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Sunday, 28 November 2004

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



Senior General Than Shwe and party see off Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win at the airport on his departure for Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, to attend 10th ASEAN Summit.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win on his departure for 10th ASEAN Summit in Vientiane

YANGON, 27 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 left here by special aircraft for Vientiane, Laos to attend the 10th ASEAN Summit, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam Summit, Summits of the ASEAN Heads of State/Govern-

ment 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

to be held in Vientiane, Laos from 28 to 30 November 2004.

The Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chair-

man of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the

State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), (See page 8)

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Mauritania

YANGON, 28 Nov.—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Maouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania which falls on 28 November, 2004.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 28 November, 2004

Further cooperate to supply sufficient clean water to all rural areas

The Government has been putting a large number of development projects into operation the length and breadth of the nation in its drive for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

Among them are the border areas and national races development project, the 24 special regions development project and the five rural development tasks which are being implemented in harmony.

Joining hands with social organizations and the people, the Government is speeding up implementation of tasks for rural water supply, a basic requirement for realizing the development projects.

The ninth cash donations presenting ceremony for supplying clean water to rural areas, organized by the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, took place at the Development Affairs Department in Thanlyetsun, Botahtaung Township, on 26 November. Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepted the donations and delivered a speech on the occasion, saying that thanks to the rural water supply project, all the villages in eight townships have enjoyed fruitful results, adding that before long the project will also cover eight more townships. It is believed that the wellwishers' cash donations can be counted up, but their goodwill and generosity is too great to measure, he said.

With cash assistance rendered by the State, funds of respective Development Affairs Committees and cash donations by the Union Solidarity and Development Association, NGOs and the people, the rural water supply projects have been implemented since 2000-2001.

As a result, out of 8,042 villages in the three arid zones namely Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions, altogether 6,078 villages have enjoyed sufficient clean water, benefiting around seven million local residents. At the same time, respective Development Affairs committees are making efforts to supply sufficient potable water to local people in other states and divisions where water is scarce.

Up to the end of October 2004, sufficient clean water has been supplied to 6,098 against 15,183 villages in the states and divisions where water is scarce. As the cooperation of the State and wellwishers has resulted in a growing momentum in supplying clean water to rural areas, greater cooperation is needed to be able to supply sufficient clean water to all rural areas.

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

Yangon Commander inspects beautifying, upgrading tasks

YANGON, 27 — Accompanied by Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Deputy Mayor Col Maung Pa, No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint San, Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Secretary Lt-Col Myint Kyi and officials, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspected the beautifying and upgrading tasks of Yangon City today.

The commander



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects upgrading of roads in Yangon City.

YANGON COMMAND

and party inspected the tasks for sanitation and repaving in Sanchaung, Kyimyindine, Kamayut,

Mayangon, Insein, Hlaingthaya and Shwepyitha townships. During the inspec-

tion tours, the commander gave necessary instructions to the officials.

MNA

Workshop on Capacity Enhancement concludes

YANGON, 27 Nov — The last-day session of the Workshop on Capacity Enhancement of

here this morning.

A groupwise assessments were made in connection with the two

Malaysian Institute of Economic Research Mr Shankaran Nambiar and "Globalization and South

Jin-Young Chung.

Dr Mohamed Ariff, Executive Director of the MIER elaborated on matters related to the findings of the first paper, and Dr Jin-Young Chung on the other paper.

At the closing ceremony of the workshop, CSSTB Chairman Dr Than Nyun presented certificates to participants through the leaders of respective groups.

Organized by the Civil Service Selection and Training Board and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation of Japan, the workshop successfully ended after speeches delivered by the SPF of Japan Executive Director Dr Seki Akinori and CSSTB Chairman Dr Than Nyun.

MNA



CSSTB Chairman Dr Than Nyun addresses concluding ceremony of Workshop on Capacity Enhancement of Myanmar Civil Service-2004. — MNA

Myanmar Civil Service 2004 (Yangon) took place at the Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road

papers read out in the third-day session — "Privatisation in Malaysia" by Research Fellow of the

Korea Challenges, Perception and Responses" by Associate Professor of Kyunghee University Dr

Min Naing leads First Kasco Open Golf Championship



YANGON, 27 Nov — The First Kasco Open Golf Championship continued at Shwemantaung Golf Course in Mandalay this morning.

After the third round, Min Naing (Srixon) was leading the profes-

sional golfers division with 206 strokes.

Aung Win (YCDC), Soe Kyaw Naing (Srixon) and Kyaw Swa Lin (Srixon) tied at the second place with 207 strokes each and Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) at third

with 209.

In the amateur golfers division, Zaw Zin Win was standing first with 209 strokes. His runners-up were Myo Min Aung with 213 and Bo Bo with 215.

The Championship is being sponsored by Heritage Sports and Gold Co Ltd together with co-

sponsors Air Bagan, Imperial Jade Drinking Water, Myanmar Berwery Ltd and Shwemantaung Golf Club. And, it is organized by Han Event Management.

The fourth round of the championship continues tomorrow.

MNA

**The best time to plant a tree
was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.**

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရ ဌာနပိုင်
မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ့

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့်
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အတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်
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၂၀၀၄ - ဇူလိုင်၊ နိုဝင်ဘာလအတွက်

နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) ၂၈-၁၁-၂၀၀၄ ရက်နေ့

၂၀၀၄ - ဇူလိုင်၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာလအတွက်

(၁၂-၁၂-၂၀၀၄) ရက်နေ့နှင့်

(၂၆-၁၂-၂၀၀၄) ရက်နေ့

Singapore, Thailand to persuade ASEAN for earlier FTA timetable

VIENTIANE (Laos), 27 Nov — Leaders of Singapore and Thailand will persuade their ASEAN counterparts at the upcoming summit for an earlier timetable for a single market in the region, the grouping's secretary-general Ong Keng Yong said here on Friday.

If Singapore and Thailand raise the topic at the summit, they have to get other countries' consensus, the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) secretary-general told reporters.

"Singapore and Thailand are big trade countries, but we still have countries with small trade volumes, such as Laos and Cambodia," he told *Xinhua*.

Leaders of the ASEAN member countries will gather in Laos' capital of Vientiane on Monday and Tuesday for their 10th summit, which is expected

to accelerate a 2020 timetable for ASEAN to achieve free trade among the member countries.

If the free trade agreement (FTA) is implemented as scheduled, the ASEAN countries will become a single market claiming an annual total trade volume of 720 billion US dollars.

Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and his Thai counterpart Thaksin Shinawatra have expressed the wish for an even earlier deadline for the establishment of a single market.

The idea, however, is less welcomed by less developed countries in ASEAN.

Though a potential common market of a population of 500 million, the huge gap between member countries with different situations is believed to be a major barrier for the grouping's further economic integration.

ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to import more petroleum products

HANOI, 26 Nov — Vietnam will import nearly 1.3 million tons of petroleum products next month, up 52.9 per cent against last December, to feed its increasing energy demand whose annual growth stands at around 17 per cent.

The country is estimated to import over 9.9 million tons of petroleum products worth 3.2 billion US dollars in the first 11 months of this year, up 8.9 per cent in volume and 45.1 per cent in value, the Ministry of Planning and Investment said on Thursday.

To reduce reliance on imports, Vietnam is investing some 1.3 billion US dollars to build its first oil refinery with annual processing capacity of 6.5 million tons in central Quang Ngai Province, which will become operational in

2007. It also plans to construct the second refinery with annual capacity of seven million tons in central Thanh Hoa Province.

The country is estimated to earn nearly 5.3 billion dollars from shipping abroad 18 million tons of crude oil, its biggest foreign currency earner, between January and November, up 52.3 per cent in value against the same period last year due to rising world prices

MNA/Xinhua

Indian PM accepts invitation to visit Pakistan

NEW DELHI, 26 Nov — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has accepted an invitation Wednesday to visit Pakistan from his Pakistani counterpart Shaukat Aziz.

"The invitation was extended by Aziz, on his maiden visit to the country, during his talks with Singh here," the *Press Trust of India* quoted foreign secretary Shyam Saran as saying.

He said the dates of the visit will be worked out through diplomatic channels of the two countries.—MNA/Xinhua



A US military Amphibious Assault Vehicle drives through a wall and locked gate to open a path for Marines assigned to the western Iraqi city of Fallujah on 26 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET

ထိုက်တိုင်နှစ်သစ် ဖိုးမြင့်မြင့်



ASEAN Foreign Ministers line up for a photo call at the start of their meeting in Vientiane on 27 Nov, 2004. They are from left: Thailand's Surakiart Sathirathai, Vietnam's Nguyen Dy Nien, Prince Mohamed Bolkiah of Brunei, Hor Namhong of Cambodia, Indonesia's Hassan Wirajuda, Somsavat Lengsavat of host nation Laos, Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar of Malaysia, Myanmar's Nyan Win, Edsel Custodio of the Philippines, Singapore's George Yeo and ASEAN Secretariat Keng Yong.—INTERNET

Singapore's Changi Airport testing biometrics-based system

SINGAPORE, 26 Nov — The world's first fully automated check-in and immigration clearance system that uses biometric recognition technology has been on trial at Singapore Changi Airport since 1 November.

According to a statement jointly issued by the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS), Singapore Airlines (SIA) and the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) on Thursday, the system will enable travellers to go through check-in, security check and immigration processes at one spot in less

than two minutes.

To use the Fully Automated Seamless Travel (FAST) system, travellers will get a card containing a microchip that has captured his facial features and fingerprint details, and clear all the necessary procedures from a user-friendly interactive touch-screen monitor.

The statement said that the FAST system will also help enhance check-point security and service with the application of new technology.

About 9,000 frequent travellers on the Singapore Airlines KrisFlyer programme will be selected for the trial, which will last for six months.

MNA/Xinhua

Loud explosion rocks Baghdad as smoke rises over capital

BAGHDAD, 26 Nov — A loud explosion rocked central Baghdad on Thursday, sending column of smoke rising above the protected Green Zone, witnesses said.

Black smoke could be seen rising over the area north of the Green Zone complex which

houses the offices of Iraq's Interim Government, the US and British Embassies, according to the witnesses.

The US military had no immediate comment on the incident.

Residents in west of Baghdad said they heard successive loud explosions as a plume of black smoke rose in the horizon to the far west of the city.

