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Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Cambodia

YANGON, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 51st Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia which falls on 9 November 2004, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty Preah Karona Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia.—MNA

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win felicitates Cambodian counterpart

YANGON, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 51st Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia which falls on 9 November 2004, Lt-Gen Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia.—MNA

Representatives from over 40 countries to attend World Buddhist Summit

YANGON, 8 Nov — A coordination meeting on hosting the Fourth World Buddhist Summit in Yangon was held at International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University here this afternoon.

At the meeting, Chairman of the Leading Committee to Host the Summit Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win said that the State will sponsor the Summit on a grand scale according to schedule, and that preparations have been completed to a certain degree to host it. He also invited the subcommittees to present their accomplishments and requirements.

Secretary of the committee Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung explained the progress in making preparations for the summit, interior and exterior decorations of the Maha Pasana Cave, the venue of the Summit, landscaping of the compound and matters to be approved at the meeting.

Chairmen of various subcommittees, who are deputy ministers, and officials reported to the meeting on matters relating to landscaping, invitation, reception, accommodation, the summit agenda, transport, information, budget, health care and security.

Other participants including Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe also took part in the discussions.

After giving suggestions, the Prime Minister said that invited representatives from over 40 countries will attend the Summit. Thus, arrangements should be made to ensure satisfaction and convenience of the participants and for the success of the Summit, he stressed. "We are certain that we will be hosting the Summit smoothly and on a grand scale according to schedule as we have enough time in making preparations for it", he said.

As Myanmar is a nation where Theravada Buddhism flourishes, it is important for all to show hospitality and goodwill to every representative from abroad, he pointed out. All will have to work in accord with the nation's dignity, noble teachings of the religion and nationalistic fervour, he said.

The Prime Minister viewed the religious books and papers, commemorative badges and other souvenirs. He also inspected the Maha Pasana Cave. — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win delivers an address at the coordination meeting on hosting the Fourth World Buddhist Summit. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 9 November, 2004

Strive for better health care services of the people

The government in striving for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation has placed emphasis on ensuring health and fitness of the entire national people.

In doing so, the Government has stepped up its work on medical treatment and disease control measures across the nation, regarding the public health care services as a cardinal task in the social sector.

With this end in view, priority is being given to better health care services of the people after upgrading hospitals in the 24-development zones into 200-bed facilities. Such health care services are also being provided to those in the states and divisions plus rural and border areas.

As part of the disease control, the 12 health projects such as control of infectious diseases, extended vaccination, control of dengue haemorrhagic fever, malaria and tuberculosis are being implemented with the active participation of the public. Keeping pace with changes and developments, the Ministry of Health is taking measures on health education for the people and disease control.

The Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the Yangon City Development Committee has been providing health care services. At the same time, it is launching school health activities, ensuring supply of potable water and control of common diseases.

Special attention is to be paid to prevention of dengue haemorrhagic fever which can now break out at any season. The child killing disease is to be prevented through environmental sanitation and letting the children sleep with mosquito-nets in daytime.

The Ministry of Health with the participation of the entire national people is to provide full health care services the length and breadth of the nation.

Therefore, we would like to call on the entire national people to strive together with the health staff in treatment and disease control for ensuring better health care services of the people.

သတိ

၁။ ပြောက်အိုး၊ မီးရှူးနှင့် ခုံး (ရှူးဒိုင်း) ပစ်ဖောက်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြည်သူများ အထိတ်တလန့်ဖြစ်စေခြင်း၊ မသမာသူများမှ ရပ်ရွာအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် လုံခြုံရေးကို ထိခိုက်အောင် လုပ်လက်ခြင်းတို့ကြောင့် ပြောက်အိုးဖောက်ခြင်းကို တားမြစ်သည်။

၂။ တားမြစ်ချက်အား ဖောက်ဖျက်ပါက—

(က) ပစ်လွှတ်သည့်နေရာမှ အနီး၊ အဝေး၊ အနိမ့်နှင့် အမြင့်တို့တွင် ပေါက်ကွဲစေတတ်သော ပြောက်အိုး၊ မီးရှူးနှင့်ခုံးများ (ရှူးဒိုင်း) ဖောက်လွှင့် ထောင်ဒဏ် ၃ နှစ်။

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

(ဂ) သတင်းပေးသူကို ထိုက်တန်စွာ ဆုပေးမည်။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

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

Families of PBANRDA Ministry offer 'soon' to members of the Sangha

YANGON, 8 Nov—Families of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs offered 'soon' to members of Sangha led by the Rector Sayadaw of the State Pariyatti Sasana University at Mogok refectory on Kaba Aye Hill here at 10 am today.

The ceremony was attended by Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Than Tun and Col Tin Ngwe, OSD Brig-Gen Kyaw Thu, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry, officials and staff families.

The congregation received the Five Precepts



Minister Col Thein Nyunt and deputy ministers offer 'soon' to a member of the Sangha. — MNA

from the Rector Sayadaw and Minister Col Thein Nyunt and wife Daw Kyin Khine, the deputy ministers and departmental heads presented offertories to members of the Sangha.

Next, Director-General of Education and

Training Department Col Than Win presented K 200,000 donated by the ministry for the university. Deputy Director-General of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Tun Mya Aung accepted the donation. Afterwards,

the Rector Sayadaw delivered a sermon, following by sharing of merits gained. After that, families of the ministry led by Minister Col Thein Nyunt and wife Daw Kyin Khine offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha.

MNA

Basic courses for seafarers opened



Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung delivers an address at the basic course of Inland Water Transport of the Ministry of Transport. — TRANSPORT

YANGON, 8 Nov—Basic course No 2/2004 for seafarers (deck) and basic course No 1/2004 for seafarers (engine) of Inland Water Transport of the Ministry of Transport were opened at Myathida Thetkadan training school at Botahtaung Wharf this morning.

Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung said the courses are conducted with the aims of ensuring worksite safety and work efficiency. He urged the trainees to apply the knowledge gained at the course in practical work and to try to be good service personnel on whom IWT relies. — MNA

Books for libraries

YANGON, 8 Nov — Wellwishers presented books worth K 779,000 for libraries in Pyin Oo Lwin District on 2 November. Chairman of District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myo Myint and officials accepted the books in Pyin Oo Lwin.

Lt-Col Myo Myint and U Ngwe Tun, Head of District Information and Public Relations Department, made speeches. — MNA

Tasks for 'Education for All' discussed

YANGON, 8 Nov — A coordination meeting on 'Education for All' was held at the meeting hall of the No 1 Basic Education Department in Bahan Township here this morning, with an address delivered by Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min.

Present at the meeting were directors-general of departments under the ministry, deputy directors-general, advisors, departmental personnel, officials of related task forces and social organizations, and education officers.

Institute of Education Rector U Thauung Tut (Retd) and Myanmar Education Research Bureau Chairman Dr Khin Maung Kywe presided over the meeting.

On the occasion, No 1 BED Director-General U Tin Nyo gave a brief account of his experience of international meetings on the theme. Those who attended the Regional Level 'Education for All' Seminar held in Bangkok, Thailand, also recounted what they had learned from it. It was followed by a general round of discussions. — MNA

21 shot dead in Iraq police station massacre, two US soldiers killed

RAMADI, 7 Nov—Gunmen rounded up and killed 21 policemen and two US soldiers died in separate attacks in Iraq Sunday, one day after car bombs and clashes killed 36 people in the restive Sunni heartland.

The renewed violence against symbols of Iraq's US-backed government came as Prime Minister Iyad Allawi looked set to mount an offensive on rebel-held Fallujah, in Al-Anbar province, where the police massacre occurred.

Dozens of gunmen, some 200 according to one

estimate, ambushed the main police station in Haditha and another smaller station in the nearby village of Haqlaniya, said local police.

"The attackers disarmed the police, gathered them together and then shot them dead," he said of the raid in Haditha,

a town 200 kilometres (120 miles) west of Baghdad.

A similar execution-style massacre took place at dawn in Haqlaniya, he said, adding that the combined death toll was 21.

Policemen found their murdered colleagues with their hands tied behind

their backs, while the gunmen escaped with weapons and vehicles.

Seen as collaborating with the US-led military, Iraq's fledgling security forces are a top target in an guerilla that has raged in the aftermath of last year's invasion. They are much easier to hit than their American counterparts.

A curfew imposed during a barrage of bloody attacks on police stations and public buildings in the Sunni Muslim bastion of Samarra on Saturday remained in place as US troops conducted search operations, local police said.

An Iraqi police spokesman said US troops told residents to stay at home or risk being shot, leaving the dead unburied in the hospital morgue, while public buildings remained shuttered.

Internet



Image made from TV of a US soldier being treated as troops entered Fallujah hospital, in Iraq, on 8 November 2004. —INTERNET

HK Govt committed to supporting technology development

HONG KONG, 7 Nov — Hong Kong Government is committed to supporting the development of new technologies in Hong Kong, said John Tsang, secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology Friday.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the City University 20th Anniversary Applied Research Exhibition and Concurrent Seminar, Tsang said to capitalize on the strengths and respond to this changing economic landscape, the government has formulated a new strategy of innovation and technology development.

He said the government will focus on key technology areas where Hong

Kong has competitive advantages for optimal use of resources, market-oriented innovation and technology programmes and the opportunities presented by CEPA (Chinese Mainland/Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement) utilizing the production base in the Greater Pearl River Delta region as the platform for development of applied technology.

MNA/Xinhua

Visions of future "electronic cities" discussed in Shanghai

SHANGHAI, 7 Nov—Experts from around the world described their visions of the "electronic cities" of the future at an information technology forum here Friday.

E-government and e-city programmes were initiated by the United States, said Barry Lunt, a Ph D of Information Technology from the School of Technology of Brigham Young University, said at the forum, part of the 2004 World Engineers Convention.

E-cities will be much

more efficient than regular cities, Lunt said. He argued that once e-government and e-city programme started, information might flow and transfer and be copied in vast quantity via the Internet, smashing barriers between governments. The process would become more and

more transparent too, he added. The difficulty, he said, is how to promote progress of information technology and to integrate different information more efficiently.

