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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



General Thura Shwe Mann addresses the Meeting 8/2004 for Cultivation of Oil Palm, Rubber and New Crops. — MNA

Government creating economic opportunities for private entrepreneurs, providing assistance for cultivation of oil palm, rubber and marketable crops

YANGON, 20 Nov— A coordination meeting (8/2004) on cultivation of oil palm, rubber and new crops was held at the meeting hall of Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta this evening, with an address by member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann.

Also present were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha

Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, Secretaries of Kayin and Mon States and Taninthayi, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions Peace and Development Councils, president of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, officials of Myanmar Edible Oil Merchants Association,

oil palm and rubber entrepreneurs and guests.

In his address, General Thura Shwe Mann said despite some changes in the country, there is peace and stability, prevalence of law and order and sound solidarity. Progress has been made in friendship and cooperation with neighbouring countries including the State visit of Head of State to India. There are better foundations for entrepreneurs to undertake their business peacefully and safely. Moreover, the government has been practising market-oriented economic system

and creating economic opportunities for private entrepreneurs. Therefore, their economic role is making progress.

He said the government on its part, is providing assistance including land allotment and investment to the entrepreneurs for cultivation of oil palm, rubber and marketable crops and it will continue to help them in proper way.

Next, the Secretary-1 said the government is making efforts for development of the country in every sector. Economic growth is the most important for national development. He spoke of the need for cooperative societies and entrepreneurs to cooperate with the government to achieve progress.

He said for national development, the government has built economic infrastructures and better foundations for transport

and these infrastructures are to be utilized beneficially.

The government not only believes in the entrepreneurs but also relies on them. Out of 1 million acres of oil palm, over 90,000 acres have been grown, he said.

He said the government would provide land allotment and 30-year lease.

He called on the entrepreneurs to make efforts with goodwill not only for national interest but also for their own interest.

(See page 8)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein speaks at the Meeting 8/2004 for Cultivation of Oil Palm, Rubber and New Crops. — MNA

- * Despite some changes in the country, there is peace and stability, prevalence of law and order and sound solidarity.
- * Progress has been made in friendship and cooperation with neighbouring countries including the State visit of Head of State to India.
- * There are better foundations for entrepreneurs to undertake their business peacefully and safely.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 21 November, 2004

For accelerated development of industrial zones based on government's assistance

While striving for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the government is placing emphasis on development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well.

In doing so, significant progress has been made in the industrial sector in accord with the objectives. There are about 100,000 private factories and workshops in the industrial sector and the number is greater than that of the State-owned and the cooperative-owned ones. Even in the private industries, the medium and small-scale factories are in the majority.

The government is taking necessary measures for qualitative development of those small-scale and medium-scale factories and workshops.

In accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, which calls for accelerated development of industrial sector of the State beginning this year, the Industrial Development Committee and the Committees at different levels in collaboration with the relevant ministries and entrepreneurs have been making constant field trips right down to grassroots level for industrial development. The Industrial Development Meeting No 5/2004 was held at the training hall of the Ministry of Industry-1 on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road on 19 November 2004 with an address by Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win.

In his address, the IDC Chairman said that encouragement will have to be given to the improvement of the private industrial sector to an extent that they can produce marketable products on a greater scale. In this process, State-owned industries are to take the lead.

Clusters of private industries have emerged across the nation and there are over 8,300 factories and workshops in the industrial zones. The industrial growth can be realized through extended research and development works. With research works for production of marketable products, pragmatic approaches are to be taken to encourage private industries.

Encouragement is being given to the establishment of modern foundries in industrial zones for production of farming implements, buses and trucks. It is important to supply raw materials to them so that they can manufacture marketable products. It is also needed to consider a pool of technocrats and capital investment. Therefore, private industrialists are to make integrated and well-coordinated efforts for accelerated development of industrial zones based on the assistance provided by the government.



Principal U Tun Kyi presents award for outstanding performance in studies to eighth grader Ma Yin Min Thu at annual meeting of Basic Education Middle School No 2 in Dagon Township. —H

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

Rail Transportation Ministry holds offering of Kathina robes

YANGON, 20 Nov— The Ministry of Rail Transportation held its 13th offering of Kathina robes at the ministry at the corner of Merchant Street and Theinbyu Road here this morning.

Presiding Sayadaw of Dhammikayon Palitekkatho Dewathagara Theingon Monastery on Theinbyu Road Agga Maha Pandita U Indaka and members of the Sangha graced the occa-

sion by their presence. Also present were Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and wife, Deputy Minister Thura U Thaung Lwin and wife, Deputy Minister U Pe Than and wife, staff

and their families.

Kathina robes and alms were offered to members of the Sangha, followed by sharing of merits gained. Next, soon was offered to the Sayadaws. —MNA

Hotels in Yangon City inspected

YANGON, 20 Nov— Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, accompanied by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu and officials, went on inspection tours of hotels in Yangon City.

First, the minister and party arrived at the Hotel Nikko Royal Lake on Natmauk Lane and there he inspected bedrooms, fitness room, surrounding areas of the hotel, and souvenir shops. General Manager of the hotel Mr Kondo and officials conducted the minister around the hotel.

Next, they went to the Kandawgyi Palace Hotel, where General Manager Mr Jehan and officials briefed them on the rooms and decorations of the hotel.

The minister and



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspects hotels in Yangon. —H & T

party proceeded to the Sedona Hotel, where he oversaw the rooms and decorations. General Manager Mr Saman Sarathchandra and officials conducted the minister around the hotel.

At the Dusit Inya Lake Hotel, Managing Di-

rector of Myanmar Hotels International Mr Sukhdeep Singh and General Manager Mr Eduard Hoogeweegen of the hotel conducted the minister and party around the hotel, briefing them on the bedrooms, parlours and surrounding areas. They

also elaborated on arrangements for the renovation of the hotel.

In his inspection tours of the hotels, the minister gave instructions on higher standard of bedrooms, good services, and cleanliness inside and outside the hotel. —MNA

Yangon Mayor to attend Fourth Meeting for Mayors of Asian Cities in Indonesia

YANGON, 20 Nov— Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin left here by air for Indonesia this afternoon to attend the Fourth Meeting of Mayors of Asian Cities to be held in Jakarta, Indonesia, and to observe development projects in Malaysia.

The mayor was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Civil Service Selection and Training Board Chairman U Than Nyun, YCDC Vice-Chairman Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Secretary Col Myint Aung, Joint Secretary U Aung So and members, officials



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and party being seen off at the airport by Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone and party. —MNA

and families.

The mayor was accompanied by Public Relations and Information Department Head U Hla Myint Swe and U Win Tun of the Revenue Department. —MNA

The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is now.

At least 31 Iraqi policemen kidnapped

KARBALA, 21 Nov—Police in Karbala have said that at least 31 policemen have been kidnapped in western Iraq while returning from training in Jordan.

A Karbala police spokesman, who spoke under condition of anonymity on Wednesday, said that up to 65 police officers were ambushed on Sunday in the town of Rutba near the Jordanian border.

"There was an attack on a hotel occupied by

policemen coming back from training in Jordan," he said.

The spokesman cited a Karbala policeman who returned from Rutba as saying that an armed group had kidnapped some of the policemen, many of whom were from Diyala Province, north of

Baghdad.

The police officer told him that 20 armed men stormed the hotel rooms where the police were staying, covering the captives' heads with black bags and tying their hands before dragging them away.

The armed men took

mobile phones, cameras and documents from the unarmed policemen, the Karbala officer said.

The officer himself said he was beaten but not kidnapped by the armed men.

Iraqi police have been criticized for aiding the US-backed government. A Jordanian official at the Jordan International Police Training Centre, the US-run desert camp training Iraqi police cadets, said the latest batch of 1440 Iraqi policemen concluded training in November.

Internet

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At least 1,217 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 19 Nov—As of Friday, 19 Nov, 2004, at least 1,217 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 946 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The British military has reported 73 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,079 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 837 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—*Internet*



A US airstrike in Fallujah on 19 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

Six NATO allies refuse to send instructors to Iraq

BAGHDAD, 19 Nov—At least six NATO allies are refusing to send military instructors to help the United States train Iraqi officers, another impediment in the Bush administration's drive for support for its effort to pacify Iraq.

The six nations – Germany, France, Belgium, Spain, Luxembourg and Greece – had refused to contribute troops to the US-led coalition that overthrew President Saddam Hussein and to the post-war campaign against guerillas.

The Bush administration was hoping to forge a consensus on post-war peacemaking. The project to train Iraqi officers will not involve combat duties and is part of a broader security programme.

A State Department official close to the dispute said today that all 26 NATO allies voted on Wednesday at alliance

headquarters in Brussels for the training programme and agreed to help fund it.

At least six held out from playing any active role and refused to send officers to NATO staging areas in Norfolk, Virginia, and Mons, Belgium.

An official said that all NATO allies had approved the plan by consensus and were committed to paying a share of the costs. State Department's deputy spokesman Adam Erel said of the allies who opted out of direct help: "It's a decision of the individual countries that does not undermine the importance or value of the overall mission."—*Internet*

Chinese Vice-President meets Antigua and Barbuda PM

BEIJING, 19 Nov — Vice-President Zeng Qinghong met here on Thursday with Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Baldwin Spencer, at the Great Hall of the People here in the Chinese capital.

Zeng said China and Antigua and Barbuda have had a smooth growth of friendly cooperative relations since the forging of their diplomatic ties 21 years ago. The two countries have the exchange of personnel maintained, mutual understanding and friendship strengthened, and technological and economic cooperation achieving fruitful results.

They also gave support to and coordinate with each other in international affairs.

The Chinese Government attaches much importance to bilateral ties, he said. It will join hands with Antigua and Barbuda to enhance cooperation in fields like economy and trade, culture, tourism and human resource development and bring

friendly relationship for cooperation to a new height.

The Chinese Government also values friendly relationship with countries in the Caribbean and Latin-American regions, Zeng noted, adding the first ministerial meeting for China-Caribbean economic and trade cooperation will be held in Jamaica February next year.

China will make efforts with all parties concerned to ensure a successful meeting, in a view to pushing forward economic and trade ties between China and all Caribbean countries, Zeng said.

Spencer said the political ties between the two countries have been strengthened over the past 21 years, and their cooperation in such fields as economy and trade have also achieved positive results.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

Italian Government appoints new FM

ROME, 19 Nov — Gianfranco Fini was appointed Thursday as Italy's new Foreign Minister, and was also confirmed Deputy Premier by the Italian Cabinet.

Fini was sworn in by President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi as replacement for Franco Frattini, who is to become the European Union's Justice Commissioner.

Frattini said he was "absolutely convinced" that Fini would carry on a foreign policy that has seen "notable successes" for Italy.

The former foreign minister added Fini's work on the European Union's recently signed Constitutional Treaty had been marked "not only by policy proposals but also concrete ideas" to improve it.

Fini, who will be 53 in January, is the leader of Italian right-wing party National Alliance (AN).



