

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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6th Waning of Thadingyut 1366 ME

Wednesday, 3 November, 2004

## The Union of Myanmar

### The State Peace and Development Council

## The Law Amending the Control of Money Laundering Law (The State Peace and Development Council Law No. 8/2004)

The 5th Waning Day of Thadingyut, 1366 M.E.

(2nd November, 2004)

The State Peace and Development Council hereby enacts the following Law:-

1. This Law shall be called the Law Amending the Control of Money Laundering Law.
2. The following section shall be inserted as section 31-A after section 31 of the Control of Money Laundering Law:-  
31-A. Whoever reveals, shows or makes known by any means to the person relevant to transmission of information or any other person including a client with respect to information transmitted or to be transmitted or information transmitted for unusual or suspicious transfer of money or property, or information or any matter investigated or to be investigated under this Law shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 3 years or with fine or with both.

Provided that this section shall not apply to revealing of information or any matter to a client or any other person as in duty bound by investigation officer, attorney, notary public, legal professional, accountant or any other person in discharging his duty in conformity with law.

(Sd) **Than Shwe**  
Senior General  
Chairman

The State Peace and Development Council

### 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

## Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win on departure for PRC to attend China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit

YANGON, 2 Nov — At the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of China, Lt-Gen Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar and party left here by air at 9 am today for Nanning, the capital of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, the People's Republic of China to attend the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Chairman of

the State Peace and Development Council, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior

General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General

Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secre-

tary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, (See page 8)



Senior General Than Shwe and party see off Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win on their departure for PRC. — MNA

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 3 November, 2004

## Elimination of human trafficking

Trafficking in persons has existed in the world, regardless of nationality, culture and policy. After the Cold War, human trafficking has become the top global issue amongst transitional organized crimes.

In cooperation with ASEAN members and regional countries, the Union of Myanmar has been tackling to the problems of human trafficking.

The Senior Officials Meeting for the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT) took place at the Sedona Hotel in Yangon from 27 to 29 October. The opening of the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT) was held at the same venue on 29 October, with an address by Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win. In his address, the Prime Minister said "For the first time, cross-sectoral delegations from countries in the Greater Mekong Sub-region have come together as a group, to thresh out a mechanism of cooperation, to fight against this evil, which is a threat to human dignity. We unanimously recognize the need of concerned government ministries or agencies to work together to strengthen our capacity to fight off this crime of human trafficking". Out of the problems, to which the world nations have to respond, trade in people is in the position of more and more seriousness. In fact, basically, the causes of the crimes of human trafficking committed in the region and in the world are the same.

The world people especially women and children fall victims to harsh consequences of human trafficking. Hence, every nation is to pay more serious attention to the drive for remarkable reduction of the number of victims and the danger of trafficking in persons.

With the concept that the problem of human trafficking is a great impact on the dignity of the nation, Myanmar has been taking all possible measures for combating such terrible crimes. Moreover, it has established national level organizations and units so as to speed up acts for cooperation at national level and promulgating more laws for prevention of human trafficking.

It is therefore our simple belief that all nations with similar views related to prevention and control of human trafficking are to accelerate steps and to make collaborative efforts for eradication of such horrible crimes in order that innocent people may not fall victims.

## သတိ

၁။ ပြောက်အိုး၊ မီးရှူးနှင့် ခုံး (ရှူးဒိုင်း) ဖော်တက်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြည်သူများ အထိတ်တလန့်ဖြစ်စေခြင်း၊ မသမာသူများမှ ရပ်ရွာအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် လုံခြုံရေးကို ထိခိုက်အောင် လုပ်လာနိုင်ခြင်းတို့ကြောင့် ပြောက်အိုးဖော်တက်ခြင်းကို တားမြစ်သည်။  
၂။ တားမြစ်ချက်အား ဖောက်ဖျက်ပါက—

(က) ဖော်တက်သည့်နေရာမှ အနီး၊ အဝေး၊ အနိမ့်နှင့် အမြင့်တို့တွင် ပေါက်ကွဲတောင့်သော ပြောက်အိုး၊ မီးရှူးနှင့်ခုံးများ (ရှူးဒိုင်း) ဖော်လျှင် ထောင်ဒဏ် ၃ နှစ်။

(ခ) ပြောက်အိုး၊ မီးရှူးနှင့်ခုံးများ (ရှူးဒိုင်း) ရောင်းလျှင်၊ ထုတ်လုပ်လျှင် ထောင်ဒဏ် ၅ နှစ်။

(ဂ) သတင်းပေးသူကို ထိုက်တန်စွာ ဆုပေးမည်။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မီတီ

## People's Desire

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



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun and Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe inspect progress of construction of Myanmar Economic Bank branch on 1-11-2004. — MNA

## Minister inspects construction of new branch of MEB in Tamway

YANGON, 2 Nov— Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe inspected construction of new branch of Myanmar Economic Bank in

Tamway Township yesterday. Managing Director of Myanmar Economic Bank Col Hsan Tun reported on progress of work.

MNA

## Want the Twelfth to know

- \* Performing arts competitions have been held for the 12th time
- From beginning to end it was joyous  
Strengthened, prominent, glorious  
Success indeed has been achieved
- \* Success culminates in glory
- With pride apparent, homecoming  
Of the same blood these brethren all  
Not wanting to part, to go afar  
Stayed together, shared food together,  
Came, and went harmoniously with unity  
Won't ever forget, don't want to part  
Taking of it, feel like not parting  
Would like to compassionately feel it.
- \* O,
- When time's come, and have to go home  
Heart feels like not going, wouldn't want to tread  
Because winning was not the aim.  
As if blood speaks, don't want to part, mind  
wavers.  
Tears well, one drop is shed  
While comforting, it drops.  
Had to hide the shame, quickly wipes it away,  
Hides the sentiment.  
Want the Twelfth to know.

Yan Naing Oo (Trs)

## PBANRDA Minister inspects rural and urban development projects in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 2 Nov — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt met with executive officers and engineers of Patheingyi and Myaungmya District Development Affairs Committees in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Division, on 31 October.

He explained the work to speed up the rural and urban development undertakings, and attended to the needs of officials.

At the Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Office in the town, the minister who is also member of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee, held discussions with chairmen and members of war veterans organiz-



USDA CEC Member Minister Col Thein Nyunt meets secretaries of Pyapon and Myaungmya Districts USDAs and township staff officers. — MNA

ing committees of five districts in the division. He presented stipends for children, who passed the matriculation examination with distinctions, of the war veterans and cloths to the members.

The minister who has been assigned as the Central Executive Com-

mittee member of Union Solidarity and Development Association held a meeting with district USDA members and DAD officials at the Division USDA Office in the town. The meeting sought means to develop

the rural areas.

In Kanyidaunk and Kyaunggon, the minister observed town development and beautifying projects. He held a meeting in Pantanaw for rural development and town beautifying. — MNA

## Gangaw gets e-library

YANGON, 2 Nov — Gangaw, a town in Magway Division, central Myanmar, has opened an e-library with the assistance rendered by Magway Division Peace and Development Council.

The library, situated at Gangaw District Information and Public Relations Department Office, was formally opened by

Chairman of Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe.

Local authorities, departmental personnel, social organizations and local people were present at the opening of the library to help enhance the knowledge of the people of Gangaw Township.

MNA

## Feast given to students in Pyin Oo Lwin

YANGON, 2 Nov — A ceremony to give a feast to all students in No 2 Basic Education Primary School in Pyin Oo Lwin Township, Mandalay Division was held at the school on 26 October morning. At the cer-

emony, Assistant Township Education Officer U Tin Aye, headmistress Daw Khin Aye Kyu and teachers, donor U Tin Win, Daw Kyi Kyi Htay and son Mg Zaw Lin Htut gave a feast to 600 students. — MNA



# US is losing Iraq war, says Powell

LAHORE, 1 Nov—Secretary of State Colin Powell has privately confided to friends in recent weeks that the Iraqi guerillas are winning the war, Salon.com quoted *Newsweek* as having reported.

The guerillas have succeeded in infiltrating Iraqi forces "from top to bottom," a senior Iraqi official told *Newsweek* in its Monday's issue, "from decision making to the lower levels".

This is a particularly troubling development for the US military, as it prepares to launch an assault on the insurgent strongholds of Fallujah and Ramadi, since US Marines were counting on the newly trained Iraqi forces to assist in the assault.

*Newsweek* reported that "American military trainers have been frantically trying to assemble sufficient Iraqi troops" to fight alongside them and that they are "praying that the soldiers perform better than last April, when two battalions of poorly trained Iraqi Army soldiers refused to fight. If the Fallujah offensive fails, the American President will find himself in a deepening quagmire on Inauguration Day," Salon.com quoted *Newsweek* as saying.

*Internet*



US Marines of the 1st Division prepare for a patrol outside Fallujah, Iraq on 31 Oct, 2004. —INTERNET

## World's largest energy market to launch oil trading in Dublin

DUBLIN, 1 Nov—Ireland, home to the mighty dark beer Guinness, will be toasting another kind of black gold on Monday when the world's largest energy market launches oil trading in Dublin.

In so doing, the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) becomes the latest organization to recognize the Irish capital's growing reputation as a financial services centre.

"This project is a highly significant win for Ireland", said Deirdre Lyons of IDA Ireland, the Irish Government agency responsible for securing investment from overseas.

The development of financial services has been one of the IDA's biggest successes. In a little over 15 years, the sector has gone from being a small, domestic industry to a global base now hosting half of the world's top 50 banks and directly employing about 12,000 people.

The push to develop the industry began in 1987 with the launch of the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in a run-down docklands area on the banks of the Liffey River, part of government attempts to stem an exodus of Irish graduates.

Offering tax breaks to financial services firms that set up in the IFSC, the government courted banks and insurers, investment funds and corporate trea-

sure firms.

Its timing was good. Ireland was one of the first nations to exploit European Union regulations allowing collective investment products to be bought and sold across the bloc, and the results are evident.

