

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 261

12th Waxing of Pyatho 1365 ME

Saturday, 3 January, 2004



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe greet heads of foreign missions in Myanmar and resident representatives of UN agencies at the social dinner. — MNA

Govt determined to implement roadmap PM, wife host dinner to diplomats, UN representatives

YANGON, 2 Jan — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe hosted a social dinner to diplomatic corps led by the Dean Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and wife, and resident representatives of UN agencies on the lawns of Tatmadaw Guest House on Inya Road here this evening.

Also present at the dinner were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, ministers and their wives, deputy ministers and their wives, responsible personnel of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, and guests.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe arrived at the Tatmadaw Guest House and greeted members of the diplomatic missions and their wives, and resident representatives of UN agencies and their wives.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt extended greetings and spoke on the occasion. The Prime Minister said: Since the assumption of responsibilities as Prime Minister, I received many requests for appointments from members of the Diplomatic Corps. Although I would very much like to have had such opportunities, it has not been

possible due to my heavy schedule. I have therefore arranged this gathering so that we will have a chance to meet with each other.

Around the world, the New Year is a time for celebration; a time to be with friends and family; a time to rejoice and look forward to the coming year with anticipation. It is also a time for rejuvenation; a time for stock-taking.

As we gather to celebrate the New Year, I would therefore like to reflect on the past year. The year 2003 was an eventful year, both at home and abroad.

In stark contrast to the strife and uncertainty that prevailed in many parts of the world, Myanmar remained an oasis of peace and stability. The insurgency, which emerged together with our independence, has subsided and people from all parts of the country are enjoying the benefits of peace.

In the economic sphere, Myanmar has been able to overcome the challenges posed by pressures from outside and to achieve significant growth in our economy. The agricultural sector, which is the backbone of our economy, continues to achieve success qualitatively and quantitatively. The most important development is the decision to liberalize the rice trade, thus further consolidating the

(See page 8)

Striving for national development based on national strength

The Union of Myanmar is a nation that has existed as an independent and sovereign one under her own monarch and culture for a long period countable by years in the thousand. As Myanmar is an independent and sovereign nation, the State Peace and Development Council is striving for the Union of Myanmar to be a modern and developed nation on self-reliance to be able to stand shoulder to shoulder with the world nations, using the national strength as the driving force to reach the goal. Hence, the working guidelines have been laid down in every sector to practise thrifty methods, minimize waste and boost production for the development and modernization of the nation.

Senior General Than Shwe,
State Peace and Development Council Chairman,
Defence Services Commander-in-Chief
(From message on the 55th Anniversary
Independence Day)

Independence Day commemorative features on pages 6, 7 and 11.

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Circulation

23,231



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe host dinner to heads of foreign missions in Myanmar and resident representatives of UN agencies. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 3 January, 2004

Reliable medical practitioners of the State and the Tatmadaw

The Tatmadaw was conceived during the period of anti-colonialist and national liberation movements. It was formed with patriots with strong nationalistic fervour, the ones who were not hesitant to sacrifice their lives and strong politicians. It is the patriotic Tatmadaw with 12 fine traditions. Members of the Defence services medical forces have been the persons discharging their duties with strong patriotism, while overcoming all the difficulties with great zeal and perseverance since the time of the independence struggle.

The graduation parade of the fifth intake of the Defence Services Medical Academy was held at the parade grounds of the DSMA on 1 January, with an address by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe.

In his speech the Senior General said, "Doctors from abroad have been conducting joint treatment operations in the country together with Myanmar counterparts to gain experience. Likewise, you also will have to eagerly search new knowledge on your field in every place in the nation you are assigned to, and to record your finds. You are going to conduct not only the treatment, but also the research, and keep records. With farsightedness, you are also required to record the facts on the extent of health knowledge region-wise, the existing diseases and the probable occurrence of new diseases due to the socio-economic and environmental condition of a certain region, and the required disease prevention measures as they will be helpful to the national health."

Members of the Defence Services medical forces are to undergo advanced military training step by step. As a good soldier of the Tatmadaw, they are to make themselves fully equipped with field experience.

To win the trust of the subordinates, a leader must have good morale, ability, courage, daring spirit and innovative mind and must be thorough, accurate and skilled, while having the capability to give brilliant leadership with the spirit of a good commanding officer. The Tatmadaw at present is energetically launching the border areas and national races development drive, the 24-development zone project, and rural development tasks for the whole nation to achieve progress without having any gap in any area.

We firmly believe that members of the Defence Services medical forces are going to discharge the Tatmadaw medical duty as well as the national defence duty and to strive to become medical practitioners, on whom the State and the Tatmadaw can rely.

Hlawga Park to be kept open

YANGON, 2 Jan — The Hlawga Park of the Forest Department will be kept open on 4 January 2004 (Independence Day), holiday from 8 am to 5 pm for public recreation. — MNA



School Family Day

(27 December 2003 to 3 January 2004)

56th Anniversary

Independence Day Objectives

- All the national people to collectively safeguard the national independence and ensure perpetuation of sovereignty,
- All the national people to be united to ensure non-disintegration of national solidarity,
- All the national people to strive for the emergence of enduring State Constitution and for the building of a new modern and developed nation,
- All the national people to participate with full sense of Union Spirit and patriotism in the successful implementation of the seven-point roadmap of the State.

Roads, tube-well opened to hail Independence Day

YANGON, 2 Jan — In hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day, four tarred roads in Monywa and a tube-well in Kansi village were commissioned into service on 30 December 2003.

Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Chairman North-

west Command Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, senior military officers, local authorities, departmental personnel, and local people attended the opening ceremonies.

The four roads were Sayaytan road, Zwa road, Phaungphweyay road and 80-ft road. — MNA

Observance of International Year of Rice coordinated

YANGON, 2 Jan — The first coordination meeting of the committee for observance of the International Year of Rice took place at the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation on Thiri Mingalar Lane of Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here on 30 December. It was attended by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Chairman of Myanmar Academy of Agricultural, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences U Tin Hlaing, officials of the re-

spective ministries, representatives of FAO to Myanmar, IRRI, Myanmar Rice Millers Association, Myanmar Rice Merchants Association and NGOs.

The minister delivered a speech on the occasion. Those present watched the feature on International Year of Rice sent by FAO. All-round discussions were then held after which the meeting ended with concluding remarks by the minister.

MNA



Narcotic drugs seized

YANGON, 2 Jan — Acting on information, members of Muse Anti-drug Squad checked Bayan Aung (a) Latwe, a suspect, near the clock tower on Pyidaungsu Road, in Muse, on the evening of 19 November in 2003. The authorities arrested him as a total of 1,600 stimulant tablets bearing letters WY were found on him.

Further investigation into the case led to the arrest of Lakham (a) Kham Aung, who is the owner of the stimulants. He was arrested at Kachin festival.

In a similar action, a combined team comprising members of the local intelli-

gence unit, Kawthoung Anti-drug Squad and Myeik Police Station, on a tip-off, searched Than Htay at the corner of Aung San Road and Shwelleikpya Street in Myeik on 28 November 2003 and arrested him as a total of 320 grams of opium dust were seized from him. Another 2,816 kilos of opium dust were also found in his house. Further investigation into the case led to the arrest of Win Aye and Thet Lwin Oo (a) Win Lwin Oo.

Action is being taken against the drug pushers by police stations concerned under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA

People's Desire

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

Efficient use of electricity

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

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

Efficient use of fuel

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

All this needs to be known

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



General Manager Mr Ng Kim Seok explains the lucky draw programme. — MNA

Lucky draw programme held

YANGON, 2 Jan — Myanmar Mamee Double Decker Ltd launched its K 100-million lucky draw programme at its head office in Pyinmabin Industrial Zone, Mingaladon Township, this morning.

General Manager of the company Mr Ng Kim Seok and Marketing Executive Daw Khin Thet Khaing briefed those present on the programme and replied to the queries of the guests. The lucky draw period is from 1 January through 31 March and the winners can draw their cash prizes until 30 April this year. — MNA

Most Iraq deaths are guardsmen, reservists

WASHINGTON, 2 Jan—As they prepare to increase their role in Iraq, including more combat duty, soldiers with the Army National Guard and Army Reserve already are experiencing a bigger share of US military deaths there.

Of the 39 deaths in December in Iraq for which the Pentagon has released the victim's names, 10 were citizen soldiers, according to an Associated Press review of the Pentagon reports. That is up from 14 percent in November, the deadliest month of the war with 81 American deaths. There actually were 40 reported deaths in December, but one soldier's name and affiliation have not been released.

Overall, since the start of hostilities last March, 14 percent of all U.S. military deaths have been members of the Army Guard or Reserve. The Army says it has had 68 reservists killed so far, compared with nine reservists among the Marines, two in the Navy

and one in the Air Force.

It's too early to know whether December's proportional increase in deaths among citizen soldiers was the start of a trend, but some analysts say the jump is both politically and militarily troublesome, even if it proves temporary.

"It's one more strain on the Reserve," said Michael O'Hanlon, a defense analyst at the Brookings Institution, a private think tank. "We are living a gamble to keep the Reserve component intact" at a time when reservists are coping with the double worries of being called to active duty for long periods and facing grave dangers in Iraq.

The nation's citizen soldiers play a role in every major military operation because they offer skills and resources that are not available in sufficient numbers in the active-duty force. Military police, linguists and civil affairs specialists are called upon frequently, for example. But reservists in Iraq also are in direct combat roles, and their presence there is about to expand.

Of the approximately 130,000 U.S. troops in Iraq now, about a fourth are reservists. When the force rotates out this winter and spring, to be replaced by a slightly smaller contingent, the proportion of reservists will about double — to nearly 40 percent of the force.

Internet

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Blast hits US convoy in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 2 Jan—A bomb apparently aimed at a US convoy has exploded in Baghdad, killing one Iraqi civilian and wounding another.

No Americans were hurt in the blast which went off in the Iraqi capital's densely populated Karrada district, on a street lined with market stalls. "They've not killed any Americans, just Iraqis as usual," a grocer told AP news agency as traders surveyed the damage.

Roadside bombs are a favoured tactic of outgunned militants fighting the US-led coalition in Iraq.

A US soldier at the scene said the injured Iraqi had a neck wound and would probably die. —Internet

Berlin New Year gala attracts 800,000 revellers

BERLIN, 2 Jan—Some 800,000 people from different parts of Germany showed up Wednesday evening at the historic Brandenburg Gate for the New Year.

Many of the participants were visitors from out of town. Many of Berlin's hotels reported full occupancy, said a local tourism agency.

"It's the first month where one gets the feeling that the market is taking off," said Hanns Peter Nerger, chairman of Berlin Tourismus Marketing.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraq braced for more attacks after restaurant bomb

BAGHDAD, 2 Jan—US soldiers and Iraqi police were on high alert on Thursday for more attacks to mark the start of 2004 after a car bomb ripped through a Baghdad restaurant, killing five New Year revelers.

