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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt unveils plaque of second Exhibition on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Activities (Mandalay).—MNA

Prime Minister attends opening of Exhibition on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Activities (Mandalay)

YANGON, 17 Oct—The second Exhibition on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Activities (Mandalay) was opened at the city hall in Mandalay yesterday, attended by Chairman of National Health Committee Prime

Minister General Khin Nyunt.

The exhibition was organized with the aims of informing the public of AIDS prevention and control activities being carried out in earnest in Myanmar in cooperation

with the government, the people, UN agencies and social associations at home and from abroad.

Also present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman

of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, the ministers, the mayor of Mandalay, the deputy ministers, the deputy chief justice, the deputy com-

mander and senior military officers, departmental officials, rectors and specialists, officials of social associations at home and from abroad, school heads, teachers and students. First, member of the State Peace and

Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein formally opened the exhibition.

(See page 8)

12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions go on for fourth day

YANGON, 17 Oct — The 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the fourth day today at the designated places — the song contest at the National Museum, the dancing contest at the National Theatre, the song composing contest at the State School of Drama and the music contest at Padonma Theatre and Kanbawza Theatre respectively.

Among the spectators were Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Daw Khin Than Nwe, widow of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-2, Daw Khin Win Hnin Wai, wife of Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Daw Khin Aye Kyin, wife of Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Daw Htwe Htwe Nyunt, wife of Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Daw Khin Thet Htay, wife of Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun,

member of the Panel of Patrons Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, Chairman of the Work Committee No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint Hsan, Director-General Lt-Col Pe Nyein of the State Peace and Development Council Office, Sub-committee Chairman Director-General U Kyaw Win of Fine Arts Department and officials. At the National Theatre, Chairperson of the Panel of Judges Assistant Director (Music) Daw Tin Tin Mya of Myanmar Radio and Television, Secretary Assistant Engineer Daw May Pyone Khaing and members supervised the song contest.

A total of 14 persons took part in the amateur level (women's) religious song contest and 14 persons in the higher education level (men's) old/modern song contest. On 18 October, the higher education (women's) level classical song contest and the basic education level (aged 5-10) boys' classical song contest will be held at the National Museum.

(See page 8)



Maung Zaw Maing Khun of Kachin State taking part in basic education level (aged 15-20) boys' dancing contest.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 18 October, 2004

Fight against hunger and ensuring food security

The Government based on agriculture has been making all-out efforts for successful realization of the national economic goals. In the process, priority is being given to developing the farming, livestock breeding and forestry sectors and ensuring all-round development of rural areas.

About 70 per cent of Myanmar population of over 53 million are dependent on the agriculture, livestock and fisheries or forestry sectors. Hence, the Government is placing emphasis on development of those sectors, thereby contributing to development of national economy and ensuring food security of the State. The ceremony to mark the World Food Day for 2004 was held at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road, Yangon on 16 October with an address by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

In his address, General Khin Nyunt said: We share the view that freedom from starvation and ensuring food security are the most imperative human rights of the entire mankind. Myanmar, therefore, has already given a pledge to work together with the international community to ensure a balanced share of these rights amongst all the people of the world.

Myanmar hand in hand with the international community has laid down and is implementing plans for ensuring freedom from starvation and food security.

In the time of the Tatmadaw Government, there emerged altogether 164 dams and reservoirs along with 265 river water pumping stations. Those irrigation facilities have been able to boost rice production to meet the requirements of both local consumption and international market demand.

Development of agricultural sector has led to development of livestock and fisheries. As Myanmar has a long coastline that stretches 2,832 kilometres teeming with marine resources, it is naturally blessed with good economic conditions. With extension of fish and prawn breeding, Myanmar has been able to export its marine products to over 40 countries.

Myanmar is well-known for having managed its forests on a scientific, systematic and sustainable basis for over a period of 150 years. Since 1994, the project for greening of nine districts has been launched in Upper Myanmar and it has now been extended to 13 districts and contributed to improvement of socio-economic life of local people.

Therefore, we would like to call on the entire national people to strive together with the Government for successful realization of projects aimed at keeping the world free from hunger and ensuring food security.

Coord meeting of Work Committee for Performing Arts Competitions held

YANGON, 17 Oct — The chairman of the Work Committee for Organizing the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions and sub-committee members and the team managers from the states and divisions held a coordination meeting this evening, attended by Chairman of the Work Committee No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint Hsan.

Sub-committee members and the team managers from the states and divisions reported on the tasks of competitions, followed by a general round of discussions.

Next, Col Tint Hsan attended to the needs.

MNA

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Coord meeting for greening 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses coordination meeting for greening 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport all the year round. — MNA

YANGON, 17 Oct — A coordination meeting for greening 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport all the year round was held this afternoon at the meeting hall of Yangon Command Headquarters, attended by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Aung Thein, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, heads of departments

and enterprises, authorities, division-level officials, members of Division, District and Township Agricultural Supervisory Committees and guests.

First, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe made a speech on the occasion. He said that monsoon paddy, summer paddy, pulses and beans, edible oil crops, vegetables and other crops have been managed to grow round the year for greening the 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport. Although monsoon paddy has been grown and summer paddy is to be cultivated in coming summer to exceed the target arrangements are to be made for cultivation of summer paddy in coming cultivation season ex-

ceeding the target and pulses and beans, edible oil crops, vegetables and other crops on commercial scale, he said. As water supply for cultivation also plays an important role, irrigation facilities in Yangon Division are to be ready for use. For greening the environs of airport, summer paddy is to be put on five zones. It is necessary to start irrigation of 5,000 acres of paddy in Thanlyin Township. And then, concerted efforts are to be made for marked increase of farmland area in open season and greening of the 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport all the year round.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint reported on supply of water

for agricultural purpose.

Afterwards, Hlegu, Taikkyi, Htantabin, Hmawby, Mingaladon, Dagon Myithit (East), (South) and (Seikkan) Township PDC chairmen reported on their efforts for promoting the cultivation of summer paddy. Next, Deputy Ministers Col Nyan Tun Aung and U Aung Thein, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials reported on arrangements for cultivation of edible oil crops, pulses and beans and vegetables and water supply.

Later, those present took part in the discussions. The meeting ended with the conclusion remarks given by Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

MNA

Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing delivers an address at opening ceremony of Management Staff Grade-2 Course.

MNA



Management Staff Grade-2 Course opened

YANGON, 17 Oct — Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing attended the opening ceremony of the Management Staff Grade-2 course No 2/2004 of the General Administration

Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs at the training school this morning. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe, the Director-General of

Myanmar Police Force and Departments under the Ministry, Deputy Director-General of MPF and Deputy Directors-General, Directors of the General Administration Department (Head Of-

fice) and others.

The Minister made a speech on the occasion.

Altogether 74 trainees are attending the 10-week course.

MNA

Two US military transport helicopters crash in southwestern Baghdad killing two soldiers

BAGHDAD, 16 Oct — Two US military transport helicopters crashed on Saturday night in southwestern Baghdad, the military said, killing two soldiers and bringing to six the number of American servicemen reported killed in Reuters news agency violence across Iraq over the past two days.

Meanwhile, US war-planes dropped bombs on the western part of the city of Fallujah and tanks fired artillery rounds from its perimeter, the

reported. The US helicopters crashed around 8:30 pm, according to a statement released by the military, which said the cause was under investigation. Two wounded soldiers were

evacuated and taken to a medical facility. In one attack on US troops, a suicide car bombing killed two soldiers, one Marine and an Iraqi translator Friday in Qaim, a city on the Syrian border in the

province of Anbar that has become a centre for Sunni insurgents. Another car bomb killed a US soldier Friday in the northern city of Mosul, 220 miles north of Baghdad, the US military said Saturday.

US forces bombed Fallujah for 12 consecutive hours after two bombs exploded almost simultaneously inside Baghdad's fortified Green Zone on Thursday, killing three American civilians and as many as six Iraqis. *Internet*



A security officer looks at the damage of vehicles following a mortar that exploded in the al-Mansour Hotel car park in central Baghdad, damaging several cars but causing no apparent casualties, on 15 Oct, 2004.

— INTERNET

China's social donation system benefits 400 million people

BEIJING, 17 Oct — China's long-standing social donation system has contributed a total of 23.6 billion yuan (2.85 billion US dollars) to help more than 400 million poor and disaster-stricken people in the past eight years, according to the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA).

MCA statistics show that 28,000 social donation stations have been established in Chinese cities since 1996 as an effort of setting up a mechanism to handle donations on a regular basis. Thanks to the mechanism, civil affairs departments at various levels received and handed out donated items and funds valuing some 23.6 billion yuan, including 12.6 billion yuan (1.52 billion US dollars) in cash and cheques, and clothes and quilts worth 957 million yuan (116 million US dollars).

Donation activities mainly take in three forms in China: economically advanced regions helping specific less developed regions, motivating people to donate to relieve the effect of specific disasters and receiving items and funds donated for no specific causes and making them available where needed.

The long-standing social donation mechanism first targets disaster-hit and rural poor populations and covers workers serving enterprises in financial difficulties and those being laid off from state-owned enterprises. The mechanism's focus has expanded in the past two years from serving basic living needs to providing

medical services and training to needy populations. In order to better serve the country's needy, Chinese civil affairs departments recently started to build special convenience stores for poor residents in urban communities.

The first of these was established on September 10 in Fengsheng Hutong of Beijing's Xicheng District. Needy residents in the community are able to pick up items for free from the store by showing social care cards issued by the community. Other residents in the community can put items that they want to donate in the store and let their poor neighbours choose.—MNA/Xinhua

FBI chief warns of possible terror attack

WASHINGTON, 16 Oct — There is still a possibility that terrorists are plotting to attack the United States before the November 2 elections, Robert Mueller, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), warned on Friday.

But he quickly admitted that so far there was no specific intelligence regarding the timing, location and method of such possible attacks.

Mueller was responding to questions during background briefings to foreign journalists about the agency at the FBI headquarters in Washington, DC.

MNA/Xinhua

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Car bombs kill five US troops in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Oct — Car bombs killed five US troops in Iraq, the US military said on Saturday, the latest in a string of such attacks at the start of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

The two car bombs went off Friday, the military said. One, carried out by a suicide bomber driving an explosive-laden vehicle, targeted a US patrol near the town of Qaim, an insurgent hotspot near the border with Syria, killing four US troops, according to Lt Col Chris Woodbridge, commander of the

1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment.

The other blast went off in the northern city of Mosul, 225 miles north of Baghdad, killing a US soldier assigned to Task Force Olympia, the military said.