People were seen gathering on the rooftops of their houses to watch the blast as two helicopters flew overheads towards the scene. Also on Thursday, a loud explosion rocked the Green Zone as black smoke rose above the heavily fortified complex. Helicopters were seen flying over the area.—MNA/Xinhua

1,233 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 27 Nov—As of Friday, 26 Nov, 2004, at least 1,233 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 961 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The Defence Department did not provide an update Friday.

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

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,095 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 852 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Internet

China launches energy-saving plan for coming 15 years

BEIJING, 26 Nov— To cope with crippling energy shortage, China launched a comprehensive energy saving plan Tuesday, effective from now to 2020.

The plan is the biggest and most ambitious one of its kind in China's history, said Zhao Jiarong, director of the department of environment resources conservation under the National Development and Reform Commission at a news conference.

By 2010, China set the goal to consume 2.25 tons of standard coal when producing 10,000 yuan (1,200 US dollars) of GDP, 0.43 tons fewer than that of 2002, said Zhao. In 2020, the figure is expected to decline to 1.54.

China requires all the buildings built after 2006 to embrace new technology and methods that could save 50 per cent of the energy consumption per square meter compared to now.

"We will promote central heating system in residences and public buildings, and charge all the habitants according to the metres equipped in each room, just as what we are doing with the electricity now."

China will also transform existing buildings, especially hotels in northern China to reduce energy consumption, said Zhao. By 2010, the work will be finished in 25 per cent of the big cities, 15 per cent of areas in medium cities and 10 per cent in small cities.

To encourage the production of energy-saving equipment, China launched a package of programmes.

"We will come up with a list of energy-saving products and include them in the catalogue of government procurement," said Zhao.

Compared with the energy efficiency of developed countries, China has the potential to save 300 million tons of standard coal each year, said Zhao. China consumed 1.51 billion tons of standard coal in 2002.

Zhao attributed the high consumption to slow tertiary development, outdated equipment and poor management in the factories. — MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to boost industrial goods export

HANOI, 26 Nov— Vietnam will accelerate the export of industrial goods mainly by developing auxiliary industries, and helping enterprises sharpen competitive edges, according to the Ministry of Industry on Thursday.

To reap 17.8 billion US dollars and 20 billion US dollars from exporting industrial goods including crude oil this year and next year, respectively, as planned, the country will build stronger supplementary industries to ensure supply of local materials and accessories for the production of exports, especially textiles, garments, leather, footwear, and electronic products.

Specifically, Vietnam targets to raise the percentage of manufactured goods in its industrial goods for export from 75 per cent in 2010 from the current 50 per cent.

Now, the Vietnamese Government further helps companies renovate technologies, build trademarks, and cut production costs by offering assistance regarding infrastructure, finance, investment and trade. It will also beef up trade promotion by improving distribution systems and operation of Vietnamese representative offices abroad.

Vietnam is expected to gain export turnovers of 25 billion US dollars this year, 71.2 per cent of which will come from industrial products, including garments, footwear, computers, electric wires and bicycles.

MNA/Xinhua

Turk lawmaker says US in Iraq worse than Hitler

ANKARA, 26 Nov— The head of Turkey's parliamentary human rights group has accused Washington of genocide in Iraq and behaving worse than Adolf Hitler, in remarks underscoring the depth of opposition in Turkey to US policy in the region.

The United States embassy said the comments were potentially damaging to Turkish-US relations.

"The occupation has turned into barbarism," Friday's Yeni Safak newspaper quoted Mehmet Elkatmis, head of parliament's human rights commission, as saying. "The US administration is committing genocide...in Iraq."

"Never in human history have such genocide and cruelty been witnessed. Such a genocide was never seen in the time of the pharaohs (of ancient Egypt), nor of Hitler nor of (Italy's fascist leader Benito) Mussolini," he said.

"This occupation has entirely imperialist aims," he was quoted as telling the human rights commission on Thursday.

Elkatmis does not speak for Turkey's government but he is a prominent member of the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP), a centre-right grouping with Islamist roots which has become increasingly critical of US actions in Iraq.

Internet



A police official directs traffic outside the Vientiane international airport as a billboard in the background welcomes delegates to the 10th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Vientiane on 25 November, 2004. — INTERNET

Two US Marines killed in Fallujah sweep

FALLUJAH, 26 Nov— Two US marines have been shot dead in the Iraqi city of Fallujah.

Lt Gen John Sattler said a group of marines was ambushed during house-clearing operations and returned fire, killing three guerillas.

Iraq's interim security minister said 2,000 people had been killed in the US-led offensive in the city.

Kassim Daoud also said 1,600 people had been detained in the operation.

Mr Daoud said a man described as a key aide to the Islamic militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi had been arrested in the northern city of Mosul. He gave few other details.

Internet

Singapore receives 696,113 tourists in October

SINGAPORE, 26 Nov— Singapore received 696,113 tourists in October this year, up 19 per cent over last year.

According to a statement by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) on Thursday, Indonesia and China were the island state's top-two tourist-generating markets while Australia and Japan tied for third place. These mar-

kets accounted for about 44 percent of the total number of tourists of the month.

In the first 10 months of this year, Singapore posted an estimated 7.8 billion Singapore dollars (about 4.7 billion US

dollars) in tourism receipts. As a nation of around four million, Singapore's target is to get 8.7 billion Singapore dollars (about 5.3 billion US dollars) in tourism receipts this year.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese AIDS vaccine tested on human bodies

BEIJING, 26 Nov— Chinese-developed AIDS vaccine won government approval to be tested on human bodies Thursday, according to the State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) of China.

The compound vaccine consists of DNA vaccine and regrouped virus carrier, said sources with the SFDA.

Chinese scientists began the research by studying domestically popular virus genes in 1996, including the enve-

lope albumen and core albumen of the virus. They found that human body will become immune to AIDS virus after injecting DNA vaccine and regrouped virus carrier in succession. Researchers attacked a monkey with AIDS virus after injecting

the compound vaccine into its body, and found no abnormal reactions occurred.

Human body test, or stage I clinical test, of the compound AIDS vaccine aims to further assess the security of the vaccine, an SFDA official said.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis gather around the wreckage of a car bomb after it exploded near a US convoy on a highway in the northern city of Baquba, on 26 November, 2004.

INTERNET



Malaysia's vehicle sale up in October

KUALA LUMPUR, 26 Nov— The sales of vehicles in Malaysia grew 26.1 per cent to 43,206 units in October from 34,262 units in the same month last year, the Malaysian Automotive Association (MAA) said Thursday.

Out of the total, passenger cars accounted for 33,750 units, higher than the 26,278 units sold in 2003, while commercial vehicles stood at 9,456 units as against 7,984 units previously, MAA said in a statement released here.

A total of 30,259 units of home-made cars were sold in October as against 23,710 units sold in the same month last year, MAA said.

Out of the total, passenger cars accounted for 27,490 units and commercial vehicles 2,769 units, it said.

Meanwhile, the sales of foreign-made cars stood at 12,947 units as

against 10,552 units in the corresponding month of 2003, of which passenger cars accounted for 6,260 units and commercial vehicles 6,687 units, it added.

On a cumulative basis, automotive sales for the first 10 months of this year rose by 16.4 per cent to 399,021 units from 342,730 units for the same period of 2003.

The production of the country's automotive industry in the first 10 months this year has totalled 386,236 units as against 368,556 units produced in the same period of 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

China enters crucial time for "AIDS" prevention

BELING, 26 Nov — Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi said Thursday that the country has entered a crucial time for AIDS prevention and urged everyone to work to stop the spread of the disease.

Attending a red ribbon — the Chinese symbol of AIDS prevention — distribution activity, initiated by the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, Wu said the spread of HIV/AIDS has brought severe threats to China's economy and society. The AIDS prevention work is of vital importance to the country's economic development, social stability, national security and the fulfillment of the goal of building a well-off society.

Wu said the country's trade unions at all levels had made great efforts in leading workers to prevent HIV/AIDS during the past years and their

efforts should be continued.

China's fight against AIDS/HIV has lasted 19 years, since the first HIV infectious case was discovered in 1985.

The assessment report on China's AIDS prevention and control, released by the Ministry of Health, shows HIV is an epidemic covering all the Mainland's 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities.

There are 840,000 HIV-carriers, of whom 80,000 suffer AIDS.

The majority of Chinese HIV carriers have been infected through blood trans-

fusions. However, the ratio of sexual infections increased from 5.5 per cent in 1997 to 10.9 per cent in 2002 and more Chinese infants have been directly infected by their mothers.

The number of HIV carriers has rapidly increased, and the virus has been epidemic not only among high-risk groups like drug abusers, but also among average people.

Experts warned that more than 10 million Chinese will be HIV-positive in 2010, unless effective counter-measures are taken.

MNA/Xinhua

China's 32 state-owned coal companies report fast-growing profits

BELING, 26 Nov— The state-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council announced Wednesday that 32 state-owned coal companies netted 16.36 billion yuan (1.97 billion US dollars) in profit from January through October, 10.52 billion yuan more than that in the same period last year.

Among all the 32 state-owned companies, only one was in the red, with an 80 million yuan loss, the commission said.

The output value of the 32 companies was valued at 154.46 billion yuan, a year-on-year increase of 51.5 per cent, and the income from their primary busi-

ness reached 176.13 billion yuan, an increase of 55.7 per cent.

Coal inventories of the companies was valued at more than seven billion yuan at the end of October.

Mandated by the State Council, the commission oversees 187 large state-owned companies. — MNA/Xinhua



Pedestrians make their way through a snowstorm in Istanbul recently.

INTERNET

Four British workers killed in Iraq, 15 hurt

BAGHDAD, 26 Nov— A mortar attack killed four employees of a British security firm and wounded 15 others in the Baghdad's Green Zone, a fortified area that houses the US and Iraqi leadership, the company and British officials said Friday.

Britain's Foreign Office said the dead were former Gurkhas, renowned Nepalese soldiers.

"The mortar landed in their camp," said a For-

eign Office official on condition of anonymity.