Science and technology will serve as the core of any future e-city or e-government, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

မှတ်တမ်းသစ် စိုးမိုးခြင်း

Iraq declares 60-day state of emergency

BAGHDAD, 7 Nov—Iraq's government last night declared a state of emergency and nationwide curfews for 60 days as the widely expected assault on the rebel stronghold of Fallujah drew closer.

US jets launched their heaviest bombing raids yet in Fallujah at the weekend, dropping several 500lb bombs, and American troops blocked off all roads into the city. The long anticipated assault is expected to begin this week. But still the rebel bombing campaign continues, claiming at least another 60 lives across Iraq at the weekend.

Guerillas attacked three police stations in the Sunni belt north and west of the capital, killing at least 22 people. South of Baghdad, 12 Iraqi national guardsmen were murdered as they drove home to the holy Shia city of Najaf. Outside Fallujah, the US Marines appeared in the final stages of preparation for the assault. The commander of the US 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, which will lead the attack, gave a rallying speech to 3,000 of his troops at their base outside the city.

"This is America's fight," said Lt Gen John Sattler. "What we've added to it is our Iraqi partners. They want to go in and liberate Fallujah. They feel this town's being held hostage by mugs, thugs, murderers and terrorists. God bless you, each and every one. You know what your mission is. Go out there and get it done."

Reports from inside the city suggest that rebels have dug in and have hidden roadside bombs. Many car bombs have apparently been prepared and, while most families have fled, hundreds of fighters remain waiting for battle. —Internet

British contractor killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 7 Nov—A British contractor has been killed in a roadside bomb attack in Zubayr, south Iraq, an Army spokesman has said.

The Foreign Office confirmed a Briton had died in an incident, but gave no further details.

The Army spokesman in Basra said there were two civilian casualties from the bomb on Sunday morning.

"I can confirm there was a car bomb this morning. I believe they were

two civilians, they were definitely not military," he said. The incident happened in Zubayr, just south of Basra.

Danish television reported that the Briton was a civilian security employee, and the second casualty was a South African colleague.

Danish troops from a nearby military camp rushed to the scene, *Associated Press* reported, but the Briton was killed instantly and the South African died later in hospital.

A Foreign Office spokeswoman said: "I can confirm a British national has died and the next of kin have been informed."

"We have no other details to be released." The deaths come on the same day as two British soldiers with the Black Watch battle group were seriously injured in a suicide bomb attack in central Iraq. The pair were hit when a suicide bomber drove towards them and detonated a device near Camp Dogwood. —Internet



Image made from TV of a US soldier moving a captured man by the leg after US troops entered Fallujah hospital, in Iraq, on 8 November 2004. —INTERNET

Aid agencies abandon dangerous work in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 7 Nov— Giving aid to people in Iraq has become a virtual “suicide mission” that few relief workers are willing to take, prompting most international agencies to pull their foreign staff out or shut their operations completely.

Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) this week became the latest in a long line of humanitarian organizations to decide that the risk of kidnapping or bombing in Iraq outweighs the benefits it brings to the population.

But some international non-governmental organizations are standing firm, though they admit that their work is hugely curtailed by the security factor.

Women for Women International, a Washington-based advocacy group that promotes women's

issues in countries scarred by war, is one of the few agencies still operating—in a limited manner—on the ground.

The US Institute for Peace is another agency that opted to stay the course for now, though one foreign employee ad-

mitted that it was virtually impossible to check first hand on the projects it funded to promote peace and conflict resolution.

“It is a real downer for the international staff and it makes it harder to assess and evaluate the work we are doing,” Heather Coyne said. To lessen the risk of attack, USIP is based inside the fortress-like Green Zone in the centre of Baghdad that also houses the main Iraqi government buildings as well as the US and other embassies.—*Internet*



The commander of Britain's Black Watch regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel James Cowan, expressed fears about the security of his troops before they were transferred to take over from US soldiers south of Baghdad on 6 Nov, 2004.

INTERNET

Nigeria to invite bids for 27 oil blocks in 2005

LAGOS, 7 Nov— Nigeria will put on offer a total of 27 oil blocs at the opening of a new bidding round scheduled for the first quarter of 2005, the country's *This Day* newspaper reported Friday.

The blocks are located in the deepwater, continental shelf of the Niger Delta and Chad Basins, Edmund Daukoru, presidential adviser on petroleum and energy matters, was quoted as saying. Daukoru said in a statement released by the Ministry of Petroleum Resources that “no limit would be placed on the number of blocks a participant company could apply for” in the impending bidding round. “A company can undertake solo-bidding or take part in partnership with other companies,” he added.

Nigeria previously conducted an open bidding round for oil block licensing in 2000. At that time, 22 blocks were put on offer, out of which 11 were offered. Through the awards of more acreage, Nigeria plans to raise the country's oil reserves to 40 billion barrels from the current 33 billion barrels by 2010, as well as achieve a production capacity of four million barrels per day (BPD) by the same year from the current 2.5 million BPD.

Nigeria is Africa's top oil producer and the world's sixth largest oil exporter.

MNA/Xinhua

African countries urged to train more trade negotiators

HARARE, 7 Nov— African countries were urged Thursday in Zimbabwe to invest more resources in building institutional and human resources capacity to effectively negotiate on world trade issues.

The call was made in a two-day consultative meeting on trade, investment and capacity building interventions in sub-Saharan Africa, which started in Harare on Thursday.

“We don't have academic institutions dealing specifically with trade and

investment issues in Africa,” said United Nations Development Programme deputy resident representative in Zimbabwe, Bernard Mokam.

“An institutional framework to help trade negotiators in doing their work is lacking in Africa and we need to improve

on this,” said Mokam.

Director for international trade in Zimbabwe's Ministry of Industry and International Trade, Beatrice Mutetwa, said Africa should continuously train its trade negotiators because trade negotiations will not stop.

MNA/Xinhua

စက်မှုရေးရာ: နေဝါကျော်ညွှာ

Filipino still hostage in Iraq

MANILA, 8 Nov—Hopes fell yesterday for Filipino accountant Robert Tarongoy, held hostage in Iraq, but rose for compatriot and diplomat Angelito Nayan, held captive in Afghanistan.

The Arab Al-Jazeera television network retracted its earlier report that Tarongoy had been freed and said that his fate now was unknown. The Qatar-based news channel had said on Friday that Tarongoy had been released after his wife appealed for his freedom.

Tarongoy's whereabouts “remain unknown following reports that he was released along with a Nepalese hostage. It later turned out that only the Nepalese captive was released,” Al-Jazeera said yesterday.

Nepal confirmed the release of its national who, like Tarongoy, was among a group snatched by masked gunmen who stormed their Baghdad offices on 1 November. The group included an American and three Iraqis, two of whom were later released.—*Internet*

Syrians reinforce security at Iraq border

AL-HIRI, 7 Nov— Bulldozers shove sand into a 12-foot-high barrier along Syria's remote border with Iraq, where authorities say round-the-clock patrols and new observation posts are stopping foreign fighters flowing into Iraq.

At another section of the border, American soldiers stand 50 yards away on the Iraqi side, watching as Arab journalists are taken on a tour of the border organized by the Syrian government to show how Syria is responding to US and Iraqi demands it stop infiltrators.

“Be careful, they will shoot!” Lt Col Ali Ahmed al-Shummari joked, referring to the Americans on the Iraqi side.

The colonel—who is in charge of the Abu Kamal border crossing area facing Qaim, Iraq—was smiling. But tensions have been high since Ameri-

can troops moved next door and US-Syrian relations have undergone a chill.

Syria agreed to help secure its 380-mile border with Iraq—a key US concern, especially as US-led forces prepare for a major assault on Fallujah, the hotbed of neighbouring Iraq's insurgency.

Still, Syrian and US forces standing yards apart at the border, don't interact, a Syrian security official said.

Washington and Damascus have long differed over the Arab-Israeli conflict and US accusations Syria supports terrorism.—*Internet*

Shoulder-fired missiles missing in Iraq, says paper

WASHINGTON, 7 Nov— Bush Administration officials fear as many as 4000 shoulder-fired missiles could be missing from Iraq, the *Washington Post* reports.

The missiles, which can be used to down

aircraft, had been under the control of Saddam Hussein's Government.

The newspaper quoted a senior US defence official as saying it was difficult to estimate how many of the port-

able missiles were missing and how many would have been in working order.

US officials fear that failure to secure the weapons means they may have been sold to terrorists.

Internet



Two British soldiers look at a map in the operations room of the 1st Battalion Black Watch at Camp Dogwood, Iraq on 6 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

Greece says first foreign policy decision by Bush wrong

ATHENS, 7 Nov — Greece said on Friday the first foreign policy decision by the reelected Bush administration was wrong after Washington recognized the neighbouring Balkan state by the disputed name of Macedonia.

After President George W Bush's reelection on Tuesday, his administration disregarded UN-led talks to find a compromise and recognized the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) by the name Macedonia, which is rejected by Greece.

"I made it clear that I consider this US move to be wrong ... it is off-target and unfortunate," Greek Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis told reporters in Brussels. "The United States with their move are not helping towards a solution."

The row has damaged relations between the Balkan neighbours since 1991 when the republic broke away from Yugoslavia. Athens opposes the name "Macedonia", saying it could imply territorial claims against its own northern province of Macedonia.

Karamanlis also said the dispute could hurt the chances of the land-locked state of 2.1 million people joining the European Union, of which Greece is a member.

It is known by most international groups, and seated at the United Nations, as "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" while UN-led talks seek to find a compromise name.

"The European Union position re-

mains clear that if FYROM wants to have any hopes of joining the EU they must have accepted a commonly acceptable solution," Karamanlis said.

The EU will issue a report in the first half of 2005 on the country's bid to join the 25-nation block.

Karamanlis said he raised the dispute over the name, which has also hurt Greece's relations with several EU partners, with Britain's Tony Blair and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

US Secretary of State Colin Powell told Greece this week the move was not aimed at undermining the fellow NATO member but rewarding Macedonia.

He said recognition as Macedonia was intended to weaken the chances of a nationalist-inspired referendum on Sunday reducing the rights of Macedonia's large ethnic Albanian minority.

