of 116 years and 45 days.According to the web site of the *Guinness Book of World Records,* Kawate, whose birthday was May 15, 1889, was born less than a month after Adolf Hitler and in the year the Eiffel Tower was completed.

It records the oldest man whose birth can be fully authenticated as Joan Riudavets Moll, a 113-year-old man in Menorca, Spain. — *MNA/Reuters*

Arroyo leads crushing of pirated video materials

MANILA, 15 Nov— Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo Thursday led the crushing of some 15 million pieces of seized pirated optical discs at the Philippine National Police headquarters Camp Crame in Manila.

The pirated items, which 27.27 million US dollars, were confiscated by the Videogram Regulatory Board composite team from all over the country from February to October this year, bringing to some 90.91 million US dollars the overall value of confiscated discs since July 2002, the *Philippines News Agency* quoted Board Chairman Ramon Revilla as saying.

Revilla said over 3.64 million US dollars' worth of pirated compact discs, video compact discs, and digital video discs were confiscated in just three months of cooperation with the Bureau of Customs, the Philippine Postal Corp., and other law enforcement agencies. —*MNA/Xinhua*

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Don't smoke

Study shows Breakthrough made in early treatment of diabetes

BEIJING, 15 Nov— A team of international scientists have discovered a method for the early identification of people at risk of kidney disease, which could lead to better treatment of diabetes sufferers.

The study showed that microalbuminuria — or microscopic traces of albumen in urine — is a reliable indicator of the risk of diabetes and through early testing and proper treatment, diabetics can avoid the complications of chronic nephritis, or kidney inflammation.

Previous research has shown that one third of diabetes patients develop kidney diseases, one of the most common complications of the disease.

The study, jointly sponsored by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and Sanofi-Synthelabo Pharmaceutical Group, is one of the main activities for this year's World Diabetes Day, with the theme " Diabetes and Kidney Diseases", which falls on November 14 each year.

The study was conducted simultaneously in 34 countries on 32,000 non-insulin dependent diabetes, or diabetes mellitus, sufferers, including 5,143 Chinese. It reported a slightly higher level of microalbuminuria in about 41 per cent of patients.

Kong Lingzhi, of the Disease Control Department of China's Ministry of Health (MoH), said the results were significant in the diagnosis and treatment of diabetes.

"It provided a useful tool for identifying people at high risk of kidney disease in the early stage," said Kong. "It is effective, easy and affordable."

"China has seen an increase of diabetes cases in the past two decades," said Professor Chen Jialun, of the Ruijin Hospital attached to the Shanghai Second Medical Sciences University. "The country has 23.8 million diabetes patients now and the number is expected to reach 35 million by 2010."

Nearly 200 million people around the world suffer from diabetes, statistics of the IDF show.

The World Health Organization (WHO) predicts the number may exceed 300 million in the next 25 years.

The MoH has composed and published a book regarding the prevention and treatment of diabetes to mark World Diabetes Day.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam's automobile sales soar in first 10 months

HANOI, 15 Nov— Vietnam recorded automobile sales of 30,105 units in the first 10 months of this year, a year-on-year increase of 46.5 per cent, the Vietnam Automobile Manufacturers Association (VAMA) told *Xinhua* on Thursday.

Automobile firms in the country sold 19,458 passenger cars (PC), 8,322 commercial vehicles (CV) and 2,325 special utility vehicles (SUV) in the period. Their PC sales soared 118 per cent, but CV and SUV sales dropped 6.4 per cent and 14.9 per cent, respectively.

Le Ngoc Quang, salesman of Ford Vietnam, said many wealthy people, mainly businessmen, rushed to purchase new PC models before the government increases special consumption tax on PC to 24 per cent from the current 5 per cent from January 2004.

Between January and October, Toyota Vietnam gained the biggest sales of 8,933 automobiles; followed by Vidamco, famous for Daewoo brand, with 3,955 vehicles; Ford Vietnam with 3,467; and Vinastar, famous for Mitsubishi brand, with 3,238, VAMA said.

In the period, Vietnam imported 17,100 automobiles worth 221.4 million US dollars, down 22.9 per cent in volume and up 7 per cent in value, according to the General Statistics Office.—*MNA/Xinhua*

ပညာရေးဖွင့် ခေတ်စဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခဲ့

China, India launch first ever joint naval exercise

BEIJING, 15 Nov— China and India launched their first joint naval exercise on Friday, just weeks after the Chinese Navy held a similar drill with Pakistan.