Data published this week showed funds domiciled in Dublin jumped by 30 per cent to 503.3 billion US dollars at the end of June from 375.4 billion US dollars a year earlier and up from 21.0 billion US dollars in 1995.

MNA/Reuters

## Palestine official says Arafat in stable condition

PARIS, 1 Nov—Palestine leader Yasser Arafat, who is being treated at a military hospital near Paris, is in stable condition, a Palestine representative said here Sunday.

The 75-year old leader has begun eating small amounts of food and speaking with people at his side, the representative said at the Percy Hospital in the southwestern Paris suburb of Clamart.

Doctors were satisfied with Arafat's stable condition, the representative said.

Leaders of a number of countries, including Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Morocco's King Mohammed VI, have sent telegrams to Arafat wishing him a speedy recovery, according to her.

French President Jacques Chirac on Sunday telephoned Arafat to enquire about his health, said Arafat's top aide, Nabil Abu Rudeina.

"Arafat received a call from President Chirac who asked about his health. Arafat thanked him for the hospitality and the attention he has received in France," he said.

Abu Rudeina repeated that Arafat was not suffering from leukemia or any other type of cancer. "He is beginning to recover and to carry out some of his duties," he said. — MNA/Xinhua

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## 1,122 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 1 Nov—As of Monday, 1 November 2004, at least 1,122 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 858 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department as of Monday. The figures include three military civilians.

The *AP* count is five higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated Monday at 10 am EST.

The British military has reported 70 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 May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 984 US military members have died, according to *AP*'s count. That includes at least 749 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers as of Friday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

A Marine was killed Sunday by a bomb in Ramadi, the military said.—*Internet*

## Oil pipeline in northern Iraq blown up

RIYAD, (IRAQ), 1 Nov — An oil pipeline in Riyadh, Iraq, southwest of the oil centre of Kirkuk, has been blown up by people believed to be saboteurs, *Sky News* reported on Monday.

Oil officials in Iraq confirmed the large explosion, but said it's too soon to tell if exports would be affected.

"It was big," one official told *Sky News*.

There have been no reports of injuries.

The Iraq-Turkey export pipeline as well as other domestic pipelines pass through the area.—*Internet*

## "Grudge" rules N America box office for second weekend

LOS ANGELES, 1 Nov—Horror thriller "The Grudge" continued its rule at North America box office for the second straight weekend, according to studio estimates issued Sunday.

The film, which was adapted from Japanese horror movie "Jo-On," earned about 22.4 million US dollars during the Hallows weekend, according to its distributor Columbia Pictures.

The 10-million-dollar movie grossed 71.3 million dollars after 10 days in release, and Columbia Pictures expected its gross to pass the 90 million-dollar mark.

"Ray," starring Jamie Foxx, debuted at No 2 with 20.1 million dollars, while the low-budget thriller "Saw" followed with 17.4 million dollars.

MNA/Xinhua



Marines of the 1st Division get a briefing prior to a mission outside Fallujah, Iraq on 30 Oct, 2004. US forces are preparing for a possible attack on the guerilla stronghold of Fallujah.—INTERNET

# First female British soldier killed in Iraq

LONDON, 1 Nov—The body of a soldier who died of a gunshot wound was found at a British military base in Basra, making her Britain's first female military fatality since the start of the Iraq war, the government said on Monday.

Sgt Denise Rose, 34, was a member of the Royal Military Police's Special Investigation Branch. Her body was found on Sunday at the Shatt-al-Arab Hotel in southern Iraq, where most British forces are based. "The incident is being

investigated, but is not thought to have been the result of hostile action," the Ministry of Defence said.

"This is a terrible shock for all her many comrades in the unit. She was doing so well in the army and had a bright future in front of her," said Lt Col Robert Silk, a commanding officer. "Even more importantly, Denise had a multitude of friends, being universally popular, intelligent and ever cheerful."

Rose's death brought to 70 the number of British service personnel who have died in the Iraq war since it began last year.

The 69 male soldiers who have died include 31 who fell in action, 33 who died in accidents and five from natural causes.

Rose started working with British forces in 1989 and had taken part in military investigations in Britain and Cyprus. —Internet



US Marines from the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment patrol past unidentified wreckage in Ramadi, Iraq, on 31 Oct, 2004. —INTERNET

## Nigeria makes marked achievements in anti-drug trafficking

LAGOS, 1 Nov—The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) has made marked achievements in its anti-drug trafficking and money laundering activities in the past four years, the *News Agency of Nigeria* reported Sunday.

Assistant Director of NDLEA Information and Public Affairs Jonah Achema told reporters here at the weekend that the activities of the agency during the period under review had helped in laundering the country's image among the comity of nations.

"The outfit has done its best to give Nigeria a good image among the comity of nations in the past 48 months," he said. Achema said one of the effective strategies used by the leadership of the

agency's in the past four years "is to hit and attack the proceeds and assets of perpetrators of drug trafficking". Achema said "the agency had had cause to seize the properties and proceeds of these barons, such as landed property, automobiles, and the freezing of accounts, as well as the auctioning of confiscated property".

The NDLEA had on several occasions impounded equipment worth several thousands of US dollars shipped into the

country with laundered money such as computers and accessories, and electronics.

Achema explained that the anti-drug establishment had received commendation letter from the United States Government for its war against drug barons and their proceeds.

He said apart from the seizure of properties, "we make sure that all the perpetrators arrested for drug related offences are prosecuted and convicted".

MNA/Xinhua

## Drug seizure in southern Iran up seven-fold

TEHERAN, 1 Nov—The amount of drug seized in the southern Iranian province of Bushehr since March has risen seven times compared to the same period last year, the official *IRNA* news agency reported on Sunday.

Colonel Bahram Shamlo, Police Commander of Bushehr Province, said the amount seized this year stood at 478 kilos against 61 kilos of last year.

He told *IRNA* over

2,290 people were arrested for narcotics distribution in Bushehr during the same period.

Drug addiction and transportation have been a serious social problem in Iran, a country sitting in the crossroads linking drug-producing Afghanistan and Pakistan and markets in the Persian Gulf states, Central Asia, Western Europe and other regions.

According to official statistics, there are at least

2 million drug addicts in Iran.

The country also accounts for 80 per cent of the opium and 90 per cent of the morphine intercepted worldwide, according to the International Narcotics Control Board.

Iran spends 5 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

ဝက်စွမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှာ

## American among five new hostages in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 1 Nov — Gunmen abducted an American and at least three other people today after shooting their way into a business office in an upscale neighbourhood here and overwhelming guards, according to US and Iraqi officials.

The kidnappings, the latest in a series of increasingly bold and well-orchestrated abductions in Iraq, came as American forces hammered suspected militant strongholds in Fallujah with artillery in advance of an expected offensive. US officials also announced that a Marine was killed in nearby Ramadi on Sunday. The kidnappings occurred just before 6 pm in Baghdad's Mansour District. According to Iraqi officials and witnesses, "quite a number" of heavily armed men raided the offices of a Saudi company and began trading fire with guards.

At least one of the kidnappers was shot to death, along with an office guard. A second American who was also at the office reportedly escaped during the melee.

The names of the abductees and the Saudi company were not immediately available.

A US Embassy spokesman said four or five people were kidnapped. Iraqi police told *Associated Press* that six people were taken: the American, a Nepalese and four Iraqi guards.

Internet

## Canada mulls letting US carriers fly within Canada

OTTAWA, 1 Nov—Allowing US airlines to run flights within Canada and raising foreign ownership limits on Canadian carriers are among the bold changes that will be contemplated under Canadian Government's sweeping new review of transportation policy, it is reported on Sunday.

Canadian Transport Minister Jean Lapierre said that he will present a discussion paper next Thursday to the Transport Committee in a bid to spark debate about shaking up Canada's aviation rules.

The "open skies" pact signed in 1995 between Canada and the United States will be reviewed. That deal cleared the way for new transborder flights, but restrictions remain that prevent Canadian carriers from operating routes within the United States, and also bar US airlines from flying between Canadian cities.

Lapierre said it is time to

consider "liberalization" of Canada's air policy, aiming for "a market-driven framework that will help the industry compete regionally and globally".

Instead of being sheltered by protectionist measures, Air Canada and its Canadian-based rivals could thrive under free trade in North American aviation, he said.

Air Canada quickly responded to the prospect of new US competition within the Canadian market, saying it would support the entry of US airlines only if Canadian carriers win the right to run flights between US cities.

MNA/Xinhua



A British soldier passes a line of trucks at the Shaibah Base in Basra, southern Iraq, which will form part of a re-supply convoy on 30 Oct 2004. —INTERNET



# CIA roughed up Iraqi prisoners in “romper room”

SANDIEGO, 2 Nov— The CIA interrogated and roughed up Iraqi prisoners in a “romper room” where a handcuffed and hooded terror suspect was kicked, slapped and punched shortly before he died last year at the Abu Ghraib Prison, a Navy SEAL testified.

Blood was visible on the hood worn by the prisoner, Manadel al-Jamadi, as he was led into the interrogation room at Baghdad International Airport in November 2003, the Navy commando said Monday at a military pretrial hearing for another SEAL accused of abusing Iraqi prisoners.

Testifying under a grant of immunity, the witness, identified only by his rank as a hospital corpsman, said he kicked al-Jamadi several times, slapped him in the back of the head and punched him. Five or six other CIA personnel in the room laid their hands on the prisoner, he said, but he did not provide details.

Sometime later, Al-Jamadi was found dead in a shower room less than an hour after two CIA personnel brought him into Abu Ghraib as a so-called “ghost detainee,” according to Army Major General George R. Fay’s report on the notorious prison. Such detainees were not listed in the normal roster of military prisoners.

Fay’s report said al-Jamadi died of a blood clot in the head likely due to injuries suffered after being detained. The military pathologist’s report listed the cause of death as blunt force trauma complicated by hampered breathing.

A CIA spokeswoman declined to comment on the hearing, but noted that the agency is conducting its own investigation into the CIA’s involvement in prisoner detentions and interrogations in Iraq.

