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Senior General Than Shwe holds discussions about regional development with departmental officials in Rakhine State. — MNA

## Gradual increase in rubber cultivation will raise par capita income and earn foreign currency There will be development only if land and water resources are tapped correctly and effectively Senior General Than Shwe tours Rakhine State

YANGON, 30 Nov — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe arrived in Sittway, Rakhine State, by Tatmadaw aircraft at 10.45 am yesterday. The Senior General was accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, SPDC members Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Hotels and Tourism and Minister for

Next, the Senior General and party went to the meeting hall of Sittway Station and met with departmental officials. Commander Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing reported on the area, location and population of Rakhine State, land utilization, measures taken for ensuring rule of law and community peace and tranquillity, reclamation and cultivation of vacant land in the state in 2004-2005, cultivation of monsoon paddy and crops, local self-sufficiency of rice, cultivation of beans and pulses, kitchen crops, extended cultivation of rubber and pepper, raising of fish and prawns, economic growth of the state and education, health and transport matters.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on assistance to be rendered to meet the target cultivation of

### Excerpts from speech of Senior General Than Shwe

- \* It is required to utilize the significant natural resources of the regions in a correct and effective way.
- \* The local authorities will have to apply innovative means and play a leading role in utilizing the natural resources.
- \* Progress of all regions will lead to reduction of poverty and raising of the social standard of the people.

### Means should be sought to cultivate new crops such as rubber, pepper in addition to developing agricultural and fish and meat sectors

Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, heads of the SPDC Office and departments.

The Senior General and party were welcomed at Sittway Airport by Chairman of Rakhine State PDC Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Vice-Chairman Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung, senior military officers, state level departmental officials, social organizations, Rakhine traditional royal drum troupe and cultural troupe.

paddy and crops; Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun on condition of roads and bridges built by the State and of the ones to be built; and Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein on development of Rakhine State's fish and meat sector and assistance being given by the ministry.

Next, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint reported on health care provided to the state; Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein on development of border trade; Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw on development of tourism in the state and extension of communication services; and Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi on distribution of fuel and the prospects and discoveries of offshore oil and gas.

(See page 16)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein deals with development tasks at the meeting with service personnel in Rakhine State. — MNA

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 1 December, 2004

## Strive for development of infrastructures

The State Peace and Development Council has always adhered to 'Our Three Main National Causes' in the interests of the entire nation.

Moreover, it has laid down the foundations for peace, development, modernization and democratization of the nation.

At present, the seven-point policy programme for the nation's future is being implemented and foundations for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy are being laid down on all fronts.

As all the national people of the Union are working together with the government in all sectors and regions including border areas, the nation is on the right path to peace, stability and development.

In our march towards the national goal, short-term national plans have been laid down and are being implemented and the implementation of all these plans are centred on development of infrastructures.

To build infrastructures of enormous dimensions, the Committee for Special Projects Implementation was set up, and all the necessary measures are being taken in each and every sector and region.

In doing so, special emphasis has been placed on parallel development of each and every region. It is towards this end that the border area development plan, the 24-region development plan and the five rural development tasks are being carried out.

In the agriculture sector, 167 new dams and 271 river water pumping stations have been built. Huge investments are being made in this sector as it is the one that comprises 75 per cent of the national work force and supplies almost cent per cent of basic foodstuffs.

In the electric power sector, 767 more megawatts can now be generated than before in the entire nation.

In the transport sector, there has been a total of 35,212 miles of motor roads, 1,128 miles of new railroads, 12 new airports and 33 airfields. In the education sector, the number of basic education schools and that of universities and colleges has increased up to 40,505 and 156 respectively.

And the health sector has now 813 hospitals. These are the tangible results of the national development endeavours.

We would like to call on the entire national people to maintain the existing infrastructures and build new ones for the emergence of a peaceful, developed and discipline-flourishing democracy.

## စာပေဒါန

ကျေးဇူး ကိုယ်အားကိုးတို့၏အကြံတိုက်များအတွက် သုတ/ရသ စာအုပ်များနှင့် စာပေဒါန ငွေပဒေသာပင် လှူဒါန်းပွဲကို အောက်ပါအစီအစဉ်အတိုင်း ကျင်းပပါမည်။

နေ့ရက် - ၃-၁၂-၂၀၀၄ (သောကြာနေ့)

အချိန် - မွန်လွဲ (၂) နာရီ

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စာပေဒါနပြုလိုကြသော စေတနာရှင်၊ အလှူရှင်များ အချိန်မီတက်ရောက် လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်ပီးကြား အပ်ပါသည်။

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## Peace Group of Wa Special Region 2 declares continued support of the Government

Will maintain sound foundations of peace in Wa region

Will attend National Convention till its completion

## PEACE GROUP OF WA SPECIAL REGION 2 DECLARES STANCE

YANGON, 30 Nov — The Peace Group of Wa Special Region 2 issued the following announcement concerning its stance on 29 November 2004:

- The Peace Group of Wa Special Region 2 will continue to support the Government, and will continue to endeavour for economic development and improvement of food, clothing and shelter of the people, while taking part collectively in the task to maintain peace and stability in the nation.
- The Peace Group of Wa Special Region 2 will continue to maintain the sound foundations of peace of the Wa region it has restored with the assistance of the Government.
- The Peace Group of Wa Special Region 2 will continue to send its delegates to the National Convention. In addition, the Peace Group will present its own views and suggestions after humble assessment of the discussions of the national brethren, political parties, and delegates of all strata of life for emergence of a new constitution and will attend the National Convention till its successful completion.
- As it has already declared to the nation and the world, the Peace Group of Wa Special Region 2 will strive to eradicate the over-100-year old practice of opium poppy cultivation in the entire region after June 2005. The Peace Group will constantly make endeavours to prevent poppy cultivation and narcotic drugs production.

MNA

## Rail Transportation Minister inspects railroad sections

YANGON, 30 Nov— Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Pe Than, Brig-Gen Thaung Aye of Mongnaung Station and officials of Myanma Railways, inspected progress in construction of Htiri-Htihtehto-Ponchaung railroad section on Shwenyaung- Taunggyi-Ponchaung- Namsang railroad.

On 28 November, the minister and party inspected construction of the railroad sections and bridges between Htiri Station and Ponchaung bridge.

The minister gave instructions to staff of Myanma Railways on maintenance of retaining

walls and durability of bridges.

Ponchaung Bridge is 727 feet and 7 inches in length. Construction of the bridge started on 1-8-2001 and the project was completed on 27-3-2004 2004. It can be used by both trains and vehicles.

Out of 165.29-mile Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Namsang rail-road section, the 137.79-mile Shwenyaung-Ponchaung railroad section has been opened. The remaining 27.5-mile Ponchaung-Koungsaing section is being constructed by Tatmadawmen and staff of MR. Upon completion, the road will reach Mongnai through Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Namsang.— MNA

## Commerce Deputy Minister inspects preparations for First CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair

YANGON, Nov 30— Chairman of Central Committee for Organizing the First CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun today inspected the preparations for holding the First CLMTV- ECS Trade Fair-2004. The trade fair will be opened from 3 to 7 December 2004 at Myanma Con-

vention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township.

The deputy minister inspected the booths of the People's Republic of China, Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Union of Myanmar, Thailand and Socialist Republic of Vietnam and ministries and private booths and gave necessary instructions.—MNA

## Ambassador, embassy staff donate cash, medicines and medical equipment

YANGON, 30 Nov—A ceremony to donate cash, medicines and medical equipment to Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital by Myanmar Ambassador to

Malaysia U Hla Maung-Daw Thanda Khin and family, embassy staff and Myanmar in Malaysia, was held at the hospital this morning.

It was attended by Medical Superintendent Dr San San Hlaing, Assistant Medical Superintendent Dr Myint Myint Hlaing, matron and staff and others. After explaining the purpose of the donation, Ambassador U Hla Maung presented K 300,000 and medicines and medical equipment to Dr San San Hlaing.

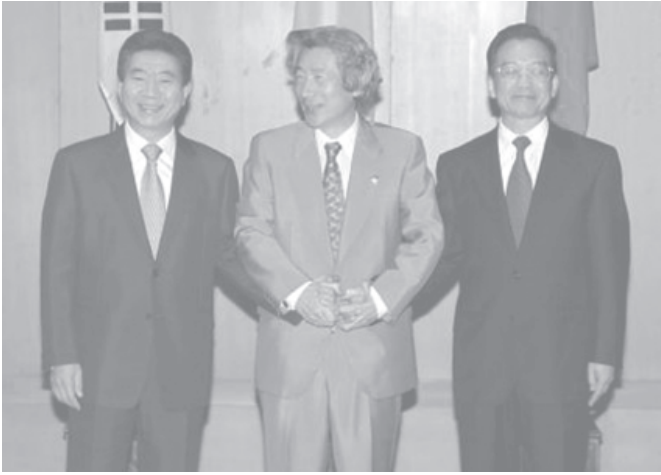
Dr San San Hlaing presented a certificate of honour to the well-wisher and spoke words of thanks.

MNA



A train passing through Ponchaung Bridge built by the Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation. — MR





South Korea's President Roh Moo-hyun (L), Japan's Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi (C) and China's Premier Wen Jiabao lock hands for a photo before holding a trilateral meeting at the 10th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit in Vientiane on 29 November, 2004. —INTERNET



## China, Japan, S Korea adopt strategy on cooperation

VIETIANE, 30 Nov— Leaders of China, Japan and South Korea adopted an action strategy on trilateral cooperation following a meeting here Monday.

The meeting, which took place on the sidelines of the 10th Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit, was attended by Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi Junichiro and South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun. The Action Strategy on Trilateral Cooperation

said economic interdependence among the three countries has risen to "an unprecedented level which provides a solid foundation for further cooperation among them".

The trilateral cooperation will serve as "an effective framework to achieve economies of scale in a variety of

fields", it said.

The three countries will further cooperation in education, science and technology, environmental protection, trade and investment, the document said.

"They (the three countries) will promote close consultations and cooperation for the peaceful denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula through the six-party talks, while addressing the nuclear issue and related concerns of the parties and working together to maintain peace and stability on the peninsula," it said.

