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Monday, 6 September, 2004

Cultural performing arts competitions held successfully on a national scale with participation of youths

PM General Khin Nyunt addresses First Coord Meeting of Leading Committee for 12th Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions

YANGON, 5 Sept — The Leading Committee for the 12th Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions held its first coordination meeting this morning at the National Museum on Pyay Road here. Patron of the Leading Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the meeting and delivered an address.

It was also attended by Chairman of the Leading Committee Chairman of Yangon Division

of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, scholars, chairmen of the work committees and sub-committees, members of the panel of judges, and officials concerned.

In his speech, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said the performing arts competitions are being held without missing a single year and now it has entered its 12th year. It is held with lofty aims set to promote the

years countable by the thousand.

The cultural performing arts are handed down traditionally from one generation to another. The cultural performing arts competitions are now being held successfully on a national scale with the participation of youths. This shows that new generations that cherish and uphold the national culture and arts have emerged in our country. The holding of such competitions suc-

cessfully every year will enable the new generation youths who will hold responsible for the future State to feel and understand the high standard and the delicate but deep essence of traditional cultural arts, cultural traits with meaningful national outlook. Moreover, the mind of taking pride in their country and people and that of cultivating nationalistic sentiment and patriotic spirit will surely arouse in them.

(See Page 8)

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses first coordination meeting to hold 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.— MNA

Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, committee members, officials

national dignity and character by continuing the task for maintaining the art of singing, dancing, writing and music which have been preserved by Myanmar people for

Some western countries, destructive elements and unscrupulous businessmen are now trying to disrupt patriotism, nationalistic spirit and the spirit of safeguarding traditional culture on political as well as economic fronts. Their motive is clearly targeted at the young wanting to go recklessly with the tide of modern lifestyle.



The photo shows silver links of belt shaping king and queen and Ponnaka ogre riding horse, four silver bracelets and three silver bowls excavated in ancient Pakhangyi Town.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 6 September, 2004

Wider use of natural gas in place of petrol and diesel

The Union of Myanmar is rich in natural resources. Of the natural resources of aboveground and underground in the nation, offshore and onshore natural gas is abundant. Myanmar has been able to create a new milestone by substituting natural gas for petrol and diesel in vehicles, thereby meeting the domestic fuel demand.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance on using natural gas widely in place of petrol and diesel. Hence, efforts are now being made to widely use CNG vehicles the length and breath of the nation.

In Myanmar, fuel such as natural gas, liquefied natural gas and methanol have been used safely in vehicles since 1986.

The Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy opened a gas-filling point on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Paleik, Singaing Township, Kyaukse District, Mandalay Division, on 4 September. Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win attended the ceremony and made a speech on the occasion.

In his speech, he said that inland natural gas in the country alone is sufficient for consumption in vehicles. Instead of petrol and diesel engine cars, CNG has been used for some years. Natural gas consumption in vehicles is not new. In practice, it has already been known that the use of natural gas in car is safe and this does not affect the engine. He spoke of the need to use CNG vehicles safely.

Altogether 587 CNG vehicles have been used safely in Insein, Hmawby, Yenangyoung and Minbu since 1986. Two filling stations are opened in Yangon, two in Yenangyoung and one in Chauk. Nowadays, two vehicles can be filled with natural gas at the filling station in Paleik. The filling of natural gas takes only five minutes. CNG kits were installed in 35 vehicles in Kyaukse District initially and arrangements have been made for installation of CNG kits in 165 vehicles. The use of natural gas can not only save fuel but extend engine duration. It also saves the cost and less transport charges can contribute to bringing down commodity prices and reducing levels of environmental pollution.

Therefore, it is urged to widely use CNG vehicles safely in place of petrol and diesel cars, making effective use of natural gas that has been exploited in abundance at home.

Book Charity to be held on 7 September

YANGON, 2 Sept — A meeting to coordinate measures for opening self-reliant libraries at various villages under the aegis of the Information & Public Relations Department will be held in conjunction with the ceremony to donate books and printed materials at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information at 2 pm on 7 September 2004.

Those wishing to donate printed materials for the libraries can contact the IPRD through Tel: 01-252457, 252458, 371339, 379769, 379771 and 252451. — MNA

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



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe accepts cash donations from wellwishers at the ceremony to donate provisions to monasteries and nunneries in Yankin Township.— MNA

Tatmadaw families, wellwishers offer provisions to monasteries, nunneries in Yankin, Lanmadaw

YANGON, 5 Sept — Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated rice, oil, salt, medicine, gram and cash to the funds of nine monasteries and two nunneries in Yankin Township at Maha Bawdi Monastery on Mogoung Road in Yankin Township this afternoon.

Present were Vice-

Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Dhammikarama Kyaikpi Monastery Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Gunesana, members of the Sangha and nuns, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Com-

mand Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Vice Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe, Brig-Gen Ngwe Thein of the Ministry of Defence, Provost Marshal Maj-Gen Saw Hla, No 2 Military Region Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint, senior military officers of the Min-

istry of Defence, local authorities and wellwishers.

First, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gunesana administered the Eight Precepts. Next, the commander, the minister and officials offered provisions to the Sayadaws.

On behalf of the families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air), Vice Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Lt-Col Than Hlaing of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) donated rice, oil and gram to members of the Sangha. Senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence offered donations of the Tatmadaw families to nuns. Next, the commander presented rice donated by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council to the Sayadaw.

(See page 11)



Senior military officers present provisions to nuns from nunneries in Yankin Township.— MNA

Literary Charity

The second ceremony to donate cash, books and periodicals for self-reliant village libraries will be held as follows:

Date — 7 September 2004

Time — 2 pm

Venue — Ministry of Information (Meeting Hall)

All are invited to participate in Book Charity.

Ministry of Information
Information & Public Relations Department

22/24 Pansodan Street, Yangon.

Tel: 371339, 379769, 379771, 252451

Seven-point future policy programme of the State lectured

YANGON, 5 Sept — CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein gave lectures to 200 trainees of Basic Organizational Multiplier Course No 20/21, organized by North Okkalapa Township USDA on successful realization of the seven-point future policy programme of the State from 12 noon to 4 pm today. — MNA

Fresh violence kills 44 in Iraq; fate of French hostages uncertain

BAGHDAD, 4 Sept — Violence left 44 dead in Iraq in one of the bloodiest days since the new Iraqi government took office, as hopes slipped for two French journalists held by a radical Islamic group.

Police suffered heavy losses in two incidents, and clashes raged between US forces and insurgents.

Iraqi police and national guardsmen, assisted by US forces, launched a major assault on the no-go zone of Latifiya, a stronghold of the Sunni Muslim insurgency south of Baghdad, in the boldest offensive by the new government since it took power at the end of June.

The 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit said the raid targeted criminals and militants.

Twelve policemen were killed and five national guardsmen wounded in the raids that saw 200 suspects arrested, an Iraqi national guard officer said.

The US troops, backed by a small national guard detachment, poured into the city after dawn to hunt down a "terrorist cell" and detained a wanted

individual, the military said.

"The city of Tall Afar has been a suspected haven for terrorists crossing into Iraq from Syria," it said.

Guerillas hit a US helicopter with gunfire

and two soldiers were wounded as the chopper made an emergency landing. As the clashes intensified, an F-16 fighter jet dropped a large bomb near the city, the military said.

Soldiers guarding the

downed helicopter killed two insurgents after coming under rocket-propelled grenade fire, it said, adding that three Iraqi national guards were wounded in a separate incident.

Internet



A policeman stands by a car that was involved in a car bomb explosion that killed at least 20 and wounded 36 others in Kirkuk, Iraq, on 4 Sept, 2004. A suicide attacker detonated a car bomb outside the police academy as hundreds of trainees and civilians were leaving for the day.

INTERNET

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Bombing at Iraq police station kills 20

KIRKUK, 4 Sept — A suicide attacker detonated a car bomb Saturday outside an Iraqi police academy as hundreds of trainees and civilians were leaving for the day, killing 20 people and wounding 36 others in the latest attack designed to thwart US-backed efforts to build a strong Iraqi security force ahead of January elections.

US and Iraqi forces, meanwhile, launched an operation in another northern town, Tal Afar, to flush out a militant cell allegedly smuggling men and arms in from Syria, sparking a fierce gunbattle that left at least eight people dead and more than 50 injured.

South of Baghdad, attackers fired mortar rounds at an Iraqi police patrol, killing three officers, said Col Adnan Abdul-Rahman of the Interior Ministry. The attack occurred between the towns of Mahmoudiya and Latifiyah 25 miles from the capital.

The car bomb in Kirkuk littered the street with bloodied bodies, gutted cars, shards of glass and twisted metal. The police academy's steps were covered in blood.

"I saw one of my friends killed before my eyes. I couldn't do anything to help him," said Bassem Ali, a student at the academy who was hurt in the blast.

Kirkuk police put the toll at 20 dead and 36 wounded. "This is a terrorist act against members of Iraqi police who were going home," said Kirkuk police Col Sarhat Qadir.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. Guerillas see police as collaborators with US-led forces and are bent on disrupting American efforts to build a strong Iraqi security force ahead of January elections.

Militants have blown up police stations all over the country, gunned down officers in drive-by shootings and battered police recruitment centers with mortar barrages and rocket-propelled grenades — leaving policemen increasingly terrified and deterring would-be recruits. —Internet

Aljazeera outraged by Iraq ban extension

BAGHDAD, 4 Sept — Aljazeera has reacted with shock and outrage at the interim Iraqi government's indefinite extension of a ban on the network's coverage operations in the war-torn country.

Iraqi security forces stormed into Aljazeera's Baghdad office on Saturday and sealed it with red wax.

Iraqi officials said the Qatar-based channel had not respected the closure order nor answered demands for an explanation on the tone of its broadcasts.

Reacting to the ban, Aljazeera said it was outraged at the decision.

The station also said the ban was inconsistent with the Iraqi administration's pledges on press freedom.

"Aljazeera channel is outraged at the decision taken this evening...to extend the closure of its bureau in Baghdad," a statement said.

"We are also outraged at the procedures they have used. Police attacked

our office this afternoon, took photographs and sealed it up," Aljazeera spokesman Jihad Ballout said. But Ballout defended Aljazeera's Iraq coverage and denied any wrongdoing.

"Yes, we have been getting pictures out of Iraq, but like most others we are depending on the news and footage agencies to get our pictures. So we

abided by the law," Ballout explained. Aljazeera—Internet

Pakistani Foreign Secretary arrives India

NEW DELHI, 4 Sept — Pakistani Foreign Secretary Riaz Khokhar Friday night said he viewed Saturday's talks with his Indian counterpart Shyam Saran "positively" and stressed that while the dialogue process is important, "time is also important".

Kokhar, who arrived by an Indian Airlines flight from Lahore, was asked by reporters at Delhi airport how he approached his upcoming parleys.

