

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Sunday, 15 February, 2004

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



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Director of Asia & Pacific, UNHCR Mr Jean Maric Sakhouri. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives UNHCR Regional Director

YANGON, 14 Feb— Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt received Director of Asia & Pacific, UNHCR Mr Jean Maric Sakhouri at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall on Konmyinthta at 5 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung and Director-General U Thauang Tun of Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Regional Director was accompanied by Resident Representative of UNHCR Mr Rajiv Kapur.

MNA

Students from Mohnyin region have been able to learn six engineering courses with emergence of the higher learning institution Government Technical Institute (Mohnyin) inaugurated

YANGON, 14 Feb — In honour of the 57th Anniversary Union Day, the inauguration of the newly-constructed Government Technical Institute (Mohnyin) under the Ministry of Science and Tech-

nology took place at the institute in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State, on 10 February morning, attended by Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Tactical Operations Commander of the Northern Command Col

Tin Shein, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, local authorities, the principal of the institute, faculty members, students, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, national race people and others.

First year student Maung Kyaw Phyto Aung (Electrical Power) and first year (See page 8)



Opening ceremony of Mohnyin GTI being seen in Mohnyin on 10-2-2004. — MNA

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Circulation

23,188

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 15 February, 2004

Constantly produce highly-qualified human resources

In building up a modern developed nation with high national prestige and integrity that can constantly catch up with the advances and changes of the world, the Government has been laying political, economic and social foundations exerting collective efforts based on concrete unity of the entire people.

Myanmar is a Union where over 100 national races have been living together with affection and in unity. National requirements — enhancing the national solidarity, ensuring stability and peace and equitable development of all parts of the Union, and constant production of human resources capable of bringing about development of the nation — play the most fundamental role in building up a modern developed nation that can exist as long as the world does. In his speech delivered at the inauguration of the main building of Myingyan Degree College constructed by the Ministry of Education in Myingyan, Mandalay Division, the other day, Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the students who are pursuing advanced level studies at the college with peace of mind will understand the power and value of national unity, the essence and the symbol of the Union. The degree college was opened in honour of the 57th anniversary Union Day.

Prior to the Union Day, Yangon University of Computer Studies in Yangon, Hpa-an University in Kayin State, Mohnyin Degree College and Government Technical Institute (Mohnyin) in Kachin State and Myingyan Degree College and Government Technical Institute (Myingyan) in Mandalay Division were launched. The facilities are on a par with international level universities, colleges and institutes. The emergence of mushrooming educational facilities one after another across the nation indicates and reflects the genuine goodwill of the Government that places great emphasis on equitable progress of all national brethren. Only when a large number of highly-qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia are produced in technical, technological as well as arts and science fields in a nation, will such nation become a modern developed one that can stand shoulder to shoulder with other nations of the world.

Teachers and students are therefore urged to more actively take part in the drive to further strengthen national solidarity for perpetuation of the nation, while making greater efforts in constantly producing outstanding and dynamic intellectuals and intelligentsia capable of carrying out uphill tasks in order to enable the nation to stand tall among the nations of the world.



Thongchai Jaidee of Thailand. — MGF

59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

- To strive hand in hand with the people for successful realization of the State's seven-point policy programme.
- To crush internal and external destructive elements hindering the stability and progress of the State through people's militia strategy
- To implement border area development tasks and the five rural development tasks hand in hand with the entire people
- To build up a strong and efficient Tatmadaw to uphold 'Our Three Main National Causes'

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

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 everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Deputy Minister meets UNHCR Director

YANGON, 14 Feb — Director of UNHCR for Asia & Pacific Region Mr Jean Marie Sakhouri, accompanied by Resident Representative of UNHCR to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kapur called on Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung at the deputy minister's office at the Office of Ministers here at 4 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General of Immigration and National Registration Department U Maung Htay and officials. — MNA



The UNHCR Director calls on Deputy Minister U Maung Aung. — MNA

Local hero Win aims for magical 65 in Myanmar Open

YANGON, 14 Feb — The third round of Myanmar Open was held at Yangon Golf Club in Danyingon this morning.

MGF General Secretary U Aung Kyi, MPGA General Secretary U Chan Han, Mr Arend Ng of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd, officials, guests and fans were present.

Local hope Aung Win is aiming to shoot a magical 65 in tomorrow's final round of the Myanmar Open to end his country's title drought in the event. Win endured a frustrating day on the greens en-route to a one-under-par 71 in the third round at Yangon Golf Club today and ended the day four strokes back of leader Thongchai Jaidee of Thailand.

Myanmar's wait for a first local winner in the event was left on tenterhooks as home favourite Win missed putts early on in his round and needed to drain a 15-foot putt at the last hole to keep him in the title frame.

Thongchai's love affair with the US\$ 200,000 event continued to blossom today when he took over as the third round leader after a spectacular six-under-par 66 today. The former Thai paratrooper was in sparkling form as he hit 17 greens in regulation which yielded seven birdies including four on the inward nine at the tree-lined Yangon layout. His outstanding display won over the hearts of local spectators on Valentine's Day.

Thongchai has a three-day total of nine-under-par 207, one shot better than American Andrew Putts who carded a 68. — MNA



**Salone
Traditional Festival
2004**

**(Sea Gypsy Festival)
Ma Kyone Galet Village, Myeik Archipelago
Union of Myanmar
14 to 17 February 2004**



The 2004 New Year dinner was held in conjunction with the launching of sales promotion of Toshiba home appliances at 6.00 pm on 9 February 2004 at the Grand Plaza Parkroyal Hotel in Yangon. General manager of Global Trading Department of Toshiba Singapore Pte Ltd extends greetings. — (H)

Iraqi civilian deaths mount, but US keeps quiet

BAGHDAD, 14 Feb— The US military knows 537 of its soldiers have been killed in the war in Iraq, can cite names, how and when they died. But when it comes to dead Iraqi civilians, it will not even talk hundreds or thousands.

Independent thinktanks estimate as many as 10,000 civilians may have died as a direct result of the US-led military intervention in Iraq, either during the war or in attacks aimed at uprooting the occupation. US authorities in Iraq say they keep no official tally.

"We don't track, we don't have the capacity to track all civilian casualties," Brigadier General Mark Kimmitt said. He said some numbers were available, but too unreliable to use.

It is indeed impossible to count every death. The lines between civilians and combatants are sometimes blurred, bodies buried before they can be counted. But analysts say it is also in Washington's interests to keep the toll quiet.

"In the final analysis, what determines what this administration does is how the American public responds to it," said Carl Conetta of the Project for Defence Alternatives, who is preparing a report on how Washington manages news from Iraq.

"You would not get support if you said we are going to go in and 15,000 people are going to die...Americans need to believe this is doable. They don't want to hear that this will start a cycle of violence. They don't want to hear it practically and they don't want to hear it morally."

Rights groups say it is important to have at least an estimate of civilian deaths. Individual incidents — 53 dead

in Iskandariya on Tuesday, 47 in Baghdad on Wednesday — belie the scale of the war and can be quickly forgotten, they say.

The Iraq Body Count group, which bases its assessment on media reports, says up to 10,089 Iraqi civilians have died because of the war. The group's co-founder John Sloboda admits the count is flawed, but says even an estimate can be powerful.

"Political leaders say it was worth it to go to war," he said. "But if you don't know the cost, how can you say it was worth it? Stories of women and children — this is what turns ordinary citizens in the West against war."

MNA/Reuters

ထုတ်ဖော်ချက်များ

US Marine admits abducting British girl

LONDON, 14 Feb— A former US Marine pleaded guilty on Thursday to abducting a 12-year-old British schoolgirl whom he contacted over the Internet.

Toby Studabaker, 32, from Michigan, also admitted incitement to gross indecency at the start of his trial in northwest England. He will be sentenced at Manchester Crown Court on April 2, prosecution officials said.

The girl, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, went missing with Studabaker last July, sparking an international police search. Studabaker spent months communicating with the girl before they met and travelled to a Paris hotel.

The girl returned to her parents after a few days and Studabaker was arrested in Germany and extradited to Britain. Although he denied knowing her age, records show she told him early in their contact that she was 11.

MNA/Reuters

British soldier dies in Iraq accident

LONDON, 14 Feb— A British soldier has died in a road accident at a military base in Iraq, the Ministry of Defence has said.

Richard Thomas David Ivel, 29, a mechanic with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, died at the Shaibah Logistics Base on Thursday.

The MoD said there was "no hostile action" at the southern Iraqi base.

Corporal Ivel was from near Doncaster, South Yorkshire, and was married with three children. He is the 59th UK soldier to have died in Iraq.

The special investigations branch of the Royal Military Police is to carry out a full investigation, the MoD said.

Cpl Ivel had been serving with 2 Close Support Regiment of the Royal Logistic

Corps, who are usually based in Germany.

Robert Ivel, from Doncaster, paid tribute to his son.

"I think for Richard the Army was his life and he loved it. He loved serving where it was felt he was needed.

"He had real heart and a compassion for people.

"I think the amount of friends he had and the way all the people who have ever spoke to him really respected him as a man and called him a close friend shows that.

Mr Ivel said he could not have asked for a better son and said Cpl Ivel was also "a super father and husband". —Internet



US troops stop an Iraqi ambulance to make a security check before allowing it to enter the scene of a vehicle bomb in central Baghdad on 11 Feb, 2004. — INTERNET

China active in int'l drug-control cooperation

BEIJING, 14 Feb — China's active participation in international anti-drug cooperation has been effective in curbing the illegal trafficking of narcotics at home, a senior police officer said here Thursday.

Last year China launched 38 anti-drug campaigns in joint efforts with Myanmar and Laos, seizing 281 kilos of heroin, eight kilos of methamphetamine ice and 429 kilos of opium, said Luo Feng, deputy director of National Narcotics Control Commission, at a meeting of the commission.

"China will continue to collaborate with these countries and play a bigger role in the international community this year," said Luo, also Vice-Minister of Public Security.

Luo said China will further promote the development of regional mechanisms such as the anti-drug action plan it signed with the Association of South-East Asian Nations, the memorandum of understanding on anti-drug cooperation in the East Asia sub-region, and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia seeks global unity to tackle new threats

MOSCOW, 14 Feb— Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said Thursday that enhancing the world community's unity to deal with new challenges and threats will be one of a major tasks in Russia's foreign policy this year.

To fulfil the objective, Russia plans to take measures to strengthen the non-proliferation mechanism, prevent and settle regional conflicts and improve Russian-US cooperation, Ivanov was quoted by ITAR-TASS news agency as saying.

Addressing deputies from the State Duma, or Lower House of Russian Parliament, Ivanov pointed out that Russia will continue to promote the integration process in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), push forward strategic partnership with the European Union (EU) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), take practical cooperation in peace-making and the fight against terrorism, and consolidate cooperation with countries in Latin America, the Arab world and Asia.

He noted that Russia has gained a stronger foothold in the world arena over the past few years, which is "a result of internal stabilization and the achievement of higher economic growth rates".

