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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



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing cordially greet Dean of Diplomatic Corps Singaporean Ambassador Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz at the banquet to mark the 56th Anniversary Independence Day. — MNA

State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing host 56th Anniversary Independence Day reception and banquet

YANGON, 4 Jan— Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing hosted the 56th Anniversary Independence Day reception and banquet at the Pyithu Hluttaw building on Pyay Road this evening.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing arrived at the venue of the 56th Anniversary Independence Day reception and banquet at 6.30 pm.

Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaing Kyaing, together with Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, cordially greeted diplomats and their wives, resident representatives of the UN Agencies and their wives led by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of Singapore Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz.

Also present at the banquet were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann and wife, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife, members of the State Peace and Development Council and

their wives, the commander-in-chief (Navy) and wife, the commander-in-chief (Air) and wife, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and wife, the (See page 2)



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing cordially greet diplomats, resident representatives of UN Agencies and their wives at the banquet to mark the 56th Anniversary Independence Day. — MNA

Always pay tribute to those who endeavoured for regaining Independence

The entire mass of the people and daring heroes regained Independence in 1948 after waging war on military, political and economic fronts from 1824 to 1948 and Myanmar became a sovereign nation. We must always pay tribute to the national race heroic leaders, youths, monks and the people who by the thousands or even tens of thousands sacrificed their lives in the history of the independence struggle.

Senior General Than Shwe,
State Peace and Development Council Chairman,
Defence Services Commander-in-Chief
(From message on the 52nd Anniversary
Independence Day)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 5 January, 2004

To achieve the national goal — a peaceful, modern and developed nation

Myanmar is an independent and sovereign nation. She restored her independence and sovereignty after sacrificing many lives, blood and sweat of national people and it has now reached the 56th Anniversary of Independence Day.

For years countable by the thousand, the Union of Myanmar stood as an independent and sovereign nation, with her own civilization. The national brethren have defended and safeguarded the national sovereignty with Union Spirit, while preserving and relaying their high standard of civilization and national pride and national character to the new generation.

Thanks to the efforts made by the entire national people with patriotism, the independence and sovereignty of the Union of Myanmar has been restored. Therefore, the victories achieved through the harmonious endeavours will have to be documented with honour.

Nowadays, the Government, hand in hand with the entire national people, is striving for the Union of Myanmar to become a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Through the united efforts of the Government and the people, the nation is now on the right track of development.

The Government has striven for gaining national reconsolidation, regional stability and the rule of law.

It negotiated with national race armed groups to enable them to return to the legal fold. At present, 17 armed groups have returned to the legal fold and they are taking part in regional and national development tasks hand in hand with the Government.

People residing in border areas are now enjoying fruitful results of peace and stability.

As regards national unity, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe, in his message sent on the 56th Anniversary Independence Day, said "Only when the national unity flourishes in the Union of Myanmar, will peace and stability of the State be ensured. Likewise, only if there emerges a peaceful and stable environment of the State, will there be national development infrastructures."

In its drive to develop the national economy in leaps and bounds, the Government has been paying attention to development of agriculture as the base and development of the industrial and other economic sectors.

At such a time like this, we would like to urge all the national people to take part in endeavours for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the national goal.

Brand name replaced

YANGON, 4 Jan — A ceremony to mark the replacement of the brand name was held at the Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd (Myanmar Representative Office) here on 30 December 2003. National brand home appliance products are famous. Currently, Panasonic replaces National for the name of the National-branded home appliance products.

Chief Representative U Kyaw Kyaw explained the purpose of the brand name replacement which is to concentrate resources on Panasonic brand with advanced image to maximize the effect of investment, enhance unified Panasonic brand image quickly, bring out strong products with high brand image, push strong products and strengthen marketing power to sell the products.—H

The 57th Anniversary Union Day objectives

- for all national races to safeguard the national policy— non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty
- to keep the Union spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people
- for all national people to defend and safeguard the Union for its perpetual existence
- to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development, and
- for all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point future policy programme.

State Peace and Development Council Chairman ...

(from page 1)

ministers, the chief justice and wife, the attorney-general and wife, the auditor-general, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor of Yangon and wife, the deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, the directors-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the Government's Office, the Pyithu Hluttaw Office, the President's Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the diplomats and their wives led by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of Singapore, resident representatives of the UN Agencies and their wives, chairmen of the subcommittee for organizing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day, officials of NGOs, national entrepreneurs, delegates of State and Division Union Solidarity and Development Association, outstanding students who won prizes in the 56th Anniversary Independence Day Commemorative Essay, Poem, TV Quiz and Computer Art Competition and guests.

Those present were entertained with the programme of songs by vocalists to the accompaniment of Myanmar Athan Modern Music Troupe before and during the banquet. After the banquet, the guests were also entertained with traditional dances by artistes of the Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture at the Thabin Hall.

MNA

Independence Day Exhibition crowded with visitors

YANGON, 4 Jan—The 56th Anniversary Independence Day Exhibition continued at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road here for the second day today.

Booths on the independence struggles sacrificing much of lives and blood, origins of mankind starting from Myanmar, ancient Myanmar, the first, second and third Myanmar, struggles for the independence and regaining of it, safeguarding of the independence, scenic Myanmar and booths of the respective ministries were displayed at the exhibition.

At the central booth,

picture of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and pictures of the peaceful, modern and developed nation were also shown.

The exhibition will continue up to 11 January 2004. Admission is free.—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

Say
No
To
Drugs



People visit the 56th Anniversary Independence Day Exhibition. — MNA

US soldier killed in attack on US base in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 4 Jan— Guerillas hit a US base in central Iraq with mortar shells, killing one American soldier and wounding two others, a US military spokesman said Saturday.

The mortars struck a base of the Army's 4th Infantry Division near Balad, about 50 miles northwest of Baghdad on Friday night, Sgt Robert Cargie said.

One of the shells exploded near a trailer used as a bedroom by troops, and a soldier standing in its doorway was killed. Two other soldiers were struck by shrapnel and taken to a combat support hospital, where they were in stable condition, Cargie said.

Overnight, the US military bombed the sparsely populated southern edge of Baghdad to root out insurgents believed to be launching mortar shells and rockets, hours after a US military helicopter was shot down west of the capital, killing one soldier.

Soon after the helicopter crashed on Friday, the military said attackers posing as journalists fired assault weapons and rocket-propelled grenades at US paratroopers guarding the burning aircraft.

But there was confusion since *Reuters* news agency reported that its team at the scene was fired at by US troops and three were later detained by the military.

"Our guys are still in detention and we still haven't been informed of any specific accusations against them," said Andrew Marshall, *Reuters* bureau chief in Baghdad.

Elsewhere, guerillas attacked an American tanker truck convoy, setting one ablaze.

Coalition forces raiding a Sunni Muslim mosque arrested 32 suspected non-Iraqi Arab insurgents and seized an arms cache. Hundreds of Iraqis protested outside the mosque after the raid.

In Baghdad, a military spokesman said the shelling of the Doura neighbourhood was part of an offensive dubbed Operation Iron Grip. Residents said it appeared US fire was targeting fields in the neighbourhood.

Internet

Malaysian SMIs urged to upgrade equipment, technology

KUALA LUMPUR, 4 Jan— Malaysian small and medium industries (SMIs) must upgrade their equipment and production techniques so as to enhance their competitiveness and improve the quality of products, a senior official said Saturday.

They should also source technologies from developed companies where necessary in overall efforts to make Malaysia a regional hub for machinery and equipment manufacturing, Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry Kerk Choo Ting told reporters here.

SMIs constitute about 92 per cent of the total 689,100 companies registered in the country. In 2002, SMIs contributed 30.4 per cent to the country's gross domestic product.

There was still a long way to go for the Malaysian engineering supporting industry to effectively support a strong machinery and equipment manufacturing industry in Malaysia so as to match those of South Korea, China, Taiwan and Japan, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Three wounded in shootings in northern Iraq

KIRKUK, 4 Jan— Two Iraqi Arabs and a Turkmen were injured in separate shooting incidents in the volatile northern oil centre of Kirkuk, police said as the US military urged calm following recent violence.

The two Arabs were lightly wounded by police fire early Saturday, according to officer Shirzad Rifaat Kader, who said the pair were taken to hospital and their weapons confiscated.

"A police patrol opened fire at 7:40 am (0440 GMT) on two Arabs who had tried to attack them," he said.

Kader implied the attack was linked to the ethnic tensions that have rocked the city since Wednesday resulting in the death of seven people and challenging a fragile truce between Kirkuk's Kurdish majority and Arabs and Turkmen.

In another incident, a guard posted in front of a

Turkmen political party building was wounded by gunfire, according to Colonel Khattab Abdallah Aref of the city's police force.

"Unknown attackers opened fire in the direction of the party headquarters, wounding the guard," he said, adding that a grenade had also been thrown by unidentified attackers, just missing the house of senior Arab leader Sabah Zidane.

The US army imposed a night curfew in the city Friday, as they sought to stave off further violence in the ethnic tinderbox.

Internet

China becomes Indonesia's second biggest product supplier

JAKARTA, 4 Jan— China has the potential to become Indonesia's biggest supplier of products in the future, according to the Central Bureau of Statistic (BPS) here Friday.

In November, the country replaced the United States as the second biggest product supplier to Indonesia after Japan, said Director of Statistic for Trade and Services Rusman Heriawan.

"China's export to Indonesia has been increasing significantly since the beginning of last year ... after the country entered the World Trade Organization," Heriawan said.

He said that the high demand of China's products in Indonesia is prompted by the good price and quality.

Heriawan said that China's products such as textiles, electronics, machines, and toys, have dominated Indonesian market.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi policeman stands guard at a checkpoint in Baghdad's southern al-Dura District. The shooting down of a US military chopper claimed the life of one soldier and wounded another in Fallujah.—INTERNET

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Iraqis die as soldiers fire on car

TIKRIT, 4 Jan— Four Iraqis, including a woman and a child, were killed today when a US convoy opened fire on a car trying to overtake it in the northern town of Tikrit, police said. The US military would only say it was looking into an incident in the town.

"The car, a grey Chevrolet Caprice, was hit by 27 shots and skidded, resulting in the death of four people, including a woman and a nine year-old child," Tikrit police chief Colonel Ussama Adham Abdel Ghaffer said.—Internet

Helicopter crash



Map of Iraq locating crash of a US army helicopter in Fallujah on 2 January.—INTERNET

Hardline Iran cleric says US gets deserved "slap"

TEHRAN, 4 Jan— A leading Iranian cleric said on Friday he believed the United States was trying to exploit the Bam earthquake for political gain and applauded what he called a "slap in the face" given to Washington by the Islamic Republic.

Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, head of Iran's powerful supervisory body the Guardian Council, told worshippers at weekly prayers that Iran was grateful for the foreign aid pouring in to help victims of last week's quake that killed at least 30,000.

The United States has sent scores of medics and tons of aid but, Jannati said, Iran would not tolerate any meddling after US officials expressed interest in better relations. "Naturally

America wanted to take advantage of this situation by offering some help and bringing up the issue of relations," Jannati said.

"It was given a slap in the face," he told worshippers to chants of "Death to America". He was referring to Iranian President Mohammad Khatami, who on Tuesday said US aid was not a harbinger of better ties and noted US officials "talk a lot of nonsense".

Despite Khatami's comment, US President George

W Bush on Wednesday ordered banking restrictions relaxed on Iran for 90 days to speed the flow of humanitarian relief to quake victims.

Former president Akbar Hasemi Rafsanjani said the US moves could have a positive side-effect on relations.

But Jannati, whose views reflect hardliners believed to be close to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, said: "All their moves are political and now they offer help — politically."—MNA/Reuters

Peru bans cattle imports from 24 countries

LIMA, 4 Jan— The Peruvian Government on Friday banned imports of products and byproducts of bovine, ovine, caprine and cervine origin from 24 countries so as to prevent the possible spread of mad cow disease into the South American country. The decision was announced by the Agricultural Ministry in a communique. The banned imports include brains, spinal chord, thymus gland, spleen, intestines, nerve and lymphoid tissues.

