

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XII, Number 200

5th Waning of Thadingyut 1366 ME

Tuesday, 2 November, 2004

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Algeria

YANGON, 1 Nov — On the occasion of the National Day of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, which falls on 1 November 2004, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.—MNA

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win sends message of felicitations to Algeria

YANGON, 1 Nov — On the occasion of the National Day of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, which falls on 1 November 2004, Lt-Gen Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Ahmed Ouyahia, Head of the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.—MNA

Buddha images conveyed to Phaungdawoo Kyaung

YANGON, 1 Nov— A ceremony to convey Innlay Phaungdawoo Buddha images to their original residence was held in Shwenyaung Township, Taunggyi District, Shan State (South) on 31 October.

Present were members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence and Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Chairman of Shan State

Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and wife, senior military officers, departmental officials, PaO national race leader U Aung Hkam Hti, Chairman of Ruby Dragon Co Ltd U Nay Win Tun, officials and local people. The barge conveying Phaungdawoo Buddha images arrived at Phaungdawoo Kyaung. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, the commander and guests got on

the barge and paid respects to the Buddha images.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Commander of No 55 LID Brig-Gen Thet Oo and party conveyed the images and offered food, water, light and gold foils to them.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party watched Inntha traditional boat race and presented prizes to winning boat teams.—MNA

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

Commander, Construction Minister inspects Pathein bridge

YANGON, 1 Nov — Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein arrived at the construction site of the Pathein bridge yesterday.

At the briefing hall, In charge of the project

Deputy Superintending Engineer U Khin Maung Win reported on progress in installation of the steel beams and paving concrete slabs, finishing touches to the work and future tasks.

After hearing the reports, the minister gave necessary instructions.

Next, the commander, the minister and party inspected the bridge and Pathein District Senior

Engineer U Myint Thein and Road Construction Group-2 Senior Engineer U Kyaw Shein reported on completion of building the approach roads on Pathein and Kanni banks.

The construction of approach roads on the two banks is nearing completion. The workers have been working round the clock for completion of the bridge.—MNA



Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun inspects construction of Pathein Bridge in Ayeyawady Division.— CONSTRUCTION

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 2 November, 2004

Strengthening bilateral ties on a broader scale

Friendly relations have been thriving between Myanmar and India since yore. Mutual understanding and close friendship between the peoples of the two countries are improving as both countries share historical, geographical, cultural and religious identities.

Exchange of goodwill visits between the leaders of Myanmar and India has marked a new chapter of cooperation in the political, economic and cultural aspects.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing paid the State Visit to India from 25 to 29 October at the invitation of Indian President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe called on Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh in New Delhi on 25 October, and they had a cordial discussion concerning bilateral cooperation between Myanmar and India.

In their meeting, Myanmar Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said: "Myanmar and India are neighbouring countries of friendship and cooperation. Any difficulties between the two countries could be solved based on goodwill and mutual understanding. Myanmar will continue to practise the policy that peace and harmony must prevail in the area bordering both countries."

On the occasion, Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh also said: "Cooperation rendered in regional groups contributes to integration, security and stability in the region. India is determined to exist as a lasting partner of Myanmar for development, peace and stability."

The meeting between Myanmar Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh was followed by a signing ceremony of a memorandum of understanding between the two governments.

Myanmar and India have added momentum to their bilateral cooperation in bringing about regional peace and stability as well as prosperity.

For example, a project is under way to construct the three-country highway linking India and Thailand via Myanmar.

It is thus believed that the State visit of Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing to the Republic of India will widen the scope of friendly ties and cooperation between the two countries.

Nepalese guests call on Religious Affairs Minister

YANGON, 1 Nov — Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung received member of National Assembly of Nepal and Chairman of the Financial Committee of the Second World Buddhist Summit Mr Laxmi Das Manandhar and party at his office yesterday

morning.

Present on the occasion were Director-General Dr Myo Myint of the Religious Affairs Department, Pro-rector (Admin) Dr Myint Kyi of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University and Head of Office Major Myint Oo. — 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

Tatmadaw and departmental vehicles inspected on dry day



Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and party supervise the inspection of Tatmadaw and departmental vehicles on Dry Day. — MNA

YANGON, 31 Oct — Chairman of Dry Day Supervisory Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, accompanied by committee members Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Myanmar Police Force Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Lt-Col Aung Thu of the Quartermaster-General's Office, Commander of No 1 Provost Company Major Win Myint Tun, Director-General U Khin Maung, Directors U Baw Htin, Maj Tin Aung and U

Zaw Win Shwe, Secretary of the committee Deputy Director-General U Sein Hla of the Government Office and Joint-Secretary of Yangon Division Wireless and Traffic Police Force Police Lt-Col Aung Naing supervised dry day inspection teams which were checking vehicles of Tatmadaw and departments concerned this morning and evening.

The dry day inspection committee checked the disciplines of dry day such as dry day pass of Tatmadaw and departmental vehicles, driver's licence, wheel tax bill and the wearing of departmental uniforms. The inspection team also checked for adherence to road and traffic rules. — MNA

Japanese Ambassador calls on SWRR and Immigration & Population Minister

YANGON, 1 Nov — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Minister for Immigration & Population Maj-Gen Sein Htwa received Japanese Ambassador Mr Nobutake Odano at his office, here, this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung, Officer on Special Duty Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thauung of the Min-



Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa receives Japanese Ambassador Mr Nobutake Odano. — MNA

istry of SWRR, Director-General U Than Oo of the Relief and Resettlement Department, Director-General U Myint Tun of the Fire Services De-

partment, Director-General U Maung Htay of the Immigration and National Registration Department, Director-General U Tin Yi of the

Population Department, Head of Office U Maung Pi and Director U Boe Than of the Social Welfare Department.

MNA

MD of NPE meets Nepalese journalist delegation

YANGON, 1 Nov — Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise Col Soe Win met the seven-member Journalist delegation led by Mr Manju Ratna Sakya, Chairman of Nepalese Journalists Association, at The New Light of Myanmar daily on Strand Road this morning.

Present were Chief Editors of dailies, those of Myanma News Agency (Internal) and (External), Deputy Director (News) and Deputy Director

(Admin). The Nepalese journalist delegation also toured the Myanma Alin Daily on Natmauk Lane-1 in Bahan Township. They were welcomed by Chief Editor U Ye Myint Pe, Deputy Chief Editor U Hlaing Win and officials. Chief Editor U Ye Myint Pe related the history of Myanma Alin press, distribution of newspapers, opening of sub-printing houses in townships, news coverage and printing process.

The guests were con-

ducted round the Internet room, editorial section, computer rooms and printing room by officials.

Managing Director

of NPE Col Soe Win hosted a dinner in honour of the Nepalese journalists at the Central Hotel.

MNA



Nepalese journalist delegation studies Myanma Alin Press. — MNA

Mortars hit British army camp in restive Iraq province

BAGHDAD, 31 Oct — Two mortars hit a military base in a restive region south of Baghdad on Sunday where a battle group of British soldiers have recently arrived, causing no casualties, a spokesman said.

"Two mortars landed this morning in the complex but there was no damage or injuries," British military spokesman Major Charles Mayo told AFP.

Camp Dogwood — a vast area with a perimeter

of some 40 kilometres) — lies to the west of the rebel town of Mahmudiyah which is part of a so-called "triangle of death" along with Latifiyah and Iskandariyah in Babil Province.

The sheer size of the

camp and the small area the British troops occupy meant they had not been in any real danger, said Mayo.

The last of some 850 troops from the Black Watch regiment and support personnel arrived in

Camp Dogwood Friday on a US-requested mission to free up their American counterparts to tackle other guerilla hotspots.

The troops spent Saturday settling into the camp, sorting out force protection and laying out supplies and were expected to push on with logistical work on Sunday before starting patrols around the hostile terrain.

In a rude awakening on their first full-night together in Babil on Friday, another mortar round hit the base without causing any casualties.

Britain's 8,500-strong military force in Iraq is headquartered in the southern city of Basra, a relatively calm Shiite Muslim region compared to the daily car bombings and kidnappings that shake the provinces around Baghdad.

Internet



Municipal workers in the Sadr City neighbourhood of Baghdad, Iraq shovel dust while cleaning up an area near American tanks on, 30 Oct, 2004.

INTERNET

Nine US Marines killed near Fallujah

LONDON, 31 Oct — Nine US Marines have been killed and nine injured in what is thought to be a bomb attack near the Iraqi city of Fallujah, the US military has said.

In a statement, the officials said the deaths occurred in the western Anbar province on Saturday.

The rebel-held city of Fallujah is being threatened with a major military strike by US and Iraqi forces. The interim Iraqi government is continuing peace talks with Fallujah representatives this weekend.

The soldiers, from the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, were killed while carrying out what US military officials called "increased security operations" in the province, which also includes the

insurgent stronghold of Ramadi.

Eight were initially reported to have been killed, but the army issued a new death toll of nine on Sunday.

The casualty figures are the highest for the US in a single attack in more than six months. US forces have been carrying out a heavy bombardment of Fallujah in preparation for a full-scale attack.

They say the Sunni-dominated city has become a safe haven for rebels linked to Jordanian rebel Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. —Internet

Putin urges Parlt to work on dual citizenship with Ukraine

Moscow, 31 Oct — Russian President Vladimir Putin Saturday urged both houses of Parliament to discuss a possible introduction of dual Russian-Ukrainian citizenship, the ITAR-TASS news agency reported.

Meeting with State Duma (Lower House) Chairman Boris Gryzlov and Federation Council (Upper House) Chairman Sergei Mironov, Putin said, "I ask you to contact your counterparts in Ukraine next week to begin the work on this (dual citizenship) issue at a professional level." "I also believe it

would be reasonable to organize a broad discussion of this issue in our countries," he said. "The general nature of relations between our two peoples, established over a period of several centuries, decided that they lived in a united state and had closely-linked religious and cultural traditions and even languages," said Putin, who

came back this week from a visit to Ukraine.

"Peoples in both countries have numerous relations across the border, they have mixed marriages, and our economies have formed deep cooperative ties over the past decade. All of it highlights the issue of dual citizenship," Putin said.

MNA/Xinhua

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1,120 members of US military killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct — As of Sunday, 30 October 2004, at least 1,120 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 848 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department as of Friday. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is thirteen higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated Friday at 10 am EDT.

The British military has reported 69 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since 1 May 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 982 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 739 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers as of Friday.

The latest identification reported by the military: —Army Pfc Stephen P Downing II, 30, Burkesville, Ky, died Thursday in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, from small arms fire during a combat operation; assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery, Camp Hovey, Korea. —Internet

Rocket hits hotel in North Iraq, kills 15

TIKRIT, 31 Oct — At least one rocket hit a hotel used by migrant workers in Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit overnight, killing 15 Iraqis and wounding about eight, witnesses said.

United States forces surrounded the hotel, which is around 800 metres away from an American base in the city.

