

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 299

4th Waning of Tabodwe 1365 ME

Monday, 9 February, 2004

United strength of all national races

Favourable conditions for the development of the State have been emerging, and if efforts are accelerated with the united strength of all the national races, a new, modern and developed nation, to which the national people aspire, can be built in the not-too-distant future.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From message on the 54th Anniversary Union Day)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects Shwebon Yadana Mingala Palace construction project and dams

YANGON, 8 Feb—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived in Shwebo by helicopter on 4 February. They were welcomed by Commander of No. 33 LID Brig-Gen Tin Tun Aung and officials.

At the briefing hall, U Than Tun (Shwebo) reported on construction of Shwebo Yadana Palace.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected construction of the palace and gave instructions. They also inspected the statue of Alaung Mintayagyi U Aung Zeya who founded the third kingdom of Myanmar.

In the evening, they went to Kanbalu by helicopter. They were welcomed by

Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court (Mandalay) U Khin Maung Latt, Tactical Operations Commander Col Hla Ngwe and officials.

On 5 February, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party went to Thaphanseik Dam in Kyunhla Township from Kanbalu by helicopter.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin reported on storage of water and inflow of water into the dam during the monsoon.

He said paddy, wheat, beans and pulses and sesamum were mainly cultivated with the use of water from the dam. Over 500,000 acres of monsoon and summer paddy were grown as soon as the dam was completed.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspect control rooms at Thaphanseik Hydel Power Plant. — MNA

In 2002-2003 sown acreage increased up to over 880,000. A total of 39,000 acres of summer sesamum

could be grown in the areas where there was no cultivation of sesamum before.

Next, Minister for Elec-

tric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut reported on generation of power from Thaphanseik hydro-electric power station.

Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command reported on increase of cultivation acreage due to the dam and less inflow of water into the dam in the previous monsoon.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave instructions and asked the inflow of water. The Director of Construction-4 of Irrigation Department reported on inflow of water from Mu River.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected turbines of Thaphanseik hydro-electric power station, controlroom, storage of water and the main spillway.

(See page 10)

**57th Anniversary
Union Day
commemorative
special features on
pages 7, 8 and 9.**

INSIDE

Perspectives

**For the development of
all the national races
(Page 2)**

Article

**Build a new nation
with collective efforts
of the national races
(Page 8+9)**

**Myanmar upsets India
with its 1-0 victory
(Page 16)**

Circulation

23,071



Shwebon Yadana Mingala Palace in Shwebo. — MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 9 February, 2004

For the development of all the national races

In building the Union of Myanmar to become a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the State Peace and Development Council is placing emphasis on harmonious development of the regions in the nation.

Border areas and national races development projects are being implemented in the remote border areas which lagged behind in development due to various reasons. As a result, towns in border areas have developed on a par with that of major cities in the country.

Moreover, tasks for education, health and human resources development are being carried out in 24 special development regions.

The five rural development tasks are also being undertaken in rural areas where 70 per cent of the population of the nation are residing.

Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party met with departmental officials at the Town Hall of Monywa on 4 February.

On the occasion, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that the essence of implementation of three major projects for the progress of entire Union is for the Three Main National Causes—non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

Over 100 national races have been living in unity and amity in various parts of the country since time immemorial.

There are over 5.7 million people in Sagaing Division. Over 50 national races such as Bamar, Shan, Chin, Naga, Kadu, Kanan and Lushine are living there in unity. So Sagaing Division is like a small union.

Like Sagaing Division, other states and divisions are also home to numerous national races living in amity.

It is important to implement the tasks based on the Union Spirit and national solidarity spirit in building the Union of Myanmar formed with 14 states and divisions to be modern and developed one.

All states and divisions must be developed for progress of national races and the country. In order to develop states and divisions, it is necessary to make progress in district, township and rural areas. Therefore, officials at different levels are to make field trips to the grassroots levels and carry out tasks for regional development with goodwill.

For the development of all the national races, we would like to urge all those concerned to lend themselves to nation-building endeavours with goodwill.

Deputy Minister for Information inspects Union Day exhibition booths in Thanlyin

YANGON, 8 Feb—Chairman of 57th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition Sub-committee Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein this morning inspected the Union Day exhibition booths at Thihadipa sports ground in Thanlyin where the Union Day Flag would rest for a night.

Together with Director-General of the Information and Public Relations Department U Chit Naing, Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay, Managing Director of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise U Bo Kyi and officials, the Deputy Minister arrived at the sports ground at 10.30 am. They were welcomed by officials concerned.

The Deputy Minister inspected round the exhibition booths of various ministries there. — MNA

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.

Paddy cultivation techniques demonstrated

YANGON, 8 Feb—State Peace and Development Council Member Lt-Gen Aung Htwe together with Shan State Peace and Development Council Chairman Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Agriculture & Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung and officials, this morning attended the demonstration on paddy cultivation techniques held at Taryaw agricultural research farm of Myanma Agriculture Service in Taunggyi Township.

Shan State MAS manager U Saw Jackson explained matters on the farm and nurturing of Shwe Yin Aye high-yield strain efforts for self-sufficiency of rice in the region and distribution of high-yield strains of paddy. General Manager of MAS Dr Min Aung reported matters on production and distribution of paddy seeds of the farm. Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Khin Maung reported matters on pilot cultivation of paddy in highland and the plain and assistance provided by the Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.

Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint made a supplementary report on organizing farmers to use high-yield seeds, distribution of chemical fertilizers, and dissemination of modern cultivation techniques. In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe said that in endeavouring for bringing about all-round development of the State, the Government is providing necessary assistance for en-

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

surging success of the agriculture sector. All the regions in the country must be self-sufficient in food, he pointed out. He continued to say that roads and bridges are also being built nowadays for better transportation, promoting trade and further strengthening national unity among the people. The Government is also building universities and institutes throughout the country. In Loilem District, a new university, a computer college and a technological college have been built and opened. Moreover, farm implements and machinery are being distributed in order to turn the conventional farming into mechanized one. As regards supply of electricity, natural gas power plants and hydro-electric power plants are built all over the country, he said. In Shan State, Tarhsan, Kengtaung and Shweli hydel power projects are being implemented for supplying sufficient electric power in order to turn the nation into the industrialized one, he observed. Now, the seven-point policy programme of the State has also been laid down and the national people are to take part in the programme actively and oppose destructive elements.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party viewed round the documentary photos on cultivation of high yield paddy, samples of paddy and maize produced. Then, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party observed the demonstration on modern cultivation techniques of paddy and greeted the local populace cordially. — MNA

Union Flag arrives Thanlyin

YANGON, 8 Feb—In accordance with the objectives of the 57th Anniversary Union Day, the Union Flag which rested for a year in the City Hall here commenced its trip to four districts of Yangon Division this morning.

First, Yangon City Mayor YCDC Chairman Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin saluted the Union Day Flag and took it out from the silver bowl in his sitting room at 6.10 am. Flanked by four officers of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy Air) and Myanmar Police Force, USDA members and Union nationals, the mayor carried the flag to the designated place in front of the City Hall on Maha Bandoolla Street to the accompaniment of Mingala drum troupe. Then, the mayor handed over the Flag to 57th Anniversary Union Day Observance Management Committee Chairman Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe. The latter conveyed the Flag to the corner of Maha Bandoolla Street and Maha Bandoolla Park Street and handed it over to Yangon South District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Aung Pyi.



Yangon South District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Aung Pyi salutes the Union Flag in Thihadipa sports ground of Thanlyin. — MNA

Lt-Col Aung Pyi conveyed the Flag and planted it in a silver bowl on the Union Boat at 6.25 am. The Flag was then conveyed to Thihadipa sports ground in Thanlyin. Along the route through Kyauktada, Botahtaung, Pazundaung, Dawbon and Thaketa Townships, the Flag was accorded a rousing welcome by local authorities,



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe hands over the Union Flag to Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin. — MNA

USDA members, MWVO members, MPF members, MMCWA members, MWAF members, Red Cross Bridge members, Auxiliary Fire Brigade members, students, nurses and service personnel and the people.

At the entrance archway of the Thanlyin, Lt-Col Aung Pyi took out the Flag from the silver bowl on the Union Boat at 7.20 am and handed it over to the flag relay team headed by Yangon South District USDA Secretary U Lwin Oo. The latter conveyed the Flag along Kyaikkhaung Pagoda Road and handed it over to Thanlyin Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Tin Zaw Win. Then, the Flag was relayed by the flag relay teams through the town to the Thihadipa sports ground. Along the route, the Flag was accorded a rousing welcome by over 9,000 people from 9 townships of Yangon South District. On arrival at the entrance archway of the sports ground, a relay team handed over the Flag to Lt-Col Aung Pyi. He planted it in a silver bowl on the dais at 8.30 am. Over 8,100 people saluted the Flag to the strains of the National Anthem played by the military band of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command.

The sports ground was crowded with visitors who came to salute the Flag. There are also 15 exhibition and sales booths of various departments in the sports ground. In the evening, the Documentary Film of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise presented entertainment with movies to the audience. The Shwe Wah Win anyeint troupe also entertained the public there. — MNA

Iowa soldier killed, another injured after mortar attack in Iraq

NEW YORK, 8 Feb— Iowa national guard officials have confirmed that an Iowa soldier has been killed in Iraq. Specialist Joshua Knowles of Sheffield was killed Thursday after mortar fire struck his convoy, he was 23.

Another Iowa soldier was injured in the attack, he is 32 year old specialist Peter Bieber of Nora Springs.

He is being treated for his injuries and is expected to be transported to a hospital in Germany, his condition is unknown at this time.

The two soldiers were members of the 11-33rd transportation company out of Mason City.

Specialist Knowles was a 1999 graduate of Sheffield High School. Just a few months before graduation he enlisted with the National Guard.

His parents were notified of his death while they were on vacation, they were shocked to hear what happened to their son.

Knowles is survived by his parents Les and Sandy, and two sisters.

Internet



Demonstrators protest against the 40th Conference on Security Policy in front of Munich's Townhall, on 7 Feb, 2004. —INTERNET

Ex-BBC chief signs book deal to tell his story of Kelly affair

LONDON, 8 Feb— Former BBC director-general Greg Dyke, who resigned after the Hutton Report over the death of arms expert David Kelly sharply criticized the BBC's editorial system and management, signed Friday a book deal to tell his side of the story.