US commanders have warned that may increase violence during Ramadan just as there was a surge in attacks last year with the start of the month of fasting. In recent days, US and Iraqi forces have launched sweeps around several cities in an attempt to suppress guerrillas ahead of Ramadan. Most Iraqis began observing the sunrise-to-sunset fast on Friday, though some Shiites began Saturday.

A vehicle bomb reported Friday by the US military blasted near a police station in south west Baghdad, killing 10 civilians including a family of four who were driving by at the time of the blast. Iraqi hospital officials said 14 people were wounded.

Internet

28 US soldiers face possible criminal charges

WASHINGTON, 16 Oct — Twenty-eight US soldiers were found guilty in connection with the death of two prisoners in an American-run prison in Afghanistan two years ago and are facing possible criminal charges, including involuntary manslaughter and maiming, the Army said.

The Army's Criminal Investigation Division recommends various charges against the 28, with some facing more serious charges than others, marking the completion of a nearly two-year-old investigation into the incident, the Army said in a statement on Thursday.

So far, only one person — a military police reservist identified as Sergeant James P Boland — has actually been charged with the deaths. He was charged with assault and dereliction of duty in connection with the deaths at the Bagram Air Base near Kabul on December 4 and December 10, 2002.

For the other 27

Armymen, their commanding officers will make the final call on whether they face a court-martial, administrative discipline or no disciplinary action, it said.—MNA/PTI



A US soldier from the 1st Cavalry Division, removes a mortar shell embedded in the ground after it exploded in the al-Mansour Hotel car park in central Baghdad on 16 Oct, 2004, damaging several cars but causing no apparent casualties.—INTERNET

Anti-war Americans apologise for Iraq war

BAGHDAD, 17 Oct—A sizeable majority of Americans feel the Iraq war is immoral.

Some 2000 US citizens opposed to the Iraq war will be sending Iraqis personal photos with protest messages to show not all Americans condone the

invasion.

A means to counter the infamous images of US soldiers abusing Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison, each picture will be accompanied by a signed personal message – either decrying the US-led invasion or extending sympathies to besieged

Iraqi civilians.

"With deep shame, we apologise for the suffering our country has brought to the people of Iraq," says a banner in a photo showing 11 people in Vancouver, Washington.

Three elderly people in Minneapolis declare, "All our children long for a

new day".

Among those sending pictures is Michael Berg, whose son Nicholas was executed after being seized in Iraq.

"I am sorry and ashamed for the tremendous loss my government has caused the Iraqi people," Michael tells the Iraqis, betraying no grudge for his personal loss.

"I truly feel what the United States government has done to the once-sovereign nation of Iraq is atrocious and shameful," he said.—Internet



US soldiers talk to journalists, unidentified, after a mortar round, foreground, hit the parking lot of the al-Mansour Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq on 16 Oct, 2004, where some foreign journalists and diplomats stay. —INTERNET

German Chancellor ends visit to Libya

TRIPOLI, 16 Oct—Visiting German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder wrapped up his two-day visit to Libya later Friday with the conclusion of a series of major deals on energy cooperation between the two countries.

Earlier in the day, Schroeder attended an inauguration ceremony of an oil exploration project run by Germany's Wintershall AG in Jakhira, some 992 kilometres south of Tripoli.

Afterwards, Schroeder told a brief news conference here that he was impressed by Libya's efforts to integrate itself into the international community and its willingness to further

open up to the outside world.

The German Chancellor highlighted the huge cooperation potentials between the two countries, expressing his belief that Libya's energy potentials would bring great opportunities to German enterprises.

Sources close to the German delegation revealed that the business deals struck between the two countries on oil, gas, telecommunications,

infrastructure and tourism valued at about 650 million US dollars.

The German Chancellor, who is leading a 200-member delegation, arrived here Thursday night to kick off his two-day maiden visit to Libya, the first ever by a German leader in 25 years.

Shortly after his arrival, Schroeder went into talks with Libyan leader Moammar al-Kadafi.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese Vice-Premier meets Hitachi chief

BEIJING, 16 Oct—Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan met with Kanai Tsutomu, president of directorate of the Hitachi Ltd and his party here Friday, and appealed for further cooperation in fields such as information technology and energy saving.

Zeng told the guests that the Chinese and Japanese economies were complementary and have witnessed fast growth in economy, trade and investment.

He appealed Hitachi, as one of the first foreign companies in China, to expand operation in China, strengthen research and development

and enhance cooperation with its Chinese counterpart in information technology, machinery and electronic industry, energy saving and environmental protection.

Kanai Tsutomu said that Japanese enterprises were satisfied with China's performance after its entry to the World Trade Organization (WTO),

noting that the Hitachi was willing to contribute more to the promotion of bilateral investment and trade.

The Japanese delegation was here as guest of the Xinhua news agency. Tian Congming, president of Xinhua met with the delegation prior to the meeting.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်ပူပူအား ခေါ်ကျော်လွှား

Group claims abducting two Turks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Oct—A group identifying itself as the Islamic Brigade in Mosul claimed to have kidnapped two Turkish drivers on a highway near Mosul, the group said in a video released on Saturday.

A compact disc issued by the group had a video showing two men sitting on the floor with three masked and armed men behind them. The two hostages made statements in Turkish. The disc was received by *The Associated Press* on Saturday.

One of the kidnappers said the Turkish government must order the company where the two men worked to leave Iraq or they will be killed.

One of the men shown was large and bald with a gray beard. The other man was short and compact with gray hair. Both appear to be in their 40s.—Internet

Kerry sees "great potential" for draft revival under Bush

WASHINGTON, 16 Oct—Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry said there is a threat that a new military draft will be needed to replace overextended US troops in Iraq if President George W Bush wins a second term, despite Bush's repeated pledges to maintain the all-volunteer service. Republicans rejected the suggestion as "fear mongering".

Bush and his Democratic challenger also sparred over jobs and other domestic issues Friday as they campaigned through battleground states in the Midwest.

At a rally in Milwaukee, Kerry said Bush was "out of ideas, out of touch and unwilling to change" and accused him of mishandling the economy. Bush, campaigning in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, called his rival an unrepentant liberal seeking to hide his record.

Kerry raised the draft issue in an interview in The Des Moines Register published Friday.

"With George Bush, the plan for Iraq is more of the same and the great potential of a draft. Because if we go it alone, I don't know how you do it with the current overextension" of the military, Kerry said.

Bush campaign spokesman Steve Schmidt dismissed Kerry's comments as "fear mongering" and suggested the Massachusetts senator was spreading "false Internet rumours".

Kerry has suggested that Bush's heavy use of National Guard and Reserve troops has created a "backdoor draft". But his latest comments went further.

Bush did not directly respond, but he said in Cedar Rapids that he was "modernizing and transforming our United States military to keep the an all-volunteer Army."

In the second presidential debate, Bush said, "We're not going to have a draft, period." Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has made similar statements.

The latest dispute over the draft came as a survey indicated that military families trust Bush over Kerry as commander in chief by 69 per cent to 21 per cent. Some 43 per cent of the military sample said they were Republicans, 19 per cent said they were Democrats and 27 per cent independents. The margin for Bush was smaller, 50-41, among all Americans questioned by the National Annenberg Election Survey.

MNA/AP



A US soldier looks at a piece of shrapnel after a mortar round hit the parking lot of the al-Mansour Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq on 16 Oct, 2004.

INTERNET

Nuclear equipment removed by professionals in Iraq

VIENNA, 16 Oct— Nuclear equipment and materials in Iraq were dismantled and removed by professionals systematically, diplomats here said on Thursday, indicating that this work has lasted at least one year since 2003.

The diplomats pointed out that the removal of the nuclear equipment was well organized by professionals who should have such large-sized machines as heavy lifting equipment and heavy-duty trucks. And the whole operation could not be completed within a short period.

Their comments contradicted earlier statements of the United States and the Iraqi interim government, which insisted that the nuclear equipment had been looted shortly after the US-led invasion.

Iraqi Science and Technology Minister Rashad Omar said the nuclear fa-

cilities have been under well protection of the Iraqi interim government, and he also invited the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to visit the sites at any time.

In a report submitted Monday to the UN Security Council, IAEA head Mohamed ElBaradei said satellite images show equipment and materials that could be used to make nuclear weapons have vanished from Iraq.

Entire buildings once monitored and tagged by the agency have been dismantled, and equipment and materials in open storage areas have been re-

moved, ElBaradei said.

Since 1991, the IAEA has been required by UN Security Council resolutions to submit progress reports every six months on its inspections of Iraq's nuclear weapons programme.

However, the agency pulled out of the country on the eve of the war last year, and since then has been concentrating on analysing information collected before.

In August, at the invitation of Iraqi interim government, IAEA inspectors returned to Iraq for the first time after US-led invasion. — MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis are stopped by British forces for a security check in the suburbs of Basra, Iraq, in this April 5, 2003 file photo. Britain's Ministry of Defence has denied on Saturday, 16 Oct, 2004.

INTERNET

Kerry dismisses Bush as out of touch, out of ideas

LAS VEGAS, 16 Oct — Democratic challenger John Kerry, pumped up by polls showing he won all three debates with President George W Bush, dismissed the Republican incumbent on Thursday as out of touch, out of ideas and out of time.

The Massachusetts senator kicked off a 19-day race to the November 2 election with a stinging critique of Bush's domestic policies and a sarcastic retort to the President's "falsehoods" about his record.

"After four years of falling wages, losing jobs, losing health care, is that all you've got, Mr President?" Kerry told a rally in Des Moines, Iowa. "George, is that all you've got?"

With most opinion polls showing Kerry won the third and final debate with Bush in Tempe, Arizona, on Wednesday, the senator hit hard, saying the President had helped his "powerful and well-connected friends" at the expense of average Americans who could not afford another four years of "the Bush economy".

"George Bush had four years to do something — anything — to make life better for hardworking families," Kerry told a Las Vegas convention of AARP, a 35-million-member organization that lobbies for elderly Americans.

"But instead of seizing the moment, he has squandered the opportunity and then he has spent his entire campaign trying to make us believe the unbelievable."

From shipping jobs overseas to becoming the first president in 72 years to lose jobs on his watch, Bush had ignored reality and tried to "spin until he's dizzy",

Kerry said.

"The President has proven beyond a doubt that he's out of touch with the average middle-class family, he's out of ideas and he's unwilling to change course," Kerry said. "The good news is that in 19 days we can change all of this, we can leave it behind us. Our moment is now."

In a virtual dead heat in national polls, Kerry appealed to elderly voters who could make the difference in critical battleground states like Florida and Ohio.

The AARP supported controversial Medicare prescription drug legislation that Bush won from Congress a year ago. Kerry opposed the measure and called it a 139-billion-US-dollar windfall for big drug companies.

