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Fullmoon Day of Second Waso 1366 ME

Saturday, 31 July, 2004

Investment required to set up new nation All strength, efficiency, energies consolidated with firm resolve to fulfil nation's basic requirements

Senior General Than Shwe addresses conclusion of Myanmar and International Studies Course No 6, Special Refresher Course No 7



USDA Patron Head of State Senior General Than Shwe addresses the concluding ceremony of Myanmar and International Studies Course No 6 and Special Refresher Course No 7 of USDA. — MNA

YANGON, 30 July — Patron of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe attended concluding

ceremony of Myanmar and International Studies Course No 6 and Special Refresher Course No 7 of USDA held at the Union Hall of USDA training school in Hmawby Township at 9.20 am today.

Also present on the occasion were USDA Patron 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, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Sec-

retary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, the members of Central Panel of Patrons of the USDA, the ministers, the Chief-Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the USDA CEC members, the deputy-ministers, senior military of-

ficers of the Ministry of Defence, the directors-general, the managing directors, guests, course-in-charge Lt-Col Khin Win, course instructors and trainees.

The Senior General in his speech said that I will now explain what is necessary for you at the course conclusion ceremony. First, I would like to express satisfaction for your serious efforts in studying your lessons theoretically and practically in your course.

At the respective courses, you have studied the events concerning

the past, present and future of Myanmar, political, economic and social developments of the State, work programmes in connection with future policy of the State and formation and activities of regional and global bodies in the international sector.

In addition to studying the lectures of the course, the trainees of the Myanmar and International Studies also made field tours to witness the nation-building endeavours and compiled and presented papers group-wise.

By systematically study-

ing the past, present and future of the nation, you will be able to clearly see the events that had occurred and are occurring in the nation, and know its main requirements.

A citizen's participation in person in the task of fulfilling the requirements of the nation, through positive attitude, after understanding its objective conditions, amounts to dutifully performance of a national task.

Dutiful citizens, with high conviction, are the strength and power of the State.

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Excerpts from Senior General Than Shwe's speech

- * A citizen's participation in person in the task of fulfilling the requirements of the nation, through positive attitude, after understanding its objective conditions, amounts to dutifully performing a national task.
- * The qualifications, every citizen should possess, are the strength and power of the nation.
- * Building of a new peaceful, modern and developed nation has been firmly set the goal of the entire nation.
- * You have already witnessed that the basic requirements of the nation have been provided and the internal strength, might and energies have been consolidated to conduct the development undertakings at respective regions.
- * Because of the experiences of the past and history, first, we have restored the national consolidation and peace and stability.
- * It is time we made a endeavours to face and overcome the challenges of globalization of the present era.
- * The Government built 162 dams and 265 water pumping stations and is building 28 more dams and 30 new water pumping stations.

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Dignitaries seen at the concluding ceremony of Myanmar and International Studies Course No 6 and Special Refresher Course No 7 of USDA. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 31 July, 2004

Noble Dhammacakka Day

So auspicious for all Buddhist devotees around the world is today, Fullmoon Day of Waso, also known as Dhammacakka Day.

The day is blessed with three significances. It is the day on which the would-be Lord Buddha was conceived, the day on which He renounced the world, and the day on which He delivered the first sermon called Dhammacakka Discourse.

At the humble request of Brahmas and celestial beings, and in view of the welfare of both celestial and human beings, the would-be Lord Buddha had to be conceived on that day over 2,500 years ago.

Upon seeing the Four Omens — the aged, the sick, the dead and the monk, He retreated into the forest on Fullmoon Day of Waso in a disturbed state of mind when he turned 29.

After attaining the omniscience and reaching Buddhahood, He walked Migadawon, where He preached Great Dhammacakka Discourse to the Five Disciples, plus devas and Brahmas, on Fullmoon Day of Waso.

After He had delivered the discourse the Five Disciples became arahats in succession. The Fullmoon Day of Waso is thus regarded as Dhammacakka Day. Throughout 45 years, He expounded the Four Noble Truths: the truth of suffering, the truth of the root cause of suffering, the truth of the cessation of suffering and the truth of the path to the cessation of suffering. The Lord Buddha pointed out the nature of suffering and unhappiness. He held that all existence is painful, that pain is a product of craving, and that the cease of craving will result in the end of pain.

To escape from suffering and craving, one needs to follow the Noble Eight-fold Path. The Lord Buddha Himself prefers the practice of the Middle Way or Majjima Patipada, which avoids all extremes. To practise Majjima Patipada, one needs to have the right understanding, the right aspiration, the right speech, the right action, the right conduct, the right endeavour, the right mindfulness and the right thought.

For those who are really concerned about liberation from this worldly pleasure which can cause but suffering, the Majjima Patipada is the correct path to take.

Therefore, pious people in Myanmar hold ceremonies to offer Waso robes to members of the Sangha throughout the month of Waso, doing meritorious deeds alongside the practice of the Majjima Patipada through which they can enter into Nibbana, the emancipation from Samsara: the cycle of birth and death.

Effective Negotiation Skills Course concludes

YANGON, 30 July — With a view to ensuring Initiative for ASEAN Integration under the Singapore cooperation programme, the Effective Negotiation Skills Course, conducted by Civil Service College International of Singapore, organized by the Civil Service Selection and Training Board of the Union of Myanmar and sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore concluded at the Myanmar-Singapore Training Centre on Nanattaw Road in Kamayut Township this afternoon. First Secretary Mr Peter Ho Tiew Min of the Singaporean Embassy presented certificates to trainees individually. On behalf of all trainees, two trainees presented souvenirs to the First Secretary and Associate Trainer Mr Seow Gim Leng and expressed gratitude. Afterwards, they had a group photo taken in front of the training centre. Altogether 20 officer trainees from various ministries attended the five-day course from 26 to 30 July. — NLM

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

Vessels warned to follow safety instructions

YANGON, 30 July — Because of the mountain torrents and creeks being fed by of the downpours in the upper reaches of the Ayeyawady and the Chindwin, water levels of the two rivers at certain towns are exceeding their respective danger levels. And the rise in the water levels have made the currents stronger and inundated islands and banks. Moreover the water levels may also rise above the warning signs. The Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems Department has already issued a warning for the vessels to pass under the river-crossing bridges one by one on the correct route from a safe distance, after taking into account the speed of the current and the speed of wind.

As failure to follow the warning has been found, a supervision and control committee is formed to conduct its duties, with Setkawt village on the opposite bank of Yangon as its base, for the safety of Bo Myat Tun Bridge and vessels.

The department has announced that all vessels travelling downstream the river will have to report at the committee office at the village and to sail under the bridge in accord with the body's instructions. — MNA

Myanmar-China in like manner

- * Love begets love
In reciprocating
True brothers loving sincere
These feelings come to mind.
- * True brothers
Accepted that may
Goodwill becomes mutual,
Two together at all times.
Move forward helping each other
Toward the pleasant destination
If one brother arrives, other shall not be behind
If another arrives, other shall be there too
Moving ahead abreast
Aim at arriving there.

Po Wa (Trs)

Waso robes offered

YANGON, 30 July — The waso robe offering ceremony was held at the No 2 Basic Education Primary School in Kamayut Township here yesterday morning. Headmistress Daw Kathy Soe Thein, Township Education Officer Daw Tin Tin Mya, teachers and students offered 99 Waso robes to members of the Sangha. — MNA

Agricultural and transport works inspected

YANGON, 30 July — Teaming with Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman and South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and officials, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence toured Hpa-an and Kawkayeik Districts in Kayin State on 27 July to inspect agricultural tasks and transport infrastructures. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party left Mawlamyine in Mon State at 7 am by car and arrived at Gyaing (Zathapyin) Bridge linking Kayin and Mon States. At 8.30 am, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended a ceremony to handover 50 hand-power tillers at Tawpon village in Hpa-an Township. Officials concerned reported on cultivation of monsoon paddy on reclaimed farmland for 2004-05, measures taken for targeted paddy output, arrangements for reclamation of 140,000 acres of vacant and fallow land to expand the sown acreage up to 500,000, and technical assistance provided for peasants to meet targeted yield through the application of four methods.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions to officials concerned, saying that the majority of population in the country are engaged in agricultural industry. He continued that efforts are to be made to shape the mechanized farming system that can boost the national economy. He also spoke of the importance of proper



Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects hand tillers at Tawpon village of Hpa-an Township. MNA

agricultural methods. Later, he called upon peasants to work hard to build a better social life through the correct employment of agricultural methods at a time when the MAS is disseminating agricultural methods suited to the regions concerned.

Next, a ceremony was held to hand over documents related to 50 hand-power tillers to those who had purchased them. Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the condition of the power tillers. He also looked into the reclamation of 215 acres of vacant land and demonstrations of paddy direct-seeding methods. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded to Gyaing (Kawkayeik) Bridge, where they inspected renovation works at the bridge and gave instructions on systematic maintenance for long-term durability of the bridge.

At 10.10 am, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended a demonstration of growing monsoon paddy at

Laytaing village in Kawkayeik Township. On the occasion, local authorities and departmental officials reported on extension of sown acreage for cultivation of monsoon paddy, measures taken for cultivation of monsoon paddy as planned, condition of rainfall, arrangements to obtain targeted yield, and cultivation of major crops including paddy in Kawkayeik District. In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions on efforts to increase paddy output rather than extend sown acreage, collection of agricultural statistics precisely, and dissemination of high-yield paddy cultivation methods to peasants. Next, he called for assiduous measures for regional development. After the demonstration ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Col Khin Kyu presented awards to seven paddy-planting demonstration teams.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo

and party proceeded to the local battalion in Kawkayeik at 12 noon and met officers, other ranks and their families at Bandula Hall. At the get-together, Lt-Gen Maung Bo urged them to carry out three major duties of the Tatmadaw and to participate in national development measures in cooperation with the people.

Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party left there for Kyakalay village in Hpa-an Township, where they oversaw construction of Kyakalay-Thanhle-Khaya-Zathapyin road. At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Maung Bo heard reports on construction of 37 bridges, of which five have been completed. In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo fulfilled the requirements through coordination with officials of departments concerned, and urged them to accomplish the project in this December. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party left for Mawlamyine.

MNA

Kidnappers holding seven in Iraq threaten to kill one

BAGHDAD, 30 July— Kidnappers holding seven foreign drivers hostage in Iraq threatened to “slaughter” one of them Friday if there was no answer to their demands, showing an Indian with a gun to his head to make their point.

In a videotape given to international news organizations on Thursday, the guerrillas did not say which hostage among three Indians, three Kenyans and one Egyptian they were threatening to kill by 7 pm (11 am EDT) Friday.

But the footage showed a masked man pointing an M-16 automatic rifle at the head of one of the Indian hostages. The hostage, Antaryami from northern India, sat on the floor dressed in orange, sweating and looking very afraid.

“If no one responds to us, we will slaughter one of the hostages Friday, July 30, at 7 pm,” said a voice on the tape, adding the group had decided the hostages were fighters supporting the US military in Iraq.

Kidnappers in Iraq have repeatedly dressed hostages in orange before killing them, usually by beheading. The clothing mimics the orange jumpsuits worn by prisoners in US detention facilities, including Muslim inmates at Guantanamo Bay.

The seven truck drivers work for the Kuwait and Gulf

Link Transport company. The kidnappers have demanded the firm stop doing business in Iraq. In a statement addressed to the kidnappers, the firm appealed for more time for talks.

The father of the Indian hostage said he was distraught. “I am finished. What can I say? I would rather die myself than have my son die,” a depressed sounding Ram Murthi, father of Antaryami, told Reuters in New Delhi by telephone.

The company said the drivers had no political affiliation and their governments were not part of the US-led coalition.

“So we urge you ... to spare the hostages’ lives and to hold on and give the negotiations a chance. We are willing as a company to do anything, anything at all, to assure the safety of these drivers and their return to Kuwait to see their families.”

India’s Embassy in Baghdad also appealed for their release.

Internet



In a videotape given to foreign news organizations on 29 July, 2004, a masked man points an M-16 automatic rifle at the head of an Indian hostage, who was wearing orange clothing. Kidnappers holding seven foreign truck drivers hostage in Iraq threatened to kill one of them on Friday if they received no response to their demands. — INTERNET

Ukraine planning cuts in its forces in Iraq

KIEV, 30 July—Ukraine has started negotiations to reduce and eventually withdraw its troops from Iraq, where they make up the fourth largest non-US contingent, defence officials said Thursday.

