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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



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects dredging of No 5 main drain in Thakayta Township. — YANGON COMMAND

Commander inspects sanitation works in Yangon City

YANGON, 24 Jan — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspected sanitation tasks in Yangon municipal area this morning.

The commander inspected the tasks by Tatmadawmen, members of Myanmar Police Force, Yangon City Development Committee, social organizations and ward dwellers for unblocking of the drains along Anawmar Road in Ward 13, South Okkalapa Township. Next,

the commander gave instructions to the officials concerned.

The commander and party looked into collection of rubbish, weeding of wild plants and dredging of the drains in the sports ground in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

Afterwards, they inspected work being done for proper drainage of No 5 drain leading to the river and sanitation work on Shukhintha and Zingama streets in Thakayta Township. Officials reported on progress in carrying

out tasks for cleanliness of the region and proper drainage and future plans. The commander left instructions and attended to the needs.

The commander also inspected sanitation work in Pazundaung and Botahtaung townships. The commander gave instructions on systematic steps to be taken by respective departments in cooperation with social organizations and local people for cleanliness of Yangon municipal area.

MNA

Minister inspects construction of sluice gates

YANGON, 24 Jan—Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, together with officials inspected construction of Kayan sluice gate in old Chaungwa Village in Thanlyin Township and flow of water in Bago River this morning. Director of Construction-6 of Irrigation Department U Khin Maung Myint reported on construction of the sluice gate, measures taken for digging of canal and design of the sluice gate. Director-General of Irrigation Department U Kyaw San Win gave a supplementary report.

The minister discussed

construction of Kayan sluice gate, greening work of 30-mile radius (East) of Yangon City, water supply, irrigation, Minywa, Bagan Nyaungbin, Kyaikpadaing, Tawa and Shwe Hlay sluice gates. The minister inspected construction of Kayan sluice gate, digging and laying of concrete. He gave instructions on durability, completion of the projects, quality control and the set standard.

The Kayan sluice gate is being built at a place where Bago River and Kayan Creek meet. It will supply water to the farmlands in Kayan, Thongwa and Thanlyin Townships, to prevent the in-

flow of salty water into the farmland, and contribute towards the development of the regions.

In the afternoon, the minister and party inspected Ngamoeyeik sluice gate on Ngamoeyeik Creek near Hlegu and Dagon Myothit (East) Townships, irrigation to 6,000 acres of farmland near Ngamoeyeik Creek and building of temporary dam for summer paddy cultivation.

Officials reported on construction of the sluice gate, storage of water for cultivation of double and triple crops in six village-tracts in Hlegu Township and cultivation of 4,000 acres of summer paddy.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin inspects earth work for construction of Kayan Sluice Gate in Thanlyin Township. — AGRI & IRR

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 25 January, 2004

Strive for further development of economic sector

The State Peace and Development Council has been making efforts day in, day out for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Development of the industrial sector plays a crucial role in the process. The government established the industrial zones combining the private industries for the industrial development. Nowadays, some 7000 industrialists are making integrated and well-coordinated efforts for producing a wide range of industrial items in the respective sectors with the emergence of 18 industrial zones and industrial zones (branch). There are over 100,000 private industries including those of the industrial zones across the nation.

As Myanmar is an agro-based nation it is of paramount importance to build the industries that produce farm equipment. Progress has been made with added momentum in the education sector with the emergence of highly qualified human resources. The work forces of the agricultural sector have been on the decrease since the offspring of the rural people are pursuing education instead of working in the fields. Therefore, efforts will have to be made to transform manual farming into mechanized farming. Factories and industrial zones under the Ministry of Industry-2 and the Agricultural Mechanization Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation are producing various kinds of farm equipment.

Electric power plays a key role in developing economic, manufacturing and social sectors. The electric power sector needs to effectively contribute its shares for economic development. To keep pace with changes and developments in the living standard of the people the power sector is to meet the electricity demand of the people.

The Ministry of Electric Power has laid down medium-scale and large-scale electric power projects and is implementing them to be able to generate 2,000 megawatts of electricity during the third five-year short-term plan. The ministry is building Paunglaung Project capable of producing 280 megawatts of electricity, Mon Chaung Project capable of producing 75 megawatts of electricity, Ye Ywa Hydel Power Project capable of producing 790 megawatts of electricity, Kon Chaung Hydel Power Project capable of producing 60 megawatts of electricity, Shweli Hydel Power Project capable of producing 400 megawatts of electricity and others.

Development of border areas is a prerequisite for development of the entire nation. Thus, priority is being given to construction of roads and bridges that are the infrastructures for national development. The government built 2,812 miles of earth roads, 1,683 miles of gravel roads and 309 miles of tarred roads in border areas spending K 27,248 million of funds up to 31 December 2003.

The government is making all-out efforts for development of the industrial sector and agricultural sector and for better transport in border areas out of goodwill. The entire national people are to take part in the nation-building endeavours being implemented by the State with patriotism and Union Spirit.

The 57th Anniversary Union Day objectives

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

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.

Computers, farm implements, building donated

YANGON, 24 Jan— The World Canaan Farmers' Movement of the Republic of Korea donated computer sets and farm implements worth US\$ 26,000 and a building worth K 15 million to the Myanma Farms Enterprise under the Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation on 21 January.

The ceremony to hand over documentaries relating to the donations was held at the Myanmar Canaan Farmers' Training School in PyinOoLwin Township.

Present on the occasion were World Canaan Movement President Dr Kim Bum Il, Managing Director of Myanma Farms Enterprise Col Myint Shwe, PyinOoLwin District Agricultural Supervisory Committee members, the principal of the training school, course instructors, factory managers and those in charge of the farms.

The training school is opened under the joint sponsorship of the Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation and the Korean NGO named World Canaan Farmers' Movement. Altogether four training courses were conducted in 2003-2004 fiscal year at the school for ensuring development in technical know-how among the farmers. Altogether 138 trainees attended the courses.

(H)



World Canaan Movement President Dr Kim Bum Il hands over documentaries relating to the donation of computer sets, farm implements and building to Managing Director of Myanma Farms Enterprise Col Myint Shwe. — (H)

Myanmar ICT Week 2004

MICT Park, Yangon.

(From 9 am to 5 pm daily from 21 to 27 January)

25 January 2004

- 9 am — Security issues and related products (seminar)
- 1 pm — e-Procurement (seminar)

26 January 2004

- 9 am — Wireless and broadband application (seminar)
- 1 pm — Myanmar National Counter-Strike C'ship Final

(Admission free)

Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 24 Jan— The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce.

One 200 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 250,000; one 400 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000; and one 200 feet deep four-inch diameter tube-well costs

K 500,000.

Those wishing to donate cash for the tube-well sinking projects for rural areas may contact the Director-General (Tel: 01-245420 & 253088), the Deputy Director-General (Tel: 01-240118), the Director (Engineering) (Tel: 01-291967), the Directors (Sagaing Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 071-21012), the Director (Magway Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 063-23164) and the Director (Mandalay Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 02-54657). —MNA



Myanmar ICT Week (2004)

21-1-2004 to 27-1-2004

MICT Park, Yangon.

At least 13 US military court martial hearings in Iraq since May 1

BAGHDAD, 24 Jan— Adultery, assault, drunkenness, kidnapping, stealing computers, abusing prisoners and attempting to flee to Syria are some of the offenses US soldiers have been charged with in court martial cases since the Americans landed in Iraq.

At least 13 soldiers have gone up for court martial hearings in Iraq since May 1, the official end of major combat in the strife-torn country, according to an official army list obtained by AFP.

Seven have been handed bad conduct discharges, while the others have been sentenced to jail terms, ranging anywhere from between two and six months.

"It's a microcosm of society," said army lawyer Captain Jennifer Santiago about the excesses of military life nine months into the US occupation of Iraq.

Many other cases are still under investigation and are not at the stage where the top US commander in Iraq,

Lieutenant General Ricardo Sanchez, would recommend court martial proceedings, said Santiago, who serves at the coalition's command in Baghdad.

Last week, the US military announced an investigation into cases of abuse at an Iraqi detention centre, widely believed to be Baghdad's massive Abu Gharib prison.

That investigation is on top of a "handful" of inquiries into whether US soldiers have maltreated Iraqi detainees, Santiago said. Since May, the US military in Iraq has discharged at least four soldiers and one non-commissioned officer for assault, according to the list given to AFP.

Three of the soldiers were involved in attacks on an officer or fellow enlisted man. But the military said it was unable to specify if the other two assault cases involved attacks on Iraqis or fellow soldiers. In two separate cases, non-commissioned officers were sentenced to jail time, demoted and fined for stealing government laptops and trying to send them home by mail.

She also said the greater number of court martial cases involved US army reservists.

Eight Marines are also on trial in Camp Pendleton, California for the beating of Iraqi prisoners during the war. —Internet

Russia, France seek international Iraq conference

Moscow, 24 Jan— Russia and France, which opposed the US invasion of Iraq, called Friday for an international conference to discuss rebuilding the country amid efforts to put together a government under national control.

The two countries' foreign ministers made the suggestion after a day of talks, but offered few details on an agenda or time frame. Both said progress on reconstruction was possible only once full Iraqi sovereignty was

restored.

Russia's Igor Ivanov told a news conference Moscow wanted to take a more active role in the reconstruction process, but only after "the formation in Iraq of a real, independent and democratic government. "It would be very important to hold an international conference to examine all aspects of an Iraqi settlement, work out a program which could receive key international support and examine regional stability in a broader sense," he said.

His French opposite number, Dominique de Villepin said a conference could "bring together all countries in the region and in the world community to deal with all difficult issues."

France, he said, was ready to provide help on key security and other issues.

"We are available but clearly want to do this with a sovereign Iraqi government which, when the time comes, would be prepared to say just how it views Iraq's security," he said. —Internet

Democrats focus criticism on Bush

GOFFSTOWN (NH), 24 Jan — The Democratic presidential hopefuls focused most of their criticism on President George W Bush on Thursday, treading carefully with each other in a polite final debate before next week's crucial New Hampshire primary.

With their battle to find a challenger to Bush turned upside down by the results in Iowa, the Democrats refused to attack each other and concentrated on condemning the President's economic and foreign policy leadership and touting their own candidacies.

"This country is being led in a radically wrong direction by this President," said John Kerry, the Iowa winner who surged into a lead in New Hampshire polls ahead of Tuesday's primary.

The Democrats, mindful that the negative exchanges in Iowa between former Governor Howard Dean and Missouri Representative Richard Gephardt had backfired on both, responded cautiously even when pressed to criticize each other.

Needing to halt his slide

and regain the early momentum that put him at the front of the pack last year, Dean emphasized his experience as governor of Vermont during the debate and stuck to his basic campaign themes during a low-key performance.

He did criticize his rivals on the Iraq war, touting his judgment in opposing it and blasting votes by Kerry, Connecticut Senator Joseph Lieberman and North Carolina Senator John Edwards to support a congressional resolution authorizing the war.

Noting that about 500 Americans had been killed in Iraq, he said "those soldiers were sent there by the vote of Senator Lieberman and Senator Kerry and Senator Edwards. That is a fact."

MNA/Reuters



A demonstrator protests outside the United States Capital Building prior to the President's State of the Union speech in Washington, DC. A defiant US President George W Bush unapologetically defended his decision to invade Iraq last year, insisting it had made the United States safer and vowing never to seek permission to wage war in self-defence. —INTERNET

Auto competition heats up as multinationals grow in China

BEIJING, 24 Jan— Competition in China's auto market is intensifying as multinational carmakers like Volkswagen and Daimler Chrysler keep increasing investment to seize a bigger share of the lucrative market.

German auto giant Volkswagen, the first foreign automaker to assemble passenger cars in China in 1985, has vowed to keep its leadership in the nation's passenger car market.

With plans to invest another six billion euros, Volkswagen expects to double its annual production capacity to 1.6 million units within the next five years.

Like Volkswagen, which taps the Chinese market with local partners First Automotive Works Corp. and Shanghai Automotive Industry Corp., the nation's top two vehicle manufacturers, other foreign automakers have started to form new joint ventures or strategic alliances with Chinese partners to expand business.

German-US auto giant Daimler Chrysler is one of them. Under last September's cooperation agreement signed with Beijing Auto-

otive Industry Holdings, one of China's major state-owned automakers, the two will invest one billion euros to produce sedan limousines, passenger cars and key spare parts.

Ford, the world's second-biggest carmaker, signed in October last year with Chang'an Ford, a 50-50 joint venture with Chang'an Automobile Group, an agreement on further investing 1.5 billion US dollars to expand the annual production of Chang'an Ford from the current 20,000 units to 150,000.

China's brisk market demand in recent years has fuelled the multinationals' expansion.

In the past year, China produced 4.44 million autos and sold 4.39 million, a yearly rise of 35.2 per cent and 34.21 per cent respectively.

This year, China's automobile production and sales

figures are both expected to exceed five million, up about 20 per cent year-on-year, experts say.

Government policies have encouraged foreign carmakers to speed up investment and localized production instead of aggressively exporting vehicles to the nation.

MNA/Xinhua

Members of the Iraqi Civil Defence Corps walk down a street in central Baghdad as they conduct a joint patrol with US soldiers on 24 Jan, 2004. Six Iraqis, several US soldiers and a Turkish driver were wounded when their patrol was struck by a large explosion in the northern city of Mosul, police officer Fathi Ahmad Abdel Jabbar said. —INTERNET



Chinese State Councillor calls on Cambodian King

BEIJING, 24 Jan — Chinese State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan called on Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk and Queen Norodom Monineath Sihanouk here Thursday.

Sihanouk arrived in Beijing on Monday for a routine medical examination and vacation.

Tang conveyed greetings and regards to Sihanouk from Chinese President Hu Jintao and his wife, Liu Yongqing, on the occasion of China's traditional Lunar New Year, which fell on Thursday.

Tang appreciated Sihanouk's contribution to developing bilateral friendship, and thanked the Cambodian Government and people for their support.

China and Cambodia had made joint efforts to boost good-neighbourly friendly cooperation in a sustainable and all-round way, he said.

Sihanouk asked Tang to pass on his greetings and New Year blessings to President Hu and his wife, and to other Chinese leaders.

MNA/Xinhua

Former UN weapons inspector replaces David Kay as Iraq WMD adviser

WASHINGTON, 24 Jan—CIA director George Tenet named former UN weapons inspector Charles Duelfer to succeed David Kay to lead the search for Iraqi weapons of mass destruction, an effort that so far has failed to substantiate pre-war US claims.

