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Wednesday, 13 October, 2004

Active participation of related ministries, local authorities in implementing factory project (Thabaung) stressed Prime Minister inspects 200-ton pulp mill project (Thabaung)

YANGON, 12 Oct

— Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the ministers, the Chief of Staff (Navy), the deputy ministers, officials of the SPDC Office, departmental heads and officials, helicoptered to the 200-ton pulp factory project site (Thabaung) of the Ministry of Industry-1 in Thabaung in Ayeyawady Division on 10 October morning.

The Prime Minister and party were accorded welcome by Ayeyawady Division PDC Chairman South-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Kyaw Win, (See page 8)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt looks into Thabaung Pulp Mill (200-ton). — MNA

Development of township depends on efficiency and perseverance of officials playing leading role in the area Prime Minister calls on departmental officials to make field trips down to rural areas to fulfil requirements

YANGON, 12 Oct —

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman

of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, ministers, the Chief of Staff (Navy) deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace

and Development Council Office, heads of department inspected 200-ton Pulp Factory Project (Thabaung) on 10 October morning. During their visit to Hlegyitet Village Basic Education Primary School,

Thabaung, the Prime Minister and party met departmental officials, members of social organizations and locals.

Next, departmental officials presented reports to the Prime Min-

ister and party on matters relating to agriculture, education, development affairs, transportation and communication in Thabaung. In response to the reports, the

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Bring honour to the nation through sports
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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets departmental personnel, social organizations and townselders in Thabaung Township. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 13 Oct, 2004

Bring honour to the nation through sports

In its drive to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the Government has been implementing 12 political, economic and social objectives. It has placed emphasis on promotion of the nation's sports standard realizing one of the four social objectives — Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation.

In the process, the Government not only organizes national level sports events at home but also sends national sports contingents to international sports events. Furthermore, Myanmar hosts international level sports events in the nation with the sponsorship of the Government.

The Government's assistance and encouragement to sports movements is aimed at enhancing friendly relations between the Myanmar Sports Federations and international sports federations, and Myanmar and other nations through sports movements as well as enabling national sports athletes to be equipped with the spirit to elevate the nation's role. National wellwishers and citizens, on their part, are making contributions to achieve success in sports.

In this regard, sports athletes, managers and coaches are to make efforts with added momentum to enhance dignity of the nation, realizing that such assistance of the State, contributions of wellwishers and participation of the public indicate that the entire national people have been making combined endeavours so as to raise the sports standard of the nation.

Myanmar takes part in international sports events and so respective officials in the sports field are to constantly make reviews of all the strengths and weaknesses by keeping in close touch with the athletes.

Myanmar women soccer team won the trophy in the first ASEAN Women's Soccer Tournament held from 29 September to 9 October in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The Finance and Revenue team also emerged champion in the 110th Invitational Football Match of India Football Federation (East Bengal) held from 30 September to 10 October in India.

Besides, Myanmar bagged eight gold, six silver and two bronze in the fifth South East Asia Canoe Race held from 27 September to 4 October in the Philippines. The national sports teams' brilliant performances brought honours to the motherland.

Therefore, responsible personnel and athletes are urged to take a more active role in order to achieve greater success in international sports events and producing brilliant athletes who can bring honour to the nation through sports.

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



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint delivers a speech at the meeting on review of the 41st Myanmar Gems Emporium. — MNA

Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium to be held

YANGON, 12 Oct — A meeting to review the 41st Myanmar Gems Emporium which was held in March and the first meeting of the central committee for organizing the Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium will be held this month took place at Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here this morning.

Present on the occa-

sion were Patron of the central committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Chairman Deputy Minister U Myint Thein, Vice-Chairmen Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung and Yangon Command Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, Secretary Myanmar Gems Enterprise Managing Director U Khin

Oo and central committee members. At the meeting, the Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium was set to be held from 27 October to 4 November. Next, officials reported on invitations sent to gems merchants and their replies and arrangements being made by respective subcommittees. The minister and committee members held

discussions. Deputy Minister U Myint Thein and Managing Director U Khin Oo discussed matters related to successful holding of the emporium and efforts to earn more foreign exchange.

Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint fulfilled the requirements and gave concluding remarks.

MNA

Information Minister receives Malaysian guests

YANGON, 12 Oct — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Adviser Dato Ainuddin Noordin of MEASAT-3: A Global Beam for Myanmar, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Sales and Marketing Mr Paul Brown Kenyon and Senior Vice-President of Space & Technology Dr Ali R Ebadi at his office on Theinbyu Road here this afternoon.

Present at the call together with Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan were Director-General of Myanmar Radio and Television U Khin Maung Htay, Managing Director of News and Periodicals



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Advisor of MEASAT 3; A Global Beam for Myanmar, Malaysia, Dato Ainuddin and party. — MNA

Enterprise Col Soe Win, Managing Director of Myanmar Motion Picture

Enterprise U Bo Kyi, Acting Managing Director of Printing and Publishing

Enterprise U Thet Soe and Head of office Major Ye Tint. — MNA

Minister receives Japanese Ambassador

YANGON, 12 Oct — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt received Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nobutake Odano at his office at 1 pm today.

They discussed matters related to border area development and rural development tasks and poppy-substitute crops.

Also present at the call were OSD to the ministry Brig-Gen Kyaw Thu, Director-General Col Than Swe of Progress of Border



Minister Col Thein Nyunt receives Japanese guests. — PBANRDA

Areas and National Races Department, Director-

General of Education and Training Department Col

Than Win and officials.

MNA

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း
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US violating int'l law

NEW YORK, 12 Oct—The United States is violating international law by holding prisoners in its war on terror incommunicado and in secret hiding places, Human Rights Watch said in a report to be published on Tuesday calling for an end to such practices.

The New York-based rights organization profiles 11 al-Qaeda suspects being detained without concern for their rights under international law in a 46-page report. They include Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the suspected architect of the September 11 attacks; Abu Zubaydah, reportedly

a close aide of al-Qaeda chief Osama bin Laden; Ramzi bin al-Shaibah, who might have been a September 11 hijacker if he had not failed to get a US visa, and Hambali, an alleged al-Qaeda ally in Southeast Asia.

"Those guilty of serious crimes must be brought to justice before

fair trials," Reed Brody, special counsel with Human Rights Watch, said in a statement, adding that if the United States ignores international law, "it abandons its ideals and international obligations and becomes a lesser nation".

The rights group said international treaties rati-

fied by the United States prohibit holding prisoners incommunicado and in secret locations.

The Geneva Conventions require that the International Committee of the Red Cross have access to all detainees and that information on them be provided to their relatives.

MNA/Reuters

မုတ်တန်ဒင်ဆ မိုးမြင့်

US aircraft destroys Fallujah restaurant

FALLUJAH, 11 Oct—A US warplane early Tuesday destroyed a popular restaurant which the US command said was a meeting place for members of Iraq's most feared terrorist organization.

The 12:01 a.m. blast demolished the Haj Hussein restaurant as well as nearby shops, residents said. There was no report

of casualties and the restaurant was closed at the time, but two night guards were missing, residents said. Ambulances and fire trucks rushed to the scene.

The US military command in Baghdad made no mention of the restaurant.

"Following the engagement, secondary explosions were reported, indicating the strong likelihood of weapons caches and explosive devices," the statement said. "Terrorists frequently planned operations from this location. Plans included targeting Iraqi governmental leadership, Iraqi security forces, coalition forces and innocent Iraqi citizens."

Al-Zarqawi's network has claimed responsibility for numerous car bombings, kidnappings and beheadings of foreign hostages, including American businessman Nicholas Berg, South Korean translator Kim Sung-il, British civil engineer Kenneth Bigley and US engineers Eugene Armstrong and Jack Hensley.—Internet

Labour MPs attack Blair over Iraq war

BAGHDAD, 11 Oct—Tony Blair was confronted by angry Labour MPs last night over the Iraq Survey Group's report showing that Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction. But loyalists rallied behind Mr Blair and urged the rebels to end their criticism.

The Prime Minister, facing MPs at a private meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party, failed to answer criticisms from Dennis Skinner, MP for Bolsover, over reports that Whitehall officials, who may have worked on the dossiers that led Britain to war, were being considered for honours.

Paul Flynn, MP for Newport West, asked Mr Blair to apologise for taking Britain to war on a false premise, but Mr Blair refused to repeat last week's apology by Patricia Hewitt, the Trade and Industry Secretary. "He said he did not regret the decision to go to war to bring down Saddam," said an official.

It was the first opportunity for the MPs to tackle the Prime Minister about the findings of the report since its publication last week and the murder of Kenneth Bigley, the British hostage. Half of the 16 questions raised were about Iraq, but hostile MPs were shouted down by loyalists. One minister said: "When someone claimed it was the main issue on the doorstep, people groaned out loud."

MPs criticised Mr Blair for refusing to make a statement to the Commons and some are demanding a fresh debate on Iraq. Jack Straw, the Foreign Secretary, will seek to quell their protests by making a Commons statement today. He will highlight the corruption among French and Russian nationals identified in the report for taking oil from Saddam intended for the UN oil-for-food programme.—Internet



A local resident examines the debris after the central library was destroyed in overnight clashes between guerillas and the US Army in Ramadi, 70 miles west of Baghdad, Iraq, on 11 Oct, 2004. — INTERNET

FM says Sudan supports UNSC reform

KHARTOUM, 11 Oct—Sudanese Foreign Minister Mustafa Othman Ismail said here Sunday that Sudan supports for reformation of the United Nations Security Council.

Ismail told a Press conference that an urgent reformation is necessary for the Security Council and the Sudanese Government has formed a committee to follow up this issue.

The Sudanese minister expressed his reservation over the permanent membership being given to new Western countries, such as Germany, in the Council.

"Application for the

permanent membership by these countries in the Security Council will reinforce dominance of particular countries over the others," Ismail said. He referred to the permanent membership of the three Western countries of the United States, Britain and France in the Security Council, noting that Africa and Latin America have no representations in the Council whereas the vast

Asia is represented only by China. "Our strong support for an expansion of the Security Council comes within the Arab, Islamic and African framework, but we cannot talk of adding a new European country," stressed Ismail. He added that African countries will reach an agreement on the African representation in the Security Council.

MNA/Xinhua

Quake jolts northern Iran

TEHERAN, 11 Oct—A strong earthquake measuring 5.8 on the Richter Scale hit northern Iran early on Friday, but officials said it caused no casualties or significant damage.

State radio said the quake shook parts of north-eastern Golestan Province, sending many startled residents running into the streets. Some houses were damaged and windows were broken.

"Some 60 people in the province were slightly injured while trying to run out of their houses," Ebrahim Karimi, head of the Red Crescent in Caspian province of Golestan, told the radio.