A Defence Ministry spokesman, Vyacheslav Bolotniuk, confirmed that Ukraine was in discussions with the United States and Poland, but he gave no timeline for a pullout. “Ukraine plans to optimize its contingent in Iraq,” Bolotniuk said. “There will be a decrease of troops.”

Earlier Thursday, Defence Minister Yevhen Marchuk said that negotiations started in Warsaw earlier this year and continued at the NATO summit in Istanbul late last month. About 1,650 Ukrainian troops are serving in the Polish-led force patrolling southern Iraq. Ukraine sent troops at least in part to improve relations with the United States, which were badly damaged amid

accusations that Ukraine’s president, Leonid Kuchma, had approved the sale of radar systems to Saddam Hussein.

The talks about the withdrawal are “probably related” to increased violence in Iraq, Bolotniuk said, while political analysts said they were linked to Ukraine’s October presidential election.

Seven Ukrainian soldiers have died in Iraq, three of them in combat in April, and about 20 have been wounded. Kuchma and his government are under increasing pressure at home to withdraw the troops. Ukrainian troops have begun turning over guard duties at several key facilities to Iraqi soldiers. —Internet

Scuba divers to help preserve world’s oceans and seas

UNITED NATIONS, 29 July— Scuba divers across the globe are being enlisted to help in preserving the health and diversity of the world’s oceans and seas under a new initiative supported by the United Nations Environment Programme.

“Earthdive”, a project supported by UNEP’s World Conservation Monitoring Centre in Cambridge, England, urges professional and amateur divers to record findings on the marine environment - including everything from natural ecosystems to observations of illegal trade in endangered species, on the

initiative’s site, thereby contributing scientific data on key indicator species to build a “global dive log”.

In addition, members sign an international petition demanding action to protect the oceans.

“In conserving the oceans, we are not only saving a key part of the plan-

et’s life support systems and many wonderful marine life forms, we are also playing a key role in meeting the UN Millennium Development Goals in areas from poverty eradication to hunger reduction”, UNEP’s Executive Director Klaus Toepfer said.

MAN/PTI

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NATO deadlocked on Iraq as US, France spar

BRUSSELS, 29 July — NATO was deadlocked after a second day of debate on training Iraq troops Thursday, as the United States and France stuck to their guns in a dispute over whether to put the mission under the command of US-led forces.

A NATO official voiced confidence that an agreement would be reached at another meeting of ambassadors scheduled for Friday morning, but diplomats said there was no sign either Washington or Paris had given ground.

They said there would be intensive consultations among member states during the night to resolve a standoff that has put a spotlight on the lingering mistrust between the two countries more than a year after they fell out over the US-led Iraq war. “I’d like to be optimistic but it’s now down to a political choice,” said one senior diplomat, who requested anonymity.

The United States argues that since trainers in Iraq will need protection, there must be a formal link to stabilization troops on the ground through a commander who would report to both NATO and the US-led multinational force.

France is suspicious that this would amount to pushing NATO on to the Iraqi battlefield through a back door.

“We don’t see how NATO can be absorbed into the coalition,” said a French official as envoys of the 26 allied nations headed into their fourth meeting on the issue in two days, where they narrowed various differences down to just the issue of command.

NATO leaders meeting in Istanbul last month promised support to Iraq’s insurgency-plagued government, which has asked the alliance for military equipment, protection for UN personnel and training for both its regular troops and border guards.

However, the wording of the Istanbul summit accord was left deliberately vague because of French and German resistance to an overt or collective role for the alliance inside Iraq, forcing alliance envoys back around the table to agree on the details.

France has backed away from its initial objections to a NATO training mission inside Iraq, but — like Germany — it has vowed not to deploy any of its own personnel to the country.

It now wants an “implementation team” of about 30 people to leave for Iraq on August 6 with a mandate to report back in September, after which command arrangements could be worked out. —Internet

Official says Russia has four million drug users

MOSCOW, 29 July — A Russian drug-control official said Wednesday that Russia has about four million drug users, *Interfax* news agency reported.

About four million Russians take drugs and the drug business in Russia is estimated at 10 billion to 15 billion US dollars every year, according to Alexander Mikhailov, deputy head of Russia’s anti-drug service.

Drug use in Russia has boomed since the collapse of the Soviet Union and helped push up rates in associated illnesses like HIV/AIDS. — MNA/Xinhua

France still blocking NATO accord on Iraq

BRUSSELS, 30 July—NATO ambassadors met again on Thursday to try to resolve differences over a pledge to train Iraqi security forces, with France notably blocking an accord, diplomats said. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) leaders agreed at a summit in Istanbul last month to provide such training after the handover of powers to Baghdad from the US-led coalition, but left

details to be hammered out. The French government is standing firm in resisting an Alliance mission in Iraq itself, pressing for training to take place outside the war-scarred country, diplomats say. The United States, which has long pushed for a bigger NATO role in Iraq where American troops have been struggling to contain mounting violence, is pushing hard for an accord. —Internet



A US tank lies turned over on a highway west of Baghdad as soldiers secure the area recently. — INTERNET

Iraq delays key national conference

BAGHDAD, 29 July—Iraq on Thursday postponed a key national conference until the middle of next month, saying it needed more time to publicize its aims and bring on board recalcitrant political forces.

The “one time only” two-week delay, announced under pressure from the United Nations, followed a controversial selection process and widespread suspicion that the meeting would only entrench a select group of parties with connections to the interim government.

Many analysts feared

that instead of offering Iraq's different communities a peaceful venue to discuss the future, the conference would highlight divisions and undermine confidence in Iraq's transition to elections, due by the end of January.

The 1,000-strong gathering is due to choose a 100-member council to

monitor the last few months of the interim government's tenure.

Only days before, Fouad Massoum, the conference head, publicly brushed off UN doubts and insisted the gathering would go ahead by the end of the month, warning of a loss of credibility and legal difficulties if the date

slipped.

But pressure mounted on Thursday, as Mohsen Abdel Hamid, head of the moderate Sunni Iraqi Islamic Party, was the latest in a string of political leaders to cry foul.

He told a news conference in Baghdad that he was pulling out after a series of threats, particularly in the southern city of Basra, and called it a “bad beginning for democracy”.

He indicated he was willing to think again if mistakes were rectified.

Regional selections processes in Kirkuk and Basra proved particularly contentious but problems were encountered in many others, including Baghdad.

A person close to the conference confirmed that Basra had seen considerable intimidation between parties but claimed differences had been ironed out in subsequent meetings in the “cooler, calmer” climate of the capital.

Internet

ဝက်ဘ်ဆိုက်: အာဘီဂျော့

Arab gov'ts weigh sending troops to Iraq

CAIRO, 29 July—Arab governments say they want to help restore calm in Iraq and Pakistan is discussing the possibility of sending several hundred troops. But a militant group warned Thursday that they would attack any country that provided troops.

Saudi Arabia has proposed such a force, and Yemen and Bahrain have offered help under certain conditions, and foreign ministers from Algeria, Bahrain and Tunisia met Thursday with their Iraqi counterpart to discuss prospects of sending of Arab troops to Iraq.

While Arab governments and other Muslim countries say they want to help restore calm in Iraq — and have an interest in ensuring violence there does not destabilize the region — they must move carefully to avoid angering their citizens, many of whom are hostile toward the United States and Iraq's US-backed government.

The Internet warning threatened any Islamic or Arab nation that contributes troops to a Saudi-proposed Muslim force for Iraq, saying: “Our swords will be drawn in the face of anyone who cooperates with the Jews and the Christians. We will strike with an iron fist all the traitors from the Arab governments who cooperate with the Zionists secretly or openly.”

The statement was issued in the name of the Jamaat al-Tawhid al-Islamiya — Omar el-Mukhtar Brigade, a little known group whose main title means the Group of Islamic Monotheism. Omar el-Mukhtar fought the Italian occupation of Libya and was hanged in 1931. —Internet



Peace activists hold placards during a protest in Multan on 29 July, 2004 against the killing of two Pakistani drivers in Iraq. — INTERNET

Vietnam urges enterprises to take part in China-ASEAN trade fair

HANOI, 29 July—Vietnam encourages local enterprises to participate in the China-ASEAN trade fair, which is scheduled to be held in Guangxi's Nanning of China by the end of this year, a Vietnamese official said Wednesday.

The Trade Promotion Department under the Vietnamese Ministry of Trade will be in charge of organization activities for local enterprises attending the fair, said Vice Director of Asia-Pacific Department of the Ministry of Trade, Luu Thu Thang at a Press conference on the exhibition trade fair on industrial products of Guangxi, which will open here on 30 July.

With the great support of Guangxi and the enthusiasm of Vietnamese firms, more enterprises will participate in the fair between China and the Association of the South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), making contribution to fulfilling the two-way trade turnover target of 5 billion US dollars in 2005, Thang said.

Besides, the vice director expressed his wish that the two sides will beef up the

cooperation in dealing with some technical problems relating to examination of goods quality and ways of payment in border trade between the two countries to facilitate business activities of enterprises.

Up to now, just 20 enterprises have registered to participate in the China-ASEAN Fair. However, he believed that with 40 free booths provided by Guangxi for Vietnamese firms, more local businesses will attend the fair.

The economic and trade relation between China and Vietnam has strongly developed over the past few years. The bilateral trade turnover reached 4.6 billion US dollars in 2003, and is expected to reach 5 billion dollars in 2004, fulfilling the target of 2005 one year in advance. The two countries have targeted to obtain two-way trade turnover of 10 billion dollars by 2010. — MNA/Xinhua

UK report warns of Iraq, Afghanistan deterioration

LONDON, 29 July—A British parliamentary committee has warned the situation in Afghanistan and Iraq is getting worse.

The House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee says Afghanistan is “in danger of implosion” and Iraq is “a battleground for Al Qaeda”.

The highly critical report outlines a series of failures that have cost coalition opportunities in Iraq.

It says the United Kingdom's credibility has been damaged by the inability to provide basic services, such as electricity and water.

The British MPs also say they are concerned there is a cover up of key intelligence and prisoner abuse.

The report says militant groups are flourishing in Iraq, which risks becoming a failed state because there are not enough troops there.

It urges the British Government to en-

courage other nations to send troops to Iraq to shore up both the firepower and the legitimacy of US and UK forces.

“Iraq has become a ‘battleground’ for Al Qaeda ... The coalition's failure to bring law and order to parts of Iraq [has] created a vacuum into which criminal elements and militias have stepped,” the cross-party Foreign Affairs Committee said.

On Afghanistan, the terrorism report says opium production has increased and the Government's power is limited to the capital.

Without urgent military and economic assistance, it says the country is in danger of imploding.

The committee says British forces, diplomats and aid workers in Afghanistan are overstretched. —Internet

China opens scientific research station in Arctic area

BEIJING, 29 July—China's first scientific research station in the Arctic area, the Yellow River Station located on the Norwegian island of Spitsbergen, officially opened on Wednesday.

In a letter, Hu Jintao, General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and Chinese President, extended congratulations on the opening of the station and greetings to China's polar research scientists on behalf of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council.

MNA/Xinhua

Shanghai to boost grain trade by building “IT”-based platform

SHANGHAI, 29 July—Shanghai, China's industrial and commercial centre, will employ information technology to build a new grain trade platform, boosting grain trade, said vice-mayor Hu Yanzhao.

Speaking Wednesday at the conference on intensifying the reform of grain circulation, Hu said Shanghai will spend two years in building the platform, meeting its great need for rice.

With a population over 16 million, Shanghai is one of China's grain import giants, consuming 5.7 million tons every year, nearly half of which is rice. However, the trade volume of rice amounted to 750,000 tons in 2003, fulfilling only 36 per cent of the market's requirement. — MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi man looks at the ruins of a house destroyed in an airstrike near the village of Al-Suwariyah, southern Iraq, on 28 July, 2004. —INTERNET

Chinese media blasts American "hypocrisy" on HR

BEIJING, 30 July — China's official media on Tuesday blasted the US for its "hypocrisy" on the question of human rights and demanded justice to a Chinese businesswoman who was thrashed by a US Homeland Security inspector.

"The world knows the US propensity for pointing fingers at others in human rights protections. But who is the real threat after all?" the *'China Daily'* wondered in an editorial piece.

"Under the banner of anti-terrorism, the United States has given its Army free rein to arrest or imprison any suspected terrorists or those suspected of having connections to terrorists," the Communist nation's leading English daily noted sarcastically.