The testimony about the CIA’s role came during a hearing for an aviation boatswain’s mate who is accused of punching al-Jamadi and posing in humiliating photos with the prisoner. The boatswain’s mate, a 14-year Navy veteran, allegedly twisted other prisoners’ testicles and struck a prisoner in the buttocks with a wooden board.

An Article 32 hearing, the military equivalent of a civilian grand jury, was held to determine whether the boatswain’s mate should be court-martialed.

The hearing concluded Monday. An investigating

officer will recommend what charges, if any, the boatswain’s mate should face.

The accused SEAL, who received the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in Iraq, could get up to 11 years in prison if convicted.

Al-Jamadi, described in an Army report as a suspect in an attack on a Red Cross facility, was captured by members of a Coronado, California-based SEAL unit during a joint special forces-CIA mission.

Al-Jamadi was subdued after a fierce struggle with the accused SEAL, the corpsman said. After al-Jamadi was cuffed, he said he watched the accused and another SEAL “body slam” the captive into the back of a Humvee.

The SEALs then drove to an Army base where the accused SEAL jabbed al-Jamadi with the muzzle of his weapon, according to the corpsman. He said while some of the blows were excessive, others were intended to silence al-Jamadi, who kept talking and shouting in Arabic.

The hospital corpsman was a surprise witness during the two-day proceeding, taking the witness stand only hours after reaching a plea deal with prosecutors that would spare him prison time.

Besides the corpsman and the boatswain’s mate, five other members of the SEAL team were charged with abusing Iraqi prisoners. Charges against a chief petty officer were dismissed last week. Article 32 hearings for the other four SEALs have not been scheduled. — MNA/AP

## Anti-Bush documentary available on satellite TV, Internet

LOS ANGELES, 2 Nov — The controversial anti-war documentary “Fahrenheit 9/11” was available Monday on a Satellite TV and on the Internet.

The 122 minute-long movie was available on the web site of online video-on-demand firm CinemaNow for 30 million households using broadband Internet at the price of 9.95 US dollars per viewing.

Additionally, EchoStar made the movie available to its more than 10 million Dish Network satellite TV service subscribers, also for 9.95 dollars.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi boy looks on as a Marine of the 1st Division joins a foot patrol outside Fallujah, on 30 Oct, 2004. US forces are preparing for a possible attack on the guerilla stronghold of Fallujah.

INTERNET

## Cuba rules out US change of policy

HAVANA, 1 Nov— The Cuban Government does not believe there will be changes in Washington’s policy against the island country, regardless whoever wins the presidential election in the United States next week, local Press said Saturday.

Although Cuba has not openly pronounced over the election, political analysts point out that Havana wishes, at least, the defeat of Republican candidate George W. Bush who seeks re-election, contending with Democrat candidate John Kerry.

A sign of the rejection of the Cuban Government to Bush re-election is the sign posted in a street of Havana showing a false web site “w.bush.genocide” and to options “continue” or “cancel.” The arrow points towards the second option.

The analysts remember that all of the US presidents since 1962, Republicans or Democrats, have done nothing to put an end to the economic blockade against Cuba. — MNA/Xinhua

## Japan vague on Iraq mission extension

TOKYO, 1 Nov— Japan will decide whether to extend the mission in Iraq based on evaluation of local situation, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda said Sunday after a Japanese hostage was found killed.

Japan “is determined to firmly fight with terrorism, and the Self-Defence Forces (SDF) will go ahead with the reconstruction and humanitarian assistance

along with Iraqi friends,” he told a Press conference.

When asked whether the SDF will remain there after the December 14 deadline, he said, “It will

be determined properly after a comprehensive survey and review on Iraq’s rebuilding process and security situation.”

MNA/Xinhua



Marines of the 1st

Division burn their

waste as they leave

their temporary base

for a mission outside

Fallujah, on 30 Oct,

2004.

INTERNET

## Experts test anthrax-infested water at Uganda’s National Park

KAMPALA, 1 Nov—Water quality experts are testing the anthrax-infest-ed water at the Queen Elizabeth National Park in western Uganda where about 200 hippos have been killed by the disease in the past three months, local media reported on Sunday.

The expert team is led by Florence Adong, assistant commissioner of water quality control in the directorate of water development.

The team is sent to ascertain the water safety on the Kazinga channel, which has been closed for tourism.

According to the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), the team are testing water samples from the channel as well as lakes George and Edward, where most of the hippos perished.

The UWA has suspended tourism on the channel following the anthrax attack that killed about 200 hippos and several buffaloes. — MNA/Xinhua

## Weekend road accidents kill 20 in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 1 Nov— Twenty people were killed and at least 10 others were seriously injured in two separate road accidents in the weekend in South Africa, the SAPA news agency reported on Sunday.

Thirteen people, including two children, were killed and one injured on Sunday in an accident involving a mini-bus taxi and truck near Mokopane, Limpopo Province.

Local police spokesman Madimetja Makgakge said all who died were in the taxi when it collided head-on with the truck as it apparently tried to overtake another vehicle on the R101 Road, about 10 kilometres south of Mokopane, at 5:25 p.m. (1525 GMT).

The driver of the taxi also died in the accident and the truck driver escaped uninjured, said Makgakge. Another occupant of the truck was seriously injured.

Another collision between a bakkie and a car occurred on the R66 Road in KwaZulu-Natal Province on Saturday, killing seven people and leaving nine seriously injured, the SAPA said. Police were still trying to establish the cause of the accident since the drivers of both vehicles were killed. — MNA/Xinhua

## Election victory for Kerry may be best for global security

LONDON, 1 Nov — A large majority of Britons think a US election victory for John Kerry is the best outcome for global security, according to a poll in a Sunday newspaper.

They also believe — by a smaller margin — a win for the Democrat challenger would damage Prime Minister Tony Blair's international standing given his alliance with incumbent US President George W Bush, according to the survey.

Surveys have repeatedly shown most Britons feel uncomfortable with the Blair-Bush friendship and their joint policy over Iraq.

Fifty-six per cent told Communicate Research pollster the world would be safer with Kerry, while 24 per cent favoured Bush.

Fifty per cent said a win for Kerry would weaken the international standing of Blair, while 42 per cent thought not.

The survey was published in the *Independent* on Sunday.

MNA/Reuters



*Iraqi children look on as US Marines of the 1st Division search the area outside Fallujah, Iraq Sunday, Oct. 31, 2004.*  
Internet

## Indo-Japanese ties to get major boost during Speaker's visit

TOKYO, 1 Nov — Enhancing cooperation between the Parliaments of the two countries and issues of mutual interest will come up for discussion during talks at Lok Sabha (Lower House of Indian Parliament) Speaker Somnath Chatterjee will have with top leaders here during his week-long visit to Japan beginning on Sunday.

Chatterjee, who arrived here on Sunday, is scheduled to visit top Japanese leaders, including Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi during his stay, which is expected to provide a major boost to relations between the two countries, official sources said.

The visit, first by a high-ranking Indian official after the United Progressive Alliance government came to power, comes a month after New Delhi and Tokyo agreed to support each other in their bid to become permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

The most important meeting during the trip is scheduled for Tuesday when Chatterjee would call on Koizumi.

The two leaders are

expected to exchange views on bilateral issues and other matters of common interest, sources said.

Chatterjee, who is leading a Joint Parliamentary delegation, will hold talks with his Japanese counterpart, Yohei Kono tomorrow and discuss ways to enhance cooperation between the parliaments of the two nations as well as issues of common concern, sources said.

The current visit of the

Speaker takes place in the background of heightened interest in Japan in developing closer relations with India, a senior official said.

In the recent period, this rising interest has been reflected in the visit of a large number of Japanese parliamentarians to India particularly, during the 50th Anniversary year of the establishment of diplomatic relations (2002-2003), the official said.

MNA/PTI

## Men's health outpatient department opens in south China region

NANNING, 1 Nov — The first outpatient department for men in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region opened last Friday, department director Liang Jihong said.

The department, attached to the No 1 Hospital of the Guangxi University of Medical Science, is equipped with an audio-visual centre for sexual education, an operation room for sexual dysfunction and an ED test room.

It offers services round the clock in internal and surgical medicine, combination of traditional Chinese and Western medicine and andrology.

"The medical devices here are advanced not only in Guangxi, but also nationwide," Liang acknowledged.—MNA/Xinhua

မြန်မာ့စွယ်စုံကျမ်း အတွဲတစ်ရာ

## British soldier found dead at Iraq base

LONDON, 1 Nov — A British soldier has been found dead at a military base in Basra, said Ministry of Defence (MOD) of Britain on Sunday.

An investigation was under way, but it was not believed to be the result of any hostile action, said the MOD.

A spokesman said the body was found at the southern Iraqi base on Sunday morning, but no name would be released until next of kin had been informed. The incident — days after a Black Watch soldier died — takes the number of British military personnel to

die in Iraq to 70.

Private Kevin McHale, 27, was killed in a separate non-hostile incident when the armoured vehicle he was driving overturned in the North Babil Province on Friday.

A bridge the vehicle was crossing, during a redeployment of troops in Iraq, collapsed. Three others were injured, but were returned to work soon after the accident. — MNA/Xinhua

## US disturbed by increasing journalists' death in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 2 Nov — The United States has been disturbed by growing death of journalists working in Iraq, deputy spokesman of the State Department Adam Ereli said here on Monday.

"This is certainly horrific and we are deeply disturbed by it," Ereli said when he was making comment on recent attacks on journalists in Baghdad, Iraq.

"Journalists working for the Al-Arabiya were attacked; five killed. Journalists for al-Sharqiya network were attacked and killed, and I believe a Reuters cameraman was also attacked and killed.

"This shows — to us demonstrates a

new and disturbing pattern of targeting journalists...who are trying to bring the truth about what is going on in Iraq to the public at large," Ereli said.

The journalists, who are risking their life in Iraq, "are providing a valuable service", he added.

