Established 1914

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

YANGON, 16 Sept — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Vicent Fox Quesada, President of the United Mexican States, on the occasion of the Anniversary of the Independence Day of the United Mexican States, which falls on 16 September, 2003. — MNA

YANGON, 15 Sept — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of sympathy to His Excellency Mr Roh Moo Hyn, President of the Republic of Korea, for the heavy loss of life and property caused by the devastating typhoon that swept the eastern and southern part of the Republic of Korea. — MNA

YANGON, 15 Sept—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt received CEO & President of Daewoo International Corporation of the Republic of Korea Mr Tae-Yong Lee and party at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinttha here at 5 pm today. Also present on the occasion together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister at the Prime Minister’s Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet. — MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
More roads and bridges for regional development

The Government of the Union of Myanmar, always upholding our three main national causes, has been trying to narrow the development divide between various regions of the Union. Therefore, it has been fulfilling education, health, economic and social requirements of all the regions in the Union in accordance with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe.

It hardly need be emphasized that the development of a region mainly depends on its transport services. The better the transport services are, the more the trade and manufacturing industry of the region will improve and the higher the education and health standard and social life of the people living there will become.

The opening ceremony of the Langkho Bridge on the Namsan-Mongnai-Tarsan road in Langkho Township was held on 11 September and it was attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe.

The 300-foot-long bridge was constructed by Bridge Construction Special Group (9) of Public Works and it is one of the major bridges situated on the Mongnai-Langkho-Mongpan-Tarsan road linking Shan State (South) and Shan State (East).

The Government has so far spent more than K 80,000 million and US$ 147 million on the construction of roads and bridges across the nation. The earth roads in Shan State are being upgraded to tarmac and so there are 4464 miles of tarmac in the state now.

Moreover, the Tarsan bridge in Mongpan Township was opened in February, 1999, the Metlan bridge in Lekha Township in February, 2002, the Tonlaw bridge in Mongkai Township in March, 2003, and the Namyun bridge in Langkho Township in August, 2003.

Not only that, the construction of the Htesekha bridge on the border between Hsipaw Township of Shan State (South) and Kayah State, the Tapalan bridge on the border between Yaksawk Township and Mongkai Township, the Naunpanchaung bridge in Mongkai Township, the Naunpanchaung bridge in Monghso Township, Yaksawk Township and Nawnghkio Township, the Tapalan bridge on the border between Hsihseng Township of Shan State (South) and Kayah State, Htesekha bridge on the border between Hsihseng Township of Shan State (South) and Kayah State, the Mongnai-Langkho-Mongpan-Tarsan road linking Shan State (South) and Shan State (East). The Government plans to invest further.

The higher the education and health standard and the living standards of the people the higher the economic development will be.

The construction of roads and bridges wherever necessary will surely contribute a lot to the development of the Union and national unity. Therefore, the national people, on their part, are unitedly lending themselves to national development tasks being executed by the Government in the interests of the nation and the people.

Cover photo of Shwe Naing Ngan journal shows Vice -Senior General Maung Aye inspecting coal-fired power station (Tikyit) in Pinlaung Township on 9-9-2003. — MNA

Shwe Naing Ngan Journal

Vol 2 No 12 comes out

YANGON, 15 Sept — Hailing the tenth founding anniversary of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Shwe Naing Ngan Journal Volume 2 No 12, published by Education Affairs Committee of the USDA (Headquarters), has come out today.

It features the news on Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Command-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye’s inspection of the coal-fired power station construction project (Tikyit), articles by Takkatho Hla Kywe, Maung Su Shin, Chin Naing (Psychology), Dr Hla Maung, Maung Pyinnya Kyaw and other famous writers, news on organizational tasks and regional development work carried out by members of state, division, district and township USDAs, sports news, international news and other interesting news. MNA

Want to set up a beautiful garden

* In our garden, in our plantation
Pleasant scenes, variety to see
Different plants, multi-coloured flowers
Beautiful and equally pretty
Well-planned patches, as meets the eye
To be pleasant, we’ve been aiming
And planning well-ahead.
* Consonant with our water and land
Suitable in general, as seasons come
If only planned in advance and planted
Plants vibrant, fruits and flowers
Will be developed in variety
We’ve been carefully doing it.
* To plant in our garden
* Consonant with our water and land

patches are marked, harrowing done
While thus engaged, the wind carries
Thorns, grass and weeds reach our plot
These often, fall on it
And because they sprout
We have to keep weeding, working.
As if they were there before we started
As if they were there while we started planting
And even after we started, the wind will keep blowing
And keep on incessant
To await and destroy the weeds
We have to plan in advance and keep on working.
* For only then, will our garden
Be evergreen and fragrant
With variety of flowers and fruits
And be beautiful forever.

Byan Hlwar (Trs)
IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION

A US soldier from the 720 Military Police battalion checks through a window during a raid on a village near the Jabal Hambin ridge, 30 kilometres north-east of Tikrit, Iraq, Sunday, on 14 September, 2003. The dawn raid which yielded 7 arrests, was launched to catch known highway thieves and car jacks. It was a joint operation between the Iraqi and US military police. — Internet

Iraqis scream as they fire their machine guns into the air during the funeral of slain Iraqi policemen in Fallujah Saturday, on 13 September, 2003. Eight people were killed when US soldiers mistakenly opened fire on a group of Iraqi policemen in the deadliest friendly fire incident since the end of major fighting in Iraq. — Internet

The true scale of American casualties in Iraq is revealed Sunday by new figures obtained by The Observer, which show that more than 6,000 American servicemen have been evacuated for medical reasons since the beginning of the war, including more than 1,500 American soldiers who have been wounded, many seriously. — Internet

US Army 1st Sgt Ben Jones of the 101st Airborne Division patrols the streets in Mosul, 400 kms (250 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, Saturday, on 13 September, 2003. — Internet

Propelled grenades at a US military convoy west of Baghdad, sparking off an intense firefight that left at least one American soldier wounded, the military said. — Internet

US soldiers patrol a street in Tikrit, about 110 miles (180 kilometres) northwest of Baghdad, after coming under fire, on 13 September, 2003. An Iraqi bystander was hit in the crossfire in Saddam Hussein’s hometown of Tikrit. — Internet
**Iraqi gunmen kill American soldier in Iraq**

**Fallujah, 15 Sept—** Insurgents killed one US soldier and wounded three others Sunday outside the troubled city of Fallujah, a day after angry protesters fired weapons and called for violence against the American occupation to protest one of the most serious friendly fire incidents of the Iraq war.

Residents buried eight policemen Saturday who were killed when US forces apparently mistook them for guerilla fighters.

The US administrator for Iraq commented publicly on the incident Sunday for the first time, calling it regrettable and suggesting victims’ families might be compensated.

“The very regrettable incident in Fallujah is still under investigation by our military. We have expressed regrets for it publicly,” L. Paul Bremer said at a news conference with visiting Secretary of State Colin Powell.

“When we have reached conclusions about how the incident came about, we’ll take appropriate steps. In the past we have paid families—where we felt it was appropriate, but this incident is still under investigation.”

Powell arrived in Baghdad on Sunday for his first visit since the US-led ouster of Saddam Hussein. He said he was encouraged by progress toward self-rule.

