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Saturday, 4 December 2004

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win attends Summits of Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and Japan, ROK, India and Australia-New Zealand

YANGON, 3 Dec— Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win attended the Summit of Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and Japan held at the Room B-2 of the Lao International Trade Exhibition & Convention Centre (Lao ITECC) in Vientiane, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, at 8.30 am on 30 November 2004.

Also present on the occasion were Bruneian King Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Indonesian President Mr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Seri Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, Philippine President Mrs Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Vietnamese



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win attending the ASEAN + Japan Summit together with heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries and the Japanese Prime Minister. — MNA

Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai and Japanese Prime Minister Mr Junichiro Koizumi.

During the Summit, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha,

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, ministers, deputy ministers, high-ranking officials from ASEAN (See page 8)

Lao Prime Minister to visit Myanmar

YANGON, 4 Dec — At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar His Excellency Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic His Excellency Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, and Madame Khammeung Vorachith will pay an official goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar in the near future.—MNA

Laos welcomes ASEAN-India Car Rally 2004

YANGON, 3 Dec — A ceremony to welcome the arrival of the caravan of 1st ASEAN-India Car Rally 2004 to Lao People's Democratic Republic was held in front of Lao International Trade Exhibition and Convention Center (Lao-ITECC) in Vientiane at 4.20 pm on 30 November.

Present on the occasion were Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win,

Bruneian King Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Indonesian President (See page 8)



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win attends the welcoming of competitors of the first ASEAN-India Car Rally 2004 in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 4 December, 2004

Strive for development of national economy

During his tour of Sittway, Kyauktaw, An, Kyaukpyu and Thandwe townships in Rakhine State from 29 November until 2 December, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspected regional development undertakings and gave guidance to officials concerned.

The Senior General during the trip held discussions with local authorities and officials at Yammawady Hall in Kyaukpyu and gave guidance, saying that the people on their part are to take innovative measures and to work hard for raising economy and boosting production. With stronger economy of respective parts of the Union and with higher per capita income of the people, the State will enjoy rapidly growing economy, he noted.

The government has been implementing a variety of projects for lifting the social standard of the people and ensuring simultaneous and equitable development of the states and divisions. It has laid down respective plans in the economic sector for the states and divisions, and efforts are to be made with added momentum for meeting the targets.

At a time when the government has been pouring investments into various projects for construction of infrastructures of economic, social, education, health and transport sectors throughout the nation, the people on their part need to carry out tasks heart and soul. Kyaukpyu District is a temperate region and blessed with terrestrial and water resources, and regional development rate depends much on the endeavours of local people. So, they must double or triple their efforts and take innovative steps in doing agriculture and livestock businesses to ensure regional food security.

Besides, locals are needed to extend paddy cultivation taking full advantage of the region's moderate climate, while growing pepper and rubber that thrive well in the region on a commercial scale. And emphasis is to be placed on planting rubber on a large scale as it is in a high demand today in international markets and widely used successive different ages. In addition, being adjacent to the sea, Rakhine State has good prospects for further development of agriculture and fish and meat sectors.

The entire people are therefore urged to strive with might and main for developing economy and boosting production, while the government is rendering all necessary assistance under the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe for ensuring strong economy of all parts of the Union.

General Bank Service course concludes

YANGON, 3 Dec — The concluding ceremony of No 4 Course on General Bank Service (Officer Level) was held this morning at the meeting hall of Central Bank of Myanmar with an address by Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe.

It was also attended by Chairman of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, members of Banks Supervising Committee, the directors-gen-

eral and the managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, CEC members of Myanmar Banks Association, course instructors and trainees.

On the occasion, the Deputy Minister and the Chairman of Central Bank of Myanmar presented prizes to the outstanding trainees. Altogether 41 officers of the state-owned and private banks attended the 8-week course. — 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

F & R Minister receives guests

YANGON, 3 Dec — Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun received consultation mission led by Head of Trade Unit and Advisor Mr Shang Jin Wei from International Monetary Fund and World Bank at the ministry this morning.

At the meeting, matters on cooperation were cordially discussed.

Together with the Minister, Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe and officials were present at the meeting.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun receives Mr Shang Jin Wei and party. — MNA

International Day of Disabled Persons observed



Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa addresses the observing of the International Day of Disabled Persons ceremony. — MNA

YANGON, 3 Dec — The International Day of Disabled Persons was observed at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road here this morning.

It was attended by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, deputy ministers, departmental heads, officials of UN agencies, wellwishers and guests.

The Minister delivered a speech on the occasion. In his speech, the Minister said the pur-

pose of the observance was to further convince the people of matters on the disabled persons and the objectives so as to play a more active role in the social, economic and cultural affairs of the disabled by taking part in international programmes together with the disabled.

Myanmar has yearly held the International Day of Disabled Persons which falls on 3 December since 1994 adhering to the objectives of that day.

In conclusion, the Minister exhorted the disabled persons in the nation to exert perseverance and to play an active role in the rehabilitation tasks, upholding this year's motto "Nothing about Us, Without Us".

Coordinator of UN agencies Mr Charles Patrie read the message of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. Next, Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented prizes to

outstanding disabled persons for their performances in respective competitions. The deputy ministers and officials also gave away prizes to trainees from schools for the disabled and schools for the blind, who stood first, second and third in respective contests.

Afterwards, disabled children trainees presented entertainment programmes, and Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa presented cash awards to the performers.

MNA

14th IFNGO ASEAN NGOs Workshop continues

YANGON, 3 Dec — The 14th IFNGO ASEAN NGOs Workshop on Prevention of Drug and Substances Abuse co-organized by Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control of Myanmar and Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association continued today as the second day at Grand Plaza Parkroyal

Hotel on Alanpya Pagoda Road here this morning.

The 122 delegates from ASEAN member nations, the People's Republic of China, Mauritius and Australia presented the topic, "Strive for New Destiny: ASEAN Drug Free 2015" at the workshop.

At 8.30 am, the del-

egates discussed the educative programmes on drugs abuse control for the youths with the topic "Threats of Gateway Drugs - Alcohol and Tobacco" and the topic "I Love You Darling", Radio Programme to Prevent Drug and Substance Abuse.

In the evening, group-wise discussions

were held.

The workshop continues tomorrow.

Yesterday morning, the topic, "Strive for New Destiny: ASEAN Drug Free 2015" was presented by 122 delegates of ASEAN member nations, the People's Republic of China, Mauritius and Australia at the workshop, it is learnt.

MNA

Hu calls for consolidating achievements of macro-control next year

BEIJING, 2 Dec— Chinese President has called for efforts to consolidate and develop what has been achieved by implementing the macro-economic control policy in the nation's economic work next year, according to a release reaching here on Wednesday.

The Chinese economy is in a new round of growth and the national ability for further economic development independently has been strengthened, creating favourable conditions for the country's overall development, Hu said at a recent workshop.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, which Hu serves as general secretary, held the workshop on November 8 to solicit opinions and suggestions from leaders of non-Communist parties and the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce as well as personages without party affiliation, on the economic work. Premier Wen Jiabao informed the participants of the current economic situation and the central authorities' consideration for the economic work next year.

The participants spoke highly of the central authorities' decision to strengthen and improve macro-control in time, which resulted in a sustained, steady

and rapid economic growth. They described the central authorities' consideration for next year's economic work as "comprehensive and practical".

They also aired their views and suggestions on macro-control, agriculture, rural development, farmers' income, coordinated economic and social development, resources, the work to guard against financial crisis, the overseas development of Chinese companies, their innovating ability, the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and the land management system.

Hu presided over the meeting and made a key-note speech. He said that to accomplish the economic work next year, it is imperative to "unswervingly advocate and implement the scientific concept of development for an overall, coordinated and sustainable economic and social development."—MNA/Xinhua

စုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း



Contestants wearing Chinese dresses pose on the stage during a dress rehearsal of the Olay Elite Model Look 2004 International on 1 Dec, 2004, in Shanghai, China. —INTERNET

Japan mulls visa waiver for South Korean tourists

TOKYO, 2 Dec— Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi is expected to announce a government plan to waive visas for South Korean tourists when he meets South Korean President Roh Moo Hyun on December 17-18 in Japan. According to NHK's news channel, the waiver is due to take effect from the fall of next year. South Korea will become the fourth in Asia with which Japan has regular visa waiver arrangements, following Brunei, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Overall, Japan waives tourist visas for residents of 58 countries and regions, the TV report said.