The bodies pulled from the rubble were apparently those of Shiite workers from the south who came to make a living in the mostly Sunni Muslim region, a cameraman working for Reuters Television said.

Two police who were patrolling the

street were among the wounded.

The US military said the rocket, one of two fired by the guerillas in the area, struck the hotel, which is about 200 metres from a mosque soon after evening prayers. The mosque was barely damaged, witnesses said.

Tikrit, 175km north of Baghdad, became a provincial capital in Saddam's rule. Many poor Kurds and Shi'ites still go to work there.

Internet



Smoke rises after US Marines from the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment disposed of a roadside bomb with a controlled explosion in Ramadi, Iraq, on 30 Oct, 2004. —INTERNET

Bangladesh appeals for release of nationals in Iraq

DHAKA, 31 Oct — The Bangladeshi Government on Friday made an appeal to the reported abductors in Iraq for immediate release of its national, reported the *Daily Star* on Saturday.

The appeal was made by Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan here following the Islamic Army in Iraq announced it abducted a driver from Bangladesh and another from Sri Lanka who work for a Kuwaiti company.

According to a footage from Al-Jazeera television, the extremist group said in a statement that the two hostages were abducted before driving their trucks into a US base in Iraq, and they are being interrogated "in the religious (Islamic) court".

A video bearing the name of the extremist group on Thursday showed each of the presumed hostages separately and a number of identification documents, including a Kuwaiti driving licence.

The private news agency *United News of Bangladesh* quoted the Foreign

Minister as saying, Bangladesh is a peace-loving nation and it is not involved in any conflict. "I make an appeal on behalf of 140 million Muslims (of Bangladesh) to the hostage takers to release the poor Bangladeshi driver, if he had gone to Iraq driving a truck for his livelihood," added Khan in his plea.

The minister further pointed out the government is not yet certain about the identity of the reported Bangladeshi truck driver.

Khan said he had already contacted with the Bangladesh ambassadors in Jordan, Kuwait and Qatar for details of the truck driver. "As soon as we get confirmation about his Bangladeshi identity, we will make all-out efforts for his release with the help of neighbouring countries," he added.

MNA/Xinhua

US mil warned of unsecured high explosives in Iraq

VIENNA (Austria), 1 Nov — Human Rights Watch has said it alerted the US military to a cache of hundreds of warheads containing high explosives in Iraq in May 2003, but that officials seemed disinterested and still had not secured the site 10 days later.

The disclosure, made Saturday by a senior leader of the New York-based group, raised new questions about the willingness or ability of US-led forces to secure known stashes of dangerous weapons in Iraq.

Peter Bouckaert, who heads Human Rights Watch's international emergency team, told *The Associated Press* he was shown two rooms "stacked to the roof" with surface-to-surface warheads on May 9, 2003, in a warehouse on the grounds of the 2nd Military College in Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad.

Bouckaert said he gave US officials the exact location of the warheads, but that by the time he left the area on May 19, 2003, he had seen no US forces at the site, which he said was being looted daily by armed men.

His comments came as the question of 377 tons of high explosives reported missing from another site — the Al-Qaqaa military installation south of Baghdad — has become a heated issue

in the final days of the US presidential campaign.

Bouckaert said displaced people he was working with in the Baqouba area had taken him to the warheads. "They said, 'There's stocks of weapons here and we're very concerned — can you please inform the coalition?'" he said in a telephone interview from South Africa.

After photographing the warheads, Bouckaert said he went straight to US officials in Baghdad's Green Zone complex, where he claimed officials at first did not seem interested in his information.

"They asked mainly about chemical or biological weapons, which we hadn't seen," he said. "I had a pretty hard time getting anyone interested in it."

Bouckaert said he eventually was put in touch with unidentified US officials and showed them on a map where the stash was located, also giving them the exact GPS coordinates for the site.

MNA/AP



Iraqi men salvage what they can from their destroyed home (R) following a US air raid on Fallujah on 29 Oct, 2004. —INTERNET

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Saudi Arabia to host global conf to discuss anti-terrorism ways

ABU DHABI, 31 Oct — A Saudi official announced the country will host an international conference in December to discuss ways of uprooting terrorism, the *Khaleej Times* reported on Saturday.

Prince Turki Bin Mohammad Bin Saud Al Kabir, Assistant Deputy Foreign Minister, said the conference is being organized at a time when the kingdom is fighting terrorism both at domestic and international levels.

Saudi supports international efforts in this regard out of its conviction that terrorism is a global phenomenon and all countries should make combined efforts to fight it, noted Prince Turki.

The conference will discuss ways to fight terrorism and its destructive repercussions on the society, further consolidate global efforts in a fight against terrorism and seek to formulate an agenda that will cover all countries

which are victims of extremists.

Prince Turki said in a statement that this global meeting will seek to explain the causes that led to the emergence of terrorism, its historical background and the countries which harbour terrorists.

Moreover, the conference will make an attempt to know the network of the terrorist groups and how they work, he added.

The relationship between terrorism and money laundering, drug trafficking and arms smuggling will also be discussed in the conference in which many countries will participate, the daily quoted the Saudi official as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



British Royal Marines operating near Baghdad on 30 October, 2004.

INTERNET

Sri Lankan to verify details of hostage in Iraq

COLOMBO, 31 Oct — Sri Lanka is yet to verify details of its national reported to be held hostage by a militant organization in Iraq, officials said on Friday.

Al-Jazeera television had reported that a Sri Lankan employed as a driver along with a Bangladeshi national had been taken hostage on Thursday.

The Foreign Ministry officials said that details of the captive had not yet emerged.

Amanulla Farook, Sri Lankan Ambassador in Beirut, said that Sri Lankan nationals had been warned not to travel to Iraq in view of the situation prevailing there.

He said that he might have travelled to Iraq through a bordering nation such as Kuwait or Jordan and his men were trying to establish details.

This is the first ever incident of a Sri Lankan national being taken hostage in Iraq after the US led offensive in Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

John Edwards' plane makes quick landing due battery fire

RALEIGH, (North Carolina), 31 Oct — The plane carrying Democratic vice-presidential candidate John Edwards made a quick return landing in Raleigh, North Carolina, on Friday after a television crew's battery exploded and started a small fire.

Reporters on the campaign plane carrying Edwards and his family from Raleigh to Ohio said the aircraft turned around about five minutes after takeoff, returning to Raleigh-Durham International Airport.

A nine-volt lithium battery used in a television crew's sound equipment exploded. There were no injuries.

The fire occurred in the press section in the rear of the plane. The Edwards family was in the front.

After an inspection, the plane took off again for Ohio as Edwards continued a state-hopping final campaign effort before Tuesday's presidential election.

MNA/Reuters

Philippines orders passports "not valid for travel to Iraq"

MANILA, 30 Oct — The Philippines will tag all newly issued passports with a stamp preventing the bearer from travelling to war-torn Iraq, the Department of Foreign Affairs said on Thursday.

Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo said that the stamp "not valid for travel to Iraq" would be affixed to all regular passports, including those issued to Filipino overseas workers, and would come with an Arabic translation.

Romulo said that the measure is "as an added deterrent against attempts by (Filipino workers) to sneak into strife-torn Iraq despite the standing ban on deployment to that country being enforced by the Philippine Government."

"The Not Valid for Travel to Iraq" stamp is also being adopted as a means to protect the lives

of Philippine citizens, which is the spirit of the deployment ban in the first place. The ban on the deployment of OFWs to Iraq first came into force in April after a Filipino driver was killed in an ambush, but was shortly removed after July 1.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo froze all worker deployments again to Iraq in July when truck driver Angelo de la Cruz was kidnapped by militants who threatened to behead him unless the Philippines withdrew its 51-person security contingent there.

However, despite the ban, about a thousand Fili-

pino workers, lured by higher paying jobs, have managed to slip into Iraq, usually by crossing the border from other Middle Eastern countries.

The Philippine Government on Tuesday asked Kuwait to hold the ban on overseas Filipino workers seeking employment in Iraq until the country's elections in January is over after the country lifted the ban on October 20. The government officials expressed concerns that other countries would follow Kuwait's move and eventually open the floodgates for OFWs seeking greener pastures in Iraq.

To prevent this from

happening, Romulo said that he had directed Philippine Charge d'Affaires to Baghdad Ricardo Endaya to "solidify" the commitments given by Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to enforce the ban and get an agreement.

MNA/Xinhua

US soldier killed in suicide car bombing in central Iraq

BAGHDAD, 31 Oct — one US soldier killed and another wounded in a suicide car bombing attack near the restive city of Ramadi in central Iraq, the US military said on Saturday.

The attack occurred at about 8 am (0500GMT) on Friday, a US spokesman said.

About 850 US soldier have been killed in combat in Iraq since the start of war on Iraq last March.

Car bombing and roadside bombings are favoured by the insurgency that is intent on forcing the US-led military troops out of the country.

MNA/Xinhua

Seven Iraqis killed in clashes

HASWA(Iraq), 1 Nov — Seven Iraqis were killed and 14 wounded during clashes between gunmen and US troops on Saturday in an area southwest of Baghdad dubbed the triangle of death, police and hospital sources said.

Fighting broke out in Haswa when gunmen attacked US troops that were raiding buildings in the lawless village, police said.

Reuters Television footage showed two civilian cars and a truck riddled with bullets, their seats stained with blood.

Occupants said they had been caught in a crossfire.

Some had been taken to hospital in nearby Iskandariya, some 24 miles from Baghdad.

It was unclear how many of the dead and wounded were gunmen and how many were civilians.

Neither the US nor the British military, which deployed in the area this week, had any information on the incident.

Residents of Haswa said the trouble began when US troops raided a local mosque and detained its imam.

MNA/Reuters

Iraqi civilian killed in Samarra Street battles

SAMARRA, (Iraq), 31 Oct — Guerillas attacked a US post in the Iraqi city of Samarra overnight, setting off street battles in which a civilian was killed and seven Iraqi National Guards were wounded, police said on Saturday.

They said the fighting began around 9 p.m. (1800 GMT Friday) and continued past midnight.

A US military spokeswoman had no immediate information on the clashes. — MNA/Reuters



Iraqi boys climb up the rubble of a destroyed house following an overnight US air raid conducted over the western city of Fallujah, on 28 Oct, 2004.

INTERNET

Kerry attacks Bush's catastrophic mismanagement

ORLANDO, 30 Oct — Democratic challenger John Kerry urged Americans on Friday to "wake up" and choose a new start on the economy and Iraq instead of four more years of President George W Bush's "catastrophic mismanagement."

Four days before the United States chooses its next commander in chief, the Massachusetts senator told supporters in Orlando they could not afford to reelect Bush, "a president who's unwilling to admit the mistakes he's made and says he would do the same thing all over again."

In the last of nine "closing argument" speeches in which Kerry laid out what he called the clear choices voters face on Tuesday, the former prosecutor offered a summary of his case: a fresh start

versus more failed policies.

