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Kayan Sluice Gate built to prevent flood, benefit 30,000 acres of farmland Secretary-2 inspects construction of Kayan Sluice Gate, Yangon-Thanyin Bridge No 2

YANGON, 19 Sept — Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein went on an inspection tour of Kayan Sluice Gate Construction Project and Yangon-Thanyin Bridge No 2 Construction Project and gave necessary instructions to officials this morning.

The Secretary-2, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Deputy Ministers for Transport U Pe Than and Col Nyan Tun Aung, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and heads of departments crossed Kayan Creek from Dagon Creek from Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) near



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein hears reports on water supply for cultivation and greening tasks all the year round by Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.— MNA

Yangon-Thanyin Bridge No 2 Construction Project to Kayan Sluice Gate Construction Project being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation near Chaungwa village, Thanyin, via Bago River by boat.

“A lot of information in the media focuses on the negative aspects, and the bad news usually originates from the areas forbidden for foreigners to visit. Therefore, you can’t really say whether the information is true, distorted or a straight lie.”— from Article of Pauk Sa (on page 10).

The Secretary-2 and party were welcomed by Chairman of Yangon South District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Aung Pyi, local authorities of Thanyin, Kyauktan, Kayan and Thongwa townships, departmental officials and local peasants.

At the briefing hall, they heard reports on purpose of the construction of the sluice gate, its location, data on the project, preliminary tasks of the project, tasks be-

ing carried out and future tasks presented by Director of Construction No 6 of Irrigation Department U Hla Myint. Regarding the reports, Director-General of the Irrigation Department U Kyaw San Win gave supplementary reports.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presented reports on water supply for cultivation, construction of dams, reservoirs, sluice gates and river water pumping projects for greening all

the year round.

In response to the reports, the Secretary-2 gave instructions on timely completion of the projects, minimizing loss and waste on machinery, construction materials, finance, labour and time. Only when the sluice gate is completed earlier than scheduled, can the local people enjoy fruitful results sooner. He spoke of the need to build the sluice gate in accord with the standards set.

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Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects construction of Kayan Sluice Gate Project.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 20 September, 2004

Strive for development of private industrial sector

To keep abreast of the world community, the Government, based on agriculture, has been making all-out efforts for industrial development as a national concern.

In this process, the Government is providing moral support and material assistance for development of the private industrial sector.

To ensure the emergence of the industrialized nation, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe met the industrialists at the Kanaung Sethmu Hall in Mandalay on 5 April 2000 and gave guidance, saying that the Government had been giving capital and technical assistance and providing raw materials to the most possible degree for development of the private industry. The industrialists, on their part, are to make strenuous efforts for the quantitative and qualitative improvement of machinery needed for the State and production of import-substitute items more and more. And efforts are to be made for producing a wide array of industrial items, he added.

Nowadays, systematic steps are being taken to turn the national entrepreneurs into the businesspersons and to ensure the emergence of a market-oriented economic system.

Meanwhile, encouragement is being given to development of agricultural, industrial, trade and service sectors.

At a time when natural gas vehicles are being used, the private industrialists are to strive to widely engage in innovation.

In this connection, the private industrialists are to engage in purchase, installation and production of CNG kits for successful realization of the project. The Ministry of Industry-2 will provide technical assistance. The Government is to strive together with the private sector in ensuring the use of natural gas vehicles.

With the assistance of the Government, there emerged 19 industrial zones across the nation. Of them, Mandalay industrial zone, Monywa industrial zone and Ayethaya industrial zone of Taunggyi are engaged in setting up the foundries and moulding workshops.

With advancement in foundries and moulding, progress has been made in the private sector.

Therefore, with the assistance of the Government, private industrialists and officials are urged to make relentless efforts for development of the private industrial sector.

Basic Driving Course opened

YANGON, 19 Sept— An opening ceremony of Basic Driving Course No 1/2004, jointly organized by Road Transport Administration Department under the Ministry of Rail Transportation and Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, was held at RTAD office, Ywathagyi, this afternoon, with addresses by Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing who is also In-charge of women's affairs of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Pe Than, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Director-General U Hla Thaug Myint of Road Transport Administration Department and officials, officials of the economic working group of MAAF and 64 trainees.

The 8-week course is opened on weekends at RTAD office, Ywathagyi.—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

Wellwishers for Jivitadana Sangha Hospital honoured

YANGON, 19 Sept— The 28th merit-sharing ceremony to set up medical trust-fund for Jivitadana Sangha Hospital in conjunction with the ceremony to honour the wellwishers was held at the hospital in Bahan Township, here, this afternoon, attended by members of the hospital administration board and well-wishers.

The congregation received the five precepts from patron Sayadaw of Sasana Alinyaung Monastery Bhaddanta Jotika. Hospital administration board member U

Tin Maung Win supplied on the purpose of holding the ceremony.

Next, the well-wishers donated provisions to the Sayadaws.—MNA



The 28th merit-sharing ceremony for setting up medical trust-fund of Jivitadana Sangha Hospital and ceremony to honour wellwishers in progress.—MNA

Myanmar delegation arrives back

YANGON, 19 Sept — The Myanmar delegation led by Chief Justice U Aung Toe arrived back here by air yesterday night after attending the 25th General Assembly of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, from 12 to 17 September.

The Myanmar delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Deputy Chief Justice U Thein Soe, Deputy Attorney-General U Myint Naing, Judge of the Supreme Court U Khin Myint, Cambo-



Chief Justice U Aung Toe and party arrive back from Cambodia.—MNA

dian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hul Phany, Director-General of the Supreme Court U Soe Nyunt and Director-General of the Attorney-General's Office U Mya Nyein, officials and relatives of the

delegation members.

Legal Adviser U Thaug Nyunt and Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, who accompanied the chief justice, also arrived back on the same flight.

MNA

Officials leave for Philippines

YANGON, 19 Sept— General Secretary Dr Myo Aung Kyaw of Myanmar Rice and Paddy Wholesalers Association and Assistant Supervisor Daw Naw Al Mar of the seeds division of Myanma Agriculture Service left here by air for the Philippines this morning to attend the Post-Harvest Technology Training Course in International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines from 20 September to 8 October.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials.

MNA



Korean trade delegation of Iksan, the Republic of Korea, holds talks with Myanmar entrepreneurs on 17 September at Traders Hotel.

(News reported)—MNA

Day of violence across Iraq leaves 52 dead

BAGHDAD, 18 Sept — A suicide car bomber slammed into a line of police cars sealing off a Baghdad neighbourhood Friday as American troops rounded up dozens of suspected militants, capping a day of violence across Iraq that left at least 52 dead.

Among the 63 suspects arrested were Syrians, Sudanese and Egyptians, officials said. Coalition forces say foreign fighters are playing a major role in the insurgency.

Early Saturday, a car bomb exploded outside the Iraqi national guard headquarters in the northern city of Kirkuk,

killing at least eight people and wounding 10, the national guard said.

The blast tore through a crowd of people waiting to apply for jobs in the force, said National Guard Gen Anwar Mohammed Amin.

In Baghdad, a roadside bomb exploded in a small sidestreet in central

Baghdad on Saturday, killing one person and wounding two, police said.

The blast in Baghdad's Karradah neighbourhood, a main shopping and commercial district, also destroyed a passing vehicle, a police officer and witnesses at the site of the explosion said.

Friday's car bombing in Baghdad, which killed three people and wounded 23, was the second this week targeting the capital's beleaguered police forces. The mounting violence has increased pressure on Iraqis working to restore stability in their country but seen as collaborators because of their cooperation with US forces.

US forces intercepted another car earlier carrying explosives as it attempted to break through a Baghdad checkpoint, the military said. When the vehicle refused to stop, troops opened fire, setting off the explosives. The two people inside the vehicle were killed and an Iraqi soldier was wounded.

The attacks came after US jets pounded suspected hideouts of an al-Qaida-linked group in and around the guerilla stronghold of Fallujah in Anbar province west of Baghdad, killing at least 44 people.

Also Friday, the military said insurgents killed a US Marine on patrol in Anbar province. It gave no details.

Internet

စုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း

Government warns Americans of Iraq travel

WASHINGTON, 18 Sept — The State Department reminded Americans Friday of the dangers of travelling in Iraq, a day after two American construction workers were kidnapped from their home in Baghdad.

"The security threat to all American citizens in Iraq remains extremely high, with a high risk of attacks on civilians," the department said in a travel warning update. "...All vehicular travel in Iraq is extremely dangerous."

The department, without providing additional details, said it had credible information that terrorists have targeted civil aviation, and warned of the danger of using civilian aircraft to enter or leave Iraq.

Militants are targeting hotels, restaurants, police stations, checkpoints, foreign diplomatic missions, international

organizations and other locations with expatriate personnel, the department said.

Attacks occur throughout the day, but travel at night is especially dangerous, the warning said. It described as particularly dangerous: Travel in or through Ramadi and Fallujah; between al-Hillah and Baghdad; and between the International Zone and Baghdad International Airport.

Americans who visit or live in Iraq have been urged for some time to pay close attention to their security, avoid crowds and inform the US Embassy of their presence in the country. More than 100 foreigners have been abducted since the US-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003 and many have been killed.

On Thursday, two Americans and a Briton were seized from their house in an upscale Baghdad neighbourhood where many embassies and foreign companies are based, according to the Iraqi Interior Ministry and witnesses.

The three — identified Friday as Americans Jack Hensley and Eugene Armstrong and Briton Kenneth Bigley — were employed by Gulf Services Co, a Middle East-based construction firm. —*Internet*



A wounded Iraqi man lies in the city's hospital in Kirkuk, on 18 September, 2004. A suicide car bomb attack on Saturday outside the regional headquarters of the Iraqi National Guard in the northern city of Kirkuk killed 23 men, most of whom were waiting to join the force, doctors said. —INTERNET

Iraq militants claim to hold 10 hostages

BAGHDAD, 18 Sept — A militant group in Iraq claimed it is holding 10 hostages working for an American-Turkish company in a tape broadcast by the Arabic television station Al-Jazeera on Saturday.

The previously unknown group, calling itself the "Salafist Brigades of Abu Bakr al-Siddiq," gave an ultimatum of three days for the company to leave Iraq or it will kill the 10 hostages, the station's

presenter said.

The Al-Jazeera presenter said the station received a copy of the tape but did not say how. The group identified the company as an American-Turkish firm operating in Iraq, but did

not give a name.