"Positively," he responded and went on to add that "our talks are a lot simpler. We will have a joint

review of the entire gamut of the composite dialogue process and prepare the agenda" for the meeting between Indian Foreign Minister K Natwar Singh and his Pakistan's counterpart Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri on 5 and 6 September. — MNA/PTI

Arroyo back home after state visit to China

MANILA, 4 Sept — Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo returned home shortly before midnight Friday from her three-day state visit to China, with an estimated one-billion-US-dollar worth of investments and soft loans secured from the Chinese Government.

The plane carrying Arroyo, her family members and some Cabinet officials, arrived at the Manila International Airport, from where the beaming Arroyo proceeded directly to her waiting presidential car with First Gentleman Jose Arroyo, without giving a statement.

Philippine Energy Secretary Vincent Perez said Arroyo's "extremely successful" trip has also

brought about a "diplomatic breakthrough" between the two countries in defence and security co-operation, and in the South China Sea issue.

The two countries signed a joint marine undertaking in the South China Sea, a Memorandum of Understanding on the North Railway project, a tourism agreement, an accord granting visa exemptions for officials and diplomatic pass-

port holders, and an agreement on defence cooperation.

China also committed a 400-million-dollar credit facility to decongest Metro Manila and to help make the Subic-Clark area a leading logistics and service hub in the region, and a 312-million-dollar commitment to invest in the Philippines' integrated glass manufacturing facility.

MNA/Xinhua



US soldiers keep guard after several mortar rounds exploded near the convention centre where delegates to Iraq's new National Council met inside the heavily guarded Green Zone, Iraq, on 1 Sept, 2004.—INTERNET

Govt asks all Indians in Iraq to return

KOZHIKODE, 4 Sept—The Centre urged all the Indians working in the insurgency-hit Iraq to return home in view of the situation prevailing in the war-torn country.

"The government will facilitate the safe return of about 5,000 Indians working at various places in Iraq, if they are willing to come back," Minister of State for External Affairs E Ahamed told reporters in Kozhikode on Saturday. Share your joy and relief with the truckers' families.

He said the Centre had already instructed the envoys in Baghdad and Kuwait to take necessary steps in this direction.

"We must realise the situation prevailing there in order to avoid the incidents such as hostage taking," he said referring to the ordeal of three Indian truck drivers

held captives by an Iraqi insurgent group, 'Holders of the Black Banners' for 42 days.

Expressing gratitude to diplomats and envoys in Kuwait and Iraq, Ahamed, who was the Chairman of the Crisis Management Group set up to deal with the crisis, said collective efforts made by all of them succeeded in securing the release of Antaryami, Sukh Dev and Tilak Raj.

Besides, religious leaders in that country also helped in the process by creating a public awareness about the long-standing cordial relations between India and the Arab nations, he said.—INTERNET



Local residents stand near destroyed cars that were hit in an US airstrike in Fallujah, Iraq, on 2 Sept, 2004. 17 people, including 3 children were killed according to hospital officials. —INTERNET

Four USN "Seals" charged with Iraqi prisoner abuse

WASHINGTON, 5 Sept—The US Navy has charged four of its elite Special Operation Troops Seals with abusing detainees in Iraq.

This is the first time that Seals have been accused of such offences in the expanding probe into the US military's mistreatment of prisoners in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The charges against the four sailors include assault, maltreatment of detainees and making false statements to investigators.

The Navy said the names are being withheld because of the sensitive nature of the sailors' work, which can take them behind enemy lines on reconnaissance and

sabotage missions.

Many of the charges brought against the Seals grew out of a previously reported incident on November 4, 2003, in which a detainee in the custody of the CIA died at Abu Ghraib Prison in Iraq, officials told *The Washington Post*.

It is expected to produce additional charges against other sailors, they said. Until now, the only service members facing legal action for alleged abuses of Iraqi prisoners are seven members of an Army

reserve military police unit that worked in the Abu Ghraib Prison.

Navy Seals are highly skilled troops trained to operate in extremely dangerous situations. Being a Navy Seal is highly prestigious. Seal stands for "Sea, Air and Land," underscoring the versatility of the units. The four new charges came after announcements from the Pentagon that dozens of additional charges against soldiers were likely to be filed.—MNA/PTI

China to launch three new meteorological satellites

BEIJING, 4 Sept—China will launch three indigenously-made high-resolution meteorological satellites by 2010, the first of which could be in orbit by next month, a report said on Thursday.

The three *Fengyun-2* batch 2 (FY-2 02) meteorological satellites will be launched with *Long March* carrier rockets 3A, aerospace officials said.

"The satellites, independently developed and manufactured by China,

will be in synchronous orbit with the Earth and operational until 2012," a spokesman for China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation said.

The corporation has completed its appraisal of

the first satellite of the batch with contracts on the research, manufacturing, launch and monitoring of the satellites signed on Tuesday between the corporation and the China Meteorological Administration (CMA).—MNA/PTI

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Egyptian hostage held in Iraq released

KUWAIT, 4 Sept—An Egyptian man released this week with six other drivers held hostage in Iraq said in remarks published on Friday the captors took away his money, but never beat them.

Mohamed Ali Sanad was one of seven drivers

for Kuwait firm Kuwait and Gulf Link Transport (KGL) released this week after their employer paid a ransom of more than 500,000 US dollars.

The seven — who included three Indians and three Kenyans — were trucking computers and air conditioners to Iraq when they were seized in late July in the city of Fallujah, he said. He told Kuwaiti daily *al-Anbaa* all his captors were Iraqis "but I also heard about other Arabs but haven't seen them".

He said the kidnappers were particularly angry with him as a fellow Arab. "They used to say I was helping the Americans against them," Sanad added.—MNA/Reuters

India, Pakistan agree to deepen engagement

NEW DELHI, 5 Sept—India and Pakistan agreed Saturday that the composite dialogue process they had initiated to resolve bilateral issues, including Kashmir, has been "productive" and should be continued to "deepen and broaden" bilateral engagements.

The agreement, announced in a joint statement issued at the conclusion of the talks here between the foreign secretaries of the two countries—India's Shyam Saran and Pakistan's Riaz Khokhar — set an optimistic backdrop for the meeting of the two foreign ministers Sunday, the Indo-Asian News Service reported.

India's External Affairs Minister K. Natwar Singh will hold two days of talks with his Pakistani counterpart Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri in the Indian capital to review the progress of the first round of the dialogue process that concluded in August.

The joint statement issued at the end of the talks between the two foreign secretaries said they assessed "positively" the discussions held on the eight subjects covered under the Composite

Dialogue.

"The foreign secretaries agreed that the discussions had been productive and had taken place in a cordial and constructive atmosphere. Several useful ideas and suggestions were made by both sides," the statement said. —MNA/Xinhua

UN to provide technical aid to developing nations to fight AIDS

NEW YORK, 4 Sept—The United Nations and Brazil have agreed to enhance the technical capacity of developing countries to fight AIDS, the deadly virus which kills about 16,500 people worldwide every day.

The agreement provide for setting up an International Centre for Technical Cooperation on AIDS in Brazil.

"The new initiative will give other countries the necessary tools to effectively fight AIDS, now that financing is greatly increasing," UNAIDS Executive Director Peter Piot said in Brasilia Thursday.

"Making this money work is now a priority. We urgently need to identify new ways for countries to build technical capacity to tackle the epidemic, the largest human development crisis in history."

MNA/PTI



Children walk on a main street filled with garbage and stagnant water caused by a lack of maintenance due to months of sporadic fighting between US soldiers and militiamen loyal to rebel Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, in Sadr City, Iraq, on 31 Aug, 2004.—INTERNET

German minister says Iraq war "a true crime"

BERLIN, 4 Sept — A German minister came under fire on Friday for labelling the Iraq war "a true crime", a remark which could reopen wounds between the United States and Germany.

Germany's conservative opposition urged Chancellor Gerhard Schröder on Friday to reprimand Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Wieczorek-Zeul said in a speech late on Wednesday the Iraq war had caused terrible human suffering.

"That is a true crime," said the left-wing member of Schröder's Social Democrats (SPD) who is also a peace campaigner.

Leaders of the opposition Christian Democrats (CDU), who supported the US-led invasion of Iraq, called on Wieczorek-Zeul to retract the remarks and Schröder to silence her.

"The chancellor needs to put a muzzle on Wieczorek-Zeul and her anti-American attacks," said Christian Ruck, a

CDU deputy.

"Statements like that will cause devastating political damage in the United States," said Gerd Mueller, foreign policy expert for the Christian Social Union, the CDU's sister party.

Government officials and SPD deputies defended her remarks.

Schröder criticized US steps against Iraq right up until the war started. In his 2002 re-election campaign, he derided plans to attack Iraq as a military "adventure" that would "set ablaze" the Middle East.

Tensions worsened when Schröder's Justice Minister Herta and Paul Däubler-Gmelin was reported to have compared Bush's political tactics with those of Adolf Hitler, which she partially denied.

Schröder did not re-

appoint her but the United States took a dim view of his decision not to fire her right away.

Last year Junior Defence Minister Walter Kolbow was reported saying unilateral US decisions on Iraq looked like the actions of a dictator. But he denied labelling Bush a dictator, saying his remarks referred to US positions on Iraq and the environment.

MNA/Reuters



Neighbours look at the damage caused to a residence in Baghdad, Iraq, on 3 Sept, 2004, after mortar shells landed on Thursday night. —INTERNET

Four US Navy commandos charged in Iraq prisoner abuse

WASHINGTON, 4 Sept — Four members of an elite commando team of the US Navy have been charged with abusing prisoners in Iraq, including a detainee who died last year after being struck in the head with the butt of a gun, the US Navy announced on Friday.

The charges against the four unidentified members of an elite Sea-Air-Land (SEAL) commando team including assault, aggravated assault, mal-

treatment of detainees, failure to report maltreatment of detainees, making false official statements to investigators, and solicitation to commit an offence, a Navy statement said.

According to Navy officials, some of the charges were linked to the death of Manadel al-Jamadi, a Iraqi man who was captured by

SEALs in November 2003.

Investigators found that a SEAL subdued the detainee by hitting him on the side of the head with the butt of a gun before taking him into custody in Abu Ghraib jail where he died later. An autopsy determined that he died of a blood clot in his head that was probably

stemmed from the blow with the gun.

The cases announced on Friday are the first against members of the US Navy since the prisoner abuse scandal was exposed in April. Seven US Army military police soldiers have been charged with abusing Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib so far.

MNA/Xinhua

Thai troops to Iraq packing for home

BANGKOK, 4 Sept — The Thai troops to Iraq will be back home in next week with their weapons and equipment to be shipped from Kuwait on Saturday, the Thai military said here on Friday.

The first batch of 190 soldiers of the 447-strong troops to Iraq will arrive at the Thai Airforce Airport in Bangkok around Tuesday noon, said Lieutenant-General Pisanu Urairatt, director of Civil Affairs Office of the Thai Army's supreme command.

The rest of troops will arrive at Bangkok in two groups on Wednesday and Thursday, he told reporters.

All troops have pulled out of Iraq on 27 August and stayed in the Virginia Camp in Kuwait since then. Pisanu reiterated that it was not an earlier withdrawal from Iraq of the Thai troops, which has fulfilled their half-year term there and all are in good conditions. When asked whether Thailand would send more troops to Iraq, Pisanu said "at

present, Thailand hasn't got any formal invitation to continue their job there".