Ivanov criticized the "interference in the internal affairs of sovereign countries on the excuse of struggle with terrorism", calling to strengthen International Law and the United Nations' role in the fight against terrorism.

He said that Russian-US relations have witnessed "qualitative changes" and they have become "more stable and firmer", but in order to prevent any harm to its interests, Russia will closely monitor the implementation of US plans for deploying a global anti-ballistic missile defence system.

Ivanov also stressed the need for "successfully developing bilateral relations with Europe and constructive cooperation within the framework of Russia-NATO Council". On Russia's relations with Asian nations, he confirmed that Russian-Chinese ties are at their best-ever level in history, strategic partnership with India is growing stronger, and cooperation with Japan is proceeding in the positive vein.

MNA/Xinhua

Thailand to shorten nightlife hours, keep youths at home

BANGKOK, 14 Feb— Thailand's lively and notorious nightlife ordered to shut earlier in a clampdown on drugs last year, is to have opening hours curtailed even further.

The Cabinet decision, which has the force of law, has enraged nightclub owners who say thousands of jobs will be threatened, and they plan protests to try to get the decree revoked.

"Millions of waiters and singers will lose their jobs" said Somyot Suthangkool,

owner of a popular Bangkok nightclub and chairman of industry body with 50,000 members.

"Owners like us have to prepare to go bankrupt," he added. The decree is the latest move by Prime Minister Thaksin Sinawatra to fight crime — particularly the drugs trade which he labelled

a scourge of Thailand's youth.

This year, the aim is to get youth off the streets by 10 p.m. to prevent them from getting into trouble and to cut down the hours places of entertainment can operate, officials said on Wednesday.

MNA/Reuters



South Korean protesters struggle with South Korean riot policemen during an anti-government rally opposing the controversial bill on the dispatch of South Korean troops to Iraq in front of the National Assembly in Seoul, on 13 Feb, 2004. — INTERNET

Chaos and war leave Iraq's hospitals in ruins

BAGHDAD, 14 Feb — At Baghdad's Central Teaching Hospital for Children, gallons of raw sewage wash across the floors. The drinking water is contaminated. According to doctors, 80 percent of patients leave with infections they did not have when they arrived.

Doctors say they have been beaten up in the emergency room. Blood is in such short supply that physicians often donate their own to patients lying in front of them.

"The word 'big' is not enough to express the disaster we are facing," said Ahmed A. Muhammad, the hospital's assistant manager.

"It's definitely worse now than before the war," said Eman Asim, the Ministry of Health official who oversees the country's 185 public hospitals. "Even at the height of sanctions, when things were miserable, it wasn't as bad as this. At least then someone was in control."

The violence on the streets has seeped into the wards, with attacks on staff members and feuds being finished in the corridors.

And the list goes on. While Health Ministry officials say no comprehensive health survey has been conducted since the war,

several doctors here said that infant mortality is up. Of 48 babies recently brought to the neonatal clinic at Yarmuk Hospital, 19 died, said Tala al-Awqati, a pediatrician. "That is twice as many as last year," she said.

She also said that more women were choosing to give birth at home, increasing the chances of complications, because they were frightened of venturing into the streets to deliver at a hospital.

The Red Cross and the United Nations used to run health programmes in Iraq. But after the headquarters of both organizations were bombed last year, foreign experts pulled out.

Doctors also said that the postwar sabotage of the country's primary pharmaceutical factory in Samarra and the looting of the central supply depot in Baghdad had depleted the country of needed supplies.

Internet

US soldier killed in Baghdad blast

BAGHDAD, 14 Feb—A US soldier was killed by a bomb blast in Baghdad as a United Nations team continued to assess demands for early elections.

The latest attack came as the US military said Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who has a \$10 million price on his head, is the prime suspect in deadly bombings that hit Najaf and the UN headquarters in Baghdad last year.

The soldier, from the 16th military police brigade, was killed and two were wounded when a de-

vice struck an army patrol near Abu Gharib district of Baghdad at about 10:40 pm on Thursday, the military said.

He was the 258th American soldier killed in Iraq since US President George Bush declared major combat over on 1 May last year.

Earlier the same day, a convoy carrying General John Abizaid, head of US

Central Command, and Major General Charles Swannack, commander of the 82nd Airborne Division, was attacked in Falluja.

"Three rocket-propelled grenades were fired at their convoy from the rooftops in the vicinity," US Brigadier General Mark Kimmitt, deputy coalition operations chief told a news conference

Internet

Epidemic emergency vehicle appears in Beijing

BEIJING, 14 Feb — China's first vehicle for handling epidemic emergencies appeared in the capital Beijing on Thursday.

Like a mobile epidemic prevention station, the vehicle combines the functions of disinfection, sample collection, medicine allocation, waste collection and transfer, broadcast guidance and wireless communication, said technicians in Beijing Kaite Special Vehicle Factory who produced it.

The vehicle is divided into clean, semi-polluted and polluted areas which are relatively independent to prevent possible infections of the quarantine staff.

It is equipped with a two-kilowatt power engine and spotlights. The tanks aboard can provide water and disinfection liquid for an area of

5,000 square metres. It also has cabinets for keeping waste clothes and water.

The special vehicle was bought at a price of 180,000 yuan (22,000 US dollars) by the epidemic emergency working team under the Beijing Agricultural Bureau.

MNA/Xinhua



A computer illustration by the European Space Agency (ESA) of Mars Express. The ESA said Mars Express relayed instructions to the US lander Spirit and then transmitted data from the rover to Earth.—INTERNET

ဝက်မှုပေးအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



At Baghdad's central pediatric hospital, puddles of sewage collect near the laundry and food-storage areas. — INTERNET

Russia says will sign deal on nuclear fuel for Iran

Moscow, 14 Feb — Russia said on Thursday it planned to sign a deal with Iran next month to ship nuclear fuel for Iran's power plant, defying US pressure on Moscow to sever nuclear ties with the Islamic republic.

Teheran and Moscow have been locked in months of tough talks over nuclear shipments for the 800 million US dollars Bushehr plant Russia has helped to build despite repeated US accusations that Iran is secretly trying to acquire nuclear arms.

"I think in about two weeks all outstanding issues will be settled, that is, by the end of February," Atomic Energy Minister Alexander Rumyantsev told reporters.

He said he hoped to sign the final document, which also requires Iran to return spent nuclear fuel to Russia, during a visit to Teheran in late March.

"The United States has criticized us and will continue to criticize us," Rumyantsev said. "They say Iran seeks nuclear weapons under the cover of our peaceful technology transfer."

"But we keep telling them they've got that wrong. We think we abide by all international laws."

Washington wants Moscow to withhold fuel for the reactor as long as Teheran's nuclear ambitions remain a matter of concern.

Minutes after Rumyantsev's briefing, top US arms control official John Bolton accused Iran of failing to comply with the commitment it made last year to suspend uranium enrichment and of pursuing efforts to acquire nuclear arms.

Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi said Iran was developing nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and denied Bolton's weapons charge. "Certainly we are not following any programme to produce weapons," he told reporters in Rome.

MNA/Reuters

Advertising expenditure reaches \$34.3b in China last year

BEIJING, 14 Feb — Spending on advertising reached some 283.7 billion yuan (34.3 billion US dollars) in the Chinese Mainland, Hong Kong and Taiwan last year, according to a recent CVSC-TNS Research (CTR) report.

CTR, a leading Mainland research firm, released a report early this month jointly with Hong Kong-based adman Go and Taiwan-based Rainmaker International Group saying that last year's advertising expenditures in this region, not including the money spent on radio and outdoor advertisement, soared by 32 per cent over 2002.

"The figure not only showed the country's advertising has moved out of the impact of SARS but also the vigorous economy here," said Tian Tao, CTR vice general manager.

The Chinese Mainland

contributed to 54 per cent of the advertising spending while Hong Kong took up 13 per cent and Taiwan accounted for 33 per cent, the report said.

The advertising expenditure increased by 39 per cent to 154.4 billion yuan last year in the Chinese Mainland, among which cosmetics accounted for the most, followed by foods, medicine, retailing and real estates.

Hong Kong reported spending of 35.6 billion yuan on TV and publication ads last year and Taiwan spent 93.7 billion yuan, according to the report.

MNA/Xinhua

German sausage dog in sewer sparks police hunt

BERLIN, 14 Feb — A German sausage dog called Anton sparked a police search involving six squad cars after vanishing into the sewers in the northern city of Luebeck, authorities said on Thursday.

A spokesman for Luebeck police said the dog's owner was taking Anton and another wire-haired dachshund for a walk when the two disappeared into a drainage pipe and did not return. "They were trained hunting dogs — for catching rabbits," said the spokesman. "They picked up a scent and off they went." The owner recovered one dog, but called police when attempts to lure Anton out of the sewers with offal failed. Police cordoned off a bit of road for the search, but despite hearing the dog's barks, officers could not locate him.— MNA/Reuters

IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



US troops block the road in front of a scene of an explosion at a police station in Iskandariyah, south of Baghdad, Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2004. — INTERNET



Iraqis walk around destroyed cars south of Baghdad Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2004. INTERNET



Dutch soldiers secure the area where a mortar launched in Samawah, 370 kilometres (230 miles) south of Baghdad, on Thursday, 12 Feb. 2004. A mortar landed near a hotel housing foreign journalists in the southern Iraqi town.

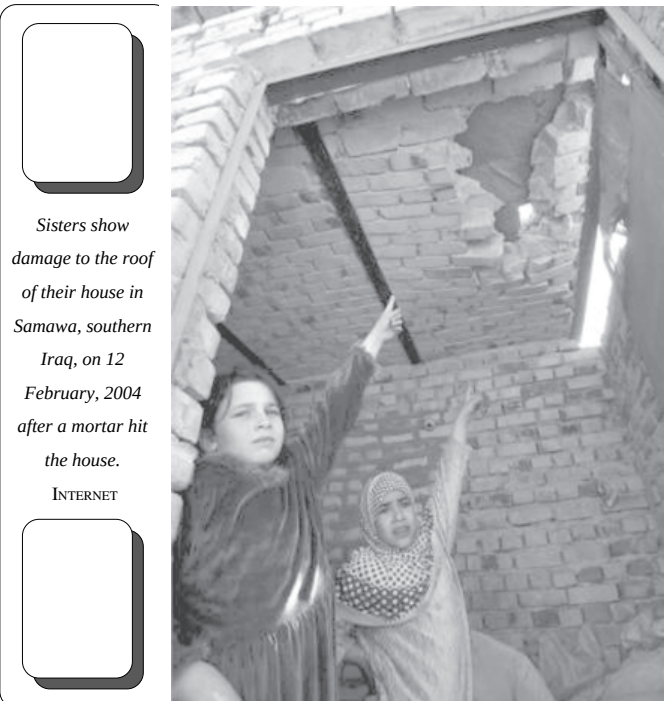
INTERNET



Iraqis demonstrate in central Baghdad on 13 Feb, demanding the US-led coalition to release prisoners. — INTERNET



South Korean protesters hold 'No troop dispatch to Iraq' banners during a rally in front of the National Assembly, in Seoul on 13 Feb. 2004. — INTERNET



Sisters show damage to the roof of their house in Samawa, southern Iraq, on 12 February, 2004 after a mortar hit the house.