"They will further strengthen close coordination to expeditiously achieve substantive progress at the six-party talks."

Addressing the meeting, Chinese Premier Wen said trilateral cooperation has been increased with common development promoted and the basis for shared interests expanded since such meeting first took place in 1999.

MNA/Xinhua

## China, Thailand to further expand trade, economic relations

VIETIANE, 30 Nov — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra pledged here on Monday to further expand bilateral trade and economic relations.

During their meeting here, the two sides exchanged views on strengthening the Sino-Thai relations and expressed satisfaction over the cooperation in trade, communications, resources and energy fields. Talking with Thaksin on economic cooperation in the Great Mekong Sub-Region, Wen said the Great Mekong Sub-Regional cooperation is one of the focus of the China-ASEAN (the Association of South-East Asian Nations) cooperation.

China is to host the second meeting of the Great Mekong Sub-Region coun-

tries, said Wen. "We hope that the meeting could achieve tangible progress in promoting development in communications, energy, telecommunications, environment protection, agriculture, trade and investment facilitation." Thaksin said Thailand is to closely cooperate with China in helping generate positive results at the meeting and promote the cooperation in related fields. The two-day ASEAN Summit opened here Monday and Thailand is one of the 10-member ASEAN countries. —MNA/Xinhua

## ASEAN declares recognition of China as a full market economy

VIETIANE, 30 Nov— The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) declared Monday that it now recognizes China as a full market economy.

This is the first such declaration from the 10-member organization and came at the eighth summit between ASEAN and China during the signing of a trade agreement between the

parties, an official Press release said.

Chinese Commerce Minister Bo Xilai, together with the trade ministers of the ASEAN countries, signed the agreement.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, who is here attending the ASEAN meetings and visiting Laos, witnessed the signing ceremony.

MNA/Xinhua

## Seven killed in Black Hawk helicopter crash

WASHINGTON, 29 Nov—An Army helicopter carrying seven soldiers crashed and burned in the fog Monday after hitting a web of support wires on a TV transmission tower whose warning lights had been knocked out in a storm last week, officials said. Everyone aboard was killed.

The UH-60 Black Hawk, bound for the Red River Army Depot in Texarkana, went down in a field about 30 miles northeast of Fort Hood. The fog was so thick when emergency crews arrived that they could not see more than halfway up the tower, authorities said.

The helicopter was headed to check out equipment being readied for use in Iraq, said Lt Col Jonathan Withington, spokesman for the Fort Hood-based 4th Infantry Division. The names of the victims, all from Fort Hood, were not immediately released.

Rock Eicke, who lives a quarter-mile from the crash site, said he was getting ready for work at about 7 am when he was startled by a loud sound. He looked out his window and saw the helicopter hit the ground.

"All of the sudden I just saw a big ball of fire erupt from the ground and then boom, an explosion," Eicke said.

The main part of the fuselage went down in a field about 200 to 300 yards from the tower, said McLennan County constable Ken Brown.

Eicke and Brown said charred and smoldering pieces of the helicopter were scattered for hundreds of yards. Two of the bodies were seen inside the helicopter; others were lying in the field.—Internet

## 32 including two Marines killed in spiralling Iraq violence

BAGHDAD, 30 Nov— At least 32 people including two US Marines and four Iraqi national guards were killed and numerous injured in violence across Iraq.

A suicide car bomber ploughed into policemen waiting to collect their salary at a police station

west of Ramadi on Monday, killing 12 people and wounding 10 in the latest insurgent attack on Iraq's beleaguered security forces.

Two US soldiers were killed and three wounded on Monday when their convoy was targeted by a roadside

bomb attack in Baghdad, the US military said in a statement. Thirteen US marines and two civilians were wounded on Monday when mortar shells struck a military base south of Baghdad, a marine spokesman said.

Internet



A US soldier (L) covers his face from the dust as a helicopter arrives to pick up a wounded comrade from their forward base in south-central Iraq.—INTERNET

## Indonesia to hold int'l seminar on Meteorology, Geophysics

JAKARTA, 30 Nov— The Indonesian Meteorology and Geophysics Body (BMG), in cooperation with the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA), will sponsor and organize an international seminar on earth magnet and its application to improve the people's interest in and knowledge of the issue in early December.

"The seminar will last for three days, starting on 1 December and be attended by both local and foreign experts in earth magnet," the BMG spokesman Edison Gurning was quoted as saying on Sunday by the state news agency Antara. —MNA/Xinhua

## 10th ASEAN Summit opens

**VIENTIANE, 30 Nov—** The 10th ASEAN Summit opened here Monday under the theme of "Advancing a Secure and Dynamic ASEAN Family through Greater Solidarity, Economic Integration and Social Progress".

Bounnhang Vorachith, chairman of the 10th ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) Summit and Lao Prime Minister, said at the opening ceremony that the summit will achieve great success and mark an important milestone toward its goal of a secure and dynamic family.

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

He said the finalization of the Plan of Action on the ASEAN Security Community and Plan of Action on the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, to be jointly signed by the leaders at the end of the on-going summit, constitutes a significant achievement.

He said that since the last ASEAN summit held in Bali, Indonesia, the association recorded many important successes in the political, security, and social-economic development cooperation

fields. He added that ASEAN cooperation has been further strengthened, while the ASEAN basic and sacrosanct principles of consensus and non-interference in internal affairs of each other have been strongly preserved.

The summit chairman hoped that with the goals set by ASEAN Vision 2020, and Bali Concord II, combined with the guidelines defined by the Vientiane Action Programme, a successor programme to Hanoi Action Plan, the association will be bond together in partnership in dynamic development, in a community of caring societies committed to upholding cultural diversity and social harmony, in an environment of peace, stability and friendship.

He said in order to overcome obstacles and impacts of globalization and to accelerate economic integration of ASEAN, he fully supports the establishment of the ASEAN Development Fund.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်သ္မန်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



From left seated, President Gloria Arroyo of the Philippines, Prime Ministers. Lee Hsien Loong of Singapore and Thaksin Shinawatra of Thailand are aided by traditionally dressed Laotians at a signing ceremony at the ASEAN Summit in Vientiane, Laos on 29 Nov, 2004. — INTERNET

## Indonesia's motorcycle sales rose in October

**JAKARTA, 30 Nov —** Motorcycles sales in Indonesia rose by 2.46 per cent to 381,845 units in October when compared to September, a local newspaper reported Monday.

Moped type still enjoys the highest demand, accounting for 89.98 per cent of the October sales, reported *Bisnis Indonesia*.

In the first ten months of 2004, national motorcycle sales climbed by 38.56 per cent to 3.27 million units when compared to the same period last year.

MNA/Xinhua

## Three S-E Asian firms to jointly build auto parts factories

**JAKARTA, 30 Nov —** Three companies from three Southeast Asian countries plan to jointly build factories to produce automotive parts in their respective countries to increase market in the ten-member Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The three companies are PT Astra Otoparts (AOP) of Indonesia, Thai Summit of Thailand and DBR-Hicom of Indonesia. *Bisnis Indonesia* newspaper reported Monday.

"We have signed memorandum of understanding to build the factory with Thailand, and have met three times with Malaysia for a conclusion next week," AOP director Mochamad

Koeswono was quoted as saying.

He said each company will produce different auto parts beginning at the end of next year at the latest. "In the beginning, they (Thai Summit and DBR-Hicom) may not produce parts themselves, but we will supply with components for assembling and they will localize production in stages," Koeswono said.— MNA/Xinhua

## Suicide bomber kills 12 policemen in Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 30 Nov—** In the latest insurgent attack on Iraq's beleaguered security forces, a suicide car bomber plowed into policemen waiting to collect their salaries at a police station west of Ramadi yesterday killing 12 policemen.

At least 10 people were wounded in the blast, and 90 percent of the casualties were policemen, said Nazar Al-Hiti, a doctor in the town of Hit around 200 km (125 miles) west of Baghdad, where the dead and wounded were taken.

In Baghdad, a roadside bomb exploded as a US patrol went past, killing

two American soldiers and wounding three. Thirteen US soldiers and two foreign civilians were also wounded in a mortar attack south of Baghdad. Guerrillas trying to drive out US-led soldiers and topple the government of Prime Minister Iyad Allawi have repeatedly attacked Iraqi police and soldiers. — Internet

## S Korean industrial output growth slides to nine-month low

**SEOUL, 30 Nov —** South Korea's industrial output growth plunged to a nine-month low with 5.7 per cent growth rate in October due to cooling exports and protracted weak consumer spending, the National Statistics Office (NSO) said Monday.

Seasonally-adjusted industrial output also fell 3.4 percentage points in October from the previous month, marking a negative growth rate of 0.9 per cent, the NSO said.

Exports, the country's main engine of growth, have been losing steam. In October, their annual growth rate fell for the sixth consecutive month to 16.1 per cent, the lowest level since April last year when it plummeted to 6.4 per cent.

Wholesale and retail sales declined 2.3 per cent year-on-year, casting doubts over the long-awaited recovery of the domestic economy that has been struggling with a demand slump since the bursting of a credit card bubble in 2002.

In October, domestic construction orders slowed to 4.8 per cent from a year ago, down from 17.3 per cent a month ago, while overseas construction orders jumped 32.1 per cent following four consecutive months of negative growth, the office said.

MNA/Xinhua

## 1,254 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

**BAGHDAD, 30 Nov—**As of Monday, 29 November, 2004, at least 1,254 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 981 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is two lower than the Defence Department's tally, which was last updated Monday at 10 am EDT.

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 Presi-

dent Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,116 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 872 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

Two US soldiers were killed Monday when their patrol struck a bomb in Baghdad, Iraq.

Internet



US soldiers patrol the restive Iraqi city of Ramadi on 29 November. Four Iraqi national guards were killed in a car bomb attack on a checkpoint in western Iraq. — INTERNET



## ASEAN attaches importance to FTA, CEP

VIENTIANE, 30 Nov — The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Monday called its member countries to make efforts to strengthen external economic relations and expand the terms of trade with major Dialogue Partners through the establishment of Free Trade Areas (FTAs) and Closer Economic Partnerships (CEPs).