The station only aired a clip showing the 10 hostages, sitting under the banner of the group. The group didn't say what were the nationalities of the hostages, or where they were captured.

About 120 foreigners have been kidnapped in Iraq, and many have been killed by their captors. Insurgents have carried out most of the kidnappings in a bid to drive foreign companies out of Iraq and thwart the US-led reconstruction of the country. —*Internet*

More UN staff return to Herat

UNITED NATIONS, 18 Sept — More UN staff are returning to the troubled city of Herat in western Afghanistan to resume operations, a UN spokesman said on Thursday. Spokesman Fred Eckhard told a Press conference in New York that 43 national and international staff flew back to Herat in the past two days, after they were temporarily relocated to the safer capital of the war-torn country. After a violent ransacking caused "considerable damage" to the UN office in Herat, the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan decided earlier this week to relocate part of its international staff to Kabul.

"The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) resumed its voluntary repatriation convoys in Herat yesterday, following a three-day suspension of activity," Eckhard said. "The decision to restart the convoys coming in from Iran was made after UNHCR received firm assurances from the new governor of the province, as well as from central government officials, that the convoys could cross safely. "A new UN compound should be ready for operations within a week, the UN mission said in a Press release.

Meanwhile, The World Food Programme has also resumed its operations to Herat, sending a convoy of trucks carrying 170 tons of food to the city from the neighbouring province of Ghor to alleviate the suffering caused by the long-running drought in the west.

MNA/Xinhua

Turkey warns EU not to meddle in internal affairs

ANKARA, 19 Sept — Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Friday told the European Union (EU) that it should not become involved in Turkey's internal affairs.

He made the remarks in response to a statement by an EU spokesman, who warned Turkey not to reintroduce a controversial measure to criminalize adultery, saying it would hinder the country's bid to enter the EU.

Erdogan told party members in televised comments that Turkey had done all it needed to do to meet the political criteria for starting EU entry talks.

"Let nobody try to pressure Turkey by using the EU (as an excuse)... We are Turkey and we

make our own decisions. Nobody should try to impose conditions on us concerning the EU," he said. —*MNA/Xinhua*



US military vehicles catch fire after a car bomb exploded as a US military convoy was passing by in Baghdad, Iraq, on 18 Sept, 2004. Three soldiers were wounded in the attack, the military said. —INTERNET

Two US soldiers among 21 killed in Iraq blasts

BAGHDAD, 18 Sept— Insurgents killed 19 Iraqis and two US soldiers Saturday in bombings across Baghdad and in northern Iraq, and kidnappers threatened to kill two Americans and a Briton within 48 hours if their demand was not met.

The deadliest attack occurred in the northern city of Kirkuk, where witnesses said a young man driving a gray Opel sedan sped down a dirt road leading to the back of an Iraqi National Guard building then blew up the vehicle near a crowd of recruits, killing 19 people and wounding 63.

Two US soldiers were killed and 11 wounded in two car bombings on the road leading to the Baghdad International Airport.

In the first attack

Saturday afternoon, a suicide bomber drove up beside a convoy near a checkpoint outside the airport and detonated the vehicle, wounding three soldiers, according to Master Sgt David Larsen of the 1st Calvary Division.

Another convoy on its way to assist the first was also hit by a car bomb, Larsen said. That attack killed two soldiers and destroyed two Humvees and a Bradley Fighting Vehicle in which some of the troops were riding.

A security alert had been issued before the attacks for travel on the airport road and US Embassy personnel were temporarily prohibited from using it.

Around 10:30 pm, US forces launched an airstrike near the restive city of Fallujah on "an armed checkpoint" linked to Abu Musab Zarqawi, a Jordanian-born militant, according to a military statement. "Informants linked the checkpoint to kidnappings and executions in the Fallujah

area," the statement said.

"Evidence indicates Iraqi citizens have been kidnapped at such checkpoints, taken to outlying areas where they were forced to dig their own graves and then executed."

US forces have bombed Fallujah almost daily for nearly two weeks. Officials have said they believe that Zarqawi, who has been linked to car bombings, kidnappings and other violence, uses the Sunni Muslim city as a base for his operations.

Internet

ဝက်ဘ်ဆိုက်: အေဘီအီး

Attempt on Iraq oil official's life fails

MOSUL, 18 Sept — A senior official with Iraq's state-run North Oil Co survived an assassination attempt Saturday after his convoy came under attack in the northeastern city of Mosul, police said.

Mohammed Zibari, the head of the company's oil products department in the Nineveh province, was travelling in a three-vehicle convoy on his way to work in Mosul when unidentified gunmen opened fire, killing five of his bodyguards and wounding four others, said police Lt Mohammed Ali.

Zibari, who is in charge of supplying the province with oil and gas, escaped unhurt, Ali said. Two cars were badly damaged in the attack.

Guerillas waging a 17-month insurgency here have repeatedly targeted Iraq's crucial oil infrastructure in a bid to destabilize Iraq and undermine the US-backed interim authorities.

Internet



US soldiers investigate after a car bomb exploded as a US military convoy was passing by in Baghdad, Iraq, on 18 Sept, 2004. Three soldiers were wounded in the attack, the military said. —INTERNET

Government subsidies cause rise in Chinese grain production

ПЕКИН, 18 Sept — Chinese grain farmers' income grew a record amount in the first half of this year, thanks largely to government's incentives.

In the January-June period this year, Chinese grain farmers income was 1,371 yuan (165.2 US dollars), a year-on-year increase of 13 per cent, the highest rate since 1997, Zheng Xinli, deputy director of the Central Policy Research Institute, said at a conference.

Allowing for price fluctuations, the income growth rate was 2.1 per cent higher than that of all farmers. It was 4.3 per cent higher than of the urban population's disposable income, according to Zheng.

Zheng said government policies to encourage grain production were directly responsible for the income rise. Policies included a stricter protection of arable land, direct subsidies for grain growers, tax cuts and exemptions and reform of the grain distribution system.

The Central Government alone earmarked 2.47 billion US dollars to support the taxation system in rural areas. It allotted more than 1.2 billion US dollars for direct subsidies to farmers.

Last year China produced 431 million tons of grain, a decrease of 5.8 per cent from the 2002. The amount of grain produced has been declining for four consecutive years. — MNA/Xinhua

China to become world's second biggest citrus producer

HANGZHOU, 18 Sept — China is expected to produce 15 million tons of citrus fruits in 2004 and overtake the United States as the world's second largest citrus producer, after Brazil, according to the China Citrus Institute (CCI).

The country's citrus output has so far grown for four consecutive years, said CCI. Citrus production in southeast China's Zhejiang Province, a major citrus producer in China, was affected by Typhoon Rananim, the strongest typhoon to hit the Chinese Mainland since 1956. But output should reach the level of last year, about 1.8 million tons, said experts. — MNA/Xinhua

Militants threaten to kill US, UK hostages in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 18 Sept — Militants in Iraq threatened Saturday to kill 13 hostages, including two Americans and a Briton, and staged car bomb attacks killing 23 people in Kirkuk and two US soldiers near Baghdad.

A militant Iraqi group seized 10 employees of a US-Turkish firm and threatened to kill them unless the company quit Iraq within three days, Al Jazeera television reported Saturday.

In another incident, Internet video footage showed two US and a British hostage kneeling blindfolded, with a hooded gunman aiming his weapon at the head of one captive. They were seized from a house in Baghdad Thursday.

The gunman said the Tawhid and Jihad group led by Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi would kill the men unless Iraqi women prisoners were freed from two Iraqi jails within 48 hours.

The US military said no women were held at either the Abu Ghraib or Umm Qasr prisons cited by the militants.

Zarqawi's group has claimed responsibility for many of the bloodiest

attacks in Iraq, and in May released video footage of the beheading of US hostage Nicholas Berg.

Guerilla violence and instability across Iraq have raised doubts that elections can be held in January as planned.

In the third major suicide attack this week against Iraq's beleaguered security forces, a car bomber Saturday killed at least 23 people outside the headquarters of the Iraqi National Guard in the northern city of Kirkuk, hospital officials said.

The bomb ripped through a crowd of people waiting to apply for jobs at the offices in Kirkuk, 155 miles north of Baghdad.

In Baghdad, a car bomb blast killed two US soldiers on the road to the international airport. They were travelling to the scene of an earlier suspected suicide car bomb attack on the road that had wounded three soldiers, the army said.

Internet



British soldiers at a defensive position outside the office of guerillas Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in Basra, Iraq, on 18 Sept, 2004.

INTERNET

FM says Malaysia vindicated by Annan's comment on Iraq

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 Sept — UN Secretary General Kofi Annan description of the war on Iraq as "illegal" proves Malaysia was right in opposing the conflict, Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar said.

"The recent statement by Annan that the war in Iraq is illegal has justified our opinion against the invasion of Iraq," Syed Hamid was quoted as saying by the Star newspaper.

"We now hope the US-led forces will leave the country and let the Iraqis determine their future government," he said.

Mainly-Muslim Malaysia, which heads the 57-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) was a strong opponent of the US-led invasion of Iraq.

Annan told the BBC Wednesday that the United States had failed to seek a needed second resolution before launching the war in March 2003.

"I've indicated that it was not in conformity with the UN charter from our point of view, and from the charter point of view it was illegal," Annan said.

The US government hit back by claiming it considered that a previous UN resolution passed four months before the conflict gave it sufficient authority to wage its action because Saddam Hussein had refused to surrender suspected stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction.

After a year and a half of US troop deployment in Iraq, no such weapons have been found.

Internet

Top US contractors in Iraq will lose millions of dollars

WASHINGTON, 18 Sept — Top US contractors in Iraq such as construction giant Washington Group International will lose hundreds of millions of dollars of potential business due to a shift in funding priorities, US officials said on Thursday.

The State Department, subject to approval from Congress, plans to divert more than 3 billion US dollars originally earmarked for water and electricity projects in Iraq to beef up security ahead of elections planned for

January.

That means billions of dollars in water and electricity sector contracts are unlikely to reach their ceiling values, disappointing prime contractors hoping for big returns for their dangerous work in Iraq.

In recent months, as the security situation has deteriorated, foreign contractors in Iraq have increasingly become the targets of guerillas and kidnappers.

Boise, Idaho-based Washington Group International, which has a water contract with a ceiling value of 600 million US dollars has been told they will not get more than the 135 US dollars—150 million US dollars' worth of work already assigned to them in the water sector, said a US official. Remaining funds will be reassigned elsewhere.