Tim JO'Brien, spokesman for the London-based Global Risk Strategies, said the attack took place

Thursday, when multiple explosions were heard and black smoke was seen rising from the fortified zone on the western bank of the Tigris River.—Internet

NZ provides aid for Indonesian earthquake relief

WELLINGTON, 26 Nov— New Zealand will help provide shelter, food and basic items to those living in remote areas of Indonesia recently struck by a massive earthquake, Aid Minister Marian Hobbs announced Thursday.

The death toll from the quake stood at 27, with over 400 injured. Physical damage is reported to be extensive. The earthquake rendered more than 15,000 Alor households homeless out of a total of about 36,000. To date many people are still camped outside their houses fearing further tremors.

She said NZAID, the New Zealand Government's international aid and development agency,

would contribute 50,000 NZ dollars (about 35,000 US dollars) to the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Emergency Appeal.

The appeals will fund relief efforts to provide temporary shelter material, mosquito nets and essential item kits to 4,000 of the most vulnerable affected households (approximately 20,000 people).

"In addition to the immediate provision of shelter and food, the appeal will fund further assistance to rebuild, including the distribution of basic building materials and tools," Hobbs said.

The massive earthquake measured 7.3 on the Richter Scale and struck nine sub-districts in Alor Island, East Nusa Tenggara Province in Indonesia in the early hours of 12 November.—MNA/Xinhua



A US Marine drives over the remains of Fallujah on 26 Nov, 2004.

INTERNET

10th ASEAN Summit, related meetings to adopt many documents

VIENTIANE (Laos), 26 Nov — The upcoming 10th ASEAN Summit and its related meetings will adopt or sign 34 documents, mainly on enhancing regional economic cooperation, strengthening dispute settlement mechanism, and preventing transnational crimes.

According to an on-line Press release issued by the Lao Foreign Ministry, the principal documents include:

The ASEAN Security Community Plan of Action.
The ASEAN Socio-cultural Community Plan of Action,

The ASEAN Declaration against Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children,

The Vientiane Action Programme, the Framework Agreement for the Integration of the Priority Sectors,

The ASEAN Protocol on Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism,

The ASEAN-China Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration of the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and China on Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity,

The Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of the Member Countries of Association of South-East Asian Nations and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Transport Cooperation,

The Agreement on Trade in Goods of the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Co-

operation between ASEAN and China,

The Agreement on Dispute Settlement Mechanism between ASEAN and China,

Document on the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity,

The ASEAN-Japan Joint Declaration for Cooperation in the Fight Against International Terrorism,

The Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership between ASEAN and the Republic of Korea,

The Instrument of Accession to the TAC (Treaty of Amity and Cooperation) by South Korea

The Joint Declaration of the Leaders at the ASEAN-Australia and New Zealand Commemorative Summit,

The Instrument of Accession to the TAC by Russian Federation, The Vientiane Declaration on Enhancing Economic Cooperation and Integration among Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam, and The Socio-Economic Development Master Plan of the Cambodia-Laos-Vietnam Development Triangle.

The summit and its related meetings will be held here from November 25 to November 30.

MNA/Xinhua

မြန်မာ့အသံ
ထုတ်ဝေခြင်း

Laos in spotlight with ASEAN Summit coming

VIENTIANE, 26 Nov — The small country of Laos has gained spotlight of international media with the 10th ASEAN Summit to be held here next week.

About 800 journalists from foreign media are expected to cover the summit and related meetings, according to the Lao Foreign Ministry.

International media staff have arrived in Laos' capital of Vientiane since Monday and set up their equipment in the Press centre in the newly-built Lao International Trade Exhibition and Conference Centre, which will be the venue of the summit. "The arrival of the (international) Press,.....is the first time the mass media has been welcomed to Laos for an international event and is a historic occasion for the country since it opened itself up to the world in the late 1980s," said local newspaper *Vientiane Times* Thursday.

MNA/Xinhua



Motorcyclists pass a row of ASEAN and partner countries' flags in the centre of Vientiane.—INTERNET

Laos ensures safety for all participants in ASEAN Summit meetings

VIENTIANE, 26 Nov — Laos, host of the upcoming 10th ASEAN Summit, pledged here Thursday to ensure 100 per cent safety for all delegates from the 17 participating countries in the meetings.

Yong Chanthalangsy, Director-General of the Press Department of the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs and spokesman for the 10th ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) summit made the remarks at the first Press conference for the summit and related meetings.

He said Laos, having a population of 5.7 million, is very proud of hosting the ASEAN meetings and every Laotian shares the opportunities of maintaining the security situation and guaranteeing that the meetings will be held smoothly and successfully.

The Lao official also apologized for not having enough hotel beds for accommodating ordinary foreign tourists to Vientiane during the ASEAN meetings period. They can tour other parts of the country during this period, he added.

The ASEAN Senior Official Meeting started Thursday as a prelude to the ASEAN summit.

He said about 1,200 delegates to the ASEAN meetings, 800 foreign journalists and other 1,000 people involved in the meetings will be in Vientiane during the ASEAN meetings period.

MNA/Xinhua

Cambodia celebrates annual Water Festival

PHNOM PENH, 26 Nov — Cambodia's annual Water Festival, the biggest festival in the capital, was kicked off on Thursday in front of the Royal Palace, which is expected to attract more than three million people all over the country.

King Norodom Sihamoni left the palace Thursday afternoon to watch the boat racing on the first day of the festival celebrations which will last through Saturday. It is the first time for the King to attend such a big festival since he ascended to the throne on 29 October.

Government officials, parliamentarians and diplomats also attended the celebration.

One of the main festival activities is the boat racing. It is expected that about 382 boats are to race in the three-day festival this year, more than last year's 376. Around

28,300 rowers will take part in the races.

Besides the boat racing, the three-day celebrations will include fireworks, moonprayers and in the night eight illuminated boats will be towed to positions in front of the palace.

There will also be classical performances and pop concerts in the public parks. Municipal officials said that this year's Water Festival is better organized than in the past years.

More than 3,000 policemen were deployed at the main streets and crossroads to maintain the traffic order and security.

MNA/Xinhua

French medals exhibition opens in Beijing

BEIJING, 26 Nov — An exhibition of French copper medals opened at the China Numismatic Museum here Thursday. A silver commemorative coin for the Chinese and French Culture Years was issued at the opening ceremony.

The exhibition displays more than four hundred copper medals made by the Monnaie de Paris. The medals, which display a variety of subjects, including

famous French historical personages, enchanting scenes of French cities and some well-known French art images, such as "The Fifer" by Manet, are a vivid expression of France.

Minister-Counselor of the French Embassy in China Paul Jean-Ortiz said he hopes that the exhibition can help Chinese visitors know better of France.

MNA/Xinhua



Dolphins are seen swimming at Hakkeijima Sea Paradise in Yokohama, south of Tokyo on 24 November, 2004.—INTERNET

Road collision kills 14 in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 26 Nov — A head-on collision between a passenger bus and a pick up truck carrying 27 people has left 14 people dead and 14 others seriously injured in south Indonesia, Detkcom online news service reported Thursday.

The accident occurred on a quite road in the town of Batang, around 400 kilometres east of Jakarta, at around 08:30 local time, Detkcom said. According to the report, the bus driver under a poor visibility thought he saw a vehicle pulling over in near distance, forcing him to make a sudden move to the right where a pick up was coming from the opposite direction and the crash was unavoidable.

MNA/Xinhua

Government and people are subject to the principle practised

Aung Moe San

A government is measured or determined by the principle or the policy it adopts, that is, whether it is a centralized socialist economic policy or a market-oriented economic policy. In like manner, a person is judged by the attitude he holds. That's why sociologists have drawn a conclusion that government and people are subject to the policy they practise.

Recently there were some changes in the government. There is no government that escapes mutations, for instance, the replacement of the guilty party with the innocent one, that of the unfit with the fit, and the annulment of the policies deemed improper in the public interest and the replacement of them with proper ones.

Since its assumption

tion and prevalence of law and order nationwide in the name of the State Law and Order Restoration Council. With peace and stability in place in the country, it places emphasis on modernization process in the name of the State Peace and Development Council. At the same time, it is taking steps to shape a discipline-flourishing democratic nation in accordance with the seven-point future policy programme. It is not that the current trends are the change of policy but it is in fact gaining speed in its transitional process.

It can clearly be seen that the Tatmadaw government is not sort of a government that serves the public interest without policy. Nor is it a government that builds the nation with personal influence. The Tatmadaw government is sort of a government that is establishing a democratic nation with firm policies.

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tion of the State responsibility in 1988, the current Tatmadaw government has been working hard to establish a democracy after laying down twelve objectives. Nowadays, the government is implementing the seven-point future policy programme or road map to shape a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Having engaged in the democratic revolution, the Tatmadaw government in the first place paid priority to restoration

fluence. The Tatmadaw government is sort of a government that is establishing a democratic nation with firm policies.

An analytical approach to the achievements the Tatmadaw government has secured in its service of the national interest will show that it can stand aloof from the three extremes, because of which people-oriented organizations met their end. These three extremes are: the forceful practice

of a policy which does not make for the good of the public interest although it in itself proves right; continued practice of a wrong policy; and the building of personal influence on unrestricted freedom without policy.

One reason is that the current Tatmadaw government has had the ability to try to establish a discipline-flourishing democracy conducive to our social life by avoiding the leftist extremes to adopt an instant socialism allergic to the public interest as well as the rightist extremes to copy an instant western-typed democracy.

The second reason is that the Tatmadaw government succeeded in the introduction of better rules and regulations after making necessary amendments to those which are no longer in conformity with our prevailing social life.

And the last reason is that the Tatmadaw government has been able to introduce firm policies free from the exertion of personal influence on unrestricted freedom and that of the unprincipled personality cult.

These are the three basic phenomena, with which the existing Tatmadaw government can successfully serve the public interest. Regarding some recent changes in the government, internal and external pessimists are making misleading remarks that those who were granted retirement and those who were removed from their posts are flexible-minded people and

the pro-democracy group, and that the remaining leadership of the government are hardliners and the anti-democracy group. It seems that one has to commit a certain crime and get charged with so as to become a flexible-minded person and a pro-democracy.

Generally speaking, there have been the same government leadership and the same policies in the country long before and after the event. Achievements made were also due to the efforts of the same government leadership and thanks to the same policies. It is crystal clear that the seven-point Road Map is not the policy which was laid down by an individual, and it does not depend on an individual either.

