

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Thursday, 18 November 2004

**The government firmly believes national solidarity major requirement for national development**

**The government will further strengthen national solidarity in the interest of the State and the people**



*Patron of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Senior General Than Shwe addresses the USDA Annual General Meeting (2004). — MNA*



**Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Patron of Union Solidarity and Development Association, at the USDA Annual General Meeting (2004) held on 17 November.**

At the 11th Annual General Meeting of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, I extend greetings to you, members of the Association, with pleasure and honour.

I have found with pride that you, members

of the USDA, have discharged the national duty in strict accord with the aims, policies and codes of conduct stipulated in the basic principles of the Association.

Formed with young and middle-aged persons, the USDA is gearing itself up to become a firm national force, while organizing, training and activating the new generation of youths.

We need a strong patriotic force that keeps in the fore Our Three

Main National Causes, the national policy, and fully imbued with Union Spirit, to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

The USDA is worthy of honour, for, it has been organizing and nurturing youths to develop in accord with the aims stated in the basic principles, and, with constructive attitude, it has also been actively participating in the development endeavours in the vanguard of the drive.

The Association has been teaching a wide array of subjects in its courses to equip youths fully with national conviction and technical skills.

It has been conducting a large variety of courses such as courses in Executives' Management, Special Refresher courses, Advanced Courses, Myanmar and international studies, international relations, cultural and moral lessons, Myanmar development studies, languages, technical courses, basic aviation and marine, public relations and management of knowledge, and art courses.

Over 18 million

youths have already attended the courses conducted by the USDAs at different levels from central down to grassroots levels. This summer alone, over 3.7 million youths in the entire nation attended the courses conducted at 29,044 different venues.

A large number of summer courses, opened at various places, on culture and morals have uplifted the morale and morality of youths and nurtured their ability to preserve the national identity.

So, honour is due to the instructors of the courses and as well as the trainee youths.

The opening of the cultural and moral courses is to hand down inherent national values, we have been accepting and practising since yore, to future generations. New generations youths, who can shape a better Myanmar society in the future, are the human resources to establish a peaceful, modern and developed state and a democratic society.

(See page 8)

## Excerpts from speech of Senior General Than Shwe

- \* Education is a prime source of development.
- \* The government is implementing the special four-year plan for national education promotion.
- \* The State is making a huge investment in the education sector. As a result, reliable qualified human resources can be produced constantly.
- \* Stability, peace, strong economy and high education standard of the people are basic requirements for transforming the nation into a democratic nation.
- \* Make collaborative efforts in unity for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation with discipline-flourishing democracy based on Union Spirit for successful implementation of the State's seven-point Road Map.



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

## PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 18 November, 2004

### Strive for successful implementation of national education promotion plans

With a view to achieving our national goal, the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the State Peace and Development Council has been expending its efforts in realizing the twelve political, economic and social objectives. As health and education standards of the entire people are sine qua non for our national goal, "uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation" is embodied in the four social objectives.

For the education sector to be able to contribute to the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the Government has been taking all the necessary measures to raise the national education standard. National education promotion plans are being implemented in the interests of the entire people and in order that the Union of Myanmar can stand proudly in the international community. Refresher courses are being conducted to broaden the horizons, raise the qualifications and uplift the morale of the teachers who play a pivotal role in the implementation of the national education promotion plans. The Special Refresher Course No 6 for faculty members of universities and colleges was inaugurated at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) on 15 November and it was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, also Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee.

In his address on the occasion, the Secretary-1 said that, at a time when rapid progress of science and technologies has come to have greater and greater influence on various fields such as education, health, security and defence, developing countries like the Union of Myanmar are required to raise their national education standards.

Only then will they be able to avoid being at the beck and call of some big nations with a sharp technological edge and safeguard and promote their national interests. In other words, only the highly-educated intellectuals and intelligentsia will be able to safeguard and promote the interests of their country and enable it to stand on a par with other developed nations.

Now is the time when the entire people are translating the seven-point policy into reality. At a time like this, highly-educated people with wide knowledge and international outlook can see through tricks and machinations of destructive elements within and without the nation. Therefore, we would like to call upon teachers to put their energies into the task of implementing the national education promotion plans.

### Kasco Open Golf Championship on 25-28 November



YANGON, 17 Nov — Kasco Open Golf Championship, organized by Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation, will be held on 25-28 November at Shwe-ManTaung Golf Club in Mandalay.

Only amateur golfers with handicaps of 0 to 12 are allowed to take part in the championship alongside professional golfers.

Those wishing to participate in the championship are to contact Han Event Management, Ph 542989, 723221, 706788, 02-60570 not later than 23 November.

MNA

### People's Desire

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

### State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw passes away

YANGON, 17 Nov — Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Koesaungtaik Maha Pithutayama Pakokku Kyaungthit Monastery in Myingyan, Mandalay Division, Bhaddanta Sobhita (Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru

Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika) aged 95, Vasa 76, passed away at 11.35 am on 17 November (Wednesday) (6th Waxing of Tazaungmon 1366 ME), according to the Religious Affairs Department. MNA

### SWRR Minister receives Japanese guest

YANGON, 17 Nov — Japanese war veteran Mr Takesaburo Mashimo this afternoon called on Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa at the latter's office.

The Japanese veteran recently contributed fire engines to the Fire Services Department.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa receives Mr Takesaburo Mashimo. — MNA

### Mayor inspects Yangon City Water Supply Project (Ngamoyeik)

YANGON, 17 Nov — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa inspected Yangon City Water Supply Project (Ngamoyeik) in Hlegu Township this afternoon.

The project is being implemented by the Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation) of YCDC near Ahtayu Village in the township.

Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and party inspected land preparations for construction of a

sub-power station, filtering plant and water pumping station. Member of YCDC Col Tin Soe, Head of Assessor Department Dr Tun Than Tun and Head of Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation) U Thauang Yin reported on progress of work, construction of plants for water supply and systems to be employed.

The mayor and the vice-mayor called for implementation of the project with increased momentum.

MNA



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein addresses first meeting of Work Committee for 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative TV Quiz. — MNA

### Work Committee for Organizing 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative TV Quiz meets

YANGON, 17 Nov — As a gesture of hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day (2005), a coordination meeting of the Work Committee for Organizing TV Quiz was held at the meeting hall of Myanmar Radio and Television on Pyay Road here this afternoon, with an address by Deputy

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein.

Present on the occasion were Director-General of the MRTV U Khin Maung Htay, Work Committee members and officials.

After the opening address by the Deputy Minister, the Secretary of the Work Committee for holding TV Quiz the Di-

rector-General reported to the Deputy Minister on the arrangements made for organizing the quiz.

Afterwards, the officials selected the com-

petitors and fixed books and date for holding the quiz.

Next, the Deputy Minister gave concluding remarks. — MNA

### All this needs to be known

- \* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- \* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- \* Do not be softened whenever appeased



# Fresh fighting breaks out in Fallujah

FALLUJAH, 16 Nov— Fresh fighting broke out in the Iraqi city of Fallujah on Monday after US forces attacked suspected guerilla targets with airstrikes, artillery and mortar rounds, a Reuters correspondent in Fallujah said.

US forces said they had targeted a fortified underground bunker with reinforced tunnels leading to stores of weapons, including an anti-aircraft artillery gun.

At least five artillery rounds and airstrikes hit the southern portion of the city and soon afterwards exchanges of gunfire and blasts could be heard.

US forces also launched sporadic mortar rounds against targets overnight.

In a statement, the military said it was clearing remaining spots of resistance, and removing stores of weapons from buildings including mosques.

"One mission early on November 15 attacked a bunker complex in the southernmost unpopulated section of Fallujah after multi-national forces discovered an underground bunker and steel-reinforced tunnels," the statement said.

"The tunnels connected a ring of facilities filled with weapons, an anti-aircraft artillery gun, bunk beds, a truck and a suspected weapons cache."

US officers say they have retaken full control of Fallujah after a week of intense combat with guerillas.

Marines now face the task of trying to track down every last remain-

ing guerilla, fearing many could blend back into the community or conceal themselves in hideouts until US forces have withdrawn.

Tank commanders said late on Sunday that the Shuhada District in the south of the city, the last guerilla stronghold, still had a significant number of guerillas.

At the same time, relief agencies are trying to get food, water and medicine to hundreds of families they say were trapped inside Fallujah during the offensive.

The military said it was announcing over loudspeakers in the city that civilians needing medical or other help

should seek out US forces.

The US military said 38 of its soldiers were killed and 275 wounded in the battle to capture the city ahead of elections due in January.

US forces have said some 1,000 guerillas were killed and 450 to 550 captured. There is no word on civilian casualties, but residents say many people have died.

MNA/Reuters

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## Three coalition soldiers sue US Army over Iraq injuries

BAGHDAD, 15 Nov—A Houston lawyer is seeking \$2.3-million for three British soldiers and a Kuwaiti interpreter who were hurt in Iraq. The accident happened just after the end of major combat operations in May of 2003. Attorney Michael Doyle today said the four were injured when a tank transporter struck their vehicle and forced it off the road. It's believed to be the first claim by coalition soldiers under the Foreign Claims Act. The law outlines procedures for claims involving wrongful or negligent acts by US soldiers overseas. The claim was filed at the US Army's tort claims division at Fort Meade, Maryland. Army officials didn't immediately return a call for comment today. —Internet

## More than 150 foreigners kidnapped in Iraqi guerilla's campaign

BAGHDAD, 16 Nov—Guerillas in war-ravaged Iraq have kidnapped more than 150 foreigners in their campaign to drive out coalition forces and hamper reconstruction.

The abduction of UK-born Margaret Hassan, who lived in Iraq for 30 years and who headed Care International's operation in the turbulent country, came less than two weeks after the horrific murder of Ken Bigley.

The 62-year-old engineer from Liverpool was beheaded after being held for more than 20 days by the Tawhid and Jihad Group, who demanded the release of two women prisoners.

His fellow captives Americans Jack

Hensley and Eugene Armstrong were also killed by the militants. The number of kidnappings soared in Iraq earlier this year when 31 foreigners were captured in August alone.

Often captors demand that foreign governments withdraw their military from Iraq in exchange for the hostage's freedom. Many captured foreigners have been freed but more than 20 have been killed; their deaths broadcast on the internet or on Arabic television. —Internet

## UN mission closely monitoring situation in Fallujah

UNITED NATIONS, 16 Nov—UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said Monday that the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq has been closely monitoring the situation in Fallujah, Iraq.