Iraqi National Guard soldiers transport approximately 300 to 500 displaced civilians to a safe location out of Fallujah on 18 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

Smoking kills some 270,000 Russians a year

MOSCOW, 19 Nov — About 270,000 Russians were killed by smoking every year, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency quoted a senior expert of Russia's consumer protection watchdog body as saying Thursday.

At a conference on the problems

of Russia joining the Framework Convention of the Universal Healthcare Organization on Tobacco Control, Gennady Ivanov said: "Tobacco is to blame for five million deaths worldwide every year."

MNA/Xinhua

US military 'still failing to protect journalists in Iraq'

BAGHDAD, 19 Nov—Independent journalists operating in Iraq face arrest and even torture at the hands of the US military and the authorities are failing to act on promises to do more to protect them, news organisations have warned.

Eason Jordan, chief news executive at CNN, said there had been only a "limited amount of progress", despite repeated meetings between news organisations and the US authorities.

"Actions speak louder than words. The reality is

that at least 10 journalists have been killed by the US military, and according to reports I believe to be true journalists have been arrested and tortured by US forces," Mr Jordan told an audience of news executives at the News Xchange conference in Portugal.

Mr Jordan highlighted the case of al-Arabiya journalist Abdel Kader Saadi, who was arrested in Fallujah last week by US forces and remains in their custody even though no reason has yet been given for his detention.

"These actions and the fact that no one has been

reprimanded would indicate that no one is taking responsibility. We hear good words but not the actions to back them up," he added.

David Schlesinger, global managing editor for Reuters, said there was no indication the US government's own recommendations on journalists' safety had been understood or carried out by American military commanders in Iraq, or that there had been any progress.

Three Reuters cameramen—Taras Protsyuk, Dhia Najem and Mazen Dana—have been killed while working in Iraq.

Internet

10th ASEAN Summit to bolster int'l regional cooperation

HANOI, 19 Nov — The upcoming 10th ASEAN Summit and relevant meetings will adopt documents that are to contribute to the establishment of the ASEAN community by 2020, and boost the block's ties with its partners, said a Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokesman here on Thursday.

At the summit slated for 29 November to 30 November in Laos, leaders of the 10 members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) are expected to approve and sign the Vientiane Action Programme, a frame agreement on ASEAN's 11 priority industries, and action plans on realizing ASEAN security and socio-culture communities, spokesman Le Dung said at a Press briefing.

The six-year Vientiane Action Programme is expected to make contribution to the establishment of the ASEAN community by 2020 on the three pillars, namely security community, economic community and socio-culture community, and narrow development gaps among members, especially the least developed countries, Dung said. According to him, ASEAN will also sign joint statements with China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand during the meetings.— MNA/Xinhua

Last Australian aid agency in Iraq pulls out

SYDNEY, 19 Nov — The last remaining Australian aid agency in Iraq, World Vision, is pulling out of the country after the murders of its own head of operations and CARE Australia aid worker Margaret Hassan.

World's Vision's Iraqi head of operations Mohammed Hushiar was shot dead by unknown gunmen in Mosul on 29 September and Irish-born Iraqi citizen Margaret Hassan, 59, is believed to have been murdered earlier this week.

World Vision Australia said the agency had been operating in Iraq for the past 18 months and had assisted nearly 600,000 people by improving schools, hospitals, health clinics, and youth sporting centres.

"It's work that now has to be handed back to the local ministry of health and the local government bodies there," World Vision Australia head Tim

Costello said.

"Any dollars that we still have will go back to institutional donors, so it's sad that it's unfinished work."

But he added: "Your first priority is always your own staff and it has just become intolerable and too dangerous."

The group said its decision to leave was made before the apparent murder of Hassan.

World Vision Australia's director of emergency relief Geoff Shepherd said the agency's programmes were due for completion in mid-2005, and most projects were already nearing their end.

Internet

Jordan's car sales to lose millions due to Iraq's import ban

AMMAN, 19 Nov—An recent Iraqi decision to ban the import of cars manufactured before 2000 would cause huge loss to Jordan's export market, local dealers complained Friday in a statement.

Hassan Beituni, President of Jordan's Free Zones Investors Association, said in the statement that there were about 100,000 cars in local market to be sold to Iraq.

If these cars were stocked in Jordan, the local dealers would be forced to sell them as replacement parts at prices lower than the original value by at least 80 percent, he added.

Beituni called on the Jordanian

government to persuade the Iraqi authorities to provide a period of six months, during which the Jordanian businessmen could handle the huge number of cars imported to Jordan for exporting to Iraq.

Jordan's in-transit car deals since the US-led war on Iraq were estimated at 5,000 cars a month with a total value of 25 million US dollars, according to the statement.— Internet



Iraqi police stand near a destroyed vehicle following a suicide car bomb that exploded outside a local police station in central Baghdad on 19 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

Turkey, Singapore discuss cooperation to fight terrorism

ANKARA, 19 Nov — Turkish Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul and visiting Singaporean Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong on Thursday discussed cooperation between the two countries on fighting terrorism.

At a joint Press conference after the meeting in Ankara, Tong stressed the importance of sharing intelligence to fight world terrorism.

Gul said Tong's visit would help strengthen bilateral relations between Turkey and Singapore.

He expressed belief that Turkey and Singapore could cooperate to establish dialogue and seek ways to foster

understanding between different societies and people of different religions.

Tong, a former Singaporean prime minister, said in his part that Singapore wants to develop relations with Turkey, considering Turkey a very important country because of its strategic location.

MNA/Xinhua

Turkish Red Crescent to send humanitarian aid to Fallujah

ANKARA, 19 Nov—The Turkish Red Crescent will send humanitarian aid to the Iraqi city of Fallujah, 50 kilometres west of Baghdad, in one or two days, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported Thursday.

Omer Tashi, director general of the organization, said that 20-25 trucks of emergency food, medicine and health materials would be distributed to around 300,000 people in Fallujah.

The aid worth of 500,000 US dollars would be dispatched to Fallujah in two consignments, he added.

MNA/Xinhua



Smoke billows from a house blown up by the US military in the restive Iraqi city of Fallujah on 19 Nov, 2004.

INTERNET

US troops clash with heavily armed guerillas in Ramadi

RAMADI, 19 Nov— US troops clashed with heavily armed guerillas in the western Iraqi city of Ramadi on Thursday, local residents said.

At the US Marine headquarters in nearby Fallujah, which is responsible for Ramadi, a spokesman said he had no details of new fighting there, a day after clashes in the city left at least nine Iraqis dead and 15 wounded.

Residents said it appeared that US armoured units had entered parts of eastern and central Ramadi on Thursday to confront guerillas who opened fire on them with mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and machineguns. The previous day, large groups of guerillas had taken to the streets of the city.

US aircraft bombed an industrial area

in the east of Ramadi on Wednesday. US-led forces launched a full-scale ground offensive in Fallujah 10 days ago against foreign Islamists and Saddam Hussein loyalists they say are entrenched there.

Ramadi, capital of the mainly Sunni Muslim desert province of Anbar, is another place where resentment against the US presence in Iraq runs high.

Unlike Fallujah, which US troops had not entered for six months before last week, they come under frequent attack from guerillas inside Ramadi and clashes are common. — MNA/Reuters



Iraqi police remove a jacket from a damaged police vehicle following a car bomb in Baghdad on 19 Nov, 2004. — INTERNET

Car bomb hits US convoy on airport road in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 19 Nov — A car bomb exploded Wednesday into a US convoy, targeting a four-wheel drive vehicle on the main road leading to Baghdad airport, witnesses said. "Loud explosion occurred at about 9.00 am (0600 GMT) on the airport road, damaging one four-wheel drive vehicle," a witness told *Xinhua* at the scene. The witness also said he saw two wounded men pulled out from the damaged four-wheel drive vehicle, usually used by personnel of foreign security companies in Iraq.

US military troops cordoned off the area and helicopters flew overhead. The US military had no immediate comment on the attack. The highway leading to Baghdad's international airport is considered one of the country's most dangerous roads. US military convoys are commonly targeted by roadside bombs and car bombs. — MNA/Xinhua

Jordan trains Iraqi electrical engineers

AMMAN, 19 Nov — Jordan's National Electric Power Company will start training some 40 Iraqi electrical engineers, the *Jordan Times* newspaper reported Wednesday.

The trainees, who are scheduled to come in three groups, will spend several weeks on the training courses in Jordan.

"The courses are aimed at training Iraqi engineers on the latest electric control and operation methods as well as helping them rebuild their power infrastructure and networks that were de-

stroyed after the war," said the report. The company, in collaboration with various international institutions, has already trained more than 80 Iraqi officials in the energy sector since the start of the US-led war on Iraq in March last year. It expects to train a total of some 200 Iraqi officials by the end of 2004 and early 2005. — MNA/Xinhua

Roadside bomb kills four Iraqis in Baiji

BAIJI, 19 Nov— Four Iraqis were killed on Thursday when a roadside bomb destroyed a civilian car in the northern oil refining town of Baiji, police said. Lieutenant Colonel Kifah Mohammed told *Reuters* two women, a man and a child were killed. He had no further details.

The city, in the restive Sunni Muslim region north of Baghdad, has seen a sharp increase in violence over the past week. Fifteen Iraqis died there on Wednesday when a suicide bomber rammed his car into a US patrol and troops opened fire.

Clashes between US-led troops and guerillas later erupted in several parts of Baiji prompting

troops to seal off the oil refinery in the north of the city to protect it from attack. In Kirkuk, an ethnically mixed oil producing city 60 miles northeast of Baiji, a roadside bomb that appeared to target a US military convoy killed two Iraqi civilians.

Police in Kirkuk said the blast damaged several vehicles.

Violence has flared in

the north in the 10 days since US-led forces attacked Fallujah, another Sunni Arab bastion west of the capital, where Islamist and other anti-American guerillas had established control.

US troops say they now control Fallujah after killing hundreds of guerillas, although fighting has continued in isolated parts of the city. — MNA/Reuters

Polish-led multinational division in Iraq faces disintegration

WARSAW, 19 Nov — A Polish-led multinational division in charge of security in south-central Iraq faces disintegration if more countries pull their troops out, Polish officials said on Wednesday.

Hungary's Parliament on Monday refused to extend the mission of its 300 troops into the new year and Ukraine is also thinking of bringing home its 1,600 soldiers from the 8,000-strong division.

"A pullout of Hungarian and Ukrainian troops would be a significant reduction," Poland's Deputy Foreign Minister Boguslaw Zaleski told *Reuters*.

"A disintegration (of the brigade) is possible

if more countries were to pull out because we would not be able to control the zone with just Polish troops," he added.

The pullouts complicate Poland's own plans to substantially reduce its almost 2,500-strong force, which forms the backbone of the multinational division, after Iraqi elections in January.

The Polish-led division initially included Spanish troops, but their withdrawal soon after the anti-war Socialist government took power last May meant they could not take over command of the force as was originally planned.

MNA/Reuters

Tanzania to produce long lasting insecticidal mosquito nets

ARUSHA, 19 Nov — Global leaders gathering in the northern Tanzanian city of Arusha have agreed that conditions were right for a massive scale-up in the battle against malaria, which claims more than a million lives each year and hampers development, especially in Africa.