He stood fast against growing international pressure to quickly turn responsibility for running the country back to Iraqis.

“The worst thing that could happen is for us to push this process too quickly before the capacity for governance is there and the basis for legitimacy is there and see it fail,” Powell said.

Earlier Sunday, Powell met with Hoshyar Zebari, Iraq’s new foreign minister, and said the security situation remained challenging, with a “major new threat” coming from “terrorists who are trying to infiltrate into the country for the purpose of disrupting this whole process.”

The death of the US soldier outside Fallujah brought to 155 the number of American troops killed in Iraq since President Bush declared an end to major combat on May 1. During the heavy fighting before that date, 138 soldiers died.

The military provided few details, but Massoud Ibrahim, a soft drinks vendor who saw the attack, said rocket-propelled grenades were fired at an American truck and armoured vehicle.

Insurgents also fired a rocket-propelled grenade at a helicopter that arrived after the attack but missed, he said. The helicopter was unable to land. An armoured vehicle was seen being towed away.

Fallujah, 30 miles west of Baghdad, has again become an especially dangerous place for the occupying forces after the friendly fire incident near the Jordanian Hospital, just west of the city.

**Iraqi ex-policemen protest in Nasiriyah, one dead**

**Roser, 15 Sept—** One Iraqi man was shot dead and two others were injured during a protest outside a police station in the southern Iraqi city of Nasiriyah, the Italian central military command said on Saturday.

Italian troops were in the police station during the incident, prompting the Iraqi military to issue a statement. None of the Italians were injured.

The statement said a crowd of former policemen wanting their jobs back protested outside the police station. They threw stones at the building and tried to storm it.

**Indian Cabinet reviews security situation**

**New Delhi, 15 Sept—** Ahead of Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee’s address to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session, the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) Friday reviewed the security situation in the country for over two-and-a-half hours. This was the second meeting of the CCS, presided over by the Prime Minister, in a span of eight days.

Official sources said that the meeting discussed the “general security situation” in the country and that there were no specific references to developments in Iraq or Jammu and Kashmir. “It was a scheduled meeting of the CCS which took stock of the general security scenario across the country,” the sources said. -MNA/Xinhua

**Drop in business failures expected**

**Baghmad, 15 Sept—** Fewer businesses are likely to fail this year than during 2002 as trading conditions improve following the end of the war in Iraq, according to a survey published Sunday.

BDO Stay Heyward, the professional services firm, said 4,565 businesses went bust during the second quarter of this year, 6.6 per cent fewer than in the same period in 2002.

A total of 18,885 businesses would be likely to fail over 2003 as a whole, a drop of 5.4 per cent from the total of 19,928 the previous year.

Shay Bannon, business recovery services partner at the group, said: “The improvement in trading conditions following the war in Iraq is finally being reflected in a reduction in the number of business failures in the UK, most notably in the manufacturing sector.” -Internet

**Software piracy affecting Pakistan’s “IT” sector**

**Islamabad, 15 Sept—** The high level of software piracy is affecting Pakistan’s IT sector growth by discouraging software developers and creating the brain drain phenomenon.

“The productive resource of Pakistani software houses is being lost unutilized (by brain drain), which largely affects the productivity, earning and exporting capacity of local software houses,” said “Study on Copyright Losses in Pakistan” launched by the Arabian Anti-piracy Alliance (AAA) here Friday.

AAA, a non-governmental organization, is urging government to introduce legislation to strengthen the hand of enforcement agencies in the battle against piracy.

In a high piracy environment, the brain drain phenomena comes into effect and creates shortage of skilled manpower, the report said.

Piracy also results in a restrained economy by hampering the confidence of local and foreign investors.

“They are hesitant to invest in developing quality software, which has an extremely high chance of being copied, before they are able to recoup their investment,” the report said.

Brain drain has been a source of acute concern mainly because a high proportion of those who have studied and graduated locally have migrated abroad to take up lucrative jobs there.

The majority of IT professionals who find employment abroad are those who possess most updated IT skills, the AAA study said, stressing these are the very people needed by local software houses to conduct software export projects.

The report added that the legal framework required for the protection of intellectual property rights does exist in Pakistan, however, the enforcement needs to be further strengthened. —MNA/Xinhua

**China to promote identity safety technologies**

**Beijing, 15 Sept—** The Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China’s top research body, plans to organize an international forum in October, in a bid to promote identity verification technologies.

The forum will be arranged by a physical identity verification and appraisal centre of the CAS Institute of Automation.

Tan Tieniu, chief scientist of the centre and head of the CAS institute, said that although they were newly developed, the identity verification technologies would prevail quickly in coming years.

He estimated that high-tech locks verified by individual iris, finger mark or DNA will take the place of ordinary ones opened by keys.

After the September 11 terrorist attacks in the United States, many resources were invested into development of more advanced identity verification technologies. —MNA/Xinhua

**Indian Foreign Minister Yashwant Sinha delivers a speech during the opening ceremony of the India-Pakistan CEO's Business Forum in New Delhi on 14 September, 2003. Some 12 CEOs from Pakistani companies and 20 CEOs of Indian companies participated in the four-day forum designed to boost the business relations between the two countries.** —Xinhua
New figures reveal the true number of American casualties in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 15 Sept—The true scale of American casualties in Iraq is revealed Sunday by new figures obtained by The Observer, which show that more than 6,000 American servicemen have been evacuated for medical reasons since the beginning of the war, including more than 1,500 American soldiers who have been wounded, many seriously.

The figures will shock many Americans, who believe that casualties in the war in Iraq have been relatively light. Recent polls show that support for President George Bush and his administration’s policy in Iraq has been slipping.

The number of casualties will also increase pressure on Bush to share the burden of occupying Iraq with more nations. Attempts to broker an international alliance to pour more men and money into Iraq founded yesterday when Colin Powell, the US Secretary of State, bruusquely rejected a French proposal as “totally unrealistic.”

Three US soldiers were killed last week, bringing the number of combat dead since hostilities in Iraq were declared officially over on 1 May to 68. A similar number have died in accidents. It is military police policy to announce that a soldier has been wounded only if they were involved in an incident that involved a death.

Critics of the policy say it hides the true extent of the casualties. The new figures reveal that 1,178 American soldiers have been wounded in combat operations since the war began on 20 March. It is believed many of the American casualties evacuated from Iraq are seriously injured. Modern body armour, worn by almost all American troops, means wounds that would normally kill a man are avoided. However vulnerable arms and legs are affected badly. This has boosted the proportion of maimed among the injured.

There are also concerns that many men serving in Iraq will suffer psychological trauma. Experts at the National Army Museum in London said studies of soldiers in the First and Second World Wars showed that it was prolonged exposure to combat environments that was most damaging. Some American units, such as the Fourth Infantry Division, have been involved in front line operations for more than six months.—Internet

“Agni” missiles being introduced into Indian armed forces

NEW DELHI, 15 Sept—India’s 700-kilometre short-range and 1,500-kilometre medium-range surface-to-surface Agni I and Agni II missiles were being inducted into the Armed Forces, top Defence Ministry officials said Friday.

On the progress of the Agni missiles programme, they said, “These missiles are where they were.” Defence Minister George Fernandes recently stated in Parliament that the Agni I and II were in the process of being inducted.

