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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects progress in decoration of Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill.— MNA

Prime Minister addresses coord meeting to host Fourth World Buddhist Summit

YANGON, 26 Sept — The coordination meeting to host Fourth World Buddhist Summit was held at the meeting hall of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University in Mayangon Township at 2 pm today, with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Summit Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the Yangon Mayor, the deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, members of the Leading Committee,

the Work Committee and sub-committees.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered an address, saying that as the holding of the Fourth World Buddhist Summit is drawing nearer, the committee and sub-committees are making preparations for respective sectors. It is necessary to manage

(See page 8)

Potent medicines can be produced for six major common diseases Work coordination meeting 1/2004 of committee for production of medicines for six major diseases held

YANGON, 26 Sept— The work coordination meeting 1/2004 of committee for production of medicines for six major diseases was held at the Ministry of Industry-1 on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning, with an address by Chairman of National Health Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present were the ministers, members of the committee for production of medicines for six major diseases, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments of the Ministry of Industry-1 and guests.

In his address, the Prime Minister said Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on

production of medicines for six major common diseases in Myanmar based on research of Myanmar traditional medicines, herbal plants and roots of medicinal plants. The ministries have implemented the tasks for four years since 2001. Systematic arrangements are being made for conducting research on potent Myanmar herbal plants, pilot plantation, conducting research on production and finding process in cooperation with ministries concerned.

He said although some medicines cannot be produced on commercial scale, their potency and pilot production have been tested.

(See page 8)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses coordination meeting to produce medicines for six major common diseases.— MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 27 September, 2004

Strive for development of border areas and national races through national solidarity

The Union of Myanmar is home to over one hundred national races. The national solidarity is imperative for the perpetual existence of the Union.

Therefore, the Tatmadaw Government, since its assumption of the State responsibility, has been giving priority to further strengthening the national solidarity after laying down the national policy—national solidarity, perpetuation of sovereignty and non-disintegration of the Union and the work programmes based on the national policy. The project for development of border areas and national races is the first among the projects the government launched for national development. For successful realization of the project, the Government has to forge the national reconsolidation first and has been striving for development of border areas and national races. As a result, marked progress has now been made across the Union.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the meeting No 5/2004 of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races held at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta on 25 September and delivered an address. In his address, the Prime Minister said achievements of border area development tasks contribute to fine traditions such as cementing national solidarity and safeguarding the Union. With this concept, officials are to continue to implement the project for development of border areas and national races with added momentum, he added.

The Government has spent over K 58,300 million plus over US\$550 million on development of border areas and national races to date. Thus, altogether 26 training schools for development of national race youths, 18 domestic science and vocational education training schools were opened in different areas as well as two Nationalities Youths Development Degree Colleges in Yangon and Mandalay.

As for border area development 15-year project, altogether 72 high schools, 61 middle schools and 657 primary schools were opened. Likewise, tasks for better health care services and better transport were carried out with the emergence of new hospitals, dispensaries, roads and bridges while measures for ensuring power supply, communications and agriculture and livestock breeding were taken. With achievements in developing border areas and national races, the Government has won more trust of the national races, thereby contributing much to further strengthening Union Spirit and the spirit of national solidarity.

Achievements in developing border areas and national races lead to further cementing Union Spirit and the spirit of national solidarity. With this concept, officials concerned are urged to make efforts in concert for successful realization of the projects all the more.



IPRD Director-General U Chit Naing accepts K 300,000 for self-reliant village libraries donated by U Kyin Hu-Daw Myint Myint Win (Aung Hsu Htoo Paing family) on 26-9-2004. —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

Yangon Command Commander sees off Indian guests

YANGON, 26 Sept—A goodwill delegation led by Commander of Eastern Command of Indian Armed Forces Lt-Gen JS Varma PVSM, AVSM, ADC and wife Mrs Meera Varma, left here by air for home yesterday evening after paying a goodwill visit to Myanmar.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, Vice-Quartermaster-General



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife see off the Commander of Eastern Command of Indian Armed Forces and wife. —MNA

Maj-Gen Htin Aung Kyaw, Ministry of Defence and their wives, senior military officers, Military Attaché Maj-Gen Aung Thein and Brig-Gen Khin Aung of the Colonel Jasvinder Singh Chopra of the Indian Embassy and wife. —MNA

Dry Day inspection teams check Tatmadaw, departmental vehicles



Dry Day Supervisory Committee Chairman Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint supervises dry day inspection teams. —MNA

YANGON, 12 Sept — Chairman of the Dry Day Supervisory Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Vice-Chairman Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, members of the committee Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint

Swe, Lt-Col Win Kyi of the Office of the Quartermaster-General, Commandant Maj Hla Myint Oo of Provost Unit (Air), Director-General U Khin Maung, Directors U Myo Nyunt, U Tin Aung and Maj Zaw Win Shwe, Secretary Deputy Director-

General U Sein Hla of the Government Office and Joint-Secretary Commander of Yangon Division Wireless and Traffic Police Force Police Lt-Col Aung Naing supervised dry day inspection teams checking Tatmadaw and departmental vehi-

cles today.

The dry day inspection teams checked dry day pass, licence of driver, wheel tax bill, wearing of departmental uniform and breaking of traffic rules at the main points of Yangon City from 7 am to 5 pm. —MNA

Foreign Minister leaves for UN General Assembly

YANGON, 26 Sept — Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win left here this afternoon for New York, the United States of America, to attend the 59th UN General Assembly commenced at UN Headquarters in New York, the USA, on 14 September.

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Science and Technology U Thauang, Representative of UNFPA Mr Najib M Assifi on behalf of the UN Resident Representative, Deputy Ministers for



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win being seen off at the airport before departure for New York. —MNA

Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint and officials saw off the

minister at Yangon International Airport. The minister was accompa-

nied by ODS to the ministry U Min Thein.

MNA

Civilians die in US ground and air attack on bases in Fallujah

BAGHDAD, 26 Sept — US aircraft, tanks and artillery pounded the resistance stronghold of Fallujah yesterday, killing at least eight people and wounding 15, while rebels struck back in Baghdad by killing six police recruits.

The US said that it is hitting the strongholds of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the Islamic militant, with pinpoint accuracy, but doctors at the local hospital in Fallujah said at least seven civilians were killed and 13 wounded, including women and children.

The US-appointed Iraqi interim government, which supports the air

strikes, last week banned the Ministry of Health in Baghdad from announcing figures for civilian casualties. Television pictures showed a boy and later a woman being rescued from the rubble.

"There were no innocent civilians reported in the immediate area at the time of strike," said a statement from the US mili-

tary. "Multinational forces took multiple measures to minimise collateral damage and civilian casualties." During the nighttime assault, with explosions lighting the sky, prayers were chanted defiantly through loudspeakers from the mosques in Fallujah.

Since the US lost control of much of the Sunni heartlands in April, it has developed a policy of keeping up pressure on rebels by sustained air attack. US military commanders are saying that they will retake Fallujah, but the White House probably does not want to

launch an all-out assault until after the election in November because it might refocus voters' attention on Iraq.

Guerillas are fighting back in other parts of Anbar province, covering much of western Iraq and including the mid-Euphrates cities of Fallujah and Ramadi. Four marines were killed in three separate incidents on Friday. Another soldier was killed by a bomb yesterday, bringing to 1,042 the total number of US military killed since the invasion of Iraq in March 2003. A further 7,000 have been wounded. — *Internet*



Iraqi Shi'ite men shout anti-US slogans in Baghdad, on 24 Sept, 2004. — INTERNET

Jordan, Iraq resume talks on eco cooperation

AMMAN, 25 Sept — Jordan and Iraq have resumed talks on establishing a Jordanian-Iraqi joint committee to further economic cooperation after a two-year hiatus due to the difficult situations in the war-torn country, local newspaper *Jordan Times* reported on Friday.

Jordanian Industry and Trade Minister Mohammad Halaqi told the newspaper the Jordanian Government will make all efforts to develop economic relations with Iraq and remove all obstacles to the economic cooperation between the two countries. Halaqi made the remarks during the opening of the 24th session of the Jordanian-Iraqi joint committee on Thursday.

He also said Jordan is concerned about the suffering of the Iraqi people, adding that Jordanians believe in the Iraqi people and their ability to over-

come current crisis and build a bright future.

On his part, Iraqi Minister of Trade Muhammad al-Jabouri, who is heading the Iraqi side in the four-day talks, noted the decline of the Iraqi economy is due to the wars in Iraq, adding Iraq hopes to rebalance the economy as soon as possible. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Indian, Pakistani leaders talk on peace process

NEW YORK, 25 Sept — Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh met Friday in New York for talks aimed at starting the peace process between the two neighbours.

Meeting on the sidelines of the 59th Session of United Nations General Assembly, the two leaders shook hands during a photo opportunity before closed-door talks.

The meeting, the first between the two since Singh took office in May, is hoped to bring momentum to talks between the two South Asian neighbours.

"How can any confidence, or any normaliza-

tion take place, without (confronting) any issues on which we have fought three wars and a number of skirmishes?" Musharraf asked.

He also said this was the last chance for a bilateral solution, hinting that the help of other countries might be needed for negotiations.

"I think the best option is bilateralism. But if bilateralism does not produce results, then we fail.

And we failed over 50 years. So what (good) is bilateralism if it fails to produce results?" Singh and Musharraf had agreed to normalize their long-strained bilateral relations through continued dialogue.

A joint statement issued after their meeting said the two leaders also discussed the possibility of building a gas pipeline via Pakistan to India,

— *MNA/Xinhua*

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Iraq Oil Ministry hit by rocket, mortar fire

BAGHDAD, 25 Sept — At least one rocket and three mortar rounds struck Iraq's heavily fortified oil ministry building in Baghdad, causing some damage but no casualties, a spokesman said.

"At least one rocket and three mortar rounds were fired at the ministry between 12:30 pm (0830 GMT) and 1:00 pm (0900 GMT) damaging the building in several places, shattering glass and affecting some of the offices," Assem Jihad told *AFP* by telephone from inside the building.

"There is only material loss and no casualties, and we have left it to the discretion of employees to decide if they want to evacuate the building."

The building, northeast of the city centre, is protected by massive concrete slabs and is the only ministry that was secured by US troops after they entered Baghdad in April last year, sparing it the looting that devastated other government premises.

Iraq's oil infrastructure is the target of frequent attack by guerillas, preventing the country from restoring exports and bringing in much-needed hard currency. Pipelines supplying two refineries in southern and northern Iraq were attacked on Friday. — *Internet*



Iraqi men inspect a destroyed house, following a US Army bombardment in the town of Fallujah, on 25 Sept, 2004. — INTERNET

Nigeria improves trade relations with Canada

LAGOS, 26 Sept — Recent years have witnessed improved trade relations between Nigeria and Canada, with 2003 trade volume between the two countries increasing to 420 million US dollars, a government official said here Friday.

"The balance of trade relations has been favourable to Nigeria while the volume of activities compares favourably with that existing between Nigeria and Germany, Britain and the United States," said

Abdulah Ibrahim, spokesman for the Nigerian Shippers Council (NSC).

The official added that Canadian exports comprised mainly of wheat, electrical and electronic machinery, plastic products and motor vehicle parts while the imports from Nigeria composed of mineral fuels, oil and gas products and cocoa beans.

Nigeria and Canada have been collaborating for enhanced business relations. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Philippines ready to evacuate OFWs in Iraq

MANILA, 25 Sept — The Philippine Government said Friday that it is ready to evacuate overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) in Iraq when necessary in light of the deteriorated situation there.