In its Vientiane Action Programme adopted at the ongoing 10th ASEAN Summit Monday, the 10-member grouping says internal measures, aimed at creating a single ASEAN market and production base, may not be sufficient to attract the volume of investment required to sustain economic growth.

It says the economic growth of the ASEAN region in past decades has been largely driven by FDI flows and exports. While exports have stabilized and are again beginning to expand, ASEAN has experienced

a sustained decline in FDI flows since the 1997-1998 economic and monetary crisis. It says the strategy for ASEAN external economic cooperation will involve strengthening linkages and promoting the coherence of agreements with major trading partners such as China, Japan, South Korea, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the EU and emerging economies such as India.

The promotion of the coherence of agreements might include increasing coordination of extra-ASEAN economic agreements, it says.

MNA/Xinhua

## Two French hostages in Iraq hope to be freed

LONDON, 29 Nov — Two French journalists held hostage in Iraq since August said in a video recording they are in good health and hope to be freed "once investigations and security problems are finalized", London's *Sunday Times* said.

The newspaper reported it obtained the CD-ROM with the video and believed it was made earlier this month.

It said the recording showed Christian Chesnot and fellow hostage Georges Malbrunot apparently in good spirits more than three months after their capture by a group calling itself the Islamic Army.

"The behaviour of the Islamic Army has been very good. There is no violence involved," Chesnot was quoted as saying in French-accented Lebanese Arabic.

"We eat three times a day and we get lots of tea and everything is available," he added.

Chesnot said they were being held while the Islamic Army investigated their identities.

He also said the security situation in Iraq was affecting their release.

"The situation is very difficult. There is an American siege as well as American patrols and once the investigations and security problems are finalized, we hope to be released," the paper quoted Chesnot as saying.

MNA/Reuters

## 10th ASEAN Summit stresses expanding relations with partners

VIENTIANE, 30 Nov — The ongoing 10th Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit on Monday adopted a Vientiane Action Programme, stressing narrowing development gap among its member countries and expanding relations with its partners.

With the theme "Toward shared prosperity and destiny in an integrated, peaceful and caring ASEAN Community", the Programme says ASEAN member countries agree to pursue the comprehensive integration of ASEAN toward the realization of an open, dynamic and resilient ASEAN Community by 2020.

It says ASEAN members shall address, by various ways and means, the development issues and

special needs of the less developed ASEAN member countries and sub-regional areas. These include the implementation of the concept of "Prosper Thy Neighbour" by instituting programmes to narrow the development gap, reducing socio-economic disparities and eradicating poverty within ASEAN.

The member countries shall also adopt greater outward-looking external relation strategies with their dialogue partners and friends in building a peace-

ful, secure and prosperous ASEAN, strengthening their economic linkages and deepening their socio-cultural cooperation with East Asia and beyond, the programme says.

It also deals with goals and strategies toward realizing the ASEAN Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community. On implementation mechanisms, the programme says deepening integration, especially in the economic sphere, will

require the member countries to intensify dialogue and make binding commitments.

It also requires the members to identify appropriate implementing timetables and mechanisms, extend national and regional capacities and competence, and develop institutional frameworks, responses and human resources in a range of areas that extend far beyond the existing scope of ASEAN integration.

MNA/Xinhua

## S Korea, Singapore set to announce free trade agreement

SEOUL, 30 Nov — South Korea and Singapore are set to announce a free trade agreement at a meeting of their leaders, officials said.

Trade ministers from South Korea and Singapore held talks on Sunday on the sidelines of an Asian summit in the Laos capital, Vientiane, and discussed how to resolve outstanding issues, South Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade said.

"We expect the announcement of an agreement in essence at the bilateral summit scheduled for this afternoon," it said.

South Korea sealed its first-ever free trade agreement in April — with Chile — despite protests by farmers and labour unions who feared the deal would ruin their livelihoods. — MNA/Reuters



Japan's Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi (R) sits at the head of a round table before holding talks with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations member countries at the 10th ASEAN Summit in Vientiane on 30 Nov, 2004. Thailand's Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra (L) and Vietnam's Prime Minister Phan Van Khai (C) are sitting next to Koizumi. — INTERNET

## Chinese, Laotian leaders hail bilateral ties

VIENTIANE, 30 Nov — China is ready to make joint efforts with Laos to enhance relations between the two countries, said Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao Monday.

During a meeting with Laotian President Khamtay Siphandone, Wen said the two sides have increased political trust and economic cooperation, and have supported each other on regional and international

issues, said a Press release issued by the Chinese delegation.

"We feel satisfied with the development of the relationship (between China and Laos)," said Wen.

Wen added that the Chinese Government at-

taches great importance to its ties with Laos, and adheres to the principle enshrined in the 2000 joint statement — Developing a Long-term and All-round Relations of Good Neighbourliness and Mutual Trust. — MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese PM stresses importance of maintaining Sino-S Korea relation

VIENTIANE, 30 Nov — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said Monday that the relationship between China and South Korea has achieved sound development in general and it is important to keep it in the right direction.

Wen made the remarks Monday during his meeting with South Korea President Roh Moo-hyun on the sideline of the ongoing two-day 10th Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit that opened here Monday.

The Chinese Premier said the Sino-South Ko-

rea cooperation, especially in economic and trade fields, has been witnessing a fast growth, adding that the two sides should value the achievements.

On the development of the Sino-South Korea relations, Wen preposed to maintain the momentum in high-level ex-

changes, to further expand the cooperation in economic and trade fields, to promote exchanges in cultural, educational, scientific and technological fields, to strengthen communications between the two sides and properly settle the issues of mutual concern.

MNA/Xinhua



US Marines evacuate a colleague wounded in a mortar attack on a base south of Baghdad on 29 Nov, 2004. — INTERNET

## China's economy will continue to be "good" in 2005

BEIJING, 30 Nov — China's economy will continue to be "good" in 2005, said a National Statistics Bureau (NSB) official at a forum here on Sunday.

Zheng Jingping, director-general of the Department of Comprehensive Statistics of NSB, said that though the growth rate of China's economy in 2004 is projected at 9 per cent or more, it will continue to grow in a high speed in 2005.

Since 2002, China has witnessed rapid growth in urbanization, industrialization and improvement on the consumption level, while actively participating in global division of labour, Zheng said.

These four characteristics will continue to push China's economy forward and the expanding global economy will provide a good international environment for China's economy, as demand of exports, investment and consumption will remain strong, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



Indian workers clean up a sidewalk where a billboard stands, announcing the 35th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), on 27 Nov 2004 in Panaji, the capital of the western Indian state of Goa. — INTERNET

## မြို့ခြံရွှေတာ၊ ထိန်းပါးလေလွင့်၊ ထုတ်ကုန်မြင့်

### Putin greets ASEAN Summit

Moscow, 30 Nov — Russian President Vladimir Putin has sent a greeting message to participants of the 10th summit of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) currently under way in Vientiane, Laos' capital, the *ITAR-TASS* reported on Monday.

Putin said in his message, "Russia considers ASEAN an authoritative and influential organization, which actively contributes to integration processes in the Asia-Pacific Region. We praise the ASEAN constructive role in ensuring stability in Southeast Asia and strengthening its economic and social development".

"Multifaceted cooperation with ASEAN countries is one of priorities of Russia's foreign policy," Putin noted in the message and said "It is pleasant that over the last 10 years our interaction continues to deepen. Both sides are implementing several projects, including

in such key field as the fight against terrorism."

The President is satisfied with the progress made by Russia and ASEAN in trade, economic, scientific and cultural cooperation.

He noted the sides created a solid juridical and political basis: in 2003 they signed a joint declaration on partnership in peace and security, as well as documents on prosperity and development in the Asia-Pacific Region and Russia's upcoming accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia.

MNA/Xinhua

## Bangladeshi drug addicts spend \$1.16m yearly on deadly habit

DHAKA, 30 Nov — Drug addicts in Bangladesh are spending roughly 70 billion taka (1.16 billion US dollars) a year on their deadly habit, and the amount is about one-third of the national development budget of the country, reported the *Independent*.

Stringent laws and punitive measures like death sentence exist in Bangladesh against drug trafficking, yet drug trafficking as well as abuse of drugs continues to rise alarmingly, affecting the country's law and order badly, the report said Monday.

The number of illegal drug users in Bangladesh is unknown. However, according to the estimate of the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC), surveys of non-government organizations and newspaper reports, the number would not be less than two million.

DNC officials said that the department could not combat the growing drug menace due to lack of finance, skilled manpower, modern equipment, logistics

and proper guide lines.

Drug syndicates are largely responsible for deterioration of law and order in the country, and control of drug abuse will reduce criminal activities.

According to the DNC officials, during the early eighties, the number of drug addicts in Bangladesh was not that high. The number was estimated at around 200,000 in 1982-1983 when the country's population was about 95 million. But now after two decades, the number of drug addicts has increased 10 times and reached the mark of two million, while the country's population is nearing 140 million.

MNA/Xinhua

## New Lao monumental park opens to public

VIENTIANE, 30 Nov—

A new monumental park at the downtown area in the Lao capital of Vientiane, built with Chinese assistance, opened to the public recently.

The 40,000-square-metre Patouxay Park (Victory Park) surrounds the Patouxay Monument, which was built in 1958, and comprises a square, two music fountains, lawns and flower beds.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, the Lao Vice-Minister of Communications, Transport, Post and Construction, Sommad Pholsena, said the new park not only improves the environment and appearance of Vientiane, but also symbolizes Lao-Chinese friendship. — MNA/Xinhua

## Arab airlines expected to increase revenues to \$12b in 2004

ABU DHABI, 30 Nov — Arab airlines are expected to increase their revenues to 12 billion US dollars in 2004, local *Gulf News* daily reported Sunday.

Abdul Wahab Teffaha, secretary-general of the Arab Air Carriers Organization (AACO), was quoted as saying that passenger traffic at airports will increase to 137.6 million by the end of the current year from 119.4 million last year.

The Middle East is one of the fastest growing regions in the global aviation industry. Carriers like Emirates Airline in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar Airways are leading the regional aviation growth. Emirates Airline generated 3.8 billion dollars in revenue, carrying 10.4 million passengers during its 2003-2004 financial year which ended in March.