Expressing condolences to the victims, Ereli said the US will try to provide "an environment in which the free Press can do its work". — MNA/Xinhua



*US Marines from the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment patrol in Ramadi, Iraq, Sunday, Oct. 31, 2004. One Marine was killed and three others injured by a roadside bomb Sunday in Ramadi, and hospital officials said seven more people were killed and 11 injured in clashes between insurgents and U.S. forces. — Internet*

## Asia-Africa trade, investment meeting opens in Tokyo

TOKYO, 1 Nov — Delegates from Asian and African governments, organizations and private sectors are gathering Monday in Tokyo for a conference on promoting economic cooperation to realize a self-reliant and sustainable economic growth in Africa.

The two-day conference, known as TICAD Asia-Africa Trade and Investment Conference, is held as part of follow-up actions of the Third Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD III) last year.

At the conference, participants are expected to review the current situation and the future potential of the business rela-

tions between Africa and Asia, according to the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

The role of the public sector in facilitation of trade and investment will also be addressed. They aim to establish a network between the public sector and the private sector within and between the two continents. The meeting is co-organized by the Japanese Government, the United Nations, the Global Coalition for Africa, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank.—MNA/Xinhua



## Quality jade lots to be sold in the Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium

Press conference on Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium was held at Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road on 27 October.

At the press conference, Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein clarified the holding of the mid-year emporium. Moreover, officials of Myanmar Gems Enterprise and local private gems merchants also expressed their views on the emporium.

Year by year the emporium succeed and the number of local and foreign merchants increased. Gems merchants from Hong Kong and the People's Republic of China also arrived Yangon on 26 October by chartered plane.

According to an official of Myanmar Gems Enter-



*Jade lot of exceptional quality being displayed at  
Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium.*

*Article by Sein Shwe Hlaing*  
*Photo by Thaung Win Bo*

prise, it is learnt that only quality jade lots will be sold in the emporium. Over 1,500 jade lots will be exhibited in this emporium though there were about 1,200 jade lots were displayed in the past emporiums. Myanmar is rich in natural resources and there are many precious gems exploited in it. So, it should be a world market in gems, a local gems merchant said.

Gem merchants were permitted to inspect the gems, jade and pearls from 27 to 29 October. Jade lots were sold through tender system and competitive bidding system on 1 November; gems on 2 and 3 November and pearls on 4 November. No 1451 lot of Jade being displayed at Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium is of exceptional quality at the emporium. It is 210 kg in weight and mined from Mamon region in Phakant Township, Kachin State.

The 45 carat ruby mined from Mogok region would surely attract bidders and No 107 Lot of diamond weighing 19.80 carat will also be another attraction.

No 266 lot of pearls comprises 118 rounds of pearl produced from Palekyun Pearl Production Camp. It is estimated that about 500 gem merchants from India, Italy, Japan, the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Korea, Singapore, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States of America and over 300 local gem merchants will attend the emporium. The gems emporiums have been organized three times a year. Therefore, Myanmar gem market has attracted more foreign gem merchants year after year.

**(Translation- AMS)**

*Myanma Alin 28-10-04*

## Competition to be held on “Hong Kong—Asia’s world city”

**HONG KONG, 2 Nov**—Hong Kong Information Services Department will hold an essay/photo competition on Hong Kong's promotion brand "Hong Kong — Asia's world city", said the department Sunday.

The competition is part of ongoing efforts to create awareness about the Brand Hong Kong programme and the core values underpinning Hong Kong's positioning as Asia's world city — progressive, said the department's Assistant Director Paul Brown.

“The competition is meant to involve a wide cross section of the community who will all have different views and ideas about what makes Hong Kong such a great place to live and work,” he said.

"In fact, that diversity of views is one of the things that makes Hong Kong such an interesting and exciting city." "We are trying to tap into the human element of our city — the heart and soul of Asia's world city," said Brown.

The competition, to be held in conjunction with the *South China Morning Post*, will start to receive entries on November 1.

*MNA/Xinhua.*

# Beijing inaugurates Olympic Press Centre

BEIJING, 2 Nove— The Beijing Olympic Press Centre was inaugurated on Monday, more than three years before the opening of the 2008 Olympic Games.

The Press centre, situated at the Huabei Hotel in the north of the Chinese capital, will serve as a fixed place for the municipal government and the Beijing Organizing Committee for the 2008 Olympics (BOCOG) to hold Press briefings.

MNA/Xinhua



## Provisions for monks

YANGON, 2 Nov — Provisions were presented to over 200 members of the Sangha in Singu Township on 28 October the Fullmoon Day of Myanmar month of Thadingyut.

Members of the Sangha recited parittas in the wards and some villages of the township. People from Singu, Chauk, NyaungU, Kyaukpadaung, Sale and Yenangyoung townships presented provisions and offertories to the monks.

MNA

**e-Education Learning Centre**

**သင်ခန်းစာထုတ်လွှင့်မည့်အစီအစဉ်**

လေသည် ဘေးဝင် နာရိမ ဘေးဝင် နာရိ

- [illegible]

## Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister...

(from page 1)

members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of the Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Yangon Command Commander, ministers, Senior Military officers, Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of China to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun, heads of foreign missions in Yangon, resident representatives of UN agencies, officials and departmental heads.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by U Soe Tha, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, Maj-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Commerce, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Transport, and departmental heads. — MNA

*Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win at the airport. — MNA*



*Acting Dean of Diplomatic Corps Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun and diplomats see off Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win at the airport. — MNA*

## Commander, Mayor look into upgrading tasks of Yangon City

YANGON, 2 Nov —

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe together with Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials looked into measures being taken for upgrading of Yangon City this morning.

During their inspection, Head of Engineering Department (Road and Bridge) U Bo Htay of YCDC and officials presented reports to the commander and the mayor on measures being taken for upgrading of the platforms to a 10-foot-wide ones between Ahlon



*Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects tasks for upgrading of Yangon City.*

YANGON COMMAND

Road and Shinsawpu Street along Pyay Road.

Next, the commander and party proceeded to Kandawgyi Lake and inspected measures being taken for paving of concrete piles

on ring road of Kandawgyi Lake and tarring of road near Upper Pansodan Street.

They also inspected upgrading entrance roads to Khaymarthi Street and to Sethmu

Lethmu Street to 48-foot-wide ones, and Thudhamma Road to a 72-foot-wide one and gave instructions on timely completion of the projects with set standards. — MNA

## Commander, Minister inspect agricultural tasks in Lashio

YANGON, 2 Sept—Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Pyi Sone on 30 October inspected the 2.75-acre orange plantation of local battalion in Lashio Township, and plantations of coffee, macadamia, lychee and Shweli soya bean of the North-East Command and left instructions on extension of agricultural tasks.

The Commander and the Minister proceeded to Hsinshweli hybrid strain paddy (F1) field of the Command. Officials reported on the farm. They inspected packing and storing of paddy and gave necessary instructions to the officials. They also inspected Hsinshweli hybrid strain paddy (F1) field of the local battalion and the 5,000-acre reclamation project in Tabon Region, Lashio. The Commander and the Minister inspected work progress and building of a briefing hall. Next, they went to the livestock breeding farm of the Livestock, Feedstuff and Dairy Products Enterprise of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries. Officials reported on construction of buildings, breeding of pigs and sinking of a tube-well.

The Commander and the Minister instructed officials to extend breeding tasks and looked into the farm. Then, they visited inspected construction of Mya Thein Tan Dhammayon of Manhsupan Phayagyi Monastery in Lashio and gave instructions on meeting the standard set and timely completion of the project. Afterwards, they offered alms to Vice-Chairman of Shan State Sangha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw of the Monastery Agga Maha Gandhavacaka Bhaddanta Kondanña and supplicated on religious matters. — MNA

## Commander inspects approach road to Pathein Bridge

YANGON, 2 Nov — Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing together with Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein went on inspection tour of Pathein-Chaungtha road section and bridges on it yesterday.

First, the commander and party inspected progress in constructing approach road to Pathein Bridge on Kanni bank and construction work at Bridge No 1/2, Maung Biwa Bridge on Pathein-Chaungtha road section. It is of reinforced concrete type. It is 180 feet long and 24 feet in width. Its each pedestrian is three feet in width.

After that the commander and party saw over maintenance work of Pathein-Chaungtha road section and instructed officials to carry out construction tasks meeting the set standards. — MNA



## Basic Education Sector...

(from page 16)

sector is very important for emergence of a peaceful modern developed and discipline-flourishing nation—the national goal.

To achieve this goal, the government is implementing the border areas and national races development project, the 24 special regions development project and the rural development project in harmony, he said. It is a common knowledge that the education sector has been given priority in the three national development projects, especially, the basic education sector plays a vital role in promoting the education level of rural and border areas. The Head of State has given guidance to pay serious attention to building the basic education sector firmly and to tour down to the villages to make its foundation stronger. The Head of State has also given guidance to promote the curricular to meet the international level, to enable teachers to teach their pupils in accord with the curricular, to enhance the qualification of teachers, to provide teaching aids, and to use them effectively.

Priority should be given to the enhancement of the condition of the basic education schools as it will help raise the moral conduct of students. As there are over 60,000 villages and over 40,000 schools in Myanmar, every two villages have a school in the country.

Thus, systematic arrangements should be made to raise the standard of the schools. The basic education is the most basic foundation for national development. Hence, efforts should be made to reinforce the basic education sector. All will have to strive in accord with the guidance to reinforce the sector, while producing qualified human resources, the most basic requirement for national development.

Minister for Education U Than Aung reported on tasks being carried out for e-Education in Myanmar and resolutions of the meeting No 1/2004 of the higher education council and meeting No 1/2004 of the Universities Central Council.

Next, he also reported on percentage of the female staff, faculty members in Ministry of Education and in students, cooperation programmes in higher education sector, compilation of history of education in Myanmar and school enrollment ac-

tivities for 2004-2005 academic year.

Next, officials concerned also reported on education matters sector-wise to the Secretary-1.