"We have been talking to the contractors and walking them through this and making them aware of this," said Jonathan Thompson, a spokesman for the Project and Contracting Office, or PCO, which is in charge of US-funded contracts in Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters



People look at a crater in Fallujah, Iraq on 18, Sept 2004, after an US airstrike on Friday evening. INTERNET

Released Jordanian driver returns to Amman

AMMAN, 18 Sept — The Jordanian Foreign Ministry said Friday that Turki Khalifah al-Breizatis, who was released after being held by kidnappers in Iraq for two days, has returned to Amman.

Breizatis expressed thanks to the Jordanian Government and related Iraqi sides which helped to rescue him, ministry spokesman Ali Ayed said.

The Jordanian citizen's release on Thursday came one day after his employer Abu Sheeh Transport Co announced that it had stopped all operations in Iraq.

An Iraqi group calling itself Squads

of Unification Lions kidnapped Breizatis on Tuesday and gave his firm which sent fuel to the US military 48 hours to quit Iraq or to kill Breizatis otherwise.

More than a dozen of Jordanians have been kidnapped in Iraq in the past two months, but most of them were released safely after their employers pulled out of Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia expects record high trade volume with China

Moscow, 19 Sept — The Russian-Chinese trade will have hit a record high of 20 US billion dollars by the end of this year, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency cited a senior Russian diplomat as saying on Saturday.

In a comment on the imminent visit by Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao to Russia, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Alexander Yakovenko expressed his belief on the growth of bilateral trade for the year.

He noted that mutual capital investment is growing as Chinese investments in Russia have totalled over one billion dollars, and Russian investments in China amounted to some 800 million dollars.

Yakovenko said both sides plan to launch large-scale projects and construction on joint projects in Moscow and Saint Petersburg has started.

The spokesman pointed out that the oil and gas industry is a priority cooperation field for the two neighbours and Russia plans to supply 6.4 million tons of oil to China this year.

He also hailed the

active scientific and technical cooperation. A total of 172 joint research projects are operating in a wide range of subjects including biotechnology and microbiology, nuclear physics and high energy physics, oil chemistry, telecommunications and seismology.

Yakovenko called for more efforts in the signing of an intergovernmental agreement on setting up culture centres in both countries.

The spokesman expressed gratitude for China's aid to Russia after the tragic Beslan hostage-taking event that killed over 330 people.

MNA/Xinhua

Mental stress grows in US troops

WASHINGTON, 18 Sept — Guerilla warfare in Iraq is putting US troops under growing mental stress as the military struggles to retain and recruit soldiers, according to a study cited by the Army Reserve commander on Thursday.

"This is just very tough business," said Lieutenant General James Helmly, noting that military chores from driving supply trucks to directing traffic in Iraq had become battlefield jobs because of bombings and other growing attacks by guerillas.

"Driving that truck is one of the most hazardous damned occupations we have in Iraq," he said. "Truck drivers, frankly, and MPs (military police) are front-line troops these days."

He said the survey suggested that an unusually

high percentage of US troops in support roles had been involved in the fighting in Iraq, which has killed more than 1,000 Americans and thousands of Iraqis.

"As you know, there is no more secure area," he said in an interview with reporters, adding that the study of psychological stress was conducted by the government and involved troops from all the US armed services.

MNA/Reuters



A US soldier points his weapon at incoming vehicles at the scene of a car bomb explosion near a police station at Rashid street in central Baghdad on 17, Sept 2004.—INTERNET

Ex-commander facing investigations over prisoner abuse in Iraq

COPENHAGEN, 18 Sept — The former commander of the Danish troops in Iraq will face an investigation over allegations of prisoner abuse during interrogations at the Danish camp in southern Iraq, Danish media reported on Friday.

Battalion commander Lieutenant-Colonel Henrik Flach and three other officers were recalled from Iraq last month in a prisoner abuse scandal which has stunned the egalitarian Scandinavian country.

If found guilty of breaking military law, Flach could face up to a year in prison.

The United States and Britain have already

charged a number of their soldiers with sexually abusing or assaulting Iraqis.

The Danish Army could not be reached for comment.

Flach told Danish news agency *Ritzau* he had not yet officially received notification of the investigation, but was expecting it.

He said he had reviewed the Army's case against him with his lawyer and

could not find grounds for an investigation.

In August, Reserve Captain Annemette Hommel was sent home to face an Army investigation because a civilian interpreter had complained about the way she interrogated prisoners. Hommel, 37, has denied the charges.

The Army then said it was investigating several other soldiers and four in-

cidents of abuse. The investigation is expected to finish in one to two months.

Last week, a second, unidentified, Danish soldier was suspended.

Army investigators have said Hommel subjected Iraqi prisoners to ill-treatment including verbal humiliation, forcing them to maintain painful postures and restricting access to food, water and toilets.

Denmark has around 500 troops stationed near the southern city of Basra.

The prisoner abuse scandal first erupted in April when CBS television published photos taken in late 2003 showing American troops abusing Iraqis held at Baghdad's Abu Ghraib Prison.

Britain has charged one of its soldiers with murdering a civilian in Iraq and announced military trials for four other soldiers accused of sexual abuse of detainees and one for the non-fatal shooting of an Iraqi boy.

MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi police officer looks over the wreckage of a car which was destroyed by a roadside bomb in central Baghdad, Iraq, on 18 Sept, 2004.

INTERNET

Kerry eliminates gap with Bush in polls

WASHINGTON, 18 Sept — Two national polls released Thursday showed that US Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry has significantly narrowed his gap with President George W Bush, settling into a virtual tie in the race for the White House.

The Pew Research Centre and Harris Interactive found equal levels of support for the two candidates as Kerry rebounded from the withering attacks the Republicans have launched during the party's convention that ended on 2 September.

The latest of two Pew polls, conducted September 11-14 showed Bush and Kerry were tied with

46 per cent of support among registered voters each. An earlier Pew poll, conducted September 8-10, showed Bush led Kerry by 52 per cent of registered voters to 40 per cent. While Bush leads Kerry on Iraq and the war on terrorism, Kerry regained his advantage over Bush on the economy, the Pew polls showed. "This poll finds a lot of the positive

impact Bush had in the convention remains. But Bush's vulnerabilities on Iraq and the economy continue," Pew said in a report. The Harris Interactive poll for *The Wall Street Journal*, which was conducted September 9-13, gave Kerry a 48 to 47 per cent lead over Bush.

Soon after the Republican convention, Bush led Kerry by up to 11 per-

centage points, forcing Kerry to shuffle his staff and sharpen his message. Several other recent polls have shown Bush's convention bounce was fading.—MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

UN calls for contributions to peacekeepers in Afghanistan

UNITED NATIONS, 19 Sept — The United Nations Security Council on Friday urged world governments to contribute troops and other resources to the international peacekeeping force in Afghanistan, which is going to hold general elections in early October.

The Council unanimously adopted a resolution extending the mandate of the NATO-led force (ISAF) for another 12 months. ISAF's current mandate is due to expire on October 13. The resolution "recognizes the need to strengthen the

International Security Assistance Force, and in this regard calls upon member states to contribute personnel, equipment and other resources" to it.

It also recognized the constraints upon the full implementation of the Bonn peace agreement resulting from concerns about the security situation in parts of Afghanistan, in particular in the light of the upcoming elections.

The Council authorized ISAF to take all necessary measures to fulfil its mandate. — MNA/Xinhua

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ထုတ်ကုန်ခြင်း

Family urges captors to release Briton kidnapped in Iraq

LONDON, 18 Sept — The family of a British civil engineer who was kidnapped while working in Iraq called on Friday for the captors to release him, stressing that they were "devastated" by the kidnapping.

The British Foreign Office has confirmed that Kenneth Bigley, from the north west of England, was seized on Thursday from a house in Baghdad's Mansour neighbourhood, together with two Americans.

"We were devastated to find that Ken had been taken, and we are still struggling to come to terms with what is happening," Bigley's family said in a statement.

"It is hard to understand why Ken would be targeted in this way but we would appeal to those who have taken him to please return him safely to us," the family said.

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw has called the family, assuring them that all efforts were being made to find Bigley.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi interim PM to visit Britain

LONDON, 18 Sept — Iraqi interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi will pay a one-day visit to Britain and hold talks with British Prime Minister Tony Blair on Sunday over Iraq's security situation and upcoming elections, Blair's spokesman said on Thursday.

It will be the first time for the new Iraqi leader to visit Britain and he is expected to stay until Monday. After that, he will continue his way to the UN General Assembly in New York, the spokesman said.

The spokesman said the British Government believes elections could take place in Iraq early next year despite the deteriorating security situation.

"There is a real hunger for the first time for Iraqis to be able, without intimidation, to choose their own representatives," the spokesman said.

"Clearly there are still problems both in Afghanistan and Iraq but that should not be allowed to get in the way of democratic elections," he told reporters.

MNA/Xinhua



A suicide car bomber struck near a major police checkpoint in central Baghdad on Friday, killing at least five people and wounding 20, health ministry and government sources said. An Iraqi fireman battles a burning car, following an explosion near a police station in Rashid Street in central Baghdad, on 17 Sept, 2004.—INTERNET

Libraries built to disseminate knowledge



The opening ceremony of self-reliant library in Sabadwin Village in Ayadaw Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division.— IPRD



Self-reliant library being opened in Theingon Village in Pintaya, Shan State (South).— KYEMON

**Up to 14
September
2004,
altogether
8,104 self-
reliant
libraries
were opened
nationwide.**



People living in Ywamagyi Village in Yepawle Village-tract in Hmawby Township gain knowledge through a library opened in the village.— IPRD

**Books are
needed for all
readers**

Villagers of Bawkyo Village in Hsipaw Township in Shan State (North) have now access to books in the self-reliant library opened in their village.— KYEMON



The opening ceremony of library in Kapin Village in Hlinethaya Township in Yangon District (North).— IPRD



With the participation of all the people including writers, publishers, distributors, readers and the rural people themselves, village libraries will come into being one after another.