The bomb devastated the upscale Nabil restaurant around two and a half hours before midnight, scattering debris and wrecked cars across the street outside and wounding more than 20 people including three foreign journalists with the Los Angeles Times.

In the town of Baquba, 40 miles north of the capital, around 1,000 US soldiers and 400 Iraqi police launched a major overnight raid hunting members of a militant Wahhabi Muslim cell blamed for attacks on US forces.

Colonel David Hogg of the US 4th Infantry Division said US troops detained nine of 11 wanted guerrilla leaders and Iraqi police detained 16 of 20 of their footsoldiers.

A large haul of weapons was also seized in the raids.

Internet



A US Army investigator inspects damage done to the 'Nabil' restaurant in Baghdad Thursday, on 1 Jan, 2004. A car bomb exploded killing five Iraqis and wounding 35 during New Year's party at Nabil's. —INTERNET

UNICEF presses for education for all children

UNITED NATIONS, 2 Jan—The best way to help children cope with a dangerous world is for all governments to provide their young people with a basic education, the UN children's agency UNICEF said on Wednesday.

"By making sure that all boys and girls get a basic education, we will not only give them a chance of growing into independent adults who can protect their own health and rights, but we will give the next generation of children a better chance of escaping a life of poverty and hardship," UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy said.

UNICEF marked the New Year with a report naming the five top concerns it saw in 2004 for children in developing countries: child survival, AIDS, children caught in war, child exploitation and insufficient investment in children.

UNICEF said nearly 11 million children die before age five each year and among the biggest killers, measles, malaria and diarrhoea are all preventable or treatable. More than half the world's new AIDS infections occur in people under 25, and some 14 million children have been orphaned by the disease, 11 million of them in sub-Saharan Africa. — MNA/Reuters

New Year's Eve revelry claims 22 lives in Philippines

MANILA, 2 Jan—At least 22 Filipinos were killed and some 500 others injured in the New Year celebrations-related accidents, including unexpected firecracker blast, fires and indiscriminate shooting of fire arms, officials said Thursday.

A thick pall of smoke from exploding firecrackers and burning tyres shrouded Manila before dawn amid reports of hundreds of firework-related injuries sustained during the celebrations.

Government hospitals reported 223 firecracker-related injuries in the capital region alone, and the national total is "approaching 500", Chito Navaro, an epidemiologist at the National Epidemiology Centre of the Department of Health (DOH) told reporters. — MNA/Xinhua

Hu Jintao celebrates New Year with CPPCC members

BEIJING, 2 Jan — The Chinese Communist Party (CPC) and state leaders greeted the New Year at a tea party organized by the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) here Thursday.

Addressing the party, Chinese President Hu Jintao extended New Year greetings to all non-Communist parties, people's organizations, people of all social sectors, compatriots in Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, overseas Chinese and foreign friends who supported China's modernization drive.

Hu, who is also General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee and vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission, said the Chinese people witnessed a good start in building an affluent society in 2003. Chinese people of all ethnic groups were making big strides towards the goal of building an affluent society with great confidence, said the President.

The year of 2004 would be crucial for China to realize the 10th Five Year Plan and it was important to maintain the

good momentum of economic and social development, Hu said.

The President called for more efforts to maintain coordinated and sustainable development in an all-round way in the New Year. The central authorities would continue to concentrate on improving people's lives, taking more concrete measures and keeping incorruptible, said Hu.

He called on governments at all levels to spare no effort to raise farmers' incomes and create more employment opportunities. He also urged more efforts in poverty reduction and building the social security system.

Hu said China would improve its system of multi-party cooperation and political consultation under the leadership of the CPC to further solidify and develop the patriotic united front. —MNA/Xinhua



Residents return to their destroyed apartments in Baghdad, on 1 January, 2004 after a blast the night before targeted an adjoining restaurant. —INTERNET

Train collision injures 7 in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 2 Jan — A US family of seven received minor injuries Wednesday night after a mini-van collided with a train in downtown Los Angeles.

The accident occurred at 9:10 pm local time near Staples Centre in the second largest US city, Jim Wells of the city fire department said.

A mini-van cut in front of the southbound Blue Line train, leading to the collision, according to a dispatcher of the train.

MNA/Xinhua

No excuse for quick Iraq strike, says Annan

BAGHDAD, 2 Jan—UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Tuesday there was no argument for a US strike against Iraq before late January, while ordinary Iraqis held out hope that the New Year would bring no war at all.

Annan said Iraq was co-operating with arms inspections and he saw no need for military action until inspectors searching for suspected weapons of mass destruction report back to the UN Security Council by Jan 27.

"I really do not see any basis for an action until then, particularly as (the inspectors) are able to carry out their work in an unimpeded manner," Annan said in an interview with Israel's Army Radio monitored in Jerusalem.

On the streets of Baghdad, Iraqis were hoping for more than a stay of execution. "God willing, peace will prevail in Iraq in the New Year and the phantom

of war will be lifted," said Samer al-Amiri, 52, sipping black tea in a cafe in the Iraqi capital.

The United States already has declared Baghdad in material breach of a Security Council resolution giving Iraq one last chance to disarm or face "serious consequences".

Baghdad says it has no banned weapons and tensions over inspections were high on Tuesday despite Annan's insistence they were running smoothly. The UN arms experts swooped on at least eight suspect sites in central Iraq, and the head of an engineering facility described their conduct as provocative and annoying.

"They looked at personal documents and searched everything, including briefcases of the employees and drawers in an annoying way, and even notebooks of some of the ladies were looked into thoroughly," said Riyadh Khalil al-Hashimi, head of engineering and designing firm Sa'ad General Company.

The official Iraqi News Agency (INA) said on Tuesday Iraq has invited chief UN weapons inspector Hans Blix to visit Baghdad to "review cooperation" in January, before the experts report back to the Security Council.

On Monday, the United States won approval for a

new Security Council resolution, co-sponsored by Britain, aimed at preventing Iraq from importing goods which could be used in war.

The 15-nation council voted 13-0 to expand the list of civilian goods under sanctions. Russia and Syria abstained. Iraqi envoy Mohammed S. Ali said the resolution would aggravate the suffering of the Iraqi people, which could be eased only by a lifting of UN sanctions imposed in 1990.

The resolution modified a "goods review list" itemizing goods Iraq is barred from importing without UN approval.

Internet

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US chopper makes "precautionary landing" in N Iraq

BAGHDAD, 2 Jan—A US military helicopter was forced to land in northern Iraq on Thursday after an apparent mechanical failure and some soldiers may have been injured, a US military spokesman said.

A spokesman for the 101st Airborne Division, which controls a broad swathe of northern Iraq, said the aircraft had come down at about 1230 GMT, but played down the possibility of it having been hit by hostile fire from the ground.

"It was potentially a bit more than a precautionary landing, perhaps a hard landing with some injuries...most likely it was a technical failure," he said.

Asked if the helicopter had come under fire, he said: "There is no suggestion (of that) at this time."

Two US helicopters made similar landings last month, and guerillas last November shot down three US helicopters, killing 39 US soldiers.—MNA/Reuters



People stand outside destroyed Nabil restaurant in Baghdad Thursday, on 1 Jan, 2004. A car bomb exploded at the restaurant killing five Iraqis and wounding 35 during New Year's party. —INTERNET

Coalition declines comment on dialogue with Red Cross over Saddam

BAGHDAD, 2 Jan—The US-led coalition in Iraq declined to comment on Wednesday on its "continuing dialogue" with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which has requested access to Saddam Hussein.

Coalition forces "won't publicly comment on its continuing dialogue with the ICRC," said a spokesman for the coalition.

"Saddam Hussein is being treated in a manner consistent with the Geneva Conventions," said the spokesman, who declined to be named.

ICRC spokesman Florian Westphal said in Geneva on Tuesday that the agency had

asked for access to the former president since his capture by US forces on December 13.

"We have been in contact with the Americans regularly concerning prisoners of war and other detainees in Iraq and in the course of this contact we have also talked about Saddam Hussein," he told AFP. "Saddam Hussein, as somebody protected by the Geneva Conventions, has a right to ICRC visits."—Internet

Number of US troops killed in Iraq rises to 480

BAGHDAD, 2 Jan—The Department of Defense has identified 480 American service members who have died since the start of the Iraq war. It confirmed the death of the following American Wednesday: Pollard, Justin W, 21, Specialist, Army; Foothill Ranch, Calif; Second Squadron, Third Armored Cavalry.—Internet

Survey shows one in four Israelis do not want nukes

JERUSALEM, 2 Jan—One in four Israelis believe their country should give up its presumed nuclear arsenal as part of a comprehensive move to rid the Middle East of weapons of mass-destruction, a poll published on Thursday found. Widely believed to be the only regional nuclear power, Israel has come under extra scrutiny since Libya said last month it was abandoning its WMD programme. Israel does not discuss capabilities, in a policy it calls "strategic ambiguity".

MNA/Reuters

Thai PM vows efforts to improve economy in 2004

BANGKOK, 2 Jan—Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra has promised that his government would continue its efforts to make 2004 a golden year for all the Thai people, *Thai News Agency* reported on Thursday.

In his address to a massive crowd of New Year's Eve celebrators on Wednesday night, the Thai leader said that he was happy to see Thai people now look happier than last year.

This was the result of the country's improving economic conditions as well as the Thai people's perseverance and collaboration to work hard with the government to drive the Thai economy forward, he said.

"In the Year 2004, students will have opportunities to study with no disruptions, and people in the workforce, both skilled and unskilled ones, will be employed," he pledged.

Thailand's economy will continue to expand with more jobs for the Thai people, and growing returns for businesses and investors in the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) and other business sectors, he added.

The government would also pay attention to safeguarding the people's hygiene and food safety in the Year 2004, he noted.

The Thai leader said that in 2003 Thailand cleared its huge debts owed to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) since the country experienced its worst economic crisis in mid-1997. He pledged that the government would make the country and the Thai people free from all foreign debts over the next three years.

"In 2004, the Thai economy will continue to grow, and the Thai society will be more transparent and fairer to all groups of people, even the poor and those in all underprivileged groups, as the government will implement measures and projects to address people's woes," he stressed.

MNA/Xinhua

Expert says China, Europe to share data from geospace satellites

BELING, 2 Jan—China and Europe will share the data collected by each other's satellites in their space exploration programmes, a Chinese space expert said of the *Probe No 1* satellite launched successfully Tuesday.

Liu Zhenxin, a leading Chinese expert in space physics who initiated the country's "Geospace Double Star Exploration Programme", said both sides agreed to share the data under an official agreement signed in 2001. Under the geospace exploration programme, which will cost the country 48 million US dollars, China launched a satellite on Tuesday and is scheduled to put

another one in orbit in the middle of 2004 to form an independent constellation-like system to monitor geospace storms.

