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## Four political objectives

- \* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- \* National reconsolidation
- \* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- \* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

## Four economic objectives

- \* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- \* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- \* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- \* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

## Four social objectives

- \* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- \* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- \* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- \* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially meets with local people in Hnyawbyin Village, Launglon Township, Taninthayi Division. — MNA

## Prime Minister inspects regional development in Launglon and Dawei Townships

YANGON, 13 Jan—Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the ministers, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, the entrepreneurs and officials, left here by air on 11 January morning and arrived in Dawei, Taninthayi Division, at 8.30 am.

The Prime Minister and party were welcomed at

Dawei Airport by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and military and civilian officers and members of social organizations.

Next, the Prime Minister and party together with Commander Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, arrived at the site for construction of Hnyawbyin deep sea port in Launglon Township. En route to the deep sea port, the Prime Minister met with teachers

of Yebyu Village (Lower) Basic Education High School (Branch) in the township and inquired about learning of the students and fulfilled the requirements.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to Kyauknimaw Affiliated High School and inquired about the academic matters of the school and attended to the needs for upgrading the school.

The Prime Minister and party inspected transport conditions along the road,

palm oil plantations on either side of the road and the beach.

On arrival at Hnyawbyin Village, the Prime Minister and party were welcomed by members of the Township and Village Peace and Development Councils, departmental officials, members of social organizations, students and local people.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe reported on matters related to construction of Hnyawbyin deep sea

port to be used by the 50,000 ton-capacity ocean-going liners, which was 43 miles away from Dawei, conditions for construction of warehouse and the industrial zone.

Next, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung reported on matters related to construction of Hnyawbyin deep sea port and regional development tasks in cooperation with the neighbouring countries and organizations in the region.

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## Circulation

23,559



Hostels of Dawei University in Dawei, Taninthayi Division. — MNA

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 14 January, 2004

### Let's put our energies into national development endeavours

The Government of the Union of Myanmar has been taking systematic measures for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation and therefore it is necessary for the entire national brethren to actively take part in the nation-building endeavours hand in hand with the Government.

Obviously, a nation will endure only if it is built basing on its past history and according to its national values. All the national brethren of the Union unitedly took part in the fight against the colonialists and fascists, sacrificing their lives, blood and sweat. It was due to unity of the nationals of the Union that we regained our independence. Therefore, the Government, taking lessons from the past, has given a top priority to national unity in building the future State.

Nowadays, nation-building tasks are being carried out through unity and mutual friendship and understanding of the national people. The 24 development regions have been designated and development work is being carried out for the parallel development of various regions. In doing so, various limitations have been able to be overcome because of the strength of internal forces.

Basic infrastructures such as roads and bridges, dams and embankments and health, education and communication facilities are being constructed wherever necessary the length and breadth of the Union.

And these tasks have been able to be successfully implemented in so short a time and that also because of the strength of the national people.

We would like to urge the entire national people to try as hard as they can in preserving peace and stability as these are the sine qua non for national development and put all their energies into all the nation-building endeavours.

### 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.



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Yangon City Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin watch the hockey match on 12-1-2004. — MNA

### Hockey competition begins

YANGON, 13 Jan — The National Hockey Championship sponsored by the Myanmar Hockey Federation was opened with ceremony held at Theinbyu hockey ground yesterday morning.

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, YCDC Chairman Yangon City Mayor Brig-Gen

Aung Thein Lin, Myanmar Olympic Committee Chairman Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Myanmar Hockey Federation President No 2 Military Region Commander Defence Services Records Office Commandant Brig-Gen Myo Myint, officials and guests were present on the occasion.

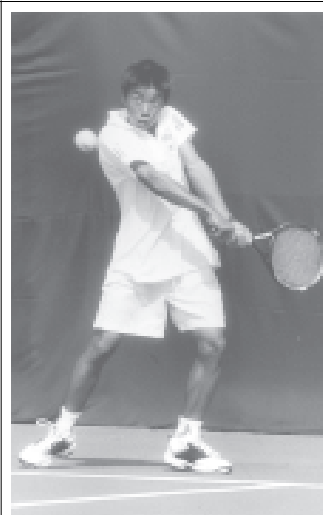
MNA

### Stimulant tablets, arms seized in Tachilek

YANGON, 13 Jan—A combined team comprising members of local intelligence unit and Tachilek Special Anti-Drug Squad, acting on information, on 29 December 2003, searched the house of Ah Be of Ahdee Village, Lwetawkhram Village-tract, Tachilek Township and arrested him together with 40,000 stimulant tablets hidden under a bed, one America-made Rimintan shotgun and its 18 rounds of ammunition, one Czech-made .22 gun, one America-made 9mm pistol and its 50 rounds of ammunition and one shotgun.

In a similar incident, a combined team comprising members of local intelligence unit and Tachilek Special Anti-Drug, acting on information, on 29 December 2003, searched the house of Soe Naing (a) Ah Gwan of Ahdee Village, Loitawkhram Village-tract, Tachilek Township and arrested Ah Je (a) Zaw Tun who was at the house together with 550 stimulant tablets.

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



International Tennis Federation 14 and under Asian Championships 2004 Zone (2) continued at Theinbyu tennis court in Yangon on Tuesday. Phyto Min Tha of Myanmar takes part in the championships.

NLM



### Gold Uni Golf Classic

YANGON, 13 Jan — The Gold Uni Golf Classic event is scheduled to be played from 27 to 30 January 2004. It is sanctioned by the Myanmar Professional Golfers Association and Myanmar Golf Federation and jointly sponsored by Gold Uni and Xie family with Imperial Jade joining in as the official water supplier.

Gold Uni will serve as a tune-up and final test for all the local players taking part in the prestigious Myanmar Open to be held from 12 to 15 February 2004. With the official venue Yangon Golf Club upgraded to tip top conditions the challenge for the 800,000 kyats winners cheque promises to be exciting.

The event is open to all Myanmar Professional Golfer Association members. Special invitations will be given to the top 6 Myanmar Golf Tour order of merit amateurs. Last date for registration with event organizer Han Event Management will be 25 January 2004.

MNA



## Spanish, Iraqi ministers urge UN return to Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 13 Jan** — The foreign ministers of Spain and Iraq called on Monday for the United Nations to return to the US-occupied country as soon as possible and to assist with overseeing the handover of power to Iraqis.

"We have called on the UN General Assembly and the Security Council to return to supervise and monitor the political process, the constitutional and electoral process," Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari told reporters after talks in Baghdad with his Spanish counterpart Ana Palacio.

Palacio, whose country is one of the United States' closest allies on Iraq, said the UN could not afford to keep its distance. The world body pulled out international staff last year after a suicide bomb attack on its Baghdad headquarters.

"We share the view on the role that

the United Nations has to play, and the fact is you cannot play at a distance — the presence of the UN in Iraq is crucial," said Palacio, who is also visiting Spanish troops stationed in Iraq.

"We would like them to have a real presence here."

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan pulled international staff out of Iraq in October amid an upsurge in attacks against civilian targets. He has said he still considers the security situation too precarious to risk allowing staff to return.

Zebari said the UN was used to working in war zones and with coun-

tries in crisis and Iraq should be no exception.

Annan and other senior UN officials argue that the United Nations can do a lot from outside Iraq, and say they want firm security guarantees and a clear idea of what the US-led administration expects it to handle before returning.

A delegation from Iraq's US-appointed Governing Council is to meet with Annan in New York on 19 January to discuss various issues, including the process of transferring power to Iraqis. UN staff redeployment is also expected to be on the agenda. — *MNA/Reuters*

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## Troops wound seven Iraqis in shooting

**BAGHDAD, 13 Jan**—Ukrainian soldiers have shot and wounded seven Iraqi civilians in response to an attack on their convoy in the tense town of Ramadi, residents said.

Witnesses said US soldiers fired randomly after their vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb. The soldiers then raided houses in the area. A spokesman for the US-led coalition said Ukrainian soldiers in the area had fired warning shots when protestors started to move toward the troops, but did not report any casualties. "There was a demonstration of 1,000 people. They started to be offensive and moving forward and shouting, so the Ukrainians fired some warning shots in the air," said Polish Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Strzelecki. — *Internet*

## US soldier killed in bomb explosion

**BAGHDAD, 13 Jan**—A US soldier was killed and two wounded in a roadside bombing yesterday in Baghdad, a US military spokesman said.

"One 1st Armoured Division soldier was killed and two were wounded when their convoy was attacked by an IED (Improvised Explosive Device) in central Baghdad," the spokesman said.

In Tikrit, US soldiers shot dead seven members of an armed gang allegedly trying to steal oil from a pipeline in central Iraq.

A group of 40 men armed with AK-47 assault rifles in 10 to 15 vehicles were spotted at the pipeline by the troops who were led to the area by an Iraqi informant, said an army spokesman, Master Sgt Robert Cargie. US troops, armed with M-16 rifles and 125mm cannons mounted on Bradley fighting vehicles, shot at the alleged thieves, killing seven of them in a gunfight, he said. The remaining people escaped, he said. The incident occurred in an area south of Samarra, 100km north of Baghdad.

Three fuel trucks and one transport truck were destroyed during the clash, Cargie added. In Kut, seven people were lightly injured when clashes erupted during a demonstration by about 1,000 unemployed men, local police said.

A spokesman for the US-led coalition said Ukrainian soldiers had fired warning shots when protestors started to move toward the troops. "There was a demonstration of 1,000 people. They started to be offensive and moving forward and shouting, so the Ukrainians fired some warning shots in the air," said Polish Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Strzelecki.

Local police chief Abdel Moneim Abdelrazzak Mohand said four Iraqi policemen and two Ukrainian soldiers were lightly wounded, while another police officer said a demonstrator had been taken to hospital for treatment. — *Internet*



*A US soldier on duty in Samarra on 12 Jan, 2004. Seven Iraqis believed to have been stealing fuel from a pipeline were killed in a firefight with US troops near the town of Samarra, north of Baghdad, the US military said.*

INTERNET

## Germany hails Indo-Pakistan decision to hold composite dialogue

**ISLAMABAD, 13 Jan**— Lauding the decision of India and Pakistan to hold composite dialogue next month, Germany on Saturday said it hoped the peace process between the two countries would lead to solution of all outstanding issues.

German Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Minister Joschke Fischer telephoned his Pakistani counterpart Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri and welcomed the Indo-Pakistan decision to hold composite dialogue next month, a Foreign Office statement here said.

Fischer expressed the hope the recent peace process would lead to solution of all outstanding issues and result in a permanent normalization of relations between Pakistan and India, the statement said. He also hailed the agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) at the SAARC Summit.

Earlier the week Kasuri's US, British, Chinese and Japanese counterparts and the EU foreign policy chief telephoned him to congratulate the government and leadership of Pakistan on the agreement with India to enter into a composite dialogue as well as on the success of the SAARC Summit. — *MNA/PTI*

## Indian business delegation to visit CIS countries

**NEW DELHI, 13 Jan**— A high-level business delegation of the Federation of Indian Export Organization (FIEO) will visit the CIS countries as part of the efforts to boost trade.

The 12-day visit to Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Azerbaijan, would begin on 10 January, a FIEO Press release said here.