The 24 countries are Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Britain, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and the United States.—MNA/Xinhua

Cracks appear in US trained Iraq Corps

TIKRIT, 4 Jan—A foot patrol of US-trained Iraqi civil defence officers emerges from an alley into the bustle of this city's main highway. Quickly, some of the men wrap scarves around their faces, fearful of being recognized by insurgents attacking Americans and their Iraqi allies.

The 16 Iraqis, armed with AK-47 assault rifles, are part of the Iraqi Civil Defence Corps, or ICDC, meant to be one of the country's key emerging security forces.

But cracks are beginning to show in at least one part of the corps, here in Tikrit, five months after its first men hit the streets.

Some U.S. trainers in Tikrit say the Iraqi force is ill-equipped, prone to corruption and so trigger-happy that some have shot at their own comrades. Added to that is the

threat of anti-American guerrillas targeting Iraqis cooperating with the coalition.

By some estimates, it will take years before this ragtag militia of former Iraqi soldiers, impoverished farmers and jobless men and youths will be able to shoulder the burden of securing Saddam Hussein's hometown.

"Oh my God, it will be a while," said Staff Sgt. Hugo Olveraleija, 26, one of the trainers. "These guys are farmers." —*Internet*



Iraqi Civil Defence Corps (ICDC) troops check a man during a joint patrol with US soldiers in Tikrit, some 250 km north of Baghdad, on 2 Jan, 2004.

INTERNET

Iraq women alone, distraught as US rounds up men

BAQUBA (Iraq), 4 Jan—Khadija's eldest son Ahmad was killed in battle during the war that toppled Saddam Hussein. Now US troops have rounded up her husband and four other sons, leaving the impoverished Iraqi woman to fend for herself.

"What do I do now? They took my husband and my kids and it's only me now," said Khadija, who like all women in her small hamlet on the outskirts of the flashpoint town of Baquba wears a black veil. "My son is a martyr. My husband was taken and they took the rest of my children," she said in her mud and stone-brick house, which has plastic in the windows because the glass was shattered during the US raid which captured her husband and sons.

Baquba lies in a predominantly Sunni Muslim area, where support for Saddam is relatively strong and resentment of the US-led occupation runs deep. Under constant attack from guerrillas, US troops have rounded up dozens of Iraqis they say are linked to the insurgency.

US troops arrested several men during a raid in Bab el-Darb this week, leaving

distraught women to fend for themselves, a rare situation in a conservative Muslim community with strong family ties.

Khadija's story is echoed by many women in Bab el-Darb, a farming area of orchards and palms trees watered by tributaries of the Tigris River.

Talia, 53, recounted how American soldiers dynamited her front gate before taking away her husband Abed, 65, and three sons. "The women were left. My sons and their father were tied up and taken away. For three hours they were tied holding their heads to the wall. Abed was barefoot and without his headdress," Talia said.

"The Americans entered when we were asleep. They encircled us and blew up our door. They took us out and the women were left in the cold, shivering," said Talia, who is now left with her daughters-in-law and their young children. —*MNA/Reuters*

Firecracker injuries up as Philippines celebrates New Year

MANILA, 4 Jan—The Philippine Department of Health on Thursday reported an increase in the number of injuries caused by firecrackers during the New Year celebrations.

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit said a total of 590 injuries were reported from December 21, 2003 to January 1, 2004, among which, firecracker-related injuries rose to 566 from last year's 531. There were 15 injuries

caused by stray bullets, Dayrit said.

Some local gun holders have the habit of firing their arms into the air to celebrate the coming of New Year.

The Department of Health (DOH), however,

said the number of injuries on New Year's eve was lower compared to last year's records. New Year's eve injuries were pegged at 336 this year, 7 per cent lower than last year's. —*MNA/Xinhua*

ဝက်မွန်အား ခေါ်ကျော်လွှား

Four US soldiers killed in three attacks

BAGHDAD, 4 Jan—Four US soldiers were killed and six were wounded in three separate incidents on Friday, military officials said Saturday.

In the latest incident, a mortar attack on a forward coalition operating base near Balad, Iraq, killed a US soldier and wounded two others, a 4th Infantry Division spokeswoman said Saturday.

The wounded soldiers are in stable condition and their injuries are not life-threatening, she said.

After the attack — which happened at 4:30 pm (8:30 am ET) Friday about 50 miles north of Baghdad — a quick reaction force secured the site and detained six Iraqis, the spokeswoman said.

Two US soldiers with the 1st Armored Division were killed and three wounded Friday when their vehicle hit an improvised explosive device (IED) south of Baghdad, the US-led coalition said in a statement Saturday.

The condition of the wounded was not released. An earlier attack by insurgents Friday downed a US Army helicopter near the Iraqi town of Fallujah, west of Baghdad, killing a US soldier and wounding another, a coalition military spokesman said.

It wasn't known immediately what insurgents used to strike the OH-58 Kiowa observation helicopter, said Brig Gen Mark Kimmitt, the coalition's deputy chief of

operations. The copter, which was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, was carrying a crew of two.

Responding to the helicopter's downing, US troops were attacked by people dressed in clothes identifying them as journalists, Kimmitt said.

He said the attackers drove up to the site in two Mercedes cars and opened fire on troops. No one was hurt, but the troops tracked one car to a nearby house and arrested four suspects, who were being questioned, Kimmitt said. —*Internet*

Chinese FM to visit four countries

BEIJING, 4 Jan—Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing will pay an official visit to Sudan, Comoros, Djibouti and Uganda, from January 4 to 10, a ministry spokesman said here Friday.

Spokesman Kong Quan said Li was invited by Mustafa Othman Ismail, Sudan's Minister of External Relations; Souefou Mohamed El-Amine, Comoros' Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Ali Abdi Farah, Djibouti's Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and relations with Parliament; and James Wapahabulo, Uganda's Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. —*MNA/Xinhua*

Philippines to deploy air marshals on PAL flights

MANILA, 4 Jan—Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo Friday said the country is prepared to deploy air marshals in Philippine airliners for security reason.

"We are prepared to deploy air marshals in PAL (Philippine Airlines) planes entering US territory as requested, on the basis of reciprocity," Arroyo said in a statement.

"I would like the National Security Adviser to see to it that US commercial passenger aircraft entering the Philippines are similarly covered so that we can have a two-way mechanism to check terrorist incursions," Arroyo added.

Likewise, Arroyo said this is important for the safety of our own nationals as well as foreign travellers, and is part of the Philippines' commitment to the global fight against terror.

Arroyo also made it clear that the Phil-

ippines shall continue to provide seamless security to air travel on the ground and on air.

On Thursday, the Manila International Airport Authority said they will maintain a full security alert at the airport against terrorists who may take advantage of the holidays.

Earlier, US officials announced that any foreign airliner entering American airspace could be required to have armed police on board after the country has reportedly intercepted intelligence which indicates that al-Qaeda may try to hijack foreign airliners for a repeat of the September 11, 2001 attacks in which 3,000 died. —*MNA/Xinhua*



A doctor pulls shreds of glass from the back of a man wounded in a powerful explosion which targeted a popular restaurant in Baghdad's Karrada district recently.

INTERNET

IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



An Iraqi Civil Defense Corps soldier searches a group of Iraqis at a check point in Baghdad on Saturday 3 Jan, 2004.—INTERNET



An Iraqi policeman stops a car at a checkpoint in Baghdad's southern al-Dura district. The shooting down of a US military chopper 02 January claimed the life of one soldier and wounded another in Fallujah.—INTERNET



Iraqi men look at a roadside crater on 3 January, 2004 following an overnight raid by US forces on a Baghdad suburb.

INTERNET



A member of the Iraqi Civil Defence Corps (ICDC) guards a highway underpass in Baghdad. Increased security measures to curb insurgent activities involves the deployment of hundreds of troops.—INTERNET



Iraqi Civil Defense Corps (ICDC) members cover their faces with scarves, during a joint patrol with US Army soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division in Saddam Hussein hometown of Tikrit, north of Baghdad, on Friday, 2 Jan, 2004. Some ICDC members cover their faces for fear of being recognized, and targeted by guerillas attacking Americans and their Iraqi allies. —INTERNET

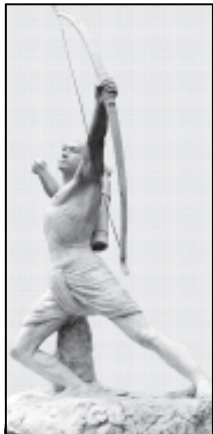


US Army troops of the 82nd Airborne Division secure an area where a helicopter crashed near Falluja, on 2 January, 2004.

INTERNET



Let's march towards the goal of a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing new nation



Now, the Union of Myanmar has enjoyed considerable fruitful results of stability, peace and national solidarity unprecedentedly. Based on these achievements, the Government has been making strenuous efforts in all spheres for the emergence of a modern and developed nation.

Nowadays, the entire people are enjoying the fruitful results of development in socio-economic sectors.

On 30 August 2003, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt announced the State's seven-point Road Map for building up a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation. In his speech, the Prime Minister explained the Road Map in three portions. The first part of his speech dealt with efforts of the Tatmadaw Government for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation as from its assumption of the State's responsibilities to date and achievements gained in all sectors.

The second part touched upon the nation's political developments. And the third part was related to the seven steps to be implemented for the emergence of a modern, developed and democratic nation in the future based on the historical foundations of the nation and customs, traditions and culture of the national races in line with the present political, economic and social conditions. The steps are as follows:

(1) Reconvening of the National Convention that

has been adjourned since 1996.

(2) After the successful holding of the National Convention, step by step implementation of the process necessary for the emergence of a genuine and discipline-flourishing democratic system.

(3) Drafting of new constitution in accordance with basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention.

(4) Adoption of the constitution through national referendum.

(5) Holding of free and fair elections for Pyithu Hluttaws (Legislative bodies) according to the new constitution.

(6) Convening of Hluttaws attended by Hluttaw members in accordance with the new constitution.

(7) Building a modern, developed and democratic nation by the state leaders elected by the Hluttaw and the government and other central organs formed by the Hluttaw.

The entire people supported the State's seven-point policy programme with one voice by holding mass rallies from 20 September to 19 October 2003 at Yangon Division, Mandalay Division, Kayin State, Kayah State, Kachin State, Shan State (South), Bago Division (East), Ayeyawady Division, Magway Division,

Rakhine State, Mon State, Sagaing Division, Shan State (East), Bago Division (West), Chin State, Taninthayi Division and Shan State (North). Furthermore, the delegates representing various parts of the entire Union met at a mass rally in Bagan and unanimously supported the State's po-

litical Road Map. The Bagan mass meeting issued the Bagan Declaration.

Tabled at the meeting were the motion calling on the people of the national races to participate actively and enthusiastically with full sense of Union Spirit in any role entrusted for the success of the seven-point future policy programme of the State and the motion calling on the people to honour the State Peace and Development Council for striving for the development of the Union of Myanmar and for the national races to maintain the progress achieved. Those present at the meeting unanimously supported the motions.

Similarly, heads of State/Government of the ASEAN nations praised and supported Myanmar's seven-step Road Map at the ASEAN Summit held

in Bali of the Republic of Indonesia in October 2003. In addition, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan expressed that Myanmar's seven-step Road Map was satisfactory and he also welcomed the programme to convene the National Convention in Myanmar.

Now, measures are

Kyai Phyu

being taken in connection with the seven-step Road Map of the State. Three main bodies — the National Convention Convening Commission, the National Convention Convening Work Committee and the National Convention Convening Management Committee — have been formed and preparatory measures are being taken for holding the National Convention.