Duelfer, 51, said he had been assured of independence and was confident he would have the resources to produce an investigation on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction that will stand up to public scrutiny.

"When I spoke to the DCI (Director of Central Intelligence), he assured me he wanted one thing and that was the truth, however that lay. And that's what I hope to be able to achieve within the ability to find facts on the ground," he told reporters in a telephone conference call.

"My goal is to find out what happened on the ground, what was the status of the Iraqi weapons programme, what was their game plan, what was the goal of the Iraqi regime, to find out what is the ground truth," he said.

Duelfer, who recently said he does not believe weapons of mass destruction will ever be found in Iraq, said he had an open mind and did not intend to change the approach taken so far by Kay and the Iraq Survey Group.

The group has so far failed to find any weapons of mass

destruction in Iraq, and has come up with scant evidence of active chemical, biological or nuclear programs at the time of the US-led invasion of Iraq last year.

The failure to find banned weapons or programmes has become a major embarrassment for Washington, which made them the central element of its case for war against Iraq.

As Tenet's special adviser on matters regarding Iraq's weapons of mass destruction programs, Duelfer now will direct the efforts of the 1,400-member Iraq Survey Group.

In Duelfer, Tenet has selected an expert with broad experience in tracking Iraqi weapons of mass destruction programs but also one who in recent comments has expressed doubt that any weapons would ever be found.

"The prospect of finding chemical weapons, biological weapons, is close to nil at this point," Duelfer said this month in an interview with PBS, the public television network. —Internet

Hebei Province exports more fruits to Thailand

SHIJIAZHUANG, 24 Jan—North China's Hebei Province, a major agricultural production base around Beijing, has posted a 900-per-cent year-on-year rise in fruit exports to Thailand, thanks to a zero-tariff agreement signed between the two countries on 1 October, 2003. The province exported 1,363 tons of fruit to Thailand in 2003, earning 672,000 US dollars of foreign currency revenue.

Over 60 per cent, or 830 tons, of the fruit was exported between October and December, after the zero-tariff agreement went into effect, said sources with the provincial Customs.—MNA/Xinhua



David Kay has quit his post as leader of the hunt for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq which so far has failed to find any actual arms, and will be replaced by former UN weapons inspector Charles Duelfer (R), the CIA said on 23 Jan, 2004. The search has so far not found any actual stockpiles of such weapons, which critics say is an indication that the White House exaggerated the threat from Iraq in making its case for war last year.—INTERNET

Nepal's outgoing workers decrease

KATHMANDU, 24 Jan—The number of Nepalese workers leaving the country for foreign employment decreased by 2.63 per cent in the first half of the current fiscal year compared with the same period of the last fiscal year, according to government statistics.

The total number of outgoing Nepali workers in the first six months of the current 2003/2004 fiscal year, beginning from 16 July last year, stood at 49,758, a decline from 51,104 in the same period of 2002/2003 fiscal year, the statistics released by the Nepali Ministry of Labour and Transport Management on Friday showed. The official statistics further reveal that the total number of Nepali people working abroad has reached to 396,818.

"Slightly improving domestic economic environment might be one cause to the decrease of the number of outgoing workers," said Dhurba Kumar Sharma, spokesman of the ministry. "The Iraq war, disturbing Gulf countries directly or indirectly, might be another major reason behind the fall," Sharma noted, adding that most of the Nepali workers spread in the Gulf countries.—MNA/Xinhua

EC acts against 9 EU members for air pollution

BRUSSELS, 24 Jan—The European Commission (EC) is taking legal action against Belgium, Italy, Greece, Portugal, the Netherlands, Germany, Luxembourg, Austria and Spain, urging them to comply with the legislations on air pollution of the European Union (EU).

A Press release issued Thursday by the EC said the cases relate to seven separate EU laws on air quality, all of which are "aimed at preventing or reducing the harmful effects of air pollution on public health and the environment". The EU's executive arm has referred Belgium, Italy, Greece and Portugal to the Court of Justice of the European Communities (ECJ) for they have failed to comply their national laws on waste incineration with the EU's directive on the incineration of waste. This directive imposes

stringent operational and technical requirements and sets emission limits for waste incineration and co-incineration plants within the EU, and the deadline for transposing this directive into national law was 28 December of 2002.

Apart from this, the nine EU members were sued for failing to adopt one or some of the EU laws concerning air quality limits for benzene and carbon monoxide, national emission ceilings for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds and ammonia, emission limits for

large combustion plants, and protection of the Ozone Layer.

Some of the nine EU members also received final written warnings issued by the EC for their relevant laws on environmental protection as "incomplete". "I urge member states to speed up their implementation of EU laws on air pollution. Delays put citizens at greater risk of suffering health problems associated with poor air quality," said European Environment Commissioner Margot Wallstrom, the EC's watchdog for environmental protection.—MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်ပုခမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

Two US pilots killed in Iraq copter crash

BAGHDAD, 24 Jan—An Army OH-58 Kiowa Warrior helicopter attached to the 101st Airborne Division crashed Friday in northern Iraq, killing the two pilots, the American military said.

The helicopter went down about 8.30 pm near Qaiyara, about 30 miles south of Mosul, the military said.

The cause of the crash was unclear. The military said "an initial report from the accompanying second helicopter did not make mention of hostile activity."

The deaths brought to 507 the number of American service members who have died since the Iraq war began on 20 March.

It was the fourth helicopter crash suffered by Ameri-

can forces in Iraq this month.

On 2 Jan, an Army OH-58 Kiowa Warrior helicopter was shot down near the central city of Falluja, killing one pilot. Six days later, an Army Black Hawk medical evacuation helicopter was shot down by a rocket near Falluja, killing all nine American soldiers aboard.

An Army Apache attack helicopter was brought down by apparent enemy fire on 13 Jan, but both crew members escaped injury.

Internet

Iraq weapons hunter quits

BAGHDAD, 24 Jan—America's chief arms hunter in Iraq has resigned and said he does not believe the country had any large stockpiles of chemical or biological weapons.

In a direct challenge to the Bush administration, which says its invasion of Iraq was justified by the presence of illicit arms, David Kay said on Friday that it is unlikely anything significant will be found.

"I don't think they existed," Kay said. "What everyone was talking about is stockpiles produced after the end of the last (1991) Gulf War, and I don't think there was a large-scale production programme in the nineties," he said.

The CIA announced earlier that former UN weapons inspector Charles Duelfer, who has previously expressed doubts that unconventional weapons would be found, would succeed Kay as Washington's chief arms hunter. Kay said

he believes most of what was going to be found in the search for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq has been found, and the hunt would become more difficult once America returns control of the country to the Iraqis.

The United States went to war against Baghdad last year citing a threat from Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. To date, no banned arms have been found.

Former Iraq Survey Group leader In his annual State of the Union on Tuesday, President George Bush insisted former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein had actively pursued dangerous programmes right up to the start of the US attack in March. —Internet



Iraqi children, march on the street in the Baghdad neighbourhood of Sadr City on 23 Jan, 2004. Sadr City is the home of more than 2 million Shiite Muslim, with strong support for Sadr who has been loudly outspoken against the US occupation of Iraq.

INTERNET

UN team returns to Iraq

BAGHDAD, 24 Jan—A UN security team has arrived in Baghdad — the world body's first Iraq deployment in three months — as a top Shiite cleric urged an end to protests against coalition plans for a power transfer, and two more US soldiers were killed in a helicopter crash.

UN chief Kofi Annan who pulled staff out of Iraq after two deadly attacks on the UN's Baghdad headquarters, promised to announce "shortly" his plans for the UN's future role in the US-led coalition's plan to end its nine-month occupation.

A UN spokesman stressed the team that arrived Friday was charged only with opening channels of communication with the coalition, not with assessing the safety of returning a full-blown UN mission.

"The opening of a direct line of communication with the coalition on security matters is necessary for the planning for the safety and security of UN personnel, activities and assets in Iraq and for an eventual return of UN international staff to Iraq," UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

Dujarric said a separate security assessment would be needed if Annan announces a full mission return, as he is widely expected to do next week.

The White House supported a resumption of UN presence in Iraq.

"They have an important role to play," spokesman Scott McClellan told reporters. "They have a lot of special expertise that they can offer. And so we are hopeful that they can return to Iraq as soon as possible."

He said President George W Bush had met briefly with Lakhdar Brahimi, a widely

respected UN diplomat newly appointed as Annan's special advisor on Iraq.

The spiritual leader of Iraq's Shiite Muslim majority gave the coalition and the UN a breather when he called for a halt to protests against plans for the transfer of power until UN experts can rule on whether direct elections can be held in the next six months.

Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani directed his followers to give the world body time to organize an evaluation mission, just a week after he threatened a campaign of civil disobedience unless the coalition agreed to organize elections for the first post-occupation government that is due to take power by the end of June.

It is vital "to wait until the United States and the UN clarify their positions on the election procedure to choose the nature of the next Iraqi government," Sistani's envoy, Sheikh Abdel Mahdi al-Karbalai, said in his sermon at the main weekly Muslim prayers in the Shiite pilgrimage city of Karbala.

While the arrival of the UN mission appeared to address the demands of Sistani and the mainstream Shiite hierarchy, it stirred the wrath of radical Shiite leader Moqtada Sadr, who branded the world body "dishonest" and subservient to the United States.

Internet

Turkish forces seize 26 kilos of hashish

ANKARA, 24 Jan—Turkish gendarme forces seized 26 kilos of hashish in Diyarbakir Province of south-eastern Turkey on Thursday.

Acting on a tip-off, the gendarme forces searched a house in Silvan Town of Diyarbakir Province and confiscated 26 kilos of hashish hidden in the house, reported *Anatolia* news agency.

The report said that the gendarme forces detained two people in connection with the haul. For its central geographical location at the crossroad between Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Mediterranean Sea, Turkey plays a central role in the heroin trade destined for Europe.—*MNA/Xinhua*

US nabs key guerilla figure in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 24 Jan— US Special Forces troops have captured a leading figure in Ansar al-Islam, a guerilla group operating in Iraq that the United States says has ties to al-Qaeda. US officials said on Friday.

Husam al-Yemeni was taken into custody during an operation last week near the town of Fallujah, about 30 miles west of Baghdad, said one official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"There's a strong possibility that this guy was involved in some of the major attacks in Iraq," this US official said, but declined to specify which attacks.

The official described al-Yemeni as a top associate of Abu Musab Zarqawi—who is suspected of plotting the murder of a US diplomat in

Jordan, overseeing a guerilla camp in Afghanistan and having links to al-Qaeda. The United States last year offered a reward of up to five million US dollars for information leading to Zarqawi's arrest or conviction. The US official said al-Yemeni was the highest ranking member of Ansar al-Islam captured by US forces in Iraq to date, and was suspected of having links to al-Qaeda as well. The official did not specify the man's nationality.

MNA/Reuters



Yahya Khalid Ibrahim, center, is comforted by family members during the funeral of his brother Ibrahim Khalid Ibrahim in Fallujah, Iraq on 23 Jan, 2004. Gunmen firing from a van killed Ibrahim, an Iraqi policeman, in an attack on a checkpoint between Fallujah and Ramadi on Thursday. One other Iraqi policeman was killed and three others wounded in the attack.—INTERNET

သားငါးပုံဖြိုး ပြည့်အကျိုး

Iraq office explosion kills two men

BAGHDAD, 24 Jan—A bomb planted in a meeting room exploded after a meeting of the Iraqi Communist Party, killing two men in an apparent attack on supporters of the US-backed government, officials said Friday.

The attack in Baghdad on Thursday appeared aimed at undermining the Communists, who have become the most organized political group in the country since the collapse of Saddam Hussein's Baath party.

The Communists have one representative on the US-backed, 25-member Iraqi Governing Council.

The bombing came as US forces arrested a father and son suspected of carrying launching a mortar and

rocket barrage that killed two American soldiers at US outpost.

The attacks were part of a spate of assaults that killed 11 people on Wednesday and Thursday in central Iraq, where Saddam loyalists are waging a guerilla war.

The other victims included four Christian women who were slain Wednesday as they headed to jobs at a US military base.

The security chief of Spanish troops in Iraq was shot and critically wounded

Thursday during a raid south of Baghdad.

The bomb, suspected to have been planted in a meeting hall of the Iraqi Communist Party's local office, blew up Thursday evening, an hour after a meeting of 50 party members, said Mohammed Khudeir, a party official. He said three party members were still in the office, clearing up, when the bomb went off, killing two and injuring one.

Internet



An armed Iraqi policeman stands on top of a bomb damaged wall as he guards the police station in Bouqouba, Iraq where a car bomb exploded recently. At least three people, including the driver of the car bomb-loaded vehicle were killed, and nearly 30 others injured in the explosion, police and witnesses said. —INTERNET

Reservoir dyke breach brought under control in N-W China

URUMQI, 24 Jan— More than 2,000 soldiers, armed police and militia have managed to plug a 30-metre-wide breach in a reservoir dyke in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

Water was gushing from holes in the wall of the reservoir, known as "Bayi" on Wednesday afternoon.

The breach was 30 metres wide by noon Thursday, the first day of Spring Festival, the traditional Lunar New Year for Chinese.

No casualties have been reported though the waters submerged three companies of the Xinjiang Production

and Construction Corporation (XPCC). The reservoir was built in 1957 with a design capacity of 21 million cubic metres.

The rescue forces have helped evacuate more than 8,000 people, most of whom were sheltered in hotels, schools, and office buildings in Wujiaqu City.

Donated tents, quilts, dried noodles and cooking

oil had reached the evacuees, said Liu Gang, in charge of civil affairs of XPCC.

Hotels in Wujiaqu City were busy preparing meals for the victims who had to flee from their homes on the eve of the Spring Festival.

A panel sent by the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters has arrived at the flood-hit area.

MNA/Xinhua

Floods kill 51 in Brazil

BRASILIA, 24 Jan— Floods and mudslides triggered by continuous rains since the beginning of this year have killed 51 people and displaced about 20,000 in eastern Brazil, authorities reported on Thursday.

During the past weeks, storms hit 119 cities and towns in seven states in the southeast and northeast, damaging about 16,000 buildings, 3,500 kilometres of roads and 192 bridges. Floods are still blocking some towns from links with the outside.

