

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Saturday, 13 November 2004

## Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win receives Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister

YANGON, 12 Nov — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win received Dr Hassan Wirajuda, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, and party at Zeyathiri Beikman here this morning.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, Myanmar Ambassador

to Indonesia U Kyaw Myint, Director-General at the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Thura U Aung Htet, and Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Wyoso Prodjowarsito were also present.

MNA



*Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win  
receives Minister for Foreign  
Affairs of Indonesia Dr Hassan  
Wirajuda and party. — MNA*

*Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win  
greeted Indonesian Minister for  
Foreign Affairs Dr Hassan  
Wirajuda. —MNA*



## Rules for Armed Forces Day commemorative poem contest announced

YANGON, 12 Nov — Hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2005, the Poem Contest Organizing Sub-committee under the Poem and Arts Competition Organizing Work Committee, chaired by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, announced today to hold the Poem Contest to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

The contestants can present objectives of the 60th Anniversary Armed

Forces Day, matters related to fine traditions of the Tatmadaw, historic events occurred in the periods of Konbaung Era (AD 1824), Independence Era (1948-1988) and the State Peace and Development Council, endeavours of the State Peace and Development Council in religious affairs, construction, peace negotiation and drug elimination sectors. The entries will be scrutinized with three sectors—theme style, presentation and composing. The poem contest will be

divided into two categories.

Those who have won first second or third prizes in the Poem Contest to mark the Armed Forces Day and the National Motto Contest, Sarpay Beik-man Manuscript Award Contest and the poem contest of the Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Contest and National Literary Award winners may participate in the level-1 and those who did not win the prizes may take part in the level-2.

(See page 9)

## Dinner hosted in honour of graduation parade of 66th Intake of Pilot Course

YANGON, 12 Nov — A ceremony to host dinner in honour of graduation parade of Pilot Course No 66 was held at Thura Ohn Khaing Hall of Flying Training Base in Shante, Meiktila this evening.

Present on the occasion were State Peace and Development Council members, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear Ad-

miral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Chairman and Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, FTB Commander Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin, senior officers of the FTB, officers of the battalions and regiments of Meiktila Station, departmental officials, parents and relatives of the graduating officers, and guests.

Before and during the dinner, the graduating officers and artistes entertained with songs and dances to the accompaniment of Tatmadaw (Air) Music Troupe. After the dinner, cash awards of honour were presented to the artistes by those present. — MNA

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 13 November, 2004

## Cooperate for perpetual existence of independence and sovereignty

The national people of the Union of Myanmar have been living in the nation in Myanmar with own monarchs throughout the Myanmar history stretching thousands of years. However, Myanmar fell under the subjugation of the colonialists after waging the three aggressive wars on the nation in 1824, 1852 and 1885.

Myanmar became a sovereign nation again on 4 January 1948 following the military, political and economic struggles launched on the intruders by the entire people and patriots during the period from 1824 until 1948. In other words, she regained her independence invaluable for the people thanks to the struggle by the national people with strong national spirit and nationalistic fervour and unity risking their sweat, blood and lives. Myanmar Independence will turn 57 on 4 January 2005.

The Central Committee for Observing the 57th Anniversary of Independence Day (2005) held a meeting at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthar in Yangon the other day. Chairman of the Central Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein on the occasion said that independence and sovereign are to be perpetual in order that the people can shape the brighter future of the nation on their own but without foreign instigation and to move on the correct path free from any external interferences, adding that even if a nation does not lose its independence, it cannot stand firmly as a sovereign one, if it has to dance to the tune of others and is overshadowed by foreign nations. Indeed, independence is the most basic requirement for a nation. Only when each and every nation is a sovereign states, can it stand tall among the world nations.

Since independence and sovereign are inseparable and are the most basic requirements of the nation, it is incumbent upon all the people to safeguard and defend the independence and sovereignty, being equipped with nationalist spirit and patriotism. Now, Myanmar is facing instigation and interventions of tricky neo-colonialists who want to get the nation under their thumb. That is why the Government is translating the State's Seven-point Road Map into action, which can guarantee independence, sovereignty and perpetual existence of the Union, to enable the entire people including the new generation youths to realize danger, instigation and interference of the colonialists.

Therefore, the entire people are urged to cooperate in making efforts to ensure perpetual existence of independence and sovereignty of the nation.

## 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



Pyay Sayadaw Bhaddanta Konnalajoti administers the Five Precepts to the congregation. — MNA

## 14th Kathina robes offering ceremony held

YANGON, 12 Nov — The 14th communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of the staff families of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office, President's Office and the State Peace and Development Council Office was held at Ahletawya Sanpya Monastery in Bahan Township here this morning.

Present on the occasion were members of Sangha led by Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Pyay Sayadaw Bhaddanta Konnalajoti, Director-General at State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein,

Director-General at Pyithu Hluttaw Office U Myint Thein, Director-General at President's Office U Tun Tun and staff families.

On the occasion, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Pyay Sayadaw. Next, Director-General at SPDC Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, the directors-generals and staff

families offered Kathina robes and provisions to the members of the Sangha. Afterwards, Joint-Secretary Agga Maha Pandita Myinchin Sayadaw Bhaddana Kitti delivered a sermon, followed by the sharing of the merits gained. Before the ceremony, wellwishers offered "Soon" to the members of Sangha. — MNA

## Vice-Mayor inspects City Water Supply Project

YANGON, 12 Nov — Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa inspected works of Yangon City Water Supply Project (Ngamoeyek) in Hlegu Township, Yangon Division, today. Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation) of YCDC is implementing the

project.

Accompanied by officials, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa observed the head regulators, a facility installed with three six-foot by four-foot inlet vaults, and construction of a feeder canal. At the briefing hall, he heard a report on progress in construction of the canal and conduit and

condition of heavy machinery presented by officials.

He inspected the construction of Nos 2 and 1 conduits and completed parts of the feeder canal that will pass through the area lying between Kyaukaing and Chaung-wa villages in the township. At the main construction site of the project near Arhtayu

village in Hmawby Township, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa inspected water tanks, machines and the site to erect a transformer.

After hearing reports presented by officials, he urged the project staff to work with goodwill and to complete the project according to the schedule.

MNA

## East-West Economic Corridor Seminar held

YANGON, 12 Nov — A seminar on East-West Economic Corridor and its effects took place at the Traders' Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here this morning.

Present were Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry President U Win Myint and advisers, vice-presidents, members of the central executive committee, executives, GMS-Business Forum Chairman U Win Aung,

representatives of Traders Associations of Mon State and Myawady, Japanese businessmen led by Mr Tetsushi Ishizuka of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce (Bangkok), business entrepreneurs of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce (Yangon), representatives of JETRO, departmental officials, and guests.

Three papers concerning the topic of the seminar were read out on the occasion. — MNA

VOLLEYBALL TOURNEY: National Championship Volleyball Tournament (2004) commenced at Aung San Gymnasium on 12-11-2004. Photo shows Yangon City Development Committee playing against Defence Services (Youths) in men's event. — NLM



## နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရ ဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ့

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# Iraq guerillas hit back amid Fallujah battles

FALLUJAH, 11 Nov—US troops fought to crush resistance in the Iraqi city of Fallujah on Thursday, but guerillas hit back with an armed rampage in Mosul and a car bomb that killed 17 people in a crowded Baghdad street.

Marines met little opposition in the former guerilla stronghold of Jolan, in northwest Fallujah, where guerillas fired only one or two mortar rounds as tanks pushed through alleys, according to a Reuters reporter at the scene. But a huge blast sent a fireball into the sky after dark.

Marines had to call in four air strikes after taking heavy fire at their headquarters in central Fallujah, the BBC reported. Its correspondent with the Marines said a rifle company had come under continuous fire when it pushed out of the base into the city on a house-to-house search for

guerillas.

Jolan, a stronghold for Saddam Hussein loyalists, had seen some of the fiercest fighting of this week's US-led offensive in the Sunni Muslim city, 32 miles west of Baghdad.

Eighteen US and five Iraqi soldiers have died since the assault began on

Monday and 178 US soldiers have been wounded, the military said in a statement in Baghdad.

Two planes ferried 102 seriously wounded soldiers from Iraq to the main US military hospital in Germany on Thursday, joining 125 who arrived between Monday and Wednesday, a spokeswoman said.

Guerillas downed two US Cobra helicopters near Fallujah on Thursday, the military said. The pilots and crew were unhurt.

The assault has provoked an upsurge in violence elsewhere, as happened in April during an earlier failed US attempt to subdue Iraq's most rebellious city.—Internet



A donkey cart moves along a road as thick black smoke and flames rise from a burning oil pipeline south of the restive city of Fallujah, 50 kms west of Baghdad. —INTERNET

## UNDP extends assistance to all states of Nigeria's oil-rich Niger Delta

LAGOS, 11 Nov — To pursue all-round development of Nigeria's oil-rich Niger Delta region, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has extended its assistance to all the states in the region, a government official said here Tuesday.

Emmanuel Aguariavwodo, managing director of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), told reporters "the UNDP assisted development projects in the area would now cover all the nine states of the region as opposed to three states it (UNDP) initially earmarked".

He said the UNDP would provide counterpart funding for socioeconomic activities in the nine states and sponsor human development programmes aimed at wealth creation for the region.

In the last three years, Nigeria, the UNDP and other international agencies have contributed about 769 million US dollars to development projects in the region. Highlighting expected future contributions of the UNDP to the region, Aguariavwodo said, the NDDC would partner with the UN agency to finance a 15-year master plan for the development of the region.

The implementation of the master plan would begin in January 2005, he added. — MNA/Xinhua

## Global Fund to study HIV/"AIDS" in Tanzania

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 11 Nov— Global Fund, which initiates the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria worldwide, has come to Tanzania for a close study of HIV/AIDS, which is rampant in sub-Saharan Africa.

Charles Rajabu, an information officer from the

Tanzanian Prime Minister's Office, told Xinhua on Wednesday that the international institution would hold its first meeting in Africa since the body's inception in 2001.

The Globe Fund meeting is slated for November 18 and 19 in Arusha in northern Tanzania.

United Nations (UN)

Secretary-General Kofi Annan and several heads of state from African countries are to attend the meeting that draws more than 200 delegates.

Globe Fund was created by UN member countries to collect funds for curbing such pandemics as HIV/AIDS in developing countries.—MNA/Xinhua

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## 1,155 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 11 Nov—As of Thursday, 11 Nov, 2004, at least 1,155 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 877 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is six higher than the Defence Department's tally, which was not updated Thursday because of the Veterans Day holiday.

The British military has reported 74 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,017 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 778 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers. —Internet

## Two US helicopters shot down in Iraq

DUBAI, 11 Nov—Two United States Cobra helicopters have been shot down near the Iraqi city of Fallujah, Al Arabiya television said on Thursday, quoting American military sources.

The Dubai-based Arabic satellite station gave no more details. US forces are battling Iraqi guerillas in Fallujah. Al-Jazeera television also reported that two helicopters had been shot down.

About 10,000 US troops, backed by 2 000 Iraqi government troops, are engaged in the battle for Fallujah, which they entered on Monday after a fierce bombardment.

US officers said Marine Corps and army units had gained a large presence throughout Fallujah but were still taking some fire from Saddam Hussein loyalists and foreign militants.

In apparent retaliation, guerillas have staged attacks this week in the Sunni towns and cities of Samarra, Baiji, Baquba, Tikrit, Ramadi and parts of Baghdad.—Internet

## Chinese CPC official to attend conferences in NZ, S Africa

BEIJING, 11 Nov— Zhang Zhijun, deputy head of the International Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, will attend conferences in New Zealand and South Africa as CPC representative.