But most Greek media saw the US decision to accept the disputed name, weeks after US special envoy Matthew Nimitz met Greek officials to discuss the issue, as a betrayal. "Bush ignores the UN and strikes (Athens) early in the morning," the daily *Eleftherotypia* said in its front page. The name is highly sensitive in Greece, partly because Macedonia was the birthplace of Alexander the Great. — MNA/Reuters

"Delta 2" rocket successfully launched

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 7 Nov — A Boeing Co *Delta 2* rocket successfully launched a new US Air Force Global Positioning Satellite into orbit from Florida on Saturday.

The rocket showed no ill effects from having stood on its launch pad in the paths of Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne, which both hit Florida in September.

The hurricanes caused the first in several launch delays for the mission. Technicians spent weeks making sure no flying debris had damaged the rocket inside its cocoon-like mobile gantry.

The 45-million-US-dollar satellite, built by Lockheed Martin, brings the current number of GPS satellites in the US constellation to 30, the Air Force said. It will replace an aging satellite that has been in geosynchronous orbit

since 1991.

Boeing said the flight of the three-stage *Delta*, which roared off the launch pad at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station at 12:39 am EST (0539 GMT) was flawless.

"Following a 26-minute flight to space, the launch vehicle successfully deployed the GPS satellite. Today's launch marks the 61st consecutive successful launch aboard the *Delta 2*," said Boeing spokesman Robert Villanueva.

The next launch for the *Delta* team is a NASA science mission scheduled for 17 November.

MNA/Reuters



A man looks over the rubble of his home after a US airstrike in Fallujah, Iraq on 6 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET



A boy recovers in a Fallujah hospital after a US airstrike in Fallujah, Iraq on 6 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

Roadside bomb blast kills Turkish driver in Mosul

MOSUL (Iraq), 7 Nov — A roadside bomb blast killed a Turkish driver and destroyed two Turkish fuel trucks in an attack on a US-escorted convoy near the northern Iraqi city of Mosul on Saturday, the US military said.

A spokeswoman said the attack occurred at 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) about three miles south of Mosul on the main highway leading to Baghdad. There were no American casualties, but a US military truck was damaged in the blast, she said.

The military had said earlier that the dead driver was an Iraqi and that the trucks were also Iraqi. Many US military bases in northern Iraq depend on fuel and other supplies trucked in from neighbouring Turkey.

MNA/Reuters

Iraqi civilian wounded in Baghdad

CANBERRA, 8 Nov — Australian soldiers patrolling in Baghdad shot and wounded an Iraqi civilian in self-defence after he disobeyed their order to stop his car, Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said on Sunday.

Downer confirmed the Friday evening shooting, which is under investigation by the Defence Department.

The department said in a statement Saturday that the troops had acted within their rules of engagement. Downer said the wounded man was taken away by other Iraqis and his condition was not known.

"I understand from the Defence Department that two Iraqis in a vehicle refused to stop when mo-

tioned to do so by the security detachment of the Australian Defence Force," Downer told Seven Network television.

"When they refused to stop, eventually in self-defence the Australian soldiers used small arms fire and one of the Iraqis in the vehicle was at least injured. But an Iraqi took him away."

Australia sent 2,000 troops to the US-led invasion of Iraq and more than 900 remain in and around

Iraq. Downer said Australian troops would stay in Iraq as long as necessary but the real objective was to get elections conducted at the end of January.

He said an elected Iraqi government would be regarded as more legitimate than the current interim government. Australian troops in Iraq are providing security for the Australian diplomatic mission as well as training the new Iraqi military, he said.

MNA/AP

Universe to last for another 26 billion years

NEW YORK, 7 Nov — The universe will last for another 26 billion years and not collapse in a "big crunch" within 11 billion years from now as predicted earlier, a new study has found.

Relying on the theory of "dark energy"—an unseen force counteracting the pull of gravity—astrophysicists have come to the conclusion that the universe is expanding faster than thought.

Andrei Linde of Stanford University, leads a team who previously predicted that the universe might end as soon as 11 billion years from now. But their latest research into dark energy gives us a stay on the end, *Nature* magazine reports. The team's new calculation relies on recent observations from the *Hubble Space Telescope*, which has found several supernovae that are moving away from us faster than any others seen before, implying that the universe is expanding faster than we thought.

Linde, the magazine says, concludes that the universe is likely to last for

almost twice as long again as it has already existed, before collapsing back on itself in a 'big crunch'.

Linde's model, relies on calculations made by Yun Wang, a cosmologist from the University of Oklahoma.

"If we assume this model, the universe will probably be safe for the next 24 billion years," Linde told news@nature.com.

Many models describe dark energy as a negative pressure on the universe — unlike a gas, the pressure of dark energy actually increases as it expands.

But dark energy has never been directly seen. "Even well educated guesses about dark energy are deeply problematic," the magazine quotes Robert Caldwell, an astrophysicist from Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire as saying. — MNA/PTI

Iraq to spend \$90m to let citizens living abroad vote

BAGHDAD, 7 Nov — Iraq will spend 90 million US dollars to let citizens living abroad vote in elections, the government said on Saturday, despite UN concerns organizing overseas voting would be too costly.

The United Nations, which is advising on the January 27 national and provincial elections, opposed allowing expatriates to vote saying it was expensive, difficult to organize and open to fraud.

The government has allocated 90 million US dollars for overseas voting from the 340 million US dollars set aside for the elections, a statement from interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi's office said.

"The government expects the independent High Election Commission and the United Nations to do their best to make the elections a success ... and allow all Iraqis inside and outside the country to participate in the democratic process," the statement said.

"This financial support removed a main obstacle against conducting elec-

tions outside Iraq."

The elections will choose a 275-member assembly that will select a Cabinet and draw up a Constitution.

The United States, which also opposes non-resident Iraqis voting, says it has allocated 871 million US dollars for democracy in Iraq, including 60 million US dollars for elections and 30 million US dollars to support political parties it sees as moderate.

UN officials say it will cost about 90 million US dollars a head for expatriates to register and vote, compared with 24 US dollars for each voter in Iraq.

Iraq has a population of 26 million US dollars. There are an estimated 3-4 million Iraqis living mainly in Jordan, Iran, Syria, Europe, Brazil and the United States.

MNA/Reuters

Two UK soldiers injured in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 7 Nov—Two British soldiers have been seriously injured in a suicide attack in Iraq, the Ministry of Defence said.

The troops were part of the Black Watch battle group stationed at Camp Dogwood 20 miles (32km) from Baghdad, having been re-deployed from Basra.

The MoD said the pair were treated at a US field hospital before being flown to a military hospital in Germany.

The injuries came after three soldiers were killed in a suicide bomb attack at a checkpoint near Fallujah on Thursday.

The two soldiers suffered serious injuries to their lower legs, and were said to be in a stable condition.

The pair, from the bomb disposal unit, were flown from Iraq on Sunday evening.

They had been in an armoured Warrior vehicle on the west bank of the Euphrates River when it was rammed by the suicide bomber's car.

On Thursday three soldiers from the regiment were killed in a suicide bomb attack at a checkpoint near Fallujah.

They were named as Sgt Stuart Gray, 31, Pte Paul Lowe, 19 and Pte Scott McArdle, 22, all from Fife.

Internet

Georgia, South Ossetia agree to withdraw troops from conflict zone

Moscow, 7 Nov — Georgia and its pro-independence region of South Ossetia Friday agreed to withdraw troops from conflict areas at a bilateral meeting held in Russia's Black Sea resort of Sochi, said reports reaching here.

Georgian Prime Minister Zurab Zhvania and South Ossetian leader Eduard Kokoity agreed that all the Armed Forces, but the peacekeepers by the two sides and Russia and some police, would be pulled out of the conflict zone.

The agreement was reached under the mediation of the Russian Foreign Ministry. Topics discussed during the meeting also included resuming rail transportation between Georgian capital Tbilisi and South Ossetian capital Tskhinvali.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi policeman lies on a bed at a local hospital in the northern Iraqi city of Samarra after four car bombs and clashes rocked the restive city of Samarra on 6 Nov, 2004. —INTERNET

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Allawi appeals for help from European leaders

BRUSSELS (Belgium), 7 Nov— Iraq's US-backed leader has made an impassioned plea for European nations divided by the war to reunite to help stabilize and rebuild his country.

Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi appealed to the European Union to build a "close and strategic partnership" with the new Iraq, and he urged NATO to accelerate plans to train 1,000 officers a year for the fledgling Iraqi military.

"Iraq is your best ally in the Middle East," Allawi told EU leaders Friday.

"We need your help to succeed in building the freedom and democracy for which we are fighting."

The EU leaders responded with strong words of support and a (38.6- million-US-dollars) offer to fund elections scheduled in Janu-

ary, including training for Iraqi vote monitors.

In their first meeting since US President George W Bush won reelection on Tuesday, many European leaders stressed the need to overcome past differences over Iraq and strengthen the trans-Atlantic partnership.

"Our deep political, economic and cultural ties make us each other's natural and indispensable partners," EU leaders said in a statement.

However, French President Jacques Chirac — who clashed with Bush over Iraq — stressed the need for Europe to boost its standing to balance Washington's global

clout.

"It is evident that Europe, now more than ever, must strengthen its unity and dynamism when faced with this great world power," Chirac said at the end of a two-day summit. "More than ever, we must reinforce Europe politically and economically."

In a statement on Iraq, all 25 EU leaders pledged to "support the brave and difficult course the people of Iraq are steering toward the restoration of security, democracy and the rule of law".

However, many saw a French snub when Chirac left the summit early, skipping the meeting with Allawi.

MNA/AP



A wounded boy is carried off after he was shot in the leg by American forces in the Sadr City neighbourhood of Baghdad, Iraq recently. —INTERNET

UNSC demands immediate halt to all military action in Ivory Coast

UNITED NATIONS, 7 Nov— The UN Security Council on Saturday demanded an immediate halt to all military action in Ivory Coast and confirmed that UN peacekeepers and French forces are authorized to use "all necessary means" to carry out their jobs.

At an emergency meeting, the Council also authorized UN and French troops patrolling a zone dividing the rebel-held north from the government-controlled south "to prevent any hostile action," and condemned any attempt by either side to send forces through the zone.