The delegation comprises manufacturers and exporters who will represent diverse sectors, including hand tools, pharmaceuticals, electronic goods, cotton and synthetic yarns and fabrics. FIEO will also sign MoUs with leading chambers of commerce there. — *MNA/PTI*

## Weapons maker becomes China's fourth biggest auto producer

**BEIJING, 13 Jan**— China Weaponry and Equipment (Group) Corporation sold 410,000 motor vehicles in 2003, up 34.1 per cent year on year, becoming the country's fourth biggest auto producer.

Xu Bin, general manager of the corporation, said the figure included 400,000 cars and about 10,000 light trucks. It also sold 1.89 million motorcycles in 2003, the most in China in terms of yearly output and sales.

The general manager said the automobile production and sales department helped

the company, which had been losing money, become profitable for the first time since it was set up in 1999.

The total sales volume for the group exceeded 50 billion yuan (6.09 billion US dollars) in 2003, while its weapons production and research targets were met, Xu told a meeting of senior man-

agers of the company.

Set up in 1999 on basis of companies of the China Weaponry Industrial (Group) Corporation, the company used to be the biggest loss-maker of the country's 10 biggest military industrial firms in per-capita terms.

*MNA/Xinhua*



*Iraqi Airways employees, waving a flag with the company's logo, demonstrate in front of the headquarters of the US-led administration on 12 January, 2004. Commercial flights by the airline have still not started due to safety and other concerns, with the remaining fleet grounded on tarmacs in Iraq and surrounding countries.*

INTERNET

## Gulf War Syndrome linked to vaccines

**LONDON, 13 Jan**— A leaked British Army medical report has provided the first official backing that vaccines given to British soldiers before the 1991 Gulf War caused illnesses associated with Gulf War Syndrome, *the Times* reported on Monday.

It said Lieutenant-Colonel Graham Howe, clinical director of psychiatry with the British Forces Health Service in Germany, made the link after the War Pensions Agency asked him to look at the case of former Lance-Corporal Alex Izett, who now suffers from osteoporosis and acute depression, the paper said.

*The Times* quoted Howe as saying in his unpublished report, dated September 2001 and handed to the paper by Izett, that "secret" injections given to the soldier "most probably led to the development of autoimmune-induced osteoporosis".

Howe came to that conclusion because in the end Izett was never posted to Iraq, *the Times* said. The paper added that Izett won a landmark ruling at a war pensions appeals tribunal last summer which awarded him a 50-per-cent disability pension. — *MNA/Reuters*

## War college report says Iraq war an 'error'

MONTGOMERY, (Ala), 13 Jan—A report published by the Army War College calls the Bush administration's war on terrorism unfocused and says the invasion of Iraq was "a strategic error."

The research paper by Jeffrey Record, a professor at the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, said the President's strategy "promises much more than it can deliver" and threatens to spread US military resources too thin. Record also wrote that Saddam Hussein's Iraq did not present a threat to the United States and was a distraction from the war on terrorism.

Record is a visiting professor at the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. The paper was published last month by the Army War College's Strategic Studies Institute.

Lt Col Merideth Bucher, public affairs officer for the Army War College, said Monday it is not unusual for students, mostly higher ranking officers,

at the war college to be exposed to critical thought that might be contrary to current national policy. She said students are often exposed to speakers with varying views.

The director of the Strategic Studies Institute, Douglas Lovelace Jr, said it was originally founded by President Dwight Eisenhower to take a critical independent analysis of military issues from an academic perspective.

"Dr Record is a noted national security specialist. It's not at all at odds for us to analyze a given mission and arrive at a conclusion that seems at odds with national policy," Lovelace said.

He said in the past the institute has released studies analyzing US policy in Haiti, Afghanistan and other hot

spots.

Record could not be reached immediately for comment Monday through Army public affairs offices and he did not immediately respond to e-mails from *The Associated Press*. He is the author of six books and is a former legislative assistant for national security affairs to Senator. Sam Nunn, D-Georgia, and former Senator Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas.

Record's report concludes that the war on terrorism is too widespread and should focus on al-Qaeda and other terrorist threats to the United States.

"The United States may be able to defeat al-Qaeda, but it cannot rid the world of terrorism, much less evil," Record writes.

Internet

## Russia denies claims of arms sales to Iraq

Moscow, 13 Jan—A Russian official Monday rejected US claims that Russian firms had supplied Saddam Hussein's regime with sophisticated military technology and that the equipment was used to try to thwart the US-led invasion of Iraq. Information, fed to some American and British media, of supposed 'secret' deliveries by Russia to Iraq of military goods is no more than a broken record that was used in the first days of the war in Iraq, an unnamed government official told Russian news agencies.

On Saturday, a senior US official said that discoveries made during the war, as well as in the months since Baghdad fell in April, "corroborated" US allegations that Russian firms sold satellite jamming devices as well as night-vision goggles to Baghdad in violation of UN sanctions. And that official said Moscow's denials of the allegations — made in the early days of the war — had been inadequate and had done considerable damage to US-Russia relations.—Internet



Hundreds of Mexican workers march as they take part in an anti-American and free trade protest as leaders arrive for the Summit of the Americas in Monterrey, Mexico, on 11 January, 2004. Leaders from the Western Hemisphere are taking part in discussions on social development and equality during meetings on 12-13 January. —INTERNET

## 4,500-year-old city excavated in NW China

Xi'an, 13 Jan—Archaeologists in northwest China's Shaanxi Province have unearthed the ruins of an ancient city dating back 4,500 years on a mountain in Jiaxian County.

The ancient city consists of a 3,000-square-metre inner city, built on the top of a hill, a 60,000-square-metre outer city, which encircles the middle and lower part of the same hill, and a moat, 10 metres wide and 6.4 metres deep.

The walls of the inner and outer cities were built with stones and loess, said Zhang Tian'en, a research fellow with the Shaanxi Provincial Archaeological Research Institute.

Archaeologists have been excavating in a site of the late Neolithic period, known as the Shiluoluo Mountain Ruins in Jiaxian County, which covers 100,000 square metres and was found in 1978.—MNA/Xinhua

## Vajpayee says Pakistan "clutched" his hand of friendship

NEW DELHI, 13 Jan — Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee said Sunday that Pakistan has, though late, "clutched" his hand of friendship and this has opened a new chapter to usher in peace and prosperity between the two neighbours.

"The accord in Islamabad (to resume a composite dialogue) has opened a new chapter for peace and promotion of trade between the two countries, and I am confident that it would be implemented," Vajpayee said while addressing a public meeting in Hyderabad, southern India, on the opening day of a two-day national conference of India's ruling party Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Regretting the failure of the previous Lahore and Agra summits, Vajpayee said this time the Pakistani

leadership had "clutched" the hand of friendship that he extended in Srinagar on April 18 last year.

"We want to resolve all our disputes through negotiations and dialogue," he said.

Recalling that he discussed closer bilateral trade ties with Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf during their talks in Islamabad, Vajpayee described as "strange" that Pakistan imported goods through air and sea routes whereas the commodities were readily available in India.

"We are absolutely

ready to fulfil the needs of the neighbour and I am confident that the New Year would bring peace and harmony," he said.

Maintaining that India wants friendly ties with all its neighbours, Vajpayee said: "India wants peace on its borders and peace within the country."

The Indian leader said that India wanted to work together with Pakistan and hoped that the ceasefire reached between the two sides along the Line of Control and in Siachen would be observed.

MNA/Xinhua

## Indonesia may become net oil importer in 10 years

JAKARTA, 13 Jan—Indonesia could become a net oil importer in 10 years if there are no new finds and the public continues its lavish consumption on fuel oil, a senior official at a governmental agency warned.

Rahmat Sudibyo, chairman of Oil and Gas Upstream Regulatory Body (BP Migas), said last week that in order to prevent the nation from becoming a net oil importer, exploration should be intensified and the public should switch to natural gas from oil.

The country needs new

oil discoveries of between 400 million and 500 million barrels annually, which is the same amount of crude oil currently produced by the nation each year, Rahmat said.

"Every year, we need new crude oil discoveries equal to our current production rate to extend the life

span of our oil reserves," Rahmat was quoted Monday by *The Jakarta Post* as saying.

Indonesia is the only Asian member of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC). It produces 1.081 million barrels per day.

MNA/Xinhua



Actress Amber Tamblyn, star of the drama series, 'Joan of Arcadia' poses with the Favourite New Dramatic Television Series award at the 30th annual People's Choice Awards in Pasadena, California on 11 January, 2004.—INTERNET



# IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



US soldiers question an Iraqi family about the whereabouts of one of their relatives on Monday, 12 Jan, 2004 near Ramadi, Iraq. The wanted man is suspected in several attacks on coalition forces.—INTERNET



An Iraqi woman waits in a room with other women and children as Iraqi police officer Mohammed Abid Mohammed stands guard at the door on Monday, 12 Jan, 2004 while US soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division search the house near Ramadi, Iraq. —INTERNET



US soldiers survey the surroundings while stuck in traffic in Baghdad. A US soldier died in a roadside bombing in Baghdad after seven Iraqis were killed in a firefight with US troops on 12 Jan, 2004, near Samarra.—INTERNET



United States soldiers with the 1st Infantry Division patrol through a palm grove while looking for a site that was used to fire mortars at their camp earlier in the Monday morning, 12 Jan, 2004, near Ramadi, Iraq . —INTERNET



Demonstrators shout near a British Army soldier guarding the administration headquarters in the southeastern city of Amara on 11 January, 2004. Demonstrators gathered in Amara to demand compensation after at least five Iraqis were killed when police and British troops opened fire during violent protests on Saturday. —INTERNET



Demonstrators run from British soldiers guarding the administration headquarters in the southeastern city of Amara. British troops said they opened fire on Iraqi protesters in a clash in which at least five people were killed on Saturday.

INTERNET

## New Iraq contractors to be in place by April

AMMAN, 13 Jan— The US official overseeing 18.6 billion US dollars in US-funded contracts to rebuild postwar Iraq said on Monday he hoped to have the first set of contractors on the ground by early April.

The United States opened up bidding last week for the first string of lucrative new contracts, worth five billion US dollars, after more than a month's delay.

Retired Admiral David Nash, in charge of the Pentagon-run Programme Management Office, said at an Iraq reconstruction conference in Jordan that he did not see major delays in future.

"Hopefully we'll have contractors on the ground at the latest in late March, early April," Nash told reporters. "The way the contracts are set we're encouraging them to mobilize very quickly because we need to get to work very quickly."

The bids for prime reconstruction contracts covering electricity, water, buildings, security and justice and transportation and communication are due in February and Nash has said he expected them to be awarded

by early March. He said it was too early to say when the next batch of contracts would be put out to bidders.

"The RFPs (Requests for Proposals) of the large nature like we're putting out now I really don't know (when)," he said. "That remains to be seen by how these go and how quickly we can get people in place and how quickly the construction goes."

The first round of Iraq contracts were heavily criticized, with US lawmakers alleging favouritism over the award of work to well-connected firms such as Halliburton, an oil services company once run by US Vice-President Dick Cheney.

The new Iraq contracts, which must now be competitively bid, are being closely watched by the General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of US Congress.

MNA/Reuters

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US soldiers guard the road after their convoy came under attack near Samarra in Iraq Monday, on 12 Jan, 2004. INTERNET

## India to have ability for manned space mission soon

NEW DELHI, 13 Jan— India would soon have the ability to carry out manned space missions, Indian Space Research Organization Chairman Dr Madhavan Nair said here Monday.