Presidential Spokesman Ignacio Bunye said that the government has already put contingency plans in place in reaction to questions about how to ensure the well-being of Iraq-based OFWs.

Bunye did not elaborate on the contingency plans but the government earlier said that relocating Filipinos to other safer locations within the Middle East is among the options being considered to prevent their economic dislocation.

The spokesman also reiterated that due to the worsening situation in Iraq, the government's ban on the deployment of OFWs there would stay.

"The deployment ban is in place. We appeal for understanding why we cannot allow them to go to Iraq at this time," Bunye said.

In a separate interview, special envoy to the Middle East Roy Cimatu told reporters, however, that he does not foresee immediate

repatriation of Filipinos now.

But, he agreed that escalating kidnapping incidents involving foreigners even in residential areas now make it dangerous for Filipinos to stay in Iraq.

"They're very vulnerable to abduction," he said, noting that even employers of OFWs can no longer guarantee their safety.

On the other hand, Labour Secretary Patricia Sto Tomas dismissed the possibility of immedi-

ately repatriating the 4,400 overseas Filipino workers in Iraq despite the "deteriorating" situation there. "Our OFWs are in as safe a place as possible. Any movement in Iraq is dangerous," Sto Tomas said.

"Moving the OFWs by land will be riskiest while moving them by air will require a significant number of planes because there is only one commercial airline company operating in Iraq, the Royal Jordanian Airline," Sto Tomas added.

The secretary also said that Iraq-bound OFWs are given priority for jobs in Korea, Japan, and other countries hiring foreign workers.

MNA/Xinhua

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The remains of a rocket is seen on a street outside a destroyed building in Baghdad on 24 Sept, 2004.

INTERNET

Cuba accuses US of "Handcuffing" UN

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Sept — Cuba accused President George W. Bush on Friday of "handcuffing" the United Nations and accused rich countries of forcing developing nations to pay more than three times the original debt they incurred.

In his address to the UN General Assembly, Cuban Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque said the United Nations was living through the worst moment in its 59 years, in part because of the US invasion of Iraq without the world body's approval.

"It pales, it pants, it feigns but it does not work," Perez said. "Who handcuffed the United Nations named by President Roosevelt?"

President Bush," he said.

Perez said 1,000 young Americans were sacrificed in Iraq to serve the "spurious interest of a clique of cronies and buddies, following the death of more than 12,000 Iraqis," one reason the troops should be withdrawn.

He spoke shortly after Iraq's Interim Prime Minister, Iyad Allawi, who called on nations to put differences behind them and help his country

rebuild its institutions and enhance security.

Perez called on developing countries to build a common front in and outside of the United Nations because major powers would not relinquish their privileges, such as veto power in the 15-member UN Security Council. At the same time, he said, the 191-member General Assembly was largely ignored.

MNA/Reuters

UAE oil production to reach 2.5 million BPD in two years

ABU DHABI, 25 Sept — The oil production of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) sets to climb to a record 2.5 million barrels per day (BPD) within two years, the local daily *Gulf News* reported on Friday.

A forecast report released by the London-based Centre for Global Energy Studies (CGES) and Business Monitor International (BMI) said that

UAE's oil production in 2005 could rise slightly to around 2.35 million BPD and swell to a record 2.5 million BPD in 2006.

Controlling nearly 10 per

cent of the world's total recoverable oil deposits, the country is pushing ahead with major projects to expand output capacity to face growing world demand and prevent a fresh supply crisis, said the report. According to the UAE Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources, the country's oil capacity is set to surge to three million BPD in the next five years and four million BPD in the long term as a result of massive investment in the oil sector, mainly in Abu Dhabi, which accounts for more than 90 per cent of the country's crude and gas wealth.

Over the past four years, the UAE has pumped more than eight billion US dollars into its oil sector within long-term plans to maintain its current output and expand capacity. — MNA/Xinhua



A masked Iraqi boy, a supporter of radical Shi'ite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, attends a march in the Shi'ite dominated Sadr City district of Baghdad, on 24 Sept, 2004. — INTERNET

ARD to pull out reporters in Iraq

BERLIN, 25 Sept — Germany's biggest television network, ARD, said on Friday it planned to pull out its two correspondents in Iraq after a Foreign Ministry warning that German journalists could be singled out for kidnappings.

Separately, the Spanish Government has recommended to media that they withdraw their correspondents from Iraq following the increase in attacks and kidnappings there, the newspaper *El Mundo* said on its web site on Friday.

The Spanish news agency *EFE* has withdrawn its only Spanish correspondent, Jose Manuel Seage, from Baghdad, a senior journalist at the agency said. More than 100 foreigners have been abducted in Iraq

since April in a deepening campaign, among them two French journalists who are still being held. Most hostages have been released, but around 30 have been killed.

The German Foreign Ministry last week strengthened a warning originally issued in March 2003 that mentioned journalists and the "very high risk" of kidnapping. But it declined to comment specifically on the issue on Friday.

A spokeswoman for

Suedwestrundfunk, the regional broadcaster in the ARD network in charge of television coverage from Iraq, said: "The temporary withdrawal of our correspondent is being prepared." Until this month, almost all the kidnapped foreigners were snatched on Iraq's perilous roads. But the capture of foreigners in Baghdad in operations that seem carefully planned is an escalation that has alarmed foreign embassies and firms. — MNA/Reuters

Putin says media should play responsible role in war on terror

MOSCOW, 25 Sept — The world media should play a responsible role and could not be observers in the war on terror, Russian President Vladimir Putin said here on Friday.

Addressing a congress of the world's news agencies, Putin said media outlets could be used as a more effective instrument against terrorism "which would exclude any, even unintended, form of assistance for the goals of terrorists."

"Russia is ready to face the challenges of the information age," said the Russian leader. "In our hands is a powerful information instrument which can divide or unite people."

He also lashed out at some foreign journalists who made no distinction between the "Evil Empire" of the Soviet Union and modern Russia.

"The world has changed and many people have not yet understand," Putin added.

He vowed that the war on terrorism must not be used as an excuse to limit freedom of the media.

"The fight against terrorism is no grounds for restricting freedom and independence of the Press. We shall not allow this in Russia," he said.

Putin has criticized foreign media for describing the Chechen militants responsible for the Beslan hostage tragedy in Southern Russia as "rebels" instead of terrorists.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran accuses US of ‘lawless militarism’

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Sept — Iran accused the United States on Friday of “lawless militarism” in Iraq and called Israel the biggest threat to peace in the Middle East.

“The attack against Iraq was illegal,” Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi told the UN General Assembly thanking UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan for publicly stating the same in a television interview last week.

The invasion was an example of “increasing lawless militarism”, involving “the use of brute and unsanctioned military force to achieve some political goals, albeit desirable goals,” said Kharrazi,

explaining that his country, which fought an eight-year war with its neighbour, had “benefitted greatly by the removal of Saddam Hussein”.

Kharrazi said Israel, which is widely believed to have nuclear weapons but declines to acknowledge them, had systematically thwarted UN efforts to make the Middle East a nuclear-free zone.

“All countries of the region and beyond are unanimous in considering

the Israeli arsenal, including its weapons of mass destruction, combined with its policy and record of aggression and state terrorism, as the single greatest threat to regional and global peace and security,” he said.

“Israeli cannot hide

these facts behind smoke screens. It is time for the international community to show its resolve to maintain the credibility of multilateral disarmament instruments by taking action to compel Israel to comply,” he said.

MNA/Reuters

British soldiers to be charged for killing in Iraq

LONDON, 25 Sept — British civilian prosecutors are considering bringing charges against a group of soldiers for a killing in Iraq, in what would be the second such case involving British troops, the Attorney General’s office said on Friday.

A spokeswoman for the attorney general gave no further details about the alleged killing, but said charges were being considered against “a number of British soldiers”.

Crimes committed by British soldiers are usually prosecuted in military courts, but Williams was investigated by British civilian prosecutors at the attorney general’s request. — MNA/Reuters

Bush accused of neglecting fight against terrorism

PHILADELPHIA, 25 Sept — Democratic candidate John Kerry accused US President George W Bush on Friday of neglecting the

fight against terrorism by going to war in Iraq and said his Republican rival had left America less safe.

Kerry trained his sights on Bush’s perceived strength — his leadership after the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States — and accused the President of taking his “eye off the ball” in a struggle “as monumental as the Cold War”.

“Instead of finishing the job in Afghanistan, the President rushed to a new war in Iraq,” the Massachusetts senator said in a speech at Temple University. “The invasion of Iraq was a profound diversion from the battle against our greatest enemy — al-Qaeda.”

“As President, I will finish the job in Iraq and refocus our energies on the real war on terror.”

Bush has resisted Kerry’s attempts to distinguish the Iraq war from the war on terror, and argued that Iraq is a key battleground in it. Bush’s campaign said the Democrat’s criticisms lacked regard for their effect “on our troops in the field and

our allies fighting alongside them”.

Joined by the widows of two victims of September 11, Kerry told supporters that Bush had allowed Osama bin Laden to slip away, refused to fully implement recommendations of the September 11 commission, underfunded the Department of Homeland Security, encouraged terrorism in Iraq and allowed nuclear dangers in Iran and North Korea to gather.

“The President’s misjudgment, miscalculation and mismanagement of the war in Iraq all make the war on terror harder to win,” he said. “Iraq is

now what it was not before the war — a haven for terrorists.”

Kerry, who is trailing in most national opinion polls less than six weeks before the November 2 election, has pounded Bush on Iraq and terrorism all week in an effort to reframe the way foreign policy is being discussed ahead of the first presidential debate on Thursday.

Even when focusing on domestic issues, Kerry now uses the Iraq model. Bush, he asserts, is sticking as stubbornly to his “failed” domestic agenda as he is to an Iraq policy that he said had gone wrong.

MNA/Reuters

Ten Iraqis wounded in clashes north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 25 Sept — Ten Iraqis, including three national guards, were wounded in overnight clashes between guerillas and US-backed Iraqi forces in the flashpoint town of Dhuluiyah, north of Baghdad, witnesses and medical sources said on Friday.

“We have received 10 wounded, including a woman and a child,” a doctor from the General Hospital in Dhuluiyah said. Fighting broke out on Thursday afternoon when guerillas attacked a US military patrol with rocket-propelled grenades in the town, witnesses said.

Dhuluiyah, some 90 kilometres north of Baghdad, is inhabited with Sunni Muslim Iraqis who have fought US occupation since April 2003. — MNA/Xinhua



An unidentified woman cries after her husband died in a rocket attack on Palestine Street, in Baghdad, Iraq, on 24 Sept, 2004.

INTERNET

Britain will do all it can to free hostage in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Sept — Britain is doing all it can to free one of its nationals held hostage in Iraq and all nations must unite to defeat the insurgency there, Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said on Thursday.

Straw addressed the UN General Assembly in New York after British hostage Kenneth Bigley made a desperate plea for his life from captivity and his family heaped pressure on the government which has ruled out negotiations for his release.

While most victims of terrorism in Iraq are Iraqis, some are foreigners “helping Iraqis to build a more stable and a more prosperous country”, Straw said. “One of those is Kenneth Bigley, a British engineer held hostage by terrorists who have already barbarically murdered his two American comrades,” Straw said. “Our thoughts and prayers are with their families, and

we continue to do all that we can to secure Mr Bigley’s release.”

In a video released by his captors, the 62-year-old Bigley made a direct appeal to British Prime Minister Tony Blair to save his life by giving in to

the kidnappers’ demands to free women prisoners.

Blair’s office said he phoned Bigley’s family on Thursday evening for the second time in two days. It did not comment on the conversation.