The UN peacekeepers in Iraq are ready to properly assist in meeting the needs of the civilian populations in and outside the city, Eckhard told reporters in New York.

The World Health Organization has provided the Ministry of Health

with medical supplies, and about 50,000 blood bags while UNICEF, the UN Children's Fund, supplied potable water to be distributed among the internally displaced persons, he added.

The Office of the United Nations High

Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration have also made available tents and other essential non food items to displaced persons, according to the spokesman.

MNA/Xinhua



A video image shows US Marines sneak into a breach in a wall in the city of Fallujah, on 16 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

## Beijing plans intercity transit network with Tianjin

BEIJING, 17 Nov— Neighbouring Beijing and Tianjin municipalities are planning to build a high-speed intercity transport network to propel regional economic integration, China Daily reported here Tuesday.

Top leaders of the two cities have agreed to build a new railway which will take only half an hour to get commuters between the two cities, Tianjin Mayor Dai Xianglong was quoted as saying.

Dai said the construction of the railway project, with an estimated investment of 14.3 billion yuan (1.7 billion US dollars), is scheduled to start before June next year and begin operating in 2007.

Two new expressways linking the two metropolises are also expected to be built within a couple of years, said Dai, who was former governor of the People's Bank of China and elected Mayor of Tianjin last year.

Sources with the Tianjin Development and Planning Commission said the initial plans for the three projects have already been drawn up but still need to get the nod from the central government before construction can be started, according to the paper.

The commission said Tianjin is busy making preliminary preparations such as requisitioning land and relocating households from along the railway and expressway lines. There is currently only one expressway between Tianjin and Beijing. Built in 1991, the four-lane route has seen an annual flow increase of 20 per cent, resulting in traffic congestion.

MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier secures an area in the devastated Iraqi city of Fallujah. US-led forces hunted down final pockets of resistance in Fallujah on 16 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

## Nov ranks 2nd in US deaths in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov—US deaths in Iraq this month are approaching 100, making it the second-deadliest month since American forces invaded the country in March 2003, Pentagon records show.

The worst month was last April, with 135 deaths, when the insurgency intensified and US Marines fought fierce battles in Fallujah, only to be withdrawn from the city. That was part of a failed attempt to put the now-defunct Fallujah Brigade of US and allied Iraqi forces in charge.

Until now the second-deadliest month was November 2003 with 82 deaths, and 80 Americans died in May and September this year.

The rising death toll coincides with US military commanders' efforts to pacify areas of Iraq that need to be brought under Iraqi government control before elections scheduled for late January. It also reflects an escalation of attacks by the insurgents, although some US commanders say they believe this may be a last-gasp effort by rebel forces outmatched by US firepower.

It is difficult to gauge the effect of the growing

death toll on US troop morale. Commanders say their men and women are holding up well, although they caution that more hard fighting lies ahead. Most of the deaths this month have been in the Fallujah offensive that began 7 Nov. Many Marines and soldiers also have been killed in Ramadi and other cities in Anbar province west of Baghdad, as well as in Mosul in the north, Babil province south of Baghdad and in and around the

Iraqi capital.

Support troops also have been killed along supply routes.

Internet

### Peruvian police seize 880 kilos of cocaine

LIMA, 16 Nov—Peruvian police seized more than 880 kilos of cocaine and arrested 20 drug trafficking suspects in Piura Province in northern Peru on Saturday, police said Sunday.

The drugs were hidden in a container loaded with frozen fish, Peru's anti-drug police chief told reporters. The suspects had planned to transport the cocaine to the United States or Europe, he said.

With an annual output of 250 tons, Peru is the world's second largest cocaine producer after Colombia. Peruvian police has confiscated more than 10 tons of drugs since the beginning of the year.—MNA/Xinhua



Baghdad's al-Yarmook hospital staff help 40-year old man, Zakariya Dawood who was wounded in a car bomb explosion on the airport highway in Baghdad on 17 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

## Rules of war broken in Fallujah battle

LONDON, 16 Nov—The rules of war protecting civilians and wounded combatants have been broken by both sides in the week-long assault on the Iraqi city of Fallujah, Amnesty International said on Monday.

The London-based group, which gave examples of what it said were breaches of the rules by both US troops and guerrillas, demanded that all violations be investigated and those responsible brought to justice.

Not only had the attacking US and Iraqi troops failed to take the necessary steps to ensure that non-combatants did not come under fire, but guerrillas had also abused flags of truce and fired indiscriminately.

"Amnesty International fears that civilians have been killed, in contravention of international humanitarian law, as a result of failure by parties to the fighting to take necessary precautions to protect non-combatants," Amnesty said.

Amnesty said 20 Iraqi medical staff and dozens of other civilians were

killed when a missile hit a Fallujah clinic on November 9, according to a doctor who survived the strike — though it was not known who fired the missile.

On the same day a nine-year-old boy bled to death after being hit in the stomach by shrapnel. Unable to take him to hospital because of the fighting, his parents buried him in their garden.

Elsewhere a woman and her three daughters were reported killed when their house was bombed, Amnesty said.

It also said a British television programme, Channel Four News, broadcast footage on November 11 that appeared to show an American soldier firing a shot in the direction of a wounded guerrilla behind a wall and then commenting "he's gone".

"Under international humanitarian law the US forces have an obligation to protect fighters hors de combat. Amnesty International calls on the US authorities to investigate this incident immediately," the human rights watchdog said. It said guerrillas were also reported to have violated international humanitarian law.

"In one incident, some Iraqis are reported to have come out of a building waving a white flag. When a Marine approached this group, guerrillas opened fire on the Marine from different directions."

A US military official in Iraq also accused guerrillas of storing weapons in mosques and schools. Guerrillas were reported to be firing from a mosque on 10 November, Amnesty said.—MNA/Reuters

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## 1,210 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 17 Nov—A total of 1,210 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the United States launched war against the Middle Eastern country in March 2003, latest figures from the Pentagon showed on Tuesday.

Of the dead, 943 were killed in combat and 267 in non-battle circumstances.

Ninety-one casualties were reported for November so far, bringing the number to 1,210 from 1,119 at the beginning of this month. Many of the deaths occurred during the US military operation in Fallujah that began on November 7.

A total of 38 US soldiers were killed in the week-long offensive, which was aimed at helping pave the way for the general elections in Iraq scheduled for January next year. November would become the second-deadliest month for American forces since March 2003, following April this year when 135 deaths were reported.

Since the start of the war, 8,956 US servicemen have been wounded, including at least 320 US soldiers who were wounded in the Fallujah operation.

MNA/Xinhua

## Britain gains nothing from supporting US invasion of Iraq

LONDON, 17 Nov—French President Jacques Chirac said in a newspaper interview on Tuesday that Britain has gained nothing from its support for the United States-led invasion of Iraq.

Chirac said he had urged Britain before the invasion to press US President George W Bush to revive the Middle East peace process in return for London's support.

"Well, Britain gave its support but I did not see much in return," Chirac was quoted as saying in the *Times*. "I am not sure that it is in the nature of our American friends at the moment to return favours systematically."

Blair's staunch support for Washington over Iraq led to bitter divisions within his ruling Labour Party and dragged down his public approval ratings. Chirac, who will hold talks with Blair when he makes a state visit to Britain on Thursday, recalled a Franco-British summit last year when he asked his British counterpart to try to influence US policy on the Middle East.

"I said then to Tony Blair: 'We have different positions on Iraq. Your position should at least have some use'. That is to try to obtain in exchange a relaunch of the peace pro-

cess in the Middle East."

Chirac questioned whether Britain could act as a bridge between the United States and Europe to help heal the rift that developed over the Iraq war. France and Germany were among the most vocal opponents of US mili-

tary action to oust former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein. "I am not sure with America as it is these days that it would be easy for someone, even the British, to be an honest broker," Chirac was quoted as saying in the *Times*.—MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi guerilla points his rifle towards a blazing oil storage tank near the northern city of Mosul on 15 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET



## US aircraft strike Baquba, killing 20

**BAQUBA, 16 Nov**—US forces launched airstrikes and fought gunbattles after guerrillas overran police stations and other areas in the Iraqi city of Baquba on Monday, killing about 20 guerrillas, the US military said.

Explosions and gunfire echoed across Baquba, 40 miles northeast of the capital, as US and Iraqi forces battled to restore order after guerrillas attacked a police station and US troops at a traffic circle, witnesses said.

Another police station in the town of Buhriz, just south of Baquba, was also attacked.

US planes dropped two 500-pound bombs on Baquba after at least 15 guerrillas arrived by bus from outside the city and joined other militants in carrying out attacks.

Some fighters positioned themselves on a rooftop, others set up road blocks and planted roadside bombs, US military spokesman Captain Bill Coppernoll said.

About 20 guerrillas were killed in the gunbattles, artillery and airstrikes. Four US soldiers were wounded, Coppernoll said, two of them seriously.

A doctor at Baquba hospital said at least eight people had been brought in dead from the fighting, including one policeman. Eleven people came in wounded, among them three policemen.

The surge in violence coincides with a week-old US-led offensive against foreign fighters, Sunni nationalists and Saddam Hussein loyalists entrenched in Fallujah.

Military officials say many militants fled Fallujah, west of the capital, before the full-scale attack, and there has been a spike in violence throughout Iraq's Sunni Muslim region since.

Abdullah Jibouri, governor of Diyala Province, said order had been restored to Baquba, the provincial capital.

"The situation in the city is normal now," Jibouri told *Reuters* by telephone. "The Iraqi National Guard and police are in control."

MNA/Reuters

## US Marine shoots dead unarmed, wounded Iraqi prisoner

**LONDON, 16 Nov**—A television pool report by US network NBC said on Monday that a US Marine had shot dead an unarmed and wounded Iraqi prisoner in in Fallujah.

The Iraqi was one of five wounded prisoners left in the mosque after Marines had fought their way in on Friday and Saturday. There was no immediate comment from the Pentagon on the report.

US forces launched an offensive one week ago on Fallujah, and have gained overall control of the formerly guerrilla-held city, although scattered resistance remains.

The pool report by NBC correspondent Kevin Sites said the mosque had been used by guerrillas to attack US forces, who stormed it and an adjacent building, kill-

ing 10 militants and wounding the five.