Despite knowing the fact, they are trying to get the country into trouble. It is just the matter of destructive acts reliant on external elements. This is their ill intent to create misunderstanding between the government and the people and harm the seven-point future policy programme of the State.

Whatever they say, it is important that they should know about the prevailing conditions of the country. That was why General Thura Shwe Mann gave an explanation on the latest developments in the country on 24 October 2004 at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall on Konmyinthta. In his explanation, he said the

Government remains fully committed to the successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map including the National Convention. There would be no change in national policy towards the armed groups who have returned to the legal fold. We will continue to cooperate with them as we have done previously in keeping with State policies based on national solidarity and unity.

Generally speaking, there have been the same government leadership and the same policies in the country long before and after the event. Achievements made were also due to the efforts of the same government leadership and thanks to the same policies. It is crystal clear that the seven-point Road Map is not the policy which was laid down by an individual, and it does not depend on an individual either.

With regard to foreign policy, he said, there will be no change, and we will continue to seek to foster friendly relations with all countries of the world. The Tatmadaw has formed the State Peace and Development Council in order to discharge its duties. In turn, the State Peace and Development Council has assigned responsibilities to the Prime Minister and the Central Authorities. The Prime Minister and the Cabinet members are not elected by the people. In other words, they are selected by the State Peace and Development Council and

assigned duties. They are assumed to be capable of discharging State duties loyally in keeping with policies, directives, rules and regulations laid down by the State, he noted. If they do not adhere to policies, rules and regulations in the discharge of their duties or if they fail to serve the interest of the people, they will have to be removed from their posts, General Thura Shwe Mann explained.

At such a time when all the people of the country are essaying to build a discipline-flourishing democratic State, there are those who are levelling allegations at and attacking on the Tatmadaw Government by turning a blind eye to the policy on which the Government and the people are in the faith of that exercised policy. So, their acts are undermining our efforts for national reconciliation and democracy.

Translation: KTY + ST
(Myanma Alin,
Kyemon: 27-11-2004)

ကမ္ဘာ့အသံအားကျဆင်းမှုကူးစက်ရောဂါတိုက်ချက်စုစည်း
၂၀၀၄ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာလ (၁) ရက်

World AIDS Campaign
1st December, 2004

**“အအိုင်ဒီအက်စ်ကင်းစင်ဖို့
အမျိုးသမီးများဘဝမြှင့်တင်ဖို့”**

“Women, Girls, HIV and AIDS”

ကမ္ဘာ့အသံအားကျဆင်းမှုကူးစက်ရောဂါတိုက်ချက်စုစည်း

ကမ္ဘာ့အသံအားကျဆင်းမှုကူးစက်ရောဂါတိုက်ချက်စုစည်း

မော်တော်ယာဉ် ကုသိုလ်အလှူရှင်များ မိတ်စစ်ခြင်း

၁။ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊ မရမ်းကုန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ကမ္ဘာ့အသံအားကျဆင်းမှုကူးစက်ရောဂါတိုက်ချက်စုစည်း
၉-၁၂-၂၀၀၄ ရက်နေ့မှ ၁၁-၁၂-၂၀၀၄ ရက်နေ့အထိ ကျင်းပပြုလုပ်မည့် ကမ္ဘာ့အသံအားကျဆင်းမှုကူးစက်ရောဂါတိုက်ချက်စုစည်း
ထိပ်သီးညီလာခံကြိုသို့ ကြိုရောက်တော်မူလာမည့် ပြည်ပနိုင်ငံများမှ အဖွဲ့ခေါင်းဆောင် ဆရာတော်
(၃၅)ပါးအတွက် တစ်ပါးစီ အသုံးပြုရန် ဆလွန်း (1995 Model) မော်တော်ယာဉ် (၃၅)စီးကို
ဆွေအသုံးပြုခွင့် အကူအညီပေး လှူဒါန်းမည့် အလှူရှင်များလိုအပ်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။

၂။ မော်တော်ယာဉ်သုံးစွဲခွင့် လှူဒါန်းရမည့်ကာလမှာ စုစုပေါင်း (၈)ရက် (၇-၁၂-၂၀၀၄ ရက်နေ့မှ
၁၄-၁၂-၂၀၀၄ ရက်နေ့အထိ) ဖြစ်ပြီး အဆိုပါယာဉ်များ၏စက်သုံးဆီနှင့် အပူချိန်မှန်စွာ ကြိုဆိုပို့ဆောင်ရေး
ဆပ်ကော်မတီက တာဝန်ယူပါမည်။ လှူဒါန်းလိုသူအလှူရှင်များသည် အောက်ပါဗဟိုလမ်းများထဲ ဆက်သွယ်၍
ကြိုတောင်းကြွယ် ကုသိုလ်ရယူလှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါကြောင်း နိဗ္ဗာန်အကျိုးမျှော်၍ နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

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| (က) ဦးလှသောင်းမြင့် | ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူးချုပ် | ဖုန်း ၅၇၁၀၀၉ |
| (ခ) ဒေါ်အောင်စင် | ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး | ဖုန်း ၅၇၃၁၀၅ |
| (ဂ) ဦးမြင့်မော် | ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး | ဖုန်း ၂၉၅၁၇၃ |
| | ပို့ဆောင်ရေးစီမံကိန်းဦးစီးဌာန | |

ကြိုဆိုပို့ဆောင်ရေးဆပ်ကော်မတီ

Senior General Than Shwe sees off...

(from Page 1)

the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council the Commander of Yangon Command, ministers, senior military officers, Charge d'Affaires of the Laotian Embassy Mr Kobkeo Luangkhot and officials, Director-General Lt-Col Pe Nyein of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, Director-General U Soe Tint of the Prime Minister's Office, Director-General U Myint Thein of Pyithu Hluttaw Office, Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department, departmental heads and officials.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha and Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win left in advance for Vientiane, Laos, on 26 November to attend the Meetings of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and ASEAN Economic Ministers prior to the ASEAN Summit.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win before his departure for LPDR. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win being seen off by diplomats of foreign missions at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

Minister attends ASEAN Transport Ministers' Meeting

YANGON, 27 Nov— Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe left here by air on 22 November to attend the 10th ASEAN Transport Ministers' Meeting and arrived in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, at 6.45 pm local time.

The Minister was welcomed at Phnom Penh Airport by Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung who arrived there in advance to attend the same meeting and officials of the ASEAN Secretariat. On 23 November, Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung and members of the Myanmar delegation attended the 10th ASEAN Transport Ministers' Meeting at Intercontinental Hotel in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. They also attended the Third ASEAN+China Transport Ministers' Meeting and the Second ASEAN+Japan Transport Ministers' Meeting on 24 November. Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen delivered an opening address at the 10th ASEAN Transport Ministers' Meeting. Next, Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe delivered an address. At the meeting, the participants signed the Protocol to Implement the Fourth Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services. The Myanmar delegation led by Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe returned home by air on 25 November night.—MNA

Road construction projects inspected

YANGON, 27 Nov— Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt met the executive officer and the engineer in charge and officials of Taikkyi Township Development Affairs Committee in Taikkyi this morning.

The officials reported on progress in constructing rural roads.

The Minister looked into upgrading of Okkan-Sanywa rural road being undertaken by Taikkyi Township DAC.

Later in the morning, the Minister inspected tarring of the 1,200-foot-long road being undertaken by Hmawpy Township DAC, and stressed

timely completion of the project and provided necessary assistance for the project. At Hlegu Township DAC, the Minister heard reports by the offi-

cials on progress of construction of urban and rural roads and future tasks. The Minister discussed measures to be taken for the project.

The Minister also inspected the tarring of Parami Yeiktha 2nd Street, and the sites for construction of more roads in the township. — MNA



Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt inspects construction of Okkan-Sanywa rural road in Taikkyi Township.—DAD

More lecture halls for Sittway University

YANGON, 27 Nov — Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung of Sittway Station and departmental officials, inspected Sittway Airport and gave instructions on 25 November.

At the site of Sittway University Construction Project, the commander inspected progress of construction tasks. Rakhine State Superintending Engineer U Thein Kyaw and Pro-Rector U Ba Swe reported the project and academic matters. A total of nine two-storey lecture halls are to be built at the university. In 2004, over 2,100 students are studying at the seven lecture halls. On completion of the No 8 building, the university can accommodate over 3,000 students.

In the afternoon, the commander attended the communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of Sittway Station and departments at the cave of the Lawkananda Pagoda in the town.

At the ceremony, the commander and wife and officials offered Kathina robes and alms to the Sayadaws. Next, they paid homage to the pagoda and the Çakkja Muni Buddha Image.—MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party take the Five Precepts from the Vice-Chairman Sayadaw at the final rites for Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita.—MNA

Final rites for Myingyan Sayadaw...

(from page 16)

Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara, SSMNC member Sayadaws, member Sayadaws of All-sect Sangha Nayaka Committee,

Military Region Brig-Gen Myo Myint, members of the funeral service committee and the subcommittees, local authorities, religious associations, social organizations, and people from all walks of

Gen Myint Swe, ministers and departmental officials offered provisions to member Sayadaws.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party covered the casket of the Myingyan Sayadaw with the velvet

sports grounds, Sayadaws, members of the Sangha and laity recited *Sanvega gathas*. Afterwards, the remains of the Myingyan Sayadaw were incinerated. Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika

Myingyan Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita Mahathera was the Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, the Chancellor of the State Pariyatti Sasana Universities, the Chancellor of the Pakokku Maha

Visudtarama Nikaya Monastery, and Presiding Sayadaw of Koehsaung Monastery in Myingyan and the Three Pitakas and Five Nikayas Monastery in Dagon Myothit (South) township.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein covers the remains of the Chairman Sayadaw with velvet bearing the Sayadaw's picture.—MNA



The Commander and ministers convey the remains onto the carriage.

MNA

Sayadaws of different monasteries, disciple monks and laity.

Also present on the occasion were State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Yangon Division PDC Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the attorney-general, deputy ministers, the vice mayor, senior military officers, departmental officials, Commander of No 2

life.