စာပေဒါန

ကျေးရွာကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် သုတ/ရသစာအုပ်များနှင့် စာပေဒါနငွေပဒေသာပင်လှူဒါန်းဖွဲ့ကို အောက်ပါအစီအစဉ်အတိုင်း ကျင်းပမည်-

နေ့ရက် - ၂၂-၉-၂၀၀၄ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့)

အချိန် - ညနေ (၄)နာရီ၊ (၃၀)မိနစ်

နေရာ - ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ အစည်းစားခန်းမ

စာပေဒါနပြုလိုကြသော စေတနာရှင်၊ အလှူရှင်များ အချိန်မီတက်ရောက်လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်ဖိတ်ကြားအပ်ပါသည်။

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့်ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

၂၂-၂၄၊ ပန်းဆိုးတန်းလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့

ဖုန်း - ၃၇၁၃၃၉၊ ၃၇၉၇၆၉၊ ၃၇၉၇၇၁



Secretary-2 Li-Gen Thein Sein hears reports on construction of Yangon-Thanyin Bridge-2 Project by Superintending Engineer (Project) U Myint Lwin. — MNA

Secretary-2 inspects construction of Kayan Sluice Gate,...

(from page 1)

The Secretary-2 and party inspected construction of Kayan sluice gate and 22 feet gate for passing of vessels and gave instructions.

Construction-6 of Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is building the sluice gate with the aim of preventing river water from flowing into the lands and from flooding in Kayan, Thongwa and Thanlyin Townships, supplying water to the farmlands after storing fresh water during the late monsoon period, retaining moisture of cold season crops, preventing salt water and silt from flowing into the fields and being salted in those fields.

There will be 40 valves in the concrete sluice gate. On completion of it, the gate will benefit 30,000 acres of farmlands.

The Secretary-2 and party went to Yangon-Thanyin

No-2 Bridge Construction site in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township.

Project Superintending Engineer (Project) U Myint Lwin reported on data of the project, progress of work and completion of the project as scheduled. Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein and Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe gave supplementary reports.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe also reported on arrangements for cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, beans and pulses, oil and industrial crops and vegetables in 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport all year round, dams built in Yangon Division, sluice gates and river water pumping projects, cultivation of various kinds of crops on 55,000 acres of lands in Kayan and Thongwa Townships through irrigation from Moeyungyi Lake, arrangements for supply of water from Ngamoyeik canal to Thanlyin and Kyauktan Townships, implementation of the first phase of the project in 30-mile radius of Yangon International

Airport and others.

In his discussions, the Secretary-2 gave instructions on completion of the Yangon-Thanyin No-2 Bridge Construction Project in time, effective use of machinery and materials, compilation of correct data on the project, cooperation with departments concerned for successful implementation of greening project in 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport and use of CNG-engine tractors and river water pumps.

The six-lane 4,540 feet reinforced concrete Yangon-Thanyin No-2 Bridge is 72 feet wide and it has six-foot walkway on each side and can stand 75 tons of load.

The bridge construction special group-1 of Public Works of the Ministry of Construction is constructing the bridge linking Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township and Thanlyin Township for ensuring smooth and secure transport and regional development.

MNA



Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspects Thayet Cement Plant. INDUSTRY-1

Industry-1 Minister inspects factories in Magway Division

YANGON, 19 Sept — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung on 17 September arrived at the Pwintbyu Textile Factory project of the Myanmar Textile Industries in Magway Division and inspected construction work, installation of machinery and trial run.

At the project, the minister inspected progress of the construction of the water treatment plant, building for chiller, machine shop and foundry shop. Next, he met responsible officials of the factory.

The minister and party yesterday morning inspected the Winthuza Shop and soap factory in Magway and gave instructions.

In the afternoon, the minister and party went to the maize product factory project (Yanpae) of the Myanmar Foodstuff industries near Payatkye Village in Taungdwingyi Township and met officials concerned.

At the meeting, factory manager reported on progress of construction of buildings and installation of power lines and

water supply tasks. He gave instructions on timely construction works and gathering of maize grains for foodstuff production.

Afterwards, the minister inspected progress of maize oil factory construction and feedstuff factory.

In the evening, Minister U Aung Thaung arrived at Thayet Cement Factory and inspected production process. He also met officials and staff of the factory and gave instructions on boosting production as well as financial matters. — MNA

Korean journalist delegation visits Bago

YANGON, 19 Sept — Visiting Korean delegation led by Journalist Mr Kim Jin Ho of the Kyung Hyang Daily News of ROK, accompanied by Counsellor Mr Park Joonyong of Korean Embassy, this morning visited Bago.

At the Kambawzathadi Palace of King Bayintnaung in Bago, an official briefed them on the palace and answered the queries. Next, they visited the Archaeological museum and the palace.

The delegation also visited Shwemawdaw Pagoda

and Shwethalyaung reclining Buddha Image in Bago. Under the information delegations exchange programme between ASEAN nations and the Republic of Korea, the Korean delegation arrived here on 17 August.

MNA



Journalist Mr Kim Jin Ho of The Kyung Hyang Daily News of ROK and party visit Archaeological Museum in Bago. — 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

Cash and kind donated to monasteries ...

(from page 16)

Yangon Division Fish-eries Enterprise, the Ministry of Mines, Yangon Division Salt Industry, families of the Traditional Medicines Department, and medical houses such as Sandi, Tun Shwe Wa, Great Wall, Htet Lin, Thamadaungyi U Shwe Hmya, and Aung Myitta Company, also donated rice, edible oil, iodized salt, toothpaste, traditional medicines, soap, and ball-point pens to Sayadaws.

Families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air), local authoritative bodies, social organizations, companies and wellwishers donated cash to the trust funds of respective monasteries. Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and

ing of merits gained.

Today's donation to the 18 monasteries in Tamway and Mingala Taungnyunt Townships amounted to 450 bags of rice, 170 viss of edible oil, 340 viss of beans, 1,698 viss of iodized salt, 519 pieces of toothpaste, 4,960 bottles of traditional medicine, 3,396 bars of soap, 36 ball-point pens, and K 9,616,110.

Similarly, the families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated cash and kind to six monasteries in Ahlon Township, Yangon West District. The ceremony took place at Kwinkyaung Pariyatti Monastery in the township at 12 noon. Chairman of the Ahlon Township Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and Presiding Sayadaw of the monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panñāsiri and member



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers provisions to a Sayadaw at the donation ceremony for monasteries in Mingala Taungnyunt Township.— MNA

Lecturer Sayadaw of Kwinkyaung Pariyatti Monastery Dhammakathika Bhaddanta Rajinda invested the commander, the minister and party with the Five Precepts. Next, the commander offered provi-

in-Chief (Navy), and Colonel General Staff (Air) Lt-Col Nay Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), offered rice, edible oil, medicines, beans and pulses to the Presiding Sayadaw.

The commander, the deputy minister and the vice-mayor also offered provisions donated by their respective departments to the Presiding Sayadaw. Later, officials of the Union of Myanmar Economics Holdings Ltd, the Ministry of Mines, the Ministry of Health, brokerages, medical houses, social or-

ganizations, and wellwishers also donated provisions to the Presiding Sayadaw.

The families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers from business companies, medical houses, social organizations, tourism industries, also donated cash to the trust funds of the monastery. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko accepted the donations.

Colonel General Staff (Air) Lt-Col Nay Win of

the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) explained the purpose of the donation of rice, edible oil, salt, medicines and beans. Next, Bhaddanta Rajinda delivered a sermon on behalf of Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panñāsiri.

Today's donation to the six monasteries in Ahlon Township totalled 197 bags of rice, 694 viss of edible oil, 138 viss of bean, 694 viss of iodized salt, 139 pieces of toothpaste, 3,018 bottles of traditional medicines, 1,388 bars of soap, and K 3,001,090.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe accepts cash from wellwishers at the donation ceremony for monasteries in Ahlon Township.— MNA

senior military officers accepted the donations. Next, Col Aye Thaw of the Ministry of Defence explained the purpose of the donation of rice, edible oil, medicines and other provisions. Tamway Township Sasana Zeyamingala Pariyatti Monastery's Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pañinda delivered a sermon, followed by the shar-

Sayadaws, Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, senior military officers, departmental officials, local authorities, members of social organizations, wellwishers, and religious organizations.

sions to the Presiding Sayadaw. The minister, the deputy minister, the vice-mayor and senior military officers also offered provisions to Sayadaws.

Next, on behalf of the families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence, Cmdr Khin Maung Soe of the Office of the Commander-



Officials offer provisions of Tatmadaw families to a Sayadaw at the donation ceremony for monasteries in Mingala Taungnyunt Township.— MNA

Roads, bridges construction ...

(from page 16)

They also inspected Thanthamagyi Bridge Construction Project in Yanbye Township.

Thanthamagyi Bridge will be 552.4 feet long. The bridge will have 24 feet wide motor road and three feet wide pedestrian ways on both sides. Its clearance will be 111 feet wide and six feet high. The bridge is being built of iron frame and reinforced concrete. The construction task was completed by 85 per cent. Efforts are being made for completion of the bridge at the end of October.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the construction site of Minkyaung Creek Bridge Project in Yanbye Township. Senior Engineer U Tin Soe reported on preparations for installation of 60 metres long steel frame and construction of No 6 pier.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on

efforts to be made for installing the steel frame and building the pier, worksite safety and supervision to be made for timely completion of the tasks meeting the set standard. He inspected the construction site.

Minkyaung Creek Bridge built of iron frame and reinforced concrete will be 2,704.2 feet long. The bridge will have 24 feet wide motor road and three feet wide pedestrian ways on both sides. Its clearance is 171 feet wide and 38 feet high. The project has been implemented by 80 per cent. The plan is under way for completion of the bridge at the end of December.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presented school stationery for students of Affiliated Basic Education Primary School at the project site.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Wamphaik Bridge, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs.

At the site of Thazintanpauk Bridge Project in Yanbye Township, Assistant Engineer U Aung Thein

of Public Works submitted reports on completion of No 6 pier, progress in building No 5 and No 4 piers. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than fulfilled the requirements and inspected the construction site.

Afterwards, they proceeded to Thanthamagyi Bridge Construction Project in Yanbye Township. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on construction of No 2 approach structure and bored pile and progress of tasks and attended to the needs.

In the evening, they arrived back at the site of Thanthamagyi Bridge Project and inspected the site.

Out of 14 bridges which are 180 feet and above long on Taungup-Maei-Kyaukpyu section of Yangon-Kyaukpyu Highways, eight bridges have been completed. So, efforts are being made for opening of the remaining six bridges as soon as possible.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived back in Maei in the evening.

MNA

Those who daren't show their face — 61

PaukSa

Again, I cannot help refuting the slanders of the BBC. At 8.15 pm on 25 August 2004, it broadcast a programme under the heading Myanmar and international affairs, in which, it interviewed Larry Jagan, a so-called Myanmar political analyst and U Win Naing, the so-called Myanmar politician.