With the aim of further strengthening the national solidarity and accelerating the progress in regional development tasks, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt frequently conducted field tours of the States and Divisions where the national brethren reside. Moreover, the Prime Minister met with seven out of 17 groups which had returned to the legal fold. The seven groups include Pa-O National Organiza-

tion, Kayan Pyithit Party and national race leaders from Kayah special region-2. The seven groups expressed that they welcome the National Convention and they will attend it without fail.

The Prime Minister will also meet with the remaining groups. It is clear that the Government is determined to implement the seven-step Road Map certainly. As regards endeavouring for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation, it must be the discipline-flourishing democracy which would not be harmful to the traditions of the Union where the national races have been living together keeping eggs and nest intact; which would not blemish the national prestige and integrity of the nation and the people; and which do not tarnish the national characters.

In marching towards a peaceful, modern, developed and democratic nation in the long-term interests of the nation and the people, all are to be firmly equipped with patriotism, nationalist spirit, the spirit of national solidarity and Union Spirit in their hearts. In the Union of Myanmar, stability can be achieved only when there exists national unity among the national peoples. With the good envi-

ronment of peace and stability in the country, there will emerge infrastructures for further developments. In this way, the momentum of the national economic growth can be accelerated. Likewise, the good foundations achieved in the national economic life will further cement the national unity and perpetuate the Union while ensuring peace, stability and prosperity.

Indeed, peace and stability is required for building up a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. At the same time, it is required to strengthen the national economy. In addition, it is important to uplift the education standard of the entire national peoples.

With the prevalence of peace and tranquillity and the rule of law as well as national unity, the entire national peoples are urged to make collective and zealous efforts in building up the nation into a modern, developed and democratic new nation. In other words, all the national peoples are to strive for implementation of the seven-step Road Map in marching towards the desired goal of a peaceful, modern, developed and prosperous Union.

(Translation: MS)



People attending the Mass Rally to support the successful implementation of the seven-point future policy programme of the State.

The Mass Rally was held on 21 October 2003 at the sports ground in Bagan Archaeological Zone.

Honouring the 56th Anniversary Independence Day:

National people unanimously support the roadmap



National people marching to attend the mass rally in support of the address delivered by the Prime Minister on the seven-point future policy programme of the State (Roadmap) in Lashio, Shan State (North).



The mass of people in Mon State unanimously support the seven-point future policy programme of the State at the mass rally held in Mawlamyine, Mon State.



The above photos (left and right) show national people marching to attend the mass rallies to support the address delivered by the Prime Minister on the seven-point future policy programme of the State in Hpa-an, Kayin State and Taunggyi, Shan State (South) respectively.



The mass rally to support the Prime Minister's speech on the seven-point future policy programme of the State was held in Haka, Chin State. Those present unanimously support the seven-point future policy programme.



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win delivers an address at the ceremony to present prizes to winners in the Essay, Poem, TV quiz & Computer Arts Competitions. — MNA

Student youths to make strenuous efforts for emergence of modern developed nation with full use of their strength

Prizes presented to winners in Independence Day Commemorative Essay, Poem, TV Quiz & Computer Art Competitions

YANGON, 4 Jan— The ceremony to present prizes to winners in the 56th Anniversary Independence Day Commemorative Essay, Poem, TV Quiz and Computer Art Competitions was held at the Pyithu Hluttaw Building on Pyay Road this evening, attended by Chairman of Central Committee for Organizing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win.

Also present were Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, officials, prize-winning students and guests.

Secretary of the subcommittee for the 56th Anniversary Independence Day Commemorative Essay, Poem, TV Quiz and Computer Art Competitions Director-General of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) U Saw Lwin acted as master of ceremonies. The Secretary-1 delivered an address. He said the students who won the prizes in essay,

are ready to after sacrifice their lives for the country and its people. Due to the possession of such spirit, Myanmar people regained independence after sacrificing their lives, blood and sweat, he added.

He said they are to safeguard independence and sovereignty as long as the world exists. It is the national duty as well as a duty bestowed by history for all citizens to make concerted efforts for building of a peaceful modern developed nation, he added. He quoted Patron of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe as saying at the annual general meeting of USDA held on 21 November 2003 that learning lessons from the political experience since the nation had regained the independence, efforts are to be made to fulfil the three basic requirements, namely, ensuring peace and tranquillity, strong economy of the nation and promotion of the national education standard.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State student youths are to make strenuous efforts for emergence of a modern developed nation with full use of their strength.

Now the government made endeavours with the participation of the entire people employing human resources beneficially. This is why the State that is on the right path of development will become a peaceful modern developed nation. He said after the government had taken State duties, it gave priority to national reconsolidation, regional stability and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order. Plans for development of border areas and national races were laid down and implemented with greater momentum for national reconsolidation.

At the same time 17 armed groups returned to the legal fold through mutual confidence and coordination. Leaders of those groups are participating in the tasks to construct infrastructures for regional and national development, he said. In international relations sector, Myanmar is actively taking part in the UN and international organizations, he said. He said the government has laid down various national projects on economic, social and educational development for strong national economic life and emergence of a modern developed nation and is implementing them systematically.

Emphasis was placed on development of agricultural sector in economic sector. As industrial development is crucial in building a modern nation, efficiency of State-owned major industries was promoted and encouragement was given to development of region-wise industries.

Transport is a basic infrastructure for national development. Therefore, the government has been building bridges and roads the length and breadth of the nation and progress has been made in the transport sector as a result.

Nowadays, strenuous efforts are being made to enable the nation to stand shoulder to shoulder with those of the world. The government has laid down and is implementing the national objective of the uplift of the education standard of the entire nation. In the process, the number of basic education schools has increased to over 40,000 in the basic education sector. In the higher education sector, the number of universities and colleges has increased to 154. In the teaching programme, more courses including the doctorate course are being conducted. In the health sector, basic health care centres have increased. The quality of public health care services has increased and the higher quality of health care services reflects the high social standard of the State. At the same time, the number of medical institutes and universities has increased to 14.

In the communication sector, new information and communication technology that is keeping pace with changes and development is being applied and linked with the international network. The government is now in the process of building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Therefore, it has laid down the seven-point roadmap of the State. The seven-point roadmap of the State is the basic foundations for a future nation. Every people who cherishes the

State is to actively take part in the successful realization of the seven-point roadmap of the State by doing their bit with full Union Spirit.

The essay and poetry competitions are held yearly with the aim of inculcating the youth students with the definition and essence of the independence and this year is the 13th times. It is the 12th time for TV Quiz and the 8th time for computer painting contest. The title of essay competition held this year is new forces for building a new nation and the title of poetry competition, patriotic Myanmar for university, college and institute level; the title of essay competition is a modern and developed nation being built through education and the title of poetry competition a victorious flag for the basic education high school level; the title of essay competition is our country Myanmar, and the title of poetry competition, building a peaceful and modern nation for the basic education middle school level. There were 2,825 contestants in university, college and institute level, 121,875 contestants in the basic education high school level and 215,258 contestants in the basic education middle school level.

The students took part in the essay, poetry, TV quiz and computer painting contests enthusiastically and the number of the students who participated in the contests increased.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 called on the prize-winning students, those who took part in the contests and the entire youths to strive together for the emergence of a peaceful modern and developed nation, to make efforts for realization of the national education promotion programmes for development of highly qualified human resources in whatever sector they are, to participate in successful realization of the seven-point roadmap of the State by doing their bit with Union Spirit and to nurture and keep the spirit to safeguard the independence and sovereignty alive and dynamic in accord with the objectives of the 56th Anniversary Independence Day.

Chairman of the Subcommittee for Holding the 56th Anniversary Independence Day Commemorative Essay, Poem, TV Quiz and Computer Painting Competitions Deputy Minister for Education Col Aung Myo Min explained the purpose of the competitions.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 presented the first, second and third prizes for basic education middle school level essay competition to Ma Shwe Sin of South Okkalapa Basic Education Middle School No 1, Ma Nu Htet Htet Lwin of Sittway Basic Education High School No 4 and Maung Naing Oak Kyaw of Mawlamyine BEHS-4; the first, second and third prizes for basic education middle school level poem competition to Maung Htet Aung Lin of Myitkyina BEHS-3, Maung Tha Noe of Sagaing BEHS-2 and Maung Aung Thurein Tun of Dawei BEHS-1; the first, second and third prizes for middle school level computer painting competition to Maung Zawtika Maung Maung Myint of Bago BEHS-3, Maung Kaung Sithu of Dagon BEHS-3 and Maung Yan Naing Oo of Myeik BEHS-1; the first second the third prizes for high school level essay competition to Ma Wai Thi Myint of Thonze BEHS, Ma April Tun of Patheingyi BEHS-2 and Ma Yin Min Aye of Sagaing BEHS-2; the first, second and third prizes for high school level poem competition to Maung Thura Soe of Nattalin BEHS, Ma May Zin Oo of Patheingyi BEHS-6 and Ma Nan Ngu Wa Phu Pwint Oo of Bago BEHS-1; the first, second and third prizes for high school level computer painting competition to Ma Shwe Yi Win of Mawlamyine BEHS-8, Ma Tharaphu Aung of Lanmadaw BEHS-1 and Maung Myat Zaw Hein of Sittway BEHS-2; the first, second and third prizes for high school level TV quiz to Ma Tin Hsu Mon of Sagaing BEHS-1, Ma Pan Nyein Han of Sittway BEHS-4, Maung Paing Soe Thu Win Oo of BEHS-1 Magway and Ma May Thet Nwe Oo of Kamayut BEHS-2; the first, second and third prizes for university, college and institute level essay competition to Cadet Wai Zin Thein

(See page 15)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win presents a prize to Ma Wai Thi Myint of ninth standard of Thonze BEHS who stood first in the essay competition. — MNA

poem, TV quiz and computer art competitions created their work and displayed their skills in depicting history on the struggle for independence, value and essence of independence, definition of the independence and requirement for safeguarding the independence with full reference and historic facts, adding that it was gratifying to honour those who are worthy of honour.

He singled out the four national objectives of the 56th Anniversary Independence Day.

He said national races namely Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan have been living in the Union of Myanmar drinking water from the same source, sharing weal and woe since time immemorial. They preserved the prestige of the State in the successive eras and defended the State and sovereignty with patriotism and Union Spirit, he said.

In time of solidarity of the State, the strength of the State was very strong. The State was respected by neighbouring countries. It was evident in history that Myanmar had been established as a country for three times in Bagan, Toungoo and Konbaung eras. Myanmar people with patriotism and Union Spirit are those who love and cherish their own country and people and they value their traditional customs and

Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to Senior General Than Shwe

YANGON 5 Jan —The following are messages of felicitations from foreign Heads of State sent to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 56th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

From Mr Vladimir V Putin, President of the Russian Federation:

Accept congratulations on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar. I am confident that the relations of friendship and cooperation between Russia and Myanmar will further develop in the interest of the peoples of our countries, peace and stability in the Asia and Pacific Region.

From Dr Johannes Rau, President of the Federal Republic of Germany:

On the occasion of the anniversary of the Union of Myanmar's Independence I convey to the people of Myanmar, also on behalf of my fellow Germans, my best wishes for a bright future in peace and freedom.

We very much hope that in Myanmar progress will be made towards establishing democracy and the rule of law, as is the case in other countries in Southeast Asia.

From Mr Jacques Chirac, President of the French Republic:

On the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar, I have the pleasure to convey my heartfelt wishes to the people of Myanmar.

May the links between our two people further intensify in the future.

From Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

As you celebrate your Independence Day, I have much pleasure in sending my warmest greetings together with my best wishes to the people of Myanmar for a happy, prosperous and peaceful future.

From Mr Georgi Parvanov, President of the Republic of Bulgaria:

On the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar — the Day of Independence, please accept my greetings and good wishes for personal health and success in your highly responsible activities for the wellbeing of the people of Myanmar.