MNA/Reuters

Egypt follows up hostage issue in Iraq

CAIRO, 25 Sept — Egypt is making intensive contacts with its mission in Baghdad and the Iraqi authorities to secure the release of six nationals taken hostages in Iraq, a senior diplomat of the Foreign Ministry said on Friday.

“Six Egyptians working with Orascom Company in Iraq had been confirmed kidnapped after contacts made with the Egyptian diplomatic mission in Baghdad,” the diplomat said in a statement, quoted by the official MENA news agency. He expressed hope that the hostages would be released as soon as possible.

Earlier in the day, Dubai-based al-Arabiya TV channel reported that kidnappers seized six Egyptians and four Iraqis working for a mobile phone company in separate incidents in the war-torn country. — MNA/Xinhua



Men stand near a pool of blood left after a rocket landed nearby, in Baghdad, Iraq on 24 Sept, 2004.

INTERNET

Study shows modern slavery thrives in US

LOS ANGELES, 25 Sept — Modern slavery not only exists but also thrives in the United States, according to a study released Thursday by the University of California (UC) in Berkeley.

The report, named "Hidden Slaves: Forced Labour in the United States", found forced labour occurs in at least 90 cities across the United States.

And at any given time, 10,000 or more people are forced to toil in sweat shops, clean homes, labour on farms, or work as prostitutes or strippers, said the report.

The study, which cov-

ers the period of 1998 to 2003, was conducted by researchers from Berkeley's Human Rights Centre and the Washington DC-based anti-slavery group Free the Slaves.

The report also found that forced labour cases are concentrated in states with large immigrant communities, including California, Florida, New York and Texas.

Most victims of forced

labour are trafficked into the United States from at least 38 different countries, with China, Mexico and Vietnam topping the list. Some are born in the United States and later held captive.

Forced labour occurs in such poorly regulated industries with a high demand for cheap labour as sweatshops, restaurants and hotels, in addition to agriculture and domestic

work. A lack of official monitoring in these areas means unscrupulous employers and criminal networks can gain complete control over workers, according to the report.

The study found that perpetrators use a range of crimes, including fraud, coercion, physical and psychological violence, to hold their victims captive.

Although new federal laws have been passed to combat these crimes, the researchers called for much more needs to be done. Police officers are most likely to encounter forced labour but often mistake it for illegal immigration cases, the report says.

MNA/Xinhua



People stand on the rubble of destroyed houses in Fallujah, Iraq on 25 Sept, 2004. — INTERNET

Russia, China to further cooperation in politics, eco, trade

MOSCOW, 25 Sept — Russia and China will boost cooperation in the fields of politics, economy and trade, and science and technology, according to a joint communique issued here Friday.

According to the communique, which was signed at the ninth regular meeting of Chinese and Russian prime ministers, the two countries are satisfied with their economic and trade cooperation since the eighth regular meeting.

The document was signed by Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov and visiting Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao.

In the first eight months of this year, the communique noted, bilateral trade reached 12.87 billion US dollars, a 35.4-per-cent increase as compared with that of the same period last year. Two-way trade this year is expected to hit 20 billion US dollars.

In the communique, China reiterated its strong support for Russia's bid to join the World Trade Organization (WTO). Both Russia and China recognize each other's full market economy status.

In order to maintain a sustainable development

of bilateral trade, the two countries agree to draw a plan to promote and strengthen their comprehensive cooperation, so that two-way trade volume can reach and surpass 60 billion dollars in 2010.

Both Russia and China express their willingness to promote investment cooperation. China will invest more in Russia's resources and energy development, infrastructure, and manufacturing. Russia will facilitate Chinese

investment in these fields, said the communique.

The two countries will take measures to implement the cooperative projects in oil and natural gas, including the construction of pipelines between China and Russia.

The communique also pointed out that the two sides will strengthen cooperation in building nuclear plants, space, new materials, information and telecommunications.

MNA/Xinhua

Mortars explode near Italian Embassy in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 25 Sept — Guerillas fired five mortar shells targeting the Italian Embassy in Baghdad Friday, wounding two Iraqi women and damaging several houses, witnesses said.

The attack took place at about 8.20 am (0420 GMT), damaging four houses in the residential area around the embassy and wounding two women, said witnesses at the scene.

On 3 July, a similar mortar strike targeted the embassy and wounded six Iraqi civilians.

The attack came as the fate of two Italian female hostages in Iraq was still unclear after two claims about killing them were posted on the Internet in the past few days. — MNA/Xinhua

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US leading economic indicators down for third month

WASHINGTON, 25 Sept — Composite Index of Leading Economic Indicators, a closely watched measure of future economic activity in the United States, declined in August, the third consecutive month of drop, the Conference Board reported on Thursday.

Analysts said that the declines reflected an uncertain climate for both businesses and consumers in the country. The Conference Board said that the Composite Index of Leading Economic Indicators fell by 0.3 per cent in August to 115.7 following a decline of 0.3 per cent in July.

The August reading was the third month of decline in the index, after more than a year in which it gained steady ground. The drop in August was larger than the 0.2 per cent decrease forecast by analysts. The index is closely followed because it is designed to forecast the US economic health over the coming three to six months. — MNA/Xinhua

California voters strongly in favour of Kerry over Bush

LOS ANGELES, 25 Sept — Voters in the most populous US state of California remain strongly in favour of Democratic challenger John Kerry over President George W Bush in the November election, according to a poll released Thursday by the Los Angeles Times.

California voters likely to cast ballots in the November 2 election support the Democratic nominee and his running mate John Edwards over Bush and Vice-President Dick Cheney by 55 per cent to 40 per cent, the poll found. Just 5 per cent are undecided.

This was in sharp contrast to the results of most recent national polls, which show Bush's lead by varying margins.

With independent candidate Ralph Nader in the race, Kerry's margin of victory narrows slightly, but he still beats Bush by 53 per cent to 40 per cent,

with 2 per cent of likely voters favouring Nader.

On the Iraq war, terrorism and the economy, Bush's ratings in California have edged downward since spring, the survey found.

Overall, Bush's popularity among California voters hovers near the lowest level of his presidency: 43 per cent approve of his job performance, and 55 per cent disapprove. By comparison, 67 per cent approve of Republican Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's job performance, according to the poll.

With the election less

than six weeks away, the findings suggest that California is all but locked down as one of the most solidly Democratic states in the race for the White House — confirming why both major parties have virtually ignored the state as voting nears.

For California voters, the war in Iraq ranks as the top issue in the campaign.

The poll shows that disapproval of Bush's conduct of the war is a key factor driving voter dissatisfaction with his presidency.

MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier stands guard in front of the main gate of Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad on 24 Sept, 2004. — INTERNET

Global scholars do not accept economic sanctions on Myanmar

Aung Moe San

No action is more inhuman than the act of cutting off all humanitarian aid to and imposing economic sanctions on a country to cause hardship. In other words, it is the worst violation of human rights that can also be put down as economic terrorism. Moreover, it is an evil act bred by greed and injustice.

In this regard, all the decent eminent scholars of the world are against the acts of the US and its allies of the West imposing abhorable sanctions on Myanmar.

Concerning the matter, I will now recall an article titled 'US needs to re-think planned sanctions against Burma' by an economics professor of the Global Environment Bureau of New York's Columbia University published in The Nation, Bangkok, on 1 August 2003.

The following is a rough recount of the article:

"The act of pushing the nations that are practising isolationism to close their door tighter will only harm the people and will be like warning the governments of those nations to fasten their control over their people. The US Senate and Congress decided to impose economic sanctions on Myanmar. The most distinctive economic sanction in the world was the one imposed on South Africa during the time the country was governed by minority Whites. The world nations stopped doing business with South Africa. Superficially, the sanctions seemed to work and helped accelerate the downfall of the White administration in the country. However, much of the loss that occurred due to the sanctions could not camouflage the big success they had achieved, because it is certain that there were alternative means to topple the White government.

"The failed economic plans of the authorities contributed to the economic difficulties of Cuba, but the US trade sanctions on the country since 1960 are also the culprit of the issue. The economy of Haiti fell drastically when the US imposed economic sanctions on it during the 1990s, with the aim of setting up

democracy in the nation. Iraq and North Korea also suffered from economic sanctions. The wounds inflicted by the sanctions on a country are obvious. But could they realize their aims? Economic sanctions alone cannot bring down a single-party system government. Instead, that makes the government further tighten its grip over the country. Some of the hardship are the results of the government, but the sanctions offer it the opportunity to put all the blame on foreign countries for its own failures. Although sanctions hurt the economy and public health of the respective countries, they are not able to bring down a government. The sanctions cause internal instability and weaken the government and reduce its revenue. On the other hand, public provision of financial assistance to the opposition parties drops, the opposition parties are cut off from internal support, and the international watchdog's activities in the country also diminish.

"It is easy to boycott Myanmar, but hard to make political changes there. Gradual shrinking of Myanmar's economy and cornering her cannot bring political changes, instead they will intensify the suffering of the people. Although the powers that impose the sanctions say they do not mean to hurt the people, they also will not be exempt from responsibility for creating the public suffering, a consequence of their actions."

Similarly, Bridget Wells, an associate professor of Advanced International Relations

Studies Department of Johns Hopkins University, wrote an article 'Sanctions worsen Burmese poverty' in the International Herald Tribune of 9 October 2003.

A brief account of the article is as follows:

"The US President's act of signing legislation to impose sanctions on Myanmar is to protest the detention of the leader of the National League for Democracy. However, the sanctions will only prolong public suffering. The US policymakers are thinking that pressures on Myanmar military leaders will lead to the release of Daw Aung

University, Dr Robert Taylor, a former British professor, U Kyaw Yin Hlaing, Associated Professor of Political Science, University of Singapore, and Morton Peterson, a senior critic of International Crisis Group took part in the talks on reviewing US-Myanmar relations held in Washington on 25 March 2004.

Dr Bashle said that he assumed that the Myanmar military junta is changing its attitude, that the US should act to serve its own interests instead of imposing sanctions on

junta, that the US has never officially acknowledged Myanmar's effort to reduce cultivation of opium poppy, reaching of cease-fire agreements and building of infrastructures; that he disagreed with the argument of Senator Mitch McConnell, adding that sanctions will not change the junta, that the US is isolating the junta instead of helping it to enhance its international relations and contacts, that as the successive US administrations are trying to promote relations with North Korea, they should also do so with Myanmar and that sanctions only hurt US interests.

Dr Taylor said that the military junta has changed a lot and is much different from its situation in 1988, that its political outlook has widened and its efficiency has increased, that it can now handle the situation and solve the problems, that it had made marked changes in administering the country despite difficulties, that it has the ability to solve the internal and international problems and to reach cease-fire agreements.

Peterson said that the military junta has become

stronger than it was in the past, that it cannot be brought down with sanctions and that political parties are so weak to set up democracy. In conclusion, Dr Bashle said that all the speakers agreed that Myanmar would reconvene the National Convention and hold elections. Even when the global experts are opposing the sanctions, with sincere outlook, some internal elements are still trying to betray the national cause. They are like maggots in your own flesh.

Thus, its high time they realized the nation's objective conditions and the Government's national consolidation endeavours, and join hands with the people to build a democratic nation collectively, that is a historic duty, in accord with the Seven-point Road Map or future policy of the State. The nation will continue to strive for the flourishing of policy of uprightness along with the global experts who oppose the sanctions.