On whether India would go ahead with the test firing of the 3,000-kilometre long-range Agni missile, the officials said that the tests would be undertaken at an appropriate time. In an apparent move to counter opposition attack in Parliament about huge funds remaining unutilized by the three Armed Forces, the Defence Ministry Friday relaxed a list of equipment procured since 2001 and the new defence deals cleared recently.

Topping the list will be the deal to acquire the much-delayed Hawk Advanced jet Trainers, frontline T-90 tanks, state of art sensors, advanced Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and assortment of radars to fill the gaps in the sky with a new range of Galvat and Travor light weapons for the infantry. MNA/Xinhua

Powell sees ‘major new threat’ in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 15 Sept — Secretary of State Colin Powell, on his first visit to Iraq since Saddam Hussein’s ouster, said Sunday he was encouraged by progress toward self-rule, but that the country’s porous borders are attracting saboteurs intent on undermining that goal.

Meanwhile Sunday, attacks on American occupying forces, an almost daily occurrence in Iraq, continued, when a roadside bomb hit a convoy in the city of Fallujah, killing one US soldier and injuring three others, the military said.

With Iraq’s new foreign minister by his side, Powell praised advances in Iraq’s political and economic development since the end of the US-led war.

He said the security situation remains challenging, with a “major new threat” coming from “terrorists who are trying to infiltrate into the country for the purpose of disrupting this whole process.” The secretary gave a rough estimate of 100 such infiltrators and said he was confident that the US military can handle the problem.

Some 155 soldiers have died in Iraq since President Bush declared an end to major combat on 1 May. During the heavy fighting before that date, 138 soldiers died. “There is still a security problem in Baghdad and throughout the country. We know that,” Powell told “Fox News Sunday.”

“And this security threat comes from those who do not want to see Saddam Hussein go and those who want to foment trouble here, terrorists who are coming in, as well as remnants of the old regime.—Internet

Australia agrees to open talks on entry of Philippine fruits

MANILA, 15 Sept — The Australian Government has reportedly agreed to open negotiations for the entry of selected Philippine tropical fruits into the Australian market.

Philippine Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo, currently in Cancun, Mexico, for the World Trade Organization (WTO) ministerial conference, met with his Australian counterpart Howard Truss to discuss the issue of the Philippines’ bananas and pineapples exports to Australia, The Philippine Star newspaper reported Saturday.

Lorenzo said Truss agreed to arrange follow-up meetings after the WTO talks to thrash out the guidelines for insect risk analysis. These meetings will also be participated by the representatives of the private sector.

German Minister criticizes US Guantanamo policy

BERLIN, 15 Sept — Germany’s Interior Minister has criticized the United States for holding Afghan war captives without trial in an interview released shortly before the US and German leaders meet for the first time in over a year.

As reported Der Spiegel magazine that captives held at the Guantanamo naval base in Cuba should be tried to establish if they did indeed pose a threat and they should be allowed access to legal advisers.

“Otherwise basic priciples are lost,” Schily said in the interview released Saturday.

His comments come 10 days before US President George W Bush’s planned meeting with German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, their first since Germany’s opposition to the American build-up to the Iraq war damaged relations a year ago.

Schily said he understood US concerns that some of the 660 Guantanamo prisoners might carry out attacks if let free, but that did not mean they should be held without any objective process or legal representation.

“We are bringing up the matter, but the Americans do not see any other option at the moment. But I hope that thinking in the United States leads to conclusions that are reasonable and legally sound,” Schily said.

Human rights groups have heavily criticised America over the camp and even US allies Britain and Australia have expressed concern. No charges have been brought against any prisoner, but the United States has identified six it considers eligible for military tribunals. MNA/Reuters
At least 1,000 flu cases misdiagnosed as SARS in Beijing

BEIJING, 15 Sept — A leading Chinese flu researcher has estimated that at least 1,000 people suffering from flu or flu-like that has developed into pneumonia have been misdiagnosed as SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) cases this year in Beijing alone, reported the weekend edition of China Daily.

"Flu and SARS share a number of symptoms and therefore there is a possibility of misdiagnosing flu cases as SARS," Guo Yuansi, director of the Flu Centre under the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, was quoted as saying by the Beijing-based English newspaper China Daily Saturday.

China was the worst-hit country in this year's SARS outbreak worldwide, which reached its peak between April and June. By the end of June, over 5,300 probable SARS cases had been reported on the Chinese mainland, with more than half of them diagnosed in Beijing. Guo recommended flu inoculation as an effective means to avert misdiagnosis. Flu inoculations are "especially important" this year because of the possibility of flu spreading in north China, which will make things more complicated if SARS returns, he told the newspaper.

Although flu can sometimes be diagnosed in as little as two hours, in many cases it may take as long as two days. Guo explained. Misdiagnosis can also be avoided in many cases as long as hospitals strictly implement flu examinations along with SARS checks, he added. The China Daily reported that in the past week, many Chinese regions, such as south China's Hong Kong and Guangdong Province, east China's Jiangsu Province and north-east China's Jilin Province, have geared up to prevent the reappearance of SARS, one major aspect of which is flu prevention.
Better transport creates…

Moreover, economic and social life of the regions will improve. Better transport creates closer relations, trust and trust among the national races and strengthens national solidarity.

He quoted Head of State General Than Shwe as saying that it is necessary to ensure better transport in the region and the ones linking with other regions for regional development. With the development of transport, economic, social and administrative conditions of a region will improve.

He said altogether 160 bridges including the present one which are 180 feet and above long were opened in various parts of the Union in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. On 11 September 2003, Langkho Bridge in Lashio Township here was opened. The Ministry of Construction and the people in Shan State are proud of opening Langkho Bridge, he said. The bailey Nantmwe Bridge, 300 feet long and 12 feet wide, is on Tarlay-Parlo-Pyanglat Road. There are 22 major roads linking with other regions and parts in Myanmar. People can have wider access to the development of the country, travelling from one place to another smoothly and peacefully, he added.

He said geographically there are lots of mountains and hills but only a few plain regions in Shan State and it is very difficult to build bridges in such a region. Difficulties can be overcome with the goodwill of the Head of State. He said the Ministry of Construction and Co-operation of the people.

He said the Nantmwe Bridge is situated in the border region. Construction of a bridge helps the community to commute towards the development of the region, the nation and socio-economic life of the people.

The bridge across the creek is situated between Tarlay and Kyainglat townships. He said the government is endeavouring for narrowing the development gap between one region and another in the Union and develop the region, upholding Our Three Main National Causes. The government is also making efforts for full development of the Union after designating 24 development regions and is implementing the five rural development tasks.

Tasks for development of border areas and national roads, bridges and projects have emerged, he said. Neighbouring countries and tourists have witnessed stability and peace and tranquility and developments in the country, he added.

However, he said, destructive elements and remnants of insurgents are disrupting the country and the region. He spoke of the need to ward off those elements with the Union’s strength. He went on to say that the Union has been formed up to safeguard national solidarity and sovereignity. By doing so, there will be peace and tranquility in the Union and the Union of Myanmar can stand tall among the nations of the world.