But what was so clear was that the interview was nothing but wicked and dirty lies. In brief, the interviewees, lacking moral values, slandered the nation-building endeavours being exerted by the leaders of the nation in unity and oneness, while trying to drive a wedge and floating fabrications with every intention of wrecking the National Convention. They even dared to say that there was no progress in the economic, education and cultural sectors of Myanmar; and that the people were facing harsher economic conditions this year. So foolish were their lies that they were like the words of an insane person.

Before expressing my opinion concerning the slanders, I would like to refer to an article, which I incidentally found on the Internet the other day, of a Czech journalist and photographer. He is MAXMILIAN WECHSLER Freelance journalist and photographer Vaclav Novak who visited Myanmar for two weeks in May this year.

The Czech journalist also said: "Ordinary people in Burma spoke to me in English. We usually met and approached each other in the restaurants, where we watched satellite TV. This was another surprise for me, as I thought that satellite TV was prohibited. But it was everywhere—in private houses, restaurants and in the guesthouse I stayed. People are allowed to watch foreign news, even from the BBC World, which usually criticises the ruling State Peace and Development Council (SPDC)".

In his article, he said that he became interested in Myanmar after reading a number of negative articles that portrayed the atmosphere there as similar to the one he experienced in Czechoslovakia; and that when he visited Myanmar he actually experienced in the country did not entirely correspond with the perceptions he had when he entered. He remarked: "From what I read in the press, I had expected difficulties in moving around, a lot of poverty and beggars, and soldiers everywhere. But this perception of Burma was wrong". He added that he visited Yangon, Mandalay, Bagan, Inlay Lake and that as far as he could see, no one followed him; that he could take many photos of the Myanmar people without any problem.

Mr Novak said that he was a little bit surprised by the openness of the people he spoke to, that he did not see any sign of repression, that Myanmar is a poor country, but not as poor as he expected, that he did not see the same kind of poverty as he experienced in some countries with many beggars asking for money

everywhere, that in Myanmar, everyone dressed well, with many wearing the traditional 'longyi', that everyone had a place to live and food to eat.

The Czech journalist also said: "Ordinary people in Burma spoke to me in English. We usually met and approached each other in the restaurants, where we watched satellite TV. This was another surprise for me, as I thought that satellite TV was prohibited. But it was everywhere—in private houses, restaurants and in the guesthouse I stayed. People are allowed to watch foreign news, even from the BBC World, which usually criticises the ruling State Peace and Development Council (SPDC)".

When asked to compare reality with the media coverage of Myanmar, Mr Novak, the Czech journalist, said: **"A lot of information in the media focuses on the negative aspects, and the bad news usually originates from the areas forbidden for foreigners to visit. Therefore, you can't really say whether the information is true, distorted or a straight lie."** What I have stated above is the brief account of the real views of the Czech journalist and photographer. And everybody can see the extent of difference between the foul air of some media of the West that are always trying to discredit Myanmar, and the view of an authentic journalist who has seen Myanmar from the right perspective.

And now, Larry Jagan and U Win Naing have said that Myanmar is facing harsher economic hardships this year, while failing to see not a single progress in the political, economic, education and cultural sectors. According to the extent of my knowledge on psychology, the liars themselves later come to think their lies to be true. In other words, they are automatically lying to themselves or suffering from some kind of mental illness because of their own misdeeds.

The people of Myanmar are dutifully performing their task, under the leadership of the Government, while implementing the national goals and objectives for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation in line with the seven-point future policy programme of the State. In the political arena, it has achieved success to the degree of reconvening the National Convention, and in the economic sector, not a single Myanmar dies of hunger because of the economic sanctions of some powers imposed on the country just for the sake of a particular political party or individual. No homeless persons die while sleeping on roadside platform because of severe weather condition. For other sectors including the education and cultural sectors, I will not repeat the successes we have achieved.

Plainly speaking, it is true that our country has faced some obstacles in her efforts to make economic progress due to some powers' economic sanctions, giving democracy and human rights as the excuse, although she can set up economic infrastructures as expected. Are there not economic failures and deep gaps between the rich and the poor in the powers of the West? But the causes are different. The difference is that our country has faced some delays in economic progress due to economic sanctions of some powers to interfere in her affairs, while they themselves are experiencing economic slowdown and gaps due to

their high military expenditure to invade others and shrinking international market and economic relations resulting from their sanctions on others.

We do have some gap between the rich and the poor. But in our country, the poor people earning a

"From what I read in the press, I had expected difficulties in moving around, a lot of poverty and beggars, and soldiers everywhere. But this perception of Burma was wrong"

sincere living are able to lead a relatively sufficient life. But the real big economic gap lies between the so-called leaders of some political parties and their followers.

Why? Because some of the leaders of the political parties are the persons who are running their own big and strong businesses, while enjoying monthly pensions from the State for their retired high-level government posts. And some are leading a lavish and prosperous life as they are receiving indirect financial assistance as well as clandestine aids from some foreign countries that are giving assistance to them for their self-interest.

However, some of their followers have become ciphers as they have never worked hard, instead they are doing foolish things such as sitting in front of their party office, going to a park, talking rubbish at tea shops and distributing papers every day. But the nation has nothing to do with the economic gap between the party leaders and their followers. It is their own problem. They, the followers of the party leaders, cannot become rich as they have never worked hard to earn money for their family, instead they are leading an uncertain and worthless life.

Now, I will conclude my article. The interview programme aired by the BBC on 25 August at 8.15 pm concerning the Myanmar and international affairs made a slanderous lie, without having consideration for the nation's objective conditions of the political, economic, education and cultural sectors. Thus, in this case, the BBC is like a person who daren't show his face in public for its foolish lies.

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin+Kyemon: 16.9.2004.

Efficient use of electricity

- * Use daylight as the main source of light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- * Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-mega-watt power station can supply.



Lt-Gen Ye Myint unveils signboard of Myingyan Myanmar Economic Bank.—MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint attends opening ceremony of Myingyan MEB inspects bridges on Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway

YANGON, 19 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspected construction of Pinchar Bridge and Myitnge Bridge on Yangon-Mandalay Six-lane Union Highway on 17 September after unveiling the signboard of the Myanmar Economic Bank in Myingyan, Mandalay Division.

Accompanied by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw Min, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials, Lt-Gen Ye Myint arrived Myingyan of Mandalay Division from Chauk of Magway Division. They were welcomed there by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Col Thein Naing of the command and senior military officers.

At 2 pm, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party attended the ceremony to open new building of MEB of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue on Myingyan-Mandalay Road in Ward 2 of Myingyan. Also present on the occasion were local authorities, Manager of the Bank U Mya Phone and staff, students and local people numbering over 3,500.

Speaking on the occasion, the commander said that the new bank building emerged today for uplift of prestige of Myingyan.

As the government has spent a large amount of money on construction of the building, local people and departmental personnel are to harmoniously join hands for economic development of the region. Staff of the bank are to give banking services to the customers with goodwill.

Next, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivered an address. He said that 354 MEB branches in States and Divisions are offering banking services for ensuring smooth circulation of money. Bank staff are to build mutual trust between

the people and the bank, and to carry out banking services in accord with banking procedures and rules and regulations. As such, banking system will improve and it will contribute towards smooth circulation of money so as to enhance economic development of the region. Thus, bank staff are urged to try hard to become themselves highly-qualified ones.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint unveiled the signboard of the new building of Myingyan MEB.

Managing Director Col Hsan Tun of MEB and Secretary of Myingyan District Peace and Development Council Maj Myint Soe cut the ribbon to open the bank building.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the commander, the minister and departmental officials viewed round the bank building.

The new building was constructed with the aim of ensuring better banking services and easy contact between the people and the bank. It is 80 feet long and 76 feet wide reinforced concrete two-storey building.

After the opening ceremony, they left Myingyan and saw over condition of Myittha-Minsu-Kyaukse Road and pulses and beans, kitchen crops and monsoon paddy plantations on both sides of the road.

At 4.30 pm, they arrived at the site of Pinchar Bridge Construction Project on Yangon-Mandalay Six-lane Union Highway in Singaung Township. In the briefing hall, Kyaukse District Engineer U Maung Maung Lwin of Public Works reported on completion of building two piers, two approach structures and pile caps and 42 per cent of building the shaft.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected construction of the shaft at the piers and approach structures and flow of water in Pinchar Bridge.



Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint welcomes back Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo at the airport.—HEALTH

On arrival at Myitnge River Bridge, they inspected progress of the construction tasks on Kyaukse bank.

Senior Engineer U Soe Min of Bridge Construction Special Group-12 reported on 57 per cent completion of the bridge. Lt-Gen Ye Myint instructed officials to coordinate tasks among departments concerned in building the highways and attended to the needs. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected progress in building the bridge and flow of water in Myitnge River.

Myitnge Bridge will be 840 feet long and 80 feet wide and it will be six-lane bridge. The total length of approach roads will be 1,400 feet long.

Accompanied by Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Nay Win and officials, Lt-Gen Ye Myint went to Mandalay General Hospital on 18 September morning. He paid homage to State Ovadaçariya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tejaniya of Yadanaponsan Monastery at the foot of Mandalay Hill and Sayadaw Bhaddanta Mediyabhivamsa of Naya Monastery of Phayagyi Taik asked after health of the Sayadaws.

After hearing reports on health conditions of the Sayadaws by Medical Superintendent Dr U Win and officials, Lt-Gen Ye Myint fulfilled the requirements.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint left Mandalay International Airport and arrived back here later in the morning.

MNA

Coord meeting on rice offering ceremony for Pyay Taungtan Tawya monasteries held

YANGON, 19 Sept — The first coordination meeting to hold the 23rd rice offering ceremony for Pyay Taungtan Tawya monasteries in Bago Division (West) was held at the meeting hall of Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council Office on 9 September. Present were Secretary of Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Ohn Myint and members, division, district and township level departmental officials, social organizations and members of the rice offering sub-committee.

Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Rice Offering Ceremony Secretary of Bago Division (West) PDC Lt-Col Ohn Myint gave a speech. The leading committee and sub-committees were assigned duties to hold the 23rd rice offering ceremony on a grand scale at Sirikhetta Sirindhara Sasana Beikman in Pyay on 13 October.