The paper said the US has committed condemnation, provoking actions ranging from its invasion of Iraq without any convincing excuse to the abuse of Iraqi prisoners in Abu Ghraib Prison.

"The logic is reminiscent and representative of US arrogance on the world stage. The Americans can kill anyone they think is a potential threat to their precious lives, or beat an innocent woman half to death on the flimsiest

of excuses," the paper said.

Further, it noted that the American security apparatus has become even more bellicose in law enforcement by taking advantage of the prevailing sense of fear they have "cultivated" at home after 9/11.

Robert Rhodes, a United States Homeland Security inspector, was charged on Friday with violating a Chinese tourist's civil rights following the assault on Zhao Yan, a 37-year-old business-

woman from Tianjin.

The incident occurred late Wednesday at the US-Canadian border at Niagara Falls. The beating left Zhao's eyes nearly swollen shut and bumps and bruises on her face and head.

"A swift and thorough investigation must be launched to bring the culprits to justice," the China Daily editorial demanded.

While condemning the conduct of the US security agents as "criminally inhuman," the paper commented that "together with their commanders in Washington, they are painting a shameful image of their country."

MNA/PTI



A protester gives thumbs down sign while chanting anti-Australia slogans outside the Australian Embassy in Manila on 30 July, 2004. A diplomatic row sparked by Australia, blaming the Philippines and Spain for encouraging guerillas, by withdrawing from Iraq deepened on Wednesday when Manila scolded the Australian envoy over her government's stance.—INTERNET

Bulgarian opposition calls for Iraq withdrawal

SOFIA, 29 July — Bulgaria's socialist opposition called on Wednesday for the country's 470 troops in Iraq to be withdrawn by the end of January in an attack on the government's staunchly pro-US stance.

Hours after Islamic militants displayed a severed head they said belonged to a Bulgarian kidnapped earlier this month, the Socialist Party tabled a parliamentary proposal to force the government to commit to quitting Iraq.

The proposal comes amidst growing

Bulgarian disillusionment over Iraq and analysts said it represented a move to depart from the strong pro-American consensus in the poor Balkan state before general elections, expected next June.

"We demand a strategy for the gradual reduction of the Bulgarian military presence in Iraq... and an ending of the mission of the Bulgarian battalion not later than the end of January," Socialist Party head Sergei Stanishev told Info Radio.

MNA/Reuters

Britain's drug firms pledge more cash for animal research

LONDON, 29 July — Britain's pharmaceutical industry, under fire from vocal and sometimes violent animal rights activists, pledged four million pounds (7.28 million US dollars) on Wednesday to fund animal research in universities.

GlaxoSmithKline Plc, AstraZeneca Plc and US-based Pfizer Inc — the three biggest drug firms with research operations in Britain — said their joint fund would provide one million pounds a year for the next four years.

"The fund aims to maintain high quality in-vivo (animal) research relevant to the discovery of new medicines, and thereby support the training of new and existing scientists in the field," the companies said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

US soldier faces Iraq murder charge

HANAU (Germany), 29 July — A US Army captain charged with murdering an Iraqi appeared before a military hearing in Germany on Wednesday in the first murder investigation of an American soldier since the Iraq invasion.

Captain Rogelio Maynulet, who told Reuters after his court appearance that he was confident of clearing his name, is being investigated following an incident involving a car chase with suspected militia of Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in May.

"During their pursuit, soldiers fired at the vehicle, wounding the driver and passenger. Shortly afterward the driver was shot and killed at close range," the Army said in a statement.

Although the US Army is pursuing other soldiers for manslaughter, a spokeswoman in Washington said this was the first murder investigation.— MNA/Reuters

Iraqi Air Force to get first new aircraft

AMMAN, 29 July — Iraq's Air Force will take delivery of its first two new aircraft on Thursday, the start of a new surveillance force for protecting its borders and oil facilities.

Jordanian officials said the two *Seabird Seeker* (SB7L-360) aircraft, made by Seabird Aviation-Jordan, a joint Jordanian-Australian venture, would be handed over to Iraqi officials in Amman and then flown to Basra.

"Tomorrow we will hand over the first two aircraft to the Iraqi Air Force," said Omar Massarweh, commercial and operations manager at Seabird Aviation-Jordan.

The SB7L-360 plane resembles a helicopter with a bulbous glass nose, but with wings and a rear-facing propeller. The aircraft is a low-cost alternative to a helicopter, ideal for reconnaissance and surveillance, the firm said.

"It will be used to keep an eye on oil pipelines, power lines, anti-terrorism activities, and coastal and border patrol," Massarweh told Reuters.

Jordanian officials say

the kingdom, which lends covert and logistical aid to the US military campaign in Iraq, seeks to become a training hub for the Iraqi Air Force, which currently numbers about 150 personnel and should reach 500 by year-end.

Eight Iraqi pilots and seven technicians, part of the *Seabird Seeker* contract, are also due to graduate on Thursday.

Seabird Aviation-Jordan officials said they were hopeful the delivery of the two planes would be followed soon by a contract to supply

16 other such planes to Iraq by early 2005.

The joint venture with Australia's Seabird Aviation was set up with backing by Jordan's King Abdullah in July 2003 to help foster a Jordanian armaments industry.

The kingdom has also offered to sell 16 US-made Huey helicopters and two C-130 Hercules transport planes to Iraq. US and Iraqi officials were examining the proposals, said a Jordanian Air Force official who declined to be named.

MNA/Reuters

Chinese herbal medicines sold with free health insurance

SHIJIAZHANG, 29 July — To encourage more overseas customers to try Chinese herbal medicines, an export-oriented pharmaceutical company in north China's Hebei Province has offered to provide them free health

insurance, covering health problems arising from taking the herbal medicines.

The Shijiazhuang-based Shineway Pharmaceutical Company is the first Chinese drugmaker promising to provide health insurance for their overseas customers.

Industrial experts believed this method indicated the soaring ambition of Chinese medical companies to enter the global market and the persistent caution of foreigners in accepting Chinese medicines made of herb and plants.

According to the agreement clinched between Shineway and the Property and Casualty Company Limited of the People's Insurance Company of China, the insurance policy mainly covers 10 products including the most well-known Wufu Xinnaoqing Soft Capsule and the Huoxiang Zhengqi Soft Capsule for treatment of angina and cold separately.

MNA/Xinhua

British police arrest 14 in Heathrow crime raids

LONDON, 29 July — British police Tuesday arrested 14 people in raids to crack an organized crime network at London's Heathrow Airport.

Three airport employees and their former colleagues were among those held in the raids, said a BBC report.

During the raids, police seized a Ferrari and a Porsche, a replica gun and evidence showing the suspects owned properties in Spain. Four of the detained are suspected of involvement in a 3.5-million-pound (6.5-million-US-dollar) robbery at Heathrow Airport in 2002.

Three others were arrested in connection with a separate multi-million pound robbery attempt that was foiled by police. The final seven suspects are alleged to have been involved in the smuggling of cocaine through Heathrow, said police.

The raids were part of Operation Grafton, a crackdown on large-scale crime at Heathrow Airport launched in April, 2003 following complaints from private firms over huge losses to organized crime there. One company left and relocated to Frankfurt Airport. — MNA/Xinhua



Mother and son : Cora, a two-month-old baby tiger plays with her adoptive mother, a four-year-old dog in Villeneuve-d'Asq, northern France. —INTERNET

Bush has isolated America, divided country

WASHINGTON, 29 July — Former US presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter have said that incumbent George W. Bush and the Republicans have isolated America in the war against terror and divided the country by giving tax credits to the rich at the expense of the poor.

Clinton, who was introduced by his wife Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton at the Democratic National Convention in Boston which will officially nominate John Kerry for November 2 election, said terrorism can only be defeated if the US has more partners.

He said the Republican Administration has not only wiped out the huge budgetary surpluses he had built but also is now running huge deficits, depending on China and Japan.

"If you believe it is good policy vote for the Republicans. Otherwise, send John Kerry to the White House," he said at the convention Monday.

Clinton blamed Republicans for rising health-care costs and neglecting the environment. Both Clinton and Carter pointed out that the country was united after 9/11 with the rest of the world.

But Bush, said Clinton, "walked away from our allies" in attacking Iraq before

the weapons inspectors had finished their work. Similarly, instead of seeking to control the proliferation of nuclear weapons, the Bush Administration was trying to build two new weapons.

Clinton said "This is a time of unprecedented change. The question is how to build a safe and prosperous world for the children. The 21st Century is marked by serious security threats and challenges but it also provides amazing opportunities".

Carter said the current administration is "sorely lacking in judgment and maturity". — MNA/PTI

US soldier killed in bomb attack in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 29 July — One US soldier was killed and three others wounded in a roadside bomb attack on their patrol in northern Iraq, the US military said Wednesday.

A US military spokesman said that the attack occurred at 8:15 p.m. (1615 GMT) Tuesday when the bomb was detonated as the US patrol passed by the town of Balad-Ruz, some 40 kilometres northeast of Baghdad.

The blast badly damaged the military vehicle, killing one soldier of the 1st US Infantry Division and wounding three others, the spokesman said.

The wounded soldiers were then evacuated to a field hospital and they were in stable conditions, he added.

Over 900 US servicemen have been killed in Iraq since the beginning of the war in March last year.

MNA/Xinhua

Saudi Arabia, Iraq announce to reopen embassies

RIYADH, 29 July — Visiting Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi said on Wednesday that his country and Saudi Arabia have agreed to reopen their embassies.

The two neighbours have closed their embassies since the 1991 Gulf War against Iraq launched by US troops from Saudi soil.

"We have agreed to open up embassies between Saudi Arabia and Iraq" from Wednesday, Allawi, on a visit to Saudi Arabia, told reporters.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal confirmed the news, saying Saudi Arabia agreed with Iraq's interim government to resume bilateral diplomatic relations.

Faisal made the confirmation following

his meeting with Allawi in Jeddah earlier in the day, Dubai-based al-Arabiya satellite channel reported, adding the two sides discussed ways to promote bilateral relations and the latest developments in Iraq and Palestine.

Former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait in 1990, triggering the US-led Gulf War in 1991 to expel the Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Saudi Arabia was used as a launchpad for US forces, which stayed in the kingdom until last year. — MNA/Xinhua



A Philippine protester aims to throw marshmallows to a poster of Australian Prime Minister John Howard outside the Australian Embassy in Manila's Makati financial district on 30 July, 2004. — INTERNET

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Hadhin Mohaybis, 68, cries as she holds a picture of her son Karim Hassan Abid Ali, 36, allegedly killed by a US soldier who is being tried in Germany for his murder, at her home in Al Sadr Baghdad, on 29 July, 2004.

INTERNET

British troops under fire in Iraq abuse test case

LONDON, 29 July — Families of six dead Iraqis launched a legal case against British soldiers on Wednesday, throwing the spotlight back on troop behaviour in the US-led occupation.

In a test case at London's High Court, relatives of the Iraqi civilians demanded that judges force Tony Blair's government to open independent probes into claims of unlawful killings and abuse by British troops.

"This government took us to war to uphold principles of democracy and the

rule of law. But it wants to flout the rule of law in these places," said Phil Shiner, whose Public Interest Lawyers Group is representing the families.

Families say five of the six Iraqis were shot dead after the war while going about their daily lives — at home, attending a funeral, driving home from work, and visiting a judge — in the British-controlled southern region of Iraq.

The sixth and best-known case involves Baha Mousa, an Iraqi hotel worker who

was arrested in Basra and returned dead to his family four days later, battered and caked in blood.

"Their cases and these others are disgraceful examples of abuse," Shiner added. He was flanked by a former colleague of Mousa, Kifah Taha al-Mutari, who said he was almost beaten to death after being arrested with Mousa. Abuse allegations against occupying soldiers surfaced earlier this year with graphic images of US soldiers' mistreatment of pris-

oners at the Abu Ghraib Jail.

The American cases have been more numerous but some British troops' behaviour has also been sufficiently worrying to draw protests from both the International Committee of the Red Cross and Amnesty International.

If the High Court allows independent inquiries into Wednesday's cases, that may pave the way for many more claims and could lead to large compensations and prosecutions. — MNA/Reuters

Bad hygiene blamed for typhoid in Russia, Ukraine

MOSCOW, 29 July — Russian and Ukrainian authorities said outbreaks of typhoid, a disease usually confined to less developed countries, had hit Moscow and southern Ukraine, saying poor sanitation was to blame.

Epidemiologists, quoted by Russian media, reported two cases in a family just outside Moscow, with a third relative under observation. All had eaten food purchased at a local market.

