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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects construction of Upper Myanmar Government Press (Mandalay)

Sufficient number of basic education school textbooks for entire nation will be printed by Ministry of Information

Printing jobs of govt organizations to be accepted

YANGON, 9 Sept — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected the construction site of Upper Myanmar Government Press (Mandalay) of Printing and Publishing Enterprise of the Ministry of Information in Aungpinle Ward, Chanmyathazi Township on 7 September afternoon.

Accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, ministers, senior military officers, the Mandalay Mayor, officials of the

State Peace and Development Council Office, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye arrived at Upper Myanmar Government Press (Mandalay) in Aungpinle where Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and officials welcomed them.

In the briefing hall, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan reported that Upper Myanmar Government Press (Mandalay) was established with a view to printing necessary school textbooks in

Mandalay and distributing them to basic education students from Upper Myanmar. In addition to the school textbooks, printing jobs of organizations of the State would be done. In future, the Ministry of Information would print sufficient number of basic education textbooks for the whole country.

Next, he continued to report on progress in construction of buildings of the press, arrival of parts of press machines including the modern rotary press and completion of installation, gathering of paper, ink and other related materials, water supply, coordination to ensure round-the-clock power supply, organizational set-up and planting of shade trees, windbreak trees and other crops in the compound of the press.

In response to the reports, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave instructions, saying that as a new Government Presses have been established in Mandalay in addition to the one in Yangon, arrangements are to be made for printing sufficient number of school textbooks in time.

(See page 8)

Apart from the one in Mandalay, other sub-printing houses in Kalay, Myitkyina, Lashio, Taunggyi, Kengtung, Magway and Sittway are printing and publishing newspapers for distributing them to the people daily.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects progress in installation of four-unit rotary press at Upper Myanmar Government Press (Mandalay).— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 10 September, 2004

Towards literacy of entire citizens

The world today is experiencing a rapid development in science and technologies and therefore every nation is taking all the necessary measures to turn out educated citizens and to constantly raise the educational standard of the people.

Since September 8 was designated as the International Literacy Day in 1967 by the United Nations Organization, Myanmar, like the other member nations of the organization, has commemorated the Literacy Day every year.

The International Literacy Day and the United Nations Literacy Decade commemorative ceremony was held at the Diamond Jubilee Hall in Yangon on the morning of 8 September and Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, also Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee, attended the ceremony and delivered an address on the occasion.

In his address, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt called on all those responsible in the education sector and the entire people to strive for the literacy movement to ensure that all Myanmar citizens become literate persons creating a constant learning Myanmar society.

Myanmar has started her literacy campaign since Bagan era, during which the tradition of teaching boys and girls at monastic education schools free from any gender discrimination was born.

Today, the Government of Myanmar is taking steps to ensure literacy for all citizens and to provide access to permanent learning at any time for people of all ages and standards of education for creating a continuous learning society. Only if all are educated will their vision to distinguish between right and wrong and deeds and misdeeds improve. In addition, they will be able to ward off the deceits of others and the harmful acts of destructive elements to push the nation towards the wrong road with ill intention.

As the Government is fulfilling all the requirements to ensure literacy for each and every citizen and success for Education for All programmes, the community, social organizations and wellwishers, on their part, are rendering enthusiastic cooperation and collaboration. As a result, great strides have been made. The literacy rate of adults has increased from 83 per cent in 1996 to 92.2 per cent in 2003 and 93.3 per cent in 2004.

We would like to call on responsible personnel in the education sector and the entire people to continuously lend themselves in the literacy movement to maintain what has already been achieved and to ensure greater success.



CEC member of UMFCCI U Tun Aung seen at the airport before departure for Thailand.— (H)

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

Myanmar delegation leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 9 Sept — The Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu left here for Thailand by air this morning to attend the Greater Mekong Sub-region High Level Public-Private Consultation Meeting to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 9 to 11 September.

The deputy minister was accompanied by senior officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the Ministry of Industry-1, the Ministry of Industry-2, the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Construction, the Ministry of National Plan-



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and party being seen off at the airport before departure for Thailand.—MNA

ning and Economic Development, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries

and the Ministry of Commerce and private entrepreneurs led by Vice-President of Union of

Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung.—MNA

Meeting 3/2004 of MSWF held

YANGON, 9 Sept — Meeting 3/2004 of the Myanmar Sports Writers' Federation was held this afternoon at Aung San Stadium here.

At the meeting, President of the MSWF Dr Tin Tun Oo briefed on extension of members of the MSWF and arrangements being made by the federation to publish sports journals and calendars. Those participants also took part in discussions on future plans. The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the president. —MNA

Wellwishers invited for sinking tubewells

YANGON, 9 Sept — The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce.

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

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

MNA

UMFCCI CEC member leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 9 Sept — Central Executive Committee member of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Tun Aung (Taw Win Tun Co) yesterday left for Bangkok, Thailand, to attend the first meeting of Task Force to Review the Sectors and Sub-sectors for Economic Cooperation Under BIMSTEC. General Secretary of the UMFCCI U Sein Win Hlaing, Executive U Tin Myint and officials saw him off at Yangon International Airport.

MNA

Photogrammetry Course concludes

YANGON, 9 Sept — Photogrammetry Course was concluded and use of digital camera was demonstrated at the Survey Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation here yesterday.

At the concluding ceremony, Managing Director Mr William R Love of Myanmar Intergraph Co presented the concluding certificates to the trainees.

MNA



Concluding ceremony of Photogrammetry Course in progress.—H

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All this needs to be known

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

1,005 US troops killed since beginning of war in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 8 Sept—As of Wednesday, 8 September, 1,005 members of the US military have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 759 died as a result of hostile action and 246 died of non-hostile causes. The figures include three military civilians.

The British military has reported 64 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, 11; Poland, 10; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, six; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had

ended, 867 US military members have died, 650 as a result of hostile action and 217 of non-hostile causes, according to the military's numbers Friday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

— One soldier was killed by an explosive Wednesday in eastern Baghdad.

Internet



US soldiers block road to search cars in Baghdad, on 8 Sept, 2004. A spate of recent attacks, including a suicide car bombing, pushed the number of US military deaths in the Iraq campaign this week past 1,000. —INTERNET

Foreign aid groups in Iraq boost security

BAGHDAD, 8 Sept— Foreign aid workers in Iraq bolted their doors, hired more guards or installed spy cameras outside their Baghdad offices Wednesday as they considered whether to leave the country altogether after the kidnapping of two female Italian relief workers.

"We've been feeling vulnerable for a long time, but now it's become unimaginable," said a French aid worker, asking that neither he nor his agency be identified out of fear they could become targets. He said his organization, which has three expatriate staff members in Baghdad, will decide whether to withdraw in the coming days.

The French aid worker said they have reinforced their security measures after a dozen gunmen raided the house of an Italian humanitarian group Tuesday, abducting four hostages including the two Italian women.

The seizure of Simona Pari and Simona Torretta, both 29, shocked Iraq's foreign community— especially humanitarian workers. It forced many to rethink whether operating in Iraq is worth the risk amid a deteriorating security situation.

"We have stopped leaving the house and try to keep a low, low profile,"

said Frank McAreavey of the German demining group HELP. He said the German Embassy advised them against trying to leave the country now because the road to the airport was too dangerous.

McAreavey said his group hired an extra guard Wednesday and was installing close circuit television cameras to monitor any suspicious activities.

But he said he wasn't ready to quit. "We can't leave because our work here is very important."

Medecins Sans Frontieres, also known as Doctors Without Borders, a Nobel Peace Prize-winning aid group with 90 staffers in Iraq, of which only a small number are expatriate, also plans to stay, said spokesman Erwin Van 'T Land.

Others are weighing their options. The spokeswoman for a major British non-governmental organization, or NGO, that employs Iraqi nationals said it could shut its operations.

"It's a very difficult situation and we are very, very concerned about it," said the spokeswoman, speaking on condition of anonymity. —Internet

Tourists increase in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 8 Sept— Tourist arrivals are increasing in Nepal, a immigration official told Xinhua on Tuesday.

"Twenty flights arrived with about 1,000 tourists from India and other foreign countries on Monday and Tuesday," said Ganesh Ojha, official of the Immigration Department.

The number of tourists coming into the country stood at 22,331 in August, up from 21,572 the same period of last year, Ojha said. Qatar Airways is ready to resume its operations from Wednesday, Pakistan International Airlines will resume its flights from September 12, and India's private Air Sahara from September 16. —MNA/Xinhua

Chinese Army to strengthen ties with Kyrgyz Army

BEIJING, 8 Sept — The Chinese Army hopes to maintain strategic dialogue and consultation with the Kyrgyz Army, said Liang Guanglie, chief of general staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) here on Tuesday.

Liang, also member of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks in a meeting with Kyrgyz Deputy Minister of Defence Suerkurov Zamir.