The book is expected to be critical of the Hutton Report and also to elaborate on Dyke's opinion of the relationship between the government and the BBC.

Dyke's tale of his four years at the BBC helm, plus recent events following the May 2003 disputed BBC report claiming Downing Street had "sexed up" its case for war with Iraq, will be "controversial", his

publisher HarperCollins said.

The Hutton Report concluded that the BBC story was "unfounded". HarperCollins chief executive Victoria Barnsley described the book deal as a "terrific acquisition" for the company.

"I have huge admiration for the way Greg Dyke has transformed the BBC over the past four years and his

account of this period will undoubtedly be fascinating and controversial," she said.

Since resigning, Dyke said, the BBC governors forced him to quit and were considering leaving themselves, amid the stinging criticism levelled at them by the report.

Details of the book deal were not revealed.

MNA/Xinhua

Frenchman named as chief UN envoy in Afghanistan

UNITED NATIONS, 8 Feb— Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Friday named Frenchman Jean Arnault as the chief UN representative for Afghanistan, replacing Lakhdar Brahimi of Algeria, Security Council diplomats said.

Annan sent the appointment of Arnault to Council members, who rarely object to his choice, the envoys said.

Arnault was the deputy representative in the mission, in charge of political affairs, and was running the UN operation since Brahimi resigned in January.

Arnault went to Afghanistan nearly two years ago after serving as UN envoy in Burundi. Before that he was the chief representative for the UN mission in Guatemala.

Brahimi, 70, a former Algerian foreign minister, just completed a two-year stint in Afghanistan and is now a special adviser to Annan in New York.

The United States wants him to take a major role in Iraq negotiations but he has resisted going to Baghdad.

MNA/Reuters

British Cabinet minister raps government over Iraq

LONDON, 8 Feb— A British Cabinet minister poured scorn on parts of Prime Minister Tony Blair's Government on Saturday for failing to accept any blame in the aftermath of the Iraq war.

Culture Secretary Tessa Jowell sharply criticized ministers and officials in a newspaper interview for "testosterone-charged" reactions to an inquiry into an Iraq weapons expert's suicide that largely absolved Blair's administration—a move critics branded a whitewash.

Following the inquiry known as the Hutton Report, an opinion poll on Saturday showed just over half British voters believe Blair lied over the Iraq threat and they want him to quit.

Opposition leaders have also urged the Prime Minister to resign.

With public trust ratings plunging, Blair has called for a new inquiry into British intelligence about banned Iraqi

weapons as, nearly 10 months after Saddam Hussein was toppled, none has been found.

In her interview with the *Daily Telegraph*, Jowell did not accuse any ministers by name, but appeared to single out Blair's trusted former Press chief Alastair Campbell for particular criticism after some newspapers accused the government of "gloating" over the Hutton Report.

"My constituents hated watching ministers and officials berating everyone else and taking no blame for anything," she said in an interview with the *Daily Telegraph* newspaper. "You see these testosterone-charged men in the TV and radio stations, showing off how much tougher they are."

Asked if Campbell had gone too far since Hutton published his report on January 28, Jowell said: "It is hardly surprising he wanted to have his say—and he certainly had that. — MNA/Reuters

Italian police crack international cocaine ring

ROME, 8 Feb— Italian police have cracked a criminal organization in Perugia, central Italy, that imported huge quantities of cocaine from Colombia to Italy via Spain, Italian media reported Friday.

Reports said police used sniffer dogs and helicopters to round up some 50 people around Italy. Extradition requests were also issued for about a dozen gang members in Colombia and Spain.

Police said the operation, ongoing for two years, smashed the Italian ring that used one of Colombia's main drug cartels as its supplier.

The arrested Italians were charged with drug-trafficking, prostitution and criminal association.

It was the police's second major operation in 10 days.

On January 28, police broke up an international cocaine ring run by one of the major Colombian cartels and the biggest clan in the Calabrian Mafia, a notorious criminal group in the southwest of Italy. — MNA/Xinhua

National ID card project may not be very profitable in China

BEIJING, 8 Feb— One of the chip module makers of the country's new intelligent ID card has claimed that not much profit will be made from the card, although some one billion people are expected to use it.

"Generally, it's not a commercial project in nature, it's a government controlled one," said Mr Ye with Qinghua Tongfang Microelectronics Co. Ltd., which is under the elite Qinghua University.

"Our profit margin is set by the government, so we don't expect to make much from it," he said, stressing that the profit would quite

likely be lower than they would get from totally commercial businesses.

However, if each card costs 20 yuan (2.42 US dollars), the revenue could easily reach 20 billion yuan, according to Thursday's *Economic Daily*. But the newspaper did not deliberate where the main 20 billion revenue will go.

"What really matters is that we'll get valuable experience in the design, research and development and production of microelectronic chip. Our benefit is in the future," said Ye.

The new card contains a module that integrates a

special chip containing information on the card holder. The thumbnail-sized module will make the new card greatly superior as information within the module can be read and processed by computer.

The Ministry of Public Security earlier said that the some 900 million Chinese people above 16 must possess the new ID cards and those below 16 across the nation can apply voluntarily.

With one billion citizens estimated to become the new card users, this will bring about the globe's biggest ID card replacement job.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi girl looks a passing US military convoy as it enters Kuwait from the southern Iraqi city of Basra, on 7 Feb, 2004. — INTERNET

UN election experts arrive Baghdad

UNITED NATIONS, 8 Feb— UN election experts arrived in Baghdad on Saturday for consultations with Iraqi leaders and the US-led authorities on a strategy for quickly restoring Iraqi sovereignty, the United Nations said.

The UN team will make proposals on the country's political transition to self-rule, which the United States and the Iraqi Governing Council have agreed to achieve by June 30. "I hope the work of this team will help resolve the impasse over the transitional political process leading to the establishment of a provisional government for Iraq," UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said in a statement.

The leading Shiite cleric in Iraq threw a wrench into the US plan for transferring sovereignty when he insisted on an election, rather than regional caucuses as Washington wants, to choose a na-

tional assembly that would pick a provisional government to rule the country from 1 July onward. Annan has made it clear the UN team would have a relatively free hand in making proposals for the handover, which is complicated by continued violence and political wrangles.

"I firmly believe that the most sustainable way forward is one that comes from the Iraqis themselves," Annan said. "Consensus amongst all Iraqi constituencies is the best guarantee of a legitimate and credible transitional governance arrangement for Iraq."

The team's trip to Baghdad was veiled in secrecy on

security grounds. The United Nations said it would not disclose the team had been dispatched until after it was on the ground.

Its arrival coincides with a debate in Washington and Baghdad over whether the return of Iraqi sovereignty should be delayed because conditions on the ground are so inauspicious for choosing a provisional government.

Annan said on Friday that the June 30 deadline for a transfer of power could be changed if the parties agreed but US Secretary of State Colin Powell said he was adhering to the original plan "right now". Any delay

would carry big risks for US President George W. Bush, increasing the odds Iraq would loom larger in US elections in November and opening the United States to charges it was reneging on promises to soon let go of power. Political experts say it will be extremely difficult in any case to stick to the date because of demands by influential Iraqi Shiite cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani for direct elections before a handover. Neither UN nor US officials believe elections can be organized in such a short time, given the current security conditions.

MNA/Reuters



British soldiers from the Joint Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal, 49 Field Squadron, take cover beside their armoured vehicle as they detonate an unexploded bomb found south of Basra, near the Kuwaiti border, on 7 Feb, 2004.

INTERNET

ဝက်ကုန်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှာ

Arab League decries US actions in Iraq

CAIRO, 8 Feb— The US-led coalition in Iraq is threatening the Iraqi and regional stability, according to an Arab League report obtained Saturday by The Associated Press.

The report, drawn up by an Arab League delegation that visited Iraq in December, is circulating among the 22 members of the Cairo-based Arab League but has not been made public.

It reflects concerns among Arab countries that changes in the sharing of power in a post-Saddam Hussein government could give too much authority to the Kurdish and Shiite Muslim groups, inspiring those minority groups in neighbouring countries to rise up and demand more power.

Arab states are predominantly Sunni, but Sunnis in Iraq have dominated politics — even though the Shiites make up 60 percent of the population. The only other places where Shiites dominate in population and political power is non-Arab Iran. The Saudi leadership have long feared unrest among its minority Shiite community.

"Iraqis find geographical and ethnic federalism a prelude to division of the country," said the report, which does not name the country's Shiites but uses the term "sectarianism" to refer to Shiite and Kurdish political aspirations. The Shiites are pushing for majority representation in the government. Kurds, who have gained authority in the north of Iraq, seek federal autonomy from the government in Baghdad. The leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, Jalal Talabani, rejected the report. The PUK is one of two main Kurdish parties controlling Kurdish northern Iraq.

"Those chauvinists are trying to demonize federalism to scare simple-minded people and poison their minds," Talabani wrote in an article published Saturday in the pan-Arab newspaper Asharq al-Awsat. The Arab League delegation, headed by Assistant Secretary-General Ahmed Bin Heli, spent 10 days in Iraq meeting with members of the US-appointed Governing Council, the Cabinet, religious leaders, tribal chiefs and trade union representatives. Its findings will be formally submitted to a meeting of Arab foreign ministers in March and later to an Arab summit. —Internet

China spends 32% more on ads last year

BEIJING, 8 Feb — Latest research on advertising expenditures in China shows that advertising in the country last year increased 32 per cent over 2002.

A total of 283.7 billion yuan (34.3 billion US dollars) has been put into TV, newspaper and magazine advertising in the Mainland, Taiwan and Hong Kong last year, compared with 215.4 billion yuan (26 billion US dollars) in 2002, reported the weekend edition of *China Daily*.

The results were revealed by Beijing-based CVSC-TNS Research Co Ltd., Hong Kong-based admanGo and Taiwan-based Rainmaker Intl Group at a Thursday Press conference.

It shows the advertising industry has already recovered from the damage caused by the SARS epidemic last spring, said the paper. — MNA/Xinhua

Wen Jiabao solicits opinions on draft government work report

BEIJING, 8 Feb— Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao chaired a forum here Friday to solicit opinions on the draft government work report from leaders of non-Communist parties, the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, and non-affiliated public figures.

Participants of the forum agreed that over the past year, China achieved great social and economic progress and overcame the SARS crisis under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.