The national meteorological authorities had reported rainfalls much heavier than the level for this time of the year, and in some areas more than tripling the January average. The storm weather is expected to stay and keep the civil emergency departments in affected regions further on alert.—*MNA/Xinhua*

At least 280 Iraqi police killed since fall of Baghdad

KARBALA, 24 Jan— Some scars from the bomb blast are easy to see: glass fragments tore Sgt. Kassim Madloul Shinjar’s left ear and right hand; the Iraqi policeman still clings to the bloodstained shirt he was wearing that day.

But other scars remain hidden, and show how violence waged by Iraqi resistance fighters against US occupation forces - and Iraqi “collaborators” - is undermining efforts to restore calm.

Sergeant Shinjar survived. The chief of Karbala’s traffic police and his deputy - both passengers in the car Shinjar was driving - were killed by the car bomb on Dec. 27.

Today a dilemma gnaws away inside Shinjar’s mind: Is the risk of being targeted as a collaborator worth the satisfaction of helping your community in the aftermath of war?

“I haven’t decided until now - maybe I will come back; maybe not,” says Shinjar, beginning to tremble, as thoughts of ending a 16-year career as a traffic cop mix with memories of the explosion that killed his

closest colleagues.

Shinjar’s car bomb was just one of four that rocked Karbala that day. That violence is killing an increasing number of Iraqi policemen, who walk the front lines of the US occupation. Two more policemen were killed and three wounded thursday, in a drive-by shooting at a checkpoint west of Baghdad.

Shinjar’s dilemma is shared by the growing ranks of Iraq’s police forces. Government sources indicate at least 280 police have been killed nationwide since the fall of Baghdad in April, 2003.

In the capital itself, police officials say that 60 have died and 367 were injured between May 2003 and Jan. 9. During the Saddam Hussein era, one or two lost their lives each year.—Internet



Iraqi street vendors warm themselves with a fire during a stormy day in the capital Baghdad on 23 Jan, 2004. —INTERNET

WEF says China’s growth important for global eco recovery

DAVOS (Switzerland), 24 Jan— The World Economic Forum (WEF) said in a report released Thursday that the growth of the Chinese economy has become an important ingredient in global economic recovery.

With total imports exceeding 400 billion US dollars, China will surpass Japan as the world’s third-largest importing nation in 2003, said the report released on the WEF’s annual meeting held in the Swiss alpine resort of Davos from January 21 to 25.

Demand from China has driven up prices around the world — from shipping rates to commodities. Indeed, together with the recovering American economy, China is providing a much-needed lift to global economic growth, said the report.

China’s economic dynamism has made the country a favourite of the international business community, which is now pouring more than 50 billion US dollars in direct investment into China each year, and has begun to treat China as the centrepiece of its collective growth strategy.

The report holds an optimistic view of investment in China, saying that most believe there are still untapped opportunities.

MNA/Xinhua

WHO praises China over SARS, adds word of caution

BEIJING, 24 Jan— The World Health Organization offered New Year praise to China on Friday for its efforts in containing the SARS virus, but stressed that it was too early to say the health scare was over.

The third Chinese patient diagnosed with SARS this year left hospital on the first day of the Year of the Monkey on Thursday, following the discharge of two others with clean bills of health.

“Contact tracing is working pretty well and the system in place is far stronger than last year,” WHO spokesman Roy Wadia told Reuters, praising China’s practice of isolating suspect cases for 14 days.

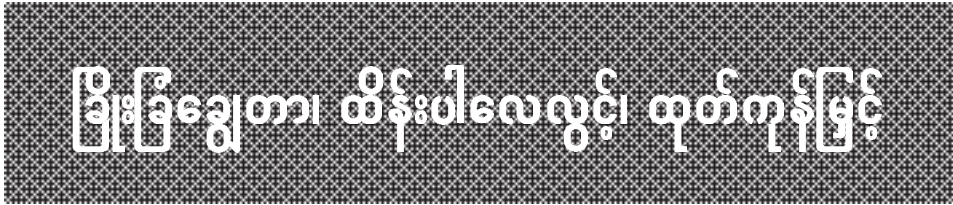
“But it is too early to say there won’t be any more cases.” SARS first emerged in

Guangdong in late 2002 and was spread by travellers to more than 30 countries, infecting about 8,000 people and killing nearly 800.

Hundreds of millions of Chinese are on the move during the Lunar New Year break, sparking tighter health controls at all ports, railway stations and airports.

A centre for disease prevention and control had even been set up the far-flung autonomous region of Tibet, Xinhua said.

MNA/Reuters



505 US service members killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 24 Jan— As of Friday, Jan. 23, 505 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq , according to the military. Of those, 349 died as a result of hostile action and 156 died of non-hostile causes, the department said.

The British military has reported 55 deaths; Italy, 17; Spain, eight; Bulgaria, five; Thailand, two; Denmark, Ukraine and Poland have reported one each.

Since 1 May, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 367 US soldiers have died — 234 as a result of hostile action and 133 of non-hostile causes, according to an AP analysis of releases from the Defense Department and US Central Command. Since the start of military operations, 2,519 US service members have been injured as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department’s figures. Non-hostile injured numbered 397.

The latest casualties reported by the military:

- Two pilots were killed Friday when their helicopter crashed northwest of the city of Qayyarah in northern Iraq.
- The latest identifications reported by the military:
- Army Spc Gabriel T Palacios, 22, Lynn, Mass.; killed Wednesday in a mortar attack on a base near Baqoubah; assigned to the 588th Engineer Battalion (Heavy), 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.
- Army Pfc James D Parker, 20, Bryan, Texas; killed Wednesday in a mortar attack on a base near Baqoubah; assigned to the 588th Engineer Battalion (Heavy), 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Internet

Pakistan, India should move ahead on road to peace

ISLAMBAD, 24 Jan— Pakistani Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali has said that time has come for India and Pakistan to move ahead on the road to peace, official Pakistan TV reported on Thursday.

Prime Minister Jamali said in an interview that both countries should forget the past and look for a better and brighter future for their people.

“Time will honour you if you utilize it properly. It is proper time for Pakistan and India to move forward in the right direction,” the Prime Minister said. “If the two countries lose time, it will not give them a chance in future,” he added.

To a question he said: “It is for the first time that a joint declaration has been issued and the time table for resumption of dialogue between the two countries has been agreed.”

The step taken by Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf and Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee toward peace is a positive development, he said.

“We should try to take ahead the process scheduled to begin in February to a logical conclusion, and it is not in the interest of two countries to retreat,” Jamali said.

Both countries will have to move ahead, the Prime Minister said, adding that though it is an old matter, it is now heading forward in a new way.

Jamali said President Musharraf and Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee, during their meeting on the sideline of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation summit, agreed to hold dialogue in the best interests of both the countries. He said both countries have to come out from their ego and personality to make the forthcoming dialogue a success.

Maximum flexibility must be shown in the dialogue process for the betterment and prosperity of the people of the two countries, said the Prime Minister.

MNA/Xinhua

Serbia-Montenegro offers humanitarian aid for quake-hit Iran

BELGRADE, 24 Jan— Serbia-Montenegro Council of Ministers decided on Thursday’s session to send humanitarian aid worth 150,000 euros to Iranian earthquake victims, the Tanjug news agency reported.

The aid included beds, blankets, sleeping bags, medicines, food, beverages, clothes and other items needed by the earthquake victims, said a statement issued by the Council of Ministers.

A Serbia-Montenegro delegation, headed by Minister for International Economic Relations Branko Lukovac and Minister for Human and Minority Rights Rasim Ljajic, will visit Teheran to present the relief and hold talks with Iranian authorities on bilateral cooperation, Tanjug reported. —MNA/Xinhua



Map of Iraq locating latest attacks. INTERNET

Anti-colonialist struggles in Salin region

U San Nyo Aung (Salin)

(Continued from yesterday)

The second one was a news report featured in column 3, page 2 of 24 June 1886 issue of The Amrita Bazar Patrika newspaper. It said it quoted the news report appeared in the English Man newspaper. According to the telegraphic message from Mandalay, Captain WG Dunsford was killed in action. Dunsford and Lt Wynyard of No 2 Liverpool Regiment together with some soldiers from Bengal Infantry Battalion and Liverpool Regiment drove out about 160 insurgents stationed at a place five miles from Salin. Later, they met with another group with a strength of about 5,000. Dunsford fell in the second battle. Three soldiers from Liverpool Battalion were seriously wounded and two Sepoy soldiers suffered minor injuries. The enemy casualties were unknown.

It was the battle at Wethikan-Tamachaung. The 1,088-acre Wethikan Lake was located in the west of Salin. Tamachaung village was located on the west bank of the lake. There was an encounter between the patriotic Myanmar troops under the command of Bo Ottama who were stationed on a hillock near the village and the colonialist soldiers led by Dunsford on 12 June 1886. The colonialist troops included 200 from the Liverpool Regiment and another 200 from the Bengal Infantry Battalion. As the colonialist troops were shooting at the Myanmar troops from a high ground, during the battle, the Myanmar were in a difficult situation and they suffered heavy losses. But they attacked the colonialist soldiers at the risk of their lives. A bullet fired by Bo Ottama hit Dunsford, and the Myanmar

troops were able to cut off his head while he was dying, and took it away. The colonialist troops took back Dunsford's headless body to Minbu town and buried there. He was a son of British General Dunsford. His tomb can be seen at British cemetery at the town till now.

The 17 June 1886 issue The Amrita Bazar Patrika newspaper said that the bandits were encouraged by and they took pride in the killing of Minbu deputy commissioner Mr Phayre. He fell at a battle with the Myanmar led by Head of Mindat Village Bo Shwe at Taunggaug camp, Patein village, near Shwesettaw Pagoda on 8 June 1886. Mr Phayre issued a 5,000-rupee award for the capture of Bo Shwe. Thus, Bo Shwe, in response to his announcement, declared that the anyone who captured Mr Phayre would be awarded 500 rupees. During the time, Bo Shwe took control of the southern regions of Minbu and Bo Ottama, the northern regions of the town. During the battle Mr Phayre was hit by a bullet fired by Bo Shwe. When he was about to fall down from his horse, Bo Nay Mee dashed towards him and cut off his head.

The Pioneer newspaper stated that from 19 to 23 June 1886, no less than 60 of the troops under the command of Maj Gordon were killed in the fierce battle that broke out on the Mone Creek bank west of Ngaphe.

The Statesman newspaper published on 24 November 1886 stated that troops from Minbu battled with the bandits for two times, and Captain Jones and another soldier were seriously wounded.

Due to the harmonious attacks of the Myanmar



The British troops were attacked fiercely by Byainggyi and Byaunggalay at this tamarind wood near Shwe Tanzar Pagoda in Salin.

patriots, the colonialists had to abandon the Salin region in 1887.

When compared with the colonialists, the patriotic fighters in Salin had less supply of weapons, medicines, food and manpower. Nevertheless, they fought the colonialists at the cost of their lives in the unyielding spirit. Bo Ya Kyaw and Bo Pe Oo sacrificed their lives at a battle in Tamachaung village west of Salin; Bo Khaya, Bo Yabaw, Thansa Bo and Bo Tay, at a battle on Shwetanhisa pagoda hill; Ponna Pyan Bo and Bo Chan Toke, at a battle near the northern gate of Salin wall; Shinlein Byan Bo, Shwe Hlan Bo and Bo Kyaw Hla, at a battle in Sagu; Bo Ae Gyi, at a battle in Legai; Bo Khan Thee, Bo Mekhaung, Bo Hsay Ni and Panhsaykan Sayadaw, at a battle in Myalaythaung; Bo Soke Phwa, at a battle in Monnya; Bo In Phu, at a

battle in Manny; Bo Shwe Pwint, at a battle in Minbu; and Bo Tha Si, at a battle in Kyaungtauya.

Mingyi U Ottama, whose military might was getting weaker, was captured near Kyaungtauya pagoda in 1889 while he was making arrangements to join Mingyi Shwelayaung after crossing to the eastern bank of Ayeyawady river. The king was hanged as he was considered to have possessed amulets so strange that he could not be beaten to death, nor knifed or shot dead.

Although he was allowed for defence, Mingyi insisted that he be hanged. At last Mingyi was hanged for rising against Queen Victoria. At the time when he was about to be hanged, U Ottama asked for some stationery and composed a bold verse which would be historic. That verse is still recited in his native land.

Myanmar people who

did not want to be enslaved put up strong resistance during the period from 1886 to 1900. A total of 32,000 troops and 8,500 military police under the command of the British General Sir Frederick Robert had to be brought into Myanmar to crush down the resistance movement of Myanmar patriots. The colonialists used only 9,467 troops to dethrone King Thibaw and to capture Upper Myanmar, though. The resistance movement launched by Min Ye Yan Shein, son of the prince of Makhaya, and Saw Yan Paing lasted till 1921. The historic battle sword used by Mingyi U Ottama was kept by Thukaung U Pan, who later donated the sword to the State so that the general public could view it for the further flourishing of patriotism.

(Concluded)

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Translation: TMT+KTY
Myanma Alin, Kyemon:
23-1-2004

Mars rover resumes sending data back to Earth

LOS ANGELES, 24 Jan — The Mars rover *Spirit* resumed sending some data to Earth on Friday, allaying some fears it had failed after two days of garbled communications and periods of intermittent silence, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory said.

JPL, which manages the Mars project for NASA, said in a statement on its web site that the flight team received a low-speed data transmission from *Spirit* starting at 1326 GMT (8.26 am EST) and continuing for 20 minutes.

"The spacecraft sent limited data in a proper response to a ground command, and we're planning for commanding further communication sessions later today," Mars Exploration Rover Project Manager Pete Theisinger

said.

The flight team had sent a signal beforehand from a NASA antenna complex in Spain with commands for *Spirit* to begin transmitting.

The six-wheeled craft landed on the red planet on January 3 for a planned three-month mission.

Officials had described the loss of communications as a "very serious anomaly".

On Thursday, *Spirit* radioed a signal indicating it was receiving Earth transmissions, but it did not

resume sending data back to Earth. It had been unable to return any science or telemetry data since early Wednesday.

Officials at a NASA deep space listening station in Robledo de Chavela, about 44 miles west of Madrid, were positive.

"At about 1334 Spanish Time (7.34 am EST/1234 GMT) we received an approximately 10-minute long data transmission from the rover," Marcus Watkins, NASA's representative in Spain, said.

"Of course that made everyone very happy... but it contained little information."