Conjuring up the image of a woman walking into a voting booth thinking about her husband fighting in Iraq, he said: "On Tuesday, you have the choice to give her hope. You have the choice to give America a fresh start."

Citing the high costs of the continuing war — more than 1,100 US military deaths and 225 billion US dollars spent with "billions more on the way," Kerry said: "By pushing our allies aside, George Bush's

catastrophic mismanagement of this war has left America to bear almost 90 per cent of the costs and 90 per cent of the coalition casualties."

He struck at Bush's perceived strength — national security — accusing the commander in chief of not doing his job by allowing Osama bin Laden, whose al-Qaeda organization is blamed for the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, escape from the mountains of Afghanistan.

MNA/Reuters

Poll shows Kerry keeps comfortable lead in California

LOS ANGELES, 30 Oct — A poll issued Friday showed that US Democratic challenger John Kerry keeps a comfortable lead over President Bush in California just four days ahead of the US presidential election.

The nonpartisan Field Poll showed that Kerry's lead over Bush has narrowed recently to just seven points, 49 per cent to 42 per cent. Nine per cent of voters remain undecided. In early October, Kerry led Bush 49 per cent to 40 per cent.

While Kerry's seven-point lead in California is stable, the somewhat narrower-than-expected margin between the two candidates reflects Bush's improved standing among married, suburban woman, said Field Poll director Mark DiCamillo.

"Bush is doing better in rural areas than he did in 2000 and he's certainly doing better among women, and in particular suburban housewives," he said.

Women favour Kerry by a 14-point margin, 53 per cent to 39 per cent. Statewide, 52 per cent of likely voters said they had

a favourable impression of Kerry while 41 per cent had an unfavourable impression.

MNA/Xinhua



A Turkish truck burns after guerillas opened fire on it while it was carrying bottled water in the northern city of Mosul, Iraq, on 29 Oct, 2004.

INTERNET

Kerry moves into one-point lead over Bush

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct — Democratic Senator John Kerry moved into a one-point lead over President George W. Bush three days before the presidential election, according to a *Reuters* Zogby poll released on Saturday. Kerry led Bush 47-46 per cent, well within the margin of error, in the latest three-day national tracking poll. Bush and Kerry were tied at 47 per cent on Friday.

The White House rivals face a frantic sprint to the finish, hunting for votes in fewer than 10 battleground states that hold the key to a win on Tuesday.

Neither candidate has been able to establish a clear advantage or break the 50 per cent barrier since the tracking poll began on October 7.

"Bush continues to hold on to solid support among Republicans, investors, married voters and born again Christians,"

pollster John Zogby said. "Kerry expands his lead among young voters, African Americans and His-panics."

But Kerry is still getting the support of only 84 per cent of Black voters, short of the more than 90 per cent claimed by Democrat Al Gore in 2000 and enough of a shortfall to make a difference in a few critical states in such a tight election.

The Massachusetts senator had a 48-41 per cent edge among newly

registered voters, an unpredictable group that could be a wild card on Tuesday depending on how many actually turn out to vote. Only 3 per cent of likely voters remain undecided. At this stage of the disputed 2000 election, Bush led Gore by four points in the daily tracking poll.

The poll of 1,209 likely voters was taken Wednesday through Friday and has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.9 percentage points. The

rolling poll will continue through Monday.

Bush gained ground in some of the critical swing states that will decide who accumulates the 270 electoral votes needed to win, leading in six of the 10 battleground states surveyed in a series of *Reuters* Zogby state tracking polls.

Bush led in Ohio, Colorado, Iowa, Michigan, New Mexico and Nevada. Kerry led in Florida, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

The national poll showed independent candidate Ralph Nader, blamed by some Democrats for drawing enough votes from Gore to cost him the election in 2000, with 1.8 per cent.

MNA/Reuters

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ထုတ်ကုန်မြင့်

Four Iraqis killed as US planes bomb Fallujah

FALLUJAH, 30 Oct — US war planes bombed a residential target in Iraq's rebel-held Fallujah on Friday, killing four Iraqis, witnesses and a hospital source said.

One house was seen destroyed in the al-Askeri neighbourhood in northern Fallujah, local residents said.

Doctor Fali al-Aysawi at the Fallujah General Hospital told *Xinhua* that four Iraqis were killed and three others wounded in the bombing.

The US military had no immediate comment on the report.

The attack appeared to be another round of daily air raids targeting suspect hide-outs used by guerrillas and a full-scale offensive was widely expected soon.

Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi said Thursday that he agreed to send a negotiating team to Fallujah as a "last-ditch" effort to salvage the city from the looming military assault.

Fallujah, some 50 kilometres west of Baghdad, remained a top security concern for US and Iraqi officials, and was on the list of cities to be retaken from guerrillas ahead of the national elections slated for January. — MNA/Xinhua



A US Marine walks past a bullet-riddled wall in Ramadi, 100 kms west of Baghdad recently.—INTERNET

SEAL testifies prisoner abuse was intended to "instill fear"

SAN DIEGO, 30 Oct — A Navy commando testified that he and other members of an elite SEAL team punched, kicked and struck a hooded and handcuffed Iraqi prisoner captured during a nighttime raid to "instill fear." The captive died a short time later in the Abu Ghraib Prison.

The commando, identified only by his rank as a hospital corpsman, was a surprise witness during a military pretrial hearing Friday for another member of the Navy Sea, Air Land unit known as Seal Team-7 accused of abusing prisoners in Iraq.

The accused SEAL, an aviation boatswain's mate, allegedly punched and kneed prisoners in Iraq, twisted their testicles and struck a prisoner in the buttocks with a wooden board. He also posed in photos where the detainee was allegedly subjected to degrading treatment.

Earlier in the day, the corpsman reached a plea deal that resolves similar charges while sparing him time in prison.

The accused SEAL

stared at the witness and shook his head once during the testimony. The corpsman avoided looking at the defendant.

The proceeding, known as an Article 32 hearing, is being held to determine whether the

boatswain's mate should be court-martialled. The accused SEAL, who received the Purple Heart for suffering wounds in Iraq could face up to 11 years in prison if convicted.

MNA/AP

One Iraqi killed in Mosul car bomb

BAGHDAD, 30 Oct — One Iraqi was killed and five others were wounded, including two US soldiers, in a car bomb blast on a military convoy in Mosul on Friday, the US military said.

The attack took place in the southern part of Mosul, north of Baghdad, wounding two US soldiers, a US military spokeswoman said.

He added that one Iraqi was killed and three others were wounded, according to figures from the Iraqi police in the city.

Car bombings and roadside bombings are the favourite weapons for Iraqi guerrillas who are intent on forcing the US-led military troops out of the country.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi President pays first visit to Kuwait

KUWAIT, 31 Oct — Iraqi interim President Ghazi al-Yawar arrived in Kuwait on Saturday, the first such visit by an Iraqi president in decades, to press for improved bilateral ties and discuss Baghdad's multi-billion-dollar debt to Kuwait.

In June, Kuwait restored diplomatic relations with Baghdad and official ties have improved between the former foes since last year. But outstanding issues remain, including about 16 billion US dollars in debt Iraq owes Kuwait, part of some 45 billion US dollars Iraq owes Gulf states. It was mostly given during the 1980-88 Iraq-Iran War, but Baghdad says the money was given as grants. Yawar, who thanked Kuwait for standing by post-Saddam Iraq, said he will visit Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates after Kuwait. "We don't have a specific agenda,

but there are generous invitations from these countries which we're meeting."

Yawar told reporters at Kuwait Airport. Kuwait has agreed to substantially cut Iraq's debt but it says the issue should be discussed with a permanent government in Baghdad. The Gulf state has also made clear the debt issue is totally separate from that of more than 150 billion US dollars in Gulf War reparations being sought from Iraq.

During his three-day visit Yawar is expected to meet Emir Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmad al-Sabah and other officials to discuss the debt and the security situation in the region. Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad al-Salem al-Sabah, describing Yawar's visit as "historic", said Kuwait will stand by its former foe. But he did not give specifics regarding Iraq's debt issue. — MNA/Reuters



A Polish soldier stands guard near a helicopter in Camp Lima, some 100kms south of Baghdad on 29 Oct, 2004. — INTERNET

Promising projects on Mone Creek or Haw Lon

U Zaw



Minister for Agriculture & Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects main embankment and storage of Mone Creek Dam in Sedoktara Township on 25 Oct.—AGRI & IRR

Mone Creek, Man Creek, Salin Creek and Yaw Creek in western Magway Division pass through Pwintbyu, Salin and Sagu plains and flow into the Ayeyawady River. Of them, Mone Creek rises from mountains in Chin State and flows down 196 miles.

With some 3.5 million acre feet of the annual flow of water, Mone Creek is not much different from the Mu River. Therefore, Mone Creek is in a sense a rivulet of the Ayeyawady River, on whose banks rest over 100 big and small villages including Pwintbyu. Local people of Sedoktara region call Haw Lon instead of Mone Creek. "Creek" is an equivalent for the word "Lon" in their dialect implies. The creek is thus also called Haw Creek. With the construction of a diversion weir and a canal near Mezali village in 1910, a total of over 79,000 acres of farmland can now be irrigated. The Mone Creek irrigation system thus came into existence. Evidence was found that irrigation measures were taken through the construction of water canals in the vicinity of Mezali village at the times of ancient Myanmar dynasties. Nevertheless, Mone Creek has long been in service in rural areas. As the waters of the creek were stored in a diversion weir, water could be supplied only to irrigated farms in case of scarce rain in the rainy season.

The Mone Creek multipurpose dam project was launched in 1994 with lofty aims: to supply more

The Mone Creek multipurpose dam project was launched in 1994 with lofty aims: to supply more irrigation water, to produce electricity, to prevent floods, and to bring about regional development. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe himself chose the plot for the project in April 1994 after inspecting the whole area along Mone Creek by helicopter. On completion, the project will be able to irrigate over 100,000 acres of farmland from Mezali diversion weir in both rainy season and the summer. Moreover, the project will also generate 75 megawatts of electricity.

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Natural resources are exploited for further re-

gional development, instead of leaving them in the wild. With the shift from the single to double cropping, the cleavage between the rich and the poor will be narrowed, thereby enabling local farmers to earn increased income. Moreover, the development gap between one region and the other will also be bridged.

With this end in view, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on the implementation of one irrigation facility after another so as to utilize water resources of these creeks. The Head of State himself chose the site and toured the projects to inspect the progress. Thanks to the goodwill and endeavours of the Government, Salin Reservoir, Man Reservoir and Yaw Creek Diversion Weir have now taken shape and borne fruit.

The construction of a concrete diversion canal measuring 3,625 feet by 37.4 feet started in 1997 and completed in November 2002. Only after the waters in the creek had been diverted through a canal, the construction of the main embankment blocking the creek could start.