The ceremony was opened with the recitation of *Sanvega gathas* by Sayadaws, members of the Sangha and the congregation. Next, the Aungmyebonsan Sayadaw invested the congregation with the Five Precepts.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein offered provisions to the Aungmyebonsan Sayadaw, Lt-Gen Ye Myint to the Magway Sayadaw, and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe to the Sitagu Sayadaw.

Commander Maj-

bearing the picture of the Sayadaw. Messages of condolence were also read in an attitude of worship to the Myingyan Sayadaw. Next, the Magway Sayadaw delivered a sermon, which was followed by the sharing of merits gained.

Later, the casket of the Sayadaw was conveyed to the sport grounds in Dagon Myothit (South) township. Along the road were people from all walks of life paying obeisance to the Myingyan Sayadaw.

On arrival at the



Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicates on message of condolence.—MNA



The Commander and ministers convey the remains of the Chairman Sayadaw onto the pyre.—MNA

Chairman of National Olympic...

(from page 16)
and President of Myanmar Wushu Federation Executive of AWF U Khin Maung Lay.

The AWF Presi-

dent was accompanied by Vice-Presidents of AWF Mr Francis Chan Tek Lok and Mr Hoang Vinh Giang and General Secretary Mr Kyuhei Muraoka, General

Secretary of International Wushu Federation Mr Wang Xiaolin and Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun.

MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo on inspection tour of Myeik

YANGON, 27 Nov—

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division PDC Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, departmental officials and well-wishers, visited Taungthaya Home for the aged in Kalwin Ward, Myeik, on 25 November morning where they paid homage and presented gifts to the elderly.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party offered flowers, oil and jock sticks and paid obeisance at the pagoda at the home. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and

party went to the site for construction of the four-storey main building of Myeik University where Pro-rector U Tun Thein and officials conducted them around the site. Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions on timely completion and meeting the set standard. At 8.30 am, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met military officers, officials at division, district and township levels, social organizations and townsenders at Pale Yadana Hall. Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint reported on assistance being rendered to meet the sufficiency of food by putting 500,000 acres each under oil palm crops and

rubber and 26,000 acres under pepper. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said it is needed to extend the cultivation of high yield paddy strains. Local people and entrepreneurs are to cooperate in the cultivation. Being blessed with land and marine resources, Thaninthayi Division should attach the importance of meeting the target of agricultural and livestock breeding tasks, he added. He also urged them to lend themselves to the successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map of the State.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party saw over arrangements being carried out for

Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Council Secretary-1

Lt-Gen Thein Sein greets Asian Wushu Federation President Mr Li Zhijian at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall.

MNA



the development of Myeik and gave necessary instructions to officials. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived back here at 6 pm on that day. — MNA

Press Conference on 6th Asian Wushu C'ships 2004 held

YANGON, 27 Nov—

General Secretary of International Wushu Federation Mr Wang Xiaolin held a press conference on the 6th Asian Wushu Championships 2004 hosted by Myanmar, at the National Indoor Stadium-1 (Thuwunna) in Thingangyun Township, this noon.

Present on the occasion were officials of the Ministry of Sports, the president and members of the Myanmar Sports Journalists Association, editors and reporters of dailies of News and Periodicals Enterprise, officials of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, General Secretary of Asian Wushu Federation Mr Kyuhei Muraoka said that the 6th Asian Wushu Championships 2004 hosted by Myanmar was the one in which the largest number of athletes participated and it was the advanced championships. Apart from the championships, the meetings of the Asian Wushu Federation and the International Wushu Federation were successfully held, he added. So, he thanked the president of MWF and officials. He asserted that Myanmar Wushu Federation made remarkable progress during the 10 years period and



Myanmar Wushu Federation President U Khin Maung Lay briefs on 6th Asian Wushu C'ships at the press conference. — NLM

Myanmar together with Vietnam are runners-up of the People's Republic of China, a super power in the Wushu event.

Next, General Secretary of IWF Mr Wang Xiaolin explained the purpose of holding the championships.

Afterwards, President of MWF U Khin Maung Lay explained that after the 5th Asian Wushu

Championships 2000, four countries including Myanmar submitted applications to AWF to gain opportunity for hosting the present championships. Myanmar got an opportunity to host the championships without objection. It is a tournament held once every four years. Due to assistance of the government, success has been achieved now. Participants

from the countries and officials were satisfied with complete hospitality of the Myanmar. At present, the Asia is trying hard to add Wushu event in the 2008 World Olympic Games. So, MWF on its part plans to participate in the World Olympic Games.

Later, officials answered the queries raised by those present.

MNA



Selected Myanmar Wushu athlete Pyae Wai Phy who won one gold, one silver and one bronze.

NLM

Myanmar stands third with 5 gold...

(from page 16)

Tien Dat of Vietnam, third in the men's Changquan event.

Pyae Wai Phy and Aung Si Thu of Myanmar stood first; Chow Ting Yu and Chan Siu Kit of Hong Kong, second and Jia Rui and Ng Leong Chun of Macao, third in the men's Dual event.

Hosseini Jaghi of Iran stood first, Sa Tha Htay of Myanmar, second in the San Shou (men) event.

Pyae Wai Phy of Myanmar stood first in the Changquan, Qingshu and Gunshu events.

Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and officials presented prizes to the winners.

MNA



Gold medal winners Pyae Wai Phy and Aung Si Thu. — NLM



**Third Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women
29 November - 1 December 2004
YANGON, MYANMAR**

Construction Minister inspects Bridges of Pyapon, Twantay

YANGON, 27 Nov — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun together with Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein and officials of the Public Works arrived at the construction project of Pyapon Bridge in Ayeyawady Division this morning.

At the briefing hall, Deputy Superintending Engineer U Khin Maung

Se of the Bridge Construction Project Special Group (7) reported on progress of construction of the bridge and future tasks. The minister attended to the needs.

Later, Pyapon District Senior Engineer U Soe Myint reported on completion of road construction and maintaining them. The minister gave necessary instructions on

the construction.

The minister and party then inspected the construction site.

Up to now, bored piling of the five piers of the bridge has been completed.

The minister and party then proceeded to the construction project of Twantay Bridge. At the briefing hall, Deputy Superintend-

ing Engineer U Kyaw Naing reported on completion of the bridge and future tasks and the minister attended to the needs.

Twantay bridge, which is built across Twantay canal in Yangon Division will link Hlinethaya Township with Twantay Township.

MNA

Urbanization tasks inspected

YANGON, 27 Nov — Col Myo Myint, Director-General of the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, inspected urbanization tasks being conducted by the township development affairs committees here on 27 November.

In his inspection tour of the townships in Yangon, he was accompanied by departmental officials.

In Kunchangon township, he inspected the nursery garden being worked by the township development affairs committee, and the construction of the tar road in front of the electric power office. During his inspection, he gave instructions on timely completion of the road construction and minimizing loss and wastage. The road is being constructed at a cost of K 4.75 million funded by the State for 2004-2005 fiscal.

In Kawhmu township, he also inspected road and bridge construction projects. The construction of Yedashe bridge and Kawchan bridge are under way at a cost of K 20.505 million funded by the State for 2004-2005 fiscal.

He proceeded to Twantay, where he oversaw the repaving of Shwesandaw Pagoda Road, which is 1,600 feet in length. — MNA

Yangon Mayor back from Indonesia

YANGON, 27 Nov — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin came home by air this morning after attending the Fourth Meeting of the Mayors of Asian Capitals held in Jakarta, the Republic of Indonesia, and observing development projects of Malaysia.

MNA



U Aye Cho (MA) submits paper at the Knowledge Bank Paper-Reading Session. — MNA

China lays out timetable for arsenic poisoning control

TAIYUAN, 26 Nov — An official of Ministry of Health said on Thursday that China will provide safe drinking water and safe stoves for 500,000 people affected by arsenic poisoning by 2006.

By 2010, when the distribution map of arsenic poisoning is completed, all afflicted population will be provided safe drinking water and safe stoves, Xiao Donglou, deputy director of the ministry's disease control department, clarified the timetable at the Water Quality and Arsenic Mitigation international conference held here. Long-term consumption of arsenic, through water or air, can lead to skin cancer and ultimately death.

MNA/Xinhua

Knowledge Bank Paper Reading Session held

YANGON, 27 Nov — The Knowledge Bank Paper Reading Session sponsored by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association took place at the Sarpay Beikman Building (second floor), of No 529/531, Merchant Street, here, at noon today.

Leader of Publishing and Discussion Working Group of MWJA U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) made an introductory speech. Next, resource person Shwebo Mi Mi Gyi presented paper on *Sarpay-hot-kyo-baw-hma-hsutaung-sar-mya* and resource person U Aye Cho (MA), on books part-2 published up to 1885. After that, resource persons replied to queries raised by those present. Afterwards, Vice-Chairman of MWJA U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha) spoke works of thanks. — MNA



Fund-raising sales of kimchi for sinking tubewells in rural area by Korean Women Association led by Chairperson Mrs Yun Hee Eum seen at Korean Products Show 2004 at Yangon Trade Centre on 27 Nov. — NLM

News from the Districts

Road to Shwethalyaung Buddha Image in Kyaukse put into service

KYAUKSE, 20 Nov — Concrete Road to Shwethalyaung reclining Buddha Image in Kyaukse was inaugurated on 21 October.

The road is 4,400 ft long and 24 ft wide. Kyaukse District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Tin Ohn, secretary of the district Peace and Development Association and chairman of the road construction committee formally opened the road.

KYEMON

Village-to-Village linking road constructed in Maubin Township

MAUBIN, 10 Nov — As part of implementation of the rural areas development tasks, Maubin Township Development Affairs Department has constructed the gravel road linking KhaNaungHtaung Village and PanTaPut Village in KyaungYwa Village-tract in the township recently.

The gravel road is three miles long and construction of the road is funded by the government during 2004-2005 fiscal year. It is expected that it will complete soon.

MYANMA ALIN

Knowledge banks set up in Thantlan Township

THANTLAN, 3 Nov — With the aims of disseminating general knowledge to local people, Thantlan Township Information and Public Relations Department has established libraries in the villages in the township.

Staff of the department made a field trip to Thantlan Village, Hmonlipi Village and Talan Village in the township and opened the libraries and also provided books on general knowledge.

Similarly, with the assistance of Namhkam Township Information and Public Relations Department, local people of PaukTaik Ward in Namhkam in Shan State (North) inaugurated the library on 16 October.