The Council said it "intends to examine rapidly further actions, including individual meas-

ures, to be taken."

France's UN Ambassador Jean-Marc de La Sabliere said he would draft a resolution imposing an arms embargo on Ivory Coast. "The Security Council is impatient," he said. "What is happening now is very serious in Ivory Coast and I hope that the Council in the coming days will be able to adopt a resolution."

Presidential state-

ments such as the one the Council issued Saturday become part of the Council's record, but resolutions are legally binding. Council members agreed on the statement after a closed-door briefing on the latest developments in Ivory Coast, including an attack on a French base that killed nine French troops and an American civilian, and wounded over 20 French soldiers. — MNA/AP

Paunglaung Hydropower project to fulfil electricity requirements



The State has implemented 28 new hydropower projects and six gas-fired power projects to generate more electricity. Eleven power projects including Paunglaung Hydropower project and Ye Ywa Hydropower Project are being implemented. On completion of these projects, additional 1,949 megawatts of electricity will be generated.

No 1 diversion tunnel of Paunglaung Hydropower project, which has a generating capacity of 280 megawatts.

Location — On Paunglaung Creek in Pyinmana Township, Mandalay Division.
Number of Turbines installed — Four Turbines
Generating Capacity — 280 megawatts



Paunglaung Dam multipurpose project in Pyinmana Township, Yamethin District in Mandalay Division.



Foreign Minister sends message of felicitations to Cambodia

YANGON, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 51st Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia which falls on 9 November 2004, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr HOR Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia.—MNA

Malaysian guests call on Commerce Minister

YANGON, 8 Nov — Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein received Tan Sri Dato Soong Siew Hoong, National Council Member cum Secretary General of the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Malaysia and party at his office this morning.

Present on the occasion were Director-General U Nyunt Aye of the Directorate of Trade, Director-General U Nay Win of the Border Trade Department, Managing Director U Min Hla Aung of the Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading and officials.—MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects religious books and papers and commemorative badges which will be used at Fourth World Buddhist Summit. (News on page 1) — MNA

Kachin State USDA holds annual general meeting

YANGON, 8 Nov — The annual general meeting for 2004 of Kachin State Union Solidarity and Development Association was held in Myitkyina on 6 November.

Patron of Kachin State USDA Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen

Maung Maung Swe and wife Daw Tin Tin Nwe, member of Secretariat of USDA Kachin State in-charge Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Secretary of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Myo and departmental officials.

Commander of

Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and member of the Secretariat of USDA Brig-Gen Thein Zaw spoke on the occasion.

The commander, the minister and officials presented prizes to outstanding students and personnel for their excellent performance.

Next, Secretary of Kachin State USDA U

Rawan Jone accepted cash donated for USDA. He also presented K1.5 million for construction of Thahtaygon-Namti suspension bridge and equipment worth K 1.7 million for language lab to officials concerned. In the evening, a dinner to mark the annual general meeting of Kachin State USDA was held.

MNA

Upgrading of Bagan-NyaungU Airport, rural development tasks inspected

YANGON, 8 Nov — Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, together with officials, inspected the upgrading of the buildings at Bagan-NyaungU Airport on 4 November morning. Officials of the Civil Aviation Department reported on construction tasks to the deputy minister, who gave instructions on timely completion of the project and meeting the set standard. Next, he oversaw the scanning of passengers' bags and luggage by X-ray machines, and the passengers' lounge.

Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung, CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, attended the concluding of the basic USDA organizing multiplier course conducted by the Kunsai Village USDA in Myingyan Township, and inspected the running of 'Moon' brand paper factory.

On the morning of November 5, the deputy minister and wife Daw Wai Wai presented offertories to the Presiding Sayadaw and 120 members of Sangha at Lonedaw Village Monastery in Natogyi Township. Afterwards, the deputy minister met the people of Lonedaw Village and explained rural development works. The Township Peace and Development Council Chairman and officials reported on the construction of Kanhnaung-Lonedaw-Thamandaw Road.

The deputy minister and wife on 6 November morning attended the stake-driving ceremony for construction of the Dhammayon of Lonedaw Monastery. The deputy minister next met the people of Dainglai Village, urging them to actively participate in the rural development tasks, and inspected the site chosen for construction of Dainglai Bridge.

In Phayagyi model village, the deputy minister met with local people and inspected production process of Wadec beads, works of Pyu Period. Later, the deputy minister and party went to Magyikan village where he inspected the generating of electricity through bio gas and met with the village people. Then, he donated 50 bags of cement for construction of Magyidan primary school.

In the evening, the deputy minister and officials met members of the USDA and War Veterans Organization from Natogyi Township and Myingyan District.

On 7 November morning, Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung inspected Shwekinnay-2 watercraft owned by Inland Water Transport at the port of Bagan-NyaungU. Later, he greeted tourists and passengers from the craft and gave necessary instructions to the crew members. — MNA

MMCWA Central Council meets



MMCWA President Daw Khin Khin Win delivers an address at the coordination meeting of MMCWA central council. — MNA

YANGON, 8 Nov — The Central Council of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association held a coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the multipurpose building in South Okkalapa Township here this evening, with an address delivered by MMCWA President Daw Khin Khin Win.

It was attended by MMCWA Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint, Secretary Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha and members of the Central Council.

In her speech, Daw Khin Khin Win said as a permanent member, she has devoted herself in the association to participate in its activities in person. She also said that in line with the goals of the association, she would go hand in hand with all the members in carrying out the tasks to uplift public health, education and social status.

MMCWA is serving public interests with full sense of volunteer spirit, and at the same time, it is taking measures to ensure the uplift of health, fitness

and education standards of the entire nation: one of the four social objectives of the State, she continued.

Correct leadership and close supervision are very instrumental for the association to implementing effectively its tasks. In this context, the onus is on all the members to carry out matters related to current amendments, laws, rules and regulations as directed by the Secretary-1 and the health minister, she said.

As a social volunteering organization, MMCWA comprising volunteers and departmental personnel also stands as a national force, she added. Later, she called for selfless contributions of the members.

Next, Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint briefed on measures to be taken for five tasks such as health, education, economy, social affairs and international relations.

Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha reported on the future plans of the association, which was followed by a general round of discussions.

MNA

YangPu-KatTaik Bridge in eastern Shan State opens

YANGON, 8 Nov — YangPu-KatTaik Bridge in Kengtung Township, eastern Shan State, was inaugurated this morning.

Built under the sponsorship of Shan State (East) Union Solidarity and Development Association, the bridge is located on a rural road linking Kengtung and KatTaik village.

The Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs and the local public also rendered assistance for the project. It was built at a cost of K 2.51 million, to which the State provided K 1.6 million and the local public, contribute the remaining

the K 0.91 million.

The bridge helps facilitate transport in YangPu and KatTaik village-tracts, where over 10,000 people live, leading to the development of economic and social sectors.

Secretary of Shan State USDA Dr Sai Hse Kaw and Director of Development Affairs Department U Tin Soe formally opened the facility.

Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, USDA Central Executive Committee member Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and local

people also attended the opening ceremony.

The commander and the minister also inspected the opening of a new rural health care centre in KatTaik village.

Officials explained efforts to implement the bridge and the rural health centre projects.

U Sai Toam and his elder sister Daw Nang Hsam Tit of the village donated their 40-foot by 40-foot land to build the 30-foot by 20-foot CI-roofed brick building. It was built at a cost of K 2.1 million. The Government provided K 1.5 million, the public, K 600,000.

MNA



MNCWA President Daw Than Than Nwe speaks about future tasks of MNCWA. — MNA

Future tasks on women's affairs of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation explained

YANGON, 8 Nov — The future tasks on women's affairs of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation were clarified at the meeting hall of MNAF on Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township this afternoon.

Present were the President of MNAF, the Vice-President, general secretary, the joint general secretary, members of the secretariat, heads of departments, leaders of work groups, regional organizers, deputy leaders, intellectuals and intelligentsia and officials of support groups.

President of MNAF Daw Than Than Nwe said she would report on formation and the future tasks of MNAF. The federation was formed systematically in accord with the fundamental rules. There are over 1.3 million members in one year.

The tasks are to be implemented according to its objectives. The federation will carry on its tasks mainly on safeguarding of women, providing assistance to

them and educational and organizational matters in accord with the objectives of the federation, she said.

She said the federation will also participate in the endeavours for emergence of a new modern developed nation organizing the women, 50.3% of population of Myanmar.

She said as the federation was consolidated at the central level, concerted efforts are to be made for consolidation of State/Division, District/Township and Ward/Village Women Organizations and for increase of qualified members from quantitative ones through assistance, educational and organizational ways and means.

She spoke of the need for members of the federations at different levels to make endeavours to stand as a support federation in cooperation with other partners such as social organizations in the interests of the State and the people. She said Myanmar will host the third meeting of ASEAN Committee on Women

(ACW) in the last week of November. Therefore, preparations are being made for the meeting in cooperation with Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs. Those who will be participating in the meeting are to continue their tasks as scheduled, she added. She spoke at length on prevention of trafficking in person and preventing violence against women, nurturing young girls, preserving culture and making efforts to become the federation that supports the development of women and arrangements for needy women to receive education and vocational education.

Next, General Secretary of MNAF Professor Dr Daw Khin Aye Win reported on tasks needed. A general round of discussions then followed.

Next, President Daw Than Than Nwe said the federation and its members at different levels are to discharge their duties for all-round development of women and their security of life in accord with the rules and regulations. — MNA

Commander inspects upgrading tasks of Mandalay Industry Zone-2

YANGON, 8 Nov — Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint on 5 November went to Mandalay Industrial Zone-2 in Pyigyitagon Township in Mandalay and inspected upgrading tasks of the Zone. The commander inspected the

progress of the construction of the factories and sub-power stations and machinery at the zone.

At the briefing hall, responsible officials briefed the commander on progress of work, installation of cables, training, import machinery for factories and storage of raw materials. After hearing reports, the commander

urged the officials to strive for timely completion of construction work and attended to the needs.

Afterwards, the commander went to UD Group workshop on 59th Street and inspected the devices such as conversion kits and regulators produced by the UD Group for CNG gas used vehicles.