(Translation: TMT)
(Myanma Alin, Kyemon:
23-9-2004)

Although imposing sanctions on the Government of Myanmar may sound easy, attempts at bringing about political changes are not. Creating conditions like keeping "fish with little water" will not bring about political changes but only result in hurting the public, difficulties brimming over.

San Suu Kyi and later towards flourishing of democracy in the nation. But it is a false assumption. Because leaders do not make democracy, only people do. Sadly, the people suffering hardship and facing insufficiency cannot lend support to the flourishing of democracy.

"Because of the new law on imposing sanctions on Myanmar, the country is likely to lose US \$ 356 million in revenues and face dire consequences. Many garment factory workers will lose their jobs, and will have to find new areas for earning their living. The repercussions of the sanctions will reach every sector and part of the nation."

Dr John Bashle, a long-time researcher of the US, David I Steinberg, a professor of Georgetown

University, that US citizens do not wish to see unnecessary increase in the number of enemies because of its strategic interest; that the US should be aware of the fact that Myanmar's neighbours are doing brisk business with Myanmar, while the US has no investments in the country.

U Kyaw Yin Hlaing said that sanctions do not work, and do not support Myanmar, but only worsens her plight; that it cannot be said the sanctions do not hurt the government, but they do hurt the people more; that if their relatives and friends are included in the victims of the sanctions, supporters of the sanctions will stop supporting them.

Steinberg said that the US government never acknowledged the good part of the Myanmar military

သတိ

- ၁။ ပြောက်အိုးဖောက်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြည်သူများအထိတ်တလန့်ဖြစ်စေခြင်း၊ မသမာသူများမှ ရရှိသော အေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် လုံခြုံရေးကို ထိခိုက်အောင် လုပ်လာနိုင်ခြင်းတို့ကြောင့် ပြောက်အိုးဖောက်ခြင်းကို တားမြစ်သည်။
- ၂။ တားမြစ်ချက်အား ဖောက်ဖျက်ပါက -
- (က) ပြောက်အိုးဖောက်လျှင် ထောင်ဒဏ် ၃ နှစ်။
- (ခ) ပြောက်အိုးရောင်းလျှင်၊ ပြောက်အိုးထုတ်လုပ်လျှင် ထောင်ဒဏ် ၅ နှစ်။
- (ဂ) သတင်းပေးသူကို ထိုက်တန်စွာ ဆေးမုညည်။
- ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

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.



အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာသက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများနေ့

၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ(၁)ရက်နေ့

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

1st OCTOBER 2004

“သက်ရွယ်စုံညီ၊ လူ့ဘောင်ဆီသို့”

“TOWARDS A SOCIETY FOR ALL AGES”

Prime Minister attends coord meeting of All-round Upgrading of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon)

YANGON, 26 Sept — A coordination meeting on All-round Upgrading of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) was held at meeting hall of Agricultural Museum this evening, with an address delivered by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Work Committee for All-round Upgrading of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Ministers, the Yangon Mayor, Deputy Ministers, officials of State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and guests.

First, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presented reports on tasks of ministries concerned and YCDC in upgrading Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and construction tasks of Zoo (Yangon); Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint on sanitation tasks in Kandawgyi lake in Education Zone and preparations for 22 booths to be displayed at Agricultural Museum and shops for agricultural items; Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein on building of fish ponds in Fresh Water Fish Garden; Director-General of Forest Department Soe Win Hlaing on upgrading of Zoo (Yangon) and future tasks; Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw on progress in building the hotel and restaurant; Chairman of YCDC Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin on progress in constructing Relaxation Zone, Timber Walkway and Rock Garden; Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Nyi Hla Nge on tasks for quality inspection and control; Managing Director of Pyi Sone Win Naing Co Ltd U Win Naing on management for construction of Mono Rail and Managing Director of Wood Land Co Ltd U Win Aung on building of Conference Hall. After hearing reports,



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects construction tasks at relaxation zone in Kandawgyi Gardens. MNA

General Khin Nyunt gave instructions on measures to be taken for upgrading Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens harmoniously, durability of Kandawgyi embankment for storage of more water and preservation of natural resources at Kandawgyi in long term.

After the meeting, General Khin Nyunt inspected preparatory works for the Agricultural Museum. Next,

General Khin Nyunt and party looked into construction of booths in Fresh Water Fish Garden, progress in building Relaxation Zone and Rock Garden, construction of jetty, relaxation centre and waterfalls in Recreation Zone, building of overpass which Kandawgyi Gardens links Zoo (Yangon) and gave necessary instructions to officials and left there in the evening. — MNA

Potent medicines can ...

(from page 1)

In connection with the production of anti-malaria drugs, research on vaccines from *artimisia* and *cykona* was conducted successfully. Arrangements are being made for commercial production, he said.

He said the Ministry of Health discovered traditional medicine concerning dysentery and hypertension and other disease handed over the process and methods to the Ministry of Industry-1. Those medicines are available at reasonable prices, he said.

He said potent traditional medicines can also be produced for other common diseases. He urged officials concerned to make arrangements for distribution.

He also urged them to cultivate Myanmar medicinal plants that can cure cancer which is incurable by western medicines and to carry on conducting research with greater momentum.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, potent medicines can be produced for six major common diseases. Arrangements are under way for production of some diseases.

He called for conducting continued research until they can be produced fully.

Next, Managing Director of Myanmar Pharmaceuticals Industries U Myint Oo reported on implementation of the resolutions passed at the 2/2002 meeting of the committee. The Prime Minister and those present took part in the discussions.

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang reported on production of anti-malaria drugs by special medicine production factory No 1, machines that produce artemisinin, installation of machines that produce tablets and machines for production of injection and capsules.

Director of medical technology development department Dr Myo Myint reported on production of anti-malaria drugs from artemisia, Deputy Factory Manager U Win Aung of MPI on production of tablets and injection from cinchona plant, Deputy Factory Manager Dr Myint Sein on production of quinine from cinchona and research work on new medicines.

Next, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint reported on arrangements in conformity with the National Drug Policy.

Minister for Science and Technology U Thuang reported on tests of some herbal plants for production.

Director-General of Medical Research (Lower Myanmar) Dr Paing Soe reported on test of potency of some medicines. Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Kyaw Win reported on research on medicinal plants. A general round of discussions then followed. In conclusion, the Prime Minister spoke on correct processes and use of medicine in accord with the national drug policy. The meeting then came to a close. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects office of Secretariat for Fourth World Buddhist Summit at International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University. — MNA

Prime Minister addresses...

(from page 1)

fulfilling of requirements for successfully holding the summit.

He stressed the need to pay attention to holding the World Buddhist Summit hosted in Myanmar on a grand scale in line with Myanmar traditional culture. Sectorwise coordination tasks are to be carried out for holding the summit to enable the guests of the summit to have good impression of the magnificent summit in their minds. He urged them to contact the Secretariat of the Leading Committee so as to fulfil requirements on holding the summit in time. And, respective committees are to submit reports on progress of their tasks.

Next, Secretary of the Leading Committee Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung presented reports on implementation of the minutes of the previous meeting, full-time opening of the Secre-

tariat of the Leading Committee, agenda of the summit, arrangements for taking documentary photos and opening the Buddha cultural heritage booth and matters to be decided at today's meeting.

Chairmen and members of the sub-committees reported on their respective sectors. Similarly, those present took part in the discussions. After hearing reports, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions.

After the meeting, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspected the office of the Secretariat of the Leading Committee at ITBMU and gave necessary instructions.

Next, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill and inspected renovation and decoration of the archway and interior of the cave. Later, the Prime Minister gave instructions on renovation of the cave to officials and left there at 3.30 pm. — MNA

Efforts are being made...

(from page 16)

as soon as machinery from abroad arrives, to get supply of raw materials when the factories start to run and to get ready for manufacturing of iron products when orders receive.

The Secretary-1 added that upon completion of the factories, any kinds of iron products will be manufactured.

So, coordinated measures are to be taken for seeking firm local and foreign markets. Only when its industrial sector develops, will there emerge a modern developed nation. That is why encouragement is being given to help enhance the industrial sector of the nation alongside the development of its agricultural sector. Industrial zones, in particular, are being collectively established to boost private industry. Of the

industry of the State, majority are privately owned, and likewise, in private sector, the majority are of small and medium scale industries. So, it is very important for development of private small and medium scale industries, he said.

The government is making arrangements to establish industrial zones and to give necessary assistance for private industry. These efforts are being made for the private industry to get on the way to progress and success. Realising the objective and goodwill of the State, state-owned and private-owned factories are to make coordinated efforts for development of industrial sector. Next, Minister U Aung Thuang reported on raising of funds for construction of foundry plants and press shops and construction progress, preparations for supply of raw



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects machine parts displayed at the meeting to establish modern iron product factories in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi (Ayethaya) Industrial Zones.— MNA

materials and others; Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin on efforts for earlier completion of the projects, meeting the set standard of machinery, training of factory staff and assembling of machine parts by the factories of Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi (Ayethaya) for those of

the Ministry of Industry-2; and Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi on construction progress of foundry plants and press shops in Taunggyi (Ayethaya), supply of power and water, measures to be taken against lost and wastage and cooperative efforts with the Ministry of Industry-2. Then, the

chairmen of Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi (Ayethaya) Industrial Zones Supervisory Committees reported on their respective arrangements. Later, Managing Director Dr Pe Khin of Fair Sun Industry Co from Shwepyitha Industrial Zone-3 reported on

construction of a die and mould making plant along with the foundry shop, forging and heat treatment shops and machine shops. After the meeting, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and party viewed the power tillers and parts of four-inch pump displayed at the meeting hall. — MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party pose for documentary photo with local people at the opening ceremony of Salingyi Dam.— MNA

Salingyi Dam inaugurated...

(from page 16)

Township is located in the arid region and local people get insufficient water in the summer. Therefore, the State built Salingyi Dam to supply drinking water and to irrigate about 600 farm lands in the region.

Salingyi, Yinmabin, Pale, Mingin, Kani townships are situated west of Chindwin River and not far from Monywa.

But, due to the scarcity of water, the townships have lagged

behind in development for many years.

So, Chindwin River crossing bridges such as Hsinbyushin and Monywa bridges were built for the regional development and better transportation in the region.

Chaung U-Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay Railroad and Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa road were also constructed. More-over, Monywa-Pale-Gangaw Road and Monywa-Salingyi-Pakokku Road were upgraded and

Myaukyama Creek crossing bridge and detour road linking the Monywa-Gangaw road and Monywa Pakokku road were also constructed. Now, there is a direct access road from Monywa to Sagaing and Chindwin River, Myaukyama Creek and Taungyama Creek are no longer barriers in transportation.

Not only Salingyi Dam, but also Myaukyama Reservoir in Yinmabin Township, Ngwetha Dam in Salingyi Township,

Zedi, Thanan, Tonkyaw and Wutshu dams in Tamu Township were also built. Moreover, tube-wells are being drilled in the villages for clean drinking water supply.

In Sagaing Division, thanks to the dams, reservoirs and river pumping projects, about 800,000 acres of farm lands has been supplied with irrigation water and cultivation of double crops are on the increase.

According to figures, the sown acreage has increased from about 4 million acres to about

7 million acres that can be used year round.

Meanwhile, sown acreage for paddy has increased from about 1.2 million acres to about 1.7 million acres. Thus, the region enjoyed surplus of about 40 million baskets of paddy. Therefore, the State has laid down the project for turning Sagaing Division into the granary of Upper Myanmar with a surplus of 80 million baskets of paddy.

That is why it is incumbent upon the division to engage in extended cultivation of cotton, pulses and beans, sunflowers, sesame and groundnut in addition to paddy. At the same time, efforts are to be made to boost the per acre yield.