From Mr Ferenc Madl, President of the Republic of Hungary:

On the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar, I express my congratulations and best wishes to your excellency and to the people of Myanmar.

From Mr Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria:

On the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar, I am pleased to extend to you my warm congratulations and my best wishes of good health and personal happiness and prosperity and progress to Myanmar's people. I am confident that the relationship so happily existing between our two countries will develop in the coming years in the interest of our two peoples.

Please accept, Excellency, the expression of my highest consideration.

From Mr Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt:

On the auspicious occasion of the 56th anniversary of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar, it is my great pleasure to extend to Your Excellency my most sincere and heartfelt congratulations as well as my best wishes for your wellbeing and for progress and prosperity of your friendly people. With my highest consideration.

From Mr Moshe Katsav, President of the State of Israel:

As the Union of Myanmar celebrates the 56th anniversary of its Independence, I wish to extend to Your Excellency, on behalf of the people of Israel and myself, our warmest congratulations and best wishes for your personal wellbeing and for the continued progress and prosperity of Myanmar and its people.

From Mr Fidel Castro Ruz, President of the Council of State and of the Government of the Republic of Cuba:

On the occasion of celebrating the 56th anniversary of the proclamation of Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar, it pleases me to extend to Your Excellency, on behalf of the Cuban people and Government, warm congratulations and to express sincere wishes for the enhancement of relations of friendship and cooperation between our two nations, for the prosperity of your country and for your personal happiness.

With the assurances of my highest consideration.

MNA

Foreign Heads of Government send felicitations to PM General Khin Nyunt

YANGON 5 Jan —The following are messages of felicitations from foreign Heads of Government sent to General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 56th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

From Mr Mikhail M Kasyanov, Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation:

Accept, congratulations on the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar — the Independence Day.

I am confident that the relations between Russia and Myanmar will continue to develop in the interest of the peoples of our countries, peace and international cooperation.

I wish you good health and every success.

From Mr Constantinos Simitis, Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic:

On the occasion of the National Day of your country, I would like to convey to you my warmest congratulations and my best wishes for the prosperity, progress and welfare of the friendly people of the Union of Myanmar.

From Mr Symeon Saxe-Coburg Gotha, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria:

On the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar — the day of independence. It is honour and pleasure to extend to you as well as to the people of Myanmar cordial congratulations and best wishes for peace, progress and prosperity.

From Mr Ahmed Ouyahia, Head of Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria:

The celebrations of the National Day of the Union of

Myanmar is for me an opportunity to extend to you my warm congratulations as well as all my best wishes of good health and happiness. I am also very pleased to express my attachment to the strengthening and the development of our bilateral relationship. Please accept, Excellency, the expression of my highest consideration.

From Dr Atef Ebeid, Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt:

On the auspicious occasion of the 56th anniversary of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar, it gives me great pleasure to extend to you, the Government and people of Myanmar on behalf of the Government and people of Egypt and in my own name our warmest congratulations and best wishes for the prosperity and wellbeing of the friendly people and government of the Union of Myanmar.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe reads the message sent by Senior General Than Shwe. (News on page 16) — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt...

(from page 16)

The Prime Minister went to Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hillock where he was welcomed by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and officials.

The Prime Minister saw

over the renovation of the cave. Yangon Division Superintendent Engineer of Public Works U Nyunt Maung San and officials conducted the Prime Minister round the cave. The Prime Minister later left necessary instructions. — MNA

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Independence Day commemorative funfair and prize-presentation ceremony held

YANGON, 4 Jan—The funfair and prize-presentation ceremony of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to mark the 56th Anniversary Independence Day was held at the Wunzin Min Yaza Hall of the ministry this morning.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung attended

the ceremony and made a New Year speech.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and U Kyaw Thu, the ambassadors, the directors-general, the directors, staff of the ministry and guests.

After making a New

Year speech, Minister U Win Aung presented prizes to a person who was outstanding in the training course. Next, the deputy ministers and officials presented prizes to those who are outstanding in the sports. Afterwards, the funfair to mark the 56th Anniversary Independence Day

followed.

Minister U Win Aung and Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win formally opened the funfair.

Next, the minister, the deputy ministers and officials viewed round the shops and foodstalls being opened by staff of the ministry.—MNA

Union of Myanmar
State Peace and Development Council
Notification No 2/2004
13th waxing day of Pyatho, 1365 ME
(4 January, 2004)

(Continued from yesterday)

Medal for Excellent Performance in Industrial Field
(Third Class)

1. Major Ye Aung (BC 22746), No 1 Military Equipment Factory, Ministry of Defence.
2. Capt Nay Myo Ko (BC 26094), No 1 Military Equipment Factory, Ministry of Defence.
3. Capt Min ZawZaw (BC 28276), No 1 Military Equipment Factory, Ministry of Defence.
4. Corporal Win Naing (699318), Central Signals Unit, Ministry of Defence.
5. U Yu Kyi, Deputy Director, Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.
6. U Ko Ko Aung, Assistant Director, Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.
7. U Ko Ko, Assistant Director, Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.
8. U Thet Tun Oo, Deputy Staff Officer, Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.
9. Daw San San Win, Manager, Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.
10. U Win Naing, Supervisor, Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.
11. U Myint Thauang, Head of Branch, Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
12. Daw Ohn Yi, Head of Section, Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
13. U Naing Min Htut, Head of Section, Insein Blanket Factory No 20, Myanmar Textile Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
14. U Zaw Min, Factory Manager, No 1 Mandalay Brewery, Myanmar Foodstuff Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
15. U Khin Aung, Factory Manager, No 4 Mawlamyine Brewery, Myanmar Foodstuff Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
16. U Khin Tun, Deputy Factory Manager, No 3 Paper Mill (Paleik), Myanmar Paper & Chemical Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
17. U Khin Tun, Head of Section, Insein Blanket Factory No 20, Myanmar Textile Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
18. U Shwe Win, Production Technician-3, Insein Blanket Factory No 20, Myanmar Textile Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
19. U Toe Yi, Head of Branch, Bicycle Factory (Yangon), Myanmar General Maintenance Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
20. U Aye Tun, Assistant Factory Manager, Sittaung No 1 Paper Mill, Myanmar Paper & Chemical Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
21. U Shwe Baw Tha, Head of Branch, Sittaung No 1 Paper Mill, Myanmar Paper & Chemical Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
22. U Kyi Win, Head of Branch, Sittaung No 1 Paper Mill, Myanmar Paper & Chemical Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
23. U Ye Win, Head of Branch, Sittaung No 1 Paper Mill, Myanmar Paper & Chemical Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
24. U Aung Yi, Head of Section, Sittaung No 1 Paper Mill, Myanmar Paper & Chemical Industries, Ministry of Industry-1.
25. U Zaw Win Iwin, Assistant Director, Myanmar Industrial Planning Department, Ministry of Industry-2.
26. U Thein Zaw Lin, Head of Branch, Myanmar Industrial Planning Department, Ministry of Industry-2.
27. Daw Thida Than, Supervisor, Myanmar Industrial Planning Department, Ministry of Industry-2.
28. U Shwe Thein, Supervisor, Myanmar Tyre & Rubber Products Industries (Myanmar Industrial Planning Department), Ministry of Industry-2.
29. U Toe Win, Supervisor, Myanmar Industrial Planning Department, Ministry of Industry-2.
30. U Tun Yi, Manager, No 1 Automobile Plant (Yangon), Myanmar Automobile and Diesel Engine Industries, Ministry of Industry-2.
31. U Hla Tun, Head of Section, No 1 Automobile Plant (Yangon), Myanmar Automobile and Diesel Engine Industries, Ministry of Industry-2.
32. U Khin Maung Myint, Assistant General Manager, No 1 Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Industries (Sinde), Ministry of Industry-2.
33. Daw Yi Yi Khaing, Manager, No 1 Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Industries (Sinde), Ministry of Industry-2.

34. U Hsan Aung, Manager, No 1 Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Industries (Sinde), Ministry of Industry-2.
35. U Than Nyunt, Assistant Manager, No 1 Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Industries (Sinde), Ministry of Industry-2.
36. U Myo Khin, Assistant Manager, No 1 Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Industries (Sinde), Ministry of Industry-2.
37. Daw Win Win Aye, Head of Section, No 1 Machine & Spare Parts Production Factory (Nyaungchehtauk), Myanmar Machine, Tool and Electrical Industries, Ministry of Industry-2.
38. U Thwin Zaw, Head of Section, No 1 Machine & Spare Parts Production Factory (Nyaungchehtauk), Myanmar Machine, Tool and Electrical Industries, Ministry of Industry-2.
39. U Zaw Min Tun, Deputy Head of Section, No 1 Machine & Spare Parts Production Factory (Nyaungchehtauk), Myanmar Machine, Tool and Electrical Industries, Ministry of Industry-2.
40. Daw Nyunt Nyunt Swe, Junior Engineer-3 (Civil), Wakema Township Public Works, Ministry of Construction.
41. U Tin Pe, Assistant Engineer, Geological Survey Minerals Exploration Department, Ministry of Mines.
42. U Pusi, Junior Engineer-1, Geological Survey Minerals Exploration Department, Ministry of Mines.
43. U Than Tun, Assistant General Manager, Road Transport, Ministry of Rail Transportation.
44. U Kyaw Moe Zaw, Chief Engineer, Myanmar Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation.
45. U Myint Wai, Assistant Engineer, Myitnge Mechanical and Electrical Department, Myanmar Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation.
46. U Kyaw Win, Head of Section-1, Insein locomotive Shed, Myanmar Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation.
47. U Win Sein, Head of Section, Ywahtau Diesel Locomotive Shed, MR, Ministry of Rail Transportation.
48. U Sein Than, Head of Section-1, Insein Locomotive Shed, MR, Ministry of Rail Transportation.
49. U Nyunt Lwin, Head of Section, Ywahtau Diesel Locomotive Shed, Myanmar Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation.
50. U Zaw Win, Welder-4, Myitnge Passenger Cargo Coaches Factory, Ywahtau Diesel Locomotive Shed, Myanmar Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation.
51. U Kyaw Thu, Factory Manager, GTC Press, PPE, Ministry of Information.
52. U Hla Kyi, Junior Engineer-2, GTC Press, PPE, Ministry of Information.
53. U Htay Lwin, Junior Engineer-2, GTC Press, PPE, Ministry of Information.
54. U Thein Lwin, Mechanical Technician-3, GTC Press, PPE, Ministry of Information.
55. U Myint Swe, Press Foreman, Kyemon Daily Newspaper, NPE, Ministry of Information.
56. U Hla Nyunt, Chief Engineer, Myanmar Airways, Ministry of Transport.
57. U Shwe Mya, Foreman, Myanmar Port Authority, Ministry of Transport.
58. U San Thein, Foreman, Myanmar Port Authority, Ministry of Transport.
59. U Tun Aung, Deputy General Manager (Admin), Myanmar Telecommunications, Ministry of Posts, Telegraphs and Communications.
60. U Tin Tun, Deputy General Manager (Inspection), Myanmar Telecommunications, Ministry of Posts, Telegraphs and Communications.
61. U Zaw Tint, Deputy General Manager, Myanmar Telecommunications, Ministry of Posts, Telegraphs and Communications.
62. U Nyan Win, Deputy Chief Engineer, Yangon Auto-Telephone, Myanmar Telecommunications, Ministry of Posts, Telegraphs and Communications.
63. U Ye Myint Maung, Executive Engineer-B (Mech), Chauk Oil Field, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, Ministry of Energy.
64. U Kyan Aung, Executive Engineer-B (Mech), Pulmber Section, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, Ministry of Energy.
65. U Zaw Win, Executive Engineer-B (Transport/Mechanic), Thakayta Base, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, Ministry of Energy.
66. U Shwe Win Maung, Assistant Executive Engineer (Transport/Mechanic), Yewawme Oil Test-well, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, Ministry of Energy.
67. U Win Shein, Assistant Executive Engineer (Transport/Mechanic), Yewawme Oil Test-well, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, Ministry of Energy.