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan raised the possibility of more Thai troops to Iraq after September when he met with Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra during his visit to the kingdom in July for the international AIDS conference, confirmed Pisanu.

Since last September, Thailand has sent two batches of troops to the southern Iraqi city of Karbala to fulfil its one-year commitment for postwar construction.

The government has maintained its decision not to withdraw troops early, despite of increasing domestic pressure after two soldiers were killed in an attack in last December. — MNA/Xinhua

Jiang Zemin hails cooperation with Philippines

BEIJING, 4 Sept — Chairman of China's Central Military Commission Jiang Zemin on Thursday hailed the smooth development of friendly and cooperative relations between China and the Philippines since the two countries established diplomatic relations some 30 years ago.

With the continued strengthening of political trust and deepening of the cooperation, China and the Philippines have enjoyed good coordination and cooperation in international and regional affairs, said Jiang while meeting with Philippine President Gloria Arroyo.

The two countries have conducted fruitful cooperation in maintaining stability and promoting joint development in the South China Sea, Jiang added.

During the talks, Jiang also expressed his hope that the two sides make joint efforts to further develop bilateral relations.

Arroyo, who arrived in Beijing Wednesday afternoon for a three-day state visit, said China is an important neighbour to the Philippines and has provided friendly support and assistance to her country's economic and social development.

China is the first country for her to visit after she was reelected president in May. It showed the Philippines attaches great importance to the relations with China, Arroyo stressed.

As for the Taiwan issue, she said her government fully understands and supports the stance of

the Chinese Government and people over the matter. She reiterated the Philippines' continued adherence to the one-China policy. Jiang said he highly appreciated the Philippine Government's adherence to the one-China policy and its attention on developing relations with China.

MNA/Xinhua

China to work with S Korea for stable, healthy relations

BEIJING, 4 Sept — Chinese top legislator told a party leader from South Korea here Thursday that China is willing to work with South Korea for the development of "long-term, stable and healthy" bilateral relations.

Wu Bangguo, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress (NPC) and member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met with Lee Bu-young, chairman of the Uri Party of South Korea, who is to attend the Third International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), slated for September 3-5.

Wu said Sino-S Korean relations have been characterized by frequent high-level visits, mutual political understanding, trust and support and a fast-growing economic and trade cooperation. — MNA/Xinhua



People look at a destroyed police car in Baghdad, Iraq, on 2 Sept, 2004. The car came under grenade attack and one policeman was injured. —INTERNET

Megawati says ASEAN must remain open to global economy

JAKARTA, 4 Sept — Indonesian President Megawati Soekarnoputri reiterated here Friday that the Association of South-East Asian Nations must remain open to the global economy.

"An economic integration should not be understood as merely building a common internal strength, while shutting the world out. On the contrary, ASEAN must remain open to the global economy," the President made the remarks at the opening ceremony of the 36th ASEAN Economic Ministerial Meeting.

ASEAN must continue to improve its trade and economic ties with its main partners, such as India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand," she said.

Megawati asserted that she supports free trade agreements concluded with important world economic players, because "their main objective is to widen the market for goods produced in ASEAN and to enable us to gain access to cheaper sources of capital goods and products."

In October last year, leaders of the regional grouping agreed to alter ASEAN by 2020 from an association of countries into a community of its ten members, namely Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore,

Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam.

Megawati, who chaired the last year's summit, said "we are all convinced that the ASEAN economic integration is crucial for the entire ASEAN community. Let us seek

together the ways to encourage regional trade and accelerate economic integration.

Let us show the world our real strength, by becoming the Economic Community that we aspire for," she said.

MNA/Xinhua



Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri (R) sits with Ministers of ASEAN member nations during the opening ceremony of the 36th Southeast Asian Economic Ministers Meeting at the presidential palace on

3 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

Vietnam wants closer ties with China's Yunnan Province

HANOI, 4 Sept — Vietnam's four northern cities and provinces would like to beef up multi-faceted relations with the Chinese province of Yunnan, especially in the construction of an economic corridor involving the five localities.

Nguyen Phu Trong, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and Secretary of the Hanoi City Party Committee, made the statement when meeting a Yunnan delegation led by Xu Rongkai, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and provincial governor, here on Friday.

"The cooperation between Vietnam and China in general and among the five localities, namely Hanoi, Hai Phong, Quang Ninh, Lao Cai and Yunnan in particular, is being deepened," Trong said, adding that the traditional ties between the two countries have recently been deepened and expanded to many other fields such as economy and culture.

The four northern localities and Yunnan should strengthen their multi-faceted cooperation, especially economic one, because their current ties have yet to correspond to their potential and strengths, he noted, pointing out that the Vietnamese province of Lao Cai and Yunnan have great potential in economic, trade and tourism cooperation as the two sides share a long border.

On Friday morning, top leaders of the five cities and provinces reached an agreement on developing the economic corridor mainly by beefing up cooperation in trade, tourism, and investment promotion, Trong said, expressing his hope that they will enhance their scientific and technical ties in the coming time.

He called for Yunnan's authorities and businesses to pay attention to developing historical and cultural relics; infrastructure, especially industrial parks and urban areas; and import-export activities in the capital of Hanoi. — MNA/Xinhua

ASEAN eco ministers agree to liberalize 10 sectors by 2007

JAKARTA, 4 Sept — Economic ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) agreed here Friday to liberalize 10 out of 11 priority sectors by as soon as 2007.

The 10 sectors include automotive, textile, electronics, information technology, health services, rubber-based products, wood-based products, tourism, agriculture and fisheries.

The ministers, gathered here for a three-day meeting, proposed the liberalization of the 10 sectors to

be endorsed by ASEAN leaders during their upcoming summit in Vientiane, capital of Laos, Indonesian Industry and Trade Minister Rini Soewandi told a Press conference.

"We had an open discussion and tried to really iron up all problems facing us. We have some

good results and already put many agendas for the ASEAN Summit in Vientiane," said Rini, who chaired the meeting.

She said liberalization for the priority sectors will be effective by 2007 for six ASEAN original members — Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia and

Brunei — and by 2012 for four newer members — Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and Myanmar.

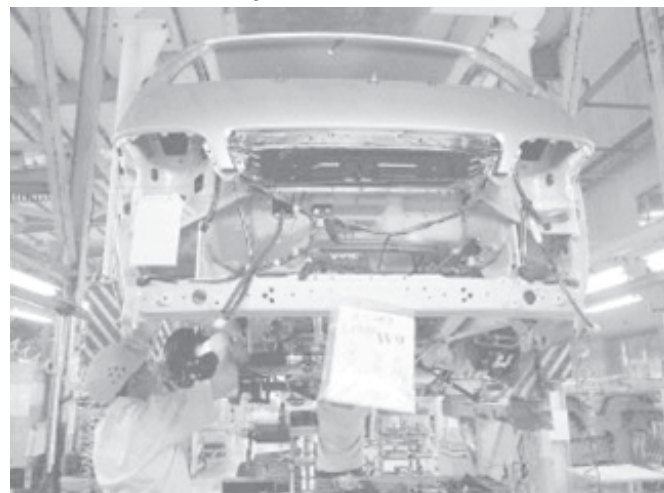
The liberalization measures will include cutting import tariffs under the Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) facility, streamlining Customs procedures and adopting shared product standards.

ASEAN, with a combined gross domestic product (GDP) of 680 million US dollars in 2003 and a population of over 520 million, recorded a significant growth in trade performance last year.

Total ASEAN exports grew by 12.12 per cent to 430.39 billion US dollars in 2003 when compared to 2002 and imports rose by 9.51 per cent to 359.32 billion US dollars, the regional grouping said in a statement.

Over the period, intra-ASEAN exports increased by 15.4 per cent to 99.7 billion US dollars, it said.

MNA/Xinhua



The auto industry is among the 11 sectors ASEAN want integrated before 2010. Southeast Asian economic ministers meeting in Jakarta began talks on ways to speed up regional economic integration and free trade. —INTERNET

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Tech initiatives to widen computer use in developing countries

WASHINGTON, 4 Sept — Chip and computer manufacturers and an Indian expert at Carnegie Mellon University are joining hands to widen computer use among the poor and illiterate by making the gadgets cheaper and easier to handle.

Dr Raj Reddy is working with partners to design a new class of devices that will let semi-literate people use a remote control to watch television and DVDs, make voice calls and receive e-mail with video clips in it, a US media report has said.

Reddy's project, dubbed Pctvt, hopes to deliver systems priced at about 250 US dollars, using low cost chips from Intel and Advanced Micro Devices (AMD), stripped down versions of the Linux or Microsoft operating systems, and subsidies from monthly subscription fees, the Wall Street Journal said.

The project, funded by a 3.4-million-US-dollar National Science Foundation grant, includes graduate students and faculty at Berkeley, collaborating with researchers at Intel, the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, and other institutions.

Participants hope to design and deploy new technology in two years' time in rural India. Efforts in Africa and Latin America are also being considered.

Company executives and university researchers are trying to strike profit-making partnerships with business entities in India, China and other countries that could help market new technology, the report said. — MNA/PTI

Myanma aviation industry spreads its wings



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and party pose for a documentary photo at the opening of Monywa Airport. — MNA



Newly-inaugurated runway seen at Kyauktu Airport built in Saw Township, Magway Division. — MNA



Mandalay International Airport in TadaU Township in Mandalay Division equipped with modern facilities. — MNA



The newly opened runway of Patheingyi Airport in Ayeyawady Division. — MNA

PM General Khin Nyunt...

(from page 1)

A glance at the international scene will uncover the traditional culture and performing arts which have been preserved since the times of their ancestors but are now dying out bit by bit in some countries on account of thinking too big of material development. It will be found that their national character is also deteriorating. Drawing lessons from these incidents, some countries like ours are now placing emphasis on the drive to safeguard their national culture in fear of the same fate. Otherwise, their national cultures and traits will be on the verge of extinction, whereupon the national interests will be harmed under the influence of other countries.

At a time when every world nation is now faced with the danger to national traditions and cultures which are near deterioration as a result of globalization process, Myanmar, on her part, can preserve her traditional cultures as well as national character and values till this day. It is

therefore clear that these achievements are the product of the efforts to maintain and uphold Myanmar traditional culture and to hold the performing arts competitions.

However, some big countries gaining superiority in wealth and technology in international community have now come to make developing countries including Myanmar fall under the sway of their traditions by bringing them in through the doors of trade and culture. Momentum has to be added to the efforts to continue the promotion programmes for the safeguarding and uplift of our national cultures with nationalistic fervour. In particular, some western countries, destructive elements and unscrupulous businessmen are now trying to disrupt patriotism, nationalism and the spirit of safeguarding traditional culture on political as well as economic fronts. Their motive is targeted at the young wanting to go recklessly with the tide of modern lifestyle. It has been found that there



On behalf of Ma Than Htwe of Nagatwin Ward of ancient Pakhangyi town, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt hands over silver artefacts excavated from ancient Pakhangyi town to Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung. — MNA

are some youths entertaining in their minds the attitude of paying no heed to their traditional culture. It is therefore of especial importance to launch educational campaigns to protect the youths from having their minds stained with such attitude.