INTERNET

Inquiry will not judge Blair's role in Iraq war

LONDON, 14 Feb—Tony Blair faced renewed criticism over the war in Iraq yesterday after it emerged that his personal role in authorising military action would not be judged by the Butler inquiry into events leading to the invasion.

Sir Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrat foreign affairs spokesman, criticised the review after it was revealed that the committee would not examine the role of individual ministers and officials. Labour backbenchers warned that the decision meant that the five-strong review team had no chance of producing answers to vital questions about the run-up to war.

A statement released by the Cabinet Office on Thursday confirmed that the inquiry would hold all its meetings in private and would "focus principally on structures, systems and processes rather than on the actions of individuals".

Unlike the Hutton inquiry, the members of Lord Butler's review will not employ barristers. The committee's state-

ment said: "In the interests of not conveying a limited, partial or distorted public impression of the evidence, much of which must necessarily remain secret, the committee has decided the review will be carried out in private."

The Butler inquiry, which will start taking evidence in April, has faced criticism for its narrow remit, which includes looking at the discrepancies between the intelligence "gathered, evaluated and used" by the Government and the failure to find weapons of mass destruction. Sir Menzies said the decision was "predictable" and vindicated the decision of the Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy not to take part in the review.

Internet

China firmly opposes WMD proliferation

BEIJING, 14 Feb— China firmly opposes the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery and will be making more domestic and international non-proliferation efforts, said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue here.

Zhang made the remark at a Press conference in response to a question on US President George W. Bush's call for international non-proliferation cooperation.

According to the spokeswoman, China, consistently supporting the global non-proliferation action, has adopted concrete measures to reinforce a weapons export control regime, which involves both self-control and cooperation with other countries including the United States.

With an established legal framework on non-proliferation, China is willing to adopt strong and effective measures to implement related laws and regulations, said Zhang.

Zhang also elaborated on China's international non-proliferation cooperation.

According to her, China has consultations and exchanges with the Nuclear Suppliers' Group (NSG) and with the Missile and Technology Control Regime

(MTCR), whose policies and practices served as references for China in setting up its nuclear control regime, a missile export statute and listing. China has filed its application to join the NSG and sought to join the MTCR. A Chinese delegation is having consultations in Paris with MTCR member countries after Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing and MTCR president both expressed interest in cooperation.

On a controversial Proliferation Security Initiative designed to intercept suspected shipments in international waters, she said China supports international non-proliferation efforts but believes relevant issues should be resolved under international laws and by political and diplomatic means.

"Any non-proliferation measures should be conducive to regional and global peace, security, and stability," said Zhang.

MNA/Xinhua

Premier Wen extends greetings to Hong Kong resident of Amoy Gardens

HONG KONG, 14 Feb— "Premier Wen Jiabao has asked us to convey his New Year's greetings to your family, wishing you good health and good luck in the year of 2004," said a Chinese official Friday to a Hong Kong resident of Amoy Gardens, whose family had fallen victim to the outbreak of SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) last year.

Zhou Junming, deputy director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, said this during his call on Kwok Shin Hung's family, which Wen had visited at the end of June last year during his two-day stay in Hong Kong.

According to Zhou, the Premier on February 5 also asked the liaison office to extend his thanks to the Hong Kong family for the postcard and photos the latter sent to Wen in January this year.

Zhou, following the Hongkongers' tradition of celebrating the Chinese Lunar New Year, sent a red envelope to Kwok's daughter Kwok Ming Wai. He also presented the seven-year-old girl with a yellow schoolbag, some stationery and a beautifully-decorated fruit basket. They chatted cordially, with

Laughter resounding in the small apartment.

Kwok, a 38-year-old bus station master of the Kowloon Motor Bus Company, said he sent the Premier a postcard and some photos of his daughter and baby son, in a way to express his feelings toward Premier Wen as an ordinary friend and wish the Premier a happy new year.

MNA/Xinhua



Two Fort Polk soldiers among latest casualties in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 14 Feb—Two soldiers assigned to Fort Polk are among the latest casualties in Iraq. The US Department of Defense says the two men were killed when an explosive device went off while they were on patrol in Baghdad.

The soldiers, who are from California and Oregon, were part of the 2nd Armored Cavalry.

The incident is under investigation.—Internet



A small group of Iraqis shout in support of their leader after the United Nations envoy to Iraq, Lakhdar Brahimi, met with the top Iraqi cleric Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani in Najaf on 12 February, 2004.

INTERNET

Saudi Arabia warns of possible car bomb attack in Riyadh

RIYADH, 14 Feb— Saudi Arabia said on Friday it had confirmed information that a car owned by a wanted militant has been packed with explosives to be used in what it called a criminal act in the capital Riyadh.

An Interior Ministry statement, carried by the official Saudi Press Agency, gave a description of the car and asked the public to be on alert and inform authorities if they had any information on the vehicle.

"The Interior Ministry would like to alert citizens and residents especially in Riyadh that it has confirmed information that a car registered in the name of one of those wanted (militants) has been packed with a huge amount of explosives to be used in a criminal act," the statement said.

It said the vehicle was a gray 1991 GMC Suburban with darkened windows. It gave the car's registration number, but said it may have been changed and the car repainted.

It said the car was last seen in the east of Riyadh.

Saudi Arabia is battling militant violence blamed on supporters of Saudi-born Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda network, believed to be behind the September 11, 2001 attacks in the United States.

Some 50 people were killed in suicide bombings in Riyadh last year. Cars packed with explosives were used in some of those attacks.

Twenty-three of the 26 most wanted suspects named by the government in December are still at large, and two weeks ago security forces found the latest cache of arms in the capital, including a bomb-laden car and rocket-propelled grenades.

The government has said last year it has seized 24 tons of explosives in the kingdom as well as hundreds of explosive belts and automatic rifles.—MNA/Reuters

Malay Opera doyen accorded National Actor Award 2004

KUALA LUMPUR, 14 Feb— Renowned bangsawan (Malay Opera) theatre artist Abdul Rahman Abu Bakar or better known as "Rahman B" was accorded the National Actor Award 2004 on Friday.

Deputy Minister of Culture, Arts and Tourism Fu Ah Kio who made the announcement at a Press conference here said that Rahman B had played an important role in enhancing the country's theatrical arts.

"He is respected not only for his wisdom in the bangsawan circle but also be-

cause he possessed other talents such as acting in stage dramas, writing bangsawan scripts, directing, producing, playing musical instruments, singing and making bangsawan costumes and props," said Fu.

Fu said Rahman B would receive the award from the Yang di-Pertuan Agong (Paramount Ruler) Tuanku

Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail on February 27.

Born in Kapar, Kelang, near here in 1935, Rahman B joined the bangsawan world since he was eight years old, following the footsteps of his parents — Abu Bakar Saleh and Kasminah Taib, who were also bangsawan activists.

MNA/Xinhua



Snow covers the ancient Acropolis in Athens on 13 Feb, 2004. Bad weather halted flights and seriously disrupted transport in Athens and across southern Greece.

INTERNET

To strive with might and main for development of women

Khin Myanmar

Women in Myanmar represent more than half the nation's population of over 53 million. Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was founded on 20 December 2003 to effectively extend the women's development affairs and for the entire mass of women to take part in the task. The Federation has 16 work groups, and they are — Organizational Work Group, Discipline Enforcement Work Group; Financial and Management Work Group, Human Trafficking Prevention Work Group; Work Group for Prevention of Violence Against Women; Rehabilitation and Resettlement Work Group; Young Women Work Group; Environmental Conservation Work Group; National Races Affairs Work Group; Education Work Group; Health Work Group; Cultural Work Group; Economic Work Group; Legal Affairs Study and Advisory Work Group; Information and Communication Work Group; and International Relations Work Group. Legal Affairs Study and Advisory Work Group and International Relations Work Group are formed only at the central level. There are only 14 work groups at the bodies from the State/Division level down to the ward/village level. Since its formation, the members of the Federation have been touring states and divisions to explain the functions.

President of the MWAFF Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party met with Yangon Division Organization for Women's Affairs at the International Business Centre on 31 December 2003. They explained the MWAFF's organizational set-up and its duties in detail. A team led by Federation President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe met with Ayeyawady Division Organization for Women's Affairs in Patheingyi on 8 January 2004. The team also held discussions with members of the women's affairs organization, the Union Solidarity and Development Association and Red Cross Brigades and students at Ngwehsaung Village on 10 January 2004. A team led by Vice-President of the MWAFF Prof Daw May May Yi met with Rakhine State Organization for Women's Affairs in Sittway on 13 January 2004; and another team led by MWAFF Vice-President Daw Than Nwe met with members of Sagaing Division Organization for Women's Affairs in Monywa on 15 January 2004.

At the meeting in Patheingyi, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe

said, "The Federation has toured states and divisions, studied the women's sectors and looked into the requirements. The State has formed the MWAFF to extend the task of the women's sector. It is a non-governmental organization that will work in the interest of the State and the women-folk. The women are also taking part in the Federation of their own volition. Fourteen work groups have been formed at the bodies from the state/division level to the ward/village level for development of the women. As the women's development task is becoming wider, all the women-folk will have to take part in the Federation's task with might and main."

The State is giving priority to the progress of the rural areas, the foundation for the national development and modernization endeavours. It is implementing the five rural development tasks covering education promotion programme to develop the rural areas and uplift the social standard, health care promotion programme, transport facilitation programme, potable water supply and crop irrigation programme, and rural economic development programme.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has also visited the rural areas including the border regions to attend to the needs in developing the regions and raising the social and economic standards. For instance, Ngwehsaung was once a less developed region. Located over 30 miles west of Patheingyi, Ngwehsaung has a nine-mile long beach complete with white sand along the bay. The water there is clean and clear decorated with beautiful reefs. Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council designated the Ngwehsaung as a development zone on 21 December 1996. The Ngwehsaung Beach Resort was opened by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt (now Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt) on 11 March 2000. The beach has been developed phase by phase. Formed with four villages, the Ngwehsaung Village-Tract has a population of 1,456 men and 1,462 women. The work committee and subcommittees have been formed to turn Ngwehsaung into a world class beach resort. There are now 20 private hotels at the beach. Due to the Head of State's efforts to help invite investment and technologies from abroad, prawn

farms of the private companies are achieving success. They are running 321 prawn farms to earn foreign exchange.

The private companies have erected generators to supply power to the beach and the surrounding areas. The Myanmar Post and Telecommunications has also installed 65 auto-telephones. Ngwehsaung Village-Tract now has one high school and two middle schools. The high school has a multimedia centre. A health assistant and a nurse at a branch of the Health Department are looking after the health of the local people. And a life saving brigade is ready to ensure safety of the visitors.