68. U Thet Tun, Assistant Engineer (Mech), Plumber Section, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, Ministry of Energy.
69. U Kyi Win, Head of Section (Planning), Chemical Fertilizer Plant (Salay), Ministry of Energy.
70. U San Maung, Deputy Director, Survey Section, Hydro-Electric Power Department, Ministry of Electric Power.
71. Daw Hla Hla Su, Deputy Director, Procurement Section, Hydro-Electric Power Department, Ministry of Electric Power.
72. U Kyaw Hla, Controller-1 (Mech), Machinery Section, Hydro-Electric Power Department, Ministry of Electric Power.
73. U Tun Chit, Executive Engineer-A, Hsedawgyi Power Station, Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, Ministry of Electric Power.
74. U Nyunt Than, Executive Engineer-B, Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, Ministry of Electric Power.
75. U Than Naing Oo, Assistant Executive Engineer, Ahlon Power Station, Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, Ministry of Electric Power.
76. U Win Naing, Assistant Executive Engineer, Baluchaung No-2 Power Station, Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, Ministry of Electric Power.
77. U Aung Moe, Assistant Executive Engineer, Office of the In-charge of Power Grip (Taungoo), Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, Ministry of Electric Power.
78. U Thet Paing Myo, Assistant Engineer, Township Electric Engineer Office (Kyaukse), Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, Ministry of Electric Power.
79. U Soe Thein, Assistant Engineer, Thakayta Power Station, Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, Ministry of Electric Power.
80. U Hla Myint, Group In-charge-2, Baluchaung No 2 Power Station, Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise, Ministry of Electric Power.

Medal for Excellent Performance in Administrative Field (First Class)

1. U Hla Kyi, Director-General, Civil Service Selection and Training Department, Civil Service Selection and Training Board.
2. Col Win Maung, Rector, Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi), Civil Service Selection and Training Board.
3. Col Aung San Win, Rector, Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar), Civil Service Selection and Training Board.
4. BC 11782, Brig-Gen Myo Myint, Commandant, Defence Services Record Office, Ministry of Defence.
5. BC 12495, Col Kyaw Myint, Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Welfare, Ministry of Defence.
6. BC 12011, Brig-Gen Khin Aung, Ministry of Defence.
7. BC 12302, Brig-Gen Myint Zaw, Ministry of Defence.
8. BC 12605, Brig-Gen Hla Aung, Ministry of Defence.
9. BC 13726, Col Tin Oo, Ministry of Defence.
10. Navy 1219, Captain Ngwe Soe, Ministry of Defence.
11. Air 1719, Col Si Thu, Ministry of Defence.
12. Dr Thein Htay, Managing Director, Myanmar Cotton and Sericulture Enterprise, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.
13. U Myo Myint, Managing Director, Myanmar Sugar Enterprise, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.
14. U Soe Tin, Managing Director, Myanmar Economic Bank, Ministry of Finance and Revenue.
15. U Mya Than, Managing Director, Myanmar Investment and Commercial Bank, Ministry of Finance and Revenue.
16. U Bo Than, Director-General, Pension Department, Ministry of Finance and Revenue.
17. U Nyunt Tin, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Ottawa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
18. U Aye, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Canberra, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
19. U Kyaw Myint, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Jakarta, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
20. U Kya Nyo Chit Pe, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Belgrade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
21. U Myo Myint, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Bangkok, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
22. U Than Tun, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Colombo, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
23. U Kyaw Thu, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, New Delhi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
24. U Lin Myaing, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Washington, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
25. Dr Aung Naing, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Tokyo, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
26. U Tin Tun, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Manila, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
27. U Ohn Thwin, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Dacca, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(See page 13)

Honouring the 56th Anniversary Independence Day:

Progress and increased earnings of Myanmar Shipyards in the time of the State Peace and Development Council

Transportation plays a key role in national development. Myanmar Shipyards under the Ministry of Transport is building and repairing ships. It is also building ships for foreign companies according to the orders placed.

MV. Forceful Performer double engine tow-boat built for Casey Marine Pte.Ltd of Singapore.

Fiscal year	Production			Earning (kyat in million)
	Ship under construction	Ship under repair	Other production (kyat in million)	
1989-1990	16	47	5.80	59.52
1990-1991	19	47	10.34	67.84
1991-1992	13	21	8.12	78.55
1992-1993	11	31	9.35	98.67
1993-1994	8	27	10.87	107.69
1994-1995	15	25	19.76	117.05
1995-1996	9	28	19.68	127.76
1996-1997	9	18	14.24	118.33
1997-1998	10	21	25.05	174.536
1998-1999	8	20	21.06	231.71
1999-2000	4	17	10.447	225.101
2000-2001	7	25	13.869	459.935
2001-2002	7	20	29.629	504.021
2002-2003	13	-	-	1049.236



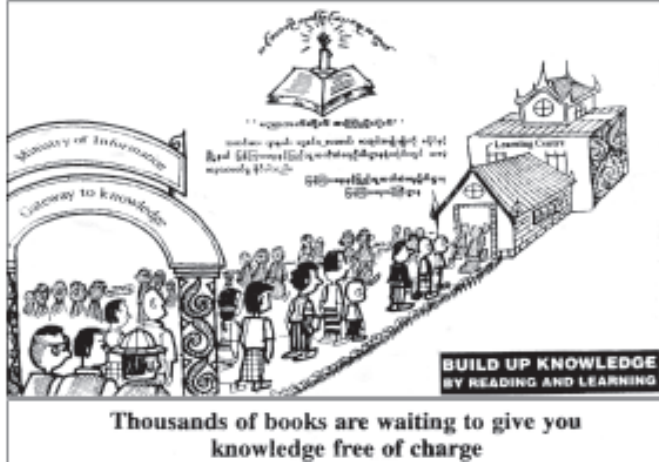
MV Jaya Transporter vessel built for Jaya Marine Lines Pte.Ltd of Singapore.



Jaya Gold-2 vessel built for Singapore.

Built by Myanmar Shipyards of the Ministry of Transport, Jaya Gold-2 meets the set standards of the maritime law prescribed by Singaporean Government and international maritime laws such as international safety management and prevention against sea pollution. The vessel has secured the certificate of highest grade from Lloyds Register of Shipping (LRS) Rules and Regulations, an international ship-building inspection and registration organization.

The vessel, installed with fire-fighting equipment to be used in an emergency on the offshore drilling platforms, can carry materials for the offshore oil drilling platform.



ADVERTISEMENT

ပလတ်စတစ်တံဆိပ်ကော်နှင့် ကောက်ရိုး ဝယ်ယူလိုခြင်း

- စဉ် ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအစား လိုအပ်ချက် ပေးသွင်းရမည့်ကာလ ပေးသွင်းရမည့်နေရာ**
- ၁။ (က) ပလတ်စတစ်တံဆိပ် ၁၄၀၀၀ပေါင် ၁၄-၂-၂၀၀၄ မှ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းကော်မတီ (ပေါင်တစ်သောင်း ၁၃-၂-၂၀၀၄ ထိ စက်ရုံ လေးထောင်တိတိ)
- (ခ) ကောက်ရိုး ၉၄၅၃၀ ပေါင် ၅-၃-၂၀၀၄ မှ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းကော်မတီ (ပေါင်ကိုးသိန်း ၄-၃-၂၀၀၄ ထိ စက်ရုံ လေးသောင်း ငါးထောင်တစ်ရာ သုံးဆယ်တိတိ)
- ၂။ တင်ဒါပိတ်ရက် (၉-၁-၂၀၀၄) သောကြာနေ့မှစ၍ (၂-၁၀) နာရီမှတစ်ချက်၊ အသေးစိတ်အကြောင်းအရာများကို သိရှိလိုပါက မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းကော်မတီ၊ ပစ္စည်းစီမံရေးဌာနတွင် ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း စုံစမ်းနိုင်ပြီး တင်ဒါပုံစံများကိုလည်း ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ (ဆက်သွယ်ရန်တယ်လီဖုန်း အမှတ်- ၆၆၄၄၈၁)

စက်ရုံမှ

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းကော်မတီ

4th January 1977 In loving memory of our beloved father (U Khin Maung Latt)

(Former Minister for Health and Judicial Affairs)

Today is full of memories of all the days you've filled with love. Cherished by your children Khin Maung Gyi, Khin Maung Lay, Khin Maung Aye, Neelar Lat, Thida Lat, Aye Hay Mar Lat and Thin Za Mon.

May Allah (SWT) grant you, our beloved father
JANNAH (Ameen.)

Crippling polio almost wiped out in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 4 Jan— Nepal has almost wiped out the scourge of poliomyelitis as no such cases have been detected in the country for the last three consecutive years, *The Rising Nepal* newspaper reported Saturday.

"Thanks to an anti-polio campaign that began in 1995 in Nepal, there is no polio victim being found in the country for three years," the state-run English daily quoted Krishna Timilsina, secretary of Nepal National Polio-plus Committee, as saying. However, Nepal has not declared itself as a polio-free country,

because polio is still prevalent in neighbouring India, and there is a possibility of polio victims moving in and out of Nepal, Timilsina said.

The Nepali Government is fully committed to efforts to wipe out polio from the country in the years ahead, and has set a target of administering polio drops to 4.2 million children below the age of five, he added.

According to a World Health Organization provision, a country can be declared polio-free if such cases are not recorded for three consecutive years. —MNA/Xinhua

Valuable oracle bones unearthed in N-W China

Xi'an, 4 Jan— Chinese archaeologists have discovered two oracle bones, including one inscribed with the most number of characters ever in a single find, in northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

The team of archaeologists from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing University and Shaanxi Province found the two pieces of tortoise shell near a temple in Qishan County.

One piece has 38 characters, six more than the previous record, and the other has 17. They are believed to date from the Zhou Dynasty (circa 1100 - 256 BC).

It was the first time Chinese archaeologists had found inscriptions on tortoise back shells, rather than ventral shells. Obvious saw cuts can also be seen on the shells for first time.

Experts have begun deciphering the inscriptions. They believe the research on the newly found oracle bones may throw light on the culture of the Zhou Dynasty. Other relics were also found

nearby. Oracle bones, or inscribed animal bones and tortoise shells, were first used for divination by kings of the Shang Dynasty (16th Century BC - 11th Century BC).

Chinese archaeologists have found more than 160,000 inscribed bones with 10,000 characters, about 1,000 of which have been deciphered.

Oracle bone inscriptions, which resemble the cuneiform writing of the ancient Near East and hieroglyphic writing of ancient Egypt, were discovered more than 100 years ago. Such inscriptions were one of the oldest forms of writing in the world. Their descendants, the "Han Zi" (Chinese characters), are still in use by about a quarter of the world's population. —MNA/Xinhua

မြန်မာ့မြန်မာ့အသံ

Vietnam's agricultural exports increase in 2003

HANOI, 4 Jan— Vietnam obtained agricultural export turnovers of three billion US dollars in 2003, rising 7 per cent against 2002, and posting the highest level over the past three years, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development reported Friday.

The record revenue is attributed to higher yield and better quality of farm produces that have resulted from agriculture restructure.

Key exports include rice, coffee, rubber and cashew nuts, which, as of late December, reached export rev-

enues of 727 million US dollars, 457 million US dollars, 383 million US dollars, and 284.5 million US dollars, respectively. Vietnam shipped its products mainly to the United States, the European Union, China, and the Asia-Pacific Region.

The country plans to export 3.8 million tons of rice, 650,000 tons of coffee, 480,000 tons of rubber, and

70,000 tons of cashew nuts this year.

Regarding rubber, besides the traditional markets of China and Japan, it is eyeing the United States.