An Indian Embassy official confirmed the search-and-rescue exercise had started in the East China Sea off Shanghai.

Nuclear-armed India and China agreed to hold the one-day exercise — during a visit by Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee in June, the first by an Indian Prime Minister in a decade.

Ties between the world's two most populous nations have been warming in recent years.

Zhang Minqiu, a professor of international relations at Peking University, said the exercise was a significant step in a long and deliberate process by China to balance its relations with India and traditional ally Pakistan.

Friday's naval exercise also marked "big progress for Sino-Indian ties" given the fact India first proposed similar exercises in the early 1990s, but China declined to engage, she added.

"It's an expression of the healthy relations between them."

The exercise was aimed at ensuring the safety of maritime trade and improving coordination in search-and-rescue at sea, the Indian Defence Ministry said earlier this month.

The drill comes as China has raised its profile on the world stage, putting a man in space.

China is to host the Olympic Games in 2008, and India the Commonwealth Games two years later.

China is Pakistan's main supplier of military hardware and analysts believe Beijing also helped Islamabad in its nuclear weapons programme. The China-Pakistan exercises preceded a visit to Beijing by Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf.

MNA/Reuters

Chinese naval officers visit Indian naval destroyer INS Ranjit, in Shanghai, on 11 November, 2003. Three Indian warships arrived at China's financial hub for a five-day official visit and will take part in a joint naval exercise by China and India, in the East China Sea on 12 November.

INTERNET

German taxi driver glued to wheel in stick-up

BERLIN, 15 Nov— Two robbers left a German taxi driver glued to his steering wheel before running off with 300 euros (351 US dollars), police said on Thursday.

After the 31-year-old drove the men to a village near the eastern city of Dresden they threatened him with a gun, glued his hands to the wheel and escaped with the money, police spokesman Claus Schneider said.

MNA/Reuters

Shanghai hopeful of Disney theme park by 2010

SHANGHAI, 15 Nov— Shanghai is in talks with WaltDisney Co to bring a theme park to China's commercial hub by around 2010, but a Disney official said on Thursday the ongoing construction of its Hong Kong theme park was its first priority.

The Shanghai park, which would be located in the financial district of Pudong, would be Walt Disney's third in Asia, after Hong Kong and Tokyo Disneyland, which opened in 1983.

But bringing Mickey Mouse and one of America's flashiest consumer icons, a Disney theme park, to Communist China's richest city will need Beijing's approval and a deal with Disney — neither of which are close.

"The parties are still holding talks and if everything goes smoothly, we hope to open a Disney theme park around 2010," Li Wei, an official with the Shanghai Government's information office, told *Reuters.*

"We haven't pinned down an investment figure yet. The project still needs approval from the central government," Li said, adding a special team had been set up to handle the proposal.

Shanghai has been trying to become a showcase tourist destination, while foreign firms like Disney are hoping to tap the potentially lucrative Chinese leisure market as a growing middle class looks to spend rising disposable income.

Last December, entertainment giant Vivendi Universal SA signed a deal to build a Universal Studios theme park in Shanghai, with construction beginning this year. But Disney executives say they are taking one step at a time.

"Our current immediate focus right now is to open our first theme park in China, that's the Hong Kong Disneyland in 2005/2006," said Irene Chan, regional director for corporate communications for Walt Disney Co. (Asia Pacific).

"If we were to reach an arrangement for a second park in China, in all likelihood, it will not open before 2010. But we have an ongoing, continuing dialogue with China about a variety of initiatives," she said. — *MNA/Reuters*

HK experts discuss roles of future Centre for Health Protection

HONG KONG, 15 Nov — The Advisory Committee on the Centre for Health Protection (ACCHP) held its first meeting Thursday to discuss the initial framework of the to-be-built centre in Hong Kong and reviewed the experience of overseas agencies with infectious disease control and prevention functions.

Speaking on the work of the CHP, Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food Yeoh Eng-kiong said the government was actively following up the SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome), Expert Committee's recommendation to set up a CHP with responsibility, authority and accountability for the prevention and control of communicable diseases.

"This new public health infrastructure will not only consolidate existing disease control strategies but also meet new challenges posed by the increasingly heavy human and trade movement between Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland, and also with the rest of the world.

"In the process of setting up the CHP, I believe the advisory committee, which brings together a pool of local talent and healthcare professionals, with their expertise and wise counsel, will help shape Hong Kong's new public health infrastructure," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese import growth exceeds exports in first 10 months

BEIJING, 15 Nov— China's trade volume hit 682.3 billion US dollars in the first 10 months of this year, up 36.4 per cent, while the import growth rate of 40.4 per cent exceeded that of exports by 7.6 percentage points, official figures show.