Next, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun made a speech. He said that the construction work of the bridge started on 2 February 2002 and it is the 160th one of 180 feet and above bridges which have been opened since 1988.

The State Peace and Development Council is making all-out efforts for the nation to be a modern and developed one. It combines own intellectuals and intelligent persons. On behalf of the State, the Ministry of Construction is discharging the duty to ensure smooth transportation which is one of the basic requirements in building the infrastructures that will contribute to economic development. The ministry has built 387 miles and one for long roads in Shan State since 1988. It has also built 10 bridges in the state.

The bridge opened today is of reinforced concrete type bridge one way with 300 feet long and 12 feet wide motorway. Its clearance is 60 feet wide and 10 feet high. The one-way bridge can withstand 180 tons load, the minister said.

Next, Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw made a speech. He said that Nantmwe Bridge is situated between Tarlay and Kyainglat and is on the road linking Monglin (East) and (West), Namkhin, Palpyo and Kyainglat villages. Tarlay-Palpyo-Kyainglat region is difficult of access as there are many creeks. That is why the region layed geographically is also difficult to develop.

In the time of the State Peace and Development Council Government peace and tranquility prevails in the region. Thus, land recla- mation, extended cultivation of paddy and other crops, tasks for development of education, health and social sectors were carried out. At the same time, roads and bridges were constructed and the old ones renovated to ensure better transport for trade between Myanmar and Laos. In addition, the Ministry of Construction has been building bridges large and small for regional development. As a result, altogether 96 bridges of large and small have been constructed in the region. The people are now enjoying the fruitful results of better transport and can travel from one place to another.

Regional products can be transported via Taungky and Kyainglat and can be transported to Thai- land via Taungky and Laos.

The government has been striving day in, day out to make earnest efforts for re- gional development as well as for development of agriculture, livestock and breeding sector.

Better transport plays a key role in national develop- ment and development in the region. Thus, the national people are to strive together with the government and Tatmadaw for regional development.

Also present on the oc- casion were Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Command- er of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw. Minister for Construc- tion Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein, departmental heads, chairman and mem- bers of state, district and Township Peace and Devel- opment Councils, officials, members of social organiza- tions, members of War Veterans Organization, members of Red Cross Soci- ety and Auxiliary Fire Bri- gadie, members of traditional cultural troupes, bandtroupe and pom pom troupe, stu- dents and local people.

Next, a local spoke words of thanks. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw formally opened the bridge.

With better transport, trade and production as well as socio-economic life of the nation will improve. As development does not emerge automatically, the people are urged to make earnest efforts for re- gional development as well as for development of agriculture, livestock and breeding sector.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party had a documentary photo taken together with those present on the occasion. Next, Lt- Gen Aung Htwe unveiled the action description of the bridge and the ceremony ended.—MNA

Medical equipment donated to hospitals

YANGON, 15 Sept.—The Ear Surgery Mobile Unit (ESMU) Team of Thailand donated ear, nose and throat surgery equipment and a car to be used at the peoples’ hospi- tals of Lashio, Kyaukse and Tamway Township here in 2001.

Present at the donation ceremony were Minister for Health Dr. Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister Dr Myo Aung, Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar Mr. Maesalon, directors-general, deputy directors-general and directors of the departments, medical superintendents, professors, officials of the ESMU Team, doctors and guests.

Professor Sooontorn of Thailand’s ESMU Team made a speech and presented medical equipment worth 450,000 to the minister. Next, on behalf of the three hospitals, Dr M Janow spoke words of thanks.

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MRA to open English, computer courses

YANGON, 15 Sept.—Myanmar Royal Academy (MRA) education centre will open special regular courses on Spoken English, Grammar and Composition, Intermediate English, Business English and Medical English and MRA and computer courses on 27 September.

Moreover, it will open English literature course and IELTS, ELCUCOS, TESOL and SAM courses. Further details are available at No 57 (Ground Floor), 9th Street, Lamanna Township Ph-222121.—MNA

Advanced English course on law open

YANGON, 15 Sept.—Advanced English Course on Law—No 1 for the law offic- eter was opened today at the Attorney-General’s Office with an address by Attor- ney-General U Aye Maung. A total of 20 trainees are attending the five-week course.

The opening ceremony was also attended by Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin and U Myint Naing, officials and course instruc- tors.—MNA

Drug trafficker gets life sentence

Daw Phyu, who is said to have been a member of the Myanmar Drug Trafficking Syndicate, was charged with illegal drug trafficking and sentenced to life imprisonment in the Zadac Township Court on 12 June 2003.

Daw Phyu was found guilty of trafficking over 200,000 kyats worth of 110.9 grams of heroin in the Kayin State on 15 May 2001.

In the process, she laid down the 12 political, economic and social objectives based on Our Three Main National Causes and implementing them for sur- ceeding the national development. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has occasion- ally given guidance, saying that better transport needs to be brought about between one region and another for enabling the na- tional power to exchange knowledge and promote trade. That is why roads and bridges have to be con- structed. In accord with the guidance, top priority has been given to development of transport infrastructures for the emergence of a mod- ern and developed nation.

Furthermore, efforts are being made for development of transport infrastructures. Better transport will contribute to national development. Therefore, roads and bridges and airports were built for national development as well as for improve- ment of living standard of local people. In view of de- velopment, it is obvious that extended construc- tion of roads, bridges and airports are being taken. With improvement of living standard, there are frequent merg- ers between the national races and there would forge unity among them.

With better transport, trade and production as well as socio-economic life of the nation will improve. As development does not emerge automatically, the
Towards a new modern and developed democratic nation

Aung Moe San

(Continued from yesterday)

The army adopted by the Myanmar language is an English word. Its origin comes from Greek language. Demo means the majority of people, and cracy stands for administration. Thus, democracy means the administration of the majority by the people. Or in other words, the majority administration that is in accord with the wish of the majority and that is in the interest of the majority. Thus, the beginning of the democracy practice is the people. Thus, the people have the right to make their own decision. In this regard, the intellectual standard of the people should be high. The people should have the vision to see beyond the benefit that. But still, people lack such a vision, the democracy which comes from them will be of little use.

The people must be educated to know their rights as well as their responsibilities. All the people must be turned into sensible persons having the see everything with correct vision. If not, noble practices of democracy will vanish under gang-wise acts to seek self-interest, with democracy as an excuse; racial prejudice, the acts to grab power, using the people as the stepping stone; and the rule of anarchy. The practical use of democracy must be totally free from violence in any form. Democracy can be said most civilized system depending on the degree of the people’s respect for and observance of the rights and responsibilities. Violence or anarchy is the opposite of democracy. Thus, we need to study and know about democracy.

Freedom of thought

The aim of democracy is to obtain the best and do the right thing in every aspect. The truth and the best come out from the human intellectual knowledge. But the question here is “From whose brains will the best means come out from the human intellectual knowledge. But the question here is “From whose brains will the best means come out? We cannot know it in advance. Thus, the people have the right to use their brains to think freely. But reckless or random thoughts are totally against democracy. Thoughts must be sincere and direct in serving the majority’s interest, based on morality and justice.