The official IRNA news agency said the quake's epicentre was near the northern town of Agh-Ghalah which borders Turkmenistan.

MNA/Reuters

HK observes Mental Health Month 2004

HONG KONG, 12 Oct—Hong Kong started to observe Mental Health Month 2004 on the weekend with the launch of the Caring School programme aimed at enhancing the mental health awareness of students, their family and teachers. The theme of this year's Mental Health Month is "Think Positive, Live Positive".

Permanent Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food Carrie Yau said Saturday that the programme's objective is to encourage participating primary schools to promote the culture of caring for mental health. "The programme is aimed at inculcating teenagers to adopt a positive attitude in facing up to pressure," she said. About 100 schools signed a charter to affirm their support for the programme at Saturday's launching ceremony. They will organize activities like visits to rehabilitation centres, seminars, interactive activities or school-based activities to promote mental health.—MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis watch a burning civilian vehicle following a car bomb attack in Mosul, Iraq, on 11 Oct, 2004. — INTERNET

Poll says Iraq war hiked terror fears

WASHINGTON, 11 Oct—More than two-thirds of the people living in Australia, Britain and Italy — three countries allied with the United States in the Iraq war — believe the war has increased the threat of terrorism.

Leaders of those countries — Prime Ministers Tony Blair of Britain, John Howard of Australia and Silvio Berlusconi of Italy — all get low marks from their people for their handling of the war on terrorism, an *Associated Press-Ipsos* poll shows.

More than half of those in the United States, 52 percent, believe the Iraq war has increased the threat of terrorism, while three in 10 in the United States think it has decreased the threat — a

view promoted by President Bush.

"In the context of the presidential campaign in the United States, this is undeniably a blow for George W Bush, since it shows that a majority of Americans don't agree with the main justification for his policy in Iraq," said Gilles Corman, research director at Ipsos-Inra of Belgium, who studies public opinion trends across Europe.

In Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Spain, a majority thought last win-

ter that the Iraq war was increasing the threat of terrorism. That number has increased in each of the countries. Australians were not polled in the *AP-Ipsos* project last winter.

IPolitical leaders in the Iraq war coalition have faced domestic political pressure because of their stance on Iraq. "The proportion of people worried by the terrorist threat has increased in most of the countries ... since February," said Corman of Ipsos in Belgium. "People feel

more and more insecure."

Fears of terrorism increased in seven of the eight countries polled last winter and again this fall.

The *AP-Ipsos* telephone polls of about 1,000 adults in each of the eight countries except Mexico were taken between 23 September and 2 October and have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Internet

ဝက်ဘ်ဆိုက်များ အသုံးပြုရန်

Hawaii soldier killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 11 Oct—The Department of Defence Monday confirmed that a soldier from Honolulu was killed Wednesday in Iraq.

Pvt Jeungjin Na Kim, 23, died after his patrol was attacked by enemy forces using small arms fire in Ar Ramadi.

Kim was stationed in Korea.

This is the second death of a Hawaii soldier in a little more than a week.

Joshua Titcomb, 20, died when a bomb exploded near his tank.

Internet

Vietnam, Germany vow to further ties

HANOI, 11 Oct— Vietnam and Germany have pledged to further their relations in such fields as investment, trade and technology, and to support each other in the United Nations (UN), local media reports said on Sunday.

During separate talks and meetings with visiting German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder held on Saturday, Vietnamese leaders affirmed that Vietnam supports Germany's bid for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council, and wants to beef up stable and all-round relations with the country.

Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai stressed that the visit by Schroeder, who attended the 5th Asia-Europe Meeting summit here on Friday

and Saturday, is not only important to the Vietnam-German relationship, but also the closer cooperation between the two continents.

The two sides signed five documents on financial, technical and business cooperation totalling over 260 million US dollars. The documents cover financial cooperation for two stages in the 2003-2005 period, technical cooperation, and the purchase of 16 locomotives for the Vietnam Railway Corporation and equipment for a local cement plant.

In a meeting with Schroeder, Vietnamese State President Tran Duc Luong said Vietnam would like to receive more technology transfer and experience from Germany, noting that Vietnam is a developing country under the industrialization process. He highly appreciated the German Government's policies on international and regional issues.

Schroeder, for his part, affirmed that Germany attaches great importance to Vietnam, trying to bring the bilateral ties to a new height. The German Government supports Vietnam's bid for a non-permanent membership of the UN Security Council in the 2008-2009 term, and encourages German enterprises, especially small- and medium-sized ones to do business with the country.

MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier patrols with others (unseen) the area close to designated Iraqi police station, serving as a drop-off centre in the Sadr City neighbourhood of Baghdad, on 11 Oct, 2004. —INTERNET

Indian delegate at UN calls for global nuclear disarmament

UNITED NATIONS, 11 Oct— Calling for a time bound nuclear disarmament and establishment of non-discriminatory control regimes, India has demanded that nuclear weapons states de-alert and de-target such arms, enter into legally binding commitment to no-first-use principle against non-nuclear states.

"As long as nuclear weapons exist, the threat of use of nuclear weapons, accidental or inadvertent, will remain. Only global and complete disarmament, within time-bound framework, can totally eliminate the danger of a nuclear war," Indian delegate, Anand Sharma, told a United Nations Committee.

Maintaining that growing danger of terrorists acquiring WMD, related materials and technologies has added a new ominous dimension to the danger of a nuclear war, he said the new challenges can be effectively dealt only through non-discrimina-

tory regimes.

"It has been evident that the current nuclear non proliferation regime is facing major challenges. We need to create a more inclusive and non-discriminatory structure to effectively address the current proliferation concerns," he told the delegates.

The international community, Sharma said, had demonstrated its will to control this danger by adopting in the last session an India-sponsored resolution on measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

New Delhi plans to move a similar resolu-

tion again this year in the Assembly to reaffirm its commitment to combating this menace, he said.

"We believe states have the responsibility for taking measures to prevent proliferation of WMD and related materials and technology to both non-state actors and other states," he said detailing steps India has taken in this direction.

But the focus on pursuing the goals of non-proliferation regime without progress towards global and complete disarmament may be "detrimental and counterproductive", he said.

MNA/PTI

Three die in crush at Guinea stadium

DAKAR, 11 Oct— Three people were killed in a crush outside a soccer stadium in the West African country of Guinea on Sunday ahead of a World Cup qualifying game against Morocco, police said.

"While people were rushing to buy tickets there was a crush and some people were trampled. There were three dead. Everyone has now been taken to hospital," said a police source in the capital Conakry.

A second policeman said the crowd had surged while people were lining up to get into the 35,000 seat stadium through its four entrances. He said he saw one body being taken away. —MNA/Xinhua



Three visitors watch as Mount St Helens, Washington, vents steam on 11 Oct, 2004. —INTERNET

Mideast aviation-related expenditure exceeds \$ 56 b

ABU DHABI, 12 Oct— Total aviation-related expenses in the Middle East have exceeded 56 billion US dollars in recent years, the *Gulf News* daily reported here Monday.

Statistics released by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) showed that 41 billion dollars were spent in new aircraft purchases and the rest on aviation infrastructure.

In terms of the new purchases, the Dubai-based Emirates Airline has spent more than 24.6 billion dollars and the Abu Dhabi-based Etihad Airways, 8.2 billion dollars, according to the statistics.

Qatar Airways has placed an order for 18 Airbus worth 5.1 billion dollars, said the report, adding that Turkish Airlines has placed orders for 51 aircraft valued at 2.5 billion US dollars in total.

With regard to aviation infrastructure, the Mideast governments have spent more than 15 billion dollars in airports and related facilities,

including a 4.1-billion-dollar investment in Dubai International Airport and five billion dollars in a three-phased development of Doha International Airport.

Air ticket sales through Billing and Settlement Plan (BSP) reached six billion dollars in the region in 2003 and passenger traffic increased by 44 per cent in the same year, according to the report, contributing much of this growth to a robust regional travel market.

The Mideast region has made progress in the aviation industry in recent years, but there is still spacious room for improvement.

The industry in the region has lost over 30 billion dollars since 2001, IATA's director-general Giovanni Bisignani was quoted as saying.—MNA/Xinhua

UAE, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia to increase oil output

ABU DHABI, 12 Oct — The three Gulf countries of United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait and Saudi Arabia promised Sunday to increase their oil output capacity to help stabilize world prices, the official WAM news agency reported.

UAE Minister of Petroleum and Mineral resources Obeid bin Saif Al Nasser said his country is planning to raise its output capacity to 3.5 million barrel per day (BPD) by 2006 on the sidelines of the 11th Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference (ADIPEC 2004) which opens here on Sunday.

The UAE, currently producing around 2.5 million bpd, could produce additional 300,000 bpd in a short term, the minister told reporters.

The country will join hands with other OPEC producers to pump more oil supplies to bring sta-

bility to the world oil market, Al Nasser said.

He said the current high prices were driven by combined factors, the most important of them were turmoils in producing countries, in addition to climatic and geopolitical factors. He expects prices to rally up if these factors remain active.

"We hope stability would prevail in the world oil market for the interest of both producers and consumers," he added.

Kuwait's Minister for Oil Ahmed Al Fahad Al Sabah also told reporters at the venue that Kuwait will increase its output capacity by 200,000 to

reach 2.7 million barrels per day in the next few days. "I accept the high prices because it is determined by political developments, but OPEC will work towards bringing about stability in the market," Al Sabah said.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ali Ibrahim Al Naimi also said here Sunday his country is well prepared to increase its production from nine million barrels per day (BPD) to 11 million bpd.

Saudi Arabia will raise its output should the supply factor so requires and that it will not dump the market, Al Naimi told reporters.—MNA/Xinhua

British teenager shot dead in Nottingham

LONDON, 11 Oct — A British teenager was shot dead in what police believe was a random attack as she walked home with friends from a funfair in the early hours of Saturday.

Danielle Beccan, 14, died during emergency surgery after being hit by several bullets fired from a passing car in the St Ann's area of Nottingham, central England.

"This is a truly wicked and callous crime and we will do everything in our power to find the people responsible," assistant chief constable Sue Fish

said.

Beccan, who lived in the area where she was shot, was believed to have spent Friday evening at Nottingham's annual Goose Fair. She was walking home with a group of friends when a car pulled up alongside and shots were fired.

Police believe she had no involvement with any

criminal gang and said the shooting appeared to be motiveless.

Around 100 officers and detectives were involved in the hunt for the girl's killer, and stop-and-search inquiries would take place over the weekend, Fish said. A post mortem examination is to be carried out later on Saturday.—MNA/Reuters



A US soldier of the 1 Cavalry Division secures an area near a police station in Baghdad's Sadr City neighbourhood on 12 Oct, 2004.