As Ngwehsaung has developed into a beach resort for local as well as foreign tourists, it is generating job opportunities for the local people. The MWAFF President and party urged the young women of the region to preserve the national character and moral conducts. It is the duty of all to help keep Myanmar women follow the correct path. Patron of the Ayeyawady Division Organization for Women's Affairs Daw Tin Tin Latt said that not a single human trafficking incident had occurred in the division. It was a significant fact during the Federation President's tour of the region. It is also the pride of the division. We need to collectively wipe out the human trafficking in other regions as well. Myanmar women are not only enjoying equal rights with their male counterparts, but also discharging the national duties shoulder to shoulder with men in all fields. The development of Myanmar women representing more than half the nation's population has become an important factor. The MWAFF formed by the Government with true goodwill is playing a leading role to develop the women's sector. The womenfolk need to take part in the Federation with might and main as its members. The Federation is accepting as its members those who join it on their own volition. All need to take part in the functions of the Federation with keen interest.

The MWAFF will form sub-bodies and continue to explain the organizational set-up and the functions in the states and divisions. Thus, I would like to urge the entire womenfolk to strive for the progress of their sector under the banner of the Federation.

(Translation: TMT)

Kyemon: 28-1-2004

ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင် ဘဝတစ်ခွင်

ကျန်းမာခြင်းဆိုသည်မှာ - ရောဂါဘယကင်းရှင်းစွာ သာမက၊ ကိုယ်၏ကျန်းမာကြံ့ခိုင်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ချမ်းသာခြင်းနှင့် လူမှုရေးသုခ ပြည့်ဝခြင်းကိုဆိုသည်။

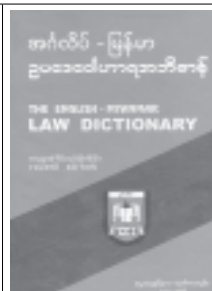
ဘဝတစ်ခွင် ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင်စေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

- (၁) တစ်ကိုယ်ရည်သန့်ရှင်းမှုကိုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၂) အန္တရာယ်ကင်း၍ အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအသောက်များ ကိုစားသုံးပါ။
- (၃) ဂိုးဖွားကင်းစင်၍ သန့်ရှင်းသောရေကို သောက်သုံးပါ။
- (၄) ရာသီဥတုနှင့် လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်နေထိုင်ပါ။
- (၅) အသက်အရွယ်နှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေရှိသည့် သင့်တော်မှုတသော ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုကို မှန်မှန်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၆) နေ့စဉ်လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်တာများ ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်းကြောင့် ပင်ပန်း နှမ်းနယ်မှုကိုပြေပျောက်စေရန် အနားယူပါ။
- (၇) ခြင်အန္တရာယ်မှကာကွယ်ရန် ခြင်ထောင်ဖြင့်အိပ်ပါ။
- (၈) ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့်ညီညွတ်သော ယဉ်လုံအိမ်သာကိုသုံးစွဲပါ။
- (၉) အရက်သောက်ခြင်း၊ ဆေးလိပ်ဆေးရွက် သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ ကွမ်းစားခြင်းတို့ကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၀) မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးနှင့် စိတ်ကိုပြောင်းလဲစေသည့် ဆေးဝါးများ သုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၁) အပျော်အပါးလိုက်စားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) ရေ၊ မြေ၊ လေ သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်နှင့် နေထိုင်မှု၊ အသက်မွေးမှုပတ်ဝန်းကျင်တို့အား ညစ်ညမ်းစေသည့် အပြုအမူများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



The cover of Laws, Rules, Orders and Notifications promulgated by the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar (2003). —(H)



LAW DICTIONARY COMES OUT: The cover of English-Myanmar Law Dictionary published by the Office of the Attorney-General. —(H)



DONATION FOR HOME FOR THE AGED: Wellwishers Dr Thein Htay and family of No 90 (B), Golden Valley, Bahan Township, Yangon, donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. Vice-Chairman of the Trustees Board of the Home Lt-Col Kyaw Shein (Retd) accepts the cash donation.—(H)



RESPECTS PAID: The 28th ceremony to pay respects to faculty members of Kyimyindine ABM school was held on 14 February at the residence of retired Headmistress Daw Hla Shein. The ceremony in progress. — (H)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win unveils bronze plaque of Mohnyin Government Technical Institute.— MNA

Students from Mohnyin...

(from page 1)

student Ma Hsan Myint (Communications) formally opened the signboard of the institute. Next, first year student Maung Aung Myat Soe (Mechanical Power) and first year student Ma Nyein Nandar Aung (Mechanical Power) formally opened the main building.

The planting of trees to mark the opening of the institute was held in front of the main building. The Secretary-1 planted a star-flower sapling. The commander also planted a sapling of Gangaw (*Mesua ferrea*) tree. The ministers and deputy ministers also planted saplings.

The commander handed over the documents related to the vehicle donated by Kachin State Peace and Development Council to the institute through the principal.

The Secretary-1 unveiled the bronze plaque of the main building. The Secretary-1 and party sprinkled scented water on it. Next, they inspected the language lab, e-Library, lecture rooms, drawing room and computer training centre of the institute.

The opening of the educational facility followed at the assembly hall of the main building. On the occasion, the Secretary-1 said that Myitkyina and Bhamo, the main development regions of Kachin State, are making progress with the opening of universities and colleges. Being convinced that it also needs to estab-

lish degree colleges and government technical institute to produce intellectuals and intelligentsia in Mohnyin region, which plays an important role in the economic sector of Kachin State that has a heavy population, the Government made efforts with genuine goodwill and so Mohnyin Government Technical Institute has emerged, he remarked. He added that Mohnyin Degree College will also be opened the next day on a grand scale.

A total of five institutions of higher education have been opened in Kachin State for turning out human resources on science and technology — two technological colleges and two computer colleges in Myitkyina and Bhamo, and a government technical institute in Mohnyin.

The Government has been implementing the plans adopted for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the Union with a view to enabling the nation made up of 14 States and Divisions to stand tall among the world nations, to further cementing national solidarity, and to maintaining the development momentum for a long time, he disclosed.

And, the Government is making efforts with might and main for harmonious development of all regions of the Union after laying down the 24 special development regions projects, the five rural development tasks

and the border areas development project as a network, he noted.

As a result, with development regions, the States and Divisions have developed with mushrooming centres for human development such as universities, colleges, and hospitals.

Everyone in the region who is willing to pursue higher learning has had the opportunities to pursue education within their reach. The education system in which education is to be pursued in cities like Yangon and Mandalay has ended and more opportunities to pursue education have emerged region-wise, he added.

Likewise, only when development gap among rural regions where majority of the people reside and urban is narrow will there be the national development. With this concept, the government has laid down and is implementing the five rural development tasks to bring about harmonious and equitable development.

The main objective of bringing about development in economic, education, health, transport and communication sectors after laying down development projects is to safeguard the three national causes— non-disintegration of Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty, he said.

Therefore, the national people in Mohnyin region are to strive alongside the government in implementing the nation-building en-

deavours, realising the goodwill and objectives of the government.

Students from Mohnyin region have been able to learn six subjects—Civil, Electric, Electronic, Mechanical, Mechanical Design engineering and IT with the emergence of the higher learning institution. Thus, efforts will have to be made to be able to produce more and more engineers needed for the State and the region.

The teachers and students, he said, are to make integrated and well-coordinated efforts to bring success and glory to the higher learning institution not only in form but also in essence. The teachers are to study all the more to become highly qualified and well-versed ones while nurturing and training their students to become outstanding ones. Teaching and learning methods restricted in lecture halls and rooms are to be avoided and combination methods including practical work out of lecture halls are to be adopted.

The Ministry of Science and Technology has made arrangements for the new generation youths to study modern science and technology in the nation after opening of four technological universities, two universities for computer studies, one aerospace engineering university, 26 government technological colleges, 23 government computer colleges and 11 technical institutes including Mohnyin technical institute, he noted.

Nowadays, changes and

developments have been made with greater momentum in the field of science and technology and electronics. Change and development in science and technology is overwhelming the economic, health and social sectors of the whole human society.

Therefore, it is of paramount importance to learn and apply science and technology to keep pace with changes and developments, he stressed.

He said that Mohnyin technical institute that was opened in honour of the 57th Anniversary Union Day is to make efforts so as to produce outstanding engineers in the region by constantly studying science while making efforts for bringing glory to the institute as it is complete with the splendid and magnificent main building.

At a time when the world is on the path to become consolidated and developed one in the 21st century the entire national people are to strive in unity for emergence of a peaceful modern and developed nation with the sense of Union Spirit, he concluded.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe spoke. He said that the ceremony to open government technical institute (Mohnyin) is a ceremony that brings honour to Kachin State, adding that the emergence of the institution can be attributed to the goodwill of the government.

He stressed the need for teachers and students to

make strenuous efforts for successful realization of the education objectives of the State.

After that, Principal U Maung Maung Thant reported on courses conducted and learning of the students at the institution.

Next, Managing Director U Than Shwe of Ever Green Construction Co reported on the salient points of construction of the institution.

Next, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein reported on opening of universities, colleges and institutes in the respective regions to enable the youths there to learn engineering and computer science.

Afterwards, first year student Ma Zinmar Oo, on behalf of students and local people, spoke words of thanks.

Later, MD of Ever Green Construction Co U Than Shwe presented K 20 million for the institute.

The Secretary-1 accepted the donation and handed it over to Principal U Maung Maung Thant.

Next, officials concerned presented gifts to the Secretary-1 and party and the ceremony ended.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party had a group photo taken together with local people in front of the main building of the institute.

The area of the institute is 51 acres. The main building opened is 445 feet long and 260 feet wide and complete with 16 lecture rooms, two drawing rooms, two laboratories, two computer rooms, one multimedia room, three offices, one library and one meeting room.

Civil engineering course, Electrical (communication) engineering course, Electrical (power) engineering course, Mechanical (power) engineering course, Mechanical (Design) engineering course and IT engineering course are being conducted at the institute.

The institute was opened on 1 January 2004 and is now being attended by 147 students. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win poses for documentary photo with students and officials at opening of Mohnyin Government Technical Institute.— MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win meets with Kachin State, Myitkyina District, Township and Ward authorities at Town Hall in Myitkyina.—MNA

Although there is some...

(from page 16)

He said they are to learn better experiences from wards, townships and districts. He spoke of the need to remove the tendency to shirk and neglect duty and responsibility and warned against opportunism.

Therefore, dignity of the life of the personnel serving the interest of community with goodwill can be preserved, he said.

After the meeting, the Secretary-1 and party inspected the wooden bridge across Nankwe Creek near Shweaik Village, Myitkyina Township.

They proceeded to Myitkyina Government Computer College and met the person in-charge Daw Khin Than Mya and faculty members. Next, the Secretary-1 presented CD-ROMs for computer teaching aid.

The Secretary-1 and party inspected progress in building Myitkyina Government Technological College.