Sheikh Ahmad Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Dubai Civil Aviation and chairman of Emirates Group, said the airline is expecting a 15-per-cent growth next year if its performance remains as good as this year. The aviation industry in the Middle East is undergoing major development and the increase of new airlines, including low-cost carriers will have a significant impact on the tourism sector in general and the travel retail sector in particular.

Ten airports from the Middle East are within the top 100 airports in the world ranked by retail sales. Four of them are within the top 50 and one of them, the Dubai International Airport is listed within the top three. — MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese farmers rewarded for protecting cultural relics

XI'AN, 30 Nov— Five farmers in northwest China's Shaanxi Province set out on an outbound tour to France and Italy during the weekend, a reward for their discovery and protection of an ancient bronzeware cellar.

The 10-day tour take them to Rome, Florence, Venice and Paris for sightseeing at the expense of the provincial cultural heritage bureau.

The five local farmers, Wang

Ningxian, Wang Mingsuo, Wang Qinning, Wang Laqian and Zhang Qinhui, are folks from Yangjia Village, Meixian County in Baoji City.

MNA/Xinhua



Monkeys get the hands on offers in front of a temple in Lopburi, Thailand, on 28 Nov, 2004 during Monkey festival. The festival has been hosted since 1989 by a local businessman who believes the monkeys were behind his family's good fortune. A total of 2,000 kilograms (4,400 pounds) of fruits were offered to the monkeys roaming the area. — INTERNET

## 12 killed, 26 injured in traffic accident in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 29 Nov— Twelve people were killed and 26 other injured in a traffic accident on National Road 7 in Cambodia's Kompong Cham province, local police said on Monday.

Twelve people were killed on the spot. "The accident took place when a car's tyre blew, then it crushed with another one, caused a serious traffic accident" local Police Chief Kong Sakhon said.

MNA/Xinhua



# For development and strengthening of Sino-Myanmar fraternal relations

Aung Moe San

Nowadays, many nations of the world are in the process of transition to market-oriented economy and democracy, and they are striving in accord with the law of modern political science, which says, "The development of economic productivity is the soundest hallmark of the advancement of the human society in transition." Because all know that the changes in political superstructure alone cannot build a democratic state.

Myanmar also is in the process of materializing the seven-point Road Map to build a democratic nation. In this age, not only with other ASEAN members, but also with the neighbouring nations, Myanmar has been extending cooperation based on mutual interest and striving for regional stability and prosperity for the advancement of her productive forces and improvement of the people's living standard.

At the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of China, a Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win left Yangon for the PRC to attend the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit held in Nanning, the capital of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The delegation arrived back Yangon on 5 November.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin

Naing Thein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, heads of department and officials were included in the delegation.

During the visit, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win held talks with Vice-Premier of the State Council of PRC Madame Wu Yi at Ming Yuan Hotel in the capital at 4 pm on 5 November. Lt-Gen Soe Win and Madame Wu Yi discussed promotion of bilateral economic cooperation, increase in the volume of bilateral trade and anti-drug drive.

Madame Wu Yi said that just as PRC has given priority to the Sino-Myanmar relations, Myanmar has always supported the One China Policy. Myanmar's internal problems must be solved by Myanmar themselves, and outside pressures will not solve her problems, she pointed out. As China is a true friend of Myanmar, it always stands by the country, she said.

**The Myanmar Prime Minister said that the fine traditions of friendship and cooperation between the two countries must be promoted in all aspects. Myanmar is peaceful and stable and enjoying developments and success under the leadership of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. He thanked the PRC, the ASEAN, regional and neighbouring countries for their understanding and support**

**for Myanmar's developments in international and regional affairs.**

At 4.45 pm, the Myanmar Prime Minister held a meeting with his Laotian counterpart Mr Bounnhang Vorachith at Majestic Hotel in Nanning. At the meeting, Lt-Gen Soe Win asserted that Myanmar will continue to maintain her friendship and active cooperation with regional, neighbouring and ASEAN nations, without losing momentum. The Laotian Prime Minister expressed belief that his country will host the ASEAN Summit successfully. Preparation had already been made to

economic Cooperation Strategies (ACMECS) was able to serve the regional interest in addition to the interest of each of the four nations, he recalled. In the future also, the two countries enjoying the fine traditions of friendship will continue to work for the progress and success of the regional bodies including the ASEAN, based on amity. The unity shown at the recent Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) paved the way for Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar to become members of the association. Cambodia has maintained its stance at the ASEM that there should be no discrimina-

**should make greater cooperation to overcome today's challenges. By means of ASEAN-China integration, there will emerge a market for 1,700 million people, one third of the global population. Natural resources and human resources of both sides will be of great help for shaping a gigantic market. The Sino-Myanmar bilateral trade is growing, and the two countries have agreed to increase the bilateral trade volume in 2005 up to US \$ 1.5 billion. Efforts should be made for systematic development of border trade in addition to maritime trade.**

The 12th conference on finance, statistics and economy of the Pacific Basin was held on 10 August in Bangkok, Thailand, almost at the same time when the Economic Ministers Meeting was in progress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. At the conference the discussions of the chairman of Thai National and Social Development Board and the president of Thai Airways International as well as a former Minister of Finance were found to be interesting. They said that Asia should take the example of European nations that extended close economic relations between one another after the World War II. After gradually overcoming the economic deterioration they had experienced for a long time after the end of WWII, they were able to develop themselves till founding the present-day European Union (EU). Japan, China and the Republic of Korea, the strong

economies of Asia, will have to play a leading role in helping develop the continent's economy. Although the task of building unity is easy to say, it will be hard to materialize. Thus, many difficulties and hardships will be faced in implementing the task. However, it is expected that the officials concerned of Asia will strive utmost for raising the dignity of the continent. At an annual meeting held in Tokyo, economic leaders of Japan and the ASEAN urged other participants to form an East Asia Economic Community (EAEC), including China and ROK. The call was stated in the joint declaration issued after the end of the 30th ASEAN-Japan economic meeting held in Tokyo. The declaration also stated that businessmen of the ASEAN and Japan believed that close economic relations with ROK and China and cooperation of all other Asian nations will bring about economic development of EAEC nations.

In this way Asia will enter a new age of market-oriented economic progress and regional development and peace and stability. So, we can say that the goodwill visit of Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and delegation to the PRC is to develop the ever flourishing fraternal Sino-Myanmar friendly relations, bilateral cooperation and progress of the peoples of the two nations.

(Translation: TMT)

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Kyemon+Myanmar Alin:  
30.11.2004.

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**Although it is said that developed countries are in support of free trade, it is regional solidarity that matters considering their continued practice of protectionism. ASEAN and China should make greater cooperation to overcome today's challenges.**

host the ASEAN Summit in his country, he said, thanking Myanmar for her assistance and support for the meeting.

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win called on Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen at Ming Yuan Hotel in Nanning at 11.15 am on 3 November. During the talks, the Cambodian Prime Minister said that Myanmar and Cambodia are friendly nations showing mutual respect, understanding and sympathy. The four-country Summit on Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Eco-

tion among the ASEAN countries, he assured.

Lt-Gen Soe Win said that Myanmar will continue to maintain its close relations with Cambodia in regional as well as international affairs.

**In his address delivered at the opening ceremony of the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit, held at 3 pm, on 3 November, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win said that although it is said that developed countries are in support of free trade, it is regional solidarity that matters considering their continued practice of protectionism. ASEAN and China**

CLMTV ECS TRADE FAIR



1st Five Countries Trade Fair-2004  
Yangon, Mindhamma Road, Myanmar Convention Centre  
(From 3 to 7 December, 2004)

ကမ္ဘာ့အသံကောလိပ်မှ ကျင်းပသော ကမ္ဘာ့အသံကောလိပ်  
၂၀၀၄ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာလ (၁) ရက်

World AIDS Campaign  
1<sup>st</sup> December, 2004

“အအိုင်ဒီအက်စ်ကင်းစင်ဖို့  
အမျိုးသမီးများဘဝမြှင့်တင်ဖို့”

“Women, Girls, HIV and AIDS”

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



Senior General Than Shwe and party pay reverence to Buddha images of the Lawkananda Pagoda in Sittway. — MNA

## At present, rubber fetches good...

(from page 16)

of the people. As Rakhine State is rich in land and water resources, ardent efforts will increase the per capita income and bring progress to the whole region. Moreover, the state has high prospects to development. Means should be sought to cultivate new crop species such as rubber in addition to developing the agricultural and fish and meat sectors, which have high prospects, and raising the per acre yield of crops. According to soil condition and rainfall of the state, rubber can grow well in the region. At present, rubber fetches good prices in the world markets. As it has markets throughout the successive eras, it is an industrial raw material whose global demand cannot wane. Gradual increase in rubber cultivation will help increase the per capita income in the nation in addition to earning foreign exchange for the nation. As pepper cultivation has taken a foothold in the state, efforts should be made to extend pepper plantations.

On arrival at Government Technological College in Sittway, the Senior General and party were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe, the principal and officials. At the briefing hall, the Senior General and party heard a report presented by officials on academic matters, completion of the three-storey main hall of the college. Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung gave a supplementary report.

After giving guidance to construct the buildings in accord with the designs, the Senior General inspected

As pepper cultivation has taken a foothold in the state, efforts should be made to extend pepper plantations



Senior General Than Shwe views natural scenic beauty of Sittway, Rakhine State. — MNA

the scale-model of the college and the location of the main hall and lecture halls. He met with Tatmadaw members and families of the Sittway Station at the

Bandoola Hall of the station. Adjutant-General Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave the introductory (See page 9)



Senior General Than Shwe meets officers and other ranks of Sittway Station and their families at Bandoola Hall in Sittway. — MNA



Western Command Commander Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing presents a report. — MNA

## Minister for Electric Power inspects hydro-power projects

YANGON, 30 Nov — Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut on 26 November arrived at Mone Creek Hydro Power project being implemented by Hydro-electric Power Department and inspected the power station and its control room, No 3 generator, trial run of the generator and construction of sub-power station.

On 27 November, the minister also inspected intake structure of the project and storage of water, and spillway and attended to the needs.