The two satellites will probe areas not covered by the four satellites in orbit, which were put into space by European Space Agency in 2001 as part of its Cluster II geospace exploration programme, said the expert.—MNA/Xinhua

China shortens time required for imported car registration

BELING, 2 Jan—A computer-based network on imported cars will start operation in China on January 1, 2004, which is expected to cut the time required to obtain registration from the previous one month to 48 hours.

According to sources from the Ministry of Public Security (MPS), the network began trial operation in September, which has allowed the Customs department to deliver specific information on imported automobiles to the traffic control sector within 48 hours.—MNA/Xinhua



A horse carriage makes its way through a flooded street following heavy overnight rains in the Indonesian capital Jakarta on 31 Dec, 2003. The Indonesia Meteorology and Geophysics Agency has warned Jakarta residents that heavy seasonal rains in January 2004 are expected to cause widespread flooding in the capital.—INTERNET

CONTINUING RESISTANCE AGAINST US TROOPS



A US Army soldier stands guard in front of the 'Nabil' restaurant in Baghdad, on 1 January, 2004. A car bomb exploded killing five Iraqis and wounding 35 during New Year's party at Nabil's.—INTERNET



US soldiers inspect what is left from a car bomb in Baghdad, on 1 January, 2004. A car bomb exploded Wednesday as a US convoy passed on a street full of shops, wounding 21 people, including five US soldiers and five Iraqi civil defence personnel, authorities said.—INTERNET



A US soldier from the 1st Battalion, 22nd Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division, stands guard at their US base in the Iraqi town of Tikrit, some 250 km north of Baghdad, on 1 January, 2004. INTERNET



An Iraqi man walks over the rubble of Baghdad's Nabil restaurant on 1 January, 2004, after it was destroyed in a blast the night before. US soldiers and Iraqi police were on high alert on Thursday for more attacks to mark the start of 2004, after a car bomb ripped through a Baghdad restaurant. —INTERNET



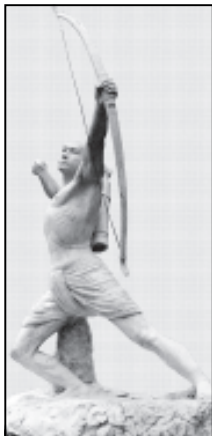
Iraqis inspect what is left from a car bomb in Baghdad, on 1 January, 2004. A car bomb exploded Wednesday as a US convoy passed on a street. INTERNET



Iraqi soldier stands guard as US troops remove a car that was damaged in a car bomb blast in Baghdad, on 1 January, 2004. INTERNET

Hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day:

From peace and stability of the State to achieving fruits of progress



Never in the history of Myanmar have her people enjoyed the fruit of development as in the present, and this is the result of peace and stability.

In its drive to develop the national economy in leaps and bounds, the State Peace and Development

stage at present.

Forests cover 52.28 per cent of the land surface of Myanmar. The total area of forest reserves and buffer zones have reached over 35 million acres, and over three million acres of forests have been formed as natural zones.

Nine districts greening project had been launched in the central dry region of Myanmar. At present, the project has been extended to cover 13 districts.

In the whole nation, the State has established 18 industrial zones of the private sector, and also set up 257 industries of various sizes. The number of State-owned and private industries at present was over 50,000, up over 24,000 from over 27,000 in 1988.

The State has also built a large number of infrastructures including highways and major bridges

Mognai railroads in Shan State, ChaungU-Pakokku-Gangaw-Kale railroad passing through a mountain tunnel and the Yoma mountain range belt railroad. The railroads passed through the important places of the nation. There are now nearly 3,000 miles of railroads in the nation, up over 1,012 miles from only 1,976 miles in 1988.

There is also a harmonious development in the international civil aviation and maritime sectors and the internal air and water transport sectors of the nation. The number of airports has reached 27 at present from 21 in 1988. Of them, 18 airports can handle landing and take-off of

million units. the state Peace and Development Council.

In the time of the State Peace and Development Council, 28 more hydel-power stations and eight gas-fired power stations have been constructed. Other 11 electric power projects are being implemented. On completion, Paunglaung Hydel-power Project will be able to produce 280 megawatts and Ye Ywa Hydel-power Project, 780 megawatts. So, on completion, these 11 projects will have a capacity to produce over 1,960 megawatts. As regards the education sector, the number of basic education schools had grown to

logical universities and the universities of computer studies, 73 masters degrees and PhD degrees courses.

In the technological sector, there are now four technological universities, two universities of computer studies, one aerospace engineering university, one marine university, one institute of marine technology, 26 government technological colleges, 24 government computer colleges and nine government technical institutes. Emphasis was also placed on uplift of health and fitness of the entire people. There are 757 hospitals across the nation in 2003, compared with 617 in 1988. A total of 84 dispensaries and 1,414 rural health care centres have been opened the length and breadth of the nation. Among them, 114 hospitals have been upgraded to

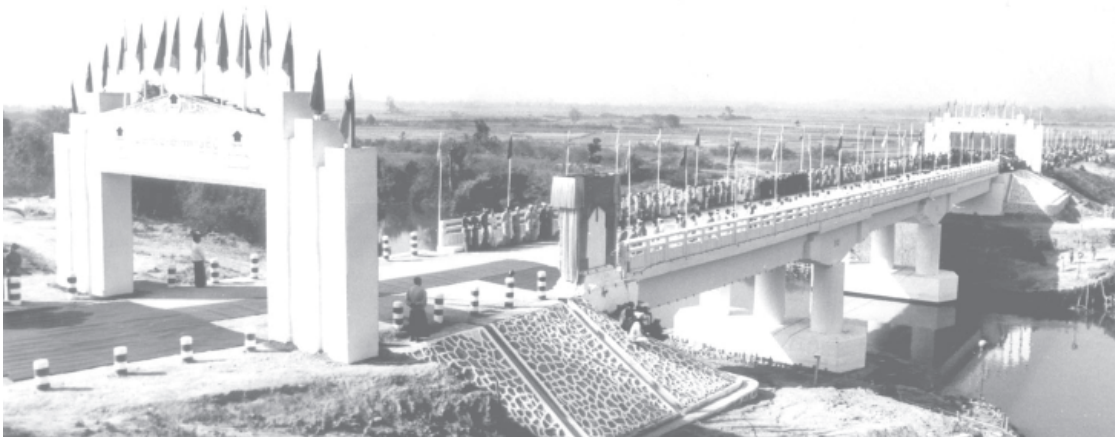
50-bed, 100-bed, 200-bed and 300-bed ones respectively. In 1988, there were only four institutes of medicine and now 14 institutes of medicine have been opened under the Ministry of Health.

The Government designated 24 zones as development regions for ensuring equitable development in all parts of the nation. Since rural people make up over 70 per cent of the nation's population, the Government sets emphasis on implementing of five rural tasks — ensuring better transport, water supply, promotion of education standard, health care services and rural economic development. Besides, systematic measures are being taken after establishing the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs. Realizing the State's genuine goodwill and effective measures for development of border areas and national races, 17 armed groups had returned to the legal fold and have been carrying out development projects at full capacity hand in hand with local people. Now, peace and stability have been restored in the entire nation, that have never been achieved before, resulting in further realizing of development projects.

Therefore, the nation and the people have enjoyed fruitful results in socio-economic sectors.

Translation: TMT*+MS

Tekkatho Tin Kha



With a length of 240 feet, Matlan Bridge was built on Leikha-Mongnaung-Mongshu road in Leikha Township, Shan State (South).

Council has striven for development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well. It has laid down the national economic policy, while paying special attention to progress of all sectors. It is also extending sown acreage of various crops, applying advanced techniques and quality strains and building irrigation facilities, with paddy as the base of agricultural business. Paddy production has reached its original target of one billion baskets since 2000-2001 fiscal year.

Building of 155 dams and 265 water pumping stations from 1988 to this date has helped put over 2 million more acres of land under crops. Forty dams are under construction, and another 84 are in planning

spanning rivers and large creeks the length and breadth of the nation. A network of roads have linked all the regions of the nation. In 1988, there were 461 roads stretching 13,600 miles in length. Up to now 55 new roads stretching about 2000 miles have been extended in the nation. Before 1988, Ayeyawady River and Sittoung River had only one bridge each. But now, there are 174 major bridges including seven bridges on the Ayeyawady, two on the Chindwin, and three on the Thanlwin each facility exceeding the 180-foot mark.

The Tatmadaw Government has also built new railroads including Shwenyaung-Yaksaw, Aungban-Pinlaung-Loikaw, Shwenyaung Namhsan and Namhsan-

jet passenger aircraft. In the past, there were only six airports where jets could land and take off.

Employing information and communication technologies advancing in the international community, the nation can harmoniously link the Internet. Moreover, Work is well under way in introducing Data Communication, e-Mail, Internet and Intranet for development of information and communication technologies.

More and more hydropower stations, steam-powered factories, natural gas-fired power stations and diesel-fired power stations are being constructed. In 1988, altogether over 2,000 million units of electricity could be generated and now the number has increased to over 5,000

40,099 in 2003, up from 33,747 in 1988. Besides, a total of 3,800 post-primary schools have been opened.

For promotion of higher education sector, new universities and colleges have been constructed in 24 special development regions stretching in 14 States and Divisions. Altogether over 130,000 students went to 32 universities and colleges in 1988 and now over 890,000 students are pursuing education at 154 universities and colleges. The universities and colleges under the Ministry of Education conduct 150 degrees courses including masters degrees (thesis), masters degrees, PhD degrees and diploma degrees courses. The institutes of medicine open 90 masters degrees and PhD degrees courses and techno-



Drilling machines at work to get potable water for local people in Kantha village, Budalin Township, Sagaing Division.

Hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day:

Endeavours to promote the socio-economic life of the people



Scene of Kengtawng Waterfall, 31 miles east of Mongnai, Loilem District, Shan State (South), where a project to generate electricity is being implemented.



The three-storey lecture hall was opened on 10 February 2003 at Institute of Medicine (Magway).



New two-storey building of Inndaing Basic Education High School in Hlegu Township, Yangon Division.



Oil Field No-1 of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise in Thagyitaung oil and gas field, Pauk Township, Pakokku District, Magway Division.



Sea-going vessel mv Kengtung of Myanma Five Star Line under the Ministry of Transport.



Bawbin Dam benefits 30,000 acres of land in Gyobingauk and Zigon Townships.

Govt determined to implement...

(from page 1)

market economy in the country. According to preliminary figures, the number of tourists continues to rise considerably. Cross border visitors increased by over 20 per cent last year.

Important advances had also been accomplished in social field, particularly in health and education sectors. In 2003 alone, 22 new hospitals were opened and 6 existing hospitals upgraded. In the education sector, the national literacy rate increased from 91 per cent in 2000 to 92.2 per cent in 2003.

A political development that deserved special mention was the laying down of the groundwork for a

at the Bali Summit in October.