"This is quite unusual for Moscow, though less so for other parts of the former Soviet Union," a medical source said on Tuesday. "It is no cause for alarm, but amounts to a lesson not to buy food at markets where there is no proper refrigeration."

Typhoid, which causes severe fever and diarrhoea and spreads quickly, is caused by bacteria generally linked to poor quality water, inadequate sewage systems or low hygiene standards.

MNA/Reuters

India considering proposals to formulate "code of governance"

NEW DELHI, 29 July — The Indian Government was considering proposals to formulate a "code for good governance" so that benefits of all government schemes percolated to the common man.

The proposals, which were being seriously discussed by the Government, would lay down broad parameters for the states and the central government and enable them evolve an effective mechanism for evaluating the performance in key areas like education and health, official sources said.

These proposals were required not only to assess the performance of states or various central ministries on the basis of utilization of budgetary allocations but also to see how the government policies were impacting the lives of the common man.

The government plans to rope in some external agencies, including even NGOs, to evaluate the states' performance on these parameters and then categorise them, they said.

The sources said the external agency would also prepare a "citizen-oriented state of governance report" based on these parameters. The move would help curb corruption in government offices besides ensuring accountability.

The sources said these proposals would be tabled before Chief Ministers of all states to seek their opinion on the same.

The sources said that the proposals, once finalized, would first be implemented only in those states which were willing and later other states will be persuaded to follow suit.

The government has begun preparing an analysis of more than 75 reports of various commissions submitted on police and administrative reforms since the Independence. — MNA/PTI

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe sees off PM General Khin Nyunt on his departure for Thailand



Senior General Than Shwe and party see off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on his departure for Thailand.— MNA



Ambassadors, diplomats and UN officials see off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on his departure for Thailand.— MNA

Cash and kind donated

YANGON, 30 July — Cash and kind were donated to the funds of education, health, sports and social activities in Dedaye Township this morning at a ceremony held at BESH-1. Seven retired teachers were provided with cash and 111 teachers of high, middle and primary schools with uniforms. The trust fund of K 1 million was also set up for needy students. Moreover, cement bags, exercise books, pencils and ball-point pens were donated. The amount of the donations totalled over K 6 million. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo fulfils requirements of southern Ye region in Mon State

YANGON, 30 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Col Ye Win of Ye Station, senior military officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departments concerned, local authorities and departmental officials inspected Khawza Village in Ye Township for development of southern Ye region on 26 July. Lt-Gen Maung Bo met local national races people and attended to their needs. Next, he donated K 1.5 million for construction of Basic Education Primary School in Kabyagyi Village.

The commander presented cement bags for constructing of new buildings at BEPSs in Hsingu and Yinye villages. Asin Village Peace and Development Council Chairman U Maung Myint donated K 500,000 each for Yinye Village BEPS and Kabyagyi Village BEPS. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the Khawza police outpost and gave necessary instructions.

On arrival at Khawza Station Hospital, officials conducted them round the hospital. Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented K 1 million to the funds of the hospital. They also inspected construction of new building at Khawza BEMS. In Khawza Village, they paid homage to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vamsadipa, aged 89, vasa 69, of Khawza Old Monastery.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo met local people and explained rural development, security, peace and tranquillity and flourishing of Union Spirit. Afterwards, the commander gave a speech. Lt-Gen Maung Bo delivered an address. In his address he said that national races have been living in our country since time in memorial. So, the nation home to the national races was declared as the Union of Myanmar to the world. We struggled for the independence while under the rule of the British and Fascist. After regaining the independence, fore parents and brothers pledged to live in the Union through thick and thin for life. Next, the consolidation of the national races disintegrated due to disunity among them. Consequently, internal armed conflicts started at that time and the national people were in miserable conditions. Due to existence of internal armed insurgencies for a long time, the country lagged behind in development and the national people had been far from favourable living standard. During the period of the State Peace and Development Council, the Head of State initiated steps them with farsightedness to join hands with all national races for peaceful coexistence. So, altogether 17 armed groups have been joining hands with the government in the interest of the State. Only insignificant number of the armed groups remained.

The State Peace and Development Council is building a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation in cooperation with the national people. If we march to the State's goal with democracy system, it is necessary to firmly strengthen consolidation of the entire nation as well as to develop education, health, transport and social sectors. It is needed to ensure proper administrative machinery and prevalence of law and order. To flourish the democracy system, it is necessary to strengthen political, economic, social and administration pillars. Therefore, the government is fulfilling basic needs for flourishing the democracy system which the entire people desire. Now, the



Lt-Gen Maung Bo presents clothes for villagers of Khawza village in Ye region. MNA

government is implementing the border areas development project, tasks of 24 development regions and five rural development tasks for ensuring equal development in all regions of the country. Southern Ye region in Mon State has less development. He added that they arrived there to fulfil requirements of the region under the guidance of the Head of State. Local people are to cooperate with the government in regional development tasks and to live together in weal and woe and to be equipped with the Union Spirit for ensuring peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order. And, local people should cooperate with social organizations.

Highly-qualified human resources for regional development and emergence of a modern and developed nation. So, it is aimed at enabling all the people to learn basic education. The plan is being implemented for enrolling of school-going age at basic education level so as to turn out highly qualified human resources in the future. All are to collaborate in implementing the plan to enable the children in the region to pursue education at the basic education primary schools.

If local people collectively participate in the tasks at a time when the government is fulfilling the requirements for development of the entire southern Ye region, the goal will be achieved soon. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo attended to their needs and presented clothes to the national people through local authorities of Kawhlaing, Padaung, Thekhon, Khawza, Tayokhtauk, Khawza Chaungwa, Mihaw Hlalay and Dani Thagya villages. Wellwisher Asin Village PDC Chairman U Maung Myint presented K 1 million to renovation of Khawza Old Monastery to Khawza Village PDC Chairman U Maung Nge and K 500,000 for Yindein BEPS to Yindein Village PDC Chairman U Aung Myint and the teacher. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented K 1 million for Kabyawa Village BEPS. Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo went back to Mawlamyine.— MNA

Investment required to set up...

(from page 1)

These qualifications of each citizen, are the strength and power of the nation.

The USDA has been training and nurturing new generation youths to enhance their national conviction, while enabling them to dutifully perform the national duties.

Building of a new peaceful, modern and developed nation has been firmly set as the goal of the entire nation. The nation must be built with firm resolve, without losing sight of this goal.

The nation-building is a very practical task. All the strength, efficiency and energies have been mobilized with firm resolve to provide the basic requirements of the nation in accord with the time and situation.

At the excursions during the courses, you have already witnessed that the basic requirement had been fulfilled, and the internal strength, might and energies have been mobilized to conduct the development undertakings of the respective regions.

I assume that you have already noticed the progress and changes that are more significant than those of the past, after witnessing a portion of the development undertakings.

I have just mentioned that the building of a new modern nation is a very



Senior General Than Shwe and party pose for documentary photo with trainees.—MNA

practical task. Investment is required in setting up a new nation. Because of the experiences of the past, first, we restored national consolidation and peace and stability.

At the courses, you would have noted the government's initial step towards the national re-consolidation, that is the endeavour to end armed conflicts. The national solidarity and peace and stability are the foundation of all the developments.

We need to make progress with greater acceleration as we have to repay the debt resulting from backwardness and making investment for the future in building a new peaceful, modern and developed nation.

As I have already said, the strength, might and energy are needed. In addition, it is time we made endeavours to face and overcome the challenges of globalization of the present era.

During your study field tours of the development undertakings, you have witnessed the irrigation projects.

The Government built 162 dams and 265 water pumping stations and is building 28 more dams and 30 new water pumping stations. The facilities will produce good results for the nation both at present and in the future. Thanks to the facilities, cultivation patterns have changed in the fields countable in acres in the million, and the way has been paved for double or triple cropping a year at the same plot.

There will emerge more job opportunities along with better economic life of the people as there has been a dramatic surge in harvesting, storage, transport, milling and distribution of paddy and other crops produced. Building of infrastructure means making investment and there will be fruitful results with the

Building of a new peaceful, modern and developed nation has been firmly set as the goal of the entire nation. The nation must be built with firm resolve, without losing sight of the goal. The nation-building is a very practical task. All the strength, efficiency and energies have been mobilized with firm resolve to provide the essentials of the nation in accord with the time and situation.

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emergence of more infra-

structures. You had an opportunity to observe river-crossing bridges and creek-crossing bridges that are prerequisites for better transport during your study tour. Better transport plays a pivotal role in all-round development in the nation.

There has emerged a network of roads and railroads across the nation, which were implemented under projects for development of border areas and national races, the 24-development zones projects and the five rural development tasks.

Those transport facilities have been able to boost socio-economic life of the people as well as trade and commodity production. Service sector of the Union Highways in the nation contributes much to fostering friendships among the national races as well as development of the national

economy.

During the course, you went through the efforts of the government in nation-building tasks, especially in economic and social sectors.

In the education sector, there have been learning opportunities the length and breadth of the nation. In the basic education sector, efforts have been made to enable every school-age child to enjoy the opportunity of pursuing primary school education, and from that stage, they will be able to enjoy the opportunity of pursuing middle and high school education.

The government has been able to provide equal opportunity to every region in pursuit of education as over 40,500 basic education schools have been opened throughout the nation. With the emergence of a wide array of higher learning institutions in addition to basic education schools in the

development regions, greater opportunities to learn arts & science, technology and medical science have been created. At present, there are altogether 156 colleges and universities across the country.

In the social sector, public health care services are of paramount importance. With this concept, greater efforts are being made to ensure medical treatment and disease control in the whole country.

In the 24 development zones, the hospitals were upgraded into the 200-bed specialist ones complete with modern medical equipment and splendid buildings. Meanwhile, the township-level hospitals were also upgraded.

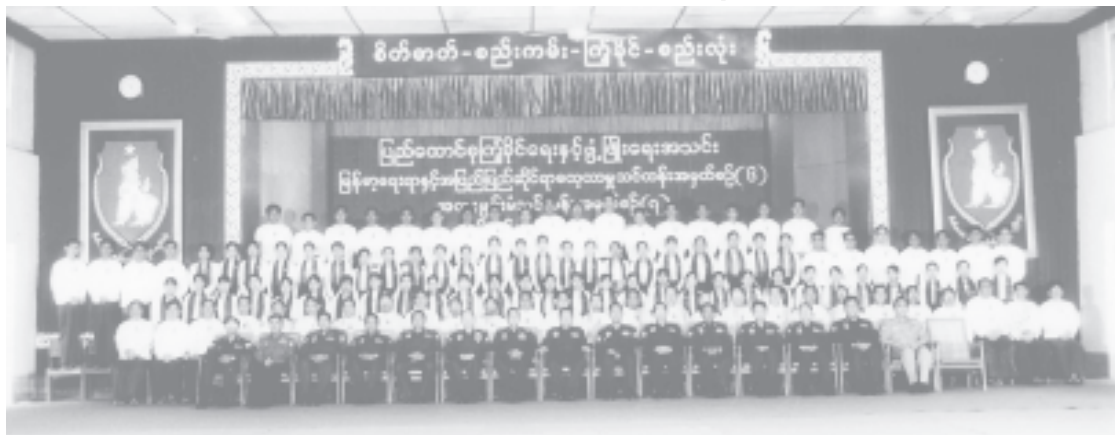
Priority is being given to public health care services at the 200-bed specialist hospitals with the appointment of specialists for 12 specialized subjects. As a new organisational set-up, permission has been granted to conduct 17 specialized subjects at the two latest hospitals, which will also be upgraded. The 200-bed hospitals have been opened in the 24-development zones, and there were altogether 19 subject-wise specialist hospitals in the nation. Pursuit of medical science has been extended in line with the emergence of more and more hospitals.

Greater efforts are being made to ensure all-round development for the emergence of a new modern and developed nation.

(See page 9)

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Senior General Than Shwe and party pose for documentary photo with trainees.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe cordially greets trainees after the concluding ceremony of the courses. MNA

Regarding the steps towards promotion of national education standard, more new basic education schools, universities and colleges have been opened, new subjects prescribed and there has been a sharp increase in the number of students. So, even some retired scholars of old age have to continue participation in academic and research work in the interest of the nation.

With respect to the health sector, the people are participating actively in disease control measures and community healthcare projects.

Investment required to set up...