Speaking here at the launching of A to Z Textiles, the first factory in Africa to produce long-lasting insecticidal mosquito nets on Wednesday, Tanzanian President Benjamin Mkapa told the participants including US Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson, Roll Back Malaria Partnership Executive Secretary Awa Marie Coll-Seck, and Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Executive Director Richard Feachem that "Long-lasting insecticidal nets are Africa's best hope for preventing malaria, and we are very proud that Tanzania is the home of Africa's first manufacturer of these nets."

"We hope that this shining example of tech-

nology transfer and strengthening of local industry will serve as a model for similar efforts, making the nets more affordable and available to the millions of Africans who need them," he said.

The technology for long-lasting insecticidal nets, which embed insecticide within the net's very fibres and therefore retain their efficacy for up to five years without retreatment, was transferred to Tanzania last year in a groundbreaking collaboration between private and public sector players including the Acumen Fund, Sumitomo Chemical, the World Health Organization, The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNICEF).

MNA/Xinhua



A wounded Iraqi rests at the emergency ward of a local hospital in Baghdad, on 19 Nov, 2004. —INTERNET

Donate blood

Cambodian King, PM meet Chinese delegation

PHNOM PENH, 18 Nov— Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni on Wednesday afternoon met with the Chinese Government's economic and trade delegation headed by Zhou Yupeng, vice mayor of Shanghai.

The King asked Zhou to convey his thanks to the Chinese Government and people for their continuous support and assistance to Cambodia and its people.

Sihamoni said his father, former King Norodom Sihanouk, has established profound friendship with Chinese leaders, which is the valuable fortune for the friendship between Cambodia and China. He said he will, like his father, continue to maintain and strengthen the traditional friendly relations with China.

During the meeting, King Sihamoni reaffirmed the stance of sticking to the "one-China" policy and supporting China's cause of reunification.

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen earlier Wednesday morning also met with Zhou and his delegation.

Both the King and the Premier spoke highly of the traditional friendly ties between China and Cambodia which they said were forged by the leaders of the two countries in generations.

Zhou said that the Chinese Government highly treasures its friendship and cooperation with Cambodia.

China will continuously provide possible financial and technical assistance to Cambodia and make efforts to push forward bilateral cooperation in various fields, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

China, Ireland agree to strengthen cooperation

DUBLIN, 18 Nov — China and Ireland have agreed here to strengthen cooperation in such fields as economy, trade, education, high-tech, biological engineering, agriculture and animal husbandry.

During their talks Tuesday night, visiting Chinese Vice-Premier Huang Ju and Irish Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health Mary Harney also agreed to keep constant bilateral high-level contacts, and enhance exchanges and cooperation between the parliaments, governments and sister cities of the two countries.

They expressed their satisfaction with the positive progress made in bilateral cooperation in politics, economy, trade, education, science, technology, culture and health.

Huang said the Chinese side will take an active part in Ireland's

infrastructural construction. They also discussed Chinese software industry's cooperation in Ireland.

Harney said the Irish side will continue to encourage Irish investment in China and it also welcomes Chinese investment to facilitate Chinese business' entry into the European market.— MNA/Xinhua

Singapore to host first AMED next year

SINGAPORE, 18 Nov — Singapore will host the first Asia-Middle East Dialogue (AMED) in June next year to forge closer political, security, economic and socio-cultural relations between the two regions.

Acting Foreign Minister Raymond Lim said on Tuesday that the island state has set up a steering committee to help prepare for the dialogue, which will be attended by representatives from about 50 countries in the Middle East and Asia.

The two-day meeting will provide a platform to showcase the changes tak-

ing place in the Middle East to Asia and the rest of the world, as well as a framework for Asia and the Middle East to interact more intensively. The minister said that Egypt has offered to host the second AMED in 2006 and Bahrain has indicated its interest in being a future host.— MNA/Xinhua

Sri Lanka textile export to drop as US pact expires

COLOMBO, 18 Nov— Sri Lanka's revenue from garment and textile exports to the United States is expected to fall about 20 per cent next year following the expiration of a preferential trade agreement, the *Daily News* reported Tuesday.

The United States, the biggest customer on Sri Lanka garment and textile, has purchased an annual average of some 2.5 billion US dollars of garment and textile from Sri Lanka since the two countries signed the Multi-Fibre Agreement in 1974, but the agreement is due to expire next month, industry official Tuli Cooray was quoted as saying.— MNA/Xinhua



The old couple: A tigress walks along a piglet at the Sri Racha tiger zoo, the world's largest tiger breeding centre in Thailand, as it reopens following a bird flu outbreak.—INTERNET



Field of flowers: Some girls and a boy walk through in a field of cosmos at a park in Saito, Miyazaki Prefecture, Japan.

INTERNET

India seeks foreign designers for jewellery industry

NEW DELHI, 18 Nov— Indian jewellery industry is roping in foreign designers to change designs and enhance the quality of its products to compete in the growing world market, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported Tuesday.

Under a project sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce, the Indian designers are being introduced to the preferences of the world market and for this designers from Germany have been engaged.

"The German team has helped Indian designers understand what is in demand outside thereby increasing the country's overall gems and jewellery exports by about 300 per cent," PTI quoted S

P. Bansal, Convener of the Indo-German programme, as saying.

The Germans are providing high level systematic education in jewellery design and manufacturing.

According to Dr Thomas Beil, the principal of the course, Indian designers attempted to copy foreign designs from leaflets, but lacked the knowledge about the proportion of composition. Indians prefer 22 carats

gold, and Europeans prefer nine carat. About 93 per cent of the diamond sold on the world market is cut and polished in India, he said.

"We need to embed diamonds in the jewellery so that the country gets benefits," Beil added.

India's gems and jewellery industry is one of the foremost foreign exchange earners for the country.

MNA/Xinhua

UAE airline profits reach record high in 6 months

ABU DHABI, 18 Nov— The Emirates Airway of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) earned a net profit of 236 million US dollars in six months ending on September 30, the official WAM news agency reported on Wednesday.

Profits of the Dubai-based airline in the first half of the 2003-2004 fiscal year have soared by up 41 per cent compared with 167 million dollars in the same period of the previous fiscal year, said the report.

Financial figures of the airline showed that they are the Emirates' best performance for any six-month period, Shaikh Ahmad Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Dubai Civil Aviation and Chairman of Emirates Group, was quoted as saying.

According to the report, the Emirates' operating revenues garnered 2.24 billion dollars, representing a strong 42 per cent growth over the 1.58 billion dollars earned in the same period last year.

The load factor improved by 3.5 per cent to 73.3 per cent, and passenger

volume rose 25.5 per cent to 6.1 million, compared to 4.8 million in the same period last year, while the airline's SkyCargo's revenue posted a growth of 42 per cent, up by 27 per cent to 401,500 tons compared with 315,553 tons.

The strong passenger and cargo demand coupled with better yields helped offset higher costs due to escalating jet fuel prices. "These excellent results owe a great deal to a superb performance in the first quarter, while in the second quarter we started being severely impacted by the dramatic increase in jet fuel prices," said Al Maktoum.

The Emirates Airway is seen as one of the fastest growing airlines in the world and it has 77 destinations in 54 countries. The airline was awarded 260 international awards for excellence since its launch in 1985.— MNA/Xinhua

Singapore retail sales index rises in September

SINGAPORE, 18 Nov— The retail sales in Singapore increased by 10.6 per cent in September this year from the year-earlier period, according to the figures released by the Singapore Department of Statistics (SDS) on Tuesday.

The SDS attributed the strong growth in sales index to the healthy performance by wearing apparel and footwear, recreational goods and motor vehicles.

The supermarket sales index contracted was up 10.7 per cent in September.

MNA/Xinhua

Ayeyawady Division, the conqueror of Ngawun River

U Zaw

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe recently made a one-day inspection tour of Ayeyawady Division. The Head of State has visited there many times for regional development.

The region has gained greater momentum of remarkable progress year by year. Being blessed with favourable geographical features, it has more sown acreage and more fertile soil than any other parts of the nation. Having greatest number of natural lakes in the nation numbering more than 1,700, and being adjacent to the sea, it can breed sea and freshwater fish and prawn on a commercial scale.

The region stands as the granary of the nation. Fish, prawn, crab and eel are abundant in the Division that raises chicken, duck and pigs most in the nation. It enjoys strong economy, distributing its food surplus to other States and Divisions.

That is why the Head of State is encouraging the Division to make efforts to exceed the targeted volume of production in the agriculture and livestock sectors, on which it mainly depends. During the previous trip, the Senior General gave guidance, saying that if Ayeyawady Division could boost per acre yield of paddy significantly, the nation's annual paddy output might reach around 1,200 million baskets. Measures were to be taken for promotion of the livestock sector along with the agricultural sector, he noted.

The Head of State during the tour also gave guidance, saying that in addition to running conventional agriculture and livestock services, innovative steps were to be taken for doing other lucrative businesses through possible ways and means. Profitable perennial crops such as rubber, and different seasonal crops were to be cultivated on an extended scale, he said.

In fact, he is encouraging local people to exert greater efforts but without being content with the position of the nation's granary, for long-term improvement of their region's economy by manufacturing different goods. And his exhortation reflects that with enormous prospects of natural resources, which can raise its economy, the region should work harder than ever for industrial development such as agro-based industry, forest product-based industry and marine product-based industry.

The region has enjoyed better transport with more roads and bridges necessary for smooth com-

modity flow. In the trip to Ngwe Hsaung Beach in Patheingyi in early June 2003, The Head of State initiated a plan to construct Patheingyi Bridge work got under way on 30 July the same year. Now, the project is nearing completion, and before long local people will be able to travel to such regions on the west bank of Ngawun River as Ngwe Hsaung Beach, Chaungtha Beach and Thabaung on a shorter time.

In the past, the region had to mainly rely on waterways for transport while only over 460 miles of roads was in existence.

Convinced of difficulties in transport in the region, the Head of State gave guidance on extension of roads and construction of river and creek crossing bridges one after another. As a result of harmonious cooperation of the Government and local residents, Ayeyawady Division has enjoyed a network of township-to-township roads and bridges. Owing to the construction of 40 large river crossing bridges such as

Ayeyawady Division has enjoyed a network of township-to-township roads and bridges. Owing to the construction of 40 large river crossing bridges such as Ngawun River spanning Patheingyi Bridge, Bo Myat Tun Bridge, Maubin Bridge, Dedaye Bridge, Myaungmya Bridge, Pinlelay Bridge, Gonnyindan Bridge, Shwelaung Bridge and Wakema Bridge, which had been a dream in the past, Ayeyawady Division has now enjoyed smooth transport.

Ngawun River spanning Patheingyi Bridge, Bo Myat Tun Bridge, Maubin Bridge, Dedaye Bridge, Myaungmya Bridge, Pinlelay Bridge, Gonnyindan Bridge, Shwelaung Bridge and Wakema Bridge, which had been a dream in the past, Ayeyawady Division has now enjoyed smooth transport.

