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Monday, 22 November 2004

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win to attend ASEAN summits in Laos

YANGON, 22 Nov — At the invitation of Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win will attend the 10th ASEAN Summit, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam Summit, Summits of the ASEAN Heads of State/Government and Heads of State/Government of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, ASEAN-India Summit and ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Commemorative Summit scheduled to be held in Vientiane, Laos in the near future.— MNA



Secretariat Member U Kyaw Hsan chairs the morning session of the meeting together with CEC members U Thein Swe and U Thein Sein. — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Members are to adhere to guidance given by Patron of USDA Regarding it as work guidelines in serving interests of nation and people USDA Annual General Meeting (2004) continues



Secretariat Member U Kyaw Hsan chaired the meeting together with CEC Members U Thein Swe and U Thein Sein. Joint-Secretary Daw Nan Han Sein of

Namkham Township USDA in Shan State (North) acted as MC together with Executive Daw Nan Ywe of Injanyan Township USDA in Kachin State.

The MC announced the meeting valid as 444 delegates represented respective USDAs at the meeting.

The delegates presented proposals and

made suggestions about the discussions held in the second-day sessions. Joint-Secretary U Tin Ko Lat of Hpa-an Township USDA in Kayin State presented a report regard-

ing the discussions on the organizational sector that the USDA will be a stronger one if trips for organizational purposes can be conducted right
(See page 7)



Dignitaries at the third-day session of USDA Annual General Meeting (2004). — MNA

YANGON, 21 Nov—The Annual General Meeting (2004) of the Union Solidarity and Development Association went on for the third day at the Central Training School of the Association in Hmawby Township on 16 November.

Secretariat members and CEC members of the USDA, secretaries of state/division USDAs and delegates from state/division, district and township USDAs held discussions at the third-day sessions.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 22 November, 2004

Strive for extended cultivation of oil palm, rubber and new crops

Myanmar is rich in terrestrial and aquatic resources. The country will be able to enjoy strong economy and higher living standard of the people if the abundant natural resources are tapped and effectively used along with human resources.

Nowadays, the government is taking systematic measures to bring about harmonious and equitable development across the nation and enhance the living standard of the people.

The government has been practising market-oriented economic system and creating economic opportunities for private entrepreneurs. This being the case, the role of the private economic sector has become greater.

The government, on its part, is fulfilling necessary requirements including land allotment and capital to private entrepreneurs for extended cultivation of oil palm, rubber and marketable crops.

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

In his address, General Thura Shwe Mann said that encouragement will be given to the national entrepreneurs for their success of business. Thus, the entrepreneurs, on their part, are to cultivate new crops and to export the surplus. Only then will the volume of export items increase. And the State will earn more foreign exchange and can import necessary goods, he stressed.

Project for Cultivation of Oil Palm is the one laid down by the Government. Efforts are to be made to meet the target of putting 500,000 acres of land under oil palm.

Steps are to be taken for extended cultivation of rubber which is in high demand and boosting the per acre yield. If rubber of higher quality is produced, it will be beneficial to both the State and the entrepreneurs.

With the assistance of the Government, the entrepreneurs are thus urged to engage in extended cultivation of oil palm, rubber and new crops not only for national interest but also for their own.

သတိ

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

၂။ တားမြစ်ချက်အား ဖောက်ဖျက်ပါက-

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

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

(ဂ) သတင်းပေးသူကို ထိုက်တန်စွာ ဆုပေးမည်။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်လုံခြုံရေးကောင်စီ

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

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

Ministry of Science & Technology offers Kathina robes

YANGON, 21 Nov —

The 9th communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of the Ministry of Science and Technology was held this morning at the ministry.

Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung and wife presented robes to Sayadaw of Dhamma Yaunggyi Monastery in North Okakalapa Township Agga Maha Ganda Vacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Agga Dhamma.

Afterwards, staff of the ministry offered soon to the members of the Sangha.

MNA



Minister U Thaung and wife offering Kathina robes to members of the Sangha. — MNA

Ministry of Health holds Special course No 2/2004

YANGON, 21 Nov — Special course No 2/2004 for staff of the Ministry of

Health was opened this morning at the Institute of Nursing (Yangon) with an

opening address by the Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

In his opening address, the minister said that the State has been providing the infrastructure for health sector. Besides, it has been creating the opportunities for staff of the ministry to enable them to study the advanced medical science at home and abroad to enhance their qualification. The minister also urged the trainees to take the full advantage of the opportunities.

A total of 41 trainees including the staff who will study advanced medical science abroad are attending the five-day course. — MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint addresses the opening of special course No 2/2004 for health staff. — HEALTH

Foreign Wushu teams arrive

YANGON, 21 Nov — Minister of Sports Mr Li Zhijian of the People's Republic of China and party arrived at Yangon International Airport by air this afternoon to attend the executive meeting of World Wushu Federation (WWF) and the 6th ASIA Wushu Championship to be hosted by Myanmar, who were welcomed there by Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, officials of the Ministry of Sports, Chairman of Myanmar Wushu Federation U Khin Maung Lay, vice-chairmen, executives, Chinese Coun-

sellor Mr. Wang Ruiqing and embassy staff.

The Chinese team, Bangladeshi team, Chinese demonstration group and fans also arrived on the same flight. Deputy Minister of Forest and

Mineral Resources Mr. Lim Keng Yaik of Malaysia also arrived by air this afternoon. Executive members of WWF Mr. Patrick Van Campenhout of Belgium, Mr. Anthony Goh of USA and

Uzabatkistan team arrived this afternoon and Singapore team, in the evening.

Executive member of WWF Gen Falconi and party of Italy arrived here by air yesterday evening. — NLM



Chinese Sports Minister Mr Li Zhijian and party being welcomed by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein and WWF President U Khin Maung Lay. — NLM

Chinese, Vietnamese leaders agree to further ties

SANTIAGO, 20 Nov— The Chinese Government will consistently support Vietnam's early entry into the World Trade Organization and hopes an early conclusion of its WTO negotiations, said Chinese President Hu Jintao here on Friday.

The Chinese President made the remarks while meeting with his Vietnamese counterpart Tran Duc Luong on the eve of the 12th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting. Both China and Vietnam are members of the forum.

Hu said bilateral relations, guided by the principles of long-term stability, orientation towards the future, good-neighbourly friendship and all-around cooperation, have

progressed soundly.

The two countries have maintained frequent exchanges of high-level visits, with smooth development of bilateral cooperation in various fields, he added.

The two countries' land border demarcation is progressing smoothly while the two agreements on Beibu Gulf are under implementation, the Chinese President noted.

The Chinese President, who arrived in the Chilean capital Thursday for a state visit and attending the 12th

APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, said China attaches great importance to the development of Sino-Vietnamese relations, and places it on an important position of China's neighbouring diplomacy.

China is willing to work together with Vietnam to push forward bilateral ties to a new stage, Hu added.

Both economies of China and Vietnam are highly complementary, Hu noted, adding that both governments should

encourage their enterprises to expand cooperation in the sectors of trade, energy, industry and infrastructure construction.

The Vietnamese President, for his part, reaffirmed Hanoi's willingness to further strengthen cooperation with China in various fields. Hanoi will work together with the Chinese side to advance bilateral friendly cooperation in an all-around fashion, said the Vietnamese President.

MNA/Xinhua

China calls for removal of food trade barriers

BEIJING, 20 Nov— A Chinese Ministry of Commerce official on Friday urged developed countries to remove trade barriers to promote the globalization of food trade. Zhang Xiangchen, deputy director of the ministry's World Trade Organization Department, said at an international food forum that while improving food safety, relevant countries and regions should also take measures to diminish trade barriers.

Food safety and trade liberalization are non-conflicting issues, he added.

When working on food import standards, developed countries should take into full consideration the real conditions of developing countries, he said.

In recent years, technical trade barriers have become an important factor affecting China's exports of agricultural products and foodstuffs.

The number of food trade disputes posted by the World Trade Organization soared from 200 in 1995 to 600 in 2001. And this growth trend continues, Zhang said.—MNA/Xinhua



A man throws out a fishing net from his boat on the Mekong river recently.

INTERNET

One US soldier killed, nine wounded in attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 20 Nov — Guerillas attacked a US Army patrol Saturday in Baghdad, killing one American soldier and injuring nine others, the US military said.

The unit came under coordinated attack, which included roadside bombs, small arms fire and rocket-propelled

grenades, the military said.

The statement did not say where the 7 am attack occurred.

However, three US Army vehicles were seen on fire after an guerilla attack early Saturday on a police station in the Azamiyah district. One Iraqi policeman was killed.—Internet

1,221 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 20 Nov—As of Saturday, 20 Nov, 2004, at least 1,221 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 Defense Department said as of Friday. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is four higher than the Defense Department's tally, which was last updated Friday at 10 am EDT.

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 May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,083 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

Hu Jintao meets Singaporean PM on bilateral ties

SANTIAGO, 21 Nov— Chinese President Hu Jintao met Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on Friday, focusing on Taiwan issue and bilateral ties.

Hu said, with sincere hopes to maintain friendship with Singaporean people, China is willing to make efforts to put Sino-Singaporean relations on track for healthy and sustainable development, taking note with appreciation of Singapore's repeated confirmation of its one-China policy and to "Taiwan independence".

Lee said he realized that his trip to Taiwan in July has brought about difficulties to relations with China. Singapore's fundamental position, which sticks to the one-China policy, has not changed, he said, adding that his country is unequivocal in opposition to "Taiwan independence".

Hu pointed out that the Taiwan issue should be handled with caution as it has a bearing on China's essential interests. The handling of the issue shall not harm the feelings of 1.3 billion Chinese and be detrimental to bilateral relations, he said. That China's sovereignty and essential interests must be respected is a general principle, said Hu.

The Chinese President said friendship between the two countries, which has been the outcome of cultivation by generations of leaders, is worth cherishing. Good relations between the two countries will not only bring benefits to the two peoples, but also are conducive to peace, stability and development in Asia, he said. Hu

expressed the hope that new leaders of the two countries should have vision and steer bilateral relations on a healthy track.

Hu said China and Singapore are important trading partners. Trade has increased almost tenfold since the establishment of diplomatic relations 14 years ago, he said, adding that China is willing to work with Singapore to strengthen economic cooperation.

Lee said bilateral cooperation has been quite fruitful, but still has potential. Singapore is willing to consolidate relations with China, he said.