"We have launch vehicles Monday, the PSLV and GSLV. It can carry three to five tons into lower Earth orbit and soon we will be having the GSLV Mark III about 2006-2007 timeframe, which will have the capability of taking a 10 ton module into the orbit," he told NDTV 24X7.

"This module is more than sufficient to take a manned mission for such an objective."

MNA/PTI

## US troops wound six Iraqis after convoy attacked

RAMADI, 13 Jan— US soldiers shot and wounded six Iraqi civilians on Monday in response to an attack on their convoy in the tense town of Ramadi, residents said.

The US military had no immediate comment.

Witnesses said US soldiers fired randomly after their vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb. The soldiers then raided houses in the area.

Reuters television footage showed cars and front doors pierced by bullets. One man showed bullet holes in his kitchen pots and pans as well as a shattered television screen.

"There were only innocent children here," he said. "What did they think, that Saddam Hussein was here?"

Ramadi is one of the flashpoint towns west of Baghdad in a wide area known as the Sunni Triangle. US convoys regularly come under attack and soldiers often carry out raids looking for insurgents in the town.—MNA/Reuters

## Turkey-Syria-Iraq railroad to be more active

ANKARA, 13 Jan— The railroad connecting Turkey, Syria and Iraq will be more active in the future as a result of trade expansion in the region, Turkish Daily News quoted a senior trade official as saying on Saturday.

Foreign Trade Undersecretary Tuncer Kayalar said he had discussed the matter with Syrian Prime Minister Mohammad Naji Otri and Industry Minister Mohammad Safi Abu Dan during his recent visit to Syria.

They agreed that an accord on preventing double taxing and supporting investment, which was signed by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad during his visit to Turkey, would benefit both countries.

Both sides agreed that the signing of a free trade agreement would boost the trade between the countries, said Kayalar, who had attended the second Turkish Machine

and Equipments Fair in Syria.

He said that he had told Otri about Turkey's desire to establish trade centres near the borders of the two countries.

The Syrian Prime Minister promised to consider the Turkish request and stressed his country's interest in Turkey's development process, Kayalar said.

He noted that he had also told Dan that regional stability and peace are very important for trade, and that Turkey has been implementing a policy of trade expansion with neighbouring countries since 2000.

MNA/Xinhua

## Singapore, Malaysia agree to improve strained relations

SINGAPORE, 13 Jan— Singapore and Malaysia agreed to improve their strained relations through joint efforts following the successful talks between the leaders of the two neighbouring countries here on Monday.

Addressing a joint Press conference Monday afternoon, Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and visiting Malaysian Premier Abdullah Badawi said that they had a "good and frank" discussions and agreed to explore ways to put Singapore-Malaysia relations back on track.

Both leaders said they considered their meeting a "good start". Abdullah is here on a one-day working visit to Singapore, and this is his first visit to the city-state since he became Malaysia's Premier last October.

During the short stay, Abdullah also called on Singapore President S R Nathan and met with Singapore Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

MNA/Xinhua

## Global fund calls for new proposals for more funding

NEW DELHI, 13 Jan— Amidst initiatives to provide drugs to HIV/AIDS patients from world over, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria has issued a call for a new round of proposals for funding from countries.

This would be the fourth round of proposals. In three previous rounds, the Global Fund had committed 2.1 billion US dollars over two years to 224 programmes in over 120 countries to combat the three diseases, a release from the Global Fund said on Monday.

India was approved nine million US dollars in the first round, 130 million US

dollars in the second and 14 million US dollars in the third round.

The fourth round was significant in view of recent government announcement to provide free AIDS drugs through public hospitals, experts said.

WHO and UNAIDS had also announced an initiative to provide anti-AIDS treatment to three million people

by the end of 2005.

"We are looking for proposals of the highest quality, particularly from partnerships that include the private sector and local non-governmental organizations," the release said, quoting US Secretary of Health and Human Services and chair of the Board of the Global Fund Tommy Thompson.

The deadline for submission of proposals is April, 2004, the release said adding that the fourth round also represents a major opportunity for private sector companies to expand their efforts to prevent and treat these diseases among their work force and in the surrounding communities.

The Global Fund, established as an independent private foundation, is a unique global public-private partnership involving governments, civil society, private sector and affected communities.—MNA/PTI



Queen Mary 2, the world's biggest cruise liner carrying 2,600 passengers, left its home port of Southampton in southern England for the United States on its maiden voyage on 12 Jan, 2004.—INTERNET

## 1,000 families displaced by fire in Manila

MANILA, 13 Jan — A huge fire razed a slum area in a district of Manila after midnight Sunday, leaving more than 1,000 families displaced, a local television reported.

There were no reported casualties in the fire, which reached the highest alert level for firefighters, the ABS-CBN news channel quoted Department of Social Welfare and Development Secretary Maria Corazon Soliman as saying.

Soliman said evacuation centres were being set up to assist the victims and appealed to the public to donate food, potable water and sleeping mats, adding that "many were affected, we have to help each other".

Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo reportedly inspected evacuation centres and consoled the victims. —MNA/Xinhua



# Patriotism revitalized since the independence struggle

Aung Moe San

The national races of the Union have safeguarded the independence generation after generation. The national races sacrificed a lot of lives, blood, sweat and tears for many years to restore independence. The national races have been protecting the independence and sovereignty hand in hand with the Tatmadaw for their perpetuation.

After the disintegration of the GCBA, that was like the front of the anti-colonialist struggle, in 1930, the following were some of the slogans of the independence struggle that appeared during the time.

Let's face the danger.

Show courage and endurance in times of emergency.

Ready to die for the nation's glory.

Abhor the life to live as a slave.

This is our land and our country.

And they were the slogans of the independence struggle that was gaining momentum. It was in 1925-26, five years before the outbreak of the independence struggle led by Saya San that a drama troupe staged a performance in Thanlyin. The play was staged for many days in the town. The famous writer, Nandaw Sheh Saya Tin was the leader of the troupe. He was short, with a hooked nose. He wore the uniform of a high level military commander of the Myanmar Royal Army. In his right hand was a large sword for his size. He sang a beautiful song to the accompaniment of the Myanmar orchestra. His song made the audience vitalized with patriotism and national-

istic fervour. The meaning of his song was as follows:

We will never let any of our man face with tragedy or be subjected to torture

We will never let any of our womenfolk face with tragedy or be subjected to torture

The song composed by Nandaw Sheh Saya Tin is a reminiscent of the past

Our land is our heritage, and we are the descendants of our great General Maha Bandoola

We will never forget our sufferings and will never forgive our enemy

He also said words of patriotism while singing the song. He wore the military uniform of the great General Maha Bandoola in singing the song. At the end of the song, he pierced the sword into the mat laid on the stage floor. His action made me vitalized with patriotism and nationalistic fervour.

As soon as I reached the age of earning my own living the whole Myanmar was reverberating with the clarion call to fight for independence. The call made us to be alert, and see and hear the oppressions of the colonialists against the workers. Saya San was the one who further strengthened our patriotism and nationalistic fervour.

Saya San led Myanmar peasants in launching a resistance against the colonialists. When his peasant's uprising failed, he went around the country trying to mobilize various national races of all walks of life for the resistance. During the mobilization campaign, he felt ill

with malaria. Thus, the colonialists were able to capture him easily. They tried him at the court and hanged him. We were angry when we heard the colonialist minions saying how they had humiliated Saya San after he was captured. So, Myanmarers were thinking about how to avoid facing the same fate of Saya San, and came to know the importance of having the awareness and stamina in times of emergency.

The act of seeing the happiness and the suffering from the political point of view is a profound matter. There could not be happiness, but only sufferings in the absence of independence; that the nation and the people would be free from sufferings only if there is liberty. Thus, the slogan during the time was "Independence is the first priority". At present, the world is in the process of globalization. The world has become a ruthless place in which all nations are vying with one another to gain supremacy in running the market-oriented economic system.

In this regard, I would like to urge the entire national people to preserve the patriotism and nationalistic fervour we have vitalized and keep in our heart since the independence struggle and firmly join hands in striving for the successful realization of the seven-point future political programme, modernization and development of the production forces, and perpetuation of independence and sovereignty.

(Translation: TMT)

12 January 2003: Myanma Alin+Kyemon.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects Dawei railway station in Taninthayi Division on 11-1-2004. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects tasks for development of Maungmakan Beach in Launglon Township, Taninthayi Division on 11-1-2004. — MNA



Myanmar ICT Week

2004

21.1.2004 - 27.1.2004

MICT Park, Yangon

## Minister inspects Factories in Hline, Mayangon Townships

YANGON, 13 Jan — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, accompanied by Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Thein Tun and Brig-Gen Kyaw Win, inspected the products at the leather factory under the Myanmar General and Maintenance Industries in Hline Township and gave instructions this morning.

Next, the minister in-

spected Gauze and Cotton Wool Factory No 26 under Myanmar Textile Industries in Mayangon Township and gave instruction on extended distribution of the goods.

The minister also looked into Soap Factory No 1 of Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries in Hline Township and Kunthaya Shop in the compound of



Minister U Aung Thaung inspects Gauze and Cotton Wool Factory No 26 in Mayangon Township. — INDUSTRY-1

the ministry at the corner of Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and

Sethmu-1 Street.

MNA

## Prime Minister inspects...

(from page 1)

Giving instructions, the Prime Minister said that although Taninthayi Division had railroads linking to neighbouring countries during the Second World War, the railroads fell into ruin due to various reasons in later periods.

But now, as the communication between neighbouring countries and Myanmar improved, there arise opportunities in which reconstruction of these railroads linking with other countries could be made.

Myanmar is in the hub of the Southeast Asian region and South Asian region. Therefore, at a time when further cooperation has been enhanced in economic, social and cultural

sectors among regional countries, arrangements are under way to be able to construct roads linking with regional countries.

Moreover, steps are being taken to enhance cooperation in economic, trade, social and cultural sectors, especially in tourism industries among regional countries Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand.

Likewise, India, Myanmar and Thailand have made arrangements for further strengthening cooperation including construction of the main road linking the three nations.

He said that he was there to witness the conditions for construction of the deep sea port in Dawei region, construction of the

main road to link the neighbouring nation and establishment of the industrial zone in Dawei region.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister called on ministers and local authorities to make integrated and coordinated efforts for regional development and for successful realization of the national objectives.

Next, the Prime Minister greeted the local people and inquired about education, health and economic conditions of the region and made arrangements for upgrading of Hnyawbyin Village Basic Education Primary School.

After that, the Prime Minister and party left the village and viewed round Tawkye waterfall and lake in Tawkye Village, Launglon Township.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt offers robes to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Next, the Prime Minister and party arrived at Launglon Township Hospital where they were welcomed by Medical Superintendent Dr Hla Hla Kyi and hospital staff.

Prime Minister General

Khin Nyunt and party inspected the ward, medical store, laboratory and operation theatre and fulfilled the needs to upgrade the 16-bed hospital into a 25-bed one. On arrival at Maungmakan Beach development project site in Launglon Township, Dawei District, the Prime Minister and party were welcomed by members of the Township PDC, departmental staff and social organizations.

At the briefing hall, Dawei District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Khin Maung Kywe reported on location and area of the beach, land utility, three separate parts of Maungmakan Beach, Kyauksin Beach and Hmyawyt Pagoda's environs and transportation; Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu on arrangements for hotel services by hoteliers; and Chairman of Maungmakan Developers Group Dr Khin Shwe and Chairman of Myanmar

Hotliers Association U Khin Zaw on arrangements for hotel services at the beach.