The minister and party went to Popa Pozolan Plant construction site being undertaken by the construction group-2 of the Hydro-electric Power Department at Popa region in Mandalay Division and inspected progress of the construction work, installation

of cables and construction of sub-power station and fulfilled the requirements.

The minister and party the next day arrived at Paunglaung Hydro-power Project in Pinyinmana and inspected underground power station, installation of generator-No 2 and condition of No 3 and No 4 generator which are generating electricity and met with the staff. The minister also sawover the control room of the station and gave necessary instructions to the officials concerned.

Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut also met officials of the project and factory managers and gave instructions on producing of electricity, practising of thrift, minimizing loss and wastage, work site safety and timely completion of work. — MNA



## At present, rubber...

(from page 8)

speech. The Senior General then explained organizational matters.

He also cordially greeted them.

The Senior General and party inspected developments and scenic beauty of Sittway by car.

In the late evening, they paid obeisance to Lawkananda Pagoda, and offered flowers, lights and water to the Buddha images. After signing in the

visitors' book, the Senior General presented cash for the pagoda. The Senior General and party also visited

Aung Setkya Muni Ordination Hall and paid homage to the Buddha image there. — MNA

### People's Desire

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



Senior General Than Shwe and party pay homage to Aung Setkya Muni Buddha Image in Aung Setkya Muni Ordination Hall. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe hears a report presented by Principal U Tin Win at the Government Technological College (Sittway). — MNA



Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation President Daw Than Than Nwe hosts dinner to delegates to Third Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women. — MNA

## MWAF President hosts dinner to participants of Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Women

YANGON, 30 Nov — President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation-MWAF Daw Than Than Nwe hosted a dinner to delegates to the third meeting ASEAN Committee on Women at Myayeknyo Royal Hotel at 7 pm today.

It was attended by President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Khin Win, members of the panel of partons MWAF, Vice-President of MWAF Daw Khin Lay Myint, members of the executive

committee of MWAF, departmental officials included in supporting group of MWAF, officials of ASEAN secretariat, delegates from ASEAN nations and invited guests. Cultural dance troupes presented dances at the dinner. — MNA

## Third Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Women concludes

YANGON, 30 Nov — The last day's session of the Third Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women hosted by Myanmar continued at Mindon Hall of Sedona Hotel at 9 am today and it successfully concluded at 5 pm. Present at the meeting were delegates from Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, the Philip-

ines, Vietnam and host Myanmar, and officials of ASEAN Secretariat.

During the meeting, officials of ASEAN Secretariat presented reports on resolutions of the previous meetings and implementation plan for Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Women. As to the reports, the delegates from ASEAN member countries took part in the

discussions. Next, those present discussed regional cooperation matters for elimination of trafficking in persons and violence against women and arrangements to be made for holding the Fourth Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Women.

Afterwards, the resolutions and approvals concerning the meeting were made. — MNA



The Third Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Women in progress. — MNA



*Lt-Gen Ye Myint unveils stone inscriptions of Kyauktaga Dam in Natmauk Township, Magway Division. — MNA*

## Kyauktaga Dam in Natmauk Township, Magway Division, inaugurated

YANGON, 30 Nov — The opening ceremony of Kyauktaga Dam constructed by the Construction Group-7 of the Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was held today in Kyauktaga Village in Natmauk Township, Magway Division.

At the opening ceremony, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence delivered an address and unveiled the stone plaque of the dam.

Dam. With the help of Taungyechaung Dam and Kyauktaga Dam, Kyetmauktaung Dam will be able to store more water.

Kyauktaga Dam will not only be able to feed water to Kyetmauktaung Dam but also to irrigate 2,000 acres of land in Shwepantaw Village and Kyaunggon Village, thereby contributing to greening tasks. As a result, farmers in the region will be able to grow paddy at will.

Panchaung Dam in the south of Kyetmauktaung

Altogether 13 dams have been constructed in Magway District alone.

They are Kinmontaung Dam, Bokchaung Dam, Natmauk Diversion Weir, Natmauk Dam, Bangon Dam, Hsatdan Dam, Ngamin Dam, Laydaingsin Dam, Yanpei Dam, Sunchung Dam, Palin Dam, Naga Dam and Kyauktaga Dam opened today.

In Natmauk Township also, Natmauk Diversion Weir, Natmauk Dam and Kyauktaga Dam opened today were constructed. The three facilities are irrigat-



*Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party pose for documentary photo together with local residents at the opening of Kyauktaga Dam — MNA*



*Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Kyauktaga Dam. — MNA*

It was also attended by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, senior military officers, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departments, chairmen of district and township Peace and Development Councils, engineers and officials of Kyauktaga Dam project, social organizations, students and local people totalling over 10,000.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that Kyauktaga Dam opened today is situated near Kyauktaga Village, Natmauk Township, Magway Division. It was constructed to feed water to Kyetmauktaung Dam built in 1966 in Mandalay Division.

The storage capacity of Kyetmauktaung Dam is about 73,000 acre feet. But it can store only 36,900 acre feet due to various reasons. To be able to store more water, officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation made field trips and sought means and ways in accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. So, the project for construction of Kyauktaga Dam was launched.

The storage capacity of recently-opened Taungyechaung Dam is 3,400 acre feet and the dam is now feeding water to Kyetmauktaung Dam through Kyaukpon Creek.

The storage capacity of Kyauktaga Dam opened today is 41,130 acre feet and it will soon be able to feed water to Kyetmauktaung Dam through Taungyechaung

Dam can irrigate about 5,000 acres of farmland and it is adjacent to the irrigated areas of Kyetmauktaung Dam. Thus, it can also benefit farmland in the southern part of Kyaukpadaung region.

The government has built 29 dams and reservoirs including newly-opened Kyauktaga Dam with irrigated areas of 178,938 acres in Magway Division since 1988. It has spent over K 13,782 million on those facilities, he stressed.

ing 38,500 acres of farmland.

Apart from those dams and reservoirs, altogether 44 river water pumping stations were built in Magway Division.

The river water pumping stations are now irrigating over 72,800 acres of farmland in the region.

Magway Division is in the arid zone with scanty rainfall. Owing to scanty rainfall, farmers in the division

(See page 15)



*Kyauktaga Dam in Natmauk Township, Magway Division. — MNA*



## Multimedia classrooms of South Okkalapa Township No 3 BEHS opened

YANGON, 30 Nov —The opening ceremony of the multimedia classrooms of South Okkalapa Township Basic Education High School No 3 was held this morning at the school. Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Education U Than Aung and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Aung Thein Linn attended the ceremony and accepted the cash donation.

At the Opening cum Cash Donation Ceremony, Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, Headmistress Daw Shu Kyi and Chairman of School Board of Trustees Lt-Col Aye Ko (Rtd) formally opened the multimedia classrooms. Next, Com-



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects multimedia classroom of No 3 BEHS in South Okkalapa Township. — YGN COMMAND

mander Maj-Gen Myint Swe unveiled the signboard of the rooms.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister U Than Aung and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn, and party viewed around the multimedia classrooms where teachers and students were learning and art room and domestic sci-

ence room.

Afterwards, at the hall of the school, wellwishers provided cash for the multimedia rooms. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister U Than Aung, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn and officials accepted the cash totaling over K 7.3 million and presented

certificates of honour to wellwishers. Minister U Than Aung also spoke words of thanks.

After the ceremony, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister U Than Aung and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn posed for a documentary photo together with teachers and students. —MNA

## Cooperatives Minister inspects candy factory in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone

YANGON, 30 Nov—Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min yesterday afternoon inspected the production process of candy at the Kiss Brand Candy Factory of the ministry in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone and gave necessary instructions.

At the briefing hall, the minister heard a report presented by Deputy Director-General U Tin Win of the Cooperatives Department on the background history of the factory.

On arrival at the Fertilizer Production Project of Myint Myat Industrial Cooperatives Society Ltd, the minister and party were briefed by Chairman U Pyi Phy

Aung of the cooperative society.

The minister gave

at reasonable prices.

Next, the minister and party inspected fish

ciety Daw Khin Myo Win reported on the society's functions to the



Minister Col Zaw Min views the items produced by Chemical Engineering Cooperative Society in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone on 29-11-2004.

COOPERATIVES

instructions on production of quality fertilizers and distribution of them

breeding ponds and gave instructions.

The minister and party proceeded to Chemical Engineering Cooperatives Society where they inspected various kinds of plastic products, PCV pipes of different sizes and production of pumps.

At the briefing hall, Managing Director of the cooperatives so-

minister.

Afterwards, the minister and party arrived at Metallurgy Engineering and General Services Cooperatives Society Ltd and Shehsaung Mechanical Engineering General Service Cooperatives Society and also inspected functions of the societies and gave instructions.

MNA

## News from the Districts

### Lecture on environmental conservation given in Paung

PAUNG, 29 Oct— Talks on environmental conservation were held at the hall of Paung Township Peace and Development Council on 19 October morning. First, Secretary of Township Peace and Development Council U Win Hsan gave a speech.

Next, U Myo Myint Oo of the Township Forest Department explained matters related to environmental conservation. — KYEMON

### Generator donated to Pyinsi BEHS in Natogyi

NATOGYI, 10 Nov— A ceremony to donate a generator to Basic Education High School in Pyinsi Sanpya Village of Natogyi Township was held at the school on 20 October afternoon.

Chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council U Myint Swe and Headmistress Daw Tin Po gave speeches. On behalf of wellwisher U Kyaw Kyaw Oo-Daw Ei Ei San of Bayintnaung, Yangon of Kyaw Min Oo Transport, U Thein Naing presented the generator worth K 310,000 to Township PDC Chairman U Myint Swe. Next, the chairman handed over the donation to Headmistress Daw Tin Po. — KYEMON

### Staff's pepper plantation weeded in Mawlaik

MAWLAIK, 14 Nov— Service personnel and social organization members participated in the weeding of the staff's pepper plantation in Mawlaik Township on 23 October.

Chairman of Mawlaik Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Win Aung gave instructions on nurturing of the pepper plantation.

There are 6,196 pepper plants in the plantation. — MYANMA ALIN

### 700 books donated to self-reliant library in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 15 Nov — The opening ceremony of Nyaungbintha village self-reliant library in Mohnyin Township was held at the venue on 27 November morning.