The piling of earth to build the main embankment started in February 2003. Now, its construction has completed. However, there still remain many huge tasks like construction of retaining walls, spillways, sluice gates and canal valves, all of which involve high technology and machinery. Construction works are going on in line with approved designs.

Overall, the Mone Creek Dam Project was like a great challenge to the Irrigation Department. Contending with the project, the Department got invaluable experience in tunnel building. Now, the Department has learned very well how to construct a tunnel.

On 25 June 2004, the depth of the water of the dam met with 520 feet of RL. And on 15 September, the dam was brimful of water with the highest point of 536.2 feet. It indicated that the main embankment, the spillways and diversion tunnel and the gates of hydropower tunnels of the dam were strong enough to withstand the water pressure.

While the Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was making efforts to complete its tasks, the Hydro-electric Power Department under the Ministry of Electric Power was exerting its endeavours in harmony with the Irrigation Department such as construction of a hydropower plant, installation of three turbine generators and steel penstocks, building of tailrace down the hydropower plant, and power grids and sub-power stations. Now, cent per cent of construction tasks has been completed.

Therefore, it is sure the departments will be able to make a success of the project. Now, the dam irrigates more monsoon and summer paddy fields through Mezali Diversion Weir. In the near future, the project will be able to generate 75 megawatts more than Kinda, Sedawgyi, Thaphanseik and Zaungtu hydropower stations. The Mone Creek Dam is larger

The annual water flow of the Mone Creek is 3.5 million acre feet and the dam can store over 0.67 million acre feet of water only. So, Buywa Dam Project, 13 miles upstream of the Mone Creek and Kyee Ohn Kyee Wa Dam Project upstream of the Mezali Dam Project are being implemented to store the water from Mone Creek. On completion, the two projects will have capacity to generate around 60 megawatts each. Thus, there will be Mone Creek Dam, Kyee Ohn Kyee Wa Dam and Bu Dam along the Mone Creek before long.

than Ngamoeyek, South Nawin, Welgyi, Tabuhla and Zaungtu dams.

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Generating about 200 megawatts, these promising projects will make tremendous contributions towards the region on the west bank of Ayeyawady River as well as towards the nation.

(Translation: KTY + MS)

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.



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivers an address at the meeting with athletes of Yangon Command. — YANGON COMMAND

Commander meets athletes to participate in Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) competitions

YANGON, 1 Nov — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe met athletes of cycling, judo, acrobat, track and field

and football teams to participate in Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) competitions for Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services (Shield and Cup) at Yangon Command Headquarters this morning.

Present on the occasion were senior military officers of Yangon Command, chairmen of supporting committees for sports teams and members and athletes.

First, the com-

mander urged the athletes to make relentless efforts to achieve success in the competitions with full sporting spirit and to be outstanding athletes who bring honour to the State.

MNA

Medalists wushu athletes honoured

YANGON, 1 Nov — At the Panda Hotel here yesterday evening was a ceremony to honour athletes who won medals at the first World Wushu Championships held from 18 to 20 October in the People's Republic of China.

After giving an introductory speech, Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials presented cash awards to gold, silver and bronze medalists at the



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presents a prize to Wushu gold medalist Shein Wai Yan. — (NLM)

championships.

The new gene-

ration 12-member team of Myanmar won 13 gold,

11 silver and two bronze there. — MNA

Pre-coordination meeting on holding 14th IFNGO Meeting held

YANGON, 1 Nov — A pre-coordination meeting on holding the 14th IFNGO Meeting which is to be held in Myanmar from 2 to 4 December 2004 by Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (MANA) under the patronage of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control took place at the Grand Plaza Parkroyal Hotel yesterday evening.

It was attended by Chairman of CCDAC Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Secretary of

CCDAC Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Director-General of General Administration Department U Myat Ko, Chairman of MANA Dr Nay Win and executives and guests.

At the meeting, MANA Chairman Dr Nay Win reported on arrangements being made for holding the 14th IFNGO meeting.

Next, 11 well-wishers donated K 14.5 million plus US\$ 2,000 for successful holding of the meeting.

Chairman of

CCDAC Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing accepted the

donations and spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Foreign Affairs Minister sends message of felicitations to Algeria

YANGON, 1 Nov — On the occasion of the National Day of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, which falls on 1 November 2004, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Abdelaziz Belkhadem, Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

MNA

Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium sells 673 jade lots

YANGON, 1 Nov — 673 lots of jade were sold by tender system during the initial three-day sales, at the Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium, which attracted a total of 653 merchants from 224 foreign companies of 12 countries and 172 local merchants from 108 local companies.

The emporium sold 362 jade lots through tender system on 30 October, and yesterday it sold 277. Thirty-four more jade lots were sold today.

Today, Patron of Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint

visited private jewellery shops on the ground floor, viewed the sale of jade through competitive bidding and cordially greeted the merchants taking part in it.

The foreign merchants at the sales today were one from Brunei, two from India, three from Japan, 546 from the People's Republic of China, six from Singapore, 84 from Thailand, four from the United States, one from Malaysia, one from Canada, two from Italy, two from the Philippines, and one from Austria.

The emporium continues till 3 November.

MNA

108-seater jet for local passenger service

YANGON, 1 Nov — A 108-seater Fokker-100 Jet arrived here today to fly the local trips of Air Bagan Limited, a Myanmar-citizen-owned company.

The local destina-

tions the plane will fly to from Yangon include Mandalay, Nyaung U and Heho. More ATR passenger planes will arrive here to strengthen the fleet of the company.

MNA



Fokker-100 jet of Air Bagan Lt which will fly in domestic flights. — MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meets Nepalese Journalist Delegation. — MNA

Nepalese journalists call on Information Minister

YANGON, 1 Nov — Under Myanmar-Nepalese journalist study tour exchange programme, a seven-member Nepalese journalist delegation led by Chairman of Nepalese Journalists Association Mr Manju Ratna

Sakya paid a courtesy call on Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan at the latter's office on Theinbyu Street here at 3 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were

Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, heads of departments under the ministry, the adviser to the News and Periodicals

Enterprise, the chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association and the secretary and officials.

MNA

MNA

Myanmar delegation leaves for China

YANGON, 1 Nov — A Myanmar delegation led by President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and comprising Vice-Presidents U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin, Joint-Secretary Dr Maung Maung Lay and central executive U Tun Aung left for China yesterday afternoon to attend China-ASEAN Expo and the First China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit to be held in Nanning, the People's Republic of China starting from 3 November 2004. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Vice-President of UMFCCI U Win Aung, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and officials of UMFCCI.—MNA



UMFCCI delegation being seen at airport before departure for PRC. — MNA

Participants of performing arts competitions on tour of Yangon

YANGON, 1 Nov — Participants of the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions visited Shwedagon Pagoda and Defence Services Museum here yesterday morning.

In the afternoon, they went to Myanmar Radio and Television-MRTV under the Ministry of Information on Pyay Road and observed recording and shooting there.

They also visited Drug Elimination Museum at the corner of Kyundaw Road and Kamayut Road in Kamayut Township.

Afterwards, they proceeded to Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image in Insein Township and paid obeisance to Buddha Image and made cash donation there. — MNA



Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung delivers an address at opening ceremony of Sepak Takraw Competitions in Ahlon Township. — TRANSPORT

Inter-ward Sepak Takraw competition opens

YANGON, 1 Nov — The inter-ward Sepak Takraw competition organized by Ahlon Township Union Solidarity and Development Association was held yesterday at Thiri Mingala Sports Ground in Ahlon Township.

Eleven teams will participate in the competition which will last till 12 November.

Central Executive Committee Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung delivered an opening address. The athletes took oath and the opening ceremony of the competition came to an end.

MNA

Nepalese Journalist delegation visits Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 1 Nov — The seven-member Nepalese Journalist Delegation this morning visited Shwedagon Pagoda and made cash donation.

At the pagoda, they also observed the great bell donated by King Thayawady and shrines.

Later, they also visited People's Square on Pyay Road and National Museum in Dagon Township.

Under the journalist delegations study tour exchange programme between the two countries, the Nepalese journalist delegation led by Mr Manju Ratna Sakya, ar-

rived here yesterday afternoon.

Director (News) U Win Tin of the News

and Periodicals Enterprise and Manager U Nyunt Hlaing of NPE (Internal) and officials

welcomed them at Yangon International Airport.

MNA



Nepalese Journalist Delegation and officials pose for a documentary photo at People's Square. — MNA

Chief Justice attends prize-presentation ceremony

YANGON, 1 Nov— Prizes were presented to outstanding service personnel and students who are offspring of service personnel and passed the matriculation exam for 2003-2004 academic year with flying colours at a ceremony held at the meeting hall of the Supreme Court this morning with an address by Chief Justice U Aung

Toe.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Chief Justice U Thein Soe, judges of the Supreme Court, director-general and directors, outstanding service personnel and students.

Chief Justice U Aung Toe presented prizes to outstanding service personnel and Deputy Chief Justice U

Thein Soe and officials presented prizes to 30 outstanding students.

Judges U Chit Lwin and U Tin Aye of the Supreme Court presented prizes to other 14 outstanding students.

An outstanding student, on behalf of the prize winners, expressed thanks.

MNA



Chief Justice U Aung Toe presents a prize to an outstanding service personnel. — MNA



Acting Director-General of Yangon Division Health Department Dr U Tin Win Maung delivers an opening address at on-job training course for nurses jointly organized by Health Department and WHO on 1 November in Ahlon Township, Yangon. — NLM

Monywa Open Golf Championship commences



YANGON, 1 Nov — A ceremony to open Monywa Open Golf Championship of the Myanmar Golf Tour 2004 organized by Myanmar Professional Golfers Association and the Myanmar Golf Federation was held at Monywa Golf Club this morning.

At the ceremony, Col Hla Ngwe of North-West Command, executive of MPGA and MGF U Ko Ko Lay, Regional Sale Manager U Aung Kyaw Oo of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd and an officer opened the championship and started 18-hole event for the first day.

After the event, Min Naing took the lead with seventy strokes.

Thein Zaw Myint

led amateur event (man) with seventy strokes.

Tour Sponsor of the championship is Rothmans of Pall Mall

Myanmar Pte Ltd and Co-Sponsors are Honda Myanmar, Winn Unity Hotel, Shwe Moe Thar, Yadanar Aung Co Ltd, Yadanar Chin Thwin Mine Excavate Co Ltd, Kaung Myat Co Ltd, Ye Mon Construction, Sagaing Division Development Committee, Petroleum Enterprise, Monywa Industrial Zone,

Monywar Hotel, Ivanhoe (MICCL), Monywa Golf Club, Air Mandalay, Tiger Beer, Alpine Drinking Water, Htoo Trading, KM Golf Centre, Maruman, Tour Stage, Wilson, Srixon, Grandslam (Musing Wear), Accel International Co Ltd and Sunfar Travels and Tour.