Rice and provisions will be donated to 1,700 members of the Sangha and nuns from 196 monasteries on the occasion. Those wishing to donate alms may contact Pyay Rice Offering Organization Office, Tel: 053-26222, Chairman U Paw Shwe of the Organization, Tel: 053-22102, Secretary U Myint Swe, Tel: 053-22536 and Executive U Ohn Kyi, Tel: 053-21685. — MNA

Health Dy Minister arrives back

YANGON, 19 Sept — The Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo arrived back here by air yesterday evening after attending the Regional Ministerial Consultation On Maternal and Child Nutrition in Asia held in New Delhi, India, from 15 to 17 September under the programme of the FAO.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, directors-general of departments under the ministry, officials, and relatives.

Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Kyi Soe and Deputy Director (Nutrition) of the Health Department Dr Hla Kyi, who accompanied the deputy minister to India, also arrived back on the same flight. — MNA

Prizes presented to winners of Performing Arts Competitions in Rakhine State

YANGON, 18 Sept — Prize presentation of Rakhine State 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions was held at the Ottama Hall in Sittway on 11 September.

Vice-Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Col Than Tun Aung, Secretary of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Khin Maung Than, Commissioner of Rakhine State U Ye Naing Aung, Chairman of Sittway District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col San Htay, Secretary of District Peace and Development Council Major Tin Hsan and officials presented prizes to winners of the respective competitions.—MNA

Welcome to

Thai Education Seminar & Exhibition 2004

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Free Entry

Mexico, Japan sign free trade agreement

MEXICO CITY, 18 Sept — Mexico and Japan signed an Economic Association Agreement (EAA) here on Friday aimed at promoting the gradual liberalization of trade between two countries.

The EAA, a free trade agreement, is to take effect on 1 April, 2005, pending approval by parliaments of the two countries. It will last two decades.

The agreement aims at removing tariffs on 91 per cent of Mexican exports to Japan and 44 per cent of Japanese exports to Mexico. Mexican President Vicente Fox and visiting Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi hailed the agreement, saying it opened a new page in the 100-year history of bilateral commercial relations.

Fox said the agreement will "mark the beginning of a new epoch under the impulse of this important instrument that will open a promising horizon to increase trade and investment". Koizumi said the accord "will be for our mutual benefit, and the benefits will be shared with the countries of North America, Central America and even South

America".

The deal is Japan's second free trade agreement, following the first one with Singapore. Mexico has inked 12 agreements with 43 countries, including the United States and Canada under the North American Free Trade Agreement, the European Union, and several Latin American countries.

With the beginning of the EAA, tariffs on Japanese cars will be cut from 50 per cent to 23 per cent.

Japan will also lower import tariffs on Mexico's 307 agricultural products, including grapes, bananas, onions, peaches and plums in stages of seven, 10 and 15 years.

According to the Mexican Economy Ministry, Mexico exported 605 million US dollars of goods to Japan in 2003 and imported about 7.6 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

Tanzania starts HIV vaccine trials next month

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 18 Sept — Initial trials of a vaccine meant to cope with HIV sub-types prevalent in Tanzania are scheduled to begin next month, local newspaper *Daily News* reported on Friday.

The first phase of trials is to involve 40 candidates from Sweden and 60 candidates from Tanzania, where the second phase of trials will be carried out next year, the report said.

The initial phase of trials, to be undertaken under the HIV Vaccine Immunogenicity Study, are meant to check the safety and elicit immune response of the generic material to be administered to the candidates, according to Mohammed Bakari, who is leading the

vaccination research at the college of health sciences under Tanzania's Muhimbili University.

In Tanzania, the vaccine will be tried out on

volunteers, who will first be administered with DNA and then be given the immunity booster known as MVA 12 days later. —MNA/Xinhua

China opens web site on agricultural product processing

BEIJING, 18 Sept — A government-funded web site on agricultural product processing, www.app.gov.cn, opened here Friday. Sponsored by the Township Enterprises Administration under the Ministry of Agriculture, the web site will provide information on product processing to producers and consumers.

Designed and maintained by the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Engineering, the web site has 12 pages, focusing on policies, news and technology. —MNA/Xinhua

မြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

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U Than Maung, Advocate For PENTAX Corporation, C/o Kelvin Chis Yangon Ltd. Unit 223 Summit Parkview 350 Ahlone Road, Dagon Tap Yangon, Union of Myanmar, kelvin.chis@myanmar.net Dated 20 September 2004

Uganda gets \$311m from ADB

KAMPALA, 18 Sept — The Ugandan Government has got a total of 311 million US dollars from the African Development Bank (ADB) with over 34 per cent of the funds channelled to agriculture and rural development, according to a statement from the ADB.

ADB representative in Uganda Mukaila Ojelade was quoted by local media on Friday as saying that "presently, the ADB portfolio in Uganda comprises 12 active operations, with loans and grants totalling 311 million dollars. Operations in agriculture and rural development focused on strengthening and diversification of production. A dominant share of ap-

provals between 1996 and 2003 went into this".

He said Uganda occupied an important position with the ADB, in terms of commitments and being the second largest beneficiary of concessional resources from the African Development Fund (ADF), with allocations amounting to 180 million dollars. The ADF is a concessional lending arm of ADB. —MNA/Xinhua



A wicker couch floats in a flooded section of Highway 59 on 16 September, 2004 in Gulf Shores, Alabama. —INTERNET

China investing heavily in environmental protection

QINGDAO, 18 Sept — China is spending 700 billion yuan (84.3 billion US dollars) in the 2001-2005 period to control pollution and improve environment.

The amount equals to 1.3 per cent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) in the same period, said Wang Yuqing, deputy director of the State Environmental Protection Administration, at the Sino-South Korea Forum on Investment and Technology for Environmental Protection which opened Thursday in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province.

The funds is being mainly used to improve water and air pollution, solid waste disposal and construction of environmental protection facilities. The emphasis is placed on heavily polluted regions and cities. Environment around the globe is deteriorating in the wake of growing economic and population growth, causing a worldwide concern. In China, some enterprises

discharge huge amounts of pollutants, posing a great threat to environment. The environmental protection sector, a major component of the national economy, has turned into

an inter-trade and trans-regional rising industry after a 20-year development. By the end of 2002, people working in this sector exceeded 3.5 million in China. —MNA/Xinhua

Australian Embassy in Jakarta resumes consular services

JAKARTA, 18 Sept — The Australian Embassy in Jakarta, the target of a car bomb attack last Thursday, announced on Friday that it has resumed emergency consular services for Australians and for visa requests.

Although the embassy remained closed to the public, it has made arrangements for limited consular operation including for passport services, reported *The Jakarta Post* online news service.

The embassy only handles emergency visa requests, while non-immigration operations remained suspended until further notice, it said.

The heavily fortified embassy building was slightly damaged by a car bomb which exploded just outside. A total of nine people, all Indonesians including several working for the Australian Embassy, died in the attack, and scores of people remained hospitalized with severe injuries.

Several high-rise office buildings near the embassy were heavily damaged.

MNA/Xinhua

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်ရှိသင့်သည်။



ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်ရှိသင့်သည်။

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UN Chief urges more help for Africa's development

UNITED NATIONS, 18 Sept — The international community needs to support concerted efforts by African countries to implement a joint plan for development on their continent, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged in a new report released on Friday.

"African countries are making considerable progress," he said in his second report on the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), but added they still needed more aid, debt relief, foreign investment and further help in trade.

The report, which came in response to a General Assembly resolution adopted last December, indicated that the international community did make some progress in their support for the implementation of NEPAD, but largely failed to register a solid impact as con-

tradictory donor policies and international trade practices remained unchanged throughout the year. The report showed some increase in aid in the past two years, but noted that the amount is still far below what Africa received more than 20 years ago. In 1990, official development assistance to the region was no less than 26 billion US dollars. Compared to that amount, the continent received only 22.2 billion US dollars in aid in 2002 — an amount almost equivalent to what Africa paid in external debt servicing costs.—MNA/Xinhua

Official says no new bird flu case in Malaysia in three days

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 Sept — The bird flu outbreak which has hit four districts in north state of Kelantan seems to be under control with no new cases in the past three days, a veterinary official said on Friday.

This indicated that the department's efforts to cull fowl in the eight affected villages had shown positive effects, Kelantan Veterinary Services Department Director Dr.

Idris Kadir told reporters in Kota Bharu, capital of the state.

"The situation is under control and there are no signs of new cases after the most recent

ones in Kampung Kuchelong, Bachok District, and Kampung Laut Sungai Pinang, Tumpat District, on Tuesday," he said

MNA/Xinhua



Matthew Williams sits on a bench between two New Zealand Fur Seals at Sydney's Taronga Zoo, Australia, on 15 Sept, 2004.—INTERNET

British Army selling sports shoes

LONDON, 18 Sept — British Army has poked a toe into one of the world's toughest fields of conflict — selling sports shoes.

The Army is lending its name and insignia to a running shoe, called PT-03, which will do battle in the shops with the sleek and heavily marketed likes of Reebok, Nike and Adidas.

It is the first commercial product to be endorsed by the British Army, whose fitness instructors helped test and design the shoes, and will carry the logo of crossed swords over a

crown and lion.

The armed services have been looking to exploit their image commercially since 1998, when the Treasury urged government department to examine opportunities such as selling real estate or intellectual property rights.

The Royal Air Force is currently trying to patent its red, white and blue "target" symbol, long a T-shirt

favourite. While Nike have Michael Jordan to promote their wear, the British Army has Colonel Phil Watkins. The 55-year-old head of the Army Physical Training Corps says these running shoes are amongst, the best he has worn in a 40-year Army career which has seen him in combat zones from Malaysia to Northern Ireland

MNA/Reuters

India to enlist Asian nations' support on OPEC oil price issue

VIENNA, 18 Sept — India will enlist the support of world's leading oil consumers China, Japan and Korea to pressurize OPEC for removing the premium on the crude oil the oil cartel charges from Asian countries, Petroleum Minister Mani Shankar Aiyar said on Friday.

Of the 18.36 billion US dollars India spent in 2003-04 on importing 90.839 million tons of crude oil to meet its 71 per cent of requirement, over 750 million US dollars was premium. "To this end, India is organizing later this year, in association with the International Energy Forum, a round table discussion in New Delhi between the four principal Asian buyers of crude oil and the six principal Asian exporters," he said addressing the OPEC ministerial meeting here.

"Charging developing Asia a premium while offering a discount to the developed West is a conundrum that calls for rectification in the vital area of international trade," he said.

