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Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt plants a sapling to mark the opening of the main building of Yadanabon University. — MNA

New universities and colleges built and existing ones upgraded under the national education promotion programme Secretary-1 attends opening of main building of Yadanabon University

YANGON, 8 July —The Government has been implementing human resource development programmes with the objective of promoting national education in basic and higher education sectors with greater momentum. A magnificent main building of Mandalay Yadanabon University has been opened.

The opening ceremony was held at the building on 7 July, attended by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Devel-

opment Council General Khin Nyunt.

Also present were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, the ministers, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the deputy ministers, the Mandalay mayor, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, the directors-general of departments under the Ministry of Education, Rector U Win Maung, Pro-rector, pro-

fessors and associate professors, lecturers, assistant lecturers, tutors, demonstrators, staff, students, social organizations and guests. Fourteen outstanding students formally unveiled the signboard of the university. They also unveiled stone inscription of "Our Vision".

Maung Nay Win Naing, first year M.Sc Chemistry major student, and Ma Aye Mon Mon Aung, first year MA Myanmar major student, formally opened the main building of Yadanabon University.

The Secretary-1 and party planted Gangaw trees to mark the opening of the

main building.

Next, the Secretary-1 formally unveiled the bronze plaque and sprayed scented water on it.

The Secretary-1 and party viewed books on 30-year long-term project, theses for MA degree, books on respective subjects, research papers, reference books, literary works of Sayadaw Ashin Janakabhivamsa, literature on poets of Amarapura period, annual magazines, rare newspapers, magazines and journals published in Myanmar at the book fair in commemoration of the opening of the main building.

(See page 11)

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

Daw Suu Kyi, the NLD party and Our Ray of Hope — 5

Because of our speechifying a crowd had soon blocked the road at both ends and two or more passenger buses and freight trucks were held up. This was when we heard a handsome man of 50 years old say deliberately in our hearing, "See...Bogyoke Aung San talked about the drying of chopped tobacco stalks out on the road, misusing the meaning of independence. But now the daughter puts a bench in the middle of the road and blocks it in the name of democracy to make a political speech. It's too bad." We could do nothing beyond giving him sidelong glances. But then it was really Auntie Suu who was in the wrong.

(Article on pages 8 and 9)



The main building of Yadanabon University in Mandalay. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 9 July, 2003

Towards increased participation of cooperatives in national economic development endeavours

The 49th United Nations General Assembly in 1994 designated the first Saturday of every July as the International Cooperative Day in honour of cooperative activities being carried out in the nations of the world.

The Union of Myanmar, being a member of the International Cooperative Alliance, has been holding the International Cooperative Day since 1995.

The 2003 International Cooperative Day was held at the International Business Centre in Yangon on the morning of 5 July and the ceremony was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt.

The cooperative movements started in the world in the 19th century and the formation of Myinmu Credit Cooperative Society in Sagaing District was the first cooperative movement in Myanmar.

The International Cooperative Alliance was formed in London in 1895 to safeguard the interests of the cooperatives formed in various nations of the world, to develop and invigorate the cooperatives in different countries of the world and to enhance the economic cooperation by increasing friendly contacts among the international cooperatives.

Nowadays, the International Cooperative Alliance is made up of 234 cooperatives and international organizations from 103 member countries and over 760 million cooperative members throughout the world are taking part in cooperative movement.

In Myanmar, the Cooperative Society Law was promulgated in 1992 to ensure the cooperative sector's participation in the national economic development endeavours in line with the market-oriented economic system being practised by the State. At present, there are 17,402 basic cooperative societies, 618 cooperative syndicates, 20 national cooperative unions and one central cooperative society throughout the Union of Myanmar.

We would like to urge all the cooperatives across the nation to raise the momentum of their movement, to fulfil the basic physical and mental needs of the people and to take an active part in the national economic development endeavours.

Facilities for development of Hinthada Region

1. Health

- (a) 50-bed Hinthada hospital was upgraded into 200-bed one on 25-9-2001.
- (b) A nurses training school was opened on 2-7-2001.

2. Education

- (a) Hinthada College was upgraded into Hinthada Degree College on 21-1-2001 and upgraded again into Hinthada University on 28-9-2001.
- (b) Hinthada Technical Institute was upgraded into Government Technological College on 12-8-1999.
- (c) A new Government Computer College was opened on 3-9-2001.

3. Water Supply

- (a) Nankathu diversion weir was opened in 1997 and Nankathu Dam in 2000 in Ingapu Township.
- (b) Nine river water pumping projects namely Kyontwan, Duya, Kyakhettwin, Myaychar, Hlelantet, Thayetchaung, Mezaligon, Thayettaw and Lamaing were implemented.
- (c) Ma Mya dam project, Kunchaung dam project, Kanyinchaung dam project as well as Kazunkhon, Ngapiseik and Myokwin (Dumbi) river water pumping projects are under construction.

Glimpses of endeavours for socio-economic development



WEST YANGON UNIVERSITY UNDER CONSTRUCTION: The West Yangon University which is being built in Htandabin Township, Yangon North District, Yangon Division. Nowadays, new universities and colleges are emerging all over the country and the existing ones are upgraded in order to nurture youths to become highly qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia for the future of the nation. Indeed, human resource development is essential for the national development of every country in the world. — MNA



MAUBIN GOVERNMENT TECHNOLOGICAL COLLEGE: The Maubin Government Technological College which was opened on 28-6-2003. It will produce engineers who will bring about development of Maubin region and Ayeyawady Division in the near future. The opening of such a college means providing an opportunity for students to pursue higher learning in the region. Emergence of better foundations for producing highly qualified human resources in the division. — MNA

LAWKANANDA RIVER WATER PUMPING PROJECT:

The Lawkananda river water pumping project in NyaungU Township, Mandalay Division. The project is designed to irrigate 11,000 acres of land in the western part of NyaungU Township. At present, the project is irrigating 2,800 acres of farmland. Lawkananda project is under construction phase by phase to benefit 11,000 acres of farmland. — MNA



ZWEBAT SLUICE GATE PROJECT: The construction site of the Zwebat sluice gate project in Bago Division. Dams and reservoirs are built as priority is given to construction of irrigation facilities for agricultural development of the nation. It is encouraging to see that irrigated acreage has been increased remarkably due to emergence of agricultural infrastructures in various States and Divisions.

MNA

Chinese President on flood control in east China

BEIJING, 8 July — Chinese President Hu Jintao has called for efforts to ensure the dykes of the Huaihe River, one of the country's major rivers, will not be breached as the water level has been rising rapidly due to continuous rainfall.

Speaking by telephone to Vice-Premier Hui Liangyu on Saturday, Hu, also General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), urged the country's top flood control official to give top priority to the protection of people's lives during the ongoing fight against floodwaters.

The Vice-Premier was inspecting flood control work on the dyke of the river in Anhui Province, where water levels have been rising due to heavy rain since late June.

Hu called for every effort to efficiently arrange the livelihood of the people in flood-hit areas, to prevent the possible outbreak of epidemic disease arising from the flood, and to keep the flood-related damage to minimum.

Rarely-seen high water levels have prompted flood control authorities to take emergency measures to prevent dykes from being breached, including using designated areas for storing or diverting floodwater from the river, and blowing up part of the dyke of a lake to release floodwater.

MNA/Xinhua

White House says Iraq uranium claim an error

WASHINGTON, 8 July — The Bush Administration has acknowledged for the first time that President George W Bush's claim in his State of the Union address in January that Iraq had sought to buy uranium from Africa was an error, *The Washington Post* reported on Tuesday.

"Knowing all that we know now, the reference to Iraq's attempt to acquire uranium from Africa should not have been included in the State of the Union speech," a senior Bush Administration official said in a statement authorized by the White House, the newspaper reported.

The report said the administration official's statement came in response to questions about a British parliamentary commission report that raised questions about the reliability of British intelligence cited by Bush in his January 28 speech.

The statement, released late on Monday, effectively conceded that intelligence underlying the President's uranium-pur-

chase claim was wrong, *The Washington Post* said.

A White House spokesman was not immediately available for comment early on Tuesday.

Controversy is raging in the United States and Britain over charges that the governments of the two countries manipulated intelligence about weapons of mass destruction to make the case for war against Iraq.

No evidence of such weapons has been found by the occupying forces in Iraq.

The International Atomic Energy Agency in March dismissed a report about Iraq buying uranium from Niger as being based on forged documents. —MNA/Reuters

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UK soldier wounded by sniper in Basra, Iraq

LONDON, 8 July — A British soldier has been shot and wounded in a sniper attack on troops in southern, the Ministry of Defence in London said on Tuesday.

The man was taking part in a patrol on Sunday when it came under fire, a spokeswoman said.

"A British Army patrol was fired upon by two Iraqi gunmen while on routine operations on the northern outskirts of Basra," she said. "One sustained a gunshot wound to the leg and is in a stable condition in a British Army field hospital."

Six Royal Military Policemen were killed last month during a confrontation with an Iraqi mob in Majar al-Kabir, 100 miles north of Basra. — Internet

Support wanes in Britain for Iraq war

LONDON, 8 July — Public support in Britain for the Iraq war has fallen sharply, with 45 percent now believing that military action was wrong, a poll for *The Times* newspaper suggested.

Whereas 64 percent in April and 58 percent in May thought military action was "the right thing to do," 47 percent felt the same way when quizzed last Friday through Sunday, the poll indicated.

Eight percent replied "don't know." The poll, by the Populus organization, was conducted after a month of allegations — denied by Prime Minister Tony Blair and his government — that Downing Street doctored intelligence data to beef up the case for war.

A report from the House of Commons foreign affairs committee Monday, after two weeks of hearings, criticized Blair for the way he presented the case for joining the US-led war that began March 20. But it also concluded that his government did not mislead the nation over the threat posed by the now-deposed Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and weapons of mass destruction. The poll, involving a random sample of 1,000 adults quizzed by telephone all over Britain, also followed the killing in an Iraqi town of six British soldiers — the first to die since major combat was declared over on May 1.

Asked if Blair had the "leadership qualities needed in a prime minister," 56 percent replied yes — compared to 25 percent for the opposition Conservative leader Iain Duncan Smith. But 38 percent said Blair did not, and 54 percent agreed when asked: "I wouldn't trust him further than I could throw him." —Internet

S Korean President arrives in Beijing

BEIJING, 8 July — South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun arrived in Beijing Monday for a four-day state visit to China as guest of Chinese President Hu Jintao.

Hu and Roh will hold talks later Monday to exchange views on bilateral ties, international and regional issues of common concern.

This will be the first meeting between Hu and Roh since they assumed office.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi woman holds her daughter in the pediatric ward of the 'Women and Children's Hospital' (formerly Saddam Hospital), in Nassiriya on 6 July, 2003.

INTERNET

Doctors tease apart brains of Iranian twins

SINGAPORE, 8 July — Neurosurgeons trying to separate Iranian twins joined at the head teased apart tightly packed brain tissue and blood vessels on Tuesday as the life-threatening operation moved into its third day.