Both leaders are here for the 12th Economic Leaders Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum. —MNA/Xinhua



A war-ravaged street in Fallujah on 19 Nov, 2004. — INTERNET

Chinese, New Zealand leaders meet to further bilateral ties

SANTIAGO, 21 Nov — Chinese President Hu Jintao called here Friday for early start of China-New Zealand free trade agreement negotiations so as to inject new vigour to bilateral cooperation.

Hu Jintao made the call while meeting with New Zealand's Prime Minister Helen Elizabeth Clark in the Chilean capital on the eve of the 12th Economic Leaders Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), according to a Press release issued by the Chinese delegation. Both China and New Zealand are members

of the forum.

Hu said China attaches importance of Sino-New Zealand relations and is willing to strengthen bilateral comprehensive cooperative ties. Both countries should expand cooperation on an equal footing, enhance mutual trust based on mutual respect in the political field, the Chinese President

added. Hu urged both countries to tap their potentials and open up new areas of economic and trade cooperation.

The Chinese President said the Sino-New Zealand relations maintained good momentum of development in recent years, with increasing exchanges of high-level visits, deepened mutual understanding and

new progresses in economic and trade cooperation. On international and regional affairs, Hu said, China and New Zealand should continuously increase communication, coordination and cooperation, and jointly strive to contribute to peace and development of the Asia-Pacific Region and the world at large.

MNA/Xinhua

စက်မှုဥစ္စာများအား ဓာတ်ကုန်လွှား

Japan, Philippines to forge bilateral free trade pact

TOKYO, 20 Nov — Japan and the Philippines have reached a basic agreement to forge a bilateral free trade pact, *Kyodo* news agency said on Friday, quoting Japanese Trade Minister Shoichi Nakagawa.

Nakagawa and Philippine Secretary of Trade and Industry Cesar Purisima reached the agreement at talks on the sidelines of a two-day ministerial meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in Santiago, Chile, *Kyodo* said.

The free trade agreement (FTA) with the Philippines would be the third such deal for Japan following ones with Singapore and Mexico. — MNA/Reuters

Anti-American marchers protest Asia-Pacific summit in Chile

SANTIAGO, 20 Nov — Hooded anti-American marchers protesting an Asia-Pacific summit in Chile on Friday hurled Molotov cocktails and stones at police who retaliated with water cannons and tear gas.

A large march against the weekend meeting of 21 leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum turned violent when a few dozen youths broke away from the main

group to attack police.

US President George W Bush was due to arrive later on Friday and his visit has become a lightning rod for protests.

Tens of thousands of

people streamed through downtown Santiago carrying banners and chanting slogans against the US-led occupation of Iraq, including "Fascist Bush is a terrorist."

MNA/Reuters

Chinese company enters into health insurance business

BEIJING, 20 Nov — China's first specialized health insurance company was established on Thursday, blazing a new trail for accelerating the growth of the nation's hugely promising health insurance sector.

The PICC Holding Company, which controls PICC Property and Casualty Co, Ltd, China's largest non-life insurance operator, has a controlling stake in the PICC Health Insurance Co, Ltd, reported on Friday's *China Daily*.

DKV, Europe's largest private health insurance company, and three other Chinese companies, including China Huawen Investment Holding Co, Ltd, are also shareholders.

PICC Health is the first of China's newly-approved four specialized health insurance providers to complete establishment procedures, which regulators expect will help augment

commercial health insurance in the local market to complement a weak social medicare system.

The demand for health insurance is tremendous in the world's most populous country. As high as 65 per cent of Chinese residents list illness as one of their three greatest concerns, PICC Holding officials said.

Despite the huge growth potential, commercial health insurance is still playing a minor role in the local market, covering only a meager 10 per cent of local residents' total medical expenditures.

MNA/Xinhua



Chile's President Ricardo Lagos, right, welcomes Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong during his arrival to the Espacio Riesco Convention Centre in Santiago for the first APEC leaders working session, on 20 Nov, 2004. — INTERNET

US plans to extend tour of duty for soldiers in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 21 Nov — The United States plans to delay the return of its troops stationed in Iraq to increase force levels there through the elections, which are planned for Jan 27, a top US general said on Friday.

Lt Gen Lance Smith, deputy commander of the US Central Command, said more troops may also be deployed to secure the country before the vote.

"We are talking mainly about extending some units," he told reporters at a press conference here. "We will make further assessment as we get a little bit closer and understand what the impact of Fallujah has been in the entire country."

"The issue is really about experienced

troops during this period of time of expected increased violence," he said.

The US offensive in Fallujah set off a wave of insurgent attacks elsewhere in the Sunni Muslim heartland north and west of Baghdad, as well as in the Iraqi capital.

The top marine commander, Lt Gen John Sattler, said on Thursday the assault on Fallujah has "broken the back of the insurgency," but Lt Gen Smith said it was still too early to make that claim.

Internet

Three missiles hit Camp Dogwood

LONDON, 20 Nov — British Black Watch troops in central Iraq have come under rocket attack for the second time in 24 hours.

Three missiles flew into their base at Camp Dogwood, 20 miles south of Baghdad, at around 0600 GMT on Saturday.

All three weapons exploded on impact inside the camp, but the Ministry of Defence (MoD) reported no injuries.

Five rockets also hit the camp at the same time on Friday, in one of the biggest attacks since the regiment took over from US forces three weeks ago.

But commanding officer Lt-Col James Cowan played down the repeated attacks, describing them as a "nuisance".

BBC correspondent David Loyn, embedded with the Black Watch, says: "[The guerillas] have so far been able to mount rocket and mortar attacks and get away unscathed, despite sophisticated acoustic sensors in the camp which can accurately pinpoint the launch site," he said. — Internet



US Marines against the shrapnel damaged shutters of stores in Fallujah on 19 Nov, 2004. — INTERNET

Japan aims to relax arms export control

TOKYO, 20 Nov— The Japanese Government has worked out a plan which will break through the longtime three arms export control principles and strengthen cooperation with the United States in weapons development and production, the *Asahi Shimbun* reported on Friday.

Under the plan, Japan will allow weapons development and production with the United States or such activities in US-led multinational projects, the major daily said.

Japan can also export equipment under the circumstance of international operations, including fighting terrorism or pirates. The items include helmets, body armours, vehicles, used warships.

Announced in 1967 by then Prime Minister Eisaku Sato, the three principles stipulate that Japan

shall "not export weapons to Communist states, to which arms exports are prohibited by UN resolution, or to states involved in armed conflicts."

Further, former Prime Minister Takeo Miki announced in 1976 that Japan would not export weapons to any country. The plan was drawn up in consideration that Japan and the United States are currently teamed up in developing ballistic missile defence systems, and the private sectors are urging for easing controls to

maintain competitiveness technically in the world. In addition, there are concerns that it is difficult for Japan to independently develop necessary high-tech arms, the paper said.

The initiative could be included in a new defence programme outline which is expected to be inked by the Cabinet later this month or early December, it said, adding that the opposition parties are sure to bring up argument against it.

MNA/Xinhua

Seoul to send delegation to IAEA meeting

SEOUL, 20 Nov— South Korea will send a delegation to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna next week when the organization's board of governors meets, reported South Korean *Yonhap* news agency on Friday.

The United Nations nuclear watchdog will decide at the November 25 meeting whether to refer South Korea's case to the UN Security Council, which can impose various sanctions if it decides the country violated international non-proliferation

agreements.

According to *Yonhap*, South Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade will send a delegation consisting of 13 to 14 officials from the ministry and the National Security Council and nuclear experts.

Vice-Foreign Minister Choi Young-jin, former ambassador to Austria, will lead the delegation, while his successor in Vienna, Cho Chang-bum, will also join the delegation. Last week, the IAEA said in a report some of the nuclear materials produced in the South Korean experiments were close to weapons grade, but the organization acknowledged the experiments were not linked to any secret weapons development programme.

However, it said, South Korea's failure to report the experiments was "a matter of serious concern" because it violated the country's agreements with the IAEA, including the nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty.

MNA/Xinhua

Nepal holds tea fair to promote exports

KATHMANDU, 20 Nov— The Nepali Government and private sector are jointly organizing a two-day international tea fair in Kathmandu in a bid to build business linkages with overseas buyers.

The event "Nepal Tea and the World 2004" on November 19-20 brings together tea producers and exporters from Nepal as well as international importers from Germany, Japan, Canada, India, Pakistan and the United States. "The event will feature presentations and talk programmes on various subjects by international experts, business interaction sessions and tea tasting programmes," Deepak Baskota, coordinator of the fair organizing committee, told reporters. An exhibition is going to be on throughout the event, in which 16 local tea producers are showcasing their products, Baskota noted.—MNA/Xinhua



A US Marine helicopter flies over Fallujah on 19 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET



British troops secure the area during a ceremony in Basra, Iraq, on 19 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

Thai PM leaves for Chile for APEC summit

BANGKOK, 20 Nov— Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra left for Chile Wednesday evening to attend the 12th summit of leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) scheduled for 20-21 November, the state-run *Thai News Agency* (TNA) reported on Friday.

Upon his arrival at the Chilean capital Santiago, Thaksin will hold bilateral talks with leaders of New Zealand, Chile and Peru on trade and economic cooperation.

Before departure, the Prime Minister said the proposed Thai-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will be reached in Santiago if negotiations could be concluded.

"At the APEC summit, I'll raise is-

suues like oil hoarding, energy saving, alternative fuel as well as AIDS and anti-terrorism for discussions," Thaksin was quoted as saying.

The Prime Minister said that he would also propose a feasible study on the establishment of a large-scale free trade area among APEC countries and the expansion of bilateral FTA to include more APEC members.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi politicians fail to agree on joint list of secular parties

DUKAN (Iraq), 20 Nov— Leading Iraqi politicians failed to agree on Friday on a joint list of secular parties to compete in a January election that Sunni Muslims want postponed because of violence in their central heartland.

After a two-day meeting in the northern Iraqi resort of Dukan, officials from the two main Kurdish parties and representatives of Shiite and Sunni groups decided to run on separate tickets in the nationwide poll, tentatively set for January 27. "We decided to enter the elections on individual lists, without a joint list," said Nashirwan Mustapha, a senior official of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK).

"Sunni movements in

Iraq asked that elections be postponed until they can prepare themselves and the Shiites asked for the opposite. Nothing new was agreed."

Most of Iraq's nascent political parties set up after US-led forces overthrew Saddam Hussein last year draw support from the country's ethnic or religious communities. Islamist groups also appear to enjoy strong support among Sunni or Shiite Muslims.