"NASA sent another command via Robledo de Chavela at 1402 (8:02 a.m. EST/1302 GMT) and the rover responded with a 20-minute pass at 1426 (8.26 am EST), with a full health and status report," he said, adding:

"We are evaluating the data we received and are cautiously optimistic at this point in time."

MNA/Reuters

China develops mobile food safety monitoring facilities

BEIJING, 24 Jan — China has developed its first mobile food safety monitoring facilities for fast checking of chemical residues and other harmful substances on vegetables and fruit, quality control officials said.

Li Changjiang, director of the State Administration for Quality Supervision and Quarantine, said the facilities will provide a useful tool for quality supervision officials to monitor food safety, and protect the health of consumers.

The new facilities can be used at fruit and vegetable wholesale markets, purchasing and processing stations, supermarkets, and on farms.

The locally developed vehicle was developed by the China Institute of Import and Export Commodity Inspection Technology under the administration.

A growing number of Chinese consumers are increasingly sensitive to food safety issues that used to be overlooked, as living standards keep improving. — MNA/Xinhua

Renovation of ancient pagoda inspected

YANGON, 24 Jan— Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Deputy Director-General of Department of Archaeology (Upper Myanmar) Mandalay Branch U Aung Kyaing and officials inspected renovation of Aungsgon

ancient pagoda built by King Swasawke in 736 in Saga-in Village and ancient Buddha images of Innwa periods at the excavation site in TadaU Township yesterday.

The minister gave instructions on preservation

of the artifacts.

The minister and party inspected Tagaungku Ordination Hall built by King Tagaung, father of Thadoeminphyu and gave instructions on excavation of stone inscriptions.

MNA

Dinner hosted to participants in School Family Day

YANGON, 24 Jan — Minister for Education U Than Aung, Chairman of the leading committee for organizing School Family Day, hosted a dinner in honour of those who helped and took part in the School Family Day at Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road here yesterday.

The dinner was attended by Chairmen of the

work committees-1 and 2 for organizing the School Family Day Deputy Ministers for Education Col Aung Myo Min and U Myo Nyunt, director-generals and chairmen of the departments and committees under the ministry, rectors, officials, wellwishers, township education officers, teachers, students and guests.

Minister U Than Aung gave away cash awards to the students who presented entertainment programmes. Next, the minister made a speech and the dinner was hosted to those present. After the ceremony, the minister, deputy ministers and officials posed for documentary photo together with the students.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung inspects Tagaungku Ordination Hall constructed by King Tagaung, father of Thadoeminphyu. — CULTURE

Delivery room, rural health care centre opened

YANGON, 24 Jan — A ceremony to open a delivery room and a rural health care centre in Phonedaw

Naing-Ngan Letthit Village, Amrapura Township, Mandalay District, Mandalay Division yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council member-1 Divisional Commissioner U Kyin Lin, Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and Development Association U Tin Maung Oo and CEC member Mandalay District in charge U Sein Myint, Amrapura Township PDC Chairman U Tin Myint and

members, departmental officials, donor U Myint Swe and wife Daw Tin Tin Myint and guests.

U Tin Maung Oo, wellwisher U Myint Swe and the township medical officer formally opened the delivery room and the rural health care centre by cutting a ribbon and viewed round them.

The wellwisher handed over the documents related to the buildings to the township medical officer.

MNA



U Tin Myint (Film Director Dipa) presents the topic "IT Product". — MNA



An official discusses the topic "Product Promotion" at MICT Week 2004. — MNA

Product Promotion...

(from page 16)

computers with Hyper Threading Technology and Serialata Dick by the company.

Next, Software Development Manager U Than Htaik of Forever Group explained matters related to Staff Management System, Photo Library Management System, Library Management System and Video Library Management System.

Next, Director U Ye Thura Thet of Myanmar Information Technology Pte Ltd explained matters related to Hospital Information System and Senior Systems Executive U Ye Soe Myat, matters related to Tele Consulting Application for Health Care and the seminar ended.

MNA

WWF launches multinational wetland protection campaign

NANCHANG, 24 Jan — The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has launched a major wetland protection campaign involving China and five other Asian nations.

The campaign, the largest ever started by the world's leading non-governmental environmental protection organization, aims to protect wetlands along the Yangtze, China's longest river, and the Lancang River, which is popularly known as the Mekong River outside China.

It will focus on wetlands on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau — "Asia's water tower" where seven major rivers originate, and address diverse environmental issues including deforestation, water pollution and the decline of highland glaciers.

Laos, Thailand, Cambo-

dia, Myanmar and Vietnam are also involved in the campaign, which is reputed as "Wetland Ambassador Campaign 2004", according to sources attending a recent launch ceremony in Nanchang, capital of the eastern Jiangxi Province.

The Wetland Ambassador Campaign was initiated by WWF in 2001 to raise public awareness of wetland preservation and eco-system protection. This year's campaign is co-sponsored by China's Ministry of Forestry and carries the theme "river of life — from mountains to oceans". College students and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to take part in the campaign, and nearly 60 Chinese schools have submitted online applications to date.

MNA/Xinhua

Drug possessor jailed

YANGON, 24 Jan — A combined team including members of local intelligence unit and Yangon Special Anti-drug Squad, acting on information, searched suspect Than Lwin (a) Kalar on Hsinmin Street, Hsinmin Ward, Ahlon Township, on 10 January 2003 and seized him together with 40 stimulant tablets bearing WY letters.

In connection with the case, Ahlon Police Station filed a lawsuit against Than Lwin (a) Kalar, son of U Tin Htwe of Theitpan Street, under section 15/19(A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Yangon West District Court sentenced him to 20 years in prison under section 19(A) on 3 December 2003.

MNA



Seized 70 heroin blocks.—MNA

Heroin seized in Kyugok (Pansaing)

YANGON, 24 Jan — A combined team including members of local intelligence unit and Muse Special Anti-drug Squad, acting on a tip-off, searched the house, No 98, Ward-5, Kyugok (Pansaing), on 11 January and arrested Ma Haung Law Shan, Aik Sam Maung and Kyan Phone together with six blocks of heroin weighing 2.1 kilos from the kitchen. According to their confession, the authorities seized 64 blocks of heroin weighing 24.19

kilos packed in three green backpacks hidden in a ditch in Tawsaing Village, Pansaing.

In connection with the case, Kyugok (Pansaing) Police Station is taking action against Kyan Phone, son of U Kyan Chaingwin, Aik Sam Maung, son of U Swet Shan Hsaing, and Ma Haung Law Shan, daughter of U Hon Shein Chain, under section 15/19(A)/21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

MNA



Kyan Phone and accomplices with seized narcotic drugs. — MNA

Youths to keep abreast with advancing Information and Communication Technology

Article by Htay Kyi;

Photos by Khin Maung Win (Kyemon)

The Third Myanmar ICT Week 2004 is being kept open at the Myanmar ICT Park in Hline Township starting from 21 to 27 January. It is learnt that around 50 local and 20 foreign companies are taking part in the exhibition. We, Kyemon daily staff, visited it to observe the booths.

At the exhibition, we had an opportunity to interview Chief Executive Officer Daw May Zin Aye about training courses of Myanmar World Wide Web Institute (M3WI) being systematically conducted by the Advanced Technologies

Internet users is growing in Myanmar thanks to the initiative and constant encouragement of the Government and technological assistance of the Bagan Teleport," she added.

"I want to see human resources developing significantly and technologically", she said, "so we launched international level courses on Internet and website in cooperation with the World Wide Web Institute (3WI) in Geneva, Switzerland, that is now in the forefront of technological field in the world. So far the institute



Course instructors making preparations before a course.

internationally recognized certificates. And they can study Internet throughout the course. Moreover, seminars on computer, discussions and technological cooperation can be carried out in the MICT Park.

With a view to enabling those wishing to attend the courses to choose

appropriate courses, the M3WI is presenting course counselling and student evaluation programmes at the exhibition, offering the enthusiasts a free chance to try Internet during the exhibition hours.

The Chief Executive Officer pledged that the M3WI will have to set out to establish its branches in

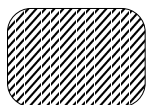
the other parts of the nation and to keep abreast with the latest technological advancements and changes for the trainees.

She expressed her goodwill and personal opinion, saying that information and communication technology is making greater progress and IT is related to all

fields. Therefore, all students should fulfil knowledge of information and communication technologies as far as they can to be able to grapple with future challenges.

(Translation: MS)

(Kyemon: 21-1-2004)



Chief Executive Officer of Advanced Technologies & Solutions Daw May Zin Aye.



& Solutions at the MICT Park and about the schedules for staging its booths at the exhibition. Replying to our queries, she said "Technologies are advancing worldwide, and so Myanmar needs to achieve greater development of human resources. Nowadays, Internet plays an essential role in economic, social, health and education sectors."

"The number of

has established its branches in Germany, England, China, Canada, America, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Australia and so on and so forth. "

The M3WI conducts courses ranging from primer to master levels including Certified Web Master and Certified Java Master courses. Since it prescribes the same curriculum of the World Wide Web Institute in Switzerland, national trainees can get



Trainees studying at the Myanmar World Wide Web Institute.

Road accident kills 7 in northeastern Thailand

BANGKOK, 24 Jan — A tour bus full of passengers on late Thursday turned over on a highway in northeastern Bangkok, killing seven passengers, local police said on Friday.

When the accident took place, the bus from Bangkok was running fast on a highway in the northeastern province of Nakhonratchasima, some 259 kilometres northeast of Bangkok, a local policeman told *Xinhua*.

The bus suspected of racing with another bus then turned over and veered off the road, killing seven and injuring 40 including 16 seriously wounded.

Police were now carrying out related investigation to find out the exact cause of the accident.

Road safety has become a major concern of the Thai authorities, which reported more than 900 people killed and 45,000 wounded by road accidents in the New Year season started from December 27 to January 4.

MNA/Xinhua

Weather forces closure of Suez Canal

CAIRO, 24 Jan — Strong winds, high waves and a sand storm forced the closure of the Suez Canal on Friday, an Egyptian shipping agent said.

He said ships passing through the waterway linking the Mediterranean and Red Sea had ground to

a halt. An Egyptian Ports Authority official said the weather had also forced the closure of some sea ports for the second consecutive day. The authorities closed ports in Alexandria and Dikhelia on Egypt's Mediterranean coast, Adabiya, Tewfiq and

Zaytiya in the Gulf of Suez, Hurgada on the Red Sea coast and Sharm el-Sheikh in the Gulf of Aqaba, the official said.

The Gulf of Aqaba's port of Nuweiba, which was closed on Thursday, had been reopened, the official added. — MNA/Reuters

25 killed in wedding fire in southern India

NEW DELHI, 24 Jan — At least 25 people were killed in a major fire at a marriage ceremony in southern India's Tamil Nadu on Friday morning, police and fire sources said.

The fire which broke

out at a marriage hall on the busy street in the temple town of Srirangam near the city of Tiruchirappalli has been brought under control, the *Press Trust of India* quoted fire sources as saying.

Fire service personnel

were engaged in removing the bodies of the victims, *PTI* reported. The incident occurred after the coconut palm leaf roof caught fire when camphor was burnt in the hall, the sources said.

MNA/Xinhua

Traffic accident kills 14 in north China

TAIYUAN, 24 Jan — A coach carrying 28 people overturned Thursday, killing 14 including the driver in north China's Shanxi Province.

The accident took place at 7:55 am near Gaoping City in the south of the province. Nine people died at the scene and another five died in a nearby hospital. The other 14 people were all injured, some critically.

The initial investigation indicated that the coach was overloaded and the driver was fatigued due to overnight driving. — MNA/Xinhua



Minister for Industry-I U Aung Thaung makes a speech at computer application course No (4/2004) on 23-1-2004. (News reported) — MNA



Cho Cho Co Managing Director U Wai Phyto makes discussions of IR concept at Myanmar ICT Week Seminar. (News reported) — MNA

Annan pleads for fair trade deal for poor

Dzvos (Switzerland), 24 Jan — United Nations chief Kofi Annan made an impassioned plea on Friday for the poor to get a fairer deal from trade as officials tried to inject life into stalled talks on freeing up world commerce.

He urged business leaders at the World Economic Forum's annual meeting to use their influence to persuade the United States and the European Union it was in everyone's interest they give ground in areas such as farm subsidies. Negotiations at the Geneva-based World Trade Organization (WTO) have been floundering since a ministerial summit in Mexico collapsed last September, in large part over the differences between rich and poor on reforming world farm trade.

"More than anything else, we need a poor-friendly deal on agriculture. No sin-

gle issue more gravely imperils the multilateral trading system, from which you benefit so much," the UN Secretary-General said in a speech at the forum.

"Agricultural subsidies skew market forces. They destroy the environment. And they block poor-country exports from world markets... For all our sakes, and for the credibility of the system itself, they must be eliminated," he added.

The EU and the United States, which account for much of the some 350 billion US dollars a year rich states spend on their farmers, have offered cuts, but they are not deep enough to satisfy developing countries or even other rich but efficient farm goods exporters such as Australia.

Around 20 countries, only some represented by trade ministers, met on the fringes of the annual.

MNA/Reuters

British Defence Ministry under renewed attacks over war kit

LONDON, 24 Jan — The British Ministry of Defence came under renewed attacks from a top military officer Thursday for sending British soldiers into battle in Iraq without effective nuclear, biological and chemical protection suits.

"Many items of (such) equipment were not available in the right numbers, in the right place, in the right working order at the time they should have been," Lieutenant-Colonel James Cowan, the commanding officer of Scottish regiment, told the Scottish newspaper *The Scotsman*.

Cowan's criticism came following accusations that soldiers had died as a result of failures of the Ministry of Defence.

Earlier this week, it emerged that tank commander Sergeant Steve Roberts was shot dead near the Iraqi southern city of

Basra days after being ordered to give his flak jacket to another unit due to equipment shortages.

His widow, Samantha, has called for British Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon to resign over the issue.

The issue of British military equipment shortages during the US-led war against Iraq came to the fore last December in a report by the National Audit Office, Britain's public spending watchdog, which praised the overall success of the operation but highlighted that British front-line forces were left without vital kit during the war. —MNA/Xinhua

Dancer-actress Ann Miller dies at age 81

LOS ANGELES, 24 Jan — Whirlwind tap dancer and actress Ann Miller, who starred in such Hollywood musical classics as "Easter Parade," "On the Town" and "Kiss Me Kate," died on Thursday of lung cancer at age 81, a spokeswoman said.