Sites said the wounded had been left in the mosque for others to pick up and move to the rear for treatment. No reason was given why that had not happened.

A second group of Marines entered the mosque on Saturday after reports it had been reoccupied. Footage from the embedded television crew showed the five still in the mosque, although several appeared to be already close to death, Sites said.

He said one Marine

noticed one of the prisoners was still breathing. "The Marine then raises his rifle and fires into the man's head. The pictures are too graphic for us to broadcast," Sites said. No images of the shooting were shown in the footage provided to *Reuters*.

The report said the Marine, who had returned to duty after being shot in the face a day earlier, had been removed from the field and was being questioned by the US military. Sites said the shot prisoner "did not appear to be armed or threatening in any way".

MNA/Reuters



British Army troops deploy to the southern Iraq town of Shekhata, 30 km north of Basra, on 15 Nov, 2004. —INTERNET

## US officer charged with murder of Iraqi

**BAGHDAD, 16 Nov**—A medium-rank US officer serving in Baghdad was charged with wrongful killing of an Iraqi and allowing a murder, the US military said on Monday.

Secondary Lieutenant Erick J Anderson has been charged with premeditated murder and conspiracy to commit premeditated murder, the 1st US Cavalry Division announced.

A US military statement said that the allegations were under investigation by the US authorities and specific events relating to the charges could "not be discussed in detail at this time".

The case was the latest among several similar allegations surfacing in the US forces in Iraq. Last

month, two soldiers of the same company with Anderson were charged with murdering an Iraqi in Sadr City, a Shiite slum in eastern Baghdad. Anderson was under investigation on whether he granted the two soldiers permission to shoot an injured Iraqi whom they thought was so badly wounded that he would die anyway.

Staff Sergeant Jonathan Alban was accused of firing "multiple rounds" with a rifle at the badly wounded Iraqi, who managed to pull himself out of a burning

garbage truck attacked by a group of US troops, who suspected the men in the truck were planting roadside bombs. It was not clear if bombs were found at the scene.

Alban appeared before a military court on October 21. The other soldier, Staff Sergeant Johnny Horne, is due to appear in court later. If tried and convicted, the two could face a minimum punishment of life in prison and a maximum of the death penalty, said the US military.

MNA/Xinhua

## US urged to help slow Arctic thaw

**STOCKHOLM, 16 Nov**—Indigenous people from the Arctic have urged the US to cut greenhouse gas emissions to slow down the current thaw of the polar ice, an Icelandic web site reported on Monday.

At a conference in Reykjavik, Iceland, they warned their traditional way of life was endangered by global warming.

They accused Washington of thwarting efforts to alleviate the problem by refusing to sign the Kyoto agreement. Scientists have warned that the region is warming twice as quickly as the rest of the planet.

"The short-term economic policy of one country should not be able to trump the entire survival of one people," said Sheila Watt-Cloutier, the chair of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC) at the end of the four-day event.

"Climate change is not just about weather or sea-ice conditions... it's a fight to preserve a way of life," she added. A team of international researchers published the results of a study before the meeting kicked off, predicting that the summer ice cap could melt completely before the end of this century.

The Arctic Climate Impact Assessment report (ACIA) found that the faster warming rate of the Arctic is due to a build-up of greenhouse gases, mainly carbon dioxide released from burning oil, coal and gas in power plants and cars.

MNA/Xinhua

## Blix launches scathing attack on US, others

**STOCKHOLM, 16 Nov**—Former chief UN weapons inspector Hans Blix said that the effectiveness of the United Nations is threatened by countries that ignore its recommendations, signalling out the United States and Britain in their push to invade Iraq last year, Radio Sweden reported on Monday.

Blix told a seminar here in Stockholm that "the UN today is in a difficult situation after the US, Britain and some other states ignored the majority of the Security Council and intervened in Iraq to eliminate weapons of mass destruction—weapons that were not there". He also criticized the United States for acting unilaterally when international groups, including the UN, disagreed with US views.—MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi boy waits for his mother near her belongings in Baghdad on 17 Nov, 2004. The boy arrived with his mother to live in one of the tents erected by a local relief agency for Iraqis fleeing the devastated city of Fallujah. —INTERNET

# OUTSTANDING STUDENTS AWARDED



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Ma Zin Mar Nwe of Kawkareik BEHS No 1 in Kayin State. — MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Ma Win Le Mon of Mawlamyine BEHS No 9 in Mon State. — MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Thant Zin Oo of Tachilek BEHS in Shan State (East). — MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Ma Thinzar Sho of Myeik BEHS No 1 in Taninthayi Division. — MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Aung Kyaw Soe of Myaing Village, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State. — MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Kyaw Thu Naing of Khaungdaing Village, Nyaungshwe Township, in Shan State (South). — MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Zaw Min Htwe of Wazi BEHS in Pakokku Township, Magway Division. — MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Shwe Lin Oo of Theindaw Village (Tagu) BEHS in Taninthayi Township, Taninthayi Division. — MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Zaw Wan who won gold in seventh SEA bodybuilding and physical culture championship (Indonesia). — MNA



# OUTSTANDING STUDENTS AWARDED



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Ma Myat Noe Zin Myint of Institute of Education Practising School in Kamayut Township, Yangon Division. — MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Yin Kyay of Kanni Village in Meiktila Township, Mandalay Division. MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Kyi Zaw Lat of Bogale Township, Ayeyawady Division. MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Ma May Thandar Kyaw of Wetwun affiliated BEHS in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Division. MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Ma May Moe Aye of Institute of Education Practising School in Kamayut Township, Yangon Division. MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Ma Thwe Thwe Po of Hopang BEHS in Mohmyin Township, Kachin State. MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Ne Myo Lin of Shanywa (Ai-thabyu) affiliated BEHS in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Division. — MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Ye Win Htut of Bago BEHS No 3 in Bago Division (East). MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Ma Thu Thu Aung of Latha Township BEHS No 2 in Yangon Division. MNA

## The government firmly believes ...

(from page 1)

I have already stated that the Association is endeavouring to develop itself into a firm national force, while organizing, training and activating new generation youths. The endeavour is helping to produce human resources which the nation needs.

The seven objectives, that will be the focal points of discussions at the AGM, are aimed at consolidating national solidarity, ensuring success of the seven-point Road Map, developing the socio-economy with added momentum and warding off the destructive elements with the strength of the people.

The USDA will have to take part energetically in shaping a modern state with high efficiency and consolidated efforts.

You are the young patriotic leaders with abilities to study and analyze the nation's objective conditions. When we recall the period about half a century ago, we will see that political integrity was weak because of our condition then; which was the legacy of colonialism.

All the people suffered ill effects of misunderstanding among them. Over 40 years of armed conflict smeared Myanmar history. The people had to live in miserable condition in the colonial period. National solidarity weakened soon after regaining the independence due to the divide-and-rule policy of the colonial period resulting in the loss of peace, tranquillity and national races is the demand of history. Tangible results were achieved as the government had carried out the tasks with genuine goodwill. Better foundations for national solidarity came together with development.



Senior General Than Shwe cordially greets delegates to Annual General Meeting (2004) of Union Solidarity and Development Association. — MNA

and national races is the demand of history. Tangible results were achieved as the government had carried out the tasks with genuine goodwill. Better foundations for national solidarity came together with development.

The government has laid down and practised Our

If we study the developments from the time of taking up the State duties to present day, the period from 1988 to 1992 was the time of making special efforts for peace and tranquillity.

With prevalence of peace and tranquillity in the border areas, the country headed for development, the very requirement of the State. The task for building of a peaceful, modern developed nation was laid down as the national goal.

In order to reach the goal, national short-term projects were laid down. Infrastructure is the main requirement for implementation of the national plans. As is known to all, there was no sufficient infrastructure in the region as well as in various sectors. It is a great task to fulfil the requirements for implementation of the project. In order to build infrastructures needed in the projects the Special Projects Implementation Committee was formed and region-wise and sector-wise requirements were fulfilled.

No efforts are spared to turn the country into a peaceful, modern and developed nation. As is known to all, the border area development project, the 24 development zones project, and the rural development tasks are being implemented to see that no region is left unattended.

With 75 percent of the working population, agriculture is the kind of national economy, providing almost full percentage of basic foodstuff. This being the case, the government's investment mainly goes into the improvement of agricultural infrastructures. The number of dams and reservoirs and that of river water-pumping projects constructed during the period of over ten years stood at 167 and 271 respectively. Another 36 dam projects and another 34 river water-pumping projects are under way.

(See page 9)



The Institute of Traditional Medicine in Mandalay. — MNA

lity and development.

You, members of the USDA, have studied these facts. The political objectives we have laid down are the ones which cover the past, the present and the future. Economic and social objectives have also been laid down to fulfil the requirements.

The government has realized the objectives hand in hand with the people. Investments were made in every sector for realization of the objectives during the period of over ten years.

The government firmly believes that the most basic requirement for national development is national solidarity. With this conviction after taking up the State duties, the government tried to make peace with armed groups as the first priority task. Since all the people shared the view that national solidarity is the most important requirement peace initiative became a reality. As is known to all, there prevails peace, stability and security in various border areas after building mutual trust.

Therefore, Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races chaired by me was formed and tasks were implemented. Considerable progress has been made in economic infrastructures, transport, livestock breeding, education and health sectors in border areas. The government hand in hand with local national race leaders and local people undertook the projects. Development projects were launched first in the border areas where there was slow progress due to lack of security. Development of border areas

Three Main National Causes in the interest of the State and the entire people. The government firmly believes that national solidarity is foundation of the tasks for development of the nation and its people, peace and modernization and building a democratic state. The government will further strengthen national solidarity in the interest of the State and the people.

### Agriculture Sector

- \* With 75 percent of the working population, agriculture is the kind of national economy, providing almost full percentage of basic foodstuff.
- \* The government's investment mainly goes into the improvement of agricultural infrastructures.
- \* The number of dams and reservoirs and that of river water-pumping projects constructed during the period of over ten years stood at 167 and 271 respectively.
- \* Another 36 dam projects and another 34 river water-pumping projects are under way.

### Transport Sector

- \* Transport infrastructure is instrumental in bringing about modernization as well as the advancement of socio-economic life and regional development.
- \* The total length of roads across the country increased from 21,483 miles in 1988 to 56,695 miles in 2004.
- \* Besides road construction, river-crossing bridges were built wherever necessary with the use of internal labour. As the longest bridge in Myanmar, the river-crossing Thanlwin bridge (Mawlamyine) will be inaugurated soon.