"I know that this issue is one where the AARP and I have disagreed," he said. "But I can't just come here and not tell you the truth. George Bush's Medicare bill is full of empty promises and special-interest giveaways."

Kerry cited the measure as an example of Bush's inability to connect with the plight of ordinary Americans.

"The AARP tried to work with the President," he said, "but in the end, the President was not working for America's seniors and maybe that's why he won't show up today to defend his bill."

MNA/Reuters

Rolls-Royce wins \$450m order from China Eastern Airlines

BEIJING, 16 Oct— Rolls-Royce announced here on Thursday that it won a 450-million-US-dollar order for Trent 700 engines to power 20 Airbus A330-300 twin jets for China Eastern Airlines.

The airlines currently has five Trent 500-powered Airbus A340-600 aircraft which, when they entered service last year, were the first Trent engines delivered to China.

Charles Cuddington, managing director of the Rolls-Royce Airlines business said: "China continues to be a key market for Rolls-Royce and, as one of the country's top three air-

lines, we are delighted to see China Eastern again choose Trent power."

The Trent 700 is firmly established as market leader on the Airbus A330 and this order further strengthens that position, he added.

The A330-300, powered by two 70,000 pounds thrust Trent 700s, is capable of carrying 335 passengers up to 5,650 nautical miles. The

aircraft have been chosen to meet the growing aviation traffic demands in China.

Since its entry into service in 1995, the Trent 700 has established the biggest customer base on the A330 with 28 operators, giving it a 39-per-cent market share. The Trent family has won a 50-per-cent share of the modern, wide-body market. — MNA/Xinhua



A British Army soldier orders a photojournalist to leave the area while conducting a patrol in the southern Iraqi city of Basra, on 16 Oct, 2004. — INTERNET

Malaysian media urged to support road safety campaign

KUALA LUMPUR, 16 Oct — All print and electronic media in Malaysia have been urged to join the government in making this year's road safety campaign a success.

The government took a serious view of the high rate of accidents during festive seasons, Information Minister Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir told reporters after opening a community hall in Serdang near here Thursday.

"We will intensify road safety campaign over the radio and television, not only at RTM (state-owned Radio and Television Malaysia) but at all stations as well as the print media," he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Civilian employee of US Army arrested in Japan

TOKYO, 16 Oct — An American civilian employee of the US Army in Japan was arrested on Friday on suspicion of raping a Japanese woman on the island of Okinawa, home to the largest US military presence in Japan, a police spokesman said.

The arrest comes at a time when many residents of Okinawa are angry over the crash of a US military transport helicopter on the grounds of a university in August.

No one on the ground was hurt, but a month later some 30,000 residents took part in a rally to protest against the US military bases on the island. The US military has about 47,000

personnel in Japan, including around 20,000 Marines in Okinawa, where many residents resent bearing what they see as an unfair burden for the US-Japan military alliance. — MNA/Reuters

Provisions donated to monasteries, nunneries, Muslim Home for the Aged

YANGON, 17 Oct — Tatmadaw families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated rice and provisions to 31 monasteries and eight nunneries in Mayangon Township this afternoon.

Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the donation ceremony at Kalaywa Tawya Monastery. Also present on the occasion were Presiding Nayaka of Kalaywa Tawya Monastery Dwipitakadhara Dwipitaka Kovida Agga Maha

Pandita Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa and members of the Sangha, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Provost Marshal Maj-Gen Saw Hla, authorities and well-wishers.

Chairman of Mayangon Township



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers provisions to Kalaywa Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa. — MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts K 4.5 million donated by Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Aye Aye Soe and family in memory of U Maung Maung Kha Swe. — MNA

(Navy)'s Office and Lt-Col Nay Win of the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office donated rice, oil and gram to the Kalaywa Monastery Sayadaw and nuns.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepted the donations from wellwishers. Similarly, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and senior military officers accepted donations.

viss of iodized salt, 1,177 tubes of tooth paste, 11,173 cakes of soap, 13,857 bottles of traditional medicines and K 20,676,070.

Similarly, Tatmadaw families and wellwishers donated rice, oil, salt, medicine, gram and cash to Muslim Home for the Aged and Thukha Yeiktha in Thingandgyun Township at 3 pm today.

The commander, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Vice Adjutant-General



Senior military officers present rice, oil and gram to nuns at the ceremony to donate provisions to 31 monasteries and eight nunneries in Mayangon Township. — MNA



Senior military officers present provisions to Muslim Home for the Aged in Thingangyun Township. — MNA

Senior military officers donate provisions to Kalaywa Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa. — MNA

Sangha Nayaka Committee KanU Zaytawun Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Nandasamibhivamsa administered the Eight Precepts.

Next, the

Secretary-2 donated robes and provisions to the Kalaywa Monastery Sayadaw. The commander and party offered robes and alms to the Sayadaws.

On behalf of Tatmadaw families, Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Cmdr Khin Maung Soe of the Commander-in-Chief

Colonel General Staff (Air) Lt-Col Nay Win supplicated on the purpose of the donations.

Next, the Kalaywa Monastery Sayadaw delivered a sermon and Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party shared merits gained.

Today's donation were 157 bags of rice, 658 viss of edible oil, 1,267 viss of gram, 5,586

Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and senior military officers accepted K 17,729,090 from wellwishers.

Today's donations of the wellwishers amounted to 86 bags of rice, 10 viss of oil, 101 viss of iodized salt, 20 tubes of tooth paste, 928 bottles of traditional medicine, 20 viss of gram and K 17,729,090. — MNA

Sixth anniversary of U Hla Tun Hospice (Cancer) Foundation commemorated

YANGON, 17 Oct — The sixth anniversary of U Hla Tun Hospice (Cancer) Foundation was held at Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were Lecturer of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Dhamma Kahtika Bahujana Hitadhara Sayadaw Dhammadhuta Ashin Chekinda and Sayadaws from the university, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Vice-President of MWAFF Prof Dr Daw May May Yi, Chairman of U Hla Tun Hospice (Cancer) Foundation U Hla Tun and members, medical superintendents from Leprosy Hospitals of Taungwaing in Mawlamyine Township and Yenatha in Madaya Township, the medical superintendent, specialists and patients of National Physical Rehabilitation Hospital (Kyaikwaing), principals of Mary Chapman's Deaf and Dump School for the

Children and School for the Blinds (Khawegyan), teachers and students, wellwishers, officials of the foundation and staff.

The congregation took the Five Precepts from the Sayadaw.

Next, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo and officials of the foundation donated provisions to the Sayadaws.

Later, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Chekinda delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained. Afterwards, 'soon' was offered to members of the Sangha.

Next, U Hla Tun presented K 200,000 for National Health Committee to Director of NHC Secretariat Dr Phone Myint and K 200,000 for MWAFF to President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe. Similarly, U Hla Tun presented K 100,000 each to Tatmadawmen, Yenatha Leprosy Hospital, School for the Blinds (Khawegyan), Mary Chapman's Deaf and Dump School for the Children, National Physical Rehabilitation Hospital and Funeral Assistance Association respectively. Next, Chairman U Hla Tun accepted K 12 million for third time donated by Shine Hope Co Chairman Dr Daw Khin Khin Yi and spoke words of thanks. Later, Chairman U Hla Tun explained brief history of the foundation.

MNA



U Hla Tun Hospice (Cancer) Foundation Chairman U Hla Tun presents K 200,000 for MWAFF to President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe. — MNA

Message of the FAO Director-General for World Food Day/TeleFood on Biodiversity for Food Security

The following is the message sent by the Secretary-General of FAO for World Food Day which falls on 16 October 2004. — Ed

"Biodiversity for Food Security", the theme of this year's World Food Day, reflects our planet's richness and the key to ending hunger that this great diversity represents.

However, the world's biodiversity is under threat and this could severely compromise global food security. FAO estimates that about three-quarters of the genetic diversity of agricultural crops have been lost over the last century. As a consequence, the food supply becomes more vulnerable, there are less opportunities for growth and innovation in agriculture and less capacity for agriculture to adapt to environmental changes, such as global warming, or to the appearance of new pests and diseases.

As they have done throughout history, small-scale farmers and herders are protecting and increasing the world's stock of genetic resources. By so doing, they are making an especially important contribution to food security.

Many rural families in developing countries cannot find a sufficient variety of nutritious food in their local markets or are simply too poor to purchase them. Because of this, they must make the best use of indigenous plant varieties and animal breeds. In this regard, the fundamental role played by women farmers must be emphasized. In much of the developing world, the conservation and use of plant genetic resources have always been and remain the responsibility of women.

In the past, contributions made by farmers in the developing world towards the preservation of agricultural biodiversity have not been properly appreciated. Today, however, their rights have been recognized and incorporated into the Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, which entered into force in June this year. The Treaty is a binding international instrument that:

- * secures the conservation and sustainable utilization of the world's agricultural genetic diversity;

- * guarantees that farmers and breeders have access to the genetic materials they need; and
- * ensures that farmers receive a fair and equitable share of the benefits derived from their work.

Furthermore, a Global Crop Diversity Trust is being established to strengthen the capacity of developing countries to preserve agricultural biodiversity and maintain comprehensive gene banks. Increasingly, consumers are also demanding more diverse produce, thus recognizing the value of biodiversity.

Even though livestock is making an increasingly significant contribution to food security and rural development, animal genetic diversity is also rapidly eroding. Of the 6,300 known animal breeds, 1,350 are endangered or already extinct.

Forests are among the world's most important repositories of biological diversity but their cover is decreasing at an alarming rate. Forests provide food for families and livestock, energy in the form of fuel wood and various products such as essential oils, gums, resins and latex, and medicines and pharmaceuticals, which contribute to the diversification of the local economy. Biodiversity in the world's oceans, lakes and rivers also plays a vital role in food security and rural livelihoods. However, it is being threatened by over-fishing, environmentally damaging fishing practices, the introduction of alien species and habitat destruction.

Preserving biodiversity also means protecting different types of ecosystems, including those where are living insects, bacteria, microbes, fungi and other organisms, as well as bees and birds which interact in complex ways with the soil and plants. In addition, in most fields, over 90 percent of pests are killed by beneficial species thus contributing to reduce the use of chemical pesticides.

Today we are celebrating our planet's tremendous wealth of biodiversity and the promise it holds for eliminating world hunger. For this to happen requires the commitment of everyone and, as in nature, our strength lies in our diversity.

FAO



A wish is thus made

- * All those depending on the human abode
May they be fully supplied
If there's food sufficiency
They'll feel pleased
Toward that end leading organizing
Very farsighted UN.
- * With UN showing the way
To do good throughout the world
Heeding advice, sufficient in food
With sufficiency, there's peace
This human village, this world
May the good wish be fulfilled
In good speed.
- * Those who have no regard for UN
Destroying many in stations of life
With nothing to eat, people going hungry
They act overtly, sometimes covertly
Sometimes easily, such schemers
May all of them meet their doom
And the human abode be peaceful.