Miller, whose last screen performance was her supporting role as landlady Catherine "Coco" Lenoix in David Lynch's bizarre 2001

mystery "Mulholland Dr.," died at Cedars Sinai Medical Center, her longtime spokeswoman Esme Chandlee said.

In the early 1940s, she set a record for the fastest tap dancing, producing more than 500 tap sounds per minute. In 1948, she signed with MGM and danced with Fred Astaire in her first film for that studio, "Easter Parade."

MNA/Reuters

Arabs slam US over democracy at Davos

DAVOS (Switzerland), 24 Jan — Arab and Muslim leaders slammed the United States' campaign for democracy in the Middle East as hypocritical on Friday, saying Washington should first end its "double standards" in the Israeli-Arab conflict.

At a public debate at the World Economic Forum in Davos, senior figures from Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Iran accused the Bush Administration of ignoring Israeli weapons of mass destruction while pressuring Arab and Muslim states to disarm and democratize.

"Democracy or any semblance of wider participation will have to come from within societies," said

Prince Turki al-Faisal, a senior member of the Saudi ruling family who is his country's ambassador to London.

He complained that the United States talked about promoting democracy in the Middle East yet refused to recognize one of the few democratically elected leaders in the region, Palestinian leader Arafat.

While Washington had put pressure on Iran, Syria, Libya and Iraq over their alleged weapons of mass destruction programmes, it never mentioned Israel, which had not only nuclear but also biological and chemical weapons, Prince Turki said.

MNA/Reuters

ဆောင်းရာသီတွင်ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သော ကူးစက်ရောဂါများ ကာကွယ်နှိမ်နင်းရေး နှိုးဆော်ချက်

၁။ ဆောင်းရာသီတွင် အအေးမိနွားစေး ချောင်းဆိုးရောဂါ၊ ဦးနှောက် အမြှေးရောင်ရောဂါ၊ ဝက်သက်ရောဂါ၊ ဆုံဆုံနာရောဂါ၊ ကြက်ညှာ ချောင်းဆိုးရောဂါ၊ ရေကျောက်ရောဂါ၊ နမိုးနီးယား အဆုတ်ရောင် ရောဂါနှင့် မျက်စိနာရောဂါစသည့် ကူးစက်ရောဂါများ အဖြစ် များတတ်ပါသည်။

၂။ ၎င်းရောဂါများကိုကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ရန်အတွက်

- * ပွဲလမ်းသဘင်လူထုထပ်သောနေရာနှင့် ဖုန်ထူထပ်သော နေရာ များကို တတ်နိုင်သမျှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- * နှာစေးချောင်းဆိုးလျှင် ရောဂါမပြန့်ပွားစေရန် လက်ကိုဝံ့ဝံ့ ကို အသုံးပြုပါ။
- * တစ်ဦးအသုံးပြုထားသော အသုံးအဆောင်နှင့် အဝတ်အထည် များကို အခြားတစ်ဦးမှအသုံးပြုခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- * ၅-နှစ်အောက် ကလေးများအား ပုံမှန်ကာကွယ်ဆေးထိုး၍ ကာကွယ်ရသောရောဂါများဖြစ်သည့် ဆုံဆုံနာ ကြက်ညှာ ချောင်းဆိုး ဝက်သက်ရောဂါ ကာကွယ်ဆေးများထိုးနှံပါ။
- * တစ်ကိုယ်ရေ သန့်ရှင်းရေးကို အလေးထားဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- * အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအစာများကိုစားသုံးပါ။
- * လုံလောက်စွာအနားယူပါ။

၃။ ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများရှိလျှင် အသက်ဆုံးရှုံးမှုနှင့် ရောဂါပြန့်ပွားမှု များမှကာကွယ်နိုင်ရန် နီးရာကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် ဆေးလျှင်စွာ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



Object orientated software development with unified modelling language workshop in progress on the third day of Myanmar ICT Week-2004 on 23-1-2004. (News reported) — MNA

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



Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min addresses the third four-monthly work coordination meeting of the Ministry of Rail Transportation on 23-1-2004. (News reporetd) — MNA

Rules for Armed Forces Day painting, sculpture contests

YANGON, 24 Jan — The Subcommittee for Organizing the Painting and Sculpture Contests under the Work Committee for Organizing Poem and Arts Contests in commemoration of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day announced rules for the painting and sculpture contests

on 24 January.

The painting contest comprises six categories — pre-primary level, junior primary level (primary, first and second standards), senior primary level (third and fourth standards), middle school level (fifth to seventh standards), high school

level (eighth to tenth standards and technological and agricultural high schools) and open division.

There will be only one category in the sculpture contest with wood sculpture category and plaster sculpture in open division. Anyone may take part in both.

In the pre-primary level

to high school levels, the size of the entry must be 15" x 20". The entry must be endorsed by respective principal with name, standard, school, township, date of birth, father's name, full address and two passport-size photos attached. The entries are to be sent to the Education Planning and Training Department at 123 Natmauk Street, Bahan Township, by 23 February 2004. Entries for the open division painting contest must be 20" x 30". Name, NRC No, date of birth, father's name, occupation and full address must be expressed with two passport-size photos attached.

The entries for the wood sculpture and the plaster sculpture contests must not be higher than 36 inches high and circumference not larger than 24 inches. At the foot of the works, name, NRC No, date of birth, father's name and address must be shown with two passport-size photos attached, and they must be sent to Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road between 1 and 3 March. All the entries must reflect the twelve objectives of the State, the objectives of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day and the twelve fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Entries for open division painting and sculpture contests are to be sent to Secretary, Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon (Central), Pabedan Township, Yangon, by 1 March or to Secretary of the Subcommittee for Organizing the painting and sculpture contests at the Tatmadaw Conventional Hall between 1 and 3 March. Apart from the entries for the contests, other paintings and sculptures may be sent to be displayed at the exhibition to be opened in honour of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

They must also reflect the twelve objectives of the State, the objectives of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day and the twelve fine traditions of the Tatmadaw, and should be sent directly to Tatmadaw Convention Hall between 1 and 5 March. — MNA

All this needs to be known

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



Salone Traditional Festival 2004

(Sea Gypsy Festival)

Ma Kyone Galet Village, Myeik

Archipelago

Union of Myanmar

14 to 17 February 2004

ကုသကာကွယ် မူးယစ်အန္တရာယ်

၁။ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲလျှင် အသည်းရောင်အသားဝါရောဂါ၊ အသည်းခြောက်ရောဂါ၊ အသည်းကင်ဆာရောဂါ၊ သွေးဆိပ်တက်ခြင်းနှင့် နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ အဆုတ်ရောဂါများ၊ ခုခံအားကျဆင်းမှုရောဂါ (AIDS)နှင့် စိတ်ပိုင်းဆိုင်ရာရောဂါများ စသည်တို့ ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သည့်အပြင် စီးပွားရေးနှင့် လူမှုရေးများ ထိခိုက်ပျက်ပြားခြင်း၊ ဥပဒေအရ အရေးယူခံရခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်နိုင်သည်။

၂။ ထို့ကြောင့် အဆိုပါဒုက္ခများမှ ကင်းဝေးစေရန် မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးကို လုံးဝရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

၃။ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါး သုံးစွဲသူများသည် သတ်မှတ်ဆေးရုံများတွင် မှတ်ပုံတင်၍ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်

မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ့

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ ဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၄ခုနှစ်၊ ဇန်နဝါရီလအတွက် (၂၅-၁-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့
၂၀၀၄ခုနှစ်၊ ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလအတွက် (၈-၂-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့
(၂၉-၂-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့

Chicago Film Critics pick 'The Lord of the Rings'

CHICAGO, 24 Jan — In the awards runoff to next month's Academy Awards, the 45-member Chicago Film Critics Association chose "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" as best picture of 2003.

Bill Murray, for his portrayal of a boozy actor in Japan in "Lost in Translation," and Charlize Theron, for her chilling turn as a serial killer in "Monster," were awarded best actor and actress, respectively, a posting on the association's web site said on Thursday.

"Lost in Translation," which won best screenplay for director-writer Sofia Coppola and best cinematography for Lance Acord, placed a close second in the best picture category to the final installment of New Zealander Peter Jackson's trilogy based on

JRR Tolkien's books. Jackson also won for best director.

Tim Robbins was awarded best supporting actor for his role in "Mystic River," and best supporting actress went to Patricia Clarkson for "Pieces of April."

"The Fog of War," Errol Morris' look at former Secretary of Defence Robert McNamara, won best documentary and "City of God," the tale of Brazilian street life by Katia Lund and Fernando Meirelles, won for best foreign language offering.

MNA/Reuters

စေတနာရှင်ပြည်သူများခင်ဗျား

စည်ပင်သာယာရေးဦးစီးဌာနသည် ရေရှားပါးသော ကျေးလက်ဒေသများတွင် သန့်ရှင်းသော သောက်သုံးရေ ဖူလုံစွာရရှိရေးကို ဆောင်ရွက်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ရေလျှော့ဒီဇိုင်းဖြင့် မတောင်းဘဲနှင့် ပြည့်စုံနိုင်သော အကျိုးဆယ်ပါးကိုရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။ ရေအကျိုးဆယ်ပါးမှာ—

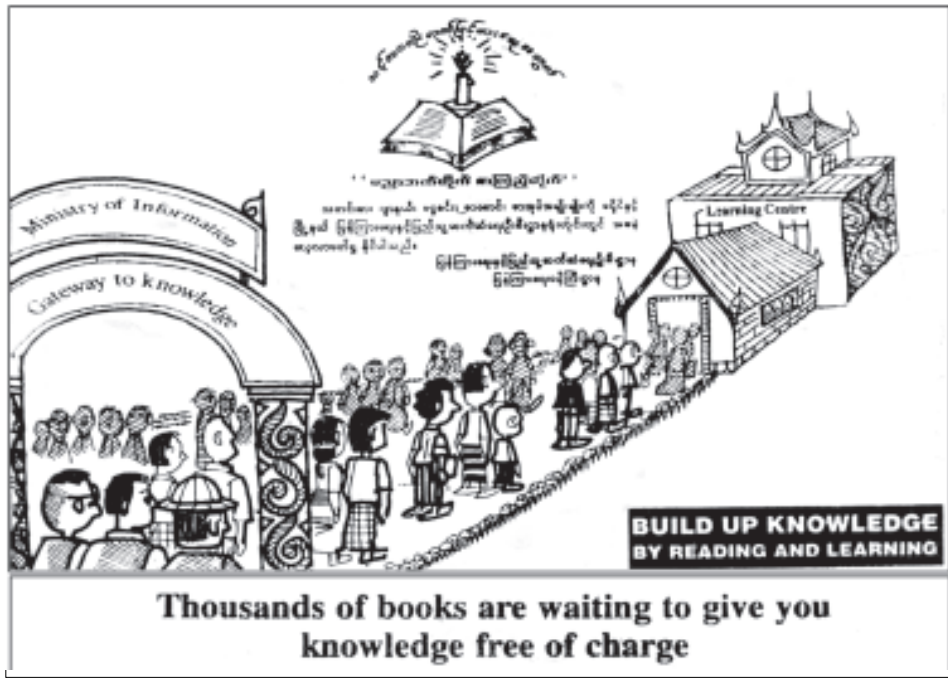
- (၁) လျင်မြန်ခြင်း၊
- (၂) သန့်ရှင်းစင်ကြယ်ခြင်း၊
- (၃) ကျော်ကြားလူသိများခြင်း၊
- (၄) ဆာလောင်မွတ်သိပ်မှုကင်းခြင်း၊
- (၅) အခြေအရံများခြင်း၊
- (၆) အသက်ရှည်ခြင်း၊
- (၇) အဆင်းလျှင်ခြင်း၊
- (၈) ချမ်းသာကြီးခြင်း၊
- (၉) ခွန်အားဗလကြီးမားခြင်း၊
- (၁၀) ဉာဏ်ပညာကြီးမားခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

စည်ပင်သာယာရေးဦးစီးဌာနသည် ရေရှားပါးသော ဒေသများမှာ သန့်ရှင်းသော ရေ ဖူလုံစွာရရှိရန် စီမံချက်များချမှတ်ပြီး အင်တိုက်အားတိုက် ဆောင်ရွက်နေပါသည်။ ရေအကျိုးဆယ်ပါးရရှိစေရန် ရေရှားပါးသည့် ကျေးလက်ဒေသများသို့ စက်ရေတွင်းများ လျှော့ဒီဇိုင်းလိုပါက အောက်ပါနှုန်းထားအတိုင်း လျှော့ဒီဇိုင်းနိုင်ပါသည်—

- * ၂လက်မ စက်ရေတွင်း အနက် ၂၀၀ပေ တစ်တွင်း (စက်ပစ္စည်းစုံ) ကျပ် ၂၅သိန်း
- * ၂လက်မ စက်ရေတွင်း အနက် ၄၀၀ပေ တစ်တွင်း (စက်ပစ္စည်းစုံ) ကျပ် ၅၀သိန်းနှင့်
- * ၄လက်မ စက်ရေတွင်း အနက် ၂၀၀ပေ တစ်တွင်း (စက်ပစ္စည်းစုံ) ကျပ် ၅၀သိန်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

မည်သည့်မြို့နယ်တွင်မဆို စေတနာရှင်များအနေနှင့် ပါဝင်လှူဒါန်းလိုပါက အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ စည်ပင်သာယာရေးအဖွဲ့အစည်းများနှင့် ဆက်သွယ်လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါကြောင်း အသိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူးချုပ်၊ ၀၁-၂၄၅၄၂၀၊ ၂၅၃၀၈၈။
- (၂) ဒုတိယညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူးချုပ်၊ ၀၁-၂၄၀၁၁၈။
- (၃) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး (အင်ဂျင်နီယာ)၊ ၀၁-၂၉၁၉၆၇။
- (၄) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး (စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်းစည်ပင်သာယာရေးအဖွဲ့)၊ ၀၇၁-၂၁၀၁၂။
- (၅) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး (မကွေးတိုင်းစည်ပင်သာယာရေးအဖွဲ့)၊ ၀၆၃-၂၃၁၆၄။
- (၆) ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး (မန္တလေးတိုင်းစည်ပင်သာယာရေးအဖွဲ့)၊ ၀၂-၅၄၆၅၇။



ADVERTISEMENT

Singer Garfunkel charged with marijuana possession

NEW YORK, 24 Jan— Singer Art Garfunkel got busted for marijuana possession by a New York State trooper who had no idea he was arresting half of the legendary '60s duo Simon and Garfunkel, police said on Thursday.