Iraqis are due to elect a 275-seat Parliament that

will draw up a new Constitution to govern the country. But the poll has been threatened by a relentless insurgency, especially in Sunni areas where opposition to US-led forces runs high. The US-backed government has vowed to crush guerrillas ahead of the elections and launched an offensive on Fallujah 11 days ago, angering many Sunni Muslims. An influential group of Sunni clerics has threatened to boycott the polls.—MNA/Reuters

Two Iraqi soldiers beheaded in Mosul

BAGHDAD, 20 Nov— Two Iraqi soldiers were beheaded in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul by an extremist militant group allegedly linked to al-Qaeda ally Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, a statement posted on an Islamist web site said Friday.

"They were both beheaded before a large group of people in Mosul," a group calling itself al-Qaeda organization for holy war in Iraq said in the statement, which was dated November 18.

The statement said the national guardsmen killed were at the rank of major

and lieutenant and that they were slaughtered on Thursday afternoon in broad daylight.

The authenticity of the statement could not be verified.

Iraq's fledgling national guards have become a frequent target of guerrillas bent on undermining the

US-backed interim government headed by Prime Minister Iyad Allawi.

US and Iraqi forces launched this month a major offensive to crush guerrillas, including Zarqawi groups, in the flashpoint city of Fallujah west of Baghdad.

MNA/Xinhua

Hu Jintao calls for sustainable development of world economy

SANTIAGO, 21 Nov — Chinese President Hu Jintao urged here Friday all visionary political leaders and responsible business leaders should work together to achieve a sustainable development of the world economy.

He made the call in a speech at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation CEO Summit which opened in the Chilean capital on Friday.

"A sustainable development of the world economy is a major issue of immediate and far-reaching significance. It bears on the current development of the countries and the future of entire mankind," the Chinese President told the Asia-Pacific Rim business leaders.

Some important features and trends in world economic development merit our close attention, Hu noted, citing as follows:

— Rapid progress in science and technology, which substantially increases man's ability to understand and grasp the world at both the macro and micro levels and gives him a powerful support to boost production and improve well-being;

— Quickened tempo in the optimization and reorganization of the factors of production and the industrial trans-

fers in the global context, which results in closer economic connections among countries and more favourable conditions for their mutually beneficial cooperation;

— At the same time, owing to historical and immediate causes, unevenness in worldwide development has become increasingly salient, with the heavily indebted developing countries facing a worsened external environment and the gap between the South and the North further widening;

— New trade barriers and protectionism are on the increase, and the world's multilateral trading regime is experiencing difficulties;

— The consumption of energy and other natural resources has increased substantially, resulting in ecological imbalances and environmental degradation;

— Factors of uncertainty and instability, such as local conflicts and terrorism, pose increasing threat to world peace and development. — MNA/Xinhua



Rays gather around diver Hitomi Ito dressed as Santa Claus feeding fish as the annual Christmas attraction starts at Tokyo's Sunshine International Aquarium on 19 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

China pledges efforts in fight against terrorism, corruption

SANTIAGO, 20 Nov — Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing vowed Thursday to make joint efforts with other members of the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in the fight against terrorism and corruption.

Addressing the APEC Ministerial Meeting held here from Wednesday to Thursday, Li said there is no topic bigger than peace and no human right more important than security in the world.

Li said that APEC has adopted a series of joint actions in cracking down on terrorism, which has promoted the capacity building of its member economies.

As a firm supporter and participant of the anti-terrorism combat, the Chinese Government will continue to support APEC's constructive role in the anti-terrorism field, the minister said.

As to the anti-corruption fight, Li said the Chinese Government pays great attention to the issue, supports international cooperation in the field and commends the anti-corruption action

plan adopted by APEC.

China is ready to conduct pragmatic cooperation and share information and experience with other APEC members on the issue to help create a just and transparent environment for the economic and social development in the Asian-Pacific Region.

Meanwhile, Chinese Assistant Commerce Minister Yi Xiaozhun said at the meeting that APEC trade ministers reached an agreement in June in Pucon, Chile, to voice common support for the resumption of the WTO Doha Round talks. The action greatly contributed to the signing of a WTO framework deal in the following month and China will continue supporting APEC's contribution to the WTO talks, said the official.

MNA/Xinhua

မြန်မာ့အသံ၊ ၂၀၀၄ ခု၊ နိုဝင်ဘာလ ၂၂ ရက်၊ နံနက် ၆ နာရီ

Chinese, Japanese foreign ministers discuss ties

SANTIAGO, 20 Nov — Visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing and his Japanese counterpart, Nobutaka Machimura, met here Thursday to discuss bilateral relations.

The meeting was held on the sidelines of a two-day ministerial meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, when foreign ministers from the APEC members are preparing for the 12th informal summit of the bloc's leaders, which is set to be held here on Saturday and Sunday.

Li told Machimura the Chinese Government attaches great importance to the Sino-Japanese relations and hopes that both sides make efforts to foster their friendly coopera-

tive relations with long-term stability and sound development.

It is of great significance to advancing bilateral ties for the leaders of China and Japan to maintain close exchanges and contacts, Li said, stressing the importance of frequent contacts and contacts between the leaders, governments and various sectors of both countries.

Li also reiterated China's principled stance on history and Taiwan.

He said the Chinese Government hopes that the Japanese side keep all

its commitments and take concrete steps to remove obstacles that affect bilateral ties. Machimura agrees that it is very important for Japan and China to maintain contacts and dialogues at various levels and to seek broader common interest and cooperation.

He said the Japanese Government attaches importance to the Chinese stand on history and Taiwan and that the Japanese side adheres to the one-China policy. "Such a stance will not change," Machimura said.

MNA/Xinhua

Microsoft to open office in Dhaka

DHAKA, 21 Nov — The Microsoft Corporation will open its office in Dhaka on 22 November to expand its sales and fight piracy in the market of this country, reported the daily *New Age* on Saturday.

Local distribution and sales of Microsoft products conducted by two companies Ingram Micro and Multimode, as well as several other business partners, will continue as usual in Bangladesh market, said Feroz Mahmud, country manager of Microsoft here.

The office with 15 employees at the beginning aims to offer many Microsoft's programmes to Bangladeshi Government, added Feroz.

Feroz pointed out the local Microsoft office will work closely with the government for sponsoring training programmes for teachers and students, helping in outlining computer curriculum and exploring other scopes of cooperation. Feroz described Microsoft's market size in the country as "tiny" due to absence of law relating to intellectual property rights, as local market is flooded with pirated products. —MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia to supply LNG to Chile

JAKARTA, 21 Nov — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said on Saturday that Chile has expressed interest in buying liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Indonesia.

"The technical matters are being discussed between Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Purnomo (Yusgiantoro) and Chilean officials," Susilo was quoted by Kompas online news service as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



Sheep stand on a snow-covered meadow in the early morning in Froendenberg, western Germany, on 20 Nov 2004.—INTERNET

Members are to adhere...



(from page 1)

to factories, departments, and educational institutions under the Higher Education Department and the Basic Education Department.

The report cited speeches of Patron of the USDA Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior

enhancing the unity of the members and flourishing of Union Spirit, so they are at the peak of their organizational measures.

From 1994 to date, a total of 14,663 members have been trained through opening of 10 different kinds of central level courses, and 18,888,440 members through state/division, district and township level courses arranged by the USDA Headquarters. He made a suggestion that central courses should be conducted more than ever.

From time to time, members from hilly regions and border areas make excursion tours of

should share with and recount their valuable experiences to other members, and the HQ should send the members, who are actively participating in the tasks, to foreign nations in succession without age limit.

In her report with respect to the discussions on the management sector, Executive Daw Khin Swe Win of Myingyan District USDA in Mandalay Division suggested that state and division USDAs should constantly organize computer courses (basic) and (instructors) for improvement of respective associations and development of human resources. She



Secretariat Member U Thein Zaw presides over afternoon session of USDA AGM (2004) with CEC members U Soe Tha and U Maung Pa. — MNA

knowledge.

Executive of Dabayin Township USDA in Sagaing Division Daw Hnin Hnin Khaing presented findings of discussions on the economic sector, saying

townships in Ayeyawady Division, Thongwa Township in Yangon Division and Myeik Township in Taninthayi Division have been running fish and prawn breeding ponds on a commercial scale. These profitable farms contribute much towards local food security, stability of commodity prices and earning foreign currency. It is satisfactory to note that the agricultural committee of the USDA is running perennial cash plants and cultivating paddy and vegetables in Mandalay Division, Shan State (North), Taninthayi Divi-

ple and the USDA should make more investment in public welfare services in order to win greater reliance of the people.

As regards the findings from the discussions on social and cultural sector, U Maw Ral, executive of Kayah State USDA, said the shared responsibility of USDA members is to make concerted efforts to shape a peaceful, modern and developed nation in line with the aims, basic principles, pledges and the codes of conduct of the Association.

In this context, they should bear in mind the fact that participation in social tasks is key to organizational measures. The deeper and wider the social tasks, the more effective the organizational campaigns. The positive outcome will be affinity and solidarity among the members themselves, thereby winning public trust and confidence through close contact with them. Therefore, it is necessary to maintain the achievements already in place. In this process, the association falls into four groups for the effectiveness of its

Members from plains and urban areas should pay visits to hilly regions and border areas to gain more knowledge of these regions

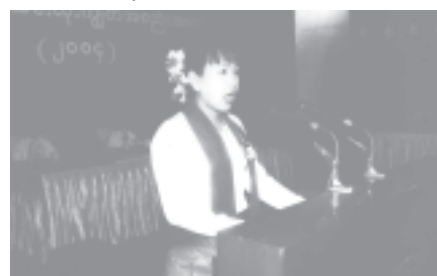
General Than Shwe delivered at the USDA AGM (2003) and the opening as well as the closing of Course on

Yangon for enhancing their knowledge of national development. Mutually, members from plains and urban areas

said if the administration department of the HQ could provide more cash assistance for township secretaries and executives in order to relieve their sufferings there would be greater progress in organizational tasks.

From the founding of the USDA to date, altogether 662 members have been sent abroad and youth members have gained international knowledge and experiences, exchanged views with international community, and enjoyed opportunity to participate in cooperative work with foreign nations. So, more members should be sent to foreign countries on goodwill visits and for further studies. Priority should be given to execu-

that in accord with the five noble objectives, the USDA upholding the four economic objective adopted by the State has carried out businesses for more than 11 years.



Myingyan District USDA Executive Daw Khin Swe Win submits report in connection with discussions on the management sector. — MNA

The economic group of the CEC members is playing a leading role in providing USDAs at different levels with

sion and Yangon Division.