Afterwards, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave necessary instructions and the meeting came to an end. — MNA



Minister U Than Aung presents a report at the meeting. — MNA

## First Annual General Meeting of MIFFA



Deputy Minister U Pe Than delivers a speech at the first annual general meeting of Myanmar International Freight Forwarders' Association. — MNA

YANGON, 2 Nov— The first annual general meeting of Myanmar International Freight Forwarders' Association (MIFFA) was held at Traders Hotel this morning.

Patron of MIFFA Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than spoke on the occasion.

President of MIFFA U Aung Kyaw Min presented certificates of honour to the patrons of the association.

Next, officials of MIFFA presented certificates to trainees of Certificate in Multimodal Transport Course for Diploma in International Freight Man-

agement Programme of ASEAN Federation of Forwarders' Association (AFFA).

General Secretary of the association U Kyaw Lwin Oo submitted the list of executive committee, the report and measures of MIFFA for approval.

Treasurer Dr Aye Aye reported on financial statement. President of MIFFA U Aung Kyaw Min spoke words of thanks.—MNA



Japanese volleyball coach Mr Koji Tsu being welcomed at the airport. — MNA

## Japanese coach for national volleyball teams

YANGON, 2 Nov — Mr Koji Tsu, a Japanese coach for the men and women's national volleyball teams, arrived here on 31 October.

He was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by officials of Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanmar Volleyball Federation. He has been hired as coach under the arrangement of the Ministry of Sports and MVF. — MNA

## Minister briefs on rural development tasks in Kayan

YANGON, 2 Nov —

Central Executive Committee Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein went to Kayan home for the aged in Kayan and paid respects to aged persons yesterday morning.

In the reception hall of the home, the minister met members of supervisory committee of the home and townselders. At the meeting, Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein gave instructions on matters related to health of the aged persons and greening tasks for the home and its environs. He signed in the visitors' book and donated K 1 million to the home for the aged.

In the meeting hall of Kayan USDA office, the minister met local

authorities, departmental officials at township level, members of social organizations and townselders and discussed rural development tasks with them.

Next, local authorities presented reports on rural development tasks and Director of Health Department Dr Tin Min and Deputy Director U Nu of the Ministry of Education gave supplementary reports.

After that, the minister gave instructions on speedy implementation of rural development tasks and donated offertories to Kayan Kaikon Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita and members of the Sangha and supplicated on health care service, promotion of education and transportation and drinking water supply and water supply for cultivation. — MNA

## First CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair-2004 on 1-5 December

YANGON, 2 Nov — Meeting of the central committee for organizing the First CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair-2004 was held yesterday at Myanmar Convention Centre in Mayangon Township.

The trade fair will be held at Myanmar Convention Centre in Mayangon Township from 1 to 5 December.

At the meeting, Patrons of the central committee Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn delivered an

address. Chairman of the central committee Deputy Minister of Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun discussed matters related to the trade fair. Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn also took part in the discussion.

Secretary of the central committee Director-General of the Directorate of Trade U Nyunt Aye and officials concerned reported on tasks being carried out for the trade fair. After the meeting, the minister and officials viewed round the centre. — MNA

## Use Natural Gas Vehicles and save fuel oil

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

## C-in-C (Navy)'s Championship Shield Track & Field opened

YANGON, 2 Nov—The Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Championship Shield Track & Field for 2004 was opened at the sports ground of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command this morning with an address by Commander of the Naval Training Command Headquarters Captain Maung Oo Lwin.

Also present on the occasion were officers and other ranks of the Commander-in-Chief's Office (Yangon), battalions and units under Yagon Station and Thanlyin Station and their families, athletes and others.

Altogether 12 teams took part in the contest in which the Ayeyawady Naval Re-

gion Command team emerged champion.

After the contest, officials presented prizes to teams which stood first, second and third whereas Captain Maung Oo Lwin presented prizes to the Ayeyawady Naval Region Command team which emerged champion.

MNA

Deputy Minister U Myint Thein attends the Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium (2004). — MNA



## Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium continues

YANGON, 2 Nov — A total of 90 jade lots were sold by tender system during the sales yesterday at the Mid-Year Myanmar

Gems Emporium for 2004. Merchants purchased 44 jade lots yesterday evening

The emporium sold

717 jade lots through tender system from 30 October to 1 November. Director-General of the Mining Department of the

Ministry of Mines U Soe Mya presented a souvenir and certificate of honour to a merchant for buying the highest value of jade.

The emporium continued this morning and Merchants purchased 27 jade lots from 9 am to 5 pm today through tender system. The emporium will continue tomorrow.

MNA.

## Deputy Minister inspects printing & dyeing factories in Myingyan, Magway

YANGON, 2 Nov — Deputy Minister for Ministry of Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun and officials on 29 October morning arrived at Printing and Dyeing Factory of the Myanmar Textile Industries in Myingyan and inspected textiles produced from the factory.

At the factory, the minister met with the factory manager and responsible officials and at-

tended to the needs.

The minister also oversaw the production process of weaving unit and using of boiler there.

Afterwards, the deputy minister inspected Winthuza Shop in Myingyan. During his tour of Myingyan, officials concerned reported to Brig-Gen Thein Tun on tobacco cultivation and storage of tobacco leaves. The deputy minister also

fulfilled the requirements.

In the afternoon, Brig-Gen Thein Tun inspected the production process of the Printing and Dyeing Factory in Magway.

On 30 October, the deputy minister and party oversaw the Winthuza Shop, Myanmar Umbrella Factory, Soap Factory and Soft Drinks Factory in Magway.

MNA

## Myanmar education delegation returns from China

YANGON, 2 Nov—Myanmar education delegation led by Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min arrived back here yesterday after studying educational activities for one week at the invitation of the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China.

The delegation was welcomed back at the airport by Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, officials of the ministry and families.

Members of the delegation Deputy Director (Admin) U Khin Maung Aye of No 2 Basic Education Department, Headmistress Daw Khin Win Aung of the Institute of Education Practising High School, Headmaster U Kyaw Kyaw of No 1 Basic Education High School, Dagon and Headmistress Daw Khin Lay Paing of No 8 BEHS, Mawlamyine also returned on the same flight.

MNA

## Myanmar Engineering Association Chairman leaves for PRC

YANGON, 2 Nov—Engineering Association Chairman of Myanmar

Professor Dr Sein Myint



Professor Dr Sein Myint seen before his departure for China. — UMFCFI

left here by air on 30 October to attend the ASEAN+ 3 Engineering Academy Round Table to be held in Suzhou, the People's Republic of China on 31 October 2004.

He will also attend the World Engineers Congress 2004 to be held in Shanghai, the PRC, from 2 to 6 November.

The congress will be attended by over 3,000 engineers from various countries.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun inspects work for maintenance of Patheingyi-Chaungtha Road.

CONSTRUCTION

## Minister for Finance and Revenue meets foreign guests

YANGON, 2 Nov—Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun met Vice-Chairman Mr Yokio Kitazome of Nippon Export and Investment Insurance and Director of Asset Plan-

ning Group Mr Takekazu Okita of NEXI at his office yesterday.

Present were Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe and officials.

MNA

## Deputy Minister for Commerce meets President of Swiss Singapore Overseas Enterprises Pte Ltd

YANGON, 2 Nov—Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun met President Mr PK Jain of Swiss Singapore Overseas Enterprises Pte Ltd of Singapore and party at his office this morning.

Present were Director-General of Directorate of Trade U Nyunt Aye, Director-General of Border Trade Department U Nay Win and officials of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading.—MNA

## Malaysian PM pledges to implement projects earnestly

KUALA LUMPUR, 2 Nov — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Monday pledged to earnestly implement projects he had initiated earlier as his term entered the second year.

"I want to stress that going into the second year as Prime Minister, I want to see that programmes and projects which I have out-

lined earlier to be implemented in earnest," Abdullah said while addressing the Prime Minister's Department monthly

assembly in Putrajaya, Federal Administrative Centre. Acknowledging the "honeymoon period" for him was over, Badawi said the people from now on would be less forgiving for any shortcomings on his part and on the part of the government machinery. "I expect the comments directed to me and my government will be harsher," he said.

Abdullah took over the leadership in October last year from former Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad. Since his appointment, Abdullah has given attention to improving the government's delivery system, creating an ethical society, rooting out corruption and enhancing Malaysia's ties with other countries.—MNA/Xinhua



## UNGA panel urged to approve \$97m on security system

UNITED NATIONS, 2 Nov— UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Monday urged a General Assembly panel to approve a 97-million-US-dollar overhaul of the UN security system after attempts to cut his request by a nearly a third.

The United States, Britain, Australia, Canada and other major payers to the UN budget backed Annan's request for another 778 security posts worldwide. Japan, Germany and Russia hesitated, diplomats said.

Annan was speaking to the General Assembly's Administrative and Budgetary Committee, which includes all 191 UN members. A majority of a 16-nation budget advisory panel had recommended about 30 million US dollars less than he requested for security.

That panel's report said the remainder could be shared among UN specialized agencies in the field but Annan said security costs had to be part of the UN's central administrative budget, now about one billion US dollars a year.

Annan told the committee, which makes a final decision, that cost-sharing was cumbersome and left "critical security needs dangerously depending on the voluntarily funded budgets of agencies, programmes and funds".

"The inescapable fact is that we

need more resources. We need them right now and we need them to be sustained over time," Annan said.

British Ambassador Emyr Jones Parry, who attended the session that runs all week long, told *Reuters* he objected to "double standards" for UN staff since individual nations took great pains to protect their own staff in embassies and other places abroad.

Annan referred to several panels analyzing UN security. One of them, a year ago, accused the United Nations of a catalogue of breaches that it said probably cost lives in the August 19, 2003 bombing of UN headquarters in Baghdad.

That report blamed top management in New York and in Iraq for "dysfunctional" and "sloppy" security lapses before the attack in Baghdad that killed 22 people and injured 150.