Zhang will attend the annual conference of the New Zealand Labour Party (NZLP), slated for November 12-14 at

NZLP's invitation.

He will also go to South Africa for the meeting of the Council of the Socialist International (SI) due for November 15-16 as guest of SI. —MNA/Xinhua



A video grab image shows US soldiers on the streets of Fallujah in Iraq, during fighting as US and Iraqi troops battled through much of Fallujah, on 10 Nov 2004. —INTERNET

## Reservists suffering large share of US deaths in Iraq since Fallujah fighting started

WASHINGTON, 11 Nov—At least nine Army and Marine reservists died in Iraq on the first full day of the Fallujah offensive, the highest single-day death toll for part-time troops since US forces entered Iraq in March 2003.

Most of those killed since Monday in Fallujah, Baghdad, Mosul and other cities where insurgents are active have not been identified by military authori-

ties, so it's not possible to give a complete account beyond Monday.

Of the nine reservists killed Monday, six were members of the Marine

Corps Reserve, two were Army National Guard and one was Army Reserve.

An Army National Guard soldier from California also was killed on

Sunday in Baghdad.

Nine is the highest number of part-time soldiers and Marines to have died in Iraq on a single day. The only comparable surge in deaths of reservists was in June 2004 when nine died in a four-day span, according to Pentagon records.

In the Fallujah offensive alone, at least 18 US troops had been killed in action and 178 wounded by Thursday, according to Maj Gen Richard Natonski, commander of the 1st Marine Division in Fallujah. Five Iraqi soldiers had been killed and 34 wounded, Natonski told reporters.—*Internet*



Iraqis gather around a burned truck following air strikes in Tikrit, Iraq, on 10 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

## Russia's oil output growth close to limit

Moscow, 11 Nov—A top industry expert warned Tuesday that Russia's oil output growth is close to its limit despite figures showing a 9.4-per-cent rise in output in the first 10 months this year, the *Interfax* news agency reported.

Yuri Shafranik, head of Russia's Oil and Gas Industrialists' Union and a former energy minister, told a news conference here that Russia's oil output may still rise in the next two to three years, but the output is close to its peak.

He said major oil companies are operating to the full of their exploiting capabilities. As a result, output may grow in a certain period, but the space for growth is very limited.

Shafranik also pointed out that Russia's relatively low efficiency in utilizing natural resources and insufficient funds in prospecting also affect oil exploitation. In the past 10 to 15 years, he said, exploiting efficiency has been improving worldwide while in Russia it is declining. Shafranik said Russia not only

needs a law to regulate the use of minerals, but also a mechanism to implement such a law. He suggested that the federal government impose more supervision over the oil industry to curb wasting and improve efficiency. Meanwhile, statistics from the Ministry of Energy showed the country produced 380 million tons of crude and condensate oil, an increase of more than nine percentage points compared with the same period last year.

Russia, the world's second largest oil producer only after Saudi Arabia, exported 150 million tons of oil to countries outside the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and 33.27 million tons to the CIS members from January to October, figures showed.

MNA/Xinhua

## China to hold trade exhibition in Nigeria

LAGOS, 11 Nov—China is to hold a trade exhibition in Nigeria's commercial capital Lagos on 15-19 November, a Chinese official said here Wednesday.

Yang Huazhong, head of the China Trade Exhibition Delegation, told reporters that the exhibition aims to "tap great potentials for both China and Nigeria in the fields of economic relations and trade". "There are still large perspectives and great potentials for us to cooperate with each other in expanding two-way business," he said.

Both Chinese and Nigerian business people are willing to carry out coop-

eration in economy, trade and many other fields in all kinds of forms, he said.

The trade exhibition, he said, will display hundreds of Chinese-made quality products in six categories of machinery, household electrical appliances, vehicles and spare parts, telecom products, hardware and light industrial products, including power generators, food processing machines, injection moulding ma-

chines, packaging machines, refrigerators, air-conditioners and motorcycles.

The exhibition is sponsored by the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade in coordination with the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture and the China Investment Development and Trade Promotion Centre in Nigeria.—MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်ဘ်ဆိုက်: [www.aljazeera.net](http://www.aljazeera.net)

## Al-Jazeera airs video of American hostage held in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 11 Nov—Iraq Al-Jazeera television has broadcast a videotape showing what the station says is an American contractor of Lebanese origin held hostage in Iraq.

The balding, middle-aged man carries a US passport and an identification card in the name of Dean Sadek. He was shown sitting in front of a green wall. Al-Jazeera did not air any audio but quoted Sadek as saying all businesses should stop cooperating with US authorities.

Al-Jazeera said the kidnapping was claimed in the name of the 1920 Revolution Brigade, a known insurgent group. The name refers to the uprising against the British after World War One.

It's not clear when or where Sadek was kidnapped. Last week, the Iraqi Interior Ministry said a Lebanese-American was seized by armed men from his home in the city's Mansour district but gave the name as Radim Sadeq.

Internet

## Many killed in Baghdad car bomb blast

BAGHDAD, 11 Nov—Eighteen Iraqis including a guardsman have been killed in separate attacks in Baghdad and Baquba while the governor of Kirkuk has escaped an assassination attempt.

A car bomb exploded near a police patrol in central Baghdad on Thursday, killing at least 17 civilians and wounding 20, destroying cars and devastating a nearby building, police and witnesses said. "A car bomb hit a police patrol, wounding several police-

men," a police officer at the scene said. "There must also be civilian casualties because it is a busy area."

The explosion brought down the roof and walls of a nearby building, and passersby and rescue workers searched the ru-

ins for survivors.

The blast set several cars ablaze, sending black smoke billowing into the air. A line of cars had been queuing at a nearby petrol station when the car bomb detonated. The station itself did not catch fire.

Internet

## Romania to withdraw two tons of paprika from warehouses

BUCHAREST, 11 Nov—Romania's consumer protection watchdog decided on Tuesday to withdraw around two tons of imported paprika from warehouses after detecting a toxic substance "slightly" above acceptable levels.

Most of the paprika, around 1.6 tons, was imported from Hungary and it had

20 per cent more aflatoxin than the accepted level, the consumer protection authority said in a statement. It said another 500 kilos came from Spain.

Scientists say aflatoxin could damage the human liver and immune system and may cause cancer.

MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi boy walks near a burning oil pipeline on the outskirts of Fallujah, Iraq, Wednesday, 10 Nov, 2004. Guerilla set off the fire using rocket-propelled grenades Tuesday night.

INTERNET



## Iraq announces curfew in Mosul

**BAGHDAD, 11 Nov—**Iraq's authorities imposed curfew on Wednesday in the country's third largest city of Mosul, after clashes broke out in the city, the US military and witnesses said.

The governor's office in Mosul made the announcement after a series of fierce street battles between guerillas and US forces, including two attacks against US military convoys in the city, some 400 kilometres north of Baghdad, a US military spokesman said.

He said a foreign contractor working for private company was killed in one of these two attacks.

"The curfew is immediately enforced on the city until further notice," he said, adding the governor has ordered to block the bridges in Mosul to all civilian traffic.

Fierce clashes broke out in the western part of Mosul as gunfire resonated throughout the city and columns of black smoke were seen rising above the area, residents said.

Masked gunmen controled the streets, blocking roads in some parts of the city, they added.

Allawi issued the order to start a state of emergency

across Iraq on 7 November and authorized US and Iraqi forces to storm Fallujah. The iron-handed move has also aroused disputes among the Iraqi society.

Meanwhile, a militant group kidnapping three family members of Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi threatened on Wednesday to kill them if Allawi does not order a withdrawal from the besieged Fallujah.

In a statement posted on an Islamic web site, the group known to be Ansar al-Jihad (Partisans of Holy War) claimed responsibility for the abduction and threatened to behead the three if Allawi fails to meet its demands in 48 hours.

The authenticity of the statement could not be verified independently.

Earlier reports said that a cousin of Allawi, his wife and daughter-in-law were kidnapped on Tuesday evening from their house in Baghdad.

MNA/Xinhua

## 45 Iraqis killed in Baquba in attacks on police stations

**BAGHDAD, 11 Nov—**At least 45 Iraqis were killed Tuesday when guerillas attacked three police stations in Baquba, northeast of Baghdad, medical sources and witnesses said.

"Forty-five bodies had arrived at the morgue and the hospital had received 32 wounded," said a medical source in Baquba hospital. The police said guerillas attacked three police stations in the city, killing 25 policemen and wounding dozens.

They said the attacks targeted the Wahda, Tahrir and Mafraq police stations in Baquba, some 65 kilometres northeast of Baghdad. Guerillas also distributed leaflets, warning people not to cooperate with the government or go to schools, according to residents.

The deadly attacks came as the US Marines backed by Iraqi forces were punching into the restive city of Fallujah, 50 kilometres west of Baghdad. —MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier arrives at the scene of a car bomb attack in central Baghdad November 11, 2004. US troops hunted guerillas in the battered Iraqi city of Falluja on Thursday. — INTERNET

## India to host Health Summit on 17 November

**NEW DELHI, 11 Nov—**In a bid to promote India's healthcare sector and convert the country into a global health destination, a two-day Health Summit is being organized here to be participated by delegates from 55 countries, including decision makers and health ministers.

The second India Health Summit, beginning 17 November with the theme of "Emerging Healthcare Opportunities in India: Enhancing Quality, Safety and Affordability" is being organized by the Confederation of Indian Industries

(CII), Indian Healthcare Federation and International Health Summit, the premier health congregation in the US.

Announcing this, Dr Naresh Trehan, Chairman of the CII National Committee on

Healthcare, on Wednesday said though India had made considerable progress in the health sector, its performance was still dismal in comparison to the developed countries.

The CII had established task forces in important areas such as health insurance, ethics and accreditation of health care institutions in the private sector which were likely to come out with their reports soon, Trehan said.

A task force was also looking into how to make India a healthcare hub of the world, he said adding there was a need to change visa procedures for genuine patients from other countries and make facilities available at airports for transporting them to hospital. — MNA/PTI

## Susilo to attend APEC Summit

**JAKARTA, 11 Nov —**Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has confirmed his participation in the upcoming Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit, a senior official said on Wednesday.

Susilo will meet privately with several world leaders during his first overseas trip since the presidential inauguration on October 20, Foreign Minister Hassan Wirajuda told reporters at the presidential palace here.

The APEC Summit will be held in Chile from November 18 to November 23. "The President ordered me to seek opportunities to meet with Chinese President Hu Jintao, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, Australian Prime Minister John Howard, Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin and host leader President Ricardo Lagos," Hassan said shortly after meeting with Susilo. — MNA/Xinhua

## Iran stresses achieving peace, stability in Iraq

**TEHERAN, 11 Nov —**Iranian President Mohammad Khatami on Tuesday stressed the necessity of establishing peace, stability and security in Iraq, which is the responsibility of not only Iran but also the international community, the official IRNA news agency reported.

Khatami made the comments during a meeting with visiting Iraqi Minister of State for Provinces Wael Abdul-Latif.

"Iraq should regain its deserved status in the region with due regard to its rich resources and talents through the establishment of a broad-based government," Khatami was quoted as saying.

"We regard security and progress in Iraq as our own security and we hope that the Iraqi nation will have the say in running their country," said Khatami, adding that the interim Iraqi Government played an important and sensitive role in this regard.

Khatami also said the

Iraqi general elections, set in January, would settle several problems in the war-torn country.