Po Wa (Trs)
In honour of World Food Day

Sanitation Day for school and its environs on Oct 23

YANGON, 17 Oct — The Ministry of Education has been conducting programmes for enhancement of basic education sector and it is now carrying out educational tasks at all the basic education schools of the country according to the academic calendar.

In 2004-2005 academic year. October 23 has been set the Sanitation Day for school and its environs. On that day, teachers and students of the basic education schools across the country are to participate in the sanitation task under the supervision of their school heads. — MNA

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt views Exhibition on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Activities (Mandalay).—MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt...

(from page 1)

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt formally unveiled the plaque to mark the opening of the exhibition.

The Prime Minister and guests observed the central booth and booths of the

Nurses Association, Myanmar Medical Association, Myanmar Dental Association, Myanmar Health Assistants Association, Myanmar Red Cross Society and Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association and AIDS educative booths

Vision International, UNDOC Care, Population Services International, Myanmar (PSI), Save the Children (UK), AMDA, WHO, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP and UNOPS. Next, the Prime Minister and party also observed medical booths of

HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Activities exhibition continues

YANGON, 17 Oct —

The Second Exhibition on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control activities was opened at City Hall in Mandalay on 16 October morning.

today.

The large size colour photo of Senior General Than Shwe and his guidance on health sector, large size colour photos of Vice-Senior General

ministries and NGOs were also displayed at the exhibition.

In addition, video tapes and VCDs on documents of AIDS disease were presented to basic



Opening ceremony of Exhibition on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Activities (Mandalay) in progress.—MNA

ministries, departments under the Ministry of Health, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar

of 14 states and divisions and those of UN Agencies, NGOs such as JICA-Myanmar (Infectious Diseases Control Project), Pact Myanmar, World

companies. They watched AIDS educative performance by students.

There are 45 booths and the exhibition will be held until 20 October.—MNA



Public crowd Exhibition on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Activities (Mandalay).—MNA

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, departmental officials and local authorities together with the people, departmental personnel and students including tourists visited the exhibition

Maung Aye and Chairman of National Health Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and their instructions on health matters were displayed at the central booth. Furthermore, booths of

education students of Mandalay at the exhibition. And, arrangements are being made for competition of computer quiz. The exhibition is being kept open from 9 am to 5 pm daily up to 20 October.—MNA

12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural...

(from page 1)

Chairman of the Panel of Judges Wunna Kyawhtin U Sein Aung Min, Secretary Daw Mu Mu Khin and members supervised the Dancing

Contest at the National Theatre. Altogether 14 persons participated in the higher education level (women's) dancing contest and 13 boys in the basic education level (aged 15-

20) boys' dancing contest. Tomorrow morning, the professional level (men's) dancing contest and the basic education level (aged 15-20) girls' dancing contest will be held.

The practising of song composing contest

continued at the State School of Drama this morning. In the music contest at Padonma Theatre, seven persons competed in the professional level (men's) harp contest, two participants in the

professional level (women's) harp contest, six contestants in the basic education level (aged 15-20) girls' harp contest and six boys in the basic education level (aged 10-25) boys' harp contest. Leader of the panel of

judges Harpist U Thein Han Gyi and party supervised the contests. On 18 October, the basic education level (aged 10-15) and the basic education level (aged 5-10) oboe contests will be held.

At Kanbawza Theatre, nine boys took part in the basic education level (aged 5-10) xylophone contest and 12 girls in the basic education level (aged 5-10) girls' xylophone contest. Judge U Yi Nwe and party supervised the contests. On 18 October, the professional (women's and men's), higher education level (women's and men's), basic education level (aged 15-20) girls' and boys' and basic education level (aged 10-15) girls' and boys' guitar contests will be held.—MNA



U Aung Pyi Sone of Rakhine State taking part in professional level men's harp contest. —MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt pays homage to Buddha Image at SoonU Ponnyashin Pagoda on Sagaing mountain range.— MNA

Government adding new...

(from page 16)

cash for hoisting the Htidaw, Hngetmyatnadaw and Seinbudaw atop pagoda held at the platform of Soon U Ponnyashin Pagoda.

The congregation received the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nanisara. The Sayadaw explained about the history of the pagoda and arrangements for hoisting

K 60 million for Htidaw and Hngetmyatnadaw and U Myo Nyunt-Daw Yi Yi Shwe of Bahan Township, Yangon, K 40 million for Seinbudaw to Lt-Gen Ye Myint who presented certificates of honour to

the pagoda.

The Prime Minister and party arrived at Ariyavamsa Yokeson-kyaung on Sagaing Hill maintained and preserved by the Department of Archaeology. Director of Department of Archaeology (Upper Myanmar) U Wai Lwin reported on documentary photos on renovation of decorations.

The Prime Minister inspected ancient artifacts in the Yokesonkyaung and gave instructions on preservation of the artifacts in their original style.

The Sayadaw became famous from King Narapati who ascended the throne in 844 to King Minkhaung. The wooden kyaung consists of three buildings and a walkway around them.

The Prime Minister and party went back to Mandalay where they were welcomed by Deputy Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Nay Win and Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court (Upper Myanmar) U Khin Maung Latt and officials.

buildings and cornerstone laying ceremony was held in August 2002. Construction tasks of the university are 90 per cent complete.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party inspected the plantations of herbal plants in the compound of the University of Traditional Medicine (Mandalay) and those of herbal plants that can cure six major diseases and are used as a practical tool for medical students in their learning. A total of 270



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt offers provisions to Sitagu Sayadaw at SoonU Ponnyashin Pagoda in Sagaing.— MNA

Present on the occasion were Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy in Sagaing, Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Maha Dhammakhahtika Bahujana Hitadhara Agga Maha Gandhavacaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nanisara, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Commanders Maj-Gen Ye Myint and Maj-Gen Tha Aye, the ministers and officials.

of Htidaw and Hngetmyatnadaw. Next, the Prime Minister supplicated on hoisting of new Htidaw and Hngetmyatnadaw.

On behalf of the State Peace and Development Council, the Prime Minister presented K 20 million to Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye.

Wellwishers U Sein+Daw Chit May of Sein Kyee Min Confectionery presented

the wellwishers.

The Prime Minister and Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented offertories to Sitagu Sayadaw.

The Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

The Prime Minister and party paid obeisance to the Soon U Ponnyashin Pagoda and they inspected religious structures and all-round development tasks in the precincts of



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents K 20 million for hoisting Htidaw atop SoonU Ponnyashin Pagoda to Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye.— MNA

Famous Shin Ariyavamsa who was well-versed in Pariyatti resided alone in the Ariyavamsa Yokeson-kyaung on Sagaing Hill.

Chairman of National Health Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party arrived at Traditional Medicine University where they were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo and officials.

The Prime Minister and party inspected construction of the archway of the university and the main hall and gave instructions.

Traditional Medicine University is situated on 11.42 acres of land near Mandalay-Madaya Road in Aungmyethasan Township. It includes four, three and two-storey

sorts of herbal plants are grown at the university.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party proceeded to Medical Technological University (Mandalay) opened by the Medical Science Department of the Ministry of Health in Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Division. They were welcomed there by MSD Director-General Dr Maung Maung Wint, Rector Dr Soe Tun, faculty members and students.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party watched students learning medical lessons (See page 10)



Medical Technological University being built in Patheingyi Township.— MNA



Ariyawuntha Yokson Monastery maintained by Archaeology Department (Upper Myanmar) in Sagaing mountain range.— MNA



Government adding new...

(from page 9)

at the computer lab. At the briefing hall, the rector reported on the historical background of the university, location, progress of construction works at the university, the strength of faculty, pedagogical matters and management sectors, specializations available at the university, courses being conducted at the university, the population of students, the conferring of degrees, IT development and the installation of computer-aided teaching and learning equipment, and future tasks.

G i v i n g instructions, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said now is the time when the government is adding new momentum to public health care services and fulfilling everything to polish the skills of medical practitioners. Besides, the Prime Minister continued, hospitals with a capacity ranging from 300 to 25 beds are being constructed and upgraded nationwide

including border areas so as to provide full health care services. The Prime Minister added these hospitals are staffed with doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other health employees and are also installed with sophisticated disease sensors and other medical and hospital-related equipment. Later, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt called for systematic and harmonious measures to be taken to turn out much-needed pharmacists helpful for health care services.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party looked into the collection of books on medicine at the library of the university.

The Prime Minister and party also watched students learning their lessons with the use of modern teaching materials at the language lab, and inspected the computer lab.

Located in Patheingyi Township,

Mandalay District, the university is 17.63 acres in area.

Courses on medical laboratory technology, physiotherapy and radiography & medical imaging technology are taught at the university, whose population of first to fourth-year students is 447. The university has so far produced 162 graduates.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party proceeded to the 100-bed City Hospital of the Mandalay City Development Committee in Mahaaungmye Township, where they were welcomed by the medical superintendent of the hospital and officials.

At the hospital, the Prime Minister and party inspected the installation of hospital equipment at the renal surgery room, the water-processing room and the X-ray room.

The Prime Minister also looked into the computerized laboratory, the X-ray and contrast X-ray room, the ultrasound scanner, the video

endoscopy, the CT scanner, the computerized ECG and the haemodialysis unit.

Hospital officials conducted the Prime Minister and party round

Hospital, with five rooms including two special units, is four acres in area. Moreover, it is of concrete reinforce and also has one main four-story building, three two-

In the evening, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt visited former actress Daw May Shin who lives at No 62/63, Myasanda Street, Chanayethazan Township



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects multimedia lab of Medical Technological University (Mandalay).— MNA

the hospital.

Located in Theikpan Street between 65th Street and 66th Street in Mahaaungmye Township, the City

story buildings and one administration office. It is also an hospital of international standard and can house 100 patients.

and asked after her health and encouraged her. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party stopped over in Mandalay for the night. — MNA

Only talented citizens...

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially met with Deputy Head of Shan State (East) Health Department Dr Myint Aung, Medical Superintendent Dr Kyi Soe and staff.

Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave necessary instruction to doctors and nurses and inspected units of the hospital. He then saw over the site for construction of Shan State (East) Health Department Office and completion of staff quarters.

On arrival at Kengtung Nurses Training School, Principal Dr Nan Woh Mann and trainees welcomed them.

The Secretary-2 inspected classrooms, language lab and computer lab of second and third year trainees and gave necessary instructions.