Officials cut the ribbon to open the library.

Later, Patron of the Library Committee U Mya Thein accepted 700 books donated by Lt-Col Kyi Win Oo of the local battalion, Secretary of District Union Solidarity and Development Association U San Lin and Township USDA Secretary U Sein Win Tun and officials and wellwishers from Nyaungbintha and Khayu villages.

MYANMA ALIN

### Macao's jobless rate dips to new low

MACAO'S, 30 Nov — Macao's unemployment rate dipped to a new low or 4.5 per cent, the lowest tag since 1997, according to the latest statistics released by the Macao Statistics and Census Bureau. The unemployment rate dropped to 4.9 per cent in July, falling below 5 per cent since 1997 for the first time. The bureau's statistics suggested that Macao's working population totalled 233,600 in the period between August and October including 10,600 jobless residents. Some 14 per cent of the unemployed were looking for their first jobs.—MNA/Xinhua

### Body of tour guide salvaged

YANGON, 30 Nov — The body of the missing tour guide, U Saw Thein Tun, was found and salvaged at about 7.45 pm yesterday near the place where the boat he was

riding capsized at about 7.30 pm on 28 November.

A gust overturned three boats in MraukU Township, Rakhine State, on that day.

MNA

UNION OF MYANMAR  
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION  
MYANMA RAILWAYS

**INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER**

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, for Supply of the Drinking Water Treatment System which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

**Tender No - 52/MaMa/Local/(CTM)**

Sr. No	Description	Quantity
1	Drinking Water Treatment System	2-Set

Closing Date. -15.12.2004(Wednesday)(12:00)Hours.

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51<sup>st</sup> Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from (1.12.2004) during the office hours.

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

Deputy General Manager  
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung  
Yangon

## US promises to comply with WTO rules

**WASHINGTON, 29 Nov — The US Government said on Friday that it was consulting with the Congress on ways to comply with World Trade Organization (WTO) rules while protecting America's interests.**

The WTO gave European and other countries the go-ahead to impose punitive duties on US exports because the United States failed to repeal a trade law which WTO says protected the US Steel industry.

"We are continuing to work with Congress to bring the US into compliance and we are consulting with our trading partners on these efforts," said Richard Mills, spokesman for US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick.

"It's important to remember that these issues do not affect the ability of the United States to continue enforcing our trade laws to make sure Americans are being treated fairly," Mills said, after the WTO approved in Geneva new sanctions aimed at retaliating against American exports.

US President George W Bush also said on Friday in Texas that he "think it's important that all nations comply with WTO rulings".

MNA/Xinhua

## Bus accident kills at least seven in Peru

**LIMA, 29 Nov — At least seven people were killed and 40 others injured in a bus accident in the Peruvian Andes, the Peruvian Press said Saturday. The accident occurred Friday when the bus carrying 24 students and their professors and parents overturned on the Juliaca-Arequipa Highway near Puno department, 1,400 kilometres southeast of this capital.**

The injured students and other passengers were rushed to nearby hospitals. According to initial investigations, speeding caused the bus to lose control in a curve, near the Lagunillas section of the Santa Lucia District.

MNA/Xinhua

## Rabbit plague hits Uruguay

**MONTEVIDEO, 29 Nov —** Uruguayan authorities issued an alert Friday on the outbreak of a highly contagious and fatal viral infection among rabbits in suburban areas of the capital.

The Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fishing ordered a series of measures to contain the spread of rabbit hemorrhagic disease virus, or RHDV, in the country, banning the movement of personnel, vehicles and animals in the affected areas, and culling all infected rabbits and those that have had contacts with the infected ones.

Meanwhile, the ministry also advised the provinces outside the capital to take disinfection measures to prevent the virus from spreading to the inland areas.

Uruguay's rabbit-raising industry has been developing well in recent years. Despite its small scale, the industry has attracted much investment. If RHDV cannot be effectively controlled in the capital, the fledgling industry will suffer destructive losses, and farmers will lose confidence in raising rabbits.

RHDV once burst out in the United States, Mexico and Bolivia, which brought heavy losses to their rabbit-raising industry.

MNA/Xinhua

## ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V. "MANDALAY" VOY NO 141/N

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. "MANDALAY" Voy No. 141/N are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving at Yangon port on 2-12-2004 and will be berthing on about 3.12.2004 and cargos will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the bye-laws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

## CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

Phone: 293147, 296507, 295754

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V. KOTA MUTIARA VOY: NO (159)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (159) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.12.04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 Noon to 4 P.M upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority  
Agent for: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINE  
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

## Zambia's economic performance improves in first half of 2004

**LUSAKA, 29 Nov —** Based on preliminary data published in local media Saturday, Zambia's economic performance continued to improve in the first half of 2004.

According to 2004 Mid-Year Economic Review released by Ministry of Finance and National

Planning here Friday, output in the key sectors of agriculture, mining and tourism increased.

"Copper production increased by 25.9 per cent from 158,270 tons in the first half of 2003 to 199,208 tons in the same period of 2004," the review said. In agriculture, there was a strong expansion in the production of major cash crops of tobacco, cotton and ground-

nuts.

"Production of tobacco grew by 10 per cent to 21,633 tons. Production of other food crops such as millet, sorghum, rice and cassava also increased. As a result, the country recorded a food surplus," the review said.

In tourism, a total of 215,000 visitors are estimated to have visited the

country in the first half of 2004, compared to 207,052 in the same period in 2003.

According to the review, the increase in tourist arrivals is largely attributed to improved marketing and promotion activities, especially by the private sector as well as improvements in tourism facilities.

MNA/Xinhua

## Quake splits lava dome from Mount St Helens

**SAN FRANCISCO, 29 Nov — A minor 3.1 magnitude earthquake split the lava dome in the crater of Mount St Helens on Saturday, continuing a series of minor earthquakes rattling the site since October, the US Geological Survey (USGS) said.**

The mountain — which in 1980 blew up with the eruption of a huge and deadly volcano — has been spewing ash and steam since early October in a process of building a new lava dome, according to a USGS report.

The historic mountain has been closed to all climbers and visitors because of the emissions.

"Steam and gas emissions are occurring but nothing like the explosive level of 1980," said Stephanie Hanna, USGS

spokeswoman.

The agency issued a Level 2 Volcano advisory, which means "an eruption could occur without warning, but an eruption is not imminently underway," which gives the agency time to prepare and alert public safety authorities, she said.

Twenty-four years ago, Mount St Helens erupted, provoked by a 5.1 magnitude earthquake. The eruption killed 57 people and covered 230 square miles with ash and debris. —MNA/Reuters

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

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ပို့အခမဲ့

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

### M.V. THAI JASMINE VOY: NO (53)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. THAI JASMINE VOY NO (53) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.12.04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 Noon to 4 P.M upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority  
Agent for: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA LTD. JAPAN  
Phone No: 256924/256914

## Brazil signs trade agreement with Morocco

**BRASILIA, 29 Nov —** Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Moroccan King Mohammed VI on Friday signed a framework agreement on the establishment of a free trade area between Morocco and the South American trade bloc MERCOSUR.

Brazil is Morocco's biggest trading partner in MERCOSUR, made up of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay with Peru and Bolivia as associate members. Trade between Brazil and Morocco stands at 500 million US dollars a year, with Brazil exporting sugar and soybeans and importing fertilizer and sardines.

MNA/Xinhua



# မဟာမင်းကြီး ခေတ်စီးပွားရေး၊ ဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေး နှင့် နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်မှု

## Sino-ASEAN relations upgraded by new agreements

VIENTIANE, 30 Nov — A new era of Sino-ASEAN relations dawned here Monday as China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations signed a wide-ranging raft of agreements on trade, communications, transportation and dispute-solving mechanisms.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and his ASEAN counterparts signed the agreements at the eighth summit between the ASEAN and China presided over by Laotian Prime Minister Bounngang Vorachit.

Wen said China pursues a policy of building good neighbourly relations and partnership with its neighbours and securing an amicable, tranquil and prosperous neighbourhood.

"The ASEAN countries are China's close neighbours," said the Chinese leader.

"To consolidate the strategic partnership for peace and prosperity with ASEAN and promote mutually beneficial and a 11 - d i m e n s i o n a l cooperation will remain a basic foreign policy of China in the long run."

Wen made a proposal on furthering Sino-ASEAN relations, including increasing high-level exchanges, implementing in real earnest the agreements signed Monday, and putting in place a ministerial dialogue mechanism on energy between the two sides.

"China will further

contribute five million US dollars to the Sino-ASEAN Cooperation Fund," said Wen, adding, "The Chinese Government will set up a special Asia Cooperation Fund totalling 15 million US dollars to support the participation of relevant Chinese agencies in regional cooperation, especially that with the ASEAN."

All ASEAN leaders spoke highly of China's efforts to push forward the strategic partnership with the ASEAN, to realize regional peace, stability and development, and to help the under-

developed countries to improve construction capacity.

They welcomed Wen's proposal, and agreed China is a responsible and reliable country, and its development has been in the interest of the ASEAN and also brings the opportunity.

They hoped the two sides would implement the signed agreements, and expand the cooperation on trade, investment, agriculture and security fields, as well as on the regional and international affairs.

MNA/Xinhua



A young player ponders her next move. Spain can trace a link between its heady days of empire, culminating in the conquest of the 'New World' in the reign of Isabel the Catholic, who died 500 years ago, and a passion for chess. —INTERNET

## Over 147 kilos of heroin seized in Turkey

ANKARA, 29 Nov — Turkish security forces seized more than 147 kilos of heroin in two separate operations on Sunday, semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

Sources were quoted as saying that acting on a tip-off, the security forces stopped and searched a vehicle in Kucukcekmece District of Istanbul, the largest city of Turkey, and seized 88.6 kilos of heroin in the vehicle. The security forces also detained seven suspected drug gangsters in the operation, said the sources, adding that a full investigation into the illicit drug trafficking was under way.

MNA/Xinhua

## US uses "Gestapo tactics" to clip civil liberties in terror War

NEW YORK, 30 Nov — The Bush Administration uses "Gestapo tactics" to clip civil liberties in its war on terror but the author of a new book said on Monday that today's climate pales compared to other times of war in US history.