The envisioned announcement is planned to have the visa waiver coincide with the 40th anniversary next year of Japan-South Korea normalizing bilateral ties, it said.—MNA/Xinhua

India finalizes co-production treaty with Italy

NEW DELHI, 2 Dec— India had finalized a co-production treaty with Italy for films and had received a proposal from a US-based financial firm for underwriting of loans for Indian film makers, the Press Trust of India quoted a union minister as saying on Wednesday.

Addressing reporters on the second day of the International Film Festival of India in Panaji in Goa State, on the west coast of India, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Jaipal Reddy said the treaty would be signed shortly after an approval by the both governments. The Indian Government was also considering signing similar treaties with France, Germany, Canada and Britain. "Such treaties would enable film makers to avail of concessions extended to them in those countries, besides boost-

ing the film making process," he added.

We had also received a proposal from Richard Soames of Film Finances Incorporation to underwrite loans for Indian films. The firm had earlier underwritten loans to the tune of 1 billion US dollars for US films, he said.

"The proposal will be taken up for consideration and examined in depth. A decision will be taken after due consultations with public financial institutions like Industrial Development Bank of India," he said.—MNA/Xinhua

Chinese CPPCC Vice-Chairman talks with Slovenian guest

BEIJING, 2 Dec— The Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) is ready to enhance exchanges and cooperation with the National Council of the Slovenian Assembly, said Wang Zhongyu, Vice-Chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, here Wednesday. Wang made the remarks in his talks with Janez Susnik, chairperson of the National Council of the Slovenian Assembly, who was here on a six-day visit to China at the invitation of the CPPCC National Committee. —MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia to increase oil price in 2005

JAKARTA, 2 Dec— Indonesian Vice-President Jusuf Kalla said on Tuesday that the government would increase oil price in 2005 by 40 per cent, aiming at declining oil subsidies. "In 2005, the target is to decrease the subsidy from some 7.8 billion US dollars to 25 trillion rupiah," he told reporters here. The Vice-President Kalla said that the rise would be on the oil commodities which indirectly link with the poor people, and the government would subsidize on the commodity which used by the poor people. "They (the price would be increased) include gasoline, oil for industry, but we subsidize on kerosene," he said.—MNA/Xinhua

1, 263 members of US military killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 2 Dec—As of Thursday, 2 Dec, 2004, at least 1,263 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 989 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is four higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EST Thursday.

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

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat

operations in Iraq had ended, 1,125 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 880 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

— One US soldier died Wednesday in western Baghdad in a vehicle accident.

— One US soldier was killed Thursday while on patrol in Mosul.

Internet

Eight killed in Iraq attacks

BAGHDAD, 3 Dec— At least eight people were killed in violence across Iraq on Thursday, including a regional criminal investigations chief and two other police officers in an ambush north of Baghdad, security sources said.

"Lt Col Hussein Ismail was killed around midday along with two of his guards as they were driving in the centre of Baladruz," east of Baquba, said a

national guard officer.

In Baquba itself, two Khalas town council members were killed in a gun attack while a national guard captain died in a car bomb attack in the same area.

Two others were wounded when gunmen stormed the home of Iyad Ibrahim al-Karawi, an ex-general in the disbanded army of ousted President Saddam Hussein, his son said.—Internet



US Army 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment soldiers search for guerrillas in Mosul, Iraq, on 2 Dec, 2004.—INTERNET

THE WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT

Sitagu Sayadaw

Preparations have almost been completed for holding the World Buddhist Summit from 9 to 11 December 2004 at the Mahapasana Cave on Siri Mingala Hill, which was the historically significant venue of the Sixth Buddhist Synod, Yangon. Forty-eight years ago, in 1956, heads of the Sanghas from five Theravada countries — Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Lao PDR and Cambodia — gathered in this historic cave and held the Sixth Buddhist Synod, which lasted for two years. The prime ministers from the five Theravada countries honoured this great event with their presence. The synod was separated into five sessions—Myanmar, Syama (Thai), Lawa (Lao), Camboja (Cambodian) and Lankadipa (Sri Lankan) Sessions, presided over by the heads of the respective Sanghas from the five Theravadin countries. The vesak day of 1318 Myanmar Era (1958), when the Synod in which the Tipitaka texts were edited and recited in one accord was completed successfully, marked the 2500th Anniversary of the Buddha Sasana (i.e. 2500 years after the Buddha's Final Entering into Nibbana). Not only the venerable monks from the Theravada countries, but the Mahayanist leaders from the countries such as China, Mongolia and Japan gathered here and celebrated the event with great pomp and ceremony.

SUMMIT

Now, the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar is ready to hold the World Buddhist Summit, which undoubtedly will be another landmark in the history of Buddhism, at the same historic cave. Top Buddhist leaders from thirty-seven countries of the four continents—Asia, Europe, America and Australia—have been invited.

In 1998, a World Buddhist Summit was held at Lumbini, the Buddha's birthplace in Nepal, with the leading role of the Lumbini Development Committee. In the same year, the Nenbutsushu sect held a rival Buddhist Conference in Kyoto, Japan and the Supreme Patriarch of Thailand and Dr. Revata also attended as a Myanmar delegate.

I believe that only the delegate appointed by the government or by an official organization can represent a country. Therefore, it cannot be regarded that a delegate representing Myanmar attended the First World Buddhist Propagation Conference.

Myanmar is a unique Buddhist nation with about 400,000 monks within nine sects, which have been unified at different levels under the leadership of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee. The Ministry of Religious Affairs in conjunction with the committee and with allotted budgets look after the welfare of the Sasana. Most of the countries have only one or two directors responsible for religious affairs who are either under the Ministry of Culture or of Education. Knowing this, the Nenbutsushu sect invited a Myanmar delegation to their Second Buddhist Propagation Conference held in Bangkok. Out of about 150 Buddhist sects in Japan, the Nenbutsushu is only a third-class sect which, being rich, has been using its resources to organize Buddhist Summits and hold international conferences for their own fame. In the second Summit held in Bangkok in the year 2000, they proclaimed that their sect would hold the permanent presidency of the Summit, and that the headquarters of the Buddhist Summit should be in Japan, and that they will make the headquarters famous like the Vatican. Third Summit was held in Phnom Penh in 2002 and delegates from fifteen countries attended it.

At the Phnom Penh Summit, the leaders of the Nenbutsushu sect persuaded Myanmar to host the Fourth Buddhist Summit by saying:

"In Myanmar, Theravada Buddhism flourishes in its original and chaste essence; the citizens are very devout; many pagodas

and stupas exist and also Ven. Sayadaws who are versed in the tri-tipitaka, all are very eager to come to Myanmar"

After multiple consultations between the State Peace and Development Council and the Myanmar Delegation, it was announced at the Phnom Penh Summit that Myanmar will host the Fourth World Buddhist Summit. The Phnom Penh Summit was attended by the Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Bhaddanta Kesara as leader of the delegation, and consisting of Dr. Myo Myint, Director-General of the Department of Religious Affairs, Dr. Hla Pe (Pro-Rector of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University) and Sitagu Sayadaw as members of the delegation.

Coordination meetings were held twice in Kyoto and twice in Yangon and the Nenbutsushu sect of Japan and the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Myanmar signed a memorandum of understanding. The terms in the MoU include:

1. the summit will be held in Yangon in December 2004;
2. to invite as many World Buddhist Organizations as possible so that the summit will be in conformity with the name "the Fourth World Buddhist Summit";
3. to include Nepal in the General Council as it is the birthplace of the Buddha;
4. the Nenbutsushu sect will invite the delegates from seventeen countries and defray the expenses of those delegates;
5. Myanmar will invite the delegates from Europe (excluding Italy, France and Germany) and America and will defray the expenses of those delegates. The Nenbutsushu sect will invite the delegates from Italy, France and Germany;
6. the Government of the Union of Myanmar will have to arrange a trip to Bagan and Mandalay for all the delegates and will have to bear the expenses of all the delegates;
7. the Government of Myanmar will have to defray all the expenses of renovating the Mahapasana Cave and all the other expenses; and
8. Myanmar Government will have to take responsibilities for the publication of summit booklet, the recording of the summit on VCDs and the distribution.

The facts mentioned above demonstrate that the Nenbutsushu's contribution to the Fourth World Buddhist Summit was only to be about one-tenth of the total expenses. Therefore, the absence of assistance from Nenbutsushu cannot harm the summit in any way.