Last year, Vietnam produced 34.7 million tons of rice paddy, up 1.8 per cent; 720,000 tons of coffee, up 5 per cent; and 166,000 tons of cashew nuts, up 30 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

S'pore eases visa process for independent travellers from China

SINGAPORE, 4 Jan— The visa application process for independent travellers from the People's Republic of China (PRC) who wish to visit Singapore has been made easier, a government release said here Friday.

This follows a six-month trial programme launched in July 2003, whereby visa applications for independent travellers could be submitted through three travel agents appointed by China National Tourism Administration (CNTA), said the Press release of the Singapore Tourism Board (STB).

With "positive feedback" from independent PRC travellers toward the trial programme, the number of CNTA authorized travel agents has been increased from the initial three during the trial to 43 with effect

from January 1, 2004, said the STB release.

"These are part of the STB's continuing efforts to facilitate the flow of tourism traffic from China as well as make it easier and more convenient for more Chinese tourists to visit Singapore," it said.

The number of PRC visitors to Singapore increased by 35 per cent year-on-year to over 670,000 visitors in 2002, with a total expenditure of 313.3 million Singapore dollars (about 180 million US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia aims to lure foreign investors with power road show

JAKARTA, 4 Jan— The Indonesian Government is planning a road show abroad to woo investors into the country's power sector, a senior official said.

The road show will also promote investment in various power projects, including a number of independent powerproducer (IPP) projects that have been terminated. Yogo Pratomo, the newly installed director-general of electricity and energy utili-

ties at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, said the road show would aim at giving information to foreign investors on the improved investment climate in the power sector in Indonesia. "We will inform them that the macroeconomic condition is stable, the price of electricity has reached a profitable level and the investment climate is conducive," Yogo was quoted Saturday by *The Jakarta Post* as saying. —MNA/Xinhua

Answer from yesterday's Crossword Puzzle



Three Nepali villagers killed by wild elephants

KATHMANDU, 4 Jan—Three wild elephants struck a village in central Nepal Friday, killing three locals and destroying a large amount of crops on the farmlands, *The Kathmandu Post* newspaper reported Saturday.

Two large elephants and a small one, usually living in the jungles of neighbouring Siraha District, broke into the village in Dhanusha District, some 150 kilometres southeast of Kathmandu, the English daily quoted Krishna Gautam, deputy superintendent of the district police office,

as saying. "Around seven villagers including a police constable were injured while trying to chase the elephants," Gautam said.

The elephants also destroyed vegetables and sugarcane plantation worth thousands of US dollars in five villages of the district, he noted. On learning of the incident, two teams of policemen were immediately deployed to the site to chase the wild beasts, he said, adding, "However, dense fog in the area is hampering their effort." —MNA/Xinhua

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(from page 10)

28. U Khin Aung, Ambassador, Myanmar Embassy, Hanoi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
29. U Thein Myint, Director-General, Consular and International Law and Treaties Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
30. U Tint Te, Director-General, Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
31. Col Ko Ko Kyaw, Director-General, Project and Planning Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
32. U Aung Bwa, Director-General, ASEAN Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
33. U Hla Thein, Managing Director, No 2 Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Mines.
34. U Khin Maung Latt, Director-General, Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.
35. U Htay Aung, Managing Director, Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.
36. U Maung Maung Tin, Managing Director, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs.
37. U Kyaw Soe, Director-General, Technical Development and Cooperation Department, Ministry of Science and Technology.
38. U Win Kyaw, Director-General, Hydrel-electric Power Department, Ministry of Electric Power.
39. Dr Soe Yin, Rector, Yangon University, Ministry of Education.
40. Dr Soe Win, Rector, University of Foreign Languages (Yangon), Ministry of Education.
41. Dr Nyunt Lwin, Rector, Mandalay University, Ministry of Education.
42. Dr Myint Thein, Rector, Institute of Education (Sagaing), Ministry of Education.
43. U Kan Zaw, Rector, Institute of Economics (Yangon), Ministry of Education.
44. Dr Khin Zaw, Rector, Institute of Education (Yangon), Ministry of Education.
45. Dr Myat Moe, Rector, University of Traditional Medicine, Ministry of Health.

Medal for Excellence Performance in Administrative Field (Second Class)

1. U Ti Khun Myat, District Law Officer, Lashio District Law Office, Office of the Attorney-General.
2. U Tin Boy, Director, Office of the Auditor-General.
3. U Tin Aung, Director, Office of the Auditor-General.
4. Daw Khin Po, Deputy Director-General, Civil Services Affairs Department.
5. U Htan Maung Pe, Head of Department (Administration) for Development of National Races, Civil Service Selection and Training Board.
6. U Htay Lwin, Head of Department (Academic Affairs), University for Development of National Races, Civil Service Selection and Training Board.
7. U Khin Maung Aye, Professor, Department of Educational Psychology, University for Development of National Races, Civil Service Selection and Training Board.
8. Daw Khin Win, Professor, Department of Educational Theory, University for Development of National Races, Civil Service Selection and Training Board.
9. BC 15444, Lt-Col Khin Maung Than, No 2 Combat Organization Training School, Ministry of Defence.
10. BC 15449, Lt-Col Zaw Lin Tun, No 7 Combat Organization Training School, Ministry of Defence.
11. BC 12343, Maj Saw Thein, No 2 Basic Education High School, Mingaladon.
12. BC 13974, Lt-Col Myo Lwin, Ministry of Defence.
13. U San Lin, General Manager, Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.
14. U Maung Ni, Manager, Paleik Textile and Finishing Plant, Myanmar Textile Industry, Ministry of Industry-1.
15. U Ye Tint, General Manager (Production) Head Office, Myanmar Foodstuff Industry, Ministry of Industry-1.
16. U Soe Nyunt, Chief-Engineer (Building), Public Works, Head Office, Ministry of Construction.
17. U Than Nyunt, Senior Engineer (Civil), Ma-i-Kyaukphyu Road, Ministry of Construction.
18. U Tin Win, Deputy Director-General, Cooperatives Department, Ministry of Cooperatives.
19. U Tint Lwin Oo, Deputy Director-General, Cottage Industries Department, Ministry of Cooperatives.
20. U Hla Kyu, Adviser, Office of the Ministry of Cooperatives.
21. U Kyin Lin (Pa/3872), Commissioner, Mandalay Division

General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs.

22. U Ye Myint Pe, Chief Editor, Kyemon Newspaper, News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.
23. U Win Tin, Chief Editor, Myanmar Alin Newspaper, News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.
24. U Myo Lwin, Deputy Director-General, Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.
25. U Nyi Nyi, Director, Development of Border Areas and National Department (Head Office), Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.
26. U Saw Htway Shwe, Deputy Director, Development Affairs Department (Head Office), Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.
27. U Myint Oo, Deputy Chief Engineer, Mandalay Division Development Affairs Committee, Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.
28. U Phone Maung, General Manager, Myanmar Airways, Ministry of Transport.
29. U Ngwe Tun, Deputy Director-General, Fine Arts Department, Ministry of Culture.
30. U San Win, Rector, University of Culture (Mandalay), Ministry of Culture.
31. U Tha Oo, General Manager, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs.
32. Dr Mya Mya Oo, Pro-rector and Head of Chemical Engineering Department and Faculty of Biotechnology, Yangon Technological University, Ministry of Science and Technology.
33. U Tun Aung Kyi, Director, Technical Development and Cooperation Department, Ministry of Science and Technology.
34. Dr Ko Ko Oo, Director, Atomic Energy Department, Ministry of Science and Technology.
35. U Aung Toe Shwe, Deputy Director-General, Hydroelectric Power Department, Ministry of Electric Power.
36. U San Tint, Rector, Mawlamyine University, Ministry of Education.
37. Dr Mya Oo, Rector, University of Distance Education (Yangon), Ministry of Education.
38. Dr Maung Thin, Rector, Dagon University, Ministry of Education.
39. U Cho, Rector, Patheingyi University, Ministry of Education.
40. U Mya Win, Rector, Pyaw University, Ministry of Education.
41. U Kyi Win, Rector, Yangon Eastern University, Ministry of Education.
42. U Saw Kyaw Min, Rector, Yangon Western University, Ministry of Education.
43. Dr Maung Kyaw, Rector, Taunggyi University, Ministry of Education.
44. Dr Maung Htoo, Rector, Monywa University, Ministry of Education.
45. U Po Myint, Rector, University of Foreign Languages (Mandalay), Ministry of Education.
46. U Maung Maung Khin, Rector, University of Distance Education (Mandalay)
47. U Win Maung, Rector, Yadanabon University, Ministry of Education.
48. Dr Pe Maung Than, Pro-Rector, Yangon University, Ministry of Education.
49. U Wan Tin, Pro-rector, Sittway University, Ministry of Education.
50. U Thin Hlaing, Pro-Rector, Myitkya University, Ministry of Education.
51. U Myint Swe, Deputy Director-General, No 1 Basic Education Department, Ministry of Education.
52. U Aye Myint, Deputy Director-General, No 3 Basic Education Department, Ministry of Education.
53. BC 10623, Lt-Col Naing Win, Secretary, Kayah State Peace and Development Council.
54. BC 12275, Lt-Col Tin Tun, Chairman, Loilem District Peace and Development Council.
55. BC 12202, Lt-Col Tin Ohn, Secretary, Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council.
56. BC 14495, Lt-Col Aung Pyai, Chairman, Yangon East District Peace and Development Council.
57. BC 13702, Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein, Chairman, Yangon West District Peace and Development Council.
58. BC 12256, Lt-Col Win Maung, Secretary, Shan State Peace and Development Council, Taunggyi.
59. BC 11689, Lt-Col Ye Tun Sein, Chairman, Taunggyi District Peace and Development Council.
60. BC 13664, Lt-Col Myint Tin, Chairman, Loilem Dis-

trict Peace and Development Council.

61. BC 15491, Lt-Col Soe Win, Chairman, Muse District Peace and Development Council.

Medal for Excellent Performance in Administrative Field (Third Class)

1. U Myint Aung, Auditing Officer, Kachin State Accounting Office, Auditor-General's Office
2. U Hla Than, Deputy Director, Auditor-General's Office
3. U Lwin Kyi, Deputy Director, Auditor-General's Office
4. Daw Khin Win Yee, Auditing Officer, Hopang Township Accounting Office, Auditor-General's Office
5. Daw Theing Nyunt, Director, Civil Service Selection and Training Department, Civil Service Selection and Training Board
6. U Chit Swe, Director, Civil Service Selection and Training Board
7. U Thuang Shwe, Director, Civil Service Selection and Training Board
8. U Soe Myint Thein, Director, Civil Service Selection and Training Board
9. U Soe Win, Deputy Director, Civil Service Selection and Training Board
10. Daw Tin Tin Htay, Head (Management Dept.), Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaynggyi), Civil Service Selection and Training Board
11. Daw Myint Myint San, Head (Economics Dept.), Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaynggyi), Civil Service Selection and Training Board
12. U Ye Naing, Head (Training), Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar), Civil Service Selection and Training Board
13. U Maung Kyi, Head (Management), Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar), Civil Service Selection and Training Board
14. Daw Win Win Than, Head (Management Dept.), Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar), Civil Service Selection and Training Board
15. U Tin Shwe, Head (Economics Dept.), Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar), Civil Service Selection and Training Board
16. BC 11453 Maj Myint Aung, Public Relations and Psychological Warfare
17. BC 16873 Maj Khin Maung San, No 8 Combat Training School, Ministry of Defence
18. BC 20574 Maj Ye Naing Soe, Defence Service TV Broadcasting Unit, Ministry of Defence
19. BC 28197 Capt Soe Win Kyaw, Defence Service TV Broadcasting Unit, Ministry of Defence
20. Army 733814 WO II Myint Naing, Defence Service TV Broadcasting Unit, Ministry of Defence
21. No Ah/77614 WO I Myint Myint Kyi, Defence Service TV Broadcasting Unit, Ministry of Defence
22. No Ah/77760 WO I Aye Aye Han, Defence Service TV Broadcasting Unit, Ministry of Defence
23. BC 22406 Maj Kyaw Thura, Ministry of Defence
24. BC 21415 Maj Lay Naing, Ministry of Defence
25. BC 20704 Maj Kyi Lwin, Ministry of Defence
26. BC 22567 Maj Mya Lwin, Ministry of Defence
27. BC 21090 Maj Kyaw Naing, Ministry of Defence
28. BC 22326 Capt Kyi Win, Ministry of Defence
29. BC 23256 Capt Win Naing, Ministry of Defence
30. BC 28122 Capt Myat Thurein, Ministry of Defence
31. U Thein Swe, General Manager, Myanmar Cotton and Sericulture Enterprise.
32. U Tin Tun, General Manager, Myanmar Cotton and Sericulture Enterprise
33. U Pearl Maung, Director, Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
34. U Tun Tin (1), Director, Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.
35. U Kyaw Zan, Director, Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
36. U Tun Tin (2), Director, Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
37. U Hok Kyi, Director, Irrigation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.
38. U Tun Aung Lwin, Director, Irrigation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
39. U Tin Maung Ohn, Director, Irrigation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
40. U Shwe Thein, Director, Settlement and Land Records Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
41. U Myint Swe, Director, Principal, Settlement and Land Records Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
42. U L Zaw Shan, Director, Regional Industrial Coordination and Inspection Department, Ministry of Industry-1
43. U Tin Hlaing, Director, Yangon Division Regional Industrial Coordination and Inspection Department, Ministry of Industry-1.