MNA



Col Hla Ngwe tees off at Monywa Open Golf Championship.

MGF

e-Education Learning Centre သင်ခန်းစာထုတ်လွှင့်မည့်အစီအစဉ် ဖေ့လည် ၁၃၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၅၀၀ နာရီ

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- ◆ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာသင်တန်း (၂)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်တန်း အတွင်းသား/အတွင်းသူများ
- ၂-၁၂-၂၀၀၄ (ဇူလိုင်လ)
- ◆ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာသင်တန်း (၁)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်တန်း အတွင်းသား/အတွင်းသူများ
- ◆ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာသင်တန်း (၂)
- တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်တန်း အတွင်းသား/အတွင်းသူများ

China pledges stronger efforts to combat environmental degradation

BELING, 1 Nov— China will take more measures to protect the country's deteriorating environment to contribute to the sustainable development of both China and the world, Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan said here on Sunday.

"China's economic and social development is facing increasingly heavy pressure from environment and nature resources, marked by pollution and environmental degradation," Zeng said.

He pledged that the country will strive to build an environment-friendly society by further strengthening its legal framework, relying on scientific advancement and strongly promoting recycling economy.

The Vice-Premier outlined four major tasks in combating environment degradation for the country, including adjusting economic structures, curbing pollution in rivers and lakes, shutting down heavily-polluted enterprises and enhancing international cooperation.

Zeng made the remarks at the closing ceremony of the annual meeting of the China Council for International Cooperation on the Environment and Development, the government's international advisory body.

The council consists of 50 senior government officials and experts from China and other countries and representatives of international organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme.

During the three-day meeting,

members of the council focused their discussions on sustainable agricultural and rural development and drafted a report of recommendations to the Chinese Government.

The council said in its report that it supports China's policy of seeking a new, scientific and sustainable approach to development by putting people first. The report recommended that China value the quality and efficiency of its economic growth.

The report highlighted six general recommendations, including implementing a broader vision linking ecological and food security, developing new ecological and economic-based national strategies to integrate water management and water quality and modernizing the management of China's protected areas.

Zeng thanked the council for the recommendations and promised that the government will take the recommendations seriously, as it has in the past.

The Vice-Premier said China will further enhance cooperation with the international community on environmental protection by introducing advanced technology and management methods. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Mittal keen to have company's presence in India, China

LONDON, 1 Nov— Head of the world's largest steel company Lakshmi Mittal is keen to have his firm's presence in India and China as his ultimate objective is to supply to global customers.

"If you look at us, we are in 14 countries, in four continents, and this is the only truly global steel company. But this is not enough," the Non-Resident Indian business tycoon, head of the newly-created Mittal Steel Corporation, said in an interview published in *'The Sunday Telegraph'* on Sunday.

"We need to do more, we need to have a presence in some other markets like China and India. The ultimate objective is to be the global supplier to some of our global customers. We are not there yet," he said in the interview given in New York.

Mittal, who last week emerged as Britain's richest resident with a fortune of 12 billion pounds, said the steel

industry was facing a period of tremendous upheaval that would see the demise of local companies and rise of global giants.

He said his vision was of an industry that puts its chequered history of mammoth losses and ailing businesses behind it and foresees the emergence of five or six world class groups, each producing 100 million tons of steel a year. "There is a new breed of CEOs in the steel industry who don't just not want to lose money as they've done in the past, they also want to make money," Mittal, who merged his company with America's International Steel Group to form the world's largest steel company, said. — *MNA/PTI*

Iranian police seize over 1.8 tons of drugs

TEHERAN, 1 Nov— Iran's anti-drug police seized over 1.8 tons of various kinds of drugs in September in the eastern city of Birjand, the official *IRNA* news agency reported on Saturday.

Nearly 1,400 drug smugglers were arrested in Birjand, the capital city of South Khorassan Prov-

ince bordering Afghanistan, during the period, a police source was quoted as saying.

Drug addiction and transportation has been a serious social problem in Iran, a country sitting in the crossroad linking drug producing Afghanistan and Pakistan and markets in the Gulf

states, Central Asia, Western Europe and other regions.

Iran spends five billion US dollars annually on anti-drug programmes, and over 3,100 police have lost their lives in conflict with drug smugglers during the past two decades.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

Singapore wants more tech parks set up in India

NEW DELHI, 1 Nov— Visiting Singapore Deputy Prime Minister Tony Tan said Saturday he wanted more technology parks set up in India in collaboration with his country.

"The trade and economic ties between India and Singapore would increase by leaps and bounds in the coming years," the *Indo-Asian News Service* quoted Tony as said after inaugurating a new block in the International Tech Park Limited (ITPL), a joint venture between his country and India, in Karnataka state in south India.

"ITPL will be the first of many such industrial parks coming up in India with the support of the Singapore industry," Tony said on the sidelines of the inaugural function. The ITPL is a consortium of Singaporean companies,

Tata Industries Limited, the investment arm of the Tata Group, and the Karnataka government.

Hailing the Tech Park as India's first work-live-play environment, Tony said the unique project was a testimony to how India and Singapore could work together to create a win-win partnership.

Stating that ITPL had set the benchmark for a new generation of technology parks in India, he said the park had come to epitomize the strong bilateral relationship between India and Singapore.

"It reflects our strong commitment to foster trade, commercial,

people and cultural exchanges," Tony added.

With the addition of the new block, the International Tech Park offers a total built-up area of two million square feet. About 100 global and Indian firms employing about 15,000 people operate from the high-tech park.

According to ITPL sources, the consortium has invested about 165 million US dollars in the Tech Park. The Singapore partners led by Ascendas Land (International) Pte Ltd and Tata Industries hold 47 per cent each of the equity, with the balance 6 per cent by the state.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

Arroyo to speak on development at APEC meeting

MANILA, 1 Nov— Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo will speak on the issue of economic and social development when she attends the 12th annual summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders in Santiago, Chile, on November 20-21, said Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Alberto Romulo on Sunday.

Romulo said that the APEC Economic Leaders Meeting (AELM) in the Chilean capital will tackle issues including counter-terrorism and the Doha Development Agenda of the World Trade Organization.

"To balance the leaders' discussion on these areas, the President will articulate the perspective of developing economies like the Philippines," he said.

"The AELM is an important occasion for the APEC leaders, who represent the most dynamic economies in the Asia-Pacific Region, to discuss various issues vital to the future of the

region," he added.

The Foreign Secretary expected human security and regional economic issues — including counter-terrorism, the development of secure trade and control of infectious diseases — to be two areas of common interest that are expected to be high on the list of topics of the leaders during the summit and ministerial meetings which follow. He said that also up for discussion are free trade agreement, the international financial situation, rise in oil prices, transparency and the fight against corruption.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

Over 80,000 young people in Thailand suffer from "AIDS"

BANGKOK, 1 Nov— More than 80,000 young Thais are now suffering from AIDS, Thai Public Health Minister Sudarat Keyuraphan was quoted by the *Thai News Agency* as saying on Sunday.

There are nearly 20,000 new AIDS victims every year, Sudarat said. By the Year 2006, Thailand will have more than one million AIDS sufferers, she warned.

Some 80,000 Thai AIDS patients are between the age of 15 and 24, the

majority of them women.

One of the biggest problems is that young Thais do not practise safe-sex. Only one in three young Thais use condoms, according to a recent survey.

Many young Thais are also at risk of other health problems because they do not exercise regularly and they smoke. According to the survey, more than four million, or one of four Thai youngsters between 10 and 24, do not exercise at all.

— *MNA/Xinhua*



Two sumo wrestlers pose with a Toyota car in Hong Kong. Toyota is to raise its global production target for 2006 in a move that could push the Japanese firm ahead of General Motors as the world's largest automaker by units, a report said.—INTERNET

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်
ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့
ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ် ၄၀/၂၀၀၄
(၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ ၂၆ ရက်)
လျှောက်လွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ အားကစားဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ အားကစားနှင့်ကာယပညာဦးစီးဌာနတွင် လက်လံလျက်ရှိသော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ရာထူးများအတွက် လျှောက်လွှာများအလံ့ရှိပါသည်။

ရာထူး	ပညာအဆင့်အချင်း	လက်လံ
(က) လက်ထောက်အင်ဂျင်နီယာ (လျှပ်စစ်)	လျှပ်စစ်ဦးစီးအောင်ကျင့်နိယာတွဲ	၂- နေရာ
(ခ) လက်ထောက်အင်ဂျင်နီယာ (စက်မှု)	စက်မှုအင်ဂျင်နီယာတွဲ	၂- နေရာ
(ဂ) လက်ထောက်အင်ဂျင်နီယာ (မြို့ပြ)	မြို့ပြအင်ဂျင်နီယာတွဲ	၃- နေရာ

၂။ လျှောက်ထားသူသည်-

(က) ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားဖြစ်ရမည်။
 (ခ) ၂၂-၁၁-၂၀၀၄ နေ့တွင် အသက် ၃၅နှစ် (ဝန်ထမ်းဖြစ်ပါက အသက် ၄၀နှစ်)ထက် မကျော်လွန်သူဖြစ်ရမည်။

(ဂ) မည်သည့်ပြည်နယ်/တိုင်း ဒေသသို့မဆို သွားရောက်တာဝန်ထမ်းဆောင်နိုင်သူဖြစ်ရမည်။
 လျှောက်လွှာကို ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့မှ ၂၂-၁၁-၂၀၀၄နေ့အရောက် ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၃။ လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ဖော်ပြရမည့်အချက်များ ပူးတွဲပါရှိရမည့် စာရွက်စာတမ်းများ၊ ဝင်ကြေးငွေ ၂၀၀/- ပေးသွင်းရမည့်နည်းလမ်း၊ ရေးဖြေ နှုတ်ဖြေ စစ်ဆေးမှုအတွက် လေ့လာရန် လိုအပ်ချက်များနှင့် စစ်လျဉ်း၍ ဤအဖွဲ့က ကြေညာချက် အမှတ် ၁/၉၁ ဖြင့် ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော

ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့က ကြော်ငြာခေါ်ယူသော ရာထူးများသို့ လျှောက်လွှာတင်သွင်း သူများအတွက် လက်ညှိုးစာတော်ပါ သတ်မှတ်ချက်များနှင့်အညီ လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ရန်ဖြစ်သည်။

၄။ **ရန်ကုန်မြို့နှင့် ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံများတွင် ရေးဖြေစာမေးပွဲစာစစ်ဌာနများထားရှိမည်။ မိမိဖြေဆိုလိုသော စာစစ်ဌာနကို** လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ရှင်းလင်းတိကျစွာဖော်ပြရမည်။

၆။ ဝန်ထမ်းများသည် မူရင်းလျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို မိမိတာဝန်ထမ်းဆောင်သည့် ဌာနအကြီးအကဲမှတစ်ဆင့် ဝန်ကြီးဌာန၏ ခွင့်ပြုချက်ရယူပြီး ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့မှ