While prisoner detentions or the Patriot Act may spark criticism about an erosion of constitutional rights, the United States has seen far more worrisome violations practically since its inception, said Geoffrey Stone, author of *Perilous Times: Free Speech in Wartime*.

Nonetheless, he

access to an attorney, Stone said in an interview on Monday.

"I don't throw the words 'Gestapo tactics' around loosely, but that is what it is," he said. "It's breathtaking in its excess."

Also troubling, he said, are government infiltration and surveillance and government actions cloaked in secrecy, such as the untold hundreds of closed deportation hearings held in the wake of the September 11, 2001 attacks.

"No administration has been as effective at clamping down on access to information as this one

has," said Stone, a professor of law at the University of Chicago. "Part of it is chutzpah. Closing deportation proceedings takes a lot of nerve."

In his book Stone writes that six eras in US history outrank today in terms of the battle for free speech — 1798 when the Sedition Act made disloyal statements a crime; the US Civil War when habeas corpus, which guards due process, was suspended; and the two World Wars, Cold War and Vietnam War when dissent was suppressed.

MNA/Reuters

## Swiss police to investigate carpark blaze

GENEVA, 29 Nov — Police are to investigate a carpark blaze that killed seven volunteer firefighters on Saturday in the deadliest firefighting accident in Swiss history.

The firefighters died when the concrete roof of the underground carpark collapsed on top of them while they were battling a car fire that spread out of control.

"Every possible sort of specialist and expert available will be looking into this," a police spokesman said on Sunday.

The investigation will focus on the cause of the blaze and why the roof collapsed.

Residents in the tiny northern Swiss town of Gretzenbach were shaken by the drama.

"The entire village is in shock," municipality head Hanspeter Jesenegg was quoted as saying in Swiss media. "The people don't comprehend what has happened to them."

It was the worst firefighting accident in Switzerland's history, *SonntagsZeitung* newspaper quoted Robert Schmidli, head of the Swiss Fire Department Association, as saying.

MNA/Reuters

## Actress Julia Roberts gives birth to twins

LOS ANGELES, 29 Nov — Actress Julia Roberts gave birth to twins, a boy and a girl, in a Los Angeles hospital on Sunday, *People* magazine reported on its web site, citing an anonymous source.

A magazine spokeswoman said Roberts, 37, gave birth around 3 am PST (6 am EST) (1100 GMT) to Phinnaeus Walter and Hazel Patricia.

A spokeswoman for the star did not return phone calls.

Roberts, who won an Oscar for her role in "Erin Brockovich" (2000), married the twins' father, cameraman Danny Moder, 35, in 2002 on Roberts' ranch in Taos, New Mexico.

The two had been



Actress Julia Roberts

splitting their time between homes in Taos, New York, and the Los Angeles area.

MNA/Reuters

## Indonesian jetfighter makes emergency landing

JAKARTA, 30 Nov — A Britain-made *Hawk-200* jetfighter belonging to the Indonesian Air Force made an emergency landing on the Sultan Syarif Kasim Airport in the Sumatra Province of Riau Monday, but there is no report of casualty.

The *Hawk* reported failure in its hydraulic system 24 minutes after take-off in a routine exercise along with three other planes, reported the Detikcom online news

service. The pilot was ordered to extend flight for 1.5 hours as the landing gear failed to work, Detikcom said.

At 10:59 local time (03:59 GMT), the *Hawk*,

made in 1996, finally made an emergency landing at the airport in the Riau capital of Pekanbaru with the undercarriage still inside.

MNA/Xinhua

## Spanish Coast guard rescues 28 N Africans in boat capsizing

MADRID, 29 Nov — A Spanish Coast Guard patrol vessel rescued 28 North Africans whose makeshift boat capsized near the Canary Islands on Sunday, but two other would-be immigrants died and 16 were missing, a government official said.

The accident, five miles from the island of Fuerteventura, happened when those on the crowded boat rushed to one side at

the approach of the Coast Guard vessel, capsizing their boat and throwing them all into the sea, the official said. A Moroccan

immigrant association estimates 4,000 people have died trying to reach Spain in recent years.

MNA/Reuters

## Over 140 people sick with food poisoning in Russia

MOSCOW, 29 Nov — More than 140 people, mostly children, have fallen sick as a result of food poisoning in southern Russia, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported on Sunday.

The agency for civil defence and emergencies in the Karachayev-Cherkessiya Republic said 95 people were hospitalized in Cherkessk, the republic's capital. Children at kindergartens were the first to be stricken by the food poisoning, the report said. — MNA/Xinhua

## SPORTS

## Jodie Henry named Australia's Swimmer of the Year

ADELAIDE, 30 Nov—Olympic 100 metres freestyle gold medalist Jodie Henry has been named Australia's Swimmer of the Year, upstaging Ian Thorpe.

Henry picked up three golds in Athens, setting a world record in the 100 freestyle semifinals and anchoring the victorious Australian 4x100 freestyle and 4x100 medley relay teams.

"I honestly couldn't have predicted it was going to be me," the 21-year-old Henry said after her award was announced at a ceremony in Melbourne on Monday night. "I won three gold medals but I had other girls help me get two of them."

Thorpe retained his 400 freestyle title in Athens and also captured the 200 freestyle gold. He won the Australian swimmer of the year award every year between 1999 and 2003, sharing the honours with 1,500 freestyle world champion Grant Hackett last year.

MNA/Reuters



Inter of Milan forward Adriano, left, of Brazil, and Juventus defender Jonathan Zebina, of France, challenge for the ball during their Italian major league soccer match at the San Siro Stadium in Milan, Italy, on 28, Nov 2004.—INTERNET

## Italian Serie A match reports

ROME, 30 Nov—Brief reports of Italian Serie A matches played on Sunday: Inter Milan 2 Juventus 2

Juventus' lead at the top of Serie A was cut to four points after Inter conjured up two late goals at the San Siro stadium. Juve dominated for long periods and went ahead in the 53rd minute, when Marcelo Zalayeta deflected Nedved's shot into the net. Zalayeta's strike partner, Zlatan Ibrahimovic, doubled their lead from the penalty spot after Zalayeta had been upended by goalie Francesco Toldo.

With 11 minutes remaining Inter seemed out of contention, but Christian Vieri's angled shot sneaked in at the far post and Juve's normally unflappable defence panicked, leaving Adriano unmarked to turn in the equalizer shortly afterwards.

**Atalanta 0 Reggina 1**

Reggina recorded their second consecutive win and pulled three points clear of the Serie A relegation zone, courtesy of Carlos Paredes's 11th-minute header. The hosts' chances of drawing level were

ended by the late sending-off of midfielder Michele Marcolini.

**Bologna 0 Lecce 0**

Lecce are better-known for attack than defence, but it was their goalie, Vincenzo Sicignano, who preserved them in a one-sided first half, pulling off a series of superb saves to deny Bologna striker Claudio Bellucci.

The southerners came to life after the break and came closest to breaking the deadlock when midfielder Samuele Dalla Bona unleashed a fierce drive from the edge of the area that was parried by home keeper Gianluca Pagliuca.

**Brescia 0 Palermo 2**

Two goals in the opening 24 minutes by midfielder Lamberto Zauli and striker Franco Brienza allowed Palermo to shut up shop and cruise to an easy win over Brescia.

The result lifted the Sicilian side to fifth in the division and left the hosts hovering one point over the drop zone.

MNA/Reuters

## Benfica fan dies after falling from second tier

LISBON, 30 Nov—A Benfica fan has died after falling from the second tier of Leiria Stadium during the Portuguese Premier League match between Uniao Leiria and Benfica on Sunday, hospital officials said.

Stadium officials said the 45-year-old fan fell after his team failed to score a good chance.

The fan, who lived in Lisbon, died shortly after arriving at the Leiria Hospital.

Benfica suffered their second defeat of the season when they lost 1-0 to

share second place with champions Porto who play at Vitoria Setubal on Monday.

Boavista lead the standings with 23 points.

Leiria Stadium hosted two group games at Euro 2004 earlier this year.

MNA/Reuters

## Tevez set to join Corinthians of Brazil

BUENOS AIRES, 30 Nov—Argentina's Carlos Tevez is set to join Corinthians of Brazil after Boca Juniors agreed on Monday to transfer the forward for close to 20 million US dollars, a director of the Argentine club said.

"We're going to sign a letter of intent. It's 18 million US dollars for 80 per cent of the (player's) registration plus one and a half million in transfer costs. Tevez says there is no question that he wants to go," Boca vice-president Pedro Pompilio said.

"The (Boca) board of directors will meet on Thursday and the sale should be approved there," Pompilio told Radio Mitre of Buenos Aires.

"The transfer...is on track. The player spent two hours in a meeting with (Boca president) Mauricio Macri and told him he wants to go now. He doesn't

want to wait until June."

Argentine media said the 20-year-old Tevez, who top-scored with eight goals in six games as he inspired Argentina to the soccer gold medal at the Athens Olympics in August, will leave for Brazil in the next few days.

"What saddens us and annoys us a bit at the same time is that our best player, and at such a young age, should have played such a short time at this club," added Pompilio.

"We wanted him to stay and play the next edition of the Libertadores Cup (in 2005)."—MNA/Reuters

## Lille held to 1-1 draw by Strasbourg

PARIS, 30 Nov—Second-placed Lille lost ground to leaders Olympique Lyon at the top of Ligue 1 as they were held to a 1-1 draw at home by lowly Racing Strasbourg on Sunday.

Lille narrowly avoided their first home defeat of the season as they got an 87th minute equalizer through Nigerian Peter Odemwingie. Senegal's Mamadou Niang had opened the scoring in the 56th minute for Strasbourg.

Lyon, who beat AJ Auxerre 2-1 on Saturday, now lead the Northerners by five points and are firmly on course for their fourth successive Ligue 1 title.

Nice and Paris St. Germain also had to settle for a 1-1 draw in a much more exciting game.

Fabrice Pancratre opened the scoring

for PSG in the 36th minute, just five minutes after Marama Vahirua had missed a penalty for Nice.

Another penalty allowed the team from the French Riviera to equalize through Sammy Traore in the 68th minute, five minutes after the dismissal of Parisian midfielder Edouard Cisse.