"After last year's disaster in Baghdad, as well as many other tragic incidents, we are forced to acknowledge that the United Nations has become a target of political violence, challenging the long-held perception that we are protected by our flag, and our status as an impartial benevolent actor," Annan said.

MNA/Reuters

## China to cooperate with Australia in preparation for 2008 Olympics

BEIJING, 2 Nov — China will cooperate with Australia for the next four years in sports as well as sports-related fields and learn valuable experiences from the 2000 Olympics host, said Chinese Olympic Committee president Yuan Weimin here on Monday. "Australia boasts its strength in equestrian, swimming, tennis, cycling, athletics and aquatic events, allowing for a large room for exchange and mutual complementary with China," said Yuan, who also heads the General Administration of Sports of China.

Australia claimed seven gold, five silver and

three bronze from swimming at the Athens Olympic Games where they finished fourth in the medals tally with 17 gold, 16 silver and 16 bronze.

Cycling was their second gold mine as they bagged six gold plus two silver and two bronze.

Whereas China, second with 32 gold behind the United States in Athens, has been known for its prowess in table tennis, badminton, shooting, diving and weightlifting.

"As the 2008 Olympic Games is drawing near, it is high time that we set up the framework of sports cooperation in the form of agreement signing," Yuan said at the signing ceremony of Agreement of

Cooperation between Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) and Chinese Olympic Committee (COC). "We will carry out more extensive cooperation in fields like doping control and sports marketing," Yuan said. "And their experiences on hosting the Olympic Games are valuable for us," he added. AOC president John Coates echoed Yuan's view. "Our teams will train together... And our coaches, trainers, judges, officials, experts and scientists will attend seminars and courses and exchange ideas beneficial to both countries," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

## China's stake in "Galileo" project targets "Complete civilian use"

BEIJING, 2 Nov— The European Union's *Galileo* satellite navigation system has broad prospects for application in China's transportation, mobile communication and other relevant fields, and China joined the project solely for the purpose of civilian use.

Fang Xiangming, deputy general manager of the China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation (CASIC), the major initiator of the project in China, made the remarks Monday while addressing a high-level Sino-French dialogue in aviation and spaceflight.

The 30-satellite system, with a navigational fix accurate to within one metre, will provide safe, reliable and accurate navigational information for Chinese users in the fields of civil aviation and railway, waterway and road transportation, Fang acknowledged.

CASIC and its French peer is constructing the perfecting system in China to strengthen the information sent by the *Galileo* system, he noted, in order to better serve the needs of service signals

for China's civil aviation with accurate, complete, feasible and continuous navigation.

According to Fang, China and France had an enormous room with great potential in such spheres as satellite navigation, because of China's huge market for global application of satellite navigation system and France's advanced technology and mature experience.

Sponsored jointly by the European Commission and the European Space Agency, the *Galileo* space project is a satellite positioning and navigation system entirely for civilian use.

The project is expected to be operational by 2008, and will vie, and likely outperform, the existing Global Positioning System (GPS) of the United States with more precise information and on a still larger coverage.

China has officially joined the project after signing an agreement with the European Union on October 9 in Beijing, and pledged 200 million euros for the project. — MNA/Xinhua

## Indian Govt looking at boom in radio sector

NEW DELHI, 2 Nov — Despite controversies, the Indian Government is expecting a big boom in the radio sector, envisaging 400 private FM radio and 4,000 community radio stations across the country.

At the same time, it is not favourably inclined to allow news on private FM radio.

"We are coming out with a liberalized community radio policy for which Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has also released a consultation paper to elicit views of various stakeholders," a senior official in the Information and Broadcasting Ministry said here.

On the FM radio segment, for which TRAI had already submitted recommendations to the

I&B Ministry, the official said the government is going in for a re-think.

The TRAI recommendations, which had suggested a revenue share model in place of the existing high licence fee regime, is not suiting the government as its revenues would fall drastically from the current around one billion rupees to just about 100 million. Also, there are some technical and procedural problems the government finds in the proposed system.

"The government is

looking to retain the licence fee structure, though lowering the fee from the current levels," the official said, adding it expects to have as many as 400 private FM radio stations soon.

However, the government is not very much inclined on the issue of allowing news and current affairs on private radio channels. "It is a very sensitive issue as the radio has a wider reach and its news has wider impact," the official said.

MNA/PTI

## News groups sue Ohio elections chief over poll access

COLUMBUS (Ohio), 2 Nov — Six national news organizations have filed a federal lawsuit seeking additional access at the polls on Election Day.

ABC, CNN, CBS, Fox News, NBC and the *Associated Press* sued Ohio Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell on Monday over a policy that would prevent exit polling within 100 feet of a voting place.

The organizations have formed a consortium to collect exit-polling data. The news organizations said the prohibition hinders their ability to gather information about the political process and violates constitutional guarantees of free speech. They con-

tend exit-poll reporters were allowed access within 100 feet of polls in the March primary.

Blackwell's spokesman Carlo LoParo cited increased media interest in the November election.

Anticipating a crush of voters and media Tuesday, Blackwell told county boards of election to enforce a state law barring anyone except voters, election officials, challengers and witnesses from inside the 100-foot limit, LoParo said.

A voting rights group in Florida also filed a

similar suit Monday, this one stemming from the arrest of a freelance journalist who authorities say ignored an order to stop taking pictures of voters outside the Palm Beach County elections headquarters.

The group that brought the lawsuit, the People for the American Way Foundation, claims a law prohibiting reporters from coming within 50 feet of a polling place's front door to interview or photograph voters is unconstitutional.

MNA/AP



Pelicans swim in a pond in Delhi zoo. The zoo, spread over an area of 214 acres, has more than 2,000 animal and bird species including pelicans from all over the world.— INTERNET

## Uganda launches campaign to reduce primary school dropouts

KAMPALA, 2 Nov — The Ugandan Government has launched a countrywide advocacy campaign to reduce the primary school dropouts of over 70 per cent, reported local Press on Monday.

"The issue of school dropouts, especially for the girls and irregular attendance, is a major challenge to UPE (the Universal Primary Education)," said Richard Akankwasa, director of education from the Education Ministry.

Uganda started the UPE in 1997 to promote the education but according to statistics, of the 1.6 million pupils who joined primary one in 1998, the second year of UPE, only 433,010 have registered for primary leaving examinations this year, a 73-per-cent dropout rate in the primary education.

According to a report from the ministry, the main reasons for the dropout are economic and social-cultural. "Social-cultural reasons include under-enrollment, pregnancy and early marriages, lack of interest, family problems and lack of community appreciation of benefits of education," the report added.

MNA/Xinhua

## Oil prices fall heavily

LONDON, 2 Nov — Oil prices fell heavily on Monday, taking US crude below 50 US dollars on speculation that a US election win for Senator John Kerry could soothe the geopolitical friction that helped spark this year's crude rally.

US light crude by 1545 GMT was off 1.96 US dollars at 49.80 US dollars a barrel, after spending nearly a month above 50 US dollars. London Brent lost 2.18 US dollars to 46.80 US dollars a barrel.

European and US winter heating fuel futures, the driving force behind the latest leg in oil's record rally, fell even more sharply than crude. London gas oil lost 23.75 US dollars to 422 US dollars a ton and US heating oil dipped 6.31 cents to 1.401 US dollars a gallon.

Energy analysts said a win for the challenger Kerry in Tuesday's US

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## Road crash kills 25 in southwest Nigeria

LAGOS, 2 Nov — At least 25 persons, some of whom were school pupils, have been feared killed, and 36 others injured in a road crash in Nigeria's southwest state of Ondo, local newspaper *Vanguard* reported Monday.

The road accident involving a luxurious bus and a trailer on the Owo-Benin Highway occurred at the early hours of Sunday.

According to Hassan Ahmed, sector commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), 15 passengers in the bus and all the occupants of the trailer died on the spot. — MNA/Xinhua

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## Tanzania starts poverty-reduction campaign

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 2 Nov — Tanzania started on Monday a nationwide poverty-reduction campaign to arouse public awareness and draw suggestions on strengthening the fight against poverty.

Tanzanian Vice-President Mohamed Shein launched the initial stage of the campaign known as Poverty Policy Week, when suggestions and proposals are to be discussed among professionals and amateurs from all walks of life.

The next stage of the campaign will move on to the country's administrative regions.

Officials from the Vice-President office said that economists, scholars and representatives from the private sector and communities are to sort out through forums and community activities applicable measures that are able to come to the rescue to their country, one of the world's least developed countries.

Tanzania is working out a five-year poverty-reduction strategy that focuses on improving the living standards, social welfare, income increases and governance efficiency.

MNA/Xinhua

## မြန်မာ့ပြည်ထောင်စု

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### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

#### MV GLENGO VOY NO (004)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GLENGO VOY NO (004) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.11.2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY 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 to Claims day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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### Australia, US miss key deadline for FTA

CANBERRA, 2 Nov — Australia and the United States have missed a key deadline for their free trade agreement but Australian Trade Minister Mark Vaile said on Monday he remained confident the deal would start as planned on 1 January.

The two close allies needed to exchange letters confirming the agreement by October 31 to meet the 60-day notice period before the deal could start on 1 January 2005.

But the exchange of letters was delayed by final checking from both countries to ensure enabling laws were consistent with the agreement.

A spokesman for

Vaile said the 60-day notice period could be shortened. "We continue to be confident that the agreement will come into force as scheduled on the first of January," the spokesman said.

"But the 60-day notice period will be shortened by mutual agreement, once we have the exchange of letters. We need a bit more time to get that done," he said.

The Australian Parliament and US Congress have already passed laws to enforce the free trade agreement.

Bilateral trade between Australia and the United States is worth about 41 billion Australian dollars (31 billion US

### Ugandan police seize three kilos of heroin

KAMPALA, 2 Nov — Ugandan Police has arrested a 26-year-old businessman in connection with trafficking three kilos of heroin valued at 100,000 US dollars, Radio Uganda reported on Monday.