Namhma Township IPRD provided books on general knowledge for the library.

According to the IPRD, a total of 10,239 have been opened on self-reliant basic all over the nation, it is learnt.

MYANMA ALIN

Strong Quake Jolts Eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 27 Nov — An earthquake measuring 6.4 on the Richter Scale shook Nabire Town in Indonesia's easternmost province of Papua at 11:25 local time Friday (02:25 GMT), the official Antara news agency reported.

The epicentre of the tremor is located around 17 kilometres from Nabire some 2,500 kilometres east of Jakarta, an official with the meteorology and geophysics agency was quoted as saying.

A building of state-own cellular phone operator Indosat and several churches collapsed in the quake, but there was no immediate report on casualty.

Around eight hours earlier, another quake of 4.8 magnitude rocked the town.

MNA/Xinhua

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

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanmar Railways, for Supply of the following General Material which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

Tender No - 53/MaMa/Local/General/

Sr. No	Description	Quantity
1	Electrical Equipment	1-Lot
2	Steel Product	1-Lot
3	Computer Equipment	1-Lot
4	TV, Audio & Camera Equipment	1-Lot

Closing Date. -13.12.2004 (Monday) (12:00) Hours.
2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanmar Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from (29.11.2004) during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982, 291994, (201555 Ext-602,613)

**Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanmar Railways,
Botataung, Yangon**

Ministry of Construction Public Works

Announcement of Cancellation of Quotation

1. For and on behalf of the Ministry of Construction of the Government of the Union of Myanmar, Project Management Unit, hereby gives notice of the cancellation of bid for the supply of Steel Truss for **Ngalaik Chaung Cable Stayed Bridge** Project.

2. Refund of bid bonds would be made by the Public Works, one week after this announcement of cancellation and the bidders are requested to apply for refund, together with receipts previously issued, at the Accounts Section, Road Division, Public Works, Head Office, No.60, Shwedagon Pagoda Road, within one month from the date of this announcement of cancellation.

**Managing Director
Public Works**

ADF to help Indian Ocean Countries stem AIDS

TUNIS, 26 Nov— The African Development Fund (ADF) has approved a grant of nine million US dollars to finance Indian Ocean Countries' (IOC) project aiming at stemming the propagation of HIV/AIDS/STI (Sexually Transmissible Infections), according to a Press release available here Thursday.

The grant will target the migrant populations (migrant/seasonal workers, tourists, seafarers...) that move from island to island, along with the local populations with which they come into contact at ports, tourist locations and hotels.

The project will consist in raising the awareness of the subregion

populations on HIV infection and STI and the risks and modes of transmission and means of protection. The project will also establish a joint HIV/AIDS/STI epidemiological surveillance and watch system in the subregion.

The ADF support will lay the basis for regional cooperation in the area of public health and espe-

cially surveillance, prevention and control of the HIV infection and STI.

The ADF grant comes out in timely circumstances. The IOC countries' overall HIV/AIDS prevalence rates are under 1 per cent, though some have prevalence rates of over 5 per cent for one or several at-risk groups.

MNA/Xinhua

China holds seminar to enhance trade ties with Africa

BEIJING, 26 Nov — The China Council for the Promotion of International Trade opened a seminar on Sino-African trade ties here Thursday in an effort to further trade and economic cooperation.

The two-week seminar, attended by 33 participants from 18 African countries, will focus on the cooperation between business chambers, according to Wan Jifei,

chairman of the council.

"It will help to expand bilateral political and economic cooperation and forge a foundation for the

Africa business chamber in Beijing and the Sino-African chamber of commerce," Wan told the opening ceremony of the seminar.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Bangladeshi customs plans crackdown on illegal cellphone sets

DHAKA, 26 Nov — The Customs Department of Bangladesh decided to crack down on different markets in Dhaka that sell smuggled and stolen cell phone sets to discourage black marketeers and boost revenue from the cell phone import.

According to the *Financial Express* on Thursday, the plan was set following the department, which found huge quantities of mobile sets are entering into the country through unofficial channels and are sold on these markets.

A high official from

National Board of Revenue official on condition of anonymity was quoted as saying that the practice of illegal import was hardly stopped, though the government has already been lowered the duty to 25 dollars from 50 dollars for each imported set from the current fiscal.

The Dhaka Customs House has issued a notice to eight markets including some biggest shopping malls in the capital city in this regard, suggesting vendors of the markets not to stockpile and sell illegally imported and stolen cell phone sets.

The notice also asked

the vendors to keep warranty and others necessary documents with the cell phones.

Cell phone sets without warranty will be seized and legal action will be taken against sellers of those sets, said the notice.

According to some local importers, nearly one million cell phone sets are sold in Bangladesh annually with the market price of over 83.3 million US dollars.

Official importers, however, are holding only 10 per cent of the local market, while black marketeers are controlling 90 per cent, marketing ex-

ecutive of Electra International Ltd and official importer of Samsung cell phone sets Shahriar Raihan was quoted as saying.

Another importer who deals in Siemens sets said they welcome such a move as it will increase government revenue and users will get quality sets with a service guarantee.

Officials of different city markets, however, expressed their concern that such crackdown may harass businessmen, and suggest the Customs department should block and seize smuggled cell phones in entry points.

MNA/Xinhua



Microsoft's Windows XP Pro operating system roll off the assembly line. The European Union's second-highest court will rule in mid-December on whether to suspend EU sanctions against Microsoft pending an appeal by the US software giant.—INTERNET

Air Zimbabwe's inaugural flight to China a success

HARARE, 26 Nov— Zimbabwe's maiden flight to Beijing, capital of China, via Singapore returned home on Thursday morning following successful launches in the two Asian countries this week, *New Ziana* reported.

Speaking soon after arriving at the Harare International Airport, Zimbabwean Transport and Communications Minister Christopher Mushohwe said the route of Air Zimbabwe had great potential as demonstrated by the huge number of Chinese tour operators who had started coming into the country.

"The potential of this route is demonstrated by the fact that we had about 15 Chinese tour operators on board to China and on our return we had 29 tour operators and tourists on board," he said.

Mushohwe said 30

more tour operators were expected in Zimbabwe next week to sample the country's tourist attractions and help the country market the Harare-Singapore-Beijing route. The minister said apart from enhancing investment opportunities, the direct air link would also boost economic and trade ties between the three countries. Speaking at the same occasion, Zimbabwe Tourism Authority Chief Executive Tichaona Jokonya said the launch of a direct flight between Zimbabwe and China was a consolidation of long-standing relations between the two countries.

The direct flight, he said, was essential for the country's tourism industry, as it would boost tourist traffic from the Asian country and the region at large.

Zimbabwe's inaugural flight left for Beijing via Singapore on Sunday night and returned this morning. It will ply the route twice per week. The launch of this air route is part of the airline's turnaround strategy to improve the financial fortunes of the loss-making parastatal through route development and expansion, particularly to East Asia among other initiatives.—*MNA/Xinhua*

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Cyprus to crack down on software piracy

NICOSIA, 26 Nov—A Cypriot anti-piracy organization is to launch a nation-wide campaign against computer software piracy, local Press reported Thursday.

The Cypriot branch of the Business Software Alliance (BSA), a world-wide anti-piracy body, warned in a statement that all those found to have broken the patent law would be brought before a court and exposed to the penalties provided.

Cyprus' new law on software privacy imposes heavy sentences. Violations are punishable with fines of up to 70,000 US dollars and as long as four years of imprisonment.

The same penalties apply to anyone who imports, distributes, sells, leases or promotes products or components that interfere with technological measures for the protection of software without permission from the right-holders.

According to the BSA, those falling within the net of illegality are defined as "anyone who knowingly produces, rents, sells, advertises the sale or rental or offers the sale or

rental, or distributes or has in his possession unauthorized copies of software".

Under increasing pressure from the United States and as a new member of the European Union, Cyprus has extended protection to databases and has introduced detailed provisions against the unauthorized reproduction or rental of software.

Meanwhile, piracy in Cyprus has spread way beyond the software industry.

Local distributors of cinematographic films said piracy in Cyprus' film industry was reaching a crisis.

According to reports, thousands of pirate music CDs, DVDs and games are floating around Cyprus. Last year alone, police confiscated over 70,000 pirate DVDs. The country is losing around six million US dollars a year due to piracy in the film industry.

MNA/Xinhua



A pedestrian crossing signal features a woman in Zwickau, Germany, on 24 Nov 2004. The traffic lights in one town in eastern Germany have been seized by the equality of the sexes, with little green women replacing little green men on some pedestrian crossings from this week.—INTERNET

Study says Filipinos love soft drink's most

MANILA, 26 Nov — Filipinos love carbonated soft drinks the most, compared to other food items, according to a recent study.

Even among the poor who can barely afford anything else, soft drinks are the number-one food item ahead of cereals, meat or pasta, the Philippine Star daily online news Friday quoted Cid Terosa, an economist with the Manila-based University of Asia and the Pacific as saying.

A study by Terosa and his colleague said the country drank 591 million cases of soft drinks in 2002, with each case including 24 bottles. Coca-Cola, which controls 86 per cent of the Philippine domestic mar-

ket, makes the Philippines the world's eighth-largest market of the soft drinks. Each bottle sells for about 14 US cents. Two poorest segments of the Philippine population consume a staggering 86 per cent of soft drinks sold in the country, Terosa said. However, soft drinks are also the top retail food item among the economically well-off classes, he added.

Filipino households spend between 50 and 60 per cent of their incomes on food and beverage, he said. —MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese vendor unloads oranges at an open market in Beijing on 26 Nov, 2004. China entered the World Trade Organization in 2001 as a 'non-market economy' and faces anti-dumping barriers to exports until it gains 'market economy' status.—INTERNET

Two more CIA top officials retiring

WASHINGTON, 26 Nov — Two more top officials at the CIA's clandestine unit are retiring in the latest sign of upheaval in the agency under its new director Peter Goss, *The New York Times* reported on Thursday.

The two officials have headed operations in Europe and the Far East and were in the highest level of the CIA's Directorate of Operations, the powerful unit that recruits foreign spies and conducts covert operations overseas, the newspaper reported.

