

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Senior General Than Shwe watches Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Golf Tournament. — MNA

## 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 attends Defence Services C-in-C's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Golf Tourney

YANGON, 11 Jan— The Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Golf Tournament 2003-2004 was held at Tatmadaw Golf Course in Mingaladon Township at 6.30 am yesterday. Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe arrived at the golf course at 10 am and viewed the competitions.

The opening of the tournament was attended by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myin Swe, the ministers, senior military officers and golfers of 17 teams including offices of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), commands and light infantry divisions.

First, the golfers took their designated places at the opening ceremony.

Before the ceremony, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, General Thura Shwe Mann and party cordially greeted the

golfers.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and General Thura Shwe Mann teed off smoke balls at the opening ceremony.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, General Thura Shwe Mann, Lt-Gen Tin Aye and Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha; Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear Admiral Soe Thein and Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein; Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thauha took part in the competitions together with golfers of the 17 teams.

The second and final day events of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Golf Tournament 2003-2004 was held at Tatmadaw Golf Course in Mingaladon Township at 6.30 am today. Senior General Than Shwe arrived at the golf course at 9.45 am and viewed the competitions.

The final day matches concluded in the evening. The prize presentation ceremony was held at the golf course at 5 pm attended by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, General Thura Shwe Mann and party, golfers and guests.

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On behalf of the Defence Services Commander in Chief, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents championship of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Golf Tournament to Triangle Region Command team. — MNA

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### Circulation

23,370

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 12 January, 2004

### Regional socio-economic development through concerted efforts

After laying down the 12 objectives, the State Peace and Development Council is striving with momentum for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

Only when townships are developed, so are the States and Divisions and the entire nation. The development of townships depends on that of rural areas. With this end in view, emphasis has been placed on progress of rural areas including border regions.

The Government has been implementing the five rural development tasks for raising the education standard of rural people, providing better health care services to them, ensuring better transport in rural areas, supplying potable water and water for agricultural purpose and boosting the economy of rural areas.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe himself has gone on tours right down to rural and border regions and fulfilling the needs to uplift the socio-economic life of rural people.

In meeting with members of District and Township Peace and Development Councils, departmental officials and social organizations at Byamaso Hall in Kayan Township on 10 January, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that with the conviction that the tasks for development of a township is not concerned with the in charge of the township alone but with all the staff of the departments in the township, all should participate in the development projects; and that those in charge of the townships are to make field trips right down to the rural areas of the townships concerned to fulfil the needs in efforts for accomplishment of the five rural development tasks and to carry out tasks in harmony after forming respective township development committees.

In Kayan, Thongwa, Kyauktan and Thanlyin Townships in Yangon South District, land has been put under monsoon and winter crops and efforts are being made to cultivate summer paddy. Agricultural and livestock breeding tasks meet success in the regions and the local people, under the leadership of the State, are endeavouring for better transport, raising the education standard and providing better health care services.

The Government has been taking systematic measures for promotion of education and health sectors of rural people and at the same time it is implementing sector-wise projects including transportation and water supply. Various ways and means are being sought to supply water to farmlands for ever greening of 30-mile radius of Yangon City.

Officials are urged to take measures for development of the respective townships and uplift of the socio-economic life of local people, and the people, on their part, are to earnestly participate in these endeavours.

### CEC member of UMFCFI leaves for Bangkok

YANGON, 11 Jan — Central Executive Committee member of the Union of Myanmar Federation of chambers of Commerce and Industry U Tun Aung left here by air for Bangkok, Thailand, to attend the BIMST-EC Business Forum. He was seen off at the airport by UMFCFI Secretary-General U Sein Win Hlaing and officials. — *UMFCFI*



UMFCFI EC member U Tun Aung being seen off at the airport. — MNA

### The 57<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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

### People's Desire

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

### Efficient use of electricity

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

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



Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe and party inspect motor vehicles on the Dry Day. MNA

### Tatmadaw and departmental cars checked on Dry Day

YANGON, 11 Jan — At the main points in Yangon City from 7 am to 5 pm today, the dry day inspection teams checked Tatmadaw and departmental cars and drivers on observance of the dry day disciplines — bearing of dry day passes, drivers' licenses, and wheel taxes, wearing of departmental uniforms by drivers and breaking of traffic rules.

Vice-Chairman of Dry Day Supervisory Committee Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe and members Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen

Phone Swe, Vice-Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe, Director-Generals Lt-Col Tin Maung Tun and U Khin Maung, Police Brig-Gen Win Soe, senior military officers, directors, Deputy Director-General of the Government's Office U Sein Hla and Commander of Yangon Division Wireless and Traffic Police Force Police Lt-Col Aung Naing, divided into two groups supervised the inspection teams today.

MNA

### Military band contest ends

YANGON, 11 Jan — The (2004) 56th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative military band contest continued at People's Square here today.

Present were senior military officers, guests, students and family members of Tatmadawmen. Well-wisher Gita Uyin U Tin Aye donated 60 books on playing clarinet & trumpet worth K 33,000. Vice-Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe accepted the donations. Then, Brig-Gen Hla Shwe presented prizes to the outstanding bands. — MNA



Vice-Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe accepts the donations of music books worth K 33,000 by a well-wisher. — MNA



## US says Black Hawk was shot down

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan—The US military says one of its Black Hawk helicopters that crashed in central Iraq on Thursday, killing all nine soldiers on board, was shot down by the Iraqi resistance.

"Preliminary investigations indicated that the med-evac helicopter was brought down by ground fire," said Brigadier General Mark Kimmitt, the coalition's deputy director of operations.

He added that "the investigation has not concluded".

The helicopter crashed on Thursday near the town of Falluja, west of Baghdad, an area which is a hotbed of resistance to the US occupation.

Witnesses said they had seen the helicopter in flames before it crashed.

Another US military officer, who de-

clined to give his name, told AFP he had read a report indicating the pilot of a second helicopter in the area had seen ground fire which may have hit a tail rotor.

Of seven other US helicopters that have been lost as a result of hostile fire since the end of major combat operations in Iraq on 1 May, four were brought down by attackers in the Falluja area.

A Chinook helicopter was struck down by a surface-to-air missile on 2 November in the area, killing 16 people.

Internet

## Bush's accusations spoiled Iran-US thaw

TEHRAN, 11 Jan—Iran's influential former president, Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, said on Friday US President George W. Bush's repeated accusations against Iran had undermined a possible thaw in the decades-old enmity between the two nations.

Speaking at Friday prayers in Teheran, Rafsanjani said Teheran was encouraged by US humanitarian relief to victims of the devastating earthquake in Bam on December 26 and a US proposal for a first public official visit to Iran in over two decades.

"Our initial analysis was that they wanted to pave the way for negotiations and resolving the problems," Rafsanjani said in a sermon broadcast live on state radio.

"Their main mistake was that Mr Bush started to repeat the old allegations

about Iran and weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, and the Middle East conflict..."

"If you want to extend a hand of friendship and a new approach, you shouldn't repeat the old words," said Rafsanjani, who analysts say remains a key player in Iran's foreign policy.

Iran routinely denies Washington's accusations that it is pursuing weapons of mass destruction and sponsoring terrorism and repeatedly calls on US officials to stop meddling in its internal affairs.

Washington broke ties

with Iran shortly after the 1979 Islamic Revolution. US sanctions in place since 1995 prohibit US companies from investing in OPEC's second largest oil producer or trading in Iranian oil.

But US and Iranian officials have spoken recently about a willingness to resume a limited dialogue with Teheran, which was broken off by Washington last May.

Following Iran's acceptance of aid for Bam, Washington proposed sending a humanitarian mission led by US Senator Elizabeth Dole to Iran. Teheran declined the offer. —MNA/Reuters

## China-Vietnam border negotiations make good progress

HANOI, 11 Jan—A Chinese delegation led by Vice-Foreign Minister Wang Yi and a Vietnamese delegation led by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Le Cong Phung held the 10th round of government level negotiations on the Sino-Vietnamese borders in Hanoi on Friday and Saturday.

The two sides reviewed progress made in previous negotiations. They expressed high appreciation for the breakthrough achieved in follow-up negotiations on the agreement on Beibu Gulf fishery cooperation, and made concrete arrangements for the next negotiations.

They stated that delineating and placing markers on the land border had a good beginning, and agreed to speed up the process and complete the delineation of the border soon.

The two sides also agreed to try to complete follow-up negotiations on the agreement on Beibu Gulf fishery cooperation at an early stage, to sign the supplementary protocol, and to complete the formalities of each side approving the fishery agreement and the Beibu Gulf de-

marcation agreement.

China and Vietnam will strive to bring the two agreements into force in the second quarter of this year.

The two sides agreed to maintain the mechanism on

negotiations on sea issues, to practically maintain stability in the South China Sea, and to continue seeking ways and modes of sea cooperation.

MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier from the 1st Battalion, 22nd Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division guarding the US base in the Iraqi town of Tikrit, some 250 km north of Baghdad recently. —INTERNET

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Smoke billows from the downed Black Hawk helicopter the US military said one of its Black Hawk helicopters that crashed in central Iraq on 8 Jan, 2004, killing all nine soldiers on board, was shot down by the Iraqi resistance. —INTERNET

## US accused of Iraqi cruelty

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan—The US-occupation army in Iraq has been slammed by a human rights group for being negligent in handing out compensations for Iraqis killed or injured by them.

Occupation Watch, an international group of peace and justice organisations set up to monitor the conduct of occupying forces in Iraq, said the process for Iraqis to make claims was purposely opaque and often their treatment by the US military bordered on cruelty.

"There is a culture of impunity," Occupation Watch's researcher Paola Gasparoli said on Saturday. "Many of the most important cases cannot be presented or are being rejected for entirely illogical reasons," she said.

After major combat was declared over on 1 May, the US military said it would hear claims from Iraqis whose family members were killed or wounded in incidents involving US troops as long as they took place in non-combat circumstances.

According to Human Rights Watch, the US military received nearly 5400 claims as of mid-September, of which 4148 had been adjudicated and 1874 denied. The US claims it has paid out several million dollars in compensation. But Occupation Watch insists the claims process lacks clarity.

"Sometimes soldiers know they have killed someone wrongly, so they do everything to make sure they get away with it," Gasparoli said.

"There have been cases in which bodies were stripped of identification and delivered to hospitals as unknowns," Gasparoli said.

"We need to work to put pressure on the US army to change the claims process and to start to take some of these claims seriously, instead of just dismissing them," the researcher argued. —Internet

## Parmalat's ex-Venezuela head arrested

PARMA (Italy), 11 Jan—The former head of Parmalat's operations in Venezuela Friday became the ninth person to be arrested in the food group's massive fraud scandal after he returned to Italy, his lawyer said.

Giovanni Bonici was jailed in the northern city of Parma, his lawyer Antonino Tuccari said.

Prosecutors in the city have launched an investigation into the multi-billion-euro hole in the accounts of the crippled multinational, which has its headquarters just outside Parma.

Bonici briefly managed the group's Cayman Islands unit, Bonlat, which is at the centre of the fraud probe after a four-billion-euro bank account was exposed to be non-existent.

MNA/Reuters

## US troops swoop on Tikrit in hunt for resistance

TIKRIT (Iraq), 11 Jan—US troops stormed houses and shops in the central Iraqi town of Tikrit late on Thursday in an operation aimed at weeding out lingering resistance in the place Saddam Hussein called home.

Some 300 soldiers from the US Army's 4th Infantry Division burst into properties across the town and detained more than 40 people suspected of involvement in attacks on US forces occupying Iraq, their commanding officer said.

Sixteen were released later, but around 30 remained in detention.

"It was a good night," Lieutenant-Colonel Steven Russell told reporters after the raids, which lasted through the night.

"Tikrit will be a safer place tomorrow as a result." Acting on intelligence from Iraqi sources, soldiers burst into at least 20 houses

and three shops. Fourteen of those captured were on the Army's local wanted list.

"They were funders, organizers, propagandists, a police mole and those that had attacked our forces," Russell said. One was suspected of detonating a roadside bomb which killed one of Russell's soldiers and wounded three others on October 1.

Six other people targeted by the raid were not found. Using Bradley armoured vehicles to seal off roads, and support from military aircraft, troops barged into houses to search for suspects, weapons and incriminating material.