MNA



Secretariat member of USDA Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and wife present provisions to Thameikdawdaya nunnery in Myitkyina. — MNA

USDA Secretariat Member inspects development works in Kachin State

YANGON, 8 Nov — Secretariat member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw went on inspection tour of 100-acre mixed crops plantation of Kachin State USDA on November 5. At the briefing hall, Secretary of Kachin State USDA U Rawanjon presented reports to the minister on mixed crops plantations with the help of charts.

After inspecting around there, the minister instructed officials to make efforts for successful

cultivation of crops and to utilize water from Nantkwe Creek.

Next, Patron of Kachin State USDA Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw met officials of Myitkyina Kayin Baptist Mission Society and presented rice, edible oil and bags of gram to them. An official of the society expressed his thanks.

Afterwards, they proceeded to Myitkyina Wuntho Kyaungtaik and paid homage to Myitkyina Wuntho Kyaungtaik Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jortikadhaja

Bhadanta Silavamsa and supplicated on religious affairs.

After that, they met Christian priests, officials and reverends of Christian associations in Myitkyina and donated rice and gram to them.

Later, they went to Thameikdawdaya nunnery and donated provisions to nuns.

And the minister met the secretary and executives of state, district and township level and members on November 7 and instructed them to speed up momentum in implementing future tasks of the association.

MNA

One-year traditional medicine practitioners course concludes

YANGON, 8 Nov — The one-year Traditional Medicine Practitioners Course No 3 (Yangon), conducted by the Traditional Medicine Department of the Ministry of Health, concluded at Institute of Nursing in Lanmadaw Township here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, departmental heads, rectors, members of the Traditional Medicine Council, hospital superintendents, and officials.

After addressing the closing ceremony of the course, the deputy director presented awards to three trainees who stood first,



Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo presents a silver bowl to practitioner Dr Daw May Tin Maung. — MNA

second and third in the course. Afterwards, he presented the certificates to

two trainees, who accepted them on behalf of all trainees. — MNA

Kayan Sluice Gate to benefit 30,000 acres

In its drive to develop the nation in all spheres, the Government has been implementing the 12 objectives. In the process, it is constantly conducting feasibility surveys to exploit terrestrial and marine resources for promote the agricultural sector and developing the respective regions in line with one of the four economic objectives — de-

dated in the rainy season.

Kayan Sluice Gate Project in Thanlyin Township is being implemented by the Construction Group-6 of the Irrigation Department starting from 2003-2004 with the aim of preventing possible floods and providing water for farmlands in Kayan, Thongwa and Thanlyin townships in Yangon Division.

reduce the flooding of the farmlands by letting the water flow into the river again,

(2) to store fresh water in the rainy season to irri-

Article by Kyaw Sein & Photos by Thein Win Lay (Myanma Alin)

gate monsoon paddy fields in the late monsoon, to supply water to cold season crops, and to provide

Sluice Gate.

So far, Paingkyoun, Shankaing, Tarwa and Shwehlay sluice gates have been established in the eastern part of Bago

Yoma mountain range. The water that flows down from Bago Yoma is firstly stored in Baingda, Kawliya and Ye Nwe dams. And these dams supply water to Moe Yun Gyi Lake. Then, with the use of Kayan Sluice Gate, the water from Moe Yun Gyi Lake will be supplied to the farmlands in Kayan, Thongwa and Thanlyin townships via Tarwa, Paingkyoun and Shwehlay sluice gates. So,



Kayan Sluice Gate Project being implemented by Construction Group 6 of the Irrigation Department seen on 5-11-2004.



Heavy machinery at the Kayan Sluice Gate Project near old Chaungwa Village, Thanlyin Township, seen on 5-11-2004.

velopment of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well.

It is part of the Project for Greening the 30-mile Radius of Yangon City (East). So efforts are being exerted with added

fresh water in summer, and (3) to prevent sea water from entering farmlands, and to prevent the creeks from being silted up by



Officials of Kayan Sluice Gate Project brief Myanma Alin Daily on Kayan Sluice Gate Project.



The Kayan Sluice Gate Project being implemented by Construction Group-6 of the Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

The Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has to construct sluice gates in Yangon Division, Bago Division, Ayeyawady Division, Mon State and Kayin State, where some of the cultivable areas are inun-

dered by the project by 2004-2005.

The purposes of Kayan Sluice Gate Project are:

(1) to prevent river water from entering low-lying areas in Kayan, Thongwa and Thanlyin townships in the rainy season, and to

blocking sea water and silt entering cultivable areas in summer.

Therefore, the Government has built floodgates in the vast area between Bago River and Sittoung River for reclamation of more farmlands, and one of them is Kayan

16 feet high.

The Kayan Sluice Gate is the second largest of its kind with a 4,000-foot-long feeder canal and a 2,500-foot-long outlet canal.

On completion, the facility will be able to benefit some 30,000 acres of farmlands in Yangon Division.

So, the Kayan Sluice Gate Project will help raise the agriculture sector and the transport sector significantly, serving the interests of the nation and of the people.

(Translation: MS)
Myanma Alin: 8-11-2004



Heavy machinery being operated for construction of the main embankment of Kayan Sluice Gate Project.

Robert Blackwill may leave White House

WASHINGTON, 8 Nov — The Bush Administration's lead official on Iraq policy has told the White House he plans to leave in the coming weeks, US officials said on Saturday, ahead of Iraq's planned elections.

Robert Blackwill had been mentioned in speculation about President George W. Bush's second-term foreign policy team, with some observers pegging him as a possible successor to National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice.

Blackwill told Rice several weeks ago he would leave soon after the US election, said a White House official who declined to be identified.

His departure was first reported by *The Washington Post*.

Blackwill, a former US ambassador to India, was tapped by the White House in August 2003 to be coordinator for strategic planning to Rice and manage the administration's Iraq policy.

He was widely credited with reshaping the administration's policy by focusing on ending American control of Iraq and establishing the temporary government. Blackwill was closely involved in selecting the Iraqi interim leadership.

MNA/Reuters



Sky dance : Members of The French Aerobatics Team (FAT) display their aerobatic skills at Hindan Airbase in Ghaziabad, some 20 km east of New Delhi. — INTERNET

New vaccine for Japanese encephalitis

NEW DELHI, 8 Nov — A "more effective" vaccine for Japanese encephalitis has been developed by the scientists here, according to a top official with the Department of Biotechnology.

"The vaccine developed by the scientists at the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and National Institute of Immunology offers effective prevention of the disease as compared to other ones available in the market," DBT Secretary MK Bhan told *PTI*.

The vaccine would soon be available in the market as the technology

has already been transferred to the industry after successful clinical trials, he said.

The development assumes significance as the chances of death due to Japanese encephalitis are high and the vaccines currently available are not very effective, he said.

Since no treatment was available, symptomatic treatment is being given to patients, Bhan said.

The disease, transmitted by culex mosquito, has claimed over 1,300 lives in as many as 16 states including Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and

West Bengal during 2000 to 2003, a release from the department said.

The vector-borne disease causes inflammation around the brain and is characterized by high fever, headache, disorientation and spastic paralysis, it said.

Meanwhile, the Department has also developed a kit to test the disease, official spokesman of the department said.

"The kit — X cytome — which is already available in the market, would help detect the disease within no time," the spokesman added.

MNA/PTI

Bangladesh expects over \$80m FDI in November

DHAKA, 7 Nov — The foreign investment inflow into the country may experience a huge jump in November with an expected cash investment of over 80 million US dollars.

The cash inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI), as expected, will be the highest in a month and will exceed the amount the country attracted in a single year before 2003, the *New Age* reported

Saturday.

Bangladesh attracted 121 million dollars in 2003, according to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development World Investment Report 2004.

Bangladesh, in its own survey, however, claims the figure to be higher.

Lafarge Surma Cement Company Limited, now at the final stage of going into production,

is expected to spearhead the enhanced FDI inflow this month with a big chunk.

The French company is set to bring in 54 million dollars this month with 24 million dollars already in the process, the government's investment promotion agency sources said.

A few other companies will also make investment in the country.

MNA/Xinhua

Foreign translation software giants vie for Chinese market

BEIJING, 8 Nov — Foreign language translation software producers have made headway into China in a bid to cash in on its growing translation market, which has been fuelled by the country's recent acceptance into the World Trade Organization and the opening up of its markets to foreign competition.

SDL International, one of the world's largest providers of language translation software, has launched a Chinese version of its popular Translation Memory tool, SDLX, at the China Translation Achievements Exhibition, which ended here on Sunday — the first time a major foreign translation technology player has localized its product for the Chinese market.

Lu Donglin, General Manager of SDL's China office, said the launch of SDLX is conducive to the informatization of China's translation market, which has only recently begun. The term informatization refers to the use of technology, including Internet and software, to improve quality and efficiency.

According to SDL, about 85 per cent of China's translation companies do not yet use any computer-aided translation (CAT) software, suggesting a large potential market.

SDL and China Translation and Publishing Corp. will jointly commit themselves to expanding the market coverage of SDLX translation solutions in China, Lu said.

As early as in 2001, Germany-based

Trados, a software solutions provider, has successfully landed its Trados multilingual translation solutions in China. Trados provides software to several well-known Chinese companies, including Hua Wei, Sina.com and State Patent Office.

Huang Youyi, deputy director-general with the China Foreign Languages Publishing and Distribution Administration, said use of the Internet is extensive in translation, while the number of CAT software users is small.

Research on translation software in China was launched in the mid-1990s. China currently has no more than 10 established domestic translation software companies, including China National Computer Software and Technology Service Co., Huajian Machine Translation Co. and SJTU Sunway Information Technology Co..

Their products are not mature enough to compete with their foreign counterparts for computer translation is still a fledgling industry in China, according to Huang.

China's fast economic growth and increased international communication with other economies of the world have driven the demand for translation.

MNA/Xinhua

Researchers complete investigation into Tibetan folk art

LHASA, 8 Nov — Experts have completed a comprehensive investigation on the folk art in China's Tibet Autonomous Region after more than 20 years of painstaking efforts, according to the researchers.