Freedom of speech

If there is no freedom of speech, democracy will disappear. Freedom of speech must be permitted to exactly know the majority’s wish, as democracy is to be materialized according to the majority’s wish. But indis- ciplined or redundant speech amounts to destroying the objective of democracy. Fabrications or unjust words will make freedom useless. All in all, the government will have to control the public freedom of speech in building a democratic nation. The people should justly use the liberty in the interest of the nation. They should not abuse it. Only the truth and the words that serve the interest of the nation and the people meet the aim of the freedom of speech.

Books and periodicals donated to community learning centres

YANGON, 15 Sept — With the aim of raising the literacy rate and under the supervision of the No 2 Basic Education Department (Head Office), students from basic education schools in seven townships in Mandalay District donated books and periodicals to community learning centres at a ceremony held at Pyinnya Taskin Hall at the Mandalay Education College yesterday morning.

It was attended by Minister for Education U Than Aung, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein, Central Command Commissioner U Myint Han, the Higher Education Department (U per Myanmar) Dr Thein Myint, Chairman of the Myanmar Education Research Bureau U Myint Han, rectors of universities and colleges, and education of- ficers.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister U Than Aung said 480 community learning centres have been opened nationwide for rural people to gain living, vocational and social knowledge. Arrangements are under way to expand such centres. It is encouraging to see young students participating in educational campaigns and donating the books they could spare, he said. Later, students pre- sented K 1,020,050 for community learning centres. The minister accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour.

On the occasion, Ma May Thinzha, seventh grader at No 22 BEHS of Mandalay, explained the purpose of donating books to such centres.

Next, students sang the song “Education For All” in chorus.

Locomotive sheds, railroads, bridges inspected

YANGON, 15 Sept — Minister for Rail Transporta- tion Maj-Gen Aung Min, accompanied by officials, inspected the Bago locomotive shed on 12 September morning.

In the afternoon, the minister heard reports on repairs of locomotives, and requirements, and gave in- structions. Next, he looked into the Pyuntannya locomotive shed and gave instructions. On 13 September, the minister, together with Deputy Commander of the Southern Command Brig-Gen Thura Maung Ng and officials, inspected bridge construction works between Yedashe and Kongyi Stations and gave instructions.

The minister also inspected functions of the Taungoo locomotive shed and attended to the requirements.

People’s Desire

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

Efficient use of electricity

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

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

Efficient use of fuel

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

All this needs to be known

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

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

— to vitalize patriotism and nationalism in all citizens
— to preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage
— to perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts
— to preserve Myanmar national character
— to nurture spiritual development of the youths
— to prevent influence of alien cultures
Cultivation, supply of irrigation water in Pakokku District, Magway Division, inspected

YANGON, 15 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, together with Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin and departmental officials, yesterday morning inspected extension of cultivation land and irrigation tasks in Pakokku, Sagaing, and Pauk Seikphyu townships by helicopter. 

Next, they met with members of the agriculture supervisory committees members and district and township Peace and Development Council Chairmen and gave instructions.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived in Pakokku at 8.20 am. They were welcomed by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and senior military officers and officials.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party met with officials and local authorities at the local station and gave instruction on local sufficiency in rice, extended cultivation land and irrigation tasks. The meeting was also attended by Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tun of local station, Magway Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Zaw Min and officials concerned.

At the meeting, Lt-Gen Ye Myint made a speech. He said under the guidance of the Senior General Than Shwe, they were there to fulfil the needs for extended cultivation of paddy for local sufficiency in rice, extended reclamation of land, water supply for agricultural purpose in accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. Means and ways are to be sought for extended cultivation of paddy and land reclamation in Pakokku District. At the same time, the already-existing dams and river water pumping projects are to be renovated for full water supply and extended cultivation. Local authorities and officials are to present means and ways for extended cultivation and land reclamation. Next, Col Zaw Min reported on condition of cultivation and local sufficiency in rice, land utilization, rain fall and paddy cultivation with the use of irrigated water in the division. Next, Pakokku District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Kyi Tun also reported on extension of cultivation of land and reservoirs and building of new ones to distribute irrigation water in the district.

After that, departmental officials and township peace and development council chairmen also reported to Lt-Gen Ye Myint.

Afterswards, Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin made an address. He said that extended cultivation of paddy will contribute to local sufficiency in rice in Pakokku District, adding that the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation will provide necessary assistance for ensuring extended cultivation. After the meeting, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected Shweangmu Dam and paddy cultivation in the irrigated land by helicopter. Similarly, they also viewed Chittu river water pumping project and monsoon paddy cultivation.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected Shwemudaw, Taunggya, and Kyauktawgyi river water pumping project and paddy cultivation in the irrigated land by helicopter. Similarly, they also viewed Chittu river water pumping project and paddy cultivation.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected Taunggya Dam and paddy cultivation in the irrigated land by helicopter. Similarly, they also viewed Chittu river water pumping project and paddy cultivation.

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At the meeting, Lt-Gen Ye Myint this morning met with Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Maj Ye Myint, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, local authorities, members of the agricultural supervisory committees and departmental officials at the hall of local station in Pakokku and gave necessary instructions.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Maj Ye Myint, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Maj Tha Aye, local authorities and departmental officials, paid homage to Thihoshin Buddha Image in Pakokku.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Shwemudaw Pagoda and paid homage to it.

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Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint made a speech during his meeting with members of supervisory committee for agriculture, members of district and township Peace and Development Councils and officials in Magway. — MNA

Chinese acrobats to stage performances

YANGON, 15 Sept — Under the bilateral cultural exchange programme, the China National Acrobatic troupe of Yunnan Province, the People’s Republic of China, will give performances at National Theatre here on 18-20 September. Chinese acrobatic team arrived here on 12 September. The team will also give performances in Mandalay. — MNA

Archway of Taunggyi opened

YANGON, 15 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Aung Hwe of the Ministry of Defence attended opening of the archway of Taunggyi on 13 September morning. Present at the occasion were Shan State Peace and Development Council Chairman Eastern Command Maj-Maj Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thura, Commander of Bahtoo Station Brig-Gen Zaw Win, senior military officers, departmental officials, local authorities, members of social organizations, members of PaO and Shan traditional cultural troupes, and students and the public U Thaug Sein. Director of the Development Affairs Department of southern Shan State gave a brief account of the archway construction, and presented commemorative pensants to Li-Gen Aung Hwe, the minister, the commander, and officials.

Next, Commander Maj-Maj Khin Maung Myint, DAD Deputy Director-Gen- Maj Khin Latand U Thang Sein formally opened the archway. Lt-Gen Aung Hwe unveiled the signboard of the archway, and together with officials, he inspected along the road.

Later, Lt-Gen Aung Hwe and party arrived at the junction of Heho Airport and Meiktila-Taunggyi road at 10.30 am. They re-reported on construction of the airport’s archway and extension of the airport’s entrance road. After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Aung Hwe gave instructions.

At the lounge of the airport, officials also reported on extension of Ayetaya Government Technological College. After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Aung Hwe gave instructions.

At 1.15 pm, Lt-Gen Aung Hwe and party arrived at Kengtung, where they were welcomed by Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Chairman Brig-Gen Moe Maung and Commander Maj-Maj Khin Zaw, senior military officers, and departmental officials.