In another house, soldiers discovered a stack of fake Iraqi police identity cards and computer equipment. Suspects were hauled out of their houses, blindfolded and had their hands cuffed behind their backs with plastic bindings. —MNA/Reuters

# Annan keeps 'open mind' about Iraq role

UNITED NATIONS 11 Jan—Secretary-General Kofi Annan will keep an "open mind" about the United Nations role when he meets with Iraqi and coalition leaders to discuss Iraq future, but he has concrete ideas about a possible mandate, officials said Friday.

Annan was to talk with US Ambassador John Negroponte and British Ambassador Emyr Jones-Parry later Friday to lay the groundwork for a Jan. 19 meeting with Iraq's Governing Council and the Coalition Provisional Authority to clarify the world body's role in postwar Iraq.

The secretary-general pulled UN international staff out of Iraq after a deadly suicide attack on its Baghdad headquarters in August, and the meetings will help determine when the staff will return.

Annan now is seeking security assurances and hopes to learn how much Washington is willing to allow the United Nations to do in Iraq in coming months.

"Everyone wants to see a successful transition to sovereignty in Iraq and everyone has their thinking caps on as

to the best way to do that," U.N. spokesman Fred Eckhard said. "We are maintaining an open mind while we listen to whatever the Brits and Americans put forward to us and we're also listening to what the Iraqis are saying."

A Nov. 15 agreement calls for a legislature elected through caucuses in Iraq's 18 provinces and a handover of power by June 30. It does not define what role the United Nations could play.

Annan has been pressured by Abdel-Aziz al-Hakim, the Governing Council's president for December, to get involved in Iraq immediately.

Al-Hakim supports Ayatollah Ali al-Hussein al-Sistani, Iraq's most powerful cleric, who wants direct elections, and not caucuses, for the transitional assembly. Al-Hakim

asked Annan in a Dec. 28 letter if the United Nations would oversee that process.

Annan replied to al-Hakim on Thursday, Eckhard said without disclosing what he said. Annan has said previously that holding national elections in Iraq by June 30 would be impossible, and the United States agrees.

A senior British official said Friday on condition of anonymity that Annan could play a key role in convincing al-Sistani that holding direct elections so soon is impossible. That could lead to a greater acceptance within Iraq for the transition process formulated by the United States.

A UN official said on condition of anonymity Thursday that Annan has concrete ideas about the role he wants the United Nations to play in Iraq.

Internet

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## US troops kill two Iraqi policemen by mistake

BAGHDAD, 11 Jan— On Friday, two Iraqi policemen were killed by US soldiers after the men failed to identify themselves when the soldiers responded to a domestic dispute near Kirkuk, an Army spokesman said Saturday.

Capt. Jefferson Wolfe said soldiers of the 173rd Airborne Brigade got a report that two families were fighting. When they arrived, the soldiers found two men firing weapons, Wolfe said.

When the men failed to identify themselves, the US soldiers fired warning shots, then shot at them, wounding one man and killing the other, the spokesman said. The wounded man died at a hospital.

"It was an unfortunate incident," said Master Sgt. Robert Cargie of the 4th Infantry Division. "They refused to heed warning shots."

He said the overcoats the men were wearing didn't identify that they were police. Members of the new Iraqi police work with the US-led coalition and have been attacked for their collaboration. Several police station blasts have killed dozens of officers. In December, an Iraqi police station was bombed, killing 20 people and wounding 32 others.

In other Iraqi developments, Wolfe said the military will investigate a report that US forces near Tikrit fired a machine gun on a taxi last week, killing four Iraqi civilians, including a 7-year-old boy, and wounding the driver.—Internet

## Pilot who beat cancer dies in Iraq crash

TAMPA (Florida), 11 Jan—An Army helicopter pilot who had survived cancer and a battle in Somalia depicted in the film "Black Hawk Down" was among nine soldiers killed in a helicopter crash in Iraq his family said Friday. Chief Warrant Officer Aaron Weaver, rebounding from testicular cancer, could have stayed put at Fort Bragg, NC, when his unit shipped out to Iraq last year. But that wasn't like him.

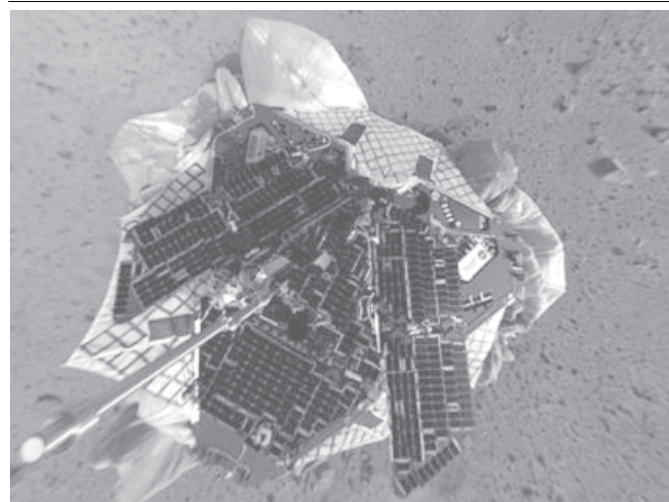
Weaver, 32, of Inverness, had worked hard to get himself back into shape after cancer surgery in 2002, and got a special medical clearance to fly his OH-58 observer helicopter in Iraq, his father, Mike Weaver, said Friday.

"He wanted to go to Iraq," his father said. "When you're in a group like that, you don't want your friends to leave you behind."

Aaron Weaver, of the 82nd Airborne Division, was a passenger on the Black Hawk when it went down Thursday. The aircraft was hit by an Iraqi rocket, a witness said. Weaver was flying to Baghdad for a post-cancer checkup with other soldiers in need of medical attention.

Two other soldiers killed in the crash were 82nd Airborne Division paratroopers based at Fort Bragg, NC, a division spokesman said Friday. In Fort Carson, Colo., officials confirmed on Friday that four of its soldiers were among the nine killed in the crash.

Internet



This mosaic image taken by the navigation camera on the Mars Exploration Rover Spirit, released by NASA on 10 Jan, 2004, has been reprocessed to project a clear overhead view of the rover on the surface of Mars. NASA's Spirit rover has fully unfolded itself and stretched up to its full 4-foot, 9-inch height, making it ready to drive off the lander that delivered it to Mars, the space agency said on Saturday.—INTERNET

## Jobs figures show US economy is Bush's achilles heel

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan—A poor US employment report on Friday reflects the glaring gap between upbeat economic news and the reality on the street and shows that the economy remains a potential weakness for President George W. Bush.

The figures from the Labour Department showed that nonfarm payrolls rose by only 1,000 in December. Economic experts had forecast a jump of at least 130,000, with some suggesting an increase of 200,000 or more.

Their optimism came from the fact that gross domestic product raced ahead by 8.2 per cent in the third quarter of 2003.

But the latest jobs data suggested that the stimulus to the economy from Bush's tax cuts last summer might be transitory and would fade as soon as consumers finished spending their extra cash. "The story remains the disconnect between statistics suggesting a booming economy and perceptions in Main Street," said pollster John Zogby.

"My polling still shows 21 per cent of people, and 25 per cent of those earning over 75,000 US dollars, are afraid of losing their jobs in the next year," he said.

The jobs report capped an unpleasant 24 hours for Bush, coming just hours after news that nine US servicemen had died when their

helicopter was hit by a rocket in Iraq.

Most political pundits believe Bush is heavily favoured to win a second four-year term in next November's presidential election. His vulnerabilities remain the economy and the prospect of continuing casualties in Iraq.

"The Democrats seemed almost resigned to losing the economy as an election issue. This report changes that and revives the issue," said Dean Spiliotes, head of the New Hampshire Institute of Politics and Saint Anselm College.

"Bush still has a better than 50 per cent chance of re-election, but if we lose more helicopters and the economy fails to pick up, he could find himself in a less secure position," Spiliotes said.

Democratic presidential candidates quickly responded. "President Bush can't sweep under the rug the fact that more than eight million people are hunting for work and there just aren't enough jobs," North Carolina Senator John Edwards said. —MNA/Reuters



A helicopter patrols the skies of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad at sunset, on 9 January, 2004.

INTERNET

## Greek car sales down 4.2% in 2003

ATHENS, 11 Jan— Greek car market shrunk in 2003 with sales declining by 4.2 per cent compared with the previous year, following a trend prevailing in international markets.

Market analysts, however, stressed that a total of 257,923 new cars registered in the Greek market in 2003 was not a bad figure given tight liquidity conditions in the domestic economy, noting that government measures to reduce car registration taxes failed to strongly boost domestic sales.

Toyota maintained its leading position in the Greek market with 24,170 sales in 2003, up 0.9 per cent from the previous year. Hyundai was second with 20,935 sales, down 4.5 per cent over the same period, while Opel was third with 19,838, up one position from 2002.

Ford jumped to fourth position in 2003 with 17,392 sales, up 12.1 per cent, from the eighth position in 2002.

Mazda recorded a 283-per-cent rise in sales, Volvo jumped 227 per cent, Saab was up 91 per cent and Mercedes rose 63.5 per cent in 2003. Luxury cars also recorded increased sales in the year, with Porsche recording 160 sales (up 139 per cent), Maserati 15 sales (up 114 per cent) and four sales for Lamborghini.

MNA/Xinhua



# CONTINUING ANTI-US RESISTANCE



*Iraqi demonstrators face British Army soldiers guarding the administration headquarters in the southeastern city of Amara, on 11 January, 2004. British troops said they opened fire on grenade-throwing Iraqi protesters in a clash in which at least five people were killed on Saturday. —INTERNET*



*Iraqis crowd the dispensary of a hospital in Abul Khassib, a town near the southern city of Basra January 10, 2004, to receive medicine which is in short supply in many areas of postwar Iraq. —INTERNET*



*Iraqi policemen walk past a car in which 100kg of plastic explosives were found outside the entrance to a building in Baquba recently. —INTERNET*



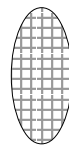
*A US Army soldier stands guard while the other inspects a damaged truck after a military supply truck accidentally smashed into another in Baghdad's suburb of Taji, Saturday, Jan. 10, 2004.*

INTERNET



*US soldiers on patrol in Kirkuk recently.*

INTERNET



*A US Army soldier of the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division, walks on a foggy morning in Tikrit, Iraq, recently. —INTERNET*

# Iraqi civilians claim US military opened fire on taxi, killing four and wounding one

**TIKRIT, 11 Jan**—The US military is investigating a report that American soldiers opened fire with a machine gun on a taxi, killing four Iraqi civilians, including a 7-year-old boy, and wounded the driver last week in Saddam Hussein's hometown.

Iraqi police in the northern town of Tikrit, found the bullet-riddled car and took the wounded driver, Ibrahim Allawi, to the hospital.

Allawi said he was driving four passengers in his taxi on the evening of Jan 3 when he was caught behind a convoy of four Humvees on a road leading to the main highway through Tikrit.

Soldiers in the last Humvee, he says, directed him to pass the convoy. When he had nearly cleared all the vehicles, machine gun fire struck his taxi, he said.

The fire came from the lead vehicle in the convoy, Allawi said from his hospital bed.

The US military is investigating the

shooting, but has not yet reached any conclusion, said Maj. Josslyn Aberle, a spokeswoman for the Army's 4th Infantry Division, which is based in Tikrit.

The Iraqi officers said they believed his account and expressed frustration by what they said was a delayed response to the incident by US authorities.

US soldiers who went to the scene found a blue Chevrolet Caprice "hit by multiple bursts of heavy-caliber machine gunfire," and several dead Iraqis, said Lt Col Steve Russell, a battalion commander in Tikrit. The incident was a "human tragedy," he added.

"Our soldiers were not involved in

this incident," Russell said. "But it's possible that the damage to the vehicle could have come from coalition forces given the (type of) damage."

The incident, which people refer to as "the car slayings," adds to already high tension in Tikrit, a major centre of attacks against coalition forces.

In a raid on Friday that was aimed at Saddam loyalists, US soldiers kicked open doors and dragged men and teenage boys from their beds. Thirty suspects were arrested.

"The misconduct (of American soldiers) will make people turn against them, more than they already are," Allawi said.

Internet

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## Six killed, 11 injured in clash between protesters and British and Iraqi security forces

**AMARAH, 11 Jan**—Iraqi police fired into a crowd of stone-throwing protesters angry over the lack of jobs in the southern town of Amarah on Saturday, killing six people and wounding 11, witnesses and a hospital doctor said.