The onus is on the officials concerned and maestros from the leading committee and subcommittees to sustain the momentum of the successful performing arts competitions with dauntless perseverance.

The Prime Minister continued that it is found that preparatory measures have already been taken based on the past experiences for the 12th performing arts competitions. Ramayana

Drama has been set for this year's drama contest. The Prime Minister also said that hope has been set high for this year's performance level higher than that of previous years since it is the fourth time that the drama has been allowed for the competitions. Ramayana Drama is one of Myanmar classical dramas that needs many days to perform. It is delightful to know that arrangements have been made to include some suitable plots to make the drama more perfect year after year. Later, the Prime Minister expressed his belief, saying that these measures will be of great help to maintain Ramayana Drama as it has been before.

Mahawthada Drama has

the one more advanced than those in the previous years.

Later, the Prime Minister called for systematic leadership of the maestros and officials concerned to en-

Ramayana Drama as it has strong characters and attractive plots.

Although the art of Myanmar marionette was praised by foreign coun-

The onus is on the officials concerned and maestros from the leading committee and subcommittees to sustain the momentum of the successful performing arts competitions with dauntless perseverance.

At a time when every world nation is now faced with the danger to national traditions and cultures which are near deterioration as a result of globalization process, Myanmar, on her part, can preserve her traditional cultures as well as national character and values till this day.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects settings for 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions. — MNA

The Objectives of the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

- * To vitalize patriotism and nationalism in all citizens
- * To preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage
- * To perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts
- * To preserve Myanmar national character
- * To nurture spiritual development of the youths
- * To prevent influence of alien culture

been chosen for the marionette contest. The Prime Minister also expressed his belief that the contestants at this drama will show their talents in expressing the great wisdom of Myanmar people, love of justice, and high standard of culture.

It is also hoped that the higher standard as well as the delicate but deep essence of the performing arts will be witnessed in the competitions, which will be

sure that the 12th performing arts competitions meet its lofty aims, to hold the competitions with full national essence and with high quality of performance, to keep dynamic the positive results of the competitions.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe briefed on the 11th Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions and reported on arrangements for the 12th performing arts competitions to be successfully organized. Secretary of the Leading Committee Commander of No 3 Military Region Col Tint San reported on the organizational set-up of work committee, the panel of judges and subcommittees.

Afterwards, Subcommittee for the 12th Performing Arts Competitions Director-General of the Fine Arts Department U Kyaw Win reported on date, venue and categories for the performing arts competitions, selection of the drama for marionette competitions, selection of Ramayana Drama in drama competitions and prize presentation. Members of the panel of judges also gave supplementary reports.

In his concluding remarks, General Khin Nyunt said he believed that the 12th Performing Arts Competitions will be successfully organized in accordance with the aims of the competitions. Foreign countries praised

tries, it nearly vanished. Thanks to the Myanmar traditional performing arts competitions, Myanmar marionette could be staged. He also urged the scholars and officials concerned to make efforts to organize the competitions in accord with the essence of Myanmar traditional culture. After the meeting, Chairman of the Myanmar Music Asiayon U Ohn Kyaw presented K 1 million donated by the MMA to the competitions through General Khin Nyunt. Marionette Master U Ye Dwe presented record books and video tapes on Asian Ramayana Drama to General Khin Nyunt.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt handed over ancient silverwares excavated in ancient Pakhangyi town, Yesagyo Township, Magway Division, to the Ministry of Culture. The silverwares—one belt buckle engraved with the forms of king and queen, one belt buckle engraved with the posture of an ogre riding a horse, four silver bracelets and three silver bowls—were found by Ma Than Htwe of Nagatwin Ward in ancient Pakhangyi town, Yesagyo Township, Magway Division.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt also inspected the display of background settings to be used at the competitions at the meeting hall and gave instructions. — MNA

Air transport, which has been able to cover...

(from page 16)

Pakokku region situated in the western bank of Ayeyawady River is a gateway of southern part of Chin State and it is also the focal point of the southern Chin State and western part of Magway Division for development of socio-economic status of the local people including education and health sectors. Therefore, Pakokku region was designated as a development region of the State. So, all-round development tasks are being carried out in the region to emerge a city of western bank of Ayeyawady River. Universities, colleges and hospitals were built as well as railroads and new motor roads were constructed in the region. Thanks to building Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay Railroad and Haka-Gangaw Motor Road, nowadays local people can enjoy fruitful results of the transport sector. Though Pakokku has been cut off the aviation links for many years, at present the region can rejoin network of airways links. Magway Division possessed airports for light aircraft only in the past. At present, new airports such as Magway Airport, Kyaukhtu Airport and Pakokku Airport have been built for use of major aircraft. Out of 32 airports throughout the country, there are 24 airports where jets can land including Pakokku Airport.

Nowadays, the air transport, which has been able to cover a long journey in a short period of time, is of utmost importance both at home and abroad. This being the case, the government has been giving priority to enhancing the

Pakokku Airport opened today has magnificent airport building and the control tower. The runway is 8,500 feet long tarred road. So, F-28 jets can land there. And, arrangements are being made for upgrading the runway to become 10,000 feet long one.

air transport standard.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, transport infrastructures, the prerequisite for national development, were built one after another on self-reliant basis. Myanmar engineers themselves have been making relentless efforts in building new airports, upgrading the old ones, extending motor roads and rail roads, building river-crossing and creek-crossing bridges and jetties.

There emerged not only such new airports but Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway), Anawrahta Bridge (Chauk), Chindwin river crossing Hsinbyushin Bridge and other small creek-crossing bridges. With the use of those transport facilities, local people have been able to travel from one place to another with peace of mind.

The opening of Kyaukhtu airport and Pakokku airport contributed much to development of Chin State and Magway Division. The government spent a large amount of funds on constructing the two airports.

Magway Division covering Pakokku District is geographically and economically important to the State. Progress has been made not only in agricultural sector but also in other socio-economic sectors. With the emergence of the Pakokku industrial zone, progress has been made in both private industrial sector and State industrial sector. In addition, Pakokku textile factory and Pwintbyu textile factory will soon emerge in a matter of years.



Lt-Gen Ye Myint poses for documentary photo with local people.— MNA

The government is making all-out efforts for development of education, health, agricultural, livestock breeding and industrial sectors after laying down development projects with the aim of bringing about equitable development across the nation. Hence, significant progress has been made in all parts of the nation.

Meanwhile, it has laid down and is implementing the seven-point future political programme of the State for the emergence of genuine democratic nation while striving for all-round development of the State.

Those future political programme are an own process of transition to democracy in conformity with the prevailing political situations of the State.

Stability of the State and prevalence of law and order in all parts of the nation are required for successful realization of those future political programmes of the State. Only when there is community peace and tranquillity will economic and social sectors develop, thereby contributing to ensuring prevalence of law and order. So, emphasis is to be placed on stability of the State and development of economic, education and health sectors.

In conclusion, he expressed thanks to the Ministry of Transport, the company concerned, local authorities, local people and others who contributed their shares in construction of the airport.

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe delivered an address, saying that Pakokku located in Magway Division is focal point of the western bank of Ayeyawady River. Therefore, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance to designate Pakokku as the City of the Western Bank of Ayeyawady River. And, development of Pakokku and its surrounding areas is being carried out to have city characters. The Head of State gave guidance to implement Pakokku Airport Project for facilitating equal development of Magway Division and Chin State, ensuring smooth transportation and enhancing socio-economic standard of the local people.

Though an old airport used in the pre-war era was situated near Pakokku, the area is not enough to extend the runway. So, feasibility study was conducted for new runway and construction tasks were started on 28 July 2002. Now, as the 8,500 feet long and 100 feet wide tarred runway has been built, local flights can operate to use it. In addition, a one-storey modern airport building for passengers was built of reinforced concrete. It is 180 feet long and 600 feet wide. The airport building can accommodate 250 passengers each for departure and on arrival at the same time.

In addition to new Pakokku Airport, plans are being implemented to build Nyaung U Airport in Mandalay Division, Hkamti Airport in Sagaing Division, Lashio Airport and Kengtung Airport in Shan State, Bhamo Airport in Kachin State and Dawei Airport in Tanintharyi Division in main regions of the country.

In conclusion, the minister urged all to ensure durability of the airport and safeguard greening and beautifying of the airport.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye spoke on the occasion. Then, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw Min gave a speech. Later, representative of the local people U Kyaw Tint thanked the government for construction of the airport. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Commanders Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Maj-Gen Ye Myint, the ministers, the deputy ministers and senior military officers took the designated places. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Col Zaw Min and the general manager of the airport construction company formally unveiled the archway of the airport.

Minister Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe unveiled the signboard of the airport and sprinkled scented water on it.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint also pressed the button to unveil the stone plaque of the airport and sprinkled scented water on it. Later, they posed for documentary photos with local people in front of the airport archway.

Next, they visited the airport building. The runway of the Pakokku Airport opened today is of tarred road mixed with concrete. The runway is 27 inches thick, 8,500 feet long and 100 feet wide.—MNA

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, transport infrastructures, the prerequisite for national development, were built one after another on self-reliant basis. Myanmar engineers themselves have been making relentless efforts in building new airports, upgrading the old ones, extending motorroads and railroads, building river-crossing and creek-crossing bridges and jetties.



An aeroplane landing at Pakokku Airport.— MNA

It is high time the US put an end to their foolish behaviour

Aung Moe San

There in a village lived a Myanmar traditional physician. One day at twilight, as an elderly man sent for him, he went along with him bringing his medical kit. It already grew dark when they arrived at the patient's house. The patient was in his doze lying in bed. After feeling the pulse of the patient, the physician gave some medicines for the patient. Before the physician left, the elderly man asked him what was wrong with the patient. To this, the physician replied it was something menstrual. To his astonishment, the elderly man responded that the patient was a male, and how it would be possible. Giving a persistent reply that it was 'masculine menstrual disorder', the physician left there. This is a saying talking of a person who was very obstinate to comply with his neighbours' advice that it would be wrong to give medicines to a male who had no way to suffer from menstrual disorder, but retorted

Despite the UN basic principle: "Nothing contained in the Charter shall authorize the UN to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State", they are also hatching schemes to press Myanmar Government by bringing Myanmar's internal issue to the UN Security Council.

that it was just 'masculine menstrual disorder'.

There is no country in the world that has ever changed for the better on account of economic sanction. Nor has a country ever been transformed as democracy at the collapse of its government as a result of economic sanction. World-famous professors and pundits have also made it clear that economic sanctions cannot produce democracy nor oust the Tatmadaw Government in Myanmar. External and internal anti-government elements and the so-called pro-democracy activists in western countries are constantly making several attempts to impose severe economic sanctions bit by bit on Myanmar.

Despite the UN basic principle: "Nothing contained in the Charter shall authorize the UN to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State", they are also hatching schemes to press Myanmar Government by bringing Myanmar's internal issue to the UN Security Council. This is not all.