Statistics from Chinese Customs show that both import and export volume surpassed that of 2002, and the trade surplus dropped by 40 per cent year-on-year.

China enjoyed a trade surplus of 14.87 billion US dollars during the 10-month period and the figure for last year was 30.4 billion US dollars. China bought 31 million tons of steel and 141,000 automobiles in the first 10 months, figures show.

Machinery accounted for half of Chinese total exports and imports of primary products or raw material witnessed a strong growth, figures show.

Spurred by the vigorous Chinese economy and huge domestic demand, imports of iron ore, crude oil and refined oil increased by 30 per cent to 49 per cent.

China-Japan and China-US trade increased to 107.86 billion US dollars and 102.48 billion US dollars respectively in the January-October period, figures show. China-EU trade increased by 42.3 per cent to reach 99.77 billion US dollars in the period, which makes the European Union China's third largest trade partner. Trade growth with the Association of South-Eeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the South Korea both exceeded 40 per cent, Customs figures indicated.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Medical journal suggests stars should ban "junk food" promotion

LONDON, 15 Nov— Sports stars and other celebrities should be banned from advertising unhealthy food and legislation is needed to regulate the "junk food" industry, a leading medical journal said on Friday.

As British health experts warned that obesity among children is a time bomb waiting to explode, and with figures showing the number of obese 15-years olds trebled in a decade, *The Lancet* said stars should be stopped from endorsing unhealthy food.

"Celebrity endorsement of junk food has to be banned," it said in an editorial.

The magazine slammed the British Broadcasting Corporation, which is funded by licence fees and taxes, for franchising its Tweenies childrens' programme characters to fast food giant McDonald's.

It also took offence with the government for allowing Cadbury Schweppes to market chocolate in its Get Active campaign in a scheme that allows children to exchange chocolate wrappers for sports equipment.

"It takes a lot of chocolate wrappers: a volleyball valued at about 18 pounds (30.34 US dollars) would cost around 320 chocolate bars (costing about 134 pounds)," it added.

Rather than voluntary agreements with manufacturers, the journal called for legislation to regulate the production of unhealthy food.

"Food needs clear, probably iconic, labelling for its nutritional content — an icon for junk food should be easy to design," it said.

MNA/Reuters

Yangtze River hosts third international rafting festival

BEIJING, 15 Nov— The third China-Panzhihua International Rafting Festival will be held in Panzhihua City, Sichuan Province, southwest China, from December 7 to 10, said Sun Gang, deputy director of the China National Tourism Administration on Thursday.

Under the theme of "environmental protection and harmony among nationalities", the festival, which will attract at least 200 participants in 58 teams, is described as one of the "most attractive and adventurous activities" by *National Geographic* magazine, said Qin Yizhi, mayor of Panzhihua.

The rafting will be held on the Yangtze River, the longest river in China. Participants will have to compete in a 25-kilometre speed race and a relay race of 70 kilometres.

Since it was first held in 2001, the event has attracted more than 95 teams from both China and overseas as well as more than 100,000 tourists, according to Qin.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Year in Italy the worst of my career, says Rivaldo

RIO DE JANEIRO, 15 Nov— Brazilian World Cup winner Rivaldo has criticized his club AC Milan for their failure to give him a chance to prove himself in Serie A.

"Without doubt this has been the worst year of my career," the striker told reporters at the Teresopolis training camp where Brazil are preparing for World Cup qualifiers against Peru and Uruguay.

"At Milan I'm giving everything I've got during training to earn myself a chance.

"I honestly don't know why I can't find space in the team, even on the bench. My Brazilian teammates know how hard I'm trying."

The 31-year-old has not impressed in Italy since his free transfer from Barcelona at the beginning of the 2002-03 season.

Injuries and poor form disrupted a disappointing first season that he finished on the bench, watching his teammates win the Champions League. The situation has not improved this season, with Rivaldo making just one appearance for Milan so far.