Lt-Gen Aung Hwe and party stopped over at Kengtung. — MNA

Minister U Win Aung sends message of felicitations to Mexico

YANGON, 16 Sept — U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Luis Emesto Derbez Bautista, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the United Mexican States, which falls on 16 September, 2003. — MNA

Minister U Win Aung sends message of sympathy to Republic of Korea

YANGON, 15 Sept — U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, sends message of sympathy to His Excellency Mr Yoon Young Kwan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea, for the heavy loss of life and property caused by the devastating typhoon that swept the eastern and southern part of the Republic of Korea. — MNA

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Aung Hwe inspects extension of the road heading to the Heho airport. — MNA

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Aung Hwe inspects extension of the road heading to the Heho airport. — MNA
Pleasant places to relieve boredom, refresh body and mind

Yangon, the largest commercial city and the seat of the Government of the Union of Myanmar, can be said the pride of the Myanmar people. As it is a metropolis, its industrial zones, business parks, communication facilities, big markets, shopping malls, government offices and production and services enterprises are almost busy with work, and roads, especially in rush hours, are crowded, sometimes congested, with traffic every day except during weekends. Sometimes the metropolitan people feel bored for their busy and unchanging daily life. And they want to escape from boredom. Thus, the people living in a big city like Yangon are hunger for a green and pleasant place, where they can recreate, relax and refresh their mind and body.

In this regard, a large number of recreation centres and parks have been built in Yangon, in addition to extending and upgrading the Kandawgyi and the Inya Lake. Moreover, the Yangon modernization and development drive also covers the task to green and beautify the city till it becomes a place like an enormous garden.

But the Government’s efforts to ensure and create a pleasant situation for the city people do not stop there. The Government has even introduced a mammoth plan for greening the 30-mile radius of Yangon all year round.

The mammoth plan will also help develop the national economy as it includes the putting of 925,000 acres of land under various crops including rice every season of a year.

In the north of Yangon lie the man-made water lakes including the Ngamoeyeik, Lagunbyin, Alami and Taboila dams. Small dams including the Paunglin and the Mahuya are serving as facilities helping the Ngamoeyeik store more water. The capacity of the Kangalay and Bawle water pumping stations lying within the 30-mile radius of the city have been upgraded.

Moeungyi Lake also plays a major role in irrigating crops and perennial plants through the canals in the areas in the east and south of Yangon. A number of sluice gates were constructed and are being constructed to store fresh water and prevent entering of salt water into the cultivation fields.

The government has also set up large farming projects like Nyaung-sna-pun zone where livestock breeding, aquaculture and crop cultivation have been conducted on commercial scale. Commercial-scale farms like the one in Uto-Kya-in region are serving as recreation centres also.

As the project to green and beautify the 30-mile radius of Yangon in progress, the city dwellers will find more pleasant places to relieve their boredom and refresh their body and mind in the near future. Besides, the project will help boost production of crops for food, industrial and other purposes.

Tikyit coal-fired power station that will fulfil the electricity needs

In its endeavours for the nation to be a modern and developed one, the State Peace and Development Council is building various infrastructures in all sectors such as education, health, economic and social sectors. With the development of the State, electricity need has also increased and thus with the aim of fulfilling the needs, hydropower projects are being implemented and other power plants are being built wherever possible in the country.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance on making efforts for generating 2,000 megawatts of electricity in the first five-year short-term plan.

In accord with the guidance, the Ministry of Electric Power is building a coal-fired power plant which is situated to the east of Myintha village in Pinaung Township and 22 miles from Kalaw in southern Shan State. It will generate 120 megawatts of electricity using the coal mined in Tikyit region. At present 55 percent of the construction work has completed.

In its endeavours for the nation to be a modern and developed one, the State Peace and Development Council (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye on 9 September 2001, instructed Enterprise U Htay Myint to build and inspect the coal-fired power station project implemented by the Ministry of Electric Power, Minister for Electric Power Maj.-Gen Tin Htut and Deputy Chief Engineer of the Myanma Electric Power Enterprise U Huy Myint reported to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye on implementation of the project.

The land with 105.16 acres wide on which the power station is being built was chosen by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye on 19 September 2001. Two steam boilers and two turbines, each will generate 60 megawatts of electricity, will be installed at the plant.

To supply equipment to the plant and to build sub-power station and install power lines, 22 foreign companies were invited to put tenders. Of them 10 companies submitted their tenders and out of the ten companies, China National Heavy Machinery Corporation with the lowest tender but meet the set standard was chosen and signed the contract on 27 August 2001. The cost of the machinery bought under the investment programme was US$42,936,000.

Survey work to build the plant started in August 2001 and the construction of the plant started in the last week of March, 2002.

The plant needs 750,000 tons of coal a year. Shan Yoma Naga Co Ltd and China National Heavy Machinery Corporation will supply the coal for the plant. Now, mining work is under way in Tikyit region.

Arrangements are being made to supply 120 megawatts of electricity generated from Tikyit coal-fired power station through the respective sub-power stations up to Moeunya in the Upper Myanmar and to Yangon Division.

The State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party, on 9 September, arrived at Tikyit region of Pinaung Township and inspected the coal-fired power station project (Tikyit).

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

Smooth transportation plays a pivotal role in national development. Therefore, roads and bridges are being built across the nation. At the same time new airports are being constructed wherever necessary. The photo taken on 7 September 2003 shows the runway of Monywa Airport, which will be 6,000 feet long and 100 feet wide, under construction.

Various ways and means are sought to upgrade Yangon city to be on a par with cities of the world. The photo shows the site for water treatment plant construction project being implemented by Yangon City Development Committee in Thanlyetsun, Botataung Township. — PHOTO: MNA

Agriculture is the main economy of rural people. Development in agriculture is proving the living standard of rural people. The photo taken on 1 April 2003 shows the land reclamation carried out with the use of tractors along Bagan-NyaungU-Myingyan Road. — PHOTO: MNA
Ecuador seizes illegal Galapagos shark fins

Quito (Ecuador), 15 Sept — Ecuador has seized 815 shark fins in the Galapagos Islands in a fresh case of illegal fishing that environmentalists say threatens the archipelago’s pristine ecosystem.

Galapagos park officials are trying to crack down on illegal shark finning, where fishermen cut off fins and dry them before smuggling them to the Ecuadorian mainland or abroad to Asia for use in shark fin soup. Park and Navy officials seized the fins during a patrol on Wednesday on Isabela Island and detained two fishermen, a Korean salesman and the owner of a truck found at the site, the park said in a statement released on Saturday.

The park did not say how much the fins were worth or how many sharks they estimated were killed.

Environmentalists warn that illegal shark fishing could endanger Galapagos’ marine ecosystem by cutting down its top predators. The Galapagos Islands are home to giant tortoises, sea lions and exotic birds that inspired 19th century British naturalist Charles Darwin’s theory of natural selection. — MNA/Reuters

Earthquake jolts northern Colombia

Bogota, 15 Sept — An earthquake measuring 5.2 degrees on the Richter Scale occurred on early Saturday in northern Colombia, and now there is no official information about victims or damage, the National Seismologic Network (RSN) reported. According to the report, the quake took place at 3:56 am local time (0856 GMT), and had its epicentre in the rural area of Cepita City, 345 kilometres north of Bogota, in Santander State.