"We seek withdrawal of foreigners from Iraq and condemn any interference in the country's internal affairs which will be an insult to its people," he added.

Khatami further called on Iraq's neighbouring states to prevent what would result in more lawlessness in the country.

"Iran and Iraq enjoy common interests and Iran is determined to strengthen bilateral ties in all areas," he said.

The security situation in Iraq has deteriorated recently as the US troops

launched an all-out assault on the Iraqi restive city of Fallujah.

Iraqi interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi on Sunday declared a 60-day state of emergency across most parts of the country.

Iran has been keeping a close eye on the developments in its western neighbour since the downfall of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Teheran has been accused of interfering in the internal affairs of Iraq with its influence upon the Shiite Muslims in the country. However, the accusation has been categorically rejected by Iran.

MNA/Xinhua



US Navy's Master of Arms 1st Class Stephen Mallory, from Fayetteville, Ala looks through his binoculars besides a 50 caliber machine gun while on guard at Al Basra Oil Terminal, off shore Basra, Southern Iraq on 10 Nov, 2004. The US Navy together with other coalition forces and the Iraqi Coast Guard, protect the vital terminal that loads 1.6 million barrels a day of crude oil for export.

INTERNET

# Kidnappers give Allawi 48 hours to halt assault on Fallujah

**BAGHDAD, 11 Nov—** A militant group kidnapping three family members of Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi threatened on Wednesday to kill them if Allawi does not order a withdrawal from the besieged Fallujah.

In a statement, the group known to be Ansar al-Jihad (Partisans of Holy War) claimed responsibility for the abduction and threatened to behead the three if Allawi fails to meet its demands in 48 hours.

"We demand the agent government liberate all the prisoners in Iraq, women and men, and lift the siege over Fallujah and stop the military action against the city," said the previously unknown group.

The authenticity of the statement, published on a web site, could not be verified independently.

Earlier reports said that a first cousin of Allawi, the cousin's wife

and his daughter-in-law were kidnapped on Tuesday evening from their house in Baghdad.

Three cars with at least six men inside pulled up to the house in Baghdad's southern district of Al-Kadisiya, from where they took Ghazi Allawi and his two family members, an official source was quoted as saying.

Allawi, who leads the current Iraqi interim government, was the latest victim of the rampant wave of abduction. Over 100 foreigners and relatives of wealthy figures have been kidnapped in Iraq for political or financial purposes.

The abduction followed a joint US-Iraqi all-out offensive in Fallujah, a long-time rebel bastion since the war last year, to clear the city of guerillas.

Allawi issued this week the order to start a state of emergency across Iraq and authorized US and Iraqi forces to storm Fallujah. The iron-handed move has also aroused disputes among the Iraqi society.

There has been no report of suspension in the ongoing military action so far. Allawi often made remarks that his government would not bow to kidnappers and criminals.—MNA/Xinhua

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ထုတ်ဝေခြင်း

## Six Iraqi troops killed by roadside bombs near Kirkuk

**BAGHDAD, 11 Nov—** Six Iraqi guardsmen were killed and two others wounded by roadside bombs on Wednesday near northern city Kirkuk, said a National Guard general.

One roadside bomb exploded at around 7:45 am (0445 GMT) on a road near Tuz, 60 kilometres north of Kirkuk, when a National Guard patrol was on their way to a military camp, said General Anwar Mohammad.

He added that the blast destroyed a vehicle and killed all the four Iraqi guardsmen on board, including a commander.

Some twenty minutes later, a second bomb went off near the first blast site as another National Guard patrol were dispatched to the scene, killing two, Mohammad added. Most of the Iraqi soldiers were residents of that area, the general said.

The Iraqi National Guard often fall victim to attacks of guerillas aimed at destabilizing the war-torn country and thwarting the general elections slated for January, 2005.—MNA/Xinhua

## One more Turkish driver killed in Iraq

**ANKARA, 11 Nov—** Armed Iraqi militants killed one more Turkish truck driver and burned his vehicle in north of Iraq on Wednesday, semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

The report said that he was the fourth Turkish driver killed this week near Baiji, 180 kilometres north of Baghdad.

On Monday, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan asked US President George W Bush to take necessary measures to restore stability in Iraq.

Erdogan told Bush over a telephone call that Turkey attached great importance to stability in Iraq, and necessary actions should be taken to restore peace in the war-torn country.

"Protection of national unity and territorial integrity of Iraq is important for Turkey, the region and international community," Erdogan said.

A total of more than 60 Turkish citizens have been killed in Iraq so far.

MNA/Xinhua



*Iraqis gather at the scene of a huge explosion that hit the heart of Baghdad, Iraq, on Thursday, 11 Nov, 2004, sending up plumes of thick black smoke above the central part of the capital. A police officer said the blast was caused by a car bomb that hit Nasser Square on Saadoun Street, a densely populated commercial area with major hotels housing foreigners.—INTERNET*

## Tunisian President reshuffles government

**TUNIS, 11 Nov—** Tunisian President Zine El-abidine Ben Ali on Wednesday reshuffled the government.

The new government is made up of 47 members, one person more than the previous one. Prime Minister Mohamed Ghannouchi retained his post.

Abdelbaki Hermassi, ex-culture minister, was named Foreign Minister in place of Habib Ben Yahia, who left the government. Former interior minister Hedi M'Henni became De-

fence Minister to replace retiring Dali Jazi. Rafik Belhaj Kacem, a special presidential aide, was appointed Minister of the Interior.

The establishment of a Transport Ministry and an Environment Ministry in the new government showed that Tunisia will pay more attention to the infrastructure building of transportation, the environment and sustainable development. Besides, the Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Technology is divided into two departments.

MNA/Xinhua

*A masked guerilla fires a rocket propelled grenade during clashes with US and Iraqi forces in the northern city of Mosul, on 10 Nov, 2004.*

INTERNET

## Marine major found guilty of lesser charges in death of Iraqi inmate

**CAM PENDLETON (California), 11 Nov—** A military jury acquitted a Marine major of assault and battery in connection with the death of an Iraqi prisoner, but found him guilty of two lesser counts.

Major Clarke Paulus faces dismissal from the Marines and up to a year in military prison instead of the 1-1/2 years he could have received if convicted on all charges. He was found guilty of maltreatment and dereliction of duty.

Paulus showed no reaction as the foreman read the verdict Wednesday following about six hours of deliberations by the jury of Marine Corps officers at the base north of San Diego. After the verdict was read, Paulus turned and touched the hand of his mother, who stood behind him along with his wife. His wife left the courtroom in tears.

The jury quickly began deliberating Paulus' sentence.

Paulus, 36, of the Phila-

delphia suburb of Buckingham, Pennsylvania, commanded the Marine detention facility at Camp Whitehorse in Iraq. He was accused of ordering a subordinate to drag Nagem Sadoon Hatab by the neck out of a holding cell in June 2003 after the man suffered a bout of diarrhoea.

Hatab was stripped naked and left outside for seven hours before he was found dead. Prosecutors contended Paulus failed to properly safeguard Hatab's health and welfare and failed to provide him with proper medical care.

On Tuesday, a military prosecutor said Paulus set the wrong example for his troops and the result was the death of a prisoner.

MNA/AP



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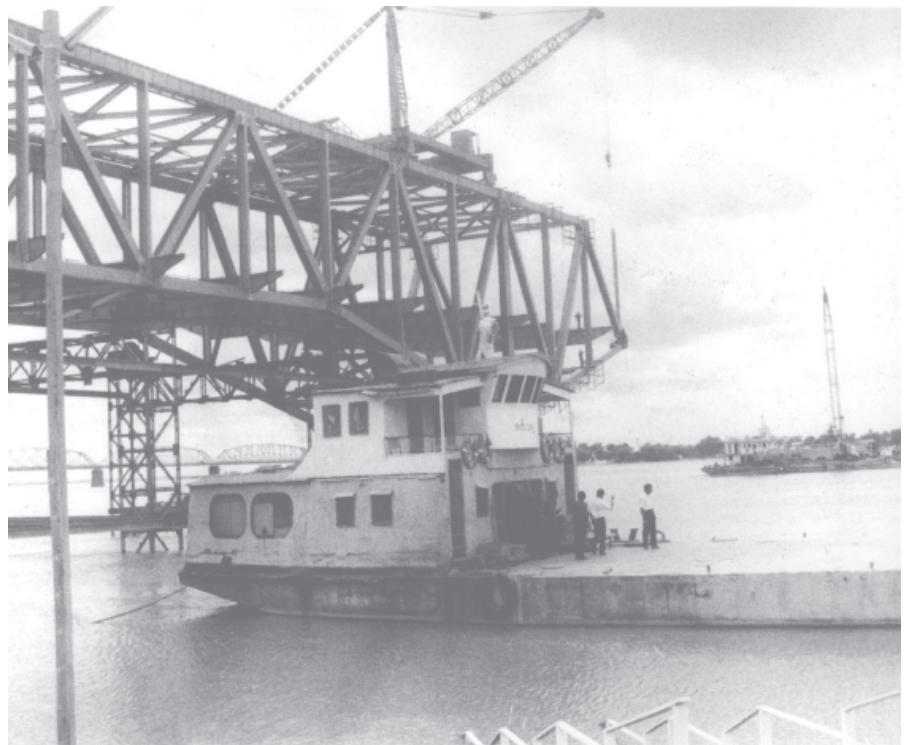
## **Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) to contribute towards better transportation**



*Construction site of approach bridge of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) on Sagaing bank.— MNA*

### **Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon)**

- Main bridge is built of steel frame.
- It is 5614 feet long including two approach roads.
- It can withstand 60-ton loads.
- It is about 2,000 feet upstream from Inwa Bridge.



*Installation of iron beams at Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon). — MNA*

**Transport plays a key role in narrowing development gap between one region and another.**

## Minister Col Thein Nyunt inspects regional development work in Shan State (East), Shan State (North)

YANGON, 12 Nov.—Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, accompanied by Director-General of Department of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Col Than Swe and officials, on 9 November afternoon, inspected thriving poppy-substitute crops such as mangoes and lychee at Mongma Village plantations, in Mongla Township, where officials conducted them round, and he attended to the requirements.

The minister and party proceeded to Mongla People's Hospital where Medical Officer Dr Kyaw Kyaw Win and officials reported on health care services and educative measures.

Next, the minister and party inspected the medical store and operation theatre and asked after warded patients. The minister presented gifts to hospital staff and patients.

Next, the minister arrived at the border gate in Mongla where he greeted those who paid a visit to Myanmar.

Afterwards, the minister inspected the TV retransmission station, the satellite communication station and the postal and telegraph office and looked into renovation of the Reclining Buddha Image.

In the evening, the minister and party proceeded to Mongla Basic Education High School and inspected multimedia classrooms and learning of students.

The minister met service personnel at the hall of the school and fulfilled their needs. He also presented gifts to them.

In the late evening, the minister met with National Race leader of Shan State (East) Special Region-4 U Sai Linn and officials.

At the meeting, matters related to regional development and perpetuation of Mongla region as a drug free zone were discussed.

On 10 November morning, the minister arrived at Nangpan hydel power station on Mongla-Silu motor road and inspected the power supply to Mongla. He then looked into renovation of Mongla-Silu motor road.

At Silu, the minister inspected the TV retransmission station, the livestock breeding and veterinary department, the rural health care centre and the staff quarters.

The minister next met officials from the Silu region and discussed matters related to regional development.

Later, the minister inspected construction of the new building for Silu Basic Education Middle School and thriving quality tea plantations.