Following the change of Prime Minister in Myanmar, the leaders of the Nenbutsushu sect breached the MoU by announcing that the Fourth World Buddhist Summit was cancelled. They also informed the delegates who had already been invited that the summit is cancelled and illegal for the Myanmar side to hold the summit. Nenbutsushu sect is just a small organization. On the Myanmar side, the government itself took the leading role. Such a small organization like Nenbutsushu does not have the right to say what the government can or cannot do. They cannot declare the MoU void without negotiating with the Myanmar government. If Myanmar does not withdraw its commitment to hold the summit even though the Nenbutsushu sect has withdrawn, what can the Nenbutsushu sect do? What can the Nenbutsushu sect do if Myanmar government defray the expenses of the delegations from the seventeen countries that the Nenbutsushu sect was responsible to invite? Does it have the right to object? The name "World Buddhist Summit" is not a trademark that the Nenbutsushu sect has registered. It is a phrase that anybody can use. The conference that has already

started from 30 November onwards at Lumbini is titled "World Buddhist Summit" too, and a Myanmar delegation is attending it, the Nenbutsushu sect does not have the right to say anything.

World Buddhist Summit In Myanmar

Now, the World Buddhist Summit is going to be held ceremoniously in Myanmar and it will be solely sponsored by the Myanmar government. Date, venue and policy will not be changed. Even though the Nenbutsushu sect declined to attend, the delegates from other Japanese Buddhist organizations have been invited and will be attending the Summit. The seventeen countries that the Nenbutsushu sect cancelled after sending invitation have also been invited, and they will be attending the summit too. The Buddhist leaders from Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Romania, the Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States of America, Mexico, Jamaica, Indonesia and Australia are ready to attend the summit.

At this World Buddhist Summit, Heads of State and Sangha Rajas (Supreme Patriarchs) from all Buddhist Countries have been invited and are preparing to attend the summit. World leaders such as the President of the Republic of India and Prime Ministers have already sent congratulatory messages. All the Myanmar missionary monks abroad have been invited. There are more than one hundred and fifty Myanmar monasteries abroad. The teachers (lecturers) and students from four Sasana Universities, the monks from Central Sangha Committee, the member Sayadaws of State and Divisional Sangha Nayaka Committees, and the members of well-established religious organizations in Myanmar have also been invited. The opening ceremony of the summit at Maha Pasana Cave will be broadcast live by MRTV.

Sayagi (Mentor) S.N. Goenka, the well-known guru together with more than one hundred yogis, who are practising under him, will be attending the summit and delivering a lecture.

The Buddhist Summit will last for three days.

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| Day - 1 | At the Opening Ceremony in the morning, Supreme Patriarchs and World Leaders will deliver speeches. In the afternoon, Buddhist Leaders from all over the world will present the papers. |
| Day-2 | Buddhist Leaders including Mr. S.N. Goenka, Venerable Dr. Sri Dhamandana, Ven. Dr. Gunayatana, Ven. Dr. Rvinda Panth, will present papers. In the afternoon, Buddhist Leaders will discuss simultaneously in four groups. |
| Day-3 | A Round-table conference will be held in the morning and the World Buddhist Summit joint communique will be adopted in the afternoon. A speech will be delivered by the Chairman of the Central Executive Committee, a note of thanks by Buddhist Leaders, and the closing statement by the Chairman. Group photo session and the presentation of gifts session. |

The recitation of the prayer:

Ciram titthatu lokasmin, samma sambuddha sasanam
tasmim sagaravanniccam, hontu sabbepi panino.

(Translation: May the teaching of the enlightened One (the Buddha) last long in the world. May all beings pay their due respect to it always.)

(Translation)

Myanmar Alin, Kyemon: 3-12-2004

Thandwe-Taungup-Maei-An bus line inaugurated in Thandwe, An

YANGON, 3 Dec — A ceremony to inaugurate the bus line of Thandwe-Taungup-Maei-An was held at highway bus terminal in Thandwe Township, Rakhine State yesterday morning, attended by Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, senior military officials, local authorities,

social organisations and local people.

The commander delivered an address on the occasion.

Later, the commander formally opened the bus line.

Likewise, An-Maei-TaungupThandwe bus line was inaugurated at highway bus terminal in An Township on the same day. The deputy commander formally

opened the bus line.

A total of 29 vehicles in Thandwe and 6 vehicles in An are to be run everyday at the bus line.

Thanks to the opening of the bus line, local people in Rakhine State are convenient to make a safety trip to the various regions in the country through Thandwe and An Townships.

MNA



Dr Khin Shwe presents donation of K 5 million to Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. — MLM

Information Minister attends Sarsodaw Day Commemorative Book Fair

YANGON, 3 Dec— The Book Fair to mark the Sarsodaw Day for 1366 ME organized by the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, was opened at Yangon Trade Center on Upper Pazundaung Road in Pazundaung Township at 8 am today, attended by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the

occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, heads of department under the ministry, directors and deputy directors and officials.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) formally opened the book fair. Next, the

Minister and guests viewed round the book shops there. Altogether 76 books shops of 48 literary houses are selling various kinds of books. The book fair will be kept open daily from 9 am to 5 pm till 9 December. Over 4,000 people visited the fair. The first day's sale of books fetched K 1,264,300.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan views a book stall at the book fair. — MNA

Objectives of the 84th Anniversary National Day

- (a) Keeping national spirit alive and dynamic and uplift of national prestige and integrity
- (b) Uplift of national education
- (c) Perpetuation of independence and sovereignty of the State
- (d) Success of seven-point future policy programme of the State.

(၈၄)နှစ်မြောက်

အမျိုးသားနေ့

၁၃၆၆ ခု၊ တန်ဆောင်မုန်းလပြည့်ကျော် (၁၀)ရက်

(၆-၁၂-၂၀၀၄)

Publications donated to rural self-reliant libraries

YANGON, 3 Dec— The Information and Public Relations Department under the Ministry of Information held its fourth donation of publications to rural self-reliant libraries at the Ministry on Theinbyu Road here this afternoon.

It was attended by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, departmental heads, social organizations, wellwishers and doyen writers.

The Minister delivered an address, saying that knowledge is dominating any other spheres as today is knowledge age, adding that with less development in knowledge and technology in

various fields, a nation and its people will lag behind in development.

That was why the Head of State had given guidance on establishment of a constant learning society in the nation. As it is known to all, the State is taking all possible measures for development

libraries in the remaining villages by 2005-2006.

The target will be put into reality by combining cash assistance of the State, donations of wellwishers and contributions of local people.

The Minister called for maintenance of the fa-

10,410 villages out of over 60,000 across the nation have self-reliant libraries.

of human resources in the nation, he said.

So far, the Department has established rural self-reliant libraries in 10,410 out of more than 60,000 villages across the nation. Plans are under way to open rural self-re-

cilities for their durability in the interests of the nation and the people.

Today's donations by the wellwishers totalled K 8,607,000 and 53,334 publications worth K 11,470,465.

MNA

Sixth jade sale will be held at MGM

YANGON 3 Dec — With the aim of boosting the jade trading and of enabling the gems entrepreneurs to obtain the uncut jade to be able to produce the polished jade, the jade sales were made in Phakant (Lonkhin) and Yangon by the Myanmar Gems Enterprise under the Ministry of Mines.

Jade will be sold in kyats from 29 to 31 December at Myanmar Gems Mart in order that quality jade can

be sold in foreign currencies at the 42nd Myanmar Gems Emporium which is to be held in March, 2005 to ensure the convenience of gem merchants and to promote Jade market in Yangon.

For further information, contact the Myanmar Gems Enterprise (Head Office) Yangon; Jade Sale Division Yangon, Phakant and the Jade Mining Divisions (Lonkhin) as of 20 December. —MNA

All this needs to be known

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

Myanmar Prime Minister attends luncheon hosted by Lao President

YANGON, 3 Dec — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win attended a luncheon hosted by President of Laos Mr Khamtay Siphandone in honour of heads of state and government of the ASEAN and those of People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Republic of India, Australia and New Zealand at the Lao International Trade Exhibition and Convention Centre in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, on 30 November.

Also present were King of Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Prime Minister of Cambodia Mr Samdech Hun Sen, President of Indonesia Mr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prime Minister of Laos Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato Seri Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, President of the Philippines Mrs Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Prime Minister of Singapore Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Prime

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win attends the luncheon hosted by Lao President Khamtay Siphandone. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win poses for documentary photo at the luncheon together with heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries, China, Japan, Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand to the 10th ASEAN Summit. — MNA



Minister of Thailand Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Prime Minister of Vietnam Mr Phan Van Khai, Prime Minister of PRC Mr Wen Jiabao, Prime Minister of Japan Mr Junichiro Koizumi, President of ROK Mr Roh Moo-hyun, Prime Minister of India Dr Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of Australia Mr John Howard and Prime Minister of New Zealand Mrs Helen Clark, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, foreign affairs ministers of the ASEAN, PRC, Japan, ROK, India, Australia and New Zealand, economic ministers, and the ASEAN secretary-general. President of Laos Mr Khamtay Siphandone posed for photo together with heads of states and governments of the ASEAN and heads of states and governments of People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand in Room No B-2 of the Lao-ITECC. Mr Khamtay Siphandone extended greetings at the luncheon. The luncheon was then held. — MNA

Myanmar, India focus on trade development

YANGON, 3 Dec — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win met with Prime Minister of the Republic of India Dr Manmohan Singh at Lao International Trade Exhibition and Convention Centre in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, at 10.15 am on 30 November.