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

## The government firmly believes...

(from page 8)

A huge amount of investment is also being put in the generation of electricity, an engine for the economic growth and for social advancement as well. The capacity of electricity generation nationwide in 1988 totalled 707 megawatts. The present government has increased the generation capacity to another 767 megawatts in a span of over a decade. Electricity projects, large and medium, are being implemented to satisfy the demand of industry and social status likely to rise. On completion, they will be able to meet the demand of not only the present but also the future.

Transport infrastructure is instrumental in bringing about modernization as well as the advancement of socio-economic life and regional development. During the past ten years or so, momentum was added to the drive for construction of motor roads, town link roads and village link roads.

The total length of roads across the country increased from 21,483 miles in 1988 to 56,695 miles in 2004. It means that there has been an increase of 35,212 miles in the total length of roads.

Besides road construction, river-crossing bridges were built wherever necessary with the use of internal labour. The longest bridge in Myanmar, the river-crossing Thanlwin bridge (Mawlamyine) will be inaugurated soon.

With 1,128 miles in

length, new railroads that play a strategic role in transport were constructed. Now, the total length of railroads has reached 3,921 miles. Moreover, airports are being upgraded. The number of airports has now stood at 33, with an increase of 12 new airports.

When it comes to modernizing the country, the government also invests heavily in the development of human resources.

Education is a prime source of development. In view of increased opportunities for learning and of higher education both at basic and higher levels, measures have been taken to widen the scope of courses in line with the need of the country.

The government is implementing the special four-year plan for national education promotion. At the same time, it also drew up the 30-year long-term plan, speeding up its efforts. In accord with the fine tradition, the education programmes are being implemented with the cooperation of the public and the social organizations.

Now in the basic education sector, altogether 40,505 schools have been opened all over the country, whereupon plans are being implemented to ensure that all citizenry have the right to receiving basic education. Thanks to these measures, enrolment rate of primary school in-

creased from 77 percent in 1988 to 96.6 percent in this academic year.

It is due to the "Education For All" programme that the literacy rate rose from 78 percent in 1988 to 93.3 percent in 2004.

The learning opportunity has also been on the rise in higher institutions

### Health sector

- \* **The State is well convinced that health and fitness of the entire people, part of the social sector, is indeed an important factor that contributes towards producing human resources.**
- \* **The Government is promoting and expanding the scope of the medical science and academic matters on the medical field, and opening and upgrading hospitals and health care centres in respective development regions.**
- \* **The number of the nation's hospitals has increased to 813, up from 631 in 1988.**
- \* **There have emerged an institute of traditional medicines in Mandalay, and traditional hospitals all over the country.**

like universities and colleges. The number of students of higher education rose from over 130,000 in 1988 to some 900,000 in 2004. As part of the efforts for the extension of courses in various specializations, postgraduate to doctorate courses are now conducted.

Now that universities and colleges are being constructed in areas covered by the 24 development zones project as well as in other necessary places, the number of universities and colleges opened across the country has reached 156. There is a difference of 124 higher institutions between the time when the government assumed the responsibility of the State and the present.

More and more universities and colleges have been opened throughout the nation, so new generation youths can enjoy better opportunity to pursue higher education.

Now, the State is mak-

ing a huge investment in the education sector. As a result, reliable qualified human resources can be produced constantly.

The State is well convinced that health and fitness of the entire people, part of the social sector, is indeed an important factor that contributes towards producing human resources. Accordingly, the Government is promoting and expanding the scope of the medical science and academic matters on the medical field, and opening and upgrading hospitals and health care centres in respective development regions. So, the number of the nation's hospitals has increased to 813, up from 631 in 1988.

And modern medical equipment has been installed in the hospitals increasingly, resulting in betterment of giving medical treatments. At the same time, the Government is

mass rallies to support the State's seven-point Road Map held all over the nation in 2003.

And you participated in the mass rally in support of the State's seven-step Road Map in Bagan Archaeological Region.

The Bagan Mass Rally passed resolutions as the people's goals — the perpetuation of the Union, the unity of the national races, and the building of a new modern nation with discipline-flourishing democracy. As a matter of fact, the building of a peaceful, modern and developed nation plays a basic role in shaping the nation into a democratic one. According to the experiences of the entire people, the strength of the people is the most basic requirement for progress of the nation.

In the Myanmar history, when the national solidarity was high, the strength of the entire national people was at its peak, with a fine tradition that the nation was safeguarded and protected through the unity of the entire people. Thus, national solidarity is indeed the strength of the nation.

With effective use of such might, you have to

### Power supply

- \* **A huge amount of investment is also being put in the generation of electricity, an engine for the economic growth and for social advancement as well. The capacity of electricity generation nationwide in 1988 totalled 707 megawatts.**
- \* **The present government increased the generation capacity to another 767 megawatts in a span of over a decade.**
- \* **Electricity projects, large and medium, are being implemented to satisfy the demand of industry and social status likely to rise. On completion, they will be able to meet the demand of not only the present but also the future.**

preserve and promote the fine tradition of national solidarity, national economic foundation and socio-economic foundation.

In conclusion, I would say you all have to make efforts to further cement national solidarity in conformity with future tasks that will be laid down at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of the Union Solidarity and Development Association as well as the objectives of the Association. And you have to safeguard and defend tranquillity and peace of the nation through national unity.

You also have to maintain the foundations constructed or under construction for raising economy of the State and the people.

I would like to urge you to make collaborative efforts in unity for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation with discipline-flourishing democracy based on Union Spirit for successful implementation of the State's seven-point Road Map, to which the Union Solidarity and Development Association has been committed

MNA



Patheon Bridge across Ngawun River. — MNA

### Education sector

- \* **Altogether 40,505 schools have been opened all over the country, whereupon plans are being implemented to ensure that all citizenry have the right to receiving basic education.**
- \* **Thanks to these measures, enrolment rate of primary school increased from 77 percent in 1988 to 96.6 percent in this academic year.**
- \* **It is due to the "Education For All" programme that the literacy rate rose from 78 percent in 1988 to 93.3 percent in 2004.**

## Senior General Than Shwe hosts dinner...

(from page 16)

the State, artistes, chairmen of social and economic organizations and officials.

Also present were Members of Panel of Patrons of USDA Vice-Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council the Commander, ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the auditor-general, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, central executive committee members of USDA, members of National Convention Convening Commission, senior military officers, deputy ministers, directors-general



Senior General Than Shwe cordially greets delegates to the USDA Annual General Meeting (2004) of the Union Solidarity and Development Association. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe has a cordial conversation with delegates to the USDA Annual General Meeting (2004). — MNA

## Senior General Than Shwe addresses...

(from page 16)

Myanmar Floriculturists Association, the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs, the Union



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Zin Lin of Mandalay BEHS No 14 in Mandalay Division. — MNA

of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association, the Myanmar Hoteliers Association, the Myanmar Fisheries Federation, secretaries and

representatives of USDAs from states and divisions, outstanding youths of 2004 and guests.

At the meeting, Daw Theingi Aung, executive of Singaing Township USDA of Mandalay Division acted as master of ceremonies with Daw Chaw Su Yi, member of Shartaw Township USDA of Kayah State as co-master of ceremonies.

At first, the master of ceremonies declared the fourth day session of the meeting open with the permission of the USDA Patron, who later addressed the meeting.

Next, U Htay Oo, Secretary-General of USDA, presented prizes to students who stood first to ten with science combination in the matriculation examination 2004 in the entire Myanmar.

The outstanding students were Maung Zin Lin of No 14 BEHS, Mandalay, Mandalay Division and Ma Thi Thi Htwe of No 13 BEHS, Mandalay Division who stood not only first in the entire Myanmar but also first in Mandalay Division; Maung Ye Oo of No 3 BEHS, PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, who stood second in the entire Myanmar; Ma Myat Noe Zin Myint of Institute of Education Practising School, Kamayut Township, who stood not only second in the entire Myanmar but also first in Yangon Division; Maung Ye Min Oo of No 16 BEHS, Mandalay, Mandalay Division, who stood third in the entire Myanmar; Ma Pan Ei San of No 1 BEHS Mingalardon Township, Yangon Division, who stood fourth in the entire Myanmar; Maung Pyi Phyo Kyaw of No 4 BEHS, Taunggyi, who stood fourth in the entire Myanmar and first in Shan State (South); Ma Yu Yu Chit of No 12 BEHS, Mandalay, Mandalay Division, who stood fifth in the entire Myanmar; Ma May Thandar Kyaw of Wetwun Affiliated BEHS,

of State Peace and Development Council Office, President Office, Government Office, and Pyithu Hluttaw Office, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises, chairmen and members of the respective subcommittees of the AGM, secretaries of state/division USDAs, regional coordinators of USDA HQ, delegates to the AGM, outstanding students, journalists, chairmen of social and economic organizations, officials, artistes, vocalists and specially invited guests.

Artistes of Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon and Myanmar Music Asiayon gave performances to the accompaniment of modern music troupe of Myanmar Radio before the dinner. Artistes of Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture presented a variety dance show during and after the dinner.—MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Ma Thin Thin Khaing, who won gold in Asia Archery Circuit (2004). — MNA

PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Division, who stood sixth in the entire Myanmar; Ma Soe Thet San of No 1 BEHS, Meiktila Township, Mandalay Division, who stood seventh in the entire Myanmar; Ma Ei Mon Aung of No 1 BEHS Dagon Township, Yangon Division, who stood seventh in the entire Myanmar; Ma May Moe of Institute of Education Practising School, Kamayut Township, Yangon Division, who stood seventh in the entire Myanmar; Ma Yin Mon Mon Aung of No 1 BEHS, Dagon Township, Yangon Division, who stood eighth in the entire Myanmar; Ma Khin Kyu Kyu Htwe of No 2 BEHS, Latha Township, Yangon Division, who stood eighth in the entire Myanmar; Maung Ye Win Tun of No 3 BEHS, Bago, who stood not only ninth in the entire Myanmar but also first in Bago Division (East); Ma Hnin Wint Wint Aung of No 2 BEHS, Sangyoung Township, Yangon Division, who

(See page 11)



## Senior General Than Shwe addresses...

(from page 10)

stood ninth in the entire Myanmar; Maung Zar Ni Ko of No 3 BEHS, PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Division, who stood tenth in the entire Myanmar and Ma Thu Thu Aung of No 2 BEHS, Latha Township, Yangon Division, who stood tenth in the entire Myanmar.