Commissioner of police Edison Mbiringi Monday told Press at Uganda Crime Investigation Department headquarters that Mubarak Omar, a Ugandan, was arrested in Bakuli near Kampala. — MNA/Xinhua

dollars) a year, with the trade balance weighted in favour of the United States. In 2003, Australia imported 27 billion Australian dollars worth of goods from the United States, including aircraft and parts, veterinary chemicals, medicine, car engines and communications equipment. It exported about 14 billion Australian dollars worth of beef, lamb, crude oil and cars.

An Australian Government-commissioned study found the trade deal with the United States could add 6.1 billion Australian dollars a year to the economy after 10 years.

MNA/Reuters

### One killed, five injured in Jacksonville skydiving plane crash

JACKSONVILLE (Florida), 1 Nov — A plane carrying skydivers crashed at a small airport, killing one person aboard and injuring five others, one critically, police said. *The Cessna 206*, operated by Skydive Jacksonville, crashed shortly after noon Satur-

day, Jacksonville police spokesman Ken Jefferson said. Investigators said one person died at the scene, but four of those aboard suffered only minor injuries, Jefferson told *The Florida Times-Union*. The identities of the victims were not immediately re-

leased.

Officials said the plane crashed at Herlong Airport, which is where Skydive Jacksonville is based. A woman who answered the telephone at Skydive Jacksonville's offices Saturday evening declined to comment. — MNA/AP



# မညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်မှု

## China-ASEAN Trade Fair new initiative of China

HANOI, 2 Nov — The organization of the first China-ASEAN Trade Fair (CA-EXPO) in south China's Nanning City is China's greatly noteworthy new initiative about expanding all-round relations between the country with ASEAN members, Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Pham Gia Khiem told *Xinhua* in a recent interview.

"China has made great efforts to make prompt and thorough preparations for the 1st CA-EXPO, being ready to welcome over 10 participating countries with over 1,000 national and standard pavilions. That shows the host country's enthusiasm and determination to forge and further improve the multifaceted ties between China and members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)," Khiem stated.

Vietnam will participate in the fair's special activities such as a China-ASEAN trade and investment conference, ASEAN forums on calling for investment and trade exchanges, and a Vietnam-China business forum on Thursday, he said, adding that its participation aims at beefing up traditional relations between Vietnam and China as well as other ASEAN members, and promoting trade among the nations.

Some 80 Vietnamese companies will showcase

their products and services in the fields of farm produce, seafood, processed foodstuff, handicraft, tourism, cosmetics, fashion, garment, transport, investment and industry so as to "expand export market, seek partners for business cooperation, approach distribution channels and investment opportunities, and bring into play integration advantages of the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area," said Khiem.

He held that the construction of such an area with gradual removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers and implementation of trade-facilitating measures plus geographical advantages will strongly develop Vietnam-China economic and trade relations, and forge other cooperative ties. "The target of recording the two-way trade of 10 billion US dollars in 2010 set by the two countries' leaders is totally attainable," he noted. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## New chief of Indian Air Force named

NEW DELHI, 2 Nov — Air Marshal S P Tyagi, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Air Command, was Sunday named the next chief of the Indian Air Force.

The 59-year old Tyagi's appointment as the Chief of Air Staff would be with effect from December 31, 2004 when incumbent Air Chief Marshal S Krishnaswami retires from service, an official release here said. Air Marshal Tyagi, who was commissioned in the Air Force on December 31, 1963, as a pilot in the fighter stream, saw action during the 1965 and 1971 Indo-Pakistani wars.

During his career in the Air Force for four decades, Air Marshal Tyagi, an alumnus of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, has worked in a variety of Command, Staff and Instructional appointments. He has the distinction of commanding three Air Commands — Central, South Western and Western.

He has been decorated with Param Vishisht Seva Medal in 2003 and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 1994. He is one of the Honorary ADCs of the Supreme Commander, the President. — *MNA/PTI*

## Indonesia to protect 400 categories of goods in ASEAN-China FTA

JAKARTA, 2 Nov — The Indonesian Government has submitted nearly 400 categories of sensitive and highly sensitive goods to be excluded from the liberalization scheme under the planned ASEAN-China free trade area (FTA), according to an official.

The FTA plan is expected to be signed by leaders of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) member countries and China during a summit in Vientiane, Laos, later in November.

The Ministry of Trade's director for regional cooperation, Eliver Radjagoekgoek, said that the Indonesian list of goods to be protected from trade competition had actually surpassed the limit agreed during the initial trade talks, although it was later accepted.

"They want to limit the

number of sensitive goods, but we can't reduce our list," Eliver was quoted Monday by *The Jakarta Post* newspaper as saying.

Indonesia's list of sensitive sectors consists of 348 tariff categories covering, among other areas, the automotive and electronics industries, as well as their component industries, a few branches of the textile industry and the chemical industry.

Meanwhile, the highly sensitive list consists of 50 tariff categories that

include rice, sugar, soybeans, corn and several other food staples.

ASEAN and Chinese economic and trade ministers agreed to establish an FTA by 2010 with the six founding members of ASEAN, and by 2015 for the newer members.

During the 36th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting in Jakarta in September, talks with China resulted in the finalizing of the agreements on trade in goods and services and on dispute settlement mechanisms.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

## Philippines to import almost 1m metric tons of rice in 2005

MANILA, 2 Nov — The Philippines will import almost one million metric tons of rice in 2005 worth 12.6 billion pesos (225 million US dollars) due to insufficient domestic production, a local newspaper reported on Monday.

Representative Rolando Andaya Jr, chair of the House Appropriations Committee, told *Philippine Daily Inquirer* that although a record-high harvest of rice was forecast in 2005, the total production would be still inadequate for the domestic demand. Andaya attended a hearing last week on the proposed budget of the Department of Agriculture (DA) for next year. He cited swelling population and static hectareage of rice lands as the reasons for the country's partial dependence on rice imports.

"An average Filipino eats 105 kilos of rice a year. If our population grows by 1.8 million a year, then we must increase our rice production by three million sacks of rice a year," Andaya said.

The DA earlier expected the rice harvest to reach 15.12 million metric tons in 2005. However, it still planned to import 960,000 metric tons of rice.

It said that the country's topography is not really ideal for rice growing, compared to the wide river deltas of countries in the Asian mainland like Vietnam and Thailand,

but this can be corrected with man-made irrigation systems.

The government is also implementing hybrid rice programme to increase rice yield through the use of certified and hybrid rice varieties. But, the programme is experiencing funding problem when only 181 million pesos (3.23 million dollars) of the 550 million pesos (9.82 million dollars) allocated for this programme for 2004 has been released.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

## Wal-mart opens 40th outlet in central China city

WUHAN, 2 Nov — Wal-mart, the world's largest retailer, announced the opening of its 40th outlet in China here Monday, with a new shopping centre coming into being in this capital city of Hubei Province in central China.

Li Qingquan, manager of Wal-mart's east China company, said Wal-mart attached great importance to the Wuhan outlet, with 30 per cent of its products on sales stocked from the local market. Wal-mart is planning to buy more local products from Wuhan for its other outlets elsewhere in China, said Li.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

## Vietnam welcomes more foreign visitors

HANOI, 2 Nov — Vietnam hosted nearly 2.4 million foreign visitors in the first 10 months of this year, a year-on-year rise of 27.5 per cent, the Vietnam National Administration of Tourism (VNAT) told *Xinhua* on Monday.

The number of tourists increased the most, by 39.7 per cent to nearly 1.3 million, followed by overseas Vietnamese returning home to visit relatives by 23.7 per cent to 387,000, and business visitors by 14.2 per cent to 427,000, the VNAT said.

In the period, China's Mainland, the

United States, and Japan became Vietnam's largest tourism markets with the numbers of visitors rising by 27.6 per cent, 28.8 per cent and 29.6 per cent to 646,000, over 225,000 and 216,000 respectively. "We hope to receive at least one million visitors from China's Mainland in 2004.

— *MNA/Xinhua*



A Chinese visitor wearing emperor's costume waits for his souvenir photograph to be taken at the Forbidden City in Beijing on 1 November, 2004. Beijing's 600-year-old Forbidden City is undergoing a massive renovation project that is keeping 1,400 workers and engineers busy repainting, retiling, and rebuilding most of the crumbling imperial relics. — *INTERNET*

## SPORTS

## Aimar discharged from hospital

MADRID, 1 Nov— Valencia midfielder Pablo Aimar was discharged from hospital on Sunday after spending the night under observation after a blow to the head but has been ruled out of next week's Champions League match at Inter Milan.

"Aimar will undergo further tests during the week to monitor his condition," Valencia said on their web site. "He is out of the match against Inter Milan."

The Argentine international collapsed two minutes into Valencia's 1-1 draw against Atletico Madrid at the Mestalla after being accidentally kicked in the face by defender Pablo Ibanez as he dived to head a ball.

"He suffered a complete loss of consciousness, was unable to breath properly for a short while and remembers nothing about the match," club doctor Jorge Candel told Radio Marca.

Valencia, who lost 5-1 to Inter at home two weeks ago, meet the Serie A side in a Champions League Group G match at the San Siro on Tuesday.—MNA/Reuters

## Newell, Velez stay at top of Argentine c'ship

BUENOS AIRES, 2 Nov— Leading sides Newell's Old Boys and Velez Sarsfield both lost in the Argentine championship at the weekend, leaving the title race wide open with six rounds of matches to play.

Newell's and Velez stayed level on 25 points at the top of the Apertura championship but only four points separates them from ninth-place Gimnasia-La Plata.

Newell's, who lead on goal difference, crashed to a shock 1-0 defeat at Almagro as the unfashionable club claimed their second major scalp of the championship following their shock win at River Plate one month ago.

Osvaldo Miranda scored the winner early in the second half.

Velez Sarsfield lost 3-2 at home to a Colon team inspired by their trio of Colombian internationals — Giovanni Hernandez, Gerardo Bedoya and Freddy Grisales. Hernandez, with a penalty, and Bedoya, from a free kick, put Colon 2-1 ahead before halftime before Raul Estevez added a third in the second half.