INTERNET

Iraq, Iran agree to control joint borders

BAGHDAD, 12 Oct — Iraq and Iran had signed an agreement to control their borders and prevent infiltrators, *Al Sabah Al Jadid* newspaper reported on Sunday.

The commanders of the two countries' border forces signed the agreement in Basrah, 550 kilometres south of Baghdad and the biggest governorate in the south, a source in the Iraqi Interior Ministry was quoted as saying.

The source also pointed out that the two sides started coordination to implement the agreement in a way that guarantees preventing infiltrating and smuggling operations.

The two sides also discussed release of 19 Iraqi anglers and their five boats, who were arrested by the Iranian authorities.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese Premier urges Sino-French economic, trade cooperation

BELJING, 11 Oct — China and France should further cement their economic and trade cooperation, said Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao here on Sunday at a meeting with visiting French President Jacques Chirac.

Wen said bilateral economic and trade cooperation boasts vast potentials and broad prospects, and both sides should strengthen the cooperation in energy, communication, agriculture and environmental protection.

They should also establish and improve the mechanism of cooperation between their small- and medium-sized enterprises, and expand new- and high-tech cooperation spheres, noted Wen.

He stressed that the Chinese side attaches importance to Sino-French relations and has always treated bilateral ties from a strategic height, hoping both sides will continue pushing forward bilateral relationship.

He characterized bilateral relations as the most stable politically, the most in-depth economically, and the closest in cooperation in international affairs, saying that bilateral all-round strategic partnership is being consolidated and advanced.

Wen said China and France share identical or similar stands on many major international issues, citing that the Declaration on Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations, which was proposed by China and France and adopted at the just-closed summit of the fifth Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), has won favourable echoes from leaders of different countries attending the meeting.

MNA/Xinhua



A destroyed home in Fallujah, where the US military has launched two airstrikes, flattening two buildings on 11 Oct, 2004.—INTERNET



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win enjoys entertainment programmes presented by students of BEHS-1, Mingaladon. — MNA

Mingaladon Township BEHS No 1...

(from page 16)

Daw Thi Thi Aung reported to the Secretary-1 and party on collective efforts being made to open the centre.

Managing Director U San Lin and Daw Yi Mon Soe Win of Super Seven Stars International Trading Co Ltd presented K 3 million for the centre to the headmaster. The mayor also presented three computers to him. The 2003-2004 school board of trustees presented K 1 million, 2004-2005 school board of trustees K 2 million, member of YCDC Col Tin Soe, an old student, K 100,000, and Col Win Naung of Mingaladon Station K 100,000 to Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Lt-Col Khin Maung Swe of regional battalion K

100,000, U Khin Maung Yin of Pyopyi Win Co K 200,000, students who have passed the matriculation in 2004 K 150,000, U Soe Myint and Daw Khin Lay Yi of New Shwesin Jewelry K 180,000, Yangon North District All Bus Lines Control Committee K 100,000, U Arnt Ku of Two-in-One Restaurant K 100,000, students of Yangon University of Compute Science K 100,000, welfare shops of the school K 100,000, Daw Nge Nge Soe of One Wish Restaurant K 70,000, Ma Pan Ei San, who passed the matriculation with six distinctions K 60,000, Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thauung Htaik K 50,000, Mingaladon Township Union Solidarity and Development Association K 50,000, Myanmar CP Light Co K 50,000, U Myint Soe and Daw Shin Mi Naung K 50,000, parents of Defence Services Garment Factory K 50,000 and Thein Tun Aung Construction Materials Co K 50,000.

Minister U Than Aung, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, and Commandant of Defence Services Medical Academy Brig-Gen Min Thein accepted the donations. U Than Aung thanked the donors, saying that the students are able to use the multimedia classrooms due to the leadership of the Government and collective efforts of teachers, people and donors.

Teachers should train their pupils effectively, with the use of the advanced teaching aids. As the school has already produced a six-distinction-winner like Ma Pan Ei San, greater efforts are needed to produce more brilliant students.

The Secretary-1 cordially greeted teachers, members of SBT, donors and members of social organizations. The Secretary-1 and party posed for photos together with the headmaster, teachers, SBT members, donors and students. — MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents cup to Lt-Col Than Tun for his active role in the fertilizing of Hsinshweli high-yield strain (F 1) paddy with pollen. — MNA



Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presents cash award to a member of supervisory committee. — MNA

Secretary-2 attends fertilizing...

(from page 16)

to the monasteries and nunneries in Lashio in cooperation with the sixth presenting of cash donations for building a pagoda to be named Yan Taing Aung Hsutaungpyae Pagoda, at Wizayabumi Maha Aungmye hill in Lashio.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of State Ovadacariya Lashio Maha Bawdayon Monastery Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Narada and members of the Sangha.

Also present on the occasion were social organizations and wellwishers. The Sayadaw administered the Five Precepts to the congregation. Members of the Sangha recited *Metta* parittas. The Secretary-2 presented 400 bags of rice, 160 viss of edible oil and 160 viss of salt to 11 monasteries and five nunneries through the Sayadaw. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, the commander and deputy ministers presented offertories to the Sayadaws. Then, the wellwishers presented K 58,281,400 for building of the pagoda to the Secretary-2 and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe.

The Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained. Chairman of the Leading Committee for building the pagoda Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint reported on building of the pagoda; Chairman of Supervisory Committee for building the pagoda Police Col Win Naing, on financial statements and stockpiling of construction materials; and Director (Planning) of the Asia World Col U Kye, on construction tasks. The Secretary-2 gave instructions.

They proceeded to Humon Dam, where officials reported on water storage of the dam and supply of water. The Secretary-2 left instructions.

On arrival at Kaukwe Creek Dam Project, the Secretary-2 heard reports by the officials on the project. The commander gave a supplementary report. The Secretary-2 gave necessary instructions.

Next, they attended the fertilizing of Hsinshweli high-yield strain paddy with pollen at the 750-acre plot in Shan State (North). On the occasion, the Secretary-2 delivered a speech, saying that it was heartening to see that Tatmadaw members, local authorities, departments and social organizations are making collective efforts under supervision of Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing for regional food sufficiency.

Now, the State is implementing three plans for exceeding production of paddy, sufficiency of edible oil and extended production of beans and pulses and raw material crops.

It is also giving encouragement for extended cultivation of the ten major crops, boosting per acre yield, extended reclamation of cultivated land, and extended multiple cropping in order to raise living standard of the people and to ensure food sufficiency for growing population. In conclusion, the Secretary-2 urged all to make endeavours with added momentum for greater development of the agricultural sector, the most fundamental business of the nation.

The Secretary-2 and party inspected Hsinshweli paddy, sunflower, soybean and other crops and medicines used in production of hybrid paddy seeds.

The Secretary-2 and party visited the groups who carried out pollination. They also inspected maize, production of hybrid paddy and power tillers.

They attended the fertilizing of Hsinshweli on 250 acres of land in Lashio Township. On their way to Muse,

the Secretary-2 and party inspected plantation of special high paddy, opium substitute and beekeeping stations of North East Command. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing reported on agriculture and livestock breeding and income.

The Secretary-2 and party arrived at Mongli Village in Hsenwi Township. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and Brig-Gen Soe Oo of Hsenwi Station reported on construction of low-cost housing project for war veterans and arrangements for agriculture and livestock breeding. The Secretary-2 provided necessary assistance to 13 war veterans.

At the opening of Sanlaung Sanpya Village station hospital, the Secretary-2 formally unveiled the signboard of the hospital. The Secretary-2 presented gifts to national race leader U Ma Htu Naw. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe gave gifts and uniforms to Dr Daw Phyu Phyu of the station hospital.

On behalf of the local people, U Ma Htu Naw spoke words of thanks. He also presented gifts to the Secretary-2 and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe. They then inspected the hospital.

At the ceremony of the fertilizing of Hsinshweli in Hsenwi Township, the Secretary-2 said he was pleased to see the efforts for food sufficiency in Shan State (North). One of the important points for national development is economic progress.

Being an agro-based country, economic development depends on agricultural development. Therefore, efforts are to be made for development of agriculture. He called on the people to improve the quality of life. Next, the Secretary-2 inspected tea, macadamia, pepper, orange, coffee, lychee and other fruit plantations in Kaungkha. — MNA

Malaysians explain MEASAT-3: A satellite

YANGON, 12 Oct — A presentation of MEASAT-3: A satellite beaming 70 per cent of global population took place at the Sedona Hotel here this morning. The satellite will be launched by Malaysia in July 2005. Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended the presentation of the satellite held at the hotel under the title 'MEASAT-3: A Global Beam for Myanmar', at which Malaysian officials explained in detail its marketability and satellite communication techniques.

The Malaysian speakers were Adviser Dato' Aimuddin Noordin, officials of Myanma Economic Co-operation, Myanma Post and Telecommunications, Myanma Radio and TV and Myawady TV and guest attending the ceremony, and Chief Executive Officer (Sales and Marketing) Mr Paul Brown-Kenyon and Senior Vice-President of Apace and Technology Dr Ali R Ebadi, who presented the market condition and technical matters. — MNA



A presentation of MEASAT-3 satellite of Malaysia at Sedona Hotel and Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attends the presentation. — MNA



Coordination meeting of alternate chairmen of National Convention plenary session in progress. — MNA

Alternate chairmen of National Convention plenary session meet

YANGON, 12 Oct—The members of the Panel of Alternate Chairmen of the Plenary Session of the National Convention held the coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the National Convention Convening Work Committee in Kyaikkasan Ground here this morning.

Maj-Gen Aung Thein acted as alternate chairman.

The meeting was attended by members of the Panel of Alternate Chairmen U Tun Yin Law, U Yaw Aye Hla, U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint, U Mya Aye, Dr Myo Thant Tin, Dr U Thein U Po Saw and U Tun Aung Chein. Joint

Secretary-2 of the Work Committee Dr Thauang Myint, members U Ba Han and U San Tun, Deputy Director U Aung Kyi of the Work Committee Office and others.

At the meeting, discussions were made for the compilation and scrutinisation of the data collected by the panel of alternate chairmen from the papers submitted by the eight delegate groups in respect of the sharing of legislative powers at the National Convention held from 17 May to 9 July so as to submit them to the National Convention by the time it reconvened.

The meeting ended in the afternoon.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone delivers an address at Work Committee for Ensuring the Emergence of Myanmar Copyright.— MNA

Work Committee for Ensuring Emergence of Myanmar Copyright meets

YANGON, 12 Oct—The Work Committee for Ensuring the Emergence of Myanmar Copyright held its coordination meeting at the Government Office this afternoon.