Soothing classical music played in the operating theatre as the team of 28 doctors and about 100 assistants at a Singapore hospital battled unstable blood circulation amid an array of lines that feed Laleh and Ladan Bijani intravenously and monitored their vital signs.

After cutting open the 29-year-old pair's joint skull in the hours after the surgery began on Sunday, five neurosurgeons were prying apart the brains millimetre by millimetre, said Dr. Prem Kumar Nair, a spokesman for Singapore's Raffles Hospital.

"In the process of separating, you cannot just tear them apart. They have to be teased apart very slowly, cut, teased apart, cut, teased apart," he told reporters.

"Although the brains are distinctly separate, because they have been fused for the last 29 years they are very adherent to each other."

Another official said this part of the surgery had taken much longer than the expected 10 hours.

"Part of the brain has been dissected, but they haven't reached the base yet," the official said.

"It has been 16 hours since they started this part of the operation and the separation has taken much longer than expected."

German doctors turned away the twins in 1996, saying splitting them could prove fatal. But the Bijanis were determined to lead separate lives and persuaded Singapore doctors to operate despite the risks.

Nair said doctors had completed a key part of the operation, using a leg vein extracted from Ladan's right thigh to replace for her a shared major vein that drained blood from the brains.

But after the bypass, blood circulation between the twins became unstable.

As well as music to soothe them in their work, the doctors have been taking food and massage breaks through the night.

The operation has drawn worldwide attention as the twins' elderly parents await the outcome in Iran. Supporters in Singapore are holding a prayer vigil at the hospital.

On Monday, Iranian President Mohammad Khatami pledged to cover the cost of the surgery, estimated at around 300,000 US dollars. —MNA/Reuters



A US soldier frisks an Iraqi father while his son waits for his turn at a mobile checkpoint in Kadhamiya north of the capital Baghdad, Iraq on July, 2003 where hours earlier a US convoy came under attack and a US soldier was killed. —INTERNET

Iraq resistance clouds US postwar plan

WASHINGTON, 8 July — Americans are dying almost daily in Iraq more than two months after President Bush declared that major combat had ended, and many people believe the anti-occupation violence will persist — or even grow — as long as Iraqis think Saddam Hussein might return.

The resistance, which one US general said Monday has become more sophisticated, has been so persistent that plans for sending US troops home have been thrown in doubt.

US officials have responded not only by putting more US troops on the offensive in pursuit of former Baath Party leaders and other Saddam loyalists, but also by escalating the psychological battle for the hearts and minds of ordinary Iraqis who think Saddam might re-emerge.

In Saddam's hometown of Tikrit, someone recently wrote graffiti on a wall of one of his former palaces offering praise for the former president, and no Iraqi has been bold enough to erase it.

Emad Dhia, an Iraqi-American who returned to his homeland after the war to advise the occupation administration, told reporters at the Pentagon on Monday that attacks on Americans will not stop "as long as Saddam's remnants

exist." He added: "They will stop at nothing to regain their power."

"It will inflict more fear in some of the Iraqi people's hearts and minds," Dhia said. Michael O'Hanlon, a defence expert at the Brookings Institution, believes that questions about the fate of Saddam are not the main problem facing the US-led occupation forces.

"The most important issue is simply that there are a lot of former Baath Party people who have no interest in cooperating with a new Iraqi government" — whether Saddam is around or not, he said.

"The administration failed to create any clear plans for conflict-resolution" and underestimated the level of resistance once Saddam was toppled, he said.

US military authorities say they have no good evidence that Saddam was killed in the war, but they also doubt he is orchestrating the wave of

attacks on Americans.

Since Bush declared on May 1 that major combat in Iraq was over, some 28 US troops have been killed by hostile fire and 43 others have died in accidents and other non-hostile circumstances, a total of 71. The Pentagon on Monday was unable to provide an exact count of hostile deaths.

In the approximately three weeks of fighting before Baghdad fell to US troops on April 9, 102 Americans died, including 87 killed by hostile fire.

Maj Gen Carl Strock, deputy director of operations for the US occupation authority, said in a video teleconference from Baghdad that although it is not clear who is directing the attacks, they are becoming more sophisticated. "I think what's really happening here is that after the cessation of hostilities, the enemy has had a little bit of time to regroup, so we're seeing more deliberate types of attacks," he told reporters at the Pentagon. —Internet

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Deputies report on claims Britain exaggerated Iraq intelligence

LONDON, 8 July — A British parliamentary committee was due to give its verdict on whether the government of Prime Minister Tony Blair exaggerated the case for invading Iraq, amid an escalating war of words between Downing Street and the BBC over the issue.

The public broadcaster has accused Blair's office of embellishing the threat posed to Britain by Iraq in an intelligence dossier published in September, drawing a furious response from the prime minister.

Downing Street has been particularly incensed by the claim that Blair's director of communications insisted on including a passage in the dossier which said Saddam Hussein could deploy chemical or biological weapons within 45 minutes, despite the reservations of Britain's intelligence services.

After two weeks of hearings, the House of Commons foreign affairs committee is expected to largely exonerate Blair and his close aide and media adviser Alastair Campbell of any wrongdoing in embellishing the September dossier.

This would leave the BBC in an awkward position, after its board of governors Sunday said they were standing by its report, and demanded Campbell retract an allegation of BBC bias in its reporting of the Iraq war. — Internet



An Iraqi boy is directed away from the campus of Baghdad University by a US soldier following the shooting of an American soldier on 6 July, 2003, in Baghdad. The soldier was shot in the head as he waited in line to buy a soft drink at the university. He was evacuated to a military hospital, where he died later, said a US military spokesman.

INTERNET

Iraq weapons intelligence 'limited'

LONDON, 8 July — The UK and US had not known whether Saddam Hussein's commanders would be able to deploy weapons of mass destruction against coalition troops, the Ministry of Defence has said.

The two countries had only limited intelligence about Iraqi forces in the run up to the conflict, the MoD said in its first official assessment of the Iraq campaign.

It was judged that the regime might use theatre ballistic missiles and possibly weapons of mass destruction if it could make the capabilities available for operational use and secure the obedience of subordinate commanders.

The report notes the "secretive" nature of the Iraqi regime under Saddam Hussein.

"It was therefore a very difficult intelligence target with few sources of information," the 48-page report, called Operations in Iraq 2003: First Reflections, said.

Assessments of Iraq's military capability depended on intelligence gleaned over more than a decade of surveillance and containment, as well as direct familiarity from frequent engagement with elements of it in recent operations.

Internet

One killed, 22 injured in Indian train derailment

NEW DELHI, 8 July — An assistant driver was killed and 22 passengers injured when the engine and three coaches of the Pakala-Bellary passenger train derailed near Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh in south India early Sunday morning.

A Railway Ministry spokesman said that the train derailed between Madanpalle and Tummanagunta at around 2 am in metre gauge section of Guntakal Division under South Central Railway. — MNA/Xinhua

Afghan clinics opened to treat insect-transmitted

KABUL, 8 July — Four clinics have been set up in a remote province of north Afghanistan to treat a widespread disease which leads to disfiguring facial injuries and long-term disability, a United Nations spokesman said here on Sunday.

The opening of the clinics in Fayazbad, capital of Badakhshan Province, by the Dutch aid agency HealthNet International followed a three-day training for local health workers on the treatment and diagnosis of leishmaniasis and malaria, UN spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva told a Press briefing.

Cutaneous leishmaniasis, also known as Kandahar sore, is a serious disease caused by a parasite transmitted by insect bites.

As a result, those affected by leishmaniasis are often stigmatized, particularly women and children, according to the spokesman.

"While there are not firm country-wide figures available, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that Afghanistan probably has the largest single outbreak of the disease in the world," he said.

There are some 200,000 cases of leishmaniasis in Kabul alone, he said, adding that the disease is also epidemic in Badakhshan due to local people's low level of resistance.

"Returning refugees and other displaced persons in the area are at high risk of infection," he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Pakistani PM calls upon people to combat menace of terrorism

ISLAMABAD, 8 July — Pakistani Prime Minister Zafarullah Jamali here Sunday called upon the people to stand united to combat the menace of terrorism and to rid the country of the scourge.

Addressing the parlia-

mentary party meeting of the ruling Pakistan Muslim League (Quaid) and its allies in the evening, Jamali said that terrorism would not be tolerated whatever its forms are and wherever it occurs, according to *News Network International*. He

expressed the firm determination to stamp out terrorism from the country and asked the people to extend their wholehearted support to the government in this regard. Earlier, Jamali told reporters that the possibility of foreign hand behind

the Quetta killing cannot be ruled out. "The setting up of Indian consulates in (Afghanistan's) Kanda-har, Hirat and Zidan cannot be overlooked. The incidents could be a 'fallout' of these developments."

MNA/Xinhua

Road accident kills four in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 8 July — At least four people were killed and five others including a foreigner were injured when a tourist coach collided with a van in Mawanelle, some 90 kilometres northeast of Sri Lankan capital Colombo, on Sunday, police said. Police said two people were killed on the spot while two others died after admission to the Kegalle Hospital. Among the injured was a Dutch national, police added.

MNA/Xinhua



Tourists adventure on the Mengdong River in the Xiangxi Autonomous Prefecture of the Miao and Tu Ethnic Minorities, central China's Hunan Province on 28 June, 2003. Tourism in western Hunan begins to flourish in the wake of SARS. — XINHUA PHOTO

Attackers in Baghdad using cover of crowds, buildings

BAGHDAD, 8 July — As attacks on occupation forces in Iraq escalate, assailants in Baghdad have used the capital's bustling crowds, tall buildings and busy streets as avenues for surprise strikes and easy escapes — elements of urban warfare that US troops managed to avoid during the military campaign to topple the government of Saddam Hussein.

On Sunday, a US soldier was fatally shot in the neck outside a packed cafeteria at Baghdad University by a man who disappeared into a throng of students. On Thursday night, a soldier poking out of the hatch of an armoured vehicle was killed by a sniper perched in an eight-storey building across the street. And 10 days ago, a civil affairs soldier walking along a sidewalk was gunned down by an assailant who had appeared from — and then disappeared back into — a swarm of shoppers.

"When you're in the middle of a city, it's impossible to tell friend from foe," said Sgt. Lawrence Adams of the 1st Armoured Division, whose field artillery unit has been attacked seven times since it arrived in Baghdad in early May to patrol a two-square-mile sector along the Tigris River. The incidents included mortar fire from a nearby neighbourhood, a drive-by shooting, a rocket-propelled grenade launched from a bus stop and hand grenades tossed at soldiers' Humvees as they drove through a congested market.

The daily volley of attacks that use the urban landscape for concealment and flight have frustrated and frightened

US forces in Baghdad, many of whom have to drive through the city in open-sided Humvees, stand in front of government buildings and walk through public places every day. On a mission to restore public order and rebuild a war-scarred nation, soldiers regard themselves as particularly vulnerable to resistance fighters who take advantage of the fact that not all US troops are hunkered down in sandbagged bases or driven around in armoured vehicles.