Liang said China and Kyrgyzstan have a smooth development of good neighbourly friendship, and the relationship between the two armies also maintains a good momentum of development in recent years, together with frequent high-level visits and co-operation in a wide range of fields.

The Chinese side attaches great importance to developing relations with the Kyrgyz armed forces, and holds positive attitudes toward the strategic dialogue between the two armies, Liang said.

The two armies should strengthen mutual trust, and push their relations to a new high, Liang added.

Suerkurov said the Kyrgyz Army is willing to make concerted efforts with the Chinese Army to further promote the friendly cooperation in military fields.

Suerkurov and his party paid the China tour from September 3 to 10 to participate in the second round of strategic consultation between Chinese and Kyrgyz armed forces.

MNA/Xinhua

ထိုက်ထိုက်နှစ်ဆ ဖိုးမြင့်မြင့်

Japan asks UN official to attend Iraq aid meeting in Tokyo

UNITED NATIONS, 9 Sept—Japan's Senior Vice Foreign Minister Ichiro Aisawa met with the UN special envoy to Iraq, Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, on Wednesday and asked him to attend an international donors' conference on Iraq reconstruction in October.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting at UN headquarters, Aisawa said that Qazi expressed gratitude for Japan's financial and personnel contribution to Iraq and said that he will make his utmost efforts to put forward the political process in Iraq as scheduled, including the planned election for national assembly next January. Qazi also asked for Japan's continued cooperation in the process, Aisawa said.

Aisawa is visiting the United States to meet senior officials and discuss various political issues, including the reform of the UN Security Council.

In New York, Aisawa promoted Japan's desire to gain a permanent seat on the Security Council as part of efforts to reform the United Nations during talks with officials from the United Nations and various countries. He plans to meet with US government officials in Washington to discuss Japan-US ties before he returns home Sunday. He visited China before arriving in the United States, and held talks with senior Chinese officials, including Vice Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo. —Internet

S Korea seeks to put its first astronaut on Russian spaceship

SEOUL, 8 Sept— South Korea seeks to put its first astronaut on a Russian spaceship in a plan the two countries' leaders will discuss this month when President Roh Moo-hyun visits Moscow, the South Korean Government said on Tuesday.

Roh's four-day official trip to meet his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, beginning September 20 will be preceded by a state visit to Kazakhstan on September 19, the presidential Blue House said.

"We are reviewing whether to put our first astronaut on a Russian spaceship," Blue House foreign policy adviser Chong Woo-seong said.

MNA/Reuters



Local residents stand by a car damaged in US air strikes in Sadr City, Baghdad, on 8 Sept, 2004.

INTERNET

Kerry steps up attacks on Bush's economic record

WASHINGTON, 8 Sept — US Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry on Tuesday stepped up his attacks on President George W Bush's economic record, saying that Bush's economic policy has resulted in the loss of US jobs.

"Because of George Bush's wrong choices, this country is continuing to ship good jobs overseas — jobs with good wages and good benefits," Kerry said at a rally in Greensboro, North Carolina.

"All across America, companies have shut their doors, putting hardworking people out of a job, leaving entire communities without help or hope," he said.

He also criticized Bush's tax policy which give tax breaks to US companies that ship jobs overseas and said that he would close the tax loophole.

The United States has lost about one

million jobs since Bush became the President in 2001 although US job market has been improving this year. And the US jobs market was seen by many analysts as one of the weak spot for President Bush.

The US major newspapers have reported that former president Bill Clinton had advised Kerry last week that he must sharpen his criticism of President Bush's record and offer voters a more compelling case in his own behalf if he hopes to win presidential election in November.

MNA/Xinhua



Thick smoke rises after a US airstrike in Fallujah, Iraq, on 8 Sept, 2004.

INTERNET

Halliburton may decide not to submit new bids in Iraq

HOUSTON, 9 Sept — Halliburton Co, accused of overcharging on its contract in Iraq, on Tuesday said it may decide not to submit new bids for the business if the US military divides up the work too deeply.

A US Army spokesman on Tuesday confirmed the Army was beginning to consider which parts of a multi-billion-dollar logistics contract awarded to Halliburton to feed, house and operate services for US troops could be competitively bid.

"I'm not sure we're going to rebid if it's hacked into too many pieces in Iraq. If we do choose to rebid, we're going to jack the margins up significantly," said Halliburton Chief Executive Officer Dave Lesar, whose comments to an analysts' conference in New York were broadcast on the Internet.

Halliburton's engineering and construction unit KBR, formerly called Kellogg Brown & Root, currently handles the contract, but has come under criticism from the Pentagon for failing to

justify its bills.

Last month, Pentagon auditors urged the Army to withhold 15 per cent of payments to Halliburton for more than four billion US dollars in logistical work because of problems with its cost estimates.

Dan Carlson, spokesman for the US Army Field Support Command, which oversees the Halliburton contract, said the decision to review the contract and transition some elements

to so-called "sustainment contracts" was typical for big military contingency contracts some time after the initial engagement.

"It's a normal part of the process," Carlson said, adding that final decisions on which functions to put out for competitive bids and when would be up to military commanders in the region, who would then oversee those contracts.

MNA/Reuters

More Britons want Kerry to beat Bush

LONDON, 8 Sept — A majority of Britons want Democrat candidate John Kerry to beat President George W Bush in the forthcoming November US election, according to a poll published in a Wednesday newspaper.

The survey by Populus — showing 52 per cent of Britons back Kerry versus 29 per cent for Bush — confirms the US leader's unpopularity in the nation considered his closest ally.

"In Britain, a clear majority of all age, social and political groups favour Mr Kerry," said *The Times* newspaper, which published the poll.

MNA/Reuters

ဝတ်စုံအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Lord Butler's Iraq war inquiry report is whitewash

LONDON, 8 Sept — The head of an inquiry into the case Britain made for attacking Iraq hit back on Tuesday at allegations his report was a whitewash as Prime Minister Tony Blair battled to shift the media focus to domestic matters.

Former civil servant Lord Butler, who cleared Blair in July of deceiving Parliament and the public over intelligence on Iraq, said his report had identified "collective shortcomings" in the penning of a September 2002 dossier

on Iraq's weaponry.

"We did not of course say that no one was to blame for the shortcomings," Butler told Parliament's upper chamber.

"I said no individual was to blame."

The failure to find any

weapons of mass destruction in Iraq — the primary Anglo-American motive for war — plunged Blair into one of the rockiest periods of his premiership as his public trust and popularity ratings nosedived.

MNA/Reuters

India, Pakistan need to write a new chapter

NEW DELHI, 8 Sept — Noting that both India and Pakistan were committed to continuing the dialogue process, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Monday said the two countries needed to cast off the "burden of history" and "write a new chapter".

The importance of "full implementation" of the January 6 commitment of President Pervez Musharraf of not allowing any territory of Pakistan for use by terrorists was also emphasized by Singh when Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri called on him here.

The Prime Minister affirmed government's commitment to progress on the bilateral dialogue.

Noting that problems are complex, he said "progress may be possible only step-by-step".

There is "need for the two countries to cast off the burden of history and write a new chapter," Singh said. The Prime Minister said his government would like to encourage people-to-people contacts between India and Pakistan.

In response to Kasuri's suggestion that India and Pakistan should cooperate in the construction of an oil pipeline from Iran to India, the Prime Minister said "such individual projects should be part of a wider bilateral economic engage-

ment between the two countries".

Singh said normal trade relations would benefit both countries and the region.

He expressed satisfaction over the progress in composite dialogue as well as in the meetings between Foreign Ministers Natwar Singh and Kasuri.

Kasuri, who was with the Prime Minister for 40 minutes, is understood to have briefed him on the two-day talks he had with Natwar Singh on composite dialogue. —MNA/PTI

Britain, China to enhance cooperation in ICT

BEIJING, 8 Sept — Britain is willing to enhance cooperation with China in the fields of information and communication technology (ICT), Stephen Timms, Minister for E-Commerce of Britain, said

here Tuesday on Britain-China ICT Week.

Timms told a Press conference that Britain has kept close cooperation with China in the field of ICT recently and hopes to further the relationship to

benefit both sides.

The British Government would offer more opportunities and assistance for Chinese companies that are willing to invest there, he added.

MNA/Xinhua



US soldiers inspect a car, reportedly transporting foreigners wearing bulletproof vests and carrying guns, that was attacked by militants in Baghdad, on 8 Sept, 2004.

INTERNET

Annan says security environment has not improved in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, 8 Sept — The violence in Iraq may threaten elections planned in January 2005 and has already restricted UN international staff in the country to 35, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Tuesday.

In a report to the UN Security Council, Annan said the security environment in Iraq had not improved much since the US-led invasion in March 2003 and he urged the United States to rely more on the political process than on force.

"It must be recognized that the problem of insecurity can only be addressed through a political process," he said. "This requires a commitment to stop relying solely or mainly on threats or actual use of armed force and to pursue determined and genuine

efforts" to address concerns.

Annan said security continued "to pose a very profound challenge for the successful achievement" of voter registration and polling for Iraq's first free elections.