Artists and Tibetologists have traced Tibetan folk art in more than 70 counties during the past two decades and collected numerous written materials, some

5,000 pictures, 1,000 hours of audio records and 700 hours of video tapes, said Gaeqoe, deputy head of Lhasa-based Institute on Tibetan Folk Art, who has led the investigation for 10 years.

The investigation, the largest over the past 40 years, provides critical information on the folk art and artists in the region and paves the way for further academic research on the treasures, Gaeqoe

said.

In some remote villages, experts also found a handful of valuable artistic styles and forms that academics believed had perished long ago.

He added that it will take time for scholars to categorize and analyse the materials, although some research achievements have already been published.

MNA/Xinhua



Tourists and residents make their way through a flooded St. Mark's Square in Venice, northern Italy, Sunday, Oct. 31, 2004. An exceptional 137-centimeter (54 inch) high tide flooded eighty per cent of the town disrupting public transportation and flooding shops. — INTERNET

MYANMAR IVANHOE COPPER COMPANY LIMITED

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE PURCHASE OF EARTH MOVING EQUIPMENT
MICCL invites sealed tender applications for the purchase of four Excavators and two Bulldozers for the Sabetaung open-pit mine operations, at the S & K Mine Site, west bank of Monywa, Myanmar.

1. FOUR TRACKED EXCAVATORS

Specifications:

- Caterpillar 345B Series II or **equivalent**
- Heavy duty wide undercarriage
- Low ground pressure tracks (Ground pressure ~ 53 KPa)
- Heavy duty bucket with a width of ~ 1820mm and a heaped capacity of ~ 2.6 cubic-metres

2. TWO TRACKED BULLDOZERS

Specifications:

- Caterpillar D7R or **Equivalent**
- Universal dozing blade with a capacity of approximately 8 cubic-metres
- Adjustable parallelogram ripper
- Low ground pressure tracks (Ground pressure ~ 46KPa)

All equipments must be new and under full manufacturer's warranty. Availability of finance terms from vender will be considered in determining the most suitable bid. Lowest price may not necessarily be the bid acceptance.

Bidding documents will be available on payment of US\$200 (in FEC) from the following address during office hours between 10 am and 5 pm from 15th November 2004. Tender closing date is 29th November 2004 at 4 pm.

Tender application for the purchase S&K earthmoving equipment
70(I), Bo Chein Street,
Payay Road, Hlaing Township,
Yangon (Phone: 951-514194 to 951-514197. Fax: 951-514208)

**General Manager,
Myanmar Ivanhoe Copper Company Limited.**

Private sector drives Beijing's development

BEIJING, 8 Nov — The private sector now produces 41.87 per cent of Beijing's total GDP (gross domestic product), playing an increasingly important role in pushing forward local economic development, according to Beijing's Municipal Statistics Bureau.

The capital registered a GDP of 296.95 billion yuan (35.9 billion US dollars) in 2004's first three quarters, a year-on-year rise of 13 per cent.

Private businesses employed 58.54 per cent of Beijing's total working force at the end of June this year, about 6.6 million in urban areas.

There are nearly 696,000 private businesses in Beijing, according to statistics released recently by the Municipal Development and Reform Commission.

According to the commission, the private sector now contributes 52.6 per cent of Beijing's total fixed asset investment and 43.13 per cent of tax revenue.

Chinese private businesses still often face difficulties in obtaining access to the market, unequal taxation, difficulties in

obtaining bank loans and lack of legal assistance services, all of which may hold back their further development.

Officials disclosed that the city is drafting regulations on promoting the healthy development of private businesses. The regulations will cover the promotion of fair competition, improving financial services for private businesses, standardizing operation and protecting the legitimate rights of private businesses and creating a sound environment for the development of the private sector.

According to the State Administration of Industry and Commerce, the number of private enterprises in China totalled three million by the end of last year, employing 40.88 million people and boasting a combined registered capital of 3.5 trillion yuan (423.2 billion US dollars). The figures are 33.3 times, 25 times and 416 times the respective figures for 1989.

MNA/Xinhua

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U Myint Lwin, Advocate,
LL.B, DBL
Dip in Marine Affairs (UK)
Email: MYINT.Advocate@gmail.com
Ph: 371 990 2004

Georgia willing to cooperate with Russia

MOSCOW, 7 Nov — Georgia is willing to establish good neighbourly relations of friendship and strengthen comprehensive cooperation with Russia in security and the fight against terrorism, President Mikhail Saakashvili said in Tbilisi on Friday.

Georgia will continue to hold open talks with Russia to strengthen bilateral cooperation, Saakashvili was quoted by Russia's ITAR-TASS news agency as saying at a Press conference in the Georgian capital.

He said Georgian Parliament Speaker Nino Burdzhaneladze's talks with Russian officials several days ago in Moscow were "significant" and "beneficial". — MNA/Xinhua

Drive with care

ပြည်တွင်းပြိုင်ကိုင်အားပေးပါ

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Win Mu Tin,
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P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 9 November 2004

စားပွဲနှင့် ကုလားထိုင်များငှားရန်

အလွှာ ထိမ်းမြားမကုလား အစည်းအဝေး အခမ်းအနားများတွင် ခေတ်မီ ယလင်းတစ်စားနှင့် ကုလားထိုင်များ ဖျော်နွဲ့သက်သာစွာဖြင့် ငှားရမ်းနေပါသည်။

နံနက် ၇:၃၀ မှ ညဉ့် ၁၂:၀၀ မှာ ခရီးအတွင်း စက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

အမှတ် ၂၂၀-သိမ်မြောက်၊ ခိုင်တင်တောင်မြို့နယ်၊

ရန်ကုန်-၂၅၅၆၂၀၊ ၂၅၅၆၂၁

Miss Chinese Cosmos 2004 chosen

HONG KONG, 7 Nov—

The 19-year-old Lee Sze Kei from Malaysia won the title of the Miss Chinese Cosmos 2004 here Saturday night. The contest, undertaken by the Hong Kong Phoenix TV, also selected 22-year-old Yang Jie from Beijing and 20-year-old Yin Yue from Canada as the first and second runners-up respectively.

This year's pageant received 9,336 entries, a rise of 30 per cent over the first Miss Chinese Cosmos last year. Amongst them, 20 contestants took part in the final. Of the twenty, 13 came from the Chinese Mainland, while the others came from the United States, England, Germany, Canada, Malaysia and Hong Kong.

MNA/Xinhua

Spanish PM hints US should change its approach to EU

BERLIN, 7 Nov — Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero hinted the United States should change its approach to European allies, German media reported Saturday.

The reelection of US President George W. Bush marks a "new phase" in the US-EU relations, Zapatero told German

weekly news magazine *Der Spiegel*.

"We demand honesty and respect of our principles and ideals," he said.

Zapatero showed his big confidence over EU's future. "European must believe that it will become the world's leading economic and political power within the next 20 years," Zapatero said.

The interview came before a Monday's meeting between Zapatero and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder in Madrid.

Zapatero won the general elections on March 14 and ordered on his first day in office the withdrawal of Spanish troops deployed in Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese, Malaysian universities to strengthen cooperation

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 Nov — China's Xiamen University and the University of Malaya (UM) Friday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to undertake joint research and exchange of students and staff.

The memorandum was signed by President of Xiamen University Professor Zhu Chong Shi and UM Vice-Chancellor Professor Hashim Yaacob. Malaysian Higher Education Minister Dr. Shafie Salleh witnessed the event. Speaking after the signing ceremony, Hashim said

UM's staff could utilize their sabbatical leave to pursue research or even teaching at Xiamen University.

On the same occasion, Professor Zhu said that Xiamen University has, since 1990, enrolled 1,015 long-distance learning students from Malaysia in programmes like Chinese traditional medicine, acupuncture and Chinese language.

Shafie, in his speech, said Malaysia looks forward to more students from China studying in UM as

well as other universities and private colleges in the country.

Xiamen University, set up in 1921, is one of a few universities in China that offer courses in Southeast Asia Studies.

Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi toured the university in October 2003 during his visit to China. After the visit, Abdullah proposed the establishment of the Institute of China Studies, which was subsequently established in February this year.

MNA/Xinhua

Bahrain starts constructing World Trade Center

ABU DHABI, 8 Nov — Bahrain has started constructing Bahrain World Trade Center (BWTC) worth 150 million US dollars, a shining example of the region's economy and Bahrain's achievements, the *Gulf News* reported on

Saturday.

Funded through private investment, the 240-metre twin towers will be completed in June 2006 and will be the tallest buildings in central Manama, said Claire Hughes of DTZ Bahrain,

the property management company which is the constructor of BWTC.

The BWTC is a member of the World Trade Center Group and intends to support Bahrain's trade by providing information to businesses. — MNA/Xinhua

မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

India, Oman review bilateral ties

DUBAI, 8 Nov — India and Oman on Saturday reviewed bilateral ties and expressed satisfaction that the one-billion-dollar Indo-Oman Fertilizer Project (Omifco) at the Sur Gas fields in Oman was progressing according to schedule and will start production next year.

India's visiting Junior Minister for External Affairs E. Ahamed met Maqbool Ali Sultan, the Omani Minister of Commerce and Industry in Muscat and Sultan expressed satisfaction that the 969-million-dollar fertilizer project will begin commercial production of urea and ammonia from the third quarter of next year February 2005.

Omifco is a 2:1:1 Indo-Oman joint venture firm formed with a total equity of 240 million US dollars by Oman Oil Company SAOC, Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO) and Krishak

Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (Kribhco).

Ahamed, who is on a three-day visit to Oman, also had a fruitful interaction with Sayyid Haitham bin Tareq Al Said, Minister for Heritage and Culture of Oman, and Juma bin Ali bin Juma Al Jula, the Minister of Manpower, on a host of bilateral issues.

He briefed the Omani ministers on the thrust of the Indian Government to develop ties with West Asia and the Gulf and in this context informed them of the forthcoming visit of Minister of External Affairs K Natwar

Singh to Oman.

The Omani Industry Minister welcomed the interest shown by several Indian companies in investment in Oman, including the oil sector and Information Technology. He conveyed appreciation to National Council for Applied Economic Research for helping Oman to set up institutional facilities for research in the economic sphere.