In September the striker announced his departure from the club by mutual consent, but reconsidered after receiving a warm farewell from the fans and being told by Brazil coach Alberto Parreira that he would not be selected for international duty if he was not training with a club.—*MNA/Reuters*

Brazilian soccer star Rivaldo waves to fans as his fellow countryman Cafu stands beside him, prior to the Italian major league soccer match between AC Milan and Lecce, at the San Siro stadium in Milan, Italy, Sunday, Sept. 28, 2003. Rivaldo, unhappy with his season start on AC Milan's substitute bench, is leaving the Italian soccer powerhouse, AC Milan announced Friday. The Milanese team said Friday that the club owned by Premier Silvio Berlusconi and Rivaldo decided on a separation by mutual consent.—INTERNET

Voeller says great teams come along like fine wines

BERLIN, 15 Nov— Great national football sides come along like fine wines, Germany coach Rudi Voeller said on Thursday, suggesting luck played a large part in success as well as planning and youth development.

"Footballers are like wine. You get good years and less good ones. You can help with technical work and logistical support, but you cannot change the fundamentals," Voeller said ahead of Germany's friendly against France on Saturday.

"In 1990, Germany had exceptional players and we won the World Cup. In 1998 and 2000, with Zidane and Co., France was on top. "Whenever the national side is successful its training system is automatically hailed throughout the world."

Voeller dismissed comments from German coach Christoph Daum, in an interview in a German newspaper, that Germany would not be among soccer's elite until 2010.

Daum, who was set to become Germany's coach until a cocaine scandal in 2000, described Germany's youth development as piecemeal and a waste of money and urged that the system be replaced with elite schools as seen in France.

Voeller said Germany's youth coaching was not worse than that of France in every respect, arguing the national team was suffering because its top league was dominated by imports.

"When more than 60 per cent of the players on the pitch in the Bundesliga are foreigners, it can't be good.

German coach Rudi Völler reacted furiously after learning that the 1996 European champions will not be one of the four seeds at the competition.
INTERNET

I have played in Germany, Italy and France, I'm married to an Italian so I can express this opinion vocally without being taken the wrong way."

Voeller said Germany should examine whether to introduce systems such as those in the Netherlands, where foreign players need a minimum salary to get a work permit, or in England, where foreigners must be national players.

Voeller is keen to end a string of German failures against the world's leading sides.

Since beating England at Wembley in October 2000, Germany's run has included losses to Argentina, Brazil, England, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain, although they did reach the World Cup Final in 2002.

"Of course we want a win to end this talk that we are incapable of defeating a major side," he said.

MNA/Reuters

Wizards, shamans face off before Peru-Brazil qualifier

LIMA, 14 Nov— Eager to qualify for the 2006 World Cup, Peruvian and Brazilian fans called on shamans and wizards on Thursday to endow their national teams with victorious powers before Sunday's clash in the Peruvian capital.

Dressed in brightly coloured ponchos, Peruvian shamans covered photos of Peru's captain Claudio Pizarro and flamboyant striker Andres Mendoza with magical "Huaringa" plants to bring good luck.

Brazilian wizards fought back with "Macumba" mystical wax dolls, while pouring beer on the photos of the Peruvian strikers, aiming to weaken the Peruvians and make them feel drunk on the pitch.

"We are dancing out the 'Hatun Per' ritual to give Peru a chance and hold back Brazil's footballing powers," shaman Juan Osco told *Reuters* outside Lima's Monumental Stadium, where the match will be held.

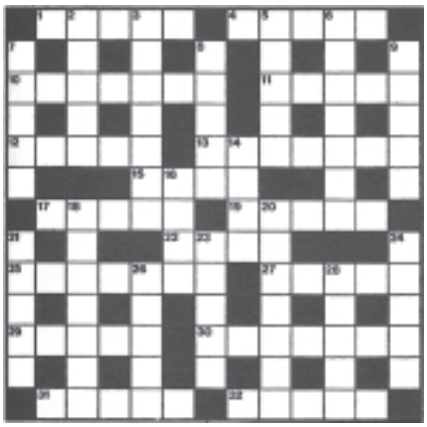
Peru are desperate to put past failures behind them and qualify for their first World Cup finals since 1982. After a strong start in the qualifiers, beating Paraguay 4-1, Peru lost 2-1 to Chile in Santiago in September.

Now the Andean nation faces the five-time World Cup winners and current holders who are without injured defender Roberto Carlos and forward Ronaldinho.

"Brazil will defeat Peru 2-0," said Brazilian wizard Santino Kristal, showering yellow flowers and holy water on the photos of the Brazilian team. "There is no doubt about it," he added.