Steps should be taken for extended gardening and planting



Hpa-an Township USDA Joint-Secretary U Tin Ko Lat presents report regarding discussions on the organizational sector. — MNA

Myanmar and International Affairs. Members are to adhere to the guidance regarding it as work guidelines in taking organizational steps among the public in the interests of the nation and the people.

And, members are to play more active role in the rural development tasks and to be fully equipped with Union Spirit in implementing the State's seven-point Road Map whatever role they may be in. Similarly, Member of USDA Panel of Patrons Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win always gives encouragement to regional development whenever he makes an inspection tour. At the same time, CEC members make field trips right down to rural areas for regional progress, further

should pay more visits to hilly regions and border areas to gain more knowledge of traditions and customs of national races in these regions.

At the invitation of the USDA Headquarters, delegates of neighbouring countries, international community and social organizations have visited Myanmar occasionally, and similarly the HQ has sent its youth members abroad. As a result, friendship between Myanmar and these external organizations can be strengthened to an extent and the nation can grasp opportunities to expose its progress to foreign delegates. He made a suggestion that soon after their return home from foreign countries, members

tives who have more than ten years in service at the association so that they can enjoy greater opportunity to study in foreign countries.

In conclusion, she submitted a proposal that state/division USDAs should make extended arrangements for their members to exchange visits so as to enhance friendship among them and to gain regional

funds, basic requirement for taking organizational measures. Arrangements should be made for Myan Gon Myint Garment Factory to produce export quality goods on a commercial scale and to gain a foothold in foreign markets. Soft drinks factories should be established in such cities as Mandalay and Monywa. Nyaungdon, Maubin, Thabaung and Pantanaw

perennial cash crops in states and divisions, and if fertilizers are distributed to these regions at reasonable prices through the Association, organizational efforts will make greater progress.

In conclusion, she noted that contributing to community welfare services, state and division USDAs are winning trust and support of the peo-

measures: a welfare group, a social group, a community-based group, and a literary and arts group.

As part of the educational undertaking, the association donated teaching aids to basic education schools. To ensure an increase in the pass rate of the

Soon after their return home from foreign countries, members should share with and recount their valuable experiences to other members

(See page 8)

Members are to adhere ...



(from page 7)

matriculation examinations, the association took the initiative in organizing reading rooms and provided necessary materials. The association could thus eradicate the tendency of relying on private tuitions to a certain extent. The states and divisions that are yet to practise should follow suit.

For health care services, talks were given in respect of common diseases as well as of SARS control. When it

of blood.

Regarding sports activities, various courses were opened in cooperation with local authorities, depending on time and condition. Moreover, potential but unknown local athletes are being developed. Measures should also be taken to produce outstanding athletes from the association in coordination with the departments concerned.

For literary activities, the association could open libraries and donate books and periodicals. Extempore talks were also organized. In such an age of information technology, the efforts to open e-libraries in some favourable townships will help further widen the scope of knowledge of the members.

In view of the promotion of national pride

place special emphasis on the drive for preservation and maintenance of cultural heritage.

USDA members are to make assiduous efforts more than they have had ever before, bearing in mind the fact that the social and cultural aspect is central to the organizational aspect. Only then will an environment blessed with calmness and happiness take shape, thereby contributing much to political, economic and social sectors of the State. Reviewing correctly the strong and weak points of previous undertakings, USDA members are to continue to implement the tasks in public interests. In this process, the goal and duties of the association and the fine tradition of Myanma Society should be used as



Secretariat Member U Kyaw Hsan assesses findings of discussions on the education sector. — MNA

comes to public health care, Myanmar is second to none. Thanks to these measures, SARS epidemic could not visit Myanmar. It is hearten-

and character, it is stated in the basic principles of the association to vitalize patriotism and maintain traditional culture. Nowadays, the people of

criterion. According to the motto: "morale, discipline, fitness and unity", the association is to discharge its share of responsibility in unison

Steps should be taken for extended gardening and planting perennial cash crops in states and divisions

ing to see the association to be of some help in that case.

The medical field trips covering states and divisions down to grass-roots will enable the health care services provided by the association to move with great velocity. Keeping the record of blood donors will be of great help in times of need for blood. Furthermore, blood donors' associations should also be formed in townships, wards and villages in order for emergency supply

Myanmar have come under the influence of alien culture, music, and mode of dress. It is therefore incumbent upon USDA members to counter this infiltration by preserving the traditional costumes of respective national races. It will be found that many a world nation is taking preventive measures against the disappearance of their own tradition and culture because of the threat of the technology age.

This being the case, it will be wise to

with the full sense of patriotism and nationalist aspiration.

Next, Daw Nan Mi Mi Maw, executive of Mongton Township USDA of Shan State (East) submitted the findings stemming from the discussions on education sector. She said the USDA gave birth to the education group on 1 January 2002.

Therefore, the education group is just over two years and ten months old only. Young as it is, it has been able to imple-



Secretariat Member U Aung Thaung assesses findings of discussions on the economic sector. — MNA

ment successfully and effectively a wide range of tasks. Its five objectives are of great help for its members to boost their trust in the coun-

and the Internet are opened in respective states and divisions.

Libraries are a must for the education aspect. They should be

government. In such an opportune time, USDA members are to move into high gear to launch education campaigns aimed at arming the pub-

In accord with five noble objectives, USDA upholding four economic objectives adopted by the State has carried out businesses for more than 11 years

try, the race and the association itself. It is found that the government has pinned its hope on the association to become a consolidated national force on which the State can rely. With its pragmatic objectives, the education group has also engaged in the tasks for the successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map.

It will be wise to broadcast teleplays and songs that portray and mirror the objectives of the State and the aims of

established in places down to grass roots so that both the members and the general public can enrich their knowledge. In fact, libraries are an instrument that can open up the minds of the people to acquire the sense of scruple.

It is necessary to educate the public on how to distinguish the right from the wrong with perception rather than with emotion. The education campaigns are intended to sharpen the perceptual skills of the

lic with efficiency, capability, knowledge, and expertise. The effectiveness of these measures resulted not only in the rise of the membership but also in that of their quality.

As the tasks the education group carried out in accord with the aims set by the association bear fruit, the other associations of states and divisions should do the same thing.

Regarding the findings from the discussion on peace and tranquility



Secretariat Member U Thaung assesses findings of discussions on the organizational sector. — MNA

the association so that the general public can witness the measure of national development.

For technological development, the education group also conducts courses with the use of the computers and the Internet access. It will be beneficial to the members if courses on computer

people. So enormous and crucial are the tasks the education group is carrying out that organizational campaigns should reach the people from all walks of life.

Now is the time when the country is gaining speed in its development momentum under the able leadership of the

and solidarity to success of the seven-point Road Map, executive U Nan Za Mong of Tiddim Township USDA said the political objective of the Union of Myanmar is from peace and tranquility and solidarity to success of the seven-point Road Map.

(See page 9)



CEC Member U Thein Swe assesses the findings of discussions on the administration sector. — MNA



Secretariat Member U Tin Htut assesses the findings of discussions on the social and cultural sector. — MNA

Association members are to take part in task for success of the Road Map



(from page 8)

Myanmar has definite territory in the first, second and third Myanmar kingdoms and the people have been living in unity. Myanmar has existed for thousands of years as a strong one with efficient administrative system in South East Asia. Western nations became stronger due to industrial development and they practised imperialism and monopolized economic system. The majority of East Asian nations became their colonies. Myanmar also became a colony. Unity of the country weakened and misunderstanding and armed conflict among the people occurred. Lack of peace and stability and unity was evil legacy with less economic growth in the country for 50 years.

The present government carried out the task for peace and stability as the first priority and made peace with armed groups. If there is stability in the country, the government made efforts for development. Development tasks were implemented in border areas that lagged behind in development for various reasons. The Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races chaired by Head of State Patron of the USDA Senior General Than Shwe was formed. The 24 development re-

gion projects and rural development projects were implemented for the development of the entire Union after the border areas development project.

Altogether 167 dams were built and 265 river water pumping projects were undertaken for agricultural development. A total of 34,726 miles of roads and 1,148 miles of railroads, 188 bridges with over 180 feet span and 10 new airports were built. Communication networks were built in the whole country. Electric

soon. In the health sector, Myanmar is free from polio and leprosy and the government is combating TB and malaria. Altogether 182 hospitals were opened and some were upgraded in 24 development regions. Modern equipment was installed in major hospitals.

Today is the time for ensuring peace and tranquillity and building of a democratic nation. The seven-point Road Map was laid down by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. We all have to march towards democ-



Dabayin Township USDA Executive Daw Hnin Hnin Khaing submits report regarding the findings of discussions about the economic sector. — MNA

power is essential for economic growth and uplift of living standard. In over ten years 767 megawatts more were generated. Mone hydel electric power, Yenwe and Yeywa electric power projects can generate more power in the future.

In connection with the social sector, he said education for all project was carried out. Literacy rate is now over 93 per cent. Basic education schools, universities and colleges were opened nationwide and school enrollment rate is high and it is 96.9 per cent. Hence, highly-qualified human resources needed for the country will emerge

racy. The National Convention comprising delegates from the various strata of society and all walks of life reconvened according to the first step of the seven-point future policy programme (Road Map) through unity of the entire people.

It is believed that the government is making efforts for acquiring the three points— peace and stability, strong economy of the State and uplift of national education needed for building a democratic State. He called for par-

ticipation of members in the task for success of the seven-point Road Map through unity of the entire people.

Joint-Secretary of Shan State (North) USDA U Aye Thauang submitted a report to the meeting as regards findings of the discussions about the sector for boosting qualifications of new generation youths. He said that through co-ordination, the Group 7 held discussions for seeking solutions to some questions such as “What is the real essence of a youth’s life?”, “How is the situation of today’s youths?”, “What are public attitudes to Myanmar new generation youths?”, and “In which role the youths will take part?”.

Naturally, youths love and adore truth and are active and curious about everything. And they are diligent but can easily be swayed by their surroundings. If originally bright youths are well trained to be equipped with the spirit of a follower as well as abilities of a leader, they will become the nation’s reliable qualified leaders with vast experience in future.