Lucas Valdermarin, from another penalty, and Fabian Cubero replied for Velez, who had Maximiliano

Bustos sent off for a rough tackle in the final minute.

Third-placed Estudiantes moved within a point of the top two after drawing 0-0 at San Lorenzo while River Plate ended a four-match winless run as they overcame struggling Olimpo 3-2. River, a further two points behind Estudiantes on 22, raced to a 2-0 lead in 15 minutes through Argentina midfielder Luis Gonzalez and Maximiliano Lopez be-

fore Diego Galvan pulled one back from the penalty spot.

Both teams finished the first half with 10 men after River's Cristian Ledesma and Olimpo's Marcelo Sarmiento were sent off for second bookable offences.

Lucas Mareque's 50th minute goal for River turned out to be the winner although they had a nervous last five minutes after Hernan Franco pulled another back.

MNA/Reuters



Schalke's Brazilian midfielder Lincoln (R) challenges Stuttgart's Belarus midfielder Alexander Hleb during their Bundesliga football match in Gelsenkirchen on 1 Nov. —INTERNET

## Ferguson to ask FA to investigate challenge by Henry

LONDON, 1 Nov— Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson is to ask the Football Association (FA) to investigate a challenge by Arsenal's Thierry Henry on Argentine defender Gabriel Heinze, British newspapers reported on Sunday.

The match on October 24, won 2-0 by United to end Arsenal's run of 49 successive unbeaten league games, was an ill-tempered affair that ended with a fracas in the tunnel, in which Ferguson is reported to have been pelted with food.

Heinze was brought down by Arsenal's Fredrik Ljungberg just before halftime and Henry then collided with the Argentine while he was still on the ground.

"The tackle on Heinze was terrible. ...What Henry did? That was bad," Ferguson was quoted as saying by the Observer newspaper.

"We shall present that

to the FA and see what they do."

United's Dutch striker Ruud van Nistelrooy was banned for three matches for a foul on Arsenal defender Ashley Cole and Ferguson was unhappy with the way the incident was brought to the FA's attention, the newspaper said.

"You should check how the Ruud van Nistelrooy tackle was brought to the attention of the FA," said Ferguson.

"There is supposed to be a system to deal with issues like that, but in this case the compliance officer stepped in and I think that is because of the publicity.

"If that is the case, who is deciding the discipline — the Press, the FA or the referees' committee?"

MNA/Reuters

## Norwich City hold 1-1 draw with Manchester City

LONDON, 2 Nov— Norwich City lifted themselves off the bottom of the Premier League table with a 1-1 draw at Manchester City on Monday.

The home side went in front after 11 minutes when 19-year-old Irishman Willo Flood struck a first-time volley from 20 metres that Norwich's highly-rated goalkeeper Robert Green could only fumble into the net.

Damien Francis levelled for Norwich 12 seconds into the second half with the home side's defence in disarray.

Norwich have still to record a league win this season but the point lifted their tally to seven, the same as Blackburn Rovers but above them on goal difference. Manchester City moved up one place to 12th on 12 points.—MNA/Reuters

## Mutu has no intention of quitting soccer

LONDON, 2 Nov— Disgraced Romanian international Adrian Mutu, who faces an FA hearing on Thursday after being sacked by Chelsea following a positive test for cocaine, says he has no intention of quitting soccer.

"Mr. Mutu intends to accept whatever is the outcome of the FA hearing and to work hard to return to the game, if banned, as a stronger player all-round, and at the highest possible level," said a statement from his lawyers Campbell Hooper on Monday.

"Our client sincerely regrets having taken a prohibited substance. Although he believes and appreciates that this behaviour was unacceptable, he had been suffering severe personal difficulties at the time."

Mutu was sacked by the Premier League club last month for gross misconduct after he tested posi-

tive for the drug.

The statement added: "...The suggestions in the Press that Mr. Mutu had



Disgraced Romanian striker Adrian Mutu, who blasted Premiership side Chelsea for their haste in sacking him after testing positive for a banned substance.—INTERNET

taken this substance just before playing football or that he played with it in his system are completely untrue.

"So too are the reports of his criticism of Chelsea FC or those stating that he wants to leave football."

The 25-year-old, bought from Italian club Parma last year for almost 16 million pounds, faces a maximum two-year ban from soccer.

"He apologizes profusely to everybody involved with and supporters of Chelsea FC," said the statement.

"Thankfully, with the excellent support of the FA, PFA and Peter Kay of The Sporting Chance Clinic, Mr. Mutu has already made significant progress in dealing with these difficulties.

"He greatly regrets not seeking professional help earlier. "Mr. Mutu loves football — it is his life, and he has absolutely no intention of leaving the game. He wishes to put this regrettable error of judgment behind him."

Mutu is the second player to be sacked by Chelsea for cocaine abuse following the dismissal of Australian goalkeeper Mark Bosnich two years ago.—MNA/Reuters

## Part of doping test sample stolen in Athens Olympic Games

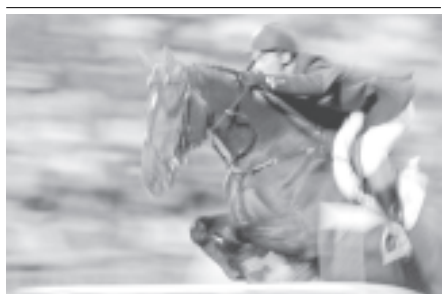
LONDON, 2 Nov— Part of a doping test sample taken from Irish Olympic show jumping champion Cian O'Connor's horse during the Athens Games has been stolen, the BBC has reported.

Some of the "B" specimen from Waterford Crystal was "taken illegally" while en route from Paris to a laboratory near Cambridge, England, the report said.

British police and their Swiss counterparts based near the International Equestrian Federation's headquarters in Lausanne are investigating.

O'Connor, who salvaged a disappointing Olympics for Ireland by winning the country's only medal, could be stripped of his individual show jumping gold.

MNA/Reuters



Irish Cian O'Connor celebrates his gold medal with his horse Waterford Crystal at the end of the individual jumping at the Athens Olympic games. O'Connor's Olympic gold medal is in jeopardy after a sample taken from his horse was found to contain a banned substance.—INTERNET



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## Basic education sector plays vital role in promoting education level of rural and border areas Myanmar Education Committee meets



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses the Meeting No 4/2004 of the Myanmar Education Committee. — MNA

YANGON, 2 Nov — Myanmar Education Committee held its meeting No 4/2004 at Zeyathiri Beikman, on Konmyinthta here this evening, with an address by Chairman of MEC Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development

Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were members of MEC, the ministers, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training, deputy

ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and heads of departments.

First, Chairman of MEC Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein made a

speech.

He said various committees were formed to carry out the tasks for development of economic, education, health and social sectors. Myanmar Education Committee is also implementing the tasks

for progress of education sector, he said.

He said the government is undertaking long-term and short-term plans for national education. The MEC is responsible for realization of the tasks in the plans in accord with

the national education policies.

He said development of human resources is vital for national development.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State emphasis was placed on producing highly-qualified human resources in education sector. So, local intellectuals and intelligentsia are capable of building bridges, dams, modern airports, hydro-electric power stations which are development infrastructures, he said.

Moreover, he stressed the need for the majority of the national people to possess knowledge which can distinguish what is right or wrong and good or bad and said it plays a vital role in building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Therefore, he said, it is obvious that education (See page 9)

## Nanattaw Overpass to be built to reduce traffic congestion on Nanattaw Street, Baho Road

YANGON, 2 Nov — Piles were driven in to start the construction of Nanattaw Overpass at the junction of Nanattaw Street and Baho Road in Kamayut Township here today.

The main structure of the overpass will be 581 feet long, and if the lengths of the approach roads on both sides are added, it will be a 964-foot facility. The reinforced concrete overpass will support a 48 feet wide motor road flanked by four-foot

pedestrian lanes on either side. The clearance for the railroad underneath it is 14 feet high. The overpass will help reduce traffic congestion on both the Nanattaw Street and Baho Road. Its maximum load-bearing capacity will be 60 tons. The Myanmar Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transportation is to implement the project.

Before the start of the pile-driving ceremony, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min explained facts

about the overpass and construction schedule; and Deputy Minister U Pe Than, engineering works, relocation of power lines and telephone lines that are located in the project area and stockpiling of materials. Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe stressed the need for collected efforts for timely completion of the facility.

The commander,

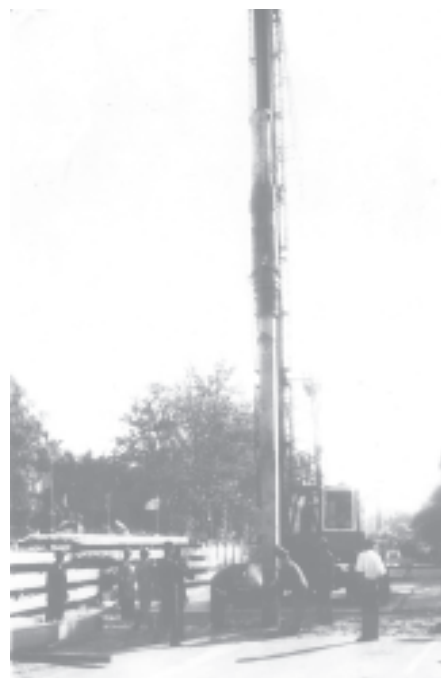
the minister and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected the scale model of the bridge and the project.

Also present at the ceremony were Deputy

Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaug Lwin, No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint Hsan, Managing Director of Myanmar Railways U Min Swe and responsible personnel. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects the construction site of Nanattaw Overpass Project. — YANGON COMMAND



## Dipavali Day falls on 12 November

YANGON, 2 Nov — The Government of the Union of Myanmar today announced that Dipavali Day, which falls on 12 November 2004 (1st Waxing of Tazaungmon 1366 ME) (Friday), is a public holiday under section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.

MNA