In the afternoon, the minister inspected the Mongyan Township Development Affairs Committee and fulfilled the requirements. The minister met executives of the Township Union Solidarity and Development Association at the Township USDA Office and fulfilled the needs.

On arrival at Mongphyang, the minister and party inspected the TV retransmission station. The minister met local people and discussed matters related to regional development.

At Hotong, the minister looked into the communication, postal and telegraph office and the rural health care centre.

The minister and party proceeded to Mongpauk. At the office of Wa Region Development Project being undertaken together with UNODC, the minister was briefed by Project Manager Mr Jarami on work being carried out and future tasks.

After fulfilling the requirements, the minister presented gifts to the project staff.

On arrival at the Mongpauk Basic Education High School, the minister inspected multimedia classrooms and learning of students and presented books, school uniforms and gifts to the Headmaster and teachers.

After that, the minister inspected the Mongpauk region development office, the agriculture office, the TV retransmission station, the postal and telegraph office and the 16-bed hospital and presented gifts to warded patients.

In the evening, the minister arrived at Pansan BEHS where he viewed multimedia classrooms and learning of students. He next presented exercise books and school uniforms to students.

At the 50-bed Pansan hospital, the minister met Medical Officer Dr Aung Kyaw Moe and health staff and fulfilled the needs.

MNA



Minister Col Thein Nyunt inspects Mongla Basic Education High School. — MNA

## Commander inspects ...

(from page 16)

The Commander dealt with assistance to be rendered for sufficient water supply for cultivation of summer paddy.

The Commander headed for Vegetables Cultivation and Livestock Breeding Special Zone-2 near Nyaungnabin Village, Hmawby Township, Yangon North District. Those in charge of special zone Nos 1, 2 and 3 and officials reported on land preparations, cultivation of vegetables and fruits and breeding livestock, reconstruction of roads, supply of water from Kalihtaw and Ngamoeyek dams, arrangements for extended installation of telephone lines, and distribution of electricity.

National entrepreneurs also reported on running

agriculture and livestock farms and requirements.

The Commander gave instructions on growing vegetables and fruits on all the vacant land. He said that all necessary assistance has been rendered for constant maintenance of roads, and installation of new auto lines. He urged national entrepreneurs and departmental officials to make collaborative endeavours for implementation of the aim of the Special Zone.

From the observation tower, the Commander inspected special zones and progress in constructing basic education primary school. So far, the Special Zone has put 5,940 acres under vegetables and fruits, and bred 1.3 million layers. It has distributed over 1.2 million broilers to the people. And it is raising over 1.3 million fishes in 568 acres of fishing ponds.

MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win greets Indonesian Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Hassan Wirajuda. (News on page 1)—MNA

## Construction of transport infrastructures coordinated

YANGON, 12 Nov — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun met with engineers responsible for road construction at the guest house in Bhamo, Kachin State, on 9 November. On the occasion, the minister heard reports on condition of Mandalay-Tagaung-Bhamo Road, Konhnaw-Makhwai Road, and Bhamo-Naolaik-Tasai Road as well as on progress of the Kyuntaw bridge construction project (Mogaung) on Shwabo-Myitkyina Road. After hearing the reports, the minister fulfilled the requirements of the project. The minister proceeded to Shwegu, where he met with local authorities and engineers at the guest house of Public Works and gave instructions on matters related to smooth transport network. He also urged engineers concerned of Bhamo District and Shwegu Township to tar the entrance road to Shwegu.

On 10 November, the minister met with engineers of Mandalay Division and Kachin State at the guest house of Shweli Bridge (NgaO) and spoke of the need to implement bridge and road construction projects meeting the standards set, to utilize the allotted funds according to financial rules, to make the most of machinery at the projects, and to erect signposts bearing the names of cities and the distance of miles at crossroads.

In the afternoon, the minister and party arrived at the briefing hall of TwinNge Camp, where engineers reported on construction of a 2-mile and 6-furlong road section on TwinNge-Momeik Road and the requirements for construction of Kyaukmaw bridge. Later, the minister attended to the requirements of the project. — MNA

## Winners of quiz on general knowledge on military affairs announced

YANGON, 12 Nov — Winners of quiz on general knowledge of military affairs organized by the committee for organizing the 15th National Motto Literary and Photo Competition were announced today.

In university level, Cadet Kaung Htet Thaw of the Defence Services Technological University stood first, Thiha Tun of the Institute of Medicine-2 second and Cadet Myat Ko Ko of the DSTU. Consolation prizes went to Cadets Aung Myo Thu and Zeya Min Shwe of the DSTU. Those winning first, second and third prizes will be awarded at the National Theatre on Myomakyaung Street on 12 December, Sarsodav Day, and those winning consolation prizes will be presented cash awards by money order. First, second and third prize-winners are to contact U Ko Ko Htwe, Secretary of the Committee for organizing the competition of the Myanmar Radio and Television, on December 9 during office hours in order to make rehearsal on 10 December. — MNA



## Tubewell commissioned for public use

YANGON, 12 Nov— A tubewell was put into public service with ceremony at the corner of Theiachaung Street and Taitayakyaung Street, Ward 21, South Dagon Myothit Township, this morning.

Patron of the Union Solidarity and Development Association of Yangon Division, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe; member of the Central Executive Committee of the USDA, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee, and Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin attended the ceremony.

Also present were USDA CEC member, YCDC Vice-Chairman, and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and members; Commander of No 2 Military Region Brig-Gen Myo Myint; Chairman of Yangon East District PDC Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein and members; executives of Yangon Division USDA and members; local populace; and guests.

The tubewell was inaugurated as a gesture of hailing the USDA Annual General Meeting 2004. At the opening ceremony which took place in front of the archway of the tubewell, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Yangon Division USDA Joint-Secretary U Tha Win commissioned the tubewell for public use by cutting the ribbon. Next, the commander, the mayor, the vice-mayor and party oversaw the tubewell.

On the occasion, South Dagon Myothit Township USDA Secretary U Zaw Oo reported on measures taken for the drilling of the tubewell. Later, the commander stressed the importance of the availability of safe drinking water, adding that the task for supply of safe drinking water is included in the five rural development plants being implemented by the government. He also spoke of the need of local people to maintain the tubewell for its long-term use.

Later, the mayor elaborated on aid programmes being undertaken by YCDC to

enable the people living in the municipal area of Yangon City to have access to safe drinking water.

U Than Shwe, a townselder, on behalf of the local people, expressed his thanks for the facility the government provided.

USDA membership application forms were presented on the occasion. Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin accepted 979 application forms. The tubewell inaugurated today was drilled at the cost of K 1,997,515 funded by YCDC, under the initiative of South Dagon Myothit USDA, and it can supply safe drinking water to 662 households with 3,187 people. The commander and the mayor attended a waterpipe replacement ceremony at SinOdan Street (Lower) in Latha Township, Yangon North District. On the occasion, the mayor accepted 212 USDA membership application forms of the people living in the street.

Afterwards, the commander and the mayor inspected the replacement of rusted waterpipes with new ones to ensure the availability of safe drinking water. — MNA



Director-General Lt-Col Pe Nyein offers Kathina robes to a Sayadaw.  
(News on page 2) — MNA

## Commander inspects farms in Lashio Township

YANGON, 12 Nov— Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing visited pilot Hsinshweli hybrid (F-1) paddy farm of the regional battalion in Lashio on November 10.

At the 5000-acre highland farm, he heard a report on salient points of the farm and thriving Hsinshweli rice plantations presented by officials. He gave instructions. The commander then went

round the farm observing vegetable patches, coffee plantations and coffee and macadamia nurseries. He also oversaw the repair of pumps to lift water into five tanks for irrigation, and building of a briefing hall.

At the 1,000-acre seed producing farm at the entrance to Lashio, he observed macadamia, orange and coffee plantations, fish breeding ponds, vegetable patches, single-cropping and double-cropping rice fields. He also attended to the needs of farm officials.

During inspection of a farm of Lashio District Peace and Development Council, the commander observed seed producing farms, rice harvesting and thriving paddy fields located in the irrigated area of Humon Dam. He visited Hsinshweli Home for the Aged and cordially greeted grandpas and grandmas. He also visited the workers building a retaining wall at the home. Later, he inspected the renovation of Yanaungmyin Pagoda and ancient religious edifice in Lashio. — MNA

## Rules for Armed Forces Day...

(from page 1)

Those who did not win the prizes can participate in the level-1. However, one contestant may take part in one level only, and the level number must be written on the entry.

There will be two events at the level-1—the long poem and the short poem. The contestant can participate in both or one of them. However, it must be one entry for one event.

The short poem must be between 100 and 300 stanzas and the long one between 1,000 and 2,000 stanzas. The entries must be in line with the rules. The free verse and modern poems will not be accepted.

cepted.

The poem must be written on one side of paper and the two copies of the entry must be submitted.

And, the entry must be attached with the name of the contestant, pen-name, names of parents, education, occupation and address together with three 2" x 2.5" size colour photos.

The entry must be own

creation and has not featured in any publication yet. The State has authority to use the prize-winning works. The entries are to be sent to Lt-Col Ohn Maung (Retd) (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe), Chief Editor, Naingngan Gonyi Literary House, Sarpay Beikman, 531, Merchant Street, here, Tel: 374532, not later than 31-1-2005.—MNA

## Kalaw GTI respect-paying ceremony

YANGON, 12 Nov— Old students of Government Technical Institute in Kalaw will pay respects to their teachers for the 15th time at Wizitayon Monastery on 68th Street between 32nd and 33rd streets in Mandalay on December 12 (Sunday). Interested persons may contact U Thein Win (01-539877), U Aung Soe (01-534152), U Tun Aung (02-63036), and U Moe Tun (02-33818). — MNA



Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr Hassan Wirajuda being bidden farewell at the airport. (News on page 16)—MNA

## Commander holds discussions for development of Rakhine State

YANGON, 12 Nov— Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing held discussions with Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung of Sittway Station, Secretary of Rakhine State PDC Lt-Col Khin Maung Than and departmental heads, in Sittway on 9 November.

Lt-Col Khin Maung Than reported on undertakings for regional progress; and officials, on work progress sector-wise. Commander Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing elaborated on

cooperation for development of Rakhine State and accomplishment of the projects.

On the morning of 10 November, the Commander looked into progress in constructing three-storey building of Sittway Technological College. Principal U Tin Win and Assistant Engineer in charge of the project U Win Mon reported on the project. The Commander gave instructions on systematically drawing layout of the college and greening of the campus.

The Commander

addressed the harvesting of Kyaw Zeya strain paddy fields in Kandawgyi Model Plot in Sittway. Afterwards, the Commander inspected harvesting of paddy, groundwork for cultivation of cold season crops, sample tractors, sample paddy strains, and threshing of paddy.

In the afternoon, he inspected Kyauktan Bridge Project on Yangon-Sittway Highway in Sittway, and gave instructions on timely completion of the project, meeting the standard set and worksite safety.

MNA

## Minister inspects factories

YANGON, 12 Nov— Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin inspected manufacturing of goods at auto tools factory of Myanmar Automobile and Diesel Engine Industries in Indagaw, Bago Division, today.

The minister spoke of the need to strive to meet the production target, to distribute the parts to departments and industrial zones, to improve the quality of products and to serve the welfare of factory staff. During inspection of

power-tiller engine factory of the Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Industries, he pointed out the importance of running the factory at its full capacity, marketing, fire and flood prevention and frugal use of electricity and fuel. — MNA

## Minister visits Freshwater Fish Garden

YANGON, 12 Nov— Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein visited the Freshwater Fish Garden Project at the Education Zone of Kandawgyi Gardens here today.