Colombian rescue organizations rushed to several areas where the earthquake was felt intensively and did not report victims or material damage so far.

The quake was felt in several places in the states of Santander, Arauca and Tolima, according to the report. — MNA/Xinhua

Special financing earmarked for protection of wildlife, plants

Urumqi, 15 Sept — The Development and Reform Commission of northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region is to give 29.78 million yuan (3.59 million US dollars) to the Altun Mountains Nature Reserve to step up protection of wildlife and plants.

The money will be used to moderate facilities inside the reserve to prevent poaching of animals or rare plants, said an official from the regional environmental protection bureau.

The official said they would build two new protection centres and three other care stations, upgrade and improve living environment and conditions for patrol workers working at the zone over the next three years. — MNA/Xinhua
Plane crashes claim 10 lives in Canada

OTTAWA, 15 Sept — A total of 10 people are dead following two separate plane crashes in northern part of Canada Ontario Province with stormy weather suspected as a possible culprit, reports reaching here said Friday.

Seven men, including the pilot, and a woman were aboard an 11-seat Cessna Grand Caravan, which crashed Thursday day night about an hour after takeoff from the Pickle Lake Airport.

The crash site is some 500 kilometres north of Thunder Bay, near the town of Summer Beaver. The plane was owned by Wasaya Airways.

The identities of the eight people were being withheld pending notification of next of kin. Another plane crashed just west of Thunder Bay with two people aboard, police said. The plane had been missing since Thursday night.

Eric Kudaka, a spokesperson for Wasaya Airways, which is owned by eight First Nations communities in Ontario, said the airline has been corresponding with families of the victims, but he would not give further details except to say most are from northern Ontario.

“This is the worst thing that’s ever happened,” Kudaka said from the airline’s head office in Thunder Bay.

An emergency response team and forensic personnel were being flown to the crash scene Friday morning to help in the recovery effort. Recovery teams were also being seconded to the second crash near Thunder Bay.

Robert Sirizanni, captain of the search-and-rescue crew, said the thunderstorms may have been a factor for the crash, which has been reported to the Canadian Transportation Safety Board.

MNA/Xinhua

HK to host regional civil aviation conf in 2004

HONG KONG, 15 Sept — The 41st Conference of the Directors General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) of Asia and Pacific Regions will be held in Hong Kong from November 1 to 5, 2004, a government Press release said here Friday.

The theme of the conference, coordinated by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), was decided on at the 40th DGCA conference held in Ulaan Baatar, Mongolia, from September 1 to 5 this year, according to the Press release.

Albert Lam, director-general of Civil Aviation of Hong Kong, who was elected vice-chairman of the conference, attended the event with seven other representatives of the Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department (HKCAD) as part of the Chinese delegation.

Following spirited discussions of the theme proposed by the HKCAD for next year, the DGCA Conference adopted “Partnership in Achieving a Safe, Secure and Efficient Air Transport System Through Effective Safety Oversight” as the theme of next year’s gathering.

ICAO has expended great efforts to promote partnership in many areas, and various cooperation programmes have been developed, implemented and enhanced.

To supplement these efforts, it is considered desirable for the conference to focus discussion next year on a subject that will help promote partnership and cooperation and enhance safety, security and efficiency through effective safety oversight.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippines gains more support in WTO meeting

MANILA, 15 Sept — The Philippine initiative to eliminate trade subsidies for agricultural products has gained the support of the Cairns group of countries in the current meeting of the Fifth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Cancun, Mexico.

The new development countered earlier concerns that the move of developing countries, like the Philippines, to eliminate subsidies given to agriculture products by the rich countries would not gain the support of the entire Cairns group, which includes not only developing but also developed countries, the Philippines News Agency Friday quoted Philippine Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo as saying.

Farmers from the developing countries, including Mexico, are denouncing the rich countries, such as the United States and Europe, for giving heavy subsidies to their agricultural exports, which results in their products being “dumped” in the markets of the developing countries at much lower prices than those being charged by local producers who thus are being forced out of the market and impoverished.

Lorenzo pointed out that developed world’s agricultural subsidies last year amounted to 320 billion US dollars, with the United States appropriating 180 billion dollars for US farmers for the next decade.

Likewise, Europe subsidizes its cows at two dollars daily per head, while billions of poor in the developing countries exist at less than one dollar a day.

Japan also provides “astronomical tariffs” for its rice production. On the other hand, developing countries have been encouraged to increase their subsidies and lower their tariff protection for their own agricultural products.

MNA/Xinhua

UN sets Iran nuclear deadline

VIENNA, 15 Sept — The UN’s nuclear watchdog set Iran an October 31 deadline on Friday to prove it had no secret atomic weapons programme, prompting Teheran to threaten a “deep review” of its cooperation with the agency.

Following intense US pressure for action against Iran, the 35-nation governing board of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) passed a resolution setting the deadline.

Iran’s delegation stormed out of the diplomatic gathering as the news broke of having new invasion plans after Iraq.

The toughly worded resolution gives Iran — branded by the Washington last year as part of an “axis of evil” with pre-war Iraq and North Korea — one last chance to prove it has been complying with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The United States says Teheran has violated the pact in its effort to develop atomic weapons secretly. Iran, which denies the allegation, could face economic sanctions if reported to the UN Security Council for breach of its NPT obligations.

“We will have no choice but to have a deep review of our existing level and extent of engagement with the agency vis a vis this resolution,” said Iran’s ambassador to the United Nations in Vienna, Ali Akbar Salehi.

His comments came in a written statement he distributed to reporters as he left the IAEA boardroom just before the resolution was passed.

US Ambassador Kenneth Brill warned that any decision by Iran to suspend the uranium enrichment process would be seen as an admission that they were pursuing atomic weapons.

“If they wish to disrupt that (inspection) process, it can only lead the board and indeed the international community to conclude that in fact they are not pursuing a peaceful programme,” Brill told reporters.

In Washington, a US official told Reuters: “This time we hope there’s not going to be a way to escape because this resolution is really tightening the noose on them.”

If Iran does not cooperate and is officially declared non-compliance, “Iran will forfeit its right to share nuclear technology for peaceful purposes” and Russia will not be able to provide critical nuclear fuel for Iran’s Bushehr nuclear plant, the official said.

MNA/Reuters

Scientists kick off discussion on building affluence in China

SHENYANG, 15 Sept — Over 4,000 scientific staff, including over 100 academicians from the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and Chinese Academy of engineering, began their discussion here Saturday on how science and technology can help China build an affluent society.

The scientists are attending the 2003 CAST (China Association for Science and Technology) Annual Meeting, from September 13 to 16 in Shenyang, capital of northeast China’s heavy industry bases.

MNA/Xinhua

Students from Beijing Institute of Dancing perform the “Flower-Drum Lantern” at the Republic Theatre in Cairo, Egypt, on 13 September, 2003. The show, which features Chinese ancient folk dances, was high praise from the Egyptian audiences. — Xinhua
**SPORTS**

**Lazio ruini Sampdoria's party with win in Genoa**

**Milan, 15 Sept—** Lazio ruined Sampdoria's celebrations of their return to Serie A with Roberto Mancini's side winning 2-1 at the Stadio Ferraris on Saturday. Lazio took an early lead in the eighth minute when Dejan Stankovic headed down a cross from Sinisa Mihajlovic and Simone Inzaghi fired in an acrobatic volley. The win was the fourth in a row for the leaders, warming up for a Champions League opener at home against Celtic on Wednesday.