Peru, coached by Brazilian Paulo Autuori, have never beaten Brazil in a World Cup qualifier, while the Brazilians have six points from their opening two games and are the only country ever to have played at all 17 World Cups. —*MNA/Reuters*

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1 Narrow parts of bottles
4 Sharp pinch
10 Peculiar
11 Varlet
12 Risked
13 Brief, comprehensive
15 Portent
17 First class
19 Freight
22 Require
25 Train
27 Indistinct
29 Happening
30 Moment
31 Remains
32 Viper

DOWN

2 Mistake
3 Realm
5 Arouse
6 Astounding
7 Stage whisper
8 From here
9 Smooth
14 One time
16 Bill of fare
18 Go back
20 Counselled
21 Command
23 Weird
24 Ship's cabin
26 Dapper
28 Fireplace

Ferdinand denies misconduct charge, requests hearing

LONDON, 15 Nov— Manchester United and England defender Rio Ferdinand has requested a personal hearing with the Football Association after being charged last month with "failure or refusal" to take a drugs test.

"We have received a response from Rio Ferdinand," an FA spokesman said on Thursday. "He has denied the charge of misconduct and has requested a personal hearing."

The date of the hearing has yet to be scheduled.

The 24-year-old failed to attend the drugs test at United's Carrington training ground on September 23, claiming that he forgot because he was moving house. Although he passed a subsequent test 36 hours later he was excluded from England's squad for the decisive Euro 2004 qualifier in Turkey on October 11.

MNA/Reuters

Kasparov blunder gives "X3D Fritz" chess win

NEW YORK, 15 Nov— A cold, calculating computer called "X3D Fritz" swiftly took advantage of an all-too-human error by world No. 1 chess player Garry Kasparov on Thursday to win the second game of their four-game match in New York.

A tense, evenly balanced struggle became a mismatch on Kasparov's 32nd turn when the grandmaster blundered with a rook move that allowed the computer to penetrate his defenses with an unstoppable attack — a queen, a rook and a pawn marching down the board on its way to converting into another queen.

Legendary chess champion, Gary Kasparov, wears his X3D viewing glasses as he thinks of his next move against the X3D Fritz computer program in the 'X3D Man vs. Machine' world chess championship during the first day of competition in New York.—INTERNET

"I just blundered," Kasparov, 40, who had far less time left than the computer, told reporters.

Kasparov, who played with the black pieces, resigned after white's 39th move and three hours and 40 minutes play. His mistake was reminiscent of one he committed on January 30 in the third game of his six-game match against Israeli-built world chess computer champion Deep Junior. That was also an error with a rook on the 32nd move.

The match ended in a 3-3 tie. In chess matches, one point is awarded for a win and a 1/2 point for a draw.

MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3

16-11-2003 (Sunday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)

9:00 Signature Tune Greetings
9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
9:06 Fish Culture in Myanmar
9:10 Headline News
9:12 Myanmar Cuisine "Carrot Pudding"
9:15 National News
9:20 Fair Price High Quality Myanmar Carpets
9:25 Group Dance Entitled (Pyant Pwa Sein)
9:30 National News
9:35 Tour In Myanmar "Pathein"
9:40 Feel like an Earthquake
9:42 Historical Shwe Inpin Monastery
9:45 National News
9:50 A Brief Account of Bagan
9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

16-11-2003*(Sunday)
Regular Programmes for Viewers from Abroad
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)

15:30 Signature Tune Greetings
15:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
15:36 Fish Culture in Myanmar
15:40 Headline News
15:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Fried Asparagus with Fish Flake)
15:45 National News
15:50 Fair Price High Quality Myanmar Carpets
15:55 Group Dance Entitled (Pyant Pwa Sein)
16:00 National News
16:05 Tour In Myanmar "Pathein"
16:10 Song "Feel like an Earthquake"
16:12 Historical Shwe Inpin Monastery
16:15 National News
16:20 A Brief Account of Bagan
16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
16:30 National News
16:35 Chin Cultural Museum
16:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Pineapple Salad"
16:45 National News
16:50 Endeavours for Greening Mount Tantkyi
16:55 A Dance to the Harvest
16:58 "My Friends" Recent Paintings (Min Wae Aung)
17:00 Weekly News Highlights
17:05 Mingun Bell
17:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Invitations from Manaw Land"
17:12 Infotainment "Mosaic Painting of Myanmar"
17:15 National News
17:20 Seeds Production in Myanmar
17:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Evening Transmission
(19:30 - 23:30)