Accompanied by officials, the minister observed raising of

ornamental fish in the streams and aquariums, man-made waterfalls, a turtle breeding centre, and man-made caves which can produce sounds of various animals. Ninety-seven per cent of the project have completed at present.

At the briefing hall, he heard a report on

progress in implementing the project, presented by officials and aquarium fish experts. He spoke of the need to keep ornamental fish of local species that can attract visitors and to lay down and implement programmes for public recreation and education.

MNA

# World Diabetes Day

## (November 14)

*Dr Tint Swe Latt*

World Diabetes Day is the primary global campaign for raising public awareness of diabetes. It aims to inform the public of the causes, symptoms, complications and treatment associated with the condition. World Diabetes Day serves as an important reminder that the incidence and prevalence of diabetes is increasing all over the world and will continue to do so unless action is taken immediately.

World Diabetes Day was introduced in 1991 in response to concern over the escalating incidence of diabetes around the world. Since then, it has grown in popularity every year and now brings together more than 350 million people worldwide—children and adults with and without diabetes, healthcare professional, decision makers, and the media.

World Diabetes Day is celebrated every year on 14 November. The date chosen as it is the birthday of Frederick Banting who, along with Charles Best, first conceived the idea which led to the discovery of insulin in Oct 1921. Each year World Diabetes Day is centered on a unifying idea, a theme which is the focus of special attention. Topics covered in the past have included diabetes and human rights, diabetes and lifestyle, and the costs of diabetes. Since 2001 particular attention has been paid to diabetes complications. Recent and future themes include:

2002 Year Eyes and Diabetes : Don't lose sight of the risks

2003 Diabetes could cost you your kidneys : Act now!

2004 Fight Obesity Prevent Diabetes

2005 Diabetes and Foot Care

The activities vary from country to country and they are aimed to inform, educate but also provide enjoyment.

World Diabetes Day 2004 is focusing on overweight and obesity, one of the major risk factors for the development of type 2 diabetes. The goal of the campaign is to convey the message that simple and inexpensive life-style changes such as increased physical activity and healthier eating habits can be very effective in countering the serious human and social consequences that would result, from a worsening of the diabetes epidemic.

Diabetes is an increasing global health threat. In 2003, the International Diabetes Federation estimated that there were 194 million people with diabetes around the world. By 2025 this figure is predicted to rise to 333 million, amounting to 6.3% of the world's population living with diabetes. Diabetes is now the fourth leading cause of death in most developed countries.

This article aims to raise awareness of the strong link between diabetes and obesity. An alarming rise in overweight and obesity is occurring worldwide and this is likely to drive the prevalence of diabetes even higher than current estimates suggest. Obesity is the main modifiable risk factor for 90% of all cases of diabetes. Levels of overweight are increasing dramatically among children, resulting in more and more childhood cases of type 2 diabetes, a condition that until recently affected primarily adults. The younger age of onset increases the risk of serious complications such as heart disease and blindness. The result is an increased burden on health budgets and society as a whole.

In many cases diabetes can be prevented, and various studies have shown that this can be done through simple lifestyle changes (healthier diets and increased physical activity) and education. It is possible to take action to slow the increasing epidemics of obesity and diabetes. This requires an integrated, international approach involving national health authorities, civil society, and the private sector.

The risk developing diabetes increases progressively in both men and women with the amount of

excess weight. The alarming increase in the worldwide prevalence of type 2 diabetes, particularly in developing countries, in minority groups, and in children, appears to be mainly related to overweight and obesity.

Obesity and type 2 diabetes, however, do not always go together. Not all of those who are overweight or obese will develop diabetes and not all of those with type 2 diabetes are obese. The likelihood of developing diabetes when overweight or obese depends on the interaction of a number of factors:

- \* How much overweight or obese a person is
  - \* The level of abdominal fat
  - \* The genetic predisposition to developing insulin resistance
  - \* A person's insulin producing capacity
- 80% of people with type 2 diabetes are either overweight or obese.

Obesity results when the size or number of fat cells in a person's body increases. When a person gains weight, these fat cells first increase in size and later in number. Overweight and obesity can cause diabetes, and contribute to high blood pressure, high cholesterol, infertility, birth complications and arthritis. Obesity is largely preventable through changes in lifestyle, especially diet.

Obesity is most commonly assessed by a single measure, the Body Mass Index (BMI), which uses a mathematical formula based on a person's height and weight. Waist circumference is also increasingly recognized as a simple means of identifying obesity. This measurement in combination with BMI has shown to be the best predictor of obesity and its associated health risks.

BMI is calculated by dividing weight in kilograms by height in metres squared:  $BMI = \text{kg}/\text{m}^2$

Individuals with a BMI of between 25 and 29.9 are considered overweight, while those with a BMI of 30 or above are considered obese.

Obesity can affect anyone—there are no defined absolute risk factors. However, certain groups of people are more likely to become obese. Risk factors include:

- \* High-fat, high-energy diets
- \* Sedentary lifestyle/physical inactivity
- \* Family history
- \* Ethnicity
- \* Age

There are some indications that the likelihood of a particular individual becoming obese may be reduced if the following modifiable risk factors are given attention:

- \* Adequate maternal nutrition during pregnancy
  - \* Introducing a variety of tastes to infants after breast feeding
  - \* Developing a taste for fruit and vegetable consumption early in life
  - \* Encouraging physical activity during childhood
  - \* Maintaining diets low in energy density
- It has been shown that simple lifestyle interventions can reduce the risk of developing type 2 diabetes by as much as 60%. These include:
- \* Increased physical activity
  - \* A healthy diet
  - \* Weight loss

Weight management and physical activity are the true foundation of the treatment of type 2 diabetes. Most of the treatment of type 2 diabetes can be lost 5-10% of their body weight treatment is offered by a professional team consisting of a physician and dietitians or nurses. Increasing daily physical activity plays an important role in the maintenance of this weight loss. Diet is a fundamental part of the treatment of diabetes. However, there is more to the

management of diabetes than good nutrition. Increased physical activity does not significantly affect the rate of early weight loss but it plays an important role in weight maintenance. Just 30 minutes of moderate physical activity (eg. Walking) a day is enough to ensure good health.

Types of diet suitable for weight loss and weight maintenance include:

- \* low-energy density diets
- \* low-fat diets
- \* low-carbohydrate diets

Weight loss drugs have a role in individuals in whom lifestyle changes are either not enough to produce the required weight control or are impossible to achieve because of physical incapacity. Drugs used for weight loss in the overweight and obese, with or without diabetes, may be classified into three categories:

- \* Drugs that shift nutrient metabolism
- \* Drugs that reduce food intake
- \* Drugs that increase energy expenditure

Stomach or Bariatric surgery is a very effective means to produce a longerlasting weight loss, and may be an option in severely obese individuals who find their weight very difficult to control with other weight management measures. Such operations, however, include a small but significant risk and therefore should only be considered in very serious cases.

The twin epidemics of diabetes and obesity already represent the biggest public health challenge of the 21st century. It is no longer possible to rely only on management and prevention strategies that focus on the individual. Responses are required at the population level as well. Since major changes in both physical inactivity and food explain the development of the obesity and diabetes crisis, rational measures to address both issues needed. The epidemic of obesity and diabetes has developed in spite of decades of national and local efforts to emphasize the value of 'balanced diets' and to stress the importance of moderate daily exercise.

Health education should, therefore, also be designed to support other measures.

- \* Providing children with a wide variety of physical activities
- \* Appropriate urban environments that encourage healthy lifestyle habits for all
- \* Teaching healthy eating habits and providing nutritious foods in schools
- \* Monitoring the weight of children
- \* Food labeling
- \* Smaller portion sizes
- \* Lower prices for healthy foods

It is important to establish strong national systems and partnerships that enable governments, civil society, and the private sector to evaluate and implement effective new policies. Give the epidemic of obesity and the increased incidence of diabetes that is likely to follow, systems to ensure annual monitoring of diabetes prevalence in populations should be established. It is already late, but as global effort can be made to transform diets, encourage less dependence on motorized transport, and promote efforts to restore physical activity into our daily lives.

By observing the World Diabetes Day 2004, we can take the opportunity to inform the public about the benefits of healthy lifestyle; remind them of a well-balance diet and regular physical exercise. We can also stress again and again *Obesity is major risk factor for Diabetes and many other chronic diseases*. We would like to conclude here, by saying, "Welcome to the World Diabetes Day, 2004".

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## Thai, Singaporean leaders talk on enlarged trade relation

BANGKOK, 12 Nov—Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and his Thai counterpart Thaksin Shinawatra on Thursday discussed ways to further bilateral cooperation, especially in the field of trade here.

Lee and Thaksin talked about promoting an earlier-agreed target of free trade between the two countries by 2020, the government spokesman Jakrapob Penkair told reporters.

The two sides also agreed to reduce trade barrier for each other for fruits and livestock, he said.

Governments of Thailand and Singapore have pledged to put for-

ward the two countries' economic and trade cooperation under the ASEAN framework.

The two sides previously specified their cooperation in seven areas such as agriculture, electricity and automobile, small and medium size enterprises, investment, tourism and finance.

The two countries have yet to set a specific date as when to realize

free trade.

Lee and Thaksin also reviewed progress of the Asia Bond plan and discussed proposal of closer cooperation in anti-terrorism, according to the report of the state-run *Thai News Agency*.

Thailand is the last leg of the Singaporean leader's visit to Southeast Asian countries since he took office in August.

MNA/Xinhua

## Vietnam imprisons US couple for illegal money transport

HANOI, 12 Nov—Vietnam sentenced a US couple three years, eight months and 22 days in prison for the charge of illegally transporting money across the border, *Vietnam News Agency* reported Thursday.

The Ho Chi Minh

City People's Court on Wednesday passed the verdict on Chan Stanley Shu Fu and his wife Chan Amie Lee who brought with them 105,000 US dollars without Customs declaration when making procedures at the Tan Son Nhat International

Airport on February 18 to fly to Hong Kong. The amount is 99,100 US dollars higher than the permissible level.

The 99,100 US dollars was confiscated and turned over to the public fund.

MNA/Xinhua

## Latin American countries seek closer economic ties with HK

HONG KONG, 12 Nov — A joint delegation consisting of 40 officials, businessmen and academicians from Argentina and Chile is paying a three-day visit to Hong Kong, seeking closer ties with Hong Kong in economic, trade, education and some other fields.

The visiting vice-governor of Mendoza of Argentina, Juan Carlos Jaliff, said in an interview with *Xinhua* that the main aim of the Argentine members of the delegation for the visit is to open a market in Hong Kong especially in agriculture and food sectors.

He said they are looking for opportunities to expand cooperation with Hong Kong in economic and trade sectors and to introduce investment in Mendona's railway systems, petroleum, electronics and hydroelectricity.

The delegation, just finishing a

week long visit in Guangdong and Shanghai, arrived in Hong Kong on Wednesday and will leave Hong Kong on Friday.

Jaliff said Mendoza especially hopes to develop the railway system which will be of 254-kilometre long and need about 300 million US dollars of investment.