They proceeded to No 3 Military Hospital (300-bed) where they were welcomed by Commandant Lt-Col Nay Lin and specialists.

The Secretary-2 inspected units of the hospital and comforted the patients. Next, the Secretary-2 presented cash assistance to the patients and nurses. In the afternoon, the Secretary-2 and party arrived at Kengtung Degree College. Principal U Aung Nyunt, Superintending Engineer U Thaug Htay of Public Works and faculty members welcomed the Secretary-2

and party.

The Secretary-2 inspected the site for building the two-storey lecture hall. Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Superintending Engineer U Thaug Htay reported on choosing the plot.

At the assembly hall of the degree college, the Secretary-2 met faculty members. Principal U Aung Nyunt reported on academic and management matters.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary-2 said that Kengtung is situated near the border region. So, the development tasks are to be carried out in the region in order to ward off alien culture and traditions of other countries.

Now, universities and colleges have been built throughout the country.

In building peaceful, modern and developed nation, healthy, fitness and highly-qualified human resources are required.

Only then will increased number of intellectuals and intelligentsia build a developed nation in a short time.

Furthermore, only talented citizens can better serve interest of the nation. Therefore, faculty members are to nurture pupils to become outstanding youths.

As seven-point future policy programme of the State is being implemented for emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation, all the faculty

members are to participate in their respective sectors harmoniously.

Next, they went to Shwephyu Rubber Farm in Monglan Village-tract of Kengtung Township. Lt-Gen Thein Sein heard reports on matters related to the farm and gave instructions on feeding of fertiliser and export of rubber.

A total of 87,000 rubber plants was grown on 600 acres of land at the farm in June 1997.

This year, rubber can be produced. Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party then inspected rubber plantation.

MNA

Ramayana Drama...

(from page 16)

organizing the performing arts competitions Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, Leading Committee member, Work Committee Chairman No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint San, No 4 Military Region Commander Col Yan Naing Oo, members of the work committee and subcommittees, artists and the public.

Leader of the Panel of Judges U Chit Oo Nyo and members supervised and judged the contest. The Drama Troupe of Mandalay Division will take part in the contest tomorrow.

MNA

Towards peaceful development

Aung Moe San

People do not want a storm, a breeze is what they wish. Likewise, they are in favour of peace, but not war. People prefer sympathy to terrorism. And they only want assistance, not sanctions.

So, in this world today, we are going to oppose, ward off and crush the destructive ways, that bring ill effects to human society, while building it with the constructive means that serve mankind's interest. There are elder persons in Myanmar who have lived during and seen the World War II and the flame of internal armed conflicts in the nation. Because of their personal experience, they understand well that the period of chaos and disorder entailed a lot of sufferings including poverty, epidemics, loss of family members, and a decline in trade and economy. We can also take many lessons from countries facing instability all around the world.

Thus, the peoples of the global countries only want peace and progress. Modern political science and economics has never supported any form of terrorism, that is against human civilization, whether it may be in mind, words or actions, as it destroys development reforms of all kinds and dims the light of education leading to reverse the advancement of an era and human civilization. What it supports is the educative way towards peace and progress.

According to the estimation of scholars, the global military expenditure, that seemed to fall during the period from 1987 to 1998, increased again to a certain degree during the period from 1998 to 2001. In the later periods, it rose significantly because of America's preemptive strike policy. But the policy is against all social ethics and international laws. And it is still unclear whether a preemptive strike can win a victory or not. Thus, the American military expenditure will fall to a certain extent in the coming years.

The White House estimated that the US military expense will reach \$ 487,800 billion in the coming five years. The 2005 military budget will be seven per cent higher than that of the previous year. But as the US is showing a large deficit in its annual budget, it may

come to reduce its military expenditure. About 16 per cent of the global population live in rich countries. But the military expenditure of those rich countries or developed nations is three-fourths of the global military expenditure. Their combined military budget will be larger than the amount of loans the poor nations have borrowed from them.

"No battle nor nuclear war can save the human civilization from barbarous acts. Wars breed an inhuman condition, and in retrospect, the barbarous situation, produces wars", said modern political science and economics. The acts of industrialized nations using their superior firepower to launch armed invasion against developing nations, to interfere in their internal affairs and to put one-sided pressure on them

The world at present sees America playing a leading role in the anti-terrorism drive. We welcome its efforts for stability and peace. But the drive will achieve success smoothly only if America itself stays away from armed interventions and lopsided sanctions to recruit minions. Thus, the US should give a second thought to what they are doing.

will in no way contribute to the global peaceful development. Their acts will only create tensions in the regions. The military intervention of the US and its allies, in the guise of human rights and democracy, stand witness to the fact.

During the campaign, US Presidential candidate John Kerry said that the flourishing of democracy cannot be always given the top priority of the US foreign policy, adding that in some places of the world security plays a more important role than the emergence of democracy. Kerry made it clear that if he was elected the president, he would reduce the important role of democracy in the whole world, especially, that would be in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, China and Russia. Although export of democracy was important in the

entire world, there we are nations where democracy could not be exported immediately, he pointed out, adding there were conditions not yet ripe to adopt democracy. Thus, the US could not materialize forcefully all its wishes at the same time and in the same place, he reminded.

The world at present sees America playing a leading role in the anti-terrorism drive. We welcome its efforts for stability and peace. But the drive will achieve success smoothly only if America itself stays away from armed interventions and lopsided sanctions to recruit minions. Thus, the US should give a second thought to what they are doing.

The Tatmadaw Government of Myanmar has been trying its best to end the internal armed conflict for restoring internal peace and national consolidation and building a democratic state at present. Thus, it has been materializing the seven-point future policy programme or the Road Map. Myanmar has never interfered in the internal affairs of others, while opposing any attempt to interfere in her affairs. The Government has been adhering to the five principles of peaceful co-existence precisely.

In this regard, further progress of the five principles of peaceful co-existence, the UN basic principles and principles of international relations is needed. Because of the differences in politics, economic standards, development backgrounds and traditions and culture between the countries there will also be a diversity of social systems in the world. Either way, all nations should deal with each other on equal terms.

They will have to strive to enhance international relations and cooperation. Only then will all the governments be able to increase the practice of human rights and basic freedoms, without facing any external interferences and will the global human society be able to develop itself peacefully.

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin+Kyemon: 16.10.2004

Use Natural Gas Vehicles and save fuel oil

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

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စဉ်	ရက်စွဲ	အဆို	အကဲ/စာတိုက်	အရေး	အခါ
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၄။	၁၉-၁၀-၂၀၀၄ အင်္ဂါနေ့	ဓမ္မပူဇော်(နံနက်) (၁) အဆင့်မြင့်(ကျား) (၂) အခြေခံ(၅-၁၀) (မ) ဓမ္မတော်ဟောဦး/ ကာလပေါ်(နေ့လယ်) (၂) အခြေခံ(၁၅-၂၀) (မ)	အမျိုးသားအကဲ(နံနက်) (၁) ဝါသနာရှင် အမျိုးသားအကဲ(နေ့လယ်) (၂) အခြေခံ(၅-၁၀) ရာမာယာဇာတိတော်ကြီး (ညပိုင်း)	အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များ သီချင်းလေ့ကျင့်ခြင်း (၁) အခြေခံ(၁၀-၁၅)	ပဏ္ဍိတ (၁) အဆင့်မြင့်(မ)(နံနက်) (၂) အခြေခံ(၁၀-၁၅) (ကျား)(နေ့လယ်)
					ဆိုင်းအဖွဲ့လိုက် (၁) အခြေခံ(၅-၁၀) (ကျား) (နံနက်) (၂) အခြေခံ(၁၀-၁၅) (ကျား)(နေ့လယ်)

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရ
ဆက်သွယ်ရေး၊ စာတိုက်နှင့် ကြေးနန်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန
ဆက်သွယ်ရေးညွှန်ကြားမှုဦးစီးဌာန
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားဖမ်းစက်နှင့် ဗီဒီယိုဖွင့်စက်ဆိုင်ရာလိုင်စင်ခွင့်များ
ပေးသွင်းရရှိမှုဆော်ချက်

ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားဖမ်းစက်တစ်လုံးအတွက် တစ်နှစ်လျှင် လိုင်စင်ခ ၇၅၀ နှုန်းဖြင့်လည်းကောင်း၊ ဗီဒီယိုဖွင့်စက် (ဗီဒီယိုဖွင့်စက်၊ ဗီဒီယိုဖွင့်စက်) တစ်လုံးအတွက် တစ်နှစ်လျှင် လိုင်စင်ခ ၇၅၀ နှုန်းဖြင့်လည်းကောင်း၊ သက်ဆိုင်ရာ ဆက်သွယ်ရေးစနစ် (စာတိုက်) များက ကောက်ခံလျက်ရှိပါသည်။

အဆိုပါစက်များအား ဝယ်ယူသုံးစွဲသူများသည် မိမိလက်ပယ်ရောက်ရှိသည့် နေရာမှ ရက်စွဲပါး ၃၀ အတွင်း လိုင်စင်ပြုလုပ် ကိုင်ဆောင်ရမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထို့အပြင် လက်ရှိလိုင်စင်ဖြင့် ကိုင်ဆောင်နေသူများသည် လက်ဝယ်ရှိ ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားဖမ်းစက်နှင့် ဗီဒီယိုဖွင့်စက် များ၏ လိုင်စင်သက်တမ်း တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်းကို လိုင်စင်သက်တမ်းကုန်ဆုံးပြီးနောက် ခွင့်လွှတ်ရက်စွဲပါး ၃၀ အတွင်း ဆောင်ရွက်ရမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားဖမ်းစက်နှင့် ဗီဒီယိုဖွင့်စက်များကို လိုင်စင်ပုံ ကိုင်ဆောင်သူ၊ စွဲပါးက လိုင်စင်ခအပြင် ရက်စွဲနှင့် ကြေးနန်းတို့ဖြင့် များလှပါပေ။ ပေးဆောင်ရမည်ဖြစ်ပါသဖြင့် ပြည်သူများအနေဖြင့် သတိမှတ်ကာလအတွင်း လိုင်စင်များ ရယူကြရန် လိုအပ်ပါကြောင်း အသိပေးအပ်ပါသည်။

ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူးချုပ်
 ဆက်သွယ်ရေးညွှန်ကြားမှုဦးစီးဌာန
 ရန်ကုန်မြို့

ရက်စွဲ။ ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ ၁၆ ရက်

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 Glaxo Wellcome plc., a company incorporated in England, of Glaxo Wellcome House, Berkeley Avenue, Greenford, Middlesex, UB6 0NN, England, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

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 Reg. No. 5400/2000
 in respect of "Antiviral pharmaceutical preparations and substances".
 Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin,
 M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
 for Glaxo Wellcome plc.
 P.O. Box 60, Yangon
 Dated: 18 October 2004

ပြည်တွင်းပြင်ကိုအားပေးပါ

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 in respect of - "Table tennis articles-such as racket, net, shirt, ball, table, shoes for table tennis."