Hundreds of protesters gathered opposite the coalition office where British security forces have a regional headquarters, saying coalition authorities had not kept a promise to find them jobs by the beginning of January. There were conflicting reports about what led the police to fire. Some witnesses said people in the crowd shot at police first, others that the crowd was only throwing stones when police shot at them. Dr Saad Hamoud of the Al-Zahrawi Surgical Hospital said six people were killed and the hospital was treating 11 wounded protesters. There were no reports of casualties among the police. —Internet

## UN seeks security assurances from US in Iraq

**UNITED NATIONS, 11 Jan**—In an effort to get UN staff back into Iraq, the United States on Friday reviewed security for the world body, still reluctant to send officials into the field after last summer's disastrous bombing of its Baghdad offices.

US and British ambassadors sounded out UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan before a crucial January 19 meeting on the future role of the United Nations in Iraq. But many UN officials are wary of seeing the United Nations back in Baghdad while the US occupation is in force. "Security is of course one of the principle concerns of the United Nations," said US Ambassador John Negroponte after talks with Annan and British Ambassador Emyr Jones Parry.

One proposal, participants said, was to have the multinational force in Iraq break off a contingent to protect

UN staff. But no decisions were made at the session that included senior UN security officials.

"The situation on the ground remains insecure, so the scope for a UN role is very much limited by the security factor. That's a fact of life," UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said.

Annan withdrew international staff in October after two bombing attacks on its Iraq headquarters, the one on August 19 costing the lives of 22 staff and visitors.

Since then Annan has emphasized he would not send them back unless security improved — and unless the UN's political role was well-defined in contributing to the country's future.

The United States has devised a schedule that would transfer governing power to an Iraqi provisional authority by June 30, a procedure

known as "phase 1".

In "phase 2" the Iraqis would write a Constitution and hold general elections by the end of 2005.

Negroponte acknowledged that the United Nations still had a problem fielding staff quickly before June by saying that "I think that on phase 2 there isn't any doubt that the United Nations is prepared to play a robust role if it is asked to do so by the Iraqis." Annan has called a meeting for January 19 that would include the US-led occupation coalition in Iraq and leaders of the Iraqi Governing Council.

Britain has offered to send Sir Jeremy Greenstock, its top envoy in Iraq, to the talks. The United States has not yet made clear the level of its representation, from Washington or Baghdad, but Negroponte said it would be "appropriate".

MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi stands behind a barrier of razor wire outside Abu Ghraib prison in west Baghdad, on 8 Jan, 2004 while awaiting for his detained relatives to be released by the US-led coalition forces.—INTERNET

## Report says US anti-drug policy failing in Andes

**WASHINGTON, 11 Jan** — US counter-drug policy in the Andes gives too much priority to military aid, focuses too much on Colombia and pays too little attention to urgent economic and social issues, a new report said on Thursday.

The report, "Andes 2020", by the Council on Foreign Relations think-tank, comes as the Bush Administration looks for a successor programme to the Plan Colombia anti-drug scheme, which ex-

pires at the end of next year.

Launched in 2000 by the Clinton Administration and the centre piece of the Bush Administration's anti-drug fight abroad, Plan Colombia makes about 700 million US dollars a year in mostly military assistance available to the Andean region, with the lion's share earmarked for Colombia.

Officials in Colombia and the United States say sharp drops in the planted acreage of coca crops in Colombia,

thanks to crop spraying, and reduced violence across the region are signs that Washington's policy has been working. But the report's authors say the plan will fail in the long haul, with drug production merely shifting to other countries, notably Bolivia.

"The US policy seems to have been in the past years to push drug production up and down the Andean ridge," John Heimann, former Comptroller of the US Treasury and one of the reports' authors, said. He

said security issues, drugs, corruption, poor land distribution, income inequalities and other problems need to be tackled multilaterally. —MNA/Reuters

## Britain's trade deficit widens again

**LONDON, 11 Jan**— Britain's trade deficit with the rest of the world has risen again, according to the latest official figures published Friday.

The Office for National Statistics said Britain imported 4.4 billion pounds' worth of goods more than it exported in last November, compared to 4.25 billion pounds in October. Reduced production of North Sea oil due to maintenance was one reason for the deficit, but the declining dollar is also hurt-

ing British exports to the United States, the office said in a report.

Exports to the United States fell by nearly 10 per cent in November to 2.3 billion pounds, despite the rapid growth in the US economy, which grew by more than 8 per cent in the third quarter of 2003.

This accounted for two-

thirds of the drop in exports for the month. Since then, the dollar has fallen further against the pound to an 11-year low of 1.82 dollars. The higher pound makes British goods more expensive in the US market, and may dash hopes that a booming global economy will help spark British economic growth. —MNA/Xinhua



Morakot, an 80-year-old female elephant, plays after being fitted with custom-made dentures in Kanchanaburi province, west of Bangkok, Thailand, on 10 Jan, 2004. —INTERNET



# Myanmar's all-out anti-narcotics drive

*Maung Po Hmat*

The narcotics elimination drive in Myanmar is advancing step by step towards its goal, thanks to the all-out efforts.

The problem of narcotic drugs is the evil legacy. The colonialists from the west carried opium to the east and forced the people of the colonies to grow poppy for opium. The colonialist gained benefits from the opium trade which also made a large number of Asian people become drug addicts, depriving them of the ability to ward off the danger of the colonialists.

Since regaining of independence, Myanmar has been striving to root out the problem of opium. It had to face and crush the internal insurgents and the drug trafficking insurgents like Kuomintang who were refining heroin. As soon as internal peace and stability is restored, the country starts to make strenuous efforts to root out the drugs.

While trying to solve the drug problem, Myanmar has come to face with the new problem of stimulant pills or the Yaba. The chemicals used in refining narcotic drugs are not produced in Myanmar. And for no reason, Myanmar will import those chemical substances. Even opium was a contraband smuggled into the nation by the colonialists. The heroin refining method and equipment and precursor chemicals were smuggled into the nation by the Kuomintang intruders and their CIA supporters. The stimulant pill manufacturing machines and chemicals are the illegal goods smuggled into the nation by the remnants of the insurgents, who clandestinely carried the finished goods or the pills out of the country across the borders.

Taking strict border control measures and handing down severe punishments on the drug traffickers and producers may lead to eliminating the illegal business of trading stimulant pills and heroin. But ending the practice of cultivating poppy for opium is another thing. As the practice of opium cultivation is the evil legacy of the colonialists, it takes time to organize the national race opium growers, to quit the practice. Alternative crops cultivation and development projects are needed to gradually change the lives of the opium growers.

It has been known all over the world that as the opium substitute cultivation and livestock breeding project is gaining greater success, the opium growers have been handing over the opium buds and seeds to the Government out of their own volition. Myanmar is now in the process of implementing the 15-year narcotics elimination plan. The problem of drugs cannot be solved with words, or be used for political gains. In this regard, Myanmar is making efforts with heart and soul and through

fruitful discussions to drive out the drugs.

Myanmar is not working alone in tackling the problem. It is joining hands with the neighbouring and regional countries, the anti-narcotics bodies of the UN and international organizations. It is now implementing the New Destiny Project to end poppy cultivation in the regions where the practice was introduced by the colonialists. Some of the regions have made a good start, and are able to declare themselves opium free zone. For example, Mongla in Shan State. Other regions including those form the Kachin State and Wa region are trying to free themselves from the opium by the year 2005. Peace and stability can be restored even in the border areas after the 17 armed groups returned to the legal fold. Thus, the anti-narcotics drive can be launched with greater acceleration. The countries that are pointing a finger at others for their own drug problem should study our situation with clear outlook. They should help us achieve greater success in driving out the drug problem.

Myanmar is extraditing the Chinese citizens who are wanted in China for their drug related crimes back to their country to face legal punishment. The Government of Thailand is curbing the drug problem. But some media of the west are still slandering Myanmar. Myanmar and Thailand are rooting out the narcotics with the common objective. Under the Myanmar-Thai anti-narcotics and border areas development project, a 16-bed hospital, built by the Yaungkha Village Project of Monghsat District, eastern Shan State, was opened on 26 December 2003 at the village. It is one of the results of the project. The hospital was formally opened by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Commander of No 3 Military Area of Thailand Lt-Gen Pichammeth Muangmanee.

The Yaungkha Village Project is an outcome of the meeting between the Prime Ministers of the two nations. It is an all-round development project jointly implemented by the two countries, and Thailand contributed 20 million baht to it.

After holding discussions, the officials of the two countries chose Yaungkha village-tract, located 30 miles west of Tarchilek, as the project area. The project covering all the 13 villages in the village-tract also benefits national races of the surrounding areas.

The project which began in January 2003 has opened a 500-student capacity basic education primary school and a 16-bed hospital. The school was opened with 10 teachers and 222 students in June.

The project also covers the alternative crop culti-

vation work, and paddy is being cultivated on 2,200 acres of land including 1,300 acres of highland cultivation. Six mini dams and 20 kilometres of feeder canals have been built with the help of the local villagers. As water can be supplied to over 840 acres of crops round the year, the region can produce over 2,000 tons of surplus rice annually. The local people are now growing corn, soybean, bamboo shoot, and macadamia. The surplus crop produce of the alternative project will be sold to Thailand. Pedigree strains of chicken, fish and pig are being distributed to the villagers to engage in farming.

The head of the Yaungkha Village Project on the Thai side is the executive officer of Lweton project in Chiang Rai District, Thailand, and his Myanmar counterpart is Col San Pwint of the Ministry of Defence. At the ceremony to open the 16-bed hospital Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung presented seeds for local farmers to U Pauk Yuchan.

The Thai head of the Yaungkha project and his team visited Lwehsanson tea plantation, Wanhon, Mongyun and Yaungkha regions and studied the alternative and development projects. Journalists of periodicals and TV of Thailand were also included in the team. When they arrived back to their country, the Thai journalists wrote articles on their experiences in Myanmar from the positive point of view.

The 19 November 2003 issue of the Bangkok Economic Review said the people of the world, especially the Thai people, always saw Mongyawn together with narcotic drugs; that the Thai government was facing and solving the problem of drugs whether they are stimulant pills or heroin as a big problem; that when the team visited Mongyawn, the past vision of seeing Mongyawn as a big drug producing area changed; that they came to find out that it had no concern with the drugs.

The 19 November 2003 issue of The Bangkok Post reported that the Thai head of the Yaungkha project expressed his belief that the Wa people in Mongyawn were not involved in or had no connections with the drug production business.

Myanmar is striving to eliminate the drug problem with heart and soul and achieving success. We thank all those have taken part in the anti-drug drive. Despite the slanders, based on negative views, against Myanmar, the country will continue to exert sincere efforts to wipe out the problem of narcotic drugs.

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(Translation: TMT)

Kyemon+Myanma Alin: 10 January 2004.

## Independence Day Exhibition concludes

YANGON, 11 Jan — The 56th Anniversary Independence Day Commemorative Exhibition concluded at the Tatmadaw Convention Centre on U Wisara Road this evening.

At the booths of the Ministry of Industry-1 and

the Ministry of Industry-2, products of the industries under the ministry were on display.

Students also took part in computer quiz. News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information opened NPE Book

Shop along with the Sarpay Beikman Book Shop of Printing and Publishing Enterprise near the exhibition hall.

Monks, students and the public totalling 6,667 people visited the exhibition today. —MNA

## Agriculture and regional development tasks inspected

YANGON, 11 Jan — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspected the construction site of Hsinphon concrete bridge on the road linking Mingaladon and Hlegu Townships this afternoon.

Chairman U Than Myint of Aye Yeik Mon Co reported to the commander

on construction of bridges on the road.

The commander also inspected the summer paddy fields near the construction site.

Next, the commander inspected the digging of irrigation canals near Barlar Village in Hlegu Township and fulfilled the requirements.

Afterwards, the commander met with local farm-

ers near the village and urged them to grow summer paddy, pulses and beans, oil crops, and vegetables.

Next, the commander inspected the summer paddy fields on both sides of the road linking Shwenatha and Ngwenatha Villages and summer paddy fields of Yangon Command.

The commander gave necessary instructions.