19:30 Signature Tune Greetings
19:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
19:36 Good Prospects For Myanmar Coffee
19:40 Headline News
19:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Fry bitter gourd with pounded dried Prawn)
19:45 National News
19:50 Tha Mee Hla Island
19:55 Scenic Beauty of Tiddim & Cultural Dance
20:00 National News
20:05 Attractive Myanmar Snacks
20:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Love Slave"
20:12 Illustrious handiwork in Kyeethe
20:15 National News
20:20 Ramayana in Myanmar (Human Weakness in the face of Temptations) (Part-XI)
20:25 Song "The Smooth Way with beautiful White Flowers"
20:30 National News
20:35 Inlay Blacksmith Craftsmanship
20:40 Myanma Cuisine "Traditional Shwedaung Noodle"
20:45 National News
20:50 Glimpses At Myanmar Movies
21:00 National News
21:05 Bamboo Toys
21:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Gaze Upon"
21:15 National News
21:20 Glimpses At Myanmar Movies
21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
21:30 A Brief Account of Bagan
21:40 Headline News
21:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Fried Asparagus with Fish Flake)
21:45 National News
21:50 Fair Price High Quality Myanmar Carpets
21:55 Group Dance Entitled (Pyant Pwa Sein)
22:00 National News
22:05 Tour In Myanmar "Pathein"
22:10 Song "Feel like an Earthquake"
22:12 Infotainment "Historical Shwe Inpin Monastery"
22:15 National News
22:20 Fish Culture in Myanmar
22:25 Song "Pleasant Kayah"
22:30 National News
22:35 Chin Cultural Museum
22:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Pineapple Salad"
22:45 National News
22:50 Endeavours for Greening Mount Tantkyi
22:55 A Dance to the Harvest
22:58 "My Friends" Recent Paintings (Min Wae Aung)
23:00 National News
23:05 Mingun Bell
23:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Invitations from Manaw Land"
23:15 National News
23:20 Seeds Production in Myanmar
23:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

16-11-2003*(Sunday) & 17-11-2003 (Monday)
Evening & Morning Transmission
(23:30 - 01:30)

23:30 Signature Tune Greetings
23:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
23:36 Fish Culture in Myanmar
23:40 Headline News
23:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Fried Asparagus with Fish Flake)
23:45 National News
23:50 Fair Price High Quality Myanmar Carpets
23:55 Group Dance Entitled (Pyant Pwa Sein)
24:00 National News
00:05 Tour In Myanmar "Pathein"
00:10 Song "Feel like an Earthquake"
00:12 Historical Shwe Inpin Monastery
00:15 National News
00:20 A Brief Account of Bagan
00:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
00:30 National News
00:35 Chin Cultural Museum
00:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Pineapple Salad"
00:45 National News
00:50 Endeavours for Greening Mount Tantkyi
00:55 A Dance to the Harvest
00:58 "My Friends" Recent Paintings (Min Wae Aung)
01:00 National News
01:05 Mingun Bell
01:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Invitations from Manaw Land"
01:12 Infotainment "Mosaic Painting of Myanmar"
01:15 National News
01:20 Seeds Production in Myanmar
01:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

17-11-2003 (Monday)
Morning Transmission
(03:30 - 07:30)

03:30 Signature Tune Greetings
03:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
03:36 Good Prospects For Myanmar Coffee
03:40 Headline News
03:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Fry bitter gourd wih pounded dried Prawn)
03:45 National News
03:50 Tha Mee Hla Island
03:55 Scenic Beauty of Tiddim & Cultural Dance
04:00 National News
04:05 Attractive Myanmar Snacks
04:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Love Slave"
04:12 Illustrious handiwork in Kyeethe
04:15 National News
04:20 Ramayana in Myanmar (Human Weakness in the face of Temptations) (Part-XI)
04:25 Song "The Smooth Way with beautiful White Flowers"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

WEATHER

Saturday, 15 November, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, except for the isolated rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Division, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were 3°C to 4°C below normal in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, 3°C above normal in Mon State and about normal in the remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 14-11-2003 was 36.0°C (97°F). Minimum temperature on 15-11-2003 was 18.6°C (66°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 15-11-2003 was 63%. Total sunshine hours on 14-11-2003 was (9.0) hours approx. Rainfall on 15-11-2003 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 2211 mm (87.05 inches) at Yangon Airport, 2315 mm (91.14 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 2394 mm (94.25 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from North at (01:55) hours MST on 5-10-2003. **Bay inference:** According to the observation at (12:30) hrs MST today, yesterday's depression over South Andaman Sea has weakened into low pressure area. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 16-11-2003:** Except for the likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (60%). **State of the sea:** Strong easterly wind with 35 mph and moderate to rough seas are likely off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Seas will be slight elsewhere in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Division. Forecast **for Yangon and neighbouring area for 16-11-2003:** Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 16-11-2003:** Fair weather.