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44. Daw Swe Swe Than, General Manager (Accounts), Myanma Textile Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
45. U Sein Mya, Manager, No 17 Garment Factory, Myanma Textile Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
46. U Kyaw Soe, Manager, Sagaing Textile Factory, Myanma Textile Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
47. Daw Htay Htay Oo, General Manager (Accounts) Head Office, Myanma Foodstuff Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
48. U Kyaw Win, General Manager, Myanma General Maintenance Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
49. U Sein Win, Manager, Maintenance, Myanma General Maintenance Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
50. U Khin Maung Aye, Assistant Director, Directorate of Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
51. Daw Aye Kyi, Assistant Manager (Production), Sagaing Textile Factory, Myanma Textile Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
52. Daw Sabei, Assistant Manager (Production) Head Office, Myanma Foodstuff Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
53. U Hla Myo Maung, Deputy Manager, Soap Factory (Mandalay), Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
54. U Zaw Wai, Deputy General Manager, Myanma General Maintenance Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
55. U Than Tun, Manager, Shoe Factory No 1, Myanma General Maintenance Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
56. U Maung Maung Toe, Deputy Manager, Maintenance (Mandalay Branch), Myanma General Maintenance Industries, Ministry of Industry-1
57. Daw Khin Win Kyi, Director, Myanma Industrial Construction Services, Ministry of Industry-2
58. Daw Sandi Myint, Director, Myanma Industrial Construction Services, Ministry of Industry-2
59. U Than Tun Aung, General Manager, Milling Division, Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
60. U Hla Maw Oo, General Manager, Admin Dept, Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
61. U Maung Maung Tin, Manager, Yangon Division Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
62. U Min Min Oo, Manager, Bago Division (East), Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
63. U Hsan Nwe Win, Manager, Mon State Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
64. U Aung Kyaw Moe, Deputy General Manager, Transport Division, Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
65. U Win Myint, Manager, Bago Division (West) Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
66. U Tun Kyi, Assistant Manager, Taninthayi Division Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
67. U Kyaw Thu, Assistant Manager, Ayeyawady Division (Hinthada) Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
68. U Ba Than, Assistant Manager, Yangon Division (Thanlyin) Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
69. U Kyaw Ngwe, Manager, Yangon Division No 04 Rice Mill (100 Tons), Ministry of Commerce
70. U Tin Win, Manager, Bago Division (West) Letpadan Rice Mill (250 Tons), Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading, Ministry of Commerce
71. Daw Ohnmar Sein, Director, Central Bank of Myanmar, Ministry of Finance and Revenue
72. U Ye Tun, General Manager, Myanma Economic Bank, Ministry of Finance and Revenue
73. U Sein Min, Deputy General Manager, Myanma Insurance, Ministry of Finance and Revenue
74. U Set Kyi, Junior Engineer (2) (Civil), Airfield Special Group 4, Hkamti, Ministry of Construction
75. Daw Si Than, Senior Engineer (Civil), Bridge Special Group 5, Ye Nwe, Ministry of Construction
76. U Hla Tun, Assistant Engineer (Civil), Bridge Special Group 5, Ye Nwe, Ministry of Construction
77. U Win Kyi, Senior Engineer (Civil), Bridge Special Group 14, Shweli Bridge, Ministry of Construction
78. U Hsan Lwin, Assistant Engineer (Civil), Ma-ei-Kyaukpyu Road, Ministry of Construction
79. U Myint Aung, Junior Engineer 2 (Civil), Building Special Group 4 Yangon, Ministry of Construction
80. U Aung Khaing, Assistant Engineer (Civil), Bridge Special Group 4, Daka, Ministry of Construction
81. U Ngwe Tun, Senior Engineer (Civil) Road, Ministry of Construction
82. U Kyaw Thu, Assistant Engineer (Civil), Bridge Special Group 1, Yangon, Ministry of Construction
83. U Tin Htut, Deputy Superintending Engineer (Civil), Londawpauk Bridge, Ministry of Construction
84. U Tin Soe, Senior Engineer (Civil), Minkyaung Creek Bridge, Ministry of Construction
85. U Soe Tin, Deputy Superintending Engineer (Civil), Road Special Group 2 Pyay, Ministry of Construction
86. U Soe Tint, Superintending Engineer (Civil), Shan State (South), Ministry of Construction
87. U Htin Aung, Senior Engineer (Mech), Main Workshop (North) Mandalay, Ministry of Construction
88. U Kyaw Nyunt, Senior Engineer (Mech), Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge (Mawlamyine) Project, Ministry of Construction
89. U Kyaw Hlaing, Senior Engineer (Civil), Airport Special Group-5, An, Ministry of Construction
90. U Aung Phyu, Director, Mandalay Division Cooperative Department, Ministry of Cooperatives
91. U Saw Lwin, Professor, Yangon Cooperative Degree College, Ministry of Cooperatives
92. Daw Nyo Nyo Win, Professor, Yangon Cooperative Degree College, Ministry of Cooperatives
93. Daw Win Sein, Professor, Yangon Cooperative Degree College, Ministry of Cooperatives
94. Daw Tin Swe Aye, Director, Cottage Industries Department (Head Office), Ministry of Cooperatives
95. Daw Hla Hla Kyaing, Director, Cottage Industries Department (Lower Myanmar, Yangon), Ministry of Cooperatives
96. Daw Khin Khin Thwet, Director, Cottage Industries Department (Upper Myanmar, Mandalay), Ministry of Cooperatives
97. U Min Tun, Deputy General Manager, Myanma Timber Enterprise, Ministry of Forestry
98. U Aung Than, Assistant Manager, Myanma Timber Enterprise, Ministry of Forestry
99. U Thein Swe, Director, Myanma Gems Enterprise, Ministry of Mines
100. U Phone Naing, Deputy Director, Myanma Gems Enterprise, Ministry of Mines
101. U Soe Thiha, Director, Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department, Ministry of Mines
102. U Bo Aung, Manager, Myanma Salt and Marine Chemicals Enterprise, Ministry of Mines
103. U Aung Soe, Assistant Director, Myanma Gems Enterprise, Ministry of Mines
104. U Zaw Win Naing, Assistant Director, Myanma Gems Enterprise, Ministry of Mines
105. Daw Than Swe, Assistant Director, Myanma Gems Enterprise, Ministry of Mines
106. U Aung Than, Deputy Assistant Director, Myanma Gems Enterprise, Ministry of Mines
107. U Toe Aung Kyaw, Geologist, Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department, Ministry of Mines
108. U Tin Nu, Geologist, Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department, Ministry of Mines
109. U Zaw Win (1), Geologist, Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department, Ministry of Mines
110. U Win Cho, Assistant Geologist, Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department, Ministry of Mines
111. La 128369, Police Major Win Naing, Muse Special Anti-drug Squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
112. La 57175, Police Major Kyaw San, Tachilek Special Anti-drug Squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
113. La 128521, Police Captain Myint Thein, Lashio Special Anti-drug Squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
114. La 81784, Police Captain Hla Kyi, Bhamo Special Anti-drug Squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
115. U Ni Kon (Pa 2913), Assistant Director, Taninthayi Division General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs
116. U Sein Tun (Pa 2929), Deputy Commissioner, Thayet District General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs
117. U Myo Chit (Pa 3390), Assistant Director, Kachin State General Administration Department, Myitkyina, Ministry of Home Affairs
118. U Sein Nyunt (Pa 3235), Assistant Director, Shan State General Administration Department, Taunggyi, Ministry of Home Affairs
119. U Aung Myint (Pa 2989), Township Administrator, Salin Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Salin Township Peace and Development Council)
120. U Kyaw Win (Pa 3435), Township Administrator, Kyaukpadaung Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Kyaukpadaung Township Peace and Development Council)
121. U Myint Oo (Pa 2905), Township Administrator, Sinpaungwe Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Sinpaungwe Township Peace and Development Council)
122. U Wai Myo Khine (Pa 3077), Township Administrator, Ponnagyun Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Ponnagyun Township Peace and Development Council)
123. U Tin Win (Pa 3155), Township Administrator, Kyimyindine Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Kyimyindine Township Peace and Development Council)
124. U Khin Maung Aye (Pa 3562), Township Administrator, Thongwa Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Thongwa Township Peace and Development Council)
125. U Khin Zaw (Pa 3600), Township Administrator, Kyauktan Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Kyauktan Township Peace and Development Council)
126. U Tin Hlaing (Pa 3298), Township Administrator, Namhkam Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Namhkam Township Peace and Development Council)
127. U Tint Hlaing (Pa 3564), Township Administrator, Dagon Myothit (North) Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Dagon Myothit (North) Township Peace and Development Council)
128. U Tin Yi (Pa 3322), Township Administrator, Mingaladon Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Mingaladon Township Peace and Development Council)
129. U San Htay (Pa 3581), Township Administrator, Bogale Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Bogale Township Peace and Development Council)
130. U Mya Kyaing (Pa 3184), Township Administrator, Paung Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Paung Township Peace and Development Council)
131. U Soe Thein (Pa 3563), Township Administrator, Mawlamyine Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Mawlamyine Township Peace and Development Council)
132. U Tin Ohn (Pa 3438), Township Administrator, Pabedan Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Pabedan Township Peace and Development Council)
133. U San Ngwe (Pa 2887), Township Administrator, Palaw Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Palaw Township Peace and Development Council)
134. U Aye Lwin (Pa 3707), Township Administrator, Taninthayi Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Taninthayi Township Peace and Development Council)
135. U Aung Kyaw Oo (Pa 3777), Township Administrator, Dawei Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Dawei Township Peace and Development Council)
136. U Soe Naing (Pa 3760), Township Administrator, Thayetchaung Township General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs (Chairman of Thayetchaung Township Peace and Development Council)
137. U Myint Swe, Deputy Chief-Editor, Kyemon Newspaper, News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information
138. U Hmwe Kyi, Deputy Chief-Editor, Myanma Alin Press, News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information
139. U Zaw Win, Manager, Myanma Alin Newspaper, News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information
140. Daw Khin Nyo Win, Manager, Kyemon Newspaper, News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information
141. Daw Khin Khin Win, Manager, News and Periodicals Enterprise (Head Office), Ministry of Information
142. U Tint Swe, General Manager, Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism
143. U Soe Thein, General Manager, Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism
144. U Khin Maung Soe, General Manager, Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism
145. U Tin Maung Shwe, General Manager, Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism

(To be continued)

Lapin Bridge on new Monywa-Yagyi-Kalaywa road inaugurated

YANGON, 4 Jan — As a gesture hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day, Lapin bridge constructed by the Directorate of Military Engineers under the arrangement of the Office of the Quartermaster-General was opened at the bridge on Monywa-Yagyi-Kalaywa road in Kalaywa Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division, yesterday.