MNA

## Minister inspects factories in Bago Division (West)

YANGON, 11 Jan — Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin inspected No 1 Agricultural Factory in Sinda on 9 January. Managing Director of Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Industries Col Myo Myint reported to the minister on production of farm machinery. After hearing the reports, the minister gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, the minister viewed round the factory.

The minister inspected No 2 Automobile Plant in Htonbo yesterday. Managing Director U Soe Thein of Myanmar Automobile and Diesel Engine Industries reported to the minister on production of D-70 engines and vehicles. Afterwards, the minister fulfilled

the requirements.

Later, the minister proceeded to No-1 Machine Tool Factory in Nyaungchehtauk. Managing Director U Kyaw Win of Myanmar Machine Tool and Electrical Industries reported to the minister on production of machines and wire. Next, the minister gave necessary instructions.

MNA

## Seminar on Publishing continues

YANGON, 11 Jan — The Seminar on Publishing of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association continued for the third day today at the hall of MWJA in Sarpay Beikman building this afternoon.

It was attended by MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Vice-Chairmen News and Peri-

odicals Enterprise Managing Director U Tin Kha (Takatho Tin Kha) and Printing and Publishing Enterprise Managing Director U Myint Thein (Myint Thein Aung), Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay) and CEC members, Chairman of the work committee for holding the seminar U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin)

and members, Myanmar Printing and Publishing Entrepreneurs Association Chairman U Maung Maung, resource persons and guests. At the seminar, resource persons submitted their papers.

The fourth day session of the seminar continues tomorrow.

MNA

## Senior General Than Shwe attends Defence Services...

(from page 1)

Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein presented first, second and third prizes to the Triangle Region Command team with 557 strokes, the South East Command team with 578 strokes and the Northern Command team with 591 strokes in the team handicap event.

Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear Admiral Soe Thein presented first, second and third prizes to the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s office team with 674 strokes, the Yangon Command team with 712 strokes and the

Eastern Command team with 739 strokes in the team scratch event.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented first, second and third prizes to Lt Tin Shwe of the Western Command team with 127 strokes, Lt-Col Than Lwin of the Triangle Region Command team with 132 strokes, Maj Zaw Win of the South East Command team with 132 strokes in the individual handicap event.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence presented first, second and third prizes to Maj Khin Zaw



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party watch Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Golf Tournament. —MNA

## Minister looks into road, bridge construction tasks in Sagaing, Mandalay divisions

YANGON, 11 Jan— Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by officials from the Public Works, on 7 January morning, arrived at Waylunwun monastery in Tiddim, Chin State, to pay homage to Presiding Sayadaw Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Vannasiri.

After presenting offer-tories to the Sayadaw, the minister inspected the Tiddim-Thaingngin road. Deputy Superintending Engineer U Thein Tun of Road Construction Special Group-11 reported on future tasks. The minister then inspected the Kalay-Falam-Haka road and gave instructions.

On 8 January morning, the minister and party left Haka and inspected the Haka-Thantlang road. At Thantlang Township Engineering Office, Chin State Superintending Engineer U Tin Maung Hla and Township Engineer U Man Do Kyeim reported to the minister on road construction tasks and the minister gave instructions.

Afterwards, the minister and party inspected the Thantlang-Falam road section and the Falam-Kalay road section.

On 9 January morning, the minister and party vis-

ited the construction site for Panmon Creek Bridge of Road Construction Special Group-11 between mile posts 15/5 and 15/6 on Kalay-Gangaw road. Deputy Superintending Engineer U Thein Tun briefed them on completion of the construction tasks for the bridge and Kyundonhla Bridge between mile posts 32/5 and 32/6 on the road and future tasks.

The minister gave instructions on timely completion and meeting the set standards and minimizing of wastage.

In the afternoon, the minister left Kalay for Kalaywa and arrived at Myittha Bridge (Kalaywa) construction site where Chief Engineer U Kyaw Lin reported on completion of the bridge and future tasks.

The minister gave instructions and provided them with necessary materials and machinery. The minister and party inspected earthen works for approach road and bridge construction tasks. The bridge, crossing Myittha river, links Monywa-Yagyi Road and Kalaywa. It can be used for Kalaywa-Kalay-Tamu border trade and will be beneficial to townships on Chin mountain ranges.

MNA

Win of the Triangle Region Command team with 152 strokes, Maj Tin Ko Ko of the Northern Command team with 162 strokes, Lt Tin Shwe of the Western Command team with 163 strokes in the individual scratch event.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presented best par and best birdie prizes to the respective winners.

Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo presented prizes to daily best score golfers in the individual handicap and scratch events.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win presented prizes to longest drive, nearest pin and a team to the respective winners.

In handicap event, the Triangle Region Command team won the first prize with 557 and in the scratch event the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s office team won the first prize with 674 strokes.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented the trophy to the Triangle Region Command team and the ceremony came to a close.

After the prize presentation ceremony, Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Khin



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye takes part in Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Golf Tournament. MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann tees off smoke ball to open Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Golf Tournament. — MNA

Maung Than, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Rear Admiral Soe Thein and Maj-Gen Myat Hein had a documentary photo taken together with golfers of the Triangle Region Command and the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) teams.

After the ceremony, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greeted the golfers.

MNA



Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein poses for a documentary photo together with prize winning golf teams. — MNA





*Sasana Beikmandawgyi in Kengtung, Shan State (East). — MNA*

## Secretary-2 inspects...

(from page 16)

Next, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint gave a supplementary report.

Afterwards, Principal of Kengtung Nursing and Midwifery Training School Dr Nan Soe Phan reported to the Secretary-2 on administrative, academic and staff affairs of the training school, number of trainees and requirements. Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint gave a supplementary report.

After hearing the reports, the Secretary-2 said competent health personnel were being nurtured at the institutes of medicine and nursing and midwifery training schools for the achievement of objective of the health policy of the State. The Secretary-2 urged the health personnel to strive with goodwill for the accomplishment their duties to ensure the long and healthy lives for the public.

Afterwards, the Secretary-2 cordially greeted the medical superintendents, physicians, doctors and nurses.

Next, the Secretary-2 and party proceeded to Kengtung Nursing and Midwifery Training School and inspected the lecture halls, the language lab, the computer lab, the altar room, the demonstration room and teaching and learning activities at the training school. Next, the Secretary-2 cordially greeted the trainees.

Afterwards, the Secre-

tary-2 and party inspected the upgrading of sports grounds near Kengtung Degree College on Kengtung-Taunggyi road and gave necessary instructions.

Later, the Secretary-2 and party enjoyed the volleyball match of Kengtung Station Team (A) and (B) of the Kengtung District Volleyball Tournament at the indoor stadium in Kengtung.

On 9 January afternoon, the Secretary-2 and party met with departmental personnel in Shan State (East) at the city hall in the town and gave instructions on taking measures for regional development tasks.

It was attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, ministers, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, local authorities and members of social organizations.

First, the commander reported to the Secretary-2 on location, area, climate, land utilization, monsoon paddy cultivated acreage, target for cultivation of summer paddy, sufficiency of rice and edible oil, condition of roads, and economic, education, health and social affairs of Shan State (East).

Next, the Secretary-2

made a speech. He said the nation would be transformed into a democratic one through seven stages. It was clearly stated in the clarification of the seven-points future policy programme of the State by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on 30 August 2003, he added. There were three important points in transforming the nation into a modern and developed one. The first of them was to ensure the security and stability of the State and rule of law. The second one was the economic development of the State for ensuring the sufficiency of food for the entire people and the third was the literacy of the entire nation to distinguish between right and wrong, he said.

The Tatmadaw government took over the responsibilities of the State in accord with the historical requirement on 18 September 1988. Safeguarding the nation against the deterioration, it laid down three national policies and 12 objectives and strove to build the modern and developed nation through day and night. The security, stability and rule of law were the most important requirements for the nation. Without them, there would be no progress for the nation. All the local people who had undergone internal strife knew it. Therefore, the government had striven to make peace with national race armed groups through negotiations. As a result, 17

## Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers provisions to members of the Sangha in Kengtung

YANGON, 11 Jan— Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, ministers, deputy ministers, local authorities, wellwishers and guests.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of Sayadaws of Kengyin, Kengngan, Hokhon, Maukmai, Duya, Datwam Siri, Dhamawdhaya, Jetavum, Sasanavapura and Theravada missionary monasteries and senior nuns. Also present were member

of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, ministers, deputy ministers, local authorities, wellwishers and guests.

The ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa. The congregation received the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddama Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kemasara of Kengyin monastery in Kengtung.

Next, members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Afterwards, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, ministers and deputy ministers offered provisions to the members of the Sangha.

The Secretary-2 offered cash to senior nuns.

Sayadaw Maha Dhammacariya Maha Gandhavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Vijaya delivered a sermon followed by sharing of merits gained and the ceremony came to a close.

The Secretary-2 and party arrived back here in the afternoon.

MNA



*Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents offertories to members of the Sangha in Kengtung. —MNA*

armed groups had returned to the legal fold and the entire nation was able to enjoy stability and security, the Secretary-2 said. Kengtung region where people had had to live under fear amid the sound of explosion of guns and bombs, became quite another thing enjoying peace and stability. Only after ensuring peace and stability, development tasks could be carried out. Economy plays an important role in development of the nation. The nation had to place emphasis on agriculture because it lacked technology and investment capable of turning it into an industrialized one, he pointed out.

Therefore, the State had laid down an economic objective taking agriculture as

the base for all-round development of other sectors. Agriculture was the basic economic structure of the nation, in which 70 per cent of its people in rural areas were engaged in farming, the Secretary-2 said. For agricultural development the government implemented 155 dams and reservoirs and 265 river water pumping projects spending large sum of money in the regions where there is insufficiency of water. In 1988-89, irrigated areas were 2.52 million and the irrigated acres rose to 5.1 million in 2002-2003. The regions of insufficient water got drinking water and became free from diseases.

He said the government made efforts for sufficiency and surplus of paddy. In

1988, 654 million baskets of paddy were produced and over 1,000 million baskets in 2000-2001. Now efforts are being made for production of 1,200 million baskets of paddy and sufficiency of paddy for the growing population.

He said economic development means not only food sufficiency but also prosperity for high standard of living. Only when an industrialized country can be established will it be prosperous. As is known to all, industrialized nations are rich and their living standard is high. Investments and technicians are needed for industrial development.

Profits gained from agricultural, fish and meat and

(See page 15)



*Nursing and Midwifery Training School in Kengtung, Shan State (East). — MNA*

## Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects Armed Forces Day essay competition

YANGON, 11 Jan — 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Observance Leading Committee Chairman State Peace and Development Council Member Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence this morning inspected the Armed Forces Day commemorative essay competition at basic education middle school level at the BEHS-1 in Mingala Taungnyunt Township and

BEHS-4 in Tamway Township here.

At 9 am, he arrived at the Mingala Taungnyunt BEHS-1 and was welcomed by Deputy Minister for Education Col Aung Myo Min, Deputy Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, senior military officers, responsible personnel, departmental personnel and others. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party viewed

round the essay competition.

They proceeded to Tarmwe BEHS-4. They were welcomed by the headmistress and teachers. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party viewed round the essay competition and handed over the donation of K 30,000 for the school to Headmistress Daw Hla Sein.

MNA



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and officials view round the essay competition at Tamway BEHS-4. — MNA

## Home Affairs Minister arrives back from Thailand

YANGON, 11 Jan — After attending the fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Control of Transnational Crimes and the First ASEAN +3 Ministerial Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, Minister for

Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing arrived back here by air this evening.

The minister was welcomed back at the airport by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Minister at the Prime Minister's

office U Ko Lay, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, departmental heads of Myanmar Police Force and departments and family members.

MNA

## Drug traffickers sentenced

YANGON, 11 Jan — A combined team comprising members of local intelligence unit and Bago Special Anti-Drug Squad, acting on information, on 26 January 2003 searched Htay Oo who got off the train at Phaya Thonzu station on Yangon-Mandalay rail road and seized 1.3064 kilos of marijuana in his rucksack.

Action was taken against Htay Oo (a) Maung Pu, son of U Phyu, of Myoma-4 Extension Ward, Nyaunglaybin under Section 15/19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic

Substances Law by Nyaunglaybin Police Station.

Htay Oo (a) Maung Pu was sentenced to five years' imprisonment under Section 15 and 25 years' imprisonment under Section 19 (A) by Bago District Court to serve separately on 20 February 2003.