Afterwards, U Htay Oo, Secretary-General of USDA, presented prizes to students who stood first to ten with art combination in the matriculation examination 2004 in the entire Myanmar.

The outstanding students were Ma Tin Nwe Lin of Pyin Khayaing BEHS, Ngapudaw Township, Ayeyawady Division, who stood not only first in the entire Myanmar but also first in Ayeyawady Division; Maung Yin Kye of Kani Village BEHS, Meiktila Township, Mandalay Division, who stood not only second in the entire Myanmar but also first in

Myo Lin of Shanywa (Ai Thabyu) affiliated BEHS in Laymyetharya Township, Ayeyawady Division, who stood eighth; Maung Thein Win, Tamakhan affiliated BEHS in Phakang Township, Kachin State, who stood ninth; Ma Ei The Phyu of Muiyitgalay BEHS in Chaungzon Township, who stood tenth in the nation and also first in Mon State; and Maung Zaw Min Htaik of Kyetuyaytaung affiliated BEHS in Nyaungdon Township, Ayeyawady Division; who stood tenth.

USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presented gifts for winning first in science combination of matriculation exam (2004) in respective States and Divisions to Maung Soe Moe Aung of Myitkyina BEHS No 1 in Kachin State, Ma July Ko of Loikaw BEHS No 2 in Kayah State, Ma Zin Mar Nwe of Kawkaik BEHS

General also presented gifts for winning first in art combination of matriculation exam (2004) in respective States and Divisions to Ma Naw Tapyi Thar of Nanphe Village in Pruhso Township, Kayah State, Maung Aung Kyaw Soe of Myaing Village, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State, Maung Ban Kyn Man of Thantlang, Chin State, Maung Khin Maung Nyein of Kantbalu in Sagaing Division, Maung Shwe Lin Oo of Theindaw Village

seventh SEA bodybuilding and physical culture championship in Indonesia, Ma Thin Thin Khaing, who won gold in Asian Archery Championship, held in Malaysia, Ma Nwe Nwe Than, who won gold in Eighth SEA Judo Championship in Vietnam, and 12th Asian Invitational Judo championship, Ma Aye Aye Thin and Ma Aye Aye Aung who won gold in eight SEA judo championship, Maung



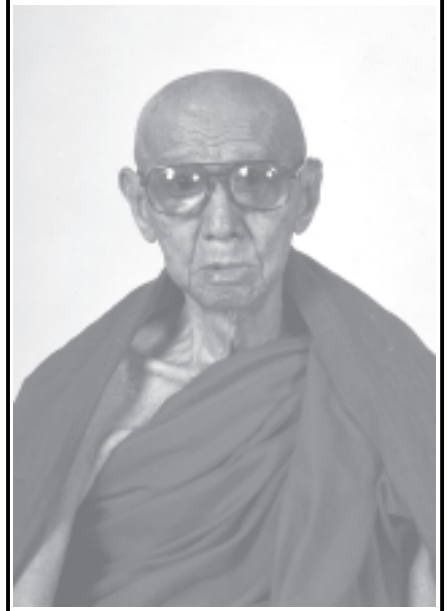
USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents gift to Maung Nay Win who won nine gold in Cultural Arts Competitions. — MNA

(Tagu) in Taninthayi Township, Taninthayi Division, Ma Thiri Shwe Mar Oo of Tawkywe in BEHS in Kyauktaga Township, Bago Division (East), Ma Khin Moe Win of Intawtalok Village in Monyo Township, Bago Division (West), Maung Zaw Min Htwe of Wazi BEHS in Pakokku Township, Magway Division, Ma Su Mon of Zayatpyin BEHS in Kyaukpyu Township, Rakhine State, Ma Hnin Nyu Yi of BEHS No 1 in North Okkalapa, Yangon Division, Maung Kyaw Thu Naing of Khaungdaing Village in Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State (South), Maung Kyaung Goe Za Sein of Hsipaw in Shan State (North), and Maung Thet Paing Htoo of Mongping BEHS in Shan State (East).

The secretary-general presented gifts to Maung Phyo Mintha and Maung Win Htet Paing, who won gold in the U-14 event of the Junior World Ranking Tennis Tournament held in Myanmar, gold medalist Maung Min Zaw Oo and Maung Zaw Wan of

Phone Myint Teza, Maung Aung Kyaw Moe, Maung Aung Lin, Maung Win Htaik, Ma Aye Mi Khaing and Ma Thein Htay Win, who won gold in 5th SEA canoe championship in the Philippines, Ma Chit Su Yi who won gold in Junior World Ranking Tennis Tournament in Pakistan, and Ma San San Maw, on behalf of Myanmar women soccer team that won gold in SEA soccer tourney. He presented gifts to outstanding Red Cross members Maung Zaw Moe Aung and Nan Yi Yi Htwe, outstanding auxiliary Fire Brigade members U Hsai Naw and Daw San San Oo, outstanding trainees of

## Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita passes away



YANGON, 17 Nov — Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita, Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, passed away peacefully at the age of 95, vasa 76, at 11.35 am today.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita (Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika) was born in Thiri Pissaya village, NyaungU Township, Mandalay Division.

He was novitiated at the age of 10. He studied basic religious knowledge since he was very young, and continued to learn Pariyatti at various monasteries. He became a lecturer Sayadaw when he attained five vasa as a monk.

The Sayadaw had dedicated his whole life to studying Pariyatti and practising Patipatti and disseminating the religious knowledge to disciples.

He had been to Japan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, India, Thailand, the Republic of Korea, Laos, and England as a missionary Sayadaw. — MNA



Executive Daw Theingi Aung and Daw Chaw Su Yi act as masters of ceremonies. — MNA

Mandalay Division; Maung Kyi Zaw Latt of Bogale Township BEHS, Ayeyawady Division, who stood third in the entire Myanmar; Maung Swe Nyein Hlaing of Yekyi Township BEHS, Ayeyawady Division, who stood fourth in the entire Myanmar; Ma Wai Hlaing Phyo of Hopin BEHS, Mohnyin, who stood fifth in the entire Myanmar and first in Kachin State; Maung Pye Soe of Kyatkwin village, Kyangin, Ayeyawady Division, who stood sixth in the entire Myanmar;

Ma Thwe Thwe Po of Hopang BEHS in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State, who stood seventh position; Maung Chan Min Ko Ko of Welaung affiliated BEHS in Taungtha Township, Mandalay Division, who stood seventh; Maung Ne

No 1 in Kayin State, Maung Joseph Ban Bwe Oak of Haka BEHS No 1 in Chin State, Ma Thet Thet of ChaungU in Sagaing Division, Ma Thinzar Sho of Myeik BEHS No 1 in Taninthayi Division, Maung Kyaw Zeya Htut of Pyay BEHS No 1 in Bago Division (West), Maung Chan Myae Aye Thauang of Magway BEHS No 1 in Magway Division, Ma Win Le Mon of Mawlamyine BEHS No 9 in Mon State, Maung Win Naing Soe of Kyaukpyu BEHS No 2 in Rakhine State, Maung Aung Ye Kyaw of Hsipaw BEHS in Shan State (North), Maung Thant Zin Oo of Tachilek BEHS in Shan State (East) and Maung Thiha Kyaw Soe of Patheingyi BEHS No 6 in Ayeyawady Division.

The Secretary-

basic aviation course Maung Pan Htoon Moe and Maung Sai Min Min Oo, outstanding trainee of advanced marine course Maung Htin Lin Naung, outstanding trainee of basic marine course Maung Tin Htoo Naing, Maung Sithu Tun who won first prize in USDA extempore talks, Maung Nay Win, who won nine gold medals in Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions, Maung Aung Thu Hein, who won

eight gold medals, Maung Hein Htoo Zaw, who won eight gold, Maung Aung Po Thet, who won seven gold, Maung Sein Than Zaw (a) Than Htaik, who won six gold, Maung Nay Lin Aung (a) Sein Bo Htoo, who won five gold, Maung Lwin Ko Ko Oo, who won five gold, Maung Kyaw Zin Aung, who won five gold, and Maung Myo Min Than, who won five gold. The morning session of the fourth-day meeting of AGM concluded.

MNA

## (၆)ကြိမ်မြောက် အာရှဝူရှူချန်ပီယံပြိုင်ပွဲ The 6th Asian Wushu Championships



“ပြည်သူ့သမိုင်းကြည့်ရှုရန်အတွက်”

November 28th - 29th, 2004  
National Indoor Stadium (1)  
Thurawada, Yangon

အစည်းအရုံး  
အထွေထွေအချက်အလက်  
အချက်အလက်

### ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV "MANDALAY" VOY NO 140/N

Consignees of cargo carried on MV "MANDALAY" Voy No. 140/N are hereby notified that the vessel will arrive at Yangon port on 19-11-2004 and will be berthing on about 20-11-2004 and cargos will be discharged into the permits of Myanmar Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the by-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 upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

### CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

Phone: 293147, 296507, 295754

## Man sets fire to his belongings outside White House

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov — A man set fire to his belongings outside the northwest gate of the White House on Monday, injuring himself before the flames were put out by Secret Service agents, media reports said.

The man was trying to present an envelope to guards near a Secret Service post on Pennsylvania Avenue outside the White House West Wing, the reports said.

Moments later, smoke was seen rising and flames engulfed his briefcase and overcoat near the guard post. The man was subsequently subdued by guards there.

The man appeared to have suffer from burns on his head, back, arms and face, and repeatedly shouted "Allah," the reports said.

The area was cordoned off and fire trucks and ambulances arrived on the scene, and the man was taken to a local hospital, according to the reports.

MNA/Xinhua

## 22% of Vietnamese in danger of cardiovascular diseases

HANOI, 16 Nov — Some 18 million Vietnamese people, or 22 per cent of Vietnam's population, are at high risk of suffering from cardiovascular diseases, the Ho Chi Minh City Cardiovascular Association said on Monday.

Of the 18 million people, some 12 million suffer from high blood pressure, 3.2 million from local myocardium anaemia, and 2.8 million from diabetes.

MNA/Xinhua

## Five nations short-listed for slot in India's unmanned moon mission

NEW DELHI, 16 Nov — The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has short-listed experiments from five nations including the United States, Britain and Germany, for a slot on India's unmanned moon mission *Chandrayaan-1* to be undertaken by 2006-2007, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported Monday.