Afterwards, member of the Panel of Patrons of the Union Solidarity and Devel-

opment Association Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win, accompanied by Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Secretariat member Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, met with secretaries, executives and members of Kachin State, district and township USDAs at Kachin State USDA office.

Secretary of Kachin State USDA U Ra Wam Jone reported on power supply for rural areas. The Secretary-1 attended to their needs and inspected the computer room and machinery for use in generating small-scale hydro-electricity. They then saw over the nursery.

On 10 February morning, they went to Mogaung Township Basic Education High School No 1 and met with educational personnel at the school. Headmaster U Saw Hla Maung reported on brief history of the school, buildings and teaching aids. Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt gave a supplementary report.

After leaving necessary instruction, the Secretary-1

presented cash assistance for the school to Township Education Officer Daw Mon Mon Lay.

On arrival at Mogaung Township USDA Office, the Secretary-1 met with executives and members. At Mogaung BEHS No 2, Headmaster U Saw Hla Min reported to the Secretary-1 on buildings of the school, academic matters and efforts being made for achieving better pass rate in the matriculation examination. Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt gave supplementary reports. The Secretary-1 then presented cash assistance for the school to the headmaster. Next, he cordially conversed with students and teachers.

At 11.30 am, the Secretary-1 and party arrived in Pintha Village, Mogaung Township, where Chairman of Mogaung Township Peace and Development Council U Khin Maung Than reported on tasks being carried out for generating hydro-electricity on self-reliant basis in Namna Village. The Com-



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects machinery for use in hydro-electricity in rural area in Mohnyin Township.—MNA

mander and Myanma Electric Power Enterprise Kachin State Manager U Ba Ngwe reported on power supply in rural areas. The Secretary-1 inspected tasks being carried out for power supply and gave necessary instructions.

Next, they went to Mohnyin and inspected progress of Myitkyina-Shwebo-Mandalay Highway and maintenance of bridges on the road.

At 4 pm, the Secretary-1 met with local authorities and

departmental officials at Seinle Yadana Hall in the township. Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Myint Aung reported on regional development tasks. After hearing the reports, the Secretary-1 fulfilled the requirements. He explained functions of administrative bodies and cordially met with those present. Then, the Secretary-1 and party proceeded to Mohnyin Hospital and inspected new building of the

hospital.

Afterwards, they proceeded to the Township USDA Office and inspected machinery for use in generating hydro-electricity in the rural areas. They then cordially met with townsenders and USDA members.

On 11 February, the Secretary-1 and party left Mohnyin for Myitkyina by car. Next, they arrived back here by air from Myitkyina in the evening.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win gives instructions to Kachin State, district and township USDAs at Myitkyina Township USDA Office.—MNA

Commander, Mayor inspect sanitation works

YANGON, 14 Feb—Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning inspected sanitation works in Yangon City.

At 6.30 am, they arrived 38th Street and were welcomed by YCDC Secretary Col Myint Aung, No 4

Military Region Commander Col Yan Naing Oo and authorities. They then inspected dredging of the drain along 38th street between Bogyoke Aung San and Anawrahta Streets.

They saw over sanitation works being carried out in Pazundaung Township and Thakayta Township. They also inspected repaving of Shukhintha Road in Thakayta Township. On arrival at the bank

of Ngamoeyik Creek, the commander inspected the bank on Thuwunna and the bank near Shukhintha Road.

Next, they looked into cleaning tasks in Dagon Myothit (North) Township and gave necessary instructions. Similarly, sanitation tasks were carried out in Thingangyun, South Okkalapa, Dagon Myothit (South), Insein and Hlinethaya townships.

MNA

Union Day

Exhibition goes on

YANGON, 14 Feb—The 57th Anniversary Union Day commemorative exhibition continued for the seventh day at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road here from 9 am to 5 pm today. The interesting booths of respective ministries are on display. A total of 4862 members of the Sangha and people visited the exhibition, which will be kept open until 16 February.—MNA



Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe, wife of Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, presents prize to Transport-A women's team in Yangon Mayor's Trophy Volleyball Tournament Saturday.—YCDC

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Yangon circular railroad

YANGON, 14 Feb— Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, deputy ministers and military region commanders, this evening inspected along the railroads by the local train and gave necessary instructions.

The Secretary-2, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min and party inspected 38 railway stations along the circular railroad clock-wise from Yangon Railway Station by RBE 2501 and they arrived back at Yangon Railway Station at 7 pm.

During their inspection



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects circular railroad.— MNA

tour, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min reported on maintenance of the railroad, arrangements for running of local trains with RBT carriages assembled at Myitnge Locomotive Shed, cleanli-

ness of railway stations and the circular railroad.

The commander on participation of local authorities, departmental officials, NGO members and people in carrying out sanitation

works along the circular railroad.

The Secretary-2 gave instructions on sanitation of the circular railroad, maintenance tasks, manufacturing of new carriages for

convenient travelling of people, plying of trains on time, prevention against accidents at level crossings of motor road and railroad, installation of electric power at the carriages for ensur-

ing secure transport of passengers at night.

Later, he urged them to supervise all the works to ensure convenient travelling by train.

MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than tours Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 14 Feb— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials left here on 13 February and they arrived at the border of Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions.

They were welcomed there by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and officials went to Myanmar-None-Yu Peasant Hospital in Hsarmalaik Village in Nyaungdon Township.

Division Head of Health Department Dr Than Aung and Dr Hla Kyaing reported on treatment and construction of extension of wards.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected the hospital.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and the commander visited the patients receiving treatment at the hospital and provided cash to them.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected construction of 10-bed

ward. They went to Yadana Eya Hall of Nyaungdon Township Irrigation Department. Ayeyawady Division Manager of Myanmar Agriculture Service U Hla Myo reported on reclamation of farmland and cultivation of paddy. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than fulfilled the requirements.

Out of 56,500 acres of summer paddy, 31,821 acres have been grown in Nyaungdon Township. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected cultivation of Manawthukha summer paddy in the field of farmer U Swe Oo.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to fresh water prawn and fish breeding farm of Asian International Co Ltd in Hsarmalaik Village.

Manager of the farm U Saw Myat Min reported on digging of fish ponds and arrangements for digging more ponds.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to construction of Maubin Bridge and inspected it and gave instructions on arrangements for prevention of bank erosion.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected Maubin-Kyaiklat road section being undertaken by

Mohein Co. They inspected construction of the road with the use of Con-AID liquid.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected double cropping of model paddy at farmer U Than Win's farm in Kyaiklat Township. Chairman of District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Ye Htut reported on cultivation of summer paddy in the township.

In meeting with the farmers, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on extended cultivation of paddy. General Manager of MAS Dr Nyi Nyi discussed techniques for preparing soil and use of insecticides.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to Kyaiklat and met officials, local authorities and members of social organizations.

He said peace and stability, prevalence of law and order are needed first, economic development second and human resource development third for emergence of a peaceful, modern developed nation.

Now peace and the rule of law have prevailed in the country and plans are under way for ensuring human resource development, he



Cruise liner Chindwin leaves Pansodan Jetty for Salone Traditional Festival in the Ma Kyone Galet village, Kawthoung Township.— MNA

said.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than spoke at length on arrangements for economic progress, increase of monsoon paddy cultivation in six main divisions, extended cultivation of oil and perennial crops and pepper and livestock breeding.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to Gonnyindan Bridge where officials concerned reported on maintenance of the bridge for durability. They went to Kyonta Shankwin Village Tract and gave instructions to farmers on cultivation of strains of paddy suitable for the region. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected the site of Pyapon Bridge.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded

to the worksite office of Myanmar Agriculture Service. Chairman of Bogale Township Peace and Development Council U San Htay reported on cultivation of summer paddy and others.

They inspected construction of Poshwelon Bridge in Bogale Township. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and party presented offertories to members of the Sangha led by member of Central Working Committee of the Sangha Myaseinyang Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sanvara at Anantathukha Shwebeikman in the township.

They visited Yanpye Manpye Aung Çekka Muni Pagoda and presented cash to the members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

MNA

Cruise liner "Chindwin" leaves for Salone Traditional Festival

YANGON, 14 Feb — Under the tourism promotion programme of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, cruise liner "Chindwin" carrying 225 local and foreign passengers left Nanthida Jetty on Pansodan, here, at 8 am today for Salone Traditional Festival 2004 being held in Ma Kyone Galet Village, Bokpyin, Kawthoung, Taninthayi Division, from 14 to 17 February. — MNA

National Tennis Championship on 22-26 February

YANGON, 14 Feb — The National Championship Tennis Tournament organized by the Myanmar Tennis Federation will be held on Theinbyu Tennis Court from 22 to 26 February.

The tournament comprises men's singles event (open), women's singles event (open), men's doubles event, women's doubles event, men's over 35 events (singles and doubles), men's over 45 events (singles and doubles), men's over 55 events (singles and doubles) and men's over 60 events (singles and doubles). Those wishing to participate in the tourney are to enlist at the MTF by 3 pm on 20 February. — MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects Pyapon Bridge construction project.— MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt plants a Gangaw tree (*Mesua ferrea*) at opening ceremony of Myingyan Degree College on 11-2-2004. (News reported) — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects book exhibition at Myingyan Degree College on 11-2-2004. (News reported) — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt unveils bronze plaque at the main building of Myingyan Degree College on 11-2-2004. (News reported) — MNA



Rules announced for Painting and Sculpture Contests

YANGON, 14 Feb— The Sub-committee for Organizing the Painting and Sculpture Contest has announced rules for the painting and sculpture contests. The painting contest comprises six categories— pre-primary level (primary, first and second standards), senior primary level (third and fourth), middle school level (fifth to seventh standards), high school level (eight to tenth standards and technical and agricultural high schools) and open division. There will be only one category in the sculpture contest with wood sculpture category and plaster sculpture in open division. Anyone may take part in both.

In the pre-primary level to high school levels, the size of the entry must be 15" x 20". The entry must be endorsed by respective principals with name, standard, school, township, date of birth, father's name, full address and two passport-size photos. The entries are to be sent to the Education Planning and Training Department at 123, Natmauk Street, Bahan Township, by 23 February 2004. Entries for the open division painting contest must be 20" x 30". Name, NRC No, date of birth, father's name, occupation and full address must be expressed with two passport-size photos attached.

The entries for the wood sculpture and the plaster sculpture contests must not be higher than 36 inches high and circumference not longer than 24 inches. At the foot of the works, name, NRC No, date of birth, father's name, full address must be shown with two passport-size photos attached, and they must be sent to Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road between 1 and 3 March. All the entries must reflect the twelve objectives of the State, the objectives of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day and the twelve fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Entries for open division painting and sculpture contests are to be sent to Secretary, Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon (Central), Pabedan Township, Yangon, by 1 March to Secretary of the Sub-committee for Organizing the painting and sculpture contests at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall between 1 and 3 March. Apart from the entries, other paintings and sculptures may be sent to be displayed at the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day exhibition. They must also reflect the twelve objectives of the State, the objectives of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day and the twelve fine traditions of the Tatmadaw and should be sent directly to Tatmadaw Convention Hall between 1 and 5 March.