Senegal's Pape Sarr got the winner for Lens in injury time after Souleymane Camara opened the scoring for Sochaux in the 66th minute before Daniel Cousin equalized four minutes later.

MNA/Reuters

## Real crush Levante 5-0

MADRID, 30 Nov—Real Madrid gave a stunning exhibition of finishing power to crush Levante 5-0 at the Bernabeu in the Primera Liga on Sunday.

The home side had struggled to impose themselves on their modest opponents for most of the first half but burst into life two minutes before the break when Ronaldo fired in at the near post after a precision pass from David Beckham.

Real then put the result beyond doubt with a devastating three-goal salvo at the start of the second half featuring spectacular strikes from Luis Figo and Beckham and a second goal from Ronaldo.

Substitute Michael Owen completed the rout three minutes from time when he steered under keeper Juan Luis Mora after a brilliant dribble and through ball from the outstanding Guti.

The win kept Real in second place in the standings, seven points behind leaders Barcelona who claimed a nervous 2-1 win over Getafe on Saturday.

Levante, who have surprised many by their early season form on their return to the top flight, made a confident start at the Bernabeu, giving Real goalkeeper Iker Casillas

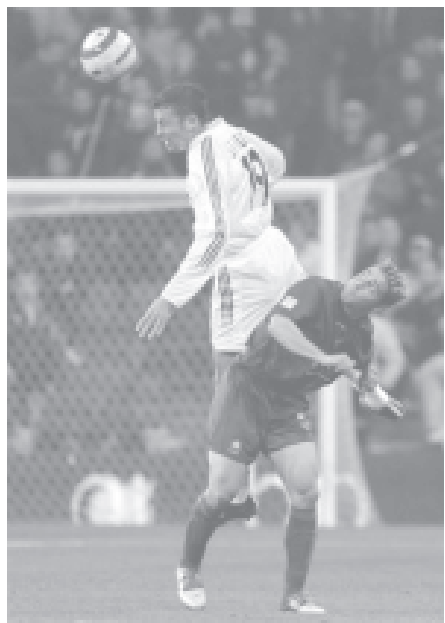
several scares in the opening minutes.

With Zinedine Zidane missing with a back injury, Real coach Mariano Garcia Remon reshuffled his midfield, switching Beckham to the right, Figo to the left and bringing Albert Celades into the middle.

The move gave Guti more space in the centre but Real struggled to create any clear chances in the first half hour.

But just as the crowd were getting restless, Ronaldo began the goal spree with a trademark finish in the 43rd minute.

MNA/Reuters



Real Madrid's defender Walter Samuel, left, from Argentina, jumps above Levante's Sergio Garcia during a Spanish league soccer match at the Bernabeu Stadium in Madrid, on 28, Nov 2004.—INTERNET



## Kuauktaga Dam in Natmauk...

(from page 10)

could not enjoy the results of their efforts in agriculture however hard they worked, he added.

Therefore, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance, calling for implementing projects to ensure greening of Ahnya region (Upper Myanmar). Nowadays, people in the region have been able to enjoy the fruitful results of the project. Enlisting the strength of local people, efforts are to be made to continue implementing the project.

The basic resources of a nation depend on water, land, forests, mountain and weather. The deterioration of forests and mountain has led to unusual weather condition. Thus, local people are to prevent illegal logging.

It can be calculated that if constant measures to conserve the forest resources lacked, there would be climate change and water resources would be scarce. And as a result, the dams and reservoirs the State built by spending a large sum of money would not get enough supply of rain water, he said.

SPDC Chairman Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance that in a country, it is necessary for the government to work hard day in, day out in the interest of the people. And Tatmadawmen, on their part, are responsible not only for state defence but also for the participation in the development drive side by side with the people. Only then will the nation develop.

So, the people including farmers and State service personnel are to strive for the development of the country to realize the guidance. Farmers are urged to cultivate the crops that are

suitable to their geographical conditions among the ten major crops chosen by the State, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said. Moreover, it is needed to strive to boost the paddy yield of each crop and to fully utilize the vacant lands and extend crops cultivation.

Magway Division is the one on which the State has to rely in terms of economy. The economic condition of the division reflects that of the State.

By making full use of good infrastructures the State built in the division, local people are to enhance the levels of their productivity, he urged. To bridge the development divide in the states and divisions of

built in Kyaukpadaung Township, Mandalay Division, 38 years ago is situated in an arid zone. So, the water flow of the creeks that empty into the facility was on the decrease annually. With a view to contributing towards greening the region and food sufficiency, the government inaugurated a supporting dam for Kyetmauktaung Dam, Taungay Dam, the 41st of its kind in Mandalay and 162nd in the nation, in July 2004. Now, another supporting dam, Kyauktaga, the 168th of its kind in the nation, had been opened, which reflected the government's goodwill to the people.

Aiming at more greening of the arid region,

million more acres under monsoon paddy in Mandalay Division from 2004-2005 to 2006-2007. Kyetmauktaung Dam has irrigated 5,775 acres of monsoon paddy in 2004-2005 and plans are well under way for the facility to be able to irrigate 22,089 more acres each in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. In addition, the rewarding dam will be able to benefit some 2,000 acres of farmlands in Natmauk Township, Magway Division.

In response to the goodwill and efforts of the government, local people on their part are to maintain the irrigation facilities and related structures for their durability, to conserve forests and vegetation in the watershed areas of the irrigation facilities and to abide by dam laws in cooperation with service personnel.

Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint also delivered a speech on the occasion. Afterwards, on behalf of local people, U Myint Aung, a local, thanked the Head of State and the government for the dam. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint unveiled the stone plaque of the dam, and Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint and Deputy Minister U Ohn Myint formally opened the dam.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party had a documentary photo taken together with local people. Next, they inspected the dam. The newly-built dam was situated at Kyauktaga Creek near Kyauktaga Village in Natmauk Township. It is the 168th of its kind in the State. The dam is an earthen type and its embankment is 80 ft high and 7,610 ft long. It has a water storage capacity of 41,130 acre feet. The dam will supply water to Kyetmauktaung Dam and will irrigate 2,000 acres of farmland in three village-tracts in the Township.

After the opening ceremony, Deputy Director of the Construction Group-7 U Myo Tun, Director of Magway Division Irrigation Department U Tin Winn and Deputy Minister U Ohn Myint reported to Lt-Gen Ye Myint on flow of water into the dam, water supply to Kyetmauktaung Dam and supply of irrigation water. — MNA

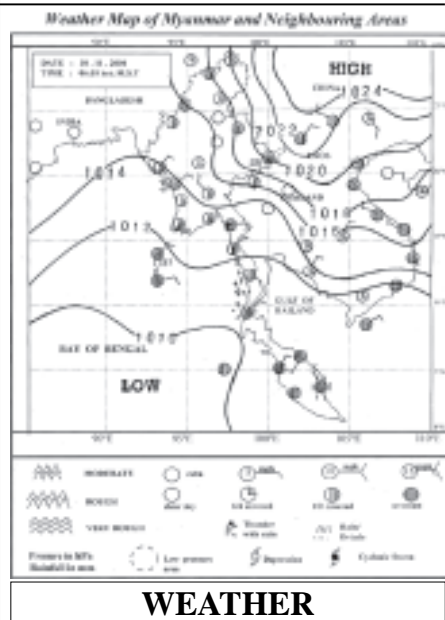
## Japan urged to destroy C-weapons abandoned in China

THE HAGUE, 30 Nov—A top Chinese Government official Monday urged Japan to destroy all chemical weapons abandoned in China during World War II.

Addressing a meeting of the Chemical Weapons Convention here, Chinese Permanent Repre-

sentative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Xue Hanqin, said the abandoned weapons have been posing a great threat to the environment and the life and property of the Chinese people.

MNA/Xinhua



## WEATHER

Tuesday, 30 November, 2004

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain has been scattered in Shan State, Magway and Mandalay Divisions, isolated in Kachin State, Bago and Yangon Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining states and divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Kengtung (1.10) inches. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mon State and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (6°C), Mindat (7°C) and Pyn Oo Lwin (8°C).

Maximum temperature on 29-11-2004 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 30-11-2004 was 64°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 30-11-2004 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 29-11-2004 was (7.4) hours approx. Rainfall on 30-11-2004 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 were 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 5 mph from North at (14:30) hours MST on 29-11-2004.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 1-12-2004:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining states and divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-12-2004:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-12-2004:** Fair weather.

## "Earthquake report"

(Issued at 09:00 hours MST on today)

An earthquake of slight intensity (4.0) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside of Myanmar about (55) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (16) hrs (54) min (55) sec MST on 29th November 2004.



Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint delivers a speech. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe offers cash donations to the funds of the Lawkananda Pagoda through members of the pagoda board of trustees. — MNA

**At present, rubber fetches good prices at the world markets**  
**As it has markets throughout successive eras, it is an industrial raw material whose global demand cannot wane**

(from page 1)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein explained the progress and fruits achieved in rebuilding the country in accord with the national policy, the implementation of the tasks in transition to a discipline-flourishing genuine democratic state, with the participation of the people, the seven-point national policy, and the holding of the National Convention which has been in progress.

In giving guidance, Senior General Than Shwe said that the entourage he led visited Rakhine State to study it and to make arrangements for its progress. Since assumption of the State responsibilities, the Government has been making its utmost efforts with the conviction to bring proportionate development to all the regions and the entire national people. Generally, basic factors of all the regions of the nation are of the same type, but they have specific features and characteristics of their own. It is required to utilize the significant natural resources of the regions in a correct and effective way to narrow the

**As Rakhine State is rich in land and water resources, ardent efforts will increase the per capita income and bring progress to the whole region.**



gap between one region and another and for proportionate development of all. There will be development only if land and water resources are being correctly and effectively tapped by manpower.

The local authorities will have to use innova-

tive means and play a leading role in utilizing the natural resources fully to develop the regions, increase per capita income, and improve people's living standard. Progress of all regions will lead to reduction of poverty and raising the social standard

(See page 8)

#### 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 inspects the Government Technological College (Sittway) Project. — MNA



The Government Technological College (Sittway). — MNA