Steps have already been taken to implement the roadmap. The three main organs necessary for the successful convening of the National Convention namely the National Convention Convening Commission, the National Convention Work Committee and the National Convention Management Committee have already been formed and are carrying out preparations for the holding of the National Convention.

As Myanmar is composed of over 100 national races, it is of paramount importance that we achieved consensus in the drafting of a new constitution. I had extensively travelled to

only serve to unnecessarily prolong the process.

In the international arena, Myanmar is working to ensure a favourable regional and international environment conducive to our national objectives. We seek to maintain good and friendly relations with all countries in the region and the world so that we can thrive and prosper together.

In the course of the year, we are happy to note that our relations with the countries of the region made significant progress. Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe paid official visits to China, Vietnam and Laos. He also attended the ASEAN SARS Summit in Thailand.

November. The 4 nations' economic cooperation strategy adopted in Bagan is aimed at increasing competitiveness, generating economic growth in border areas, creating jobs and reducing income disparity.

I am happy to be able to say that in 2003 Myanmar has been able to contribute actively in regional forums, from ASEAN to BIMST-EC.

Cooperation with the United Nations was also maintained in 2003. We welcomed to Myanmar the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Mr Paulo Sergio Pinheiro and the United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy, Ambassador Razali Ismail.

We are looking forward with great confidence to the coming year. 2004 will see significant developments in



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt extends greetings at the dinner hosted in honour of heads of diplomatic mission in Yangon and resident representatives of UN agencies. —MNA



smooth transition to a disciplined modern democratic state. On 30th August, I outlined a roadmap for transition to democracy. As you are no doubt aware, the seven-step roadmap includes reconvening of the National Convention to draft a new constitution, adoption of the constitution by referendum, holding of free and fair election, convening of Hluttaws, the election of state leaders and formation of government and other central organs that would lead the nation in the future. The roadmap has been welcomed enthusiastically by all strata of society in Myanmar. It has also won praise and support from the leaders of ASEAN

States and Divisions where the national races live, with the aim of strengthening national unity and for the development of these regions.

Out of the 17 armed groups that had returned to the legal fold, I recently met with the leaders from 6 of them and every group has welcomed the roadmap and reaffirmed its desire to take part in the Convention. I will also be meeting with the remaining groups.

We are determined to implement the seven-step roadmap. It is our hope that we will continue to receive understanding and support from our regional and international friends. Trying to exert pressure on Myanmar for political motives will

Similarly, we were able to receive Her Royal Highness Princess Sirindhorn, Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, Chinese Vice-Premier Li Lanqing and Indian Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat.

Moreover, I myself was able to participate in the 9th ASEAN Summit held in Bali in October and the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in Tokyo in December.

A historic event in Myanmar's international activities is the holding of the Bagan Summit among Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand in

the National Convention process. On the part of the Government, we shall be doing our best for its success. We would like to see the emergence of a peaceful, modern and democratic society that reflects the objective conditions in our country as well as the aspirations of our people.

We also look forward to greater economic growth, improved social conditions and closer cooperation with our friends abroad. We shall be endeavouring for further strengthening of our international relations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you personally for your dedication in promoting closer ties between our countries and between Myanmar and International Organizations.

As Heads of Mission, Your Excellencies not only represent your countries in Myanmar but you are, in a broader sense, bridges to the world. You are instrumental in promoting better understanding of Myanmar, its challenges, its endeavours and its hopes for the future. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in this regard

and we are confident that we will continue to receive it in the New Year.

In conclusion, allow me to wish all Heads of Diplomatic Missions and Representatives of UN agencies, your families as well as the countries and organizations you represent every success in the New Year.

Later, Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz spoke words of thanks. Afterwards, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe hosted the dinner to the guests.

MNA

Holding of U-14 Asian Tennis Championship 2004 (Zone-2) coordinated

YANGON, 2 Jan — Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee and Minister for Sports, attended a coordination meeting held by the committee for U-14 Asian Tennis Championship 2004 (Zone-2) at Ruby Hall of National Stadium-1 (Thuwunna) this afternoon.

Present at the meeting were Myanmar Tennis Federation Patron Maj-Gen Kyaw Win, officials of the ministry, the chairman and executives of MTF, and departmental officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister said that the tournament was held

here with the aim of developing the youth tennis sport and producing brilliant tennis players of new generation. It is also an opportunity to show the guests the stable and developed conditions of the country, the ability to host international tournaments grandly, and the kind hospitality of Myanmar people. Thus, officials are required to do everything in their capac-

ity to hold the tournament successfully.

Next, the chairman of MTF reported on preparatory measures being taken for the tournament to be held from 9 to 20 January. Departmental officials also presented their reports. Maj-Gen Kyaw Win later made supplementary reports on arrangements being made by MTF.

MNA



Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Singaporean Ambassador Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz expressing his thanks at the dinner. — MNA

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.

The second best time is now.

MIDC holds workshop

YANGON, 2 Jan — Under the aegis of the Myanmar Industrial Development Committee, a study tour of mills and factories was launched and a workshop was held at Saya San Hall of Kyaikkasan Grounds here at 7 am today.

Also present were MIDC Chairman Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Secretary Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Kyaw Win, Study Tour Subcommittee Chair-

man Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, Seminars and Workshops Organizing Subcommittee Chairman Deputy Minister for Science & Technology Dr Chan Nyein, those in charge of 18 industrial zones and guests.

In delivering an address on the occasion, Minister U Aung Thaung said that as guided by the Head of State, the Year 2004 has been designated as Industrial Development Year and this workshop

is held in this context. Those in-charge of industrial zones are to strive for producing import substitute items, farm implements and motor vehicle parts by applying the knowledge gained during the study tour to mills and factories. At 8 am, the workshop was held for the third day. Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone attended the workshop and delivered an address. Research papers were read followed by discussions.

MNA



Seized counterfeit medicines.—MNA

Counterfeit medicines ...

(from page 16)

expiry dates, two pieces of rubber blocks used in sealing brands and two ink pads.

Under the arrangement of Suray, who lived in Calcutta, and Biki, who lived in Morei, India, Tin Hlaing (a) Netla smuggled counterfeit Amoxycillin, Ampicillin, C-Clox, Ciproxol, and Degecid produced in India without registering there into the country by Morei-Tamumonywa-Mandalay-Yangon route, and distributed them in Bogyoke Market and Mingala Market from April 1993 to the year 2000. He made contact with Chinese citizen medicine coun-

terfeiter Lauk Gyaung of Htansan Road, Shweli, PRC, through Kyaw Kyaw Naing (a) Abdu Sharbu, son of U Kalamyar of No Ta/235, South Ward, Muse, as of March 2002, and ordered counterfeit Amoxycillin, Ampicillin, Cloxacillin and Ciproxol, which were smuggled and distributed in the country by Shweli-Lweje-Bhamo-Mandalay-Yangon route. In August 2003, he smuggled counterfeited Degecid capsules worth K 2 million and in September 2003, Zinetac capsules worth K 4 million produced in India into the country through his contacts in Kale and

Tamu.

A total of 25,000 capsules of counterfeit Ampicillin, 139,200 capsules of counterfeit Amoxycillin, 3,040 capsules of counterfeit Cloxacillin-250, 28,880 capsules of counterfeit C-Clox and 2,400 capsules of counterfeit Amclox were seized from the warehouse of counterfeited medicine distributor Saw Lwin (a) Ballu of Pale Ngweyung Ward, Aungmyaythazan Township, Mandalay, who also smuggled counterfeit medicines produced by Biki into the country. A total of 97,500 capsules of counterfeit Ampicillin and 44,250 capsules of Amoxycillin from shop No 91, Building E, Zegyo Market, Mandalay, 10,400 capsules of counterfeit Ampicillin and 22,200 capsules of counterfeit Ciproxol-250 from Aung Kyaw Moe Medicine Store, shop No 759, Mingala Market, Yangon, and 20,840 capsules of counterfeit Ampicillin and 3,700 capsules of counterfeit Cloxacillin from K K Win Naing Medicine Store, shop No 787, Mingala Market, Yangon, were also seized. The three bought and distributed counterfeit medicines smuggled in by Saw

Assembling of buses and trucks discussed

YANGON, 2 Jan — A meeting was held at the Ministry of Industry-1 this morning on assembly of buses and trucks in Myanmar.

The meeting was held under the programme to develop the industrial zones with greater momentum.

Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung discussed in detail the as-

sembly of the quality cars.

Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Work Committee Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Pe Than, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Chairman of All Bus Lines Control Committee Brig-Gen Myint Swe (Retired) presented plans to

implement the programme.

Heads of the industrial zones and industrialists also took part in the discussions. Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw discussed the design for the buses and trucks.

Minister U Aung Thaung looked into the requirements. Also present were Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe and deputy ministers. — MNA



Seized rubber blocks used in sealing brands and two ink pads. — MNA



Seized counterfeit medicines.—MNA



Seized counterfeit medicines.—MNA

Lwin.

During the period from 17 to 25 December 2003, 2,392,680 capsules of counterfeit Ampicillin, 182,540 capsules of counterfeit S-mox (Amoxycillin), 236,700 capsules of counterfeited Amoxycillin, 1,261,340 capsules of counterfeit Cloxacillin, 36,280 capsules of counterfeit C-Clox, 2,440 capsules of counterfeit

Amclox, 290 capsules of counterfeit Ampiclox, 862,200 capsules of counterfeit Ciproxol-250, and 65,067 capsules of contraband and counterfeit Degecid and 27080 capsules of counterfeit Zinetac, totalling 5,012,617 capsules of counterfeit medicines were seized. Counterfeit medicines smuggled in from India were produced by an un-

registered company in India. Counterfeit medicines smuggled in from China were produced by a company owned by a fugitive wanted for counterfeiting medicines by the authorities of the PRC.

Action is being taken against those who engaged in smuggling and distribution of counterfeit medicines.

MNA



Documentary photos related to the seizure of counterfeit drugs. — MNA



Seized counterfeit medicines.—MNA



Seized counterfeit medicines.—MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt holds a meeting with local authorities, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townselders at the Sein Le Yadana Hall in Mohnyin, Kachin State, on 30-12-2003. (News reported) — MNA

Self-help tarred road opened to hail Independence Day

YANGON, 2 JAN — The Nwethaki road which was built on self-reliance basis at Kagi ward, North Okkalapa Township here was opened to hail the 56th Anniversary Independence Day.

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Com-

mand Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended the ceremony. The Nwethaki road is 1715 feet long 20 feet wide and was built at a cost of K 8,627,861. Of them, K 5,147,871 feet donated from wellwishers and K 3,480,000 contributed by YCDC—MNA

Radio play to hail Independence Day

YANGON, 2 JAN — As a gesture hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day, a radio play entitled "Hnalon Thway Hnint Yaydet Thitsar" will be broadcast at 7.15 pm on 4-1-2004 (Sunday). The radio play was casted by Zarni, Kyi Le Le Oo and Myanmar Radio staff. MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects pieces of raw jade jointly mined by the State and private gems companies, at Uru Yadana Yeiktha in Phakant, Kachin State, on 30-12-2003. (News reported) — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt plants a star-flower sapling in front of the main building of Mohnyin Government Technical Institute in Mohnyin, Kachin State, on 30-12-2003. (News reported) — MNA

Gaba Yadana Theikpan medicine harmful to health

YANGON, 2 JAN — Officials announced today that Gaba Yadana Theikpan medicine of the La Nay brand was not a pure traditional medicine, and was harmful to health.