"In addition to severely disrupting everyday life for Iraqis, the ongoing violence could undermine confidence in the transitional political process, making it more difficult to create the conditions necessary for the holding of elections in January 2005," he added.

Annan withdrew all foreign staff from Iraq in October after two bomb attacks on UN offices in Baghdad. Last month he sent a small, permanent team there, led by Pakistani diplomat Ashraf Jehangir Qazi.

Annan said the ceiling for deployment of international staff political, humanitarian and security staff in Iraq was set at 35 — all based in the US-guarded international zone in Baghdad. Any expansion would require a special force, not yet organized, to guard UN staff as well as "a qualita-

tive improvement in the overall security environment," he said.

Annan restated the world body's commitment to helping Iraq's Independent Electoral Commission, which UN officials helped to set up to organize and conduct the polls.

But he said this too would not happen unless violence subsided, aside from UN electoral advisers now in Baghdad.

"Unless and until there is a significant improvement in the overall security situation, the (United Nations) will have to continue to work both inside and outside Iraq, as circumstances permit, with a restricted presence on the ground in Iraq," Annan said. — MNA/Reuters

ဘားငါးပွဲဖြိုး ပြည်အကျိုး

British soldier bailed on Iraqi murder charge

LONDON, 8 Sept — A British soldier accused of killing an Iraqi civilian has been released on bail after appeared in London's Bow Street Magistrates' court on Tuesday.

Kevin Williams, 21, a trooper from the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, was told to surrender his passport, remain at his barracks in Yorkshire, northern England, and report daily to Royal military police. He was not permitted to leave except by permission of an officer.

Williams, the first British soldier to face a murder indictment in connection with British troops' presence in Iraq, was expected to appear before London's Central Criminal Court on 28 September.

Williams was arrested on Tuesday morning by the Metropolitan Police on charge of unlawful killing by shooting of Hassan Said during the course of an arrest in last August in south-eastern Iraq.

Williams' case was referred to the police by the Attorney-General Lord Goldsmith, who said the trooper's case could not be tried by court martial after his charges were dismissed by the soldier's commanding officer.

The British Government has already launched 131 investigations into deaths and injuries of Iraqis allegedly caused by British troops in Iraq. — MNA/Xinhua

Revival of border crossings, trade benefits Iraq and Turkey

ANKARA, 9 Sept — A visiting official of the Iraqi Kurdistan Democratic Party (IKDP) said here Tuesday that reviving border crossings and trade between Iraq and Turkey serves the interest of both countries.

Nechirvan Barzani, who is currently on a visit to Turkey, said after his meeting with Turkish Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul that the current border crossing system between the two countries should be strengthened before a second border gate is opened.

Barzani added that he and Gul discussed issues concerning Iraq and the Turkish-Iraqi relations in their meeting, noting that dialogue should continue for

regional stability.

The airport in northern Iraq, which was being constructed by several companies including Turkish companies, could be opened within a few months, he said.

Meanwhile, Turkish sources said Barzani told Gul in their meeting that the IKDP continues to consider the outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) as a terrorist organization. — MNA/Reuters

Spanish King meets with senior Chinese leaders

MADRID, 8 Sept — Spanish King Juan Carlos I met here Tuesday senior Chinese leader Jia Qinglin on ways to further promote Sino-Spanish cooperation.

The King met with Jia, Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) at the Royal Palace here prior to the Chinese leader's departure for Portugal following a four-day official goodwill visit to Spain.

During the meeting, Jia

said terrorism, which is extremely harmful, has become the focus of the international community. The March 11 Madrid bombing has highlighted this point, while the latest hostage-taking incident in Russia again shocked the whole world, he added.

Jia said that the Chi-

nese Government opposes all forms of terrorism and condemns terrorism activities directed at innocent civilians. He also said China is willing to cooperate closely with all countries, including Spain, to push the international anti-terrorism struggle forward. — MNA/Xinhua



US Army soldiers survey the scene, following an attack on a military convoy on the motorway west from the Iraqi capital Baghdad, on 8 Sept, 2004. Militants attacked a US military convoy in western Baghdad setting three military vehicles on fire and wounding at least three troops, a Reuters witness said. — INTERNET

Poll shows public support for Britain's top two parties down

LONDON, 8 Sept — Support for both the ruling Labour and main opposition Conservatives in Britain has declined since this time last year, with the second largest opposition Liberal Democrats becoming a main gainer, a poll showed Tuesday.

Support for Labour was 32 per cent, unchanged since last month but representing a seven-point drop since September 2003, a Populus poll for *The Times* newspaper showed.

Tory support stood at 30 per cent, down two percentage points since last month and four points since the same month last year.

Support for the Liberal Democrats, gaining two percentage points in the past month to 26 per cent, is seven points higher than this time last year.

"Taking all published polls since April, the Tories are now doing no better under (leader) Michael Howard (averaging 33 per cent) than in the same period last year under (the then leader) Iain Duncan Smith (33.3 per cent),"

The Times concluded.

Labour is also less popular than last year, averaging 34 per cent over the past six months, down from 35.5 per cent in the same period last year.

On the contrary, the Liberal Democrats have averaged about 22 per cent over the past six months, fractionally up from 21.4 per cent in the same period of 2003.

Populus interviewed a random sample of 1,009 Britons aged over 18 by telephone across the country between September 3 and 5.

The poll was published on the same day of the British Parliament's return from its summer break and the start of the party conference season.

MNA/Xinhua



An unidentified resident retrieves intact household goods after US air attacks destroyed his home in Fallujah, Iraq, on 8 Sept, 2004. On Tuesday night and Wednesday morning, US jets fired several missiles into Fallujah in retaliation for Monday's militant attacks on Marine positions outside the city that killed seven Marines. — INTERNET

ASEAN meeting in Vietnam focuses on air transport liberalization

HANOI, 8 Sept— The ongoing 10th Air Transport Working Group Meeting of the ASEAN (ATWG-10) in Vietnam has focused on an action plan on air transport liberalization and services, and operations of ASEAN airlines.

Under the action plan, a common aviation market between the Association of the South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries will be established in 2015, and the air cargo transport services in the region is likely to be liberalized in 2006, according to local newspaper *Transport* on Tuesday.

In order to facilitate the implementation of

the roadmap toward the air transport liberalization, ASEAN countries are encouraged to take part in or establish new sub-regions for aviation co-operation, offer preferential treatment to less developed members, and intensify investment in construction of new airports.

During the four-day meeting, which will

close on September 9, aviation officials from ASEAN countries are also expected to discuss technical assistance programmes covering the exchange of information, organization of seminars, consultation sessions and training courses.

Many multilateral agreements among ASEAN members were signed in prepa-

ration for the implementation of policies on air transport liberalization. Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam signed an agreement on air transport last December. Brunei, Singapore and Thailand also reached an agreement on fully liberalizing air cargo transport in February this year.

ASEAN comprises Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

MNA/Xinhua



China sets up working mechanism to improve Asian regional cooperation

BEIJING, 9 Sept — China on Wednesday set up a cross-departmental working mechanism in a bid to enhance internal coordination for improving regional cooperation in Asia.

Twenty-two Chinese ministries and commissions are involved in the mechanism, including the Foreign Ministry, the State Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Public Security, the

Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Commerce.

Chinese State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan was appointed to head the working mechanism.

Regional cooperation in Asia has improved greatly since the 1990s, and recent years have witnessed closer economic and political exchanges between China and other Asian countries.

MNA/Xinhua

Developed nations must share energy burden

SYDNEY, 8 Sept— The developed countries should not exploit energy and power resources of the developing world, but must share the burden and expect a reasonable return on their investment, India's Minister for Power P M Sayeed said on Tuesday.

Delivering the keynote address at the World Energy Congress being held here, Sayeed pointed out that today more than 60 per cent of energy is consumed by only 20 per cent of the global population, slightly above one billion people account for 60 per cent of the total energy consumption while the remaining five billion people in developing nations consume only 40 per cent.

"The haves should have the generosity to share with the have-nots in the power sector," he said. In India, almost 57 per cent of the rural population does not have access to electricity and in the case of those who do have electricity, reliability and quality are matters of great concern.

"Therefore, if the accessibility of energy is to be appreciated in the global context, the prevailing position in the developed countries would warrant serious consideration".

Sayeed, who is leading a high-level delegation here, was chairing a panel discussion comprising Under Secre-

tary General of the UN Department of Economics and Social Affairs Jose Antonio Ocampo; President and CEO of RWE EG, Harry Roels; and Charles Goodyear from Yale and Wharton.

During the four-day visit, the minister and delegates have been having useful interactions with key energy providers and suppliers. Earlier the Minister inaugurated the India Energy Pavilion and launched a publication on the Indian Energy Industry - Destination India.

"Energy used for private households, transportation and leisure activities in the developed countries are not only increasing progressively, and they are also extremely low in terms of efficiency. The industrialized nations should not therefore impose on the developing countries the burdens of their own environmental profligacy.