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 (Reg. No. 104012/2001)
 (Reg. No. 105312/2004)
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Hsin Lin Co (LLB) Advocate
 MYANMAR TRADE MARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
 E-mail: mppa@mpmail.net.mm
 Tel: 254037 G.P.O. Box 666 Yangon 18 October 2004

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 Myanmar Times will move to the under-mentioned address beginning October 25:
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India, US launch \$30m power reforms project

NEW DELHI, 16 Oct—As part of initiatives to improve the electricity distribution sector in the country, India and the United States Thursday launched a 30-million-US dollar programme to expand bilateral cooperation for power reforms.

"The Distribution Reform, Upgrades and Management (DRUM) project is aimed at improving the distribution system, especially in the rural areas, and promoting efficiency and conservation in the management of water and electricity resources," US Ambassador to India, David C Mulford said here at the signing in ceremony between the two sides.

The US was eager to help Indian private and public partners to address the issues related to the sector, Mulford said, adding this Indo-US collaboration would help bring light and

opportunity to millions of people across the towns and villages of India.

Underlining the need to improve distribution, Mulford said India would have to ensure commercial viability of power utilities including the State Electricity Boards to make any visible progress in the sector.

"The SEBs are heavily dependent on government subsidies, which have reached the point where their impact on state and national fiscal operations could threaten India's overarching development objectives," he said.

Power utilities lose over seven billion US dollars every year and the figure is growing at 15-20 per cent per year, he said.

Mulford said there was immense scope for cooperation between the two countries and this programme would take bilateral relations a step further.

The programme would be taken up with the assistance of US Agency for International Development (USAID), the US envoy said, adding the project had three components or DRUM "beats".

MNA/PTI

Indian cabinet approves SAARC agreement

NEW DELHI, 16 Oct—India's Cabinet has given a post-facto approval to the agreement signed at the 12th South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) regional convention on suppression of terrorism held at Islamabad in January this year.

Besides giving a post-facto approval to the agreement signed by SAARC Foreign Ministers, the Cabinet also gave its ex-post-facto approval for its ratification, federal Finance Minister P Chidambaram said giving details of the decisions taken at the Cabinet meeting Wednesday.

"The purpose of this additional protocol is to

strengthen the SAARC regional convention on suppression of terrorism, particularly by criminalizing the provisions, collection or acquisition of funds for the purpose of committing terrorist acts and taking further measures to prevent and suppress financing of such acts," he said.

Chidambaram said this would also meet the

obligations devolving on member states in terms of the UN Security Council Resolution.

The Cabinet also gave its ex-post facto approval to the signing of an agreement between the Caribbean Community and India for establishment of a Standing Joint Commission on Consultation, Cooperation and Coordination. —MNA/PTI

69 kilos of drugs seized in Manila

MANILA, 16 Oct—Some 69 kilos of high-grade shabu (ice) was discovered by Customs and Port officials at the Manila International Container Terminal in North Harbour, a local television reported on Friday.

The shabu shipment came from Thailand and has been constrained at the terminal container area since 1 August, 2004, the ABS-CBN news channel quoted Customs Commissioner George Jereos as saying. "This is a big shipment," Jereos said. He said the shabu was stacked in computer boxes inside a container van, and the 69-kilo shabu was discovered in at least three boxes. Jereos said they decided to open up the container shipment after no receivers showed up to claim the cargo. He also revealed that an "informant" tipped them off about the illegal cargo.

MNA/Xinhua

China to grow more mangroves along its southern coast
HAIKOU, 16 Oct—China has decided to grow 60,000 hectares of mangrove forests along the southern coastal areas in the coming decade, and the decision is included in its plan to protect and restore its mangrove wetlands, said a noted Chinese tropical biological resources expert.

Dr Wang Wenqing, secretary-general of the executive council for Mangrove Branch of China Ecological Society, made the remark while addressing the on-going China-ASEAN Workshop on Conservation of Tropical Biological Resources and Biotechnology Application held here in Haikou, capital of southern Hainan Island province.

MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Xinhua

Toyota ranked as Japan's top business earner for 5th year

TOKYO, 16 Oct—Toyota Motor Corp ranked as Japan's top corporate income earner in fiscal 2003 for the fifth straight year supported by strong overseas sales, Japan's National Tax Agency said on Thursday.

However, the automaker's declared taxable income for the year, which ended March 31 this year, dropped about 20 per cent from the previous year to 793.2 billion yen (7.2 billion US dollars).

The tax agency released the names of the 50 largest corporate earners out of 3,322 companies capitalized at 3 billion yen (27 million dollars) or more with closed annual books within fiscal 2003.

The companies' declared income totalled 17,145.7 billion yen, up 18.7 per cent.

Mobile phone giant NTT DoCoMo Inc was ranked No 2, leaping from 48th place as its income rose more than sevenfold to 437.7 billion yen (3.98 billion US dollars), due to robust growth in data communications service revenues and following heavy overseas investment losses booked the previous year.

Other mobile phone service providers including NTT DoCoMo affiliates, Vodafone K K and KDDI Corp were among the 50 biggest corporate earners for the year.

MNA/Xinhua

APEC ministers stress importance of tourism, urge cooperation

PUNTA ARENAS (Chile), 16 Oct—Tourism ministers attending the Third Tourism Ministerial Meeting of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) on Thursday stressed the importance of tourism to the region and called for cooperation within APEC and with external partners.

In the Patagonia Declaration, issued at the end of the two-day meeting, the ministers stressed the importance of tourism to the economic, social, cultural and environmental well-being of the Asia-Pacific Region.

Many small- and medium-sized enterprises in the tourism industry have been significant employers, they said.

Tourism is also "a key vehicle for promoting mutual understanding and respect for the natural environment throughout the region", the declaration

said. The ministers called for closer cooperation between the APEC Tourism Working Group and other fora within APEC in increasing mobility of visitors and security of tourists and working out response to crisis situations affecting the region.

"Member economies must continue to work in partnership with the private sector" in strengthening cultural, environmental and economic sustainability, the ministers said.

MNA/Xinhua

မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

India for greater eco cooperation with ASEAN, Japan, China

NEW DELHI, 16 Oct — In line with the government's "Look East" policy, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday said India will work for greater economic cooperation with Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), China and Japan, while carrying forward reforms in the country.

"India remains committed to greater economic cooperation with South Asian region through South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), as well as for strengthening economic linkages and developmental cooperation with ASEAN countries and Japan," Singh told the visiting Asian Development Bank president Tadao Chino, who called on the Prime Minister on Friday.

Singh said India's economic ties with China have strengthened in the recent past.

The Prime Minister also had a "fruitful" discussion with South Korean Premier, when he visited India recently. Chino said Asian nations account for 50 per cent of world population but the total GDP of these

countries was only 25 per cent of the global output.

"This implies that there is immense potential for growth in Asian countries," he said. Stressing on the importance of regional cooperation in the development of South Asian countries, Chino emphasized the need for active involvement of India to achieve faster economic development and greater stability in the region.

He said ADB was keen to play an important role in the formulation and funding of inter-regional developmental projects, particularly with a view to promoting economic cooperation between South Asia and South-East Asia. Chino also appreciated the Indian Government's emphasis on poverty reduction goals in the Common Minimum Programme. — MNA/PTI

India, Thailand to work closely to tackle security issues

BANGKOK, 16 Oct — India and Thailand on Friday agreed to work closely to tackle security issues, particularly those pertaining to terrorism, illegal trade of arms, drugs and piracy, and increase cooperation in aviation and trade.

The security issue figured prominently in talks between Indian External Affairs Minister K Natwar Singh and his Thai counterpart Surakiat Sathirathai here.

Terrorism is a worldwide scourge and recognizes no boundaries, Singh told reporters after an hour-long meeting with Surakiat.

He recalled that it was decided at the seven-member BIMSTEC summit in July to jointly combat this scourge in "our area and the world". India and Thailand are among the members of the grouping.

Surakiat said they agreed for closer sharing of intelligence information and coordination in tracking down on the small arms trade, drug smuggling, human trafficking and piracy.

The Thai minister said the two countries would promote closer aviation links besides working on enhancing bilateral trade.

Singh arrived here on his way to Hanoi, the Vietnamese capital, where he is scheduled to attend the 50th anniversary celebrations of a landmark meeting between first Indian Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru and late Vietnamese President Ho Chi Minh, and also the India-Vietnam Joint Commission Meeting.

"The talks between us were very comprehensive and covered bilateral ties and we are satisfied by the growing ties between the two countries," Surakiat said. — MNA/PTI

GSK makes breakthrough in malaria vaccine development

MUMBAI, 16 Oct — GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Ltd (GSK) on Friday announced a breakthrough in development of a malaria vaccine under its Phase-II trials, which considerably reduces the risk of contracting the disease.

"The preventive medicine protected a significant percentage of children against uncomplicated malaria, infection and even severe forms of the disease for at least six months," GSK Managing Director S Kalyanasundaram told reporters here.

The largest malaria trial involved 2,022 in southern Mozambique and it also re-confirmed the vaccine's safety in one-to-four year-old children, he said.

The trials were co-sponsored by Centro de Investigacao em Saude da Manhica (CISM), GSK Biologicals and PATH's Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI), he said. PATH is an NGO promoted by Bill

and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The company was involved in developing a vaccine for the past 20 years, the Managing Director said, adding, this was developed through a double blind method.

GSK Vice-President (Medical Affairs and Clinical Research) Kiran V Marthak said that the disease is prevalent in the African continent, followed by India, and kills over three million people around the world every year.

The company is advancing with its Phase-III of trials, expected to be conducted in over 3,000 subjects and is also looking to conduct the trials in the country.

GSK is also working on developing vaccines for TB, malaria, Dengue, Rotavirus and HIV/AIDS, he said. — MNA/PTI



Miss Colombia Jeymy Paola Vargas Gomez holds her trophy after winning the Miss International Beauty Pageant final in Beijing on 16 Oct, 2004. The contest was being held outside of Japan and the US for the first time. — INTERNET

Five nations elected to UNSC non-permanent membership

UNITED NATIONS, 16 Oct — Japan, Argentina, Denmark, Greece and Tanzania were on Friday elected by the UN General Assembly as non-permanent members of the Security Council on a two-year term beginning on January one next.

They replace Pakistan, Angola, Chile, Germany and Spain, whose terms expire on December 31.