It was attended by ministers, deputy ministers, directors-general and managing directors of department and enterprise, officials of social organizations and guests.

Chairman of the Work Committee Minister at the

Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Pyi Sone made an opening speech. Next, Secretary of the Work Committee Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein explained measures taken by the Work Committee. This was followed by a general round of discussions.

The meeting came to an end with the concluding remarks by Chairman of the Work Committee Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone. — MNA

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs leaves for Singapore

YANGON, 12 Oct — Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu left here by air this afternoon to attend the 8th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (IAMME) and the 3rd ASEAN + 3 Environment Ministers Meeting to be held on 13 and 14 October in Singapore. These meetings will give policy guidance for future environmental cooperation activities within ASEAN and with the ASEAN+3 countries.

The Deputy Minister was seen off at Yangon Interna-

tional Airport by Directors-General and senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Commission for Environmental Affairs.

Joint-Secretary of the National Commission for Environmental Affairs (NCEA) Daw Yin Yin Lay and Daw Myat Thida Aye, Head of Branch (1) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are attending the Senior Officials Meeting which begins today.

MNA

State/Division participants to 12th Performing Arts Competitions arrive

YANGON, 12 Oct — More managers and participants from the states and divisions to take part in the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions arrived here this morning.

A 114-member group comprising managers, members of panel of judges and participants from Mon State led by Chairman of Malamyine District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Tin Aung arrived at No 1 Transit Centre (Bayint Naung) in the morning, a 651-member group comprising managers, judges and participants from Yangon Division led by Major Thant Zin Oo,

and a 312-member group comprising managers, judges and participants from Ayeyawady Division led by Maj Maung Htay of Pyapon District Peace and Development Council at the same venue in the afternoon. They were welcomed by Chairman of the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Reception and Accommodation Committee Commandant of Defence Services General Hospital (Bed-1000) Brig-Gen Than Sein and officials.

Similarly, managers, judges and participants from Kachin and Kayin States arrived there in the evening. — MNA



Participants to 12th Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions of Yangon Division arrive at No 1 Transit Centre (Bayint Naung).— MNA

Coord meeting to give lectures to Myanmar entrepreneurs held

YANGON, 12 Oct — A coordination meeting was held at the Myanmar Education Research Bureau yesterday afternoon to give one-day lecture to Myanmar entrepreneurs by technicians from Stamford Colleges of Malaysia.

The name of the lecture is Public Relation & Communications for Better Result: 'The Stamfordian Contribution'.

At the course, lectures

on Introduction to Public Relation, Marketing Management, Consumer Behavior, Journalism, Media & Advertising and Media & Society will be given in English and Myanmar at MERB from 10 am to 4 pm on 26 October. Those wishing to attend the one-day course may contact at MERB, No 426, Pyay Road, Kamayut (Tel: 527053) not later than 20 October. — MNA



General Khin Nyunt gives instructions on 200-ton pulp mill project (Thabaung) at the briefing hall of the project. — MNA



General Khin Nyunt presents fruit basket to China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation Mr Xu and party. — MNA

Active participation of related ministries,...

(from page 1)
departmental officials, members of social organizations and factory staff.

On arrival at the briefing hall of the factory,

the Prime Minister and party were welcomed by the chairman of China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation and experts. Minister for In-

dustry-1 U Aung Thaung reported on cent-per-cent completion of the mill and machinery installation compared to 76 percent completion and 21.5 per-

cent of machinery installation on 5 September 2003 when the Prime Minister visited the project site, individual test run and other arrangements. Next, Myanmar Paper and Chemicals Industries U

Than Shwe reported on raw materials for the factory such as bamboo, salt, lime stone, electricity and natural gas and tasks being carried out and future work. After the reports presented by Minister U Aung Thaung, the Prime Minister stressed the need for active participation of related ministries and local authorities in implementing the project and close supervision to carry out to collect correct data and tasks to be carried out according to the respective sectors. The Prime Minister presented a basket of fruit to Mr Xu, Chairman of China Metallurgical Construction (Group) and party. Mr Xu in return presented a souvenir to the Prime Minister. They then posed for a documentary photo.

At the project site the Prime Minister and party inspected the machines for cutting bamboo

and installation of machinery at the pulping plant, wire section, press section and dryer section at the pulp sheet making plant and cutter machine. The Prime Minister and party also saw over functions of the recovery plant and thermal power plant.

After inspecting stockpile of bamboo and the jetty equipped with modern cranes, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions to officials.

Later, the Prime Minister and party inspected construction tasks being carried out at the project site by motor boat.

The 200-ton pulp mill is situated near Hlegyat Village in Thabaung Township. It was completed on 30 April 2004 and it started to test run. Plans are under way to build a 50-ton high quality paper factory and a 60-ton newsprint factory. — MNA



Progress of 200-ton Pulp Mill (Thabaung) of Ministry of Industry-1. — MNA

Development of township depends...

(from page 1)

Prime Minister fulfilled the requirements. And he presented a set of computer and its accessories to school head U Khin Zaw for Thabaung Township Basic Education High School. After that, Managing Director U Than Shwe of Myanmar Paper and Chemicals Industries under the Ministry of Industry-1 presented K 2 million to Township Education Officer U Saw Shwe for Hlegyat Village BEPS.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt made a speech on the occasion, saying that as Ayeyawady Division is rich in rice and fish, the people of the region are enjoying a convenient living condition. But greater efforts are still needed to further develop the economy township-wise. The development of a township depends on the efficiency and perseverance of the officials playing a leading role in the region. They will have to find the areas with high economic potentials for progress of economic enterprises

reliable for the townships. As Thabaung Township is located near the Rakhine Yoma, commercial plantation of rubber, bamboo, pepper and soybean is possible in it. Thanks to the Thabaung paper and pulp mill of the Industry-1 Ministry, the township has a large bamboo market. Based on the favourable conditions, the township officials will have to lead and organize the locals for emergence of local entrepreneurs. Only with the encouragement of the departments, will the private

(See page 9)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects students learning at multimedia room at Latutta No 2 HEHS. — MNA

Development of township depends...

(from page 8)

sector be able to strive to lay sound economic foundations. Committees formed sector-wise should make harmonious and coordinated efforts for the progress of their own townships. The departmental personnel will have to join hands with the locals for successful implementation of the five rural tasks. Development Affairs Department and Health Department are required to make cooperative efforts to supply clean water to the rural areas in the division where ponds provide the main source of water for local people. All the departmental personnel should strive in harmony and unison for development of rural roads, health, education and economy. The Prime Minister and party are going to attend to the needs of the region in all aspects. The departmental personnel play a leadership role and should receive the assistance of social organization to develop their townships in all sectors and improve the living standards of the local people.

After the ceremony, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greeted those present. General Khin Nyunt and party went to Labutta in Myaungmya District by helicopter where they were welcomed by Chairman of Myaungmya District Peace

veiled the signboard of the multimedia rooms.

General Khin Nyunt and party viewed round teachers and students teaching and learning at the computer application & E-mail room, Computer Aided Instruction room, Electronic Media (Video System) room, Printed Media (Reading Corner) room and domestic science room.

The second session of the opening ceremony of multimedia rooms followed at Music and Arts Hall of the school and students presented entertainment with Pyi Myanmar Song.

Headmistress Daw Ohn Kyi reported on plans to teach students using multimedia rooms and Chairman of SBT U Tin Aye on efforts to open the multimedia rooms at the school. Next, General Khin Nyunt presented a set of computer and accessories, TV and VCD to Labutta No 1 BEHS and No 2 BEHS. The respective headmistresses accepted the donations. Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing presented a set of computer for Labutta No 2 BEHS through Headmistress Daw Ohn Kyi. Next, Labutta Association (Yangon) also donated a generator worth 750,000;

At the meeting, Lt-Col Kyi Htut Win reported on agriculture and livestock breeding tasks, tasks being carried out in industrial zones and water supply tasks in Myaungmya District. He also reported on education and health sectors in districts and townships in Myaungmya.

Departmental officials also reported on needs for health, education and communication in Myaungmya township. Next, General Khin Nyunt fulfilled the requirements.

Afterwards, General Khin Nyunt delivers a speech, saying that they had fulfilled the requirements in response to the reports presented by officials of the townships of Myaungmya District.

In particular, they fulfilled the requirements in education, health and transport sectors. In the transport sector, the government is making arrangements for ensuring better transport across the nation including Ayeyawady Division. As the government is targeting to turn Ayeyawady Division into the granary of the State, priority is being given to regional development of the division including development of agricultural and transport sectors.

The main requirement of the State is self-sufficiency in rice. Only when



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents a TV set to the township education officer. —MNA

Ayeyawady Division where paddy cultivation, fisheries and prawn breeding thrive is vital for the State.

The State, therefore, has been placing emphasis on development of Ayeyawady Division and improvement of socio-economic life of the local people. With this end in view, it has been building roads and bridges and is taking measures for development of trade and marketing in the division. Ayeyawady Division can nowadays be accessible by car except one or two towns as a network of roads and bridges emerged. In building the main roads in the division for better transport, the Government has spent a huge sum of funds on construction of bridges large and small.

The Government is striving day in, day out for ensuring better transport in states and divisions in order that the national races can make frequent contacts with one another, thereby contributing to further cementing the spirit of national solidarity and Union Spirit.

Unprecedented progress has been made in the national development tasks and in the efforts to improve socio-economic life of the people. Significant progress has now been made in the whole Ayeyawady Division compared with the past of ten years during which the division only dreamt for development. But, the internal and external destructive elements, turning a blind eye to national development, are making fabricated news as if the nation has been in the process of deterioration. However, the people has witnessed and enjoyed the fruitful results of development and now been able to travel from Patheingyi to Yangon or vice versa within a short time. Patheingyi Airport, in which only small aircraft could use in the past, was upgraded into the one in which big aeroplanes can

take off and land.

In short, the State has been bringing about harmonious development the length and breadth of the nation by means of building basic infrastructures such as bridges and roads, dams and reservoirs and airports. As a result, marked progress has been made across the nation during a period of 15 years. The Government, at present, has laid down and is implementing the seven-point future policy programmes of the State for the emergence of a peaceful modern and discipline-flourishing democratic nation capable of guaranteeing the perpetual existence of the Union to be based on Union Spirit and the spirit of national solidarity.

With this end in view, the entire national people are to take part in the endeavours for successful realization of the future policy programmes of the State by doing their bit so that the Union, where scores of national races reside, can exist as long as the world does.