"It is also therefore necessary that the developed countries help the developing countries with technologies for clean energy," Sayeed said.

MNA/PTI



Cranes fill the sky as work progresses at a residential project in downtown Bangkok. —INTERNET

Thailand to spend \$12b to ease traffic-clogged Bangkok

NONGKHAI(Thailand), 8 Sept — Thailand plans a 12-billion-US-dollar expansion of a new subway and elevated railways in traffic-clogged Bangkok over the next five years, Transport Minister Suriya Jungrunreangkit said on Tuesday.

The network would grow seven times to 180 miles by 2009 as part of an ambitious transport "masterplan" for the capital and its 10 million people, who make up a sixth of the country's population.

The scheme, approved by the Cabinet on Tuesday, would add seven underground and elevated railway lines to those that now extend only 21 miles, he said.

"Every 500 metres, we will see one station in and around the city which will serve at least 4.5 million passengers," a day, Suriya told reporters after the Cabinet meeting in the northeastern province of Nongkhai.

Both mass transit systems are run by concessionaires and the government is trying to take them over and merge them into a single operation.

Bangkok's long battle with traffic jams has sharpened as global oil prices have risen and the government is encouraging motorists to leave vehicles at home and use public transport.

One of the seven new mass transit lines would stretch 12 miles from central Bangkok to the city's new Suvarnabhumi international airport, due to be completed next year, cost 30 billion baht and be finished in three years, Suriya said.

"We will find a contractor in November and take two years and nine months to complete the project, which will take 15 minutes to take passengers out of the airport to downtown," he said.

The Cabinet also gave the Transport Ministry the go-ahead to elevate main railway lines that now cross main Bangkok streets, using the abandoned pillars of Hong Kong's Hopewell Holdings Ltd <0054.HK> project now dubbed the "hopeless project".

"We will make use of 550 support pillars by elevating the provincial railway to solve the traffic," Suriya said.

MNA/Reuters

Two foreign drug traffickers arrested in Bali

JAKARTA, 8 Sept— Two South African nationals have been arrested on the Indonesian resort island of Bali for attempting to smuggle more than two kilos of heroin, the biggest arrest in the last 12 months, an officer said on Monday.

The two were travelling from Java by land but officers, who got an earlier tip-off about the drug trafficking, postponed the arrest until they stayed at a hotel and one of them was seen carrying a black suitcase, said Dewa Parsana, deputy police chief of the provincial capital of Denpasar. — MNA/Xinhua

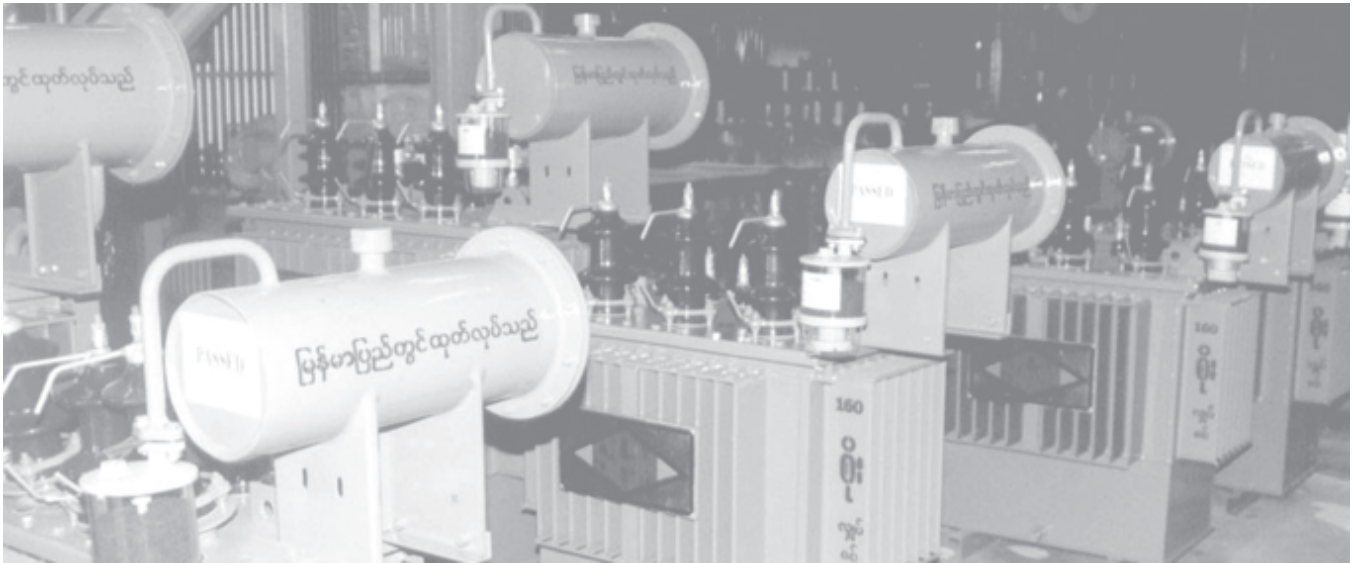
Cambodian police unearths high-tech forgery ring

PHNOM PENH, 9 Sept— A high-tech forgery ring was uncovered and five suspects were arrested by Cambodian police over two days in a joint bust between central security police and the municipal prosecutor, local media reported on Thursday.

Police confiscated instruments for committing crimes including three computers and scanners, and also collected thousands of fake documents ranging from royal decrees of King Norodom Sihanouk to bachelor's degrees of universities in Cambodia, local newspaper *The Commercial News* reported.

In the more than two years that the ring was in operation, at least 30 foreigners illegally obtained Cambodian citizenship and passports using documents purchased from the group for 20,000 to 40,000 US dollars, police said. "The evidence is overwhelming," said Deputy Municipal Prosecutor Khut Sopheang, who led the arrests. "What they did was like setting up a ministry. The damage is huge," Khut Sopheang was quoted on Thursday by *The Cambodia Daily* as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

National development through industrial sector



Efforts are being made for industrial development. Photo shows transformers, which are being manufactured in South Dagon Industrial Zone-1. —KYEMON



Cylinder blocks of farm machinery plant in Ingon Village in Kyaukse Township. —KYEMON



Kyaukse Cement Plant which can produce 120,000 tons of cement a year. —MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects ...

(from page 1)

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected progress in installation of the four-unit rotary press.

If necessary, the press will cooperate with Sub-printing House (Mandalay) to print more newspapers, in addition to its normal functions.

Apart from the one in Mandalay, other sub-printing houses in Kalay, Myitkyina, Lashio, Taunggyi, Kengtung, Magway and Sittway in addition to Mandalay are printing and publishing newspapers for distributing them to the people daily.

Furthermore, arrangements are being made for opening a sub-printing house soon in Myeik, Taninthayi Division.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived back here yesterday morning by Tatmadaw aircraft via Mandalay.

MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gives instructions to officials on installation of four unit rotary press at Upper Myanmar Government Press (Mandalay).—MNA

In the briefing hall, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan reported that Upper Myanmar Government Press (Mandalay) was established with a view to printing necessary school textbooks in Mandalay and distributing them to basic education students from Upper Myanmar.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hears reports on matters related to Upper Myanmar Government Press (Mandalay).—MNA

Coord meeting to put land under summer and monsoon paddy held

YANGON, 9 Sept — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivered an address at the coordination meeting of Yangon Division Agricultural Supervisory Committee to put land under summer and monsoon paddy at the meeting hall of Yangon Command this afternoon.

Also present were Joint-Secretary of Yangon City Development Committee U Aung Soe, authorities and officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the commander said that as the target was set to cultivate 1,200,080 acres of monsoon paddy in Yangon Division this year, efforts are to be made for exceeding the target and growing late-monsoon paddy in time. Plans have been laid down for cultivation of pulses and beans and edible oil crops to exceed the target.

Chairmen of Township PDCs from Hlegu, Taikkyi, Htantabin, Hmawby, Dagon Myothit (East), Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), Mingaladon, Thanlyin, Kyauktan, Twantay, Kawhmu and Kungyangon townships reported on their respective sectors.

U Aung Soe submitted reports on completion of monsoon paddy cultivation and arrangements for putting land under summer paddy.

Next, township authorities presented reports on supervision works being carried out for exceeding the target to cultivate monsoon and summer paddy and cold season crops in respective districts.

Departmental officials took part in the discussions.

MNA



Construction site of Upper Myanmar Government Press (Mandalay).—MNA



Cash donated to Mandalay Maha Muni Buddha Image

*Vice-Senior General
Maung Aye makes cash
donation at Maha Muni
Buddha Image in
Mandalay on 7
September, 2004.*

MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Chinese guests

YANGON, 9 Sept — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt received the visiting Chinese delegation led by Executive Vice-President Mr Li Ping of China Telecom of the People's Republic of China at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinthar this evening.

Also present at the call together with General Khin Nyunt were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of Political Department U Thaung Tun and officials and Chinese guests with Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun.