Alongside Yangon-Patheingyi Highway, there have emerged many roads stretching close to 1,300 miles namely Maubin-Kyaiklat-Pyapon Road, Pyapon-Bogale Road, Dedaye-Kyaiklat Road, Maubin-Hsamalauk Road, Pantanaw-Wakema-Kyonmangay Road, Myaungmya-Einme-Kyaunggon Road, Patheingyi

Ngwehsaung Road, Patheingyi-Chaungtha Road and Ngathaingchaung-Gwa Road. Upon completion of Pyapon Bridge Project, Myinkaseik Bridge Project and Myokwin Bridge Project, all the townships in Ayeyawady Division will be accessible by car in a short time. The Head of State during his trip said that in the time of the Tatmadaw Government, a lot of roads and bridges had been built and so Ayeyawady Division, which was difficult of access in the past, had enjoyed regional progress and better transport. He is very satisfied with the emergence of fine bridges and takes a great pride in the capabilities of national experts. He also gave guidance on cooperation of officials at regional levels and central level for durability of bridges and prevention of bank erosion of rivers and creeks.

The Head of State with farsightedness not only gives guidance but also makes inspection tours of construction sites and encourages the staff. It is indeed the key to success of the projects. He himself chooses sites for construction of bridges or dams. He not only inspects the construction sites in person but has the projects inspected by other State leaders. Such goodwill and correct leadership serves as a huge encouragement to the staff and consequently, there have emerged bridges one after another in no time. One will be able to cross Ngawun River through the 2140-foot-long Patheingyi Bridge.

Besides this facility, a great deal of bridges have been constructed across Ayeyawady River, Einme River, Myaungmya River, Pinlelay River, Toe River, Shwelaung River, Wakema River, Dahka River and creeks.

So far, a total of 188 large bridges have been built spanning rivers including Ayeyawady River, Chindwin River, Thanlwin River and Sittoung River all over the nation. Across the Ngawun River now are Ngathaingchaung Bridge and Patheingyi Bridge and across Ayeyawady River in Ayeyawady Division, Maubin Bridge, Bo Myat Tun Bridge and Dedaye Bridge. With smooth transport, Ayeyawady Division is gaining greater momentum of development.

Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on greater progress of Ayeyawady Division, saying that at a time when the Government was rendering all necessary assistance, Ayeyawady Division on its part was to effectively exploit natural resources for greater development. The Division had already had human resources enough and what the Division had to do was just to make efforts through innovative measures, he noted.

Therefore, Ayeyawady Division should continue to work hard to maintain its status as the nation's reliable region by expanding the horizon of the agriculture and livestock sectors through favourable geographical conditions, manufacturing new items and expanding prosperous and suitable industries.

(Translation: MS)

Myanma Alin, Kyeomon: 19-11-2004

Renovation of Kanbawzathadi Palace inspected

YANGON, 20 Nov—Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung this morning inspected renovation of Kanbawzathadi Palace of King Bayintnaung in Bago Division. Deputy Director-General of the Archaeology Department U Tun Zaw and Director Daw Sandar Khin reported on greening of the palace.

The minister inspected the tasks around the compound of the cultural heritage and instructed the officials to constantly nurture the plants.

The minister looked into the lake in the compound and the Archaeological Museum and gave instructions on maintenance of 20 gates of Hanthawady City founded by King Bayintnaung. He also looked into the buildings of the palace and gave instructions on maintenance work. — MNA

Urbanization tasks inspected

YANGON, 20 Nov — Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Yangon City Development Council Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected cleaning and sanitation tasks carried in Yangon City this morning.

The commander and the mayor oversaw sanitation tasks being carried out in front of No 4 Basic Education High School in Lower Kyimyindine Road in Ahlon Township, Yangon West District. They inspected sanitation tasks and proper drainage at

ditches on both sides of the road.

They also inspected road construction projects in Tamway Township, Thakayta Township, Thingangyun Township, and South Okkalapa Township. In their inspection tours of the sanitation tasks, the commander and the mayor gave instructions on making concerted efforts to keep the townships green, pleasant and attractive.

Members of the Union Solidarity and Development Associations of respective townships actively took part in those tasks. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspect upgrading of Thiri Malar Street in Thingangyun Township. — MNA

Government creating economic...

(from page 1)

At present there is full percentage of peace and tranquillity and security. The government made peace with 17 armed groups and it is under discussion with an armed group, a remaining one.

In meeting with them, the peace groups said that they had exchanged arms for peace as they trusted the government, pledging that

Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun reported on measures being taken for export of new items of crops in coordination with foreign companies concerned.

UMFCCI President U Win Myint reported on the leading role they play in opening up the economic opportunities for entrepreneurs and industrialists.

The peace groups said that they had exchanged arms for peace as they trusted the government, pledging that they would always continue to go hand in hand with the government. This being the case, the entrepreneurs are to continue their ongoing businesses and intended ones with peace of mind.



General Thura Shwe Mann greets entrepreneurs to the eighth meeting on cultivation of oil crops, rubber and new crops. — MNA

reported on arrangements made for the permit of land allotments to private entrepreneurs.

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Minister for

preneurs reported on difficulties encountered in undertaking agricultural services, requirements and plans to cultivate new crop items. In response to the reports, the Secretary-1 said as the oil palm cultivation project is the one laid down by the State, arrangements are to be

made to meet the targeted 500,000 acres of oil palm cultivation. And he urged them to cultivate 200,000 acres of oil palms as first priority.

Later, General Thura Shwe Mann gave a concluding remark, saying rubber is in good demand and it is being grown in

rule of law and community peace and tranquillity and economy and social welfare are interrelated. Now, the State, after laying down the policy programme, is essaying to transform the nation into a democratic one that is compatible with its people, history and geographical conditions.

In the process of transition to democratic system, the State will strive its utmost for the emergence of market-oriented economic system, for the stability of market and currency notes and for smooth transport of the nation, he added.

Encouragement will be given to the national entrepreneurs for their success of businesses. So, the entrepreneurs, on their part, are to cultivate more new crop items and to export the surplus. Only then will the volume of export items increase. And the State will earn more exchange and can import necessary goods, he noted.

Later, General Thura Shwe Mann and party cordially greeted the national entrepreneurs.

MNA

Rubber is in good demand and it is being grown in the country. That is why it is necessary to expand the cultivation of rubber and if it meets good quality and if we can export that quality rubber, there will surely be fruitful results for the growers as well as for the State.



Minister U Aung Thuang. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo. — MNA

they would always continue to go hand in hand with the government. This being the case, the entrepreneurs are to continue their ongoing businesses and intended ones with peace of mind.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha presented progress report on the implementation of the resolutions of the previous meeting.

Deputy Minister for

Local authorities of Taninthayi Division, Mon State, Kayin State, Bago Division and Ayeyawady Division reported on the tasks being carried out for land reclamation and land allotments, proposed by entrepreneurs for cultivation of oil palm and rubber, production of seasonal crops, and plans for annual extension of sown acreage.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo



Minister

U Soe Tha.

MNA



the country. That is why it is necessary to expand the cultivation of rubber and if it meets good quality and if we can export that quality rubber, there will surely be fruitful results for the growers as well as for the State, he said.

At the same time, the General said, it is required for growers to extend the cultivation of oil palm to ensure the local self-sufficiency. Peace and stability of the State,



Deputy

Minister

Brig-Gen

Aung Tun.

MNA



Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun reported on transportation of machinery to worksites of agricultural entrepreneurs and provisions of other assistance to them.

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang reported on rubber demand for the factories under the ministry. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presented additional reports regarding the rubber output.

National entre-



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun. — MNA

USDA Annual General Meeting 2004...



(from page 16)

Division, U Zaw Min, joint secretary of Shweku Township USDA of Kachin State, Daw Dae Dae May, executive of Phahsaung Township USDA of Kayah State, U Tin Ko Lat, joint secretary of Hpa-an Township USDA of Kayin State, U Thay Ei Oke, executive of Haka Township USDA of Chin State, U Sein Win Hlaing, secretary of Butalin Township USDA of Sagaing Division, U Pe Than, secretary of Yebyu Township USDA of Taninthayi Division, U Kyaw Kyaw Lin, secretary of Pyay District USDA of Bago Division (West), U Thant Zin Oo, executive of Nyaunglaypin Township USDA of Bago Division (East), U San Lwin, executive of Aunglan Township USDA of Magway Division, U Soe Tun, executive of Maha Aungmye Township USDA of Mandalay Division, U Than Tun, secretary of Thaton Township USDA of Mon State, U Aung Myo Than, executive of Sittway District USDA of Rakhine State, and U Kyaw Ye Htut, executive of Botahtaung Township USDA of Yangon Division, presented their suggestions as regards the organizational sector.

Next, a representative was elected and assigned duty to present matters related to the organizational

sector to the third-day session of the annual general meeting.

A team was also formed to compile a paper on the organizational sector to be submitted at the third-day session.

The discussions of the Group Two for the management sector took place at Anawrahta Hall. USDA CEC members U Thein Swe and Thura U Aung Ko chaired the seminar. Daw Yi Yi Myint, joint secretary of Mon State USDA, acted as MC, together with Daw Khin Swe Win, executive of Myingyan District USDA of Mandalay Division, as co-MC.

At the outset, U Thein Swe addressed the meeting. The chairmen and representatives later approved of the paper on the management sector to be submitted to the third-day session of the annual general meeting.

The Group Three for the economic sector held discussions at Myawady Hall. USDA Secretariat member U Aung Thuang chaired the meeting together with CEC members U Soe Tha, U Ohn Myint and U Maung Maung Thein.

Daw Chaw Su Yi, member of Shataw Township USDA of Kayah State, and Daw Moh Moh Ei, executive of Yangon South District USDA of Yangon Division, acted as MC and co-MC respectively at the seminar.

U Aung Thuang, the chairman of the seminar, spoke on the occasion.

Later, approval was sought for the paper on the economic sector to be submitted to the third-day session of the annual

Cash donated in honour of USDA Annual General Meeting 2004



Secretary-General U Htay Oo expresses gratitude to wellwishers. — MNA

YANGON, 20 Nov — As a gesture of hailing the Union Solidarity and Development

Hall of the Central Training School of the USDA in Hmawby Township on 15 November.

executive committee, and wellwishers. Daw Theingi Win Shwe, executive of

USDA of Bago Division (West) acted as masters of ceremonies.

On the occasion, USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo, Secretariat members U Aung Thuang and U Thein Zaw, and CEC members U Pyi Sone, U Ohn Myint, Thura U Aye Myint and U Nyan Tun Aung accepted K 39.7 million donated by 133 wellwishers. They also presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo expressed his thanks towards the wellwishers for their donation. Later, the central executive committee served luncheon to the wellwishers at Bagan Hostel. — MNA



Secretary-General U Htay Oo accepts cash donations from wellwishers. — MNA

Association's Annual General Meeting 2004, a cash donation ceremony took place at Pyidaungsu

Present were USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo, secretariat members, members of the central

Monywa Township USDA of Sagaing Division, and Daw Khin Shwe Myint, executive of Pyay District

education sector took place at Tagaung Refectory. USDA Secretariat member U Kyaw Hsan presided over the meeting together with CEC members U Thein Sein and U Phone Swe. Daw Tin Tin Hline, executive of Hpa-an District USDA of Kayin State acted as MC and Daw Hsan Kyae Htwe, joint secretary of Chin State USDA, as co-MC.