"We have short listed scientific experiments from researchers in five countries — US, Britain, Sweden, Bulgaria and Germany. We will finalize the right partners by December," PTI quoted ISRO sources as saying in Bangalore in south India.

India plans to put a 525-kilos orbiter using Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle rocket 100 kilometres over the moon to explore the earth's satellite.

ISRO had allotted 10

kilos and 10 watts of power for space agencies of other nations and had invited international bids for the purpose that had evoked 15 responses from 10 nations.

"The best suited proposals have been short listed. We have to find out whether they finally fit into our mission payload," the sources said.

India's mission is aimed at expanding the scientific knowledge about the moon, upgrad-

### TRADE MARK CAUTION

Johnson & Johnson, a corporation incorporated in the United States of America, of One Johnson & Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick, New Jersey, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

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in respect of "Analgesic preparations administered transdermally".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin  
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.  
for Johnson & Johnson  
P. O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 18 November, 2004

## Jamaican police seize 7.5 tons of cocaine

HAVANA, 16 Nov — The Jamaican authorities confirmed Monday that 7.5 tons of cocaine was seized during an anti-narcotics operation by Jamaican police in the east of the Caribbean country, reports reaching here said.

Seven Colombians and two Jamaicans were arrested in the operation.

With the help of the intelligence reports provided by Jamaican police, agents of the United States participated in intercepting the speed boats carrying the drug.

Jamaica, like other Caribbean and Central American countries, is frequently used by international drug-trafficking networks to smuggle drugs into the US territory. — MNA/Xinhua

## မြည်တွင်းပြင်ကိုအားပေးပါ

### ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ် စတုတ္ထအကြိမ် ဘွဲ့နှင်းသဘင်ခေါ်ပွဲပြင်း

ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်မှ ကျင်းပခဲ့သော ဝိဇ္ဇာဘွဲ့ သင်တန်း အောင်မြင်ကြသူများအတွက် စတုတ္ထအကြိမ် ဘွဲ့နှင်းသဘင်ခေါ်ပွဲအား ကိုအောင်ပါအတိုင်း ကျင်းပမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျင်းပမည့်နေ့ - ၁၆-၁-၂၀၀၅ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)

ကျင်းပမည့်နေရာ - ဘွဲ့နှင်းသဘင်ခန်းမ (ရန်ကုန်တက္ကသိုလ်)

ကျင်းပမည့်အချိန် - (၀၉:၀၀) နာရီ

ဘွဲ့နှင်းသဘင်ကြေး - ၁၅၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင်ငါးရာတိတိ)

အဝေးရောက်ဘွဲ့ကြေး - ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင်တိတိ)

အစဦးလေ့ကျင့်မည့်ရက်၊ အချိန် - ၁၅-၁-၂၀၀၅ (စနေနေ့)

(၁၀:၀၀) နာရီ

(၁) မှတ်ပုံတင်မိတ္တူကို လျှောက်လွှာတင်သည့်ရက်တွင်လူလေ့ပါမည်။

(၂) ဝိဇ္ဇာဘွဲ့ (၁၉၉၉ အခြေခံပညာအထက်တန်းအောင်သူတို့)

၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ ဩဂုတ်လအောင် ကျောင်းသားကျောင်းသူများ

(၃) ဒီပလိုမာအချိန်ပိုင်း (တရုတ်၊ ပြင်သစ်၊ ဂျာမန်၊ ဂျပန်၊

ကိုရီးယား၊ ရုရှား၊ ထိုင်း)

၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ စက်တင်ဘာလအောင် ကျောင်းသား၊ ကျောင်းသူများ

(၄) ဒီပလိုမာ (၁၉၉၇ မှ ၂၀၀၃ ထိ) အောင်မြင်သူများသည်

အဝေးရောက်ဘွဲ့အတွက်သာလျှောက်ထားနိုင်သည်။

(၅) ဘွဲ့လျှောက်လွှာများကို (၁၅-၁-၂၀၀၄) မှ (၁၅-၁-၂၀၀၄)

ရက်နေ့ နောက်ဆုံးထားတင်သွင်းနိုင်သည်။

(၆) ဘွဲ့ဝင်စံနှုန်းနှင့်ဆိုင်သူတို့ (၁၁-၁-၂၀၀၅) (အင်္ဂါနေ့)မှစ၍

ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ် ဘွဲ့နှင်းသဘင်ဌာနတွင်

ထုတ်ပေးပါမည်။

(၇) ဘွဲ့နှင်းသဘင်တက်ရောက်မည့်ဟု တင်သွင်းပြီး တက်ရောက်ရန်

ပျက်ကွက်ပါက ဘွဲ့လက်မှတ်ကို အဝေးရောက်ဘွဲ့လက်မှတ်များ

ထုတ်ပေးသည့်အချိန်မှသာ ထုတ်ပေးပါမည်။

(၈) အသေးစိတ်ကို ဘွဲ့နှင်းသဘင်ဌာနတွင် စုံစမ်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ကြည့်ကြည့်ဆွေ  
ဇော်ကုန်းထိန်

## Peruvian police seize 698 kilos of drugs

LIMA, 16 Nov — Anti-narcotics agents seized 698 kilos of drugs in the capital city and arrested seven suspected members of an international criminal ring, Peruvian Interior Minister Javier Reategui said Monday. Peru's National Anti-Narcotics Police, in coordination with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, swooped on a warehouse in Callo harbour, 14 kilometres west of Lima.

The drugs, with an estimated street value of 50 million US dollars, was disguised as frozen sea-food.

Last weekend, anti-narcotics agents confiscated 880 kilos of cocaine in Paita harbour, Piura Province, 1,020 kilometres northwest of Lima. — MNA/Xinhua

## HK investigating outbreak of mysterious respiratory illness

HONG KONG, 16 Nov — Health authorities in Hong Kong are investigating the outbreak of a mysterious respiratory illness in a hospital that has infected 28 children.

Tests conducted late last week showed the children were not infected with SARS or influenza.

"We will see if they need to be further isolated, and to see if we need staff reinforcements," Health Minister York Chow told reporters on Monday.

The children are all long-term residents at two wards in the Caritas Medical Centre, a hospital for mentally handicapped children.

Four more children developed fever and symptoms of respiratory infection on Monday.

An 11-year-old girl, who had chronic medical problems, died of a chest

infection in the same hospital on November 9, but authorities have yet to confirm if the girl died of the same disease now afflicting the other children.

"Tests on the children have turned up negative for SARS, influenza A and B, and other respiratory related diseases. We are still checking," a Health Department spokeswoman said.

Some local newspapers have sharply criticized the government for its handling of the case, which evoked memories

of health disasters that have dogged Hong Kong in recent years, including SARS and the deadly H5N1 bird flu.

Hong Kong was badly hit by severe acute respiratory syndrome last year. The new disease, which originated in southern China, infected nearly 1,800 people in Hong Kong, killing 299 of them.

Inquiries into the outbreak highlighted deficiencies in the healthcare system and a poor chain of command.

MNA/Reuters

*Drive safely*



# ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Harvesting Riesling grapes. German wine is enjoying a renaissance on the world market with a new generation of Rieslings squeezing out well-established French and Californian whites. — INTERNET

## 12 members oppose expanding permanent membership of UNSC

UNITED NATIONS, 16 Nov — Envoys from 12 nations, led by Pakistan UN Ambassador Munir Akram, have warned the UNGA against expanding permanent membership of the Security Council and have called for rejection of a resolution which, they said, is being drafted by the Group of Four — India, Germany, Japan and Brazil — the contenders to the permanent slot.

During a meeting with Jean Ping, the President of the United Nations General Assembly, the envoys said that the resolution would undermine the UN reform process and “wreck it irreversibly”, Pakistani diplomats said.

The spokesperson for Ping declined to give any details except that the meeting Wednesday evening was private and as such, she would not comment.

The 12 members of the so-called “coffee club”, claimed that most of the

191 members of UNGA are opposed to expansion of permanent membership of the Council. Most of them want only the expansion in the non-permanent category, they told Ping.

Pakistan has been opposing expansion of permanent membership for which India has wide support. Ping was told that the entire reforms process should be adopted by consensus, the diplomats said.

MNA/PTI

## Gulf countries witness rise in heart disease and diabetes

ABU DHABI, 16 Nov — The Gulf countries are witnessing a rapid increase in heart disease, diabetes and other serious illnesses, especially among youngsters who eat too much junk food while exercise little, local newspaper *Gulf News* reported here Monday.

Leading doctors in the Gulf region have warned that heart disease will become as common in the region as it is in the United States and Europe, both suffering a high incidence of the deadly disease, said the report.

Moreover, serious illnesses including heart disease, diabetes have already posed problems to young people under their 30s in the region.

Experts were quoted as saying that chubby

youngsters, many of whom had a poor diet and little exercise, were more likely to develop heart disease and Type 2 diabetes as more people in their 30s and 40s in the region suffered from cardiac problems.

Heart disease caused about 35 per cent of deaths in the region annually, a figure that could soon increase to 45 per cent as it is seen in the United States and Europe if people's lifestyles failed to im-

prove, said the experts.

The warning came in the wake of a report recently published by the World Health Organization (WHO), which showed that childhood obesity was becoming more prevalent around the world and the Gulf region witnessed a 25 per cent increase in obesity over the past decade.

The WHO and the International Diabetes Federation said this week that 10 per cent of school-aged

children around the globe were overweight or obese.

Besides heart disease, diabetes, obesity is also associated with strokes, cancer and even Alzheimer's disease.

Doctors advise that youngsters must be encouraged to exercise more and eat healthily and that parents should ensure that their children exercise at least twice a week, on top of any physical activity they have at school.

MNA/Xinhua

## China seeking greater scientific cooperation with India

BEIJING, 16 Nov — China has identified India as a country with which to step up cooperation in scientific field, including health, biotechnology and information technology to widen bilateral exchanges, an official source said here on Sunday.

The other country Beijing has shown interest in similar cooperation is South Korea, he said.

Chinese State Councillor Chen Zhili, who is overseeing China's science and technology sectors, will be in India on an official two-day goodwill visit (November 14-18) at the invitation of the Indian Government and will meet officials to promote technology cooperation between the two countries.

She will meet senior information technology executives and will tour Infosys as part of her trip to Bangalore, India's 'Silicon Valley'. Infosys is in the process of establish-

ing its full-fledged software development facility in China.