The US government's request for concerted pressure on Myanmar from ASEAN countries complying with the basic principles of the Bandung Conference: "Mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs" and "Equality and mutual benefits", is designed to make ASEAN the US-led west bloc's subordinate.

Last 7 July, the US government approved of the one-year extension of 'the freedom and democracy issue in Myanmar' on the pretext of 'the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the democratic reform in Myanmar'. The act of the US government neglected the US historical event in which democracy won a victory over the feudal system on account of growing capitalist productive forces 228 years ago; the occurrence of World War II after the rise of Nazism and Fascism in war-ravaged countries whose productive capacities were in sharp decline on account of the huge amount of reparations demanded by the US with the aim of making them not to be able to pose any threat to it; and the events in which Germany, Italy and Japan had to turn to parliamentary democratic republics as a result of booming capitalist (market) economy in parallel with growing capitalist productive forces through economic and technological assistance offered by the US-led allies under the Marshal Plan in an attempt to correct that mistake after the end of WWII.

This is not all. They also violate the resolutions passed at the General Assembly of the United Nations. According to the resolutions, no one nation nor grouping has the right to interfere in the other's internal and external affairs by any reasons or any means; every nation must refrain from the

unscrupulous use of human rights problems in the hope of interfering in the internal affairs of the other country; and every nation or every country grouping must refrain from disrupting the stability among themselves. National reconciliation is still a distant reality owing to the US government's senseless interference in the Kosovo issue. Furthermore, NATO troops are still stationed there for peace reason as the measures to restore national stability are in vain.

Although lessons should be taken seriously from these events, they are still trying to continue putting pressure on Myanmar. However, their meaninglessly lopsided interference in today's internal issues of Myanmar for full 15 years gave nothing. In fact, what they are doing is just like fighting a losing battle. A glance at the cause of 1988 conflict between the Tatmadaw Government and anti-government elements with the National League for Democracy in the vanguard will indicate a lack of right approach to reality and a deviation from the theory 'A correct outlook depends on real situation and its accurate reflection'. During the period of 1988 unrest, the then government was not able to maintain the stability and peace nor the prevalence of law and order. Nor was those playing an influential leadership role in the upheaval able to handle it. On account of it, the Tatmadaw could not remain indifferent to the chaotic situation in the country, and had to unavoidably assume the responsibility of the State.

Once assuming the State duty, the State Law and Order Restoration Council annulled the centralized economic policy and the single party system, whereupon the market economic system and the multiparty system were introduced to fulfil the wishes of the general public during the incident.

Warm welcome was also extended to civilians and students who fled in panic to foreign countries without taking action against them. These are the events that had happened really. However, anti-government elements wrongly viewed them in other way round as a military coup aimed at crushing the democracy movement.

Some west media in cahoots with the BBC and the VOA aired invented news set to sow seeds of distrust and discord between the government and the people. In like manner, some American congressmen bossed anti-government ideologists around. They branded the government a military despot. Their democratic strategy is to seize power by ousting the Tatmadaw Government by means of wrong concept that the fall of dictatorship will result in the rise of democracy. They also come to practise the act of confrontation and defiance to authority as democratic reform.

Against the invitation of the government to observe the Arzani Day (Martyrs' Day) on 19 July 1989 in unison with the participation of ten representatives each from every individual political parties, they held that everyone had the right to the observance of the day on their own way. In consequence of it, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was placed under house arrest for plotting a mass movement by observing the Arzani Day of their own volition and for instigating anti-government campaigns. As a result of prodigious achievements gained in the endeavours to restore national stability and ensure secure and smooth transport, the SLORC held elections in 1990 in line with the four tasks laid down by them so as to hand over State Power in conformity with the rules. However, the NLD gave a refusal to the acknowledgment of the writing of the Constitution.

In spite of the relentless efforts being made by the SLORC to ensure better economy, education, health and transport, and strengthen national consolidation in accordance with the 12 political, economic and social objectives, the NLD setting hope on getting power in the hands of their party tried to throw out the existing government by instigating a situation like 1988 unrest with the country in recession and the people in poverty. They also called upon west blocs to put economic sanction on

Myanmar and block tourists from coming to the country. The US government and the west blocs satisfied their demands willingly. Unable to neglect the failure of those concerned to draw the Constitution, the Government (Tatmadaw) invited all the parties concerned and coordinated with them to hold the National Convention in 1993. A total of 86 NLD delegates attended the National Convention.

Restrictions on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi were lifted when the National Convention was nearing completion. Before long, Madeleine Albright, the then US Secretary of State, arrived at Myanmar and met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Soon after she had left, the NLD delegates walked out the National Convention for the reason that there had not been any reply in respect of the request for a negotiation between the government and the NLD although they submitted the issue to the chairman of the National Convention. As a result, the drawing of the Constitution remained incomplete. After restrictions were lifted, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held anti-government talk shows in the street outside her compound on Saturdays and Sundays. Later, it was prohibited as the people complained of road blockage.

Later on, she was put under restrictions for the second time for her attempts to launch organizational campaigns with the chanting like 'freedom of movement' through the formation of a committee representing the parliament with the intention of forming a parallel government. Owing to UN representative Mr Razali Ismail's frequent arbitrations, mutual trust could be built, resulting in the lifting of restrictions on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. As soon as she was released, she pledged that she would join hands with the Tatmadaw Government in the nation-

Restrictions on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi were lifted when the National Convention was nearing completion. Not before long, Madeleine Albright, the then US Secretary of State, arrived at Myanmar and met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Soon after she had left, the NLD delegates walked out the National Convention for the reason that there had not been any reply in respect of the request for a negotiation between the government and the NLD although they submitted the issue to the chairman of the National Convention. As a result, the drawing of the Constitution remained incomplete.

building tasks. Therefore, the Government allowed her to go anywhere and do any activities across the nation. During her tours of State's nation-building projects, she enjoyed special privileges as a VIP. But, after visiting some regions for political purposes, she said that the NLD remained unchanged, sticking to its act of confrontation and defiance of authority.

During her trip to the Upper Myanmar, in Mogok, a person in the crowd asked when Myanmar would become a democracy. In her response to the query, she said Myanmar could be transformed into democracy earlier than expected if Mogok dwellers were brave enough. In Wundwin, she severely criticized the Union Solidarity and Development Association. So, on arrival at Katha, she encountered a demonstration against the NLD and her by USDA members and supporters of the Government in retaliation to her criticism on the association. The situation was on the verge of a conflict. So, the District Peace and Development Council chairman had to intervene. At Dabayin, her trip came to an end, following a severe conflict between her supporters and the Government's. Every time the Tatmadaw Government made compromises in view of national consolidation, the anti-government elements held a wrong view that the government did so as a result of international pressure.

(To be continued)

Translation: KTY

Tatmadaw families, wellwishers...

(from page 2)

Similarly, officials of Yangon City Development Committee, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and ministries offered rice, oil, salt, medicine and gram to the Sayadaw.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Vice Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe, Brig-Gen Ngwe Thein of the Ministry of Defence, Provost Marshal Maj-Gen Saw Hla and senior military officers accepted K 19,221,960 towards the funds of nine monasteries and two nunneries including K 110,000 donated by Tatmadaw families; K 33,000 by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council; K 300,000 each by Myanmar Pyitharhay KN Co; U Aung Myat (Mother Trading Co Ltd); and U Kyaw Naing Oo; K 200,000 by U Bo Gyi-Daw Than Than; K 2.8 million by U Shwe Hlaing-Daw Khin Kyaw; K 2.5 million by Daw Mya Kyi and family; K 2 million by Daw Ma Ma Gyi; K 2 million by Chairman of Shwedagon Yekyidaw Wut Association U Tin Latt; K 1 million by U Ye

Myint-Daw Aye Po and other wellwishers.

Next, Lt-Col Than Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence supplicated on the purpose of the donations.

Member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Maha Bawdi Pariyatti Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panditabhivamsa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

Today's donations in Yankin Township were 412 bags of rice, 148.60 viss of edible oil, 287 bags and two viss of gram, 1,436 viss of iodized salt, 6,014 bottles of traditional medicine, 287 tubes of tooth paste, 2,872 cakes of beauty soap and K 192,211,960.

A similar ceremony was held for 66 monasteries within Thayettaw Kyaungtaik in Lanmadaw Township, at 3 pm today.

Present were members of the Sangha from 66 monasteries, the commander, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, deputy ministers, senior military officers, local authorities and wellwishers.

Chairman of Lanmadaw Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Hmankyaung Monastery Sayadaw

Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Paññajota administered the Five Precepts.

The commander, the minister, the deputy ministers and officials donated provisions to the Sayadaws.

Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun and Lt-Col Chan Maung of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) offered rice, oil and gram donated by Tatmadaw families to the Sayadaws.

Next, the commander and officials accepted donations from the wellwishers.

Lt-Col Chan Maung of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) supplicated on the purpose of the donations. Afterwards, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññajota delivered a sermon, and the commander, the ministers, the deputy ministers and wellwishers shared merits gained. Next, schoolgirls of Latha Basic Education High School No 2 disseminated Mettas.

Today's donations in Lanmadaw Township were 243 bags of rice, 65 viss of edible oil, 648 viss of iodized salt, 129 viss of gram, 130 tubes of tooth paste, 4,676 bottles of traditional medicine and K 5,023,010.

MNA



Director of Supply and Transport Maj-Gen Than Htay presents championship shield to prize-winning team in S&T Director's Shield Soccer Tournament. — MNA

Director's Shield Soccer Tournament concludes

YANGON, 5 Sept — The final event and prize presentation ceremony of 13th Director's Shield Soccer Tournament of Directorate of Supply and Transport 2004 under the Ministry of Defence was held in Sports Grounds of the Yangon

Command on 3 September. The ceremony was attended by Director of Directorate of Supply and Transport Maj-Gen Than Htay, Deputy Director Col Hla Htay and staff officers, other ranks and their families.

After the final event,

officials concerned presented prizes to victorious teams and outstanding footballers and Director of Directorate of Supply and Transport Maj-Gen Than Htay, the championship shield to the winning team.

MNA

Myanmar beat Hong Kong 2-0

YANGON, 5 Sept — The fourth Myanmar-Hong Kong friendly soccer match took place at Youth Training Camp (Thuwunna) this afternoon. In the match, the selected team of Myanmar Football

Federation (MFFSLCT) beat Hong Kong Kitchee soccer team 2-0.

Among the spectators were Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and officials of the Ministry, senior military

officers, members of the panel of leading partons and officials of the Myanmar Football Federation. Before the match, the players of Kitchee gave balls to the MFFSLCT as gifts.

MNA



Mar La of selected Myanmar team and goalkeeper of Hong Kong Kitchee team in action in Myanmar-Hong Kong friendly soccer match at Youth Training Centre on 5-9-2004. — NLM

CEC member meets USDA members in Lashio

YANGON, 5 Sept — Member of Central Executive Committee of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone yesterday evening met the secretary and executives of Shan State (North), District and Township USDAs at Shweli Yeiktha in Lashio.