(from page 8)

In striving for national development, I would like to mention the role of the people. As regards exerting efforts with dedication for promoting the living standard of the people, the significant point is that the people have participated in the endeavours. In studying the irrigation projects, electric power projects and river-crossing bridge projects, it can be seen that intellectuals and intelligentsia in the country have participated relentlessly in implementing them with their knowledge and technologies. Similarly, the national education promotion programme is being implemented in the country and in this endeavour, millions of citizens including rural people are participating. The people have rendered physical and financial assistance to the endeavours for emergence of multimedia classrooms and for promoting the image of schools.

Regarding the steps towards promotion of national education standard, more new basic education schools, universities and colleges have been opened, new subjects prescribed and there has been a sharp increase in the number of students. So, even some retired scholars of old age have to continue participation in academic and research work in the interest of the nation.

With respect to the health sector, the people are participating actively in disease control measures and community healthcare projects.

The people are also contributing with might and main towards the 12 health projects including infectious disease control, extended vaccinating campaign, dengue haemorrhagic fever control, malaria control and tuberculosis control with regard to diseases prevention and control measures.

Furthermore, concerning the community health sector, the people are taking part in the ten health projects such as nutritional project, maternal and child welfare project and school health project.

I would also like to deal with the participation of the people in rural development tasks.

As you know, the rural areas are the places where the majority of the nation's population live.

The five rural development tasks including water

supply are being implemented in the nation. The people are contributing cash donations and manpower towards such basic requirements as rural water supply, rural education sector and rural health sector hand in hand with the government. It can be witnessed that the people are taking part enthusiastically in the tasks for fulfilling the requirements of the rural residents in co-operation with the government.

The people are giving a helpful hand with the sense of duty in every and each task for community welfare. So are the USDA and so-

cial organizations.

The people's participation in nation-building tasks and development projects brings brighter tomorrow of the nation.

Now, the nation is picking up speed in moving towards on the correct path of development, and there are also prospects of the nation, he added. The more united the citizens are, the more the nation will develop, and it needs to restore peace and stability and prevalence of law and order for the nation to be more prosperous.

What is more important is that the people should not

The rural areas are the places where the majority of the nation's population live. The five rural development tasks including water supply are being implemented in the nation. The people are contributing cash donations and manpower towards such basic requirements as rural water supply, rural education sector and rural health sector hand in hand with the government. It can be witnessed that the people are taking part enthusiastically in the rural development tasks.

entertain narrow outlook.

If peace and tranquillity cannot be restored and law and order is encroached upon, it will adversely affect the endeavours, causing a great hindrance to the nation's progress. It is required to protect and prevent everything which will undermine peace and progress of the nation. And it is incumbent upon all the trainees to take preventive measures collectively in order to avert the evil effects that the nation suffered in the post-independence period.

Therefore, all are to participate ardently in the attempts to successfully complete the National Convention and accomplish the State's seven-step policy programme as well as to shape the brighter future of the nation. The trainees are to work hard in order to maintain peace and development of the nation and unity of the citizens in the interest of the nation and the people.

In conclusion, he said that it is required to honour and acknowledge the peo-

ple's active participation in nation-building tasks being carried out in the interest of the nation and the people. The trainees, new generation youths, are to speed up the momentum of building a new modern nation. The new generation youths who are the national force are to be equipped with determination in the tasks for transforming the nation into a modern one.

The trainees are to take part in building a new modern nation by applying their knowledge and experiences gained from the course in the fields which they are being engaged. Equipped with the concept that the motherland and Myanmar society are their dear life, the trainees should build a peaceful, modern and developed nation, he urged.

After the ceremony, the Senior General had a cordial conversation with the trainees, and enjoyed lunch together with them.

Next, the Senior General and party posed for a documentary photo together with the trainees.

MNA

In studying the irrigation projects, electric power projects and river-crossing bridge projects, it can be seen that intellectuals and intelligentsia in the country have participated relentlessly in implementing them with their knowledge and technologies. Similarly, the national education promotion programme is being implemented in the country and in this endeavour, millions of citizens including rural people are participating. The people have rendered physical and financial assistance to the endeavours for emergence of multimedia classrooms and for promoting the image of schools.



Senior General Than Shwe and party pose for documentary photo with trainees.—MNA

Hepatitis infections and Medical Research: a new cure to be available soon

Dr Paing Soe (Department of Medical Research)

Hepatitis B virus infection and Hepatitis C virus infection are important health problems worldwide, because these infections can cause significant liver diseases that range from fulminating hepatitis to hepatocellular carcinoma. World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that 2,000 million people (one third of the world's population) have been infected with hepatitis B virus infection and 170 million persons are chronically infected with hepatitis C virus infection. Hepatitis B virus infection in the Asia-Pacific region is among the highest in the world, and chronic hepatitis B virus infection in most of the countries of the Asia-Pacific region is high (>10% prevalence).

In Myanmar, it has been estimated that 10% to 12% of the population carry hepatitis B virus and approximately 3% carry hepatitis C virus infection. Thus hepatitis infections are considered as priority health problems and health authorities in Myanmar have taken various steps to control and manage hepatitis infections.

Research is an essential component in the development of science. In Myanmar, the importance of research is well recognized and the Head of State had also clearly stated that emphasis is to be placed on research and development in every field to improve human resource development and material development. Since the early 70's, DMR has actively participated in activities towards the control of hepatitis infections in Myanmar. Activities to assist in the diagnosis, management and prevention of hepatitis infections have been carried out and knowledge dissemination and technology transfer had been carried out at various phases. The production of hepatitis B vaccine in Myanmar is also in progress and in the stage of expansion.

Control of Hepatitis C infection

Hepatitis C virus infection can be a pernicious disease and is responsible for considerable mortality and morbidity. More than 80% individuals infected with the hepatitis C virus develop chronic infection; the remaining 10-20% develops spontaneous clearance with natural immunity. The majority of patients who develop chronic hepatitis C virus infection are asymptomatic; but 60-80% develops inflammation of the liver as indicated by elevated liver enzymes. One-third of chronically infected patients develop progressive liver injury, fibrosis and cirrhosis over a period of 20-30 years, and 15% develop liver cancer. Control of hepatitis C infection is deemed difficult, as there is no effective vaccine against hepatitis C virus.

The problem of hepatitis C infection in Myanmar has been highlighted and addressed by DMR. In a research study reported in 1998, DMR clearly describes the risk of acquiring hepatitis C virus infection through unscreened blood, which is apparent by the fact that in those with history of blood transfusion, a significantly high prevalence of hepatitis C virus infection (20%) had been observed. As the association of hepatitis C virus infection and blood transfusion was demonstrated, it is considered essential to procure steps for obtaining hepatitis C test kits for screening of the virus in all donated blood at blood banks in Myanmar. Research scientists from DMR in collaboration with the Japanese scientists under "Control of Hepatitis C in Myanmar Project" investigated on a

modified, low cost, accurate test kit that could be used to screen hepatitis C at blood banks. After several experiments, the test kit is modified to increase the capability 5 times. This has led to a dramatic reduction in the cost of the test kits and the availability of hepatitis C test kits.

In May 2000, a milestone in the transfusion services of Myanmar has been marked by the introduction of hepatitis C testing of donors at blood banks in Yangon under the "Control of Hepatitis C in Myanmar" project. During May 2000 to April 2004, a total of 154,161 blood donors presenting at the National Blood Centre and 10 blood banks from major hospitals in Yangon were tested using the modified test system. The overall hepatitis C virus infection rate was found to be 2.6%. Removal of unsafe blood donors from the donor pool has led to the decline in the rate of transfusion associated hepatitis C virus infection during the four-year project period. Detailed analysis revealed that a downward trend was observed with the reduction in hepatitis C virus infection rate to 1.9% from the initial rate of 3.1%. It can be predicted that the hepatitis C virus infection rate among blood donors in Yangon could fall to less than 1.5% within the next two years. In parallel with this programme, using advanced molecular methods; DMR has successfully produced an ELISA system for screening of hepatitis C virus infection. The technology was obtained with the help of the scientists from the Centers for Disease Control, United States of America. Steps are being carried out to transfer the technology to major blood banks. As the annual blood transfusion rate in Myanmar is over 200,000 units, implementation of donor screening programme for hepatitis C infection will prevent 7,000 transfusion-associated HCV infections annually.

Management of Hepatitis Infections

DMR has invested manpower and resources for control of hepatitis C infection in Myanmar. We are now establishing techniques for management of the unfortunate people who had unknowingly contracted the infection previously. With the overall hepatitis C virus infection positive rate of 3% among blood donors, it can be roughly estimated that 1.5 million cases of HCV infection exist in the current population of 50 million Myanmar people. Management of these subjects would require simple treatment regimens with minimal costs as the use of anti-viral drugs with or without interferon therapy is very expensive and is not affordable by most patients. **This has called for a simple and affordable treatment regimen for management of hepatitis C infections.**

Interferon has been claimed as an effective treatment for hepatitis C infection. Management of hepatitis C infection using interferon therapy is very expensive. The average six months of injections three times a week for six months could cost millions of Kyats. This doesn't include laboratory tests that are expensive and could varied from ten thousand Kyats for basic tests to over one hundred thousand Kyats for advance molecular studies. Moreover, the tests need to be carried out frequently. During treatment, many patients also suffer side effects, such as flu-like symptoms, a reduction in the number of disease fighting white blood cells, and a decreased number of platelets in the blood. Only 25 percent of hepatitis C virus infected patients respond favorably without relapsing and up to half of the chronic hepatitis C sufferers who had responded to interferon could have a relapse within six months after stopping the treatment.

In recent years, due to the efforts of researchers throughout the world, a new treatment regimen provides hope for millions of patients suffering from hepatitis infections. A study published in the American Journal of Gastroenterology, suggests that using "Iron Reduction Therapy" along with interferon can result in an effective cure rate in the area of 75-80%. Previously increases in levels of iron have been noted with high frequencies in patients with chronic hepatitis C, and the higher levels have, in general, been associated with lesser likelihood of response to interferon therapy. Complete responders to interferon have, on average, lower hepatic iron levels than do non-complete responders. Excess iron could promote viral replication and mutation and also increases free radicals in the host leading to increasing liver damage. **The role of iron influencing the natural history of viral hepatitis was reported in a study more**

In Myanmar, it has been estimated that 10-12% of the population carry hepatitis B virus and approximately 3% carry hepatitis C virus infection. Thus hepatitis infections are considered as priority health problems and health authorities in Myanmar has taken various steps to control and manage hepatitis infections.

than 20 years ago. Blumberg, an American scientist, had observed that patients with hepatitis B viral infection with higher serum iron or ferritin levels had greater likelihood of development of chronic infections than those with lower levels, who more often resolved their infections spontaneously.

Investigators throughout the world have reported on the beneficial effect of phlebotomy, alone or in combination with interferon therapy. Two recent multicenter, prospective, randomized trials have examined iron reduction as an adjuvant therapy to interferon in previous nonresponders and interferon-naïve patients. Fontana from Michigan, USA and his colleagues demonstrated that iron reduction improves virological and histological response to short term interferon therapy. Di Bisceglie and co-workers conducted clinical trial comparing iron reduction by phlebotomy with iron reduction followed by re-treatment with interferon in 96 patients with chronic hepatitis C who had previously not responded to a course of interferon. In those patients receiving phlebotomy plus interferon, less liver injury, manifested by a decrease in serum liver enzyme activity and a slight improvement in liver histopathology was found. Fargion and colleagues from University of Milan, Northern Italy, reported that one unit reduction of liver iron concentration was associated with having 3 times the odds of response. Fong TL and co-workers from The Liver Unit of the University Of Southern California School Of Medicine, Los Angeles, USA reported that iron depletion before interferon therapy lead to a reduction in liver enzyme levels in 90% of patients with hepatitis C infection.

In a very encouraging report by Hayashi and colleagues from Japan it was found that iron reduction alone, by repeated phlebotomy, lowers the liver enzyme (alanine aminotransferase) in chronic hepatitis C. Investigators from Italy also demonstrated that phlebotomy reduces liver enzymes levels in Italian subjects with hepatitis C infection. It is now evident that minimum requirement for managing chronic hepatitis C infection is good control of disease activity shown by maintaining a low serum level of liver enzymes. Maintaining patients at an iron deficient state for 5 years or more did not change the staging of liver histology, in contrast with the advanced liver histology in the control patients. The treatment has been initiated in Japan and is approved in the United States as the first of the options to interferon. Considering the therapeutic effects of iron removal on both biochemical and histological parameters, the safety-proved economical procedure might be recommended for patients as an option to interferon.