The newspaper quoted an unnamed intelligence official as saying that there would be no public announcement on the retirement of the two chiefs and that neither could be identified because they were working under cover.

A former intelligence official described the two as "very senior guys" who were stepping down because they did not feel

comfortable with new management, *The New York Times* reported.

A spokesman for the CIA was not immediately available for comment.

The clandestine unit's chief, Stephen Kappes, and his deputy, Michael Sulick, resigned last week. Intelligence sources said the two officials stepped down after clashing with Goss' chief of staff.

Goss took charge in September with a mandate to reform the spy agency which has been under fire for intelligence failures related to the September 11 attacks and flawed pre-war reports that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction.

MNA/Reuters

Vietnam's poverty rate falls

HANOI, 26 Nov—Under 9 per cent of households in Vietnam are now poor, and the figure will drop to below 7 per cent next year, local newspaper *Youth* on Thursday quoted Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs Nguyen Thi Hang as saying.

Initially, Vietnam set a target of reducing the percentage of its poor households to under 10 per cent in 2005, she noted.

The country's poverty rate fell to 10.8 per

cent in 2003, down from 37 per cent in 1998 and 58 per cent in 1993. Fuelled by the faster-than-expected poverty reduction pace, Vietnam plans to adjust the country's poverty criterion at around

240,000 Vietnamese dong (VND) (nearly 15.3 US dollars) per month for urban dwellers and 180,000 VND (11.4 dollars) for rural residents, instead of 100,000 VND (6.5 dollars) and 150,000

VND (9.5 dollars) as it does currently.

If the new criteria are applied, up to 26 per cent of local households will be considered poor in 2006.

MNA/Xinhua

More cannabis being smoked in EU than before

BRUSSELS, 26 Nov—More cannabis is being smoked in the European Union than ever before, with three million daily users in the 25-nation bloc, but consumption may have reached its peak, new figures showed on Thursday.

Fifteen per cent of 15-16 year old EU school students are heavy cannabis users, with young men twice as likely to sample the drug as young women, said a report by the European drug watchdog body.

"This is a very important public health issue that requires urgent attention," Paul Griffiths, Programme Co-ordinator of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), told a news conference.

The annual report comes amid EMCDDA fears about a stronger version of cannabis now on the market which can cause panic attacks, and concern about "severe" drug problems in the new EU countries which

joined the bloc in May this year.

Prolonged and heavy cannabis use can lead to depression and aggravate pre-existing mental health problems, Griffiths said.

MNA/Reuters

100 kilos of cocaine seized in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 26 Nov — Argentine police seized 100 kilos of cocaine and arrested three suspected drug traffickers Wednesday in the northern province of Salta, authorities said.

The suspects were nabbed along Route 34, which links Argentina and neighbouring Bolivia.

In another development, police confiscated 2,000 kilos of marijuana in the northwestern

Misiones Province. Three suspects were arrested in the operation. Authorities said 1,100 kilos of cocaine and 27 tons of marijuana have been confiscated so far this year.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Juventus doctor found guilty of sporting fraud

TURIN (Italy), 27 Nov—Juventus doctor Riceardo Agricola was found guilty of sporting fraud and given a 22-month prison sentence on Friday after a trial investigating doping at Italy's most successful soccer club.

Club chief executive Antonio Giraudo was found not guilty. Agricola was also ordered to pay a 2,000-euro (2,600-US-dollar) fine.

Defence lawyer Paolo Trofino told reporters the judge had found Agricola guilty of administering the banned blood-booster EPO.

"He was condemned for what was the weak point of the prosecution's charges, the administration of EPO," said Trofino.

"It is a sentence that will be difficult to get through appeal," he said, confirming the defence intended to appeal.

The trial looked at Juve's medical practices between 1994 and 1998, a period when they

won three Italian titles and also the 1996 European Cup.

It is unlikely that Agricola will have to serve time in prison because, in Italy, first offences are often suspended.

"We are very satisfied about Giraudo but there is a little bitterness for Agricola," Trofino said.

Turin public prosecutor Raffaele Guariniello began investigating allegations against 27-times Italian champions Juventus in 1998.

"This is what I expected," Guariniello said after the verdict. "It is only the first step."

MNA/Reuters

Brazilian Champion Santos get three-match ban

RIO DE JANEIRO, 27 Nov—Brazilian championship title contenders Santos have had their latest home ban extended to three matches and will not play any more games in their Vila Belmiro stadium this year.

Santos had appealed against a one-match ban, their third of the championship, after their fans threw coins and firecrackers onto the field during a home match against Corinthians in October.

Instead, Brazil's sports disciplinary tribunal extended the ban and increased the original fine of 50,000 Reais (13,333 US dollars) to 80,000 Reais (21,333 US dollars).

Santos, winners in 2002, are two points behind leaders Atletico Paranaense with four matches each to play.

Santos are one of several clubs who have been hit by bans in an attempt to clamp down on rampant missile-throwing at Brazilian stadiums.

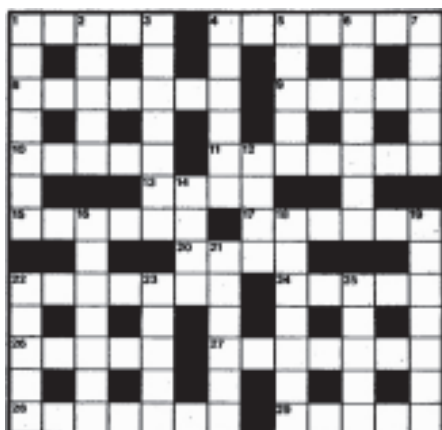
Atletico Mineiro, Juventude, Gremio and Atletico Paranaense have also been handed home bans. Gremio were also banned from using their first-choice alternative venue in Pelotas which was itself the scene of missile-throwing.

MNA/Reuters



Bayer Leverkusen's Brazilian defender Juan Silveira dos Santos (L) vies with Real Madrid's Brazilian Ronaldo (R) during their Champions League clash at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid.—INTERNET

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Situated above
- 4 e.g. a Eucalyptus (3,4)
- 8 Whim
- 9 Porter's room
- 10 Zodiac sign
- 11 Hundred runs
- 13 Second-hand
- 15 Extravagant
- 17 Angler's maggot
- 20 Overt
- 22 N.Y. Airport
- 24 Strap
- 26 Precise
- 27 Audition
- 28 Scorn
- 29 Woollen fabric

DOWN

- 1 Discourteous
- 2 Musician
- 3 Destructive
- 4 European country
- 5 Fruit
- 6 Our debt (anag.)
- 7 Each
- 12 Border
- 14 Having footwear
- 16 Wanton wreckers
- 18 Competitor
- 19 Affianced
- 21 Large snake
- 22 Press into dough
- 23 Something over
- 25 Shade of green

Liverpool, Everton to meet Br Govt over ground dispute

LONDON, 27 Nov—Liverpool and Everton are to meet with British Government officials to discuss the controversial subject of sharing a ground, the BBC reported on Friday.

It quoted a spokesman as saying that Sports Minister Richard Caborn would meet representatives of both clubs on Wednesday.

"He is more than willing to talk through the issues," the spokesman said.

"He is generally behind the concept of ground sharing and has supported the recent agreement between Leicester City and Leicester Tigers (rugby club)."

Liverpool's Anfield home and Everton's Goodison Park are less than a mile apart on either side of Stanley Park.

Liverpool have plans for a new 60,000-allseater stadium with initial costs once estimated at 80 million pounds (148.7 million US dollars) now rising to above 100 million pounds.

But Liverpool have said they would suspend the plan if costs continued to rise, possibly remaining at Anfield, or ground sharing.

Everton have shelved plans for their own new ground due to high costs and appear prepared to listen to proposals to either ground share or stay at Goodison.

"We will be attending with an open mind to listen to any ideas that are put forward," Everton chief executive Keith Wyness was quoted as saying about Wednesday's meeting.

The two clubs have enjoyed an unusually friendly rivalry ever since Liverpool were founded in 1892 and moved into Anfield after Everton moved out.

MNA/Reuters

Mourinho has no plans to sign another striker

HARLINGTON (England), 27 Nov—Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho has no plans to sign another striker though he admires the talent of Tottenham Hotspur's Jermain Defoe.

The Portuguese coach said stories in British newspapers on Friday that Defoe would move to the wealthy London club in the January transfer window were completely untrue.

"It's not because I don't like the player. He is a very good young player but we are not interested," Mourinho told a news conference after final training for Saturday's Premier League match at Charlton.

Dozens of players have been linked with moves to league leaders Chelsea over the last few months because of the buying power of billionaire Russian owner Roman Abramovich.

Mourinho has said he wants to keep his first-team squad to a maximum 24 players.

His striker problems should also begin to ease with the return of Ivory Coast striker Didier Drogba, who made his first appearance for six weeks when he played for half an hour of Wednesday's Champions League goalless draw with Paris St. Germain.—MNA/Reuters

Wenger warns Arsenal not to discount Liverpool

LONDON, 27 Nov—Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has warned his team not to discount Liverpool from the title race even though they trail leaders Chelsea by 13 points with a third of the season over.

Champions Arsenal, two points adrift of Chelsea, visit Anfield on Sunday and Wenger told reporters: "At the moment Liverpool are having a patch when they are certainly not at their best. It's down to us to take advantage."

"But they have a game in hand and if they win that they are not out of it. "It's a big game on Sunday, it's always a key game for us and it looks like it can be again. It could have a big impact on the season of both teams."

Arsenal won 2-1 at Anfield last season and Wenger knows the midfield showdown between Patrick Vieira and Liverpool's Steven Gerrard, the two respective team captains, could decide Sunday's match.

Both players have returned after injury and Wenger believes Vieira is now back to his best.

"I have had conversations with Patrick and he is really highly committed and motivated," Wenger said. "In the last two games he has been back to his normal level. He struggled for a few weeks because he had an ankle problem."

"I rate Steven Gerrard highly, he is a great player as well, at the level of Patrick. I rate him like Patrick as one of the best midfielders in the world."

"They play with a strong midfield, Liverpool. They have Xabi Alonso, Gerrard, Hamann, it's an area they concentrate on so the way we play in the middle of the park will have a big influence on the game."