He explained progress of economic, social and health sectors, revitalization of Union Spirit, undertaking of rural development tasks and seven-point future policy

programme of the State.

Secretary of Shan State (North) USDA U Sai Naw Kham Oo reported on organizational tasks. The CEC member attended to the needs.

Accompanied by Secretary of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Shwe, Tactical Operations Commander Lt-Col Win Shein and officials, the CEC member met executives of District and Shan State (North) USDAs in Lashioygy Ward and organizers. He instructed

them to participate in implementing rural development tasks and public welfare tasks.

The minister paid homage to Vice-Chairman of Shan State (North) Sangha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Kodañña at Manhso Phayagyi Monastery in Ward 32.

Next, he went to the construction site of Shan State (North) USDA Office and gave necessary instructions.

MNA



Ma Loyal Tun, Ma Aye Aye Aung, Maung Min Thu and Ma Khin Myo Kyaw who win first, second, third and consolation prize respectively at ASEAN Radio Quiz. — H

Nutrition Promotion Week Activities launched in Yangon South District

YANGON, 5 Sept — A ceremony to launch Yangon South District Nutrition Promotion Week Activities, jointly-organized by Yangon Division Health Committee and Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the building of Kyauktan MCWA this morning.

Present on the occasion were Patron of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA Daw Khin Thet Htay, members of the panel of patrons of Yangon

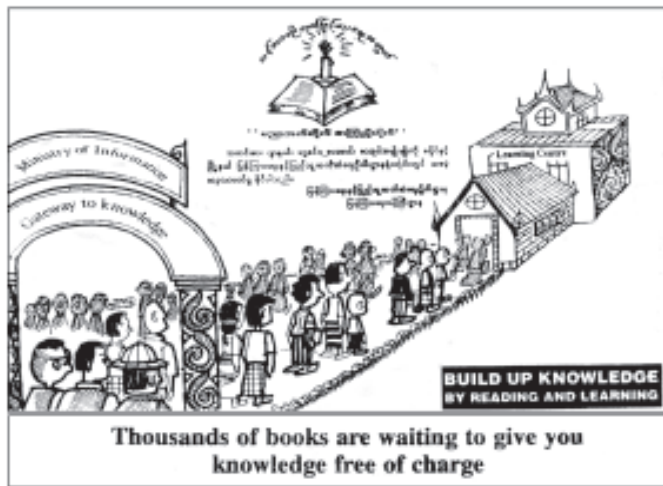
Division Supervisory Committee, Head of Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint, Chairman of Yangon South District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Aung Pyi and members, officials of Division Health Department, officials of UNICEF, chairmen of township PDCs, township health officers, doctors, nurses, members of township Women's Affairs, expectant mothers and locals.

First, Lt-Col Aung Pyi formally unveiled the

signboard of the ceremony.

Next, Patron of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA Daw Khin Thet Htay made a speech on the occasion. Daw Khin Thet Htay also presented prizes to winners in the competition for nutritious food.

Afterwards, Daw Khin Thet Htay and guests fed Vitamin A tablets to children under 5 and viewed quality test of iodized salt and distributed ferrous sulphate tablets to the expectant mothers. — MNA



ADVERTISEMENTS

UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS

INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Rolled Steel Locomotives Steel Tyre (Rough Turn) for Diesel Electric Locomotives which will be purchased in US Dollars and Euro:-

Sr.No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
1.	12(T)15/MR(ML) 2004-2005	Rolled Steel Locomotives Steel Tyre (Rough Turn) for Diesel Electric Locomotives	529- Nos

Closing Date.- 6.10.2004 (Wednesday) (12:00) Hours.

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 6.9.2004 during the office hours.

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

Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung, Yangon

Bangladesh to lift import restriction on 30 categories of products

Dhaka, 4 Sept— The Bangladeshi Government plans to withdraw in phases the import restrictions on some 30 categories of products, most of which are woven fabrics, under unrelenting pressure from the World Bank (WB), reported the daily *New Age* on Friday.

Sources in the Commerce Ministry said import of those items was restricted on the grounds of religion, health and environment, but Commerce Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury has already assured multilateral lenders including the WB to remove the restriction.

The ministry recently formed a high-level 13-member inter-ministerial committee to recommend to the government the specific items mostly fabrics to be freed from import restriction, after they consulted the domestic textile mill owners.

The textile mill owners have not opposed this

move and would not be affected as the country has almost achieved self-sufficiency in the fabric products currently restricted, a committee member was quoted as saying.

Under the current import policy, some 60 kinds of items fall under import restriction.

MNA/Xinhua

Musical Concert by the musicians of St Catharine's College, Cambridge University, Britain will perform as follows:

Date & Time	Venue
Monday, 6th September 2004 At 6:30 pm.	National Theatre (Mandalay)
Thursday, 9th September 2004 At 6:30 pm.	National Theatre (Yangon)

*Free Entrance Fees

ပြည်တွင်းပြိုင်ပွဲအားလေးပါး

TRADE MARK

CAUTION NOTICE
SIGARETTENFABRIEK
ED. LAURENS B.V., a company organized under the laws of THE NETHERLANDS carrying on business as Manufacturer and having its principal office at De Boelelaan 32, 1083HJ Amsterdam, The Netherlands is the owner and sole proprietor of the following Trademark:



Reg. Nos. 4/454/2001 & 4/1261/2004

Used in respect of: "Cigarettes, tobacco and tobacco products; lighters, matches and smokers' requisites" (International Class 34)

Any unauthorized use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above mark will be dealt with according to law.

TIN OHNMAR TUN
B.A. (Law) LL.B, LL.M (UK)
P.O. Box 109,
Ph: 248108/723043
(For: British American Tobacco Ltd, UK)
Dated: 6 September 2004

Chinese Vice-President meets Japanese guest

BEIJING, 4 Sept— Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong told a Japanese political leader here Friday that political parties and statesmen of both countries should take courage to shoulder up historical responsibility and make joint efforts for the development of Sino-Japanese relations.

Zeng, also member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and honorary director organizing committee of the Third International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), Zeng made the remarks during a meeting with Tetsuzo Fuwa, chairman of the Central Committee of the Japanese Communist Party (JCP), who is here attending the ICAPP.

MNA/Xinhua

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Hsin Lin Co (LLB) Advocate
MYANMAR TRADE MARK AND
PATENT LAW FIRM for
DePENNING & DePENNING
Patent and Trade Mark Agents
10, Government Place East
Kolkata 700 069

Intellectual Property House
31 South Bank Road
Chennai- 600 028
Aksanda Building
16 Nepean Sea Road
Mumbai- 400 036
MA-59 Moolari Road
DLF Phase-II
National Capital Region 122002
India. 6 September 2004

TRADE MARK CAUTION

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Kabushiki Kaisha (also trading as **Honda Motor Co., Ltd.**) of 1-1, Minami-Aoyama, 2-Chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:



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Win Ma Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for Honda Giken Kogyo
Kabushiki Kaisha
P.O. Box 68, Yangon.
Dated: 6 September 2004.

Chinese President meets Thai PM

BEIJING, 4 Sept— Chinese President Hu Jintao met here Friday with Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, in China to attend the Third International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP).

China and Thailand have a long history of friendship, said Hu, who is also the General Secretary of the Communist party of China (CPC) Central Committee.

Sino-Thai relations have developed rapidly over the years, with frequent exchanges of visits by leaders from both countries, enhancement of political trust between the two countries and development of all-around cooperation, he said.

"We are willing to make joint efforts with Thailand to advance the all-around China-Thailand relationship to a higher level, based on the principle of treating neighbours as friends and partners," Hu said.

The Chinese President thanked Thaksin for his attendance at the parties' conference as the president of Thai Rak Thai Party as well as his support of China's full market economy status. —MNA/Xinhua

UAE emerges as largest Arab investor in Sudan

ABU DHABI, 4 Sept— The United Arab Emirates (UAE) became the largest Arab investor in Sudan with a total investment of 8 billion US dollars in the past two years, the Arab financial web site reported on Friday.

According to statistics of the Sudanese Investment Ministry, the UAE capital was mainly injected to energy and agriculture as well as property and real estate sectors.

Saudi Arabia came in the second place with 6 billion dollars, mainly in industrial and agricultural projects.

Foreign investment in Sudan reached 43 billion dollars in the last two years, mainly in oil and gas sector.

Asian countries, including Malaysia, China, India and Japan, also invested large amount of capital into the Sudan's oil sector.

MNA/Xinhua

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China will never seek hegemony, expansion

BEIJING, 4 Sept — China Friday assured it will not seek "hegemony" and "expansion" and stressed on greater economic cooperation among Asian nations by gradually eliminating trade barriers.

"China will never seek hegemony or expansion. We will always focus on achieving peace, security, cooperation and prosperity in Asia, seek friendship and partnership with our neighbours," Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong said in his inaugural address to the third International Conference of Asian Political Parties here.

The meeting is being attended by delegates from 34 countries representing over 80 political parties, including the Indian political parties Congress, Bharatiya Janata Party, and the two Communist parties of India, CPM and CPI. All Asian countries should strengthen economic cooperation, expand mutual investment, increase the flow of technology and personnel, progressively open their markets to each other and gradually eliminate trade barriers, Zeng, also member of the Standing Committee of the Politburo of the CPC Central Committee, said.

Stressing that Asian governments and political parties should seek common ground, he said there was a need to "pursue cooperation instead of confrontation, seek accord through consultation instead of imposing their will on others and try to bring about win-win cooperation".

We should work hard to find new models for regional security and cooperation," he said. —MNA/PTI

Japan S Korea to start free trade talks with ASEAN

JAKARTA, 5 Sept — Japan and South Korea announced here Saturday that they will begin talks on free trade area (FTA) with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) next year.

"ASEAN and Japan agreed to commence negotiations on FTA in April 2005, all are committed to endeavour that the negotiations will be completed within two years," Indonesian Industry and Trade Minister Rini Soewandi said at a Press conference which was also attended by the trade ministers of ASEAN countries, Japan and South Korea.

"South Korea also agreed

on FTA negotiations that will begin in January 2005 to be completed within two years, and on a possible realization of an FTA by 2009," Rini added.

She made the remarks shortly after leading the ASEAN ministers in subsequent meetings with their counterparts from China, Japan and South Korea earlier in the day.

On the occasion, Japanese Trade Minister Shoichi

Nakagawa asserted that preparations for FTA negotiations will go on and that he came to the meeting "to represent my government to reach an agreement with ASEAN countries". He said during the ASEAN-Japan summit last year, it was expected that FTA activities would begin in 2012 between Japan and six ASEAN original members and in 2017 with four ASEAN newer countries — MNA/Xinhua

Sino-Malaysian relationship expressed

BEIJING, 5 Sept — China attaches great importance to developing the relationship with Malaysia and is willing to further cooperation with the country in various fields, a senior official of the Communist Party of China (CPC) said here Saturday.

Luo Gan, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, made the remark during his meeting with the delegations of the United Malays National Organization, Malaysian Chinese Association, Malaysian Indian Congress, and the People's Movement Party of Malaysia.