During the call, the two sides discussed cooperation in communications sector. — MNA



Directorate of PRPW holds prize presentation ceremony

YANGON, 9 Sept — A ceremony to present prizes for the 4th competitions of cultural performing arts of Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare under the Ministry of Defence was held at No 3 Mobile Public

Relations Unit, Mandalay Division yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were Col Nyo Win of the Ministry of Defence and senior military officers, commanding officers of regiments and units, rector

of Institute of Culture (Mandalay) U San Win, members of board of judges, doyen artistes, competitors and audience.

After Col Nyo Win had made a speech on the occasion, he and officials presented prizes to winners. — MNA

*Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt
receives Mr Li Ping, Executive Vice-
President of China Telecom. — MNA*

*Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt
grets Mr Li Ping, Executive Vice-
President of China Telecom. — MNA*



Emergence of a constitution for discipline-flourishing democratic nation

Aung Moe San

Today's historic duty of the entire Myanmar people is to collectively strive for the emergence of a State constitution and flourishing of democracy in the nation. In accord with the seven-point future policy programme of the State, the National Convention has been performing the national duty for the emergence of a constitution. Thus, the success of the National Convention is the most basic requirement and cause for the emergence of a constitution and a democratic nation.

Hence, the entire national people will have to make concerted efforts for the successful completion of the National Convention. And with the concerted efforts, any kind of difficulty must be overcome in doing so, because they (the collective efforts) are the investment for every success. Although the internal and external perpetrated to wreck the National Convention, a portion of the Convention has already been completed successfully, and it is one of the developments of Myanmar. Experts in the social science field have said that lessons and experiences can be gained from problems. In other words, the hardships the nation faced during the time when the National Convention was suspended had been overcome with the resumption of the National Convention itself. At the same time, the seven-point future policy programme must be implemented step by step. We all will have to march to the goal — a discipline-flourishing democratic nation — without fail.

A constitution for emergence of a democratic nation must be based on the objective social conditions of the people of Myanmar. It cannot be based on the social conditions of the US, the UK or Japan. Because man can improve his food, clothing and shelter conditions only with his own available strength and through his human relations. Man cannot extend his human relations as he likes. Here, we can say that the collective force of human relations is the economic system of a human society. The modern political and economic science says that the human

relations serve as the foundation where the social knowledge, laws and political systems emerge.

Human history starts with the search for food, clothing and shelter. The follow-up stage is the setting up of an administrative, legal, social and education systems in accordance with the food, clothing and shelter condition and production standard.

Democracy grows only from the seed of the domestic social condition. Likewise, a constitution emerges from the domestic social foundation. We cannot copy the social systems of the US and the UK. Because the historical background and the standard of social environment of Myanmar is not the same as theirs. Thus, the practice of the basic principles of democracy must be in line with the objective social conditions of a particular country. In this way, the National Convention will materialize a constitution based on the objective condition of the Myanmar society.

The late Churchill, the former prime minister of Britain, the so-called grandfather of democracy, once said, "Democracy is a terrible system, but rather than others." It is true that democracy is terrible, if it is not handled properly. Abuse of democracy will lead to eruption of anarchy, unruly and rowdy acts, attacks against the public, violations of majority's rights and laws, gangland bullying, assassinations, illegal self-seeking practices, and acts harmful to majority's interest. In the end, it will lead to disintegration of the nation.

In order to save the nation from facing such terrible situations and to provide protection for flourishing of democracy in it, the Tatmadaw Government has made a firm resolve to build a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

As democratic practice starts from the people, they are going to play a decisive role in the State administrative machinery. So, the people need to understand their rights as well as their responsibilities. They must be endowed with general knowledge and must be sensible. Every citizen must be able to make

fair decisions. He must be free from anarchic acts, must follow only the moderate way and must be free from bias.

But the question here is whether the entire people can be equipped with all the above-said qualifications in a short period. A certain period of time is required to nurture and develop them. The nations of the West also have to set up their democracy throughout the successive generations to reach the present stage.

There is another question. Will it work just by installing a democracy system in a developing country? We must seriously think about the consequences. But till now, practical rationalization concerning the matter is still weak. Nobody gave serious attention to the weakness and cracks appeared in the foundation of a number of eastern, central and southern European nations emerging as new democratic nations after the end of World War I. Although the democracy powers of the West had already reached the stage of advancement and development, they too practised the limited voting rights some three or four decades ago. They should remember this.

They should realize the fact that most western constitutions were not like the present ones when they were not developed yet.

Hence, Myanmar at present, is in the process of setting up a democratic nation, after laying down the seven-point future policy programme, that is in accordance with her social condition. We all will have to study and take lessons from the weaknesses and advantages of the 1947 Constitution and the 1974 Constitution in doing so, while striving with the strength of the entire nation for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation that is in conformity with the nation's objective social condition.

(Translation: TMT)

Kyemon+Myanma Alin: 9.9.2004.

Local and foreign airlines meet for improvement of airport services

YANGON, 9 Sept—A meeting was held at Nay Myo Bala Hall of Yangon International Airport yesterday afternoon to upgrade the airport and to ensure airlines safety and smooth airport services.

It was attended by

Patron of the Supervisory Committee for Upgrading of Yangon International Airport Vice-Chief of Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Managing Director of the Myanma

Hotels and Tourism Services U Htay Aung, Deputy Director-General of the Department for Civil Aviation U Myint Thein, Secretary of the Committee Maj Win Tun Oo (Air), representatives from local and foreign airlines and officials of the

airport.

The patron delivered a speech on the occasion, saying that the forming of the committee led to greater success in airport upgrading and airport services. However, he said, the meeting is necessary for getting

information about the requirements of respective airlines and departments and for ensuring smoothness and convenience when airports are busy with tourists. He pledged that immediate actions will be taken to tackle the reports and

serious cases will be submitted to the State leaders as soon as possible as necessary.

The deputy minister presented a report, saying that this year's tourist arrival is more than the same period last year. Amendments to the procedures concerning passengers at airports are related to an extent with the increased inflow of tourists. Concerted efforts will be made in conformity with directives of the committee.

Major Win Tun Oo (Air) reported on steps being taken for betterment of air transport services and future tasks. The officials of the airport and the representatives from the airlines reported on their requirements.

Maj-Gen Kyaw Win delivered the closing remarks.

MNA



Vice-Chief of Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win addresses the meeting to upgrade Yangon International Airport, to secure safety and smooth air services.—MNA





Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivers an address at coord meeting of Yangon Division Agricultural Supervisory Committee. (News on page 8) — YANGON COMMAND

Minister inspects construction of dams in Magway, Ayeyawady Divisions

YANGON, 9 Sept — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, accompanied by departmental officials, on 7 September arrived at Bwetgyi Dam 26 miles east of Aungmye Township in Thayet District, Magway Division. The minister looked into storage of water, water supply for cultivation, maintenance of the dam and its relating buildings, reinforced concrete conduit and control tower and gave necessary instructions.

On the arrival at the sugar mill (Yonseik) in Aungmye Township, the minister gave instructions to the officials on fulfilment of the needs of farmers, development of agricultural sector in the region, extension of growing sugarcane and cotton and meeting the target to cultivate 10 major crops.

Afterwards, they

proceeded to Sugar Mill (Nawaday) in Pyay Township and the mill manager reported to him on tasks of growing, buying and transporting of sugarcane and producing sugar. The minister instructed the officials to disseminate agricultural methods to the farmers.

When they arrived at the workshop of Myanma Jute Enterprise in Pyay Township, the minister met the managing director and staff, followed by attending to the need.

On arrival at the construction site of Konchaung-2 dam, the director of Irrigation Department reported to the minister on the tasks of constructing conduit, control tower and spillway. He instructed them to finish the constructing feeder canals under construction dams at the same time, minimize loss and wastage.

Afterwards, the minister and party went to the construction site of Mamya dam where he was reported by the deputy director (Construction 9) of Irrigation Department on measurements of constructing the main dam, control tower and completion of spillway.

reported on tasks of construction. After hearing reports, the minister gave instructions on installation of generators to be able to generate electricity for supplying power to the rural areas. Then, the minister inspected control tower and spillway.

MNA



A & I Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin inspects Bwetgyi Dam in Aungmye Township, Magway Division. — (A & I)

Next, the minister observed irrigation projects on the map and Director-General U Kyaw San Win and engineers

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

Workshop for ASEAN Cultural Interaction at Grassroots continues

YANGON, 9 Sept — The Workshop for People-to-People Exchange Programme ASEAN Cultural Interaction at Grassroots, Phase III continued for the second day at Swan Hotel in Mandalay on 7 September afternoon.

Present were Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs retired ambassador U Win Lwin, Chairman of Myanmar ASEAN Culture and Information National Committee of ASEAN

COCIDirector-General U Myint Thein Swe of Department of Cultural Institute, officials, delegates of ASEAN countries Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, delegation members of partner country China and observers.