"If we have to be peacekeepers here, we're going to be exposed to all kinds of attacks," said a military police officer. "Sure, we have our flak jackets and our helmets — and we're always on the lookout for suspicious activity. But the depressing thing is that there's not a whole lot we really can do about those guys who are determined to try to kill us."

US military commanders had hoped to avoid urban combat in the earliest days of the war and relied on airstrikes and a strategy of drawing the Iraqi army outside this sprawling city of 5 million people. But since Hussein's government collapsed and the war was declared over, unpredictable guerilla-style attacks against US troops have escalated.

Internet



A man introduces to his daughter desserts made of mango in the opening ceremony of the 15th Mango Festival in New Delhi, capital of India, on 5 July, 2003. More than 500 kinds of mango were on display during the two-day festival held by Delhi Tourism Development Company and the National Committee of Horticulture of India.

XINHUA PHOTO

Reconstruction official says sabotage rising

WASHINGTON, 8 July — Sabotage against Iraq's oil and electric power grids is increasing, an official of the US-led reconstruction effort there said on Monday and he appealed to Iraqi citizens to turn in saboteurs.

"I'm certainly not expecting the ordinary Iraqi housewife or worker to go out there and fight off a saboteur," Andrew Bearpark told Pentagon reporters in a teleconference from Baghdad.

But "ordinary people can certainly pass on information," he added, noting that rewards had been offered for such reports as part of an effort to bring security to troubled Iraq, where US and British troops are being killed in violent attacks.

Bearpark, who is British and serves as director of regional services in a reconstruction

and stabilization effort headed by US administrator Paul Bremer, said that while sabotage was increasing he sensed that most Iraqis were against it.

"We do see increasing sabotage over the last few weeks. I haven't seen any increase over the last few days," he told reporters.

Bearpark stressed that it was simply impossible for US and allied troops to keep watch over the whole infrastructure along with inadequate numbers of Iraqi police and other local security forces to help.

Internet

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

The second best time is now.

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US to return freed Turkish soldiers to north Iraq

ANKARA, 8 July — Eleven Turkish soldiers detained by US forces in Iraq late last week were to return to the north on Monday after the United States freed them in Baghdad, averting an escalation in the crisis between the NATO allies.

The Turkish special forces were released late on Friday and spent the night in a guest house in Baghdad because of security concerns in the northern Iraqi city of Sulaimaniya, Turkey's state-run *Anatolian* news agency said.

The release came after US Vice-President Dick Cheney spoke with Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan by telephone on Sunday to calm the row between allies who fell out over the US invasion of Iraq in March.

A few thousand Turkish troops remain in northern Iraq in pursuit of Turkish Kurdish separatists, despite US con-

cerns their presence could destabilize the largely Kurdish enclave. Officials said Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul still planned to fly to Washington later in July, seen as an effort to mend frayed ties.

Erdogan's office said in a statement on Sunday a joint commission would be set up to investigate last week's incident. Private news channel NTV later quoted the Prime Minister as saying the commission's mandate could be broadened to ensure better cooperation in the future between US and Turkish forces operating in the north.

MNA/Reuters

Flood havoc continues in Assam state

NEW DELHI, 8 July —

Flood waters of the Brahmaputra River and its tributaries Sunday continued the devastation in east India's Assam State, affecting nearly one million people.

Local officials said that 19 districts of the state are reeling under the impact of the floods which have so far claimed nine lives and damaged nearly 35,000 hectares of crop.

In the worst-affected Dhemaji District, the situation remains critical with more than 60,000 people in villages affected by the swirling waters of Gai and Jiadhol rivers, the *Press Trust of India* said.

Road and rail communication in the district remains disrupted and there is acute shortage in the supply of essential commodities.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam's mobile phone market warming up

HANOI, 8 July — The fact that Vietnam has the third mobile phone network or the first using Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) technology this month makes its market to warm up, according to a report of *Vietnam News* on Monday.

The S-fone network, owned by domestic Saigon Post and Telecommunication Joint Stock Company (SPT) and South Korean consortium SLD Telecom, became operational on July 1 with an investment of 230 million US dollars. It competes with two existing networks using the Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) run by two affiliates of the

state-owned Vietnam Post and Telecommunication Corporation.

SPT and its partners in the S-fone business cooperation contract hope to sign up 100,000 subscribers by the end of this year and 300,000 next year.

But, market watchers said it would take some time for the new player to obtain substantial share of the local market. The two GSM operators, Vietnam Mobile Telecom Service Company (VMS) with Mobifone network and Vietnam Telecom Service Company (GPC) with Vinaphone network, have gained strong foothold in the market.

MNA/Xinhua



An American soldier aims his pistol at a pushing car as he secures the street at the entrance to Baghdad University in Baghdad, Iraq on 6 July, 2003 following an attack on a US soldier inside the campus. —INTERNET

Howard stands by Iraq nuclear report

CANBERRA, 8 July—Australian Prime Minister John Howard defended himself against accusations on Monday that he had claimed Iraq was developing nuclear weapons to justify going to war, despite being told by Washington the allegation was dubious.

In a speech to Parliament in February, Howard cited US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) reports on Saddam Hussein's nuclear ambitions as a reason for Australia to join the United States and Britain in attacking Iraq.

"What I said on that issue was accurate," Howard told local reporters on Monday.

But Greg Thielmann, a former senior official with the US State Department, told *The Age* newspaper Australia would have known about concerns raised months before by both the US State Department and Department of Energy over the information.

"If the Prime Minister was reaching the conclusion that Iraq had reconstituted its nuclear weapons pro-

gramme, which in our office was one of the biggest issues of all — well, we saw no evidence," Thielmann said.

Controversy is raging in the United States, Britain and Australia over claims their governments manipulated intelligence about weapons of mass destruction to justify the war. No evidence of such weapons has been found by U.S. forces in Iraq.

Australia's conservative Prime Minister said he was right to send a 2,000-strong force to the Gulf.

"Every day that uncovers more mass graves is a demonstration that there's a huge humanitarian and moral dividend out of what took place and that it was right," Howard said.

Opposition parties in Australia are

holding a parliamentary inquiry into Howard's use of pre-war intelligence on Iraq's alleged chemical and biological arsenal.

The United States and Britain have also been criticized by ex-US Ambassador Joseph Wilson for citing a CIA report on Iraq buying uranium from Niger, which the International Atomic Energy Agency dismissed as being based on forged documents.

Wilson told *The New York Times* he was sent to Niger in February 2002 to investigate the report and found it doubtful a deal between Iraq and Niger had taken place. He accused Bush of twisting intelligence to exaggerate the threat posed by Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

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Britain to publish report into "doctored" Iraq dossier

LONDON, 8 July—A bitter row between Tony Blair and the BBC that has tested the British Prime Minister's credibility comes to a head on Monday with a report into the so-called "sexed-up" government dossier into Iraq's weapons.

Blair has vigorously denied a BBC report that his top aide Alastair Campbell doctored a September dossier into Iraq's armament by adding a claim that its lethal weapons could be deployed within 45 minutes, thereby exaggerating the case for war. The Prime Minister told a Sunday newspaper that the claim Campbell "sexed up" the dossier was "about as serious an attack on my integrity as there could possibly be". Equally steadfast, the public broadcaster's governors are standing by their journalists.

Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, a majority of whom are from Blair's ruling Labour Party, are expected largely to exonerate Campbell over claims he doctored the September dossier when they issue their report.

However, the former House of Commons leader Robin Cook has accused Campbell of using the ongoing BBC row to divert attention from the failure to find any weapons of mass destruction — Blair's justification for war. "He has managed to convince half the media that the foreign affairs inquiry is into the origins of his war with Andrew Gilligan (BBC journalist), not in to the war with Iraq," Cook, who quit the Cabinet on the eve of war, told the *Guardian* newspaper on Monday. "The serious allegation is that they got it wrong, and they should not be allowed to get off answering that issue because Alastair has souped up this controversy." Cook said there was no evidence of the equipment or work force required to make such weapons in Iraq. Blair himself will appear before a separate parliamentary committee on Tuesday when he is expected to be grilled about the September dossier and a second Iraq dossier, published in February.

MNA/Reuters

US study says doctor's support boosts breast-feeding

CHICAGO, 8 July — New mothers who return to work or get depressed are prone to stopping breast-feeding, but a doctor's encouragement and workplace changes can extend the healthy practice, US researchers said on Monday.

Many mothers stop breast-feeding in the first four weeks after the birth of a child and only 29 per cent are still doing so at six months, with the reasons for stopping changing over time.

According to a study of 1,163 woman-baby pairs conducted by researchers at Harvard University and the University of California, San Francisco, the most common reasons for stopping breast-feeding within 12 weeks of birth were inconvenience or lack of privacy after the mother's return to work or school. While 87 per cent of the mothers initiated breast-feeding, the reasons given for stopping within the first few weeks included the mother's perception that her infant was still hungry or she was not expressing enough milk, the baby was having suckling problems, and breast pain or soreness.

Quitting breast-feeding was also closely associated with depression, a condition that could be treated, study author Elsie Taveras of Harvard wrote in the report in this month's issue of the journal *Pediatrics*.

But women who said their health care providers encouraged them to breast-feed were about half as likely to stop, compared to those who were not encouraged, the study found. —MNA/Reuters

Public support for Iraq war tumbles sharply in Britain

LONDON, 8 July — Public support for the Iraq war has slipped sharply in Britain, with 45 per cent now believing that military action was wrong, according to the latest Populus poll published by *The Times* newspaper on Tuesday.

The poll, taken over the weekend, highlights the damage to British Prime Minister Tony Blair's image caused by the row over government intelligence dossiers on Iraq in the run-up to the war, and by disillusionment over public services.

Where as 64 per cent in April and 58 per cent in May thought a war against Iraq was "the right thing to do", only 47 per cent of the polled now felt the same way and 8

per cent replied "don't know", the poll showed.

The number thinking it was "the wrong thing" had risen from 24 per cent in April to 34 per cent last month and 45 per cent now. Support for the war has dropped sharply among women and older people.

Blair took a lead over Conservatives leader Iain Duncan Smith when the polled were asked which of the two they would prefer to

see as prime minister after the next election.

Blair was preferred by 42 per cent and the Tory leader 37 per cent.

Blair failed particularly the trust and honesty questions, and 54 per cent of the polled would not trust him "further than I could throw him." Of the polled, 63 per cent did not believe Blair was more honest than most politicians.

MNA/Xinhua

Engineers find "smoking gun" in shuttle tragedy

SAN ANTONIO (Texas), 8 July—Engineers on Monday found what they called the "smoking gun" in the destruction of the *Columbia* space shuttle, a piece of foam that struck the shuttle's left wing when it lifted off in January.