The delegation came to China to attend the third International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) which is going on in Beijing. Speaking highly of Malaysia's adherence to the one-China policy, Luo expressed his appreciation of Malaysia's support to China on Taiwan issue. "Frequent high-level exchanges and fruitful economic and trade cooperation have been witnessed in recent years," Luo said of the development of the party relations between the two countries. —MNA/Xinhua

Harry Potter wins press award in China

BEIJING, 4 Sept — Popular around the globe, Harry Potter, the bespectacled boy magician from England, had his magic in China as well, selling a total of 1.1 million copies of his new story in 2003.

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix brought a sales of 5.9 million yuan (about 713,000 US dollars) across the

country last year, helping its Chinese publisher, the People's Publishing House, get an award from the State Press Authority on Thursday. Since 2000, when the first Harry Potter novel was brought to China, British author JK Rowling's stories of the broom-riding wizard have been read by millions of Chinese fans.

More than 10,000 copies of Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix were sold on the first day the Chinese version was put on shelves last September, setting a national record for daily sales.

"It is more than a book about magic," said Liu Yushan, director of the People's Publishing House.

The human elements of the story have touched many Chinese readers."

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

China seeks greater trade volume with ASEAN

JAKARTA, 5 Sept — China will make more efforts to boost its trade volume with the 10-member Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), one of China's most important trading partners to date and together have promising economic cooperation in the future, a Chinese official said here Saturday.

"For the time being, the two-way trade volume between ASEAN nations and China accounts for 11 per cent of China's overall external trade. But I believe this proportion will greatly increase in the upcoming years and probably double," Chinese Minister of Commerce Bo Xilai said. He noted that last year, trade between China and ASEAN grew 40 per cent compared to the previous year and similarly, in the first half of this year, China and ASEAN have registered another 40 per cent year-on-year increase.

"So I'm quite confident to believe that after we accomplished agreements in terms of both trade in goods and trade in services, this growth rate will be even greater," Bo told a Press conference shortly after a meeting with the economic ministers of ASEAN.

MNA/Xinhua



Palm trees blow in wind and rain at a home on the intra coastal waterway in Boynton Beach, as hurricane Frances approaches Florida on 4 Sept, 2004.

Strong winds and whipping rains began to lash eastern Florida as Hurricane Frances, an enormous storm, crept slowly across the northern Bahamas toward the United States. —INTERNET

Senior Chinese leader arrives Spain

BARCELONA, 4 Sept — Senior Chinese leader Jia Qinglin arrived here Friday, embarking on a four-day official good-will visit to Spain to promote bilateral cooperation.

Upon his arrival, Jia, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), issued a written statement praising Spain for its incessant achievements in its national construction. Spain is playing a more and more important role in international and European affairs, Jia said, adding that China attaches great importance to its ties

with Spain. With joint efforts by the two sides in recent years, China and Spain and the people of the two countries have deepened mutual understanding, scoring considerable achievements in cooperation in a variety of fields, he noted. To further consolidate and develop Sino-Spanish ties is conducive to enhancing the common interests of the two peoples, safeguarding the world peace and

promoting common development as well, Jia stressed, saying that China is willing, together with Spain, to continue to make unswerving efforts for the goals.

Jia said that he looked forward to profound exchanges of opinions with Spanish leaders to make concerted efforts to explore new means and ways of expanding and deepening bilateral cooperation. —MNA/Xinhua

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SPORTS

Haas upset Grosjean in US Open

NEW YORK, 4 Sept—Comeback kid Tommy Haas upset 12th seed Sebastian Grosjean to move into the third round of the US Open on Friday.

The German former world number two, who missed the whole of last season after shoulder surgery, came through 6-4, 6-4, 1-6, 6-1 in two hours 40 minutes.

Haas, the world number 45, returned to competition in February this year and has gradually climbed the rankings, recently defeating Andre Agassi on his way to claiming the title in Los Angeles. A single service break was enough for Haas to take the first set and he broke twice in the second before a brief Grosjean resurgence threatened to turn the match around.

Haas rediscovered his serving prowess in the fourth set, however, as Grosjean's resistance crumbled.

The Frenchman, who has reached semifinals of three of the four grand slams, continues his miserable record at Flushing Meadows where his best showing was the third round in 2000.

MNA/Reuters



Argentina's soccer team celebrates victory against Peru at the end of their World Cup qualifying match at the Monumental Stadium in Lima, on 4 Sept, 2004. Argentina won 3-1. —INTERNET

Spain scramble 1-1 draw to Scotland in friendly

VALENCIA (Spain), 4 Sept—Spain scrambled a 1-1 draw at home to Scotland in a friendly international on Friday in a game that was abandoned after an hour because of a floodlight failure and a waterlogged pitch.

An ambitious and determined Scotland took the lead 18 minutes into the first half after Spain midfielder Ruben Baraja headed a Jamie McFadden corner into his own net.

The Scots should have

gone further ahead before the half was out but sharp goalkeeping from Iker Casillas and last ditch defending by Carles Puyol prevented the visitors from extending their lead.

Spain barely managed to manufacture a scoring chance during the first half but levelled the match 12 minutes into the second when substitute Raul scored from the penalty spot after Jose Antonio Reyes had been felled by Jackie McNamara when

he ran on to a pass from his teammate. Three minutes later the game was brought to a sudden halt when the floodlights failed during a thunderstorm.

MNA/Reuters

Hewitt comes through sticky start, beat Arazzi

NEW YORK, 4 Sept—Lleyton Hewitt came through a sticky start to beat mercurial Moroccan Hicham Arazzi 7-6, 6-1, 6-2 in the second round of the US Open on Friday.

The Australian fourth seed, winner in 2001, won after withstanding some early brilliance from the free-flowing Arazzi, who squandered two chances to win the first-set tiebreak.

Hewitt received a warning for unsportsmanlike behaviour after a slashing a ball away in anger in the opening set as he struggled to find his range. But having got his nose ahead, Hewitt broke the deflated Arazzi's first two service games in the second set to love to take firm control of the match.

MNA/Reuters

Singapore defeat Indonesia 2-0 as sides begin preparations for Tiger Cup soccer tournament

SINGAPORE, 4 Sept — Goals from Noh Alam Shah and Indra Sahdan Daud gave Singapore a 2-0 win over rivals Indonesia in the Tiger Beer Challenge trophy as the two Southeast Asian nations began tuning up in preparation for the Tiger Cup, the region's premier soccer tournament.

The match was also the first international for Indonesia's English-born coach Peter Withe — since he took charge last month from Bulgarian Ivan Kolev — who left after leading them to the Asian Cup finals in China that ended in August. Withe made the switch to Indonesia after leading Thailand for five years and guiding them to the 2002 Tiger Cup.

Played before 3,000 at the Jalan Besar Stadium, Noh Alam, unmarked on the left, opened scoring for the hosts in the 38th minute through a header after a good cross from naturalized Nigerian Itimi Dickson.

Indonesia, ranked 92nd in the world, earned a penalty on the stroke of halftime when Elie Aiboy was fouled just inside the box by the city-state's Noh Rahman. But top striker Bambang Pamungkas' low spot kick to the bottom right corner

was saved by keeper Hassan Sunny for the final play of the first 45.

Indra scored Singapore's second in the 49th minute after a neat turn away from his marker outside the box to fire a crisp, low drive past Indonesian netminder Hendro Kartiko.

Ranked 121st in the world just behind Armenia and Benin, the win was Singapore's first this year.

The Tiger Cup will be co-hosted by Vietnam and Malaysia in December and also features Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia, the Philippines, Myanmar, Laos, Indonesia and debutants East Timor.

Singapore and Indonesia play 2006 World Cup qualifiers Wednesday against Oman and Sri Lanka respectively but neither have much chance of making the finals in Germany and are focusing instead on the Tiger Cup. —Internet

Adriano to play side by side with Ronaldo in World Cup qualifier

SAO PAULO, 4 Sept—Brazil striker Adriano, who scored seven goals as the world champions won the Copa America in Peru in July, is now hoping for a chance to play alongside his former idol Ronaldo in Sunday's World Cup qualifier against Bolivia.

The match at the Morumbi Stadium pits the top and bottom teams in the 10-nation South American qualifying group. Brazil, unbeaten after seven games, lead with 13 points while Bolivia are bottom with six.

Adriano, who stepped in after Ronaldo was rested for the Copa America, has never started a match alongside the Real Madrid player although he has played briefly alongside him three times after coming on as a substitute in friendlies.

"This is the best moment of my career and a partnership with Ronaldo would make it even better," Adrian told reporters at Brazil's training camp

in Teresopolis. "He's always been someone I look up to and now I'm making a dream come true."

But coach Carlos Alberto Parreira has such an embarrassment of riches at his disposal that he has yet to decide whether Adriano will start the match.

Ronaldo's regular partner Ronaldinho, who has been nursing an ankle injury which kept him out of Barcelona's opening Spanish league game last weekend, looks almost certain to be fit and is ready to take his place in the team.

Adriano could still get a chance, however, against a Bolivia team which is expected to concentrate

exclusively on defence.

Bolivia have lost 5-0 and 6-0 on their last two visits to Brazil and coach Ramiro Blacut has named three goalkeepers, nine defenders and only two forwards in their squad as they attempt to avoid a repeat performance.

Thirty-five-year-old midfielder Luis Cristaldo, who missed the 3-2 defeat by Ecuador last June through suspension, returns to a full-strength Bolivia team.

Brazil have had some injury problems with reserve left-back Gustavo Nery, central defender Juan, midfielder Diego and striker Luis Fabiano all pulling out.