The procedure involves collection of 200 ml (approximately one cup of water) every week for 6 consecutive weeks to reduce the iron content and followed by maintenance phase where phlebotomy of same amount was carried out every month. During the induction period 200 ml of phlebotomy will be carried out every 2 weeks during the first 24 weeks. During maintenance phase 200 ml of phlebotomy will be done every 3 months for the next 12 months. A clinical trial is in progress at the DMR with promising results. After completion of the trial the standard operation procedures will be established. DMR is also providing help to those who need phlebotomy. The procedure could be adopted by various hospitals in Myanmar. The cost of such therapy is very minimal and affordable by the majority of patients.

(See page 11)

DMR has invested manpower and resources for control of hepatitis C infection in Myanmar. We are now establishing techniques for management of the unfortunate people who had unknowingly contracted the infection previously. With the overall hepatitis C virus infection positive rate of 3% among blood donors, it can be roughly estimated that 1.5 million cases of HCV infection exist in the current population of 50 million Myanmar people.

Hepatitis infections and ...

(from page 10)

The beneficial effects of phlebotomy could be extended to extra-hepatitis manifestations of hepatitis C infection. Hilzenrat and his colleagues from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, demonstrated that phlebotomy improved extrahepatic manifestations of HCV infection namely myalgia and seronegative nonerosive symmetrical polyarthritis. Professor Okada from the Okayama University, Japan, a famous pathologist, suggested that based on the pathophysiological basis of the disease process, the benefits of phlebotomy could also be applicable to patients with hepatitis B virus infection. Research work is underway which could lead to particle application in the near future.

Hepatitis B Vaccine

Two types of hepatitis B vaccine have been licensed in Myanmar. The first type is manufactured from the plasma of chronically infected persons and the other type is produced by recombinant DNA technology. It is understandable that people are worried of the danger of viruses contaminating vaccines produced from the plasma. Even some of the health personnel think this way. We would like to emphasize that plasma-derived hepatitis B are safe for use. Plasma derived vaccines available internationally include Hepaccine-B produced by Chiel Jedang Corporation (South Korea) and Hepavax B produced by Korea Green Cross. These vaccines have been used in millions of people throughout the world. DMR is also at present producing plasma derived hepatitis B vaccine.

We would like to explain briefly the process of development of plasma derived vaccines so that the readers could be assured of its safety and potency. The development of plasma derived hepatitis B vaccine was initiated at DMR in 1990 with funding by the United Nations Development Programme and assisted by World Health Organisation. After expert missions by world-renowned scientists and training of laboratory technicians and scientists, DMR scientists using the New York Blood Center method successfully developed it in 1996. The vaccine was tested extensively for quality control according to the requirement for biological and plasma derived hepatitis B vaccine as recommended by WHO. They include sterility, general safety, pyrogenicity, purity, potency, and specific activity tests. Advance techniques such as electron microscopy and polymerase chain

reaction tests were also used. It has to passed through the Chimpanzee Safety Tests carried out in Liberia under the sponsorship of New York Blood Center. In 1994, the New York Blood Center, USA certified that the vaccine and future lots of plasma derived vaccines produced at DMR is safe for use in humans.

After several clinical trials, the safety and immunogenicity of the DMR plasma derived hepatitis B vaccine was established and DMR is now producing 100,000 paediatric doses annually and is distributing at a very reasonable price which is less than one-fifth of the market price. DMR has also established 'the Vaccine and Diagnostic Clinic' to cater hepatitis B testing, hepatitis B vaccination, and hepatitis B antibody testing services. It is open office hours through out the week. In line with the policy of the Ministry of Health, we are providing quality services at an affordable price for the public. In addition, counseling services are also provided. **With the cetana, and guidance of the Head of the State, DMR is building a hepatitis B vaccine plant to produce recombinant and plasma-derived hepatitis B vaccines to be incorporated into the Expanded Programme of Immunization in Myanmar to ensure coverage throughout the country and will establish a hepatitis B free generation of Myanmar people.**

DMR have been conducting research on hepatitis infections for a long time. It has identified hepatitis A and hepatitis E during outbreaks. Since 1990, with the help of WHO and UNDP, DMR has initiated the pilot project on production of plasma-derived hepatitis B vaccine. It was successfully produced in 1993 and has satisfied the quality control requirements of WHO. DMR has also sent scientists to Centers for Diseases Control in Atlanta, USA and has studied the development of test kits for detection of hepatitis C infection. It has now developed the test kit and is in the process of technology transfer to government hospitals and clinics. It will greatly reduce the valuable foreign exchange.

The Vaccine and Diagnostic Clinic at DMR has been providing vaccination and laboratory services to the people of Myanmar at affordable prices to the people of Myanmar. We would like to provide information that it has been upgraded to provide new inexpensive methods of treatment to hepatitis patients in order to prevent the consequences of hepatitis infections such as liver cirrhosis and liver cancer and to achieve a healthy state of life.

* * *



USDA (Central) Secretariat Member Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers an address at the closing ceremony of basic rural development course. MNA

USDA Secretariat Member carries out public welfare tasks in Monywa, Salingyi

YANGON, 30 July — Secretariat Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association (Central) Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met local people at the rural development hall in Phaunggata Model Village in Salingyi Township on 27 July morning.

About 1,000 local people, students and social organization members from Phaunggata Model Village and its surrounding 11 villages attended the ceremony and officials

reported on progress of their villages and requirements.

In his address, Secretariat Member Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that the government is striving day and night for development of the country and the people in agriculture, livestock breeding, education, health and transport sectors. Nowadays, the people can enjoy fruitful results of development all over the country. So, the people are to participate in carrying out five rural development tasks. And, the entire people

are to join hands with the government in implementing the seven-point future programme of the State for emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

The minister presented K 100,000 for repairing Phaunggata Model Village school, K 50,000 for Ton Village school and stationery and clothes for schools in surrounding villages.

The Secretariat Member proceeded to

Monywa USDA Office and attended the concluding ceremony of Basic Rural Development Course No 1 jointly organized by USDA and Monywa Institute of Economics. Speaking on the occasion, the Secretariat Member said that the USDA cooperated with scholars of Monywa Institute of Economics in conducting subject-wise knowledge to the trainees for uplift of living standard of the rural people. It is necessary to apply knowledge obtained from the training course

practically. In addition, the trainees are to actively participate in rural development tasks by organizing local people. And, all are to focus on meeting the aims of the USDA. Next, Brig-Gen

Kyaw Hsan presented certificates to the trainees.

Later, the Sagaing Division USDA Secretary and executives presented gifts to the instructors of Monywa Institute of Economics. — MNA



USDA Secretariat Member Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meets local people at Phaunggata village of Salingyi Township. — MNA



World Breastfeeding Week (1st to 7th August 2004)

**Exclusive Breastfeeding:
the Gold Standard
Safe, Sound, Sustainable**

Ministry of Health

ASEAN Food Festival

(10 am to 2 pm) 7th August 2004
Kandawgyi Palace Hotel (Lake View)

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P.O. Box 109, Ph: 248108/723043

(For. Domnrm Songiat & Boonma Attorneys at Law, Thailand.)

Dated: 31 July 2004

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV QING CHUN MEN VOY NO (085)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV QING CHUN MEN Voy No (085) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1-8-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES**

Phone : 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (357)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR Voy No (357) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1-8-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
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AIDS is a national concern.

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No. 004/POL/2004-2005

Sealed Tenders from eligible suppliers are invited for the supply of Engine Oil SAE 50, API (CB/SB) (OR) (CC/SC), (For Diesel Engine). Prices are to be Quoted in Myanmar Kyats Yangon.

- Tender Documents are available at the office of procurement & Stores Department, Head Office, Road Transport, No. 375, Bogyoke Aung San Street, Yangon, Myanmar, Commencing on the 2nd August 2004.
- Tender will be Closed on 16th August 2004 at (16.00) hours.
- The Road Transport Reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders without furnishing reasons.
- Detailed information will be available at the office of the Procurement & Stores, Department or Contact Phone Nos. (01-252574) (or) (01-376549)

**MANAGING DIRECTOR
ROAD TRANSPORT**

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Dip in Marine Affairs (UK)
Ph: 371 990 31.7.2004

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P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 31 July, 2004

Two-child policy raised in Philippines

MANILA, 29 July — The Philippine Government should adopt a two-child policy to address the population problem, a senior lawmaker said Wednesday.

House Speaker Jose de Venecia said in a radio interview that he will personally propose a two-child policy for the government to address the overpopulation problem. "Our resources can only afford a small population and the two-child policy is part of my strategy to save the nation because over population will kill the nation," de Venecia told radio dzMM.

He said that he would urge parents to have two children or fewer through a system of incentives and disincentives.

But, the Speaker did not elaborate on neither the incentive package for couples who would limit their children to two nor any punishments for parents who have more than two children.

However, the population problem was not included when President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo delivered her State of the Nation Address on Monday in Manila, which born her strong determination to eradicate poverty by 2010 through a series of executive and legislative packages covering job creation and economic growth, anti-corruption and good government.

Official statistics showed that the Philippine population, which is estimated at 84 million currently, is still growing annually at a rate of 2.36 per cent, the highest in Asia, and is expected to hit 97 million by 2010.

Experts warned that a massive population burden will undermine the country's effort to rebuild the national economy, especially discourage Arroyo's pledge to create six million to 10 million jobs during her six-year presidency. —MNA/Xinhua

Therefore, Lee suggested that the UN should realize the language problem, and discuss the use of a supplementary language. "Esperanto, with a history of 117 years and speakers in 120 countries, is the right choice," Su said.

He also suggested that Esperanto should be applied to international documents of the United Nations. —MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

Parents sue US over citizen held in Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON, 29 July — The parents of a 23-year-old US citizen on Thursday claimed in a lawsuit that US Government officials had their son detained unlawfully in Saudi Arabia for more than a year without any charges.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Washington, demanded the release of Ahmed Abu Ali and his return to the United States.

Their lawyer said it marked the first time a lawsuit had been filed on behalf of a US citizen detained in a third country at the US Government's request.

Abu Ali has been under investigation by US authorities in the "Virginia jihad" case in which a number of defendants have been convicted. FBI agents searched the parents' home in Falls Church, Virginia, in June, 2003, as part of the investigation.

The lawsuit claimed Abu Ali had been held indefinitely and interrogated at a Saudi prison, at the US Government's direction, in violation of his constitutional rights. It said he may have been subjected to abusive treatment.

According to the lawsuit, Abu Ali, who was born in Houston, graduated in 1999 as valedictorian of his

high school class in Virginia. When he was arrested in June last year, Abu Ali, who holds dual US and Jordanian citizenship, was a student at a Saudi university.

The lawsuit claimed US authorities had directed Saudi officials to assist them in detaining and interrogating Abu Ali "in an attempt to gather information regarding the prosecution of suspected terrorists and to prevent potential acts of terrorism".

The lawsuit claimed that FBI agents, while questioning Abu Ali in September in Saudi Arabia, had threatened to designate him an "enemy combatant" and send him to the US military base at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba if he did not cooperate.

It named Attorney General John Ashcroft, FBI Director Robert Mueller, FBI agents who questioned Abu Ali, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge and Secretary of State Colin Powell.

A Justice Department spokesman declined comment on the lawsuit. Morton Sklar, executive director of the non-profit group World Organization for Human Rights USA, represented the family in the lawsuit.

MNA/Reuters

Experts say UN needs neutral language

BEIJING, 29 July — Some experts attending the ongoing 89th International Esperanto Conference said that the United Nations (UN) needs a more neutral language to solve the problem of linguistic inequality in its system.

Dr Lee Chong-Yeong, vice president of the Universal Esperanto Association, noted that the language problem in the UN system is the hegemonic status of English,

which will result in the linguistic hegemony.

Though English, French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese, and Arabic are the six working languages of the United Nations, English is much more frequently used.

Lee believed that Esperanto, created by Polish doctor L.L. Zamenhof in 1887, is a neutral language easy to learn, which can be a supplementary language tool.

"Linguistic equality is the basis of social equality, and concerns sovereignty and human rights. Esperanto, an artificial language without cultural background, won't influence or kill other languages and cultures, nor will it infringe upon any states' sovereignty. It is the best international common language," said Professor Su Jinzhi of Institute of Applied Linguistics of the China State Language Commission.

Therefore, Lee suggested that the UN should realize the language problem, and discuss the use of a supplementary language. "Esperanto, with a history of 117 years and speakers in 120 countries, is the right choice," Su said.