The trooper arrested Garfunkel, 62, after stopping the driver of his limousine for speeding on Saturday in Hurley, New York, 90 miles north of New York City, police said.

"The trooper noted a strong odour of marijuana emanating from the vehicle," police said. "The trooper found a small amount of marijuana in Garfunkel's jacket pocket."

Garfunkel, the only passenger, was due to appear next Wednesday at the Town of Hurley Court charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. He faces a 100 US dollars fine. —MNA/Reuters

ပို့ဆောင်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန မြန်မာ့လေကြောင်း ကြော်ငြာချက်အမှတ် (၃/၂၀၀၄) လေယာဉ်မောင်း၊ လေယာဉ်မယ် လူတွေ့စစ်ဆေးရန်ကိစ္စ

ပို့ဆောင်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့လေကြောင်းမှ ခေါ်ယူထားသော လေယာဉ်မောင်း၊ လေယာဉ်မယ် ရာထူး လျှောက်ထားသူများအနက် ပဏာမ၊ လူတွေ့စစ်ဆေးမှု အောင်မြင်သူများအား အပြီးသတ် စစ်ဆေးခြင်းကို (၂၈-၁-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ (၀၈:၀၀)နာရီမှ စတင် စစ်ဆေးမည့်အစား (၂၉-၁-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ (၀၈:၀၀)နာရီအချိန်မှ စတင် စစ်ဆေးမည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း ကြေငြာအပ်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာ့လေကြောင်း

Scientists teach baffled British diners chopstick tricks

LONDON, 24 Jan— Britons' enthusiasm for chow mein and Peking duck is often dampened when poor chopstick skills leave more food on their shirts than in their mouths.

But scientists have come to their aid with a mathematical formula for successful chopstick use, just in time for Thursday's Chinese New Year celebrations.

Researchers from the University of Surrey took into account the number of Chinese meals eaten, how many seconds it takes to get food from bowl to mouth and food slipperiness to calculate the key to chopstick proficiency.

Diners can use the formula to calculate how much practice they need, how long their chopsticks should be and how quickly they should eat.

"The formula will come as a welcome answer for those terrified by chopsticks," said a spokeswoman for food firm Uncle Ben's, which found that over half of Britons have to down chopsticks and use a knife and fork to finish their food. —MNA/Reuters

Croatia says had arrested human smuggling group

ZAGREB, 24 Jan— Croatia said on Thursday it had arrested 11 people suspected of organizing the smuggling of at least 270 illegal migrants into Western Europe, state news agency Hina reported.

It said the state anti-corruption bureau had seized the group — one Macedonian citizen and 10 Croatians, including one woman — on Tuesday, in a joint operation with the local police.

The suspects appeared before the Zagreb County court on Wednesday, the agency said. Police were not available for immediate comment.

Hina said the group had smuggled mi-

grants from Turkey, Iraq, Pakistan, Albania and Cuba into neighbouring Slovenia, which will become a member of the European Union in May. From there they were sent to Italy, Austria, Germany and Switzerland.

Croatia, a former Yugoslav republic that became independent in 1991, lies on a notorious Balkans smuggling route linking the Middle East with Europe.

MNA/Reuters

At least 11 dead in shootouts in pre-Carnival Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO (Brazil), 24 Jan— Two overnight gunfights left 11 people dead in Brazil's crime-ridden city of Rio de Janeiro as it gears up for its famed Carnival next month, police said on Thursday.

Six people who police said were drug traffickers died in what the authorities believed was a showdown between rival drug gangs in the Tres Pontes slum in the western part of Rio.

Residents of the shantytown told police there were more dead bodies inside the slum.

In the Mare slum area on the city outskirts, not far from

the Rio International Airport, police shot and killed five people during the night in a raid that followed an attack on two police patrol cars on Tuesday.

Powerful gangs that deal in drugs and arms control many of Rio's teeming slums.

Last year, a wave of pre-Carnival violence that authorities said was a retaliation

by drug gangs for tough police action against them, made the federal government dispatch Army units to guard the annual festivities in Rio.

Rio's five-day Carnival, which draws hordes of tourists to the city famous for its beautiful beaches and notorious for one of the highest violent crime rates in the world, kicks off on February 20. —MNA/Reuters

ပြည်တွင်းဖြစ်ကိုအားပေးပါ

- ချီရိုပွမ်းကိုဖြည့်၊ ခြေမြန်ကိုညှိ၊ အတောင်ကိုတောင့်၊ ချောင်းကိုဖြတ်၊ မြစ်ကိုကျော်၊ တည်ဆောက်ခဲ့သည့် လမ်းတံတားများဖြင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးစေမည် မြန်မာပြည်
- တုရား၊ ကျောင်းကန်၊ သာသနိက အဆောက်အအုံများ၊ ဆည်မြောင်း တာတမံ၊ စက်ရုံကြီးများ၊ သစ်လွင်လှပသော အဆောက်အအုံများဖြင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးစေမည် မြန်မာပြည်
- မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ ချွန်တာကာလတပ်မတော်အစိုးရ၏ဆောင်ရွက်ချက်များကို ပကတိအတိုင်း တွေ့မြင်နိုင်တဲ့

ဖွံ့ဖြိုးစေမည် မြန်မာပြည်
(၁၉၈၈-၂၀၀၃)

★ ဗြိတိန်နှင့် ကေလက်ဝေသ ဟန်ချက်ညီ ဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်မှုများကို မှတ်ပုံများ၊ ကိန်းဂဏန်းများပုံပြင်ရပ်များ၊ ဇယားများဖြင့်ပုံနှိပ်ထုတ်ဝေထားပါသည်။



- ★ စာပေဗိမာန်စာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၅၂၉ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း- ၃၈၁၄၅၀
- ★ သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း- ၂၉၄၃၀၆
- ★ စာပေဗိမာန်စာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ရတနာပုံဈေးသစ် (ဒုတိယထပ်)၊ မန္တလေးမြို့။

US telecoms regulator sees broad support for swear word ban

Davos (Switzerland), 24 Jan— US regulators will increase the pressure on media outlets to ban foul language from the airwaves, and have broad political support to do so, the top US telecoms regulator said on Thursday.

"We are getting tougher about it in the sense that we're wielding our fines more aggressively, mostly because there is a political will to do so," Michael Powell, the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, told Reuters at the World Economic Forum.

"I think the political environment is increasingly becoming less tolerant," Powell added. "It's a reinvigorated approach."

Powell's remarks came a day after a bipartisan group

of US lawmakers introduced legislation to raise fines for incidents of foul language used on air to as much as three million US dollars.

US federal law bars the airing of obscene speech and limits the broadcasting of indecent material, containing references to sex or excretion in a patently offensive manner, to late night network television and radio.

Powell said support for raising fines to deter the use of foul language outside of

narrowly defined times was coming from a vast spectrum of the US political scene.

"It's quite bipartisan. A lot of the screaming is coming from the left," he said. "It's wrong to think that you see Republican conservatism rising. There is actually a lot of pressure from the secular side."

The proposed legislation follows an outcry over an FCC staff decision that ruled U2 rocker Bono did not violate the agency's indecency rules when he exclaimed "fucking brilliant" when accepting an award on the live broadcast of the Golden Globe Awards last year.

The FCC staff decided in October that Bono's use of the swear word was not indecent. That sparked calls for the FCC commissioners to overturn the decision.

Powell is seen as supporting efforts to make it indecent to utter the word on broadcast television and radio when children are likely to be listening.

Powell said it was the media company's obligation to restrict the use of foul language on the air.

"(It is a question) of corporate responsibility," he said. "We let companies push the limit, but is there ever a place where you cross the limit?" —MNA/Reuters

NASA unable to communicate with Mars rover

PASADENA (California), 24 Jan— NASA scientists said on Thursday they had lost contact with the robot rover Spirit on Mars and were unsure what had caused the problem.

Spirit project manager Pete Theisinger told a news briefing that there was a "very serious anomaly" in communications with the six-wheeled craft, which landed on Mars on January 3 on a planned three-month mission to explore the geologic history of the planet.

Theisinger said scientists had been unable to communicate with Spirit for about 24 hours and had so far been unable to explain the source of the problem.

"There is not one single fault that explains this," Theisinger said, adding that

mission scientists had worked throughout the night on scenarios ranging from a major power failure to a software or memory corruption.

Mission managers said Spirit was not completely dead, and had sent out a communication beep and default signals. But they said several attempts since Wednesday afternoon to send commands to the rover and to receive data from it via the Mars Global Surveyor orbiter and the Mars Odyssey orbiter had failed.

MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီမှု ပူးတွဲတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Chinese celebrate Year of Monkey with fun, travel, confidence

BEIJING, 24 Jan—People of different ethnic groups across China have been celebrating the traditional Lunar New Year which fell on Thursday in different ways.

Short message service (SMS) has replaced telephone calls and postcards to become the most popular way for Chinese to extend good wishes to their friends and relatives in greeting the arrival of the Year of the Monkey.

The latest information from Beijing Unicom and Beijing Mobile shows that from Wednesday noon

through to early Thursday morning, cellphone subscribers registered in Beijing alone sent over 100 million short messages, and the two companies raked in a hefty sum of 10 million yuan (about 1.21 million US dollars) in earnings from SMS.

It is estimated that some 10 billion greeting messages will be sent via mobile phones during the seven-day Lunar New Year holiday season which began on January 22, said industry sources.

Yu Zhihai, a specialist on folklore, said that the

Spring Festival holiday is a time for relaxation.

So the number of people who choose to travel during the Spring Festival holiday season has been rising rapidly. Travel agencies in Beijing organized 280,000 people on overseas tour programmes for the Spring Festival holiday this year, up 8 per cent from last year. Qin Peiyu, 28, who lives in downtown Beijing's Chaoyang District, said he believed Spring Festival was a good time for exercise and rejuvenation.

MNA/Xinhua

Nicosia Mayor wants fines for litter bugs

NICOSIA, 24 Jan— Mayor of Nicosia Michalakis Zampelas has declared that anyone dropping litter on the streets of Nicosia could soon face a new penalty, local Press reported Thursday.

Fines of 20 Cyprus pounds (about 40 US dollars) would come into effect by the end of March this year, the report said.

The proposal, considered an important step to discourage pollution and protect the environment, has received positive response from the public and the media.

"I have received many letters and phone calls about this issue and each person has congratulated me, telling me that this is a good move," Zampelas was quoted as saying.

The fines should be approved by the Nicosia Municipal Council before being imposed, but Zampelas was hopeful that it will

come into force by the end of March. Nicosia is cleaner in comparison with other European cities, but not enough, the mayor said.

"People are not sensible enough, especially in the old city," he said, adding that he hopes the move would encourage other municipalities to follow.

MNA/Xinhua

US Agent Orange study finds raised cancer risks

WASHINGTON, 24 Jan — Air Force veterans exposed to Agent Orange during the Vietnam War have a higher-than-average risk of prostate and skin cancer, military researchers reported on Thursday.

The ongoing study of 2,000 Vietnam veterans shows for the first time an elevated risk of melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer. Previous studies have found increased risks of prostate cancer, chronic lymphocytic leukemia and also diabetes.

"A new analysis of cancer incidence among Air Force veterans of the Vietnam War found increased risks of prostate cancer and melanoma in those who sprayed Agent Orange and other herbicides," the Air Force Surgeon General's office said in a statement.

It does not find the veterans are any more likely to die of these cancers than the general population.

"It's just because we have new numbers, new exams," a spokesman said.

"The guys are getting older, so we are seeing higher incidences."

Between 1962 and 1971 an estimated 20 million gallons of herbicides, including Agent Orange, were used to strip Vietnam's thick forests to make bombing easier.

Veterans exposed to the powerful pesticides have complained for years about a variety of health problems, and in the late 1970s the government started to investigate them systematically.

The latest study, to be published next month in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, is not the last word on cancer and Agent Orange, the Surgeon General's Office warned. It has many weaknesses and must be studied along with other research.

For this particular study veterans called the Ranch Hand Group are being examined regularly. Operation Ranch Hand was the unit responsible for the aerial spraying of herbicides and medical experts say they got the highest exposure to Agent Orange, which contains dioxins and other toxic chemicals.

Starting in 1986, their blood was tested for dioxin, a chemical that builds up in the body and that can cause cancer and birth defects.

"The dioxin determinations were accurate but were measured 15 to 30 years after service in the Ranch Hand unit," the Surgeon General's statement said. "The study interpretations are limited because other environmental exposures were not measured."

MNA/Reuters



Fireworks explode over the Pearl River in Guangzhou, southern China, to celebrate Chinese New Year on 22 Jan, 2004. Chinese worldwide celebrated the New Year of the Monkey on Thursday. — INTERNET

Guangdong ensures safety of live poultry to HK, Macao

GUANGZHOU, 24 Jan— Guangdong Province in south China has strengthened measures to ensure the safety of live poultry and fresh vegetable exports to neighbouring Hong Kong Special Administrative Region since the outbreak of bird flu in some Asian countries.

The province has stepped up monitoring of registered suppliers of live poultry and supervision of bird flu inoculations at registered chicken farms.

Quarantine measures have been tightened for frozen meat and fresh vegetables to be sold to Hong Kong and

Macao markets.

The provincial administration of inspection and quarantine resumed a daily report system from January 19 to February 5, under which sub-branches are required to report one day in advance the amount of live poultry to be sent to Hong Kong and Macao and the blood test results. The provincial administration is responsible for inspection and quarantine of 140,000 live birds to be transported to Hong Kong and Macao each day.

To date no registered suppliers of live poultry in the

province have reported any problems. Supplies of live poultry for Hong Kong and Macao are meeting demand during the Spring Festival, the traditional Chinese Lunar New Year which starts on Thursday.

Hong Kong and Macao people have a tradition of cooking chicken for festive meals. Guangdong, a traditional supplier of live poultry, is ready to provide more than 50 million chickens, 170,000 ducks, and 10,000 geese during the Spring Festival which could last for 15 days until the lantern festival.

MNA/Xinhua

Germany, France strive for closer integration

BERLIN, 24 Jan— Germany and France are striving to be more connected with each other and continue to act as the motor of the European integration, according to a joint statement issued Thursday.