The draft government work report, which will be delivered to the forthcoming Second Session of the 10th National People's Congress, summed up the government's work over the past year, offered a practical analysis of the achievements and existing problems and proposed feasible guidelines for this year's tasks, they said.

While approving the basic framework and major content of the report, the participants made specific sugges-

tions for amendments in improving the government's macro-economic control function, solving the issues of agriculture and farmers, promoting coordinated development among different regions, increasing employment opportunities, enhancing people's living standards, and strengthening cultural construction, and the legal system.

At the meeting, Wen expressed his thanks to the participants for their suggestions and support for the government's work. He said the central government will study their opinions and proposals and incorporate them into the government work report.

Wen said the past year had

given the government much precious experience, making it more resolute to pursue a new concept of development highlighting comprehensive, concerted and sustainable progress.

"It is also significant to shift the government's functions more on public administration and social services while strengthening its macro-economic control and supervision of the market," Wen said.

He said the government would expect more onerous tasks this year, as China's economic development was at a key stage that would require appropriate macro-economic regulation to ensure stable and continuous growth.

MNA/Xinhua

China considers legislation to protect cultural relics

BEIJING, 8 Feb — A new draft regulation posted on the official web site of the Beijing municipal government on protecting the historical and cultural relics in the city, is now soliciting opinions from Beijing citizens.

Friday's *Beijing Morning Post* reported that the draft regulation has been included in the lawmaking agenda of the municipal congress. The regulation says that construction activities in protected areas in the old city section must not destroy the original street patterns, the planning and building of major city roads should avoid the protected areas, and new buildings in the old city

section are not allowed to exceed prescribed heights. In addition, some organizations or residential buildings may be ordered to move out of areas where historical and cultural sites need protecting.

Anyone who is in breach of the regulation and demolishes protected buildings shall be fined heavily. Government officials who, without approval, change the

protected areas or give directions to demolish, restructure, expand or move protected buildings shall face punishment according to law, the regulation says.

Comments and opinions from the public shall be taken into full consideration in the processing of making new laws and regulations in this respect, according to the *Beijing Morning Post*.

MNA/Xinhua



'Kenya', the first Kenyan new-born bongo antelope baby from an American-raised bongo, rests near its mother 'Mum' at the Mount Kenya Game ranch, on 5 Feb, 2004. —INTERNET

Bush sets up Iraq WMD intelligence panel

WASHINGTON, 7 Feb—Under strong political pressure, President George W. Bush on Friday established a bipartisan commission to investigate failures in intelligence used to justify the Iraq war and gave it until well after the November election to submit its conclusions.

Bush picked as the chairmen of the commission former Virginia governor and senator Charles Robb, a Democrat, and appeals court judge Laurence Silberman, a Republican.

In a hastily arranged appearance in the White House Press briefing room, Bush said the commission will "look at American intelligence capabilities, especially our intelligence about weapons of mass destruction".

Bush gave the commis-

sion until March 31, 2005, to report back, meaning the results of the investigation would not be known until after the November election.

Democrats want the report sooner. Bush's job approval ratings have been fading due to a number of factors, including the weapons issue and the fact that Democratic presidential candidates have been hammering away at him. He will appear on NBC's "Meet the Press" for an hour on Sunday in an

attempt to fight back.

Bush also announced as members of the group Arizona Republican Senator John McCain; Lloyd Cutler, who was White House counsel for former Democratic presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter; Yale President Richard Levin; Admiral William Studeman, former deputy director of the CIA, and former appeals court judge Pat Wald.

Two more members are expected to be named.

MNA/Reuters

Mahathir gets honorary doctorate from Indonesian University

JAKARTA, 8 Feb—Former Malaysian prime minister Mahathir Mohammad received on Friday evening an honorary doctorate in development economics from Padjadjaran University (Unpad) in the West Java capital of Bandung.

"This is my first honorary doctorate from a university outside of Malaysia, especially in the development economics field," Mahathir was quoted as saying in Bandung by the *Antara* news agency. "Developing Malaysia was not my success alone but also the work of the previous three Malaysian prime ministers."

Mahathir said his predecessors had laid the foundation for Malaysia's success over the past 20 years.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese border city vows to play bigger role in N-E Asia

BEIJING, 8 Feb—Suifenhe, a border city in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, has pledged to become one of the most attractive trade centres in northeast Asia by 2009.

To achieve the goal, the city will build roads connecting to the Eurasian Continental Bridge, improve port facilities and increase high-way transport facilities.

It will build a financial system adapting to international practice, approve more foreign financial institutions and absorb more foreign investment.

The trade sector will increase import and export of value-added products and open new markets in Japan, the South Korea, Southeast Asia, Europe and the United States. The city government plans to raise its gross domestic product to three billion yuan (361 million US dollars) by 2009.

Tourist departments will open one or multi-day tours along the Sino-Russian border and set up transnational tourist groups.

Suifenhe City, in Heilongjiang Province which borders Russia, is one of the smallest in China with an area of 460 square kilometres and 40,000 people. It became an international trade centre in 1903 when a railway opened.

By 1923, Suifenhe had developed into a city with the consulates of 18 countries, business offices, factories and shops. As business flourished, the population grew to 60,000 at one point.

MNA/Xinhua

သားငါးပွဲပြီး ပြည်အကျိုး



A US military vehicle guards the front of the United Nations building in Baghdad, Iraq on 7 Feb, 2004.—INTERNET

Singapore, Philippines to strengthen ties

SINGAPORE, 8 Feb—Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong on Saturday met with visiting Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Delia Albert and the two discussed issues on bilateral ties and cooperation, said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

They also discussed recent developments in Southeast Asia, regional efforts in fighting terrorism, and ways of strengthening the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) it said.

Albert also met with her Singaporean counterpart S Jayakumar on Saturday, said the ministry.

During the meeting, the two discussed ways to enhance cooperation between Singapore and the Philippines, including continued cooperation through the Philippine-Singapore Action Plan, which is "a broad-based and comprehensive" framework for bilateral cooperation in areas such as IT (information technology), education, cul-

ture and people-to-people exchanges.

They also discussed cooperation in regional and international issues, including closer counter-terrorism cooperation and agreed that bilateral anti-terrorism cooperation at the operational level was "very good", said the ministry.

They also agreed to strengthen anti-terrorism cooperation under the framework of the Agreement on Information Exchange and the Establishment of Communication Procedures.

Albert arrived here Friday on a two-day official visit to Singapore. This is her first visit to the city state.

MNA/Xinhua

Mars rovers probe soil for clues to life, water

LOS ANGELES, 8 Feb—The Mars rover *Spirit* used its robotic arm to brush dust off a rock while its twin, *Opportunity*, tested its wheels on the floor of the crater where it landed last month, NASA scientists said on Friday.

Scientists at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena had slated a full weekend of activities for the golf cart-sized rovers, which are examining rocks and soil on opposite sides of the Red Planet for signs that its climate was once wetter, warmer and more hospitable to life.

Spirit returned to full-time science on Thursday after engineers determined what crippled its onboard computers for nearly two weeks. Engineers put in place safeguards to prevent the problem from cropping up again in either rover.

"I think I can say with as much certainty as we can say about anything here that our patient is healed," *Spirit* mission manager Jennifer Trosper told reporters on Friday.

Engineers spent Wednesday

day flashing and reformatting *Spirit*'s flash memory—used primarily to store photographs taken by the rover's onboard cameras — after it became overloaded and the team accidentally corrupted it, Trosper said.

On Thursday, *Spirit* woke to "Back in the Saddle Again" and successfully executed commands to use a 1/2-inch stainless steel brush on its robotic arm to remove a dust coating from a rock nicknamed Adirondack. The rover then took readings of the visibly darker spot with spectrometers mounted on its arm. The team planned to use a rock abrasion tool for the first time on Friday to drill into the rock's surface and take more spectrometer readings, Trosper said.

Over the weekend, *Spirit* will begin driving northeast

across the massive Gusev Crater where it landed on January 3 toward a formation the science team nicknamed the Bonneville Crater 800 feet away, she said.

On Thursday, engineers put *Opportunity* through a short drive composed of arcs to test its traction in the small crater where it landed on the Meridiani Planum, *Opportunity* mission manager Matt Wallace said.

The rover drove about 3-1/2 metres and ended up just short of its first science target — a low outcropping of pale bedrock in the crater's wall. Scientists want to examine a feature of the outcrop dubbed "Snout" but ended up about 1/2 metre short, possibly because the rover's wheel unexpectedly slipped in the fine, loose soil, Wallace said.

MNA/Reuters



This image, released on 7 Feb, 2004, shows a round, shallow depression resulting from history's first grinding of a rock on Mars. The rock abrasion tool on NASA's *Spirit* rover ground off the surface of a patch 45.5 millimeters (1.8 inches) in diameter on a rock called Adirondack, on 6 Feb, 2004.

INTERNET



Iraq under US and allies' occupation

State-by-State breakdown of Iraq deaths

US military forces invaded Iraq on 20 March, 2003 and due to the resistance of Iraqi guerillas, the Americans have been suffering many casualties. Up to 5 February, 2004, the death toll of American forces in Iraq has reached 529.

US military fatalities in Iraq

State	Amount	State	Amount
Alabama	13	North Carolina	14
Arizona	13	North Dakota	4
Arkansas	3	New Hampshire	2
California	55	New Jersey	11
Colorado	8	New Mexico	2
Connecticut	5	New York	22
Columbia	2	Nebraska	7
Delaware	4	Nevada	4
Florida	16	Ohio	16
Georgia	15	Oklahoma	8
Hawaii	2	Oregon	9
Idaho	5	Pennsylvania	29
Illinois	20	Rhode Island	4
Indiana	16	South Carolina	13
Iowa	10	South Dakota	5
Kansas	5	Tennessee	13
Kentucky	4	Texas	41
Louisiana	5	Utah	5
Maine	3	Virginia	14
Massachusetts	9	Vermont	6
Maryland	5	West Virginia	2
Michigan	20	Washington	8
Minnesota	3	Wisconsin	10
Mississippi	10	Wyoming	5
Missouri	10	American Samoa	3
Montana	3	Puerto Rico	8
		Total	529



A US Army Kiowa scout helicopter searches the farm fields near the crash site after a Blackhawk helicopter crashed near the restive central Iraq town of Falluja, on 8 Jan, 2004. All nine US soldiers aboard were killed.