Only then, will the division be able to stand as a division with strong economy on which the State can rely.

With prevalence of law and order and peace and stability across the Union including Sagaing Division, a good foundation to engage in the tasks for economic development has emerged. With good foundations for administration, economy, education and transport,

the Government has been able to further cement the national solidarity, thereby contributing to emergence of entrepreneurs and educated persons in the respective regions.

Only when such opportunities can be created will a peaceful modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation emerge. Therefore, the Government has laid down and is implementing the seven-point future policy programme of the State, the prerequisite for emergence of a new nation.

In the process, the National Convention, the first step of the future policy programme is being successfully held. The entire national people are to continue striving for successful realization of the future policy programme.

In conclusion, the Secretary-2 stressed the need for maintaining the irrigation facilities as well as for conserving forest and regional greening, and urged local people and officials to make concerted efforts for greening Sagaing Division by making good use of the irrigation facilities.

(See page 10)

Purpose of observing World Heart Day is to disseminate knowledge of how to live a healthy life

Health Minister addresses World Heart Day ceremony

YANGON, 26 Sept — Organized by the Ministry of Health and arranged by the World Heart Federation, a ceremony to mark World Heart Day took place at the hall of the Institute of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogyoke Aung San Street here this morning, with an address delivered by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

Present on the occasion were Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, directors-general of departments under the ministry, rectors, directors, professors, medical superintendents, officials of the Yangon Division Health Department, chairmen of social organizations, nurses and guests.

In his speech, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint said the World Heart Federation has designated Sunday of the last week of September as World Heart Day since 1999. This year, the day falls on today, 26 September. The purpose of observing the day is to disseminate the knowledge of how to live a healthy life free from cardiac disease in a span of life time. With this end in view, the chosen slogan for the day runs 'A heart for life, children, adolescents, and heart disease'. The day is observed in more than 90 countries without missing a single year. However, this is the first time that the day is observed in Myanmar.

Non-communicable diseases like heart disease, hypertension, diabetes and cancer have become major health problems not only in developed countries but also in developing countries for the last decade.

Medical experts have come to aware that the rate of cardiac disease is on the increase like other



Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and MMCWA President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe view medicines for cardiac disease.— MNA

countries of the world. Malnutrition is an important health problem. Later, the minister called upon the entire people to make concerted cooperation in the drive for the creation of a world of healthy hearts free from cardiac disease.

Next, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint, MMCWA President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and guests viewed

cardiac medicines displayed at the hall.

After the ceremony, talks on World Heart Day were given. Officials of departments concerned gave talks on 'children, adolescents and the habit of smoking', 'children and nutrition' and 'the possible risks of heart disease in children and adolescents'.

MNA

Salingyi Dam inaugurated...

(from page 9)

At the same time, he called on those concerned to make relentless efforts for development of agricultural undertakings through the irrigation facilities.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye made a speech. He said that the emergence of dams and reservoirs in the region will contribute much to not only development of agriculture but also ensuring regional greening.

The Salingyi Dam opened today is of earthen type. The emergence of the facility will lead to turning out more farmlands and ensuring full water supply in the region.

Altogether 17 dams and reservoirs large and small emerged in Sagaing Division from 1988 to date.

The State has spent K 12119.18 million on the facilities that can now benefit over 367,444 acres of farmlands.

The Government has been building dams and reservoirs one after another across the nation for development of agricultural sector. The Salingyi Dam is the 164th of its kind.

The facility will now be able to benefit about 600 acres of farmlands in Salingyi Township and to supply potable water for local people.

Paddy, cotton, sugarcane, pulses and

beans, edible oil crops grow well in Sagaing Division. Thus, local farmers will be able to earn more money through the facility.

In conclusion, the commander called on local people and authorities to maintain the facility for its durability since it will contribute to regional greening and benefit agricultural undertakings.

Afterwards, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo made a speech. He said that with the emergence of 164 dams and reservoirs in a short period, those facilities benefit much agricultural work. According to geographical condition, the region has been in the

arid zone where water is scarce. Therefore, Salingyi Dam was built with the aim of developing the agricultural sector and ensuring supply of potable water.

With the emergence of the facility, local people will be able to engage in growing a wide array of crops all year-round.

Hence, local farmers are to try their utmost to be able to march to mechanised farming with the effective use of irrigation facilities created by the Government.

Next, a local people spoke words of thanks.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveiled the stone inscription of the bridge at the auspicious time. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo formally opened the dam. Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Maj-Gen Tha Aye, the ministers and deputy ministers posed for a documentary photo together with local people.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party inspected the reservoir.

At the briefing hall of the project, Deputy-Director U Maung Myint of Construction Group-4 of the Irrigation Department reported to Lt-Gen Thein Sein on completion of the reservoir construction, rainfalls in the region, water storage capacity of the dam, construction of channels and endeavours to complete the entire project in March, 2005, in cooperation with other responsible departments. Next, Director-General of the Irrigation Department U Kyaw San Win, Minister Maj-Gen

Htay Oo and Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye gave supplementary reports.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave necessary instructions. Salingyi Dam is an earth one.

It is 52 feet high and 3600 feet long and can store 4,620 acre-feet of water. It has 11 square miles of catchment area. The dam was built to supply drinking water, to irrigate 600 acres of farmland and to support regional development.

MNA



Control tower of Salingyi Dam built in Salingyi 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.

Taninthayi Division must be oil pot of the country

Assistance provided to strengthening of economic infrastructure

YANGON, 26 Sept — The government in cooperation with national entrepreneurs is realizing market-oriented economic system.

Encouragement has been given to economic development of the national entrepreneurs in agriculture, industry, trade and service sectors in accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe.

As Myanmar is an agro-based country, emphasis is placed on exceeding agricultural products in order to increase surplus export products for strengthening economic infrastructure of the country.

At present, edible oil has been imported due to insufficiency of the item in the country. Under the management of the government, the plan has been implemented to grow 500,000 acres of oil palm in Taninthayi Division since 1999 with a view to meeting local edible oil demand and exporting the surplus. Land plots were allotted free of charge to the entrepreneurs who are able to operate cultivation of oil palm.

Growing oil palm can benefit the grower as well as the country. Now, companies, local people and

regiments and units have put 100,000 acres of land under oil palm.

As more entrepreneurs wishing to invest at oil palm cultivation try to take plots of land, Taninthayi Division will become the oil pot of the country in coming a few years. In Kawthoung District, a total of 16,328 acres of oil palm have so far been grown against the target of 16,366 acres. Of them, seven companies cultivated 87,564 acres of oil palm and the government, 7,938 acres. And then, the companies are nurturing 2,768,000 oil palm saplings to put them on 36,500 acres of land.

With regard to the transport sector, VES Group Co has tarred over 47 miles long section out of 142 miles long Kawthoung-Bokpyin Road and built 33 concrete bridges out of 120 along the road.

In accord with the motto "Taninthayi Division must be oil pot of the country", nowadays, greening and thriving oil palm plantations together with rubber plantations can be seen along both sides of Kawthoung-Bokpyin Union Highway.— MNA

Taninthayi Division plans to grow 500,000 acres of oil palm, 200,000 acres of rubber, 26,000 acres of pepper

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects agriculture, construction tasks in Myeik



Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends fertilizer broadcasting ceremony at the paddy plantation of Sandawut Village-tract, Myeik Township.— MNA

YANGON, 26 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony to collectively broadcast fertilizers in the paddy plantation in Sandawut Village-tract, Myeik Township, on 24 September morning.

Also present were Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, senior military officers, departmental officials, local authorities and people. Officials reported on extension of sown acreage for local rice sufficiency, cultivation of double cropping for meeting the target production with the use of four methods, growing of Kyawzeya paddy strain and benefits, use of quality paddy strain and chemical, natural and bio-fertilizers.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions, saying that the government is implementing the border areas and national race development project and the 24 development regions project and the five rural development tasks. The government joining hands with the people plans public welfare tasks for not only 53 million of the people but also next generations with farsightedness. As the country is an agro-based nation, the target was set for production of 10 main crops in the respective regions for improvement of the agriculture sector.

Taninthayi Division is rich in water and land resources. However, concerted efforts are to be made for ensuring local food sufficiency. In this regard it is necessary to apply quality strains that are suitable for the region, in addition to systematic use of natural fertilizers.

Relying on other region for food sufficiency will make the region to face difficulties in long term and thus, departmental officials and local people must strive for implementation of ensuring local food sufficiency. Today's fertilizer broadcasting ceremony will contribute to exceeding of agricultural target as well as ensuring of sufficient food for the region.

Next, they viewed broadcast of fertilizers and bio-super foliar fertilizer on nine acres of paddy plantations. Afterwards, they viewed round booths of suitable paddy seeds for the region, sample saplings, fertilizers and pesticides, pamphlets and making Bokarshi.

They proceeded to Maha Theikdizaya Pagoda being built on Sandawady Hill mounting 90 feet high near Myeik-Dawei road and Sandawut Village of Myeik Township. Lt-Gen Maung Bo offered lights, joss sticks and flowers to the Buddha image in the cave of the pagoda. Superintending Engineer U Ba Wan reported on progress of works and future tasks. Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave necessary instructions. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected progress of construction, the sites for growing Bo tree, Sasana Beikman, the lake, the ordination hall and the monastery.

In afternoon, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met local authorities, departmental officials, townselders and entrepreneurs at the meeting hall of Coastal Region Command Headquarters.

Officials reported on paddy cultivation, local food sufficiency and land reclamation. The commander gave supplementary reports that the agricultural target of Taninthayi Division is to ensure local food sufficiency and to put lands under 500,000 acres of oil palm, 200,000 acres of rubber and 26,000 acres of pepper. In the mining sector, 223.2254 metric tons of mineral, 359,273.67 metric tons of coal, 13,685.91 momme of pearl, 19,944 metric tons of oyster shell could be produced up to 15 September. Local and foreign entrepreneurs are being invited to extend mineral production. In the meat and fish sector, 28,185.01 tons of fish and prawn could be produced up to the end of September 2004. And, efforts are being made for breeding of prawn in 15,000 acres of ponds. He also reported on progress of building Taninthayi-Bokpyin Road and Bokpyin-Kawthoung Road. Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave necessary instructions to them.— MNA

ဝန်ထမ်းနှင့်လုပ်သားများအလိုရှိသည်

၁။ တနင်္သာရီတိုင်း ကော့သောင်းမြို့နယ်နှင့်ဘုတ်မြို့နယ်ရှိ ယူဇနာဆီအုန်း စိုက်ပျိုးရေး စီမံကိန်းအတွက် အောက်ပါ ဝန်ထမ်းများနှင့် လုပ်သားများ အလိုရှိသည်။

(က) ကျွန်းမာရေဝန်ထမ်းများ (ဆရာဝန်၊ လက်ထောက်ကျွန်းမာရေမှူးနှင့်သူနာပြု)

(၁) ဆရာဝန် အမ်ဘီဘီအက်စ် (လစာကောင်းမည်) (၅) ဦး

(၂) လက်ထောက်ကျွန်းမာရေမှူး/သူနာပြု ဆရာမကြီး

Health Assistant/Green Staff (လစာကောင်းမည်) (၁၀) ဦး

(၃) သူနာပြု အထက်တန်းသူနာပြု

(Blue Staff/

သူနာပြု (Red Staff)

(လစာကောင်းမည်)

(ခ) ဆရာ/ဆရာမ အခြေခံပညာ

မူလတန်းကျောင်းအတွက် (၆)ဦး

ဘွဲ့ရ(သို့မဟုတ်)

တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်တန်းအောင်

(လစာကောင်းမည်)

(ဂ) မော်တော်ယာဉ်စက်ပြင်/ ကျွမ်းကျင် (၁၀)ဦး

ဘော်ဒီ/ဆေးမှတ် (လစာကျပ် ၇၀၀၀၀)

(ဃ) ယန္တရားစက်ပြင် ကျွမ်းကျင်မှုအဆင့်ဆင့် (၅) ဦး

(လစာ-ကျပ်၇၅၀၀၀၊

၆၀၀၀၀၅၀၀၀၀)

(င) ယန္တရားစက်မောင်း ကျွမ်းကျင် (၁၀)ဦး

(လစာ-ကျပ် ၆၀၀၀၀နှင့်

လုပ်ကွက်အပေါ်

ထပ်မံခမားခွင့်ရှိသည်

(စ) ယာဉ်မောင်း ကျွမ်းကျင် (၁၀)ဦး

(လစာ-ကျပ် ၅၀၀၀၀)

(ဆ) စိုက်ပျိုးရေးဝန်ထမ်း စိုက်ပျိုးရေးဒီပလိုမာ/ဘွဲ့ရ (၁၀၀)ဦး

(လစာကောင်းမည်၊အတွေ့အကြုံ

ရှိသူပိုမိုစားခွင့်ရှိမည်။)

(ဇ) စိုက်ပျိုးရေးလုပ်သား တောရှင်းခြင်း၊ အပင်စိုက်ပျိုးခြင်း၊

အပင်ထိန်းသိမ်းခြင်းများ လုပ်ကိုင်

နိုင်သူ (၅၀၀၀)ကျော်

(နေ့စား-တစ်နေ့ ကျပ်၁၀၀၀ခန့်)

၂။ ဆရာဝန်လျှောက်ထားသူများသည် အသက်(၆၀)ထက် မကြီးရ၊ ကျန်ဝန်ထမ်းနှင့် လုပ်သားလျှောက်ထားသူများသည် အသက် (၄၀)ထက် မကြီးရ။ နေထိုင်မှုအခမဲ့စဉ်ပေးမည်ဖြစ်ပြီး ဆေးဝါးကုသမှု စရိတ်ကိုလည်း ကုမ္ပဏီက ကျခံပေးမည်။ အလုပ်တာဝန်ခန့်အပ်ခံရသူများသည်ကန်ထရိုက်စာချုပ် (၂)နှစ်ချုပ်ဆိုရမည်ဖြစ်ပြီး ဆန္ဒရှိပါက ရာသက်ပန်နေထိုင်လုပ်ကိုင်နိုင်ရန်စီမံပေးသွားမည်။

၃။ အပိုခံခွဲ(က)မှ(ဆ)အထိ ဝန်ထမ်းများ တာဝန်ထမ်းဆောင်မှု တစ်နှစ်ပြည့်ပါက နားရက်(၁)လကို (လစာအပြည့်ဖြင့်) ခွင့်ပြုမည် ဖြစ်ပြီး တာဝန်ထမ်းဆောင်မှု (၂)နှစ်ပြည့်ပါက နားရက်(၁)လ (လစာအပြည့်) အပြင်ခွင့်ပြုလိုပါက အသွားအပြန်ခရီးစရိတ်ကို ကုမ္ပဏီက ကျခံပေးမည်။

၄။ အပိုခံခွဲ(ဇ)မှ စိုက်ပျိုးရေး လုပ်သားများ တာဝန်ထမ်းဆောင်မှု (၂)နှစ်ပြည့်ပါက ဆွေ့ ကျပ် ၃၀၀၀၀ ချီ ဖြင့်ပေးမည်ဖြစ်ပြီး ခွင့်ပြုနိုင်လိုပါက အပြန်ခရီးစရိတ်ကို ကုမ္ပဏီက ကျခံပေးမည်။

၅။ လျှောက်ထားလိုသူများသည် အောက်ပါလိုစာများအတိုင်း ဆက်သွယ်စုံစမ်းလျှောက်ထားနိုင်ပြီး ခန့်အပ်ခြင်းခံရပါက ၎င်းလိုစာများတွင် စုစုပေါင်းရှိ လုပ်ငန်းခွင်အရောက် ကုမ္ပဏီက တာဝန်ယူပို့ဆောင်ပေးမည်။

(က)အမှတ်(၁၃၀) ရွှေဝိုင်းလမ်း၊ ယူဇနာစင်တာ (တတိယထပ်)၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း-(၀၁)၅၄၀၇၄၅၊ ၅၄၀၇၄၆၊ ၅၄၀၇၄၇၊ ၅၄၀၇၄၈၊ ၅၄၀၇၄၉၊ ၅၄၀၇၅၀၊ ၅၄၀၇၅၁။

(ခ) အမှတ်(ယဉ္ဇ/၁)၊ ရန်ကုန်-မန္တလေးလမ်းနှင့် မြဝတီမင်းကြီးလမ်းထောင့်၊ ကျွဲဆည်ကန်ရပ်၊ ပြည်ကြီးကန်မြို့နယ်၊ မန္တလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း-(၀၂)၈၀၈၆၅

(ဂ) ယူဇနာဟိုင်းဝေးလိမိတက်၊ ရန်ကုန်-မန္တလေးပြည်ထောင်စုလမ်းမကြီး၊ စီမံကိန်း၊ ဖျော်ဘွယ်-မိတ္ထီလာလမ်းတည် ဆောက်ရေးစီမံကိန်းရုံး၊ ဖျော်ဘွယ်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း-(၀၆၄) ၂၂၄၉၉

(ဃ) ရောဝတီတိုင်းလုပ်ငန်းလိမိတက်၊ အမှတ်(၁)ရပ်ကွက်၊ ကမ်းနားလမ်း၊ ရန်ကင်းတောင်စက်မှု၊ ပုသိမ်မြို့၊ ရောဝတီတိုင်း၊ ဖုန်း-(၀၄၄)၂၅၀၂၁၊ ၂၅၀၂၂၊ ၂၅၀၂၃၊ ၂၅၀၂၄

(င) အမှတ် (၁၂၅)၊ ဗိုလ်ချုပ်လမ်း၊ ဆိတ်ငယ်ရပ်၊ မြိတ်မြို့၊ တနင်္သာရီတိုင်း၊ ဖုန်း-(၀၅၅) ၄၁၁၇၆၊ ၄၁၁၇၇

(စ) အမှတ် (၄၇၀) ကြံ့ခိုင်ရေလမ်း၊ အတ္ထုဓါရပ်၊ ကော့သောင်းမြို့၊ တနင်္သာရီတိုင်း၊ ဖုန်း-(၀၅၅) ၅၁၂၀၉

၆။ ထို့အပြင် ဖျဉ်းမနား၊ တပ်ကုန်း၊ ရမည်းသင်း၊ ဖျော်ဘွယ်၊ မိတ္ထီလာ၊ သာစည်၊ ဝမ်းတွင်း၊ တောင်သာ၊ မြင်းခြံ၊ ရေစကြို၊ ရှောက်ဦး၊ ပခုက္ကူ၊ မုံရွာ၊ ဘုတ်လင်း၊ ရွှေဘို၊ ရေဦး၊ ခင်ဦး၊ ဆားလင်းကြီး၊ ထီးလင်း၊ ပေါက်၊ မြိုင်၊ ဝန်း၊ ဆော့၊ ရေနံချောင်း၊ ရှောက်၊ ကျောက်ပန်းတောင်း၊ စလေး၊ စလင်း၊ ပွင့်ဖြူ၊ မင်းဘူး၊ မင်းလှနှင့် အခြားမြို့များရှိ အလုပ်သမားညွှန်ကြားရေးဦးစီးဌာနမြို့နယ်များ၌လည်း လျှောက်ထားနိုင်သည်။

Kazakhstan willing to promote cooperation with China

YINING (Xinjiang), 25 Sept—Kazakhstan is willing to promote cooperation with China in various fields, said visiting Kazakhstan President Nursultan Abishevich Nazarbayev here Friday.

Nazarbayev, who was here for a two-day working visit to northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, made the remarks during his meeting with Wang Lequan, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and secretary of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Regional Committee of the CPC.

He said the cooperation between Kazakhstan

and China, two neighbouring countries, is conducive for enhancing understanding and trust between the two peoples and will bring concrete benefits for both sides. Wang Lequan said China and Kazakhstan have witnessed rapid development of good-neighbourly and friendly cooperation in recent years, and enjoyed cooperation in such fields as economy, trade, energy and transport. Kazakhstan has been Xinjiang's largest

trade partner in the past 10 years and cross-border trade between China and Kazakhstan has been very active, Wang said. China and Kazakhstan will start the oil pipeline programme soon, which has strategic significance for the two sides, Wang said. He said he hoped that such energy cooperation will drive cooperation between the two countries in other fields.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese official says world's "Highest" railway environment-friendly

BEIJING, 25 Sept—The construction of the Qinghai-Tibet rail line does not threaten the fragile eco-system of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, the source of most of China's major waterways, said China's environment watchdog organization here Friday at a Press conference.

Pan Yue, deputy director of the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA), said that measures have been taken to effectively protect water sources, frozen earth, wetlands, vegetation and migration routes for wild animals. The 1,956-kilometre-long Qinghai-Tibet Railway, which links Xining, Qinghai's capital in northwest China, with Lhasa, capital city of the Tibet Autonomous Region, records the highest elevation of any rail line in the world, reaching 5,072 metres above sea level at Tanggula Range.

Because the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau has a vulnerable, high-altitude eco-system with thin air and cold temperatures, once vegetation is damaged, it cannot be easily restored. Therefore, despite its two billion yuan (241 million US dollars) environmental investment, the railway project has drawn concerns about possible environmental losses from home and

abroad. Pan elaborated on the five measures which have been taken to minimize losses:

— Removing vegetation from construction sites and restoring it after finishing the work.

— Building the line away from natural zones and confine construction work to a smallest possible scope along the line. At some sections, passages for wild life to migrate have been set up.

— Detouring around wetlands and lakes, and when impossible, building bridges rather than roads to minimize the damage to land surface.

— Using heat preservation material to fill in the base to keep a stable frozen earth layer along the line.

— Minimize the number of stations along the line to reduce human waste and installing water treatment facilities in every station. Recycled water is forbidden from going into local waterways directly.

MNA/Xinhua

ADB to help Afghanistan attract investment

MANILA, 25 Sept—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) Friday said that it would help Afghanistan to stimulate private sector activity and attract foreign direct investment by co-financing an investment guarantee facility.

The ADB said in a statement that it had approved a loan of five million US dollars and a guarantee of 10 million US dollars to provide political risk guarantees to eligible investors and financiers.

"We are very pleased with this cooperative effort among different partners to create an innovative solution to the needs of Afghanistan, leveraging each other's strength and making use of ADB's political risk guarantee instruments in a catalytic and innovative way," says Werner Liepach, ADB's Director of Co-financing Operations.

Citing an analysis by the World Bank, the ADB said that there is an encouraging potential level of foreign direct investment in Afghanistan, with demand coming from sectors such as energy, telecommunications, Internet services, banking, hotels, housing, food and agribusiness, textile, steel, oil and gas, and mining.

MNA/Xinhua

World Bank helps India develop rural roads

NEW DELHI, 25 Sept—The World Bank has granted 400 million US dollars in loans to India to help develop its rural roads, the *Indo-Asian News Service* reported on Friday.