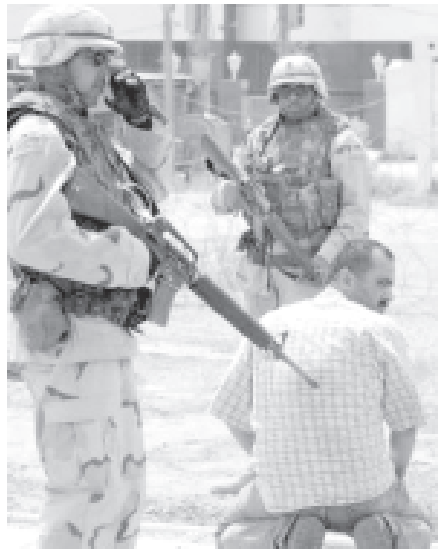
Scott Hubbard, a member of the *Columbia* Accident Investigation Board, said a test carried out at the Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio "demonstrates that this is in fact the most probable cause creating the breach that led to the loss of *Columbia*." In the test, witnessed by reporters, a cinder block-sized piece of foam weighing less than two pounds was fired by a giant nitrogen-powered gun at about 530 miles per hour in a simulation of what happened 80 seconds after the *Columbia* began lift-off on 16 January. It was fired at a wing panel from the orbiter *Atlantis*, which had flown on 27 flights, about as many as *Columbia* had completed before the disaster.

"Oh my God!" one spectator exclaimed when the foam blew an almost square

hole about 16 inches by 16 inches in the wing. "We have found the smoking gun," said Hubbard, director of NASA's Ames Research Centre in California.

The *Columbia* broke apart on re-entry on 1 February killing all seven crew on board and scattering debris across Louisiana and Texas. Investigators had previously established that superheated gases rushed into the shuttle as it entered the atmosphere, leading to its disintegration. Previous foam strike tests by the board caused serious, but far less dramatic, damage to the wing. Hubbard said the *Columbia* crew would not have been able to see the damage from their cabin, and the hole was just small enough to have escaped the notice of NASA's ground-based cameras.

MNA/Reuters



US soldiers stand guard as an Iraqi motorist kneels on the side of the road to be frisked at a mobile checkpoint in Kadhamiya north of the capital Baghdad, Iraq Monday on 7 July, 2003 where hours earlier a convoy was attacked and a US soldier was killed. US troops on patrol in Baghdad and other areas have been coming under attack almost daily.

INTERNET

Cooking oil used in Afghanistan to retain teachers in school

KABUL, 8 July—Thousands of Afghan teachers in this capital city and two neighbouring provinces on Sunday received 10 litres of cooking oil each under a project to make teaching a more attractive job.

It is part of a joint effort by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and the Afghan Education Ministry to encourage students' and teachers' attendance at school through providing food assistance, officials said. WFP's Food for Education project in Afghanistan will cost 97 million US dollars in a two-year period until March 2005, according to Shakila Tani, a WFP programme

officer. "For the coming year, 100,000 teachers will be targeted all over the country who will receive 10 litres of oil every month as a supplement to their salary," she said.

"Our purpose is to encourage teachers' eagerness to teach at school," she said, "those who attend at school for less than 22 days a month could not receive such an assistance."

MNA/Xinhua

Lootings on Iraq's archaeological sites continue

AMMAN, 8 July— Two months after the major combat concluded in Iraq, the country's vast array of archaeological sites continued to endure looting, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was quoted by the *Jordan Times* as complaining on Monday.

According to UNESCO Assistant Director-General Munir Bouchenaki, antiquity experts are facing problems in protecting over 10,000 registered culture sites in Iraq due to lack of efforts from coalition forces.

Some of the historical sites have been repeatedly plagued by civilian opportunists, who randomly dig about searching for treasures.

The lack of protection from coalition forces has created additional difficulties for experts to salvage the country's na-

tional identity, Bouchenaki noted.

He hoped the provisional authority in Iraq would follow through on a promise to post protective forces at the 40 main sites.

Meanwhile, the damage to Iraq's cultural heritage had extended into the southern city of Basra, Bouchenaki noted, adding that the archaeological museum in the city "no longer exists". UN experts were in Iraq on a second professional mission, aiming to help establish a concrete plan of action for cultural restoration. — MNA/Xinhua



US soldiers on a Humvee pass by the Turkish Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq on 7 July, 2003. The United States agreed to release 11 Turkish special forces detained during a raid in Sulaymaniyah in northern Iraq.—INTERNET

Thai jasmine rice becomes more popular in Hungary

BANGKOK, 8 July — Thai jasmine or Hom Mali rice appears to have a brighter prospect in the Hungarian market, where the Thai rice is becoming more popular among local consumers.

Thailand's trade promotion office in the Hungarian capital of Budapest said in a report released to *Thai News Agency* (TNA) on Monday that Hungarian consumers were now more interested in having Thai jasmine rice due to its good taste, good smell, and high quality.

The results were found in a recent survey conducted by Food Express Kft., the largest Hungarian rice trading company offering lunch packages to households and business firms in Budapest.

Thai exporters, therefore, have rooms to expand their rice trade to the Hungarian

market, emphasizing the high-quality rice, said the report.

The report conceded that low prices in the Eastern European market could hinder efforts of local exporters to expand their trade to Budapest.

Until 1999, Thai rice has a large proportion of market share in the Hungarian market. The sound opportunity has been shadowed by a move of Hungarian rice trade to introduce lower quality of rice with cheaper prices to local consumers whose income bases are considered moderate.

MNA/Xinhua

Australian man sets blood donation record

SYDNEY, 8 July— Record-setting Australian man James Harrison could be forgiven for feeling a little light-headed on Monday.

His name has been added to the *Guinness Book of World Records* for the most blood donated by a single person — 480 litres in 804 visits to the Australian Red Cross Blood Bank. That is roughly enough to fill the tank of a small car about 10 times.

Harrison said he first gave blood as an 18-year-old in 1955, three years after he received a life-saving blood transfusion, and now wants to go on to reach 1,000 donations.

"I go to the blood bank to meet the girls and while I'm there I donate blood," Harrison joked at a ceremony on Monday to recognize his achievement.

Harrison was handed a bottle of wine in recognition of his record by Jason McCartney, who was injured and needed blood transfusions after bomb attacks in the island resort of Bali which killed 202 people, including 88 Australians, last October. —MNA/Reuters

CIA says voice on audiotape "most likely" Saddam's

WASHINGTON, 8 July— CIA officials said on Monday they believe Saddam Hussein's voice was on the recently released audiotape that warned of more bloodshed in Iraq and urged Iraqis to support resistance to US forces.

CIA spokesman Bill Harlow said the quality of the audiotape aired on July 4 by Arabic television channel al Jazeera was poor, so it cannot be determined with absolute certainty that it is Saddam's voice.

"But the CIA's assessment, after a technical analysis of the tape, is that it is most likely his voice," he said, adding that the exact date of the recording could not be determined.

Saddam has not been seen in public since

he was ousted from power on April 9 in the US-led war on Iraq.

Addressing the Iraqi people, the voice on the tape said: "I urge you to protect the heroic resistance fighters and not to give the infidel invaders or their aides any information or help."

A US intelligence official said the rhetoric, style and substance of the message on the tape was consistent with previous messages by Saddam.—MNA/Reuters

Florida guardsman killed in Iraq

GAINESVILLE, 8 July— A 22-year-old Florida National Guard soldier was killed today in an attack in Baghdad.

Family friends of Specialist Jeffrey Wershow of Gainesville say he was shot by an unidentified gunman on the campus of Baghdad University.

The 22-year-old soldier was assigned to the Army's 3rd Infantry Division. Alachua County Commissioner Cynthia Chesnut is a friend of Wershow's family. She says she has known Jeffrey since he was a baby and that he always wanted to be a soldier.

There have now been 30 American soldiers killed in Iraq since May First. That's when the President declared the end of major combat operations. Three have been killed in the last two days.

Wershow was the second Florida National Guardsman killed in Iraq since the war began. In April Florida National Guardsman Travis Rivero was killed in a Humvee accident while on a combat mission in western Iraq. Rivero grew up in Gainesville. —Internet

Jilin Province on flood alert

CHANGCHUN, 8 July — Jilin Province in northeast China is on flood alert after heavy rains were forecast for the next week.

Zhu Qiwen, deputy director of the Jilin Meteorological Bureau, said that since the flood season started, torrential rains have hit the province several times, alleviating the drought that has lasted for four consecutive years, but also posing a danger of floods.

As the rainfall was not evenly spread across the province, rain and hailstorms have occurred in some areas and a lot of land is close to saturated. If more heavy rain comes, Zhu says, some reservoirs or dykes under construction or maintenance, as well as rivers with poor embankments, will pose a risk.

The province's water resources department has set up 165 flood-control panels made up of 928 senior technicians responsible for the organization and management

of flood-control activities.

Zhang Dexin, director of the Jilin Water Resources Bureau, said reinforcement programmes had started on 38 large and medium-sized reservoirs and flood-control materials worth 90 million yuan (10.84 million US dollars), including gunny bags, iron wire, steel bar and wooden stakes, have been put into the storehouses above county level.

Special rescue equipment, such as life vests, life boats, and emergency power supply equipment, have also been prepared.

The province has established a cable network and a computer system through which hydrological information can be shared instantly among its 41 flood-prone cities.

MNA/Xinhua



Two girl pupils paddle in the water in the street of Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province on 7 July, 2003. A strong rainstorm hit the city Monday.—XINHUA PHOTO

Daw Suu Kyi, the NLD Party and Our Ray of Hope — 5

Maung Yin Hmaing

Estimate Versus Yield May 8.

After a session of speeches made from the upstairs of the house of KhinU Township NLD Chairman Dr Win Aung, Auntie Suu and group made preparations to continue the journey and left KhinU at about 4.30 pm.

After passing through a number of villages along the road, our convoy took a short rest at a place near Mile Post 37 in Kanbalu Township. Granduncle U Tin Oo was trying to tune in on his radio. As it was past 9 p.m he was probably listening to the Myanmar programme of the VOA.

It was nearly ten when we left the place. As it was almost pitch dark as we travelled we could not see much of the countryside. Most of the passengers in the cars were drowsy from weariness. But I was not, because a series of thoughts were flashing

rated the people of Kanbalu as being cowardly and that as a result of this, she said, the aims of the party had not been realized. She said that she and her followers were doing politics not for fun since 1988 to date; that a number of party members had been jailed; that some were separated from their families and others financially ruined. She went on to say that there were also politicians who were motivated by self-interest but that these had left half way through the course.

We all understood whom she was referring to and I flushed with embarrassment. Our host, U Soe Myint also appeared most discomfited. Some of her words were directly targeted at ex-party member U Soe Myint and for him it was like receiving a blow in the solar plexus.

Fortunately, Auntie Suu having had her say decided to leave and we continued our journey. I

made in Wuntho, we returned to Kawlin. The drivers of our cars were not given a chance to enjoy the leisure of chewing betel, or whistling a tune as they normally did.