US Army soldiers look over one of two destroyed military vehicles after an explosion on a Baghdad road on 21 July, 2003. A US military vehicle was blown up apparently by a rocket-propelled grenade, and at least two soldiers riding in it were killed.



US soldiers inspect a military truck moments after an early morning rocket-propelled grenade attack in al-Khadra'a west of Baghdad, Iraq, on 14 July, 2003. Guerillas have been attacking US vehicle convoys and launching mortar attacks on US bases in central Iraq. The soldier driving the truck was killed after the RPG hit the side door and six others were wounded in the attack.



A young Iraqi man tries to salvage some wiring on 27 June, 2003 from a destroyed US military vehicle after it was ambushed along a highway in Abu Ghraib northwest of Baghdad. Two soldiers died in the attack.



A US soldier directs clean-up operations of the wreckage of US army Humvees in Baghdad, Iraq, on 21 July, 2003. A US soldier was killed and three soldiers were injured when a roadside bomb was detonated as their convoy passed.



The remains of a US army truck is seen near Balad 40 kilometres, (25 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 16 June, 2003. The truck was attacked in an ambush on 15 June with a number of soldiers injured.

Hailing the 57th Anniversary Union Day:

Development images of Ayeyawady Division in the time of the State Peace and Development Council

Development Sector	1988	2004
Agriculture		
Sown acreage (in million)	4.2	7.3
Dam project	-	3
Dam and reservoir	4	11
Water pumping station	-	22
Transport		
Tarred road (mile)	197	432
Gravell road (mile)	180	623
Earth road (mile)	129	257
Bridge (above 180 feet)	-	39
Bridge (under 180 feet)	-	709
Communication		
Post office	103	133
Telegraph office	30	37
Auto-exchange	35	60
Telephone	8050	16502
Radio telephone station	-	2
Microwave station	7	17
Ground satellite station	-	1
Rural auto-exchange	-	19
Fax	-	57
Industrial zone	-	1
Electric power		
Diesel-fired power plant	1	11



The 3,000 feet long bailey suspension Wakema Bridge on Pantanaw-Shwelaung Wakema Kyonmange Road.



Maubin General Hospital in Maubin, Ayeyawady Division.



Pathein Government Technological College in Pathein.



Government Technological College (Maubin) in Maubin, Ayeyawady Division



The 1400 feet long Darka River Bridge on Yangon-Pathein Highway in Kangyidaunt Township, Ayeyawady Division.

Development Sector	1988	2004
Information		
TV retransmission station	1	3
Information & Public Relations Department	-	26
Library	-	29
Education		
University	-	3
College	2	9
High school	79	103
Middle school	170	268
Primary school	5200	5626
Health		
Hospital	6	26
Station hospital	11	44
Rural health care centre	48	156
Rural health centre (branch)	-	72
Traditional hospital	-	1
Traditional clinic	2	7

Marching toward Golden Land in unity and amity



Unity is strength

The national races have been living in the Union of Myanmar in unity and harmony for the period countable by the years in the thousand. The national brethren are descendants of a single stock, living in weal or woe on the same land,

area served as the proof of the advanced agricultural level of the Myanmar people since the Bagan era.

Throughout the successive eras under different monarchs, Myanmar founded the First Myanmar Empire, the

Maung Maung Soe

partaking water from the same source. Relying on the rich natural resources of the nation, they have been building irrigation facilities, with agriculture as their main industry. The 11 cultivation districts of Kyaukse region and the six agricultural zones of Minbu

Second Myanmar Empire and the Third Myanmar Empire. The Myanmar races had lived in unity for a long time till the country was occupied by the colonialists during the late Konboun period.

With Union Spirit, the national races drove out the occupiers and re-

Hailing the 57th Anniversary Union Day:



Dawei station in Dawei, Taninthayi Division.

Build a new nation with collective efforts of the national races

stored the Union in 1948, after freeing the nation from the alien enslavement.

Unfortunately, the nation faced a lot of

political, economic and social sectors. At the same time, almost all the factories and development infrastructures of the nation were looted and de-

take over the State duties to take control of the national situation. After the assumption of the State duties, the Tatmadaw has given priority to the na-

marching towards a modern industrial nation, the Government has enhanced the production capacity of the State-owned factories and promoted



Government Computer College (Panglong) in Loilem, Shan State.

hardships and problems due to World War II and the colonialist instigation after the War.

In 1988, the nation faced deterioration in all aspects including the po-

stroyed by the destructive elements. The nation was without security, all its transport links were cut off, and the State machinery went into a stall.

The Tatmadaw had to

tional consolidation, regional peace and stability and the rule of law. At the same time, it has rebuilt the economic and social infrastructures of the nation, while constructing roads, major bridges on creeks and rivers, irrigation facilities, institutions of higher learning and hospitals needed for the national progress.

As Myanmar is an agricultural country, priority has been given to the development of the farming sector. The annual paddy output of the nation in 1988 was 654 million baskets. Since, 2000-2001, the paddy production has reached over one billion mark.

As the industrial sector plays a vital role in

the quality of manufactured goods. Moreover, it has established 18 industrial zones region-wise.

We are not far from reaching the level of an advanced industrial nation, as the zones are manufacturing farm machinery and machine parts and assembling cars.

The Government has also set up 24 development zones in the whole nation for harmonious progress of all regions in building a modern nation. The 24 zones are designated in Myitkyina, Bhamo, Loikaw, Hpa-an, Kalay, Monywa, Dawei, Myeik, Bago, Pyaw, Magway, Pakokku, Mandalay, Meiktila, Mawlamyine, Sittway, Yangon, Taunggyi,



Thanlwin River crossing bridge (Hpa-an) linking Myaingalay and Hpa-an in Kayin State.



Government Technological College which is under construction in Kengtung.

(from page 8)

Panglong, Kengtung, Lashio, Pathein, Hinthada and Maubin regions. The two development zones in Dawei and Myeik are the base for progress of the whole Taninthayi Division.

Special arrangements are being made for the development of the entire Shan State, with the zones in Taunggyi, Lashio, Kengtung, Loilem and Panglong as the base. Plans are under

economy is gaining momentum, the social standard of the people is on the rise. The State is building a peaceful, modern and developed nation with high hopes. But it has to face and overcome various sanctions and disturbances and hardships in building the nation.

As all the national races have the duty to collectively strive with Union Spirit for the perpetuation of the nation,

the Government has been making energetic efforts for its progress. Moreover, we all must further

develop the Union with the united strength of all the national races.

(Translation: TMT)

24 Development Regions

No.	Region	No.	Region
1.	Myitkyina	13.	Mandalay
2.	Bhamo	14.	Meiktila
3.	Loikaw	15.	Mawlamyine
4.	Hpa-an	16.	Sittway
5.	Kale	17.	Yangon
6.	Monywa	18.	Kengtung
7.	Dawei	19.	Taunggyi
8.	Myeik	20.	Panglong
9.	Bago	21.	Lashio
10.	Pyay	22.	Pathein
11.	Magway	23.	Hinthada
12.	Pakokku	24.	Maubin



way to harmonize the development rate between the eastern and western sectors of the Bago Division.

The Government has been laying down and implementing projects and constructing motor roads, bridges, railroads, airports, dams, power stations, and health and education facilities for rapid progress of the 24 development zones. The infrastructural development at the zones is shown in the table.

As the national



Nam Khamkha hydel power plant that generates 16 million kilowatt hours a year to supply electricity.



Maubin University in Ayeyawady Division.



The 200-bed General Hospital in Myeik.

Poem

March forward, Hands held in harmony

* The blue mountain ranges, dew strewn
Variegated flowers, all assembled
In the abode of Shans, that is pleasant
At the haven we call Panglong
We depend on our pride, we love our land
We march in our era, we'll build a new nation
Hands held harmoniously, in solidarity
Bamar and Mon, Mon and Kayin
Kayin and Shan, Shan and Rakhine
Rakhine and Chin, Chin and Kayah
Kayah and Kachin, with feelings of amity
The Panglong Agreement bears witness.
Union Spirit shall thrive till eternity.

* A new nation, to build and open
The true foundation, the real basis
Our regions is the plains and the hills
Myanmar brethren, true brothers
In amity we assembled and held hands together
With "Panglong Policy" throughout the land
No matter who divide, we shall remain united
We shall be victorious, we shall hear the
victory drums
Like flowers variegated, our pride shall shine
A new Myanmar era, new golden land.
With Union Spirit as foundation
March forward, Hands Held in Harmony.

Kyaw Khaung Bala (Trs)

(Hailing the 57th Anniversary Union Day)

The 200-bed General Hospital in Tachilek.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye wife Daw Mya Mya San attend ...

(See page 16)

wife, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Real-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and wife, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint and wife, the ministers, the Deputy Minister for Health, the Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court (Mandalay), senior military officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department, officials of Shwabo District and Kanbalu Township, members of the Buddha Pujaniya Organizing Committee, social organizations, wut association, wellwishers and local people.

At 5 am, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party offered 'soon', fruits, light, flowers and water to the pagoda. Next, 45 members of the Sangha consecrated the pagoda.

The congregation led by Vice-Senior General Maung

Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party received the Five Precepts from member of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Pakhan Kyaungtaik in Shwebo Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa. Next, members of the Sangha recited the parittas. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party, departmental officials and wellwishers offered provisions to members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, the ceremony to share merits gained was held at the Sasana Beikmandaw at 9.30 am. The ceremony was opened with the three time recitation of Namō Tassa.

Next, Chairman of Sagaing Division Sangha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Sagaing Htupayon Shwekyau Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Nanawvamsa invested the congregation with the Five Precepts.

Next, members of the Sangha recited the parittas. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San presented the eight requisites and offertories to Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Pakhan Kyaungtaik in Shwebo Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja

Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa. Later, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Tin Aye presented the eight requisites and offertories to the Sayadaws.

Next, the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the commanders, ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers, departmental officials and wellwishers presented the eight requisites and offertories to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha. After that, Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa delivered a sermon. This was followed by sharing merits gained. The ceremony ended with the three-time recitation of *Buddha Sasanam Ciram Tithathu*.

After the ceremony, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party attended the ceremony to novitiate 108 young men into monkhood held at Sasana Beikman of Maha Shwesigyi Pagoda in the afternoon of 5 February. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party paid homage to Maha Shwesigyi Pagoda and Buddha images in the compound of the pagoda.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party proceeded to Maha Shwesigyi Pariyatti Sathintait where they paid homage and presented offertories to Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Açara. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye ...