Midfielder Filippo Inzaghi converted for his fourth consecutive goal for the club, his first of the season, before they ran riot in the final seven minutes for their first Bundesliga victory over the Bavarians.

Bayern Leverkusen jumped back into the lead when a defensive blunder from Roberto Carlos cost them victory. Manuel Ballack and several other valued players through injuries, responded after 20 minutes with a power equaliser from Didier Agathe to beat Dundee 1-0 in an early Scottish Premier League game at Dens Park on Saturday.

The result sent the defending champions top of the table with seven points from their first three matches, although they could still be overtaken by Inter for the top spot in the Champions League group stage.

The victory was the fourth in a row for Lazio, who finished seventh last season.

**Midfielder Alan Silva scored for the Madeira island team when he went through unmarked inside the area in the 63rd minute. The win was the fourth in a row for rival Porto, who finished seventh last season.**

**Champions Porto beat Uniao Leiria 3-1, Southampton maintained their unblemished record in a 1-1 home draw with Celtic for 15 years.**

**Celtic overcame Agathe red card to beat Dundee 1-0**

**Glasgow, 15 Sept—** Celtic overcame a rash first-half red card for French winger Didier Agathe to beat Dundee 1-0 in an early Scottish Premier League game at Dens Park on Saturday.

Boo Balde’s bullet header after eight minutes was enough to take Celtic provisionally a point above champions Rangers, who host Dunfermline Athletic later on Saturday.

But they needed to produce a strong defensive display to claim a point against the visitors.

His first came with a marvellous improvised aerial back-heel when he somehow managed to get his foot to a neat cross from Luis Figo and sent it curling over Bizzarri into the far corner just after the half-hour mark.

Two minutes later he controlled a curling pass from Roberto Carlos with his chest and then caught the unfortunate Bizzarri off guard as he scooped the ball over his head and into the net.

Real paid the price for their waste of chances but they were not so lucky in the 48th minute when the experienced Brazilian striker Ronaldo headed in from close range.

The result sent the defending champions top of the group on seven points from three matches, although their Champions League runners-up are second on five points behind leaders Arsenal who lost their 100th Premier League game against to win the ball but referee Dougie McDonald deemed the Celtic player to be guilty of a second bookable offence, levelled the scores in the 49th minute. They remain without a league win this season, who covered from their disastrous run last season.

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Real paid the price for their waste of chances but they were not so lucky in the 48th minute when the experienced Brazilian striker Ronaldo headed in from close range. **Raul hits hat-trick in 7-2 romp by Real**

**Madrid, 15 Sept—** Spanish international striker Raul helped himself to a classic hat-trick as Real Madrid ran riot against Berat Bosnjak with a destruction of a disappointing Valladolid in a First Division match on Saturday.

**Rangers back on top with 4-0 victory**

**Glasgow, 15 Sept—** Rangers leapfrogged Glasgow rivals Celtic to reclaim top spot in the Scottish Premier League on Saturday with a thumping 4-0 home victory over Dunfermline.

First-half goals from Steve Thompson, Michael Möls and Shota Arveladze decided the match and Nipon Cachio underlined the class gap after the break.

Hearts remained in third spot with a 2-0 victory at Kilmarnock — Mark de Vries on target twice. — **MNA/Reuters**
Wednesday, September 16, 2003

**TUNE IN TODAY:**
- **8:00 am**  New Modernized Myanmar Food
- **8:10 am**  Aung Kar Dine
- **8:20 am**  Around Bagan by Pony
- **8:30 am**  National News
- **8:45 am**  Myeik, A Town in the Southern Part of Myanmar
- **8:55 am**  School for the Blind
- **9:05 am**  Around Bagan by Pony
- **9:10 am**  Song of Myanmar
- **9:20 am**  Beauty & Scenic Sights “ Mellonibal”
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**WEATHER**

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

- During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder showers have been isolated inKashin, Shan and Kaya States, scattered in Rakhine and Kayin States, Magway and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy falls in Mandalay Division and isolated heavy falls in upper Sagon, Bago and Yangon Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Bago (3.74) inches, Co Co Island (3.54) inches, Kawela (3.35) inches, Ann (2.56) inches, Meiktila (1.85) inches and Kayarkyang (1.15) inches.

- Maximum temperature on 14-9-2003 was 31°C (87°F). Minimum temperature on 13-9-2003 was 19°C (66°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 am MST on 16-9-2003 was 73%. Total sunshine hours on 14-9-2003 was 34.0 hours. Rainfall for the week (15-9-2003 to 21-9-2003) was 24.1 mm at Yangon Airport, 10 mm at Kaba-Aye and 15 mm at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 14-9-2003 to 21-9-2003 was 2077 mm (81.77 inches) at Yangon Airport, 2183 mm (86.18 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 45 km/hr (29 mph) West from at 12:30 am MST on 14-9-2003.

**Reference:** Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 16-9-2003: Rain or thunder showers will be isolated in Kachin, Shan and Kayah States. Scattered in Rakhine and Kayin States, Magway and upper Sagon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Probability is (80%). State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

For outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of thundery condition in central and lower Myanmar areas. Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 16-9-2003: One or two thunder showers. Debris aerosol forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 16-9-2003: Isolated/light scattered showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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Yangon, 16 Sept — General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, sends message of sympathy to His Excellency Mr Goh Kun, Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea, for heavy loss of life and property caused by devastating typhoon that swept the eastern and southern part of the Republic of Korea — MNA

Yangon, 16 Sept — On the occasion of the Independence Day of Papua New Guinea, which falls on 16 September 2003, General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to the Right Honourable Sir Michael Somare, Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea. — MNA

Secretary-2 attends opening of 19th Defence Services C-in-C’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) U-21 Soccer Tournament

Yangon, 15 Sept — The opening of the 19th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) U-21 soccer tournament under-21 was held at the youth training centre in Thuwunna this evening.

Present were Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman of Tatmadaw Sports and Physical Education Administration Board Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and senior military officers, officials of the Ministry of Sports, guests, officers and their wives, members of Myanmar Fire Brigade, members of Red Cross Bridge and sports fans.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivered an address and formally opened the football match. In the opening match, Southern Command beat No 11 LID 5-3.

The first round matches will be held at the five zones—Mawlamyine, Pathein, Monywa, Mandalay and Toungoo from 18 to 27 September.— MNA

Better transport creates closer relations, friendship and trust among national races and strengthens national solidarity

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attends opening of Nantmwe bridge in Tachileik

Yangon, 15 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe made a speech at the opening ceremony of Nantmwe bridge, Tala, Tachileik Township, Shan State (East) implemented by Public Works of Tachileik District under the supervision of the Ministry of Construction and unveiled the stone inscription of the bridge this morning.

In his address, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe made a speech. He said as is known to all the government has been carrying out the tasks for development of economic, education, health and transport sectors in states and divisions day and night with added momentum in building a modern developed nation.

Better transport contributes to trade and tourism development and improvement of the people’s socioeconomic life, he said. (See page 7)