He also suggested that Esperanto should be applied to international documents of the United Nations.

MNA/Xinhua

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Data show Amazon still "lungs of the world"

BRASILIA (Brazil), 29 July —The Amazon deserves to be called the "lungs of the world", as new projections show it is a net producer of oxygen despite widespread burning of the jungle, scientists said on Wednesday.

The projections show that the trees in the world's largest tropical forest are cleaning the air by absorbing carbon dioxide. The data collected indicates that the Amazon absorbs slightly more carbon dioxide than the burning spews out.

"The indication is that it is a small net supplier of oxygen," said Paulo Artaxo, a researcher at the University of Sao Paulo.

That conclusion is based on the latest projections made possible by the Large Scale Biosphere-Atmosphere Experiment in Amazonia, the world's leading study of jungle deforestation.

Experts are meeting this week in Brasilia to discuss the findings of the series of experiments, which started in 1998 and are conducted by Brazilian and foreign organizations, including the US space agency NASA.

The results are based on data collected by 14 observation towers in the jungles, which scientists use to monitor carbon dioxide, wind, temperature levels and weather conditions. The full findings are not yet ready but projections are. — MNA/Reuters



'Bob,' a hands-free cell phone test dummy, demonstrates technology being used by Magnolia Broadband in New York on 6 July, 2004. Magnolia Broadband, a small company based in Clinton, NJ, has been driving the life-sized dummy around New York City and Kansas City to determine how their wireless technology fares in different environments. —INTERNET

New S Korean mobile lets parents track kids

SEOUL, 29 July — Parents in South Korea will now be able to track their children by using a device in a new mobile phone that has been designed for kids.

SK Telecom Co. began selling on Wednesday colourful cellphones with antennas that look like human ears and a built-in tracker using the global positioning satellite (GPS) network.

The firm, the top mobile operator in a country where three-quarters of the people carry at least one mobile phone, put a price of around 100,000 won (86 US dollars) on the handset.

MNA/Reuters

Spacewalk set to prepare "ISS" for "Jules Verne"

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 29 July —The astronauts aboard the *International Space Station* will make a spacewalk next week to prepare for the arrival of the first cargo craft to be sent to the orbiting outpost by the European Space Agency, NASA said on Wednesday.

Russian Gennady Padalka, the *Station's* commander, and American Michael Fincke, the science officer, will don Russian spacesuits and venture into the void outside their laboratory on Tuesday at 3.10 am EDT (0710 GMT).

They will add an antenna and new laser reflectors to be used in the docking of the 32-foot *Jules Verne*, the first of the Automated Transfer Vehicles that ESA will launch from French Guiana beginning next year.

The vehicles, or ATVs, will be launched unmanned and make robotic arrivals at the station. They are more like the Russian *Progress*

cargo ships than the US space shuttles, which make piloted dockings.

But unlike a *Progress*, the interior of an ATV will be spacious enough that astronauts aboard the station will be able to move about freely and work inside them once they dock.

Shuttle flights were suspended after the *Columbia* disintegrated over Texas last year, killing all seven astronauts on board.

Each ATV — seven are being planned — will remain

a part of the *Station* for up to six months before being pushed back into Earth's atmosphere, splashing in pieces into the ocean.

"This will be the first major element provided" by the Europeans, said Mark Geyer, NASA's ISS operations manager. "It will significantly enhance our ability to supply dry cargo and propellant, water, gas and so forth."

Padalka and Fincke will be making their third spacewalk since arriving at the *Station* about three months ago.

Their first ended abruptly when Fincke's suit showed a pressure drop in his oxygen tank and both men were ordered back to the safety of their airlock.

The pair has a fourth spacewalk scheduled, which will also help prepare for ATV dockings.

While outside they also will retrieve Russian experiments mounted there that will return to Earth with them aboard their *Soyuz* spacecraft in about three months.

MNA/Reuters

WHO willing to develop bird flu vaccine for Thailand

BANGKOK, 29 July —The World Health Organization (WHO) is willing to help Thailand develop a vaccine to prevent the spread of bird flu to humans, said a WHO official.

Samples of bird flu virus are needed for vaccine producing. But so far, the Thai Government has not delivered such samples to the organization, Somchai Peerapakorn, a WHO specialist based in Thailand, was quoted by *Bangkok Post* as saying on Wednesday.

"We know the Livestock Department has obtained virus samples from several provinces. The vaccine will be useful for protecting the public against the virus," he said. Just one day before, Kamuan Ungchusak, director of the Bureau of Epidemiology, said Thailand will dispatch local H5N1 strain of bird flu virus to the WHO within two months, adding this would allow

the organization to produce vaccines capable of combating virus strain found in the country.

Bird flu vaccine studies have been carried out in Thailand by two separate research teams: a technical working group under his committee and the Public Health Ministry's research team, said Kamuan.

Vaccinations will be administered to people prone to infection, such as poultry farmers, slaughterhouse workers, livestock and health officials handling the outbreak, and children in rural areas where chickens were raised. Eight people have been killed during the first round of bird flu outbreak in Thailand early this year. — MNA/Xinhua



Apple's AirPort Express is seen in a photo provided by Apple Computer Inc. It is a device that is an access point, print server, range extender and media adapter all in one. The unit, which works both with Windows and Mac PCs, plugs into the wall and is the first media adapter to stream copyright-protected music purchased from Apple's popular iTunes Music Store. —INTERNET

AIDS stunts population growth in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 29 July —The population of South Africa was estimated to be 46,586,607 in the middle of 2004, Statistics South Africa said on Tuesday.

Without the AIDS epidemic, South Africa's population would have been 48.3 million, according to the national statistical organization.

The actual 46.6 million in 2004 compared with 44.8 million in October 2001 at the time of the last Census and 40.5 million in October 1996. The next Census will only take place in 2011, but a large-scale Census Replacement Survey will be undertaken in 2006.

The statistics showed that the derived population growth rate has fallen to 1.3 per cent a year in the period 2001 to 2004, while in the 1996 to 2001 period the population growth rate was 2.0 per cent a year. — MNA/Xinhua

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ကျေးရွာကိုယ်အားကိုးကိုင်ရာကြည့်ရှုကိရိယာအတွက် သုတ/ရသ စာအုပ်များလွှဲဒါန့်ပို့ပေးပါသည်။

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SPORTS

Villa striker Angel set to miss start of season

LONDON, 29 July — Aston Villa striker Juan Pablo Angel looks likely to miss the start of the Premier League season because of a recurring knee injury.

The Colombian international, Villa's top scorer last season with 23 goals, flew back to England on Tuesday from the club's tour of Sweden after the injury to his right knee forced him out of a training session.

"I would say now that he will miss the Southampton game (on August 14) and that is clearly frustrating him," manager David O'Leary said on the club's website.

"Of course it is a worry that our main striker is probably going to miss the start of the season. But this is our first injury of pre-season, so we can't complain.

"Our physios don't think he needs another operation but he might as well return to England to continue his recovery".

Angel, who signed a new four-year contract with Villa two weeks ago, had surgery on his right knee last month. — MNA/Reuters

Bolton sign former Spain captain Hierro

LONDON, 29 July — Bolton Wanderers have signed former Spain captain and Real Madrid defender Fernando Hierro on a one-year contract, the premier league club said on Wednesday.

The deal is subject to Bolton getting international clearance for the 36-year-old.

"The signing of Hierro is a major coup for Bolton," manager Sam Allardyce said on the club's website.

"Most people in the game know him as a defender but he has played most of his career as a midfielder and we now have the flexibility of playing him in those two areas".

"After spending a year in Qatar, he is desperate to make an impression again in mainstream European football," he added.

Hierro, who has 89 caps, spent last season playing for Qatar's Al Rayyan.

He was sacked by Real along with coach Vicente del Bosque in July 2003 after 14 years with the club, during which he won six Spanish league titles and three European Cups.

Hierro will join compatriot and former Real team mate Ivan Campo, who has become an ever-present member of Bolton's first team since signing in August 2002.

Bolton's other recent signings include midfielder Gary Speed, defender Radhi Jaidi and strikers Les Ferdinand and Michael Bridges. — MNA/Reuters

Brazilian media says Ronaldo to marry new girlfriend

SAO PAULO (Brazil), 29 July — Those playboy binges and extra pounds of weight might be about to end for Real Madrid's Brazilian star Ronaldo.

The striker has asked his girlfriend, model and MTV presenter Daniella Cicarelli to marry him after dating for just a month and a half, according to Brazilian media reports.

Ronaldo proposed during a vacation in Greece and they will get married in Paris in a few months time, O Estado de S.Paulo newspaper and Contigo magazine said.

"I don't confirm and don't deny," Rodrigo Paiva, his friend and Press agent, told Reuters. "But there is a possibility that they will get married, of course. They are together and very happy".

"When he sets the wedding, the day, the hour and the place, then I'll be able to confirm," Paiva



View into the reconstructed Berlin Olympic Stadium on Wednesday, 28 July, 2004, which will have its official opening ceremony during the weekend after four years of reconstruction. The stadium will host the World Cup Soccer final in 2006. — INTERNET

Real stroll to victory over JEF United in Tokyo

TOKYO, 30 July — Real Madrid strolled to a comfortable 3-1 win over Japanese team JEF United Ichihara in a friendly at Tokyo's National Stadium on Thursday.

Real recovered from an early stunner by Brazilian Marquinhos as first-half goals from Guti and Raul and an injury-time strike from substitute Santiago Solari secured the victory.

After the match played in humid, blustery condi-

tions Real coach Jose Antonio Camacho said he was pleased with the workout in the first of two games on their short promotional tour.

"The players are quite tired because of the humidity but we did well and learned a few lessons. We also made some errors and have some things we need to correct," added the former Spain coach.

"In the first 10 minutes... there was too much distance between the lines but we corrected that and improved. We achieved the goal of pre-season, which is to find the problems and correct them."

Neither Ronaldo nor Zinedine Zidane featured on Thursday since the Brazil

striker has a knee injury while the France playmaker is suffering with a back problem.

"They are minor injuries but we decided to let them rest because the conditions here are quite tiring for the players," said Camacho. "We didn't want to take a risk."

A club official confirmed Zidane was fit enough to play and would almost certainly take part in their final match of the tour against Ossie Ardiles' Tokyo Verdy 1969 on Sunday.

Ronaldo's condition is more severe but the official said he expected him to play at some stage on Sunday.

MNA/Reuters

Federer sails through as seeds fall at Toronto Masters

OTTAWA, 30 July — World number one Roger Federer sailed into the second round of the 2.5 million US dollars Toronto Masters series Wednesday as the Swiss powered past Hicham Arazi of Morocco 6-3, 7-5 in Toronto.

Sixth seed David Nalbandian of Argentina, however, was sent packing after losing 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 to Russian Mikhail Youzhny.

Among the top casualties are eighth-seeded German Rainer Schuettler, 11th seed Gaston Gaudio of Argentina, number 12 Sebastien Grosjean of France, 13th-seeded Chilean Nicolas

Massu and number 15 Marat Safin of Russia.

Top seed Federer won the first set against Arazi on Tuesday before rain forced all action to be abandoned.

On the resumption on Wednesday, Federer broke Arazi in the 11th game of the second set before clinching victory over his opponent for the fourth time in five career meetings.

Fernando Gonzalez of Chile recorded the first upset on Wednesday when he knocked out Schuettler 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Grosjean was eliminated by fellow Frenchman Gregory Carraz 6-2, 7-6 while Massu lost 6-4, 6-4 to Thomas Johansson of Sweden.

Safin went down 6-7, 6-4, 7-6 to German Nicolas Kiefer while Australia's Todd Reid defeated Gaudio 7-6, 5-7, 6-3.

Fourth seed Carlos Moya struggled against fellow Spaniard Fernando Verdasco before scraping through 6-7, 6-3, 6-4. — MNA/Xinhua

Barcelona start Asian tour with defeat to Suwon

SUWON (South Korea), July 30 — Barcelona were punished by a stunning free-kick from Zoran Urumov of K-League side Suwon Bluewings on Thursday, as the Spanish giants stumbled to a 1-0 defeat at the start of their Asian tour.

Urumov struck an unstoppable free kick that hit the underside of the bar on its way into the top right-hand corner of the net in the 78th minute.

Barca came close after a string of chances in the first half but wilted later in the match in the hot and humid conditions.

Barcelona will complete their Asian tour with matches in Japan and China next month.