MNA/PTI

House explosion kills four in Baku

Moscow, 7 Nov — Four people died and several injured in a building explosion in Baku, Georgia, on Friday night to Saturday. *ITAR-TASS* cited the Defence Ministry's civil defence department as reporting on Saturday.

One victim was found in Saturday morning, three others — two women and one man — were recovered from under the rubble in the evening. One female victim has not been identified yet, the report said. —MNA/Xinhua

Industry leaders say India poised for higher growth

NEW DELHI, 8 Nov — Captains of Indian industry Saturday said the country's rich demographic profile gives it a unique leverage for sustained growth.

"At the turn of the century, growth has shifted from wealthy countries to developing countries and this offers an opportunity to abolish poverty," Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani said at the Hindustan Times Leadership Initiative Conference here. "Technology has enabled rebuilding of industries.

Talent and capital are freely traded in today's world and it offers an

A Boeing Delta II lifts off from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station with a Global Positioning System (GPS) satellite built by Lockheed Martin Space Systems for the US Air Force on 6 November, 2004. —INTERNET

Australian scientists develop new vaccine for TB

CANBERRA, 8 Nov — Australian scientists have developed a new vaccine for tuberculosis (TB) with the new hope to prevent the spread of the disease.

Researchers with Sydney's Royal Prince Alfred Hospital have developed the vaccine which they said are more effective than the current treatment.

The current TB vaccine, known as BCG, is given to newborn babies in countries with a high rate of the disease. But it has not stopped the disease spreading to more than two billion people.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio quoted researcher Warwick Britton as saying on Friday that BCG "only works for about 10 years and therefore folk can develop tuberculosis later in life and that causes the spread of the disease".

The research team led by Britton has hoped that the new vaccine will last 20 years.

The new vaccine has been sent to the United States for testing on guinea pigs with the aim of setting up human trials within five years. —MNA/Xinhua

US claims possessing fastest supercomputer

WASHINGTON, 7 Nov — A supercomputer developed in the United States to ensure the safety of its nuclear weapons attained a record-breaking performance of 70.72 teraflops (trillion floating operations per second), making it the fastest computer in the world, a senior US official has announced.

Though the supercomputer is running at one quarter its final size for the Department of Energy, the BlueGene/L (BG/L) beta-System is already asserting US leadership in supercomputing, Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said.

"BG/L will reduce the time-to-solution for many computational problems, allowing DOE scientists to explore larger, longer, and more complex problems than ever before. —MNA/PTI



Petrel bird. Australia will host a conference that will bring together for the first time the signatories to the agreement on the conservation of albatrosses and petrels. —INTERNET

Cambodia's population growth rate declines

PHNOM PENH, 8 Nov — Cambodia's population growth rate has declined by nearly one-third since 1998, local media reported on Friday.

According to a new survey released by the government on Thursday, Cambodia's population has grown at an annual rate of 1.8 per cent since 1998 to a projected total of 13.6 million in 2004. The population was 11.4 million 1998, with a recorded annual growth rate of 2.5 per cent.

The current rate is also far lower than the 2.9-per cent estimated rate projected for the five years following the last census.

"The decrease in population growth is because of birth spacing and people enjoying small families," *The Cambodia Daily* quoted Hang Lina,

deputy secretary-general of the National Institute for Statistics, as saying on Friday.

Cambodia held its national census in 1998, the first conducted in Cambodia since 1962.

Some officials greeted the news of the apparent slowdown as a sign that more couples are choosing to have fewer children.

Fifty per cent of the population is between the ages of 15 and 49, according to the Cambodia Inter-Censal Population Survey 2004 General Report, with another 38.8 per cent under the age of 15.

MNA/Xinhua

Drive safely

Study shows mental training can alter brain

WASHINGTON, 8 Nov — Neuroscientists have discovered that brain, like the rest of the body, can be altered intentionally by strengthening circuits used regularly and weakening those engaged rarely.

After studying the brain projections of hundreds of Tibetan monks, the scientists concluded that just as aerobics sculpt the muscles, mental training sculpts the gray matter, a media report said.

The scientists, in their experiment, compared brain activity in volunteers who were novice meditators to those of Buddhist monks in Dharamsala, who had spent more than ten thousand hours in meditation.

The novice meditators showed a slight increase in high-frequency brain activity or gamma waves, but most monks showed extremely large increases of a sort that has never

been reported before in the neuroscience literature, said Richard Davidson of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, who led the research.

The study suggests that mental training can bring the brain to a greater level of consciousness.

"Of all the concepts in modern neuroscience, it is neuroplasticity that has the greatest potential for interaction with Buddhism," *The Wall Street Journal* quoted Davidson as saying. Neuroplasticity, one of the hottest topics in brain science, refers to the brain's recently discovered ability to change its structure and function.

MNA/PTI



SPORTS

Inter Milan rescued by Adriano's equalizer

MILAN, 8 Nov — Inter Milan drew their eighth game in 10 matches on Sunday as they had to settle for a 1-1 draw at much-improved Fiorentina.

Inter's Brazilian striker Adriano equalized in the 80th minute after Dario Dainelli had given Fiorentina a first-half lead.

Leaders Juventus, who on Saturday fell to their first defeat of the season with a 2-1 loss at Reggina, have a five-point advantage over rivals AC Milan who play Roma at the San Siro later on Sunday.

Third-placed Lecce are now 10 points behind the leaders after suffering their first home defeat of the season, an injury-time penalty from Czech midfielder Marek Jankulovski earning Udinese a thrilling 4-3 win.

The win allowed Udinese to climb to fourth place joining Lecce on 15 points. Messina, who drew 2-2 at Bologna, are fifth with the

same number of points.

After Juve's defeat, Inter are the only unbeaten side in Serie A but they will be frustrated not to have closed the gap on the leaders.

Francesco Toldo was recalled to the Inter goal, to face his former club, after a month on the bench but had no chance of stopping Dainelli's superb header from a Fabrizio Miccoli corner in the 26th minute.

Fiorentina were on top for most of the first half but Inter fought back after the break with Dejan Stankovic forcing a fine save from Cristian Lupatelli while Toldo, at the other end, produced a brilliant save to keep out the impressive Miccoli.

MNA/Reuters

Fulham shock Newcastle 4-1

LONDON, 8 Nov — Midfielder Steed Malbranque scored twice as lowly Fulham shocked Newcastle United 4-1 in the Premier League on Sunday to hand manager Graeme Souness his first home defeat since taking charge two months ago.

In Sunday's other early kickoff Dutchman George Boateng volleyed an equalizer two minutes into stoppage time to salvage a 1-1 draw for Middlesbrough against 10-man Bolton Wanderers at the Riverside.

Bolton held on to fourth spot with 22 points, three ahead of fifth-placed Boro after 12 matches, while Newcastle remained ninth 13 points off the pace.

New leaders Chelsea,

who beat Everton 1-0 at home on Saturday, are top on 29 points, two ahead of second-placed champions Arsenal, who were held 1-1 at Crystal Palace. Everton remain third with 23 points.

Eighth-placed Manchester United were at home to local rivals City in their derby at Old Trafford later on Sunday.

MNA/Reuters

Manchester United hold to goalless draw by Man City

MANCHESTER (England), 8 Nov — Manchester United's title ambitions took another blow on Sunday when they were held to a goalless draw at home by derby rivals Manchester City and had Alan Smith sent off.

Alex Ferguson was hoping to celebrate his appointment as Manchester United manager 18 years ago this weekend with a derby win that would have closed the gap on leaders Chelsea to nine points.

However, United's strikers failed to score for the second Premier League game in a row and the team have failed to capitalize on their 2-0 home victory over champions Arsenal two weeks ago.

To make matters worse for United, a frustrated Smith was dismissed for the 10th time in his career for two yellow cards after a late tackle on Dunne in the 89th minute. Kevin Keegan's City side soaked up United's attacks with defenders Richard Dunne and Sylvain Distin in defiant form.

United had chances to win and in a frantic opening City youngster Stephen Jordan rushed back to hook the ball off his own line from Louis Saha's shot.

Saha then had a decent appeal for a penalty rejected as City decided on staunch defence rather than look for a first win at Old Trafford since Denis Law's cheeky back-heel earned victory over his former club in 1974 and effectively relegated United.

City's goal remained under siege in the second half with Steve McManaman clearing Smith's overhead kick off his line in the 63rd minute.

Half-time substitute Ryan Giggs then fired narrowly wide after being sent through by Saha's exquisite reverse pass.

MNA/Reuters



Manchester United's Alan Smith (L) fights for the ball with Manchester City's Sylvain Distin during their Premiership clash at Old Trafford, Manchester, Britain.—INTERNET



Shizuka Arakawa performs during the 2004 International Figure Skating Competition in Nagoya, West of Japan, Saturday, Nov 6, 2004. Arakawa won her singles program.—INTERNET

PSG clinch seventh consecutive victory over Olympique Marseille

PARIS, 8 Nov — Ten-man Paris St Germain clinched their seventh consecutive victory over arch-rivals Olympique Marseille with a 2-1 triumph in Ligue 1 on Sunday thanks to a second-half winner by substitute Edouard Cisse.

The midfielder slotted home a left-foot shot from outside the penalty area in the 70th minute to give his side all three points after coming on to replace Charles Edouard Coridon.

PSG goalkeeper Lionel Letizi produced a dramatic save in added time to stop a volley from striker Peguy Luyindula and ensure that Marseille's last success over PSG remained a 1-0 victory at the Stade Velodrome in April 2002.

PSG, recovering from a poor start to the season, moved up four places to 10th in the 20-team standings with 17 points from 13 games trailing leaders Olympique Lyon by 12 points.

The champions, still unbeaten this season, won 1-0 at struggling Racing

Lens on Saturday to stay a point clear of Lille who won 2-0 at bottom club Istres on Sunday.

PSG's Portugal striker Pedro Pauleta had opened the scoring against Marseille with a superb curved shot from 16 metres just after the half-hour mark

giving keeper Fabien Barthez no chance.