Next, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung also reported on tourism services to be carried out in Myanmar in cooperation with local organizations and neighbouring countries.

In response to the reports the Prime Minister said Maungmakan region is a beach resort blessed with natural beauties.

Encouragement is being given to the development of Myanmar's tourism to catch up with global tourism industry, which has now become so popular, he said.

Dawei region tends to be an international sea port, and therefore, upgrading tasks are needed for the beach compatible with global tourism industry, he added.

Departmental officials, local authorities and national entrepreneurs are to cooperate closely in the promoting the beach, he said.

(See page 9)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt hears report presented by an official on regional development in Hnyawbyin Village, Launglon Township, Taninthayi Division, on 11-1-2004. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects Tawkye waterfall and lake in Tawkye Village, Launglon Township, Taninthayi Division, on 11-1-2004. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt views the site for construction of Hnyawbyin deep sea port in Hnyawbyin Village, Launglon Township, Taninthayi Division, on 11-1-2004. — MNA





Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects multimedia teaching rooms of No 3 Basic Education High School in Dawei, Taninthayi Division, on 11-1-2004. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects Launglon Township People's Hospital in Taninthayi Division on 11-1-2004. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects the chosen site for construction of the main building of Dawei University in Taninthayi Division. — MNA



## Prime Minister inspects...

(from page 8)

Next, the Prime Minister and party went to Dawei University where Pro-rector U Kyaw Kyaw Htay, profes-

sors, associate professors and faculty members welcomed them.

At the briefing hall, Deputy Minister for Educa-

tion U Myo Nyunt reported on the history of the university, masters' degree courses, conditions of first and second year courses, majors, student population, IT centre rooms in which

105 computers are installed, organizational set-up and strength of staff, administrative and academic matters and construction tasks.

Senior Engineer U Thein Saw of Public Works reported on progress in construction of two-storey building with 10 lecture rooms, two-storey building with 20 rooms for administrative staff and hostels, water and electricity supply and future tasks.

The Prime Minister next gave instructions on construction of the convocation hall and viewed round the lecture rooms, hostels and offices.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to Dawei No 1 BEHS. Next, a cash donation ceremony was held at the school.

Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presented a set of computer for the school to Headmistress Daw Myint Myint.

Chairman of Zaykabar Co Ltd U Khin Shwe and Chairman of Yuzana Co Ltd U Htay Myint presented K 500,000 each and Managing Director of Tour Mandalay Co Ltd U Khin Zaw K 200,000 to Headmistress Daw Myint Myint.

The Prime Minister and party inspected class rooms.

The Prime Minister and party went to No 3 Basic Education High School, Dawei, where they were welcomed by Headmistress Daw Win Nyunt, teachers and students.

A ceremony to donate teaching aids and cash was held at No 3 BEHS, Dawei.

The Prime Minister presented a computer for the school to Headmistress Daw Win Nyunt.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Chairman of Zaykabar Co Ltd U Khin Shwe and Chairman of Yuzana Co Ltd U Htay Myint presented K 500,000 each and Managing Director of Tour Mandalay Co Ltd U Khin Zaw K 200,000 to the

headmistress.

The Prime Minister and party inspected computer application and computer aided instruction room. They visited Lawkathaphyu Reclining Buddha image in Dawei.

The Prime Minister and party paid respects to members of the Sangha led by Bhaddanta Sundra of Pitakat Taikkyang in Kanaingda model village. The Prime Minister offered robes to the members of the Sangha.

Next, the Prime Minister presented cash for all-round renovation of the pagoda and Minister Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe donations to the board of trustees.

The Prime Minister and party paid obeisance to the pagoda and inspected the renovation works.

The Prime Minister and party arrived at Dawei railway station where they were welcomed by officials.

Officials reported on running of Mawlamyine-Dawei Road and gave instructions. The Prime Minister inspected Dawei railway station.

The Prime Minister and party stayed at Heinda Yeiktha.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents a computer set to Dawei BEHS No 1 in Taninthayi Division through Principal Daw Myint Myint. — MNA



Dawei railway station in Taninthayi Division. — MNA

အိမ်ထောင်ရေးနှင့် နှစ်စဉ် နှစ်စဉ်  
တစ်စောင် တစ်စောင်တင်  
မြို့တော်မယ်လမ်း



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presses the button to unveil the signboard of the Cooperative Products Exhibition and Market Festival. (News on page 16) — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Managing Director U Maung Maung formally open the Cooperative Products Exhibition and Market Festival. (News on page 16) — MNA

## Myanmar Police Force...

(from page 16)

actively charge the duties to smoothly operate the State's administrative mechanism.

Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Police Force Management Reform Committee Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing took part in the discussions. He said he would present the main points of the work done by the committee in the year. Myanmar Police Force Reform Committee was formed ten years ago. Achievements were made due to the guidance of the Head of State and

suggestions and cooperation of six sub-committees. According to the guidance of the Head of State, Myanmar Police Force is making efforts to possess three capabilities— patriotism, efficiency and modernization.

Moreover, he said, members of MPF are trying to become qualified members loved by the people.

In connection with crime reduction measures, he said, public cooperation plays an important role in crime reduction. Five crime reduction tasks are now being undertaken. In implementation of the functions of the police force, regional outposts were opened. As a result, outbreak of crimes decreased.

Members of MPF discharging their duties with five outlooks are participating in regional development and administration tasks. They also discharge their security duties on farming,

industries and freight transport effectively.

In conclusion, he said tasks on MPF management reform are gaining momentum and MPF is making efforts to become modern, patriotic and loyal one.

Next, Secretary of MPF Management Reform Committee Director-General of MPF Police Brig-Gen Khin Yee reported on implementation of the resolutions of the previous meeting.

Chairmen and officials of intelligence sub-committee, management sub-committee, work implementation sub-committee, judicial sub-committee, legal sub-committee and training sub-committee reported on work done and tasks to be undertaken.

The Secretary-2 took part in the discussions. The meeting came to a close after concluding remarks given by the Secretary-2.

MNA

## ITF 14 and Under ASIAN Championships 2004 Zone-2 continues

YANGON, 13 Jan — The matches of the ITF 14 and Under ASIAN Championships 2004 Zone-2, jointly organized by International Tennis Federation and Myanmar Tennis Federation, continued at Theinbyu Tennis Court here this morning.

MTF Patron Maj-Gen Kyaw Win, President U Zaw Zaw (Max Myanmar Co Ltd), Secretary Dr Tin Aung Lin (Aung Mingalar Co Ltd) and executives, ambassadors, ex-president and ex-secretaries of MTF, ex-selected players and tennis enthusiasts watched the matches.

In men's singles events, Phyo Min Tha (Myanmar) beat Barbar (Pakistan) 6-2, 7-5 and Zin Bo (Myanmar) beat Kwang (Malaysia) 6-4, WO to advance to semi-finals.

Shanmugam (Malaysia) beat Aik Kyauk (Myanmar) 6-3, 7-5 and

Dinesh Kanthan (Sri Lanka) beat Win Htet Paing (Myanmar) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 to advance to semi-finals.

In women's singles events, Arudpagasam (Sri Lanka) trounced Moe Chit The (Myanmar) 6-2, 6-3 to advance to semi-finals.

In doubles events,

Phyo Min Tha and Win Htet Paing of Myanmar crushed the couple from Malaysia and Sri Lanka 6-3, 6-1; Zin Bo and Aung Kyaw Naing of Myanmar, the couple from Sri Lanka WO to advance to semi-finals which will be held on 14 January morning at the same venue. — MNA

## Myanmar Rice Milling Industry Fair-2004 goes on

YANGON, 13 Jan — Myanmar Rice Milling Industry Fair-2004, co-organized by the Ministry of Commerce and the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, continued today at Yangon Trade Centre on Upper Pazundaung Road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township here.

Rice mills and spareparts are on display at 150 booths of 36 local companies and foreign companies of China, Japan, India, Malaysia and Thailand. In addition, industrial zones of the states and divisions also put their rice mills and parts on display.

The fair continues tomorrow. — MNA



MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) delivers an address at the dinner to mark Seminar on Publishing in Myanmar. — MNA

## Dinner hosted to mark Seminar on Publishing in Myanmar

YANGON, 13 Jan — A ceremony to conclude of the Seminar on Publishing in Myanmar of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association and to host a dinner was held at Sarpya Beikman Building on Merchant Street, here, this evening, attended by Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein.

Also present on the occasion were departmental heads from the ministry, Chairman of MWJA U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), CEC

members, Work Committee Chairman U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) and committee members, Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Association Chairman U Thauha Han, resource persons and invited guests.

U Myint Kywe (Maung Myint Kywe) acted as MC. The fifth day of the seminar was held. U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) presided over the seminar together with members U Thaw Kaung and U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha). U Hla Myaing (Ko

Hsaung) delivered an opening speech and U Myint Kywe (Maung Myint Kywe) read the report (draft) of the work committee.

Chief Editor Dr Tin Tun Oo of Thuta Swezon publishing house presented gifts to the chairmen and resource persons and MCs.

U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) spoke words of thanks and the ceremony came to a close. After the ceremony, dinner was hosted to those who attended the seminar. — MNA



## Traditional medicines including heavy metals unfit for consumption

YANGON, 13 Jan — The Ministry of Health examined some traditional medicines used as a tonic in treatment and prevention of disease. It is found that ingredients of the medicines include much more heavy metals than permitted. These medicines are harmful to the public and are unfit for consumption.

The traditional medicines

are Yathayana medicine powder, Thanpya medicine powder, Kyauksaydan medicine powder, Baythitza Shwepya powder, Yathayana Seinyadana tablet and Shwepayay. The ingredients include more amount of heavy metals such as lead, arsenic and mercury than it should be.

MNA

**Don't Smoke**





Chief Justice U Aung Toe delivers a speech at the coordination meeting of the National Convention Convening Work Committee. — MNA

### National Convention Work Committee meets

YANGON, 13 Jan — The National Convention Convening Work Committee held its coordination meeting at the meeting hall of Work Committee in Kyaikkasan Grounds here this morning.

Present were Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Secretary U Thaung Nyunt, Joint-Sec-

retary-1 U Khin Maung Myint, Joint-Secretary-2 Dr Thaung Myint and members.

Chairman U Aung Toe delivered an opening address. Next, Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye

Maung and Secretary U Thaung Nyunt discussed matters relating on the national convention.

The meeting came to a close after concluding remarks by the chairman.

MNA



Vice-Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe watches the military band contest. — PUPR

### Military band contest continues

YANGON, 13 Jan — The 13th Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Contest to mark the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2004 continued at the People's Square on Pyay Road this morning.

Bands of the students representing Kamayut

Township No 2 Basic Education High School and Dagon Township No 1 BEHS presented skill demonstrations.

Next, No 88 LID band troupe, Eastern Command band troupe, Northern Command band troupe, Yangon Command Com-

pany 1 band troupe, No 77 LID band troupe and Yangon Command military band troupe took part in the contest.

Chairman of the Committee for Organizing the contest Vice-Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe presented cash awards to

the band troupes of the students.

Also present on the occasion were Provost Marshal Maj-Gen Saw Hla, senior military officers, members of the panel of judges, guests, students and others.