MNA



An aerial view of Myingyan Degree College which was opened on 11-2-2004. (News reported) — MNA

Artists who won prizes in contests at home and abroad honoured

YANGON, 14 Feb — Those who won prizes in contests were honoured by Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon (Central) at the eastern wing of Bogyoke Market this afternoon, attended by Patrons of the Asiayon U Soe Nyunt (Htilar Sithu) and U Khin Ohn (Yamanya Ko Ko Naing), Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), officials of Myanmar Thabin and Music Asiayons and guests.

Patrons U Soe Nyunt (Htilar Sithu) and U Min Naing gave speeches.

Then, Patrons U Soe Nyunt (Htilar Sithu) and U Min Naing and officials presented prizes to Excellent

Performance in Arts Field (First Class) recipient U Khin Ohn (Yamanya Ko Ko Naing), Thudhamma Manijotadhara title winner U Taw Taw and International Quality Crown Award 2003 winner artist U Naing Lay, 2002 Excellent Performance in Social Field (Second Class) recipient U Thauang

Han, 2002 Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award winner U Thant Sin (Artist Hla Tin Tun), 2002 Excellent Performance in Social Field (Second Class) recipient U Aung Thwin, 2002 Academy Award winner film director Pagyi Soe Moe, craft of turner U Sai Tun Myint, U Aung Hsint and U Tha Du

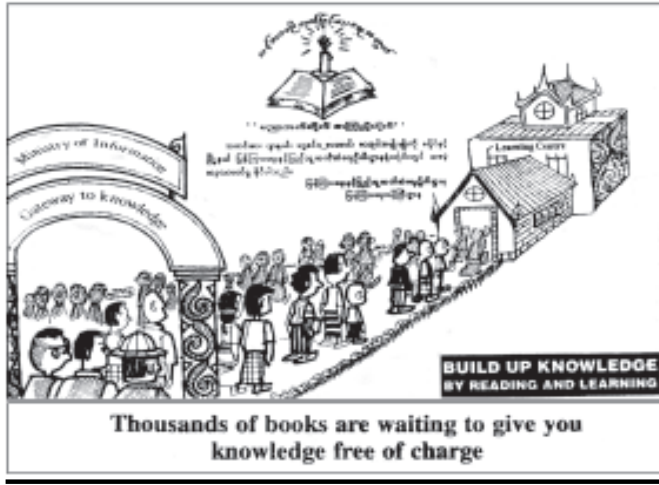
(a) U Myint Swe who won prizes in international arts contests, Thudhamma Manijotadhara title winners U Aung Myo Thant and U Aung Myo Kyaing.

Later, Academy Pagyi Soe Moe, on behalf of all the winners, spoke words of thanks.

MNA



U Soe Nyunt (Htilar Sithu) speaking at ceremony to honour prize winning artists. — MNA



ADVERTISEMENTS

ချိပ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ မြန်မာ့စက်မှုလက်မှုပုံနှိပ်ရေးတိုက်တစ်ခုကို အောက်ဖော်ပြပါအတိုင်း ခေါ်ယူခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါအတိုင်း ခေါ်ယူခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါအတိုင်း ခေါ်ယူခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါအတိုင်း ခေါ်ယူခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

(က) For Bus 281 Sets

- Engine with Transmission (NISSAN FE 6-185 HP/ FUSO 6D 15/HINO HO 7 C or Ho 7 D (Compressor Fitted)
- Radiator, Front Axle, Rear Axle (Ratio 5.5:1), Servo Brake Complete Set, Propeller Shaft & Universal Joint, Power Steering Complete Set, Dash Board complete with Instrument Panel Set.
- Makers must be FUSO or HINO or NISSAN or ISUZU.

(ခ) For Trucks

- Engine with Transmission (NISSAN PF 290/ PF 380/ PE 6 TURBO INTERCOOLER/ RESONA) for 322 Sets
- 2 Axle- 6 wheel, 4 x 2 Drive
- Engine with Transmission (NISSAN PF 290/ PF 350/ PE 6 TURBO INTERCOOLER/ RESONA) for 440 Sets
- 3 Axle- 10 wheel, 6 x 2 Drive
- 3 Axle- 10 wheel, 6 x 4 Drive 50 Sets
- 4 Axle- 12 wheel, 8 x 2 Drive 60 Sets
- Radiator, Front Axle, Rear Axle (Ratio 5.5:1), Servo Brake Complete Set, Propeller Shaft & Universal Joint, Power Steering Complete Set, Dash Board complete with Instrument Panel Set, For each type of truck.
- Follow Axle without crown set for 3 Axle- 10 wheel, 6 x 2 Drive
- Makers must be FUSO or HINO or NISSAN or ISUZU.

၂။ တင်ဒါများကို ၂၇-၂-၂၀၀၄ ရက်နေ့ နေ့လယ် (၁၂:၀၀) နာရီမှစ၍ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ လိပ်စာအတိုင်း ပေးပို့ရမည်-

အတွင်းရေးမှူး

မြန်မာ့စက်မှုလက်မှုပုံနှိပ်ရေးတိုက်

အမှတ် (၁) စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန

အမှတ်- ၁၉၂၊ ကမ္ဘာ့အေးဘုရားလမ်း

လဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့

၃။ သိရှိလိုသည့်အချက်များရှိပါက မြန်မာ့စက်မှုလက်မှုပုံနှိပ်ရေးတိုက်တစ်ခုကို အောက်ဖော်ပြပါအတိုင်း ခေါ်ယူခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါအတိုင်း ခေါ်ယူခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါအတိုင်း ခေါ်ယူခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာ့စက်မှုလက်မှုပုံနှိပ်ရေးတိုက်

Traffic accident kills 12 in north Shanxi Province

TAIYUAN, 14 Feb— Twelve people were killed and nine others injured in a traffic accident taking place in Changzhi City of Shanxi Province Wednesday night, the local police said Thursday. At 9:20 pm, an Iveco minibus was heading for the provincial capital Taiyuan from Changzhi City with 18 people aboard when it crashed into a dump truck loaded with powdered iron ore at a turn on the No 208 state trunk highway in Wuxiang County. — MNA/Xinhua

MARRIAGE

Dr Khin Khin Latt (M.B.,B.S)

daughter of U Soe Myint (Adviser, News and Periodicals Enterprise) & (Daw Khin Hla Myint)

to

Khin Maung Zaw (B.E)

Microsoft Corporation, Seattle, USA son of (U Ko Ko Gyi) & (Daw Hla Shin).

With the consent of parent and elders of both parties.

Khin Maung Zaw-Dr Khin Khin Latt

Siemens sets up first software company in China

NANJING, 14 Feb— Siemens sets up its first China-based software company Wednesday in Nanjiang, capital of the eastern province of Jiangsu.

The Siemens Software and System Engineering Co Ltd aims to provide application software for its operations in China, and to further the localization level of the German electronics multinational in the country, company sources said.

Peter Borger, vice-executive president of Siemens (China) Co Ltd, said the Nanjing company will take advantage of rich local human resources of software to promote and enhance its research and development ability in China.

The new company will cooperate with Chinese universities, especially those in Nanjiang and other parts of Jiangsu, to develop software

and will therefore employ a rising number of software graduates from these universities during cooperation. Borger said the new company plans to employ 1,000 software engineers on the medium term.

Siemens had set up more than 40 companies and 28 offices in China. Its operations include information, telecommunications, automation, electricity, traffic, medical, lighting and home appliance.

The German company has cumulatively invested 5.4 billion yuan (651 million US dollars) in China, and its sales revenue reached 30.1 billion yuan (3.6 billion US dollars) in 2003. — MNA/Xinhua

400 million copies of Chinese-character dictionary printed

BEIJING, 14 Feb— The Xinhua Dictionary, a Chinese-character dictionary well-known to most Chinese people, saw its 400-millionth copy roll off the press when its tenth edition was published at the beginning of 2004.

The dictionary, which has influenced several generations of Chinese people since its first publication in 1953, is the first standard dictionary on simplified Chinese characters in modern times.

The dictionary, having

had about two hundred printing runs, is now the reference book boasting the most copies in the world. It was edited for the tenth time by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the Commercial Press.

MNA/Xinhua

DRIVE SAFELY

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်လှည့်အားပေးပါ

China to sign new agreements with India on culture

BEIJING, 14 Feb— China Thursday said it will sign new agreements with India in the cultural field, including setting up the first cultural centre in each others' capital to give fillip to the all-round development of bilateral relations.

"When the condition ripens, China will conclude new agreements with India on the implementation of cultural cooperation and exchange," Minister of Culture, Sun Jiazhang said when asked to comment on the progress made in setting up an Indian cultural centre in Beijing and a Chinese cultural centre in New Delhi.

"On the basis of signing the agreement on setting up cultural centres in both countries, the other parts of our cultural cooperation and exchange are also developing very smoothly," Sun told reporters.

India and China had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the reciprocal establishment of cultural centres in their capitals during Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's landmark visit here in June last year.

Sun noted that India is a friendly neighbour of China and their relationship could be traced back to a long period.

"In recent years, our two countries are enjoying very good development in political, economic and cultural relations," the minister said, adding that he has received an invitation from his Indian counterpart to visit the country.

"I was pleased to receive an invitation extended by your minister and I will arrange a visit to both India and Pakistan at an appropriate time," Sun said.

He said the rational underlining international cul-

tural exchange of China lies in the fact that China needs to know more about the world and the world needs to know more about China.

Among the many means of communications, culture is perhaps the popular and most effective way of people-to-people communication, he noted.

"On the general lay out of international cultural exchange of China, we have placed cultural exchange with neighbouring countries in a very important place," he said.

Commenting on China's progress in promoting culture, Sun said his ministry has achieved notable results in the past and budgetary investment into cultural infrastructure reached a record.

Ongoing projects include the national theatre, the national museum, the national library and the national arts gallery in Beijing.

While fulfilling promises for cultural market access in line with the World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules, Sun said, his ministry overhauled video game arcades, internet cafes and entertainment clubs.

MNA/PTI

S Korean President reshuffles presidential office

SEOUL, 14 Feb— South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun Friday appointed Yonsei University president Kim Woo-sik as Chief of Staff of the Presidential Office, replacing Moon Hee-sang.

In the reshuffle of the Presidential Office Secretariat, Roh also named Park Jung-kyu, a lawyer with the Kim & Chang, the nation's largest law firm, as senior presidential secretary for civil affairs, the Yonhap news agency quoted Presidential Office spokesman Yoon Tai-yung as saying.

President Roh has ac-

cepted the resignation of Ryu In-tai, senior presidential secretary for political affairs, but has yet to find Ryu's replacement, the spokesman said. Meanwhile, presidential secretary for political planning Chun Ho-sun has been moved to the post of presidential secretary for protocol, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

HK, Shenzhen to cooperate in IC development

HONG KONG, 14 Feb— The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) on Thursday signed here a three-year cooperative agreement with the National IC Design Industrial Base (Shenzhen) Institution.