MNA/Reuters



Real Zaragoza's David Villa (L) controls the ball near Deportivo La Coruna's Mauro Silva. Liverpool, facing a crippling striker shortage, were reported to have made an approach to Spanish club Zaragoza for striker Villa.—INTERNET

Australia's refusal will not hurt ties with ASEAN

CANBERRA, 27 Nov — Australia's refusal to sign a regional non-aggression treaty would not hurt its push to increase ties with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Prime Minister John Howard said on Friday.

Howard will become the first Australian Prime Minister to attend an ASEAN meeting when he travels to Laos next week for a summit that will kickstart negotiations on a free trade deal between the 10 members of ASEAN and Australia and New Zealand.

Howard, who has upset some regional leaders with his policy supporting pre-emptive strikes on terror groups in other countries, said he had not been formally asked to sign ASEAN's Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC).

"It is not the sort of treaty that we being a non-ASEAN country would sign," Howard told Australian radio.

"We're more interested in the substance of our relationship with the countries of the ASEAN region," he said.

Indonesia's Foreign Minister Hassan Wirajuda last month said ASEAN nations had strong opinions that Australia should sign it.

The Sydney Morning Herald newspaper said regional diplomats believed Australia's refusal to sign the treaty would stop ASEAN from inviting Australia to future summits.

The paper said China, India, Japan and Pakistan had signed the treaty and Russia had indicated it would sign.

MNA/Reuters

Nepal to host regional meeting on telecom strategies

KATHMANDU, 27 Nov — Telecommunication and hydrometeorological experts from seven countries will meet here to discuss regional telecom strategies from November 29 to December 1.

About 25 experts from Nepal, China, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan and the United States will discuss the data manage-

ment and dissemination of regional flood information for the establishment of a regional flood information system in the Hindu Kush Himalayan Region, the Information Centre for Integrated Mountain Development said here on Friday.

The three-day discussions aim to establish an agreed regional telecom

strategy that will be presented at a secretary level meeting, along with recommendations for a testing phase planned in the year 2005.

The outcome of the meeting will provide important information for the technical realization of a regional information system.

MNA/Xinhua

China hopes to solve South Korea's nuclear issue with IAEA

VIENNA, 27 Nov — China hopes that South Korea will continue to cooperate fully with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in providing speedily relevant information concerning its nuclear activities so as to bring about an early solution to the issue within the framework of the agency, a senior Chinese diplomat said on Thursday.

The Chinese delegation believes that the report on South Korea's nuclear issue released by IAEA's Director-General Mohamed ElBaradei provides a large amount of facts and information, said Zhang Yan, permanent representative of China to the UN and other international organizations in Vienna, at the IAEA's Board of Governors meeting.

"The report enables us to understand more accurately and comprehensively the nature and scope of South Korea's nuclear activities and their im-

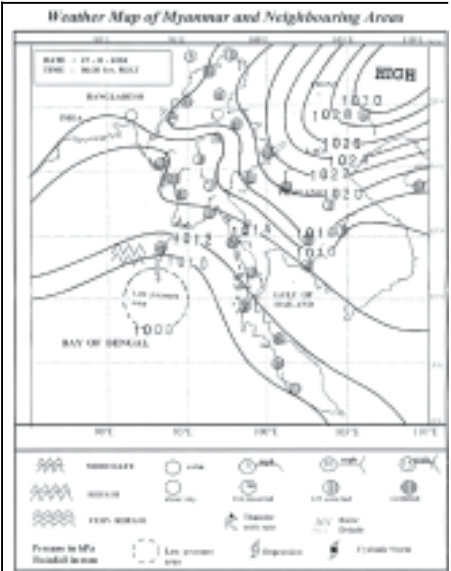
pact," Zhang said.

Although the quantities of nuclear materials involved in South Korea's laboratory activities of enrichment and plutonium separation have not been significant, yet South Korea failed to report the activities in a timely man-

ner to the IAEA, he said. "This is a matter that causes serious concerns."

But South Korea, he said, has taken corrective actions, and adopted an attitude of full cooperation in assisting the IAEA's investigation.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Saturday, 27 November, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain have been isolated in Kachin State and Mandalay Division and weather have been generally fair in the remaining states and divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Moekok (0.04) inch. Night temperatures were (5°C) above normal in Shan and Mon States, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) below normal in Kachin State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (6°C), Putao (8°C) and Mindat (9°C).

Maximum temperature on 26-11-2004 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 27-11-2004 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 27-11-2004 was 83%. Total sunshine hours on 27-11-2004 was (5.2) hours approx. Rainfall on 26-11-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 112.28 inches at Yangon Airport, 106.77 inches at Kaba-Aye and 109.68 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 7 mph from East at (09:00) hours MST on 27-11-2004.

Bay inference: According to the observation at (09:30) hours MST today, yesterday's the low pressure area over South Andaman Sea persists. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in Andaman Sea and generally fair the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 28-11-2004: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated to scattered in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be generally fair in the remaining states and divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama and off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Sea will be slight elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

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

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-11-2004: Possibility of isolated light rain in the afternoon or evening. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-11-2004: Fair weather.



Sunday, November 28
View on today:

7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:15 am

2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မာ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဂါရိတ၊ အရမ္မဟာဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသီရိဓမ္မာ တိပိဋသ(ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူသော ဥပ္ပါဒ်တသျှီ ပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

3. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning news

7:40 am

5. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

6. ယဉ်ကျေးစွာ(၃၈)ပြောမင်္ဂလာ

8:10 am

7. အရေးကြီးပုံ

8:20 am

8. ဘော်တင်ရေလှောင်တံ

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Say it in english

11:00 pm

1. Martial song

11:05 pm

2. Round-up of the week's international news

11:15 pm

3. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "သစ္စာချစ်ပန်း" (အပိုင်း-၄၈)

11:55 pm

4. Myanmar Movie:

"ရင်ဆင်ဆောင်ရာသီ" လွင်နိုးထွန်းအိဌာန၊ မြတ်ကောင်းအောင်အိဌာန၊ (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်ဝတ္ထု)

2:45 pm

5. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. English for Everyday Use

4:45 pm

4. အစေးသစ်တက္ကသိုလ် ဗညာရေး

ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်္ချာစာ

-ဒုတိယနှစ် (ခရာတေးအထူးပြု) (ခရာတေး)

5:00 pm

5. Song of national races

5:15 pm

6. Musical programme

5:30 pm

7. Sing and enjoy

6:30 pm

8. Evening news

7:00 pm

9. Weather report

7:05 pm

10. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ

"ရုပ်ကြွေးသွယ်တိုလင်းပိုင်ငယ်" (အပိုင်း-၃၆)

7:35 pm

11. Agricultural source country's Development

7:45 pm

12. Musical programme

8:00 pm

13. News

14. International news

15. Weather report

16. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ

"ရုပ်ကြွေးသွယ်တိုလင်းပိုင်ငယ်" ဆန်းကြယ်လှသည့် (အပိုင်း-၂၃)

17. The next day's

programme



Sunday, November 28

Tune in today:

8:30 am

Brief news

8:35 am

Music: -Keep on growing

8:40 am

Perspectives

8:45 am

Music: -Always you

8:55 am

National news

9:05 am

Music: -You got it

9:10 am

International news

9:15 am

Culture image of Myanmar:

-Myanmar and Ivory sculpture

1:30 pm

News/Slogan

1:40 pm

Story for children

Mg Yoe and Mg Lawba

1:50 am

Songs for children

9:00 pm

Weekly news review

9:10 pm

Music

9:15 pm

Article

9:25 pm

Lets improve English through songs!

- My heart will go on

-Listen to the radio!

9:45 pm

News/Slogan

10:00 pm

PEL



The remains of the Chairman Sayadaw being incinerated at final rites ceremony.— MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers alms to a Sayadaw at the final rites for Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita.— MNA

Final rites for Myingyan Sayadaw

YANGON, 27 Nov — The final rites for the Myingyan Sayadaw were held in the Sport Grounds of Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon East District, this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were State Ovadacariya Sayadaws, State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Vice-Chairman Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika

Aungmyebonsan Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa, State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Secretary Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru (See page 9)

Chairman of National Olympic Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives AWF President and party

YANGON, 27 Nov — Chairman of National Olympic Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein received Minister of Sports of the People's Republic of China President of Asian Wushu Federation Mr Li Zhijian and party at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall on Konmyinthta at 3 pm today.

Also present at the call were Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint (See page 10)



Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives Asia Wushu Federation President Mr Li Zhijian and party at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall.— MNA

Myanmar stands third with 5 gold, 8 silver and 9 bronze in Asian Wushu Championships

YANGON, 27 Nov — The 6th Asian Wushu Championships successfully concluded at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, here, this morning.

The People's Republic of China team emerged champion with 21 gold, two silver and one bronze; Vietnam stood second with five gold, ten silver and 15 bronze; and Myanmar, third with five gold, eight silver and nine bronze.

Among the spectators were Chairman of

Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, MOC member Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Minister of Sports of the PRC Mr Li Zhijian, officials of the Ministry of Sports, members of Panel of Leading Patrons for Myanmar Women's Sports Federation, officials of International Wushu Federation and Asia Wushu Federation, the President of Myanmar Wushu Federation and officials.

After the morning

events, Swe Swe Thant of Myanmar stood first; Huang Yan Hui of Macao, second; and Nguyen Thi Ngoc Oanh of Vietnam, third in the Women's Nanguan Combine event.

Ho Ro Bin of Malaysia stood first; Zaw Zaw Moe of Myanmar, second; and Le Quang Huy of Vietnam, third in the Men's Nanguan Combine event.

In the women's nangun event, Huang Yan Hui of Macao stood first, Swe Swe Thant of Myanmar second and Sachiko Takeda of Japan

third. In the men's nandao event, Ho Ro Bin of Malaysia won the first prize, Zaw Zaw Moe of Myanmar second and Le Quang Huy of Vietnam third.

Nguyen Thi My Duc of Vietnam stood first; Han Jing of Macao, second; and Dan Thanh Huan of Vietnam, third in the women's Changquan event.

After the evening events, Pyae Wai Phyoo of Myanmar stood first; Arvin Ting of the Philippines, second; and Nguyen



Gold medal winner Swe Swe Thant in Nanguan, Nangun and Nandao combined event seen with Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and MWF President U Khin Maung Lay.— NLM