The discussions of the two Prime Ministers centred on matters of common interest covering economic development of both nations, cementing of bilateral friendship, and boosting of trade. — MNA

Prime Minister concludes Lao visit

YANGON, 3 Dec — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win and delegation left Vientiane for Yangon on 1 December morning.

The Prime Minister and delegation left Villa Dongpasak for Wattay International airport at 9.30 am. They were seen off by Myanmar Ambassador to Laos U Tin Oo, Military Attaché Col Hla Myint, and staff of Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché Office.

Minister at the Prime Minister's Office of Laos Mr Somphong Mongkhonvilay, Lao Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chanthavy Bodhisane and officials also saw them off at the airport.

A Laotian girl presented a bouquet to the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister and party left Laos by special aircraft at 9.30 local standard time am and arrived back here later in the morning. — MNA

Myanmar, Thailand discuss economic, transport, agricultural, technological cooperation

YANGON, 3 Dec — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win held talks with his Thai counterpart Dr Thaksin Shinawatra in Thai Hall of Villa Dongpasak in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, at 7.15 am on 30 November.

Lt-Gen Soe Win explained the latest developments in Myanmar. The two Prime Ministers cordially discussed matters on bilateral friendship, and cooperation in economic, transport, agricultural and technological sectors.

Also present were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, Myanmar Amba-

sador to Laos U Tin Oo, Director-General of Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Thura U Aung

Htet and Director-General of Political Department U Thaung Tun of Myanmar, and Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Surakirat

Sathirathai, Minister of Commerce Mr Watana Muangsook and senior officials of Thailand.

MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra shake hands in a friendly atmosphere. — MNA

Brunei Sultan believes Myanmar leaders to shape better future

YANGON, 3 Dec — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win called on King of Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah in Room No 3 of Lao International Trade Exhibition and Convention Centre in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, at 4.30 pm on 30 November.

At the meeting, the Myanmar Prime Minister said that Myanmar has been endeavouring to materialize her transition to democracy in a gentle way, while striving to achieve progress. The National Convention will resume in February 2005. A total of 1,088 del-

No foreign nation has the right to interfere in Myanmar's internal affairs.
King of Brunei

egates of all strata of life including those from townships, national races and armed groups which have returned to the legal fold, have been taking part in the Nation Convention. The discussions of the National Convention have reached the important part of sharing of Legislative, Judicial and Executive powers. The Government will continue to make endeavours till successful realization of the Road Map.

The Prime Minister, on behalf of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe, invited the Sultan to visit Myanmar



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win pays a courtesy call on King of Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah. — MNA

at an appropriate time. The Sultan thanked the Prime Minister for his comprehensive explanation on Myanmar, expressing belief that Myanmar leaders will shape a better future for the nation. No foreign nation has the right to interfere in Myanmar's internal affairs, he said. He thanked Myanmar for the invitation, saying that he would visit the country at an appropriate time. Also

present were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Laos U Tin Oo and directors-general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar, and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Prince Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and high level officials. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and Indonesian President Mr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono shake hands. — MNA

Myanmar, Indonesia express wish to further cement ties

YANGON, 3 Dec — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win met President of the Republic of Indonesia Mr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono at Friendship House of Villa Dongpasak in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, at 7.20 pm on 30 November.

During the meeting, the Myanmar Prime Minister said that the Government has restored national unity to an unprecedented degree. The nation has laid down the Road Map for transition to democracy, and is now in the process of convening the National Convention, which is the first step of the Road Map. The National Convention has reached the delicate part of discussions on the Leg-

islative, Judiciary and Executive powers. Myanmar has wish to further cement friendly relations with Indonesia, as the two countries have similar historical backgrounds.

The Indonesian President said that he hopes to see continuous progress in all the political, economic and social sectors of Myanmar. Concerning his nation's experiences, the president said that Indonesia has given priority to national unity and reforms. As Indonesia and Myanmar have extended government-to-government and people-to-people relations in a cordial atmosphere, the two countries will continue to maintain their fraternal relations and coop-

erate each other in all aspects, he asserted.

Also present were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, Myanmar Ambassador to Laos U Tin Oo, and heads of the Prime Minister's Office, the Pyithu Hluttaw Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

THAI KING'S BIRTHDAY RECEPTION: Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife being welcomed by Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal and wife at the reception to mark birthday of the Thai King on 3-12-2004.

MNA

Prime Minister plants commemorative tree

YANGON, 3 Dec — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win planted a commemorative padauk tree in the compound of Villa Dongpasak, where he was staying, in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, at 9 am on 1 December.

Present at the ceremony were Minister for

National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, Myanmar Ambassador to Laos U Tin Oo, heads of department, Military Attaché Col Hla Myint, staff of Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché Office, Lao Ambassador to Myanmar Mr

Chanthavy Bodhisane and officials.

The Prime Minister planed the tree and fed it with nutrients and water.

Other heads of governments and states who attended the 10th ASEAN Summit also planted commemorative trees before their departure for home.

MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win plants a commemorative tree at Villa Dongpasak in Vientiane, LPDR. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win attends...

(from page 1)

nations and Japan, ASEAN Secretary-General Mr Ong Keng Yong and officials attended the Summit as observers from the Room B-2 of the Lao ITECC.

Afterwards, the Summit of Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and Republic of Korea took place at the Room B-2 of the Lao International Trade Exhibition & Convention Centre (Lao ITECC) at 10.15 am.

It was attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and ROK President Mr Roh Moo Hyun.

Next, a ceremony to sign the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership Between ASEAN and ROK was held at Hall-B of Theatre-1.

The Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and ROK President Mr Roh Moo Hyun signed the signed the Joint Declaration.

Also present on the occasion were ministers, deputy ministers, high-ranking officials from ASEAN nations and ASEAN Secretary-General Mr



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win attending the ASEAN + Republic of Korea Summit together with heads of State/Government of ASEAN members and the Republic of Korea. — MNA

Room B-2 at 2.30 pm.

First, Heads of State/Government of ASEAN nations had a documentary photo taken

ASEAN nations and the Indian Prime Minister signed the ASEAN-India Partnership of Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity at the Hall-B of Theatre-1.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, ministers, deputy ministers and high-ranking officials from ASEAN nations and India and the ASEAN Secretary-General.

The Summit of Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and Australia and New Zealand was held at the Room B-2 at 4.50 pm.

First, Heads of State/Government of ASEAN had a documentary photo taken together with the Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand.

This was followed by the Summit.

Next, Heads of State/Government of ASEAN, Prime Minister of Australia Mr John Howard and Prime Minister of New Zealand Mrs Helen Clark signed the Joint Declaration of the Leaders at the ASEAN-Australia and New Zealand Commemorative Summit at the Room B of Theatre-1.

Also present on the occasion were ministers, deputy ministers, high-ranking officials from ASEAN nations, Australia and New Zealand and the ASEAN Secretary-General.—MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win signs the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership Between ASEAN and ROK together with heads of State/Government of ASEAN members and the Korean President. — MNA

Ong Keng Yong.

Next, the Summit of Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and India took place at the

together with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, followed by the Summit.

Next, Heads of State/Government of

Laos welcomes ASEAN-India...

(from page 1)

Mr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Seri Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, Philippine President Mrs Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai, Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh and ministers, deputy ministers, senior officials of the Republic of India, ASEAN secretary-general, officials and others.

Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith and Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh spoke on the occasion.

Later, Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries, Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh and ASEAN Secretary-General Mr Ong Keng Yong formally opened the ceremony. Next, the Laotian Prime Minister and the Indian Prime Minister flagged off the caravan.—MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win attends the ASEAN + India Summit together with heads of State/Government of ASEAN members and the Indian Prime Minister. — MNA

Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win poses for a documentary photo at the ASEAN + India Summit together with heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries and the Prime Minister of the Republic of India. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win signs the ASEAN-India Partnership of Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity together with heads of State/Government of ASEAN member nations and the Indian Prime Minister. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win poses for documentary photo at the ASEAN - Australia and New Zealand Commemorative Summit together with heads of State/Government of ASEAN members and Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand.

MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win meets staff of Myanmar Embassy in Vientiane

YANGON, 3 Dec—Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win, accompanied by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and officials, on 30 November evening, arrived at the residence of the Myanmar Ambassador to Lao People's Democratic Republic in Vientiane, where they were welcomed by Myanmar Ambassador U Tin Oo and wife Daw Thida Htay, Military Attaché Col Hla Myint and wife Daw Theingi Soe, staff of Myanmar Embassy and families.

Next, the Myanmar Ambassador and wife, the Military Attaché and wife, and staff of Myanmar Embassy paid homage to Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win, who gave necessary instructions.

Next, the Myanmar Ambassador and wife hosted a dinner to Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party.—MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win receives the Myanmar Ambassador to Laos, Military Attache and Embassy staff and family members. — MNA

First CLMTV-ECS ...

(from page 16)

officers, diplomats and charges d' affaires at foreign embassies in Yangon, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department, members of the central committee and the work committee for organizing the Trade Fair, officials of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and economic organizations, the president and members of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club, members of social organizations, business entrepreneurs and cultural troupe members of the five nations, guests, band troupes and students of No 2 BEHS, Latha Township, and No 3 BEHS, Mingala Taungnyunt Township.

On arrival at the Convention Centre, the Prime Minister and officials of the SPDC Office were welcomed by Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers and central committee members. First, the Prime Minister cordially greeted the ministers and leading representatives and diplomats.

Next, the Prime Minister formally unveiled the sign-board to open the Trade Fair. The Prime Minister and party and the guests viewed the pavilions of the respective countries displayed on the ground floor and the booth of Myanmar pearls, gems and jewelry and the booth of Thai silk. Next, they also inspected preparations made at the seminar room of the work committee. After viewing the booths of ministries, coop-



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win observes the items at a pavilion of the First CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair-2004. — MNA

In his introductory speech, Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein said that Economic Cooperation Strategy (ECS) Plan of Action was indeed one of the best ideas for smooth trade and investment in the region

Merchants Association.

The UMFCFI will hold CLMTV-ECS Business & Investment Forum 2004 with the other participating countries on the first floor of the same venue from 3



Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein addresses the opening of the First CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair-2004. — MNA

erative societies and private entrepreneurs of Myanmar, the Prime Minister left the centre.

At the opening ceremony of the Trade Fair, Patron of the central committee Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein delivered a speech.



Laotian Commerce Minister Mr Soulivong Daravong. — MNA

by combining the prospects and resources of the five neighbouring nations.

Such cooperation helps develop trade and investment and enhance close relations and mutual understanding among the five nations, he said.

The trade fair will be able to create great opportunities to lay down the strategy "Towards Prosperity of Five Nations".

Secretary of State Mr Kuoch Ky of the Ministry of Commerce of Cambodia, Minister of Commerce of LPDR Mr Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Commerce of Thailand Mr Watana Muangsook, leading representative of Vietnam Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pham Quang Khon delivered speeches.

Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein presented souvenirs to the leading representatives of the participating countries. Next, cultural troupes of Myanmar, Cambodia and Thailand entertained those present with varieties of dances.

The officials and the guests viewed the booths and shops being opened at the Fair. A total of 135 booths are being displayed at the Fair.

They include the booths of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Ministries of Industry-1 & 2, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, and the Ministry of Forestry, sale centres of Thai companies, sale centres of the companies of Myanmar Forest Products and Timber Merchants Association, industrial zone committees and companies of Myanmar Industrialists Association, other various companies of traditional medicines, musical instruments, jade and jewelry, weaving, personal goods, farm equipment and the sale rooms of Myanmar Rice Merchants Association and Myanmar Beans and Pulses and Sesamum

to 5 December.

For the convenience of visitors to the Trade Fair, Yangon Division All Bus Lines Control Committee and other bus lines have arranged for shuttle services. The Fair continues till 7 December from 9 am to 5 pm daily.

MNA



Cambodian Secretary of State Mr Kuoch Ky. — MNA



Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Pham Quang Khon. — MNA



Thai Commerce Minister Mr Watana Muangsook. — MNA

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win receives Chinese Vice Foreign Minister

YANGON 3 Dec — Prime Minister Lt-General Soe Win received Vice Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China Mr Wu Dawei and party at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall at 3 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, Director-General at

the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of the Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, Director-General of the Political Department U Thaung Tun and Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun.

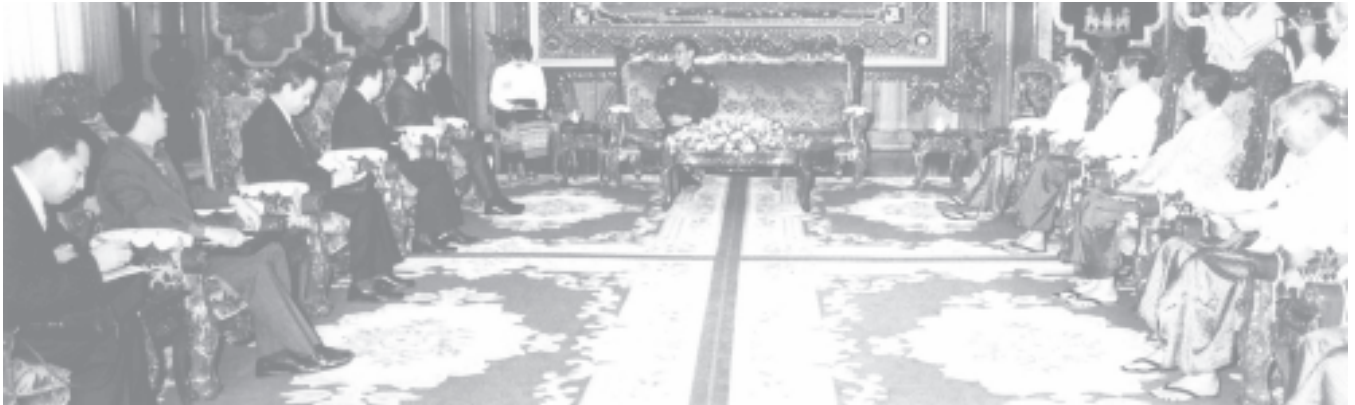
The meeting focused on mutual cooperation between the two countries.

MNA

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win receives Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Wu Dawei and party. — MNA

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win greets Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Wu Dawei.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets Chinese Vice Foreign Minister

YANGON 3 Dec — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein received Vice For-

eign Minister of the People's Republic of China Mr Wu Dawei at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall at 5 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu,

Director-General at the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of the Protocol Department under

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Thura U Aung Htet, Director-General of the Political Department U Thaung Tun

and Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein receives Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Wu Dawei and party. — MNA

မြန်မာ့ရေနံနှင့်သဘာဝဓါတ်ငွေ့လုပ်ငန်း ရှားခမ်းမေးသွင်းရန်ချိတ်ဆက်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

တင်ဒါအမှတ် ၁/၂၀၀၅

- ၁။ မေးသွင်းရမည့်ပစ္စည်း - ရှားခမ်းမေးသွင်း
၂။ မေးသွင်းရမည့်အရေအတွက် - ဝိသ္မာချိန်(လေးသောင်း)
၃။ တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူရမည့်နေရာ - မြေညီတပ်၊ အမှတ်(၆၀၄) ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊
မြန်မာ့ရေနံနှင့်သဘာဝဓါတ်ငွေ့လုပ်ငန်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
- ၄။ တင်ဒါပိတ်ရက်/အချိန် - ၂၀၀၄-၂၀၀၅ (၁၂/၁၀)နာရီတိတိ တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်းကမ်းပုံစံများကို အမှတ်(၆၀၄) ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ မြန်မာ့ရေနံနှင့်သဘာဝဓါတ်ငွေ့လုပ်ငန်းတွင် ကြိုကြိုထည့်သည့်နေ့မှစ၍ တစ်ပတ်လျှင် (၁၀၀၇/-) နှုန်းဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပြီး အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို ဖွင့်လှစ်စီမံဌာန၊ အမှတ်(၆၀၄)ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ မြန်မာ့ရေနံနှင့်သဘာဝဓါတ်ငွေ့လုပ်ငန်း တွင် မေးမြန်းစုံစမ်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူရေးအဖွဲ့

မြန်မာ့ရေနံနှင့်သဘာဝဓါတ်ငွေ့လုပ်ငန်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V. QING CHUN MEN VOY NO (103)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV QING CHUN MEN Voy No (103) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5-12-2004 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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to 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 INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

လူ့စွမ်းအားအရင်းအမြစ်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှုနှင့် (ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်)

နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာစကားသင်တန်းသားလျှောက်လွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ လူ့စွမ်းအားအရင်းအမြစ်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှုနှင့် (ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်)တွင် တရုတ်၊ အင်္ဂလိပ်၊ ပြင်သစ်၊ ဂျာမန်၊ ဂျပန်၊ ကိုရီးယား၊ ထိုင်းဘာသာစကား၊ ပြင်သစ်(ဘာသာပြန်/စကားပြန်)နှင့် မြန်မာဘာသာစကား (နိုင်ငံခြားကျောင်းသားအတွက်) ညနေသင်တန်းများ ဖွင့်လှစ်မည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

၂။ သင်တန်းစတင်ဖွင့်လှစ်မည့်ရက်မှာ (၂၄-၁၂-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ ဖြစ်ပြီး သင်တန်းဝင်ခွင့်လျှောက်လွှာများကို (၁၃-၁၂-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့မှ စတင် လက်ခံပါမည်။ သင်တန်းဝင်ခွင့်နှင့်ပတ်သက်၍ အသေးစိတ် သိလိုပါက ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်တွင် လာရောက်စုံစမ်းမေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဖုန်း - ၅၁၄၃၃၁(လိုင်ဗွဲ-၁၂၃)

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 6th December (Monday) National Day 2004, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.
Central Bank of Myanmar

Cingular to upgrade high-speed data network

WASHINGTON, 2 Dec — Cingular Wireless, the largest cellphone service provider in the United States, will upgrade its high-speed data network, allowing faster downloads than are now available on many home broadband connections, the *New York Times* reported Wednesday.

Cingular announced Tuesday that the upgrade will start at the end of 2005, and the network will be in place nationwide by 2006, according to the report.

The move will allow Cingular to keep pace with Verizon Wireless, the second-largest wireless phone company, which has the fastest data network, the report quoted industry analysts as saying.

Cingular did not say how much it would cost to upgrade its network. But industry executives said it could cost around one billion US dollars, though that figure did not include other enhancements to the underlying network that may cost the company significantly more.

In October, Cingular Wireless closed its acquisition of AT&T Wireless, creating the nation's largest wireless company with 47 million subscribers.

Cingular said the acquisition gave it the additional radio spectrum necessary to deploy the high-speed network.

MNA/Xinhua

Women carrying multiple foetuses risk death

TORONTO, 2 Dec — Women pregnant with twins, triplets or quadruplets are at greater risk of serious health complications than are women carrying just one foetus, according to a Canadian study published on Wednesday.

Researchers at the Universities of Ottawa and Toronto, who studied 4.4 million records for obstetric deliveries in Canada, found that women who carry two or more foetuses are almost 13 times more likely to experience heart failure and more than twice as likely to develop clotting in the legs and lungs — both leading

causes of maternal death.

The findings published in this month's *British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* surprised the study's lead author, Dr Mark Walker, a scientist with the Ottawa Health Research Institute.

"These are young healthy women in the reproductive age window of 16 to 44 where you wouldn't expect to see these health problems," Walker told *Reuters*.

"And the implications of this are two-fold. With women who have multiple gestations, we need to counsel them about these risks and be vigilant for them," he said. "So, if the

mother has leg pain, shortness of breath or chest pain, our urgency to look into other problems should be increased."

One obvious example is to consider administering blood thinners to women carrying multiple foetuses who are prescribed bed rest, he said.

Although the study did not distinguish between natural pregnancies and in vitro fertilization, Walker said he hopes his study will send a message to fertility clinics responsible for an explosion in multiple pregnancies in recent years.

MNA/Reuters

New drug Clolar likely to help children, adults with cancer

SILVER SPRING, (Maryland), 2 Dec — A panel of medical experts on Wednesday said Ilex Oncology Inc's new drug Clolar was "reasonably likely" to help children and young adults with a cancer called acute lymphocytic leukaemia.

The panelists also told

the US Food and Drug Administration — which usually takes their advice when considering drugs for approval — that trial data were not sufficient to show improvements in another type of the disease, acute myeloid leukaemia.

Ilex is seeking expedited approval for Clolar

to treat severe childhood cases of both acute lymphocytic leukaemia and acute myeloid leukaemia. Leukaemia is the most common childhood cancer, according to the American Cancer Society.

If the FDA ultimately approved Clolar, it would be the first leukaemia drug cleared initially for children's use in more than a decade, the FDA said at the meeting.

In a 9-6 recommendation vote, the experts said studies showed children and young adults with acute lymphocytic leukaemia responded well to the drug.

But for the acute myeloid type of leukaemia, the panel voted 14-1 that the research did not show enough of a benefit to recommend approval.

In both cases, panelists said they were concerned the results may have been affected by bone marrow transplants.

Some patients received bone marrow transplants before the trial, while others left the study early to receive them.

"I think transplants are confusing the whole story," said panelist Dr Joanne Kurtzberg, a

pediatrics professor at Duke University Medical Centre in Durham, North Carolina.

The panel's findings come ahead of Ilex's pending merger with Genzyme Corp. Ilex bought the North American rights to the drug from New York-based Bioenvision Inc.

Shares of Ilex were down nine cents to 24.77 US dollars after trading as low as 23.92 US dollars earlier, while Genzyme shares were down 25 cents to 55.76 US dollars, after trading as low as 54.70 US dollars.

MNA/Reuters

Singapore hosts Transplant Asia 2004 Meeting

SINGAPORE, 2 Dec — A medical event named Transplant Asia 2004 opened here on Wednesday to discuss the latest developments and share the best practices in the field of organ transplantation.

More than 500 delegates from around 40 countries are attending the meeting.

Addressing the opening ceremony, Dr

Balaji Sadasivan, Senior Minister of State for Information, Communications and the Arts and Health, noted that one of the greatest challenges facing organ transplantation is the shortage of organs.

"More recently, living donor organ transplantation has become an important alternative to cadaveric organ donation," he said.

He advocated the transplant community and community organizations to promote living related donor transplantation by ways of informing the public, using dialysis service to reduce end-stage organ failure and focusing on research.

MNA/Xinhua

DONATE BLOOD



British leukaemia patient Lloyd Scott, pictured at the start of his epic trek, has reached Sydney after cycling 12 hours a day for over seven weeks across the Australian outback on a vintage penny farthing bike in a bid to raise one million pounds for British charity Children with Leukaemia. —INTERNET

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“Finding Neverland” named best film of 2004

NEW YORK, 2 Dec— “Finding Neverland”, a fictionalized account of the creation of children’s classic “Peter Pan”, was named best film of 2004 by The National Board of Review on Wednesday in the first major award of the Oscar season.

Oscar hopeful Jamie Foxx was named best actor for “Ray”, director Taylor Hackford’s film about legendary singer Ray Charles, while Annette Bening won the best actress award for her role as a 1930s stage diva in “Being Julia”.

The awards, voted on by about 150 members of a screening committee along with a 12-member awards panel, are sometimes an indicator of what

to expect in the race for the Academy Awards in February, though frequently its choices are more esoteric than the Oscars.

“Finding Neverland” director Marc Forster, who was shopping in a supermarket store when he heard news of the award, said his film offered an optimistic tale of mortality and growing up.

“We live in very dark times right now,” he said.

The film is a fantasy about Scottish author J.M. Barrie and his friendship with a family of children including Peter, who is the model for Peter Pan, in Edwardian London.

“Whatever happens from here on out I’m happy,” Forster added, declining to speculate on the race for Oscars. “I learned not to have expectations because if you have expectations you can be disappointed.”

Michael Mann was named best director for his thriller “Collateral,” starring Tom Cruise, while “The Incredibles”, about a family of superheroes, won best animated feature, beating out big studio films “Shrek 2” and “Polar Express”.

Alejandro Amenabar’s “The Sea Inside” (“Mar adentro”) won best foreign language film, a category dominated by Spanish language films. Pedro Almodovar’s “Bad Education” was second, “Maria Full of Grace” about a Colombian drugs courier was third, and “The Motorcycle Diaries”, based on the journals of a young Che Guevara, came in fifth.

The board’s list of top 10 films of the year had in second place “The Aviator,” starring Leonardo DiCaprio as a young Howard Hughes, followed by Mike Nichols’ “Closer,” Clint Eastwood’s “Million Dollar Baby” and “Sideways”.

MNA/Reuters



“Finding Neverland”, a fictionalized account of the creation of children’s classic “Peter Pan”, was named best film of 2004 by The National Board of Review on, 1 Dec, 2004 in the first major award of the Oscar season.—INTERNET

South Africa committed to double efforts against “AIDS”

JOHANNESBURG, 2 Dec—South African Deputy-President Jacob Zuma Wednesday promised his citizens the government will double its efforts in the battle against the HIV/AIDS killer disease.