Thai delegation leader Dr Pattiya Jimreivat presided over the workshop together with Singaporean delegation leader Ms Teoh Siok Hian

Janet and leader of Vietnamese delegation Ms Le Thi Thien Huong.

Participants of the workshop read out the papers. Next, those present took part in the discussions.

On 8 September, the delegates observed handiwork in Mandalay and participated in the works. The delegates went to Mandalay Hill and signed in the visitors' book of Hsutaungpyay Buddha Image.

MNA

12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural ...

(from page 16)

Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present were Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung and members, and the chairmen and members of the Work Committee and subcommittees for Organizing the Competitions and expert groups.

The 12th Competitions will be held from 14 to 31 October. One of the significant features of the competitions is the Mahawthahta drama in the professional level marionette contest and the duet dance amateur level marionette contest. The theme for drama contest is Ramayana. The Subcommittee for Organizing the Competitions and the representatives and experts in the field of theatre will make thorough discussions concerning the scenes of the drama. The songs for the competitions have already been announced nationwide, and the tapes recording the songs for the singing, drama and marionette will also be distributed to the states and divisions in time.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung also gave a speech. Members of the respective committees also took part in the discussions, and leaders and officials of the expert groups and the representatives presented work programmes sector-wise. After a general round of discussions, the commander delivered the concluding address. The commander and party viewed the sample background stage paintings and posters, postcards and pamphlets. — MNA

Acknowledgement

Let us contribute towards establishment of self-reliant library in every village.

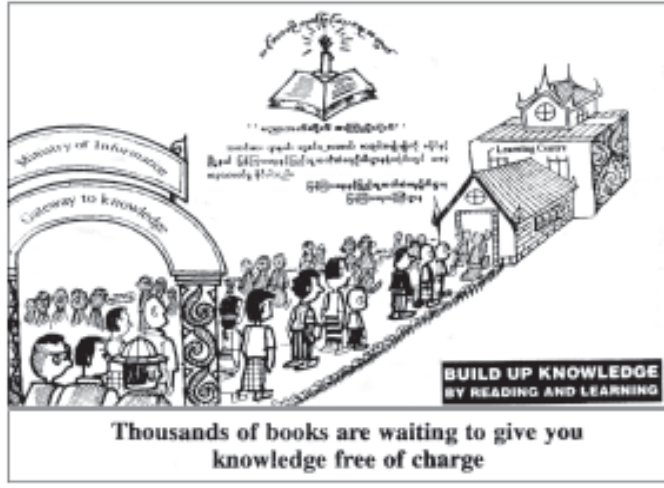
A total of 14,325 books and periodicals and K 90,000 were accepted at the first donation ceremony on 17-8-2004 and 129,632 books and periodicals and K 1,544,000 at the second ceremony on 7-9-2004.

The Ministry of Information thanks the wellwishers for their donations.
The third coordination meeting and donation ceremony will soon be held.

The Ministry of Information
Information and Public Relations Department



The second day of Workshop for People-to-People Exchange Programme ASEAN Cultural Interaction at Grassroots, Phase III, in progress in Mandalay. — MNA



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(For. Allen & Gledhill, Advocates & Solicitors, Singapore.)

Dated: 10 September 2004

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံ

သစ်တောထွက်ပစ္စည်းဖက်စပ်ကော်မီရှင်လီမိတက်

အမှတ်(၄၂)၊ ၄-မြို့၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်ဘုရားလမ်းနှင့်ကမ်းနားလမ်းထောင့်၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်မြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့ (၁၁)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရပ်ရပ်ဆိုင်ရာ နှစ်ပတ်လည်အစည်းအဝေးစိတ်ကြားစာ

၁။ ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၊ သစ်တောထွက်ပစ္စည်း ဖက်စပ်ကော်မီရှင်လီမိတက်၏ (၁၁)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရပ်ရပ်ဆိုင်ရာ နှစ်ပတ်လည် အစည်းအဝေးကြီးကို အောက်ပါအစီအစဉ်အတိုင်း ကျင်းပပြုလုပ်မည်ဖြစ်ပါ၍ အထူးသတိပြုရန် အားလုံးသိရန်အတွက် တက်ရောက်ကြပါရန် လေးစားစွာစိတ်ကြားအပ်ပါသည်။

- ကျင်းပမည့်နေ့ရက် - ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ(၁၅)ရက်၊ ဘေးကြာနေ့၊
- ကျင်းပမည့်အချိန် - နံနက် (၁၅:၀၀)နာရီ
- ကျင်းပမည့်နေရာ - တော်ဝင်ခန်းမ၊ သစ်တောဦးစီးဌာန(ရန်ကုန်မြို့)

အနောက်ကြို့ကုန်း၊ ဘုရင့်နောင်လမ်း၊ အင်းစိန်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။

၂။ သစ်တောထွက်ပစ္စည်းအဖွဲ့(၅)အရ ဒါရိုက်တာအဖွဲ့၊ သစ်တော ထွက်ပစ္စည်းအဖွဲ့အစည်း(၂၀)နှင့် အထက်ပတ်လည်အစည်းအဝေးကြီးကို အောက်ပါအစီအစဉ်အတိုင်း ကျင်းပပြုလုပ်မည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ (၃၀-၉-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ (၁၆:၃၀)နာရီ၊ နောက်ဆုံးအစည်းအဝေးကြီးအား ပေးကြပါရန် မေတ္တာရပ်ခံအပ်ပါသည်။

၃။ အရပ်ရပ်ဆိုင်ရာ အစည်းအဝေးကြီးတွင် ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၊ သစ်တောထွက်ပစ္စည်း ဖက်စပ်ကော်မီရှင်လီမိတက်၏ လုပ်ငန်းများနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်း၍ အကြံပြုခြင်း၊ မေးမြန်းခြင်းများ ပြုလုပ်လိုပါက စာဖြင့်ရောင်းချ (၃၀-၉-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ (၁၆:၃၀)နာရီအထိအောက်ပါအတိုင်း အထက်ပါလီမိတက်သို့ ပေးကြပါရန်နှင့် အစည်းအဝေးကြီးတွင် နှစ်ပတ်လည်အစည်းအဝေးကြီးတွင် အကြံပြုဆွေးနွေးတင်ပြခြင်းများကို ခွင့်ပြုမည့် မဟုတ်ပါကြောင်း ဒါရိုက်တာအဖွဲ့၏ ဆုံးဖြတ်ချက်အရ ကြိုတင်အသိပေးအပ်ပါသည်။

(၃၀-၉-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ အောက်ပိုင်းရောက်ရှိလာသည့် မေးမြန်းချက်များကို သီးခြားစာဖြင့် ပြန်ကြားပါမည်။ အစည်းအဝေးကြီးသို့ တက်ရောက်လာသည့်အခါ မိမိ၏ အထူးသတိပြုရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း (သို့မဟုတ်) အထူးသတိပြုရန် အောက်ပါအတိုင်း တစ်ပါးတည်း ယူဆောင်လာကြရန် လေးစားစွာမိန့်ကြားအပ်ပါသည်။

၄။ အထူးသတိပြုရန်ကိစ္စကို မတက်ရောက်နိုင်ပါက အခြား အထူးသတိပြုရန်ကိစ္စကို ကိုယ်စားလှယ်အဖြစ် ခန့်ထားတက်ရောက်စေနိုင်ပါသည်။

၆။ အထူးသတိပြုရန်ကိစ္စသည် မိမိတို့နှင့် နှစ်ပတ်လည် အစီရင်ခံစာကို ပေးပို့လျက်ရှိပါသည်။ မရရှိပါက သစ်တောထွက်ပစ္စည်း ဖက်စပ်ကော်မီရှင်လီမိတက် (ရန်ကုန်မြို့)သို့ လာရောက်ထုတ်ယူနိုင်ပါကြောင်း မော်ပြအပ်ပါသည်။

ဒါရိုက်တာအဖွဲ့

ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ စက်တင်ဘာလ (၆)ရက်

ပြည်တွင်းပြင်ကိုအားပေးပါ

ပြည်ထောင်စု မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ ဩဂုတ်လ ၂၃ ရက်

ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာအသိပြုခြင်း

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ၏ လုပ်ငန်း သုံးအတွက်လိုအပ်သောတိလပ်မြေ (Portland Cement) တန်(၅၀၀၀) (တန်ငါးထောင် တိတိ) ကို နိုင်ငံခြားသုံးငွေဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူလိုပါ သဖြင့် C & F (Yangon) စနစ်ဖြင့် ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာ တင်သွင်း နိုင်ပါကြောင်း မိတ်ခေါ်ပါသည်။

ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာပိတ်ရက်မှာ ၁၆-၉-၂၀၀၄ နေ့(၁၆:၀၀) နာရီ ဖြစ်ပြီး ဈေးနှုန်းတင်သွင်းလွှာပိတ်ရက်လျှင် ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင် တိတိ)နှုန်းဖြင့် ဘတ်ဂျက်နှင့်ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးဌာနတွင် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ်-၂၅၂၄၄၂၄၂၄၀၁၁ (ရိုင်းခွဲ) ၂၄၇ တို့သို့ ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ

ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

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(For. British American Tobacco Ltd, U.K)

Dated 10 September 2004

Hurricane "Ivan" killed at least 3 in Grenada

PORT OF SPAIN (Trinidad), 8 Sept — Powerful and strengthening Hurricane Ivan killed at least three people in Grenada and devastated its capital, St. Georges, as it pounded the tiny islands of the southeastern Caribbean on Tuesday.