"The Ministry of Health found that the Gaba Yadana Theikpan is not a genuine traditional medicine as its ingredients

include western medicines, and taking of the medicine will be hazardous to health", the officials announcement said.

Ingredients of the Gaba Yadana Theikpan include western medicines — Paracetamol, Prednisolone and Chlorpheniramine maleate. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents a TV set, a video cassette player and an inverter to No 2 Basic Education High School in Mogaung, Kachin State, through the headmaster on 30-12-2003. (News reported) — MNA

Basic Printing Course concludes

YANGON, 2 JAN—The Basic Printing Course No 2/ 2003 sponsored by Printing and Publishing Enterprise under the Ministry of Information concluded at the GTC Printing House in Aung San, Insein Township, Yangon Division at 11 pm today with an address by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, the directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry, officials of PPE, OSD to the ministry, course instructors and trainees.

In his address, Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that the Ministry of Information is conducting courses with three objectives—to enable the trainees to be more

qualified in their respective fields and to be able to prepare for the future; to enable the trainees to enhance their spiritual values in addition to qualification in their professional fields; and to enable the trainees to successfully carry out departmental work.

He spoke of the need for the trainees to try their best to be more qualified and well-versed in their practical fields with the effective use of their qualification and knowledge.

The trainees are to have the four outlooks—minimizing loss and wastage, practising thrift, fair competition and carrying out the tasks with esprit de corps in serving the State duties, he noted.

Nowadays, the momentum of development is keeping pace with changes ow-

ing to the constructive results of modern industrial science and is overwhelming the printing spheres as well. Myanmar has gained experience in printing for over 200 years and the trainees with their printing knowledge are to serve the interests of the State and the people.

Next, the minister presented prizes to the outstanding trainees.

Afterwards, the deputy minister presented completion certificates to the trainees and the ceremony ended.

After the ceremony, the minister together with the deputy minister and heads of department inspected the GTC Printing House and gave instructions on minimizing loss and wastage, worksite safety and fire prevention measures.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents a prize to a trainee. — MNA

Hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day:

River water pumping projects implemented in states and divisions in the time of the State Peace and Development Council



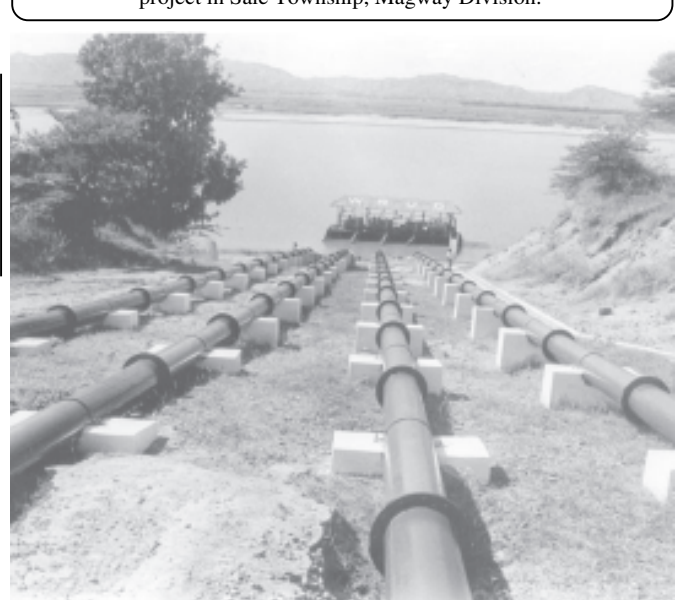
Tayokehla river water pumping project is being implemented in Tayokehla village, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State.



Water pumping stations of Umin Koebauk river water pumping project in Sale Township, Magway Division.




Kyawzi river water pumping station in Taungtha Township, Myingyan District.



Lawkanandar river water pumping project that benefits 11,000 acres of land in NyaungU Township, Mandalay Division.

Myanmar is an agro-based nation. Water is a sine qua non for the agriculture sector. To be able to cultivate crops all year round, river water pumping projects have been implemented throughout the country. As a result, 265 river water pumping stations have been built from 1988 to 2003.

State/Division	Electric pumping station		Diesel pumping station		Total	
	Quantity	Acre	Quantity	Acre	Quantity	Acre
Kachin	-	-	2	850	2	850
Kayah	1	3000	-	-	1	3000
Kayin	1	1500	-	-	1	1500
Sagaing	9	32020	39	35858	48	67878
Taninthayi	-	-	2	200	2	200
Bago	20	30800	35	21532	55	52332
Magway	16	62786	28	9315	44	72101
Mandalay	16	20593	54	23697	70	44290
Mon	-	-	4	1400	4	1400
Rakhine	-	-	1	400	1	400
Yangon	7	21000	8	1430	15	22430
Ayeyawady	13	4925	9	10700	22	15625
Total	83	176624	182	105382	265	282006



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Acknowledgement

Uthpol (a) Zaw Oo B.Sc. (Phys.), First Mate (F.G) elder son of Mr. S.C. Guha-Rtd. (Superintending Engineer, MEPE), Vice Chairman of M.E.L.C Ltd. and Shubha and

Shilpi (a) Thandar Lwin B.Sc. (Maths), only daughter of Late Mr. Robi Rakhit (U.N.H.C.R) and Bina tender their heartfelt thanks to U Hla Win, Additional Divisional Judge (8), Yangon Division who legalized the marriage ceremony at the Yuzana Hotel on 12th December, to Pandit Nihar Chakraborty who performed the marriage ceremony according to Hindu Rites at Sree Sree Durgabari on 14th December, to the ladies and gentlemen who attended the Buffet Dinner Reception at the Strand Hotel, to Dr. Kyaw Sein (Retd.) Rector Yangon University and Mandalay University, Honourable Professor Psycho Dept. Ex. Education Minister and wife Daw Tin Tin Aye, General Manager (Retd.) Myanma Timber Enterprise who presented the garland; to U Khin Myint (Thiha Thudama Manizawtadara, Thiri Thudama Manizawtadara) and wife Daw Than Than Win who presented the wedding rings; to the ladies and gentlemen who attended the Reception Ceremony at Sedona Hotel; to U Thein Hla Maw who acted as the master of ceremonies; to Ma Khin Ya Da Nar Win who flowered the way; to Ma Su Yamin Wai the presenter of wedding ring case; the best man Mg Zayar Win and bride maid Ma Thet Nyein Aye; to Madhur Bani Group and Emperor Music Group; to makeup artist Aung Aung and group; to those who sent valuable gifts from far and near; the persons who made the marriage ceremony successful and the managers and staff from Yuzana Hotel. The Strand Hotel and Sedona Hotel.

Parents of both families and
Uthpol - Shilpi

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV QING CHUN MEN VOY NO (055)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV QING CHUN MEN Voy No (055) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3-1-04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T (1) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expences and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINE**

Phone : 256908/378316/376797

သစ်တောသစ်ပင် ချစ်ခင်တဲ့လူမျိုး

သစ်ပင်ကိုနှစ်စဉ်စိုက် ရွှေတိုက်ကိုစိုက်။

Iranian couple weds amid ruins of Bam

BAM (Iran), 2 Jan — A young Iranian couple tied the knot amid the ruins of earthquake-hit Bam on Thursday, a moment of joy in a city mourning the loss of thousands of lives. State radio and a Red Crescent aid official said the newly-weds had abandoned their plans for an elaborate wedding in favour of an unceremonious ceremony in a Red Crescent tent.

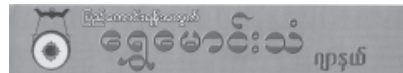
The couple had been due to get married the day the pre-dawn earthquake struck Bam, 625 miles southeast of Tehran, killing at least 30,000 people. The newly-weds decided to donate jewellery they received to charity to raise funds for quake victims. Jewellery is a popular wedding present in Iran.

MNA/Reuters

မြည်တွင်းဖြစ်ကိုအားပေးပါ



အတွဲ (၆) အမှတ် (၇) ထွက်ပြီ



ချိပ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ အမှတ်(၁)စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာနမှ မြန်မာစက္ကန့်တက္ကသိုလ်မှ လုပ်ငန်းကြိုးကြပ်မှုအောက်ရှိ စက်ရုံများအတွက် အောက်ပါပစ္စည်းများကို မြန်မာကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ပယ်ယူလိုကြောင်းကြော်ငြာအပ်ပါသည်။

စဉ်	အကြောင်းအရာ	အရေအတွက်
1.	Titanium Dioxide (Rutile)	30 MT
2.	Radio Telephone Set with Accessories	1 Set
3.	Refiner Disc Sector	120 Nos
	Refiner Disc	120 Nos

၂။ တင်ဒါပိတ်စဉ်ရက်/အချိန် ၁၉-၁-၂၀၀၄ နေ့လည် ၁၂:၀၀နာရီ ၃။ သိရှိလိုသည့်အချက်များရှိပါက ရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဌာန၊ ဖုန်းနံပါတ် ၅၄၃၃၆၅သို့ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာစက္ကန့်တက္ကသိုလ်မှ

Iranian experts raise Bam quake magnitude to 6.8

TEHRAN, 2 Jan — Iranian scientists said on Thursday they had revised the magnitude of an earthquake that struck the southeastern city of Bam last Friday to about 6.8 from the previously reported 6.3 on the Richter Scale.

The Housing and Construction Research Centre said the analysis of 18 monitoring stations in and near the quake zone showed the quake was not only more powerful than first thought

but also that its epicentre was directly under the city.

The pre-dawn earthquake destroyed most of the buildings in Bam, 625 miles southeast of Tehran, and killed an estimated 30,000, although some officials have warned the death toll could rise to 50,000.

"Based on data from 18 monitoring sites in and near Bam we have now retrieved, the earthquake registered 6.8," Jafar Shoja Taheri, head of seismology research at a

Mashhad University told state television.

"It is more than the 6.3 previously reported," he said. The US Geological Survey issued a preliminary report last week saying the Bam quake measured at 6.6 magnitude. Shoja Taheri, also a member of the state housing and construction research body, said that of the 30 seismological monitoring stations in and near Bam, only 18 have been found.

MNA/Reuters

Iranian farmer mourns alone for family's dead

BAM (Iran), 2 Jan — Iranian farmer Mohammad Reza Naghib could not sleep, so he went fishing. When he returned at dawn, all 30 members of his family had been crushed under the rubble of his flattened home.