During her stay in New Delhi, Chen will hold talks with Minister of Science and Technology and Ocean Development, Kapil Sibal during which both sides are expected to identify new areas of co-operation in the scientific field, he said.

The new areas of co-operation between India and China may include health, biotechnology apart from the information technology sector where a number of Indian IT companies are already in China, he said.

MNA/PTI

## UAE Airline wins top TTTG honour

ABU DHABI, 16 Nov — The Emirates Airway of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has been voted Best Middle East and African Airline at the prestigious Asia Travel Awards of Thomson Travel Group (TTG), local newspaper *Gulf News* reported Monday.

Readers of *TTG Asia* and *TTG China*, the leading publications for the travel trade in the region, have awarded Emirates Airway the top accolade in this category for the second year.

The 15th annual TTTG Awards took place last week in Bangkok, Thailand, attended by key figures in the Asian travel and transport industry.

MNA/Xinhua

## Leading artists gather to re-record charity hit

LONDON, 16 Nov — Twenty years after the release of one of the biggest singles of all time, leading British artists gathered on Sunday to re-record the Bob Geldof-inspired charity hit “Do They Know It's Christmas?”

Paul McCartney, Coldplay's “Chris Martin”, “Jamelia” and “The Darkness” were among those at a London studio to record the single, which bookmakers have already tipped for the Christmas number one spot.

“It's time to recreate the magic, and perhaps add a little of our own,” “The Darkness” singer Justin

Hawkins told Xfm radio. Geldof and Ultravox singer Midge Ure created Band Aid, a supergroup of 40 artists, in 1984 and with the hit single raised over 10 million pounds (18 million US dollars) for famine relief in Ethiopia.

Ure has described the latest line-up as a “who's who of coolness” after he managed to get big names

like Robbie Williams and Dido on board for the slightly re-arranged song. Artist Damien Hirst is making the CD's cover. Proceeds will again go towards aid for Africa, particularly for Sudan's volatile Darfur region, where tens of thousands have died since March from disease and malnutrition.

MNA/Reuters

## One injured in two-car train crash in E-England

LONDON, 16 Nov — One person was injured when a two-car passenger train carrying 80 people struck a level crossing barrier in Lincolnshire, eastern England on Monday, police said.

The collision — just nine days after a major crash at a rail crossing in southern England killed seven people — involved the 8.04 am Lincoln to Peterborough train.

“It would seem at this stage that there is only one casualty, a man with some lacerations to his head,” a police spokesman said. “I can confirm that

there were some school children on the train.”

A spokesman for Central Trains said the train remained upright on the tracks after the crash. Central Trains is owned by National Express Group Plc.

A police spokesman said the train struck a gate at a level crossing near the village of Kirkby Green. — MNA/Reuters



Visiting Danish Queen Margrethe II receives a bouquet of flowers from robot Asimo as she visits the Honda headquarters in Tokyo on 17 Nov, 2004. — INTERNET

## SPORTS

## Chelsea want Mourinho to stay for next 10 years

LONDON, 16 Nov—Premier League leaders Chelsea are looking to become financially independent of billionaire owner Roman Abramovich and want manager Jose Mourinho to stay for the next 10 years, media said on Sunday.

The Sunday Telegraph said chief executive Peter Kenyon had prepared a five-year plan to generate profits and cut the club's dependency on oil tycoon Abramovich, who has poured hundreds of millions of pounds into Chelsea since buying the club last year.

"It is not prudent to run a football club on the basis of a benefactor building up a big debt stream. It is in the best interests of Chelsea to be self-sufficient," Kenyon was quoted as saying.

Kenyon also told the Sunday Mirror that Mourinho, who won the European Cup with Porto before guiding Chelsea to the top of the Premier League this season, was the central part of a 10-year vision.—MNA/Reuters

## Giggs turns down one-year contract at Man Utd

LONDON, 16 Nov—Manchester United winger Ryan Giggs has turned down a new one-year contract at Manchester United and is holding out for a longer deal, media reported on Sunday.

The 30-year-old Welsh international, whose contract runs out at the end of next season, has spent his entire career at Old Trafford.

"I have been offered a one-year extension to my current deal but I turned it down," he told the News of the World. "I was hoping for a longer deal. I want to end my career at Manchester United and asked them to reconsider."

The Sunday Mirror said Giggs could be sold as early as January after chief executive David Gill told manager Alex Ferguson that players must be sold before anymore can be brought in.—MNA/Reuters



Ryan Giggs (L) watches his teammate Ruud Van Nistelrooy.

## Newcastle manager to contest FA charge of improper conduct

NEWCASTLE, 16 Nov—Newcastle United manager Graeme Souness is to contest a Football Association (FA) charge of improper conduct.

Souness has requested a personal hearing with the FA, who charged him on Tuesday after he was sent from the dugout during last Sunday's 4-1 home defeat by Fulham.

"I am asking for a personal hearing," Souness wrote in the programme for Sunday's Premier League match at home to Manchester United, which they lost 3-1.

"I don't believe I should have been sent off and I certainly don't think I should have been charged, and I am determined to fight my case," said Souness, who had been given until next Wednesday to respond to the charge.

Souness was sent from the dugout last Sunday after protesting that the referee should have given a penalty when striker Alan Shearer was brought down in the area. He argued with the referee and kicked a water bottle in anger.

It has been a disappointing week for Souness with three successive home defeats — they lost 2-0 to Chelsea in the fourth round of the League Cup on Wednesday — after a bright start to his tenure at Newcastle in mid-September.

"We just feel hard done by again, but that's the business we're in and we feel we're not getting much for our efforts," Souness said.—MNA/Reuters

## Flamengo players insulted at airport after defeat

RIO DE JANEIRO, 16 Nov—Flamengo players lashed out at their own supporters after being insulted, jeered and pushed as they arrived at Rio de Janeiro airport following a heavy defeat in the Brazilian championship on Sunday.

Television pictures showed goalkeeper Julio Cesar push one man to the ground and then kick him.

Defender Junior Baiano, sent off after two minutes of the game, was seen wrestling with another supporter while other players exchanged insults with fans.

Dozens of supporters swore at the players as they got off the flight which brought them back from Ipatinga, where were earlier beaten 6-1 by Atletico Mineiro in a relegation battle.

The defeat left the country's most popular club stuck in the relegation zone with only five matches to play.

The players, clearly shaken by the situation, said they were protected only by a handful of club security men as they tried to make their way through the lobby to their bus.

"He hit me in the back ... so I grabbed his shirt and threw him to the ground," Julio Cesar said in a television interview later. "We arrived at the airport and we were completely unprotected. We were alone, we had to hit back, there was no police," he added. "I'm very sad at what happened and I apologize ... these people are not Flamengo supporters."

MNA/Reuters

## FIFA president criticizes major European clubs

LONDON, 16 Nov—FIFA president Sepp Blatter has criticized major European clubs for creating a "high-stakes trade in humans" in search of new international audiences to boost their incomes.

"The process of globalization, which affects all our lives, is exerting a malign influence on football," said the head of world soccer's ruling body.

In a hard-hitting editorial in the November issue of the official FIFA magazine he is also critical of major clubs who abandon their roots and pack their teams with foreign players.

"A select few European clubs are increasingly des-



FIFA-President Sepp Blatter

perate to appeal to international audiences in ever more distant parts of the globe to tap into new income streams that will allow them to continue to recruit what they regard as the "best" players.

"Since many such

players hail from Africa, South America, Oceania and increasingly Asia, a high-stakes trade in humans is the end result," Blatter writes.

While he agrees some of the clubs in question already have international appeal either because of their playing success or the way they are marketed, Blatter objects to them abandoning their local social responsibilities.

MNA/Reuters

## Tavez unhappy at being left out of Argentina squad

BUENOS AIRES, 16 Nov—Argentina's outstanding prospect Carlos Tevez says he is unhappy at being left out of the squad for Wednesday's World Cup qualifier against Venezuela. "I'm very sad but I'll still be giving 100-per-cent support to my colleagues," the 20-year-old forward told reporters after training with his club Boca Juniors on Monday.

"I'm surprised they didn't pick me, although I've been off-form recently. I have to learn that these things happen."

Tevez has established himself as an Argentina regular since scoring his first international goal in the Copa America quarterfinal win over Peru in July.

He was in the side which finished runners-up to Brazil at the Copa and also in the Under-23 team which won the Olympic football tournament in Athens in August.—MNA/Reuters

## Schluenz resigns as Hansa Rostock coach

FRANKFURT, 16 Nov—Juri Schluenz resigned as Hansa Rostock coach on Sunday following the team's 6-0 home defeat by Hamburg SV.

"That was a revealing performance," Schluenz said after the debacle which left the club rooted to the bottom of the table. "I can't let the fans come to expect a display like that."

"I've therefore offered my resignation to the club. Everyone has been behind me but I wouldn't like to abuse the confidence that has been placed in me."

The club said on their web site they had accepted Schluenz' resignation.

Assistant coaches Wolfgang Funkel and Perry Braeutigam will train the team until a successor is found.

Sunday's defeat left Rostock bottom with just eight points from 13 games.

MNA/Reuters

## Beckham denies retiring from int'l soccer after 2006 World Cup

MADRID, 16 Nov—England captain David Beckham has denied reports that he plans to retire from international soccer after the 2006 World Cup and says his aim is to beat the appearance records set by Bobby Moore and Bobby Charlton.

"I was asked if the next World Cup was going to be my last and I said possibly it could be but I hope it isn't," Beckham told a news conference in Madrid before Wednesday's friendly against Spain.

"I want to carry on playing for England as long as I can and if that means playing after the World Cup then great. I don't want to retire from playing for my country because it's one of the best honours I've ever been given in football."

"I set a target for myself when I got into the team and when I was given the captaincy and that was to reach the records of Bobby Charlton and Bobby Moore, both of which were idols of me and my dad."

Former Manchester United forward Charlton won 106 caps and Eng-

land captain Moore won 108, to become the two outfield players to make the most appearances for the national side. The 29-year-old Beckham, who has won 76 caps, said he would continue playing as long as his body would allow him.

"I get a few more aches

and pains after games these days, but that's the only thing and as long as the legs can stand it I will carry on."

"But the most important thing for me is to carry on playing for England, to reach the World Cup and to win the World Cup."