Ivan, the ninth storm in a busy Atlantic hurricane season, swept south of Barbados and directly over Grenada, brushing past Tobago as it headed into the Caribbean basin far enough south to prompt precautions on the coasts of Colombia and Venezuela.

Ivan strengthened into a dangerous category 4 storm on the five-step scale of hurricane intensity, and its 135 mph winds were expected to strengthen as it moved through the Caribbean, the US National Hurricane Center said.

As it crossed the fragile Windward Islands on Tuesday, Ivan tore down trees, blew off roofs, knocked out power and forced thousands of people to evacuate coastal areas. — MNA/Reuters

Venezuela suspends air, sea traffic for fear of hurricane

CARACAS, 8 Sept — Air and sea traffic has been suspended in the north-eastern Venezuelan states of Nueva Esparta and Sucre ahead of the passing of Hurricane Ivan, expected to touch the eastern coast of the country, local media reported Tuesday.

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AMORTEEN

Reg. No. 4812/1995

AMOURETTE

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in respect of "articles of clothing".

TRIUMPH

Reg. No. 896/1972

TRIUMPH INTERNATIONAL

Reg. No. 1150/1981



Reg. No. 1151/1981

in respect of "Articles of clothing, including knitted and woven garments, outerwear and undergarments, stockings, hosiery, articles for sun bathing and beachwear, swimsuits, trunks and sports clothing, lingerie, roll-ons, bodices, corsets, corselettes, girdles, suspender belts and brassieres".

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Win Mu Tin,

M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.

for **TRIUMPH INTERNATIONAL AG**

P.O Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 10 September

2004

မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဆဲ



The remains of the Genesis capsule is examined after it crashed on 8 Sept, 2004, in Dugway Proving Ground, Utah. The space capsule, containing particles of solar wind, was supposed to have been snatched from the sky by a helicopter before hitting the ground. But the parachutes failed to deploy. — INTERNET

Hippo deaths increase to 60 in Ugandan National Park

KAMPALA, 8 Sept— The death toll of hippos in Queen Elizabeth National Park in western Uganda has reached 60 and is still on the rise, while the cause remains a mystery, local media reported on Tuesday.

The Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) dispatched a expert team in mid-August to the park after about 25 hippos died from a strange disease there.

Chief warden of the park John Bosco Nuwe said "a quick discovery of the cause is needed to stem it before it runs out of hand."

However, he said the 4,000-5,000 strong hippos population was not under serious threat although

the incidents are very disturbing.

He said the recent dry weather led to turning of the water in Kazinga channel, lakes Edward and George to a blue-green colour, a process now being suspected to be toxic.

Hippos are ranked the 4th in tourist attraction for the park after lions, elephants and buffaloes. They live in water most of daytime, and come out in the evening to graze.

MNA/Xinhua

Broadband TV over Internet for BSNL subscribers

JERUSALEM, 8 Sept — An Israeli company has signed a licensing agreement with an Indian firm to provide broadband commercial television over Internet for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited subscribers.

Atlas Interactive (India) global telecom and media conglomerate Atlas Group. At a later stage Atlas plans to roll out TV over Internet service across 38 major cities in India, reaching millions of phone subscribers, it said.

According to Orca, Atlas has set a target of signing more than one million subscribers within 24 months.

The Israeli company's system will enable the provision of Live TV, Near Video On Demand and Video On Demand service.

MNA/PTI

is the Indian arm of the

China to spend \$37b for 2008 Games

BEIJING, 8 Sept— China will save money by building five Olympic stadiums in Beijing instead of the 10 originally planned, state media reported on Tuesday.

China is due to spend 37 billion US dollars on the 2008 Games, with at least two billion US dollars going towards ultra-modern facilities, many of which are already under construction.

But it has stressed the requirement to save where it can and downscaling the venues would spare the need for thousands of tons of steel, one of several overheating sectors in the fast-growing Chinese economy the government has been trying to cool with curbs on investment.

MNA/Reuters

Hydro-electric project at Three Gorges Dam on flood alert

BEIJING, 8 Sept— China has put the Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest hydro-electric project, on flood alert, Xinhua news agency said on Tuesday after rain and mudslides killed 76 in areas to the west.

Water levels at hydro-logical stations were above "warning levels" and rising and navigation on the giant reservoir above the dam had been halted for the first ever, it said.

Southwestern Chongqing municipality and central Hubei Province, on the upper and middle reaches of the Yangtze River, had put all departments on flood alert, increased patrols along dams of the river and reinforced reservoirs.

Engineers blocked the Yangtze at the Three

Gorges Dam in June last year, filling the reservoir for a 25-billion-US-dollar project that is a point of national pride in a country desperate for power but which critics fear will become an environmental nightmare.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been relocated from the area around the reservoir, which has swallowed villages, cities, factories and hospitals as well as some archaeological treasures.

The dam is in Hubei Province, to the east of Sichuan Province and Chongqing. It was the first time since the reservoir opened to tourist and cargo traffic last July that it has

been closed.

The central government has allocated 40 million yuan (4.82 million US dollars) for emergency funds to flood-stricken areas in Sichuan and Chongqing after the most destructive rain storm this year. According to the latest figures released by local flood control offices, the death toll from floods in Sichuan and Chongqing is at least 76 with 27 missing. More than 130,000 people had been evacuated from their homes.

The storm hit north-eastern parts of Sichuan and Chongqing on Thursday and rain is predicted to continue through Tuesday. — MNA/Reuters

Colombian Army rescues mayor kidnapped by guerillas

BOGOTA, 8 Sept— The Colombian Army Tuesday rescued the mayor of the municipality of Ricaurte, who had been kidnapped by guerillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the National Liberation Army (ELN), military sources said.

The rescue operation that released Orlando Hernandez, kidnapped on August 25, was undertaken in the rural area of Miraflores in the southwestern state of Narino. Six guerillas were killed and two others were captured in the operation, said Third Army Division Commander General Antonio Ladrón de Guevara.

MNA/Xinhua

Bangladeshi police to set up cyber crime unit

DHAKA, 8 Sept— The Bangladeshi police have planned to set up a special unit to curb cyber crimes.

The New Nation newspaper on Tuesday quoted a high official of the police as saying that the Bangladeshi police so far have not any such unit. "but we are working with IT experts in the police department to track down such criminals."

Abdul Quayum, chief of the special branch of police said that the police want to set up the unit before such crimes go beyond control and "we have already initiated a process."

Although the present situation is not beyond the control of the security

forces, the special branch takes the matter seriously he said.

An e-mail message was sent to a Bengali daily newspaper on August 23 issuing a life threat to Awami League chief and leader of opposition Sheikh Hasina.

The life threat was issued only two days after the grenade attack on a rally of Awami League in the capital which left 20 people killed and about 300 others injured. Former prime minister Sheikh Hasina narrowly escaped the attack.

MNA/Xinhua

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်ရှိသင့်သည်။

သမားအမှုန်
သေခံနိုင်ခြား
သုတေသနက
သမားအမှုန်
ကြည့်လင်စေရန်
စာပေအမျက်
မညာသိုက်ဆီ
ညွှန်ပြချက်ချက်
စာကြည့်တိုက်



သေခံနိုင်သလိုပဲ၊ သေခံမိဖို့၊
စာကြည့်တိုက်များ သေခံမိဖို့၊

ကျေးရွာကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် သုတ/ရသ စာအုပ်များလှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာ့ရေးရာနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

SPORTS

Netherlands given dream start, beat Czech Republic 2-0

AMSTERDAM, 9 Sept — Striker Pierre van Hooijdonk scored twice to give Netherlands and new coach Marco van Basten a dream start to their World Cup qualifying campaign as they beat the Czech Republic 2-0 on Wednesday.

Van Hooijdonk grabbed a goal in each half to provide the Dutch with a measure of revenge for a 3-2 defeat to the Czechs in a pulsating match in the group stages of Euro 2004.

Czech Republic were missing three first-choice midfielders in

playmaker Pavel Nedved, Karel Poborsky and Tomas Galasek but Karel Brueckner's weakened team coped well early on.

The Czechs dominated the first half and Tomas Rosicky, Milan Baros and Marek Heinz all missed good opportunities created by the effective use of their counter-attacking weapon.

Netherlands went in front against the run of play on 33 minutes as Dirk Kuijt's defence-splitting pass found Rafael van der Vaart, who set up van Hooijdonk to score.