MNA

### ကူးစက်မြန် (ဦးနှောက်အမြှေးရောင်)

#### ရောဂါကုသရေး

##### (က) ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပုံ

- ဤရောဂါသည် ဘက်တီးရီးယားပိုးကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။
- တစ်ဦးမှတစ်ဦးသို့ အသက်ရှူလမ်းကြောင်းမှ တစ်ဆင့် ကူးစက်သည်။
- အသက်အရွယ်မရွေး ရောဂါဖြစ်နိုင်ပြီး ကလေးသူငယ်များတွင် ပိုမိုဖြစ်သည်။
- လူမှုလူဝေးနှင့် နေထိုင်မှုသည် ရောဂါပိုမိုပြန့်လွယ်သည်။
- ဆောင်းနှင့် နွေရာသီများတွင် ရောဂါအဖြစ်များလေ့ရှိသည်။
- ဤရောဂါသည် ကူးစက်မြန်ပြီး လူများစုတွင် တစ်ပြိုင်တည်း ဖြစ်တတ်သည်။

##### (ခ) ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများ

- ရုတ်တရက်ပြင်းထန်စွာဖျားခြင်း။
- ပြင်းထန်စွာခေါင်းကိုက်ခြင်း၊ ဇက်တောင်ခြင်း၊ အော့အန်ခြင်း၊ တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်း။
- ကြွက်သားများ နာကျင်ခြင်း။
- အရေပြား၌ သွေးခြေဥခြင်း၊ အနီစက်အနီကွက်များ ဖြစ်ပေါ်လေ့ရှိခြင်း။
- သွေးလန်မှု ဖြစ်တတ်ခြင်း။
- ရုတ်တရက်အသက်ဆုံးရှုံးနိုင်ခြင်း။

##### (ဂ) ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်နိုင်ခြင်း

- တစ်ကိုယ်ရေသန့်ရှင်းရေးကို အလေးထားဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအစာများကို စားသုံးပါ။
- လုံလောက်စွာ အနားယူပါ။
- ပွဲလမ်းသဘင်၊ လူထုထပ်သောနေရာနှင့် ဖုံထူထပ်သောနေရာများကို တတ်နိုင်သမျှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- နှာစေး၊ ချောင်းဆိုးလျှင် ရောဂါမပြန့်ပွားစေရန် လက်ကိုယ်ပိုပါကို အသုံးပြုပါ။
- တစ်ဦးအသုံးပြုထားသော အသုံးအဆောင်နှင့် အဝတ်အထည်များကို အခြားတစ်ဦးမှ အသုံးပြုခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

(ဃ) ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများရှိလျှင် အသက်ဆုံးရှုံးမှုနှင့် ရောဂါပြန့်ပွားမှုများမှ ကာကွယ်နိုင်ရန်နီးရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် ဆေးလျှင်စွာ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

### Cash donated to Social Welfare Department

YANGON, 13 Jan — Wellwishers donated cash to the Social Welfare Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement at a ceremony held at Kyimyindine School for the Blind in Panbingyi Street in Kyimyindine Township, this morning. It was attended by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, officials, wellwishers and the students.

In charge (Business) of Shan State (South) Special Region-6 PaO National

Organization Central Committee Thiri Thudham-ma Manijotadhara U Nay Win Tun (Chairman, Ruby Dragon Jade and Gems Co Ltd)-Daw Nan Aye Aye Myint and family presented K 1 million to the trust funds of Kyimyindine School for the Blind, and K 3 million to Mandalay School for the Deaf and other training schools through the minister, who next presented a certificate of honour to them and expressed words of thanks. After the ceremony, the minister and guests and wellwishers viewed the lecture rooms of the school.

MNA

### ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင် ဘဝတစ်ခွင်

ကျန်းမာခြင်းဆိုသည်မှာ - ရောဂါဘယကင်းရှင်းရုံသာမက၊ ကိုယ်၏ကျန်းမာကြံ့ခိုင်ခြင်း၊ စိတ်ချမ်းသာခြင်းနှင့် လူမှုရေးသုခပြည့်ဝခြင်း ကိုဆိုသည်။ ဘဝတစ်ခွင် ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင်စေရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

- (၁) တစ်ကိုယ်ရည်သန့်ရှင်းမှုကိုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၂) အန္တရာယ်ကင်း၍ အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအသောက်များကိုစားသုံးပါ။
- (၃) ပိုမိုစွမ်းအားစင်၍ သန့်ရှင်းသောရေကို သောက်သုံးပါ။
- (၄) ရာသီဥတုနှင့် လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်နေထိုင်ပါ။
- (၅) အသက်အရွယ်နှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေရှိသည့် သင့်တင့်မျှတသော ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုကို မှန်မှန်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၆) နေ့စဉ်လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်တာများ ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်းကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်မှုကိုပြေပျောက်စေရန် အနားယူပါ။
- (၇) ဖြစ်အန္တရာယ်မှကာကွယ်ရန် ဖြစ်တောင်မြင်အိပ်ပါ။
- (၈) ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့်ညီညွတ်သော ယဉ်လုံအိမ်သက်ကျင့်စွဲပါ။
- (၉) အရက်သောက်ခြင်း၊ ဆေးလိပ်ဆေးရွက် သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ ကွမ်းစားခြင်းတို့ကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၀) မူယစ်ဆေးဝါးနှင့် စိတ်ကိုပြောင်းလဲစေသည့် ဆေးဝါးများ သုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၁) အပျော်အပါးလိုက်စားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) ရေ မြေ လေ သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်နှင့် နေထိုင်မှု အသက်မွေးမှုပတ်ဝန်းကျင်တို့အား ညစ်ညမ်းစေသည့် အပြုအမူများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

### Seminar on Publishing in Myanmar concludes

YANGON, 13 Jan — The Seminar on Publishing in Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association concluded today at the hall of MWJA at Sarpay Beikman building here today.

Present on the occasion were MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Vice-Chairmen News and Periodicals Enterprise Managing Director U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha) and U Than Maung (Than Maung), 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.

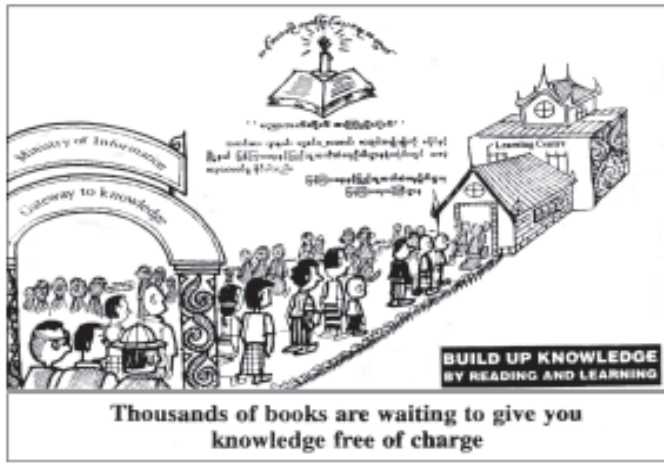
At the today's seminar, resource persons submitted their papers and it concluded in the evening.

MNA



U Thaw Kaung introduces those present to papers at the Seminar on Publishing. — MNA





## ADVERTISEMENTS

(၇) (၈) (၉) (၁၀) စာသင်သားများအတွက်  
သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်းနှင့်အညီ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ သင်ခန်းစာများပါရှိပါသည်။

### JUNIOR LEADER



### အတွဲ(၅) အမှတ် (၄၃) ဖြန့်ချိလိုက်ပါပြီ

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းဓာတ်ဆိုင်ဆိုင်ရာစာအုပ်ဆိုင်နှင့်သတင်းစာ  
ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် လက်လီယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ တိုးတက်ထိရောက်စွာ ပြုစုပေးသော  
Read Junior Leader to improve your English.

## Guiana President arrives Rajasthan

JAIPUR, 13 Jan — Guiana President Bharat Jagdev on Sunday arrived at the Sanganer airport, 15 kilometres from here, starting his two-day visit to Rajasthan.

Jagdev was received by state Sports Minister Yunus Khan and the Chief Secretary R K Nayyar at the airport. During his visit, the President would visit the Amber Fort and City Palace

among other tourists places in the pink city.

He is also scheduled to visit industrial area at Sitapura and would meet jewellers businessmen.

MNA/PTI

## Tremor jolts Algeria

ALGIERS, 13 Jan — An earthquake measuring 5.7 on the Richter Scale shook an area close to the Algerian capital on Saturday evening, official media reported.

The epicentre was located in the Mediterranean village of Zemmour, the same area as a devastating quake that killed 2,300 people last May. Zemmour is located 32 miles east of the capital Algiers.

The official APS news agency quoted a state geological studies centre as saying that the strong tremor

was an aftershock of the May 21 quake, which measured 6.8 on the Richter Scale.

Residents contacted by telephone said frightened locals fled their homes.

MNA/Reuters

## Widespread infections reported on HIV/AIDS in Nigeria

LAGOS, 13 Jan — Widespread infections have been reported on HIV/AIDS in the various social strata, age groupings and regions of Nigeria, a leading official from Nigeria's non-governmental organization said here

at the weekend.

Stella Afolabi, coordinator of the Family Planning and Support Group involved in adolescent health, told newsmen at a public seminar on "Youth Health and Development" in Nigeria's commercial capital Lagos that "there is an urgent need to check the disease which is fast spreading in the country". —MNA/Xinhua

ရှောင်လေဝေးဝေး မူးယစ်ဆေး။

## ပြည်တွင်းပြစ်ကိုအားပေးပါ

### UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS. INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following VHF Transceiver and Repeater, Magneto Telephone, Switch Board, Cable, Steel Rope and Air Conditioner which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

Sr No.	Tender No	Description	Qty:
1.	14(T) 8/MR (S&T)	V.H.F Transceiver	26-Sets
	2003-2004	V.H.F Repeater	1-Set
2.	14(T) 9/MR (S&T)	Magneto Telephone, Switch Board, Cable	1-Lot
	2003-2004	Steel Rope, VHF Repeater and Air Conditioner	

Closing Date: 17-2-2004 (Tuesday) (12:00) Hours

Opening Date: 17-2-2004 (Tuesday) (14:00) Hours

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 13-1-2004 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982, 201555 Ext: 602, 605, 612.

Deputy General Manager

Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung, Yangon.

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SAGAING VOY NO (16)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SAGAING Voy No (16) arrived on 12-1-04 are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed between 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

Phone : 295279/295280/295281/295658/295659

## MYANMAR IVANHOE COPPER COMPANY LIMITED INVITATION TO TENDER

### EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

MICCL invites sealed Tender from suitable Drilling Contractors to perform an Exploration Drilling Program at the Sebetung and Kyesintung Mine Site, west bank of Monywa, Myanmar.

The program shall be 21 drillings of approximately 1485 linear meters of drilling HQ and RC holes.

Quotation shall be on a linear meter drill basis and be inclusive of all costs associated with the program including consumables. Mobilization and De-mobilization shall be separate items in the quotation.

Bidding documents will be available on payment of FEC 100.00 (FEC one hundred only) from the following address during office hour between 9:30 am and 5:30 pm with effect from 19-1-2004.

Tender closing date is 30-1-2004 at 4:00 pm

Application for bidding to rental of light vehicles

70(I), Bo Chain Street

Pyay Road, Hlaing Township

Yangon (Phone: 951-514194 to 951-514197.

Fax: 951-514208)

General Manager,

Myanmar Ivanhoe Copper Company Limited.