MNA/Reuters



Brazilian Ronaldinho, right, of Spain's FC Barcelona fights for the ball with South Korean Kwak Hee-ju, top left, and Son Dae-ho, bottom of right, of Suwon Bluewings during a friendly soccer match in Suwon, south of Seoul, on Thursday, 29 July, 2004. Suwon Bluewings defeated FC Barcelona 1-0. — INTERNET

Former French coach says Zidane should retire

JINAN (China), 29 July — World Player of the Year Zinedine Zidane should retire from international football, former France coach Michel Hidalgo said on Wednesday.

"It is time to inject some fresh blood into the French team," said Hidalgo, who led France to the European title in 1984. "Marcel Desailly has already indicated that his international career is over. Players like Zidane should also retire.

"Certainly, I'm not de-

manding (senior players) go but I think they realize this and will go," Hidalgo said in Jinan, where he is working as a technical adviser to the Kuwait national team in the Asian Cup. Kuwait were knocked out of the tournament on Tuesday.

"The only problem is finding players who are equally good to replace them."

Defender Lilian Thuram retired from international soccer on Tuesday, while

Desailly quit "Les Bleus" earlier this month.

Zidane, Fabien Barthez and Bixente Lizarazu, have hinted they could end their international careers but new France coach Raymond Domenech wants them to continue.

After winning the World Cup in 1998 and the 2000 European Championship, France were knocked out in the group stages at the 2002 World Cup and lost in the quarterfinals at Euro 2004.

MNA/Reuters

MRTV -3



31-7-2004 (Saturday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune
- Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
- Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalarbar"
- 9:06 Meditation Centre
- 9:10 Headline News**
- 9:12 Marvel of Pagoda with
- Uncountable Buddha Images
- 9:15 National News**
- 9:20 Noble and Significant
- Month of Waso
- 9:30 National News**
- 9:35 Hninzigone, Home For
- the Aged
- 9:40 Song "Rice Flowing
- Like a Canal"
- 9:42 Weaving School in
- Falam
- 9:45 National News**
- 9:50 Four Greatest Places of

Lord Buddha
(Migadawun Delivering
the first Discourse)
9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Come and See
Myanmar"

31-7-2004 (Saturday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)

- 15:30 Signature Tune
- Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar
- Beauty & Scenic Sights
- "Myanma Panorama &
- Myanma Sentiment"
- 15:36 Meditation Centre
- 15:40 Headline News**
- 15:42 Marvel of Pagoda with
- Uncountable Buddha Images
- 15:45 National News**
- 15:50 Noble and Significant
- Month of Waso
- 16:00 National News**
- 16:05 Hninzigone, Home For
- the Aged
- 16:10 Song "Rice Flowing
- Like a Canal"
- 16:12 Weaving School in

Falam
16:15 National News
16:20 Four Greatest Places of
Lord Buddha
(Migadawun Delivering
the first Discourse)
16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Mingalarbar"
16:30 National News
16:35 Myanma Natural
Spirulina (Part-II)
16:40 The Alaung Daw
Kathapa National Park
16:45 National News
16:50 Myanmar Movies Im-
pact "Sun Father, Moon
Son"

17:00 Weekly News High-
lights
17:05 The Dough Called
Mont Kalar Mei
17:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "Heralding
Cloud"
17:15 Weekly News High-
lights
17:20 Pakokku, the City of
the Western Bank of
the Ayeyawady River
17:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

Daw Sein Sein Age (76) years

Daw Sein Sein, aged 76, wife of Dr U Hla Shwe, Head of State/Division Health Department, Medical Superintendent (Retd), of No 36, Mingalar Street (Room No 3/104, Panshlaing Housing Estate) in Sangyong Township, Yangon Division, mother of Lt-Col Aung Naing (Officiating Tactical Operations Commander)-Daw May Than Oo, U Win Naing (Contractor)-Daw Khin Mar Cho, U Aung Myo Thant-Daw Khin Mar Aye, grandmother of six grandchildren passed away at Asia Royal Cardiac and Medical Care at 2 am on 30-7-2004.

Funeral cortege will leave the Yay Way Mortuary for the Yay Way Cemetery at 11 am on 1-8-2004 (Sunday) for cremation.

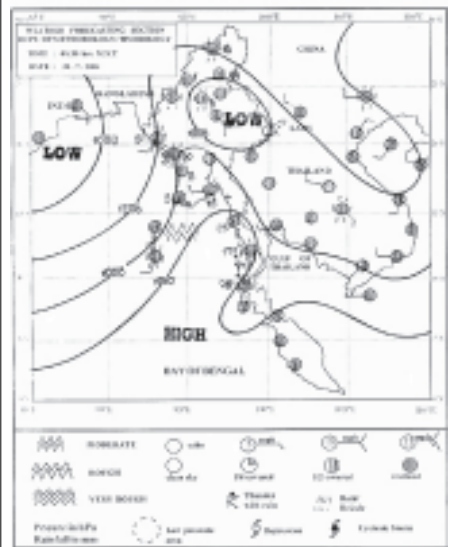
Buses will leave the above residence at 9.30 am.

Bereaved Family

Rainfall on 30-7-2004

- (0.32 inch) at Yangon Airport,
- (0.59 inch) at Kaba-Aye and
- (0.08 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall
since 1-1-2004 was 1684 mm (66.30 inches) at
Yangon Airport and 1662 mm (65.43 inches) at
Kaba-Aye and 1657 mm (65.24 inches) at cen-
tral Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 30 July, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Mandalay Division, Kachin and Shan States and scattered to widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Taninthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (4.61) inches, Shwegyin (2.99) inches and Sittway (2.24) inches.

Maximum temperature on 29-7-2004 was 29.0°C (84°F). Minimum temperature on 30-7-2004 was 19.0°C (66°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 30-7-2004 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 29-7-2004 was (2.4) hours approx. Rainfall on 30-7-2004 was (0.32 inch) at Yangon Airport, (0.59 inch) at Kaba-Aye and (0.08 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1684 mm (66.30 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1662 mm (65.43 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1657 mm (65.24 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 15 mph from Southwest at 18:25 hours MST on 29-7-2004.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 31-7-2004: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in southern Shan State, lower Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Kachin, Chin, northern and eastern Shan, Kayah, Kayin States, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Generally decrease of rain in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 31-7-2004: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 31-7-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Weather outlook for last weekend of July 2004: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Yangon Division and scattered in Mandalay Division.

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 13:00 hours MST on 30-7-2004)

The water levels of Ayeyawady River are above the danger levels about 3-ft at Mandalay and Sagaing. The water levels may fall below the danger levels during the next (4) days commencing noon today.

The water level of Dokahtawady River at Myitnge is about 4.5-ft above the danger level. The water level may fall below the danger level during the next (4) days commencing noon today.



Saturday, July 31
View today:

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကျွန်းဆရာတော်
- ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာ
- နာယကအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်ဆောင်ရွက်
- အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာရဋ္ဌာရ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ
- မဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မနာယကတော်၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ
- ဓမ္မဘူရာဂါရီ၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒ
- ဝိစိတ္တသရဏာဝိသုဒ္ဓိ၊ ပရိတ်
- တရားတော်

7:15 am

- တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မဘူရာဂါရီ၊
- ဆရာတော်တရား၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိန္ဓုဘိဝံသ
- (နာယကဓမ္မတော်)မဟာကြီးတော်
- အဓိပတိဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိန္ဓုဘိဝံသ

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့၊
- ဒုတိယဥက္ကဋ္ဌမင်းကြီး၊ ပြည်သူ့
- ဓမ္မတော်တရား၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိန္ဓုဘိဝံသ
- တော်၊ ပဓာနနာယကဆရာတော်
- ဘဒ္ဒန္တကုဏ္ဍလဓမ္မတော်(အဓိပတိ
- မဟာ၊ အဓိပတိဘဒ္ဒန္တကုဏ္ဍလ
- ဓမ္မ) မဟာကြီးတော်တရား
- "တရားနာသောမြို့တော်ကြီး
- တရားတော်"

8:20 am

- Nice and sweet song

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Islands of Dhamma

8:50 am

- ဘဒ္ဒန္တကုမာရ(အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာရဋ္ဌာရ၊
- အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မနာယက
- အနုပညာတော်ဆောင်ဆရာတော်

နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့၊
တရားတော်ဆောင်ဆရာတော်
ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း

11:00 am

- Martial song

11:10 am

- ဝါဆိုလည်းတေးများ

11:30 am

- News

11:40 am

- Games for children

12:05 pm

- Roundup of the week's

TV local news

1:05 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားတော်လမ်းဆွဲ "သမ္မာဓိပတိ"

(အပိုင်း-၁၃)

1:40 pm

- ပြောဆိုတေးများ

1:50 pm

- "တံတံတံတံတံ"

(ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကြီး၊

ပြည်သူ့ဓမ္မတော်)

ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်နှင်းနီ

2:25 pm

- ဓမ္မပညာတေး

2:35 pm

- Dance of national races

2:45 pm

- International news

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Songs to uphold

National Spirit

4:30 pm

- English For Everyday

Use

4:45 pm

- ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊ အမှတ်(၃)

အစိုးရဗဟိုဦးစီးဌာန၊ ပညာရေး

ဓမ္မာကြာတော်ရုပ်ပြပွဲ (ပထမဆူ)

(အထက်-၂၁၆)

(အမျိုးသမီးတော်အဖွဲ့)

5:00 pm

- အစောဆုံးတရားရုပ်

ရုပ်ပြသင်ကြားသင်ခန်းစာ
- ဒုတိယပုဒ် (ခါကုဏ္ဍပဌာန၊
သတ္တဗျူဟာအဖွဲ့) (ခါကုဏ္ဍပဌာန)

5:15 pm

- ဓမ္မပညာတေးအစီအစဉ်

5:30 pm

- ပြည်သူ့ဓမ္မတော်တော်

5:45 pm

- မြန်မာ့ဓမ္မာရုံမဟာတော်

6:00 pm

- ဝါဆိုလည်းတေးများ

6:10 pm

- Discovery

6:20 pm

- တာဝန်ယူမှုကုသ်လူ

6:30 pm

- Evening news

7:00 pm

- Weather report

7:05 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားတော်လမ်းဆွဲ

"ဓမ္မာရုံကြီးတော်လမ်းဆွဲ"

(အပိုင်း-၁၄)

7:35 pm

- မဟာသံဃမဟာရဋ္ဌာရ(ဒုတိယပုဒ်)

(တရားဦးစီးဌာန၊ ပညာရေး

ဓမ္မာရုံကြီး) (အပိုင်း-၁၅)

8:00 pm

- News

8:15 pm

- International news

8:30 pm

- Weather report

8:45 pm

- လတ်တလောသတင်းစာ

ခရီးစဉ်

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Senior General Than Shwe and party see off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on his departure for Thailand.— MNA

Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on his departure for Thailand

YANGON, 30 July — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt left here by air at 8.30 am today by flight of Myanmar Airway International for Bangkok, Thailand, to attend the First BIMST-EC Summit to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, at the invitation of Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand Dr Thaksin Shinawatra.

The Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development

Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, 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, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief

(Air), Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, senior military officers, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of Singapore Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz and heads of foreign missions in Yangon, the UN Resident Coordinator, the Charge d'Affaires of the Thai Embassy and officials and departmental heads. The Prime Minister was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win and departmental heads. *MNA*



Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win being welcomed by Chinese Military Attaché Senior Col Xu Shulai and wife at the reception to mark the 77th Anniversary of People's Liberation Army of China. — MNA

Over 3m acres put under monsoon paddy in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 30 July — Over 3,189,340 acres of land or 90.99 per cent have been put under monsoon paddy against the target of 3,505,135 acres in Ayeyarwady Division for 2004-2005 cultivation season. The paddy fields are thriving successfully. — *MNA*

Paddy transplanting contest in Mongnaung Township

YANGON, 30 July — The paddy transplanting contest and direct paddy seeding contest were held in Mongnaung, Loilem District, Shan State (South), on 27 July, attended by Col Thaung Aye of Mongnaung Station, local military officers, departmental officials, social organizations and local farmers. At the ceremony, Col Thaung Aye made a speech. Next, Mongnaung Township Executive Officer U Maung Maung Lwin reported on the purpose of contest.

Altogether five teams took part in the paddy transplanting contest and four teams participated in the direct paddy seeding contest. The contests were followed by the prize presentation ceremony. Col Thaung Aye presented awards to the winners. — *MNA*