MNA/Reuters

Answers for yesterday's crossword puzzle



Louis Saha of France, left, tripples past Tal Ben Haim of Israel, right, during the 2006 World Cup qualifying soccer match between France and Israel, at the Stade de France Stadium in Saint Denis, north of Paris, on 4 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

MRTV-3

6-9-2004 (Monday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)

9:00	Signature Tune Greeting
9:02	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
9:06	Lumber Buffaloes
9:10	Headline News
9:12	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Seaweed Salad"
9:15	National News
9:20	Aungpan Oranges
9:25	Myanmar National Races Cultural Dances (U Shwe Yoe & Daw Moe)
9:30	National News
9:35	Myanmar Modern Song "Fetch me in a horse-cart"
9:40	Concert de Trompette et Piano Intrada
9:45	National News
9:50	A Brief Account of Bagan
9:58	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

6-9-2004 (Monday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)

15:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
15:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"

15:36	Lumber Buffaloes
15:40	Headline News
15:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Seaweed Salad"
15:45	National News
15:50	Aungpan Oranges
15:55	Myanmar National Races Cultural Dances (U Shwe Yoe & Daw Moe)
16:00	National News
16:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Fetch me in a horse-cart"
16:12	Concert of Trompette et Piano Intrada
16:15	National News
16:20	A Brief Account of Bagan
16:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
16:30	National News
16:35	Decoration of Myanmar Lacquerware
16:40	Ah Mae Ywa Literature Nursery
16:45	National News
16:50	A visit to the Pagoda Festival
16:55	Sweet-lilting Music Dance
17:00	National News
17:05	Excursion in Yangon River
17:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Bagan, The Wonder Land"
17:15	National News
17:20	A glimpse at the life of an artist (Veteran Donmin Musician U Sein Khin Lay)
17:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and see Myanmar"

Evening Transmission
(19:30 - 23:30)

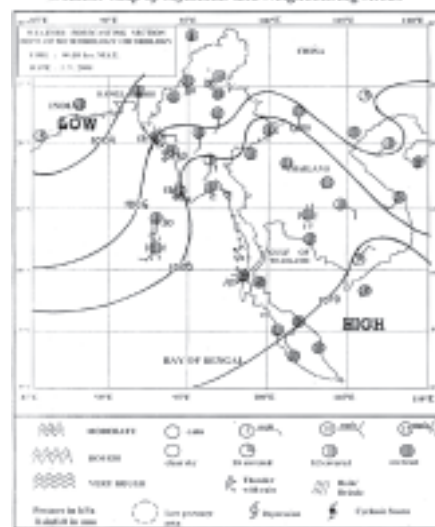
19:30	Signature Tune Greeting
19:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Pano- rama & Myanma Sen- timent"
19:36	A day in a farmer's life
19:40	Headline News
19:42	Fossilized Wood Garden
19:45	National News
19:50	An introduction to.... Myanmar classical music CD-Rom
19:55	A Classical Male Dance
20:00	National News
20:05	Prospective Ostrich Farming
20:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Missing you so much"
20:15	National News
20:20	Towards Pondaung Ponnya Yaw Region (Part-II)
20:25	Songs On Screen "A Diamond-studded Song"
20:30	National News
20:35	Photo Exhibitions of Shwedagon Pagoda
20:40	A Short Introduction to Myanma Saing Waing (or) Myanmar Orches- tra
20:45	National News
20:50	Mann Ma-Yyaw
20:55	Kayin Dance (We Bu (or) Paddy Winnowing Dance)
21:00	National News
21:05	Ah Lin Ka Kyaw Swa Cartoonist U Ba Gyan
21:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Truth and Beauty"
21:12	Unforgettable Customs of the Chins

21:15	National News
21:20	Travel & Description (Mandalay to Lashio)
21:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
21:36	Lumber Buffaloes
21:40	Headline News
21:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Seaweed Salad"
21:45	National News
21:50	Aungpan Oranges
21:55	Myanmar National Races Cultural Dances (U Shwe Yoe & Daw Moe)
22:00	National News
22:05	Myanmar Modern Song "Fetch me in a horse-cart"
22:10	Concert de Trompette et Piano Intrada
22:15	National News
22:20	Myanmar Modern Song "Love Slave"
22:30	National News
22:35	Decoration of Myanmar Laquerware
22:40	Ah Mae Ywa Litera- ture Nursery
22:45	National News
22:50	A Visit to the Pagoda Festival
22:55	Sweet-lilting Music Dance
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23:15	National News
23:20	A glimpse at the life of an artist (Veteran Donmin Musician U Sein Khin Lay)
23:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Rainfall on 5-9-2004

- nil at Yangon Airport,
 - 0.08 inch at Kaba-Aye and
 - 0.04 inch at central Yangon.
- Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was
- 96.97 inches at Yangon Airport,
 - 94.02 inches at Kaba-Aye and
 - 95.75 inches at central Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 5 September 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours
MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Rakhine and Mon States, isolated in Chin State and scattered in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Homalin (3.15) inches, Hmawbi (2.99) inches and Putao (2.84) inches.

Maximum temperature on 4-9-2004 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 5-9-2004 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 5-9-2004 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 4-9-2004 was 0.7 hours approx.

Rainfall on 5-9-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, (0.08inch) at Kaba-Aye and (0.04inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 96.97 inches at Yangon Airport, 94.02 inches at Kaba-Aye and 95.75 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 7 mph from Southwest at 16:30 hours MST on 4-9-2004. **Bay inference:** Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 6-9-2004:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Chin, Shan States, Ayeyawady, Bago Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Moderate monsoon. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-9-2004:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-9-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Flood Warning

(Issued at 11:00 hrs MST on 5-9-2004)

The water level of Dokahtawady River at Myitnge is (5) cm above the danger level. The water level may continue to rise gradually and remain above the danger level during the next (2) days commencing noon today.

ASLEEP IN JESUS
DR. L. Zau Baa (M.B.B.S)
Age 50

Youngest son of Rev. L. Zau Yaw and (Sarama M. Nang Hseng) of Kutkai Baptist Church, beloved husband of Daw Lu Ja, father of Khun Nang Moon, Nang Lat, Nang Seng Hom, Jau Fa Khun, Jau Khun Awng and Nang Shan Awng, fell asleep in Jesus at 4:30 am on (4-9-2004). Funeral will be held on 6th September 2004 (Monday) at Sword Memorial Baptist Church, Kutkai.

Beloved family

**Monday, September 6**

View on today:

7:00 am

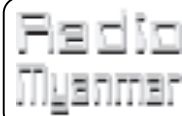
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းထွန်းဆရာတော်
ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံယဇ္ဇာ
နာယကအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်ဆောင်ရွက်
သီအိမ်မဟာဂူရှင်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ
မဟာသဉ္စမောဘိကာ၊ ဘိဝိသုကဓမ္မ
ဓမ္မဘုရားရှိခိုး၊ ဆရာတော်
ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိညာဓရာဘိဝံသဇီ ပရိ
တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
4. မင်းထွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး
ထေရ်ပုဂ္ဂိုလ်စုံကျော်
(တော်ယဇ္ဇာယုံရမင်း) (အရှင်-၁)
- 7:55 am
5. Nice and sweet song
- 8:05 am
6. Song of national races

8:15 am

7. Cute little dancers
8:30 am
 8. International news
8:45 am
 9. Let's Go
4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
4:15 pm
 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm
 3. Practice in Reading
4:45 pm
 4. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊ အမှတ်(၃)အရပ်
 ပညာဦးစီးဌာန၊ ဆင့်မအကြိမ်
 ဓမ္မကြာဝတ်စွတ်ပူဇော်ပွဲ(ဒုတိယဆူ)
 (အထက-၁ ဒဂုံ)
 (အမျိုးသမီးဝတ်စွတ်အဖွဲ့)
5:00 pm
 5. အဝေးသင်တန်းသို့လ် ပညာရေး
 ဖွံ့ဖြိုးနိုင်ကြားသင်ခန်းစာ
 -တတိယပန်း (ဂျပေဒအထူးပြု)
 (ရူပဗေဒ)
5:15 pm
 6. Dance variety
5:25 pm
 7. Industrial Achievement
5:35 pm
 8. Songs and Dance of
 National Races

5:40 pm

9. Musical programme
(The Radio Myanmar
Modern Music Troupe)
5:55 pm
10. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
6:05 pm
11. Discovery
6:10 pm
12. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ
“ဓမ္မာဘိဓဉ်းပုဂ္ဂိုလ်”(အပိုင်း-၂၁)
6:30 pm
13. Evening news
7:00 pm
14. Weather report
7:05 pm
15. အာဟာရဥပုသ်နေ့စာတိုစာတို
မေတ္တာစာတိုစာတို
7:20 pm
16. Musical programme
7:35 pm
17. သန့်ရှင်းစင်စင်ကိုးကွယ်သော
(တနင်္လာနေ့၊ တနင်္လာနေ့)
8:00 pm
18. News
19. International news
20. Weather report
21. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ
“ဓမ္မာဘိဓဉ်းပုဂ္ဂိုလ်”(အပိုင်း-၂၂)
22. The next day's
programme



Monday, September 6

Tune in today:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 8.30 am | Brief news |
| 8.35 am | Music: I know I love you |
| 8.40 am | Perspectives |
| 8.45 am | Music: Beauty & the beast |
| 8.55 am | National news/Slogan |
| | Music: Aisy Waizy International |
| | Music: We're going to IBIZA |
| 1.30 pm | News/Slogan |
| 1.40 pm | Lunch time music - Moonlight Shadow |
| 9.00 pm | Spotlight on the star |
| 9.15 pm | Article |
| 9.25 pm | Radio magazine |
| | Breast-feeding to offspring |
| 9:35 pm | Vocal gems/Golden Land's Melody |
| | The end of the world |
| 9.45 pm | News/Slogan |
| 10.00 pm | PFI |

Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein enjoys Anyeint Contest



Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein enjoys presentation of No 3 Mobile Public Relation Company in Anyeint contest.— MNA

YANGON, 5 Sept — A ceremony to open the Fourth Song, Dance, Music, Anyeint, Drama and Magic Competitions of the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare of the Ministry of Defence was held at the hall of No 3 Mobile Public Relations Company in Mandalay yesterday evening, attended by Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were member of

the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint and wife, directors of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein, the deputy commander and staff officers of the Command, commanding officers of regiments and units in Mandalay Station and their wives, commandants and principals of units and training schools under the Directorate of PRPW, members of

the panel of judges of University of Culture (Mandalay) and Fine Arts Department and guests.

First, the Secretary-2 delivered an opening address. Next, the Anyeint Contest was held. The Secretary-2 and those present enjoyed presentation of the No 3 Mobile Public Relations Company in the Anyeint Contest.

At 9 pm, the opening ceremony concluded. Next, the competitions followed.

MNA

Air transport, which has been able to cover a long journey in a short period of time, is of utmost importance both at home and abroad Magway Division gets new Pakokku Airport

YANGON, 5 Sept — A ceremony to inaugurate Pakokku Airport in Pakokku, Magway Division, was held at the pandal near the airport this morning, with an address by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Vice-Quartermaster-General Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tun, Director of Military Engineers Maj-Gen Tin Tun of the Ministry of Defence, Acting Commander of No 101 LID Col Thein Tan, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw Min, officials

of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads of the Ministry of Transport and departments concerned, local authorities, local people from Pakokku District, Pakokku, Yezagyo and Myaing Townships, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, teachers, students and dance troupes.

Speaking on the occasion, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence said that Pakokku Airport had a 3,600-foot-long earth runway in the past. After conducting feasibility study, the new runway and airport were built in accord with the guidance of the Head of State without upgrading the old runway.

It can be seen that Pakokku Airport opened today have magnificent airport building and the control tower. The runway is 8,500 feet long tarred road. So, F-28 jets can land there. And, arrangements are being made for upgrading the runway to become 10,000 feet long one.

(See page 9)

Use Natural Gas Vehicles and save fuel oil

- * In automobiles, natural gas can be used in place of petrol and diesel.
- * The use of natural gas cannot only save fuel oil but also extend engine duration.
- * Natural gas exploited at home can be used effectively and safely.
- * Natural gas burns cent per cent and is environment-friendly.
- * Adequate supply of natural gas helps facilitate passenger and cargo transport.

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Wider use of natural gas in place of petrol and diesel
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Article

It is high time the US put an end to their foolish behaviour
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Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe unveils the signboard of Pakokku Airport.— MNA