## APPF annual meeting opens in Beijing

BEIJING, 13 Jan — The 12th annual meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) opened here Monday, attended by over 100 parliamentary leaders and members from 27 Asia-Pacific countries.

Wu Bangguo, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, said at the opening ceremony that the meeting would enhance cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region and promote parliamentary exchanges and cooperation between countries.

During the three-day meeting, the participants will discuss international politics and security, the global

and regional economies, and promoting regional stability and prosperity through cooperation. As an influential organization in the Asia-Pacific Region, the APPF aims to enhance understanding and trust, expand consensus and promote cooperation in the region. This is the first time that China, one of the founding members, has hosted such a meeting. —MNA/Xinhua



# ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်မှု

## Bush economic policies come under fire

WASHINGTON, 13 Jan — President George W Bush is facing growing criticism that his economic policies, including a planned push to make his tax cuts permanent, amount to land mines in the US economy's path.

Economists widely credit the 1.7-trillion-US-dollar in tax cuts Bush has won during his tenure with helping lift the economy out of the doldrums, but many say the time has come to focus on getting the budget back into balance.

Analysts say the President's budget plan, due in early February, must offer compelling evidence that the administration is serious about getting spending and spiralling deficits under control or risk damaging market confidence.

The Bush tax cuts helped fuel a record 374-billion-US-dollar budget gap last year, or about 3.5 per cent of US gross domestic product, the highest proportion since 1993. The White House expects that to hit about 4.5 per cent this year.

Three groups — the business-backed Committee for Economic Development, the bipartisan Concord Coalition and the liberal

Centre on Budget and Policy Priorities — have jointly warned of cumulative deficits totalling five trillion US dollars over the next 10 years, if current policies remain in place.

Much of the shortfall to date has been covered by borrowing from overseas — a factor pushing the deficit in the US current account, the broadest measure of international trade, to record levels.

Analysts say the widening current account gap has contributed to a fall in the dollar, which hit record lows against the euro on Friday after a report showed a scant 1,000 US jobs were created last month.

Economists had expected a rise of 130,000. Economists at the International Monetary Fund, the global economy's watchdog, warned last week that the greenback was likely to stay under pressure as US debts mounted.

MNA/Reuters



A buck rests in a meadow in Rocky Mountain Arsenal, in this on 14 Nov, file photo near Commerce City, Colo. The Rocky Mountain Arsenal, where sarin nerve gas and other weapons of mass destruction were manufactured for years, has officially been declared free of chemical weapons. The federal Superfund site has undergone a cleanup aimed at transforming it into a wildlife preserve. The cost of cleanup at the arsenal is estimated at \$2.2 billion.—INTERNET

## Indian-American Republican Council deplores Hillary's remarks

WASHINGTON, 13 Jan — The Indian-American Republican Council Saturday asked Senator Hillary Clinton to apologize directly to the Indo-American community for the "outrageous" comments she reportedly made on Mahatma Gandhi.

"It is simply outrageous that Hillary Clinton used the venerable Mahatma Gandhi to perpetuate racial stereotypes," the Council's co-chairman Sudhakar Shenoy said.

Hillary had joked that Mahatma Gandhi used to run a gas station in the US, while

speaking at a fund-raiser for Senate candidate Nancy Farmer. She had regretted the comments in the same speech saying Gandhi was a great leader of the 20th Century. "Hillary Clinton said she was just making 'a lame attempt at humour'. This is truly shameful. I as-

sure that the Indian American community is not laughing. Humour based on racial slurs has no place in public discourse. We call on Hillary Clinton and Nancy Farmer to apologize directly to Indian Americans," he said.

MNA/PTI

WASHINGTON, 13 Jan — The Mars *Spirit* rover has fully unfolded itself and stretched up to its full height, and may be ready to drive off its landing platform on the Martian surface as early as Wednesday, NASA said recently.

"It now stands at full height and all six wheels are in their final position," mission manager Jennifer Trosper told reporters at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The *Spirit* rover, which landed on Mars on January 3, was set to begin a three-month search for evidence that the Red Planet may once have been a wet world conducive to life. On its seventh Martian day, *Spirit* carried out one of the most complex deployments ever performed by a robotic spacecraft to morph from its tetrahedron landing shape into a six-wheeled, golf cart-sized vehicle like a four-petal flower.

MNA/Xinhua

**Mars  
rover  
stands  
up to full  
height**

## Thailand sets ambitious target for exports

BANGKOK, 13 Jan — Thailand is striving to increase its export values during the next two years by some 20 per cent to turn the country into the world 10th largest exporter, local Press reported Monday.

"In three years, Thailand must become one of the key exporters in the world," the *Bangkok Post* quoted Thai Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusritipak as saying.

Under the government's plan, Thai exports were expected to grow by some 15 per cent to 20 per cent annually to reach 100 billion US dollars in value by the Year 2006, the paper said.

The improvement would help Thailand to jump from its current 20th largest exporter to the 10th largest of the world.

The Commerce Ministry currently projected Thai export value this year rising 13 per cent from last year, a slight decline from the 16 per cent growth posted in the Year 2003. Total exports in 2003 were 79.2 billion US dollars.

At a meeting of economic ministries and private industry groups held on Sunday, Somkid said the exports of 90 billion US dollars were achievable this year, assuming

continued progress in opening new market.

He said, by the Year 2006, exports to markets such as China, India, Latin America, Africa and Eastern Europe would represent 40 per cent of Thailand's total exports compared with 38 per cent now.

Meanwhile, market share to traditional trading partners including the United States, Japan, Europe and ASEAN needed to be maintained.

While trying to keep economic development by stimulating domestic consumption and investment, the Thai Government also stepped up its efforts to improve the country's international trade sectors.

The government has been active in holding talks with neighbouring countries and major trade partners on free trade initiatives. Last year, the kingdom reached out for free trade agreement negotiations with many countries including China, India and the United States. — MNA/Xinhua

## China, US, Russia begin global research network

BEIJING, 13 Jan — China, the United States and Russia began Monday a global network for scientific research, the first of its kind in the North Hemisphere connecting major scientific centres such as Chicago, Moscow and Beijing.

Experts with the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the Chinese sponsor of the trilateral project, said the Global Ring Network for Advanced Applications Development (Gloriad) is expected to be an important platform for research for the Next Generation Internet (NGI).

Qian Hualin, chief coordinator of Gloriad, said that the new links enable research institutes in the three countries to communicate with each other and share scientific data, which might stimulate new advancement in basic

research.

Gloriad is proposed as a 10-gigabit-per-second optical network around the Northern Hemisphere.

The ring begins in Chicago at the Starlight facility, funded by the US National Science Foundation, crosses the Atlantic Ocean to the Netherlight facility in Amsterdam, continues to Moscow and the Russian science city of Novosibirsk, goes on to Beijing and Hong Kong, and then crosses the Pacific Ocean to complete the circuit in Chicago.

MNA/Xinhua

## German police investigate potato computer scam

BERLIN, 13 Jan — German police are investigating after an angry man returned a computer he had just bought saying it was packed with small potatoes instead of computer parts.

The store replaced the computer free of charge but became suspicious when he returned a short time later with another potato-filled computer casing, police in the western city of Kaiserslautern said on Monday.

"The second time he said he didn't need a computer any more and asked for his money back in cash," a police spokesman said. Police are now investigating the man for fraud.

MNA/Reuters

**US  
seeks  
fresh  
start for  
stalled  
WTO  
trade  
talks**

WASHINGTON, 13 Jan — US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick on Sunday urged members of the World Trade Organization to restart stalled international trade talks, a US official said.

Zoellick, in a letter sent to almost 150 countries that belong to the trade organization, said the United States is prepared to make a serious effort to get talks going, the official said, but declined to provide details.

"The letter suggests that WTO members should focus on the basics, especially the core market access topics of agriculture, goods, and services," said the official, who did not want to be named. The talks are aimed at lowering or eliminating tariffs charged by countries around the world on imported goods and services, thereby lowering the costs of those products to consumers. The official said the US

Trade Ambassador asked trade ministers to agree by the middle of the year to terms for a fresh start to talks that broke down in September in Cancun, Mexico, over agricultural issues.

"The period after Cancun was a necessary collective catching of breath, and now we must all recommit to pushing forward. We have a chance to surprise the naysayers," the official said.

Many developing nations are hindered in exporting farm products to industrialized nations by trade obstacles aimed at shielding farmers and ranchers in those countries from being driven out of business by cheap imports. — MNA/Reuters

## SPORTS

## Fulham boss hails want-away Saha

LONDON, 13 Jan—Fulham boss Chris Coleman, who has blocked Louis Saha's move to Manchester United, heaped praise on the French striker on Saturday after he scored in a 2-1 league win over Everton.

Saha, who has been quoted in papers as being "disgusted" at Coleman's refusal to accept a United bid, put Fulham ahead from the penalty spot and gave an all-round performance which delighted his manager.

"For Louis Saha to put in a performance like that, considering what's going on and what's been said in the newspapers, is a testament to Louis' professionalism and the way he approaches his football," Coleman told Sky Sports.

"He's a team player and he showed that today."

But the Welshman added: "I'm keeping Louis here. Louis' got the chance to go to one of the best clubs in the world and we understand that, but it's my choice and I've said 'no'.

"He's too important to us... He's terrific guy and I sympathize with him wanting to go on but the time is not right for us."

MNA/Reuters



Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson said Fulham were at fault for the controversy over striker Louis Saha (pictured) after the London club accused him of bullying tactics in trying to sign the Frenchman.—INTERNET

## Referee gets brickbats from Ferguson, Shearer

LONDON, 13 Jan—Manchester United boss Alex Ferguson and Newcastle captain Alan Shearer joined in criticizing match referee Paul Durkin after a controversial 0-0 draw on Sunday.

Durkin came under fire after admitting Shearer should have had a penalty when he was tripped by United keeper Tim Howard, but sticking by a later decision to disallow a strike by United defender Mikael Silvestre.

"I've seen it again and I've listened to Paul Durkin and I don't agree with him," Ferguson told Sky Sports.

"I think it was a perfectly good goal, as I thought it was a penalty kick."

Shearer was equally forthright, saying: "I should have had a penalty."

"I know if I was playing in red, that would have been a certain penalty, but I suppose it's asking too much for Alan Shearer

to get a penalty at Old Trafford in front of the Stretford End."

Relating a conversation over the incident with Durkin, Shearer added: "He said he wasn't 100 per cent certain, so I said 'why didn't you book me for diving?' and he said 'I didn't think you dived'. Work that one out if you can." Newcastle boss Bobby Robson was more conciliatory over Durkin's admission, saying: "He's been honest and that's as good as it gets. I applaud him for that."

But he added: "It was a big blow for us because it looked as though Howard did catch Alan after Alan was trying to take the ball around him."—MNA/Reuters

## Arsenal face striker crisis after Aliadiere injury

LONDON, 13 Jan—Premier League Leaders Arsenal face a striker crisis after young Frenchman Jeremie Aliadiere hobbled off in Saturday's 4-1 win over Middlesbrough.

Aliadiere will be out for three to four weeks with a knee ligament injury after being hurt shortly before halftime at Highbury, joining forwards Dennis Bergkamp and Sylvain Wiltord on the treatment table.

Nigeria's Nwankwu Kanu, who came on as substitute in the second half against 'Boro, is due to depart for the African Nations Cup next week, leaving France's Thierry Henry as the only man fit and ready to lead the Arsenal line.