After the ceremony, the Prime Minister greeted those present on the occasion. The General and party looked into progress of Labutta by car. Afterwards, they helicoptered to Ngapudaw. The General held a meeting with local authorities, departmental officials, social organizations and townsmen. Officials reported on the requirements. The General attended to the needs for regional development including education, health, agriculture, livestock breeding, development affairs and transport sectors.

The General presented a TV, video cassette player, and computer and accessories to the Ngapudaw Township BEHS. Officials reported on conditions of Patheingyi-Ngapudaw Road, Myaungmya-Ngapudaw Road, sea prawn breeding and production of salt. The commander and ministers gave supplementary reports.

In response, the Prime Minister said that he had fulfilled the requirements for development of Ngapudaw Township in conformity with the reports of the officials. There are a lot of tasks to be carried out for development of Ngapudaw Township, a large region located on the edge of Ayeyawady Division.

The General called on departmental officials at all levels to make field trips down to rural areas to fulfil the requirements of the education, health and transport sectors.

Township level departmental officials are to take systematic measures sector-wise for regional development in accordance with the five rural development tasks laid down by the Government.

Myanmar Agriculture Service and Settlement and Land Records Department are to gather correct figures and data to be able to adopt necessary projects for national economic progress based on agriculture, and the Health Department and the Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department, to provide health care services for rural areas. Steps are to be taken for development of a township through combination of innovation, diligence and goodwill of departmental officials, and participation of the people and social organizations under the correct leadership.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister called on respective personnel to make endeavours in unison enlisting social organizations and the people for development and strong economy of respective townships. After the ceremony, the General cordially met those present.

The General and party inspected tasks for development of Ngapudaw by car.

They left Ngapudaw by helicopter and arrived at Patheingyi in the evening.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets locals in Ngapudaw. — MNA

and Development Council Lt-Col Kyi Htut Win, members of district/township Peace and Development Councils, departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsmen. Afterwards, General Khin Nyunt went to Labutta No 2 BEHS and attended the opening ceremony of the multimedia rooms of the school.

At the opening ceremony, Headmistress Daw Ohn Kyi and Chairman of the School Board of Trustees U Tin Aye formally opened the multimedia rooms.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt un-

Labutta Rice Traders' Association a set of computer; wellwishers of Labutta a set of computer; Labutta Township Fisheries Entrepreneurs' Association K 500,000; School Board of Trustees K 500,000; Wellwisher U Myat Oo K 300,000 and Labutta Township Business Association K 600,000. Headmistress Daw Ohn Kyi accepted the donations. Afterwards, General Khin Nyunt and party posed for documentary photo together with teachers and students. Next, General Khin Nyunt and party met with departmental officials and social organizations at Shwenadi Hall of Labutta.

there is self-sufficiency in rice will the nation be free from relying on others. With this concept, strenuous efforts are being made for the nation to enjoy the self-sufficiency in rice. Some states and divisions have not yet been able to enjoy the self-sufficiency in rice and have to rely only on Ayeyawady Division. However, the nation has been in a position to export rice as it is now in surplus.

Thus, the regions like Ayeyawady Division where rice grows well are to increase cultivation of paddy for higher output thereby contributing to development of the State and own regions.



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party receive the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Narada. (News on page 16)—MNA

Secretary-2 underscores two main important tasks for perpetuation of Union

YANGON, 12 Oct—Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspected cultivation of hybrid orange at North-East Command HQ in Lashio, northern Shan State on 8 October.

Accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung, Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Brig-Gen Than Tun, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, the Secretary-2 inspected the nursery where 500,000 coffee saplings and 10,000 mecadaenia saplings are being cultivated. Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Khin Maung presented reports on the nursery. During inspection of Lychee plus soybean

plantation of the command, the Secretary-2 and party heard a report on salient points of the plantation, where 1,000 lychee trees have been planted together with soybean in a ten-acre plot. The per acre yield of soybean is 30 baskets. Soybean crops are now 40 days old and lychee trees are one year old. At the command, the Secretary-2 and party observed packaging of Hsin-shweli paddy for plantation. The paddy is being packed into 30-kilo and one-kilo bags. The 120-acre plot at Humon irrigation area produced paddy seeds for 10,000 acres of land.

They inspected the Hsin-shweli paddy research centre of the command. An official of the centre explained the programme to grow 200,000 acres of Hsin-shweli paddy in the region. The commander gave a supplementary report.

They observed the pollination of the Hsin-shweli-1, Hsin-shweli-2 and Hsin-shweli-3 and research fields. The per acre yield of the F1 type of the Hsin-shweli is from 150 baskets to 200.

A total of 108,000 acres of land in northern Shan State has been put under the crop.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party attended opening ceremony of Shan State (North) War Veterans Organization Supervisory Committee Office in Lashio at 4.30 pm. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and member of Shan State WVO U Kyee Myint formally opened the office.

Chairman of Myanmar WVO Central Organizing Committee Adjutant-General Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveiled the signboard. The Secretary-2 and party went round the office.

At 5 pm, the Secretary-2 met with departmental personnel, local people, and social organizations.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said the report on regional economic, health, education and agricultural developments is satisfactory.

Thanks to the concerted efforts of the Tatmadaw, departments and social organizations, the region will enjoy food sufficiency in the coming year. But greater and harmonious efforts are needed to produce surplus food in the region and to further develop economic, social and other sectors. Myanmar is a home to over 100 na-



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts donations for building Yan Taing Aung Hsutaungpyae Pagoda. (News on page 16)—MNA

tional races living in unity and in weal of woe since time immemorial.

As various national races are living in all states and divisions, they themselves are like mini Unions.

The Union is formed with those mini Unions. There are two main important tasks for perpetuation of the Union. The first task is for the entire national races to always uphold Our Three Main National Causes — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of Union — as their inborn duty.

Efforts are being made to implement the 12 political, economic and social objectives, and the nation is in the process of realiz-

ing the seven-point future policy programmes for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing nation. Thus, the second task is to take part in the respective sectors for materialization of the policy programme including the successful convening of the National Convention step by step. Thus, all will have to accept the two as a national duty.

State-service personnel play a vital role in successful implementation of the economic, social, health and education undertakings of the State. Hence, it is important for them to train themselves to become morally good conviction, observing codes of conduct and upholding dignity. They will

have to work in harmony through collective leadership and responsibility in implementing the State projects.

The social organizations including Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross Society and War Veterans Organization, which are national forces, should actively and harmoniously join hands with the departmental personnel in implementing the nation-building and national development tasks, with correct conviction, vision and outlook.

The Secretary-2 presented cash assistance to aged members of the WVO.

MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets departmental officials, local people and members of social organizations in Lashio. —MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspects Mondine Dam. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects construction of Taungyay Dam in Kyaukpadaung Township

YANGON, 12 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, Director-General of Irrigation Department U Kyaw San Win, Director-General of Water Resources Utilization Department U Win Shwe and officials left NyaungU on 10 October.

On arrival at Kyetmauktaung Dam in Kyaukpadaung Township, they were welcomed by Brig-Gen Than Tun and Brig-Gen Tin Oo Lwin of local station and officials.

Director of Mandalay Division Irrigation Depart-

ment U Aye Thein reported on location and data of the dam, annual flow of water and irrigation for cultivation of crops. Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint gave a supplementary report on extended cultivation of crops.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the left and right canals and storage of water in the dam. Lt-Gen Ye Myint then gave instructions.

Altogether 5,588 acres of monsoon paddy have been cultivated in the township. In summer, 769 acres of long staple cotton, 1,002 acres of paddy and 500 acres of sesamum will be grown.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to Taungyay Dam being built by Construction-7 of Irrigation Department near Tepinte Village. They inspected the flow and storage of water. Director-General U Kyaw San Win

reported on the work done.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to the briefing hall of Taungyay supporting Dam project. Deputy Director of Construction-7 U Myo Tun reported on data of the project and implementation, Director-General U Kyaw San Win on earth work of Kyauktaga Dam and installation of outlet conduit.

Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint gave a supplementary report on construction of canals and dam.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected construction of canal which will support Kyetmauktaung Dam, water supply and tunnel. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party also inspected plantations on both sides of Meiktila-Kyaukpadaung Road and measures undertaken for greening the region. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects tasks being carried out to irrigate Meiktila plain

YANGON, 12 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence on 10 October inspected the tasks being carried out to supply irrigation water to Meiktila plain and met with departmental officials at the Kantawmingala Hall in Meiktila and gave instructions to them.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at Shanmange Village-tract in Meiktila Township and inspected site chosen to build No 1 support dam near Shanmange Creek which will supply irrigation water to Mondine Dam. They also inspected the site chosen to build No 2 support dam on Kanni Creek near Thayetpin Village on Meiktila-Kyaukpadaung Road.

Later, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at the briefing hall of the Mondine Lake of the Irrigation Department in Meiktila.

Director of the Mandalay Division Irrigation Department U Aye Thein reported on construction of intake channel for water supply from Mondine Lake to Meiktila Lake and maintenance of intake channel, digging of drainage, maintenance and earth work of drains for monsoon paddy cultivation. Next, Assistant Director U Myo Myint



Lt-Gen Ye Myint meets departmental officials of Meiktila and Yemethin districts at Kandawmingala Hall in Meiktila. — MNA

Aung also reported on inflow of water to the dam and supply of irrigation water. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected storage of water and spillway of the dam, condition of water supply through conduit of Mondine Dam to drainage and water supply to Meiktila Lake. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party also inspected the maintenance of the main canal from Mondine Lake to Meiktila Lake near Maisai Bridge on Meiktila-Kyaukpadaung Road and digging of drainage.

Later, they went to construction site of Nyaungkon Dam of Meiktila Plain greening project near Nyaungkon Village in Meiktila Township. The dam is being constructed by Construction Group-7 of the Irrigation Department. After hearing

reports on construction work and future plans presented by the officials of the Irrigation Department, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, they inspected construction of earthen dam using machinery and digging of

State, three ways of supplying irrigation water to Meiktila are being implemented. Zawgyi (Myogyi) Dam, Hsinthay Diversion Dam and Chaungkauk Dam will irrigate the plain. The State will provide necessary assistance. He urged the local authori-

ties.

Meiktila District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Kyaw Kyaw Oo and Yamethin District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Aung Kyi Shein also reported on monsoon paddy cultivation and irrigation in the districts. After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended to the needs. He gave instructions on cultivation of 1 million acres of paddy in the region for local rice sufficiency, supplying irrigation water to Meiktila Plain and he urged officials to extend paddy cultivation in coming year.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to construction site of Mandalay-Meiktila Road Section of Six-Lane Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway project in Thabyaywa Village in

Meiktila Township. At the briefing hall, an official reported on progress of tarring of the 62-mile-long road section from Paleik to Thabyaywa. Next, he inspected tarring of the road between mile post Nos 359 and 360.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Myogyi Dam construction project on Zawgyi River near Ywangan Township in Shan State (South) and inspected construction work.