His lovingly tended farmstead, nestled among Bam's date-palms and orange groves, was flung to the ground in 16 seconds when a violent pre-dawn earthquake

hit the ancient Silk Road city on December 26, killing at least 30,000 people.

"I was not a poor man, but in a single night I became one," he told Reuters, sitting in a tent next to the shattered ruins of his farm, nursing a bandaged foot and wrist.

Pouring out a strong cup of black tea, the tall, stately man said 26 bodies were still pinned beneath the impenetrable mound of mud-bricks

that was once his home.

He had salvaged the family photo-albums from the debris and tenderly passed over photographs, his eyes welling with tears.

Most of the pictures were of his dead wife, Loia, wearing sandals and summery dresses in the free-and-easy days before the 1979 Islamic Revolution. His three children also died in the earthquake.—MNA/Reuters

"Miracle" survivors emerge from Iran quake rubble

BAM (Iran), 2 Jan — An elderly woman was pulled alive and remarkably unscathed from the ruins of her house on Wednesday, five days after a powerful earthquake destroyed the ancient city of Bam.

A French doctor said the woman, believed to be about 80, was brought to a field hospital by Red Crescent workers, more than 120 hours after the quake which killed at least 30,000 people.

"She was brought in just an hour ago," Francois-Regis de Salve-Villedieu told Reuters at a French Government field hospital next to a ruined state hospital in Bam.

She was not speaking but was in satisfactory condition and bore none of the usual visible signs of such an ordeal.

"She may have been trapped in a cellar because she did not appear to be very dusty," he said.

The woman was one of a depressingly small number of survivors found in the flattened city, where the pre-dawn quake caught people asleep and destroyed the mud brick-style buildings in a way that rarely left any air space.

Several foreign rescue teams have left after finding no one alive in the ruins. Iranian state television has described recent rescues as the "miracle of Bam".

MNA/Reuters

မညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Iraq dominated UN agenda in 2003

UNITED NATIONS, 2 Jan — Iraq dominated the agenda of the United Nations, pushing development issues and other major trouble spots into the background, as the world body experienced a roller coaster year with its relevance alternatively questioned and reiterated.

Sharp differences over Iraq between the United States and Britain on one hand and most other members of the Security Council on the other brought back memories of the cold war era in which the UN was more less dysfunctional.

But as Washington went ahead with the military action against the Saddam Hussein regime, others grudgingly accepted it as fait accompli and began looking beyond the war to safeguard their economic interests.

The right wing Republicans in the Bush Administration, who sought to write off the United Nations as American forces took control of Iraq at an unexpected fast pace, had second thoughts as the year ended with US troops engaged in fighting guerrillas

and taking casualties.

But confusion in Washington was clear from the fact that though it said that it wanted the United Nations to play a vital role in Iraq, it couldn't exactly spell out what it should be and how much power the US-led Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) was ready to cede to the world body.

The United Nations itself suffered one of its worst tragedies when a suicide bomber destroyed its lightly guarded headquarters in Baghdad in August killing its top diplomat in the country and 21 others. The world body had faced a difficult dilemma in Iraq. It did not want to appear to be a part of the American-led coalition or identified with it. So it did not accept the security from it, that made it an easy

target for terrorists.

With that in mind, Secretary-General Kofi Annan is now insisting that the Coalition and the US appointed Iraqi Governing Council clarify the role they want the UN to play before he would consider sending in the staff that was withdrawn after the terrorist attack.

He wants both the CPA and the Governing Council to clearly demarcate the areas for the world body so that it can take its own decisions without interference from either CPA or the Council. The Council has agreed to send its representatives on 17 January but though President George Bush considers it a good idea, CPA is yet to respond.

MNA/PTI

Thousands of Britons without power amid bitter weather

LONDON, 2 Jan — Heavy snowfalls and strong winds, which have hit large parts of northern England and Scotland since New Year's Eve, left thousands of homes in England and Scotland without power and brought chaos to the roads Thursday.

NEDL, the electricity distributor for northern England, said 43,000 households lost their power overnight and thus were devoid of light and heat in the region.

By 0800 GMT on Thursday, 15,000 remained cut off but the power company could not say when their suppliers would be switched on.

In Scotland, nearly 4,000 homes were left without electricity because technicians had difficulty in accessing remote areas where power lines had been brought down by the snow.

Tens of thousands of people who hoped to see in the New Year outdoors were forced to go home when bad weather ruined the New Year's Eve in these areas.

MNA/Xinhua

No new suspected bird flu cases reported in S Korea

SEOUL, 2 Jan — The spread of bird flu disease in South Korea appears to be under control, with no new suspected cases reported for four days in a row, South Korean Yonhap news agency reported on Wednesday.

The South Korean Agriculture and Forestry Ministry was quoted by Yonhap as saying that four suspected cases reported earlier tested negative for the H5N1 virus that causes the disease, increasing the number of proven negative cases to 32. — MNA/Xinhua



US Army soldiers stand next to a crater made by a car bomb outside the 'Nabil' restaurant in Baghdad Thursday, on 1 Jan, 2004. A car bomb exploded killing five Iraqis and wounding 35 during a New Year's party at Nabil's. — INTERNET

25 kilos of heroin seized in southeastern Turkey

ANKARA, 2 Jan — Turkish gendarme forces seized 25 kilos of heroin in southeastern province of Gaziantep on Wednesday, the semi-official Anatolian news agency reported.

Acting on a tip-off, the gendarme forces intercepted the heroin in Yurtbag Village of Karkamis Town as it was about to be sent to neighbouring Syria, said the report.

Two suspects were detained and an investigation was underway, added the report.

Istanbul Police Chief Celalettin Cerrah said earlier this month that Turkish police had seized 2.3 tons of heroin, 5 kilos of cocaine, 499 kilos of morphine, 123 kilos of opium, and 1,673,473 drug pills in Istanbul since the beginning of this year.

Cerrah said that police had also detained 1,454 people linked with drug trafficking.

Turkey plays a central role in the heroin trade destined for Europe because of its central geographical position, on the cross-roads of Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and the Mediterranean Sea. — MNA/Xinhua

US FDA says anthrax vaccine safe for troops

WASHINGTON, 2 Jan — The anthrax vaccine is safe for use in protecting US troops against inhaled exposure to the potentially deadly bacteria, the US Food and Drug Administration said recently.

The FDA statement addresses last week's US District Court ban on the use of the vaccine in troops, possibly clearing the way for the Department of Defence to resume giving the controversial shots. "Today's final rule and order make it clear that FDA does not regard the approved anthrax vaccine as 'investigational' for protection against inhalation anthrax," the agency said in a statement.

Last week US District Judge Emmet Sullivan issued an order prohibiting mandatory anthrax inoculations until a trial can be held on a lawsuit filed by six unnamed troops and Pentagon civilian workers who challenged the policy. The next day the Pentagon said it was stopping vaccination of troops.

Sullivan said in his order that without informed consent or a presidential order, the Pentagon cannot require that

troops "serve as guinea pigs for experimental drugs".

His order was based on the FDA's previous approval of the vaccine, which did not specify the route of exposure to the anthrax bacteria or their spores. Anthrax is considered the No.1 biological weapon threat. It is common in wild animals and livestock and can be transmitted in three ways — through inhalation of the spores, into a cut in the skin, or by eating contaminated meat.

Inhaled anthrax is by far the deadliest form. In 2001 five Americans died from anthrax inhaled from contaminated mail. Defence officials say one million service members have been vaccinated since the programme started in 1998. Only about 10 have refused to take the shots since the September 11, 2001 attacks against Washington and New York.

MNA/Reuters

New Willie Nelson song condemns war in Iraq

DALLAS, 2 Jan — Country music icon Willie Nelson has written a Christmas song with an edge — a protest against the war in Iraq that he hopes will stir passions in those who hear it.

Nelson, 70, told Reuters on Wednesday he wrote "Whatever Happened to Peace on Earth" after watching the news on Christmas Day and will play it in Austin, Texas on Saturday at a concert to benefit Democratic presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich.

His rare foray into protest music — he said it was

only the second such song he had written, after the Vietnam-era "Jimmy's Road" — follows recent political controversies stirred by the Dixie Chicks and Steve Earle.

The Dixie Chicks, one of the biggest acts in country music, had their music boycotted by some country sta-

tions after lead singer Natalie Mains said at a concert in London just before the invasion of Iraq that she was embarrassed to be from the same state as President George W. Bush. Last year Steve Earle sparked the ire of conservatives with his song "John Walker's Blues" about the

young American who converted to Islam was captured while fighting alongside the Taliban in Afghanistan. Nelson said his new song criticized the Bush Administration's decision to invade Iraq and those who thought it unpatriotic to speak out against the war. — MNA/Reuters

Encephalitis, dengue fever fatalities in Vietnam soar

HANOI, 2 Jan — The number of Vietnamese people dying of dengue fever and encephalitis this year increased sharply against last year.

In 2003, dengue fever and encephalitis claimed 58 and 112 lives, respectively, up 45 per cent and 150 per cent, according to local newspaper Youth on Wednesday.

MNA/Xinhua



A huge reticulated python sits in its cage at a Indonesian recreation park in the small Central Java town of Kendal on 30 Dec, 2003. The huge, dark-colored male snake has a diameter of 2.8 feet, weighs 984 pounds and is 48 feet, 7 inches long, according to keepers at the Curugsewu park. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Japanese driver wins opening stage of Dakar Rally

PARIS, 2 Jan—Kenjiro Shinozuka of Japan drove his Nissan to win the opening stage of the Dakar Rally in Clermont-Ferrand, France on Thursday.

Shinozuka, 55, who fell into a coma after an accident last year, won the 1.5-kilometre prologue in the Region d'Auvergne in one minute 41 seconds, a second clear of Giniel de Villiers of South Africa, also in a Nissan.

Italian Massimo Biasion, driving a Mitsubishi, crossed the line a further second back in third with teammate and defending champion Hiroshi Masuoka in fourth.

Shinozuka, who won the Dakar Rally in 1997, escaped cerebral and abdominal injuries after a crash in the eighth stage of last year's event.

On the motorbikes, Italian Matteo Graziani finished first in one minute 23 seconds, edging out the French duo of Cyril Despres and three-times champion Richard Saint.

MNA/Xinhua

Spurs eye Italian Mancini

LONDON, 2 Jan—Tottenham Hotspur have put Lazio coach Roberto Mancini on the club's shortlist for the vacant managing post, according to the Italian agent on Thursday.

But the negotiations had yet to take place despite the interest from the English Premier League club.

"I've heard there has been interest but there have been no official discussions and there are many complications," Mancini's representative Athole Still told BBC.

Since Glenn Hoddle was sacked in September, Spurs are still yet to name the replacement while struggling in the bottom three at the league table.

David Pleat, the club's director of football, and first-team coach Chris Hughton will remain in charge until the end of the season.