Likewise, a combined team comprising members of local intelligence unit and Taunggyi Special Anti-Drug Squad, acting on information, on 6 March 2003 searched the house of Ma San San Myint (a) Ah Tu

in Konmyinttha Ward, Mongshu and arrested her together with 7.8374 kilos of raw opium.

Action was taken against Ma San San Myint (a) Ah Tu, daughter of U Li Hsan, of Konmyinttha Ward, Mongshu under Section 15/19(A)/20 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Ah Loisaunghtauk Police Station.

She was sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment under Section 19 (A) by Taunggyi District Court on 1 September 2003. —MNA



Ancient Pyu beads excavated near Myohla village of Yamethin Township. — MNA

## Deputy Minister inspects pearl production camps

YANGON, 11 Jan — Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein, together with officials, on 8 January, arrived at Myanmar Atlantic joint-venture in Pale Don-aw region in Taninthayi Division where officials reported on progress of pearl production.

The deputy minister gave necessary instructions and viewed stages of oyster reproduction there.

Afterwards, he inspected condition of oysters kept in water, regular cleaning tasks and attended to the requirements.

The deputy minister and party then visited Myanmar Tasaki pearl joint-venture in Domei island, where officials reported on progress of work. The deputy minister praised foreign and Myanmar experts and

staff for progress of work and urged them to boost production.

On 9 January morning, they arrived at Myanmar pearl production camp in Pale Kyun Gyi where the managing director and officials reported to them on progress of joint-ventures and Myanmar pearl industry.

Afterwards, they viewed oyster reproduction carried out by Myanmar experts and culturing pearls in oysters and cultured pearls.

After leaving instructions there, the deputy minister visited the basic education middle school in Pale Kyun Gyi. In the afternoon, local joint-ventures, Orient pearl industry, Myanmar Nino pearl production camp and gave necessary instructions. —MNA

## Dinner hosted in honour of medical superintendents and specialists

YANGON, 11 Jan — Adinner was hosted at the hall of Yangon Command Headquarters yesterday evening in honour of medical superintendents and specialists of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, who toured the townships performing surgical operations for in-born defuncts.

It was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division

Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Yangon Division MCWSC Patron Daw Khin That Htay, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and wife, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo and wife, Deputy Commander Col Wai Lwin and wife, military region commanders and their wives, Health Department Director

General Dr Wan Maung and wife, Yangon Division PDC members and their wives and chairman of Distract PDCs and their wives.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife presented certificates of honour to the medical superintendents and specialists, who performed surgical operations for inborn defuncts. Later, Yangon Division MCWSC hosted the dinner

## Cultural Minister inspects excavation tasks in Mandalay Division

YANGON, 11 Jan — Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, accompanied by Archaeology Department Director-General U Nyunt Han and staff officers, on 9 January arrived at Myohla Village in Yamethin Township, Mandalay Division, to inspect Pyu cultural sites in the late Bronze Age and the early Iron Age, being excavated by the Mandalay branch of Archaeology Department (Upper Myanmar).

Director U Moe Kyaw Kyaw of the Mandalay branch reported on excavation tasks around Myohla Village and findings of some human skeletons, Pyu beads, earthen pots and cups.

After viewing the excavated objects, the minister gave instructions and proceeded to ancient foundry in Wayondaw Village about two miles to the west of Myohla Village. On a small hilltop near the village, three big foundries and a lot of lava, lava containing cast iron and stones mixed with iron have been found. The minister viewed human skeletons and iron tools excavated at the Site Nos 1 and 3.

On 10 January morning, the minister visited the excavation site near Pozadaw Village, Thayettaw Village-tract in Tatkon Township. Assistant Director U Myat Swe of Archaeology Department reported the to the minister on the finding of Pyu beads, iron arrow-head,

crowbar-like tool for digging and broken earthen pots. The minister said that the findings proved that Myanmar national peoples had settled in Myanmar throughout the Stone Age, the Bronze Age and the Iron Age. He gave instructions to continue doing research works and to systematically maintain them.

After viewing the excavated objects, the minister proceeded to ancient Yan

Aung Myin Shwelethla Pagoda in Lewe to inspect the damages caused by the earthquake. After presenting K 100,000 towards the funds of the pagoda, he inspected ancient moat and town walls to the north-west of the pagoda. He gave instructions on doing research works to find out the period when they were built.

The minister arrived back here in the evening.

MNA



Ancient Pyu skeleton excavated near Myohla village of Yamethin Township. — MNA





MNWAF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe delivers an address at the meeting to explain the organizational set-up, duties and responsibilities of MNWAF. — MNA

## MNWAF President meets with members of WAWC in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 11 Jan — Officials of the Myanmar National Women's Affairs Federation led by President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and Vice-President Daw Khin Lay The left here by car on 8 January morning and arrived at the guest house in Patheingyi at 11 am.

A ceremony to explain the organizational set-up and duties and responsibilities of MNWAF was held at the city hall in Patheingyi at 1.30 pm.

It was attended by Daw Tin Tin Latt, wife of the commander, members of the Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council, senior military officers, members of the women's affairs supporting committee and Women's Affairs Work Committee, members of the panel of patrons and executives of the Division Women's Affairs Work Committee, members of District and Township Peace and Development Councils, members of Township Women's Affairs Committees in Patheingyi, Hinthada, Myaungmya, Maubin, and Pyapon districts and members of Ward Peace and Development Council in Patheingyi and Kangyidaung totalling 450 people.

First, President of the federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe made an opening speech. She said they were there to explain the organizational set-up and duties and responsibilities of MNWAF formed, with the aim of carrying out comprehensive tasks related to the women's affairs discussed by the Prime Minister on 20 December. As Myanmar National Women's Affairs Committee had its limits in covering the comprehensive tasks of women's affairs of the entire nation, the federation had to be formed as a non-governmental organization to fully undertake the tasks in the interest of women and the State, she added. It was certain that all the women would participate in the activities of the federation, she said, urging those present to systematically implement the tasks of the federation.

Next, Secretary of MNWAF Dr Daw San Shwe explained the organizational set-up and matters related to applying for the membership of the federation.

Afterwards, Vice-President Daw Khin Lay The explained the duties and responsibilities of educational, health, economic and environmental conservation groups.

Next, leader of the group for prevention of violence against women of MNWAF Daw Kyin San explained the duties and responsibilities of the groups for prevention of violence against women, prevention of trafficking in persons, and nurturing and rehabilitation of women; leader of cultural group Daw Thein Thein Nyunt the duties and responsibilities of the cultural group and working group for girls; leader of communication and information group Daw Mya Mya the duties and responsibilities of communication and information group and national race affairs working group; and leader of disciplinary group Prof Daw Khin Thein Yi the duties and responsibilities of disciplinary group and management and financial group.

Afterward, President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe made concluding remarks.

In the evening, the president and party met with members of Ayeyawady Division Women's Affairs Committee and supporting committee at the guest house of the command. At the meeting, the president and officials replied to the queries concerning the organizational set-up and future tasks of the federation raised by the division committee.

At 1 pm on 10 January, the president and party together with Division WAC Patron Daw Tin Tin Latt met with members of the Women's Affairs Committee, the Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the Union Solidarity and Development Association and Red Cross Society and students of Ngwehsaung Village.

First, Chairman of Patheingyi District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Hla Thwin explained matters related to education, health, economic and water and power supply tasks, and job opportunities of the village. At the meeting the president said she was on a tour to carry out organizational matters of MNWAF in the division and, prompted by the wish to cordially meet with the members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women's Affairs Committee there, she visited the village. It could clearly be seen that the village was developing speedily and situated in the coastal development zone. In addition to the assistance of the State, efforts of the people of all strata including women were required to raise the development momentum. Myanmar National Women's Affairs Committee had made field trips to study the development sector of women in all the states and divisions and fulfilled the requirements of women, she said. Myanmar National Women's Affairs Federation was formed as a non-governmental organization by the State on 20-12-2003. A total of 14 groups representing the 14 sectors in development of women were formed at different levels from states and divisions to wards and villages. In conclusion, she urged those present to participate in the comprehensive tasks of women's affairs.

Next, leader of the group for prevention of violence against women of MNWAF Daw Kyin San explained the salient points for safety and promotion of lives of women and urged those present to help prevent the violence against women that posed barrier to the promotion of lives of women. Later, the chairman of the Village Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Branch) explained the tasks being carried out for women. Afterwards, President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe fulfilled the requirements.

MNA

## e-Education Learning Centre

### သင်ခန်းစာထုတ်လွှင့်မည့် အစီအစဉ်

(စနေရက် ၁၁:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၅:၀၀နာရီအထိ)

- ၁၁-၁-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)
- \* အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့ ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက် သင်ခန်းစာများ
- ၁၂-၁-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္လာနေ့)
- \* Error Analysis (2)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- \* Psycholinguistics (2)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- ၁၃-၁-၂၀၀၄ (အင်္ဂါနေ့)
- \* Business English (2)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- \* Error Analysis (3)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- ၁၄-၁-၂၀၀၄ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့)
- \* Psycholinguistics (3)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- \* Business English (3)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- ၁၅-၁-၂၀၀၄ (ဩဂုတ်လနေ့)
- \* Persentation Skills (1)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- \* Functioning in English (1)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- ၁၆-၁-၂၀၀၄ (သောကြာနေ့)
- \* Presentation Skills (2)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- \* Functioning in English (2)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- ၁၇-၁-၂၀၀၄ (စနေနေ့)
- \* အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့ ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက် သင်ခန်းစာများ
- ၁၈-၁-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)
- \* အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့ ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက် သင်ခန်းစာများ
- ၁၉-၁-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္လာနေ့)
- \* Presentation Skills (3)

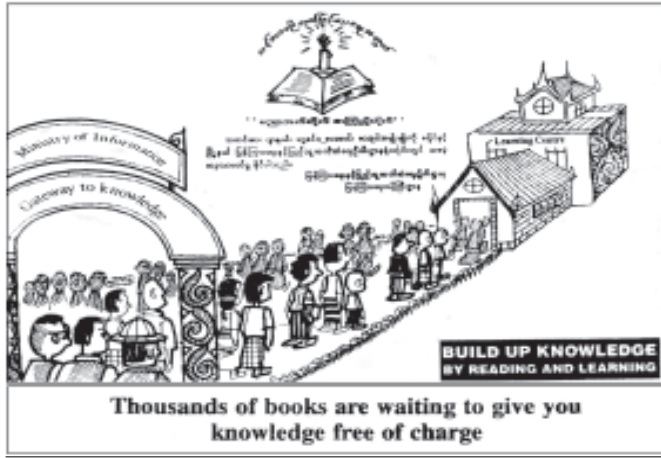
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- \* Functioning in English (3)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- ၂၀-၁-၂၀၀၄ (အင်္ဂါနေ့)
- \* Functioning in English (4)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- \* Teaching Grammar
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- ၂၁-၁-၂၀၀၄ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့)
- \* Teaching Literature as Resource in Language Classrooms
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- \* Promoting Reading Skills (1)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- ၂၂-၁-၂၀၀၄ (ဩဂုတ်လနေ့)
- \* Promoting Reading Skills (2)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- \* Promoting Reading Skills (3)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဒီဂရီကောလိပ်များရှိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ ဆရာ/ဆရာမများ
- ၂၃-၁-၂၀၀၄ (သောကြာနေ့)
- \* ဆရာမင်းသူဇာ၏ “ဗျာဉ်” ကဗျာ
- ဒုနိမိတ်နိမိတ် (အထောက်အကူပြု) နေ့ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- \* ဦးဇော်ဝင်း၏ ဖြစ်နိုင်ပါသလားကားဖြေ
- ပန်စီမြန်မာစာ (အထောက်အကူပြု) နေ့ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- ၂၄-၁-၂၀၀၄ (စနေနေ့)
- \* အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့ ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက် သင်ခန်းစာများ
- ၂၅-၁-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)
- \* အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့ ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက် သင်ခန်းစာများ
- ၂၆-၁-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္လာနေ့)
- \* Importance of Connectives
- ပန်စီမြန်မာစာ (အထောက်အကူပြု) နေ့ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- \* Air Pollution
- ဒုနိမိတ်စာပေ အထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- ၂၇-၁-၂၀၀၄ (အင်္ဂါနေ့)
- \* ရွှေ့ရည်ဖွဲ့ခြင်း
- ပန်စီမြန်မာစာ အထူးပြုကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- \* National Unification of Alaungmintaya (1714-1760)