"You people conduct a political organizational campaign in such a frenzy that you cannot even avoid the middle of the night for your activities. You should do your job with minds at peace and at a more relaxed pace. Your approach to such ordinary issues is out of proportion, a sort of overkill, as if it were such a perilous job. This shows clearly that you are not only employing the wrong tactics, but that you are clueless about what needs to be done."

I do not want to reveal the identity of the person who spoke these words, but on second thoughts you will realize that what he said was true. For we apparently seemed to be conducting our political campaign in a



Daw Suu Kyi speechifying at a makeshift pandal at Einma village in Indaw Township on Shwebo-Myitkyina strategic road.

clandestine manner as though the group led by Auntie Suu had not the courage to conduct our business openly and publicly. This person also asked us another pertinent question. He asked, "Are you doing some kind of subversive and illegal party politics?" It was a significant question. I wished that Auntie Suu had heard this question.

On 10 May, our group led by Auntie Suu, accompanied by some party members and some of the local populace, visited Bya-deik-pay Pagoda halfway up Lwe-mouk Hill or Kha-mouk Hill west of Kawlin. On our way back to Kawlin, we took a rest at Nyaung-bin-tha village on the road.

There is a Myanmar saying which goes "Digging for turtle eggs while on a pilgrimage of pagodas". For Auntie Suu it was "giving political speeches while visiting a pagoda". A crowd of

people had gathered round us while we were taking a rest in the Zayat (rest house) of the village when Auntie Suu said, "Give me the hand mike" and began to give a political harangue. I do not know whether making political speeches is inborn or a habit, or just a hobby with her.

What she said this time from the rest house was, "When it is said that there will be happiness only after restoration of democracy, that means we will have to use our intellect. We will have to work hard, make every effort and have consideration for others." Although these were Auntie Suu's words she was totally unaware that as the villagers were in the middle of the road and were blocking the way some passenger buses had thus been obliged to stop and wait.

After her speech, we left Nyaung-bin-tha village at about 2.30 pm. After

about one and half hour's drive, we arrived at the entrance to the Meza Bridge in Indaw Township. The team led by NLD representative-elect of Indaw Township U Saw Hlaing was on hand to welcome us. After crossing the bridge, we stopped our cars under the shade of a tree and had lunch there.

As the team led by U Saw Hlaing had informed the people of villages along the road in advance that the group led by Auntie Suu would soon be coming, the villagers were out on the roadside to watch the convoy. When Auntie Suu saw the crowd of onlookers as we passed Kyaunggon village, as usual, she got ready to make a political speech. She ordered the convoy to stop on the road, then getting onto a bench, gave another political speech right out in the middle of the road.

(See page 9)



Under cover of Daw Suu Kyi's trip, local party remnants attempt to create a mob. (Near Meza bridge in Indaw Township on 10-5-2003)

through my mind one after another, which made me sigh quietly quite often.

We entered Kanbalu when it past 11 pm. The house where we would make a short stopover was U Soe Myint's house located on U Aung Zeya Street, in Ward 5. U Soe Myint was someone who had officially quit the party. There were only a few people present as it was now rather dark, so there was not much of a clamor. In fact the party members on hand numbered only five.

It seemed that Auntie Suu was not too pleased at the situation. She seemed to be dissatisfied at the small number of people present and what she took to be a lack of enthusiasm in the welcome. On the spur of the moment she started to make a speech. She be-

guess after we had left U Soe Myint must have been gnashing his teeth. We continued our journey in the dark of night and arrived at Zeegon just after three in the morning on 9 May. We made a stopover at the house of U Khin Maung Gyi, the owner of Nilar Win Rice Mill located near the village.

At daybreak, U Thein Zan, the representative-elect of Kawlin Township came and welcomed us. Later, we continued our trip to Kawlin and entered the town at about 8 pm. The convoy stopped at the house of Daw Phyu Phyu Win in Zayyon Bo-de Ward, on 9th Street. After a hasty dinner, we went to Wuntho and as soon as we had discussed youth organizational arrangements and the usual speeches had been



Some are assuming that their indisciplined acts committed on public places of roads and bridges during Daw Suu Kyi's trip as their democracy rights. (Passing Meza bridge accompanied by many motorcycles on 10-5-2003).

The interpretation of a flower

Kappiya Kangaung

The name or definition of the word Pan Sagar (The interpretation of a flower) is still distinctive in my memory. It is the name of a movie I had seen when I was young. I think that the readers too might remember the movie. In the movie, the main actor loves a girl whose status is much higher than his. As a token of showing his love, he presents a flower to the girl he loves, and says "Sometimes man never expresses his feelings in words, but with presenting a flower."

The movie gives the audience a message that the gift of a flower, a garland, a flower basket, a bouquet or a wreath represents many words the sender would like to express.

I remember a friend of mine who won the love of a girl after watching the movie. He came to the school early every morning, took a Nwe-ni Thaki flower, and secretly put it in the desk of the girl he loved. In this way, he won her love.

One day, while the two were strolling on Inya Road, the girl said that she wanted to wear a Gangaw flower. My friend immediately took off one of his slippers and shot down a Gangaw flower from the tree. In no time, he threw his slipper at the flowers three or four times; it hit the flowers, and the flowers fell to the ground. However, for her, it was not as precious as the flower that was plucked from the tree. She was angry with him for obtaining the flower in that way, and at last, she left him.

In reality, giving a flower, a garland, a flower basket, a bouquet or a wreath or an unlimited number of flowers as a gift between individuals or groups can be said a culture.

Recently, a ceremony commemorating the inde-

pendence day of a big country was held at a grand hotel in downtown Yangon. The gifts presented at the ceremony by the guests were flower baskets and bouquet bearing the messages of felicitations. But there were also artificial flowers of lower quality.

But when the ceremony ended, the hosts found it difficult to keep all the flowers. Some embassies kept the flowers for one or two days more together with other displays at the mission. But some discarded them soon after the end of the ceremony.

Now, I would like to tell the readers about the new disposal system of the embassy of the big country that had received a large number of flowers as gifts at a ceremony. Instead of disposing the flowers and paying disposal fee to the Municipality and as a show, the embassy presented all the flowers to a hospital. It was the way the embassy got rid of the flowers.

The commercial counsellor of the embassy and a Myanmar woman staff of the mission instead of putting the flowers into a dustbin, presented them to the Muslim Free Hospital on Maha Bandoole Park Street in Kyauktada Township. A doctor couple accepted the gifts and distributed them to the indoor patients.

In connection with the matter, I would like to write the following news report and send it to the radio stations, BBC, VOA and RFA, which are fond of yelling at others:

"A big democracy nation is launching a war in Iraq to drive the innocent Muslim citizens of the nation out of their shelters to become refugees. The embassy of the big nation instead of putting the bouquets it received at an independence day ceremony of the nation, presented

the flowers for the indoor patients of the Muslim Free Hospital in downtown Yangon. The commercial counselor of the mission himself presented the flowers with no name card attached to them. The big democracy nation's intention of doing so was to get the international acknowledgment on its degree of sympathy and love for the people of the Islamic faith."

I cannot say for sure whether the radio stations will broadcast the news report or not.

Fortunately, nothing happened. Although the bouquets were carried by a car with diplomatic licence plate, the sender's name was not mentioned. And besides, nobody at the hospital checked the bouquets before accepting them. When we study the tactics of the international terrorists we can find that they usually use bouquets in sending various kinds of time bombs.

The last thing I would like to say is:

"With whatever intention the embassy had in sending the bouquets to the hospital, superficially, there was nothing to criticize. But there were doubts concerning the matter. What was the embassy's intention? Did it send the used bouquets with the view that the hospital deserved only the used flowers? Or did it send the bouquets to the hospital for necessary use, as it would have nothing to do with the flowers rather than discarding them? But the fact that it was an act of degradation, and that the embassy had low opinion of the hospital was obvious. Besides, from both the religious and social points of view, it was an improper act.

Please let us hear the real intention of those sending bouquets.

(Translation: TMT)

YANGON, 8 July — A concluding ceremony of the Printing Management Course No 1/2003, organized by Printing and Publishing Enterprise under the Ministry of Information was held at the GTC Press Hall, Insein Township this morning, with an address by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers U Thein Sein and Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay, Director-General of the IPRD U Chit Naing, Managing Director U Tin Kha of the NPE, Managing Director U Myint Thein of the PPE, Managing Director U Bo Kyi of the MMPE, Advisers at the ministry, officials and trainees.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivered an address. He said that the trainees who attended this course learned lectures on press management, statistics, store keeping and functions related to printing not only in theory but also in practice. They are to carry out the tasks with the combination of their skills acquired in their respective fields. They are to take measures with their printing skills and systematic management to promote their efficiency and must carry out the tasks as expeditiously as possible.

Printing Management Course concludes

Next, the minister presented completion certificates to Maj Ko Ko Win of the Ministry of Defence, Deputy Chief Editor U Wai Lin of Magway Subprinting Press and Overseer U Tin Hlaing of Myintkyina Subprinting Press on behalf of the trainees.



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers an address at the closing ceremony of the course. — MNA

Daw Suu Kyi...

(from page 8)

Because of our speechifying a crowd had soon blocked the road at both ends and two or more passenger buses and freight trucks were held up. This was when we heard a handsome man of 50 years old say deliberately in our hearing, "See...Bogyoke Aung San talked about the drying of chopped tobacco stalks out on the road, misusing the meaning of independence. But now the daughter puts a bench in the middle of the road and blocks it in the name of democracy to make a political speech. It's too bad." We could do nothing beyond giving him side-long glances. But then it was really Auntie Suu who was in the wrong.

Our group again

went on its way when she had finished talking and passed Nanthe village in the evening. Because of the advanced propaganda by the cars ahead some villagers were waiting us. Unfortunately, the place where the villagers were waiting was near a pavilion erected to seek public donations towards the general renovation of the Maha Zeti Pagoda. She had once told the crowd at one of her weekend curbside political speeches at University Avenue, Yangon, that make-shift roadside tents to solicit donations were a public nuisance. But here, what Auntie Suu did was incredible.

She stopped her car in front of the tent, got onto the table used for writing

receipts for the donors, picked up the microphone being used by the charity sponsor, and started to give a political speech. It seemed I found her behaviour and mannerisms more untenable day by day. Yes, it was so unmannerly and graceless to see a woman of over 50 dressed in traditional style standing on a table, because in Myanmar culture, tables are used solely for the purpose of writing or dining, but not for standing on.

During the trip, I was able to find the answer to the question "Why do I disapprove of Auntie Suu's speech and general behaviour?" Superficially, one could presume that I had lost much of my respect for and confidence in Auntie Suu. But that was not the case. What I feared was that others might begin to have

doubts about her and see her in a poor light.