(from page 1)

The dam was opened on 17 April 2001 and hydro-electric power station was opened on 18 June 2002.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party went to Kyebin-ek Dam in Kanbalu Township by helicopter.

Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin said the Kyebin-ek Dam was opened on 25 December 2003. Storage of water started in October 2001. The dam irrigated 8,500 acres of lands.

He said arrangements are being made for cultivation of

1,500 acres of summer paddy.

Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye reported on benefits of the dam. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave instructions and inspected the dam.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party went to Seikphumyaung model village in Kanbalu Township by helicopter. They inspected basic education post-primary school, rural dispensary and gravel road. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met officials and villagers and called for prosperity of the village in implementation of the five rural development tasks. There was only a primary school and

it was upgraded to a post primary one. Roads in the village were also upgraded. The gravel road leading to Kanbalu has been built. Prevention of diseases, treatment and educative activities can be carried out after opening of the rural dispensary. Clean drinking water is now available. It is a model village where cultivation of sunflower, beans and pulses and maize is successful.

On 6 February, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San and party visited the fourth Buddha Pujaniya Festival of Maha Shwesigyi Pagoda and arrived back here by the Tatmadaw flight. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein view round the booths at the 57th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition. — MNA

57th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition commences

YANGON, 8 Feb — A ceremony to open the 57th Anniversary Union Day-2004 Exhibition was held at the Tatmadaw Convention Centre on U Wisara Road here this morning.

It was attended by Vice-Chairmen of the Central Committee for Observance of the 57th Anniversary Union Day, State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were the ministers, Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor, the deputy ministers, members of the Central Committee, Chairman of the Subcommittee for the Exhibition and Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein and members of the subcommittee, responsible personnel of the State Peace and Develop-

ment Council Chairman's Office, departmental heads, traditional and cultural troupes of national races, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations, teachers, students, and guests.

Brig-Gen Aung Thein formally opened the exhibition on the formation. Next, the Secretary-1, the Secretary-2 and guests viewed round the exhibition. On display at the exhibition are the 'strengthening of Union Spirit' central booth, the 'Myanmar, the origin of human beings' booth, the 'cultural traditions of national races' booth, the 'Panglong Conference for national solidarity' booth, the 'Head of State's tour of border areas' booth, the 'mass rallies to support the seven-point political programme' booth, the 'Union nationalities vil-

lages' booth, the 'traditional and cultural items of national races' booth, computer booths, and other booths of respective ministries. University of Computer Sciences (Yangon), Bagan Cybertech, and Forever Group Co Ltd, also have their booths opened at the exhibition and display the usefulness of Internet connection and many other interesting, informative and noteworthy computer-related applications.

The Sarpay Beikman and the News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information also open bookshops at the exhibition and sell various kinds of books to visitors at fair prices. The exhibition today attracted a total of 6,016 people from all walks of life. The exhibition will be kept open daily free of charge from 9 am to 5 pm till 16 February. — MNA

Secretary-2 attends opening of digital electronic auto exchange in Kanbalu

YANGON, 8 Feb — The opening ceremony of a digital electronic auto exchange of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, in Kanbalu Township in Sagaing Division was held at the exchange office on 5 February evening. Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the ceremony and unveiled the signboard.

Also present on the occasion were members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West

Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, the ministers, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council office, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, departmental personnel, USDA members, and guests.

First, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye spoke on the occasion, saying that it is an auspicious day that a digital electronic auto exchange is opened in Kanbalu Township in this new year. New auto exchanges are scheduled to be opened soon in ChaungU, Myinmu and Katha, he said. Then, he urged local people to maintain the durability of auto exchanges and telephone lines which were installed by the State, spending a

huge amount of money, he added.

Next, MPT Managing Director U Maung Maung Tin also spoke on the occasion. U Aung Khin Yaw, an elder of the town, spoke words of thanks on behalf of local people. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, MD U Maung Maung Tin and townselder U Soe Myint formally opened the auto exchange building by cutting a ribbon.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein formally unveiled the signboard of the exchange. Later, the Secretary-2 and party inspected the communication equipment at the exchange and practically used the phone.

MNA

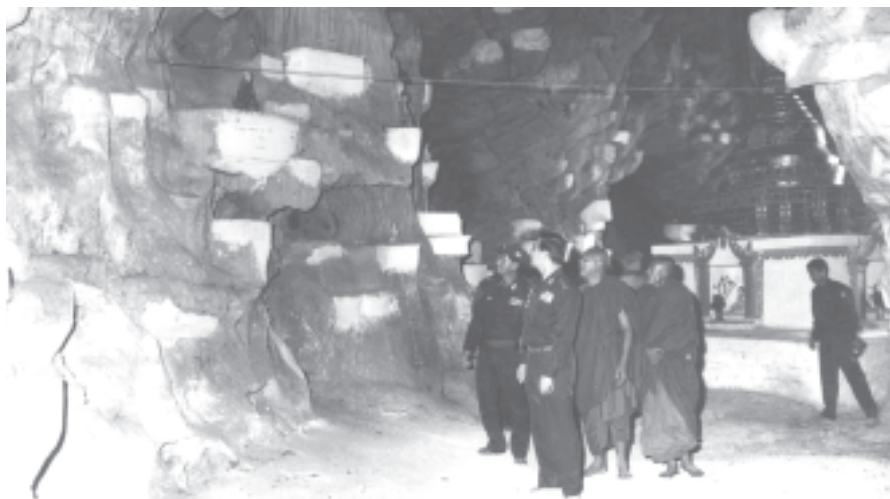
Don't smoke

PM inspects Taunggyi University, meets departmental officials

YANGON, 8 Feb— Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint arrived at Taunggyi University on 7 February. They were welcomed there by Rector Dr Maung Kyaw, professors and faculty members. Rector Dr Maung Kyaw reported on background history of the university, location, under-graduate courses, honours and masters courses M.Research courses, number of students, courses of Human Resources Department, students from Ph.D courses, research works conducted by arts and science departments, IT centres, organizational set-up, appointment of service personnel and requirements. Minister for Education U Than Aung gave a supplementary report. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt made arrangements for construction of Lecture Theatre for the university.

Managing Director of Eden Group Co U Chit Khaing reported on architectural design of the convocation hall and construction. The Prime Minister gave instructions.

Associate Professor of Zoology Department U Win Myint Hsan reported on reproduction of Yepokthin and the Prime Minister gave instruction on research of the animal. The Prime Minister and party inspected construction of the convocation hall of the university. They went to Montawa Cave and paid homage to the Buddha images there. The Prime Minister presented cash to the Montawagu Sayadaw. The Prime Minister and party arrived back in Taunggyi. In the evening, the Prime Minister met members of State and District Peace and Development Councils and departmental officials at the meeting hall of the Command. In his address, the Prime Minister said the government is making efforts for emergence of a peaceful modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. After taking the State duties, the government has been endeavouring for restoration of peace and stability in the country. As a result, national race armed groups returned to the legal fold. Peace and tranquillity was restored in border areas and other regions. With the implementation of border region development tasks, far-flung areas have developed with greater momentum. In order to make equitable progress in states and divisions, 24 major development regions were designated. Universities, colleges, government technological colleges, computer colleges and hospitals



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt views round Buddha images in the Montawa Cave in Taunggyi Township. —MNA

were built. Tasks for food sufficiency and uplift of living standard, health care services and education of local people were undertaken, he said. In communication sector, he said, the government is now implementing five rural development tasks for rural and national development. It is found that infrastructures such as irrigation networks, bridges and roads have emerged in economic, education, health and social sectors due to the government's sector-wise projects. The government laid down plans on communication for border areas. TV relay stations were constructed in far-flung areas in order to see true conditions of the State on TV. He said better foundations for economic progress and uplift of quality of life of the people have emerged and the government laid down the seven-point future policy of the State for building a peaceful modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Now tasks are under way, he added. He said all national races living in the country and nation forces are to work

hard in unity for building of a democratic nation, he said. He said service personnel are mainly responsible for realization of the government's objectives. It is their duty to lead and organize the people in order to realize the government's goodwill towards the people and national objectives. He said the government laid down plans for harmonious development of the State and policies for perpetuation of the Union. For realization of the plans State's high-ranking officials themselves made field trips to grassroots levels and fulfilled requirements. He said service personnel working in the various regions should keep in touch with local people and fulfil the requirements and desires. He spoke of the need for them to report to higher organizations the true conditions of the people and some matters that they could not carry out. He called for harmonious efforts for realization of the objectives of the State. The Prime Minister and party arrived back here in the evening. —MNA

PM attends opening...

(from page 16)

party viewed the traditional performance of students, and inspected classrooms in the building. Next, the ceremony to hand over the school building, and to open the digital auto exchange and gymnasium was held at the hall of the school.

Chairman of the school board of trustees U Tin Tun reported that No 2 BEHS was first established in 1922 as a national school. Since December 1947, it was opened by the State as a national high school. But, the school had been turned into a middle school for 17 years from 1986 to 2003. Therefore, at the request of townselders and teachers, the school was upgraded again into a high school on 27-1-2003 after Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi had submitted the approval from the Chairman of MEC. As the school was not able to house a great number of students, a committee was formed to construct a new school building. Under the leadership and with the assistance of the energy minister, the construction of the school building was completed. Besides, the hall of BEHS No 2 handed over by the Sports and Physical Education Department was upgraded with the expense of K 4.6 million to hold state, division and township level meetings. The Ministry of Education itself donated K 2 million. Later, he expressed thanks to the Prime Minister, Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister U Than Aung and wellwishers. Afterwards, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications Managing Director U Maung Maung Tin reported on purpose of opening of digital auto phone exchanges in Kungyangon and Kawhmu. He said today is an auspicious day for a digital auto exchange can be used as from today. Similar auto exchange will also be opened this afternoon, he said. Kugyangon auto exchange was installed at a cost of K 110 million and Kawhmu auto exchange at a cost of K 96.4 million.

He said auto exchange projects are being implemented in 30 townships by MPT. Arrangements are being made for narrowing the gap between urban and rural areas in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik reported on construction of new gymnasium.

Secretary of Township USDA U Cho Tun thanked the government for undertaking the regional development tasks.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi reported on coordination with wellwishers and the people.