သို့ ၂၂-၁၁-၂၀၀၄နေ့ အရောက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။ လျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို ဓာတ်ပုံနှင့်အတူဤအဖွဲ့မှ ထုတ်ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၇။ ၁၈-၁၂-၂၀၀၄ နေ့နှင့် ၁၉-၁၂-၂၀၀၄ နေ့များတွင် အရည်အချင်းစစ် ရေးဖြေစာမေးပွဲကျင်းပ မည်။ ၁၆-၁၂-၂၀၀၄နေ့မှစ၍ ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံတိုင်း အထွေထွေအုပ်ချုပ်ရေးဦးစီးဌာနနှင့် ဤအဖွဲ့မှတို့တွင် ဖြေဆိုခွင့်ကတိပြားများကို ထုတ်ပေးမည်။

၈။ စုံစမ်းမေးမြန်းလိုပါက ဤအဖွဲ့မှ သို့ လူကိုယ်တိုင်ဖြစ်စေ၊ တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ်(၃၇၀၆၁၆၁)သို့ ဖြစ်စေ၊ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

၉။ ဤကြော်ငြာကို ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့၏ Website လိပ်စာ csstb.imis.com.mm တွင်လည်း ဖော်ပြထားပါသည်။

UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS

INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

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

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
1.	13(T)1/MR(M.YUG)	-50- Ton Hydraulic Jack	6 - Nos
	2004-2005	-Hand Drilling Machine	7 - Nos
		-Hand Grinding Machine	17 - Nos
2.	13(T)3/MR(MC)	-Hand Grinding Machine and	11-Items
	2004-2005	Hand Tools	
3.	12(T)20/MR(ML)	Calcium Carbide	30-Tons
	2004-2005		

Closing Date 22-11-2004 (Monday) (12:00) Hours.

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanmar Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 1-11-2004 during the office hours.

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

Deputy General Manager
Supply Department Myanmar Railways, Botataung, Yangon.

ADB says China's macro-control policy good for world

SUZHOU, 31 Oct — The policy of economic macro control introduced by the Chinese Government in the latter half of last year is "good for the world, especially developing countries," Tang Min, chief economist of Asian Development Bank (ADB) Resident Mission in China, said Saturday.

Tang said that economists were initially worried about the possible negative influence that might be exerted by China's macro-economic control over the regional economy, but judging

from economic performance in the first three quarters of the year, "there have been almost no such negative elements." The Chinese economy showed a growth of 9.5 per cent from January to September this year, coupled with a welcome drop in the growth of certain overheated sectors.

Tang said that foreign trade was an important signal of China's adaptation into the world. China has kept a strong momentum in foreign trade, with the country's trade surplus decreasing as a result of in-

creased imports. The country has made a positive contribution to the world's economy, he said. China is now the world's third largest import market or the largest import market in Asia.

"Foreign investment has also increased, which shows that China's economy has provided plenty of opportunities to foreign investors, who haven't lost their confidence in the Chinese economy because of the government's macro-control policy.

MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်တွင်းပြင်ကို အားပေးပါ

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (157)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (157) are hereby notified that the vessel arrives on 2.11.2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
 Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Canadian
economic growth
accelerates

OTTAWA, 31 Oct — The Canadian economy grew more than expected in August, expanding by 0.5 per cent, Statistics Canada reported on Friday. August's growth was an improvement from the 0.2-per-cent rate seen in July.

"Stronger domestic demand, a build-up of manufacturing inventories, and the end of extended planned shutdowns were behind this growth," Statistics Canada said.

MNA/Xinhua

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CAUTION
 PARFUMS ROCHAS, a French Societe anonyme, of 33 rue Francois 1 er, 75008 Paris, France, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

ROCHAS PARIS

Reg.No. 1765/1999

in respect of "Perfumes, soaps, perfumery, essential oils, cosmetics, hair lotions, dentifrices".

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Win Mu Tin,
 M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
 for **PARFUMS ROCHAS**
 P.O. Box 60, Yangon
 Dated: 2 November 2004

Uganda launches National Zonal Agri Programme

KAMPALA, 1 Nov — The Ugandan Government has launched the National Zonal Agricultural Programme which is part of its initiative against poverty, according to a Press release issued here Saturday by the State House.

According to the programme, the entire East African country has been divided into agricultural zones with each zone specializing in certain agricultural activities as determined by agricultural specialists.

Launching the programme on Friday in Wakyato sub-county, Nakaseke county of Luwero District, about 100 kilometres northwest of Kampala, President Yoweri Museveni said the government has opened a full-scale war on poverty in the country.

He said that modern agricultural practice on a large commercial scale is the engine to poverty eradication, calling on Ugandans to increase their agricultural production.

Museveni said that the government opted for

agricultural zoning of the country to enable all areas take advantage of specialized production and ease the marketing and processing of produce, adding that it is easy to market particular produce if it is produced on a large scale in a given area.

At the ceremony, the President handed over a number of agricultural seeds and seedlings, beehives, high breed cocks and fish. They will be distributed to the already earmarked modern farmers in the district.

He said that in addition to provision of seedlings and farm inputs, the government will facilitate agricultural extension workers to reach every zone, monitor and ensure success of the programme.

MNA/Xinhua

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NIMBEX
 Reg.No.4/5661/2004
 In respect of: Pharmaceutical preparations and substances.
SEMPREX
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In respect of: Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary substances; infants' and invalids' foods; plasters, material for bandaging; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; preparations for killing weeds and destroying vermin.

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U Myint Lwin, Advocate,
 L.L.B, D.B.L.
 Dip in Marine Affairs(UK)
 Email: MYINT.Advocate@
 mptmail.net.mm

Argentina, Colombia, support free trade zone of South America

BUENOS AIRES, 31 Oct — Argentina and Colombia voiced their support Friday for the creation of a free trade zone encompassing virtually all major countries of South America.

Colombian and Argentine foreign ministers, Carolina Barco and Rafael Bielsa, said in a statement that they support a free trade agreement between the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR) and the Andean Community (Ancom). MERCOSUR consists of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. Ancom is made up of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. Bolivia and Peru are now associate members of MERCOSUR

MNA/Xinhua

ဟော့ကင်းမြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Hong Kong, Czech Republic to bolster ties

HONG KONG, 1 Nov — Czech President Vaclav Klaus met with Chief Secretary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government Donald Tsang Friday in Prague, and the two sides agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation in culture, education and trade.

According to Saturday's government Press release, Tsang, who is on a nine-day visit to Europe, told the Czech President that Hong Kong businesses are willing to help Czech enterprises enter the vast Chinese Mainland market.

During their meeting, Tsang updated Klaus on Hong Kong's economic performance, CEPA, increased economic

cooperation with China's nine southern provinces, and last month's Legislative Council elections.

Tsang said he was pleased that CzechInvest, the country's investment promotion agency, has established its Southeast Asian regional office in Hong Kong.

MNA/Xinhua

"Cassini" radar sees Titan's "Cat" in highest resolution images

PASADENA (California), 31 Oct — The Cassini spacecraft is sending back evidence that Saturn's planet-size moon Titan is geologically alive, possibly with liquids moving on its surface, scientists said recently.

Images made from radar beams bounced off Titan during Cassini's close flyby this week revealed such surface details as a round basin, narrow miles-long linear "streaks", and a cat-shaped region of what could be the moon's theorized lakes of liquid methane and ethane.

Scientists had been reluctant to draw conclusions about surface features from pictures taken through Titan's hazy atmosphere. But they sounded more confident after radar data arrived late Wednesday and was processed into images depicting terrain in shades of black and white.

"We are seeing much higher resolution here ... and we are seeing detailed features," said Charles Elachi, JPL's director and team leader for Cassini's

radar instrument, which imaged a swath of Titan about 75 miles wide and 1,240 miles long.

Elachi said there was "high confidence" in the evidence of geologic activity, noting the long linear features as an example.

The possible region of lakes was depicted as very dark, which in radar data is a characteristic of a signal bouncing off a very smooth surface like a liquid. The region was named "Si-Si the Cat," for a scientist's young daughter who noticed the region resembled a "Halloween cat", Elachi said.

Cassini reached Saturn this summer on a 3.3 billion US dollars international mission to study the planet's system for four years.

MNA/AP

European automobile manufacturers open office in Beijing

BEIJING, 1 Nov — The European Automobile Manufacturers Association, which comprises 13 major European car, truck and bus producers, announced the opening of a representative office in Beijing at a Press conference here Friday.

Dr Bernd Pischetsrieder, CEO of Volkswagen AG and rotating president of the association, said this decision reflects the importance of the Chinese market and its growing impact on the European motor vehicle industry.

Dr Bernd Pischetsrieder said the main purpose of the office is to promote communication and coordination with Chinese policy makers and strengthen co-operation with Chinese partners in the fields of emission standards, environmental protection and automobile safety.

Most members of the association have significant operations in China, conducted through joint-ventures with Chinese companies. These joint venture

companies account for half of China's car production. Investments by European manufacturers represent 60 per cent of foreign direct investment in China's automobile industry, according to the association.

Beijing is the second overseas representative office of the association, which has earlier opened an office in Tokyo in 1995.

MNA/Xinhua

China's construction industry sees higher labour productivity

BEIJING, 1 Nov — Figures released Friday by the National Bureau of Statistics show that in the first three quarters of this year, the growth of the output value of China's construction industry continued to slow, while labour productivity showed a sustained increase.

According to the figures, enterprises in the construction industry finished an aggregate output value of 1.65 trillion yuan (199.3 billion US dollars), up 22 per cent from the same period last year, which is 5.5 percentage points slower than the first half of this year.

Enterprises in the in-

dustry also signed contracts of 3.25 trillion yuan (about 393.2 billion US dollars), up 36.4 per cent, rising 1.7 percentage points from the first half of this year. Of the total, state-owned and state-controlled enterprises account for 1.65 trillion yuan. This is up 38.3 per cent, a rise of 7.8 percent-

age points.

The total floor space under construction is 2.27 billion square metres, an increase of 20.3 per cent over the same period last year. The labour productivity calculated on the total output value is 70,451 yuan per person, up 17 per cent from the same period last year. —MNA/Xinhua

Beijing to host Int'l Scientific Film Festival

BEIJING, 1 Nov — The 2004 Beijing International Scientific Film Festival will be held from November 8 to 12, organizers announced here over the weekend.

The festival organizers, co-sponsored by the China Association for Science and Technology and the State Administration of Radio, Film and Tel-

evision, selected 184 titles from 79 production companies in 19 countries. All films were produced after 2002.

An expert panel, con-

sisting of 12 popular scientists and film producers, have narrowed the selection to 68 films, which are eligible for the grand prize and other awards.

Zhao Zhizhen, deputy director of the organizing committee, said that most of the films show recent advancements in science and technology.