At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said Zawgyi (Myogyi) Dam is being built and it will irrigate Meiktila Plain and will supply water to greening tasks of the plain. So, officials are to make efforts to be able to supply water in the coming rainy season, he urged. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at Mandalay in the evening. — MNA

Irrigation of Meiktila Plain and 12,000 acres in Meiktila and Wundwin envisaged.

drainage. They proceeded to Meiktila and inspected the inflow of water to Meiktila Lake and storage of water.

In Meiktila, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met departmental officials and discussed matters related to irrigation water supply to Meiktila Plain. At the meeting, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said, in accordance with the guidance of the Head of

ties to provide assistance and also urged the officials of Construction Group to make efforts for completion of work by the rainy season in 2005.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint reported on irrigation of water to Meiktila Plain and 12,000 acres of farm land in Meiktila and Wundwin. Officials concerned also reported on water supply

TRADE MARK CAUTION
H I S A M I T S U
PHARMACEUTICAL
CO., INC., a corporation
 organized and existing under
 the laws of Japan of
 408, Tashiro Daikancho,
 Tosu, Saga, Japan, is the
 Owner of the following
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Reg. No. 600/1994

in respect of "Medicated
 Plasters".

Fraudulent imitation or
 unauthorised use of the
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 law.

Win Mu Tin,

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

PHARMACEUTICAL
 CO., INC.

P.O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 13 October 2004

(၇) (၈) (၉) (၁၀) စာသင်သားများအတွက်
 သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်းနှင့်အညီ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ သင်စနစ်စာများပါရှိပါသည်။

JUNIOR LEADER



အတွဲ (၆) အမှတ် (၂၉) ဖြန့်ချိလိုက်ပါပြီ

သတင်းနှင့်စာမူပေးသောလုပ်ငန်းစဉ်များအားလုံးစာသင်စနစ်စာများပါရှိပါသည်။ စာ
 ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် လက်လီဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ တိုးတက်လိုသူတိုင်း ဂျူနီယာလီဒါကို ဖတ်ကြည့်ပါ။
 Read Junior Leader to improve your English.

UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS

INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following
 Stores which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

Sr.No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
1.	13(T)4/MR(ML)	Machinery & Equipments	41 - Items

Closing Date. - 2.11.2004 (Tuesday) (12:00) Hours.

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General
 Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street,
 Botataung, Yangon starting from 12.10.2004 during the office hours.

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

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

Nigeria wants \$10b investment annually in oil industry

LAGOS, 11 Oct — Ni-
 geria will require an in-
 vestment of 10 billion US
 dollars annually in the
 coming five years to meet
 the country's target for oil
 reserve of 40 billion bar-
 rels by 2010 and the elimi-
 nation of gas flaring by
 2008, a senior official has
 said.

Of this amount, the
 joint venture operation
 will require about 7
 billion dollars while the
 Production Sharing Con-
 tract (PSC) operators in
 the deepwater area will
 make up for the balance,
 Director of the Depart-
 ment of Petroleum Re-
 sources (DPR) Mac
 Ofurhie said.

"I expect average oil
 and gas spending to peak
 at about 10 billion annu-
 ally over the next five
 years, 7 billion dollars per

annum by the Joint Ven-
 ture Operations in the on-
 shore and offshore water,
 and 3 billion dollars by
 the PSC operators in the
 deepwater," Ofurhie was
 quoted by local daily *The
 Guardian* as saying on
 Saturday.

He said that the gov-
 ernment had set an ambi-
 tious target for boosting
 local content participation
 aimed at achieving 45 per
 cent local participation
 specifically in the provi-
 sion of goods and services
 to the oil and gas industry
 by 2006, and expected that
 this would ultimately rise
 to about 70 per cent by
 2010.

"To this effect, a local
 content committee has
 been set up ... in the fash-
 ioning of legal and regu-
 latory framework for fast-
 tracking, improved local

participation and accelera-
 tion of the use of local
 materials," he said.

Ofurhie said that Nor-
 way had agreed to assist
 Nigeria in identifying the
 modalities with which to
 build local capacity in the
 provision of goods and
 services, especially in lo-
 cal engineering, construc-
 tion and fabrication for the
 oil and gas.

In addition, the gov-
 ernment had signed a
 memorandum of under-
 standing with the China
 National Oil Corp to
 identify suitable upstream
 oil and gas assets that
 would be integrated into
 the downstream projects
 including refining, power
 generation, petrochemi-
 cals and fertilizer in part-
 nership with local indus-
 try players, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

ခြေတွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

Poles line up for shares in largest bank privatization

WARSAW (Poland), 11
 Oct — Poles signed wait-
 ing lists for a chance to
 buy shares in their largest
 bank, using a signup sys-
 tem from Communist
 times to impose order on
 the crush of interested in-
 vestors.

Monday marks their
 first chance to register for
 shares in the state-owned
 PKO Bank Polski, which
 intends to float 30 per cent
 of its shares in Central
 Europe's largest initial
 public offering of the year
 and Poland's biggest since
 a 1998 telecom IPO.

The government hopes
 the partial privatization
 will raise 6 billion zlotys
 (1.6 billion US dollars) for
 its coffers.

PKO BP was giving
 ordinary Poles only Mon-
 day to sign up for a first

batch of shares.

The government said
 Sunday it was raising the
 stock volume available for
 signup Monday to about 7
 percent of the bank's share
 capital, from the 4 percent
 originally planned.

"This is the first priva-
 tization in quite a while in
 which ordinary people can
 buy shares, not some stock
 exchange speculators,"
 said office clerk Dariusz
 Banasiak, 40, standing
 outside a Warsaw branch.
 He said he wouldn't be
 surprised if competing cli-
 ents came to blows on
 Monday.

Would-be investors
 have been signing up for
 days on lists kept by vol-
 unteers that set the order
 in which they can enter
 the bank Monday. The
 system harks back to the
 Communist era, when it
 was used to give people a
 fair chance to obtain scarce
 consumer goods when
 they happened to become
 available in stores.

Up to a quarter of the
 IPO's shares are ear-

marked for small-time in-
 vestors, who are limited
 to 20,000 zlotys (5,700 US
 dollars) each. The rest are
 to be offered about equally
 to domestic and foreign
 institutional investors.

The initial price for
 PKO BP shares is being
 set later. The bank is ex-
 pected to make its War-
 saw Stock Exchange de-
 but next month.

Floating part of PKO
 BP is crucial to the gov-
 ernment's 2004 budget,
 which targets privatization
 revenues of 8.8 billion zlo-
 tys (2.5 billion US dol-
 lars).

Privatization of state
 companies has recently
 stalled in ex-Communist
 Poland, the largest of 10
 countries _ most of them
 from the former Soviet
 bloc _ that joined the EU
 on 1 May.

PKO posted first-half
 net profits of 844 million
 zlotys (230 million US
 dollars) this year, up from
 722.5 million zlotys (195
 million US dollars) a year
 earlier.—MNA/AP

S Korean company to invest heavily in Indonesian power plant

JAKARTA, 12 Oct —
 Korea Electric Power
 Corp (Kepco) will materi-
 alize its 350-million-US-
 dollar investment in the
 construction of gas-fired
 power plant in the Indo-
 nesian province of West
 Java, a local newspaper
 reported Monday.

The 740-megawatt
 power plant will be built
 in Cilegon Town and is
 expected to start opera-
 tion in 2009, reported
Bisnis Indonesia.

"We have signed the
 memorandum of under-
 standing (MoU) with
 Kepco," Eddie Widiono,
 President of the state-run
 electricity company PT
 Perusahaan Listrik Negara
 (PLN), was quoted as
 saying.

PLN and Kepco in
 March 2003 signed the
 MoU, under which Kepco
 is asked to import three
 million tons of gas per
 annum.

MNA/Xinhua

Death toll from floods, storms rises to 36 in Vietnam

HANOI, 12 Oct —
 Floods and storms have
 killed 36 people, includ-
 ing 23 children in Viet-
 nam's southern Mekong
 Delta during this year's
 rainy season, which
 started in August, an of-
 ficial of the Central Steer-
 ing Committee on Flood
 and Storm Prevention told
Xinhua on Monday.

As of Sunday, floods
 had submerged over
 18,800 houses and 300
 schools, and damaged
 nearly 5,000 hectares of
 paddy fields and orchards,
 deputy head of the com-

mittee's office Do Ngoc
 Thien said, adding that the
 worst-affected provinces
 include Dong Thap, An
 Giang, Long An and Kien
 Giang.

The level of
 floodwaters in the upper
 stream of the Mekong

River, which peaked in
 late September, is reced-
 ing, he noted.

Natural disasters
 claimed 7,760 human lives
 and caused total losses of
 2.5 billion US dollars in
 Vietnam between 1996
 and 2002.—MNA/Xinhua

*The best time to plant a tree
 was twenty years ago.
 The second best time is now.*

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Canada will inquire into submarine fire

FASLANE (Scotland), 11 Oct — The Canadian Navy said on Sunday it was convinced that a sub-

marine bought from Britain was seaworthy at the start of a disastrous voyage during which a fire

injured nine crewmen and left it adrift in the Atlantic. The second-hand diesel-powered submarine

was towed into the Scottish Naval base Faslane earlier in the day with 54 of its crew on board, five days after the blaze which injured nine crew members, one fatally.

Two British tugboats had to help the stricken *HMCS Chicoutimi* to dock at the base because the submarine had partly lost power.

Vice-Admiral Bruce MacLean of the Canadian Navy said an inquiry would be held soon to discover what caused the fire.

"It is absolutely vital we find out exactly what happened. We don't know what happened on board the *Chicoutimi*," MacLean told a news conference after the submarine had docked.

The fire broke out while the *Chicoutimi* was sailing to Canada from Scotland and three seriously injured crewmen were airlifted to hospital in Ireland, where one of them died.

The vessel is one of four submarines which Canada bought from Britain in 1998 but which needed major repairs before they could safely put to sea.

MacLean said the condition of the submarine when it left Britain was "as good as it gets".

"I stand absolutely convinced that submarine was in all respects ready to sail and proceed to sea when it left," he said.

British Defence Minister Geoff Hoon has de-

fended the work carried out in Britain to ensure the submarines were seaworthy, amid speculation Canada may sue Britain.

"These boats were brought up to Royal Navy standards, they had undergone rigorous trials and tests," Hoon told BBC Radio.

"Canada has had the opportunity over many years to survey the boats and has been in negotiation with Britain during that period," he added.