Minister for Education U Than Aung reported on construction of three-storey school building and thanked the wellwishers for cooperation.

Next, wellwishers of Kanbawza Bank Ltd and compa-

nies presented K 5,304,665 to Ministers Brig-Gen Lun Thi and U Than Aung. Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi presented related documents of No 2 Basic Education High School to Minister U Than Aung. Next, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented sports gear for Kungyangon Township to Chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council U Kyaw Shwe.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt made a speech. He said that he together with the commander, ministers and deputy ministers attended the ceremony to open the new digital auto exchange, the gymnasium and the new three-storey building for No 2 BEHS in Kungyangon this morning, adding that contact can be made at home and abroad with the emergence of the communication facility. He said he himself practically made overseas phone calls to the Myanmar ambassadors to Thailand and Japan with the use of the facility. That is why people from Kungyangon themselves will be able to make not only local calls but also overseas calls, he noted. Likewise, arrangements have been made for opening of the digital auto exchange in Kawhmu this afternoon, he stressed. In addition, the new township gymnasium that will contribute to health and fitness of the youths of Kungyangon Township, who will serve the interest of the State in future was opened this morning, he said. The new three-storey school building that will contribute to the students in the township in their pursuit of formal education was handed over to the Ministry of Education.

It is found that people in the township felt pleased due to the emergence of the new auto digital exchange, the gymnasium and the new three-storey school building. The Union of Myanmar has been home to various national races for years countable by the thousand. However, the Union has undergone a great change with the passage of time. At the same time, there have been changes and developments in the economic and social sectors depending on prevalence of peace and tranquillity in the nation. In the time of the State Peace and Development Council the objectives calling for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, perpetuation of sovereignty and the emergence of a new modern developed nation have been laid down and are being implemented. In the process, priority has been given to ensuring non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity. As a result, the armed conflict that emerged in the past has ended and the national races have been cooperating with the government in nation-building endeavours.

Nowadays, peace and tranquillity prevails in the nation and the national unity is restored and economic, social, education and health sectors are making progress as a result.

At such a time, the government has laid down the

seven-point future political programmes and is implementing them for the emergence of a new modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

At a time when a new modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation is being built, efforts are to be made to continue maintaining the already achieved peace and tranquillity and to fully restore peace and tranquillity in the regions where peace and tranquillity does not prevail fully yet. At the same time, efforts are to be made for creating a sound economic condition while striving for enabling the youths, who will shape the future of the State, to pursue education of international level. That is why the entire national people who reside in the Union are to make concerted and collective efforts out of a sense of goodwill for the emergence of a new modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, he concluded.

After the ceremony, the Prime Minister and party had a documentary photo taken together with members of the School Board of Trustees, teachers and students.

Next, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to the People's Hospital in Kungyangon where they were welcomed by Medical Superintendent Dr Tin Tun and hospital staff. The Prime Minister and party inspected the medical store, the operation theatre and the medical wards and gave necessary instructions. Next, the Prime Minister and party arrived at Maha Tiloka Buddha Image. There they paid homage to the Buddha image and made cash donations. Next, the Prime Minister and party arrived in Kawhmu.

At 1.30 pm, the Prime Minister and party attended the opening ceremony of the new digital auto exchange of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications in Kawhmu.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw formally opened the communication facility. Next, the Prime Minister unveiled the stone inscription of the facility. After that, the Prime Minister and party viewed round the switching room and made phone calls locally and abroad.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party arrived at the monastic education orphanage Mingalar Parahita Kyaung in Twantay Township. They paid homage to Presiding Sayadaw of the Kyaung Bhaddanta Candima. Next, the Sayadaw explained matters related to the monastery. After upgrading the monastery into the basic education primary school, the Prime Minister made cash donations for the school.

Next, the Prime Minister and party arrived at Dalla Jetty. Then, the Prime Minister and party viewed round Yangon River by boat. The Prime Minister and party arrived back here in the evening. —MNA

မြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန		
မြန်မာ့ဆယ်စုံရုပ်မြင်သံကြား၊ မြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား ဘက်ဆိုင်ရာဦးစီးဌာနမှ ထုတ် အသုံးပြုရန်လိုအပ်သောစက်ပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရန်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း		
၁။	မြန်မာ့ဆယ်စုံ ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား၊ မြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ရည်သူ့ ဆက်ဆံရေး ဦးစီးဌာနကို တွင်အသုံးပြုရန်အတွက်အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ စက်ပစ္စည်းများ ဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်-	
(က)	မြန်မာ့ဆယ်စုံရုပ်မြင်သံကြား။	
Item	Description	Qty
(1)	Cylinder Assembly.V.00015000B Model: TASCAM DA-30 MK II	2 Nos
(2)	Record / Playback Head Model: TASCAM 122 MK II	2 Nos
(3)	Record / Playback Head 578301800 Model: TASCAM BR-20 N	2 Nos
(ခ)	မြန်ကြားရေးနှင့်ရည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေး ဦးစီးဌာန။	
Item	Description	
(1)	Noritsu QSS-2901 Digital C/W. 135/240 Auto Film Carrier 120 Auto Film Carrier Digital ICE Software Card/Calendar Creation Software Multi Frame Print Creation Software Frame Print Creation Software Paper magazine (3. Boxes) QSS-2901. System installation CD& Floppy Disk Dark Bag (1.Pc) Extra Lamp (2. Pcs)	
၂။	တင်ဒါလေးသွင်းမှုကို ၁၈-၇-၂၀၁၄ ရက်(၁၆:၃၀)နာရီတွင်ပိတ်ပါမည်။	
၃။	တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါလိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။	
ဖြည့်တွင်/ဖြည့်ပ ပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့် ထုန်းရောင်းချရေးကော်မတီ		
မြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန		
အမှတ် ၂၂၀/သီပေါမြို့လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့		
ရန်- ၂၄၅မီဒီ၊ ၂၄၅မီဒီ၊ ၂၄၅မီဒီ		

* ကော်ဖီစိုက်ပျိုး ဝင်ငွေတိုး
* ကော်ဖီစိုက်လျှင် အရိပ်ပင်
ယှဉ်တွဲစိုက်ပျိုး ဒေသဖွံ့ဖြိုး
လယ်ယာစိုက်ပျိုးရေးနှင့်ဆည်မြောင်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန

The cause of the accident and the names of the victims were not immediately available.—*MNA/Reuters*

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Doctors remove second head from Dominican baby

SANTO DOMINGO (Dominican Republic), 8 Feb—An international team of doctors in the Dominican Republic on Friday successfully removed an undeveloped second head from a baby girl born with one of the world's rarest birth defects.

"The parasitic (second) head has been removed," Dominican surgeon Dr Santiago Hazim told reporters after the team of 18 doctors worked for more than 13 hours on Rebeca Martinez.

"The operation has been a real success," Hazim said. "All the baby's vital signs remained stable during the operation. The operation went as planned." The surgery at the CURE International Centre for Orthopedic Specialties in Santo Domingo began in the morning and went on until late in the evening, with a team of surgeons and nurses taking shifts. Martinez was born in mid-December at a hospital in the Dominican capital with the head of an undeveloped twin attached to the top of her skull, facing upward. The infant was otherwise healthy but her brain could not develop normally unless the undeveloped head was removed.

The operation was led by Dr. Jorge Lazareff, director of pediatric neurosurgery at UCLA's Mattel Children's Hospital, and Dominican surgeons Hazim and Dr. Benjamin Rivera. Lazareff led the surgical team that successfully

separated Guatemalan twin girls conjoined at the head last year. By late in the evening, the surgeons were working to close the space left by the removed head. Hazim said the real success of the operation would be seen when the child began walking. But he added that if she never managed to walk it would be because of a brain defect that was present at birth.

The 100,000-US-dollar operation was free for the parents, Maria Gisela Hiciano and Pablo Martinez, the hospital said. On Friday evening, the parents had been told of the successful operation. The baby girl's condition, cranio pagus parasiticus, is so rare that there have only been eight documented cases in the world, and no known cases where surgery had been attempted to correct it, Hazim told *Reuters* in an earlier interview.

Conjoined twins form when an embryo begins to split into identical twins and then stops, leaving them fused. Twins conjoined at the head account for about one of every 2.5 million births and about 2 per cent of all conjoined births.

MNA/Reuters



Seven-week-old Dominican girl Rebeca Martinez, born with one of the world's rarest birth defects, died on 7 Feb, 2004, hours after undergoing a delicate operation to remove an undeveloped second head, the clinic treating her said. A team of international doctors said Friday night that they had successfully completed a day-long operation to remove the second head. But doctors had cautioned that the baby would face a series of risks as she recovered, such as infection or hemorrhaging. Rebeca is pictured in this file photo taken on 10 Dec, 2003, the day of her birth.—INTERNET

Jakarta renews support for Manila's ICO observer status bid

MANILA, 8 Feb — The Indonesian Government renewed its support on Saturday for the Philippines' bid to secure an observer status in the Organization of Islamic Conference (ICO), Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Delia Albert said.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Nur Hassan Wirajuda conveyed the assurance of continued support at a meeting with her in Jakarta, Albert said in a statement released here. During the meeting, Albert expressed satisfaction that Indonesia has remained supportive of the Philippines' bid, which Manila applied for in May last year during the ICO ministerial meeting in Teheran, Iran. — MNA/Xinhua

Americas trade talks suspended amid impasse

PUEBLA (Mexico), 8 Feb — Talks to forge a trade pact for the Americas broke down on Friday over disputes about agriculture market access and export subsidies, but negotiators said they would return to the table in March.

"Simply, there is an impasse in the negotiations," Argentine Trade Secretary Martin Redrado told a news conference of South American MERCOSUR trade bloc nations. Meetings are tentatively scheduled to resume the first week in March in Puebla, organizers said.

Negotiators had extended talks for several hours on Friday — the last of four gruelling days of negotiations — aiming to draw up a plan to complete the Free Trade Area of the Americas pact by next January.

While they made progress on procedural questions, they

could not bridge divisions over agriculture issues.

The MERCOSUR bloc of nations, led by Brazil and Argentina, wants a total opening of markets to agricultural and other products, while the United States, Canada and other countries seek exclusions.