The agreement marks a step toward closer collaboration between Hong Kong and Shenzhen in IC (integrated circuit) design in furtherance of the "7+1" programme launched by the Ministry of Information Industry for development of IC design bases in Chinese Mainland, according to the Chief Executive Officer of the HKSTP C D Tam.

Under the agreement, the

HKSTP will provide small batch and finished product testing services for the National IC Design Industrial Base (Shenzhen) Institution, while its IC Design/Development Support Centre will offer materials analysis and IC fault analysis. For its part, Shenzhen will help the HKSTP promote its platform for test verification services.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်မှု

UN agrees laws against "alien" marine invaders

LONDON, 14 Feb—The United Nations has agreed tough laws against harmful microscopic organisms and other marine creatures that invade delicate ecosystems by stowing away in ships' ballast water, the agency's maritime arm said on Friday.

"They're signing the final act now. We do have a convention," said a spokesman for the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at the close of a five-day diplomatic meeting at its headquarters in London.

The world's top maritime body met this week to finalize a global treaty, 10 years in the making, on how to stop the destructive impact of "invasive alien species" which the UN and the scientific community say is one of four main threats facing the world's oceans. The creeping menace, carried in ships' ballast, is

estimated to be causing billions of dollars' worth of economic damage every year and has even been linked to facilitating the spread of major diseases like cholera.

The WWF estimates that 4,000 different species can hitch-hike in a typical ship's ballast at any one time.

Ballast provides ships with balance and stability, but also gives a free ride for up to 100 different organisms per cubic metre of water, until they are flushed into another ecosystem thousands of miles away.

WWF's delegate

Andreas Inveteraas said nations had reached a compromise solution to allow 10 organisms to be transported in every cubic metre of water. Some countries, including the United States, had been pushing for a figure of 0.04 organisms per cubic metre.

The World Wildlife Fund which had warned of a marine environmental disaster in the making if tough action was not taken broadly welcomed the agreement, but said the treaty could take time to enter force.

MNA/Reuters

Macao's hotel industry slightly down in 2003

MACAO, 14 Feb — The hotel industry in Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR), which recorded over three million guests last year, registered 3.5 per cent down on the level of the previous year, despite a slowdown in the effect of an epidemic outbreak lingering for months.

The Macao Statistics and Census Bureau said Thursday that Macao's 69 hotels including nine five-star hotels logged 3.04 million guests last year. Some of the hotels, especially five-star and three-star hotels were most popular with visitors, which enjoyed an averaged occupancy rate of 90 per cent in December.

An official of the Macao Tourist Office attributed the slight drop to the outbreak of

severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in Macao's neighbouring regions of Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland.

The SAR's total number of hotel rooms reached 9,185 at the end of last year, an increase of 2.6 per cent on the same period in 2002. With a population of some 440,000, Macao received 11.88 million tourist arrivals last year, an increase of 3.1 per cent on 2002. — MNA/Xinhua



Some of the 18 British Academy of Film and Television Arts awards (the British version of the Oscars) are cleaned in London, on 12 Feb, 2004, in preparation for Sunday's awards ceremony in London. — INTERNET

Overseas Chinese entrepreneurs to shift investment focuses

GUTYANG, 14 Feb—Chinese investors from around the world are shifting their investment to the Yangtze River Delta, Beijing and Tianjin municipalities, Bohai Bay area and large cities in inland China, said a leading overseas Chinese entrepreneur.

T.C. Wu, president of China Expo (USA) Inc., told a seminar on investment by Chinese-funded enterprises and regional cooperation, that traditionally more than 90 per cent of businesses in Hong Kong and Macao invested in south China's Guangdong Province. They had gradually expanded their scope to other coastal areas. The majority of Taiwan investors cast their eyes from Guangdong to Shanghai and Jiangsu, Fujian and Zhejiang provinces, while Chinese entrepreneurs in Southeast Asia and the United States favoured Guangdong, Jiangsu, Fujian and Shandong provinces, Beijing and Shanghai municipalities and the Bohai Bay area.

By the end of 2003, the investment brought to China by overseas enterprises exceeded 500 billion US dollars, 65 per cent of which was provided by overseas Chinese.

Wu predicted that China would see an upsurge of investment as a result of the 2008 Olympics Games in Beijing and the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai.

By 2010, the amount of contractual investment signed between Chinese and foreign firms would be two trillion US dollars and that of actual foreign funds would reach one trillion dollars. Overseas Chinese entrepreneurs would be major investors, Wu said.

MNA/Xinhua

Cambodian-flagged cargo ship sinks in Black Sea

ANKARA, 14 Feb—A Cambodian-flagged cargo ship named *Heras* sank at the Bosphorus Straits linking the Mediterranean to the Black Sea on Friday, the Anatolia news agency reported.

Anatolia quoted Turkish Coast Guard and Ship Rescue Enterprises directorate general as saying that the 139-metre long cargo ship sank due to unknown reasons at the Black Sea exit.

Coast Guard boats had left for the scene to rescue the 21 crew members, said the report.

Meanwhile Anatolia reported that two other ships had run aground near the entrance to the Bosphorus on Friday due to bad weather conditions. All the crewmen were rescued.

Turkey has been gripped by heavy snow in its northwestern part. Several ports and airports have been closed. — MNA/Xinhua

China tries using seawater to flush residential toilets

QINGDAO, 14 Feb—Residents of China's famous brewery city of Qingdao will be first in the country to flush their toilets with seawater as part of a pilot project currently underway.

Residents living in the Nanjiang Development area, in the coastal city of Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, will only pay 0.5 yuan (six US cents) per ton of processed seawater, or about one eighth the average price of tap water in major Chinese cities.

The government has authorized building the seawater flushing facilities for the Nanjiang Development, and the site for pumping installation has been selected, according to officials in charge of the project.

Qingdao consumes about 60,000 cubic metres of water a day for toilet flushing while the city keeps struggling with a shortage of freshwater.

The project has become feasible since technological breakthroughs have been made in seawater purification, disinfection and biochemical treatment, and specified standards for water quality and draining, according to the officials.

MNA/Xinhua

Liaoning Province works to protect historical heritage

SHENYANG, 14 Feb—Northeast China's Liaoning Province is expected to launch a historical heritage protection project this year to effectively preserve its historical sites and cultural relics.

The province will invest 20 million yuan (about 2.4 million US dollars) on protecting a number of historical sites, which could be developed and opened for tourism, and renovating those which are dilapidating or damaged, said Peng Yiming, director of Liaoning cultural department.

Peng said Liaoning Province would establish a cultural relic protection centre, monitoring criminal cases concerning cultural relics, helping determine the dates and qualities of cultural relics, offering advice on cultural relic protection project and setting up a web site specialized in cultural relics.

The provincial cultural department would assist the police and Customs in cracking down on crimes involving cultural relics, and would make efforts on cultural relics-related legislation, Peng said.

With plentiful historical heritage resources, Liaoning possesses 201 historical sites at the provincial level, with over 120,000 precious cultural relics of imperial Han (206 BC-AD 220), Tang (618-907 AD) and Liao (916-1125 AD) dynasties. — MNA/Xinhua

Microsoft Windows source code leaks onto Internet

SEATTLE, 14 Feb—Microsoft Corp said on Thursday that parts of the source code, or software blueprint, for its closely-guarded Windows programmes had leaked onto the Internet, possibly exposing its products to hackers and illicit copying.

Microsoft said that copies of the source code from its Windows NT and Windows 2000 operating systems were being traded over the Internet, but that the copies comprised a tiny portion of the millions of lines of code used to create its cash cow products.

Source code is the in-

tellectual property and lifeblood of any software company, since it is the basic language used to create software programmes. Microsoft has only shared its source code with close partners and carefully chosen organizations, with legal agreements that threaten litigation in the event of that any of is leaked.

The level of secrecy around the code is akin to that around the formula used in Coca-Cola Co.'s soft drinks.

"It's illegal for third parties to post Microsoft source code, and we take such activity very seriously," Microsoft spokesman Tom Pilla said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Tunisia, Morocco set up Nations final clash

NAIROBI, 13 Feb— Hosts Tunisia will face off against North African rivals Morocco on Saturday in the Nations Cup final.

In Wednesday's semifinals, Tunisia held Nigeria to a 1-1 draw after extra time before booking a final ticket in the penalty shootout at Rades while Morocco took an easy 4-0 win against Mali in Sousse. Nigeria took the lead in the 67th minute through a Jay Jay Okocha penalty but Tunisia captain Khaled Badra equalized from the penalty spot just eight minutes from end, and Tunisia then went on to win 5-3 in the shoot-out.

It will be Tunisia's third appearance in the final but the North African country have never won the continental title. But Tunisia will miss their captain Badra in the final due to suspension. He was voted Man of the Match after Wednesday's semifinal. Morocco, whose only Nations Cup success came in 1976, thrashed Mali in an easy manner.

Striker Youssef Mokhtari cracked home a free kick after 15 minutes and added another in the 58th minute from distance. Youssef Hadji and substitute Nabil Baha changed the score sheet twice in the last 10 minutes to turn the victory into a rout.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan beat Iraq in soccer friendly

TOKYO, 13 Feb— Atsushi Yanagisawa and Alex scored second-half goals to give Japan a flattering 2-0 win over Iraq on Thursday in a warm-up for the Asian 2006 World Cup qualifiers, which begin next week.

Sampdoria's Yanagisawa pounced in the 47th minute, heading a left-wing cross from Alex past Iraq goalkeeper Saad Jameel as Japan finally broke through following a turgid first half in Tokyo.

Brazilian-born defender Alex made it 2-0 in the 84th minute, neatly tucking the ball home after a clever exchange of passes with Tatsuhiko Kubo.

Iraq, who train on a bumpy pitch alongside grazing sheep in Baghdad, felt hard done by after creating as many chances as Japan.

"If we had (Ruud) van Nistelrooy in the Iraq team, we could have scored two goals. Japan took their chances clinically, but I wouldn't say there was any real difference in class," said Iraq coach Bernd Stange.

"We have had news of over 100 dead in Iraq in the past two days and that has been a shock for the players. But the whole team was fantastic and I think Japan were lucky to win 2-0."

A below-strength Japan were almost embarrassed in the 17th minute when a dreadful mistake from Keisuke Tsuboi let in Iraqi forward Ahmed Alwan but goalkeeper Seigo Narazaki came to the rescue with a superb block.

Narazaki spared Tsuboi's blushes again in the 82nd minute, blocking well from Razak Mossa after another bad slip from the Japan defender.

Japan coach Zico was furious with his team after an erratic performance in front of 38,000 fans at National Stadium.

MNA/Reuters

Ferguson missing Ferdinand factor

LONDON, 13 Feb— Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson could never have imagined the loss of Rio Ferdinand would have such an impact on his team's Premier League title challenge.