The Union of Myanmar, a peaceful land, in which Ayeyawady, Thanlwin, Sittoung, Chindwin, Shweli Dokhtawady rivers flow, is abundantly rich in natural resources. Now is the time when the people are enjoying unity, tranquillity and speedy development thanks to the correct leadership of the present government. He expressed his belief that the essence of new generation youths

means deeply participation in nation-building tasks as members of USDA, which is training and nurturing youths. And the goal “emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation” has been

opportunities for the entire people to pursue education in the nation including rural regions and border areas. So, what youths should do is just to study hard to become outstanding ones that are to be on a



Mongton Township USDA Executive Daw Nan Mi Mi Maw presents report regarding the findings of discussions on the education sector. — MNA

laid down based on the nation’s history. Peace, unity, strong economy and ability to distinguish good and bad are at the very core of tasks for achieving the national goal. As the youths who are human resources can shape the brighter future of the nation, all possible steps are to be taken for training and nurturing

par with international community. For instance, India has been able to produce youths computer experts in the nation, and even the US is relying on the nation in the field. With the abilities of its youths, Singapore is achieving success in the economic sphere of the world. The People’s Republic of China is trans-



Kayah State USDA Executive U Maw Yai submits report regarding the findings of discussions on the social and cultural sector. — MNA

them and fulfilling their requirements. Therefore, the youths will play the central role in the nation’s political affairs in future.

The Government has built new universities and colleges and created

forming itself into a modern developed one, exerting the strength of its national youths.

That is why the USDA is conducting a variety of courses (See page 10)

Members are to make efforts bearing in mind the social and cultural aspect is central to the organizational aspect

Kathina robes offering ceremonies of PPE, IPRD, MMPE, MRTV held

YANGON, 21 Nov — The communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise and the Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise under the Ministry of Information was held at Yadana Beikman Monastery in Mayangon Township this morning, attended by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Present on the occasion were Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Candobhasa and members of Sangha, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, directors-general and managing



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan offers alms to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Candobhasa. — MNA

directors, officials and staff families.

The minister and congregation received the Five Precepts from the presiding sayadaw.

Afterwards, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein offered provisions to the sayadaw. Afterwards,

Managing Director of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise U Bo Kyi offered Kathina robes to members of Sangha.

Next, Director-Gen-

eral of the Information and Public Relations Department U Chit Naing, Acting Managing Director of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Thet Soe and directors and officials offered provisions to the member of Sangha.

Afterwards, the minister and congregation received the sermon delivered by the presiding sayadaw and shared the merits gained.

Similarly, the second communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of the Myanmar Radio and Television and the Information and Public Relations Department under the Ministry of Information

was held at NanU Parahita Monastery on Mayangon Township this morning, attended by Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay, Director-General of IPRD U Chit Naing, officials and staff families.

The congregation received the Nine Precepts from NanU Monastery Sayadaw Dhammacariya Maha Saddhamma jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Dhammaseta.

The director-general of MRTV and Adviser of IPRD U Aung San offered Kathina robes to the members of Sangha. Next, the congregation shared the merits gained.

MNA

Members are to adhere...



(from page 9)

constantly so as to sharpen the ability of the youths. So far, the Asso-

Myanmar female youths.

Greater success can be achieved in the organization tasks by actively participating in rural development tasks and community welfare services. He also stressed the importance of the sports sector in the process.

Measures are to be taken for turning the quantitative improvement into qualitative improvement of the members. And steps

youths.

In conclusion, on behalf of the members and the youths, he solemnly pledged that the members will continue to polish the role of the Association to be a strong national force capable of successfully implementing the State's



Tiddim Township USDA Executive U Nan Za Moun submits report regarding findings of discussions on the sector for successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map. — MNA.

ciation has nurtured more than 2.8 million youths by opening the courses for over 18,000 times.

The youth members' acts reflect that they are winning trust and reliance of the people and the members and the people are sheer united in all things. The youths are the ones who will hand down Our Three Main National Causes to the posterity. The youths' national outlook, patriotism, Union Spirit and qualifications are essential for safeguarding and defending the motherland and building a modern Tatmadaw. The USDA is thus striving for development of the youths in the nation numbering around 23 million. In the process, the priority has been given to nurturing of



Shan State (North) USDA Joint-Secretary U Aye Thauang submits report regarding findings of discussions on sector for raising qualifications of new generation youths. — MNA

are to be taken for promoting the members' professional skills as well as creating job opportunities for them.

Secretary U Aye Thauang suggested that the youths are to work hard to become reliable ones, who can hand down the Association's noble conviction to the new generation

seven-point Road Map that can guarantee emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation.

The meeting went into a recess and resumed at 10.15 am. It was pre-

Bago Division (East) USDA members donate blood at Bago People's Hospital

YANGON, 21 Nov — As a gesture of hailing the nine future tasks laid down by the Annual General Meeting (2004) of the Union Solidarity and

Development Association, members of the Bago Division (East) USDA on 21 November donated blood at Bago People's Hospital.

Central Executive Committee Member of USDA Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, together with Secretary of Bago Division (East) USDA U Saw Maw Tun and officials, viewed around the blood donation ceremony and provided K 100,000 to the hospital to buy medical equipment to be used in blood donation. Acting Medical Superintendent

Dr Thin Thin Yi Win accepted the cash. A total of 120 USDA members donated blood.

During in Bago, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min also attended the 6th communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of Bago Division (East) USDA held at Monastic Education School in Pangyagon Ward, Bago, and offered Kathina robes to members of the Sangha. Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min also provided exercise books to 27 students at the school.

MNA



Leikha Township USDA Joint-Secretary Daw Nan Su Nwe emcees third-day afternoon session with Mon State USDA Joint-Secretary Daw Yi Yi Myint. — MNA

ing the reports on various sectors such as organizational tasks, management, economy, social and cultural affairs, and education, USDA Secretariat member U Thauang, CEC member U Thein Swe, and Secretariat members U Aung Thauang, U Tin Htut and U Kyaw Hsan assessed the matters, and the third day session of the meeting concluded.

MNA



Namkham Township USDA Joint-Secretary Daw Nan Han Sein emcees third-day morning session with Injanyan Township USDA Executive Daw Nan Ywe. — MNA



World Wushu Federation Executives Mr Patrick Van Compenhout and Mr Anthony Goh welcomed at the airport by MWF President U Khin Maung Lay and an official. (News on page 2) — NLM

Myingyan Sayadaw's remains to convey to Sankyaungdaw

YANGON, 21 Nov — The final rites to convey the remains of Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Presiding Sayadaw of Koesaungtaik Maha Withutayama Pakokku Kyaungthit Monastery in Myingyan, Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhama Jotika Bhaddanta Sobhita to Sankyaungdaw will be held at Nikaya Monastery in Dagon Myothit (South) at 1 pm on 25 November.

MNA

Invitation to final rites for Myingyan Sayadaw

YANGON, 21 Nov — The remains of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman Myingyan Sayadaw will be incinerated as a final rite on 27 November. All the laity of the Sayadaw from far and near are invited to pay obeisance to the Sayadaw at Pitakat Thonbon Nikaya Monastery in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

MNA

Lay disciples at Pitakat Thonbon Nikaya Monastery in Dagon Myothit (South) Township pay reverence to the remains of Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita.

MNA



Police Col Myint Thein and wife Daw Kyi Kyi San offer alms to a Sayadaw.

SID

Kathina robes offered

YANGON, 21 Nov — The 12th robes offering ceremony of the Special Investigation Department of the Myanmar Police Force was held at Aungthabyay Yeyeiktha in Mayangon Township this morning.

It was attended by

Head of the SID, Police Col Myint Thein and wife and others.

At the ceremony, Police Col Myint Thein and the congregation offered *soon*, robes and provisions to Secretary Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maharatha Guru Abhi-

dhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and 22 members of the Sangha, followed the sharing of merits gained.

MNA

Monks and laity pay obeisance to Myingyan Sayadaw



YANGON, 21 Nov — Members of the Sangha and laity far and near paid obeisance to the remains of Myingyan Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Sobhita at Pylonchantha Theindawgyi in the compound of the Five Nikayas and Three Pitakas Monastery, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, on 17 November.

The Sayadaw is

the Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Chancellor of the State Pariyatti Sasana Universities and the Pakokku Maha Visudtarama Nikaya Monastery, and Presiding Sayadaw of the Myingyanmyo KoeSaung Monastery and the Five Nikayas and Three Pitakas Monastery of Dagon Myothit (South).

Religious associations of the township re-

cited parittas in an attitude of paying homage to the Sayadaw.

Beginning 7 pm, sermons are delivered every day at the ceremony of the final rite for the Sayadaw. Dhammacariya Pali Specialist Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Suriyabhivamsa (Khinmakan Sayadaw) will deliver a sermon tomorrow at the central pavillion.

MNA

Tawwin Thante Monastery in Mandalay to be renovated

YANGON, 21 Nov — A ceremony to start the renovation of Tawwin Thante Monastery donated by King Mindon in 1869 without harming its original style was held in conjunction with the opening of multi-media classrooms of No 10 BEHS at the school in Aungmyaythazan Township, Mandalay, yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen

Ye Myint, Minister for Education U Than Aung, Mandalay City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein, local authorities, the directors general of the Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) and No 2 Basic Education Department (Upper Myanmar) and USDA members and officials.

Director General of No 2 Basic Education Department (Upper Myanmar) Lt-Col Win Htein, Headmistress Daw San San Pe and member

of the school board of trustees U Htay Kywe formally opened the renovation ceremony of the monastery, the commander formally unveiled the stone plaque.

Next, Minister U Than Aung formally unveiled the signboard of the school at the opening of multi-media classrooms.

The commander, the minister and party inspected the school. Later, wellwishers made cash donations for the funds towards the school.

MNA



President Professor Dr Sein Myint of Myanmar Engineering Society makes clarification at the presentation of arrangements for holding 22nd Conference of ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organizations, on 20-11-2004 at MICT Park. — NLM

Efficient use of electricity

- * Use daylight as the main source of light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- * Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Jordan attracts more tourists in 2004

AMMAN, 20 Nov—Jordan witnessed a notable increase of tourists in the first three quarters of this year, with a 13-per-cent growth compared to the same period in 2003, the Tourism Ministry said Friday in a Press release.

According to the release, the biggest increase was recorded in visitors from the United States, with a 53.3-per-cent rise from the same period of last year.

Arrivals from Europe also increased 46.6 per cent to reach 179,191. The country also witnessed a substantial rise in visitors from Asia and the Pacific Rim with a 42.8-per-cent increase. According to the figures, some 80,377 tourists from Asian countries visited Jordan between January and September, compared to 56,294 during the same period of 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

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Dated 22 November 2004

"Twenty-Four Histories" translated into modern Chinese

BELING, 20 Nov— The head editor of the project to translate China's complete histories from classical language to modern Chinese announced Friday that the edition is complete.

It took more than 200 Chinese professors 13 years to translate the texts.