Manager Arsene Wenger does not want to buy replacements in the transfer window although there are funds available.

Ironically, he has allowed forwards

Jermaine Pennant and Francis Jeffers to leave on loan this season to Leeds United and Everton respectively.

"Jeremie's injury is a blow for us," said Wenger. "I have good young players and at some stage you have to give them a chance and I'm glad today I gave Jeremie a chance, despite his injury."

The African Nations Cup starts on January 24 but Wenger hopes Kanu will be available to play against Aston Villa in the Premier League next Sunday.

"I have a big hope that he plays ... he wants to play," said Wenger, who plans to rest Henry soon so he can be fit for the closing stages of the season.—MNA/Reuters

## United go top after Newcastle draw

LONDON, 13 Jan—Champions Manchester United went top of the Premier League on Sunday, but only by a point after being held to a 0-0 draw by Newcastle United at Old Trafford.

Both sides rued decisions by referee Paul Durkin, who later regretted having denied Newcastle skipper Alan Shearer a first-half penalty, though he had no second thoughts over a goal he disallowed for United's France defender Mikael Silvestre.

But the draw was good news for both Arsenal, the overnight leaders on alphabetical order, and Chelsea, who hammered Leicester City 4-0 earlier on Sunday and reduced the gap separating them from United to five points.

The result in Manchester was a setback for United, who had won their six previous league games and had also been 5-3 winners in this fixture last season.

Newcastle put on a battling performance and were unlucky in the 26th minute when Shearer burst into the area and TV

pictures showed him being tripped by American keeper Tim Howard.

Durkin told Sky Sports afterwards he had been too far away to be certain of Howard's contact but admitted, after seeing a video replay, that a mistake had been made.

Asked if he would have given a spot-kick having seen it from the camera angle, he said: "Absolutely... obviously I'm a little bit disappointed from a personal point of view because we like to get the big ones right."

Shearer's team were no luckier in the second half when midfielder Jermaine Jenas hit the bar with a header.

But the wheel of fortune turned against United after 65 minutes when Silvestre's effort was disallowed for pushing on Newcastle defender Andy O'Brien.

MNA/Reuters

## United deny any wrongdoing in Howard transfer

LONDON, 13 Jan—Manchester United have denied any wrongdoing in the transfer deal that brought goalkeeper Tim Howard to the club from the US last July.

The English Football Association (FA) has been sent documents by Britain's Sunday Times newspaper, which carried a front page story saying the FA was to investigate the deal. The Sunday Times report said money was passed from one agent to another after the deal was completed.

In a statement issued before their Premier League game with Newcastle on Sunday, United said: "All our transfer deals are approved by the board of Manchester United plc and are conducted in accordance with FIFA and FA rules."

"Details of payments involved in those deals are sent to the football authorities as required under their regulations."

Howard signed a four-year contract from the New York/New Jersey MetroStars in a 2.3-million-pound (4.2 million US dollars) deal.

The Sunday Times said it had passed on leaked documents to the FA's compliance unit which looks at soccer transfers.

The FA's executive director David Davies was quoted as saying: "They will be studied very carefully and any breach of the rules and regulations that they show will then be discussed as a matter of urgency."

An FA spokesman confirmed on Sunday the material would be looked at.

Howard, who has been outstanding as United's first-choice keeper, maintained another clean-sheet on Sunday in a 0-0 draw with Newcastle—a result that sent the champions back to the top of the League.

Although the FA are looking at his transfer, observers pointed out that that did not necessarily amount to an investigation.

MNA/Reuters

## Chelsea get back on track at Leicester

LONDON, 13 Jan—Chelsea closed the gap on Premier League leaders Arsenal and Manchester United to four points on Sunday after cruising to a 4-0 win at Leicester City.

Dutch striker Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink claimed two in the first half, Romanian substitute Adrian Mutu ended a two-month goal drought in the 88th minute and Nigeria defender Celestine Babayaro rifled in the fourth in stoppage time.

The win enabled Chelsea to shrug off their midweek home loss to Liverpool and keep the pressure on champions United, who were playing later on Sunday at home to Newcastle United.

It will also have settled a few nerves at Stamford Bridge, with Claudio Ranieri's men at risk of being left behind in the title race after losing three of their previous five games.

"Today we showed character, skill, quality—everything," Ranieri told Sky Sports. "This match was important for getting our confidence back... we really wanted to win."

Hasselbaink summed up the mood in the Chelsea changing room, saying: "I

was up for it and I think everybody else was because we had a point to prove."

With Argentine striker Hernan Crespo injured, Ranieri reverted by his tried and tested strike pairing of Hasselbaink and Iceland's Eidur Gudjohnsen.

Hasselbaink responded by neatly backheeling his first after only 12 minutes, beating his marker Nikos Dabizas to Joe Cole's low cross from the right.

MNA/Reuters



Chelsea striker Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink (L) acknowledges the crowd after scoring his second. Chelsea stayed in touch with the title race after an emphatic 4-0 drubbing of Leicester ended a poor week for the big-spending club.

INTERNET



**MRTV-3**
**14-1-2004 (Wednesday)  
(Programme Schedule)  
Morning Transmission  
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
Scenic Myanmar  
"Golden Rock Pagoda  
(I)"
- 9:10 **Headline News**  
9:12 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes (Fry bitter  
gourd with pounded  
dried Prawn Powder)
- 9:15 **National News**  
9:20 Visiting Artist,  
a Century Ago  
The Beauty and Grace  
of the hands
- 9:28 The Art of Stone  
Sculpture
- 9:30 **National News**  
9:35 Scenic Myanmar  
"Golden Rock Pagoda  
(II)"
- 9:40 Song  
"Aristocratic Beauty"
- 9:45 **National News**  
9:50 Tour In Myanmar  
"Taunggyi, Inlay"
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**14-1-2004 (Wednesday)  
Regular Programmes for  
Viewers from Abroad  
Evening Transmission  
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"  
Scenic Myanmar  
"Golden Rock Pagoda  
(I)"
- 15:40 **Headline News**  
15:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes (Fry bitter  
gourd with pounded  
dried Prawn Powder)
- 15:45 **National News**  
15:50 Visiting Artist, a  
Century Ago  
The Beauty and Grace  
of the hands
- 15:58 The Art of Stone  
Sculpture
- 16:00 **National News**  
16:05 Scenic Myanmar  
"Golden Rock Pagoda  
(II)"
- 16:10 Song "Aristocratic

- Beauty"
- 16:15 **National News**  
16:20 Tour In Myanmar  
"Taunggyi, Inlay"
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Myanma Panorama &  
Myanma Sentiment"
- 16:30 **National News**  
16:35 Bentonite  
16:40 Myanmar Cuisine  
"Steamed Fish"
- 16:45 **National News**  
16:50 The beautiful green ice  
16:55 National Dance  
"Kachin Dance"
- 16:58 Myanmar Tapestry  
Artist
- 17:00 **National News**  
17:05 Welcome to Bagan  
17:10 Song  
"Golden Myanmar  
Golden Welcome"
- 17:15 **National News**  
17:20 Pickled Fish in Shwe  
Kyi
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"
- Evening Transmission  
(19:30 - 23:30)**  
19:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Sen-  
timent"
- 19:36 Toddy Palm Arts  
19:40 **Headline News**  
19:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes (Featherback  
Cake Salad)
- 19:45 **National News**  
19:50 Naga Traditional New  
Year Festival  
19:55 Hpanmaran and Manaw  
Dances of Rawan Na-  
tional Race
- 19:58 Old Master Artist  
U Ba Yin Galay
- 20:00 **National News**  
20:05 Green Turtle  
20:10 Song  
"To a Silvery Seagull"
- 20:15 **National News**  
20:20 A Day's Work in Pearl  
Culture
- 20:25 Song  
"Shadow of Love"
- 20:30 **National News**  
20:35 Music for Your Ears  
(Guitar Aung Shein)  
Myanmar Cuisine "Co-  
conut Rice with  
Chicken Curry"
- 20:45 **National News**  
20:50 Pa-O Traditional Bag  
20:55 A Romantic Duet  
20:58 Mother O'pearl Mosaic  
Painting
- 21:00 **National News**  
21:05 Making of Traditional  
Lacquerware
- 21:10 Song "Across The

- Ayeyawady"
- 21:12 The Great Bell of King  
Sintgu
- 21:15 **National News**  
21:20 Leisurely Cruise Along  
The Coast  
(Myeik to Kawthung)  
21:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 21:35 Scenic Myanmar  
"Golden Rock Pagoda  
(I)"
- 21:40 **Headline News**  
21:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes (Fry bitter  
gourd with pounded  
dried Prawn Powder)
- 21:45 **National News**  
21:50 Visiting Artist, a  
Century Ago  
21:55 The Beauty and Grace  
of the hands
- 21:58 The Art of Stone  
Sculpture
- 22:00 **National News**  
22:05 Scenic Myanmar  
"Golden Rock Pagoda  
(II)"
- 22:10 Song "Aristocratic  
Beauty"
- 22:15 **National News**  
22:20 Tour In Myanmar  
"Taunggyi, Inlay"
- 22:25 Songs On Screen  
"Heh! Little Girl"
- 22:30 **National News**  
22:35 Bentonite  
22:40 Myanmar Cuisine  
"Steamed Fish"
- 22:45 **National News**  
22:50 The beautiful green ice  
22:55 Kachin Dance  
22:58 Myanmar Tapestry  
Artist
- 23:00 **National News**  
23:05 Welcome to Bagan  
23:10 Song  
"Golden Myanmar  
Golden Welcome"
- 23:15 **National News**  
23:20 Pickled Fish in  
Shwe Kyi
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"
- 14-1-2004 (Wednesday) &  
15-1-2004 (Thursday)  
Evening & Morning  
Transmission  
(23:30 - 1:30)**  
23:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 23:36 Scenic Myanmar  
"Golden Rock Pagoda  
(I)"
- 23:40 **Headline News**  
23:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes (Fry bitter  
gourd with pounded  
dried Prawn Powder)

- 23:45 **National News**  
23:50 Visiting Artist, a Cen-  
tury Ago
- 23:55 The Beauty and Grace  
of the hands
- 23:58 The Art of Stone  
Sculpture
- 24:00 **National News**  
00:05 Scenic Myanmar  
"Golden Rock Pagoda  
(II)"
- 00:10 Song  
"Aristocratic Beauty"
- 00:15 **National News**  
00:20 Tour In Myanmar  
"Taunggyi, Inlay"
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic Sights  
"Myanma Panorama &  
Myanma Sentiment"
- 00:30 **National News**  
00:35 Bentonite  
00:40 Myanmar Cuisine  
"Steamed Fish"
- 00:45 **National News**  
00:50 The Beautiful green ice  
00:55 National Dance  
"Kachin Dance"
- 00:58 Myanmar Tapestry  
Artist
- 01:00 **National News**  
01:05 Welcome to Bagan  
01:10 Song "Golden  
Myanmar Golden  
Welcome"
- 01:15 **National News**  
01:20 Pickled Fish in Shwe  
Kyi
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