The statement, issued here by German State Minister Hans-Martin Bury and French European Minister Noelle Lenoir, marked the

observation of the first German-French Day, which was initiated last year to deepen friendship between the two countries.

To foster closer relations between Germany and France, it should be made easier for their peoples to live, study and work in the partner country, the statement said. Young people of one country should be en-

couraged to learn the language of the other and co-operation between border regions of the two countries also be strengthened, it said.

The ministers did not detail proposals for such closer relations but said that they would be brought up at the next meeting of German-French Ministerial Council.

MNA/Xinhua



Snow falls over gondolas moored in front of Venices Palazzo Ducale, northern Italy, on 23 Jan, 2004. A cold wave is hitting Italy with snow falls giving an unusual look to the famed monumental sites.—INTERNET

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Italian soccer players’ chief
opposes drugs crackdown

ROME, 24 Jan— The head of the Italian Footballers Association (AIC) has attacked plans to get tough on drugs in soccer by introducing compulsory blood testing.

“To speak about obligatory blood testing is not right. Every test needs the informed consent of the player,” AIC president Sergio Campana said.

“I continue to have grave doubts about the possibility of suspension or sanctions against those who refuse to give their consent,” he was quoted as saying in *La Gazzetta dello Sport* on Thursday.

Last week the president of Italy’s Football League, Adriano Galliani, said he hoped to persuade the AIC to sign up to compulsory blood testing and threatened suspension for any player who refused to give a sample.

Campana, however, insisted that players were under no obligation to undergo blood tests, adding: “I’m decidedly against Galliani’s ideas.”

Italy’s current drugs testing programme involves random urine tests on players. Blood tests are used if players agree.

MNA/Reuters

Marseille against PSG clash tops
French Cup second round

PARIS, 24 Jan— A potentially explosive clash between Olympique Marseille and Paris St. Germain at the Stade Velodrome on Saturday will top the bill in the second round of the French Cup.

Police and club security will be put on alert as fixtures between the rivals have often been marred by crowd trouble. Some 2,000 police officers and 400 PSG security guards were on duty inside and outside the Parc des Princes when the two teams met last year at the same stage of the French Cup.

The interior minister Nicolas Sarkozy supervised the operation. Paris police said that about 40 people were detained for questioning and dozens of knives and pickaxe handles were seized.

According to French police, the toll of 15 years of PSG-Marseille matchups stands at “more than 350 injured and more than 400 arrests”.

On the pitch the match could also be a fiery affair.

Marseille, who have sacked Alain Perrin and replaced him with local figure Jose Anigo, will be out for revenge as they have lost their last four games against PSG.

The Parisians won last season’s Cup tie 2-1 after extra time and were also victorious in both league encounters.

This season, Marseille also lost 1-0 at home to PSG in the league on November 30 when Fabrice Fiorese scored a last-minute winner.

“We won’t have any problem motivating ourselves... It’s a real showdown,” said Christophe Bouchet, president of Olympique Marseille, who have won the Cup 10 times, the last time in 1989.

Cup holders AJ Auxerre will host Montpellier and Toulouse will entertain Nice in the two other Ligue 1 head-to-heads. Monaco, Ligue 1 champions Olympique Lyon and RC Lens all face tricky away ties against teams from Division Three. Monaco visit Valenciennes, Lyon face Bourg-Peronnas and Lens take on Dijon.

MNA/Reuters

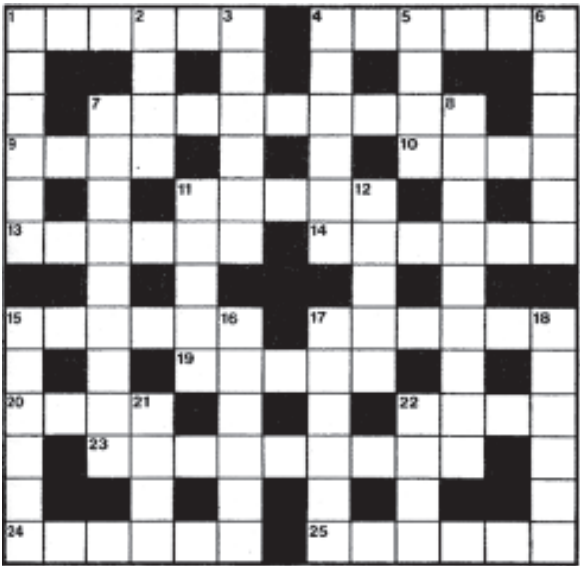
Striker Marazzina
joins Modena

ROME, 24 Jan— Striker Massimo Marazzina has moved from Sampdoria to Serie A rivals Modena, Sampdoria said on Thursday.

The 29-year-old, who is on Chievo Verona’s books and was on loan to Sampdoria, has scored one goal in 13 appearances for the Genoa-based club this season.

Modena have not won a league game since the start of November and have slipped to 13th in the division on 17 points, five above the relegation zone. — MNA/Reuters

Crossword Puzzle



- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Not so small | 1 Stout shoe |
| 4 Failed to hit | 2 Aim in life |
| 7 Incredible | 3 Clatter |
| 9 Seabird | 4 Lord |
| 10 Slender | 5 Burlesque |
| 11 Modify | 6 Public banquet |
| 13 Make certain | 7 Agitated |
| 14 Long heavy wave | 8 Infancy |
| 15 Rugged | 11 Sign of the Zodiac |
| 17 Spurting oil-well | 12 Knave |
| 19 Cavalry sword | 15 Father of Saturn |
| 20 Third man | 16 Strait |
| 22 Timber | 17 Unsteady |
| 23 Ignore | 18 Conundrum |
| 24 Reflected image | 21 German song |
| 25 New Englander | 22 Tiny bird |



Bayonne’s David Lancien, right, challenges for the ball with an unidentified Bordeaux player during their French Cup soccer match in Bayonne, southwestern France, on 23 Jan, 2004. — INTERNET

Leeds United will not sell Smith
despite financial difficulties

LONDON, 24 Jan— Leeds United will not sell striker Alan Smith despite their financial difficulties, a club spokesman said on Thursday.

The Premier League club have until Monday to find the five million pounds (9.23 million US dollars) they need to cover their operating costs until the end of the season after agreeing a reprieve with creditors, who are owed more than 80 million pounds (147.6 million US dollars).

“Alan Smith is not for sale,” spokesman Don Warters said, although he did not say how the club proposed to meet the deadline.

Leeds were left with few options after creditors rejected a five-million-pound offer from a consortium put together by former deputy chairman Allan Leighton.

Chief executive Trevor Birch met with players earlier this week to discuss deferring 30 per cent of their wages in an attempt to save five million pounds. Newspaper reports on Thursday said the players had rejected the idea and that they would rather top assets such as Smith and Mark Viduka be sold to make up the shortfall.

Smith, an England international, has been linked with a move to Newcastle United, while Tottenham Hotspur are reported to have made a five-million-pound bid for goalkeeper Paul Robinson and Norway midfielder Eirik Bakke.

In a statement on the club’s website on Thursday the players denied that they had decided against wage deferrals.

“We wish to make it clear that we are fully behind the club and are working with Trevor Birch and the Professional Footballers Association in the hope of solving the problems,” the statement read. — MNA/Reuters

Milan beat Roma to set up Cup semi
against Lazio

ROME, 24 Jan— AC Milan will meet Lazio in the semifinals of the Italian Cup after beating AS Roma 2-1 on Thursday for a 4-2 aggregate win.

Second half goals by defender Alessandro Nesta and Danish striker Jon Dahl Tomasson gave the Cup holders victory at Rome’s Olympic Stadium. It was the third time in 16 days that Milan had beaten the Serie A leaders.

“This (win) was a bit different from the others because they closed us down a lot more,” Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti told reporters.

“But I’m delighted with the result and the fact that we’ve come out of here with a win again,” he continued, referring to his team’s 2-1 league victory over Roma on January 6. Roma were marginally the better side in the first half and midfielder Daniele De Rossi had a shot cleared off the line, while at the other end Brazilian winger Serginho narrowly failed to connect with a cross that flashed dangerously across the goal. Four minutes after the break, however, Nesta put the visitors ahead, nodding Serginho’s cross past reserve keeper Andrea Zotti.

Tomasson added a second in the 57th minute, spinning round defender Christian Panucci on the edge of the area before firing into the net.

Defender Mancini pulled a goal back nine minutes from time, but Roma never looked capable of hauling themselves back into contention. “At the moment I think we’re stronger than Roma, though as far as Serie A is concerned these two (Cup) wins don’t mean anything,” said Ancelotti.

“I don’t know why we’ve had so much success against them. Milan’s a team that works by getting plenty of possession. Roma likes to attack, but we tend to stifle them.” — MNA/Reuters



Farr 40-class boats approach a windward turn mark on 23 Jan, 2004, during the final race of the Terra Nova Trading Key West sailing regatta in Key West, Florida. The nine-race series off the Florida Keys attracted a fleet of 301 boats, divided into 21 classes, representing 18 countries. — INTERNET

MRTV-3

25-1-2004 (Sunday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune Greeting
9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
9:06 Kindness to Pet Animal
9:10 National News
9:12 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Braised Curry of Duck)
9:15 National News
9:20 Myanmar Movie Impact "Pauk Pauk Myauk Myauk"
9:30 National News
9:40 Song "Anniversary of MICT"
9:42 Traditional Chin Cuisine
9:45 National News
9:50 Pride of Place in Bagan (The Ananda Temple)
9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

25-1-2004 (Sunday)
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"
15:36 Kindness to Pet Animal
15:40 National News
15:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Braised Curry of Duck)
15:45 National News
15:50 Myanmar Movie Impact "Pauk Pauk Myauk Myauk"
16:00 National News
16:05 Myanmar Traditional Tamarind Juice
16:10 Song "Anniversary of MICT"
16:12 Traditional Chin Cuisine
16:15 National News
16:20 Pride of Place in Bagan (The Ananda Temple)
16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
16:30 National News
16:35 A Journey to Research Taron Race

- 16:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Traditional Moun bine daunt"
16:45 National News
16:50 Oranamental Jewellery of Outstanding Designs
16:55 Scenic Beauty of Tiddim & Cultural Dance
17:00 National News
17:05 Cultural Museum (Keng Tong)
17:10 Myanmar Modern Song "A Compassionate Love Boat"
17:12 The World of Mro Nationals
17:15 National News
17:20 Pupa Flat-topped Hill (Taung Ka Lat)
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 Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
19:36 10th Anniversary of Myanmar floriculturist Association
19:40 National News
19:42 Enjoy our Shan Food
19:45 National News
19:50 The folk art of Making ornaments with leaves
19:55 The Beauty of Myeik Archipelago and the Life of Salone
20:00 National News
20:05 Myanmar's Ancient City Bagan
20:10 Song "MICT for all"
20:15 National News
20:20 Myanma Natural Spirulina (Part-II)
20:25 Song "The Land of Shan Beauties"
20:30 National News
20:35 Myanmar Beauty & Myanma Nature Photo Contest
20:40 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Hot and Sour Pork and Fermented Bamboo Shoot Curry)
20:45 National News
20:50 Myanmar Movie Impact "Pauk Pauk Myauk Myauk"
21:00 National News
21:05 Native home of the Khame
21:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Do you love me?"
21:15 National News
21:20 Ancient Pakhangyi Monastery
21:25 Song of Myanmar

- Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
21:35 Kindness to Pet Animal
21:40 National News
21:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Braised Curry of Duck)
21:45 National News
21:50 Myanma Natural Spirulina (Part-III)
21:55 Three Types of Dances
22:00 National News
22:05 Myanmar Traditional Tamarind Juice
22:10 Song "Anniversary of MICT"
22:12 Traditional Chin Cuisine
22:15 National News
22:20 Pride of Place in Bagan (The Ananda Temple)
22:25 Song "Golden Shangaing"
22:30 National News
22:35 A Journey to Research Taron Race
22:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Traditional Moun bine daunt"
22:45 National News
22:50 Oranamental Jewellery of Outstanding Designs
22:55 Scenic Beauty of Tiddim & Cultural Dance
23:00 National News
23:05 Cultural Museum (Keng Tong)
23:10 Myanmar Modern Song "A Compassionate Love Boat"
23:12 The World of Mro Nationals
23:15 National News
23:20 Pupa flat-topped Hill (Taung Ka Lat)
23:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

25-1-2004 (Sunday) & 26-1-2004 (Monday)
Evening & Morning Transmission
(23:30 - 1:30)

- 23:30 Signature Tune Greeting
23:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
23:36 Kindness to Pet Animal
23:40 National News
23:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Braised Curry of Duck)
23:45 National News
23:50 Myanmar Movie Impact "Pauk Pauk Myauk Myauk"
24:00 National News
00:05 Myanmar Traditional Tamarind Juice

- 00:10 Song "Anniversary of MICT"
00:12 Traditional Chin Cuisine
00:15 National News
00:20 Pride of Place in Bagan (The Ananda Temple)
00:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
00:30 National News
00:35 A Journey to Research Taron Race
00:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Traditional Moun bine daunt"
00:45 National News
00:50 Oranamental Jewellery of Outstanding Designs
00:55 Scenic Beauty of Tiddim & Cultural Dance
01:00 National News
01:05 Cultural Museum (Keng Tong)
01:10 Myanmar Modern Song "A Compassionate Love Boat"
01:12 The World of Mro Nationals
01:15 National News
01:20 Pupa Flat-topped Hill (Taung Ka Lat)
01:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

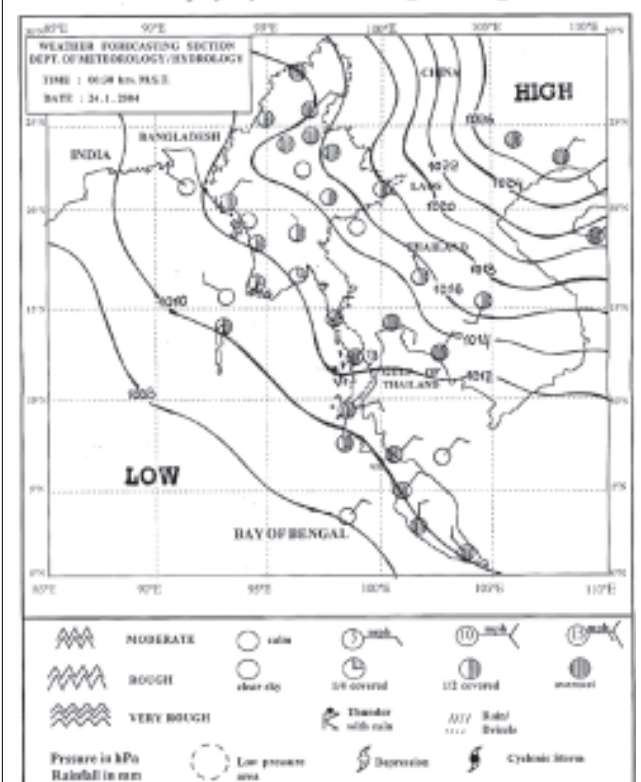
26-1-2004 (Monday)
MRTV-3 Regular
Programmes for Viewers from Abroad Morning
Transmission
(03:30 - 07:30)