MNA/Reuters



Poland's Tomasz Rzata (3) and Arkadiusz Glowacki (5), along with England's David Beckham (7) and Michael Owen watch the ball go into the Polish net for the second goal against Poland during their World Cup European qualifier soccer match at Slaski soccer stadium in Chorzow, southern Poland on 8 Sept, 2004. England won the match 2-1.—INTERNET

Germany produces combative display to hold Brazil to 1-1

BERLIN, 9 Sept — Germany produced a combative display to hold world champions Brazil to a 1-1 draw in a fiercely contested friendly international on Wednesday.

Midfielder Ronaldinho opened the scoring for the visitors from a free kick nine minutes into the first clash between the two since Brazil's 2-1 victory over Germany in the 2002 World Cup final.

Brazil-born striker Kevin Keranyi was left unmarked in the penalty area when he equalized for Germany eight minutes later, delighting over 70,000 fans packed into Berlin's newly renovated Olympic stadium.

Both the result and performance will encourage new Germany coach Juergen Klinsmann, who took over after the team's group stage exit from Euro 2004.

Wednesday's game was Klinsmann's home debut as coach after a 3-1 win over Austria in a friendly last month in Vienna.

The match started in worrying fashion for Germany, warming up for the 2006 World Cup on home soil with a string of friendlies.

Central defender Frank Fahrenhorst, winning his second cap brought down Arsenal midfielder Edu just outside the box to enable Ronaldinho to open the scoring by casually flicking the ball over the wall and into the net.

The goal woke up the Germans, who pressed forward after equalizing and were clearly the better side in a lively first half.

Kuranyi, who had scored a hat-trick in the Austria victory threatened again on 24 minutes with an angled effort from inside the box that required a brilliant save from Julio Cesar.

MNA/Reuters



French tennis ace Yannick Noah, seen here in 1987, is among eight people nominated for possible 2005 induction to the International Tennis Hall of Fame.—INTERNET

Defoe helps England to precious 2-1 victory over Poland

CHORZOW (Poland), 9 Sept — England needed an own-goal from centre back Arkadiusz Glowacki to overcome Poland 2-1 in their Group Six World Cup qualifying tie on Wednesday and relieve the pressure on manager Sven Goran-Eriksson.

Glowacki deflected the ball past goalkeeper Jerzy Dudek under pressure from striker Michael Owen on 58 minutes after a dangerous low cross from left back Ashley Cole.

The visitors took the lead on 37 minutes through an excellent turn and strike from forward

Jermain Defoe, who started in place of Alan Smith, but Maciej Zurawski equalized for Poland three minutes after halftime after being through.

Eriksson opted to play goalkeeper Paul Robinson in place of David James after his error allowed Austria to claim a 2-2 draw

in Vienna on Saturday.

England manager Sven-Goran Eriksson hailed striker Jermain Defoe after the youngster helped them to a precious victory over Poland.

Defoe, 21, scored his first England goal on a superb first start for his country, before Maciej Zurawski equalized and

teammate Arkadiusz Golowacki scored an own goal to hand England victory.

"I'm impressed," Eriksson told a news conference. "He's been very sharp in training this week and he's very hungry."

"He's a big, big, big talent and he will always score goals."

Defoe's strike helped England make amends for Saturday's 2-2 draw in Austria, when they let slip a two-goal lead.

"It was very important to win today after drawing on Saturday, but I like the way we played in both games," Eriksson said.

MNA/Reuters

Italy picks up second straight success

CHISINAU, 9 Sept — Alessandro del Piero scored his first goal for Italy in over a year as Marcello Lippi's side picked up their second straight success with a 1-0 victory over Moldova in their World Cup qualifier on Wednesday.

After earlier hitting the post with a header, del Piero fired home a fine shot in the 32nd minute to ensure Italy followed up their 2-1 win over Norway on Saturday with three more points in European zone Group Five.

The goal, del Piero's first since finding the target against Wales last September, came shortly after the Moldovans had gone close when Gianluigi Buffon pushed a Serghei Covalciuc header against the post.

Moldovan substitute Serghei Dadu was sent off for a second bookable offence in the 77th minute of a scrappy second half.

Del Piero had come in for plenty of criticism after Italy's early exit from Euro 2004 and was left out of the squad for Lippi's first game in charge — a friendly defeat to Iceland last month.

A slight injury meant del Piero watched Saturday's game from the stands and his return was vital to his chances of securing his

place in Lippi's new-look team, especially after the impressive showing from Fabrizio Miccoli on Saturday.

Lippi made four changes to the side which had made such a positive start to the Group Five campaign with Milan midfielders Massimo Ambrosini and Andrea Pirolo, Sampdoria winger Aimo Diana and del Piero coming into this side.

Del Piero made his presence felt in the 17th minute heading against the post from a Pirlo corner and then had a well-struck shot saved by Moldova keeper Evgheni Hmaruc.

His goal drought ended when he turned sharply on the edge of the area before firing a low shot past Hmaruc.

Diana missed two good chances for the Italians in a first half they dominated but the second half was poor with little created by the Azzurri.

Buffon was forced into action in the 53rd minute to keep out a shot from Serghei Lascencov but the

home side, who lost their opening game 3-0 to Slovenia, could not turn their determined effort into danger for the Italian defence.

MNA/Reuters

Spain fortunate to earn point from opening qualifier

ZENICA (Bosnia), 9 Sept — Spain were fortunate to earn a point from their opening World Cup qualifier when they scraped, a barely deserved 1-1 draw away to Bosnia in a Group Seven match on Wednesday.

Midfielder Vicente put the visitors ahead against the run of play midway through the second half but Bosnia striker Elvir Bolic equalized eight minutes later when he cashed in on a defensive error to score with a cool finish.

The result left both teams sharing third place in the group with Belgium, two points behind Serbia and Montenegro and three behind Lithuania, who crushed unfancied San Marino 4-0 earlier on Wednesday.

Bosnia had by far the better of the game and had it not been for sharp goalkeeping from Iker Casillas and some desperate last-ditch defending the home side would have got their campaign off to a winning start.

Midfielder Elvir Baljic had two great opportunities to put Bosnia in front in the first half but he fired a close-range volley over the bar in the opening minute and was then denied by a fine block from Casillas just before the break.

Spain were unable to create a single scoring chance in the first half as the Bosnians snuffed out any potential danger with an authoritative display at the back.

MNA/Reuters



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye visits Maha Muni Buddha Image



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party pay homage to Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay. — MNA

YANGON, 9 Sept—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), commanders of military

commands, ministers, senior military officers, the Mandalay Mayor and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, paid a visit to Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay on 7 September evening.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party paid reverence to the Buddha Image. Next, they offered gold foils to the image. They signed the visitors' book.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye

made cash donations to the funds of the Buddha image through members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees. — MNA

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Prime Minister to pay a working visit to Singapore

YANGON, 10 Sept — At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore His Excellency Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt will pay a working visit to the Republic of Singapore in the near future. — MNA

12th Myanmar Performing Arts Competitions

YANGON, 9 Sept — Leading Committee for Organizing the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions met representatives from states and divisions at the National Theatre today, with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development (See page 11)

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 can not 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.

Perpetration to discredit dignity of Tatmadaw explained Allegations are found to be baseless and totally devoid of truth Effective action is taken in accordance with law regardless of status of those who commit the crime

YANGON, 9 Sept — Newspapers issued in Thailand dated 9 September 2004 carried a news report entitled "Report alleges army rape of ethnic women is systematic".

The news report mentioned of the report released by an organization called "Women's League of Burma (WLB)", entitled "System of Impunity" containing allegations that Myanmar Armed Forces are committing sexual violence against ethnic women. The Women's League of Burma (WLB) is an illegal organization established outside Myanmar.

These allegations are found to be baseless and totally devoid of truth. Rape is considered a serious crime and accordingly severe action is taken against those who commit rape in accordance with the existing law. According to the Penal Code Section 376, either a sentence of life imprisonment or a sentence of up to 10-year imprisonment is given. In addition, fine can also be imposed.

In Myanmar effective action is taken against those who commit rape regardless of status. From the point of view of tradition and culture as well as religion rape is totally unpardonable. Effective action is taken against those who commit rape according to the existing laws Myanmar Armed Forces. It is learnt

that similar allegations in the past have been made under the caption "License to Rape". It is evident that this article was purposely written to cause disunity among the national races and to create mistrust and disunity between the armed forces and the people and to defame the honour of Myanmar ethnic women and the Armed Forces.

Myanmar is now on its way to establishing a new disciplined democratic state and is endeavouring to impart to the Armed Forces personnel and the people knowledge of humanitarian and human rights matters. If there are reports concerning criminal offences, action is taken in accordance with law regardless of the status of those who commit the crime.

It is learnt from the news release from the department concerned that at a time when the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs and the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation are focusing to provide life-security for women through the Working Group on Violence Against Women and the Working Group on Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons such unfounded allegations are merely fabrications to degrade the integrity of the Government and the Armed Forces. — MNA