The *Twenty-Four Histories*, 470-million-word biographical records of China up to the Ming Dynasty (1644), have been recognized as the most authoritative works of Chinese history.

The new edition, with more than 600 million Chinese characters, is the first complete translation of the *Twenty-Four Histories* into modern Chinese.

"The translation will not only help today's Chinese better understand the nation's past, it will also promote understanding of China by the whole world," said Xu Jialu, editor-in-chief of the project and vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

"More and more foreign people have shown interest in China and Chinese history," he said. "China needs to let the world know itself, including its long past, in its efforts to embrace the world."

Previously, the ancient writings were almost inaccessible to foreigners who have enough trouble tackling modern Chinese, he noted.—MNA/Xinhua

Nearly two-thirds of coral reefs officially endangered

BANGKOK, 20 Nov— Even though nearly two-thirds of coral reefs are now officially endangered, some are bouncing back despite warmer oceans and pollution, giving hope the marine marvels are not completely doomed, scientists said on Friday.

In particular, researchers are encouraged by the recovery of coral reefs in remote or well-protected areas from the devastating coral "bleaching" effect of the 1998 El Nino weather phenomenon, during which sea surface temperatures rose well above normal.

Described as a "one in a thousand year event", the bleaching, which killed off vast swathes of reefs across the globe, has not been repeated to anything like the same extent in the past six years.

"Recovery should continue provided there

are no major climate shifts in the next few decades," scientists said in a summary of the 2004 edition of *Status of Coral Reefs of the World*, released at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in the Thai capital.

"However, the recovery is not uniform and many reefs virtually destroyed in 1998 are showing minimal signs of recovery," they said.

The full report, which says 58 per cent of the world's coral reefs are now endangered, is to be made public next month.

Humans continue to

represent the single biggest threat to coral reefs, some of the most spectacular places on earth populated with some of nature's weirdest and most wonderful creatures.

About 100,000 species living in and around coral reefs have so far been logged, although some scientists believe the real total may top two million.

In particular, the report cited sedimentation, land-based pollution and over-fishing as the biggest threats to the ecosystems.

Conversely, threats from nature seem to be easing off.—MNA/Reuters



Welcome to

KOREAN PRODUCTS SHOW - 2004

November 25 - 27, 2004 (10:00 am to 4:30 pm)

YANGON TRADE CENTRE

EXHIBITION COVERAGE: Electronics • Electric & Electric Products • Cables • Industrial Machineries & Tools • Construction Materials • Roofing & Flooring Materials • Rubber Boat • Automobile Tire & Tube • Musical Instruments • Pharmaceuticals • Ginseng Products • Consumer Goods • Foodstuff • Kitchenware • Optical Frames & Sunglasses • Skincare Products • Fashion Accessories & Cosmetics • Korean Food

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UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Stores which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
1.	12(T)30/MR(MC) 2004-2005	Taper Bearing Unit AAR Class "B" Adaptor for AAR Class "B"	68-Nos 68-Nos
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Closing Date. -14.12.2004 (Tuesday) (12:00) Hours.

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 22.11.2004 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982, 201555 Ext-602,605,612

Deputy General Manager

Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung, Yangon

Saudi Arabia imports 300,000 cars annually

ABU DHABI, 20 Nov— Saudi Arabia imports more than 300,000 cars with a total value of over eight billion US dollars annually, Saudi Arab News daily reported Friday.

Population growth and changing social patterns contribute most to the purchase spree in the kingdom, which is the largest automobile market in the Middle East, sources inside the sector were quoted as saying.

Japanese models continue to be the most popular hit in the kingdom, and American cars follow closely with a 30-per-cent market share. Other major suppliers include South Korea, Germany, France and Malaysia.

Statistics showed that new cars and sport utility vehicles (SUV) represent almost 46 per cent of the overall market.

Second-hand cars account for about a quarter of the market share, but only 13 per cent of the value, with the United States and

Germany leading in the sector.

General Motors (GM), Ford, and Chrysler's Jeep brands are among the most popular vehicles in the country.

The Saudi Government levies 5-per-cent Customs tariff on all automobiles and auto aftermarket imports, the daily cited the official report as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

Birthrate on decline in Xinjiang

URUMQI, 20 Nov— The local family-planning departments said the birthrate in northwest China's Xinjiang Autonomous Region continued to decline this year.

In 2001, the birthrate in Xinjiang had dropped to 16.8 per cent. Last year the rate was 16 per cent. By the end of last year, a total of 586,000 families, including 85,000 minority nationality families, promised to have only one child.

An official from the financial bureau of the autonomous region said some 1.5 million yuan (1.8 million US dollars) had been allotted to fund programmes encouraging local young farmers and herdsmen to have fewer children.

The Chinese Government implements a family planning policy with the aim of promoting economic and social development, raising people's living standards, enhancing the quality of its population and safeguarding the people's rights to enjoy a better life.

Family planning is also being encouraged among minority nationalities to further their well-being and prosperity.—MNA/Xinhua

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Cyclones, heatwaves can batter Asia by end of century

SINGAPORE, 20 Nov — More severe tropical cyclones, heatwaves and a dramatic shift in rainfall patterns could batter Asia by the end of the century as its factories boom, a leading climate expert told Asian chief executives on Friday.

The average temperature of major Asian cities could rise by 3 to 10 degrees Celsius by the end of the century, while longer droughts and flooding threaten rural areas, said David Griggs, director of the UK Met Office's Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research.

"We expect to see more heatwaves, more warm nights, that land areas will warm quicker than the global average," he told *Reuters* after speaking to the Asia Business Council, whose members include executives of some of Asia's biggest companies.

"We expect that sea levels will rise between 9 centimetres and 88 centimetres (3.5 to 34.6 inches), that we will very likely see more intense precipitation events, more floods, more droughts," he said.

The rare presentation on the risk of climate change to one of Asia's most powerful business groups represents the recognition that a severe deterioration in Asia's ecology and environment could accompany the region's rapid economic development.

It also demonstrated that concern over global warming was spreading to the world's fastest growing economies, and was no longer regarded as primarily a Western issue.

"Everyone was fully engaged in hearing what he has to say," said Ruth Shapiro, executive director of the council, whose members include leaders from 52 major firms such as Standard Chartered PLC, Singapore Airlines Ltd. and Fuji Xerox Co. Ltd.

MNA/Reuters



This combo picture released by Japanese tiremaker Bridgestone shows a dolphin named Fuji jumping out of the water with the world's first artificial rubber fin at an aquarium in Japan's southern island of Okinawa on 19 Nov, 2004. —INTERNET

France, Mexico to strengthen cooperation

MEXICO CITY, 20 Nov — Visiting French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin said here Thursday that France and Mexico should strengthen bilateral cooperation in dealing with the challenges of social and economic development and combating terrorism and organized crimes.

It is inevitable that France and Mexico will confront difficulties in the process of social and economic development, Raffarin said at a welcome ceremony given by the Mexican Parliament.

Enterprises in the two countries should step up cooperation if they expect to be competitive, and not lag behind in science and technology, the minister said. — MNA/Xinhua

Russia to boost "IT" industry

MOSCOW, 20 Nov — Russia aims to raise the revenue of its information technology (IT) industry to 40 billion US dollars by 2010, up from 7.5 billion in 2004, a senior official said Thursday.

At a government meeting, Telecommunications Minister Leonid Reiman unfolded a strategy for information technology by 2010, under which the annual growth rate of the IT industry will rise from 25 per cent to 30 per cent in the coming years.

Though growing faster than the whole economy, Russia's IT industry contributes only 1.4 per cent to the gross domestic product, and claims only 0.7 per cent of the world market.

MNA/Xinhua

Environment activists to stir up stink about pollution of Thames

LONDON, 20 Nov — Environment activists will on Tuesday stir up a stink about the pollution of London's River Thames with raw sewage.

Two teams of rowers wearing gas masks and each towing giant inflatable representing faeces will race each other down the river, to protest what they see as a lack of investment in London's antiquated sewers. Rowers Against Tideway Sewage (RATS) and Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) will then present a petition to the department of the environment demanding that the city gets a new sewage system as part of a five year spending plan to be finalized next month.

"There is no investment planned to tackle the storm sewer overflows which can dump thousands of tonnes of raw sewage into the Thames as many as 60 times a year," RATS team spokesman Anatole Beams said.

The river that winds its way through the centre of the city of seven million people now prides itself on being the cleanest urban waterway in Europe after being declared dead in the 1960s. But extreme weather events such as torrential downpours overwhelm the city's 1840s-built sewage system, forcing the authorities to open the sluice gates into the river. In August this year a major rainstorm flooded the combined sewage and storm water system forcing 600,000 tons of untreated sewage into the river and killing thousands of fish. A report in October last year said up to one quarter of the city's brickwork sewers were either leaking severely or on the verge of collapse. — MNA/Reuters

Hu Jintao asks South Korea to recognize China's market eco status

SANTIAGO, 21 Nov — Chinese President Hu Jintao on Friday asked South Korea to recognize China's status as a full market economy.

Seoul's recognition will help enhance bilateral economic cooperation as China has become South Korea's largest trading partner. Hu told his South Korean counterpart, Roh Moo-hyun.

Such a recognition is of mutual benefit and will create a win-win situation, said Hu, who met Roh on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum meeting here.

The Chinese leader briefed Roh on China's achievements in economic reform since the country opened its doors in the late 1970s and em-

phasized that his country has taken decisive steps to establish a market economy system.

Roh said he has asked South Korean agencies to submit a report on China's market economy status as soon as possible.

Roh said his country has high hopes for bilateral relations as it believes that China's success will bring more business opportunities.

Hu said cooperation has been deepened since the two leaders announced the establishment of a full-range partnership in Beijing last year.

MNA/Xinhua

China to allow foreign investment in TV industry

BEIJING, 20 Nov — China will allow foreign investors to buy stakes in entertainment television production companies, beginning 28 November.

The change in regulations will widen access for international big name media companies in the world's largest TV market by allowing foreign investors to own up

to 49 per cent of entertainment programme producers.

Foreign media companies will not be allowed to make news programmes, according to the regulation promulgated recently by the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television. The regulation also said ventures must have minimum paid-up capital of two million US

dollars and use Chinese themes in two-thirds of programmes.

"It is already a big step forward in China's TV industry. Two years ago, even the country's private TV companies could not get the favourable policies the foreign companies have got today," said an insider of the country's TV industry.