The Secretariat Member delivered a speech on the occasion.

Discussions about the education sector were held by Secretary Daw Nan Aye Htoo of Pekhon Township USDA in Shan State (South), Executive Daw Nan Thida Lwin of Tangyan Township USDA in Shan State (North), Executive Daw Mi Mi Maw of Mongton Township USDA in Shan State (East), Joint-Secretary Dr Thein Soe of

general meeting.

The Group Four for the social and cultural sector held its seminar at Room-8 of Inwa Hall. USDA Secretariat member U Tin Htut, CEC members U Maung Pa and U Tin Naing Thein chaired the seminar.

Daw Ni Ni Ma, executive of Toungoo District USDA of Bago District (East) acted as MC and Daw Nan Su Su Nwe, joint secretary of Laikha

Township USDA of Shan State (South), as co-MC.

U Maw Ral, executive of Kayah State USDA, U Soe Myint Aung, executive of Pakokku Township USDA of Magway Division, Daw Khin Win Phyu, executive of Meiktila District USDA of Mandalay Division, U Zaw Myint, secretary of Mudon Township USDA of Mon State, U Thein Tun Aye, executive of Mrauk U Township USDA of

Rakhine State, Daw Le Le Aye, executive of Mingala Taungnyunt Township USDA of Yangon Division, U Sai Hsai Nwam, secretary of Pinlaung Township USDA of Shan State (South), Daw Than Than, executive of Kunlon District USDA of Shan State (North), Daw Nu Nu Lwin, joint secretary of Monghsat Township USDA of Shan State (East), and U Kyaw Win Naing, joint secretary of Lemyethna Township USDA of Ayeyawady Division, presented their proposals regarding the social and cultural sector.

After forming paper-compilation team, a representative was elected and assigned duty to submit the paper on the social and cultural sector to the third-day session of the annual general meeting.

The discussions of the Group Five for the



Discussions on sector for promoting qualifications of new generation youths in progress. — MNA

(See page 10)



Discussions on the sector for putting peace, stability and unity into successful implementation of seven-point Road Map in progress. — MNA



Discussions on the management sector in progress at the second-day session. — MNA

USDA Annual General Meeting 2004...



(from page 9)
Hinthada District USDA in Ayeyawady Division, Executive Daw Waing of

Township USDA in Chin State, Secretary U Aung Zaw Oo of Salingyi Township USDA in Sagaing Division, Executive U Zaw Min Thein of Palaw Township USDA in Taninthayi Division, Secretary U Tin Tun of Zigon Township USDA in Bago Division (West), Joint-Secretary U Win Bo of Kyaukkyi Township USDA in Bago Division (East), Executive Daw Su Su Maw of

ship USDA in Rakhine State and Executive U Hla Win of Ahlon Township USDA in Yangon Division.

A delegate was chosen to present the education sector to the third day session of the AGM. And a group was formed to compile a paper to be submitted to the third day session.

Next, the Secretariat Member delivered concluding remarks.

The Group 6 for the sector putting peace, stability and unity into successful implementation of

Nan Ywe of Ingyanyan Township USDA in Kachin State as MC, and Joint-Secretary Daw Nan Han Sein of Namkham Township USDA in Shan State (North) as co-MC.

The Coordinator gave an introductory address on the occasion.

Discussions on the sector for putting peace, stability and unity into successful implementation of the State's seven-point Road Map were held by Executive U Lin Htin Aung of Yaksawk Township USDA in Shan State (South), Secretary U

Secretary U San Lin of Mohnyin District USDA in Kachin State, Secretary U Kyaw Swe of Kayah State USDA, Joint-Secretary U Saw Lwin of Myawady District USDA in Kayin State, Joint-Secretary U Nan Za Hon of Tiddim Township USDA in Chin State, Secretary U Tint Swe of Pale Township USDA in Sagaing Division, Secretary U Khin Maung Htay of Thayetchaung Township USDA in Taninthayi Division, Secretary U Tin Htwe of Okpo Township USDA in Bago Division

Secretary U Myint Oo of Bilin Township USDA in Mon State, Secretary U San Naing of Thandwe Township USDA in Rakhine State and Executive Daw Khin Myat Su of Thongwa Township USDA in Yangon Division. A delegate was selected to present the sector to the third day session, and a group to compile a paper to be submitted to the third day session.

The Secretary-General delivered closing remarks.

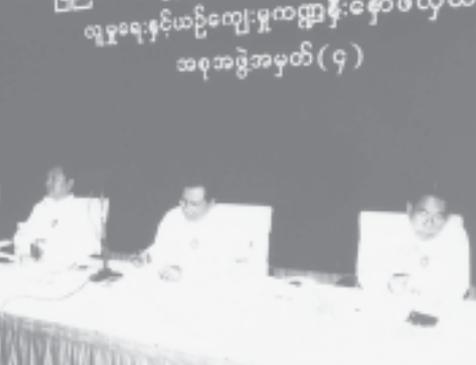
The seminar of the Group 7 for raising qualifications of new generation youths took place at Bagan Mess. Secretariat Member U Thein Zaw chaired the seminar together with CEC Members U Pyi Sone, Thura U Aye Myint and U Nyan Tun Aung. Joint-Secretary Daw Myo Thida Myint of Paungde Township USDA in Bago Division (West) emceed it together with Ayeyawady Division USDA Executive Daw Nwe Nwe Oo.

The Secretariat Member delivered a speech. A delegate was selected to discuss the sector in the third day session, and a group to compile a paper on the sector to be presented to the session.

The Secretariat Member delivered concluding remarks. — MNA



Discussions on the social and cultural sector in progress. — MNA



Discussions on the economic sector in progress. — MNA

Momauk Township USDA in Kachin State, Joint-Secretary U Soe Aung of Dimawhso Township in Kayah State, Executive Daw Ohnmar Win of Kya-in-Seikkyi Township USDA in Kayin State, Joint-Secretary U Tun Wai of Paletwa

Gangaw District USDA in Magway Division, Executive U Aung Kyaw Kyaw of Wandwin Township USDA in Mandalay Division, Executive U Lwin Moe of Mawlamyine District USDA in Mon State, Executive U Kyaw Tin Hlaing of Minbya Town-

the State's seven-point Road Map held discussions at Khittaya Mess with USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo as Chairman, Coordinator U Than Aung, CEC Members U Aung Min and U Aung Thein Lin as co-chairmen, Executive Daw

Saing Naw Kham Oo of Shan State (North) USDA, Secretary U Tun Nyo of Mongyawn Township USDA in Shan State (East), Joint-Secretary U Myint Aung of Mawlamyinegun Township USDA in Ayeyawady Division,

(West), Secretary U Thein Myint Tun of Yedashei Township USDA in Bago Division (East), Secretary U Aung Lwin of Minbu Township USDA in Magway Division, Secretary U Thaung Wai of Mandalay District USDA in Mandalay Division,



Discussions on the organizational sector in progress. — MNA



Discussions on the economic sector in progress. — MNA

Sermons to be delivered at final rites for Myingyan Sayadaw

YANGON, 20 Nov — Sayadaws and members of the Sangha will deliver sermons at the final rites for the Myingyan Sayadaw, Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, at the central pandal of the Five Nikaya Tri Pitaka Sarthintaik on Paleyadana Street, Ward 26, Dagon Myothit (South) Township. Tipitakadara Dhamma Bhandagarika Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Sirindabhaivamsa (Yaw Sayadaw) will deliver a sermon on 21 November,

Tha-sa-ah Dhamacariya Pali Paragu Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Suriyabhivamsa (Khinmakam Sayadaw) on 22 November, Dhamma Kathika Bahujana Hitadhara Dhammaduta Ashin Chekinda on 23 November, Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Tikkha (Wakhingon Sayadaw) 24 November and Agga Maha Pandita Dr Bhaddanta Nanissara (Thitagu Sayadaw) on 25 November.

MNA

နိုင်ငံတော်၊ သံဃာ့မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့ ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ သက်တော်ရှည် မြင်းခြံဆရာတော်ကြီး၏ အနွယ်မရပဒသတင် တရားပွဲများ

စဉ်	ရက်စွဲ	တရားဟောကြားချီးမြှင့်တော်မူမည့် ဆရာတော်များ
၁။	၂၁-၁၁-၂၀၀၄	တိပိဋကဓရ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ သိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်)
၂။	၂၂-၁၃-၂၀၀၄	သ-စ-အ ဓမ္မာစရိယ ပါဠိပါရဂူ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ သုရိယာဘိဝံသ (ခင်မကန်ဆရာတော်)
၃။	၂၃-၁၁-၂၀၀၄	ဓမ္မကထိက ဗဟုဇနဟိတဓရ ဓမ္မဒူတ အရှင်ဆေကိန္ဒ
၄	၂၄-၁၁-၂၀၀၄	အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ တိက္ခ (ဝါခင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်)
၅။	၂၅-၁၁-၂၀၀၄	အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ ဒေါက်တာဉာဏိသီလ (သီတဂူဆရာတော်)

Disciples pay reverence to remains of Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita

YANGON, 20 Nov— Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chancellor of the State Pariyatti Sasana Universities and Pakokku Maha Withutayama Nikaya Monastery, and Presiding Nayaka of Koesaung Monastery in Myingyan and Pitaka Thonbon Nikaya Monastery in Dagon Myothit

(South) Township Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Bhaddanta Sobhita's remains are now being kept in the temporary hall in the compound of Pitakat-honbon Monastery on Paleyadana Street in Dagon Myothit (South) Township. Disciple monks

and laity near and far visited the monastery to pay homage to the remains today. Wut associations in the township recited

religious verses at the venue. In the evening, artistes sang religious songs.

MNA



Members of a religious association reciting religious verses at temporary hall, in which the remains of the Sayadaw are being kept. — MNA

Foreign Wushu teams, umpires arrive

YANGON, 20 Nov— South Korean and Iranian Wushu teams arrived here by air this afternoon to participate in the 6th Asian Wushu Championships to be hosted by Myanmar from November 20 to 28, 2004.

They were welcomed by officials concerned of the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Wushu Federation.

There were 20 members in South Korean team led by Mr Kim Moon Woong.

In the morning, Vice-President of World Wushu Federation Mr R.W Smith of UK and

the umpires from Malaysia and China (Taipei) arrived here.

NLM



Korean Wushu team upon arrival at the airport. — NLM

Leading Committee for holding of the 3rd Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Women meets

YANGON, 20 Nov—The Leading Committee for holding of the 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women in Myanmar held its coordination meeting at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement yesterday.

Present were Patron of the Leading Committee Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, member of panel of patrons President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Than Than Nwe, Chairman of the Leading Committee Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and members, Secretary of the Leading Committee and chairmen of sub-committees and members.

Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa spoke on the occasion. Next, Secretary of the Leading Committee Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Sit Myaing reported on preparations for the meeting.