"There will have to be some modification of positions, recalibration of the content and the level of ambition," said Deputy US Trade Representative Peter Allgeier, a co-chairman of the meeting.

Allgeier told reporters he would "withhold judgment" on whether the January deadline could be reached.

Redrado said earlier MERCOSUR had ceded as much as it could to keep talks on track but that the United States had to give on farm issues and subsidies.

Delegations from 34 Western Hemisphere nations were in Puebla, a colonial city two hours east of Mexico City, to hammer out the rules and procedures for an eventual FTAA deal.

MNA/Reuters

Philippines to focus on domestic tourism

MANILA, 8 Feb — The Philippine Government will focus on domestic tourism to help produce a total of 2.68 billion US dollars in tourist receipts this year, a local newspaper reported Saturday.

The Department of Tourism (DOT) will be more aggressive in promoting domestic tourism to help the industry grow despite foreign countries' issuance of warnings against travelling to the Philippines due security concerns. *The Manila Times* quoted DOT Officer-in-Charge Robert Dean Barbers as saying.

The DOT targets to bring in 2.2 million foreign tourists in 2004, which in equivalent spending is projected to cost 1.79 billion US dollars. Last

year's tourist arrivals totalled 1.9 million, bringing in 1.52 billion US dollars in tourist receipts.

Filipinos, on the other hand, are projected to spend up to 892.86 million US dollars this year for local travel.

Barbers said he is planning to talk with all the airlines and resort owners in the country to convince them to give lower rates to Filipino travellers and spur interest among locals to see their country as well as induce spending.

MNA/Xinhua



An earthquake measuring up to 7.1 on the Richter scale struck eastern Indonesia on 7 Feb, 2004, a day after one of similar magnitude killed 27 people and injured hundreds.—INTERNET

Second big quake in two days jolts eastern Indonesia

NABIRE (Indonesia), 8 Feb — An earthquake measuring 7.1 on the Richter Scale struck eastern Indonesia on Saturday, a day after one of similar magnitude killed 25 people and injured scores more in the same area, the US Geological Survey said.

The quake's epicentre was near the town of Nabire, in remote Papua Province, according to survey spokesman Butch Kinerney. It was of greater magnitude than the 6.9 earthquake that struck the area early on Friday, causing widespread damage.

"This leads us to believe there could be significant damage and casualties from this earthquake as well," he said.

Indonesia's meteorological bureau said the latest earthquake, which struck around 0242 GMT, had a magnitude of 6.2 on Richter Scale, an official at the bureau said. Sarmin, an officer at Nabire Police Station, confirmed the latest earthquake.

"Yes, there was an after-

shock around 1200 local time, but it was not that big. Windows were shaking," he said by the telephone.

MNA/Reuters.

“သတ္တမနှစ်အမျိုးသားပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ဆိုင်ရာလုပ်ငန်းစဉ်အတွက်”

✦ တစ်သက်တာကျန်းမာဖို့

ဆင့်မြှင့်ဆောင်ကြရန်

✦ ကျန်းမာခြင်းအရေး

လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းဆောင်ရွက်

၂၀၀၄-ခုနှစ် မေခေတ်ဝါဒီလ (၁၀)ရက် - (၁၆)ရက်

SPORTS

China beats Finland 2-1
in soccer friendly

SHENZHEN (South China), 8 Feb—Zhang Yuning and Zheng Zhi scored on free kicks to hand China a 2-1 victory over Finland Saturday in a soccer friendly.

Zhang, who also scored a goal in an earlier matchup between the two teams on Tuesday, opened scoring in the 15th minute with a quickly taken free kick that roared past Finnish goalkeeper Antti Niemi of the English team Southampton.

Finnish midfielder Peter Kopteff levelled the score in the 37th minute, driving in a ricochet of his own cross after the Chinese defence failed to clear the ball from in front of the goal.

But China restored its lead four minutes later when midfielder Zheng curled in a free kick that flew over the Finnish wall and into the top right-hand corner of the net.

Both sides battled hard in the second half. Finland came close to scoring in the 47th minute when Zhang cleared a header off the goal line, allowing keeper Li Jian to punch the ball out of the area.

A number of players on both sides fouled, and Chinese team captain Li Weifeng was carried out of the stadium by ambulance late in the half after a collision with a Finnish player.

MNA/Xinhua



Manchester United's Ruud van Nistelrooy celebrates scoring his 100th goal for United during a Premiership clash against Everton at Goodison Park, Liverpool on 7 Feb, 2004.—INTERNET

Last-gasp Van Nistelrooy gives Man Utd 4-3 win

LONDON, 8 Feb—Manchester United blew a 3-0 halftime lead against Everton but snatched a 4-3 victory with a last-gasp winner by Ruud van Nistelrooy on a breathless day of action in the Premier League on Saturday.

The Goodison Park success kept the champions two points behind leaders Arsenal, who won 3-1 at Wolverhampton Wanderers to set a club record 23-game unbeaten start to the season.

There were also seven goals at White Hart Lane where Tottenham Hotspur emerged 4-3 winners over Portsmouth three days after they threw away a 3-0 lead to lose 4-3 to 10-man

Manchester City in the FA Cup.

Liverpool twice came from behind to draw 2-2 at Bolton Wanderers and Newcastle took advantage with a 3-1 home win over Leicester City. Arsenal top the table on 58 points with Manchester United second on 56. Chelsea, who host Charlton Athletic on Sunday, are third on 49.

Newcastle are up to fourth on 37, ahead of

Charlton on goal difference. Liverpool are sixth on 35, the same as Fulham, who drew 0-0 at Southampton.

Leeds remain bottom on 17 after falling to their sixth successive league defeat, 2-0 at Aston Villa.

Everton had won only once in 22 games against United and looked set for another heavy beating after the champions blasted them aside in a first half that should have brought the visitors six goals. Paul Scholes had already hit a post before Louis Saha sprang the offside trap to shoot past Nigel Martyn after 10 minutes.

Van Nistelrooy got the second, his 100th for the club, after 24 minutes and Saha made it three on the half-hour.

Both players missed further straightforward chances as the champions cut through Everton's ragged defence at will. However, three halftime changes stiffened Everton's resolve and they pulled one back quickly through David Unsworth.

MNA/Reuters

Petrov inspires Celtic against nine-man Hearts

GLASGOW, 8 Feb—Stilian Petrov struck twice in the first half as Celtic cruised into the Scottish Cup quarterfinals with a 3-0 away win over nine-man Hearts on Saturday.

The Bulgarian international drilled in the opener on three minutes before nailing a second 12 minutes before halftime with teammate Henrik Larsson the provider both times.

Hearts were reduced to nine men in the closing minutes after Paul Hartley and Alan Maybury were sent off for late tackles on Neil Lennon. Larsson rounded off the scoring in injury time.

"I thought we played great and took the game to Hearts," Celtic manager Martin O'Neill told reporters. "Stilian has settled us down and the second goal was absolutely delightful."

O'Neill was unhappy at the treatment handed out to Lennon.

"Neil was great today and I'm not sure why he gets the 'accolades' he got from the crowd today. I can understand it at Ibrox (home ground of Glasgow rivals Rangers) but not anywhere else.

"What I'm saying is that the reaction of the crowd at the end today was pretty poor fare but we kept our discipline well and that has helped keep us in the cup."

The unbeaten Premier League leaders were never seriously tested after Petrov, who has netted six times in the last seven games, raced clear to score his first from close range.

Hearts striker Mark de Vries screwed an effort wide midway through the second period, but the league's third-placed side did not possess enough guile to cut through an assured Celtic, who are aiming to win the trophy for the 32nd time.

The draw for the quarterfinals will be made later on Saturday after five other fourth-round ties.

Holders Rangers are away to Kilmarnock on Sunday in the only other all-Premier League tie while League Cup finalists Livingston visit minor league side Spartans.—MNA/Reuters

Impressive away wins for Lecce, Bologna

MILAN, 8 Feb—Japanese midfielder Hidetoshi Nakata led Bologna to an impressive 3-1 win at Udinese in Serie A on Saturday while relegation threatened Lecce also enjoyed an away win with a 3-2 victory against Chievo.

Bologna have been transformed since Nakata joined them on loan from Parma last month and the Japan international showed his value to Carlo Mazzone's side again with a fine all-round display.

Tomas Locatelli put Bologna ahead in the 22nd minute with a superb individual goal, beating two Udinese defenders before firing home.

Udinese's Czech midfielder Marek Jankulovski brought the home side level on the stroke of halftime with a powerful

left-foot strike from the edge of the area.

Bologna wasted no time in restoring their lead though with Nakata's low free kick from 25 metres bouncing under the body of unsighted Udinese keeper Morgan De Sanctis in the second minute after the interval.

Udinese should have been back on level terms in the 57th minute when Vincenzo Iaquinta's volley was ruled offside although television replays showed the linesman was mistaken.

Nakata then created the

third goal for Bologna, bursting down the right and picking out teammate Leonardo Coluccu who confidently drove home.

In Verona, Uruguayan striker Ernesto Chevanton inspired relegation-threatened Lecce to an impressive win against Chievo.

Chevanton's powerfully struck free kick in the 17th minute was fumbled by Chievo keeper Luca Marchegiani and in the scramble that followed defender Andrea Barzagli put through his own goal.

MNA/Reuters

Valencia beat Atletico to sneak back on top

MADRID, 8 Feb—Valencia won 3-0 at home against Atletico Madrid on Saturday to return to the top of Spain's Primera Liga, at least for a couple of hours.

Mista headed Valencia ahead in the 31st minute and Atletico's task was complicated further six minutes into the second half when Sergi was sent off.

Vicente scored with a spectacular chip after 65 minutes and Mista struck again in the 72nd minute.

Valencia's win gave them 50 points from 23 games. Real Madrid, with 49 from 22 games, play at home against Malaga later on Saturday.

Deportivo Coruna, in third with 43 points, are away to Albacete on Sunday.

Atletico stayed fourth on 36 points but the race for the final Champions League qualification slot will come under the spotlight on Sunday when fifth-placed Barcelona, two points back, travel to meet sixth-placed Osasuna.

Valencia's comfortable victory made it nine goals in two games, following their 6-1 success against Malaga last weekend.

They might easily have racked up half a dozen again, as an Atletico side missing leading forward Fernando

Torres turned in arguably their worst performance of the season.

Vicente set up the opening goal for Mista, floating over a corner from the left for the striker to head back across keeper Sergio Aragoneses and in.