The railway would be very important to a number of Latin American countries, as it could greatly shorten the traditional marine route of export to Asia, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



In this photo released by the Florida Keys News Bureau, skydivers free fall some 13,000 feet over the Florida Keys above Marathon, Fla, on 11 Nov, 2004, during the opening day of the Sebastian/Keys Boogie, an annual parachuting event set to continue through Sunday at the Florida Keys Marathon Airport. The event is providing skydiving opportunities for those experienced and those wishing to learn the sport. —INTERNET

## ABC TVs ban "Saving Private Ryan" for fear of indecency fines

LOS ANGELES, 12 Nov—More than 20 ABC television affiliates banned broadcasting the Hollywood war movie "Saving Private Ryan" to mark the Veterans Day Thursday for fear that it could lead to indecency fines.

The ABC affiliates in eight US states made the decision because they fear the film's violence and profanity leave them vulnerable to hefty fines from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which has launched a crackdown on TV and broadcast indecency since the February breast-baring incident by singer Jenet Jackson during the Super Bowl half-time performance.

"Saving Private Ryan", starring Oscar-winning actor Tom Hanks, will not be shown on the ABC affiliates in Alabama, Georgia, Iowa, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina and West Virginia.

The reason for the actions was that it could invite FCC fines because the 1998 film depicts several violent battle scenes and contains foul language.

Janice Wise, spokeswoman for the

FCC's enforcement bureau, said it will only decide whether to take actions after receiving complaints. "If we get a complaint, we'll act on it," she said.

The WSB-TV in Atlanta said it asked ABC for permission to air the film after 10 pm but was rejected.

ABC had said it was proud to air the 1998 film again. "As in the past, this broadcast will contain appropriate and clear advisories and parental guidelines, and, as customary, we will provide advance screenings for ABC affiliates and advertisers," the network said in a statement.

"Saving Private Ryan", which depicts a platoon of American soldiers who take part in the D-Day invasion of Normandy, was shown uncut on ABC in 2001 and 2002.

MNA/Xinhua

## China to establish alarm system for soil environment safety

NANJING, 12 Nov — China is taking steps to establish an alarm system for soil environment safety so as to prevent further deterioration of soil pollution in the country, said a senior official with the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA).

Wang Yuqing, deputy director of SEPA, told the Second International Conference on Soil Pollution and Repair which opened in Nanjing Wednesday that China is working to make relevant laws and regulations on soil pollution prevention, and further improve all kinds of environmental standards and technical guidance on soil environment.

Wang said to establish a state alarm system for soil environment safety, the country has also strengthened investigation and supervision over soil quality in some key regions, launched relevant risk evaluation for soil pollution, and introduced new repair technologies for soil pollution.

Investigation shows that about 10 million hectares of soil in China has been polluted, as the result of sewage

irrigation, improper use of pesticide and fertilizer, and illegal heaping of industrial and life trash.

Wang said to prevent further deterioration of soil pollution in China, the country has launched series of investigation on soil environment, and made professional quality standard for soil environment.

The three-day Second International Conference on Soil Pollution and Repair was sponsored by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the SEPA, the National Committee of the Natural Science Fund and the Jiangsu provincial government.

Domestic and overseas experts from over 20 countries and regions participated in the conference and discussed new problems the world faces in soil environment protection.

MNA/Xinhua



A Filipino man makes a turn while testing a 1,000cc Japanese motorcycle made into a giant ladies shoe at a busy street of Marikina city, east of Manila, on 11 Nov, 2004. —INTERNET

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Dated: 13 November 2004

### ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

#### M.V "MAWLAMYINE" VOY NO. 109/N

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MAWLAMYINE Voy No. 109/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon port on 14-11-2004 and will be berthing on about 15-11-2004 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanmar Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the bye-laws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:30 am and 12 noon to 4 pm into Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

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### Donors approve \$420m for River Nile projects

KAMPALA, 11 Nov — Donors have approved 420 million US dollars for the review and study of the River Nile water projects, Ugandan Press reported on Wednesday.

The River Nile is shared by 10 countries. The study expected to last about five years, will establish the hydropower potential, water resources, irrigation and drainage.

Egyptian Minister of Water Mahmoud Abu-Zeid was quoted as saying that the Netherlands is one of the major donors of the grant. Abu-Zeid told recent meeting of African Ministers Council on Water in Uganda that other donors were Germany, England, Finland, Denmark and Japan.—MNA/Xinhua

### Indonesia's Telkom awards Ericsson with broadband contract

JAKARTA, 12 Nov — Indonesia's largest telecommunications company PT Telkom has awarded Ericsson with a contract to provide broadband technology and related services to its customers in Surabaya, East Java.

The Sweden-based company will provide an ethernet digital subscriber line access solution, which is able to deliver data, voice and video simultaneously to customers, *The Jakarta Post* reported Thursday.

"There is already a very small number of lines

— lower than 1,000 — available in Surabaya," PT Ericsson Indonesia President Mitch Lewis was quoted as saying.

He declined to disclose the value of the contract. Telkom launched its broadband service, called Speedy, in July and is aiming

to provide 40,000 connections in Jakarta, and 10,000 in Surabaya in the first phase of the project.

It has allocated 15 million US dollars for the service's infrastructure, or between 290 dollars and 300 dollars per line.

MNA/Xinhua

### China's development not threat but opportunity

TOKYO, 11 Nov — Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi has said that China's development will not constitute a threat to Japan, but it will stand as an opportunity to Japan, calling on the two countries to further exchanges between their younger generations.

Koizumi made the remarks on Tuesday during a meeting with Zhou Qiang, first secretary of Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China, who is visiting Japan heading a Chinese youth delegation.

He said strengthening exchanges between the two countries' youngsters play an active role in promoting bilateral ties.

Praising the smooth development of bilateral trade relations, Koizumi said a growing number of Japanese are realizing that the development of China is not a threat but an op-

portunity to Japan.

He said the two countries enjoy an extensive cooperation potential in environmental protection, citing the forestation campaign jointly conducted by the two countries' youth organizations.

For his part, Zhou said young people both in China and Japan look forward to the smooth development of bilateral ties, and so long as the two countries stick to the principles of "taking history as a mirror and looking into the future," their friendship will witness further growth.

MNA/Xinhua

## ပြည်တွင်းပြန်လည်အားလပ်ပါ

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### Uganda launches national initiative to protect crested crane

KAMPALA, 11 Nov — Uganda has launched a national initiative to conserve the rapidly declining population of its national bird, the crested crane, local Press reported on Wednesday.

Minister of State for Environment Jeje Odongo was quoted by *The New Vision* as saying that crested crane was an emblem for Uganda and many Ugandan companies.

Odongo who presided over the launching ceremony on Tuesday in Kampala, warned against the persecution of the national bird, saying that six of the 15 global species occurred in Africa and Uganda harboured two of the only crowned cranes.

"As the bird is our national emblem, Uganda should lead the world in its conservation," he said. The population of crested crane in Uganda has declined from 100,000 in 1973 to about 20,000 in 1986, according to the Ministry of Environment.—MNA/Xinhua

### Halliburton pressed to award contract to Kuwaiti company

WASHINGTON, 11 Nov — The US ambassador to Kuwait and other senior US officials put pressure on Halliburton to award a contract to a Kuwaiti company suspected of overcharging to bring fuel into Iraq, according to State Department documents released on Wednesday.

The documents, portions of which were released by Democratic US Representative Henry Waxman, also said the State Department received information in the summer of 2003 that Halliburton officials demanded kickbacks and solicited bribes from Altanmia Commercial Marketing Company of Kuwait.

Altanmia is at the centre of an investigation into whether Halliburton subsidiary Kellogg Brown and Root, or KBR, overcharged in 2003 for get-

ting fuel into Iraq, which despite being oil-rich suffered a shortage of refined products.

A draft Pentagon audit at the end of last year found evidence KBR might have overcharged by at least 61 million US dollars for bringing in fuel under its no-bid US Army Corps of Engineers contract.

According to the documents, on December 2, 2003, Richard Jones, the US ambassador to Kuwait, sent an e-mail directing unidentified officials: "Tell KBR to get off

their butts and conclude deals with Kuwait NOW! Tell them we want a deal done with Altanmia within 24 hours and don't take any excuses." The e-mail added: "If Ambassador Bremer hears that KBR is still dragging its feet, he will be livid," referring to the US civilian administrator of Iraq, Paul Bremer. The State Department did not immediately respond to questions about the documents and the department's Inspector General's office said it could not comment on them.

MNA/Reuters

### TCS announces alliance with CISR

NEW YORK, 11 Nov — India's leading software company Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has announced an alliance with the MIT Sloan Centre for Information Systems Research (CISR), strengthening ties with the world's leading academic institutions.

As a Research Patron of CISR at MIT's Sloan School of Management, TCS joins other global leaders in shaping the centre's research on information technology, outsourcing and alternative business models.

Business topics to be

explored by CISR and TCS, as part of the Research Patron programme, include assessment of the performance of alternative business models, management of next wave outsourcing, measurement of IT-driven risk and manage-

ment of IT architecture for business value.

"These topics are at the heart of our business offerings and are of paramount importance to our customers," Arup Gupta, president of TCS America, said here Tuesday.

MNA/PTI

### Japanese car maker Daihatsu to speed up production in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 11 Nov — Japanese auto-maker Daihatsu plans to speed up its production in Indonesia to 11,000 units per month in an effort to maintain its position as the country's fourth largest car supplier.

Daihatsu's local unit PT Astra Daihatsu Motor (ADM) will enhance efficiency and accelerate assembly process to meet the target, *Bisnis Indonesia* newspaper reported Wednesday.

"At present, the factory output reaches one car in every 2.3 minutes or approximately 10,000 units per month. We are

preparing to boost productivity by producing one car in every two minutes," ADM Vice-Director Noertjahjo Darmadji was quoted as saying. We have no plan to launch a new model at this time. The ADM concentrates on meeting the existing demands and increasing productivity," he said.—MNA/Xinhua

### Vietnam's cashew nut export to reach \$400m in 2004

HANOI, 11 Nov — Vietnam expects to export 100,000 tons of cashew nuts this year to earn 400 million US dollars, according to Vietnam's Ministry of Trade.

The figure for October was 9,000 tons, bringing the total export volume in the past ten months to 82,000 tons worth 329 million US dollars, increasing 21.7 per cent in volume and 43 per cent in turnover over the same period last year. Cashew nut exports would increase strongly in the remaining months of the year.

MNA/Xinhua



# မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## Scotland announces ban on smoking in public buildings

LONDON, 11 Nov — Scotland became the latest country to take a stand against tobacco on Wednesday by announcing a ban on smoking in public buildings.

Scotland's First Minister Jack McConnell announced the decision on Wednesday in an effort to dissuade the next generation from becoming addicted to cigarettes.

"I am proud to announce to Parliament today that we will introduce a comprehensive ban on smoking in enclosed public spaces," McConnell said.

"We noted the unequivocal evidence that smoke-free public areas will save lives," he added.

The ban is expected to be implemented in bars, restaurants and other enclosed public spaces by spring of 2006. It comes only eight months after Ireland became the first country in the world to

ban smoking in restaurants and pubs.

Since then several more, including Norway and Malta, have imposed similar bans while in the United States, New York City also has restrictions in place.

Rhona Brankin, Scotland's Deputy Health Minister, said the death toll from smoking in Scotland was "appalling", with as many as one in four deaths among the five million population directly attributable to the habit. Dr Peter Terry, chairman of the British Medical Association in Scotland, said smoking-related illnesses account for 35,000 hospital admissions in Scotland every year, costing the health

service an estimated 200 million pounds (370 million US dollars).

"This is the financial cost of tobacco, but the human cost is much greater," he said. "The single most effective way to reduce the harmful effects of tobacco and improve the health of the population is to introduce smoke-free public places." Liverpool, in northern England, voted last month to become the first British city to follow New York by banning smoking in restaurants, bars, pubs and offices.