Besides Mancini, Spurs are also linked with Charlton boss Alan Curbishley, who has just led his team to fourth in the Premier League.



English Premiership club Tottenham are interested in making Lazio coach Roberto Mancini their new manager.—INTERNET

But it would be a big decision for Curbishley to change a high-flying side for a club fighting to avoid relegation.

Mancini's contract with Lazio will run for four more years but Lazio's sporting director Oreste Cinquini had admitted Mancini could quit at the end of this season.

"The club at the moment is undergoing a difficult time so we cannot guarantee he will remain next season," Cinquini said.

MNA/Xinhua

Nakata eyes fresh start at Bologna

TOKYO, 2 Jan—Japan captain Hidetoshi Nakata is anxious to make a fresh start at Bologna following a frustrating spell with Italian rivals Parma.

With a six-month loan deal with Bologna expected to be formally announced on Friday, Nakata blamed a rift with Parma coach Cesare Prandelli for his decision to leave the cash-strapped club.

"I have decided to make a fresh start for the new year with a move to Bologna," Nakata said on his official website.

"Last season, I was being played out of position and still nothing has changed...even though the coach told me things would be different."

Nakata, who has failed to establish himself since joining Parma from AS Roma for 26 million US dollars in July 2001, has complained bitterly about playing in a defensive midfield role.

The 26-year-old has yet to complete a full match in 11 Serie A appearances this season.

"It is a shame and I take full responsibility. The way I want to play and the way I am being asked to play are different," said Nakata. "I apologize to the Parma fans."

Nakata will be reunited at Bologna with

Carlo Mazzone, his former manager at Perugia, his first Italian club.

"Coach Mazzone was one of the biggest reasons for moving to Bologna," said the Japan captain.

"I spoke to him on the phone and he immediately put my mind at rest. He understands me as a player and as a person and I have absolute trust in him." —MNA/Reuters



Japanese midfielder Hidetoshi Nakata, pictured here, has hit out at Parma coach Cesare Prandelli after confirming his departure on a six-month loan deal to Italian Serie-A rivals Bologna. — INTERNET

IAAF recognizes world records for road events

PARIS, 2 Jan—Athletics' world governing body the IAAF announced on Thursday they will recognize road running and road walking world records.

World records will now be recognized in men's and women's road races from 10km to 100km, including the marathon, and 20 kilometres and 50 kilometres race walking.

Fastest times in these events have previously been officially acknowledged as world bests by the IAAF.

Britain's Paula Radcliffe, who set a new

best of two hours 15.25 minutes for women's marathon in London last April and who can now boast the 10km and 20km road world records, said the decision will help to raise the profile of road running.

"I am really pleased that the IAAF has decided to recognize performances achieved on the roads as World Records," said Radcliffe on IAAF's official website. "I think that this is a big step forward and is important for the sport of athletics to have records and not just track and field." — MNA/Xinhua

Van Nistelrooy poised to sign new Man United deal

LONDON, 2 Jan — Manchester United striker Ruud van Nistelrooy says he is close to signing a new contract with the English Premier League champions.

"I do not expect any problems and probably the negotiations are going to be finished very soon," the 27-year-old Dutch international told MUTV on Thursday.

"I want to stay here for a long time, that is why I am so happy that everything is going so well."

Van Nistelrooy has scored 97 goals in 125 appearances for the Old Trafford club since arriving in 2001 from PSV Eindhoven for 19 million pounds (33.85 million US dollars).

"It is fantastic to be part of a club with such big names and huge tradition," he said. "I just want to carry on doing my best."

United manager Alex Ferguson is reportedly trying to buy a new striker to provide cover for van Nistelrooy, whose fitness is crucial to the team's chances of winning the Champions League and their ninth Premier League title in 12 seasons.

United are one point ahead of Arsenal at the top of the domestic standings halfway

through the season and will play Portuguese club Porto in the last 16 of the Champions League. — MNA/Reuters



Manchester United strike ace Ruud van Nistelrooy said on 1 Jan, 2004, that talks for a new contract with the Premiership champions were running smoothly and should be wrapped up shortly.—INTERNET

Man United defender regards Arsenal as major threat

LONDON, 2 Jan — Manchester United defender Gary Neville has considered Arsenal the biggest obstacle to the Red Devils' bid for the league title.



Gary Neville said he expected Arsenal to pose the biggest threat to Manchester United's chances of retaining their English Premiership title despite the challenge of big-spenders Chelsea.—INTERNET

Arsenal trail league-leading United by only one point at the league table, and have been the only team to remain unbeaten after half of this season.

Big-spending Chelsea stand third but are classified by Neville as "title contenders".

"I think with the amount of players they have bought they cannot fail to be title challengers," Neville said of the fact that Chelsea spent up to 110 million pounds on new players this summer.

The Blues suffered a dip in form in recent weeks, not only stopped in the League Cup quarterfinals but also inflicted on the third league loss.

"Chelsea will be title contenders, even though they have had one or two results which have dropped them off the pace," said Neville. Despite the challenge from Chelsea, Neville, however, believed that Arsenal are the major hindrance they need to clear in United's hunt for the ninth Premier League title.

"I still say Arsenal are the main threat for the championship, but Chelsea are contenders," said Neville.

MNA/Xinhua

Gral strike gives Jubilo Emperor's Cup victory

TOKYO, 2 Jan—Rodrigo Gral poached a 72nd-minute winner as Jubilo Iwata beat Cerezo Osaka 1-0 to win the Emperor's Cup for the first time in 20 years on Thursday.

The Brazilian striker was harshly sent off 10 minutes later after receiving his second yellow card but Jubilo held on to win the season-ending tournament for the first time since 1982-83 — their only previous triumph.

Victory was twice as sweet for Jubilo manager Masaaki Yanagishita, who marked his last match in charge on his 44th birthday by leading the club to the one title that had eluded them since the J-League was launched in 1993.

"Even though I am leaving Iwata, I will never forget all the good times," said a tearful Yanagishita, who will take over as manager of Second Division Consadole Sapporo next season. "The players never let their heads drop all year. This was a magnificent result and a perfect send-off." Jubilo, who were denied the J-League second-stage title in 2003 by an injury-time goal from Yokohama striker Tatsuhiko Kubo, deserved to win an error-strewn final in Tokyo.

Gral squandered a chance in the 40th minute, hitting a close-range shot against the crossbar after a teasing cross from playmaker Hiroshi Nanami.

However, the Brazilian made up for that miss with a well-taken goal, latching on to a clever pass from Ryoichi Maeda and steering a right-foot shot into the bottom corner for his sixth goal of the competition.

Former Japan midfielder Hiroaki Morishima contrived to miss an open goal for Cerezo almost direct from the restart.

Takaaki Tokushige then went close with a low right-foot drive in the 83rd minute. But after that Jubilo never seriously looked like relinquishing their grip on the trophy.

"This is a great birthday present for the coach," said Gral, shown his first yellow card for celebrating the goal with too much enthusiasm.

"It was tough to take missing out on the J-League title, so this was an important match for us. It's a very special victory."

MNA/Reuters

3-1-2004*(Saturday)
Regular Programmes for
Viewers from Abroad
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)

15:30 Signature Tune
 Greeting

15:32 Song of Myanmar
 Beauty & Scenic
 Sights "Myanma Pano-
 rama & Myanma Sen-
 timent"

15:36 From Independence
 Towards a Modern
 Developed Nation
 (Border Areas Sector)

15:40 Headline News

15:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
 Dishes (Braise Curry of
 Duck)

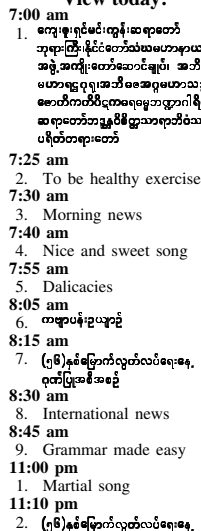
15:45 National News

15:50 The Thrones of
 Myanmar Sovereigns

15:55 Popa Flat-topped Hill
 (Taung ka lat)

16:00 National News

16:05 Greening of Hil and
 Mountain for Temper-
 ate Climate



16:10	(Sagaing - Minwun) Song on Screen "With a Weak Point"
16:15	National News
16:20	Reminiscence in the Glow of Sunset
16:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
16:30	National News
16:35	Agricultural Marketing in Myanmar
16:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Tradi- tional Moun bine daunt "
16:45	National News
16:50	Myanmar Movie Im- pact "Whatever will be, will be"
17:00	Weekly News High- light
17:05	Mosaic Paining of Myanmar
17:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Cherry Present"
17:12	Fair Price High Quality Myanmar Carpets
17:15	National News
17:20	Myanmar Performing Arts Showroom
17:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"
	Evening Transmission (19:30 - 23:30)
19:30	Signature Tune Greeting
19:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
19:36	From Independence Towards a Modern Developed Nation (Livestocks and Fisher- ies & Economic)
19:40	Headline News
19:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Fish with Drumstick Sour Soup)
19:45	National News
19:50	Mahuya Dam
19:55	Myanma Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (Short Drum)
20:00	National News
20:05	Wonderful swiftlets Dwelling in House
20:10	Song "Towards Mandala- y Golden City"
20:15	National News
20:20	Myanma Ramayana "Rama Returns to His Kingdom" (Scene II) (Part - XIV)
20:25	Song "Beautiful Shan Land, Hospitable Peo- ple"
20:30	National News
20:35	Wildlife Conservation in Myanmar
20:40	Myanmar Cuisine

	"Prawn Curry"
20:45	National News
20:50	Snakes in the Pagoda Precinct
20:55	Three Types of Dances
20:58	Myanma Jaggery
21:00	National News
21:05	Traditional Chin Cuisine
21:10	Song "I'll remain in Shwe Myaing"
21:15	National News
21:20	Archaeological Museum Pakhangyi (Part II)
21:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sight "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
21:36	From Independence Towards a Modern Developed Nation (Border Areas Sector)
21:40	Headline News
21:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Braise Curry of Duck)
21:45	National News
21:50	The Thrones of Myanmar Sovereigns
21:55	Popa Flat-topped Hill (Taung ka lat)
22:00	National News
22:05	Greening of Hill and Mountain for Temperate Climate (Sagaing-Minwun)
22:10	Song "With a Weak Point"
22:15	National News
22:20	Reminiscence in the Glow of Sunset
22:25	Song "Fetch me in a horse-cart"
22:30	National News
22:35	Agricultural Marketing in Myanmar
22:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Traditional Mountain daunt"
22:45	National News
22:50	Myanmar Movie Impact "Whatever will be, will be"
23:00	National News
23:05	Mosaic Painting in Myanmar
23:10	Song "Cherry Present"
23:12	Fair Price High Quality Myanmar Carpets
23:15	Weekly News Highlights
23:20	Myanmar Performing Arts Showroom
23:28	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"
3-1-2004 (Saturday) & 4-1-2004 (Sunday)	
Evening & Morning Transmission	
(23:30 - 1:30)	