Chairmen of the Sub-committees reported on work done and to be done. The minister then took part in the discussions.—MNA

Entrance for 2004-2005 Academic Year of National Management College

YANGON, 20 Nov — 2004-2005 Academic Year of National Management College of the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) under the Ministry of Education will be opened on 16 December. In the college, courses of English for Professional Purposes-BA(EPP) and Bachelor in Business Management (BBM) will be given lecture. Those who passed 2004 matriculation exam with total 400 marks and above can apply for the entrance of 3-year course. Thirty persons for BA(EPP) and 50 persons for BBM will be admitted to the college.

The applications can be sent right to the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar). The list of those admitted will be announced there on 10 December. Detailed information is available at Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) on Thaton Street (Tel: 503147, 525612).—MNA

သတိ

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

၂။ တားမြစ်ချက်အား ဖောက်ဖျက်ပါက-

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

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

(ဂ) သတင်းပေးသူကို ထိုက်တန်စွာ ဆုပေးမည်။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

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Angola to increase diamond production

LUANDA, 19 Nov—Angola will increase its annual diamond production from current 6 million to 10 million carats as from 2005, Angolan news agency *Angop* reported Wednesday. Arnaldo Calado, the chairman of the Administration Board of the state-run diamond company ENDIAMA, was quoted as saying in Antwerp that the rise in diamond production is one of the recommendations of the Higher International Council of Diamonds. In Antwerp, the second largest city of Belgium, Calado attended an international conference on diamonds on Monday and Tuesday. The diamond-producing countries including South Africa, Namibia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo(DRC) and Botswana have already pledged to increase their production.

Calado said Angola's state firm would set up a commercial office in Antwerp where sees some 80 per cent of the world's uncut diamonds pass through its workshops and dealing rooms annually, and more than 50 per cent of the global supply of cut diamonds.

MNA/Xinhua



Rising home prices in California forcing youths to move

LOS ANGELES, 19 Nov — One quarter of US residents in the most populous state of California believe that rising cost of housing in their region is forcing them to consider moving to another town or out of the state, according to a survey released Thursday.

Nearly all Californians, 94 per cent, perceive that home values have been increasing in their region, with 84 per cent saying the home prices have increased a lot in recent years, according to the survey released by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) in collaboration with the Hewlett, Irvine, and Packard Foundations.

About 49 per cent of Californians say that increasing average home values in their part of the state are a bad thing for them and their families, while 41 per cent call it a good thing.

About 77 per cent of respondents say they are at least somewhat concerned that the cost of housing will prevent the

younger generation in their family from buying a home in their region.

Moreover, one in three, or 31 per cent, cite a more immediate effect of housing costs: it places a financial strain on their households.

A majority of Californians, or 55 per cent, view the availability of affordable housing as a big problem in their region today, placing it just below traffic congestion, 59 per cent, and far above the lack of well-paying jobs, population growth, and air pollution as a regional concern.

About six in 10 California adults say they own their own home, but the homeownerships symbolize the great divide between the races. About 71

per cent of Whites and 59 per cent of Asians own their homes, while 55 per cent of Latinos and 51 per cent of Blacks are renters.

A large majority, or 68 per cent, of US-born residents are homeowners, while 55 per cent of immigrants are more likely to rent. And the likelihood of owning a home increases sharply with age, income, and education.

Rising home prices and rents force California residents, particularly younger ones, to rethink the value of the mountain views and ocean shores they say they treasure. Of the respondents under 35, for example, nearly half say they might relocate to somewhere cheaper.

MNA/Xinhua

NZ study finds premature babies prone to diabetes

WELLINGTON, 19 Nov — Babies born very prematurely may be predisposed to developing type 2 diabetes as adults, a study in New Zealand has found.

The study of 50 healthy Auckland children aged 4 to 10, published Thursday in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, one of the world's leading medical journals, found that sensitivity to the hormone insulin was 40 per cent lower in those born very prematurely, according to *New Zealand Herald* Thursday.

In New Zealand, more than 600 babies a year are born very prematurely — at least eight weeks early. Around 4 per cent of the

population are diagnosed with diabetes, and the rate is expected to rise steeply following increasing obesity.

Bodily resistance to insulin, a hormone involved in absorbing blood sugar, is linked to the development of type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease and stroke.

The study, by Auckland University's Liggins Institute, compared very-premature children with others born around

full-term and of normal weight. The premature babies were either low or normal weight for their age following conception.

Earlier research has linked low birth weight in full-term babies to the development of insulin resistance — up to 35 per cent of type 2 diabetes cases may be attributable to low birth weight — but the institute says the latest study is the first to connect the condition to prematurity.—MNA/Xinhua

First global vehicle safety standard established

GENEVA, 19 Nov — More than 20 countries have agreed on a new standard that will lead to safer vehicles worldwide, and this regulation establishes the first global vehicle safety standard, officials said here Thursday.

At a session of the World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations, the countries voted to establish the new door retention standard, designed to improve door locks and door retention systems to help prevent injury and death due to passenger ejection.

The new door retention standard is the result of three years of intensive research, development

and negotiations supported by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

"Today in Geneva we have witnessed a new milestone toward the improvement of road traffic safety throughout the world," Jose Capel Ferrer, director of the UNECE Transport Division, told a Press conference.

"We are optimistic that this will be the first in

a long series of such global regulations, which will also improve the environmental performance of vehicles at the global level," he said.

Many additional standards are still under study, which will regulate head restraints, motorcycle brakes, the installation of lighting devices, vehicle window glazing and pedestrian safety.

MNA/Xinhua

ချိပ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ အမှတ်(၁) စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့စက္ကန့်နှင့် ဆာလဖိတ် လုပ်ငန်း ကြီးကြပ်မှုအောက်ရှိ စက်ရုံများအတွက် အောက်ပါ ပစ္စည်းများအား မြန်မာ့စက္ကန့်နှင့် ဝယ်ယူလိုကြောင်း ကြော်ငြာ အပ်ပါသည်။

စဉ်	ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည်	အရေအတွက်	တင်ဒါပိတ်မည့်ရက်/အချိန်
1.	Duplex Paper (white)	110 MT	(၃၀-၁၁-၂၀၀၄) နေ့လယ် ၁၂:၀၀ နာရီ
2.	Caustic Soda (Solid)	2990 MT	(၈-၁၂-၂၀၀၄) နေ့လယ် ၁၂:၀၀ နာရီ

၂။ သိရှိလိုသည့်အချက်များရှိပါက ရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဌာန၊ ဖုန်းနံပါတ်-၅၄၃၃၆၅ သို့ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။
မြန်မာ့စက္ကန့်နှင့် ဆာလဖိတ် လုပ်ငန်း



Tokyo meat shoppers; Japanese authorities discovered and will destroy 310 kilograms of US beef, which is banned here due to fears of mad cow disease, after it arrived inside a shipment of US pork.—INTERNET

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုစိုးတတ်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

WHO approves first int'l standard for common genetic test

GENEVA, 18 Nov—The World Health Organization (WHO) approved on Wednesday the first international standard for a widely used human genetic test.

The test identifies a genetic predisposition to thrombosis — a potentially life-threatening blood condition — and could therefore enable people to take preventive measures, according to the Geneva-based agency.

“Establishment of the first international standard for a genetic test is an important milestone,” David Wood, a senior official of WHO, told reporters.

“Genetic testing procedures are playing a vital and growing part in clinical medicine. This new standard will help to ensure that the tests are giving accurate results worldwide,” he said. The standard was agreed at the 55th session of one of WHO’s longest-standing committees, the WHO Expert Committee on Biological Standardization (WHO ECBS) which is meeting here from Monday to Thursday.

MNA/Xinhua

Doctors prescribing more antidepressants for children, adolescents

LONDON, 18 Nov — Doctors are prescribing more antidepressants for children and adolescents although there is little evidence about their safety or efficacy in youngsters, researchers said on Thursday.

Prescription rates for young patients under 18 years old rose in nine countries in Europe, North America and South America between 2000-2002.

Britain had the highest rate of increase with 68 per cent while Germany, with 13 per cent, had the lowest.

“The number of prescriptions in different countries for children with mental illness is increasing,” said Dr. Ian Wong of the Centre for Paediatric Pharmacy Research at the

University of London.

Wong and his team compared prescribing trends in Britain, France, Germany, Spain, Canada, the United States, Argentina, Brazil and Mexico by using information from an international database that contains a representative sample of medical practitioners in each country.

The findings are reported in the Archives of Disease in Childhood. Although Britain had the highest rate of increase, it had a lower baseline than

many other countries in the study.

“In England, the number of prescriptions per child for that kind of illness is actually 10 times lower than in America. When you have a very low baseline the increase is much quicker,” Wong explained.

He believes the results of the study show a growing awareness of depression and mental illness in young people. But he added that if the trend continues it could be worrying because there are so

few clinical trials of drugs in children.

Drugs giant GlaxoSmithKline Plc was accused in a lawsuit by New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer earlier this year of fraudulently suppressing information about its antidepressant Paxil, which is sold as Seroxat in Europe, that showed the drug was broadly ineffective in youngsters and could increase the risks of suicidal behaviour.

MNA/Reuters

Africa needs billions of dollars to prevent, control malaria

HARARE, 18 Nov—The World Health Organization (WHO) says Africa requires between 1.5 billion and 2.5 billion US dollars annually to prevent and control malaria, which claims over one million lives each year, more than 90 per cent of them in sub-Saharan Africa.

“To sustain impact, funding must not be sparse and sporadic, but adequate with long-term focus to meet not only the immediate targets but also to meet the Millennium Development Goals and beyond,” WHO experts said in an article published in the September 2004 issue of *Communicable Disease Bulletin*, a publication of the WHO Regional Office for Africa.

The WHO experts said households in Africa, where as much as 50 per cent of the population live on less than one dollar a day, bear most of the cost for

preventing and treating malaria.

They said these private expenditures were estimated to be greater than donor support, and more than twice the government expenditure for the same purpose.

They found that direct costs of managing a case of severe malaria ranged from 14.50 to 58.30 US dollars per annum.

The experts called on the international community to support implementation capacity to match increased funding.— MNA/Xinhua

Australia’s kangaroos, koalas to be shot with birth control darts

CANBERRA, 18 Nov—Australia’s iconic kangaroos and koalas could be shot with birth control darts under a programme to control booming populations struggling to survive in the country’s worst drought in a century.

Sydney’s Macquarie University won a five-year 1.4 million Australian dollars (1.1 million US dollars) grant on Wednesday to examine a contraceptive

and ways to insert it under the skin of wild kangaroos and koalas to provide up to two years’ protection against pregnancy.

Australia’s wild kangaroo population, conservatively estimated at more than 57 million, has wreaked havoc in country Australia, destroying grazing lands and competing for food with sheep and cattle. — MNA/Reuters

Over 15,000 species face extinction

BANGKOK, 18 Nov — More than 15,000 species, from sharks to frogs to fir trees, are facing extinction and the total is rising faster than ever before, conservationists and scientists said on Wednesday. Despite efforts to slow or reverse the slide into oblivion of many species, one in three amphibians and almost half of all freshwater turtles are threatened, the IUCN World Conservation Union said at the unveiling of its 2004 species “Red List”.