The project is expected to support India's national programme and provide all-weather roads in villages and remote hamlets. The project's scope would be expanded to Bihar State in east India and other poorly connected states, World Bank said in a statement Friday.

Piers Vickers, World Bank's senior transport specialist said, "An estimated 200 million people are without all-weather road access in India."

He said the lack of good roads, "prevents" the rural population "from being fully integrated into the economy and accessing essential services, such as basic healthcare and education." The project is consistent with the World Bank's country strategy for India, which will accelerate rural growth in the country.—MNA/Xinhua

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P.O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 27 September 2004

Reward offered to find out how tombs were built on cliffs

NANCHANG, 25 Sept—Management of a famous Taoist mountain in east China's Jiangxi Province has offered to pay 400,000 yuan (about 48,000 US dollars) to anyone who can give a convincing explanation of how tombs were built on its steep cliffs more than 2,600 years ago.

The cliff tombs, containing more than 200 ancient wooden coffins, are one of the three geological and cultural legacies of Longhu Mountain, or Tiger and Dragon Mountain, in Yingtan City of the central-eastern province. The other two wonders are its wide variety of landforms and rich Taoism culture.

An archaeological worker in Jiangxi Province dug into 18 of the ancient tombs in the 1970s. He excavated 37 coffins and sacrificial projects dating back to the Eastern Zhou Dynasty, at least 2,600 years ago.

No one has been able to determine how the tombs were built, though the management of Longhu Mountain tourist zone previously offered 300,000 yuan (some 36,000 US dollars) in 1997 to anyone who could give a plausible answer.

The move aroused public interest, and nearly 10,000 scholars, expeditioners and others came up with various hypotheses.—MNA/Xinhua



Chinese labourers work on a scaffolding at the National Museum in Beijing on 24 Sept, 2004. China's capital is renovating its city infrastructure for the 2008 Summer Olympic Games.

INTERNET

Chinese top legislator hopes for further China-Peru trade relations

BEIJING, 25 Sept—China's top legislator said here Tuesday that China and Peru should expand cooperation and lift trade relations to a new level.

While meeting with a Peruvian Congress delegation, led by First Vice-President Natale Amprimo Pla, Wu Bangguo, chairman of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing

Committee, said bilateral relations have developed smoothly since the two countries forged their diplomatic ties more than 30 years ago.

The two countries, reliable partners, have increased trust and kept sound cooperation in international affairs, Wu acknowledged.

The two countries with complimentary needs have maintained good momentum in trade relations, Wu said, expressing his appreciation for Peru's support on the issues of Taiwan. The NPC is ready to strengthen exchanges with the Congress of Peru to deepen the friendship and promote bilateral relations, he added.—MNA/Xinhua

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုးကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်ရှိသင့်သည်။



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Chinese FM says Premier's Kyrgyzstan, Russia tour fruitful

Moscow, 26 Sept — Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing on Saturday hailed Premier Wen Jiabao's two-nation tour to Kyrgyzstan and Russia as a complete success, saying the visit is fruitful in promoting mutual political understanding, bilateral trade and good-neighbourly relationship.

Li, who accompanied the Premier during his visit to the two countries and attendance at the third meeting of prime minister of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization's (SCO) member states, said Premier Wen held extensive talks with government leaders of the SCO members, signing a total of 13 bilateral documents and nine multilateral ones.

During his visit to Russia, Li said, Premier Wen reached a consensus with his Russian counterpart, Mikhail Fradkov, that the two countries should make joint efforts in expanding and deepening their strategic partnership of cooperation.

Li said the two countries recognized each other's full market economy status, pledged to maintain a sustainable development of bilateral trade.

During Wen's visit to Moscow, the two sides

also vowed to strengthen cooperation in fighting terrorism, and in such humanistic spheres as culture, education, health, sports and the media, and in oil and natural gas projects, including the construction of pipelines between China and Russia, the foreign minister said.

While visiting Kyrgyzstan, Wen and his Kyrgyz counterpart, Nikolai Tanayev, agreed to expand cooperation in transport, energy, agriculture, food processing, electric machinery, aviation, textiles and finance, Li said.

The two sides promised to strengthen coordination and cooperation in combating terrorism, separatism and extremism, vowing to continue to carry out strong measures in jointly fighting the so-called "Eastern Turkistan" terrorist group.

MNA/Xinhua

French President to visit Vietnam before ASEM 5

HANOI, 25 Sept — French President Jacques Chirac will pay his second official visit to Vietnam on 6 October before attending the fifth Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM 5) on 7-8 October according to diplomatic sources on Friday.

The French President will discuss with his Vietnamese counterpart Tran Duc Luong about a number of issues, some of which will be relevant to those touched by them during Luong's official visit to France in 2002, including measures to beef up bilateral and multilateral ties, and French's support for Vietnam's entry to the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Security Council as a non-standing member in the 2008-2009.

During Chirac's visit, Vietnam and China will sign some 16 documents, mostly involving projects on education and infrastructure, an official from the French Embassy in Hanoi said on condition of anonymity, noting that the French President will be accompanied by around 20 businesses. — MNA/Xinhua



This picture released in 1999 by Oregon State University shows a fossil of a theropod found in Italy. Paleontologists have been wondering what is the purpose of the long neck on a group of predatory reptiles that roamed the earth millions of years ago.—INTERNET

Belgian cancer patient gives birth to baby

BRUSSELS, 25 Sept — A Belgian cancer patient made infertile by chemotherapy has made world history by giving birth to a baby on Thursday after undergoing a revolutionary treatment in a Brussels hospital, local radio RVI reported here on Friday.

In the Brussels' Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, a Hodgkin's lymphoma patient on Thursday night gave birth to a baby girl weighing three kilos 720 grammes.

The 32-year-old patient, named Quarda Tourat, was diagnosed seven years ago with the cancer. Before undertaking chemotherapy surgeons removed healthy ovarian tissue. After the successful treatment of the cancer in April 2003, the tissue was re-implanted.

The radio quoted a spokesperson for the hospital as saying that this was the first such birth in the world, and the implications for other women in similar situations are great.

Professor Jaques Donnez, who led the research into the treatment at the Catholic University of Leuven, told the Press that the findings open new perspectives for young cancer patients facing premature ovarian failure.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam, Thailand allow tourist cars to enter territories

HANOI, 25 Sept — Vietnam and Thailand have reached a consensus on allowing tourist cars to go to seven localities of each country, local newspaper Youth reported Friday. Under an agreement reached on Thursday, left-handed or right-handed wheel cars will be allowed to transport Thai tourists to tour seven Vietnamese central provinces, including Ha Tinh, Hue and Quang Nam, and transport Vietnamese visitors to seven Thai northeastern provinces.

Thai cars will enter Vietnam via the Lao Bao border gate in Quang Tri Province or the Cau Treo border gate in Ha Tinh Province, while Vietnamese cars are to go through the three Thai border gates of Mukdahan, Nong Khai and Nakhon Phanom.

In the coming time, the governments of Vietnam and Thailand are expected to separately approve the agreement which will become effective within 60 days after being signed, the paper said.

Relevant agencies of Vietnam and China are currently exploring possibilities of letting their automobiles to travel in some localities of each country. The move aims at facilitating transport, trade and tourism in the two economic corridors involving the two Chinese provinces of Yunnan and Guangxi and five Vietnamese localities of Hanoi, Hai Phong, Quang Ninh, Lao Cai and Lang Son. — MNA/Xinhua



Chinese ballet dancers rehearse, for their performance during the National Day holiday, in Guangzhou, southern China on 24 Sept, 2004. China celebrates its 55th National Day on 1 Oct.

INTERNET

Consumers recommend wider use of statin to lower cholesterol

WASHINGTON, 25 Sept — Consumer advocates backed by some prominent doctors and researchers on Thursday questioned a new US policy recommending wider use of statin drugs to lower cholesterol.

The new guidelines, published in July, suggest that people who once thought their cholesterol levels were fine should take statin drugs to get them even lower.

The National Institutes of Health and the National Cholesterol Education Programme panel that issued the guidelines cited several studies showing that people who used statins greatly lowered their risk of heart disease.

But the Centre for Science in the Public Interest

disputed the interpretation of the studies and accused the panel members of having been influenced by their connections to drug companies.

"There is strong evidence to suggest that an objective, independent reevaluation of the scientific evidence from the five new studies of statin therapy would lead to different conclusions than those presented by the current NCEP," reads the CSPI letter, signed by 35 cardiologists, nutritionists and other health profes-

sionals.

"The studies cited do not demonstrate that statins benefit women of any age or men over 70 who do not already have heart disease," said John Abramson, a clinical instructor in primary care at Harvard Medical School, who signed the letter.

"Furthermore, we are concerned about the findings from one of the five cited studies showing that statin therapy significantly increases the risk of cancer in the elderly."

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Third group starts talks with Liverpool

LONDON, 25 Sept— A third group have started talks with Liverpool aimed at taking control of the Premier League club, according to a report on Friday's *Financial Times*.

Mike Jefferies and Stuart Ford, two American-based entertainment executives with Liverpool roots, are keen to put together a deal potentially worth 100 million pounds (180.2 million US dollars), said the *Financial Times*.

"We would like to be able to contribute to helping Liverpool become the most successful club in the world," Jefferies was quoted as saying.

Two weeks ago, Thai media tycoon Paiboon Damrongchaitham, also bidding to buy a stake in Liverpool, said he would meet representatives of the club later this month to try to finalize a deal.

Paiboon took over negotiations after Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra was forced to back out of his proposed 120-million-US-dollars deal for a 30-per-cent stake in Liverpool due to fierce criticism of his plan to use public money. —MNA/Reuters



Wearing masks representing F-1 drivers, Chinese performers march during the opening ceremony of the Chinese Grand Prix at the Shanghai Circuit on 26 Sept, 2004. Shanghai hosts the inaugural Chinese Grand Prix on Sunday with a breathtaking \$325 million Shanghai Circuit and a sellout crowd of at least 150,000, one of two debut grand prix this year - the other was Bahrain's first race in the Middle East - that allow Formula One to boast of being a truly global championship. — INTERNET

Owen leaves out of squad due injury

MADRID, 25 Sept— England striker Michael Owen has been left out of the Real Madrid squad to play Athletic Bilbao this weekend because of a minor leg strain. The 24-year-old played the last 10 minutes of his side's 1-0 victory against Osasuna last Tuesday but was only able to jog around the pitch on Friday's training session and will not travel to Bilbao with the rest of his teammates.

Owen has made just one start for Real in the league since joining the club from Liverpool for 12 million euros (14.76 million US dollars) in the close season.

With Raul likely to fill in on the left in the absence of injured midfielders Zinedine Zidane and Santiago Solari, Guti and Fernando Morientes are favourites to join Ronaldo in the Real attack for Saturday's match.

MNA/Reuters

Answers for yesterday's crossword puzzle



Arsenal retains lead at top of Premier League

LONDON, 26 Sept— Champions Arsenal retained their two-point lead at the top of the Premier League with a 1-0 win at Manchester City as title rivals Chelsea beat Middlesbrough 1-0 on Saturday.

Manchester United's revival continued when they ended Tottenham Hotspur's unbeaten run with a 1-0 victory at White Hart Lane, courtesy of a Ruud van Nistelrooy penalty.

Liverpool cantered to a 3-0 victory over Norwich City, Dutch newcomer Patrick Kluivert and skipper Alan Shearer scored in Newcastle United's 3-1 victory over 10-man West Bromwich Albion, and Fulham were 1-0 winners over struggling Southampton.