- တနင်္ဂနွေသမီးအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- ၂၈-၁-၂၀၀၄ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့)
- \* Nationalist Movement in the G.C.B.A Period
- တနင်္ဂနွေသမီးအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- \* အမရပူရမြို့ မဟာဂန္ဓာရုံဆရာတော်အရှင်ဇနကာဘိဝံသ၏ ကိုယ်ကျင့်တရား
- အခြေခံကျမ်းဂါ ၁၁၁နည်းစာ ရှုထောင့်မှ ဆန်းစစ်တင်ပြခြင်း
- တတိယနွေနှင့် ပထမနှစ် ရုတ်တရက် တနင်္ဂနွေသမီးအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- ၂၉-၁-၂၀၀၄ (ဩဂုတ်လနေ့)
- \* The Concept of Normality and Abnormality
- တနင်္ဂနွေသမီး ရုတ်တရက် တနင်္ဂနွေသမီးအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- \* An Introduction to the Study of Law
- ပန်စီမြန်မာစာအထူးပြု ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- ၃၀-၁-၂၀၀၄ (သောကြာနေ့)
- \* အခြေခံပညာသင်္ချာရည်ချက် (၁) အတူရာ
- ပန်စီမြန်မာစာအထူးပြုနှင့် အထောက်အကူပြု
- \* Ozone Layer Depletion as an Environmental Issue
- ပန်စီမြန်မာစာ ကျောင်းသူ/သားများ
- ၃၁-၁-၂၀၀၄ (စနေနေ့)
- \* အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့ ကျောင်းသူ/သားများအတွက် သင်ခန်းစာများ

### Get-together of old students to be held

YANGON, 11 Jan — The third get-together dinner of old students of St Agnes' Convent (Kalaw) will be held at the Princess Restaurant on Wadan Street in Lanmadaw Township here at 6.30 pm on 19 January 2004. For further details, contacts can be made to Daw Tin Myo ASye (Violette Tin Hla) Tel: 663014; Daw Tin Tin Oo (Rosemarie Bo) Tel: 527440; Dr Khin Tar Tra (Emma Myat) Tel: 294060; Dr Win Win Cho (Winnie Cho Tun) Tel: 371285; and Daw Myint Myint Moe (Dora Soe) Tel: 660528. — (H)

အိမ်တိုင်းမှာသစ်ပင် ရွာစဉ်မှာတောတန်း  
တစ်တောင်တစ်တောင်တက် ဖြူတက်မယ့်လမ်း။



## ADVERTISEMENT

### ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်

ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့

ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးဦးစီးဌာန

ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ် ၁/၂၀၀၄

(၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ ဇန်နဝါရီလ ၂ ရက်)

### လျှောက်လွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့၊ ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးဦးစီးဌာနတွင် လစ်လပ်လျက်ရှိသော (လစာနံနံ: ၅၄၀၀-၁၀၀၀-၅၉၀၀၀အဆင့်) အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ရာထူးနေရာများအတွက် လျှောက်လွှာများ အလိုရှိပါသည်-

ရာထူး	ဝဌာနအရည်အချင်း	လစ်လပ်
စစ်ဆေးရေးမှူး(၂)	မိစ္ဆာဘွဲ့ (စိတ်ပညာ)	၄ နေရာ

၂။ လျှောက်ထားသူသည်-

(က) ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားဖြစ်ရမည်။

(ခ) ၂-၂-၂၀၀၄ နေ့တွင် အသက် ၃၅ နှစ် (ဝန်ထမ်းဖြစ်ပါက အသက် ၄၀ နှစ်) ထက် မကျော်လွန်သူဖြစ်ရမည်။

၃။ လျှောက်လွှာကို ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးဦးစီးဌာနသို့ ၂-၂-၂၀၀၄ နေ့အရောက် ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၄။ လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ဖော်ပြရမည့်အချက်များ၊ ပူးတွဲပါရှိရမည့်စာရွက်စာတမ်းများ၊ ဝင်ကြေး ၅၀/-ပေးသွင်းရမည့်နည်းလမ်း၊ ရေးဖြေ၊ နှုတ်ဖြေ စစ်ဆေးမှုအတွက် လေ့လာရန် လိုအပ်ချက်များနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်း၍ ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့ကကြေညာချက်အမှတ် ၁/၉၁ ဖြင့် ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့က ကြေညာချက်အမှတ် ၁/၉၁ ဖြင့် ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့က ကြေညာချက်အမှတ် ၁/၉၁ ဖြင့် ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော ချက်များနှင့်အညီ လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ရန်ဖြစ်သည်။

၅။ ဝန်ထမ်းများသည် မူရင်းလျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို မိမိတာဝန်ထမ်းဆောင်သည့် ဌာနအကြီးအကဲမှတစ်ဆင့် ဝန်ကြီးဌာန၏ နှစ်ပြည့်ရက် ရယူပြီး ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးဦးစီးဌာနသို့ ၂-၂-၂၀၀၄ နေ့ အရောက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။ လျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို ဓာတ်ပြန်အတွက် ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးဦးစီးဌာနသို့ တိုက်ရိုက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၆။ ၁၄-၂-၂၀၀၄ နှင့် ၁၅-၂-၂၀၀၄ နေ့များတွင် ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးဦးစီးဌာန၌ ရေးဖြေ စာမေးပွဲကျင်းပမည်။ ၁၂-၂-၂၀၀၄ နေ့မှစ၍ ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးဦးစီးဌာနတွင် ဖြေဆိုခွင့်ကတ်ပြားများကို ထုတ်ပေးမည်။

၇။ စုစမ်းမေးမြန်းလိုပါကကြည့်ဦးစီးဌာနသို့ လူတိုက်တိုင်ဖြစ်စေ၊ တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ် (၃၇၈၁၆၃)သို့ဖြစ်စေ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

## Indonesia's leading airline to acquire up to 15 "Boeings"

JAKARTA, 11 Jan—National flag carrier Garuda Indonesia has confirmed it would add 10 to 15 new Boeing 737-300s to enhance its service in the domestic market.

"Two of the new aircraft arrived here last December," Garuda president Indra Setiawan was quoted as saying by the official Antara news agency.

He added the new aircraft would serve the company's Citylink service, which offers low-cost flights on domestic routes now using only five Fokker F-28s.

Indra said the aircraft will also be used to boost the company's competitiveness in competition with other regional airlines. "Low-cost airlines have become the focus of attention of regional airlines, including Singapore Airlines, which has set up a subsidiary, Tiger Airways," he said.

He said Garuda hopes to achieve a 15-per-cent increase in passengers this year. The Ministry of Transportation previously predicted that the number of air passengers this year would reach 20 million, or 25 per cent higher than the figure in 2003.—MNA/Xinhua

## Road accident kills 3 in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 11 Jan—An accident in Jakarta-Cikampek toll road on Friday killed three people and severely injured three others, a police said.

The accident took place when a minibus tried to overtake a truck and hit the rear of the truck, a traffic police was quoted by state news agency Antara as saying.

He said all the casualties were the passengers of the minibus.

The accident on Friday made the death toll in road accident to eight in the week. On Sunday, five people were killed while 42 others were injured when a high-speed, inter-city bus packed with passengers collided with a truck on the Jakarta-Cikampek toll road.

MNA/Xinhua

## Gansu Province confiscates 959 kilos of drugs in 2003

LANZHOU, 11 Jan — Police in northwest China's Gansu Province seized a total of 959 kilos of drug of various kinds in the last year, the Provincial Public Security Bureau said Saturday.

According to Zhao Juzhong, bureau director and deputy director of the provincial anti-drug committee, the province investigated 791 drug cases in the January-November period of 2003, seizing 130.4 kilos of heroine, 27 kilos of opium, 3.4 kilos of ecstasy pills and 798.4 kilos of other kinds of drugs. A total of 1,015 drug-related criminals were arrested.

Zhao said that although great achievements were made in the crackdown on drug crimes in 2003, the police are facing growing difficulties, as drug criminals are updating their methods, becoming more tricky with the use of modern intelligent communications, and making the drug trade more organized and family-controlled.—MNA/Xinhua

## ပြည်တွင်းပြင်ပကိုအားပေးပါ

# Singapore, Malaysia seek to build new bridges

SINGAPORE, 11 Jan—Nothing symbolizes the state of relations between Singapore and Malaysia like the wrangling over the future of the narrow 80-year old causeway that links the neighbours.

The causeway carries a pipeline through which Singapore receives the water that feeds everything from semiconductor plants to garden hoses.

Malaysia wants a new elevated bridge to allow ships to reach its southern port. Singapore wants a deal to guarantee the water supply at a reasonable price. Both sides are refusing to budge and talks are suspended.

The first visit to Singapore by Malaysia's new Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, which begins on Monday, will seek an end to the stalemate and move this acrimonious relationship toward reconciliation and rebuilding.

Both Singapore and Malaysian Government officials have publicly stated a willingness to forge the new approach, though most analysts believe it will take some time.

"The groundwork had been laid for a very cordial visit in which it is unlikely any serious contentious issues will be discussed,"

said Andrew Tan, assistant professor at the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies.

In an interview with Singapore's state-run ChannelNews Asia, Abdullah said he hoped his visit would lead to the drawing up of a timetable to discuss all outstanding bilateral issues.

The price of the water Malaysia supplies to Singapore heads a long list of unresolved issues between the two countries which includes land reclamation projects near the Johor Strait, the relocation of Malaysia's railway line that runs almost to the city state's financial district, as well as the new bridge.

"The issues, we all know. What's going to be different is more the style and the approach, which will not be underlined or influenced too strongly by any former baggage," said Ramon Navaratnam, a former civil servant and public policy commentator in Kuala Lumpur.—MNA/Reuters

# China to retool electron-positron accelerator

BEIJING, 11 Jan—China has launched a 640 million yuan (77.4 million US dollars) project to retool a Beijing-based electron-positron accelerator in a bid to keep its forward role in the world's high-energy physics field.

The most advanced colliding technology is to be used to renovate the Beijing Electron-Positron Collider (BEPC) built in 1988 at the Institute of High Energy Physics under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), according to media reports on Friday. BEPC used to be the world's eighth biggest high-energy accelerator experiment centre.

To add a new storage ring to the existing ring of the collider to spur the electron and positron beams' movement and collision in the colliding zone, the retooled collider will have 97 pairs of electron beams as against the original one pair, and its luminosity, a leading parameter, be 100 times stronger than that of the original BEPC.

Meanwhile, scientists will make improvements to a probing device, the Beijing Spectron Meter, to greatly raise its measuring accuracy and lessen errors, so that it will be adapted to the operation requirements of the retooled collider.

The upgrading will help the BEPC attain

its forward status as one of the most ideal colliding experiment facilities of its kind. The electron-positron collider is now applied to a range of research topics covering material, pharmaceutical, semi-conductor and micro-electronic researches.

The BEPC and Beijing Spectron Meter have enabled Chinese scientists to make significant progress over the past 15 years since 1988 in the field of high-energy physics with serial world-class research findings.

Chinese physicists at the institute are now able to exploit synchronous radiation device, an accessory of the collider for post-genome research projects and even the macromolecule of an enzyme of the virus of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), the Beijing Morning Post quoted scientists at the institute as reporting. Xian Ding, an academician of CAS, acknowledged that "it used to take 27 years for scientists to study the molecular structure of haemoglobin. With the help of the synchronous radiation device, however, it will take only one single day."—MNA/Xinhua

# Reception marks 40th anniversary of Sino-Tunisian ties

BEIJING, 11 Jan—A major Chinese non-governmental friendship organization held a reception here Friday to mark the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Tunisia.

Chen Haosu, president of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), said the two countries have conducted friendly exchanges and fruitful cooperation in political, economic and cultural fields since the establishment of diplomatic links 40 years ago.

Chen said the unremitting efforts of the two nations' senior leaders have laid a solid foundation for further cooperation between the two sides. He said that in April 2004, the Tunisian-Chinese Friendship Association will organize a delegation of Tunisian entrepreneurs to visit China. The Tunisian business people will discuss with their Chinese counterparts cooperation in medical serv-

ices, public health, tourism and shipping.