British scientists were the first to document the health risks of smoking, which is the leading cause of lung cancer and raises the risk of other diseases.

MNA/Reuters

## Global warming melting Arctic ice faster

REYKJAVIK, 11 Nov — Global warming is melting the Arctic ice faster than expected, and the world's oceans could rise by about a metre (3 feet) by 2100, swamping homes from Bangladesh to Florida, the head of a study said on Tuesday.

Robert Corell, chairman of the eight-nation Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA), also told a news conference there were some hints of greater willingness by the United States, the world's top polluter, to take firmer action to slow climate change.

Speaking at the start of a four-day scientific conference in Reykjavik, Corell said global warming was melting the Greenland ice sheet and Arctic glaciers from Alaska to Norway quicker than previously thought.

"Greenland will play a much bigger role in sea level rise than anticipated," said Corell, a scientist at the American

Meteorological Society.

He said a 2001 UN report forecast world ocean levels would rise by 20-90 centimetres by 2100. He said some UN forecasts assumed melting Greenland ice would cause just 4 millimetres of the rise.

"We'll be at the top of the range, about a metre," he said. The ACIA report says that Greenland's melt alone could add 10 centimetres to global sea levels by 2100. Melting of other Arctic glaciers would also contribute.

About 17 million people in Bangladesh live less than one metre above sea level. Pacific islands like Tuvalu could be swamped

and much of Florida south of Miami would be inundated by a one metre rise.

Much of the rise projected by UN surveys in the years to 2100 is because water in the oceans expands as it warms, and so is not directly connected to melting ice.

At the other end of the globe from the Arctic, the thicker Antarctic ice is expected to stay more stable, like a deep freeze.

The ACIA report was funded by Arctic nations the United States, Canada, Russia, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland and is the biggest survey to date of the Arctic climate, by 250 scientists. —MNA/Reuters



*Tourists watch a Komodo Dragon at the Komodo National Park, Indonesia. The legendary monster lizard is proving an unlikely ally in Indonesia's efforts to revive a tourism industry shattered by the October 2002 Bali bombing.*

INTERNET

## Fox to provide TV series for wireless phones

NEW YORK, 11 Nov — The Twentieth Century Fox studio, a veteran of the big screen and the TV screen, is about to break into an entirely new realm: the really little screen, the kind that comes on a cell phone.

In what appeared to be the first arrangement of its kind, Twentieth Century Fox said Wednesday it would create a unique series of one-minute dramas based on its hit show "24" exclusively for a new high-speed wireless service being offered by Vodafone PLC, the world's biggest cell phone company.

Vodafone will begin

offering the one-minute episodes in January in the United Kingdom, coinciding with the start of the fourth season of the show on a satellite TV service.

The "mobisodes", as they are being called, will be introduced later in 2005 in up to 23 more countries where Vodafone operates, mainly in Europe, as well as in the United States

through the company's Verizon Wireless joint venture.

The deal is part of a broader agreement between Fox Entertainment Group and London-based Vodafone under which Fox, the entertainment unit of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp, will develop other programming to be viewed on the phones.

MNA/AP

## RSPB reports satellite tracking data

JOHANNESBURG, 11 Nov — Satellite tracking data have pinpointed parts of the world where longline fishing trawlers and albatrosses cross paths, often with fatal results for the majestic sea birds, a report released on Wednesday said.

More than 300,000 seabirds, including 100,000 albatrosses, are believed to drown each year because they are lured by baited hooks and then pulled under the water.

"Identifying areas where albatrosses and fishermen overlap is a crucial conservation step," said Cleo Small, international marine policy officer at BirdLife International.

The report, "Tracking Ocean Wanderers," was collated by Britain-based BirdLife International and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

It uses satellite tracking data on 16 species of albatross and three petrel species, all endangered by commercial and pirate longline fishing fleets which use nets up to 80 miles long carrying thousands of baited hooks.

It identifies hot spots where both longliners and large numbers of seabirds are found in waters around New Zealand and south-east Australia, the south-west Indian Ocean, the south Atlantic and the north Pacific.

Conservationists say that fairly simple measures can be used by longliners to reduce seabird mortality.

"They can thaw out their bait, which will then sink faster and not attract birds, or they can attach

weights to sink the bait," said BirdLife's Richard Thomas.

He said Brazilian fishermen use a colourful but effective technique that involves dyeing their bait two shades of blue.

MNA/Reuters



*Francoise, one of the United Nations' few female peacocks, sits at an apartment window in Geneva. After more than three months on the run, Francoise finally succumbed to a Spanish street sweeper in Geneva who imitated the cry of a male peacock to perfection. — INTERNET*

## SPORTS

**Robson appointed as manager of West Bromwich**

LONDON, 11 Nov — Former England captain Bryan Robson has been appointed manager of Premier League West Bromwich Albion, the club he joined as a teenager.

Robson, 47, made 198 League appearances for the Baggies from 1975 to 1981 before joining Manchester United. He coached Middlesbrough for seven years before stepping down in 2001.

Last season he coached Second Division Bradford City.

Former manager Gary Megson was told to leave WBA on October 26 after informing the Midlands club he would not renew his contract at the end of the season.

West Brom, who announced Robson's appointment on Tuesday, won promotion back to the Premier League last season at the first attempt. They have struggled since, winning just once in 12 games to lie 17th in the 20-strong League.

MNA/Reuters

**UEFA approves plans to use artificial pitches in 2005-06 season**

VIENNA, 11 Nov — UEFA have approved plans for artificial pitches to be used at national and club level from the 2005/06 season, European soccer's governing body said on Wednesday.

"For next season it will be possible to play on artificial turf in the Champions League or UEFA Cup or qualifiers for the World Cup and European championships," UEFA chief executive Lars-Christer Olsson said after an Executive Committee meeting.

"Now the quality has reached a level where it (artificial turf) is compa-

rable to or even better than some of the natural turfs," he told reporters.

"The need (for artificial pitches) has been big for decades, if you come from countries where you have bad winters for example".

UEFA Cup matches have already been played on artificial turf at Moscow's Luzhniki stadium but they can only be used with the away side's consent. Iceland's Hafnar-

jordur refused to play a UEFA Cup match at Dunfermline's East End Park this season because the Scottish side have an artificial surface.

UEFA are also still discussing plans to introduce quotas on home-grown players in club football to combat the dilution of national identity at major clubs and a lack of real competition at the top of domestic leagues.

MNA/Reuters

**Report of Serie A matches**

MILAN, 12 Nov — Report of Serie A match played on Thursday:

**Messina 0 Palermo 0**

A disappointing derby with neither side able to get to grips with a greasy surface following heavy rain in Sicily.

Palermo had the better of the first half and then went close to a breakthrough in the 74th minute when their Italy international striker Luca Toni struck the post with a low shot after a strong run through the Messina defence. Messina almost grabbed a late winner when Japanese striker Atushi Yanagisawa rose well but headed against the bar.

Played on Wednesday:

**Brescia 0 AC Milan 0**

Without injured striker Andriy Shevchenko, AC Milan looked short of ideas up front. The home side went close to taking the lead in the first half, Andrea Caracciolo hitting the post after 13 minutes.

Milan pressed forward more urgently in the last quarter of an hour but, despite the 88th-minute sending-off of Brescia captain Luigi Di Biagio, they failed to break the deadlock.

**Chievo Verona 1 Atalanta 0**

A second-half goal by striker Simone Tiribocchi left winless Atalanta four points adrift at the bottom of the standings. Tiny Chievo, meanwhile, rose to fifth.

**Inter Milan 2 Bologna 2**

It was the same old story for Inter, who have now racked up nine draws in 11 games and squandered the lead in six of them. Inter twice went ahead through goals by Sinisa Mihajlovic and Adriano. Bologna defender Fabio Petrucci cancelled out the first before striker Claudio Bellucci headed home a second equaliser two minutes from time on another frustrating night for Inter supporters.

**Juventus 1 Fiorentina 0**

A 72nd-minute strike by Ruben Olivera sealed an efficient victory that, combined with AC Milan's draw with Brescia, increased Juventus' lead at the top of Serie A to six points. Fiorentina striker Javier Portillo should have grabbed an equalizer in added time, but sliced his shot wide under pressure.

**Livorno 1 Lazio 0**

Promoted Livorno made it four wins from their last five matches, thanks to Cristiano Lucarelli's header just before halftime. After the interval, Lazio striker Simone Inzaghi twice failed to capitalize after being put through one-on-one against goalie Marco Amelia.

**Parma 1 Reggina 0**

Reggina returned to earth with a bump after their weekend win over leaders Juventus. Midfielder Domenico Morfeo gave Parma their second victory of the season with a looping header 11 minutes from the end. — MNA/Reuters



Messina's Japanese player Atsushi Yanagisawa controls the ball during their Serie A match against Palermo at the San Filippo Stadium in Messina on 11 Nov, 2004. — INTERNET

**Terry will stay with Chelsea until 2009**

LONDON, 11 Nov — Chelsea and England defender John Terry has signed a revised five-year contract to stay with the Premier League leaders until 2009, the club announced on Tuesday.

The captain signed his previous deal in July last year and helped Chelsea to second place in the Premier League and a semi-final slot in the Champions League. "I have been here since I was 14 and I would love to stay at Chelsea for the rest of my career and hopefully I'll do that because I love playing for the club," he told the club's official web site. — MNA/Reuters



UEFA president Lennart Johansson. — INTERNET

**EC drops investigation into Real Madrid**

BRUSSELS, 11 Nov — The European Commission has dropped its investigation into a controversial property deal by Real Madrid after concluding there was no state aid involved, a Commission spokeswoman said on Tuesday. Real Madrid's sale of its training grounds to the City of Madrid in 2001 was reported to have netted the Primera Liga club 480 million euros.

This allowed it to wipe out its debts and helped it buy world class players such as David Beckham, Ronaldo and Zinedine Zidane and build a new training complex on the city's outskirts.

"I can confirm that the Commission has closed the case after concluding there was no transfer of state resources to the Spanish club," spokeswoman Amelia Torres said.

MNA/Reuters



Atletico de Madrid Salva Ballesta (R) battles for the ball against Gimnastic de Tarragona Cuellar during their Spanish Cup soccer match at Nou Estadi Stadium in Tarragona, Spain, on 11 Nov, 2004. — INTERNET

**Atletico Madrid through to Kings's Cup third round**

MADRID, 12 Nov — A spectacular extra time goal from Jose Antonio Garcia Calvo sent Atletico Madrid through to the third round of the King's Cup on Thursday with a 1-0 victory at Second Division Gimnastic.

The Atletico defender unleashed an unstoppable 20-metre shot after Jorge had cut back a quickly taken free kick from the byline at the end of the first half of extra time to give his side a barely deserved victory.

The result meant that Atletico narrowly avoided the fate of seven other Primera Liga sides who tumbled out of the competition on Wednesday.

Deportivo Coruna, Cup winners in 2002, headed the list of high-profile casualties when they went down 1-0 to Second Division Elche.

Levante, Racing Santander, Albacete, Malaga, Real

Mallorca and Real Sociedad were also dealt defeats by lower-ranked opponents, bringing the total of top flight sides who have been knocked out in the first two rounds to 12.

Real Madrid needed extra time to squeeze through to the next round, Argentine midfielder Santiago Solari scoring with a stunning shot from 25 metres out to clinch a 2-1 victory just as the game looked to be heading for a penalty shoot-out.

Four Third Division teams made it through to the third round.