I cannot say whether her speech from the pavilion was eloquent or not. I could only hear the blaring of horns from the passenger buses and freight trucks being held up by the crowd. Then, an aggressive fellow of our group yelled at them, "Hey you guys there, don't you understand the situation here! Auntie Suu is making a speech!"

But if a person from one of the cars came to us and said, "What kind of fellows are you? This is a public highway. Don't you know that one has to come and go on time, and that sometimes we are in a race against time? So, if you wish to make speeches freely without hindrance then you'd better do so out in the fields." If such a situ-

ation should arise then what course of action are we going to choose?

— Should we let the traffic wait till the end of her speech?

— Should we immediately stop her speech and make way for the traffic?

— Or should we go into the field and freely continue to do what we wish there?

We shall have to think and decide for ourselves which of the three courses of action is democratic. But for the present we happened to be the persons impeding traffic on a public thoroughfare.

After her speech from the tent at Nanthe village, we were again on our way and arrived at Indaw after 9 pm. The place where we were going to stay overnight was the house of U

Saw Hlaing at Aung Chantha Ward in the town centre. The lights of the house were rather dim.

On our entry into Indaw, we met with an unexpected welcome. It was a green banner bearing the white words "Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views". We were not strangers to the slogan. We see it on TV, hear it on radio and read it in the news dailies everyday. But to see members of the local populace actually holding up the banner bearing the slogan and waiting us at a roadside ... suddenly realization was brought home to me. How could we hope to have supporters everywhere?

(To be continued)

(Translation: TMT)

Building a modern and developed nation through infrastructural development

Maung Maung Kyaw

It is known to all that Anyar (upper Myanmar) region is a wide, barren plain and often affected by drought. The Anyar region was scorching and not like other regions in the past. The region has undergone a great change.

The situation of Anyar region is now in stark contrast to that of the past. The region where there was water scarce is now with thriving blessed paddy and other crops. In other words, the arid region has now been turned into greening farmlands.

Similarly, the wetlands in lower Myanmar can now be used as farmlands. This was due to the emergence of dams and reservoirs, sluice gates and river water pumping projects. These irrigation facilities are slated for future generations.

The government has been striving together with the people for harmonious development across the nation. Accordingly, it has been building basic infrastructures for development of regional economy.

As a result, altogether 148 dams and reservoirs have emerged the length and breadth of the nation. Those irrigation facilities can now benefit about three million acres of farmlands while 11 sluice gates can irrigate 235,900 acres of farmlands and 265

river water pumping projects 282,180 farmlands.

In the transport sector also, altogether 80 highways are being upgraded into major Union Highways. At the same time, the 155 180-foot and above bridges have been built in the states and divisions. These are the latest positive developments in the country.

was constructed with the aim of irrigating farmlands in Pyay, Paukhaung and Thegon Townships. Likewise, Nyaungkaing Dam near Padaung Township was constructed to benefit farmlands of villages in the environs of Padaung whereas Khawa Creek Dam being built near Chinywagyi Village in Padaung Township is slated for irrigating

the gifts for rural people presented by the government.

The government, enlisting the strength of the entire national people, is making efforts day in, day out for uplifting the socio-economic life of the national people and for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. It is carrying out the



South Nawin Dam that irrigates farmlands in Pyay, Paukhaung and Thegon Townships.—MNA

Efforts are being made with the strength of the entire national people for the nation to catch up with the world nations and stand with dignity and for perpetuity of sovereignty while striving in all sectors for rapid progress of the Union.

For example, South Nawin Dam in Paukhaung Township, Pyay District

about 2,000 acres of farmlands in the area. Similarly, Yanpe Dam in Taungdwinyi Township, Magway Division was constructed for irrigating farmlands in the region as well as greening the region that is struck by drought. It was opened on 1 March in 2001.

It is now irrigating over 10,000 acres of farmlands. These facilities are

nation-building endeavours with own strength and own resources. Now, progress has been made in all sectors, thereby contributing to enabling the nation to stand tall among the world community.

Translation: TS

(Myanma Alin: 6-7-2003)



Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway) linking Magway and Minbu opened on 24-11-2002 ensures better transport in the region. — 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

Efficient use of electricity

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

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

Efficient use of fuel

- * Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- * Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US\$ 5.5 million in a year
- * The amount, US \$ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

Do not be bolstered whenever flattered.

No-honking zones extended

YANGON, 8 July — Six townships in Yangon have been designated as no-honking zones as of 22-4-2003 and educative and enforcement works were carried out. Mayangon, Dagon and Bahan Townships are designated as no-honking zones with educative period from 1 to 7 July. After 7-7-2003, action will be taken against the violators. Seikkan, Ahlon, Kyimyindine, Sangyoung, Kamaryut, Hiline, Mingala Taungnyunt, Tamway and Yankin Townships will be designated as no-honking zones with educative period from 5 to 31 July. After 31-7-2003, action will be taken against the motorists who sound their horns in these townships. The Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee has warned motorists to be careful to avoid accidents and not to sound their horns for any reason. — MNA

Ministry of Immigration
& Population

UNFPA

World Population Day (11 July 2003)

သန်းတစ်ထောင် ငယ်ရွယ်ကျန်းမာဖို့၊
ပညာပေးလို့၊ စောင့်ရှောက်ဖို့။

1 billion adolescents: the right to health, information and service

အမျိုးသားအဆင့် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ ကာကွယ်နှိမ်နင်းရေး
လှုပ်ရှားမှု ရက်သတ္တပတ်
(၅-၇-၂၀၀၃ မှ ၁၁-၇-၂၀၀၃ ထိ)

ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါသည် ပုံမှန်အားဖြင့် တောတောင် ထူထပ်သော ဒေသနှင့် ကမ်းရိုးတန်းဒေသများတွင် ပိုမိုဖြစ်ပွားလေ့ ရှိပါသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားမှုနည်းပါးသော မြေပြန့် ဒေသများတွင် ငှက်ဖျားပိုးသယ်ဆောင်သည့် ခြင်္သေ့ကောင်များပါက ယင်းဒေသတွင် ကပ်ရောဂါအသွင် ကူးစက်ပြန့်ပွား၍ ပြင်းထန် ဖြစ်ပွားကာ အသက်ဆုံးရှုံးနိုင်ပါသည်။ ထို့ကြောင့် ငှက်ဖျားရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားသည်ဟု သိသယူရှိပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနများသို့ အမြန်ဆုံးသွားရောက် ကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt formally unveils the bronze plaque of the main building of Yadanabon University in Mandalay. — MNA

New universities and colleges built and existing ones...

(from page 1)

The Secretary-1 and party observed new computer related technology software and hardware of IT companies displayed at the Exhibition on ICT.

The Secretary-1 and party also observed literature, social and cultural items, historic photos and records on research of Myanmar Department, History Department, Archaeology Department, Anthropology Department, Chemistry Department and Botany Department.

Minister for Education U Than Aung made a speech. He said the Minis-

try of Education opened new universities and colleges and upgraded the degree colleges under the national education promotion programme.

In 1988 there were 27 universities, degree colleges and colleges and now there are 64. There are altogether 154 universities and colleges. There were altogether 134,325 students in higher education in 1988. Now there are 777,174 students are learning higher education. Opportunities to learn are available. In 1988 the universities conferred 59 kinds of degrees and diplomas on

graduates and now they conferred 150 degrees and diplomas on graduates.

MSc courses and PhD courses were conducted with the aim of promoting education of high human resources to international level and the university produced PhD graduates.

He said the State Peace and Development Council has been making efforts for promotion of education in Myanmar for peace and tranquillity, strong national economic life, raising the living standards of the people and standing tall among the nations of the world.

He said Yadanabon College was upgraded to Yadanabon University, which is situated near Taungthaman in Amarapura

Do not be frightened whenever intimidated.



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt observing old publications displayed to mark the opening of the main building of Yadanabon University. — MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt cordially greets faculty members and students at the opening of the main building of Yadanabon University. — MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt attends the opening ceremony and outstanding students unveiling the signboard of the main building of Yadanabon University. — MNA

Township. There are 22,986 day students and 54,283 University of Distance Education students in 2003 academic year. The first convocation of the Yadanabon University was held in January 2003. The university conferred degrees on 4,148 graduates.

Moreover, e-Education Centres and four language labs were opened. VSAT, e-mail and Internet are used. Arrangements are being made for use of online education and virtual university in information communication technology age.

He said Head of State Senior General Than Shwe inspected construction of the university two times and the Secretary-1 inspected the construction of the university nine times in three

years. He thanked Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint.

In conclusion, Minister U Than Aung urged the teachers to nurture the students who will serve the interest of the nation and its people for emergence of highly-qualified human resources development. Ma Thanda Aung, second year MA Myanmar major student, spoke words of thanks.

Next, Chairman of Shwenanthit Construction Co Ltd Architect U Myint Han presented K 30 million for the Secretary-1.

Architect U Myint Han and Rector U Win Maung presented commemorative gifts to the Secretary-1.

MNA

ADVERTISEMENT

JUNIOR LEADER



အတွဲ(၅) အမှတ် (၁၆) မြန်မာလိုက်ပါပြီ

သတင်းနှင့်စာအုပ်စင်လုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ စာပေဗိမာန်စာအုပ်ဆိုင်နှင့်သတင်းစာ
ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် လက်လီဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ တိုးတက်လေ့လာရန် ရှိသမျှအားဖြင့် ဖတ်ကြည့်ပါ။
Read Junior Leader to improve your English.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GILIN VOY NO(309)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GILIN Voy No. (309) which will be arrived on 8-7-03 are hereby notified that their 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: P.D.2 LINES

Phone: 256914/ 256908/ 256924

INVITATION FOR QUOTATION

- For and on behalf of the Ministry of Construction of the Government of the Union of Myanmar sealed Quotations with deferred payment for three and five years as well as L/C at sight proposals are invited by the Project Management Unit, Public Works, Yangon, Myanmar for the detailed design (including the erection procedure), fabrication, supply of materials, erection equipment, and supervision of steel erection for **Pathein Suspension Bridge** across Ngawun River.
- The particulars of **Pathein Suspension Bridge** may be obtained for USD 3000 by request in writing or in person at the following address.
Project Management Unit
Public Works
No.60, Shwedagon Pagoda Road.
11191 Yangon, Myanmar.
- The Quotation should be submitted to the above address not later than 16:30 hours on 15th August, 2003 or earlier.
- When this Quotation is accepted, the Contract will be made in the name of Public Works, Yangon, Myanmar.

Managing Director
Public Works

Donate blood

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha, of 1-1, Minami-Aoyama, 2-Chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-



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in respect of "Repair, maintenance and installation services under Int'l Class 37, including such services for vehicles"

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin,
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
P.O. Box 60, Yangon,
Dated: 9 July 2003

One metre of
Italian
beaches lost
to erosion a
year

ROME, 8 July — An average of one metre of beach is lost to erosion in Italy a year and the phenomenon is particularly serious in the southern region of Calabria, according to the latest report released by an Italian environmental group.