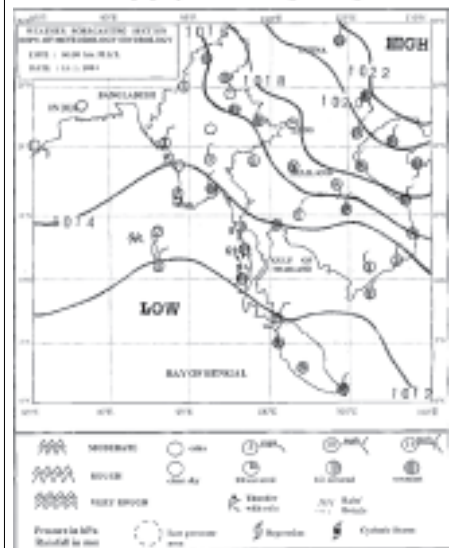
**15-1-2004 (Thursday)  
Morning Transmission  
(03:30 - 07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 03:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Sen-  
timent"
- 03:36 Toddy Palm Arts  
03:40 **Headline News**  
03:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes (Featherback  
Cake Salad)
- 03:45 **National News**  
03:50 Naga Traditional New  
Year Festival  
03:55 Hpanmaran and Manaw  
Dances of Rawan  
National Race
- 03:58 Old Master Artist  
U Ba Yin Galay
- 04:00 **National News**  
04:05 Green Turtle  
04:10 Song  
"To a Silvery Seagull"
- 04:15 **National News**  
04:20 A Day's Work in Pearl  
Culture
- 04:25 Song  
"Shadow of Love"
- 04:30 **National News**

- 04:35 Music for Your Ears  
(Guitar Aung Shein)  
04:40 Myanmar Cuisine  
"Coconut Rice with  
Chicken Curry"
- 04:45 **National News**  
04:50 Pa-O Traditional Bag  
04:55 A Romantic Duet  
04:58 Mother O'pearl Mosaic  
Painting
- 05:00 **National News**  
05:05 Making of Traditional  
Lacquerware
- 05:10 Song "Across The  
Ayeyawady"
- 05:12 The Great Bell of  
King Sintgu
- 05:15 **National News**  
05:20 Leisurely Cruise Along  
The Coast (Myeik to  
Kawthung)
- 05:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 05:35 Scenic Myanmar  
"Golden Rock Pagoda  
(I)"
- 05:40 **National News**  
05:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes (Fry bitter  
gourd with pounded  
dried Prawn Powder)
- 05:45 **National News**  
05:50 Visiting Artist, a  
Century Ago  
05:55 The Beauty and Grace

- of the hands
- 05:58 The Art of Stone  
Sculpture
- 06:00 **National News**  
06:05 Scenic Myanmar  
"Golden Rock Pa-  
goda (II)"
- 06:10 Song "Aristocratic  
Beauty"
- 06:15 **National News**  
06:20 Tour In Myanmar  
"Taunggyi, Inlay"
- 06:25 Songs On Screen  
"Heh! Little Girl"
- 06:30 **National News**  
06:35 Bentonite  
06:40 Myanmar Cuisine  
"Steamed Fish"
- 06:45 **National News**  
06:50 The beautiful green  
ice
- 06:55 Kachin Dance  
06:58 Myanmar Tapestry  
Artist
- 07:00 **National News**  
07:05 Welcome to Bagan  
07:10 Song "Golden  
Myanmar Golden  
Welcome"
- 07:15 **National News**  
07:20 Pickled Fish in  
Shwe Kyi
- 07:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and  
See Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

**WEATHER**

Tuesday, 13 January, 2004

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:**

During the past 24 hours, rain has been widespread in Taninthayi Division, isolated in Kayin, Mon States and Bago Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) above normal in Ayeyawady Division, (6°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division, (7°C) above normal in Mon State, (4°C) below normal in Magway Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Myeik (2.72) inches.

Maximum temperature on 12-1-2004 was 33.0°C (91°F). Minimum temperature on 13-1-2004 was 17.4°C (63°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 13-1-2004 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 12-1-2004 was (6.4) hours approx. Rainfall on 13-1-2004 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 15 mph from East-Northeast at (18:30) hours MST on 12-1-2004.

**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 14-1-2004:** Possibility of isolated rain in Kachin and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

**State of the sea:** Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at time Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of likelihood of isolated rain (or) thundershowers in Southern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-1-2004:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-1-2004:** Partly cloudy.



Wednesday, January 14

**View today:**

- 7:00 am  
1. ကျေးဇူးတင်စဉ်းကျွန်းဆရာတော်  
တရားကြီးမိုးတော်ထံသောဟောသက  
အဖို့ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်  
အသိစေ ပဟာရဓာရူ အသိစေ  
အပူပလာသဒ္ဓမ္မစာတော်  
တိရိစ္ဆာန်ရမ္မသတ္တဝါရိက္ခ  
ဆရာတော်ဘုရားရှင်စိတ္တသာရာ  
သိင်္ဃသစ် ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am  
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am  
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am  
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am  
5. မြေမြေကြွယ်ဝကျေးဇူးအက
- 8:10 am  
6. အကဗျိုင်ခွံ
- 8:20 am  
7. ကျောက်ကြီးမိုးတော်တော်
- 8:30 am  
8. International news
- 8:45 am  
9. Learning English the  
easy and happy way for  
children and beginners
- 4:00 pm  
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm  
2. Song to uphold  
National Spirit
- 4:30 pm  
3. Practice in Reading
- 4:45 pm  
4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm  
5. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လုပ်သော  
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ  
ဒုတိယပတ် (သစ်အသံကြို)  
(သစ်ပုံ)
- 5:15 pm  
6. Song of national races
- 5:30 pm  
7. Classical song
- 5:45 pm  
8. Strong and healthy  
Myanmar
- 5:55 pm  
9. Musical programme
- 6:10 pm  
10. ရွှေသီလင်အသံသံအစီအစဉ်

- 6:20 pm  
11. Discovery
- 6:30 pm  
12. Evening news
- 7:00 pm  
13. Weather report
- 7:05 pm  
14. Milo success in  
soccer
- 7:10 pm  
15. နိုင်ငံရေးတိုးတက်ရေး  
မြန်မာပြည်အနှံ့ရှိကိရိယာ
- 7:25 pm  
16. Musical programme
- 7:35 pm  
17. Myanmar ICT Week  
ဂုဏ်ထူးဆောင်အစီအစဉ် (အစီအစဉ်-၂)
- 8:00 pm  
18. News
19. International news
20. Weather report
21. နိုင်ငံခြား စာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ  
"တုံ့ပြန်မှု" (အစီအစဉ်-၁၄)
22. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး  
ဒွီဒီမိတ္တသာရာသိင်္ဃသစ် အရပ်  
အသံဗျူဟာ ဆရာတော်ဘုရား  
ဗုဒ္ဓဗျူဟာတော်
23. The next day's  
programme



Wednesday, January 14

**Tune in today:**

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music
- 8:50 am National news/  
Slogan
- 9:00 am Music
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch Time Music
- 9:00 pm -Stay the same  
(Joey McIntyre)  
-Forever  
(West Life)
- 9:00 pm Variations on a  
tune:  
"Eternal flame"  
-Bangles  
-MLTR
- 9:15 pm Artille/ Music
- 9:25 pm Music at your  
request  
-Beautiful lie  
(Ace of Base)  
Runaway  
(Janet Jackson)
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

## Myanmar Police Force Management Reform Committee meets

YANGON, 13 Jan — The Myanmar Police Force Management Reform Committee held its 14th coordination meeting at the Ministry of Home Affairs this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the committee Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were the minister for Home Affairs, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the vice-chief of Military Intelligence, officials and departmental heads.

In his address, the Secretary-2 said that the committee has been laying down future tasks after reviewing progress made by the MPF and weak and strong points.

The MPF has to mainly take two uphill responsibilities for community peace and prevalence of law and order, and so it is important to reform the MPF established in the colonial period for its



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addressing the 14th meeting of Myanmar Police Force Management Reform Committee. — MNA

modernization, he noted.

The Head of State has given guidance to reform the police force to become the State's reserve force with good discipline. In this regard, the police force must be a patriotic, skilled and modern one. That is why the management reform committee has been formed, he added.

The 13th coordination meeting passed resolutions

for members of the MPF:

- to fully practise correctness, justice and sympathy and to restrain from partialities and receiving bribes
- to fully keep public order and to prevent and solve crimes in a correct, effective and fast way
- to cooperate with related organizations for ensuring full uprightness of judicial

system

- to treat the culprits with positive attitude
- to fully discharge national-defence duties if necessary
- to be one with the people
- to make efforts for accomplishment of the project for prevention against trafficking in person and elimination of narcotic drugs, and

- to strive to become skillful force in form and essence.

It is incumbent upon the MPF members to make efforts for cent per cent accomplishment of the resolutions. At such an opportune time when the MPF is carrying out reforming tasks, all are to endeavour at full capacity for emergence of the police force with full es-

sence, he urged. He invited the members to make suggestions for reforming the management systems.

In conclusion, the Secretary-2 called on the MPF members to make collective efforts in reforming tasks in the interests of the nation and the MPF; to become disciplined, fine, brave and competent one; and to

(See page 10)



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein views a booth of the Cooperatives Product Exhibition and Market Festival. — MNA

## Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein opens Cooperative Product Exhibition and Market Festival 2004

YANGON, 13 Jan — With a view to creating market for goods, securing market for domestic goods, developing import-substitute goods industry and marketing new export items, the opening of the Cooperative Product Exhibition and Market Festival was held at Cooperative Trade Centre (Saya San Plaza) at the corner of Saya San Road and University Avenue in Bahan

Township, here, this morning, attended by State Peace and Development Council Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection

and Training Board, the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, ambassadors of foreign missions in Yangon, officials from the SPDC Office, departmental heads, members of the leading committee and sub-committees for holding the festival, officials of cooperative booths from states and divisions, social organization members, band troupe and pom pom troupe members of

Sangyoung BEHS-2 and Latha BEHS-2 and invited guests.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein formally opened the billboard of the market festival. Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Director U Maung

Maung Myint of the trade centre formally opened the market festival.

The Secretary-2 and guests looked around the booths displayed there. Altogether 271 booths of ministries, companies, entrepreneurs, 109 cooperative so-

cieties from states and division were opened there.

The market festival will be kept open from 9 am to 9 pm daily till 19 January. There will be solo music concerts and sales promotion programmes at the market festival.—MNA

## Drug culprit handed over to China

YANGON, 13 Jan — Acting on a tip-off, members of local intelligence unit searched Kyinpaing Hotel in Zarmani Myothit, Laukkai, at 11.30 pm on 24 December 2003 and seized drug absconder Kyauk Kum Myin (a) Kyauk Kaung Myin of China together with 17 grams of heroin and 80 stimulant pills.

A ceremony to hand over the drug culprit to

China was held at Kyinthu Hotel, Yanlonkyaing Station in Laukkai on 31 December afternoon, attended by Lt-Col Aye Lwin of Laukkai Station and officials, Deputy Head of Drugs Control Unit of Kyeinkham District Police Force of China Police Lt-Col Pekwumshi and members.

The leaders of Myanmar delegation and Chinese del-

egation made speeches.

Head of Laukkai District Police Force Police Major Khin Maung Myint presented the documents relating to the culprit, Kyauk Kum Myin (a) Kyauk Kaung Myin, 47, son of U Kyauk Paung Chan.

Afterwards, the culprit was handed over to the Chinese officials on Yanlonkyaing Bridge.

MNA



Chinese fugitive Kyauk Kum Myin (a) Kyauk Kaung Myin being handed over to the PRC. —MNA