The *Ottawa Citizen* newspaper has quoted defence documents as saying the *Chicoutimi*'s hull was so badly affected by rust that the vessel could not dive to its usual operating depth.

MNA/Reuters



A Royal Bengal tiger cools down by taking a bath in a pond at Dhaka's National Zoo. — INTERNET

Nepali Army plans to recruit 6,000 soldiers

KATHMANDU, 12 Oct — The Royal Nepal Army is planning to enhance its strength to 85,000 by recruiting 6,000 soldiers soon, an official at the Nepali Defence Ministry said.

The Ministry has already sent documents to the Finance Ministry, which will study the feasibility of the proposal, *The Himalayan Times* newspaper on Monday quoted the official as saying.

"Once the Finance Ministry gives its nod, the proposal will be sent to the Cabinet for approval,"

the official said on condition of anonymity.

The estimated budget for increasing the strength will be about six billion Nepali rupees (81 million US dollars), he noted.

Meanwhile, the Army has started recruiting woman officers for infantry units for the first time. More than 800 aspiring women have applied for

the post of infantry officers, he added.

The Army's second 10-year plan that was formulated last year plans to raise its strength to 100,000 with the formation of two new division headquarters in Dipayal and Hetauda cities as well as brigade headquarters in all of the country's 15 zones. — MNA/Xinhua

Harm ranks fifth biggest killer in China

GUANGZHOU, 12 Oct — Harm is the fifth biggest cause of death in China, killing some 800,000 people out of 70 million harmed in a year, according to experts attending an ongoing national conference on harm prevention and control held in Guangzhou.

Suicide stands as the biggest cause of death in harm cases, killing 250,000 to 350,000 people each year. The number of those killed in vehicle accidents ranks the second. And the third cause is drowning, said the experts. — MNA/Xinhua



Elephants play in the mud at the Royal Elephant House in Ayutthaya, 50 miles north of Bangkok on 8 Oct, 2004. The elephant is on the 'Ten Most Wanted Species' list of animals most at risk from unregulated international trade and their fate will be at issue at the 13th Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in Bangkok. INTERNET

China plans to set up consulate on Tahiti

BEIJING, 12 Oct — France has agreed to China's plan to set up a consulate on the island of Tahiti in French Polynesia, according to a Sino-French joint Press communique issued here Sunday.

The joint communique, issued during French President Jacques Chirac's state visit to China, says that the two countries are considering the mutual establishment of new consulates to promote bilateral exchanges.

The French Govern-

ment reiterates the one-China stance in the communique, and its opposition to Taiwan independence and any move to intensify tension across the Taiwan Strait.

The communique expresses the willingness of both countries to

strengthen cooperation in civil nuclear usage, land transport, civil aviation, high and new technology, agriculture, environmental protection, automobile, service industry as well as in cultural and educational fields.

MNA/Xinhua

Strong local demand shrinks Bangladesh's tea exports

DHAKA, 12 Oct — Strong internal demand is pushing Bangladesh's tea growers and traders to turn their focus on home market, reported the *Daily Star* on Monday.

According to reports from the state-owned Bangladesh Tea Board (BTB), the present annual domestic tea consumption has risen to about 40 million kilos, up from 20 million kilos a decade ago. Tea exports, on the other hand, in the fiscal 2003-2004 stood at 12.46 million kilos, down from 26.22 million kilos 10

years ago.

Lately the domestic market is picking up as more people are developing the habit of drinking tea, as tea is found to be the cheapest drink in the country, said Rasul Nizam, managing director of a leading tea brokerage house.

As a result, local tea growers and traders are now

focusing on domestic market, and the internal demand is expected to go higher in line with the pace of urbanization.

Bangladesh used to export tea to 25 countries, but now mainly to Pakistan, Afghanistan and the Commonwealth of Independent States countries.

MNA/Xinhua

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုးစားကြည့်တိုက်ရှိသင့်သည်။



ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုးစားကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် သုတ/ရသ စာအုပ်များလွှဲဒါနံ့နိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာ့ရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

SPORTS

Own goal hands Cyprus 2-2 draw against Faroe Islands

NICOSIA, 11 Oct — A late own goal from defender Pol Thorsteinsson handed Cyprus a 2-2 draw against the Faroe Islands as both sides secured their first point in World Cup qualifying Group Four on Saturday.

Thorsteinsson put through his own net nine minutes from time when trying to clear after goalkeeper Jakup Mikkelsen had saved a shot from Yiannakis Okkas. Mikkelsen had been at fault for the game's opening goal, bringing down Michalis Constandinou who made no mistake from the penalty spot after 14 minutes.

Cyprus failed to ram home their early dominance and the Faroes were quickly back on level terms with Claus Bech Jorgensen heading home from a free kick. Always dangerous on the counter-attack, the visitors were rewarded for their positive play with a second goal two minutes before halftime, Rogvi Jakobsen scoring with shot from distance. —MNA/Reuters

Brazil hammer Venezuela 5-2

MARACAIBO (Venezuela), 11 Oct — Kaka and Ronaldo hit two goals apiece as Brazil hammered Venezuela 5-2 on Saturday in a World Cup qualifier twice interrupted by fans going on to the field to hug the visiting players.

Adriano added the fifth goal as the world champions stayed top of the 10-nation South American qualifying group at the halfway mark of the competition, with 19 points from nine games.

Venezuela, who grabbed two late consolation strikes through forward Ruberth Moran, have 10 points.

The first supporter came on to the pitch after Ronaldo had scored Brazil's fourth goal in the 51st minute and hugged full-back Roberto Carlos before being pulled away by security men.

Shortly after, another fan, wearing a Brazil shirt, went on the field and did the same to Ronaldo.

Although Roberto Carlos laughed off the incident, the Venezuelans could find themselves in serious trouble for the double security lapse.

The first half was even in terms of possession but Kaka's two goals made the difference. Ronaldo then scored twice in three minutes after the break to kill off the home team.

Venezuela, who have lost all 16 meetings with Brazil, had hoped to end their wretched run after

enjoying a huge improvement in the last three years under coach Richard Paez.

Brazil, though, almost went ahead inside a minute when Ze Roberto's shot was cleared off the line by Luis Vera.

Kaka, who was left out of last month's match against Bolivia after he failed to take part in an August friendly in Haiti, played a one-two with Ronaldinho on six minutes, slipped through several defenders and placed his shot in the right corner of the net.

Venezuela then twice tested Dida with long-range shots. The AC Milan goalkeeper parried one dipping effort from Juan Arango before tipping Jose Manuel Rey's swerving free kick over the crossbar.

MNA/Reuters

Ten-man Poland defeat Austria 3-1

VIENNA, 11 Oct — Ten-man Poland survived a late onslaught to secure a 3-1 victory over Austria in their World Cup European Group Six qualifier on Saturday.

The defeat knocked the Austrians off the top of the group and down into third behind England and the Poles.

The visitors had Arkadiusz Radomski sent off two minutes from time but with Austria storming towards Poland's goal in the dying moments, a long through ball found Tomasz Frankowski alone in front of Alex Manninger's goal and his second attempt found the net.

Poland took the lead through Radoslaw Kaluzny after 10 minutes after Manninger could only parry a free kick from Maciej Zurawski.

The Austrians equalized thanks to Markus Schopp on the half hour, the Brescia midfielder latching on to a through ball from Rene Aufhauser before firing between Liverpool keeper Jerzy Dudek's legs.

MNA/Reuters

Honduras draw with Canada 1-1

SAN PEDRO SULA (Honduras), 11 Oct — Substitute Danilo Turcios snatched an equalizer in the second minute of injury time to earn Honduras a 1-1 home draw with Canada in their World Cup qualifier on Saturday.

The Mexican-based midfielder, who replaced Edgard Alvarez in the 74th minute, fired home from inside the penalty area as Honduras maintained their unbeaten record in Group B of the second stage of the CONCACAF zone qualifiers.

Canada, without a win in their four games, took a shock lead when midfielder Atiba Hutchinson, who plays for Swedish club Helsingborgs, shot into the net amid a crowd of defenders following a corner in the 72nd minute.

Honduras, whose only appearance at the World Cup finals was in 1982, have six points from four games in the group and are well-placed for a top-two finish which will take them into the final stage of the qualifying competition next year.

Canada, aiming to qualify for the finals for the first time since 1986, stayed bottom with two points.

MNA/Reuters

US beat El Salvador 2-0

SAN SALVADOR, 11 Oct — Brian McBride and debutant Eddie Johnson gave the United States a 2-0 victory over El Salvador in their World Cup qualifier on Saturday. The win by the Americans strengthened their grip at the top of the CONCACAF region Group A table, with eight points from four games. El Salvador remain bottom on three points.

The match, played amid heightened security, was a far cry from the ill-tempered September 4 fixture between the two nations that almost caused a series of on-field brawls.

The US carved out several early chances and it was no surprise when McBride struck in the 29th minute.

Kerry Zavagnin collected a quick throw-in from DaMarcus Beasley and found McBride, who lashed the ball in from 17 metres. —MNA/Reuters



Houston Astros, Carlos Beltran (R) pumps his fist to teammates as he passes Atlanta Braves catcher Johnny Estrada after a solo home run in the third inning of Game 5 of the National League Division Series in Atlanta, on 11 Oct, 2004. Beltran also hit a home run in the sixth inning as the Astros went on to win 12-3 and advance against the St Louis Cardinals in the NLCS. —INTERNET

Colombia held 1-1 draw with Paraguay

BARRANQUILLA (Colombia), 11 Oct — Colombia squandered a hatful of chances before conceding a late equalizer in a 1-1 home draw with Paraguay in their World Cup qualifier on Saturday.

The Colombians missed an excellent opportunity to climb several places in the 10-nation South American group, which is now at the halfway mark, after letting their opponents off the hook.

Midfielder Aureliano Torres scored in the 78th minute to earn Paraguay a point which appeared beyond them when the home team dominated the first half and went ahead through Freddy Grisales.

The result left Colombia level with Bolivia and Peru on nine points at the bottom of the group. Paraguay, third at the start of the weekend, have 15 points and are on course for their third successive World Cup finals appearance.

Colombia went ahead in the 17th minute when Grisales crossed from the right, the ball deflecting off defender Paulo Da Silva and flying into the net.

The hosts looked almost certain to add to their goal total as they dominated the midfield and sliced through the Paraguay defence with their neat passing.

Juan Pablo Angel fired one chance left of the goal and another to the right in quick succession. Then Grisales sidefooted wide from the edge of the penalty area after a clever dummy by Frankie Oviedo.

The second half was a different story as Diego Gavilan replaced Angel Ortiz in the Paraguay midfield and the visitors began to create chances.