MNA/Xinhua

Gas canister blows up inside Russian submarine

MOSCOW, 20 Nov — A gas canister blew up inside a Russian submarine, thought to be one of the nuclear vessels of the Pacific fleet, killing a sailor who managed to prevent a much worse accident, Russia's NTV television reported on Friday. The incident came to light when a funeral was held for the sailor who died, 19-year-old Dmitry Koval.

MNA/Reuters



Chinese models parade on a catwalk during the 10th China New Fashion Designers' Contest in Beijing on 19 Nov, 2004. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Man Utd climb up to fourth with 2-0 home win over Charlton

LONDON, 21 Nov—Ryan Giggs and Paul Scholes scored their first Premier League goals of the season to give Manchester United a 2-0 victory over Charlton Athletic in Alex Ferguson's 999th match in charge of the club on Saturday.

Giggs, who last scored in the league in March, opened the scoring after 41 minutes when his left foot shot took a wicked deflection off Charlton defender Luke Young giving goalie Dean Kiely no chance.

Scholes, who turned 30 on Tuesday and who last scored for United in the FA Cup semifinal win over Arsenal on April 3, ended his drought with a spectacular 50th minute volley after a perfect cross from Darren Fletcher.

Ferguson, whose 1,000th match is against Olympique Lyon in the Champions League on Tuesday, left the dugout beaming as United's victory moved them up to fourth place in the table, on 24 points from 14 matches.—MNA/Reuters



Ryan Giggs celebrates scoring Manchester United's opening goal against Charlton. Goals from Giggs and Paul Scholes either side of the interval earned United a 2-0 home victory that inched them closer to the English Premiership leaders.—INTERNET

Federer wins epic tie-break in Masters Cup tennis final

HOUSTON, 21 Nov— World number one and defending champion Roger Federer won an epic 20-18 tie-break to seal a 6-3, 7-6 win over Marat Safin on Saturday and place in the Masters Cup final.

Federer will now meet two-time Masters winner Lleyton Hewitt in the finale to the 2004 season after the Australian defused the hard-hitting American Andy Roddick 6-3, 6-2. The final will give the fired up Hewitt one last chance at revenge over his Swiss rival, who has claimed victories in all five of their meetings this season, including a straight sets demolition in the final of the US Open.

The form player coming into the 4.45 million US dollars season ending tournament with back-to-back Masters wins

in Paris and Madrid, Safin might have hoped to have the edge on Federer who is playing his first event in almost month after straining his left thigh muscle.

Coached by Federer's former mentor Peter Lundgren, Safin might have also hoped for some valuable inside information. But if Safin did have any tips they did not work against the 23-year-old Swiss, who has quickly returned to the sublime form that carried him to three Grand Slam titles this season and 10 tournament wins.—MNA/Reuters

Answers for yesterday's crossword puzzle



Barca outclass Real to emphatic 3-0 win

MADRID, 21 Nov—Primera Liga leaders Barcelona produced a sparkling display of fluent, attacking football to outclass arch-rivals Real Madrid on their way to an emphatic 3-0 win at the Nou Camp on Saturday.

Former Real player Samuel Eto'o put Barca in front just before the half-hour when he made the most of a mix-up between defender Roberto Carlos and keeper Iker Casillas to notch his 10th goal of the season.

Dutch defender Giovanni van Bronckhorst doubled the Barca lead just before the break when he drilled home at the far post to finish off a dizzying passing move involving Ronaldinho and Deco.

The outstanding Ronaldinho wrapped up a brilliant win when he fired home from the penalty spot after Guti had wrestled Eto'o to the ground when the African Player of the Year scorched his way into the area 15 minutes from time.—MNA/Reuters

League leaders make two major surprises in Saturday games

LONDON, 21 Nov— League leaders Chelsea allowed Bolton Wanderers to recover from two goals down to force a 2-2 draw at Stamford Bridge in one of two major surprises in the Premier League on Saturday.

The other came at Highbury where champions Arsenal, trailing Chelsea by two points in the title race, also allowed victory to slip from their grasp as lowly West Bromwich Albion fought back to draw 1-1 with a late equalizer.

Everton closed the gap on the leading pair with a 1-0 home win over Fulham, while Middlesbrough also stayed in the hunt with a 2-0 win over Liverpool, who at least welcomed Steven Gerrard back as a second-half substitute after two months out with a broken foot.

With 14 matches played, Chelsea stay top with 33 points, followed by Arsenal on 31, Everton 29 and Middlesbrough 25. Manchester United moved on to 24 points and Bolton 23.

At the other end of the table Norwich City won for the first time in the league this season at the 14th attempt, beating Southampton 2-1 at Carrow Road with Damien Francis scoring twice. That lifted them off the bottom, replaced by Blackburn Rovers who play Birmingham City at home on Sunday.

At Stamford Bridge the kickoff was delayed for 30 minutes because of traffic congestion, but nothing stopped Chel-

sea hitting top gear from the off, scoring through Damien Duff after just 37 seconds.

Tiago doubled their lead when he scored for the second successive week, forcing the ball home from close range after 48 minutes.

Kevin Davies pulled one back for Bolton after 52 minutes, but Chelsea still appeared to be heading for their ninth successive win in all competitions until the dying minutes when Radhi Jaïdi scored with a half-volley from close range to give Bolton an unlikely draw.

Across London Arsenal were just as dominant against West Brom, but Arsene Wenger's men also stumbled and failed to take all three points from a game they should have won easily.

Robert Pires, who scored in Arsenal's 5-4 win over Spurs last week, scored again when Russell Hoult fumbled his curing shot after 54 minutes.

But the visitors equalized when substitute Robert Earnshaw, who had only been on for four minutes, stole in at the far post to score his fourth goal in three games 11 minutes from time.

MNA/Reuters

Hewitt defuses Roddick, scurrying into Masters final

HOUSTON, 21 Nov— A fired-up Lleyton Hewitt defused hard-hitting Andy Roddick 6-3, 6-2 on Saturday, scurrying into the final of the Masters Cup for the third time in four years.

Back at his feistiest and fist-pumping best, the Adelaide fighter took the best shots the big-serving American could offer and gave back better to finish off the Texan in just 58 minutes.

Hewitt will now await the winner of another riveting battle later in the day between world number one and defending champion Roger Federer and in-form Russian Marat Safin. Grey skies and threatening weather at the Westside Tennis Club were brightened by two mouth-watering semifinals featuring the cream

of the new generation — all 24 or younger, all current or former-world number ones and all with Grand Slam titles on their resumes. The first semifinal looked to be an intriguing clash pitting the sport's heaviest-hitter against its consummate counter-puncher.

Roddick, who early in

the tournament became just the third player to serve more than 1,000 aces in the season, fired seven missiles past Hewitt in the opening set. But a relentless Hewitt, Masters champion in 2001 and 2002, would not be intimidated, weathering the assault and patiently waiting his chances.—MNA/Reuters



FC Barcelona player Ronaldinho, from Brazil, is followed by Real Madrid player Guti, left, during their League soccer match in Barcelona, Spain, on 20 Nov, 2004. FC Barcelona won, 3-0.—INTERNET

Castro praises China as new "engine of world economy"

HAVANA, 21 Nov — When Chinese President Hu Jintao visits Cuba next week, he will be greeted with expectations of badly needed investment and political support for a Communist ally that faces mounting US hostility.

Cuban President Fidel Castro on Tuesday lauded China as the new "engine of the world economy" that would eclipse the United States, and said Cuba was looking for Chinese backing to help double its nickel production.

Hu's first visit to Cuba as Chinese leader next Monday also could provide timely diplomatic support for the Western hemisphere's only communist nation, which faces four more years of sanctions and pressure following the reelection of US President George W. Bush, diplomats and analysts said.

For Cuba, China's status as a world power with a permanent seat on the UN Security Council could be a welcome counterweight, they said.

"This is very opportune. The visit has more significance than it might have had because of the reelection of Bush. The Cubans will be thankful given the tense situation with the United States," an Asian diplomat said.

Cuba turned to China a decade ago, after the collapse of Soviet Communism plunged the Caribbean island of 11 million into a severe crisis from which it has not fully recovered.

Although China responded with significant support and Castro has praised China's one-party system and rapid growth, the Cuban leader's abhorrence of capitalism has led him to reject Chinese market socialism as a model for Cuba.

Nevertheless, expanding relations with China is for now the best foreign policy choice for the Cuban leadership, one expert said.

"Relations with Europe are at a standstill, Russia has little to offer, and Latin American governments —except Venezuela— have other priorities," said Brian Latell, a former US intelligence analyst now with the Center for Strategic & International Studies in Washington.

Top-level Chinese military delegations frequently visit Havana, and Cuban military leaders have expressed interest in Chinese help for modernizing the Cuban Army.

But Western diplomats dismissed reports that China set up electronic eavesdropping stations in Cuba to monitor US signals, and said they saw no serious military or intelligence cooperation other than sales of conventional light weapons.

Cuba established relations with China in 1960, but Havana aligned itself with the Soviet Union and ties with Beijing remained distant and distrustful until the end of the Cold War.

Cuba sealed its friendship with China during a visit by former Chinese leader Jiang Zemin in 1993. While Jiang did not pick up the bill for Cuba's mismanaged economy as Soviet premiers had done, neither did he demand reforms, said Jaime Suchlicki, head of the University of Miami's Cuba Transition Project. — MNA/Reuters

China hopes to expand eco, trade cooperation with Turkey

ANKARA, 21 Nov — China hopes to expand Sino-Turkish economic and trade cooperation, said Chinese Vice-Premier Huang Ju here Friday at a meeting with Turkish President Ahmed Necdet Sezer.

Huang, who is here on an official visit as guest of Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Gul, said the two sides can enhance their cooperation in railway, telecommunications, investment, project engineering and tourism.

He said China and Turkey share identical or similar views on many major regional and international issues and enjoy wide-ranging common interests.

The Chinese side hopes to develop bilateral long-term and steady friendship and cooperation in an all-round way on the current basis, noted Huang. He also said China and Turkey, both victims of terrorist activities, are faced with the task of safeguarding national unity and territorial integrity, and it is in their common interests to strengthen bilateral cooperation in this regard.

Sezer said Turkey attaches importance to its relations with China and takes China as an important cooperative partner.