It was attended by members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Director of Military Engineers Maj-Gen Tin Tun, Brig-Gen Khin Maung Aye of Kalay Station and senior military officers, local authorities, local people and members of social organizations totalling about 10,000 people.

Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivered an address. He said the Government is building a peaceful modern and developed nation. However, some regions of the nation lagged behind others in development due to poor transport. The Government has been implementing projects to narrow the development gap among the regions under the guidance of the Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. The Chindwin river, flowing from north to south in the division, posed a barrier to the transport sector of the regions on its west bank. So the Head of State gave guidance on undertaking the tasks for facilitation of the transport sector of the region. In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, Monywa-Yagyi-Kalaywa strategic road to facilitate transport to Kalaywa situated at the entrance to Chin State (North). The 115-mile long new Monywa-Yagyi-Kalaywa road is 45 miles short of the old one and reduced the travel time from Monywa to Kalaywa to about four hours. The road would contribute towards the development of the towns and villages along the road, he said.

A total of 174 small and large bridges were situated along the road. Twenty-one of them were constructed with iron beams and reinforced concrete. Lapin Bridge, 220-foot in length and 36-foot in width including two 4-foot pedestrian lanes, was constructed at a cost of K 360 million. Under the arrangement of the Office of the Quartermaster-General, Tatmadawmen, within a short period of one year, were able to construct the bridge installed with high quality iron beams produced in the country. Being able to produce iron beams by Myanmar engineers was the success of the technology entire nation can take pride, he said. The State has been constructing roads and bridges all over the country with the aim of bridging the development gap among the regions. After 1988, a total of 174 bridges of 180 feet and above were constructed in the country including 165 bridges constructed by the Ministry of Construction, six bridges by the Ministry of Rail Transportation and three constructed by the Ministry of Defence. Another six bridges were under construction by the Ministry of Defence, he added.

Only after constructing irrigation and transport facilities



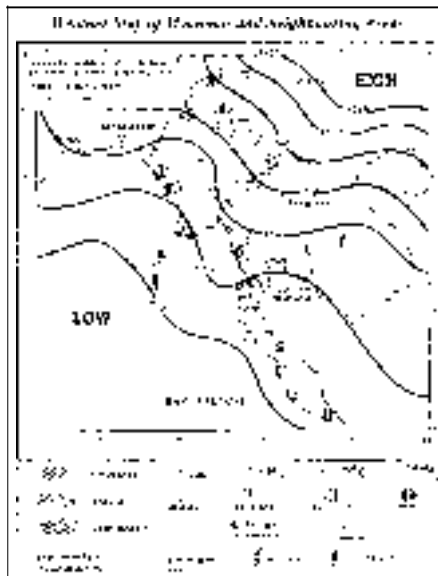
Lt-Gen Ye Myint formally unveils the stone inscription of the Lapin Bridge. — MNA

ties essential for the development of the country, the tasks to enhance the economy of the State and living standards of the people could be carried out. Therefore the Government, is constructing irrigation and transport infrastructures one after another out of its own goodwill, he said.

In conclusion, he urged local people to carry out maintenance tasks of the bridge for its perpetuity and strive for the development of the Union.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Director of Military Engineers Maj-Gen Tin Tun made speeches. Later, a local people expressed thanks towards the government for construction of the bridge. The director of Military Engineers handed over documents related to the bridge to Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun. Next, the commander, the minister and the director formally opened the bridge. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint formally unveiled the stone inscription of the bridge. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, the commander, the minister, the director and party strolled along the bridge and posed for a documentary photo together with local people.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and party proceeded to the construction site of Myittha river crossing bridge (Kalaywa) being carried out by the Ministry of Construction. Deputy Chief Engineer (Bridge) (Upper Myanmar) U San Nyein and officials conducted Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and party around the construction site. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and party proceeded to the construction site of the bridge on the other bank by boat and inspected round the construction site. After hearing reports presented by officials and Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on timely completion of the bridge and taking safety measures. — MNA



WEATHER

Sunday, 4 January, 2004

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

Maximum temperature on 3-1-2004 was 33.5°C (92°F). Minimum temperature on 4-1-2004 was 14.5°C (58°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 4-1-2004 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 3-1-2004 was (8.6) hours approx. Rainfall on 4-1-2004 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 North at (16:20) hours MST on 3-1-2004.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 5-1-2004: Isolated rains are likely in Kachin State, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Shan States, Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain in Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 5-1-2004: Fair weather. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 5-1-2004:** Partly cloudy.

"Earthquake Report"

(Issued at 01:30 hours MST on Today)

An earthquake of strong intensity (7.1) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside of Myanmar about (5400) miles Southeast of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (23)hrs (05)min (35)sec MST on 3rd January 2004.



Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivers an address at the opening ceremony. — MNA

Student youths to make ...

(from page 8)

of Defence Services Technological Academy, Ma The Lwin Oo of Institute of Pharmacy (Mandalay) and Maung Nay Thurein Sein Hla of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Yangon); the first, second and third prizes for university, college and institute level poem competition to Ma Saw Einda Thet Maung of Bago Degree College, Maung Thiha Tun of Institute of Medicine-2 (Yangon) and Cadet Bo Bo Aung of DSTA; and the first, second and third prizes for university, college and institute level TV quiz competition to Maung Nay Myo Lwin of University for Development of National Races, Ma Maw Li Than of Dagon University, Cadet San Yu Naing of DSTA and Maung Nay Thurein Sein Hla of NYRDDC.

On behalf of the prize winners, Ma May Thet Ngwe Oo spoke words of thanks. She said the Independence Day of the

Union of Myanmar is a significant day in the history of Myanmar. Though Myanmar, under her own kings, had stood as a sovereign and independent nation in the past successive eras, the nation lost her independence and was subjected to the annexation of the colonialists in the late 19th century. With the united strength of the ancestors of the national brethren, independence and sovereignty of the State was regained on 4 January 1948. Therefore, it is the historical duties of the entire national people including students to safeguard independence and sovereignty of the State.

Nowadays, all the national brethren are concertedly striving to build the peaceful, modern and developed nation. In conclusion she pledged to discharge whatever duties in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation. After the ceremony, the Secretary-1, the Secretary-2 and party posed for a documentary photo together with the prize winning students.

MNA

Over 10,000 attend 56th Anniversary Independence Day State Flag Hoisting and Saluting Ceremony at People's Square

YANGON, 4 Jan — The 2004 56th Anniversary Independence Day State Flag Hoisting and Saluting Ceremony was held at the People's Square on Pyay Road this morning, attended by over 10,000 people.

The ceremony was held in accord with the objectives of the occasion—For all national people to collectively safeguard the national independence and ensure perpetuation of sovereignty; For all national people to be united to ensure non-disintegration of national solidarity; For all national people to strive for the emergence of enduring State Constitution and for the building of a new modern and developed nation; For all national people to participate with full sense of Union Spirit and patriotism in the successful implementation of the seven-point roadmap of the State.

A total of 9,500 people of Yangon East, West, South and North Districts including members of Division, District and Township Union Solidarity and Development Associations, teachers, students, members of Red Cross Society and Fire Brigade, departmental personnel, members of township Maternal and Child Welfare Associations, workers and farmers assembled at their designated places at 6 am.

Also present on the occasion were members of USDA Central Executive Committee, the chairman, the secretary and members of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and Yangon Command, members of the work committee for observance of the occasion, departmental heads, rectors

and principals of universities and colleges, medical superintendents, division level officials, township education officers, executives of division, district and township level USDAs, representatives of 16 NGOs, national races of the Fine Arts Department, local and foreign journalists totalling over 700 people.

At 4:20 am, the year 2004 56th Anniversary Independence Day State Flag Hoisting Ceremony was held. The State Flag saluting ceremony was held at 7 am. The Guard of Honour (Army, Navy and Air) Company marched from the Pyithu Hluttaw towards the People's Square and took position.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Organizing the Yangon City Independence Day State Flag Hoisting and Saluting Ceremony Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe arrived there and took the salute of the Guard of Honour.

As the Guard of Honour saluted the State Flag, the State Band played the national anthem.

Then, the Guard of Honour paid tribute to the Fallen Leaders and Comrades and recited the four oaths. Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe read out the message of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe. The Guard of Honour then saluted to the commander and left the People's Square.

MNA



The year 2004 56th Anniversary Independence Day State Flag Hoisting and Saluting Ceremony in progress at the People's Square. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects tasks for upgrading of Yangon Kandawgyi Garden. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects all-round upgrading of Yangon City Kandawgyi Garden and renovation of Maha Pasana Cave

YANGON, 4 Jan — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt this morning inspected all-round upgrading of Yangon City Kandawgyi Garden and renovation of Maha Pasana Cave.

Accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the Prime Minister arrived at the briefing hall of the Water Plaza in the Central Symbol Zone, Yangon City Kandawgyi Garden, at 9.30 am. The Prime Minister and party were welcomed by Chairman of the work committee for all-round upgrading of Yangon City Kandawgyi Garden Environs and Yangon Zoological Gardens Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon mayor, deputy ministers and work committee members.

First, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe reported on progress in upgrading tasks at the relaxation zone, education

zone and central symbol zone in Kandawgyi Garden; Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on beautifying tasks, planting of grass and trees, construction of the water plaza and water fountain and others; Managing Director of Myanmar Agriculture Service U Tun Than on digging of ditches in Kandawgyi Garden, construction of water tanks, fences, shops, agricultural museum and archway, repairs of swimming pool, arrangements for nursery festival, floating cultivation and cultivation of orchids, herbal and vegetables; Associate Professor of Orchid Institute of Technology Prof U San Kyu on quality control in upgrading the garden; Chairman of Hoteliers' Association Dr Khin Shwe on upgrading works being carried out in the recreation zone; and U Win Aung of Wood Land Co on maintenance of the old aquarium in the garden and installation of cable car.

Next, the Prime Minister gave instructions, saying that

measures are to be taken for upgrading Kandawgyi Garden, which has been naturally situated in the heart of Yangon, without harming its natural beauties. Now, upgrading tasks are being carried out for the garden for the convenience of the public. Upgrading of the garden is aimed at creating a relaxation and education zone. And the project being implemented is also an all-round one, he said. More efforts are to be made for the upgrading and maintenance of the garden by applying the internationally standardized techniques, he added.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister inspected construction of the water plaza in Central Symbol Zone and upgrading works in the Recreation Zone. The commander and officials conducted the Prime Minister round the zones.

The Prime Minister went to Yangon Zoological Gardens. At the briefing hall Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung reported on conditions of the Gardens, income and expenditure, landscaping, planting of flowers and shade trees and renovation of buildings. The Prime Minister said as the Union National Races Village, Kandawgyi Garden and Zoological Gardens are being upgraded, the number of visitors is on the increase day by day. So, systematic measures are to be taken for upgrading and maintenance tasks. He then inspected upgrading tasks of the Zoological Gardens.

Next, the Prime Minister looked into upgrading of the relaxation zone and education zone. Officials reported on their arrangements for upgrading tasks.

Later, the Prime Minister proceeded to Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township at 12.45 pm. Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Vice Chief of Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win and Myanmar Tennis Federation President U Zaw Zaw and tennis players welcomed the Prime Minister. He then inspected the tennis courts and hostels and gave necessary instructions.

(See page 9)



Lapin Bridge in Kalaywa Township, Sagaing Division. (News on page 15) — MNA