Later talking to reporters, Aiyar said he met Oil Minister of world's largest oil producer Saudi Arabia, Ali Al Naimi, and OPEC president Puromo Yusgiantoro, on the sidelines of the OPEC conference, to "sensitize" them of the gravity of the issue.

"They have listened to our logic and will be pre-

paring a business-like response shortly," he said.

Aiyar said both Naimi and Yusgiantoro have agreed to attend the round table of major oil consumers and producers, to be held early next year.

In his address to the OPEC assembly, where India was the only non-oil producing Asian country to have been invited, Aiyar said "what we need is a

uniform official selling price and significant spot trading of West Asian crude to increase liquidity and establish a genuine and representative market for crude oil for fast-growing Asian market." The traditional producer benchmark prices, like Brent, Dubia/Oman, should not apply for Asian importers, who should be indexed to the crude they produce, he said.—MNA/PTI



African wild cat. The ancient Egyptians put as much care into mummifying their animals as they did to their kings and relatives, according to a study published in the British scientific journal Nature.—INTERNET

N-W China becomes major base for breeding cloned sheep

XI'AN, 18 Sept — The Yangling Agricultural High-Tech Pilot Zone in northwest China's Shaanxi Province has become one of the world's major bases for breeding cloned sheep.

The Northwest University of Agriculture and Forestry Science and Technology (NUAFST) in Yangling, which is 90 kilometres from the provincial capital of Xi'an, began animal embryo research in the 1970s. The first two goats cloned from fresh embryo were born at the university in 1980

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese scientists develop new medical robot

BEIJING, 18 Sept — Scientists in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province have developed two types of robots that can help set bones, perform surgery and conduct medical research, the state media reported on Friday.

Researchers at Harbin University said they have developed two types of the robot: a mainframe built on a wholly-digital platform to carry out medical research and track state-of-the-art technologies of the world, and a smaller system for clinical use.

To date, the smaller robot system has helped perform 21 bone-setting surgeries, all of which were successful, Xinhua news agency reported.

The research group has applied for four patents for the interdisciplinary project that involves robotics, network technologies, computer science, imaging and surgery. The robots were developed by the Harbin Polytechnical University based in the provincial capital, Harbin, in collaboration with several other Chinese research bodies including the Robot Institute of Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics. MNA/PTI

SPORTS

Arsenal coach condemns decision to abandon Roma

LONDON, 18 Sept— Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has condemned the decision to abandon AS Roma's Champions League match against Dynamo Kiev after referee Anders Frisk was injured by an object thrown from the stands.

Swede Frisk decided to abandon Wednesday's game in Rome's Olympic Stadium after he was hit on the head when leaving the pitch at halftime with Kiev leading 1-0. Frisk said the Italian club could not guarantee his safety or that of his assistants.

The decision set a "dangerous precedent" and could have provoked "a riot outside the stadium", Wenger was quoted as saying in Friday's *London Evening Standard* newspaper.

Frisk was struck by an object shortly after sending off Roma defender Philippe Mexes for an off-the-ball foul and left the pitch bleeding from a forehead wound.

MNA/Reuters

Fabregas extends contract with Arsenal

LONDON, 18 Sept—Francesc Fabregas has extended his contract with Arsenal, keeping the Spanish teenager at the Premier League champions for his "long-term future", the club said on Friday.

The 17-year-old midfielder joined Arsenal a year ago from Barcelona and became the club's youngest ever player and goalscorer last season. Arsenal did not disclose the length of the new deal.

Fabregas, known as Cesc, has made a big impact this season, earning praise for his performances as a replacement for the injured Patrick Vieira in the early games.

"I'm delighted to be pledging my long-term future to Arsenal. My first year here has been like a dream, I never thought I would have the opportunity to play in the first team so early on," he told the Arsenal web site.

MNA/Reuters



Manchester United skipper Roy Keane has described his performance in the 2-2 Champions League draw with Lyon in midweek as 'abysmal'.

INTERNET

Ferguson believes return of Ferdinand triggering improvement

MANCHESTER (England), 18 Sept— Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson believes the return from suspension of Rio Ferdinand will trigger an improvement in his side's defence after a disappointing start to the season.

Ferguson told a news conference on Friday.

"In the 1994 (double-winning) team the back four never changed and last year, up until Rio went away, the back four never changed and we got the results that justifies that continuity.

"That's exactly what we're aiming for now. Over the next few weeks we

hope that once Gary Neville comes back, we will get back to playing a regular back four and then you'll see the results will change." United won only seven of their final 16 league games last season once the central defender's suspension started in mid-January. The England international, who also missed Euro 2004, carried on training with his United teammates.

"Rio has done fantastically well. You need a lot of patience and sacrifice because after training every day, you don't have the joy of playing on a Saturday. And that is a big loss to a footballer," Ferguson said.

"What we've tried to do with Rio is to try and focus on the fact that other players, namely Eric (Cantona) but also players like Roy Keane, Wes Brown and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, have missed whole seasons because of injury and you have to treat it in the same sort of vein.—MNA/Reuters

Answers for yesterday's crossword puzzle



Chiapas sends America crashing to another defeat

MEXICO CITY, 18 Sept— Chiapas sent big-spending America crashing to another defeat in the Mexican championship, increasing the pressure on their beleaguered coach Oscar Ruggeri.

America, who have won only once in five games since the former Argentine defender took over, lost 2-1 and slipped to fifth out of six teams in Group One of the Clausura championship. They are already struggling to make the knockout stages.

The Eagles were quickly in trouble after Mexican international defender Duilio Davino put through his own net in the sixth minute of Wednesday's game in Tuxtla Gutierrez following a corner.

Chiapas went further ahead early in the second half when defender Melvin Brown headed home following another corner.

America had Argentine defender

Horacio Ameli sent off for a second bookable offence in the 73rd minute before Aaron Padilla pulled a goal back with 13 minutes to go.

"There's no doubt that I'm responsible for the defeats," said Ruggeri, who played in the 1986, 1990 and 1994 World Cups. "Today, they beat us from dead ball situations." America's two main signings, Claudio Lopez and Djalminha, both played 45 minutes each.

Brazilian midfielder Djalminha, who was substituted at halftime in Sunday's home defeat by Puebla, this time started on the bench and came on after the break to replace Argentina international Lopez.

MNA/Reuters

Maradona to return to Cuba on Monday

HAVANA, 18 Sept— Fallen soccer great Diego Maradona will return to Cuba on Monday to be shut away in a mental clinic for more drug treatment, Argentine diplomats said on Friday.

"Everything is ready for him to arrive on Monday night," an Argentine Embassy official said.

After a Press conference at Havana airport, the 43-year-old former Argentine captain will be confined to Cuba's Centre for Mental Health (CENSAM) until he kicks his cocaine addiction.

He will be accompanied by a sister and his personal doctor Alfredo Cahe.

Maradona has made Cuba his second home in recent years, saying the island offers him respite from the media and fan frenzy in Europe and South America.

But on a visit to Argentina in April, the bloated Maradona was rushed to intensive care with heart problems and his family then forced him to enter a

psychiatric clinic.

The family has since given him the go-ahead to return to Cuba for further drug rehabilitation in a closed institution.

Maradona had looked healthier in recent interviews, but photographs taken last week showed his weight had apparently ballooned again.

Last Saturday he was taken to a Buenos Aires hospital for a time with breathing problems, but was then sent back to a drug treatment centre.

Maradona, one of the most gifted players in the history of football who led Argentina to victory at the 1986 World Cup, says he has been fighting drug addiction for much of the last 20 years.

MNA/Reuters

Liverpool coach not distracted by fierce rivalry

LIVERPOOL (England), 18 Sept— Rafael Benitez says he will not be distracted by the fierce rivalry between his Liverpool side and Manchester United when they meet in the Premier League on Monday.

The Spanish coach, in his first season at Anfield, faces his biggest domestic game so far in the Old Trafford contest between the two heavyweight teams from northwest England.

"A lot of people tell me this game is important. For me it is important, sure. But at the end of the game it's three points, no more," he told a news conference on Friday. "We have to try and win three points and if they come from big club, all the better.

"But I don't want to think about the rivalry because it is important not to feel the pressure and be relaxed.

"A manager needs to be quiet and use his brain, not his spirit. The spirit is for the players."

Liverpool enjoyed a good record at Old Trafford under previous coach Gerard Houllier, winning 1-0 three times in the past four seasons.

Benitez admitted Manchester United would ben-

efit from the return of Rio Ferdinand, if Alex Ferguson starts with the England defender for the first time since the end of his eight-month ban for missing a drugs test.

"If Rio plays, perhaps for them it will be good, but I don't know exactly how he is now and the problems they have now," he said. Asked about United's current slump in form, Benitez said: "A big club like Manchester United can maybe play badly for one or two games, but not consistently badly."

United, who lie 11th in the table, have endured their worst start to a Premier League season with only six points from their first five games. Liverpool are in eighth position with seven points from four games.—MNA/Reuters



Liverpool defender Steven Finnan races to the ball ahead of Monaco midfielder Pontus Farnerud during their Champions League match at Anfield.—INTERNET

MRTV-3
**20-9-2004 (Monday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar
Panorama & Myanmar
Sentiment"
- 9:06 Marine Business in
Sittway Township
- 9:10 National News**
- 9:12 A Day in the Life of a
Mahout
- 9:15 National News**
- 9:20 The Gok Hteik Via-
duct
- 9:25 Ah-Hla-Kabya-Pan-
Pawah
- 9:30 National News**
- 9:35 Kachin hand-woven
material
- 9:40 Myanmar Modern
Song "You can take
me but not my love"
- 9:42 National Races Vil-
lage (Muse)
- 9:45 National News**
- 9:50 Panwa with its Tour-
ist Attractions
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**20-9-2004 (Monday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)**

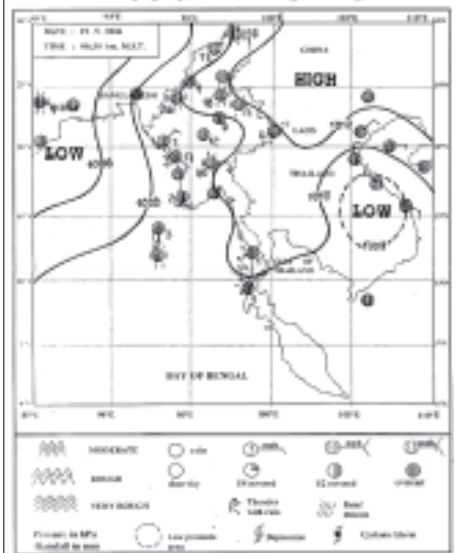
- 15:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar

- Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 15:36 Marine Business in
Sittway Township
- 15:40 National News**
- 15:42 A Day in the Life of a
Mahout
- 15:45 National News**
- 15:50 The Gok Hteik Viaduct
- 15:55 Ah-Hla-Kabya-Pan-
Pawah
- 16:00 National News**
- 16:05 Kachin hand-woven
material
- 16:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "You can take me
but not my love"
- 16:12 National Races Village
(Muse)
- 16:15 National News**
- 16:20 Panwa with its Tourist
Attractions
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanmar Pano-
rama & Myanmar Sen-
timent"
- 16:30 National News**
- 16:35 Nan-Thae Model Plan-
tation (Inlay Lake)
- 16:40 Rope Painting
- 16:45 National News**
- 16:50 Taninthayi, Land of Oil
Palm
- 16:55 A Dance to the Harvest
- 16:58 A Thin Kind of Paper
- 17:00 National News**
- 17:05 Myanmar Traditional
Folk Songs
- 17:08 Myanmar Modern
Song "Ever-graceful
Lady"
- 17:12 Myanmar Gems Mo-
saic
- 17:15 National News**
- 17:20 Finished Products of
Teak
- 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 "Mingalabar"
- 19:36 Waso Food Donation
Ceremony
- 19:40 Headline News**
- 19:42 A Village on Peral Is-
land
- 19:45 National News**
- 19:50 Greening of Inlay Lake
Project
- 19:55 Traditional Lamp
Dance
- 20:00 National News**
- 20:05 Where the Rhododen-
dron Blooms
- 20:10 Song "Your Lover's
Maungmagan"
- 20:12 The Pathin Umbrella
- 20:15 National News**
- 20:20 Survey of Hu Koung
Valley Tiger (Part-4)
- 20:25 Song "Golden Shan-
gaing"
- 20:30 National News**
- 20:35 A Birth place of New
Artists
- 20:40 Socioeconomic Condi-
tions of Chin State
- 20:45 National News**
- 20:50 Ornamental Jewellery
of Outstanding Designs
- 20:55 Scenic Beauty of Ha-
Kha- and Cultural
Dance
- 21:00 National News**
- 21:05 Fishery Enterprise in
Pyapon
- 21:08 Myanmar Modern
Song "Have Sweet
Dreams"
- 21:12 Water Hyacinth Furni-
ture
- 21:15 National News**
- 21:20 The Dough Called
Mont Kalar Mei
- 21:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic

- Sights "Myanmar
Panorama & Myanmar
Sentiment"
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Song "You can take
me but not my love"
- 22:12 National Races Vil-
lage (Muse)
- 22:15 National News**
- 22:20 Panwa with its Tour-
ist Attractions
- 22:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Naughty Girl"
- 22:30 National News**
- 22:35 Nan-Thae Model
Plantation (Inlay
Lake)
- 22:40 Rope Painting
- 22:45 National News**
- 22:50 Taninthayi, Land of
Oil Palm
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saic
- 23:15 National News**
- 23:20 Finished Products of
Teak
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and see
Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**WEATHER****Sunday, 19 September 2004****Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours**

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State and Ayeyawady Division, scattered in Kayah, Rakhine, Mon States, lower Sagaing, Bago, Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in lower Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kalay (3.15) inches, Putao (2.17) inches, Kanbalu (2.05) inches, and Taungoo (1.57) inches.

Maximum temperature on 18-9-2004 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 19-9-2004 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 19-9-2004 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 18-9-2004 was (2.7) hours approx. Rainfall on 19-9-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 109.02 inches at Yangon Airport, 104.13 inches at Kaba-Aye and 105.94 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 8 mph from Southerly at 14:10 hours MST on 18-9-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the North Bay and monsoon is weak elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. **Special Features:** According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, yesterday's tropical depression over South China sea has crossed Vietnam Coast and weekend.

Forecast valid until evening of 20-9-2004: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, Magway, lower Sagaing Divisions, scattered in Kachin, Rakhine States, Mandalay, Bago, Ayeyawady, Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Weak monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 20-9-2004: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 20-9-2004: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 11:00 hrs MST on 19-9-2004)

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observations today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Aungmye (5) cm above the danger level. Though the water level may rise (50) cm (about 1.5 ft) and fall below the danger level within the next (3) days commencing this morning.


**Monday, September 20
View on today:**

- 7:00 am**
1. ကော့ကုန်း မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်
ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာ
ရာဇာဓိပတိ၊ အထွေထွေဆောင်ရွက်
အဘိဓမ္မာရာဇာဓိပတိ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ
မဟာအဋ္ဌမ္မဇာတိက တိပိဋကဓရ
ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဝါရီက၊ ဆရာတော်အာဇာနည်
ဗိဇိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်
တရားတော်
- 7:25 am**
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
4. မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏
ဆရာပုဂ္ဂိုလ်တော်များ
"ဆဋ္ဌမဇာတိပုရန်" (အပိုင်း-၁)
- 8:00 am**
5. Nice and sweet song
- 8:20 am**
6. Song of national races
- 8:20 am**
7. Cute little dancers

- 8:30 am**
8. International news
- 8:45 am**
9. Let's Go
- 4:00 am**
1. Martial song
- 4:15 am**
2. Songs to uphold National
Spirit
- 4:30 am**
3. Practice in Reading
- 4:45 am**
4. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊ အမှတ်(၃)အခြေစိုက်
ပညာရေး၊ ပညာရေးအဖွဲ့ချုပ်
ဝတ်စုံပြိုင်ပွဲ (တတိယအဆင့်)
(အထက-၁ မော်ဒယ်) (အမျိုးသမီး
ဝတ်စုံပြိုင်ပွဲ)
- 5:00 pm**
5. အဝေးသင်ကြားသည့် အထက
ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊ ပညာရေး
- ဒုတိယအဆင့် (တတိယအဆင့်)
(တတိယအဆင့်)
- 5:15 pm**
6. Dance Variety
- 5:30 pm**
7. ဂန္ထဝင် နဂါး၊ နဂါးသံအဖွဲ့
(၁၂ နှစ်)၊ မြန်မာ့နဂါးသံအဖွဲ့
အသံ၊ အက၊ အရပ်၊ အတီး
ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန်
ဓမ္မာဓိပတိ (ဝါသနာရှင်အဆင့်)
(အမျိုးသား)

- 5:35 pm**
8. Sings and dances of
National Races
- 5:45 pm**
9. Musical programme
- 6:00 pm**
10. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာတေး၊
မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာတေး
- 6:10 pm**
11. Discovery
- 6:15 pm**
12. နိုင်ငံခြားကလေးများ၏
"မောင်မင်းပုရန်" (အပိုင်း-၂၅)
- 6:30 pm**
13. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
14. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
15. Industrial Achievement
- 7:30 pm**
16. Musical programme
- 7:45 pm**
17. လေးလေးကလေးအောင် စေတီတော်
(သောတာပန်ရုပ်၊ စေတီတော်မြို့နယ်)
- 8:00 pm**
18. News
- 8:15 pm**
19. International news
- 8:30 pm**
20. Weather report
- 8:45 pm**
21. နိုင်ငံခြားကလေးများ
"တစ်လုံးရာအပေါ်" (အပိုင်း-၂၆)
- 9:00 pm**
22. The next day's
programme


**Monday, September 20
Tune in today:**

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music: Let's gotta
be you
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music: One for
sorrow
- 8:55 am** National news/
Slogan
- 9:05 am** Music:
-Tell me how to
make you smile
- 9:10 am** International news
- 9:15 am** -Aisy Waisy
- 1:30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Lunch time music
-Everyday is like
sunday
-Love is love
- 9:00 pm** Spotlight on the
star
"Selena"
- 9:15 pm** Article
- 9:25 pm** Women's affairs
-TB, a leading
killer of women
(DrKhinSweWin)
- 9:35 pm** Vocal Gems
-The end of the
world
-Walking my way
to you
- 9:45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts cash donations from a wellwisher at the ceremony to donate provisions to monasteries in Mingala Taungnyunt Township.— MNA

Cash and kind donated to monasteries in Tamway, Mingala Taungnyunt, Ahlon

YANGON, 19 Sept — Families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated cash and kind to 18 monasteries in Tamway and Mingala Taungnyunt Townships, Yangon East District, at a ceremony held at Sasana Jeyamingala Pariyatti Monastery in Natchaung Ward, Tamway Township, this afternoon. State Peace and Development Council Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the ceremony and offered provisions to Sayadaws.

Also present on the occasion were Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, local authorities, and wellwishers.

At first, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party and wellwishers received the Eight Precepts from Aungmyay Beikman Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Dhammisara, Chairman Sayadaw of Mingala Taungnyunt Township Sangha Nayaka Committee. Next, the Secretary-2 and party offered provisions to Sayadaws.

Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence,

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

Cmdr Khin Maung Soe of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), and Colonel General Staff (Air) Lt-Col Nay Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), offered rice, edible oil, medicines, beans and pulses donated by families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) to the Sayadaw.

Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Col Maung Pa and local authorities presented provisions donated by Yangon Division PDC, Ministry of Religious Affairs, YCDC, Yangon East District, and Tamway and Mingala Taungnyunt Township PDCs to Sayadaws.

(See page 9)



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects progress of Londawpauk Bridge in An Township.— MNA

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 life.
- * 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.

Roads, bridges construction work on Yangon-Kyaukpau Highway Project inspected

YANGON, 19 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander of the Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Oo and officials, on 16 September inspected building and maintenance of Taungup-Maei Road Section of the Yangon-Kyaukpau Highways Construction Project in the rainy season in Rakhine State.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Lahmumaw village station hospital in Taungup Township. At the hospital, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urged the officials to make on field trips to disseminate knowledge on health. He inspected medical stores, and medical room.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to Maei-Minkyaung road section of Yangon-Kyaukpau Highway Project. At the briefing hall, Deputy Superintending Engineer U Than Nyunt of Public Works reported on progress of Maei-Minkyaung Road Section and tasks being carried out. Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected building of road at milepost No 8/1 and at Maei-Minkyaung-Painnetaung road section with the use of geotextile technique. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Londawpauk Bridge construction in An Township and discussed with officials on timely completion of work meeting the set-standard and attended to the needs. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected the project site.

(See page 9)