MNA/Reuters



Mexico's Cuahutemoc Blanco, top, takes control of the ball against an unidentified St Vincent and the Grenadines player, during a CONCACAF World Cup qualifier in Kingstown, St Vincent, on Sunday, 10 Oct, 2004. Mexico won 1-0. —INTERNET

Information Minister receives Israeli Ambassador

YANGON, 12 Oct — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Israeli Ambassador Mrs Ruth Schatz at his office on Theinbyu Road this afternoon.

Present at the call together with Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan were Director-General of Myanmar Radio and Tel-

evision U Khin Maung Htay, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise Col Soe Win, Managing Director of Myanmar Motion Picture

Enterprise U Bo Kyi, Acting Managing Director of Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Thet Soe and Head of Department Major Ye Tint. — MNA

UNODC confirms steady reduction in opium cultivation in Myanmar

(from page 16)

The Shan State traditionally has accounted for more than 90 per cent of total opium production in Myanmar.

“Factor in a parallel decline in opium cultivation in Laos — 45 per cent in comparison to 2003 — and what we may be seeing, if the decline continues, is a potential end to more than a century of opium production in the Golden Triangle,” said Antonio Maria Costa, the Executive Director of UNODC. Speaking to an audience in Brussels, Costa added: “Today Myanmar faces a critical, two-fold challenge. First, the country needs a permanent decline in opium production. At the same time, Myanmar must do everything in its power to head-off the humanitarian disaster threatening opium-growing families who at present live on, or below, the poverty line.”

According to the survey, 260,000 households were involved in opium cultivation in 2004. Most of them reside in remote, mountainous, and isolated areas, and opium is often their primary or sole source of income. Most importantly, the average income of non-opium producing households is 30 per cent higher than opium producing households. “Opium is a last resort for farmers confronting hunger and poverty,” said Mr. Costa. “If we do not provide for the basic human needs of farmers in Myanmar, they will never escape the vicious circle of poverty and opium cultivation. The opium communities will

remain vulnerable to human rights abuses, human trafficking and forced relocation,” added Mr. Costa.

According to Gareth Evans, President and CEO of the International Crisis Group (ICG), “It is very encouraging that the United Nations has been able to report such a significant decline in opium production in Myanmar. However if these declines are to be sustained, more will have to be done to provide economic opportunities for those living in border areas in Myanmar — even in the absence of political reform, which is essential. ICG has recommended that donors develop new strategies, working with the UN and others to reduce poverty and to tackle the problems of conflict, disease and drugs that have caused so much harm in this region.”

“Democratization and national reconciliation in Myanmar, as well as national commitment to drug control, are goals the United Nations has reaffirmed on several occasions. The international donor community carries a responsibility to support this process by providing alternative sources of income to those families in Myanmar whose livelihoods are adversely impacted by the loss of opium-generated revenue,” concluded Mr. Costa.

This survey jointly carried out by UNODC and the Myanmar Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control provides also figures on addiction. The survey (http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crop_monitoring.html) is based on field work complemented with satellite imagery.—UNODC

2004 Myanmar Opium Survey-Results at a Glance

- * In 2004 the total area under opium poppy cultivation in Myanmar stood at 44,200 ha, a decrease 29% from 2003 and 73% from 1996.
- * Bad weather conditions depressed the average opium yield. Total potential opium production in Myanmar was estimated at 370 metric tons - a decrease of 54% compared to 2003.
- * The average farmgate price of opium in 2004 was US\$234 per kilogram — an increase of 80% over 2003 prices.
- * The 2004 total farmgate value of opium production amounted to US\$ 87 million.
- * The survey estimates that 260,000 households in Myanmar engage in opium cultivation. The average household earns just US\$133 per year from the sale of opium — however, this is equivalent

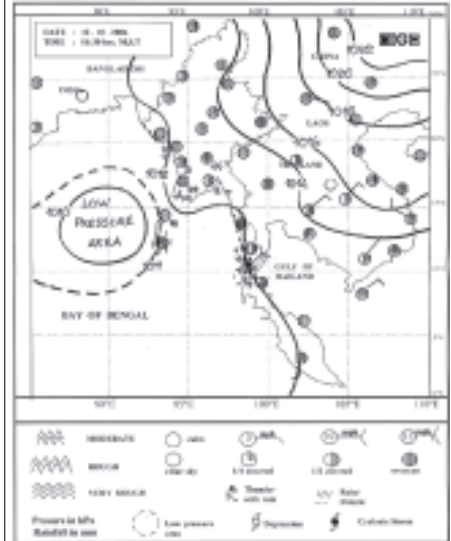
to 62% of their total annual household income of US\$ 214. In contrast, non-opium farming households reported annual incomes of US\$276.

- * The survey carried out in Shan State combined the use of satellite images and ground verification; 59 high-resolution satellite images, together with a ground survey of 598 village, 69 opium fields, and interviews with 6,592 households.
- * Rapid assessment surveys were carried out for the first time in the Sagaing Division, Kachin and Chin States. No large scale poppy cultivation was found. For further information on the 2004 Myanmar opium survey or to request a survey report, please contact Nikolas Win Myint, Programme Officer, via phone (ext.222) or e-mail (nikolas.win.myint@unodc.org) — UNODC

Rainfall on 12-10-2004

- 0.12 inch at Yangon Airport,
 - 0.32 inch at Kaba-Aye and and
 - 0.04 inch at central Yangon.
- Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was
- 111.85 inches at Yangon Airport,
 - 106.54 inches at Kaba-Aye and
 - 108.66 inches at central Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 12 October, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing Division and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy falls in Magway Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyaukpadaung (3.15) inches, Taungoo (1.81) inches, Loikaw (1.69) inches, and Aungmye (1.50) inches.

Maximum temperature on 11-10-2004 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 12-10-2004 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 12-10-2004 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 11-10-2004 was (3.1) hours approx. Rainfall on 12-10-2004 was 0.12 inch at Yangon Airport, 0.32 inch at Kaba-Aye and 0.04 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was (111.85 inches) at Yangon Airport, (106.54 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (108.66 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 8 mph from Southeast at (11:40) hours MST on 11-10-2004.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (12:30) hours MST today, a low pressure area over the Andaman Sea and adjoining East Central Bay persists. It is likely to intensify further into a depression. Weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 13-10-2004: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Rakhine State, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, isolated in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough Sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers in Myanmar's Coastal areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-10-2004: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13-10-2004: Partly cloudy.

ကမ္ဘာ့မျက်စိမမြင်ပပျောက်ရေးနေ့

World Sight Day

၂၀၀၄-ခုနှစ် အောက်တိုဘာလ (၁၄) ရက်

“အမြင်သန့်စင်မှု ဝိုးအခွင့်အလမ်း

သဘောရန် ၂၀၂၀ - အရောက်လမ်း”

“Vision 2020 - The Right to Sight.

Elimination of Avoidable Blindness”

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Asleep in Jesus

Major Charles Chit Tha (Rtd)

B.C. 3888

Age (83) years

Major Charles Chit Tha (Rtd) of Building (15), Room (1), U Wisara Housing Estate, Dagon Township, Yangon, son of (U Shwe Min and Daw Win), son-in-law of (Lt.Col. W.C.J. Boudville (Rtd) and Daw Saw Yin), beloved husband of Daw Cissie, loving father of Daw Carole Ann Chit Tha (Professor, Dept. of International Relations, Y.U) — U Michael Khin Mg Lat (Ex-R/O, New Asia Shipping Co.), U Allan Charles Chit Tha (Unitam Shipping Co.) — Daw Kyi Hlaing @ Daw Win Yee (Myanmar Port Authority), Daw Susan Ann Chit Tha — Dr U Myint Swe (State Health Officer-Rtd), (U Vincent Charles Chit Tha) — Daw Khin San Htay, Daw Elizabeth Ann Chit Tha — U Moe Kyaw Swa (Minn Mahara); grandfather of 11 grandchildren, passed away peacefully at 12:45 pm on Tuesday the 12th October 2004. Funeral services will be held at 14:00 hours on Saturday the 16th October 2004 at St. John's Cantonment Catholic Church, and cortege will proceed to Yayway Christian Cemetery N. Okkalapa for burial.

Buses will leave the above address at 13:30 hours for the funeral services.



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects multimedia teaching room of Mingaladon Township No 1 BEHS. — MNA

Mingaladon Township BEHS No 1 gets multimedia teaching centre

YANGON, 12 Oct — No 1 Basic Education High School in Mingaladon Township, Yangon North District, Yangon Division, opened its multimedia teaching centre at the school this morning, attended by Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win.

Also present were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Education U Than Aung, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, senior military officers, officials of the State

Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, officials, headmaster, old students, donors and students.

On arrival at the school, the Secretary-1 and party were welcomed by dance troupes and band troupes and students singing the song "Myanmar School".

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister U Than Aung and Chairman of School Board of Trustees Daw Thi Thi Aung formally opened the centre. The Secretary-1 unveiled the signboard.

The Secretary-1 and party visited electronic media (audio system), language lab, computer application and e-mail room, electronic media (video

system) room, altar, computer aided instruction room, printed media (reading corner), library, school dispensary, art room, domestic science room, agricultural and herbal booth and handicraft booth. Students explained the herbal plants and their use. They presented ginger honey, garlic honey, fruit juice and inhalant to the Secretary-1 as gifts.

At the donation ceremony for the centre, students sang songs and performed dances. Headmaster U San Win explained the number of classrooms and students, matriculation examination pass rate of the school, and efforts being made for it to become a model school.

(See page 6)

Secretary-2 attends fertilizing of Hsinshweli paddy with pollen in Shan State (North)

YANGON, 12 Oct — Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by Member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung,

Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Brig-Gen Than Tun, and officials of the SPDC Office, on 9 October morning attended the presenting of provisions

(See page 6)

Opening ceremony of 12th Performing Arts Competitions to be telecast live

YANGON, 12 Oct — A ceremony to open the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions will be held at National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street at 7 am on 14 October. Programmes of the opening ceremony will be telecast live by both radio and television.

MNA

UNODC confirms steady reduction in opium cultivation in Myanmar



The following is the press release issued by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on 11 October, 2004.

Brussels, 11 October — Today, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) released the results of Myanmar's Opium Survey 2004. The

survey shows a 29 per cent decline in comparison to 2003. The opium cultivation this season is estimated at 44,200 hectares (ha) representing a significant cumulative decline of 73 per cent when compared to the 163,000 ha in 1996. The production of opium for the year 2004 amounted to 370 metric tons, representing a decline of 54 per cent with respect to 2003.

(See page 15)



Lt-Gen Thein Sein gives instructions to officials at Kaukwe Creek Dam project briefing hall. — MNA