In its "Mare Nostrum" report, the Italian environmental protection group Legambiente explained that erosion was caused by a series of factors, almost all of them the responsibility of man.

Problems related to erosion are also hurting economic revenue, the environmental group Legambiente added.

Last year it cost the island of Ischia the equivalent of 75 million euro while income loss for the nearby island of Procida was around 13 million euro.

The best remedy to erosion is dredging and bringing the sand back to the beaches, Legambiente said.

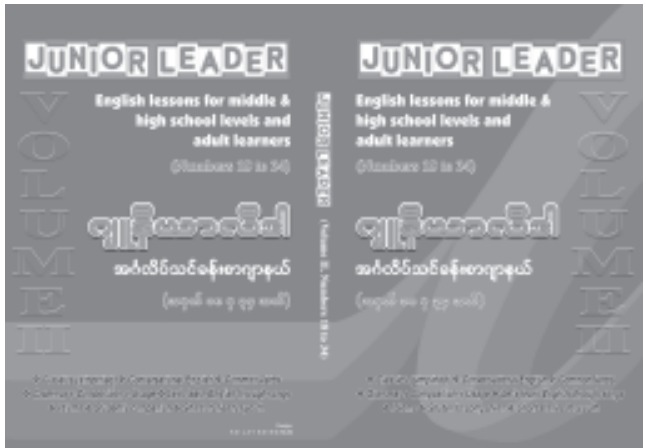
According to the report, about 67 per cent of the coastline now is at risk in the region of Calabria.

After Calabria, the other Italian region hardest hit by the phenomenon of erosion were Campania and Basilicata, both in the south of Italy.

MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်တွင်းပြစ်ကိုအားပေးပါ

- အလယ်တန်း၊ အထက်တန်း ကျောင်းသား၊ ကျောင်းသူများနှင့် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ လေ့လာဆည်းပူးလိုသူများအတွက် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာတတ်ကျွမ်းမှုကို ထိရောက်စွာအကျိုးပြုသည်။
- ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း The New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်မှ အပတ်စဉ်ထုတ် Junior Leader အတွဲ(၂)၊ အမှတ်(၁၈) မှ (၃၄)အထိကို တစ်စုတစ်စည်းတည်းလေ့လာကြစေရန် စီစဉ်ထုတ်ဝေလိုက်ပါပြီ။



မြန်မာလိုက်ပါပြီ

ရောင်းချေး - ကျပ် ၂၅၀

- ဂန္ထဝင်မြောက် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာအရေးအသားဇာတ်လမ်းများ(Classic)၊ အင်္ဂလိပ်စကားပြော (Conversational English)၊ ဆရာဦးသိန်းမောင်(ထင်လင်း)တို့သတိပြုရေးသားပြုစုခဲ့သည့် Grammar+Composition+Usage၊ Common Verbs Idioms၊ တေးဆိုရင်းအင်္ဂလိပ်စာလေ့လာမယ်(Let's learn English through songs)၊ Student's Companion၊ အင်္ဂလိပ်-မြန်မာ နှစ်ဘာသာဖြင့် ရေးသားပြုစုထားသည့် ဇာတ်ကြီးသယ်တွဲ၊ စေတီပုထိုးများ၊ လူငယ်ဝတ္ထုတိုများကို စုံလင်စွာဖတ်ရှုလေ့လာနိုင်အောင် စီစဉ်ထားပါသည်။
- အတွဲလိုက် ဆက်တိုက်ထုတ်ဝေပါမည်။
- သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ စာပေဗိမာန်စာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ မြဝတီစာအုပ်ဆိုင်နှင့် သတင်းစာကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် လက်လီဝယ်ယူရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar

၂၂/၃၀ ကမ်းနားလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့

☎ -297093

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY

MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE

IFB NO: 1(T) MCY-MOGE (2003-2004)CAP P.OBOX 1049
DATE : 16th JULY, 2003 FAX NO.095-01-222964/222965

INVITATION FOR BIDS

- Sealed Bids are invited by the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise for supply of the following:
NATURAL GAS PIPE LINE BOOSTER COMPRESSOR - 6UNITS.
- Commencing from (16th JULY, 2003) a complete set of bidding document will be available at the office of Finance Department, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. 604, Merchant Street, Yangon, Myanmar, during Office Hours by payment to the order of Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank attesting remittance of US\$ 100 in favour of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (OR) FEC 100 to be paid to the above office for each set of document.
- Bids shall be accepted only from Bidders who officially purchased the Bidding Document. (Those purchased through Embassy must declare for whom it is purchased).
- The Bids received will be opened in the presence of Bidders and bidders' Representatives who choose to attend at 13:00 Hours on (28th AUGUST, 2003) at the office of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. 604, Merchant Street, Yangon, Myanmar.

MANAGING DIRECTOR
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE

Report says German, US leaders
to meet formally

BERLIN, 8 July — A formal meeting is to be held between German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and US President George W. Bush, a German report said recently.

The meeting, to take place in the United States, will be the first between the two leaders since bilateral relations have been chilled due to their strong disputes over the Iraq

war, the German-language *Frankfurter Sonntagszeitung* newspaper said, citing information from the Chancellery and the Foreign Ministry.

It is still unclear if the meeting will be held in the White House or during the autumn conference of the United Nations in New York, the report said.

It also said that Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Min-

ister Joschka Fischer is already scheduled to visit Washington in the middle of July and will be received as "vice-chancellor".

He visited Washington last October but received only a "short programme", the report said.

Preparations for the meetings are under way, according to the paper.

MNA/Xinhua



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt presents teaching aids for Chanayethazan Township BEHS No 15 to Headmistress Daw Tin Tin Yee. — MNA

Secretary-1 attends...

(from page 16)

and U Ko Ko Naing-Daw Aye Aye Thant (Win Yadana Rice Brokerage House) in Monywa, U Hla Maung and family in Tagaung and U Kyaw Swe-Daw Than Than Aye (Hteiktan Sugar Mill, Paikkyoun, Mandalay), U Mya Oo-Daw Tin Hla (Ngwekyapaung Sugar Mill) and U Win Ko-Daw Khin Nwe Tint and family of Ngwe Zabei Paung Sugar Mill in Mandalay, K 200,000 each; U Naing Win-Daw Naing Naing Aye Han (90x96 Cafe and Cold Drink) in Tamardan, Mandalay, U Than Shwin-Daw San San Aye (Modern Trading, Tagaung), U Kyaw Aye-Daw Khin Win (Triple K Sugar Mill) in Mandalay, Daw Tin Tin (Coconut and Banana Marketing) in Mandalay, Daw Than Sein (Tin Maung Photo Studio) and Daw Hla Hla Win (Shwe Hla Win Restaurant) in Sagaing, Ko Hmu-Ma Zin Zin Maw of Daweizay Ward, Sagaing, Ko Lwin Maung-Ma Yee Yee Myint of Chaunggya Village, Amarapura, U Maung Maung-Daw Aye (Si Thu Maung Tea) in Wadan, Mandalay, U Phyu Tin-Daw Sein Hmi in Tagaung, and U Hla Tun-Daw Hla Myint (Myat Nanda Vessel) in Tagaung, K 100,000 each to the Secretary-1 and party.

The Secretary-1 and party presented offertories to members of the Sangha.

Chairman of Mandalay Division Sangha Nayaka Committee Myataungtaik Shwehahwin Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Sasanabhivamsa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained. The Secretary-1 and party performed rituals of golden and silver showers to mark the successful completion of the ceremony. They viewed the building under construction.

The opening of multimedia classrooms of No 21

Basic Education High School in Aungmyethazan Township and No 15 BEHS in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay, took place at respective schools yesterday, attended by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt. Also present on the occasion were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, ministers, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, deputy ministers, the mayor of Mandalay, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental officials and others.

The opening of the multimedia classrooms of Aungmyethazan Township No 21 BEHS was held at the school at 10 am yesterday. Principal U Ko Ko and the chairman of the school board of trustees formally opened the classrooms. The Secretary-1 formally unveiled the signboard of the classrooms. The Secretary-1 and party viewed the computer aided instruction room, computer skills room, projected media and printed media rooms. Next, they inspected the domestic science room, handicraft room and arts room. They also watched the skill demonstration presented by the students in the music room.

The Secretary-1 and party posed for a documentary photo together with members of the school board of trustees, teachers and students.

The Secretary-1 and party also attended the opening of the multimedia classrooms of No 15 BEHS in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay. The headmistress and the chairman of the school board of trustees formally opened the classrooms. The Secretary-1 formally unveiled the signboard of the classrooms. The Secretary-1 and party inspected the computer skill room, computer aided instruction room, printed me-

dia room, projected media room, language lab and domestic science room, and then watched the skill demonstration of the students.

The opening of the multimedia classrooms of Chanayethazan Township BEHS No 15 and Aungmyethazan Township BEHS No 21 was held at the hall of No 15 BEHS. The headmistress reported the purpose of the opening of the classrooms, and goals to be implemented for production of outstanding students with the pedagogical aids; the chairman of the school board of trustees, on collective efforts made for the opening of the classrooms.

Old student U Po Tit presented K 3,880,000 and two computer sets donated by wellwishers for the classrooms of Chanayethazan Township No 15 BEHS and U Aye Ko Ko-Daw Thet Thet Tun and family, a computer set worth K 480,000 and documentary photos of the school for Aungmyethazan Township No 21 BEHS to the Secretary-1. The Secretary-1 presented teaching aids to the schools through respective principals.

The Secretary-1 delivered a speech on the occasion, saying that he thanked local authorities, members of the school board of trustees and wellwishers for their contribution towards the opening of the classrooms of the schools. He added that the two schools have fine background history each.

New generation students should emulate the outstanding and dynamic persons produced by Chanayethazan Township No 15 BEHS. If the students try their best with the concept that they must become intellectuals and intelligentsia one day, they can serve the interests of the nation and they will surely achieve great success. The teachers and school board trustees are to encourage and nurture their students for enabling the students to try in conformity with the



Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party presenting offertories to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa. — MNA

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attends 92nd birthday ceremony of Chairman of Shwekyin Nikaya

YANGON, 8 July — The 92nd birthday ceremony of Maha Nayaka State Ovada Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa, the Chairman of Shwekyin Nikaya, was held at Kangyi Pariyatti Sarthintak in Nyaungshwe today.

Present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and wife, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, senior officers of the command, local authorities, officials, social organizations and others. Three Sayadaws of the Shwekyin Nikaya reordained Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa.

The commander and

party presented offertories to Sayadaws led by head monks of the Shwekyin Nikaya.

On behalf of the donors Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Ma San and daughter Ma Nanda Aye, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presented the offertories to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and wife Daw Khin Hnin Wai presented offertories to the monks.