One in eight types of bird and a quarter of all mammals are also known to be in jeopardy, the conservation group said at the beginning of its eight-day World Conservation Congress in the Thai capital. In reality, the situation is probably far worse.

MNA/Reuters



Tommy Webster, of Murphy Catton Inc, guides the head of a rhino into position atop a 30-foot-tall nutcracker, on 17 Nov, 2004, at the Cincinnati Zoo in Cincinnati. Three of the nutcrackers, a lion, rhino and elephant, were put up at the zoo for their annual Festival of Lights display that runs 20 Nov through 2 Jan.—INTERNET

Disney working on project to make “Toy Story 3”

LOS ANGELES, 18 Nov — The Walt Disney Studios is proceeding with a project to make “Toy Story 3,” a move that could degenerate its already rocky relationship with Pixar Animation Studios, the *Hollywood Reporter* reported Tuesday. Disney is in the process of setting up a digital animation facility in Los Angeles that will be used for the production of “Toy Story 3”, the report said.

Under the old deal between Disney and Pixar, Disney has the right to do sequels to “Toy Story.” Disney has held off from

doing so in the past, in part in deference to Pixar CEO Steve Jobs and executive Vice-President John Lasseter, both of whom refused to lose control of the characters.

But with Pixar announcing earlier this year that it would end its distribution relationship with Disney following the 2005 release of the Lasseter-directed “Cars”, Disney CEO Michael Eisner and studio head Dick Cook have signalled their determination to make the second sequel to “Toy Story” franchise.—MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese cleaner emerges from a beetle-shaped toilet at a park in Beijing 17 November, 2004. China, flushed with pride over its booming economy and successful Olympics bid, added another feather to its cap by playing host to the fourth annual World Toilet Summit, which kicked off on Wednesday. Beijing spent 40 million yuan (\$4.83 million) between 1987 and 2000 turning toilets at scenic spots from cess pools to star-rated ones, tourism officials have said.—INTERNET

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Sampdoria secure 2-0 win over Torino

ROME, 20 Nov— A strong second-half performance by Sampdoria secured a 2-0 win over Serie B Torino in an Italian Cup last 16, first leg match on Friday.

Sampdoria had the best chance of a quiet first half, when striker Francesco Flachi fired over the bar from close range.

The game opened up after the restart and Torino, the only non-Serie A side left in the competition, nearly took the lead when a poor clearance by Sampdoria defender Sergio Volpi allowed Tommaso Vailatti a shot on goal which went just wide.

In the 77th minute, however, Sampdoria playmaker Cristiano Doni timed his run into the area perfectly to head Flachi's chip into the net. Striker Vitali Kutuzau sealed the result a minute from the end with a simple tap-in after home keeper Alberto Fontana palmed away a long-range effort by midfielder Danilo Soddimo.

AS Roma host Siena later on Friday and last season's runners-up, Juventus, take on Atalanta. Holders Lazio play Cagliari on Sunday.—MNA/Reuters



New Mexico State's Trevor Lawrence, left, tries to block Western Michigan's Brian Snider (3) during the first half of a Top of the World Classic basketball tournament game in Fairbanks, Alaska, on 19 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

Romanian coach resigns

BUCHAREST, 20 Nov— Anghel Iordanescu resigned as Romania coach on Friday after coming under intense criticism for his side's draw against Armenia in a World Cup qualifier on Wednesday.

Romania, depleted by injuries and suspensions, lost top spot in Group One after a 1-1 draw in Yerevan which handed Armenia their first point in five matches.

"I resign as Romania coach after the result in Yerevan," Iordanescu told reporters.

The Romanian media had repeatedly criticized Iordanescu for taking up politics and running for the ruling leftist Social Democrat Party in this month's general polls.

MNA/Reuters

100 Years of Planet Football marked

GENEVA, 20 Nov— Pele, the legendary Brazilian footballer, IOC President Jacques Rogge and FIFA President Joseph Blatter were in Lausanne on Wednesday to open the new temporary exhibition at the Olympic Museum entitled 100 Years of Planet Football FIFA 1904-2004.

This is a commemorative exhibition covering the history of football from the founding of the International Federation of Football Associations (FIFA) to its current activities. The exhibition has been mounted by the Olympic Museum in collaboration with FIFA.

After the symbolic photograph taken beside the FIFA World Cup, the personalities began with a visit to the exhibition, which was followed by an official ceremony with various speeches.

For President Blatter, this exhibition is also an expression of the long-standing harmonious relations between FIFA and the Olympic Movement. "The IOC has its place in the FIFA centenary celebrations as, since its creation, the FIFA World Cup has been very closely linked to the Olympic Movement and in particular the Olympic football tournaments," he said.

In addition, the exhibition looks at



Brazilian soccer legend Pele poses next to a photograph of himself in action during the opening of the exhibition '100 Years of Planet Football' at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, Switzerland, on 17 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

FIFA and the IOC's mission in the global development of football. It is also the FIFA World Cup, a unique event in the way it manages, like the Olympic Games, to bring countries together and offer occasions rich in emotion.

MNA/Xinhua

Pires to be fined for displaying wrong logo

PARIS, 20 Nov— France midfielder Robert Pires will be fined for wearing the logo of a different sports company to the team's official sponsor Adidas, the French football federation said on Thursday.

"We have sent the case to the disciplinary committee," said federation chairman Claude Simonet said. "We will have a meeting with Adidas officials to estimate the amount of the fine Robert Pires will have to pay."

Pires was summoned

by the FFF on Monday to explain why he appeared in a sweater with a Puma logo during a television show on October 10 when he was with the national team rather than his club Arsenal.

"I told them I was sorry and I apologized," said Pires after a 75-minute

hearing in Paris. "I can understand they (Adidas) were upset and I won't do it again."

"He (Pires) has admitted he had made a mistake," said Simonet adding that he wanted this case to be closed as soon as possible.

MNA/Xinhua

Argentine defender Taricco joins West Ham United

LONDON, 20 Nov— Argentine defender Mauricio Taricco has joined West Ham United from Tottenham Hotspur, a source close to the player said on Friday.

Taricco, who has not played for Spurs this season, trained with West Ham for the first time on Friday morning after signing a deal with the Second Division London club.

No details of the deal were immediately available.

The 31-year-old Taricco is one of the longest-serving foreign players in English football, having joined Ipswich Town from Argentine First Division side Argentinos Juniors in 1994.

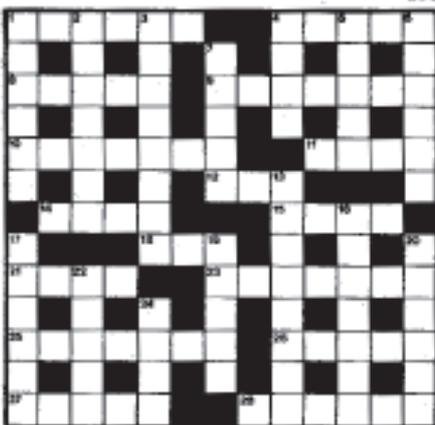
Taricco moved on to Spurs in October 1998 when he became the first signing of then manager George Graham for 1.75 million pounds (3.25 million US dollars).

MNA/Reuters



US ice hockey player David Tanabe, left, and Slovakia's ice hockey player Martin Strbak, right, from HC Kosice, challenge for the puck during the ice hockey match between USA and Slovakia at the Germany Ice hockey Cup in Hanover's TUI Arena on Sunday, 14 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Captured
- 4 Scares off
- 8 Helen's abductor
- 9 One who commits treason
- 10 He hangs behind
- 11 Grasp
- 12 Tiny bark
- 14 Eye inflammation
- 15 Unusual
- 18 Droop in middle
- 21 Catch sight of
- 23 Ribbon badge
- 25 Country lover
- 26 Raise up
- 27 River fish
- 28 Old Greek coin

DOWN

- 1 Dome
- 2 Honest
- 3 Prisoners under threat
- 4 Smelting waste
- 5 Aquatic animal
- 6 Handwriting
- 7 Book room
- 13 Outlook
- 16 Withdraw
- 17 Tyrant
- 19 Fireplace
- 20 Communication
- 22 Paved terrace
- 24 Garden herb

Arsenal suffers new setback

LONDON COLNEY (England), 20 Nov— Arsenal suffered a new setback when midfielder Gilberto was potentially ruled out for the rest of the season on Friday due to a back injury.

Manager Arsene Wenger, who has only two of his five central midfielders fit for Saturday's Premier League game at home to West Bromwich Albion, had expected the Brazilian back next month.

But he told reporters at the club's training ground: "It's not good news on Gilberto. We had a check on his back and it looked like the bone has not grown and the distance of the fracture is still exactly the same.

"We have decided to rest him six more weeks and have sent him back to Brazil on holiday. He has to rest completely...and when he comes back it is not sure he will be capable of playing.

"We don't think it is (career-threatening), but it is season-threatening. If in the next six weeks, the bone has not completely grown together, we have to give him three months more."

Wenger, who ruled out surgery for the Brazilian, said: "In central midfield, we are very short."

Gilberto has not played since a 2-2 league draw with Bolton Wanderers on September 18, while fellow Brazilian Edu is out for another three weeks after breaking a toe in last week's League Cup win over Everton.

Arsenal's promising 20-year-old Frenchman Mathieu Flamini is out until next week with a knee problem, leaving only skipper Patrick Vieira and 17-year-old Spaniard Francesc Fabregas fit for duty in central midfield.—MNA/Reuters

China, Chile launch free trade talks

SANTIAGO, 20 Nov— China and Chile launched free trade talks on Thursday during Chinese President Hu Jintao's visit to Chile at the end of a three-country South America tour where he sought to firm up raw material supplies for his country's booming economy.

Chile, a country of 15 million people, would be China's first free trade partner outside of Asia if talks prosper.

"Chile and China are in conditions to announce that we are initiating free trade negotiations," Chilean President Ricardo Lagos said in a ceremony with Hu in Santiago's presidential palace, La Moneda.

Hu and Lagos met on Thursday ahead of a weekend summit of 21 Pacific Rim leaders including US President George W Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Earlier this week, Hu visited big soy producers Brazil and Argentina where he signed accords over agricultural exports and investment.

The two countries recently completed an eight-month feasibility study on free trade.

Chile, a copper, salmon and wood pulp exporter, has reduced poverty and expanded its economy partly through an ambi-

ous web of free trade contacts with the European Union, the United States, Mexico and South Korea.

Chilean business leaders applauded the possibility of a new free trade link with China, which is currently Chile's third biggest trading partner. Officials believe China would jump to first place within five years of signing a trade pact.

"Bilateral talks with China definitely open up a new horizon for Chile's agro-industrial sector," Andres Santa Cruz, president of an agricultural business group, told Reuters earlier.

Chile and China, the world's biggest copper producer and consumer, also tightened mining ties on Thursday when Chile's state-owned copper miner Codelco and state-controlled Chinese trading house MinMetals signed a letter of understanding for investment in Chilean mining in return for a guaranteed copper supply.