Sergi's second yellow card and Vicente's classy goal after 65 minutes settled the game. The Spanish inter-

national midfielder brought the ball in from the left win, glanced up and swept over Aragoneses and into the top right-hand corner.

Mista's second followed soon afterwards following a smart cross from Miguel Angel Angulo and Ruben Baraja had a close-range blast ruled out for a marginal offside five minutes later.

MNA/Reuters



Valencia's Vicente Rodriguez, right, is tackled by Atletico de Madrid's Santi Denia during a Spanish league soccer match at the Mestalla stadium in Valencia, Spain, on 7 Feb, 2004. Valencia won the game, 3-0.—INTERNET

ANSWERS FOR YESTERDAY'S
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

YANGON, 8 Feb— 57th Anniversary Union Day Observance Management Committee Chairman Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe met with Union Day delegates from States and Divisions at No 1 Transit Centre on Bayint Naung Road here at 4.30 pm today. He cordially greeted the delegates and left the centre in the evening.

This morning the delegates visited the Memorial to the Fallen Heroes in Bahan Township. Next, they visited Shwedagon pagoda and paid homage to the pagoda. — MNA

Commander meets Union Day delegates



Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe meets with the Union Day delegates. — MNA



Ministers Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Maj-Gen Thein Swe and party inspect a departmental car on the Dry Day. MNA

Tatmadaw and departmental cars checked on Dry Day

YANGON, 8 Feb — Dry Day Supervisory Committee Chairman Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Vice-Chairman Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Minister for Homes Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Deputy Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Than Htay, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Tatmadaw Provost Marshal Maj-Gen Saw Hla, Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi, and officials in two groups today supervised the inspection teams which checked the Tatmadaw and departmental cars at the main points in Yangon City. The teams checked the

cars on observance of the dry day disciplines—bearing of dry day passes, drivers' licenses and wheel taxes, wearing of departmental uniforms by drivers—and took action against breaking of traffic rules. — MNA

Respects paid to teachers

YANGON, 8 Feb — A ceremony to pay respects to teachers of Mayangon Township BEHS-1 (Thamaing Myoma high school) was held at the school at noon today. Altogether 120 teachers were paid respect by old students. — MNA

Dinner hosted in honour of Union Day delegates

YANGON, 8 Feb — Managing Director of the News & Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information Col Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Aye hosted a dinner this evening in honour of the delegates of Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, who will attend the 57th Anniversary Union Day Ceremony, at No 77, Maha Bandoola Street here. After the dinner, Col Soe Win and wife presented gifts to the delegates. Similarly, Director-General of the Bureau of Special Investigation of the Ministry of Home Affairs U Tun Hla Aung and wife Daw Nu May hosted a dinner this evening in honour of the delegates of Mon State and Taninthayi Division, who will attend the 57th Anniversary Union Day Ceremony, at No 31(A), BSI Yeiktha, here. After the dinner, the director-general and wife presented gifts to the delegates.

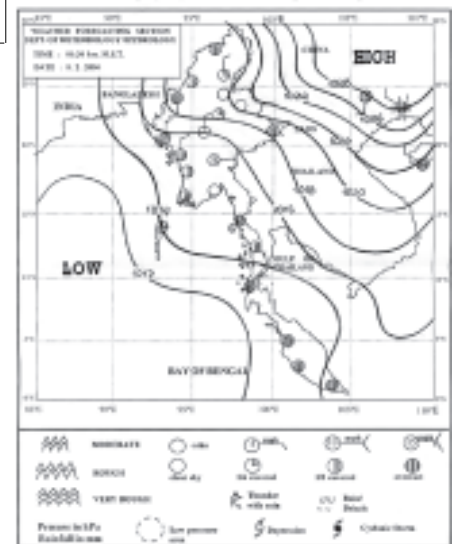
Likewise, Director-General of Myanmar Radio & Television of the Ministry of Information U Khin Maung Htay and wife hosted a dinner in honour of delegates from Shan State (North) and Mon State at his residence this evening and presented gifts. Managing Director of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise of the Ministry of Information U Bo Kyi and wife hosted a dinner in honour of delegates from Chin State and Taninthayi Division at his residence this evening and presented gifts.

Director-General of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Development Department Col Than Swe and family hosted a dinner in honour of Union Day delegates from Kachin State at his residence this evening and presented gifts. — MNA



NPE Managing Director Col Soe Win and wife host dinner in honour of the Union Day delegates. — MNA

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of likelihood of isolated rain in extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-2-2004: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 9-2-2004: Fair weather.

ကျန်းမာပျော်ရွှင် ဘဝတစ်ခွင်

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

- (၁) တစ်ကိုယ်ရည်သန့်ရှင်းမှုကိုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၂) အန္တရာယ်ကင်း၍ အာဟာရပြည့်ဝသော အစားအသောက်များကို စားသုံးပါ။
- (၃) ပိုးမွှားကင်းစင်၍ သန့်ရှင်းသောရေကို သောက်သုံးပါ။
- (၄) ရာသီဥတုနှင့် လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာ ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်နေထိုင်ပါ။
- (၅) အသက်အရွယ်နှင့်လိုက်လျောညီထွေရှိသည့် သင့်တော်မျှတသော ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုကို မှန်မှန်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- (၆) နေ့စဉ်လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်တာများ ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်းကြောင့် ပင်ပန်း နှမ်းနယ်မှုကိုပြေပျောက်စေရန် အနားယူပါ။
- (၇) ခြင်အန္တရာယ်မှကာကွယ်ရန် ခြင်ထောင်ဖြင့်အိပ်ပါ။
- (၈) ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့်ညီညွတ်သော ယင်လုံအိမ်သာကိုသုံးစွဲပါ။
- (၉) အရက်သောက်ခြင်း၊ ဆေးလိပ်ဆွက်သောက်သုံးခြင်း၊ ကွမ်းစားခြင်းတို့ကိုရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၀) မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးနှင့် စိတ်ကိပ်ပြောင်းလဲစေသည့်ဆေးဝါးများသုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၁) အပျော်အပါးလိုက်စားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) ရေ၊ မြေ၊ လေ သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်နှင့် နေထိုင်မှု၊ အသက် မွေးမှုပတ်ဝန်းကျင်တို့အားညစ်ညမ်းစေသည့် အပြုအမူများကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

WEATHER

Sunday, 8 February, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Taninthayi Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas.

Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below in Chin and Kayin States, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (4°C) above normal in Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. Significant Night temperature was (1°C) in Hakha.

Maximum temperature on 7-2-2004 was 34.5°C (94°F). Minimum temperature on 8-2-2004 was 14.5°C (58°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 8-2-2004 was 70%.

Total sunshine hours on 7-2-2004 was (9.3) hours approx. Rainfall on 8-2-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon.

Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 2 mph from Northwest at (14:30) hours MST on 7-2-2004.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 9-2-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain in Taninthayi Division, weather will be generally partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar

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

The second best time is now.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San offer provisions to a Sayadaw at the fourth Maha Shwesigyi Pagoda Buddha Pujaniya ceremony. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attend Buddha Pujaniya of Maha Shwesigyi Pagoda in Kanbalu

YANGON, 8 Feb—The fourth Buddha Pujaniya of Maha Shwesigyi Pagoda kept at Maha Kammabala Hill in Kanbalu, Kanbalu Township, Shwebo District, Sagaing Division was held at the pagoda on 6 February morning, attended by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Sangha led by members of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Pakhan Kyaungtaik in Shwebo Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Vimalarbhivamsa,

Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Myole Sathintak in Lashio Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Chandima, Presiding Sayadaw of Myoshe Kyaung in Kanbalu Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Javana, Presiding Sayadaw of Taungkyaunggyi Kyaung in Kanbalu Bhaddanta Vimala and Chairman of Sagaing Division Sangha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Sagaing Htupayon Shwekyau Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Nanawvamsa, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and

(See page 10)

PM attends opening of auto exchanges, gymnasium, BEHS-2 in Kungyangon and Kawhmu

YANGON, 8 Feb — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the deputy ministers, departmental heads and officials arrived at Dalla jetty of Inland Water Transport at 7.30 am today. They were welcomed there by local authorities, departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people.

The Prime Minister and party went to Kungyangon and attended the opening of Kungyangon digital auto exchange. First, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw formally opened the exchange by cutting a ribbon. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt formally unveiled the stone inscription of the exchange, inspected the switching room and made overseas phone calls. Kungyangon auto exchange is kind of KX-TD 500. It can be installed with 400 telephones and 300 has been in-

stalled so far.

Next, the Prime Minister and party attended the opening of Kungyangon gymnasium. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint opened the gymnasium by cutting a ribbon. Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi unveiled the stone inscription of the gymnasium. While the Prime Minister was inspecting the gymnasium, different sports athletes presented their skill demonstrations. A ceremony to open a three-storey building of Kungyangon Basic Education High School No 2 and hand over the school building was held at the school. It was graced by the presence of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt. The headmaster and the chairman of the school board of trustees formally opened the new school building. Myanmar Education Committee Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt formally unveiled the stone inscription of the building. Next, the Prime Minister and

(See page 11)



Newly-opened three-storey school building at No 2 BEHS in Kungyangon. — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects the People's Hospital in Kungyangon. — MNA

Myanmar upsets India with 1-0 victory

YANGON, 8 Feb — The final match of the first U-18 BIMSTEC Cup-2004 took place in Phuket of Thailand this evening. The selected Myanmar youth team secured the championship with a 1-0 win over the selected Indian youth team in the match.

Aung Win Naing (a) Aung Zaw Myo scored the one and only goal at the 75th minute for the team.

The countries taking part in the tournament were host Thailand, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, India and Bhutan. Myanmar team was in Group-B together with India and Bhutan teams. As the first and foremost match of the tournament on 4 February, Myanmar played with India and held a goalless draw with it. As the second match that took place on 6 February, Myanmar played with Bhutan. The 5-0 victory over Bhutan enabled Myanmar to enter the semifinals.

Myanmar met with Bangladesh in the seminal final held on 7 February and beat it 3-0. In the final match held today, Myanmar met again with India, its group-mate, and beat it 1-0. Myanmar came first in the BIMSTEC Cup-2004 which was held for the first time. The victorious U-18 selected Myanmar youth team is arriving back in Yangon by air at 6.45 pm tomorrow. — MNA