China and Britain each provided ten films to the festival, outnumbering any other country.

Nine experts will deliver speeches on popular science and scientific films at the festival, Zhao said. —MNA/Xinhua

Feeding the birds: A young girl feeds birds in a street of Madrid on 28 Oct, 2004.

INTERNET

Oil prices bounce back

NEW YORK, 31 Oct — Oil prices bounced back Friday after this week's 8-per-cent slide as supply fears lingered ahead of winter and doubts rose over the impact of China's interest rate hike on the country's soaring fuel consumption.

US light crude rose 78 cents to 51.70 US dollars a barrel, less than four US dollars below the peak 55.67 US dollars hit earlier this week, while London Brent crude rose 21 cents to 48.58 US dollars a barrel.

The rebound came as fears rekindled over slim stockpiles in the US, Europe, and parts of Asia heading into the high-demand Northern Hemisphere winter.

In the United States,

the world's largest energy consumer, distillate supplies are lagging about 12 per cent below last year and have been slowed to build due to strong fuel demand from the trucking industry and disruptions to energy operations in the Gulf of Mexico after Hurricane Ivan.

"We think (this week's sell-off) is simply an interruption of the trend and not the end of it. Nothing fundamentally has changed," said Kevin Norrish of Barclays Capital.

Oil producers in the Gulf of Mexico remain at around 80 per cent of their 1.7 million barrels per day of capacity after Ivan thrashed through the region more than a month ago, according to the US Minerals Management Service.

Friday's gains pare heavy losses rung up since Wednesday, which came on a surprise rate hike by China's central bank aimed at slowing the country's runaway economic growth. —MNA/Reuters

Weather modification benefits agriculture in Xinjiang

URUMQI, 1 Nov — New weather modification technologies have helped control crop-destroying hail in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, northwest China, preventing a loss of 120 million yuan (14 million US dollars) annually, the regional office for weather modification said Saturday.

Technicians launch missiles or rockets filled with silver iodide to prevent the formation of hailstone or force small ones to drop to the ground before growing larger.

In Xinjiang, a hailstone-prone area, weather modification has become one of the most important measures to safeguard agriculture, especially cotton production.

MNA/Xinhua

Drive safely

SPORTS

Leicester appoint ex-hearts coach as manager

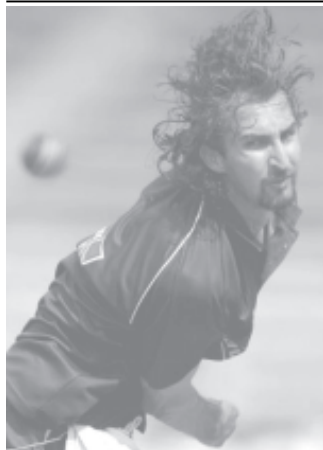
LONDON, 1 Nov—English Second Division side Leicester City have appointed former Hearts coach Craig Levein as manager, replacing Micky Adams who resigned earlier this month.

Levein signed a 2-1/2-year contract with Leicester City after stepping down as manager of the Scottish Premier League side, Leicester said on Friday.

"I had a marvellous time at Hearts and the club will always be very close to my heart," he was quoted as saying by Leicester City's official web site.

"However, this is a marvellous opportunity for me personally and one that I am delighted to take with both hands."

Levein, 40, spent 14 years at Hearts as a player, taking over as manager in 2000 after learning his trade in three years at Cowdenbeath, and has led the Edinburgh club into the UEFA Cup in the last three seasons.—MNA/Reuters



Australia's cricketer Jason Gillespie bowls during a training session in Bombay November 1, 2004. Australia leads the four-test match series 2-0 against India. The fourth and final test match will begin in the city on Wednesday.—INTERNET

Cisse in hospital for suspected broken leg

LONDON, 1 Nov—French international striker Djibril Cisse was stretchered off in the first half of Liverpool's Premier League match at Blackburn Rovers on Saturday with a suspected broken leg.

The striker went down in agony after colliding with Blackburn defender James McEveley half an hour into the game at Ewood Park.

After lengthy treatment he was carried off and a Liverpool spokesman said he would be taken to hospital for X-rays.

Blackburn were leading the late kick-off match 2-1 at halftime.

MNA/Reuters

Aimar still in hospital after losing consciousness

MADRID, 1 Nov—Valencia midfielder Pablo Aimar will remain in hospital after being knocked unconscious during his side's 1-1 draw against Atletico Madrid on Saturday.

According to the reports from Radio Marca, Aimar will be kept in hospital to undergo a series of tests after suffering a complete loss of consciousness, which made him unable to breathe properly for a short while and remember nothing about the match.

The Argentine international collapsed two minutes into the game at the Mestalla after he was accidentally kicked in the face by Atletico's Pablo Ibanez as he dived to head a ball.

Radio Marca said there was almost no chance of the player being able to play in his side's Champions League Group G match away to Inter Milan.

MNA/Xinhua

Southampton goalkeeper named player of the year by FFA

HELSINKI, 1 Nov—Southampton goalkeeper Antti Niemi was named player of the year by Finland's Football Association on Saturday, breaking a three-year hold on the award by Liverpool defender Sami Hyypia.

It is the first such honour for the 32-year-old Niemi, a national team mainstay who has backstopped Finland to second spot in their World Cup 2006 qualifying group.

Hyypia won the award in 1999 and from 2001 to 2003. Former Ajax and Liverpool player Jari Litmanen took the title in 2000.—MNA/Reuters

Anelka not fretting about chances of playing for France

PARIS, 1 Nov—Nicolas Anelka has had enough of controversies and feels comfortable at Manchester City but is not fretting about his chances of a recall from French manager Raymond Domenech.

"I only want to think about my performances with City on the pitch," the 25-year-old striker told sports daily l'Equipe on Saturday.

"Whether I'm eligible to play for France or not is not an issue."

Kicked out by former France manager Jacques Santini for turning down selection as a substitute for a friendly against Yugoslavia two years ago, Anelka has not played for the national side since April 2002, even though Domenech has made it clear several times that the door is no longer closed.

"Blacklisted or not, I keep doing my

job with City. Now you can pick on me for my temper, but there is nothing to say against my football. I'm flawless," he said.

Anelka, however, said he had had no contact with Domenech, a man he admitted he did not know well.

"I know it's a little tense between him and the players. But it's not my problem.

"I want to keep doing well with my club. And then, normally, the best players get selected. But it's up to the manager to choose."

Anelka could be helped by circumstances.—MNA/Reuters

Santos routs Fluminense 5-0 to remain atop Brazilian league

SAO PAULO (Brazil), 1 Nov—Strikers Robinho and Deivid netted a pair of goals each Saturday as Santos routed Fluminense 5-0 to remain atop the Brazilian league.

Santos, the 2002 champion and '01 runner-up, has 72 points from 39 matches. Second-place Atletico Paranaense, which beat Internacional 2-1, also has 72 points, but trails Santos on winning percentage.

Palmeiras, with 68 points, jumped to third place by overcoming a two-goal deficit to beat relegation-bound Gremio.

The matches were played just three days after the death of Sao Caetano defender Serginho, who collapsed with a cardiac arrest 59 minutes into a match against Sao Paulo on Wednesday.

Some teams protested, saying the Brazilian Soccer Confederation should have suspended the weekend round because of his death. Only Sao Caetano's match against Parana was suspended.

A minute of silence in honour of Serginho was held during all Saturday matches. Players, coaches and referees prayed together at midfield before the start of the Santos-Fluminense matchup in Rio Preto.

Once play got underway, Robinho put Santos ahead in the seventh minute with a low right-footer from near the penalty spot. The striker took advantage of a mistake by defender Laerte, who mis-played an easy chance to clear the ball.

Laerte helped Santos again in the 20th, finding his own net while trying to intercept a cross from Robinho.

Robinho's second goal was a powerful one-timer from about eight metres (yards) in the 55th.

Striker Deivid had added to Santos' lead just two minutes into the second half with a shot from about six metres (yards) out after a perfect set up by former Inter Milan midfielder Ze Elias.

Deivid closed the scoring with a right-footer from close range in the 81st, giving Santos its first win in three matches.

Fluminense, coming off a 7-1 trashing of Juventude last Wednesday, fell to 10th place with the loss — its third in the last four matches.

MNA/Reuters

Celtic beat Motherwell 3-2

GLASGOW, 1 Nov—Striker Craig Beattie came off the substitutes' bench to score a late winner and snatch three points for Scottish champions Celtic in a 3-2 win at Motherwell on Saturday.

Martin O'Neill's side, seven points clear of Rangers who host Aberdeen on Sunday, went two goals ahead at Fir Park but poor defending almost cost them victory.

"It's exciting stuff at the moment," O'Neill told reporters. "We're scoring goals but the way we're defending means we're needing three and four (goals) to win games and at 2-0 we should have been able to see it through."

Winger Aiden McGeady tucked home Celtic's opener on 41 minutes and Alan Thompson added a penalty on 65 after Stilian Petrov was felled by former Celtic midfielder Phil O'Donnell.

But Motherwell continued pressing and scored twice in four minutes against a Celtic side who have conceded 10 goals in four games. Martyn Corrigan netted with a long-range strike after 67

minutes and Richie Foran levelled four minutes later with another penalty before Beattie ended the home revival when he smashed into the net on 77 minutes.

"In terms of going forward, we're exciting but we're maybe not clever at the other end though every season brings it's own problems," O'Neill said.

"We've also got an attacking line-up and there's a fair chance teams will get at us because of that."

In Saturday's other Premier League games, managerless Hearts, whose former head coach Craig Levein has taken over at Leicester City, hammered 10-man Dundee 3-0 to occupy fourth place.

Kilmarnock beat Hibernian 3-1 while Dunfermline Athletic won 2-1 at bottom-placed Dundee United. Inverness Caledonian Thistle beat Livingston 2-0.

MNA/Reuters



Ignacio Novo (R) of Rangers looks for a path round Amica Wronki's Pawe Skrzypek during their UEFA Cup clash. Rangers' boss Alex McLeish has praised the players who only a few weeks ago looked set to cost him his job, but a 5-0 win over Aberdeen Sunday and their thrashing of Poland's Amica Wronki by the same scoreline earlier mean they may now have extended his stay at Ibrox.—INTERNET

Japan confirms decapitated body found in Iraq is Japanese

TOKYO, 1 Nov — The Japanese Government confirmed Sunday that a decapitated body found in Iraq is that of a Japanese man taken hostage by Islamic militants earlier this week.

The body found in central Baghdad Saturday has been identified as Shosei Koda, 24, Foreign Minister Nobutaka Machimura told reporters at an emergency news conference.

Japanese Embassy officials in Baghdad had sent fingerprints of the body to the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo, and police experts had positively identified the body, Machimura said.

"It is to our great sorrow that

after putting all our efforts into securing his release he has become a victim of terrorism," Machimura said.