Addressing mass gathering in Athlone Stadium, Cape Town, on the occasion of the World AIDS Day, he said, government and other sectors within the partnership against AIDS will continue to play their role. However, he noted, this does not take away the responsibility from each individual.

“We urge individual citizens to rededicate themselves to the fight against AIDS, and to take HIV and AIDS messages seriously,” he added.

South Africa has the world’s highest number of HIV infections, currently stands at 5.6 million or 12 per cent of the total population.

The AIDS killer has posed a disastrous threat to South Africa as the annual number of deaths due to AIDS is projected to peak at 487,320 in the year 2008.

By 2020, the total population of South Africa is expected to be 23 per cent

smaller than it would be without AIDS, according to a recent report published in the *African Journal of AIDS Research*.

The Deputy-President noted the messages should begin to enlist action on a wider scale, and a change in lifestyles and behaviour.

“This should start with an acknowledgment and acceptance that anyone can contract HIV. It does not discriminate in terms of gender, geographical location, the length of a relationship with a particular partner, the social status of the partner and so forth,” he said.

He emphasized the action of each person counts in this war against AIDS. “If everybody takes the messages of abstinence, faithfulness or condom use seriously and act on it, we can achieve our goal of drastically reducing the rate of infections.”

MNA/Xinhua

US prosecutors say 3 human smugglers were part of wide network

HOUSTON, 2 Dec— Three people on trial over the deadliest US human smuggling disaster, which left 19 dead in a stifling truck trailer, were part of a wide network that abused illegal immigrants, prosecutors said on Tuesday.

The three defendants were part of “a criminal enterprise that treated people worse than cattle on the way to the slaughterhouse,” Assistant US Attorney Daniel Rodriguez said during opening statements in federal court.

Victor Jesus Rodriguez, 40, Claudia Carrizales de

Villa, 35, and Fredy Giovanni Garcia-Tobar, 24, face life imprisonment on charges they helped deliver more than 70 people in May 2003 to a tractor-trailer in south Texas for a trip north. The truck driver, Tyrone Williams, abandoned the trailer near Victoria, Texas, about 90 miles

southwest of Houston, after he discovered several of his passengers dead from suffocation and dehydration in the locked trailer.

He was caught a short time later and will face the death penalty when his trial begins early next year.

MNA/Reuters

New private car sales in France up 18% in November

PARIS, 2 Dec— New private car sales in France surged 18 per cent in November, with 176,090 registrations, the French Carmakers’ Committee (CCFA) announced in a statement on Wednesday.

The figure contrasts sharply with results from the latest three months when new private car sales increased only 2.2 per cent and with sales figures of last 11 months showing a decline of 0.4 per cent.

While sales of French-made cars increased 17.9 per cent with 101,406 registrations their market share

shrank by 0.1 percentage points to 57.6 in November 2004 compared with the same period last year. French carmaker Peugeot-Citroen saw sales increase by 13.3 per cent with 50,757 cars in November, but their market share dipped to 28.8 per cent from 30 per cent last November.

MNA/Xinhua

Chile’s under-18 population decreases, less poor

SANTIAGO, 2 Dec— The Chilean population under the age of 18 has decreased over the past 10 years but more of them have been lifted out of poverty, authorities said Tuesday in a report.

The population of Chilean minors makes up 31 per cent of the total population, compared to 34.5 per cent in the year 1990 and 32.6 per cent in 2000, according to a survey on children and adolescents in Chile.

MNA/Xinhua

Around 4 million Nigerians may die of “AIDS” by 2008

LAGOS, 2 Dec— The Nigerian Health Ministry estimated that about four million people may die of AIDS by 2008 in Africa’s most populous country, according to a new survey.

“By 2008 there would be a cumulative death figure of 3.6 to 4.2 million from AIDS,” said the National Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Sero-prevalence Sentinel Survey published in Wednesday’s *The Guardian* newspaper. The

Health Ministry said in April at least 2.3 million people in the west African country of 130 million have already died of AIDS.

“The number of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWA) in Nigeria at the end of 2003 to be between

3.2 and 3.8 million. In the low prevalence scenario, this is expected to rise to 3.4 million by 2005 and 3.7 million by 2008, while in the high scenario the number will rise to four million by 2005 and 4.3 million by 2008,” the report showed.

MNA/Xinhua



A newly-married couple stand inside a water fountain.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Arsenal's Dutch winger will not face further action

LONDON, 3 Dec—Arsenal's Dutch winger Robin van Persie will not face any further action after his tussle with Manchester United's Kieran Richardson in Wednesday's League Cup tie, the Football Association said.

United manager Alex Ferguson, whose side won the quarterfinal 1-0, had called on the FA to look at the incident in which both players were booked, saying: "van Persie definitely swung an arm at the boy."

However, an FA statement on Thursday said that after reviewing the actions of the players involved at Old Trafford "no further disciplinary action is required".

United will face Premier League leaders Chelsea in January's two-legged semifinal while Liverpool will play Second Division Watford in the other tie.—MNA/Reuters

US film producer confirms making takeover bid for Liverpool

LONDON, 3 Dec—American-based film producer Mike Jefferies confirmed on Thursday that he may make a takeover bid for Liverpool football club.

L4 Group, a consortium led by Jefferies and lawyer Stuart Ford, said it had approached Hawkpoint, financial advisers to Liverpool, over a possible investment in or offer for the English Premier League club.

"These discussions are at an early stage and may or may not lead to an offer being made for Liverpool FC," L4 Group said in a statement.

Jefferies, originally from Liverpool, has been working on a soccer film, "Goal!", which is due to be released next year. This had prompted accusations that a bid for the club was just a publicity stunt to promote the movie.

But Jefferies, chairman of Milkshake Films, told the *Daily Mirror* newspaper on Saturday that his group was proposing a deal which could lead to as much as

100 million pounds (194 million US dollars) being invested in the soccer club.

"Liverpool have a good manager but they are falling behind," Jefferies was quoted as saying.

Arsenal, Chelsea and Manchester United have taken a march on Liverpool in recent years and Jefferies thinks new manager Rafael Benitez needs extra funds to bridge the gap, while finance is also required to build a new stadium.

Jefferies' bid to invest in Liverpool is the third this year after businessman Steve Morgan's 70-million-pound offer was turned down and a bid from the Thai Government, which was later taken on by Thai media tycoon Paiboon Damrongchaitham, stalled.

L4 is being advised by Seymour Pierce.—MNA/Reuters

Trezeguet eager to start playing after 2-month absence

ROME, 2 Dec—Italian Serie A team Juventus striker David Trezeguet said on Wednesday that he was eager to start kicking a ball after a two-month absence due to a shoulder injury, local media reported.

Speaking after completing rehabilitation on his left shoulder, Trezeguet said he was very well and keen to start playing with his teammates soon. The France striker, 27, said he was not "at all" worried about using the shoulder in physical clashes and was more concerned about regaining his form as soon as possible.

Trezeguet's return has been provisionally scheduled for the end of December. He is set to have a major check-up before Christmas.—MNA/Xinhua



Smooth start : Lindsay Alcock of Canada competes during the European championships of skeleton in Altenberg, eastern Germany.

INTERNET

Roddick may be key to US Davis Cup win

SEVILLE, 3 Dec—Three months ago, Andy Roddick swept Rafael Nadal 6-0, 6-3, 6-4 in the second round of the US Open. Don't expect it to be that easy when Roddick plays the 18-year-old Spaniard in the Davis Cup final Friday. This time, the match is on clay. And Nadal will be cheered by an expected record crowd of 26,600 at Olympic Stadium.

"He has a lot of game," Roddick said. "He hits the ball a ton, he's very competitive, and in an atmosphere like this he is going to get the crowd going."

Roddick and Nadal play the second singles match of the best-of-five series between Spain and the United States.

The host's top player, 1998 French Open champion Carlos Moya, faces Olympic silver medalist Mardy Fish in the opener Friday.

"Hopefully I am going to win my match and give (Nadal) confidence, going on the court leading 1-0," Moya said.

In Saturday's doubles, twins Bob and Mike Bryan should have the edge over Nadal and Tommy Robredo.

In Sunday's reverse singles, Moya is slated to face Roddick, followed by Nadal vs. Fish.

The lineups for Saturday and Sunday can be changed up until one hour before the matches.