Granenet, who knocked out league leaders Barcelona in the first round, continued their giant-killing exploits with a 2-1 comeback victory over high-flying Levante. — MNA/Reuters



## China's first sandstorm data bank established in N-W China

LANZHOU, 12 Nov— China's first large-content sandstorm data bank based on Internet information has been established in northwest China.

The data bank was designed by the Lanzhou Institute of Arid Climate under the China Meteorological Administration and the Gansu Provincial Key Laboratory on Arid Climate and Disaster Release.

Sources from the Lanzhou Institute of Arid Climate said the data bank comprises four parts: a general data bank, a data bank of typical sandstorm cases, a data bank of disasters and a data bank of references and documents.

Experts said the data bank collected all sandstorm information of China's 349 observation stations, and can even trace back to 130 BC.

The data bank was established based on a special scientific research programme on sandstorms in northwest China, which is supported by the Chinese Ministry of Science

and Technology.

The programme was finished in three years, with nearly 50 domestic experts participating.

Also a part of the special scientific research programme on sandstorms, a sandstorm monitoring and alarm system officially went into operation recently in the drought-stricken area of northwest China after a two-year trial operation.

The system is automatic and able to forecast sandstorms real-time. It offers scientific information to local governments for disaster prevention.

Sandstorms mainly occur in north China, especially the northwest areas of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Gansu Province, the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region and the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

In recent years, more than 10 sandstorms hit China each year, bringing substantial economic losses to the country.

MNA/Xinhua

## Good relations between Malaysia, China expanding

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 Nov— China is not a threat to Malaysia as China has always been a good friend of Malaysia and the two countries have good relations which are still expanding, Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said here Thursday.

The Prime Minister made the remarks after a closed-door dialogue with foreign Chinese media at the 37th World Chinese Press Convention here.

The two-day convention, opened by Abdullah Wednesday, is attended by over 400 delegates from various parts of the world.

During the meeting, the participants have discussed several themes including "Harmonious Integration of National Culture in Relation to Chinese-Language Press" and "New Thinking for New Era."

Abdullah said, the foreign Chinese media are also keen to know about Malaysia's experience in managing multiculturalism which

has contributed to the country's prosperity.

"We have a very good dialogue, discussing various issues, particularly relating to Malaysia and Malaysia's experience in multiculturalism that they want to know more," he said.

Abdullah said, "I also spoke about Australia-Malaysia relations, US-Malaysia relations which we are certainly proud, but we do have some differences in opinion on some major policies."

"What's most important is we must know how to manage this differences. At the same time, we must continue to expand our bilateral relations," he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Dr Daw Tin E (Jeanne)

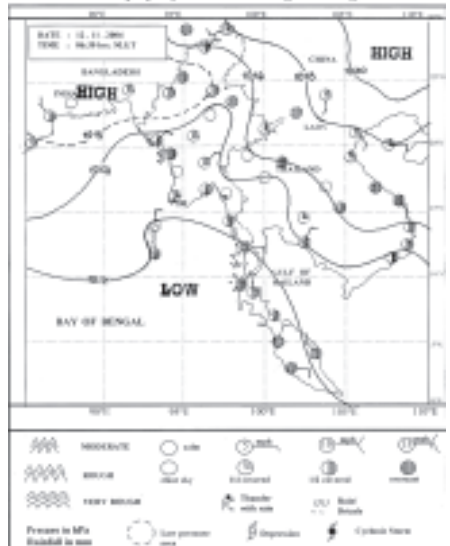
Age (81) years

MB.B.S. (Ygn.) DCH. DRCOG. (UK)

MS, South Okkalapa Women's Hospital (Retired)  
Dr. Daw Tin E of Building (30), Room (10), U Wisara Housing Estate, daughter of (U Sine-Daw Aye May), younger sister of (U Hein Tin - Daw Thein Nu), Daw Hla Mae - (U Ohn Khin) passed away peacefully on 8th November 2004, (Monday) at 4 am and was cremated on the same day.

Bereaved Family.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



## WEATHER

Friday, 12 November, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (6°C) below normal in Chin State and Mandalay Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mon State and Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining states and divisions.

Maximum temperature on 11-11-2004 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 12-11-2004 was 65°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 12-11-2004 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 11-11-2004 was (8.3) hours approx. Rainfall on 12-11-2004 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 12 mph from Northwest at (15:30) hours MST on 11-11-2004.

**Bay inference:** Weather is cloudy in the South Andaman Sea and South Bay and fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 13-11-2004:** Weather will be partly cloudy in Taninthayi Division and fair in the remaining areas.

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Fair weather in the whole country.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-11-2004:** Fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13-11-2004:** Fair weather.

**Weather outlook for second weekend of November 2004:** During the coming weekend, weather will be partly cloudy in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.

## Earthquake Report

(Issued at 07:00 hours MST on today)

An earthquake of strong intensity (7.3) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside of Myanmar about (2500) miles southeast of Kaba-Aye sesimological observatory was recorded at (04) hrs (03) min (58) sec MST on 12th November, 2004.

## Annan "deeply moved" by Arafat's death

UNITED NATIONS, 12 Nov — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said he was "deeply moved" by the death of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

"The Secretary-General was deeply moved to learn of the death of Yasser Arafat. Arafat was one of those few leaders who could be instantly recognized by people in any walk of life all around the world. For nearly four decades, he expressed and symbolized in his person the national aspirations of the Palestinian people," spokesman

Fred Eckhard said in a statement on Annan's behalf.

The spokesman said Arafat would be remembered for leading the Palestinians in a "giant step" toward peace in signing the Oslo accords in 1993 and, "It is tragic that he did not live to see it fulfilled."

MNA/Reuters



Saturday, November 13

View on today:

- 7:00 am  
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary 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  
7:55 am  
5. Dance variety  
8:10 am  
6. အစောပိုင်း  
8:20 am  
7. ရုပ်ရှင်အစောပိုင်း  
8:30 am  
8. International news  
8:45 am  
9. Grammar made easy  
11:00 am  
1. Martial song

- 11:10 am  
2. Musical programme  
11:30 am  
3. News  
11:40 am  
4. Games for children  
12:05 pm  
5. Round-up of the week's TV local news  
12:50 pm  
6. နိုင်ငံခြားသတင်းအစောပိုင်း (အပိုင်း-၄၃)  
1:30 pm  
7. ဗုဒ္ဓစာအုပ်တိုက်  
1:45 pm  
8. "အိမ်သားအလှူ" အောင်မြင်စွာ ပြုလုပ်နေကြောင်း (ခရီးစဉ်-အလှူ)  
2:10 pm  
9. Dance of national races  
2:30 pm  
10. ဂမုဒ်ရေလှေကစား  
2:45 pm  
11. International news  
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. အသံသဘာဝအရ အသံအညွှန်း ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ

- ဒုတိယပိုင်း (ရုက္ခသေသတ္တဗေဒ အသံသဘာဝ) (ရုက္ခသေသ)  
5:15 pm  
6. အစောပိုင်း  
5:25 pm  
7. Musical programme  
5:35 pm  
8. နာမည်ကျော်လူကြီး  
5:45 pm  
9. မြန်မာ့သမိုင်းအကျဉ်း  
5:55 pm  
10. Games for children  
6:15 pm  
11. Musical programme  
6:30 pm  
12. Evening news  
7:00 pm  
13. Weather report  
7:05 pm  
14. Discovery  
7:10 pm  
15. နိုင်ငံခြားသတင်းအစောပိုင်း (အပိုင်း-၄၆)  
7:45 pm  
16. တတိယပိုင်းအစောပိုင်း ကဏ္ဍသစ်အစောပိုင်း (အပိုင်း-၄၆) တစ်နေ့တစ်နေ့ (၁၀) မိနစ်ခွဲ  
8:00 pm  
17. နိုင်ငံခြားသတင်းအစောပိုင်း (အပိုင်း-၄၆) တစ်နေ့တစ်နေ့ (၁၀) မိနစ်ခွဲ  
8:00 pm  
18. News  
19. International news  
20. Weather report  
21. နိုင်ငံခြားသတင်းအစောပိုင်း (အပိုင်း-၄၆) တစ်နေ့တစ်နေ့ (၁၀) မိနစ်ခွဲ  
21. The next day's programme



Saturday, November 13  
Tune in today:

- 8:30 am Brief news  
8:35 am Music:  
-Supernatural  
Perspectives  
8:40 am Music:  
-Reallife  
8:55 am National news/  
Slogan  
9:05 am Music  
Do wah didy  
9:10 am International  
news  
9:15 am Music (Spotlight  
on a star)  
-Celion Dion  
1:30 pm News/Slogan  
1:40 pm Request  
-Baby one more  
time  
-May be baby  
-Anybody what  
about you  
9:00 pm ASEAN review  
-News  
Article  
9:10 pm Myanmar culture  
by Dr Khin  
Maung Nyunt  
-Festivals of  
Tazangmon  
9:30 pm Souvenirs  
-Leaving on a jet  
plane  
-Paper roses  
9:45 pm News/Slogan  
10:00 pm PEL

**Four political objectives**

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

**Four economic objectives**

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

**Four social objectives**

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

## Commander inspects agriculture and livestock breeding tasks



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects vegetable plantations of Special Zone-2 in Nyaunhnapin Village, Hmawby Township, Yangon North District. — YGN COMMAND

YANGON, 12 Nov—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe this afternoon inspected arrangements for supply of water for cultivation of summer paddy in Yangon North District.

The Commander proceeded to the farmland being undertaken by Yangon Command near the junction of Yangon-Bago Highway and No 3 Highway

on the border between Mingaladon Township and Hlegu Township.

He inspected supply of water for summer paddy fields with the use of compressed natural gas-used water pumps, and supplied assistance for providing CNG-water pumps for local farmers.

The Commander also inspected monsoon paddy plots, harvesting and threshing of paddy, and vegetables and fruits plantations, and left instructions on timely

cultivation of summer paddy on the fields where monsoon paddy already had been harvested.

Officials reported on preparations for wider application of CNG-used water pumps, conditions on CNG-used water pumps, arrangements for pumping of river water and construction of outlet canals and intake canals for agricultural purpose in Mingaladon and Hlegu townships.

(See page 9)

## Myanmar, Indonesian Foreign Ministers exchange views on mutual interests

YANGON, 12 Nov — At the invitation of U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, Dr Hassan Wirajuda, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia arrived here by air on a working visit at 11 am yesterday.

The Indonesian Foreign Minister and party were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Director-General of the Political Department U Thaung Tun, officials, Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Wyoso Prodjowarsito and embassy staff.

The visiting Indonesian Foreign Minister called on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win at Dusit Inya Lake Hotel at 6.30 pm. Minister U Nyan Win was accompanied by Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, Myanmar Ambassador to Indonesia U Kyaw Myint, Director-General of the Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet and Director-General of the Political Department U Thaung Tun. The Indonesian Foreign Minister was accompanied by Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Wyoso Prodjowarsito and senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia. The two ministers exchanged views on matters of mutual interests between the two countries.

Next, Minister U Nyan Win hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting Indonesian Foreign Minister and party at Dusit Inya Lake Hotel. On 11th November afternoon, the visiting Indonesian Foreign



Minister U Nyan Win receives his Indonesian counterpart Dr Hassan Wirajuda and party. — MNA

Minister and party visited Gems Museum and Gems Mart.

Indonesian Foreign Minister and party left by air this afternoon and they were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Director-General of the

Political Department U Thaung Tun, officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Wyoso Prodjowarsito and Embassy staff.

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