"We cannot allow this kind of action," Machimura said. "Japan in cooperation with the international community must continue the battle against terrorism," he said.

Islamic guerillas had threatened on Tuesday to behead Koda within 48 hours unless Japan

pulled its troops out of Iraq. Tokyo immediately refused, and the deadline passed with no word of Koda's fate. The group has not yet made a claim of responsibility.

Iraqi officials found Koda's decapitated body in Baghdad on Saturday. *Associated Press* Television News videotape showed the severed head with the hostage's long black hair and features.

MNA/AP

Germany considering scrapping one of national holidays

BERLIN, 1 Nov — The German Government is considering scrapping one of its national holidays to boost growth, according to *Welt am Sonntag* newspaper.

Chancellor Ger-hard Schroeder and Finance Minister Hans Eichel discussed the idea of ending the status of October 3 as a public holiday at a meeting on Wednesday, the newspaper said in a release on Saturday. The date celebrates German reunification.

The Sunday paper said Schroeder and Eichel had talked about a variety of ways to rein in Germany's budget deficit, which threatens to break the European Union ceiling of 3 per cent of gross do-

mestic product for a fourth straight year in 2005.

Economic growth this year will likely be around 0.4 percentage points higher than it would otherwise have been as four national holidays fall on weekends this year.

Germans have therefore had to work more as they do not get an extra weekday off by way of compensation.

A Finance Ministry spokesman said that no decisions had been taken about how to promote growth and to cap Germany's deficit.

Economy Minister Wolfgang Clement stirred debate last year by suggesting that Germans should consider working more. — MNA/Reuters

Indian film maker gets Indira Gandhi Integration Award

NEW DELHI, 1 Nov — Noted Indian film maker Shyam Benegal was presented with the prestigious Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh at a function here on Sunday.

While giving the award to Benegal, Singh described him as "one of the most distinguished, innovative and socially conscious film makers".

Though Sonia Gandhi, who is the Chairperson of the Award Advisory Committee, was to

give away the 19th annual award, she persuaded the Prime Minister to lead the function.

The award, given to Benegal for his "vision of the oneness of the Indian people, his deep humanism and his social concern", comprises a cash component of 151,000 rupees and a citation.

Singh also paid rich tributes to late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, in whose memory the award has been instituted, saying she laid the foundation for the economic, social, cultural and emo-

tional integration of the country. Paying homage to the late Prime Minister, Sonia Gandhi said she left her imprint in every walk of life which has "immortalized" her in world history.

In his acceptance address, Benegal, who had made the "Making of the Mahatma", decried the "majoritarian impulses" in the society and asserted that the making of Indian nation began with the non-violent mass movement led by Mahatma Gandhi.

Benegal's master-

pieces include *Ankur*, *Manthan*, *Junoon*, *Mandi*, *Sardari Begum*, *Zubeida* and to-be-released movie on "Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose". He has also made several documentaries and television serials.

MNA/PTI

Latvia tightens security at key embassies

RIGA, 1 Nov — Police in Latvia have tightened security at certain key embassies due to worries over the threat of possible terrorist attacks, officials said on Saturday.

Latvia itself has troops in Iraq, but has so far felt little threat from Islamic extremists.

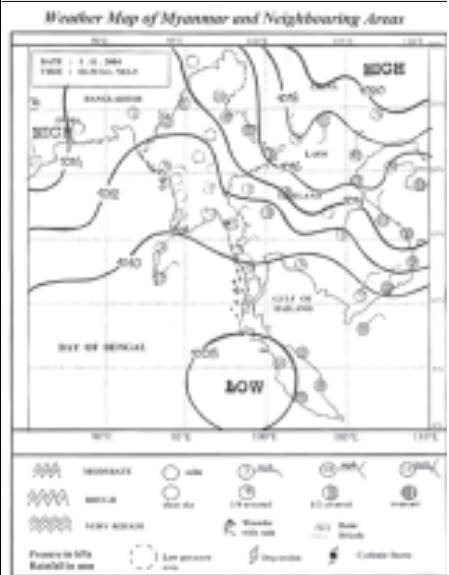
"We have received information from neighbouring countries about a possible terrorist threat by Muslim extremists," said a spokesman for the Interior Ministry.

He declined to give more details, but the security police confirmed security had been increased.

"We are paying more attention to some embassies, but not all. We're also securing other objects, but I cannot say which ones," a spokeswoman said.

The Interior Ministry official said Latvia was also working on preventive measures which involved cross-border cooperation.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Monday, 1 November, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperature were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Rakhine States and Taninthayi Division and (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Magway and Yangon Divisions and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions.

Maximum temperature on 31-10-2004 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 1-11-2004 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 1-11-2004 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 31-10-2004 was (7.7) hours approx. Rainfall on 1-11-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was (112.24 inches) at Yangon Airport, (106.77 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (109.29 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 6 mph from North at (20:45) hours MST on 31-10-2004.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 2-11-2004: Except for the possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-11-2004: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-11-2004:** Fair weather.



Tuesday, November 2
View on today:

- 7:00 am**
1. Recitation of Parittas by Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:15 am**
2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာပါရိက အရမ္မဟာပဏ္ဍိတ တပည့် သီရိဇာတိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သောဥပုသ်သန့်ပါရိကတော်
- 7:25 am**
3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
4. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
5. Nice and sweet song

- 7:55 am**
6. ကဗျာနိဗ္ဗာန်
- 8:10 am**
7. Songs of yesteryears
- 8:20 am**
8. ရွှေစာရောင်ရောင်တစ်
- 8:30 am**
9. International news
- 8:45 am**
10. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
3. English for Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm**
4. အဆေးသင်ကြားသည့် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (သင်္ချာအထူးပြု) (သရုပ်)
- 4:55 pm**
5. Dance of national races

- 5:10 pm**
6. ခံစားနားထောင်ထားစာတိုင်း
- 5:20 pm**
7. Sing and Enjoy
- 6:15 pm**
8. နိုင်ငံခြားကားတွဲနံပါတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချက်ပေးရန်" (အပိုင်း-၃၈)
- 6:30 pm**
9. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
10. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
11. Musical programme
- 7:20 pm**
12. သားငါးဖွဲ့ပြိုင်ပွဲအကျိုး
- 7:35 pm**
13. The Mirror Images of the Musical Oldies
- 8:00 pm**
14. News
- 8:05 pm**
15. International news
- 8:10 pm**
16. Weather report
- 8:15 pm**
17. နိုင်ငံခြားကားလမ်းတွဲ "သံခွေစုံချစ်သူ" (အပိုင်း-၉)
- 8:20 pm**
18. The next day's programme



Tuesday, November 2

- Tune in today:**
- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music:
- Whoops now
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music:
- Love me for a reason
- 8:50 am** National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music: Love can build a bridge
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Music:
- Stay another day
- 1:30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Lunchtime music
- In the air tonight
- Mandy
- Hyman
- Stay on these roads
- 9:00 pm** English Speaking Course Level-I Unit (8)
- 9:15 pm** Article/musical
- 9:25 pm** Weekly sports reel
- 9:35 pm** Music for your listening pleasure
- Careless whisper
- Anything for you
- 9:45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

Computer Network Course Nos 1/2004 and 2/2004 conclude

YANGON, 1 Nov — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung delivered an address at closing ceremony of Computer Network Course Nos 1/2004 and 2/2004 conducted by the ministry at the training hall this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Thein Tun and Brig-Gen Kyaw Win, the directors-general, managing directors, directors, managers of the departments and enterprises, course instructors and trainees.

In the minister's speech he said the course was opened with the aim of enabling the staff to use Computer Network effectively and proficiently.

He urged the trainees to practise and apply knowledge gained from the fields of theirs to meet the target.



Minister U Aung Thaung delivers an address at the concluding ceremony of Computer Network Course No 1/2004 and 2/2004. — INDUSTRY-1

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw delivers an address at opening ceremony of the training courses of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications.

COMMUNICATIONS

Next, the minister presented completion certificates to the trainees and prizes to outstanding trainees who had attended courses from Central Institutes

of Civil Services (Phaunggyi) and (Upper Myanmar).

And he together with the deputy ministers and officials inspected progress in installation with Computer Network. — MNA



Over 3.5 million acres of farmland put under monsoon paddy in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 1 Nov—Altogether 350,8291 acres of farmland have been put under monsoon paddy in Ayeyawady Division up to 31 October, the end of the 2004-2005 monsoon paddy cultivation season and all paddy are thriving.

MNA

Ministry of CPT conducts courses

YANGON, 1 Nov — The courses namely PC for Office Applications Course, Intermediate Course on Internet, Subscriber Line Construction Course, Metallic Cable Testing and Fault Location Course, Digital Microwave Communication Course, Basic Instrumentation Course

and Introduction to Data Communication Course are opened at the Communications and Postal Training Centre of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs

Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, the Managing Director of MPT and officials, the principal of CPTC and course instructors.

First, the minister made a speech on the occasion.

Altogether 61 trainees are attending the courses.

MNA

Bahtoo Station team emerges champion in shooting contest

YANGON, 1 Nov— The prize-presentation ceremony for the 2004 Eastern Command Commander's Championship Shield Shooting Contest took place at the shooting range of Bahtoo Station on 15 October morning.

It was attended by Brig-Gen Zaw Win of Bahtoo Station and senior military officers, officers and other ranks of battalions and units and their families, departmental officials of Yaksawk Township, guests and others. Brig-Gen Zaw

Win presented the championship shield and prizes to the Bahtoo Station team which emerged champion, the No 55 LTD team which stood second and the Loikaw Station team which stood third.

MNA

Myanmar Chit Su Yi, Malaysian Jawairiah Noordin win women's doubles

YANGON, 1 Nov — Lee Wei Ping of Singapore beat her Thai counterpart Parichart Charoensukploysphol 6-0, 7-5 in the finals of women's singles of the first Myanmar Junior World Ranking Tennis Tournament Grade -5 yesterday at Theinbyu Tennis Plaza.

Agung Bagus Dewantoro emerged champion in the men's singles after defeating Hsin-Hah Lee of Chinese Taipei 6-4, 7-6, 7-4.

In the 30 October

matches, Chit Su Yi of Myanmar and Jawairiah Noordin of Malaysia beat Thai pair Parichart Charoensukploysphol and Hataichanok Saenyauchhot 6-1, 7-6, 7-4 in the finals of women's doubles, while in the men's doubles, two Indonesians Faisal Aidil and Agung Bagus Dewantoro eliminated Christopher Runkat of Indonesia and Lopburi Nathasari of Thailand 6-1, 6-1.

After the finals of the under-18 matches, President of Myanmar

Tennis Federation U Zaw Zaw of Max Myanmar Co Ltd presented a commemorative gift to Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and officials.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, and U Zaw Zaw presented prizes to the winners and the runners-up.

MNA



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn awards first prize winner Lee Wei Ping of Singapore. — MNA