TV Myanmar

Sunday, November 16

View today:

7:00 am
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော် သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အတွင်းဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အာဒီမေဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အာဒီဧအေဂ္ဂ မဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက တိပိဋကဓရေ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဘဒန္တ ဝိစိတ္တာဘိဝံသ၏ ဓရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am
5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ(၃၈)ခြင်းဓလ်လာ

8:10 am
6. ရုပ်ဆေးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am
7. ရွှေလောင်းတံတား၊

8:30 am
8. International news

8:45 am
9. Say it in English

11:00 am
1. Martial song

11:10 am
2. Musical programme

11:25 am
3. မြန်မာ့ခြေလုံး

11:35 am
4. Roundup of the week's international news

11:50 am
5. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်သံသရာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၆)

12:20 pm
6. Milo success in soccer

12:35 pm
7. "ဆိပ်ဖျက်လိုင်းများ" နိုင်းနိုင်း၊ ဇာနည်၊ ကျော်ရိုန်း၊ နေရတေ၊ ဆုမြတ်ရွှေစင်၊ ချောရတနာ ဒါရိုက်တာ-တင်သန်းဦး

1:50 pm
8. ဂမုန်းရေလောင်းတမံ

2:05 pm
9. သက်ရှည်ကျန်းမာ မြန်မာ့ရွှေမိန်းပြာ (အပိုင်း-၂၂)

2:15 pm
10. Musical programme

2:30 pm
11. ဂုန်ညင်းတန်းတံတား

2:40 pm
12. International news

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:15 pm
2. Song to uphold national spirit

4:30 pm
3. English For Everyday Use

4:45 pm
4. Song of national races

5:00 pm
5. အရေးသင်တန်းသို့လိပ်ပြာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား၊ သင်ခန်းစာ - ပထမနှစ် (ရုက္ခဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြုများ) (ရုက္ခဗေဒ)

5:15 pm
6. Agricultural force country's development

5:25 pm
7. Musical programme

5:40 pm
8. (၂၂)တြိဖိုင်ခြောက်အရွေ့ကောင် အာရာ အားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲအတွင် ပြင်ဆင်ရေးကျင်ပွဲ (တိုက်ကွပ်ဒိုင်)

5:50 pm
9. Sing and enjoy

6:30 pm
10. Evening news

7:00 pm
11. Weather report

7:05 pm
12. Industrial achievement

7:20 pm
13. Musical programme

7:35 pm
14. ကျိုက်မရောဆုတောင်းပြည်ဘုရား ဘဝင်စုံညြပြင်ဖွဲ့မြဲအခြင်းဓွေ့ လှလှဓေးမျာ (မြန်ပြည်နယ်၊ ကျိုက်မရောမြို့)

8:00 pm
15. News
16. International news
17. Weather report
18. Calcio Serie A Highlight
19. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးဝိစိတ္တာသရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရမ်းဆယ်မျက်နှာ ဓမ္မဘာဘာဝနာ မှုးမျာဖြင်း တရားတော်
20. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Sunday, November 16

Tune in today:

8.30 am Brief news
8.35 am Music
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music
8.55 am National news/ Slogan
9.05 am Music
9.10 am International news
9.15 am Music
1.30 pm News/Slogan
1.40 pm Story for children "One who freed someone's life"
1.50 pm Songs for children
9.00 pm Weekly news review
9.10 pm Music
9.15 pm Article
9.25 pm Songs/Adapted originals
This time around — Hanson
9.45 pm News/Slogan
10.00 pm PEL

Asleep in Jesus
U Yu Khin (Stephen)
Age 82
Supervisor (Retd)
Department of Civil Aviation

U Yu Khin (Stephen) of No 114, Third Floor, 52nd Street, Pazundaung Township, son of (U Aseik-Daw Sein Yin) of Danubyu Township, husband of Daw Thein Nwe (Daw Saw Site Eng), elder brother of Dr U Khin Maung Thi (Medical Superintendent-Retd)-Daw Khin Than Myint, father of Daw Hmwe Hmwe (BEHS-4, N/Okkalapa), U Tin Aung-Daw Than Than, Daw Hla Hla (Khit Myat Noe Textile Shop), Saw K'nyaw Plo Ta Pa-Daw Tin Tin (Grand Plaza Park Royal Hotel), (U Aye Ko)-Daw Myint Myint, U Tin Thein, Ma Shu Yin, U Tin Maung-Daw Nwe Nwe Aung, U Tin Maung Win-Ma Thida Khin, U Tin Htwe-Ma Htay Htay Khin and Ma Ohn Mar Khin, grandfather of 12 was called to His Heavenly Home at 5 AM on 14-11-2003. Service will be held at St. Theresa Catholic Church in Ahlon Township at 5.30 PM on 15-11-2003. The funeral cortege will leave St. Theresa Catholic Church of No 98, Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street, Ahlon Township, at 10 AM on 16-11-2003 for entombment at Yay Way Christian Cemetery.