In addition, the CPAFFC will organize groups of Chinese entrepreneurs to visit North African countries, including Tunisia, he said.

Chen expressed the hope that the mutually-beneficial friendly cooperation between the two sides would be strengthened.

Tunisian Ambassador to China Salah Hamdi expressed his appreciation for China's support for Tunisia's economic and social development. He said the overall cooperation between the two countries will help promote the bilateral relations to a new stage, and make contributions to international and regional stability, as well as mutual development. —MNA/Xinhua



# ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## US obesity epidemic means more are disabled

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan—The US obesity epidemic may be causing another, quieter epidemic of disability, including back trouble and diabetes, health experts reported recently.

Younger Americans are becoming disabled more often, many with back pain, according to the study, published in the journal *Health Affairs*. Although there was no direct proof, the researcher believed obesity was mostly to blame.

"Obesity is the only trend that is commensurate in size with what we found happening with disability," said Darius Lakdawalla, an economist at the RAND research institute who helped write the study.

"It's the only suspect. We found that there is something going on with people's health and that the increase is not just a case of people dropping out of the workforce and going on the public dole," the economist said.

More than 60 per cent of Americans are overweight or obese. In 2000, 38.8 million Americans or 31 per cent of the adult population were classified as obese, meaning their health was seriously at risk.

Obese people are more likely to suffer

heart attacks, strokes, several forms of cancer and less-deadly disability such as backache.

Lakdawalla and colleagues at RAND and at Stanford University in California analyzed data from the National Health Interview Survey, an annual nationwide government survey of about 36,000 households.

They looked for disability trends among people aged 18 to 69 between 1984 and 2000. They found substantial growth in reported disability rates among those under 50 but not among the elderly.

Among those aged 50 to 59, disability rose only among those who were obese, the study found.

"Obesity accounts for about half the increased disability among those ages 18 to 29," they wrote in their report. Much of the time, diabetes and back pain was to blame and the researchers said the links with obesity were clear. This will end up costing money, the researchers said.—MNA/Reuters

## Philippines buying 20 helicopters from S'pore firm

MANILA, 11 Jan—The Philippines is buying 20 refurbished helicopters from a Singapore defence contractor, the Air Force said on Friday, in a 12-million-US-dollar deal that will bolster the region's weakest military force.

Singapore Technologies Aerospace, Southeast Asia's largest aviation service company, is expected to deliver the first batch of three upgraded versions of the US-built UH-1H helicopters in March, Air Force spokesman Major Restituto Padilla told *Reuters*.

The Philippines will get at least three helicopters, which date from the Vietnam War era, every month until all 20 are delivered by the end of this year.

"This is the best deal we can get considering our limited resources," Padilla said. "These are not brand new aircraft but they will be better because of night-fly-

ing capabilities."

The UH-1H is the workhorse of the Philippine military, performing medical and casualty evacuations, troop transport and close air support on operations against a host of Muslim and Communist rebel groups.

The Air Force already has about 60 UH-1Hs, all acquired from the United States under a foreign military sales programme, but less than 30 are in flying condition.

Padilla said the funds for the helicopter transfer deal were drawn from the three-billion-US-dollar military modernization programme, but that only 90 million US dollars was available for disbursement.

Singapore Technolo-

gies Aerospace beat out three other bidders and has agreed to provide maintenance and after-sales service for the helicopters over the next two years.

"Yes, we did make a bid for the tender," Audrey Tan, a spokeswoman for the defence contractor, told *Reuters*. "We are still waiting to hear back from the Philippine Government."

Singapore Technologies Aerospace's regional marketing director Anthony Tan said it was still awaiting the final award. Padilla said the contract was awarded on December 2 but required a "notice to proceed" from Defence Secretary Eduardo Ermita and General Narciso Abaya, the military's chief of staff.—MNA/Reuters

## France, Libya sign UTA bomb compensation pact

PARIS, 11 Jan—Families of 170 people killed in the 1989 bombing of a French UTA airliner blamed on six Libyans signed a 170-million-US-dollar compensation deal with Tripoli on Friday in Libya's latest step to mend relations with the West.

The accord was signed in Paris by a representative of a private Libyan fund run by the son of Libyan leader Moammar Kadafi. France and Libya were expected later in the day to issue a statement pledging to strengthen bilateral ties.

"This accord shows that Libya is changing, has changed," said Guillaume Denoix de Saint-Marc, who lost his father in the attack and helped lead negotiations that led to the deal.

The pay-out total, clinched late on Thursday by family representatives and Libyan negotiators, falls short of the 2.7 billion US dollars pay-out agreed by Libya last year for 270 victims of the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland. But Denoix de Saint-Marc defended the French deal, saying the difference between it and the Lockerbie pay-out was not as large as it seemed.

He estimated between 40-60 per cent of the Lockerbie compensation would disappear in legal fees and a further 10 per cent in federal taxes. He reckoned the Lockerbie families would end up with at most 2 million US dollars each.

MNA/Reuters



Chinese actors perform a sacrificial ceremony to the gods during a cultural fair at the Temple of the Heaven to celebrate the upcoming Chinese New Year in Beijing on 10 January, 2004. Residents in China's capital flock to temple fairs during the New Year of the Monkey which starts on 22 Jan to enjoy performances of martial arts, acrobatics, folk dances and fashion shows.—INTERNET

## Study finds farmed salmon loaded with chemicals

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan—Farmed salmon contains far more toxic chemicals than wild salmon — high enough to suggest that fish-eaters limit how much they eat, US researchers said here.

The culprit is "salmon chow" — the feed given to the captive fish, the researchers report in this week's issue of the journal *Science*. Many health experts urge people to eat fish such as salmon because it contains healthy fats, especially the Omega-3 fatty acids that can lower the risk of heart disease and perhaps have other health benefits, too.

But the researchers, as well as environmental groups, said the findings in *Science* indicate that people should choose their fish carefully. They should also demand that salmon be clearly labelled to indicate whether it is farmed or wild so they can make informed choices about which fish to eat.

The team at Indiana University, University at Albany, Cornell University and elsewhere analysed toxic contaminants in 700 farmed and wild salmon taken from markets in 16 cities in Europe and North America.

"We think it's important for people who

eat salmon to know that farmed salmon have higher levels of toxins than wild salmon from the open ocean," environmental affairs professor Ronald Hites of Albany, who led the study, said in a statement. They looked for 13 different chemicals known to build up in the flesh of fish, including polychlorinated biphenyls or PCBs, dioxins, toxaphene, dieldrin, hexachlorobenzene, lindane, heptachlor epoxide, cis-nonachlor, trans-nonachlor, gamma-chlordane, alpha-chlordane, Mirex, endrin and DDT. Some are pesticides, others are industrial by-products, and many are known or suspected cancer-causing agents.

Farmed salmon taken from markets in Frankfurt, Edinburgh, Paris, London, Oslo, Boston, San Francisco, and Toronto had the highest levels, and the researchers said consumers should eat no more than one-half to one meal of salmon per month. A meal was eight ounces (one-quarter of a kilo) of uncooked meat.—MNA/Reuters

## HK, France sign immigration cooperation protocol

HONG KONG, 11 Jan—The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government and France signed the Immigration Cooperation Protocol here Friday. The protocol was signed in the presence of HK Secretary for Security Ambrose Lee and visiting Minister of Interior of France Nicolas Sarkozy.

"The protocol, which enters into force with immediate effect, enables the two services to raise the level of cooperation through closer bilateral contacts, experience sharing and information exchange," a spokesman for Hong Kong's Immigration Department said.

"We warmly welcome the conclusion of the protocol with France, which reflects the determination of the two services to work more closely and cooperatively to tackle immigration problems

of common concern, and opens the door for greater Hong Kong-France cooperation on immigration fronts," the spokesman added.

The Immigration Department has signed similar protocol with Portugal, Belgium and Finland. The French Minister of Interior had paid a visit to Beijing and signed an agreement on enhancing cooperation between Chinese and French police with Chinese State Councillor Zhou Yongkang on Thursday. MNA/Xinhua

## Cambodian President Airlines resumes flights to HK

HONG KONG, 11 Jan—Hong Kong's Airport Authority on Friday welcomed Cambodian President Airlines' resumption of direct service to Hong Kong from Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital.

The first flight landed at Hong Kong International Airport at 13:25 hours local time.

The airline first launched its service to Hong Kong last March, later suspended due to the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS).

Three weekly services, on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, are operated with B737-200 jets.

Hong Kong's Airport Authority Commercial Director Hans Bakker said,

"We are pleased to have President Airlines back on our network. The resumption of this service will offer additional frequencies, providing airport users with more options on connections."

President Airlines was established in 1997, initially operating domestic routes and expanding since 2002 to destinations including Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Taipei and Bangkok of Thailand.

MNA/Xinhua

## SPORTS

## Stuttgart's Wenzel moves to Kaiserslautern

BERLIN, 11 Jan— VfB Stuttgart defender Timo Wenzel is moving to fellow Bundesliga club FC Kaiserslautern, Kaiserslautern said on Friday.

Wenzel's contract with Stuttgart was due to run until June 30 this year but the 26-year-old will now start training with Kaiserslautern on Friday.

Neither club would give details of the deal beyond saying that Wenzel's contract runs until 2006.

The defender told Kaiserslautern's official web site: "I proved in Stuttgart that I can get results... I want to help Kaiserslautern and I think I can."

Kaiserslautern, four-times German champions, are 15th in the 18-strong Bundesliga after 17 games, one place above the relegation zone.

Germany striker Miroslav Klose has said he may leave the struggling western German club during the winter break, which ends on January 31.

Stuttgart are four points behind leaders Werder Bremen in fourth place but level on 35 points with the other two clubs above them — Bayern Munich and Bayer Leverkusen.

MNA/Reuters



Arsenal's Thierry Henry (L) fights for the ball with Middlesbrough's Gareth Southgate (R) at Highbury in London on 10 Jan, 2004. —INTERNET

## Juve give Barca go-ahead to talk terms with Davids

MADRID, 11 Jan— Barcelona are poised to sign Dutch international Edgar Davids after Italian champions Juventus gave the Catalan club the go-ahead to talk terms with the 30-year-old midfielder.

"Juventus have agreed that Barcelona can begin negotiations with Edgar Davids with a view to a possible loan deal until the end of the season or a transfer..." the Primera Liga club announced on its web site on Friday.

"If a loan deal is agreed both clubs will share the cost of the player's salary."

Club president Joan Laporta travelled to Turin on Friday to negotiate the

deal with the Italian club and Barcelona officials will now begin direct talks with Davids, who is reported to be in Surinam attending the funeral of an aunt.

The former Ajax and AC Milan player has fallen out with the Serie A champions after failing to renew his contract, which expires at the end of the season.

Davids fits the bill of the combative player that Barca coach Frank Rijkaard wants

to sign to bolster the Catalan club's midfield.

Renowned for his uncompromising play, Davids first made his name when he played alongside Rijkaard in Ajax's 1995 European Cup-winning side.

In 2001 he tested positive for the steroid nandrolone after a Serie A match against Udinese, but maintained he was innocent of any doping offence and made a successful return to action after serving a four-month ban.

He was sent off in last season's Champions League quarterfinal, second leg victory over Barcelona, but after serving a one-match ban he was instrumental in helping Juve to an impressive 3-1 victory over Real Madrid in the semifinal, second leg.

Juve went on to lose the final to AC Milan after a penalty shoot-out.

Barcelona are a disappointing 12th in the Spanish Primera Liga, 18 points behind leaders and bitter rivals Real, but they are only four adrift of Osasuna who occupy the final Champions League berth.

MNA/Reuters

## Parma latest of "seven sisters" to hit trouble

MILAN, 10 Jan— They were known as the 'seven sisters' — the giants of the Italian game who, thanks to the backing of millionaire businessmen, could be guaranteed to be among the contenders for the Serie A title and European trophies.

Yet within the space of just two years, three of the elite group of Italian clubs have been plunged into crisis as their owners' financial empires fell to pieces, leaving only the stark reality of a loss-making business.

Fiorentina, Lazio and Parma may still be big names in European soccer but their financial woes mean they can no longer be considered to be in the same bracket as AC Milan, Inter, Juventus and AS Roma.