Arsenal's England full back Ashley Cole scored his first league goal for over two years to take his team back to the top after Chelsea's earlier win at the Riverside. Cole's 14th-minute strike extended Arsenal's record unbeaten league run to 47 games and left them on 19 points. Chelsea are second on 17 points, with Everton third on 13 before their game on Sunday at Portsmouth.

Chelsea had to be patient at Middlesbrough, Ivory Coast striker Didier Drogba scoring the 81st-minute winner with a deflected low drive after midfielder Frank Lampard had squared a free kick.

Yet to produce sparkling football under new coach Jose Mourinho, Chelsea ground out their third 1-0 league win and have conceded only one goal in seven league games.

"At halftime, I was saying to the players we are playing amazingly and... we are not scoring goals, but we must keep the self belief," Mourinho told Sky Sports News. Despite scoring only seven goals in the seven games, Mourinho believes it is only a matter of time before Chelsea's attack clicks.

"I'm very pleased, and the players are really happy in the dressing room — and that's a good sign," he said.

MNA/Reuters

Czech soccer federation claims Nedved retired from int'l football

PRAGUE, 25 Sept— Czech captain and a playmaker Pavel Nedved has retired from international football because of persistent injury, the Czech soccer federation said on Friday.

The 32-year-old European Footballer of the Year said this month he would not return to the national squad until he had fully recovered from a knee injury.

"It really saddens me to be leaving the national team and I believe that my

former teammates, who I was honoured to play with, as well as my fans... will respect and understand my decision," he said in a statement.

"I do not want to be seen as leaving without feeling or as being disgruntled. And because of

this, I wish Czech football further success," he added.

Midfielder Nedved, who plays for Juventus in Italy, suffered the injury in the Euro 2004 semi-final loss to Greece.

Nedved made his debut for the Czech Republic against Ireland in 1994 and played 83 times for his country, scoring 17 goals.

He moved to Lazio from Sparta Prague in 1996, helping the Rome-based club to victories in the Italian Cup in 1998 and the European Winners' Cup in 1999.

The following season Lazio clinched the Italian league and cup double and Juventus paid 41 million euros (49.5 million US dollars) for Nedved in 2001.

MNA/Reuters

FIFA seeking ways for players' better form at World Cup

LONDON, 25 Sept— FIFA is looking at ways to help players prepare better for major international tournaments starting with the 2006 World Cup.

The Football Committee and Technical and Development Committee of world soccer's ruling body met on Thursday in Zurich to discuss the sport's co-ordinated match calendar.

"The view of the technical experts in world football is very clear — players, especially internationals, are taking part in too many matches," FIFA said in a statement.

Both committees agreed that there should be a longer preparation period for the next World Cup, with a proposal to end 2005-06 European domestic sea-

sons by May 14 before the June 9 start of the tournament in Germany.

The meeting was chaired by FIFA vice-president Angel Maria Villar Llona and Executive Committee member Michel Platini.

It was also proposed to bring the finals of UEFA club competitions in 2006 forward by one week, with the UEFA Cup final on May 10 instead of May 17 and the Champions League final on May 17 instead of May 24. —MNA/Reuters

China surpasses Sydney Paralympics gold medal tally

ATHENS, 25 Sept — China has surpassed the gold medal tally of 34 achieved at the 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games when a female swimmer won a gold medal at the Athens 2004 Paralympic games here Friday afternoon.

Zhu Hongyan, who won a stunning sum of five gold medals with two world records in Sydney, took the women's S12 class 100 metres freestyle event in one minute 1.99 seconds in the Olympic Aquatic Centre here.

It was the second gold medal for the 29-year-old and China's 35th in Athens.

China won 34 gold, 22 silver and 16 bronze for a medal tally of 72 in the Sydney Games four years ago. —MNA/Xinhua



Porto soccer player Derlei (R) challenges Guimaraes Domingos Alex (L) during their Portuguese Premier League match held at D Afonso Henriques Stadium in the northern Portuguese city of Guimaraes on 25 Sept, 2004. — INTERNET

Provisions provided to monasteries, nunneries in Yangon West and East Districts

YANGON, 26 Sept — Families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated provisions to 15 monasteries and Daw Nanaçari Myanaung Nunnery in Sangyoung Township this afternoon.

At Thantithukha Dhammayon of Koe-datgyi Pagoda, the donation ceremony was held. It was attended by members of the Sangha, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, authorities, social organizations and wellwishers.

On behalf of Tatmadaw families, Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun and Lt-Col Than Hlaing of the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Air) offered provisions to the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Weiluwn Pariyatti Monastery and nuns of Myanaung Nunnery.

Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Commander Tin Aung San of the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and Lt-Col Than Hlaing presented K



Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Captain Nyan Tun and Lt-Col Than Hlaing offer provisions to a Sayadaw.—MNA

160,000 donated by Tatmadaw families to Captain Nyan Tun.

Next, the Chief of Staff (Navy), the Vice-Adjutant-General, the Deputy Minister for SWRR and senior military officers accepted the donations from wellwishers.

Today's donations for monasteries and the nunnery in Sangyoung Township were 438 bags of rice, 2163 viss of oil, 1,634 viss of iodized salt, 327 tubes of tooth paste, 326 viss of gram, 1,870 bottles of traditional medicine, eight drums of traditional medicines, 3,268 cakes of Padonma soap, 100

copies of magazines and K 4,574,090.

Similarly, provisions of Tatmadaw families and wellwishers were donated to six monasteries in Botahtaung and Pazundaung townships at 3 pm today. The ceremony was held at Mingalarama Pali Tekkatho on Theinbyu Street.

Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Deputy Minister for SWRR Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and officials donated provisions to the Sayadaws. Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Captain Nyan Tun

and Lt-Col Than Hlaing offered rice, oil and gram donated by Tatmadaw families and wellwishers to the Sayadaws. The Chief of Staff (Navy), the Deputy Minister for SWRR and the Vice-Adjutant-General offered donations from wellwishers to the Sayadaws.

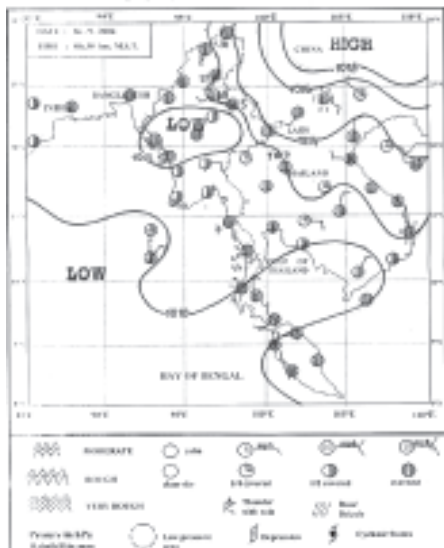
Today's donations for six monasteries in Botahtaung and Pazundaung townships were 196 bags of rice, 60 viss of oil, 601 viss of iodized salt, 120 tubes of tooth paste, 2,936 bottles of traditional medicines, 120 viss of gram, 601 cakes of soap and K 14,759,940. — MNA

MPT introduces Security Code Numbering system

YANGON, 26 Sept—Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications has introduced the Code Numbering System for subscribers in order to prevent others from using illicit extensions of the telephones in Yangon City. The caller is to use the code number which will be provided by the Auto Exchange concerned. The new security system will affect the out-going calls when the phone is not in use, but the in-coming calls will not be affected.

The subscribers may contact the Auto Exchange concerned in person or through their representatives producing the Citizenship Scrutiny Cards.—MNA

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 26 September 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Division, scattered in Kachin, Shan and Chin States, upper Sagaing Division, isolated in Mon, Kayah and Rakhine States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Kachin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Machanbaw (4.65) inches and Putao (1.18) inches.

Maximum temperature on 25-9-2004 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 26-9-2004 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 26-9-2004 was 75%. Total sunshine hours on 25-9-2004 was (7.0) hours approx. Rainfall on 26-9-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 109.80 inches at Yangon Airport, 104.33 inches at Kaba-Aye and 106.81 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 8 mph from Southwest at 18:30 hours MST on 25-9-2004.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 27-9-2004: Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin State, Taninthayi and upper Sagaing Divisions and weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Generally fair weather in the whole Country. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 27-9-2004:** Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-9-2004: Partly cloudy.

UMFCCI officials meet guests

YANGON, 26 Sept—Chairman of Greater Mekong Subregion Business forum (GMS-BF) U Win Aung, Vice-President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Aung Lwin and CEC members, on 23 November, met Chairman Mr T Ishizuka of Itochu (Thailand) Ltd and party at UMFCCI office.

They discussed matters relating to the visit of a delegation of Japanese Chamber of Commerce, Bangkok, and economic matters.

MNA

Pakistani delegation arrives

YANGON, 26 Sept—A Pakistani delegation led by Member of Staff College of Pakistan Administrative Staff College (PASC) Mr M Khalid Iqbal arrived here this afternoon.

They visited Shwedagon Pagoda this afternoon and members of Pagoda Board of Trustees conducted them round the pagoda. The delegation comprises eight members attending the National Management Course of PASC.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Director-General of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Hla Kyi, Pakistani Ambassador Mr Muhammad Nawaz Chaudhry and officials.

MNA

Beware—they're digging up old wounds

* The wounds they inflicted on us
With traditional medicines brewed
We'd heal spiritually and physically
In consideration of every aspect
We did the curing correctly
Myanmar character was restored
Only remains to consolidate itself.

* When we line up strength according to plan
We are working incessantly
Those who inflicted wounds before
While we all try to preserve Myanmar character
To bring it back into correct form
Those who cannot bear to see us and
want to see it as it was before
Are purposely digging up old wounds
Are up to old tricks again.

* Only if we're ever vigilant
We'll be able to clearly see the trap.

* Make moves to be free from danger
Brethren all, with hands joined firmly
March toward desired objective
Let's move on to reach it definitely.

Po Wa (Trs)

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

Efforts being made for development of private industrial sector

Secretary-1 addresses coord meeting on establishment of modern iron product factories

YANGON, 26 Sept —A coordination meeting on establishment of modern iron product factories in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi (Ayethaya) was held in the meeting hall of the Ministry of Industry-2 at 2 pm today, with an address by Industrial Development Committee Chairman State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win.

It was also attended by Industrial Development Committee Secretary Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Chairman Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, MID Work Committee Chairman Minister for Industry-2

Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Taunggyi (Ayethaya) Industrial Zone in charge Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, members of MID committee and work committee, officials of SPDC office, heads of departments, officials, chairmen of respective industrial zone supervisory committees, industrialists and guests. Addressing the meeting, the Secretary-1 said foundry shops and press shops are being established in the industrial zones of Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi (Ayethaya) with the assistance of the State. Today's meeting is held to make arrangements to complete the construction projects in time
(See page 9)



Industrial Development Committee Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win addresses coordination meeting to establish modern iron product factories in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi (Ayethaya) Industrial Zones.— MNA

Salingyi Dam inaugurated to irrigate 600 acres of farmlands and to supply drinking water

YANGON, 26 Sept — The opening ceremony of Salingyi Dam constructed by the Construction Group-4 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Salingyi

Township in Monywa District, Sagaing Division was held this morning with an address by Chairman of the Agriculture Development Committee Secretary-2 of

the State Peace and Development Committee Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

The opening ceremony was also attended by Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of

Defence, Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, ministers, deputy ministers, senior military

officers, departmental officials and local people totalling over 4,500.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Thein Sein said as Salingyi
(See page 9)

INSIDE

Perspectives
Strive for development of border areas and national races through national solidarity
(Page 2)



Agricultural Development Committee Chairman Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveils the stone plaque of Salingyi Dam.— MNA