23:30	Signature Tune Greeting
23:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
23:36	From Independence Towards a Modern Developed Nation (Border Areas Sector)
23:40	Headline News
23:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Braise Curry of Duck)
23:45	National News
23:50	The Thrones of Myanmar Sovereigns
23:55	Popa Flat-topped Hill (Taung ka lat)
24:00	National News
00:05	Greening of Hill and Mountain for Temperate Climate
00:10	(Sagaing - Minwun)
00:10	Song on Screen "With a Weak Point"
00:15	National News
00:20	Reminiscence in the Glow of Sunset
00:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
00:30	National News
00:35	Agricultural Marketing in Myanmar
00:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Traditional Moun bine daunt"
00:45	National News
00:50	Myanmar Movie Impact "Whatever will be, will be"
01:00	Weekly New Highlight
01:05	Mosaic Painting of Myanmar
01:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Cherry Present"
01:12	Fair Price High Quality Myanmar Carpets
01:15	Weekly News Highlights
01:20	Myanmar Performing Arts Showroom
01:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"
4-1-2004 (Sunday)	
Morning Transmission (03:30 - 07:30)	
03:30	Signature Tune Greeting
03:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
03:36	From Independence Towards a Modern Developed Nation (Livestocks and Fisheries & Economic)
03:40	Headline News

03:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Fish with Drumstick Sour Soup)
03:45	National News
03:50	Mahuya Dam
03:55	Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (Short Drum)
04:00	National News
04:05	Wonderful swiftlets Dwelling in House
04:10	Song "Towards Mandalay Golden City"
04:15	National News
04:20	Myanma Ramanya "Rama Returns to His Kingdom" (Scene II) (Part - XIV)
04:25	Song "Beautiful Shan Land, Hospitable People"
04:30	National News
04:35	Wildlife Conservation in Myanmar
04:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Prawn Curry"
04:45	National News
04:50	Snakes in the Pagoda Precinct
04:55	Three Types of Dances
04:58	Myanma Jaggery
05:00	National News
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05:10	Song "I'll remain in Shwe Myaing"
05:15	National News
05:20	Archaeological Museum Pakhangyi (Part II)
05:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sight "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
05:36	From Independence Towards a Modern De-

	veloped Nation (Border Areas Sector)
05:40	Headline News
05:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Braise Curry of Duck)
05:45	National News
05:50	The Thrones of Myanmar Sovereigns
05:55	Popa Flat-topped Hill (Taung ka lat)
06:00	National News
06:05	Greening of Hill and Mountain for temperate Climate
06:10	(Sagaing-Minwun) Song "With a Weak Point"
06:15	National News
06:20	Reminiscence in the Glow of Sunset
06:25	Song "Fetch me in a horse-cart"
06:30	National News
06:35	Agricultural Marketing in Myanmar
06:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Traditional Mountain bane daunt"
06:45	National News
06:50	Myanmar Movie Impact "Whatever will be, will be"
07:00	National News
07:05	Mosaic Painting in Myanmar
07:10	Song "Cherry Present"
07:12	Fair Price High Quality Myanmar Carpets
07:15	Weekly News Highlights
07:20	Myanmar Performing Arts Showroom
07:28	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

1990 - 2000
JOINT INDIA-U.S. STUDY

LOW

HIGH

BAY OF BENGAL

Legend:

- Tropical Disturbance
- Tropical Depression
- Tropical Storm
- Severe Tropical Storm
- Very Severe Storm
- Super Typhoon

Other Symbols:

- Land
- Sea
- Coastline
- Major City
- Minor City
- Island
- Shoal
- Bank
- Bank Break
- Deposited
- Cyclone Storm

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) below normal in Yangon Division and Kayin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. Significant night temperature was (1°C) in Hakha.

Maximum temperature on 1-1-2004 was 33.0°C (91°F). Minimum temperature on 2-1-2004 was 13.5°C (56°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 2-1-2004 was 73%. Total sunshine hours on 1-1-2004 was (8.7) hours approx. Rainfall on 1-1-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and Center Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from Northeast at (10:00) hours MST on 1-1-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the South Bay and fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 3-1-2004: Weather will be fine in the whole country.

State of the sea: Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of decreasing Night temperatures are likely in upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 3-1-2004: Fine weather. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 3-1-2004:** Fine weather.

Weather Out Look For First weekend of January 2004: During the coming weekend, weather will be fine in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.

5:35 pm
8. Dance Variety

5:50 pm
9. Musical programme

6:05 pm
10. ဂုဏ်ထူးဆောင်များပွဲ
ပညာရေးနှင့်ပညာရေးအဖွဲ့အစည်း
များ၏ဆောင်ရွက်မှုများပြသပွဲ

6:15 pm
11. Delicacies

6:30 pm
12. Evening news

7:00 pm
13. Weather report

7:05 pm
14. Discovery

7:25 pm
15. (၅၅)နှစ်မြောက်လွတ်လပ်ရေးနေ့
တော်ပြုခမ်းအစဉ်

7:35 pm
အစုပေါင်းအားကစားကုန်၊ ရုပ်ရှင်
မိတ်ဆက်မှု၊ ချီရစ်၊
ရုပ်ရှင်တစ်ခဲတဲ
(အစဉ်-၂)

8:00 pm
16. News
17. International news
18. Weather report
20. အစုပေါင်းအားကစားကုန်၊ ရုပ်ရှင်
မိတ်ဆက်မှု၊ ချီရစ်၊
ရုပ်ရှင်တစ်ခဲတဲ
(အစဉ်-၁)

8:15 pm
21. Teleplay
လွတ်လပ်ရေးနေ့အားကစား
အကဲကလေးတစ်ဦးအောင်
(အကဲကလေးတစ်ဦးအောင်)

22. The next day's
programme



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

Leading committee meets to hold 'Myanmar Rice Milling Industry Exhibition 2004'

YANGON, 2 Jan — The leading committee for organizing 'Myanmar Rice Milling Industry Exhibition 2004' held a coordination meeting at Yangon Trade Centre in Mingala Taungnyunt Township this morning.

Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Patron of the leading committee and Minister for Commerce, and Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Chairman of the committee for the Exhibition and Deputy Minister for Commerce, inspected pre-

paratory measures for the exhibition and gave instructions.

At the meeting, Brig-Gen Pyi Sone spoke of the need of the respective work committees to cooperate and coordinate work for the successful holding of the exhibition. Brig-Gen Aung Tun and U Min Hla Aung, Managing Director of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading, reported to the minister on tasks being carried out. Officials of the work committees also pre-

sented their reports.

Next, the minister and the deputy minister looked into measures being taken by Myanmar Rice Millers Association to display spare parts of rice mills at the exhibition and attended to the requirements.

'Myanmar Rice Milling Industry Exhibition 2004' will be held on a grand scale at Yangon Trade Centre in Mingala Taungnyunt Township here from 9 am to 5 pm from 8 to 11 January. Admission is free. — MNA



Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Brig-Gen Than Tun and those present view photos shown at the press conference. — MNA

Seizure of counterfeit medicines clarified

YANGON, 2 Jan — A press conference to clarify the seizure of counterfeit foreign-made medicines was held at the Institute of Nursing on Bogyoke Aung San Street this afternoon.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Brig-Gen Than Tun of the Ministry of Defence, members of the Cen-

tral Food and Drug Administration Committee, drugs advisory committee, departmental heads, officials of Myanmar Police Force, Myanmar Medical Association, medicine and medical equipment merchants and entrepreneurs association, proprietors of drugs stores and guests.

The deputy minister de-

livered a speech on the occasion. Next, Brig-Gen Than Tun clarified the seizure of counterfeit foreign-made drugs.

The deputy minister made concluding remarks. Next, those present viewed the seized drugs and documentary photos on the seizures.

MNA



Officials of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Ministry of Immigration and Population and Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation met children, who were trafficked into Thailand for child labour, at the airport. — MNA



A documentary photo displayed at the press conference on seizures of fake medicines. — MNA

Counterfeit medicines seized

YANGON, 2 Jan — In accord with the objective of "Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation", the State has been taking necessary measures to enhance the health standards of the people and carrying out prevention tasks. In so doing, the government has always been exposing counterfeit medicines hazardous to the health of the people.

The National Investigation Bureau, acting on information, searched and seized 40 capsules of counterfeit Amclox from Su medicine store, shop No 2 Mingala Market, and 320 capsules of counterfeit Ampicillin from shop No 246/247, Building 3, New Bogyoke Market, on 17 December 2003. On further investigation, 20 capsules of counterfeit Ampicillin from shop No 566, 4th Floor, 13,940 capsules of counterfeit Ampicillin from shop No 775, and 7,400 capsules of counterfeit C-Cloxx from shop No 520 in

Advanced Mingala Market were seized on 18 December.

A total of 3,570 capsules of counterfeit Ampicillin and 8,740 tablets of counterfeit S-Mox (Amoxycillin) were seized from Aung Myo Medical Store, Bagan Road, 54th Ward, Dagon Myothit (South) Township on 19 December.

On 20 December, the NIB arrested Tin Hlaing (a) Netla who smuggled counterfeit medicines into the country, son of U Si Ro Kuma, of No 46/B, Ground

Floor, 123rd Street, Mingalar Taungnyunt Township, together with 2,274,200 capsules of counterfeit Ampicillin, 119,800 capsules of counterfeit S-Mox (Amoxycillin), 1,254,600 capsules of counterfeit Cloxacillin-250, 64,500 capsules of counterfeit Degecid, 27,000 capsules of counterfeit Zinetac, 840,000 capsules of counterfeit Ciprox-250, 101 pieces of false rubber blocks used in sealing medicine registration numbers and

(See page 9)



Seized counterfeit medicines. — MNA

Six trafficked Myanmar girls arrive back

YANGON, 2 Jan — With the cooperation between the Governments of Myanmar and Thailand, six Myanmar girls aged 6 to 12, who had been trafficked into Thailand for child labour, arrived back here safely by air this evening.

The children were from Myawady and Bilin townships, lured from their parents by traffickers in person and sold into the neighbouring country the previous year. Thai newspapers dated 10 September 2003 stated that minor children were selling candies and flowers at Karaoke clubs and bars in Bangkok. The officials of Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok thus

made some inquiries concerning the case and found out that among them were six Myanmar girls.

The Myanmar Embassy seeking assistance from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand made arrangements to save and send them back to their motherland. In response to the request of the Myanmar officials, the Bureau of Anti-Trafficking in Women and Children of the Department of Social Development and Welfare of Thailand gave protective custody to the little victims and then transferred them to the Myanmar Government. It is learnt that based on the friendly ties between the two nations,

further investigations will be conducted to find out other trafficked Myanmar women and children and to take action against the traffickers.

The girls were accompanied by an official of Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok. They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the Ministry of Immigration and Population, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and the UN Inter-Agency Project (UNIAP).

MNA