Fans of twice UEFA Cup winners Parma are the latest to discover that a wealthy benefactor can bring as much pain as joy — when

the cash runs out.

On Thursday, Italy's industry minister gave the go-ahead for the club to be put up for sale at the end of the season and two or three of their players placed on the transfer list straight away.

Parma, currently sixth in Serie A, have been thrown into crisis by the multibillion-euro accounting scandal that has hit their owners, multinational food company Parmalat.

It was the millions invested by Parmalat's founder Calisto Tanzi that helped transform the club in the 1990s from a lower division provincial outfit into a serious force in Europe capable of attracting some of the world's top players.

But now that Tanzi has been arrested, having admitted to diverting about 500 million euros from Parmalat to family companies, all that remains are debts and a very uncertain future.

It will all sound very familiar to fans of Fiorentina who fell from the Champions League to the fourth division after the financial mismanagement of their 'sugar daddy', film mogul Vittorio Cecchi Gori, led them to bankruptcy in 2002.

Despite selling top players, such as Rui Costa and Francesco Toldo, Fiorentina were unable to pay their players wages and after relegation to Serie B they were formally declared bankrupt.

MNA/Reuters

## United to sign Celtic midfielder Miller

MANCHESTER (England), 11 Jan— Manchester United have agreed a deal to sign Celtic midfielder Liam Miller, the English champions said on Friday.

The 22-year-old will move to Old Trafford on a long-term contract on July 1 after finalizing a pre-contract agreement.

"We recognized the potential of Liam. He has had a great season at Celtic. He is very much part of our progressive thinking of developing a young team over the next few years," said United manager Alex Ferguson.

Cork-born Miller has spent all his career at Celtic Park and although he has



Celtic rising star Liam Miller, seen here in 2002, signed a pre-contract agreement with English champions Manchester United. —INTERNET

been a central figure in Martin O'Neill's plans this season he had not agreed an extension to his existing contract, which was due to expire at the end of the season.

Local media reports say Miller turned down 20,000 pounds (36,760 US dollars) a week from the Scottish Premier League leaders, which would have put him among the highest-paid players in Scotland.

MNA/Reuters

## Ferguson says Consistency, key to

## United's success

MANCHESTER, 11 Jan— Alex Ferguson said consistency was the key to Manchester United opening up a three-point gap at the top of the Premier League.

United have won their last six League games, while ti-



Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson. —INTERNET

tle rivals Arsenal have drawn four times in their last seven matches and Chelsea have taken seven points from a possible 18.

"In periods of games recently we have done very

well," the United manager told reporters on Friday.

"Hopefully by March and April we'll be at full throttle. But the most important thing that we are doing well at the moment is keeping a consistency."

"The players are playing with great determination, particularly in their defending."

United winning streak will be tested at Old Trafford on Sunday by a Newcastle United side that has won its last two games.

The sides shared 16 goals in their two games last season and Ferguson is expecting another open contest.

"Both clubs share the same philosophy of attacking football," he said. "They are exciting games and normally you expect a real attacking game when the two teams meet." —MNA/Reuters

## Michael Jackson finds new, luxurious pad in Beverly Hills

LOS ANGELES, 11 Jan— Embattled US pop superstar Michael Jackson has rented a luxurious hillside mansion in Beverly Hills after he said he could no longer live in his Neverland Ranch in central California, a web site report said Thursday.

The new residence is a massive, 20-million-dollar estate that overlooks a children's park in Coldwater Canyon.

"It's one of the crown jewels of Beverly Hills," a real estate source was quoted as saying.

The web site report said the 37,000-square-foot mansion, sitting on 2.25 acres in one of the most exclusive areas of north Beverly Hills, has nine bedroom suites, 10

baths, a theatre, a tennis court and indoor and outdoor swimming pools.

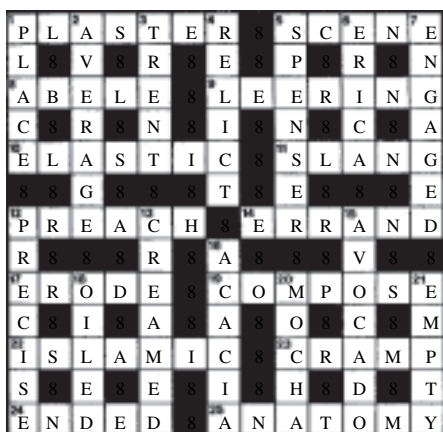
It said Jackson rented the mansion in early December.



US pop superstar Michael Jackson. —INTERNET

The estate is owned by a group of Asian businessmen, who tried to sell the house, but took it off the market in October. — MNA/Xinhua

## Answers for yesterday's Crossword Puzzle





## Secretary-2 inspects...

(from page 16)

energy sectors were invested in industrial sector. With the efforts of the government and private sector, 18 industrial zones were established. Light industries such as soap-making machine, oil mill, rice mill and small turbines have developed.

He said conventional farming must be transformed into mechanized farming. By doing so, production cost will become less and the output of agricultural products can also be boosted.

He said human resources are needed for national development. The nation can be built with a large number of intellectuals and intelligentsia. Therefore, the government has laid down border region development projects, 24 region development projects and rural development projects and is implementing them for development.

Besides border areas development, 24 major development regions were designated in the country. The government built universities, computer colleges, technological colleges, 200-bed hospitals, nurses training schools, telegraph offices, post and telephone offices in all parts of the country including Kengtung region, spending a large sum of money for education, health, social and communication development. The government is making arrangements for human resource development to enable the local people to continue their higher learning in their own region at less expense.

There were 32 universities and colleges in the past. There are now 154.



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets with executives of Shan State (East), District and Township USDAs in Kengtung. — MNA

The number of university students was over 200,000 in the past. There are now over 700,000 students attending the various courses. In basic education sector, there were over 30,000 schools. There are now over 40,000 schools. The number of school children rose from 5.2 million to 7.5 million.

In health sector, there were only 631 hospitals including 15 specialist hospitals. Now there are 779 including 19 specialist hospitals in all parts of the country. More and more doctors and nurses were appointed. There were 1,268 doctors and 8,349 nurses and now there are 16,570 doctors and 15,482 nurses.

He said health and fitness of the nation and uplift of education are essential for building a new modern developed nation. Therefore the government has drawn short and long term projects for enhancing of health and education standards and is implementing them.

He said narcotic drug issue, an evil legacy of the colonialists, has remained rooted in border areas so

far. The narcotic drugs harm dignity of the nation and its people and much suffer individuals. There are many evidences that drug addicts have lost their lives. So, the government has been launching anti-narcotic drug activities as the national task after laying down two strategies and three tactics. It is also implementing 15-year drugs elimination project with the aims of enhancing belief, concepts and uplift of morale of poppy growers, promoting relations among the national races and uplifting of economic and social life of national races in border areas. He urged local people to participate in efforts for eradication of narcotic drugs in cooperation with the government as the national duty.

It is the time to make efforts for emergence of a modern developed democratic nation in accord with the expression "the country will be prosperous if there is unity", removing the misunderstanding among the national races, an evil legacy of divide-and-rule policy of the colonialists and possessing

the sense of national races among them, he said.

He said each region of the Union is a small union where national races reside as all national races live together in the Union of Myanmar. He urged the national races to actively participate in their respective roles for success of the seven-point future policies and programmes of the State.

The Secretary-2 then cordially greeted those present.

Chairman of Central Organizing Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein met members of District and Township WVOs and explained organizational set-up of MWVO, agriculture, livestock breeding and production activities of MWVO and participation in efforts for success of the seven-point future policies and programmes of the State.

Member of Panel of Patron of USDA Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein discussed organizational matters in meeting with executives of Shan State (East), District and Town-

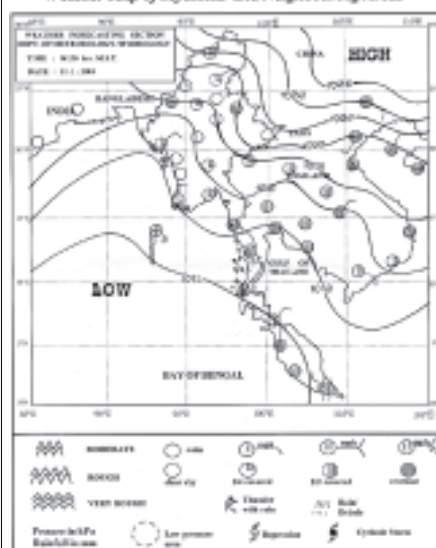
ship USDAs.

On 10 January, the Secretary-2 met officers and Tatmadawmen of regiments and units under the Kengtung Station and their

families and called for participation in implementation of the seven-point future policies and programmes of the State.

MNA

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



## WEATHER

Sunday, 11 January, 2004

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions and (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mon State and (6°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. Significant night temperature was (1°C) in Hakha.

Maximum temperature on 10-1-2004 was 34.0°C (93°F). Minimum temperature on 11-1-2004 was 15.8°C (60°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 11-1-2004 was 69%. Total sunshine hours on 10-1-2004 was (8.5) hours approx. Rainfall on 11-1-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 8 mph from North at (07:10) hours MST on 11-1-2004.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 12-1-2004:** Possibility of isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Mon and Kayin States, Yangon and Bago Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

**State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of isolated light rain in Southern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 12-1-2004:** Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 12-1-2004:** Fair weather.



New building of No 6 Basic Education Middle School in Kengtung, Shan State (East). — MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets with families of battalions and units of Kengtung Station in Kengtung. — MNA

## Secretary-2 inspects regional development in Kengtung District, Shan State (East)

YANGON, 11 Jan—Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended opening of the new school building for No 6 Basic Education Middle School in Kengtung and opening of the multimedia classrooms held at the school on 9 January morning.

Also present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, ministers, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and heads of department, members of the School Board of Trustees, social organizations, teachers and students and local people.

Headmistress Daw Khin Myint Wai and Chairman of the School Board of Trustees U Kyaw Tint formally opened the signboards of the new school building and multimedia classrooms.

Next, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development

Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveiled the signboard to mark the opening ceremony.

Next, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party inspected the computer skills room, the computer aided instruction room, the audio system, the painting room, the domestic science room, the fine arts room and the altar room and teaching and learning of the students.

The second session of opening of the new school building and opening of the multimedia classrooms was held at the meeting hall and eighth grader Ma Hnin Wai Wai Oo, on behalf of the students, spoke words of thanks in English.

Next, Headmistress Daw Khin Myint Wai reported on measures taken for opening the multimedia classrooms and Chairman of the School Board of Trustees, on concerted efforts made for opening the multimedia teaching center.

Afterwards, the Secretary-2 made a speech. He said that the emergence of two-storey new school building will benefit the students in their pursuit of formal education.

He expressed his belief that the parents, local people

and students will feel pleased as teachers will be able to teach the students science and technology with the use of modern teaching and learning aids after the emergence of the new school building.

The emergence of the new school building complete with modern teaching and learning aids can be attributed to the earnest efforts of the government and the people.

The government has laid down the education promotion programmes and is implementing them. In this context, the special four-year education plan has been laid down and is being implemented to be able to keep abreast with ASEAN nations. To keep pace with changes and developments, the government has laid down the long-term 30-year education plan and is implementing it.

At a time when science and technology is making progress with greater momentum, the Information Technology (IT) which is based on computers is ranking top. That is why IT is being introduced at the basic education schools. Based on the new school building facilitated with the multimedia classrooms, the students are to try their best to become the outstanding ones capable of serving the interests of the State and the people.

He also urged the teachers to nurture and train their pupils to become intellectuals and intelligentsia on whom the State can rely.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-2 and party had a group photo taken together with teachers and students.

Afterwards, the Secretary-2 and party proceeded to Kengtung General Hospital (200-bed) where they were welcomed by the medical superintendent, the specialists and health staff.

Next, the Secretary-2 inspected the medical ward (male), the medical ward (female), the surgical ward, the paediatric ward, the traumatic injury ward and the eye ward and attended to the needs.

At the meeting hall of the hospital, the Secretary-2 and party were reported by the medical superintendent on opening of the hospital on 18 May 2003 and measures taken, raising trust funds for medicines to be used at the hospital, free medical treatment, participation of the people and field trips made by the specialists.

(See page 9)



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greets departmental personnel in Kengtung. — MNA



200-bed Kengtung General Hospital in Kengtung, Shan State (East). — MNA