- 03:30 Signature Tune Greeting
03:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
03:35 10th Anniversary of Myanmar floriculturist Association
03:40 National News
03:42 Enjoy our Shan Food
03:45 National News
03:50 The folk art of Making ornaments with leaves
03:55 The Beauty of Myeik Archipelago and the Life of Salone
04:00 National News
04:05 Myanmar's Ancient City Bagan
04:10 Song "MICT for all"
04:15 National News
04:20 Myanma Natural Spirulina (Part-II)
04:25 Song "The Land of Shan Beauties"
04:30 National News
04:35 Myanma Beauty & Myanma Nature Photo Contest

- 04:40 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Hot and Sour Pork and Fermented Bamboo Shoot Curry)
04:45 National News
04:50 Myanmar Movie Impact "Pauk Pauk Myauk Myauk"
05:00 National News
05:05 Native home of the Khame
05:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Do you love me?"
05:05 National News
05:20 Ancient Pakhangyi Monastery
05:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
05:35 Kindness to Pet Animal
05:40 National News
05:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Braised Curry of Duck)
05:45 National News
05:50 Myanma Natural Spirulina (Part-III)
05:55 Three Types of Dances
06:00 National News
06:05 Myanmar Traditional Tamarind Juice
06:10 Song "Anniversary of MICT"

- 06:12 Traditional Chin Cuisine
06:15 National News
06:20 Pride of Place in Bagan (The Ananda Temple)
06:25 Song "Golden Shangaing"
06:30 National News
06:35 A Journey to Research Taron Race
06:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Traditional Moun bine daunt"
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06:55 Scenic Beauty of Tiddim & Cultural Dance
07:00 National News
07:05 Cultural Museum (Keng Tong)
07:10 Myanmar Modern Song "A Compassionate Love Boat"
07:12 The World of Mro Nationals
07:15 National News
07:20 Pupa Flat-topped Hill (Taung Ka Lat)
07:28 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

**WEATHER**

Saturday, 24 January, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been generally partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) below normal in Bago Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions Shan and Mon States about normal in the remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 23-1-2004 was 35.0°C (95°F). Minimum temperature on 24-1-2004 was 16.1°C (61°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 24-1-2004 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 23-1-2004 was (8.9) hours approx. Rainfall on 24-1-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 8 mph from North at (22:00) hours MST on 23-1-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in South-west and North Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 25-1-2004: Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Chin, Shan and northern Rakhine States, Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of isolated rain in Upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-1-2004: Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-1-2004:** Possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

TV Myanmar

Sunday, January 25

View today:

- 7:00 am**
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့၊ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မ မဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအပ္ပမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိကတိပိဋကဓရဓမ္မာက္ခာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိမိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ 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. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မော်(၃၈)မြာမဂ်လာ
8:05 am
6. အကမြိုင်ပွဲ
8:15 am
7. ပိုင်ကျဲရေထိန်းတံခါး
8:30 am
8. International news
8:45 am
9. Say It In English
11:00 am

1. Martial song
11:15 am
2. Musical programme
11:30 am
3. Round-Up of the Week's International News
11:45 am
4. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နက်ရှိုင်းမေတ္တာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)
12:25 pm
5. Milo Success In Soccer
1:30 pm
6. "အရက်ဦး၏ပုံရိပ်များ" ကျော်ရဲအောင်၊ မေသဒ္ဓဘိုး၊ သင်းသင်းယုလှိုင် (ဒါရိုက်တာ- မောင်ဝဏ္ဏ)
2:05 pm
7. ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအနုလင်္ကာရာဇ်စွာဘုရားအာနန္ဒာ
2:15 pm
8. Musical programme
2:30 pm
9. ဂြိုဟ်ချောင်းတံတား
2:45 pm
10. International news
4:00 pm
1. Martial song
4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm
3. English for Everyday Use
4:40 pm
4. Song For National Races
4:55 pm
5. အဝေးသင် တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး

- ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ပထမနှစ်(သတ္တဗေဒ၊ ဂုဏ္ဏဗေဒ အထူးပြုအားလုံး) (သတ္တဗေဒ)
5:10 pm
6. (၅၇)နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ဆောင်စုနေ့၊ ရက်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
5:25 pm
7. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေး ဂီတတေး၊
5:35 pm
8. Musical programme
5:50 pm
9. Sing And Enjoy
6:30 pm
10. Evening news
7:00 pm
11. Weather report
7:05 pm
12. Agricultural Source Country' Development
7:15 pm
13. Musical programme
7:30 pm
14. (၅၉)နှစ်မြောက်တစ်မတော်နေ့၊ အထိမ်းအမှတ် ပန်းချီပန်းစုပြိုင်ပွဲမြို့ကြီးတင်ပြဆင်မှုများ (အခြေခံပညာအဆင့်)
8:00 pm
15. News
16. International news
17. Weather report
18. Calcio Serie A ဘောလုံးပွဲ ထုတ်လွှင့်မှု အစီအစဉ်
19. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Sunday, January 25

Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
8.35 am Music
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music
8.55 am National news/Slogan
9.05 am Music
9.10 am International news
9.15 am Music
1.30 pm News/Slogan
1.40 pm Story for children. "How friendship began among birds"
1.50 pm Songs for children
9.00 pm Weekly News review
9.10 pm Music
9.15 pm Article
9.25 pm Let's Improve English Through Songs/ If we hold on together (Nilar Aung)
9:45 News/Slogan
10.30 pm PEL

Construction of sluice gates on Ngamoeyeik Creek inspected

YANGON, 24 Jan — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspected summer paddy plantations and development tasks in Mingaladon and Hlegu townships, Yangon North District, this afternoon.

The commander inspected construction of Hsinpon Bridge Project on the road under construction to link Khayaybin Road on the border of Mingaladon and Hlegu townships and No 7 Circular Road, and summer paddy fields in Hsinpon and Balar regions in Hlegu Township. Officials reported to the commander on construction and agriculture and water supply tasks. The commander gave instructions on timely completion of the project and carrying out water supply tasks under the supervision of officials concerned.

Next, the commander and party inspected digging of canals with the use of heavy machinery for supply of water to summer paddy plantations in Sangyiwa Ward, Mingaladon Township. The commander gave instructions on cultivation of paddy on all vacant lands and ensuring sufficient water for plantations, and fulfilled the requirements.

Next, they looked into



No 8 canal. Director of the Irrigation Department U Kyaw Thein reported on progress in digging canals by the department for irrigation of paddy fields.

The commander held a meeting with local farmers. At the meeting, he said that the Government has provided all necessary assistance for agricultural purpose. So, local farmers should cultivate summer paddy on all scheduled areas and to grow beans and pulses, edible oil crops, vegetables and cash crops by means of double or triple cropping, he urged.

Afterwards, they proceeded to the sluice gate project on Ngamoeyeik Creek and inspected the damming of the creek and construction of an earth embankment. Officials re-

ported on facts about the project, steps to be taken for extended cultivation of summer paddy, and growing summer paddy in the division. Replying to the reports, the commander said that on completion, the project will be able to benefit some 5,000 acres of summer paddy and it will prevent the paddy fields from flooding in the rainy season. Efforts are to be made to ensure completion of the project as soon as possible, he noted. He stressed the need to make use of irrigated water. He also urged the officials to cultivate summer paddy, beans and pulses, edible oil crops, vegetables and cash crops. The commander inspected the sluice gate project site and left necessary instructions. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects summer paddy fields in Sangyiwa Ward, Mingaladon Township. — YANGON COMMAND

Product Promotion seminars held

YANGON, 24 Jan—Product Promotion seminars were held at MICT Park on Hline University Campus, Hline Township, where the Third Myanmar ICT Week 2004 is being held, attended by those from computer companies and banks, entrepreneurs and enthusiasts.

At the seminar that began at 9 am today at the Conference Hall, Chief Operation Officer of Myanmar Computer Company Daw Chaw Khin Khin explained matters related to opening of e-Shops free of charge at Yangon City Mall for e-Commerce sector, and Vice-Chairman U Pyi Sone,

matters related to new software Mini-ERP for SME (S) produced by MCC for e-Big sector.

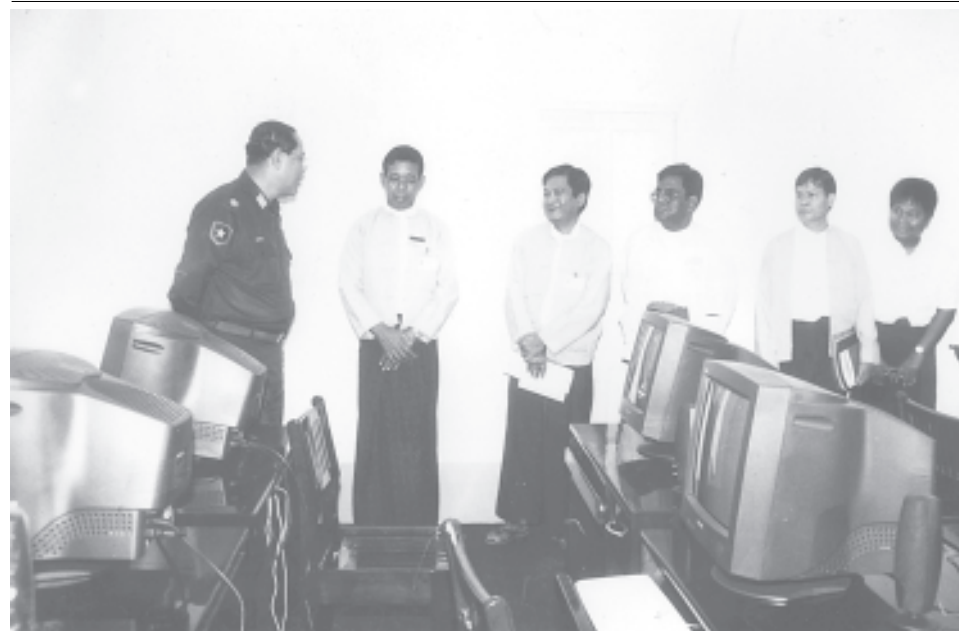
Next, General Manager of Myanmar Information Technology Co Daw Ni Ni Tun presented matters related to ERM (Enterprise Resource Management System) based on Accounting System, HRM and payroll System, Project Costing System, CRM System, etc produced by MIT.

After that, Sales Manager U Min Zaw of INTEGRA Systems Co explained matters related to the use of i-Ledger and its advantages in connection with i-Ledger Account System.

Next, officials of Myanmar World Distribution Co explained the use of Open Source Software for Agricultural Information Management System, e-Commerce Application, Virtual Document Library, Enterprise Portal and K-POS with security and authentication.

Next, Marketing Manager Daw Mi Mi Aye of ACE Data System explained the computer systems suitable for small and medium entrepreneurs.

The seminar continued at 1 pm. Director U Di Pa of Myat Tha Pyay Co explained sales of six kinds of (See page 8)



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspects the Multipurpose Community Tele-centre in Phaunggyi village, Hlegu Township. — CPT

Minister meets industrialists

YANGON, 24 Jan — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, in charge of Yangon Division, Mingaladon Township and Yangon West District industrial zone met industrialists in Mayangon and Hline townships yesterday.

In the meeting, the minister dealt with greater efforts to be made for contributing towards the industrial sector and priority to be given to production of farm implements and machinery necessary for transforming the manual farm-

ing to mechanized farming and fulfilled their requirements.

The minister looked into production process at Luthit Industry and U Thang Sein & Sons Industry in Mayangon Township.

The minister also inspected the Multipurpose Community Tele-centre in Phaunggyi village, Hlegu Township, and left necessary instructions on ensuring installation of telephone lines and dissemination of information technologies for upgrading of the rural areas.

MNA

Rural road opened

YANGON, 24 Jan — A newly-constructed Naung-byet tarred road undertaken by dwellers of Ward 4 and Kutkai Township Development Affairs Committee was put into commission on 2 January morning.

Col San Shwe Tha of Kutkai Station, Director of Shan State DAC and Chairman of the committee for building the road U Kyee Myint formally opened the 2,000 feet long and 12 feet wide road.

Present on the occasion were members of social organizations and townsfolk totalling over 1,000.

MNA

Myanmar ICT Week-2004 continues

YANGON, 24 Jan — The Third Myanmar ICT Week 2004 continued for the fourth day at Myanmar Information and Communication Technology (MICT) Park on Hline University Campus in Hline Township here today.

The exhibition is crowded with Internet and IT enthusiasts, students, service personnel, and the public. Digital EPABX machines and telephones and security system of Expo Myanmar Co are displayed at the exhibition. At the booth of Forever Group (Myanmar e-book) Myanmar books and

Myanmar e-book accounts can be bought at 10 percent discount through the Internet. During the exhibition e-books can be read free of charge through on-line.

Computers, JBM, Sony VA 10, Toshiba, note books, digital camera, network products device, mobile, GSM and other electrical goods can be bought at reasonable price at the booth of Myat Tha Pyay Family Co. In addition, booths of Suntac Technologies, Soft Guide Computer Centre, Myanmar Golden Rock Int'l Co and Integral Systems Co put on

display their products at the exhibition.

The Myanmar ICT Week is kept open daily free of charge to the general public from 9 am to 5 pm till 27 January. At the MICT Park Security Issues and Related Products Seminar and e-Procurement Seminar will be held at 9 am and at 1 pm respectively on 25-1-2004. Wireless and Broadband Application Seminar and Myanmar National Counter-Strike Championships Final will be held at 9 am and at 1 pm respectively on 26-1-2004 at the same venue — MNA



The Third Myanmar ICT Week 2004 draws visitors. — MNA