Tokyo comes to the Security Council at a crucial time when India, Japan, Germany and Brazil are working together for permanent membership in the expanded Council.

Japan is expected to work aggressively towards expansion of the permanent membership to make it more representative of the membership of the United Nations which has sharply increased since it was constituted in 1945.

Generally, the non-permanent seats are intensely

contested. But this year there was no contest and members endorsed by their respective groups were elected.

The poll was by secret ballot and each member is expected to get two-thirds of votes to be elected.

The new members will join Algeria, Benin, Brazil, the Philippines and Romania who were elected last year and will be on the Council until the end of 2005.

The Council comprises 15 members including the United States, Britain, Russia, France and China who have permanent seats with veto power. — MNA/PTI



A visitor looks at the chariot of China's first emperor, Qin Shin-huang of the Qin Dynasty, at Qin Shin-huang Terracotta Museum located about 40 km (25 miles) from the ancient capital of Xian in northern China on 16 Oct, 2004. — INTERNET

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်ရှိသင့်သည်။



ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များနှင့်ပူးပေါင်း၍ ပြန်လည်ဆောက်လုပ်သော အစီအစဉ်ကို အားပေးပါ။

ကျေးရွာတိုင်းကိုယ်အားကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် သုတ/ရသ စာအုပ်များလှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်သွယ်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

SPORTS

De Rossi extends contract with Roma until 2009

ROME, 16 Oct— Italian midfielder Daniele De Rossi has extended his contract with Roma until 2009, the Serie A club announced on Thursday.

There was no immediate information on terms but Roma are expected to have increased De Rossi's pay after his match-swaying performances for Roma and Italy this year.

The 21-year-old midfielder who has added steel and style to both teams, is a product of Roma's youth scheme and was recently voted second most popular player after captain Francesco Totti. — MNA/Xinhua



Olympique soccer player Lyon Nilmar of Brazil (L) moves the ball upfield past Caen's Jimmy Hebert during their French Ligue 1 soccer match, at Gerland stadium in Lyon, on 15 Oct, 2004. —INTERNET

Man United takeover negotiation cancelled

LONDON, 16 Oct— Takeover talks between Manchester United club's two key Irish investors and US sports tycoon Malcolm Glazer are expected to be called off later on Thursday, sources close to the process said.

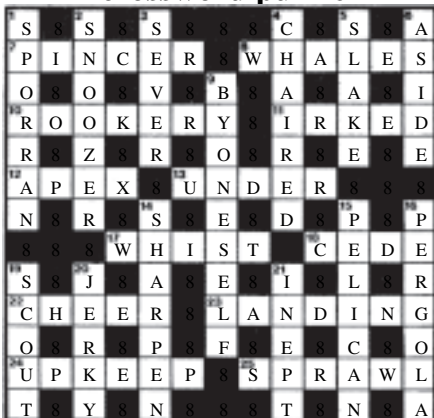
Shares in the world's richest soccer club fell more than 7 per cent on the news but pared their losses to trade down 3.8 per cent at 264 pence by 1534 GMT.

Glazer was in talks with Irish racing tycoons John Magnier and J P McManus to buy their 28.9-per-cent stake, but the two sides have not been able to reach agreement, the sources said. Although there is a chance the parties could agree an 11th-hour deal, the sources said any such agreement was extremely unlikely.

Sources close to the process, however, have confirmed the approach was from Glazer, who owns the Tampa Bay Buccaneers American football team and has a 19.2-per-cent stake in United. But without the support of the Irish investors, the sources said Glazer had no chance of getting his bid off the ground.

MNA/Xinhua

Answers for yesterday's crossword puzzle



FA asking Beckham for "observation"

LONDON, 16 Oct— The Football Association said on Friday it had written to England captain David Beckham "asking for his observations" on the events at last weekend's World Cup qualifier against Wales and his subsequent comments.

Beckham admitted he fouled Welsh defender Ben Thatcher in a deliberate and successful attempt to get himself booked in order to serve out a one-match suspension for Wednesday's win in Azerbaijan while injured. He had suffered a cracked rib in a challenge with Thatcher minutes earlier which he said he knew would rule him out of the game.

There was widespread criticism of his actions, though coach Sven-Goran Eriksson's only complaint was that his captain should have kept quiet about it.

The FA responded on Friday asking for Beckham's observations on:

"The incident involving Ben Thatcher during last Saturday's World Cup qualifying match against Wales,

which resulted in him receiving a yellow card.

"The motivation which led to him making the challenge which incurred a caution.

"Subsequent comments attributed to him which were published in a national newspaper on Tuesday October 12." The FA has given Beckham a week to respond.

Friday's newspapers carried quotes from Eriksson saying his captain should have kept quiet.

"I think on this occasion that David should think next time that talking is silver, being quiet is gold," Eriksson said. "He was sorry for the problem he had created, he was surprised at the big reaction. And he was sorry for me and for the team. He apologized and wished us all good luck." —MNA/Reuters

Mallorca Classic golf tourney

PULA (Mallorca, Spain), 16 Oct— Englishman Simon Khan took the early lead in the Mallorca Classic second round on Friday, adding a six-under-par 64 to the 66 he completed after Thursday's lightning suspensions.

Khan, who won his maiden Tour title at the Wales Open in June, fought off a cold and tiredness, playing 23 holes on Friday to move to 10-under 130.

The 32-year-old dropped a shot when he returned to the course to finish his first round and also marred his second round with a bogey at his last hole.

But a hot putter produced seven birdies to move him into the lead by three strokes from Swede Fredrik Andersson with Italy's Emanuele Canonica a further shot behind.

"I was close to not playing because of feeling unwell," said Khan. "I've felt tired and ached in my body.

"But I gave it a go to see how I felt and the putts started to drop." —MNA/Reuters

Mathieu downs Ljubicic in straight sets reaching last four

METZ (France), 16 Oct— Frenchman Paul-Henri Mathieu downed Metz Open top-seed Ivan Ljubicic of Croatia in straight sets to reach the last four on Friday.

Mathieu, who returned to tennis in July after being sidelined by a wrist injury for six months, tamed Ljubicic 7-6, 6-4.

Earlier, Richard Gasquet beat compatriot Gael Monfils 7-5, 6-1 in the battle of the French teenagers and will meet Mathieu in Saturday's semifinals.

"Sorry for ousting the number one seed from the tournament but what makes me pleased is that we are now certain that at least one of us (the French) will play in the final," Mathieu said.

"It was a tough game because Ljubicic served very well today, especially during the first set," he said. "I'm quite happy with my game since I resumed playing."

MNA/Reuters

Forlan asks to leave Uruguay squad

MONTEVIDEO, 16 Oct— Uruguay striker Diego Forlan has asked to be left out of the squad for next month's World Cup qualifier against Paraguay because he is unhappy at being relegated to the substitutes' bench.

"Diego came to my home to talk to me. He told me that he didn't have enthusiasm to keep being called up," Uruguay coach Jorge Fossati told reporters.

"I hope he reflects. I can't promise to a player that he's going to play so many minutes or that he's going to be in the starting lineup."

Forlan's father Pablo told the daily newspaper El Pais: "He's stepped aside to leave Fossati's hands free. He explained his reasons but he hasn't quit — that's a very strong term. I know that Diego never wants to leave the national team."

Forlan, who joined Spanish side Villarreal from Manchester United in August, came on as a substitute during last Saturday's 4-2 World Cup qualifying defeat in Argentina.

He was also on the bench for the goalless draw away to Bolivia on Tuesday but did not come on.

Javier Chevanton, Uruguay's leading scorer in the qualifiers with five goals, and Dario Silver were picked as the attacking pair against Argentina while Richard Morales and Vicente Sanchez lined up against Bolivia.

Fossati said he had planned to bring on Forlan against Bolivia but changed his mind when midfielder Omar Pouso was sent off.

Forlan, who has scored nine goals in 23 internationals, has not started in any of the five qualifiers since former goalkeeper Fossati replaced the eccentric Juan Ramon Carrasco in April.

Forlan came on as substitute against Colombia, Peru and Argentina and was left out of the squad for the home game against Ecuador in September because he was not match fit following his move to Villarreal.

MNA/Reuters

Saha returns to Man Utd squad

MANCHESTER (England), 16 Oct— Striker Louis Saha returns to the Manchester United squad for Saturday's game at Birmingham City to give manager Alex Ferguson the choice of four front-line strikers for the first time this season.

France international Saha has recovered from a knee injury, which has restricted him to just two Premier League appearances this season, and will contest a starting spot with Wayne Rooney, Ruud van Nistelrooy and Alan Smith.

"Louis did fantastic in training yesterday and did well in both (reserve) games," Ferguson told a news conference on Friday.

"He needs that break now, just like (defender) Wes (Brown), to stay clear of injury and give him a real run.

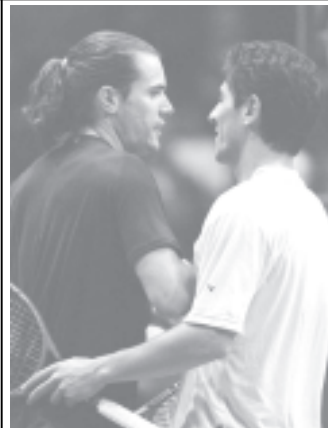
"I am taking the four of them

with me tomorrow and it will be a matter of which ones to play and which ones to leave out."

Ferguson confirmed that all 19 of his players who were away on international duty have reported back fit ahead of the game at Birmingham, when United will be looking to close a nine-point gap on league leaders Arsenal.

Ferguson may rotate his squad to rest one or two key players with a Champions League trip to Sparta Prague coming up on Tuesday, followed by the visit of champions Arsenal to Old Trafford next weekend.