MNA/Reuters

China, 15 others join NASA workshop on space exploration

WASHINGTON, 20 Nov— China and 15 other countries joined NASA officials this week to consider how they might cooperate with US plans for human exploration of the moon and Mars.

The three-day Washington workshop was the first in a series of meetings sponsored by the US space agency, NASA's Michael O'Brien said on Thursday, the last day of the gathering.

"It was somewhat precedent-setting for this particular meeting to have the Chinese there in attendance," O'Brien said in a telephone news conference.

China has its own space programme and is not among the countries participating in the International Space Station.

However, O'Brien said the US State Department approved inviting the Chinese delegation since President George W. Bush had urged international participation in the exploration effort.

Under Bush's plan, a robotic space probe could go to the moon as early as 2008, but no Americans are expected to travel there before 2020.

No specific agreements were made, but

representatives from the 16 countries plus the European Commission and the European Space Agency all gave themselves "homework assignments" for the next meeting, expected next year.

Besides China, other countries represented at the workshop were Argentina, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Russia, South Korea, Spain, Ukraine and Britain.

NASA has been struggling with money problems as it aims to return to human space flight in 2005, two years after the 2003 shuttle Columbia disaster prompted the grounding of the three-ship shuttle fleet.

The space station has been operating with a skeleton crew of two, down from three, since shortly after Columbia disintegrated over Texas on 1 February, 2003, killing all seven astronauts.

MNA/Reuters

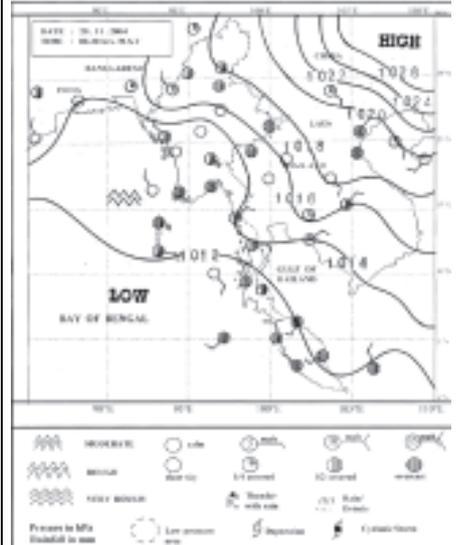
Launch of rocket "Ariane 5" postponed

PARIS, 20 Nov— The launch of rocket Ariane 5-ECA, scheduled for late November, has been postponed to next January, said a senior official of the Ariancespace company.

"We are very close to the launching requirement and the rocket engine has been put on the tower. But we will not blast it off if we are not so sure (that the launch will be successful)," he said.

After its maiden flight failed in December 2002, the heavyweight European space rocket has been planned for a second launch in early 2003, which was cancelled later due to technical reasons, he added. However, the official is still optimistic about the future of Ariane 5, saying this kind of rocket has been launched successfully five times since 2002. — MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 20 November, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Kayah State, Mandalay, Yangon and Bago Divisions and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Pynmana (0.28) inch. Night temperatures were (6°C) below normal in Chin State, (3°C) below normal in Taninthayi Division and (3°C) above normal in Bago Division and Kayah State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was (0°C) in Hakha.

Maximum temperature on 19-11-2004 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 20-11-2004 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 20-11-2004 was 81%. Total sunshine hours on 19-11-2004 was (7.0) hours approx. Rainfall on 20-11-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was (112.24 inches) at Yangon Airport, (106.77 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (109.64 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from Southwest at (13:30) hours MST on 19-11-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in Andaman Sea, Southeast, Southwest Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 21-11-2004: Isolated light rain are likely in South Rakhine State, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago Divisions and weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-11-2004: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-11-2004: Generally fair weather.



Sunday, November 21

View on today:

- 7:00 am 1. Recitation of Parittas by Mingun Sayadaw
- 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. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မော်(၃၈)မြောက်လာ
- 8:15 am 6. လူ့ချောင်းတံတား
- 8:30 am 8. International news
- 8:45 am 9. Say it in english
- 11:00 am 1. Martial song
- 11:10 am 2. Musical programme
- 11:25 am 3. Round-up of the week's TV local news

- 11:40 am 4. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "သစ္စာပန်းခင်း" (အပိုင်း-၄၆)
- 12:20 pm 5. ထက်မြတ်လှူဒါန်းပညာရန်ဖွံ့ဖြိုး (အပိုင်း-၁)
- 12:30 pm 6. Myanmar video feature: "စာမူတိုက် ဘဂ္ဂဝံ" မင်းခက်ကျန်း၊ ဦးမြင့်ကျော်စင် (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဟိန်နီနီ)
- 2:15 pm 7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:45 pm 9. International news
- 4:00 pm 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm 3. English for Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm 4. အဝေးသင်တန်းတိုလ် ပညာရေးရပ်ပြင်သင်ကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (အထူးပြုအားလုံး) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)
- 5:00 pm 5. Dance of national races
- 5:15 pm 6. မြန်မာစာပြန်ဆိုစာတေး
- 5:30 pm 7. Musical programme

- 5:45 pm 8. Sing and enjoy
- 6:30 pm 9. Evening news
- 7:00 pm 10. Weather report
- 7:05 pm 11. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "ရုရှီဗျူးသွယ်တိုလ်းပိုင်ငယ်" (အပိုင်း-၃၄)
- 7:35 pm 12. Agricultural source country's development
- 7:45 pm 13. Musical programme
- 8:00 pm 14. လွတ်စမ်းစွမ်းအားထွန်းကားစေခြင်းတိုက်ခန်းရုံ
- 8:00 pm 15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. ပြည်ထောင်စုကြံ့ခိုင်ရေးနှင့်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးအသင်းနှစ်ပတ်လည် သင်းလုံးကျွတ်အခင်းအစော (၂၀၀၄) ပထမနေ့၊ ပြည်နယ်နှစ်တိုင်းဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးအသင်းများ၏ (၁) နှစ်တာကာလအတွင်း ရှေ့လှမ်းခန်းစာများအကောင်းအဆိုးတို့ကို ဖော်ပြချက်အရ အကောင်းပြုခြင်း၊ နှစ်တာ ၁၄ ရက် ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ် (တတိယပိုင်း)
- 19. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "ရုရှီဗျူးသွယ်တိုလ်းပိုင်ငယ်" လာသည်" (အပိုင်း-၁၅)
- 20. The next day's programme



- Sunday, November 21
- Tune in today:
- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Titoli
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Shiny
- 8:55 am National news/Slogan
- 9:05 am Music: -Holiday
- 9:10 am International news
- 9:15 am Cultural images of myanmar: -Thabail Requisite News/Slogan
- 1:30 pm Story of children
- 1:40 pm -The two merchant
- 1:50 pm Songs for children
- 9:00 pm Weekly news review
- 9:10 pm Music
- 9:15 pm Article
- 9:25 pm Latest hits! -Thunder birds -These words -She will be loved -lady cakes
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

Dam projects inspected in Magway Division

YANGON, 20 Nov—Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, accompanied by local authorities, officials and departmental heads, inspected late monsoon long staple cotton plantations near Yaypaw Village, Aunglan Township, Magway

Division, yesterday.

In the meeting with local farmers and service personnel of Myanma Cotton and Sericulture Enterprise, the minister called for boosting the per acre yield.



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects the construction site of Pade Dam Project near Shwepandaw Village, Aunglan Township, Magway Division. — A & I

Upon arrival at Pade Dam Project near Shwepandaw Village, 28 miles south-east of Aunglan, the minister delivered a speech, calling for timely completion of the project. He gave instructions on minimizing loss and wastage and efficient use of fuel oil and provided assistance for the project.

He inspected construction of conduit and intake tower, progress in constructing temporary embankment, earth work. They also inspected Bwetkyi Dam near Dandaunt Village in Aunglan Township and instructed them to extend sown acreage and cultivation of cotton, sugarcane and sesamum. He inspected canals, preparations for cultivation of summer paddy and paddy fields.

Then, they headed for No9 sugar mill (Yonseik) in the township. The manager reported on the mill and production of sugar. The minister gave instructions on production of sugar in harmony with cultivation of sugarcane, extended growing of sugarcane, and operation of the mill at full capacity.

The minister viewed production process at the mill and gave instructions. — MNA

USDA Annual General Meeting 2004 continues for second day



Discussions about the education sector of second-day session of AGM in progress. — MNA

YANGON, 20 Nov — The second-day sessions of the Union Solidarity and Development Association's Annual General Meeting 2004 took place at the designated venues of the training school of the USDA (Central) in

Hmawby Township, on 15 November.

The Group One for the organizational sector held its discussions at

Bayinnaung Hall. USDA Secretariat member U Thaung, CEC members U Thein Nyunt, Thura U Myint Maung and U

Thein Aung presided over the meeting.

Daw Yi Yi Swe, executive of Gangaw Township USDA of

Magway Division, acted as MC, together with Daw Nan Khin Hla Nyunt, joint secretary of Monghsat District USDA of Shan State (East), as co-MC.

The MC announced the start of the discussions as the number of USDA representatives present on the occasion totalled 60. The seminar was held with the permission of the chairman, who later gave an account of the discussions.

U Sai Naw Hsai Pha, executive of Mongshu Township USDA of Shan State (South), U Aung Htein Lin, executive of

Laukkai Township USDA of Shan State (North), Daw Nan Yin Hla, executive of Kengtung District USDA of Shan State (East), U Thet Lin, joint secretary of Nyaungdon Township USDA of Ayeyawady (See page 9)

SEAPEX Symposium on Energy Potential of Myanmar

YANGON, 20 Nov — Under the supervision of the Ministry of Energy, South East Asia Petroleum Exploration Society (SEAPEX) Symposium on Energy Potential of Myanmar co-organized by Smart Technical Services Co Ltd and IHS Energy Group of Singapore took place at Traders Hotel this evening.

On the occasion, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi extended greetings. Next, Chairman of SEAPEX Mr Richard Bottomley presented a certificate of honour for being a member of SEAPEX to the Minister.

Afterwards, Director-General of Energy Planning Department U Soe Myint read the paper titled Energy Security in ASIA-Pacific Region and Myanmar's Potential for Energy Supply and Managing Director of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise U San Lwin and Managing Director of Daewoo International E & P Myanmar Dr. Su-yeong Yang read the papers titled Hydrocarbon Potential of Block A-1, Offshore Northwest Myanmar respectively. Next, those present took part in the discussion and the symposium ended.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi addresses symposium on Energy Potential of Myanmar. — ENERGY

INSIDE

Perspectives

For accelerated development of industrial zones based on government's assistance (Page-2)

Tamu gets hydropower plant

YANGON, 20 Nov — A hydroelectric power plant was inaugurated in Tamu, Sagaing Division, on 17 November.

Shwepyitha hydel power plant has a capacity of generating 50 kilowatts. It can supply electricity to 300 households round the clock every day. The power plant is constructed under the auspices of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council. Arrangements are under way to upgrade it to be the one capable of generating 100 kilowatts.

MNA