Roddick is the key for the Americans as they bid for a 32nd Davis Cup title — but first since 1995. Nadal, meanwhile, is lined up to play three matches as Spain tries to win only

its second championship. Nadal was a surprise pick Thursday ahead of former No 1 and 2003 French Open champion Juan Carlos Ferrero.

Internet



American tennis player Andy Roddick returns a ball to his teammate, Mardy Fish, during a training match in Seville, Spain, on 1 Dec, 2004. The United States will play Spain in this year's Davis Cup final later this week.—INTERNET

Walter Smith appointed Scotland manager

GLASGOW, 3 Dec—Former Rangers and Everton boss Walter Smith was appointed Scotland manager on Thursday.

The 56-year-old will be presented to the media at a news conference at 1300 GMT, the Scottish Football Association said. He replaces German Berti Vogts who resigned on November 1 after a series of poor results.

Smith won 13 trophies during his time as Rangers manager but was unable to repeat that success at English club Everton, who sacked him in 2002.

Scotland have made a poor start to their World Cup qualifying campaign, earning only two points from their first three games to lie fifth in Group Five.

Smith, who worked alongside fellow Glaswegian Alex Ferguson when he was Scotland manager briefly in 1986, faces a difficult task reversing the decline in Scotland's fortunes.

He inherits an inexperienced squad and an angry set of supporters. Vogts quit citing "disgraceful abuse" including being spat at by supporters as the reason for his departure.

Two weeks ago Scotland, under caretaker manager Tommy Burns, were thumped 4-1 at home by Sweden in a friendly and their chances of qualifying for the 2006 World Cup in Germany are slim.

They trail group leaders Italy by seven points and their next qualifier is away to the Italians on March 26.

The last major tournament Scotland qualified for was the 1998 World Cup.

A trained electrician, Smith played for Dundee United in the 1960s and '70s before moving into management. He was assistant to Jim McLean during United's success in the 1980s, when they won the Scottish title and reached the European Cup semifinals.—MNA/Reuters



David Trezeguet

IBF to move head office to Kuala Lumpur

LONDON, 3 Dec — The extraordinary general meeting of the International Badminton Federation (IBF) has given the go-ahead to a move of its central office away from Britain for the first time in the 70-year history of the sport's world ruling body.

The new host city for the IBF headquarters will be Kuala Lumpur, which beat the other three candidate cities including Busan (South Korea), London (England) and Lausanne (Switzerland), according to a Press release by the IBF on Wednesday.

The extraordinary general meeting held in Kuala Lumpur ratified the relocation to the Malaysian capital, which is expected to save nearly seven million US dollars over an eight-year period.

The special meeting also decided that a smaller satellite office should be established in Lausanne, home of the International Olympic Committee.

The IBF office is currently located in Cheltenham of England, where it will remain until at least October 1, 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

Foreign Minister U Nyan Win receives visiting Chinese Vice Foreign Minister

YANGON, 3 Dec—Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win received Vice Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China Mr. Wu Dawei, at his office, at 12.30 pm today.

Also present at the call were Directors-General and responsible officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Li Jinjun.



MNA *Minister U Nyan Win receives Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Wu Dawei and party. — MNA*

Deputy Foreign Minister U Kyaw Thu meets visiting Chinese Vice Foreign Minister

YANGON, 3 Dec—Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu

received Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of

China Mr. Wu Dawei and party at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this

morning.

After the call, the two Deputy Ministers held a meeting and had a friendly discussion on matters of mutual interest and bilateral cooperation. Present on the occasion were Directors-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, responsible officials and Chinese Ambassador Mr. Li Jinjun.

In the evening, Deputy Foreign Minister U Kyaw Thu hosted a dinner in honour of the Chinese delegation at Sedona Hotel.



Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu and Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Wu Dawei hold discussions on bilateral relations. — MNA

Chinese Vice Foreign Minister arrives to pay an official visit

YANGON, 3 Dec—Chinese delegation led by Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China Mr. Wu Dawei arrived here by air at 9.30 am today to pay an official visit to Myanmar.

The PRC delegation led by Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Wu Dawei was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, responsible officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Li Jinjun and staff of the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar. The Chinese Vice Minister was accompanied by Deputy Director General Mr. Guan Mu and Deputy Director Mr. Chen Dehai of the Asian Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs—MNA



Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Wu Dawei being welcomed at the airport. — MNA

Sri Lanka hosts int'l "IT" conferences

COLOMBO, 3 Dec—The Asian-Oceanic Computing Industry Organization (ASOCIO) Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Summit 2004 opened here Thursday.

Addressing the opening ceremony, Hydre Alaudeen, chairman of Sri Lankan Information Technology Federation, said ASOCIO ICT is a regional, high level forum that provides a platform for government and industry to exchange information, develop closer relationships and above all, identify new business opportunities. —MNA/Xinhua

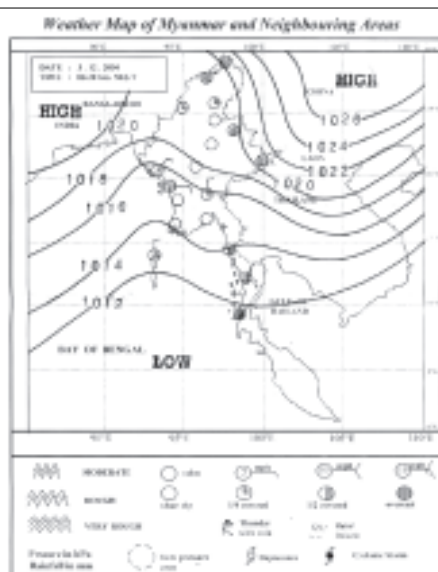
Minister says Italians underestimate "AIDS" threat

ROME, 3 Dec—Italian Health Minister Girolamo Sirchia warned on Wednesday that Italians underestimate the AIDS threat is dangerous.

Young people, on whom public awareness campaigns fail to make any impression, are especially at risk because their behaviour is often dictated by a need for "transgression", Sirchia said at a major AIDS conference in the city of northwest Italy Genoa, the key official event of World AIDS Day in Italy.

According to the latest figures, the downward trend in new HIV infections in Italy has stopped and numbers are now rising again, with one person being infected every two hours.

"The tendency to underestimate it is the biggest enemy now in the fight against AIDS," said Sirchia. "People know you no longer die from it and so they think there's less risk."—MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Friday, 3 December, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin, Rakhine States and Yangon Division, (3°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Pyin Oo Lwin (5°C), Putao and Hakha (6°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 2-12-2004 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 3-12-2004 was 61°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 3-12-2004 was 67%. Total sunshine hours on 2-12-2004 was (8.5) hours approx. Rainfall on 3-12-2004 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 Northeast at (15:30) hours MST on 2-12-2004.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 4-12-2004: Possibility of isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan States and fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Slight decrease of night temperatures in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-12-2004: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-12-2004: Fair weather.

Weather outlook for first weekend of December 2004: During the coming weekend, weather will be fair in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.

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



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win presses the button to unveil the signboard to open the first CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair-2004. — MNA

First CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair-2004 opens



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win greets foreign ministers and delegates to the Trade Fair-2004. — MNA

YANGON, 3 Dec — Under the programme of economic cooperation among ASEAN nations, the First CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair-2004, co-organized by the Kingdom of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Kingdom of Thailand and Socialist Republic of Vietnam, was opened at Myanmar Convention Centre on Min Dhamma Road, Mayangon Township, here this morning, attended by Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win.

The Trade Fair with the theme of 'Towards Prosperity of Five Nations' is to promote trade

within ECS countries, to gain market access for the ECS exportable products, to promote trade and investment opportunities of ECS countries and to promote and strengthen existing relations between ECS countries.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon City Development Committee chairman Yangon mayor, Secretary of State Mr Kuoch Ky of the Ministry of Commerce of Cambodia, Minister of Com-

merce of LPDR Mr Soulivong Daravong, Minister of Commerce of Thailand Mr Watana Mauangsook, leading representative of Vietnam Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pham Quang Khon, deputy ministers, senior military (See page 10)

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Prime Minister receives foreign delegates to First CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair

YANGON, 3 Dec—Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win received Secretary of State of the Ministry of Commerce of Cambodia Mr Kuoch Ky, Laotian Commerce Minister Mr Soulivong Daravong, and Vietnamese delegation leader Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pham Quang Khon and party who at-

tended the First CLMTV-ECS Trade Fair-2004 at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthath here this afternoon.

Also present were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minis-

ter for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint and Director-General of the Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet. Matters related to boosting economic cooperation among Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar were discussed. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win receives Secretary of State of the Ministry of Commerce of Cambodia Mr Kuoch Ky, Laotian Minister Mr Soulivong Daravong and Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pham Quang Khon and party. — MNA