MNA/Reuters



Guillermo Canas from Argentina, right, receives congratulations from Germany's Tommy Haas, on 16 Oct, 2004, after their semifinal match at the BA-CA tennis trophy in Vienna. Canas defeats Haas 6-4, 6-3. — INTERNET

MRTV-3**18-10-2004 (Monday)
(Programme Schedule)****Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment"
- 9:06 Myanmar Cattle Market
- 9:10 Headline News**
- 9:12 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Sour Soup prepared with Fish and and Vegetables"
- 9:15 National News**
- 9:20 Ancient City, Pakhangyi
- 9:25 Kayin Dance (We Bu (or) Paddy Winnowing Dance)
- 9:30 National News**
- 9:35 The Most Breath-taking Scene of Shwe Kyin Creek
- 9:40 Myanmar Modern Song "Aristocratic Beauty"
- 9:42 The Art of Playing Cane-Ball
- 9:45 National News**
- 9:50 Ramayana in Myanmar (Part VI) (On the Ray to the Bow Contest)
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**18-10-2004 (Monday)
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)**

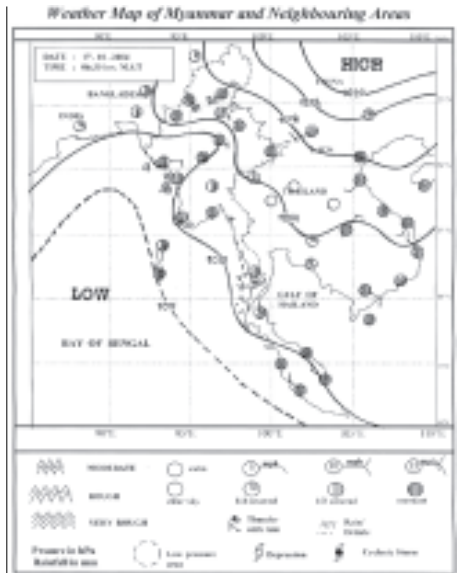
- 15:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Mingalabar"

- 15:36 Myanmar Cattle Market
- 15:40 Headline News**
- 15:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Sour Soup prepared with Fish and and Vegetables"
- 15:45 National News**
- 15:50 Ancient City, Pakhangyi
- 15:55 Kayin Dance (We Bu (or) Paddy Winnowing Dance)
- 16:00 National News**
- 16:05 The Most Breath-taking Scene of Shwe Kyin Creek
- 16:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Aristocratic Beauty"
- 16:12 The Art of Playing Cane-Ball
- 16:15 National News**
- 16:20 Ramayana in Myanmar (Part VI) (On the Ray to the Bow Contest)
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment"
- 16:30 National News**
- 16:35 Tour in Myanmar "Sagaing, Mingun"
- 16:40 Extravagant Evidences of Myanmar Culture (Part-I)
- 16:45 National News**
- 16:50 How to Cook "The Nga-paine Fish Curry"
- 16:55 Sein-Kyaung-Nilar Royal Group Dance
- 17:00 National News**
- 17:05 Traditional Weaving Art
- 17:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Beautiful Taninthayi"
- 17:12 The Pindaya Natural Cave
- 17:15 National News**
- 17:20 A Short Introduction to Myanmar Saing Waing (or) Myanmar Orchestra
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**Evening Transmission
(19:30 - 23:30)**

- 19:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment"
- 19:36 Myanmar Handiwork, Painting Art
- 19:40 Headline News**
- 19:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Clam Omelette"
- 19:45 National News**
- 19:50 Ramayana in Myanmar (Part V)
(Law of Kama Vipaka & Infatuation of Dasgiri)
- 19:55 Shutaing Thaswa Nandar Kan Ahla
- 20:00 National News**
- 20:05 Colourful Flowers you can find in Myanmar
- 20:10 Songs on Screen "With a Weak Point"
- 20:15 National News**
- 20:20 A Memorable Market Day
- 20:25 Songs On Screen "One and Only Yours"
- 20:30 National News**
- 20:35 Pan-Say Region, Home to Kho-Hlon-Lishows
- 20:40 Citrus Products of Shwe Kyin
- 20:45 National News**
- 20:50 Traditional Bamboo Utensils of Myanmar
- 21:00 National News**
- 21:05 Parabaik Writings
- 21:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Peace be with you"
- 21:12 New Vogue Flower Arrangement
- 21:15 National News**
- 21:20 Beauty of Woman of Myanmar (Pre-war period)
- 21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"

- 21:36 Myanmar Cattle Market
- 21:40 Headline News**
- 21:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Sour Soup prepared with Fish and and Vegetables"
- 21:45 National News**
- 21:50 Ancient City, Pakhangyi
- 21:55 Kayin Dance (We Bu (or) Paddy Winnowing Dance)
- 22:00 National News**
- 22:05 The Most Breath-taking Scene of Shwe Kyin Creek
- 22:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Aristocratic Beauty"
- 22:12 The Art of Playing Cane-Ball
- 22:15 National News**
- 22:20 Ramayana in Myanmar (Part VI) (On the Ray to the Bow Contest)
- 22:25 Myanmar Modern Song "Shadow of Love"
- 22:30 National News**
- 22:35 Tour in Myanmar "Sagaing, Mingun"
- 22:40 Extravagant Evidences of Myanmar Culture (Part-I)
- 22:45 National News**
- 22:50 How to Cook "The Nga-paine Fish Curry"
- 22:55 Sein-Kyaung-Nilar royal Group Dance
- 23:00 National News**
- 23:05 Traditional Weaving Art
- 23:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Beautiful Taninthayi"
- 23:12 The Pindaya Natural Cave
- 23:15 National News**
- 23:20 A Short Introduction to Myanmar Saing Waing (or) myanmar Orchestra
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**WEATHER****Sunday, 17 October, 2004****Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours**

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, lower Sagaing and Ayeyawady Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan and Chin States, Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and scattered in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in upper Sagaing, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Homalin (5.20) inches, Myeik (3.15) inches, Myitkyina (2.08) inches, Kyaukpyu (1.89) inches, Bago (1.65) inches, and Minbu (1.50) inches.

Maximum temperature on 16-10-2004 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 17-10-2004 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 17-10-2004 was 82%. Total sunshine hours on 16-10-2004 was (7.5) hours approx. Rainfall on 17-10-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was (111.93 inches) at Yangon Airport, (106.77 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (109.21 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 6 mph from West at (18:35) hours MST on 16-10-2004.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 18-10-2004: Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Decrease of rain in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18-10-2004: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 18-10-2004: Partly cloudy.

Significant water level Bulletin

(Issued at 12:00 hrs MST on 17-10-2004)

According to the (06:30) hrs MST on 17-10-2004. The water level of Ayeyawady River at Myitkyina is risen about 10ft. The water levels may rise above the present water levels by about 6ft at Bhamo and 4ft at Katha during the next 72 hrs commencing noon today.

**Monday, October 18
View on today:**

- 7:00 am**
1. Recitation of Parittas
by Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:25 am**
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am**
5. Song of national races
- 8:00 am**
6. Cute little dancers
- 8:10 am**
7. အရေးကြီးသည့်
8. မြို့ချောင်းတံတား
- 8:20 am**
9. International news

- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
2. Song to uphold
National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
3. Practice in Reading
- 4:45 pm**
4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm**
5. အစောင့်တရားသို့မဟုတ်
ဗုဒ္ဓမြတ်ဗုဒ္ဓဘုရား၏ နိဗ္ဗာန်
(ရုပ်ပုံအားဖြင့်) (ရုပ်ပုံအားဖြင့်)
- 5:15 pm**
6. Dance variety
- 5:30 pm**
7. မြန်မာ့သံတော်
- 5:45 pm**
8. Songs and Dance of
National Races
- 5:50 pm**
9. Musical programme. (The
Radio Myanmar Modern
Music Troupe)
- 6:00 pm**
10. Industrial Achievement
- 6:10 pm**
11. Discovery

- 6:15 pm**
12. "နိုင်ငံခြားတရားရေးရာတိုင်းရင်း"
"ချော့ကောင်းသောစုံစမ်းမှု"
(အပိုင်း-၃၃)
- 6:30 pm**
13. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
14. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
15. မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် စိတ်ချရအရေးအရာ
အဆုံးတရားစိတ်ချရအရေးအရာ
လက်ခံ
- 7:20 pm**
16. Musical programme
- 7:35 pm**
17. ကျောက်မီးရောင် ဓမ္မစာအုပ်တိုက်တွင်
ဆင်းရဲလွယ်
- 8:00 pm**
18. News
19. International news
20. Weather report
21. ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာလအတွက်
(၁၂)မြောက် မြန်မာ့နိုင်ငံတော်
အမျိုးအနွယ် အစိုးရအဖွဲ့
22. "နိုင်ငံခြားတရားရေးရာတိုင်းရင်း"
"ချော့ကောင်းသောစုံစမ်းမှု" (အပိုင်း-၄)
22. The next day's
programme

**Monday, October 18
Tune in today:**

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music:
-Me, myself and I
Perspectives
- 8:40 am** Music: Am I crazy
- 8:50 am** National news/
Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music: You may
be right
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Music:
-Bille bella
News/Slogan
- 1:30 pm** Lunch time music
- 1:40 pm** -I'll still love you
-It must have been
love
-Alone again
Spotlight on the
star
-Hello how
are you
-Baby come back
- 9:10 pm** Article
- 9:20 pm** Women's Affairs
- 9:35 pm** Vocal gems
-I know him very
well
News/Slogan
- 9:45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

Government adding new momentum to public health care services, fulfilling everything to polish skills of medical practitioners Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt tours Sagaing



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects decoration of archway of University of Traditional Medicine in Mandalay.— MNA

YANGON, 17 Oct — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the ministers, the Chief of Staff (Navy), the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and heads of department left here by air for Mandalay yesterday.

They were welcomed at Mandalay International Airport by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and

Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein and officials. The Prime Minister, accompanied by Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, proceeded to Sagaing by helicopter.

The Prime Minister and party were welcomed there by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West

Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Commander of Regional LID Brig-Gen Tin Tun Aung, officials and members of social associations.

The Prime Minister and party arrived at Soon U Ponnyashin Pagoda on Sagaing Hill.

The Prime Minister offered flowers, lights and incense sticks to the Buddha Images in the reliquary.

The Prime Minister attended a ceremony to donate

(See page 9)

Only talented citizens can better serve interest of the nation Secretary-2 inspects hospitals, nurses training school, degree college in Kengtung

YANGON, 17 Oct — Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein met officers, other ranks and families of Kengtung Station at Pyi Nyein Aye Hall of Triangle Region Command on 15 October morning.

Also present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, deputy ministers and senior military officers.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that the Tatmadaw must have capabilities to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes. As the country is being built to become a discipline-flourishing democratic nation by seven steps, Tatmadawmen are to discharge duties conscientiously in their respective sectors in implementing seven-point future policy programme of the State. And, the Tatmadawmen are to actively take part in the public welfare tasks and carry out livestock breeding on a manageable scale.

At Kengtung General Hospital, Vice-Chairman of National Health Committee Secretary-2

(See page 10)



Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects classroom of Nurses Training School in Kengtung.— MNA



Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung and party enjoy performance of Pyapon Nandwin Ramayana Drama Troupe.— MNA

Ramayana Drama Contest goes on

YANGON, 17 Oct — The Ramayana Drama Contest of the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the third day at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street in Dagon Township here this evening. Pyapon Nandwin Rama Drama Troupe representing Ayeyawady Division participated in the contest.

Among the audience were family members of Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, member of the Panel of Patrons for organizing the performing arts competitions Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee for

(See page 10)