When the England defender started his last match at Wolverhampton Wanderers three weeks ago before beginning an eight-month ban for missing a drugs test, United were a point ahead of Arsenal at the top of the table.

Since then, the champions have conceded eight goals in three matches, still managing to beat Southampton 3-2 and Everton 4-3 before Wednesday's 3-2 home defeat by Middlesbrough left them five points behind Arsenal.

"We can't afford to lose another game," Ferguson said. "We've been slack in defence and if we keep doing that, we can say goodbye to the League."

Ferguson described Middlesbrough's goals as "soft" after diminutive Brazilian Juninho twice exploited poor marking to score with headers and Joseph Desire Job evaded two defenders to clinch victory.

But Ferguson should not be too surprised by his side's defensive frailty.

Since the days of Steve Bruce and Gary Pallister in the early-to-mid 1990s United have never consistently fielded a reliable

central defensive pairing.

Dutchman Jaap Stam, Norwegians Ronny Johnsen and Henning Berg and France's Laurent Blanc all filled the void with varying success but it was not until Ferdinand and Mikael Silvestre were paired this season that a genuine partnership was formed.

Ferdinand was beginning to find his feet following his 30 million-pound transfer 18 months ago, while Silvestre had wanted to move into the middle from left back, the position he occupied for most of his first four seasons at the club.

United conceded only 14 goals in 21 matches and when it became clear that Ferdinand faced a lengthy suspension Ferguson brushed off concerns by saying that Wes Brown would step in after recovering from his latest injury.

Brown duly returned to the side after six months on the sidelines but has looked rusty and Ferguson lost patience when he substituted him at halftime against Middlesbrough.

The real problem for Ferguson, however, is that he has few options.

MNA/Reuters

Roddick powers way past Rochus in San Jose

SAN JOSE (California), 13 Feb— Top seed Andy Roddick began his North American campaign by crushing Belgium's Christophe Rochus 6-4, 6-2 in the first round of the San Jose Open on Wednesday.

Third seed Mardy Fish, on the other hand, had to call on all his reserves in a 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (7-2) victory over Denmark's Kenneth Carlsen in a second round.

Fourth seed Taylor Dent, however, fell 6-4, 6-4 to fellow American and wild card Robert Kendrick, also in the second round.

The contest between the tall Roddick, the world's fastest server, and the short Rochus delighted the crowd, with the smaller man attempting to trip up the American by scamporing to the net and attempting tight angles with his groundstrokes.

In the end though, the American was much too powerful, cracking 16 aces and 13 more winners to only 16 total winners for Rochus.

Roddick did not always have his rhythm with his second serve, but once he established his footing on the high bouncing indoor court, he was lethal.

In the fifth game of the second set, Roddick cracked a 143-mph ace, a 136-mph service winner, a 137-mph ace and a 136-mph ace. Last Friday in the Davis Cup, Roddick set the world record for service speed at 150-mph.

"There's so much intensity in his game," Rochus said.

"Everything was so fast. I never played

someone who served so fast. Plus his forehand is so heavy. You always have the feeling that you are late on the ball."

Roddick, who lost the world number one ranking to Swiss Roger Federer at the Australian Open, said Rochus had put up a good fight.

"I thought he was handling my stuff decently," Roddick said.

MNA/Reuters

Brazil to wear new shirt for first time against Ireland

RIO DE JANEIRO, 14 Feb— Brazil will wear their new super lightweight shirt for the first time when they meet Ireland in a friendly international in Dublin next Wednesday.

The 155-gram shirt, the lightest ever designed by sportswear manufacturer Nike, to be used by Brazil in the South American 2006 World Cup qualifiers and 2004 Copa America in Peru in July, was presented officially in Rio de Janeiro on Thursday.

The most obvious difference with Brazil's previous shirt, which they wore when they won their fifth World Cup in Japan in 2002, is that the federation's (CBF) emblem has been moved to the middle of the chest. — MNA/Reuters



Mexico's Ismael Iniguez fights for the ball against Costa Rica's Pablo Brenes during their under-23 Olympic qualifying soccer match at the Jalisco Stadium on 12 Feb, 2004, in Guadalajara City, Mexico. Both teams have already won a slot in the upcoming Athens Olympic games.—INTERNET

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Young girl
- 3 Told police
- 9 Below
- 10 Lockjaw
- 11 Flat fish
- 13 Surrender to God
- 14 Look at
- 16 Swiss hut
- 18 Police investigator
- 20 Tree juice
- 22 School
- 23 Drive along
- 25 Oil and vinegar
- 26 River bird

DOWN

- 1 Hummock
- 2 Unhappy
- 4 Observe
- 5 Flightless bird
- 6 Spanish veils
- 7 Pudding
- 8 Weaponry
- 12 Table game
- 14 Made smaller
- 15 Court ball game
- 17 Israeli judge
- 19 Way out
- 21 Power line tower
- 24 Animal's foot



Mali's goalkeeper Mahamadou Sidibe, fails to stop a goal shot by Nigerian midfielder Augustine Okocha, unseen, during the African Cup of Nations third place soccer match at the Monastir stadium, Tunisia, on 13 Feb, 2004. At right is a Malian player.

INTERNET

WESTERN PACIFIC ZONE
 10°N TO 10°S, 120°E TO 130°E
 TIME - 0600 hrs. UTC
 DATE - 10-10-2000

Legend:

- MODERATE
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- VERY BRISK
- Low pressure
- High pressure
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Myanmar

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Secretary-1 inspects Rice Mill Spare Part Factory, other factories in Dagon Myothit (South) Township

YANGON, 14 Feb— Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win arrived at Rice Mill Spare Part Factory of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading of the Ministry of Commerce on Upper Pazundaung Road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township at 12.30 pm today.

The Secretary-1 was welcomed there by Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials.

First, the Secretary-1 and party inspected samples of rubber roll and abrasive roll and other raw materials produced from the Rubber Roll Factory and the Abrasive Roll Factory of the factory. Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun reported on location of the factory and production of the Rubber Roller Workshop and the Millstone Workshop.

Factory Manager U Htin Aung reported on production process of rubber roll and abrasive roll and products.

San Ein Ni International Trading Co Ltd Managing Director U Soe Win reported on manufacturing of SUN brand rubber rolls meeting the set standard and President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint on demand of rubber rolls at the rice mills in the country.

The Secretary-1 went to Rubber Roll Factory. He looked into production process of the factory and gave necessary instructions.

San Ein Ni International Trading Co Ltd manufactures quality 10 inches and 6 inches rubber rolls as import substitute products.

A 10-in rubber roll can be used in milling 3,500 baskets of paddy and a 6-in rubber roll for 1,800 baskets of paddy.

At Abrasive Roll Factory, the Secretary-1 inspected production process. The Secretary-1 saw over the 6-ton small rice mill imported and spare parts from abroad and



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects Rice Mill Spare Part Factory.— MNA

10-ton rice mill produced from MAPT.

After inspecting the paddy husk-fired power plant, the Secretary-1 gave necessary instructions.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party arrived at U Aung Min Industry on Mandalay Road in Dagon Myothit (South) Industrial Zone-1. U Aung Min reported on repair of excavator and explained matters related to bronze bearing bushes, 4", 6" and 8" water pumps, 4" and 6" sand suckers, 12" mobile pumps, machinery and raw materials. The Secretary-1 gave necessary instructions.

U Aung Min Industry produces and distributes farming equipment, various kinds of pumps for use in river water pumping works and for use in prawn breeding.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 saw over Duwun Electronics Industry on Mandalay Road where Managing

Director U Aung Kyi Sein reported on manufacturing of Duwun brand electronics. The industry produces transformer, inverter, battery charger, heater and auto-choke.

The Secretary-1 and party went to Mectronic General Electrical Products on Chaungtha Road in the industrial zone-2 of the township. Managing Director U Win Naing reported on production of Mectronic brand electronic equipment.

Then, the officials conducted the Secretary-1 and party round the places where Antenna, Safeguard Transformer, Inverter, Better Charger, Solid State AC Automatic Voltage Regulator & Protector are being manufactured.

Later, the Secretary-1 fulfilled requirements of availability of raw materials and gave necessary instructions.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects generating of self-reliant hydro-electricity at Nammana Village, Mogaung Township.— MNA

Although there is some progress in the regions, remedial measures are to be taken in time for shortcomings and weaknesses

Secretary-1 meets local authorities of Myitkyina, Mohnyin townships

YANGON, 14 Feb — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, together with Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads, met with members of Kachin State Peace and Development Council, Myitkyina District and Township Peace and Development Council chairmen and members, ward and village-tract chairmen and members at the town hall in Myitkyina on 9 February morning.

The Secretary-1 gave instructions.

He said State, Division, District, Township and Ward/Village Tract Peace and Development Councils are regional administrative bodies appointed by the government.

After taking up State duties, the Tatmadaw government has been making all-out efforts for national and regional development. Due to active cooperation of regional administrative bodies, fruitful results have been achieved in no time, he said.

Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility and law and order have prevailed and national reconsolidation can be built. Better foundations in eco-

nomie, social and transport sectors were laid and the regions have considerably developed, he said.

There are a great deal of tasks to be carried out in building the nation into a modern and developed one and those tasks are being implemented simultaneously. Progress has been made due to unity and endeavours at different levels, he added.

Although there is some progress, remedial measures are to be undertaken in time for shortcomings and weaknesses. Township, Ward and Village administrative bodies are those that directly deal with the people and their wrongdoings can tarnish the image of the higher levels, he pointed out. Ward and Village administrative bodies, the most basic levels, are closely dealing with the people. Therefore special care should be taken in orders not to show disregard towards the people and not burdening them with their wrongdoing, he stressed.

He said officials of the administrative bodies are those among the people. He spoke of the need for the officials living near the people to avoid the acts unsavoury to the people.

(See page 9)

Drug possessors jailed

YANGON, 14 Feb — A combined team including members of local intelligence unit, Mandalay Special Anti-drug Squad and No 9 Police Station, after a tip-off, searched a suspect, Tun Tun, on 36th Street between 82nd and 83rd Streets in Yadana East Ward, Maha Aung Myay Township, Mandalay, on 14 June 2003, and arrested him together with 2.85 kilos of raw opium. In connection with the case, Mandalay No 8 Police Station took action against Tun Tun, son of U San Tun of 83rd Street in Aung Myay Thazan Township under section 15/19(A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Mandalay District Court sentenced him to 25 years in prison under section 19 (A) on 23 January 2004. Likewise, A combined team including members of local intelligence unit and Bago Special Anti-drug Squad, acting on information, searched a suspect, Maung Zaw, at Shwe Nadi Restaurant on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Yeni on 23 September 2003, and arrested him along with 1.633 kilos of marijuana. In connection with the case, Myo Hla Police Station took action against Maung Zaw, son of U Mya Khaing of Hayman Village Thitkyein Village-tract, Lewe Township, under section 15/19(A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Taungoo District Court sentenced him to 15 years' imprisonment under section 19 (A) and 4 years' imprisonment under section 15 to serve separately on 1 January 2004. — MNA