But Belgian striker Laurent Battles got the visitors back on level terms with a volley from a Sergio Koke pass three minutes before the break though his effort proved to be in vain.—MNA/Reuters

Santos Robinho's mother kidnapped

SAO PAULO, 8 Nov — The mother of Santos forward Robinho, one of Brazil's most exciting young players, has been kidnapped, police said on Sunday.

Marina de Souza, 43, was abducted by two armed men who invaded a barbecue in Praia Grande, near Santos, on Saturday night, detective Alberto Torrassa told reporters.

The pair locked the other guests in the bathroom before driving off.

Torrassa said that so far the kidnappers had not been in contact with the family.

"Our target at the moment is to bring back the victim in safety, that's our only worry," said Torrassa.

MNA/Reuters

China's top legislator kicks off visit to Nigeria

ABUJA, 8 Nov—Wu Bangguo, chairman of the Chinese National People's Congress Standing Committee, flew into Nigeria's capital Abuja from Lusaka of Zambia Saturday afternoon to start an official goodwill visit to the West African country.

Wu said in a written statement upon his arrival China is ready to work with Nigeria, in the spirit of sincere friendship, reciprocity, mutual support and orienting towards the future, to consolidate and deepen the mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields and constantly push forward the China-Nigeria relationship.

In recent years, Wu said, under the leadership of President Olusegun Obasanjo, the government and people of Nigeria have been actively facilitating national reconciliation, making efforts to maintain social stability, vigorously promoting social and economic reform, and have made great progress in all undertakings.

He noted Nigeria plays a unique and positive role in resolving African conflicts through mediation, promoting the integration process, enhancing South-South cooperation, facilitating North-South dialogue and other regional and international affairs.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations 33 years ago, he said, the China-Nigeria relationship has been growing smoothly.

"Our two peoples have accorded each other understanding and support in safeguarding sovereignty and pursuing nation building, thus fostering a profound traditional friendship between us," he said.

"In recent years, our two countries have continuously strengthened political mutual trust, enjoyed good momentum of economic cooperation and trade, and witnessed swift progress in their exchanges and cooperation in other fields," he said, adding the two countries have supported and cooperated closely with each other in international affairs.

During his visit in Nigeria, Wu is expected to meet and hold talks with the Nigerian leaders to exchange views on bilateral relations and other issues of common interest.

Wu is here as guest of Adolphus Wabara, President of the Senate, and Aminu Masari, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Wu was accorded a warm welcome by the Nigerian parliamentary leaders when he arrived at the airport in Abuja.

MNA/Xinhua

S Korea expands investigation into Microsoft Corp

SEOUL, 8 Nov—South Korea's antitrust watchdog said on Sunday it has expanded an investigation into Microsoft Corp, after local competitors accused the company of using its dominant position to unfairly shut out rivals.

"RealNetworks has raised a complaint against the US headquarters and the Korean unit of Microsoft for the alleged violation of antitrust laws," the Fair Trade Commission (FTC) said in a statement.

The antitrust watchdog aims to complete the investigation into Microsoft Korea by December, an FTC official said.

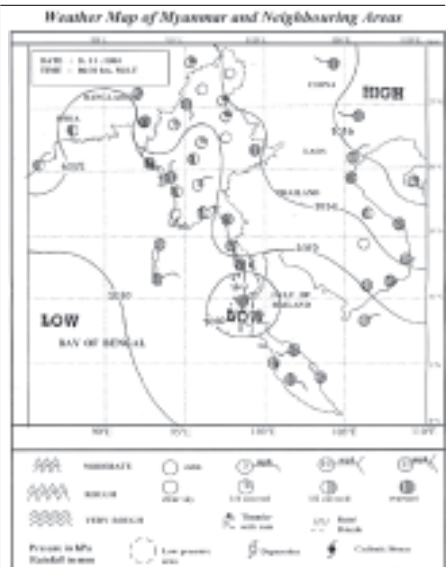
RealNetworks, a major US competitor, has filed a complaint with South Korean authorities accusing Microsoft of violating fair business practices by bundling Media Player audio-visual software and the Media Server programme with its Windows operating system.

The FTC has already been conducting a probe into allegations raised by South Korea's Internet portal, Daum Communications Corp, in September 2001 that Microsoft breached antitrust laws by selling a version of the Windows system that incorporated its instant messaging software.

Daum, which has its own messaging service, claimed Microsoft excluded rivals from Internet messenger markets by using its dominant market position.

Officials at Microsoft Korea could not be reached for comment.

MNA/Reuters



Cuba rejects US accusation of human rights violations

HAVANA, 8 Nov — Cuba on Saturday rejected US accusation of human rights violations and condemned Washington for absolute disrespect of human rights because of the four-decade-old blockade on Cuba.

The US State Department on Thursday demanded the release of Cuban dissidents arrested in a crackdown in March. In response, the Cuban Foreign Ministry said the detainees were mercenaries mobilized and paid by the White House.

"In any country of the world, even in the United States, conspiring with a foreign power constitutes a crime," the

ministry said in statement carried by the *Granma* daily. After the exposure of human rights violations in Iraqi prisons and Guantanamo, where al-Qaeda suspects are held, the international community expected Washington to take a more rational position, said the statement, however, Washington resumed attack on Cuba just two days after the presidential election.—MNA/Xinhua

WEATHER

Monday, 8 November, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Southern Shan State, Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperature were (3°C) above normal in Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) below normal in Kachin and Chin States and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions.

Maximum temperature on 7-11-2004 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 8-11-2004 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 8-11-2004 was 71%. Total sunshine hours on 7-11-2004 was (7.1) hours approx. Rainfall on 8-11-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was (112.24 inches) at Yangon Airport, (106.77 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (109.64 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 5 mph from Northeast at (12:00) hours MST on 7-11-2004.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, the low pressure area over Southwest Bay has become unimportant. Weather is partly cloudy in the Southwest Bay and fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 9-11-2004: Possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Kachin State, Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-11-2004: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 9-11-2004: Fair weather.

Radio Myanmar

Tuesday, November 9

Tune in today:

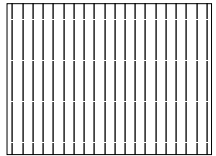
- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music:
 - Hit by love
 - Perspectives
- 8.40 am Music:
 - Celebrate our love
- 8.50 am National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am Music
 - Don't hate me
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music
 - Good sign
- 1.30 pm News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch time music
 - Love
 - You light up my life
 - Sealed with my kiss
 - Casablanca
- 9.00 pm English speaking course level-2 Unit (9)
- 9.15 pm Article/Music
- 9.25 pm Weekly sports reel
- 9.35 pm Music for your listening pleasure
 - I'm all about you
 - Life is good
- 9.45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL



Tuesday, November 9

View on today:

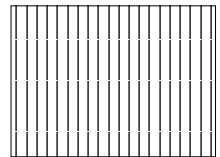
- 7:00 am
 - 1. Recitation of Parittas by Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am
 - 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 - 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 - 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
 - 5. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်
- 8:05 am
 - 6. Songs of yesteryears
- 8:15 am
 - 7. အတီးမြို့ပွဲ
- 8:25 am
 - 8. ဆာသီသွားတော့
- 8:30 am
 - 9. International news
- 8:45 am
 - 10. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm
 - 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
 - 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
 - 3. English For Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm
 - 4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm
 - 5. အစောဆုံးတက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ပထမနှစ် (သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုအားလုံး) (ရုပ်ပေး)
- 5:15 pm
 - 6. Dance of national races
- 5:30 pm
 - 7. မိမိတို့အားဆက်သွယ်စာတိုစင်
- 5:40 pm
 - 8. Sing and enjoy
- 6:15 pm
 - 9. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းစာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ "ဇရာကပ်ပန်းရောင်" (အပိုင်း-၄၀)
- 6:30 pm
 - 10. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
 - 11. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
 - 12. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 7:20 pm
 - 13. သားငါးရဲ့ ဖြူဖြူအင်္ကျီ
- 7:35 pm
 - 14. The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 8:00 pm
 - 15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ "သစ်ခွံခွက်သစ်" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)
- 19. The next day's programme



Prime Minister
Lt-Gen Soe Win
inspects renovation of
Maha Pasana Cave
where Fourth World
Buddhist Summit is to
be held.

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MNA



Energy Minister attends National Capacity Building Workshop

YANGON, 8 Nov —The Inaugural Ceremony of National Capacity Building Workshop on Integration of Energy in Rural Development Policies and Programmes jointly organised by the Ministry of Energy and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific was held at the Sedona Hotel, here, this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein, the Directors-General and the Managing Directors of Departments and Enterprises under the Ministry of Energy, the Director-General and responsible personnel of Departments and Enterprises under the Ministry of Electric Power, the Director and officials of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Development Department, the professors of the Institutes of Economics, delegates of NGOs, resource persons Resident Representative of UNDP Mr Charles James Petrie, Representative Mr Hongpeng Liu of ESCAP.

The Energy Minister delivered an address and Mr Charles James Petrie and Mr Hongpeng Liu spoke on the occasion.



The first day session then began and ended in the evening.

The second day session will continue tomorrow.

MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and those present pose for a documentary photo at the Inaugural Ceremony of National Capacity Building Workshop on Integration of Energy in Rural Development Policies and Programmes. — ENERGY

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.

Development works inspected around Yangon

YANGON, 8 Nov — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, accompanied by Head of Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation) U Thaung Yin and Head of Engineering Department (Roads and Bridges) U Bo Htay and officials inspected measures being taken for sanitation of Inya Lake and greening of its environs and upgrading roads and gave suggestions to fulfil the requirements.

During their inspections, the mayor looked into sanitation and greening works around Inya Lake and future tasks to be carried out and gave instructions to officials.

The mayor and party inspected progress in constructing No 4 Highway being implemented by Shwepyitha Township Engineering Department (Roads and Bridges) Special Construction Group and entrance road to University of Computer Studies from Bogyoke

Aung San Street and the upgrading of the tar road from Bayintnaung road to Shwepyitha bridge.

After inspecting measures being taken for upgrading of Khayebon road which will link Insein

and Mingaladon townships, the mayor instructed officials to carry out tasks meeting the set standards and to continuously supervise their subordinates to make continued progress.—MNA

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