Bereaved Family

R 489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 296115, Manager 296864, Circulation 297093, Advertisement 296843, Accounts 296545, Administration 296161, Production 297032 (Office) /297028 (Press).

Prime Minister inspects upgrading of Yangon Kandawgyi Gardens and environs

YANGON, 15 Nov — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspected the all-round upgrading of Yangon Kandawgyi Gardens and its environs this morning. The Prime Minister, accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, arrived at the relaxation zone of the gardens at 10.45 am. The Prime Minister was welcomed there by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, the deputy ministers, departmental officials and members of the committee for all-round upgrading of Yangon Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoological Gardens.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects upgrading tasks of the Kandawgyi Gardens and environs. —MNA

First, the Prime Minister inspected the construction of a viewing plaza on pearl island and the bridge for the island of the zone. The commander and responsible officials conducted the Prime Minister round the construction site. Next, the Prime Minister inspected the construction of white elephants statues to be put up at the archway of the zone and gave necessary instructions to officials.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister proceeded to the recreation zone of the gardens and inspected the landscaping and upgrading tasks on Karaweik island. The Prime Minister gave instructions on taking systematic measures for upgrading without affecting the natural beauty of the gardens. *MNA*

General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence cordially greets graduate officers at a dinner to mark conclusion of the No 65 Pilot Course.
MNA

Gen Thura Shwe Mann attends dinner to mark conclusion of Pilot Course No 65

YANGON 15, Nov —The dinner to mark the conclusion of the Pilot Course No 65 of No 1 Flying Training School took place at the Flying Training Base (Shante) in Meiktila yesterday evening.

It was attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Kyi Min, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein, senior military officers, Commander of the Flying Training Base Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin, commanders of air bases, squadron leaders, officers, departmental officials, newly-graduated officers and their parents and guests.

Before and during the dinner, the graduate officers and artistes presented entertainment programmers with the accompaniment of the Defence Service (Air) band.

After the dinner, the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and wife Daw Htwe Htwe Nyunt presented flower baskets to the artistes.

MNA

Secretary-2 meets MWVO members

YANGON, 15 Nov — Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman of the Central Organizing Committee for Myanmar War Veterans Organization Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein met with members of Meiktila District MWVO and township MWVOs in Meiktila District at Meiktila Flying Training Base yesterday afternoon. Chairman of Meiktila District War Veterans Supervisory Committee Lt-Col Myo Myint, Chairman of Meiktila Township WVSC Capt Tin Oo (Retd) and members reported to Lt-Gen Thein Sein on works undertaken by respective WVOs.

Next, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein explained the organizational set-up, objectives, work programmes of MWVO and urged those present to engage in livestock breeding tasks and small enterprises and to unitedly strive for the organization to be a prestigious and respected one. After the ceremony, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greeted those present. — *MNA*

Myanmar-China tennis friendly to be held

YANGON, 15 Nov — Organized by the Myanmar Tennis Federation, the Myanmar-China friendly tennis tournament will be held in Theinbyu Tennis Court from 24 to 26 November and fans may watch the tennis event free of charge. *MNA*

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects traditional medicine university and paramedical sciences institute construction projects (Mandalay)

YANGON, 15 Nov — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint and officials, arrived at the traditional medicine university (Mandalay) construction project in Aungmyethazan Township yesterday morning. Engineer in-charge of the ACE Construction U Han Thein reported on progress in construction of the four-storey main building of the university . Rector Dr Mya Moe gave a supplementary report. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave necessary instructions and inspected the project site.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party viewed the project site for construction of paramedical sciences institute (Mandalay) for the Medical Science Department of the Ministry of Health in Patheingyi Township. Paramedical Sciences Institute Rector Dr Ye Hlaing and officials reported on future tasks and road construction. Institute of Medicine (Mandalay) Rector Dr Soe Tun gave a supplementary report. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party looked into the work progress and left necessary instructions.

MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspects Traditional Medicine Institute and Paramedical Sciences Institute (Mandalay) construction projects.—MNA