MNA/Reuters



England's captain David Beckham (L) and Rio Ferdinand (R) run during a training session at the Bernabeu Stadium in Madrid, on 16 Nov. 2004. England play Spain in a friendly international soccer match in Madrid on 17 Nov. 2004.—INTERNET



## Scientists, meet for saving world's endangered species

**BANGKOK, 17 Nov—** More than 5,000 scientists, conservationists and politicians meet in Thailand over the next week to hammer out a blueprint for saving some of the world's most endangered species and fragile ecosystems.

The IUCN World Conservation Union, which is hosting the four-yearly World Conservation Congress, is billing the eight-day Bangkok convention as the one of biggest environmental meetings in history.

"This sends a very powerful message that conservation is not a marginal issue in the year 2004," said Achim Steiner, director-general of the Geneva-based organization. "There has been a record level of interest." One of the gathering's top events will be the unveiling of the IUCN's "Red List" of endangered animals, the most comprehensive sci-

entific assessment of species at risk of dying out, and concrete measures to slow or reverse their extinction.

The prognosis is not good. "Despite all our efforts in the conservation community and in governments, we have not really succeeded in stemming the loss of species," Steiner told Reuters.

"The number has now risen to over 15,000 threatened species on our planet — and this is just the number we have been able to assess so far."

Threats to the environment from rapid economic and population growth — a major issue in Asia, home to half of

humanity — will also feature prominently at the forum, which includes names from the world of big business.

Oil giants BP and Royal Dutch/Shell, mining conglomerate Rio Tinto and insurer Swiss Re are among multinationals putting in an appearance, reflecting the growing prominence of green issues in the boardroom.

"There has definitely been a shift in the big corporations, who now realise the importance of biodiversity," said IUCN spokesman Deric Quail. "Most of big business now incorporates this as part of their strategic planning."

MNA/Reuters

## Mental illness, drug abuse rise in England

**LONDON, 17 Nov—** Cases of mental illness and drug abuse in England and Wales have risen more than 60 per cent in five years, researchers said on Tuesday.

In a survey of 230 general practitioners, equivalent to about 3 per cent of the population, scientists from Keele University found that not only were more people suffering from the two problems but the average age of patients had fallen from 38 to 34 over the same period.

"It has serious implications," said Professor Ilana Crome, who reported the findings in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*.

"Our results show that general practice is playing a growing part in the management of a range of ... substance misuse/psychiatric conditions," she added.

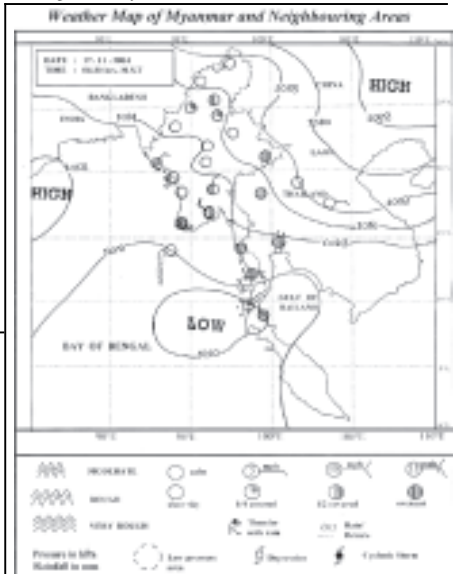
Crome and her colleagues analysed information from family doctors on patients aged 16 to 84 years old who had been treated for the two disorders from 1993 to 1998.

They found that the rate of psychosis combined with drug abuse had soared by 147 per cent during the five years while

paranoia and the misuse of illegal substances had climbed by 144 per cent.

Men were more affected by the dual problems than women.

The researchers said anxiety and depression were among the most common psychological problems doctors had encountered. — MNA/Reuters



## WEATHER

**Wednesday, 17 November, 2004**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, light rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Taninthayi Division and weather has been fair in the remaining states and divisions. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Myeik (0.20) inch. Night temperatures were (3°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin, Rakhine States, Mandalay. Upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions, (5°C) below normal in Mon State and Bago Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was (4°C) in Hakha.

Maximum temperature on 16-11-2004 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 17-11-2004 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 17-11-2004 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 16-11-2004 was (8.3) hours approx. Rainfall on 17-11-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was (112.24 inches) at Yangon Airport, (106.77 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (109.64 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 5 mph from Northwest at (15:30) hours MST on 16-11-2004.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 18-11-2004:** likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Mon State, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining states and divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

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

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18-11-2004:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 18-11-2004:** Fair weather.

## British house prices fall

**LONDON, 17 Nov—** British house prices fell at their sharpest rate since the recession of the early 1990s in the three months to October, a survey said on Tuesday, the latest solid evidence that the housing boom is over.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors said 41 per cent more of their members were reporting house price falls

than rises, pushing down their seasonally adjusted house price balance to -41 in October from -30 in September.

That was the lowest balance since December 1992 when the last British housing market bubble burst, trapping millions in negative equity. It was also below economists' expectations for a more modest fall to -35. — MNA/Reuters

## France, Britain vow to prevent illegal immigration

**CA LAIS, 17 Nov—** France and Britain vowed on Monday to work more closely to prevent illegal immigration, saying the number of asylum seekers in the Channel region had already fallen dramatically over the last two years.

In June 2004, less than 200 people per month had applied for asylum near the British port city

of Dover — 10 times fewer than the number of people seeking asylum there in July 2002, the French Interior Ministry said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

## Radio Myanmar

**Thursday, November 18**

**Tune in today:**

- 8.30 am** Brief news
- 8.35 am** Music: -Swear it again
- 8.40 am** Perspectives
- 8.45 am** Music: -I love you come too late
- 8.50 am** National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am** Music: -Will you be in my heart
- 9.05 am** International news
- 9.10 am** Music: -Baby one more time
- 1.30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm** Lunch time music -Turn back time -What about
- 9.00 pm** Aspects of Myanmar -Inlei Lake the place of tourist attraction in Myanmar
- 9.10 pm** Article
- 9.20 pm** pourri -China launches first geostationary orbit weather satellite -Scientists develop news way for sloring childhood vaccine -Who names all-else identified by scientists
- 9.30 pm** Favourite songs chosen by music lovers -Shooting star -Love portion No.9 -Like a rose
- 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm** PEL



**Thursday, November 18**

**View on today:**

- 7:00 am**
- 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာယောကျာ်းအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အသံဇောဟောပြောချက်၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မသုတ္တန်၊ ဓမ္မနိကာယ၊ ဓမ္မနိကာယတော်၊ ဓမ္မနိကာယတော်၊ ဓမ္မနိကာယတော်
- 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 of National races
- 8:05 am**
- 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:15 am**
- 7. Dance variety
- 8:20 am**
- 8. အိုင်းဒါးရေလှောင်တံ
- 8:30 am**
- 9. International news
- 8:45 am**
- 10. Let's go
- 4:00 pm**
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
- 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
- 3. English for Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm**
- 4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm**
- 5. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့ ပညာရေး ရရှိနိုင်သည့် ကြားသိမ်းခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုအားလုံး) (ဓမ္မတရား)
- 5:15 pm**
- 6. Cute little dancers
- 5:30 pm**
- 7. လက်ဆွဲကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး
- 5:40 pm**
- 8. အားဆေး

- မိုးဒါးစက်တော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ ဆောင်းအိမ်ကြီး (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဇောဟောပြောချက်)**
- 5:45 pm**
- 9. Musical programme
- 6:00 pm**
- 10. နိုင်ငံအခန်းသစ်တောရင်းမြင့် စိမ်းလန်းစေ့စပ်
- 6:10 pm**
- 11. သက်တောရင်းသံစဉ်
- 6:30 pm**
- 12. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
- 13. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
- 14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းလွှဲ "လူနုနုလူကောင်း" (အပိုင်း-၂၉)
- 7:35 pm**
- 16. Musical programme
- 8:00 pm**
- 16. News
- 17. International news
- 18. Weather report
- 19. Myanmar Movie: "လူနုနုကြည့်မိကောင်းကင်" လူနုနုကြည့်မိကောင်းကင် မိုးဒါးစက်တော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ ဆောင်းအိမ်ကြီး (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဇောဟောပြောချက်)
- 21. The next day's programme



Patron of USDA Senior General Than Shwe cordially greets delegates to USDA Annual General Meeting (2004) and outstanding youths at the dinner. — MNA

## Senior General Than Shwe hosts dinner in honour of delegates to USDA Annual General Meeting, outstanding youths

YANGON, 17 Nov—Patron of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe hosted a dinner in honour of delegates to state, division, district and township USDAs to the USDA Annual General Meeting (2004) and outstanding youths at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthar here this evening.

The USDA Patron arrived at the dinner at 6.45 pm and cordially greeted secretaries of State and Division USDAs, regional coordinators of USDA Headquarters, the delegates to the Annual General Meeting, students who stood first to tenth in matriculation examination (2004) in the entire Myanmar, students who stood first in matriculation examination in respective States and Divisions, who won gold in Asia level sports events, outstanding Red Cross members, Auxiliary Fire Brigade, outstanding new generation youths in aviation and marine courses, those who won prizes in the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative extempore talks contest (USDA central level), students who won five gold and above in the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions organized by (See page 10)



USDA Patron Senior General Than Shwe cordially greets delegates to USDA Annual General Meeting (2004) and outstanding youths. — MNA

## Senior General Than Shwe addresses USDA Annual General Meeting

YANGON, 17 Nov — Patron of Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe attended the fourth day session of the USDA Annual General Meeting 2004 at the Pyidaungsu Hall of the central training school of the association in Hmawby Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were Member of the Panel of Patrons of USDA Vice-Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, ministers, the Chief-Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-

General, the Chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, CEC members of the USDA, members of the National Convention Convening Commission, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the deputy ministers, the directors-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the President's Office, the Government's Office and the Pyithu Hluttaw Office, the rector of the Central Institute of Civil Service (Lower Myanmar), directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises, chairmen and members of work committees and subcommittees for USDA Annual General Meeting 2004, media men, chairmen and representatives of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization, the Myanmar Red Cross Society, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the Myanmar Women Sports Federation, the Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association, the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, the Myanmar Thabin Artistes Asiayon, the Myanmar Music Asiayon, the Myanmar Motion Pictures Asiayon, the

(See page 10)



Dignitaries at the Annual General Meeting (2004) of the Union Solidarity and Development Association. — MNA

### Four political objectives

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

### Four economic objectives

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

### Four social objectives

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