The Turkish side will develop comprehensive cooperation with China including economic and trade cooperation on the basis of mutual respect for

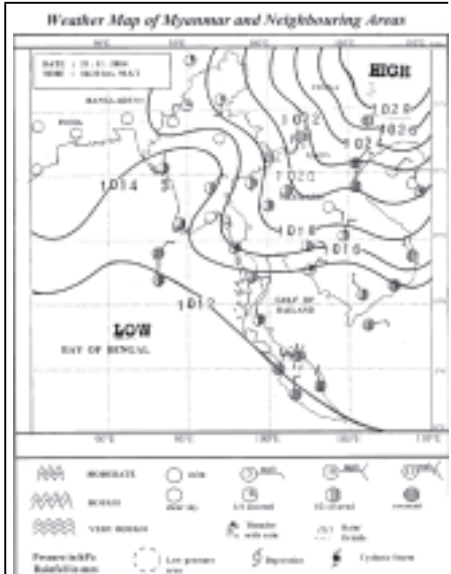
sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, said Sezer.

He noted that Turkey opposes terrorism of any form and will continue to strengthen cooperation with the international community including

China to combat terrorism.

Turkey is the third leg of Huang's four-nation tour. He visited Luxembourg and Ireland before arriving here Thursday and he is also scheduled to visit Egypt.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Sunday, 21 November, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Bago and Yangon Divisions and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Co Co Island (1.22) inches. Night temperatures were (6°C) above normal in Rakhine State, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions and (6°C) above normal in Rakhine State, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was (0°C) in Hakha.

Maximum temperature on 20-11-2004 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 21-11-2004 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 21-11-2004 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 20-11-2004 was (8.0) hours approx. Rainfall on 21-11-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was (112.24 inches) at Yangon Airport, (106.77 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (109.64 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 5 mph from Southwest at (09:40) hours MST on 21-11-2004.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 22-11-2004: Likelihood of isolated light rain in Southern Rakhine State, Ayeyawady, Yangon, Bago and Thanthayin 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 Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-11-2004: Possibility of isolated light rain. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 22-11-2004: Generally fair weather.



Monday, November 22
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. Song of national races

8:05 am

6. Cute little Dancers

8:15 am

7. အရေပြေညှိ

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Grammar made easy

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in reading

4:45 pm

4. Musical programme

5:00 pm

5. အစောင့်သစ်တို့အား ဝိညာဓာရီ ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယပိုင်း (သရုပ်ဆောင်: ပြု) (သရုပ်)

5:15 pm

6. Dance variety

5:30 pm

7. လက်ကိုင်ကစားစဉ်ကစား

5:40 pm

8. လွှမ်းမိုးနေသောလူငယ်တစ်ဦး

5:50 pm

9. Song and dance of national races

5:55 pm

10. Musical programme (The Radio myanmar modern music troupe)

6:10 pm

11. Discovery

6:15 pm

12. နိုင်ငံခြားသတင်းအချက်အလက် (အချက်အလက်)

6:30 pm

13. Evening news

7:00 pm

14. Weather report

7:05 pm

15. Musical programme

7:15 pm

16. Industrial achievement

7:25 pm

17. Musical programme

7:30 pm

18. မြန်မာ့ပြည်သူ့လွှာအား အသံလွှင့်သံတော် (မော်လမြိုင်)

8:00 pm

19. News

20. International news

21. Weather report

22. ပြည်ထောင်စုကြံ့ခိုင်ရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးအသင်းနှင့် ပတ်သက်သည့် သတင်းအချက်အလက် (၂၀၀၄) တတိယပိုင်း၊ ပြည်နယ်နှင့်တိုင်း၊ ပြည်ထောင်စု ကြံ့ခိုင်ရေး အသင်းများ၏ ကဏ္ဍ(၇)ရပ်အရ အဖွဲ့များမှတစ်ဆင့် ရရှိသော သတင်းအချက်အလက်

23. နိုင်ငံခြားသတင်းအချက်အလက် (အချက်အလက်)

24. The next day's programme



Monday, November 22

Tune in today:

8.30 am

Brief news

8.35 am

Music:

-Come on over

8.40 am

Perspectives

8.45 am

Music:

-Doodah

8.50 am

National news/Slogan

9:00 am

Music:

-Love is strange

9:05 am

International news

9:10 am

Music

-Happy nation

1.30 pm

News/Slogan

1.40 pm

Lunch time music:

-If we are only friends

-If ever you need me

9:00 pm

Spotlight on the star

Steps 5,6,7,8

-heart beat

-Stay with me

-This heart will love again

9:10 pm

Article

9:20 pm

Radio magazine

Dru Elimination

Golden land's melody

9:35 pm

-Dear Myanmar (Saw Yuri)

9:45 pm

News/Slogan

10:00 pm

PEL

Bilin Sugar Mill to produce 3,500 tons of sugar opens

YANGON, 21 Nov — A ceremony to open Bilin Sugar Mill of Myanmar Foodstuff Industries under the Ministry of Industry-1 during the period of sugarcane season 2004-2005 was held at this mill this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Deputy Minister for Industry-1

Brig-Gen Thein Tun, the Managing Director of MFI and guests, officials and sugarcane growers totalling 500. Next, Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun delivered addresses on the occasion. Souvenirs of the Minister were given to sugarcane growers by the Deputy Minister, the Managing Director and the Mill Manager.

Afterwards, the

Managing Director and the Secretary of Thaton District Peace and Development Council formally opened the sugar mill and the Commander and party viewed around it. Next, they went to the sugarcane purchase depot in Winpyan village of Bilin Township and observed purchase of sugarcane.

The sugar mill is expected to produce 3,500 tons of sugar during 2004-2005. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo and wife Daw Ni Ni Win offer Kathina robes to the Sayadaws. — A & I

A & I Ministry offers Kathina robes

YANGON, 21 Nov — The 13th robes offering ceremony of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was held at the assembly hall of the Ministry this morning. The minister and the congregation received the Nine Precepts from

Abidaja Maharatha Guru Bhaddanta Pañandabhivamsa, the Vice-Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee. The members of Sangha recited the Paritta.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo and wife Daw Ni

Ni Win offered robes and provisions to the Sayadaw and monks.

Next, Joint-Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Dwipitakadhara Dwipitaka Kovida Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa delivered a sermon. — MNA

Winners of National Literary Award announced

YANGON, 21 Nov — The National Literary Award Scrutinizing Committee under the Ministry of Information today announced the National Literary Award winners and prize-winning books after scrutinizing the books published during 2003.

National Literary Awards went to Hsaung Win Latt in the novel category, Khin Khin Htoo in the collection of short stories category, Salin Phone Kyaw in the collection of poems category, Daw Mi Mi Lay in the belles-letters

category, Maung Thitsa in the Myanmar culture and arts category, Myinmu Maung Naing Moe in the children's literature, Than Aung (Anyar Myay) in the youth literature category, Hlaing Thin in the translation (knowledge) category, Maung Tun Thu in the translation (aesthetics) category, Ma Kyan in the Knowledge (Arts) category, Kyaw Oo in the Knowledge (Science) category, Naing Shwe Moe in the Knowledge (Applied Science) category, Kyu Kyu Thin in the play category and

Dr Ma Tin Win in the politics category.

The prize presentation ceremony will be held at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street at 2 pm, on 12th December also the Sarsodaw Day.

The prize-winning writers are to contact the Sarpay Beikman on Merchant Street in Yangon (Tel-252560, Tel-240048 and Tel-381449). They are requested to report to the chief editor of Sarpay Beikman not later than November 25.

MNA

Writer Htay Maung wins 2003 Life-Long National Literary Award

YANGON, 21 Nov — Writer U Htay Maung was selected for the winner of National Life-Long Literary Award by National Literary Scrutinizing Committee of the Ministry of

Information in recognition of his brilliant life-long writing career contributed to the interest of Myanmar literature. The award will be presented on 12 December at a ceremony to present

National Literary Award, Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Prize and National Motto, Literary and Photo Award for 2003 to be held at National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street. — MNA

However, he said he should thought that basic methods and poetic essence should not be changed.

He was born of U Tun Nyan and Daw Tin Hla in Myaung, Sagaing Division in October 1952. His previous winning books are *Thanlwin kham-kabya* (1981), *Naga-taungtan-pwint-de-panhrit-achar-kabya-myar* (1991), *Kha-yaung-lan-*

Dr Ma Tin Win (Institute of Education)

In an interview with Dr Ma Tin Win (Institute of Education) who won two National Literary Awards, she said that she was born of U Ba Htay and Daw Daw Yin in Hsinphyukyun, Minbu District in 1940 and grew up in Yenangyoung. She passed Matriculation Exam at Yenangyoung No 1 Basic Education High

1963 and PhD (Methodology) from Soviet-Russia in 1970. She served as professor from 1970 to 1999 and then retired. At present, she is giving lectures on patriotism. As of 1968, she started writing in Pyinnyataung and Pyinnyalawka. She has written a total of 67 books on religion, history, love story, Jataka and classic. She was awarded the National Literary Award for the second time for her 60th creation. Her first award winning book is entitled "*KonBaung-GoSanYway*". Now, she completed the novel of "*SitMiMaNyein Myat-MaSeinNaingThi-Myay*" (Israel-Palestine) and a novel titled "*YeNan-SwanInn PaHta-MaKa-BarSittwin-Tho WinGae-Pyi*" will come out in mid-December. She expected that she will get more awards, she said. — NLM

An interview with National Literary Award winners

Article & Photos by Ko Ko Soe Nyunt

Myinmu Maung Naing Moe

"I am very glad to win the national literary award for the book, *Lawkaniti Kabya-myar*, and the government acknowledges my works. I will continue to write poems that serve the interest of the State and the people," said Myinmu Maung Naing Moe in an interview with *The New Light of Myanmar*.

He has won literary award (children's literature) for his book, *Lawkaniti Kabya-myar*. It was the fifth literary award won by him.

He said, "At the age of 14, I started writing poems, novels and articles. I have been

writing poems for 38 years."

"Using beautiful rhymes of Myanmar poem, poets should compose poems that promote the prestige of the nation and its people.

"The Myanmar-English bilingual book *Lawkaniti Kabya-myar* is of serious and valuable theme.

"But the poems in the book are written in easy poetic form. *Lawkaniti* (ethics) are guidelines for everyone and they include the teachings of Lord Buddha and quotations of learned persons", he said.

He said he preserved traditional composition of Myanmar



Myinmu Maung Naing Moe.

poem throughout his life from student days to literary worker.

He welcomed different styles of composing poem.

hma-pan-thabye kabya (1998) and *Nway-moe-phyan-pat-pan-ta-khet* (2001).



Dr Ma Tin Win.

School in 1956 and obtained BA degree from Yangon University in 1961. She also obtained BEd degree from Institute of Education (Yangon) in

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Perspectives

Strive for extended cultivation of oil palm, rubber and new crop (Page-2)