Next, second session of the ceremony followed. At the ceremony, on behalf of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presented

offertories to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa. Maj-Gen Tin Htut and Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint also presented offertories. Afterwards, the congregation shared the merits gained.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa gave away cash and kind donated by wellwishers to nuns and elder persons through state/district/township authority. On the occasion of his 92nd birthday, the Sayadaw donated cash and kind to nuns and elder persons above 75 years old, K 200,000 to Nyaungshwe People's Hospital, and K 50,000 each to clinic and education fund of Kangyi Pariyatti Monastery.

Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Shan State Peace and Development Council contributed K 1,235,700 for extension of building in the monastery, and U Win Shein and Daw Khin Than Win also donated 95 pairs of robe. — MNA

Do not be softened whenever appeased

and destructive acts still remain. It is the people's decision to support those who make progress of the nation or those who commit destructive acts. If the people support the latter, there will be great losses and if they support the former, the country will develop.

If the teachers inculcate correct attitudes in the mind of the students, there will be an increase in the number of those who possess proper attitudes. If not, there will be many destructive elements in the country.

He said the basic education schools play a vital role in nurturing the youth who will shoulder the duties of the country in the future.

Teachers are responsible for enabling the students to emulate fine traditions, he

added.

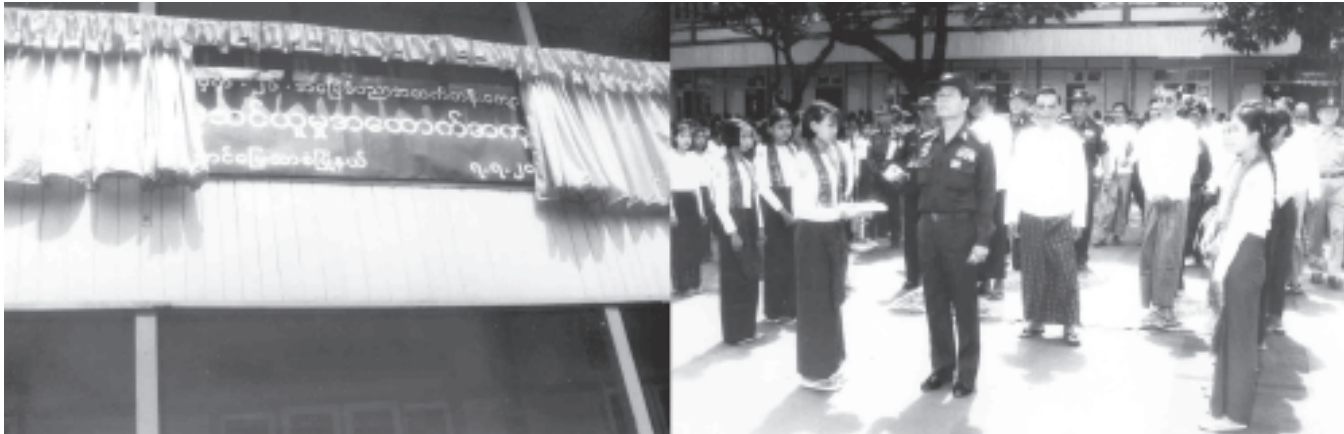
The Secretary-1 urged the teachers to nurture their students to become intellectuals and intelligentsia equipped with high morale.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party posed for documentary photos together with school board of trustees, teachers and students.

In the afternoon, the Secretary-1 met with local authorities, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townsenders at the City Hall in Mandalay.

At the meeting, the Secretary-1 made an address on development affairs of Mandalay.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party arrived at Mandalay International Airport. They arrived back here in the evening. — MNA



State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt presses the button to unveil the signboard of the multimedia classrooms of Aungmyethazan Township BEHS No 21 in Mandalay. (News on page 16) — MNA

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 tour ...

(from page 16)

Government, the Ayeyawady River was overcome by the construction of Bo Myat Htun Bridge, which was opened on 15-11-1999. Therefore, Hinthada can be reached from Yangon within four hours. There always lie difficulties in the construction of roads and bridges. Moreover, cooperation of local people is also needed to accomplish these tasks. Irrigation facilities were also constructed in the townships of Hinthada.

On completion of these projects, there will be a further increase in the sown acreage of crop cultivation, resulting in more income of farmers and development of the region. Systematic steps have been taken to ensure simultaneous



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win speaks at meeting with Tamadawmen, departmental officials, staff, teachers, students and local authorities at City Hall in Patheingyi. MNA

development in three strategic regions—Hinthada, Patheingyi and Maubin regions. Now, Hinthada and Maubin, like Patheingyi, have universities, colleges, and 200-bed hospitals. Ayeyawady Division, which was difficult of access previously, is now can be reached easily thanks to completed roads and bridges.

Furthermore, dams and river-water pumping projects also help develop the agricultural sector. In the education sector also, success can be witnessed. These are the fruits of harmonious cooperation between the Government and the people.

It is therefore necessary for local administrative bodies to have clear understanding of their vital roles in participation of implementing the noble aims set by the Government. These achievements can be said to be a product of collective efforts exerted by local administrative bodies at various levels.

To make the tasks successful, genuine and active measures should be taken on a broader outlook in providing assistance and making coordination. In doing so special care must also be taken.

He added that with the participation of the people, momentum must be added to the tasks for regional peace and development as well as for the development of the State.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann also said that their visit to Hinthada was to implement what Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, during his tour of the region, had given guidance on regional development and to fulfil the requirements of the region.

He continued that under the present condition of the State, the agriculture sector would still be a basic factor in building the nation into peaceful, modern, developed one. It was needed to understand that the nation-building endeavours were being made on a self-reliant basis making all use of land and water resources available within the coun-

try. It was impossible to rely on any other countries or foreign organizations to build a nation.

At the same time, encouragement, he said, had also been given to meat and fish sector, forest sector and other economic sectors to ensure parallel development based on the agricultural sector.

Emphasis was also placed on boosting import-substitute industries based on agriculture. Efforts were being made at the same time to ensure all-round development of the State. Therefore, it would not be possible to continue working in an ordinary pattern. Respective departments were needed to take innovative measures, and more coordination and cooperation should also be made among departments than ever, he said.

He continued that development tasks were to be carried out with added momentum, especially with the participation of the people. On account of mutual and harmonious cooperation of the Government and the people, regional stability and development, national reconsolidation could now take shape. However, it was still necessary to continue to implement the tasks through coordination with the sense of duty for the national stability and development.

Well intention and correct procedure, he added, were required in carrying these tasks, for wrong procedure, however well the intention was, could have a domino effect. Collective endeavours were to be exerted on development programmes for agriculture and livestock breeding sectors in line with the Head of State for the establishment of the peaceful, modern, developed nation, he said.

Later, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party cordially met with those present on the occasion.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win and party met with officers and other ranks and their families of South-West Command, division, district and township level departmental officials, the school heads, teachers, students, nurse trainees, entrepreneurs, chairmen of ward and village Peace and Development Councils of Patheingyi and Kangyidaung Townships and members at the Town Hall in Patheingyi on 9 July.

Commander Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on development of agriculture, livestock breeding, education, health and transport sectors in the division.

Next, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win made a speech. He said that Yangon-Patheingyi Highway has emerged as a result of Pathway Bridge, Kyaungon Bridge, Kyonkanaung Bridge, Bawdi Bridge, Mezali Bridge and Bo Myat Tun Bridge, adding that at the same time a network of motor roads linking with Yangon and Patheingyi have also emerged.

The Government opened universities and colleges in Ayeyawady Division for human resources development and for enhancing health and education sectors while striving for ensuring better transport, he noted.

The government has been implementing dams and reservoirs and river water pumping projects for boosting the agriculture sector and allowed the national entrepreneurs to engage in agriculture and livestock breeding in the division.

That is why a significant progress in agriculture and livestock breeding has been made in the division. There were over three million acres of farmlands in the past and there are now 4.7 million acres of farmlands including acreage of monsoon paddy and summer paddy.

To put it in a nutshell, progress in economy in the division has been made due to combined efforts of the government and local people, he pointed out.

Nowadays, more progress will be made in paddy cultivation in the division since free trading of paddy was introduced and it would result in meeting the target of producing of 1,200 million baskets of paddy in the division.

Both administrative bodies and departmental organizations are to implement the policies laid down by the government. The objectives and policies of the State

should not be harmed due to the activities of lower level bodies, he stressed. Therefore, officials at different levels are to coordinate.

In addition, the regional administrative bodies are to supervise and implement the objectives, work programmes and projects of the government. Coordination, supervision and guiding are to be made among service personnel. The local authorities are to avoid the acts that put a burden on the people and the acts that amount to wielding power on the people.

The Government is making efforts for raising the living standard of the rural people, for bringing about equitable development across the nation and for enhancing the socio-economic life of the people. In the process, supervision is needed to ensure that the problems do not occur owing to the activities of lower level bodies.

Efforts are being made for fulfilling the needs of the regions that lagged behind in development and for future generations. Thus, all are to strive for successful implementation of national objectives.

Next, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann made a speech. He said that he was there to attend the opening of Daka Bridge, to implement the guidance of the Head of State for development of Ayeyawady Division and to fulfil the needs. The government has been striving for bringing about harmonious development nationwide, for enhancing the living standard of national people and for the national unity, he added.

Priority is being given to development of economic, education, health and transport sectors of Patheingyi, Hinthada and Maubin which are the strategic regions of the division. The Daka Bridge is the 39th of its kind opened in the division. Arrangements are being made for construction of Ngawun River Crossing (Patheingyi) Bridge.

With the proper leadership of the Head of State, the effective implementation of the government and the active participation of the people, progress has been made with momentum in the region where there is fewer development and in the region that lag behind in development in the Union. If we want our nation to develop we would have to make concerted efforts with diligence. At the same time, we would have to strive in accord with rules and regulations under the leadership of the State. But it is needed to realize that the fruitful results of those efforts could not be achieved urgently and it would take a certain time. So time, capital and labour are to be invested.

Thus, the departmental officials and the people are to make efforts in unity for national and regional development. Strenuous efforts are to be made with the concept that development of Ayeyawady Division will contribute much to development of the State.

Based on achievement already realized by self-reliant efforts with financial constraints, efforts are to be made in the interests of the State and the people.

Next, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann greeted those present.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspected the library in the Town Hall.

MNA

SARS prevention

- * There is no outbreak of SARS in Myanmar.
- * Preventive measures are being taken against the spread of SARS from other countries.
- * The people are urged to participate in the project.

Forestry Minister meets timber entrepreneurs

YANGON, 8 July — Minister for Forestry U Aung Phone met with departmental heads of the ministry, personnel of Forest Products Joint Venture Ltd and Myanmar Timber Entrepreneurs Association, private finished products entrepreneurs and timber traders at the Myanmar Timber Trade

Centre (MTTC) here this morning. They discussed matters on extending export of finished timber products.

The Ministry will give necessary assistance to timber entrepreneurs in boosting export of finished timber products to prevent illegal trafficking of teak. — MNA



Minister for Forestry U Aung Phone delivers an address at the meeting. — FORESTRY

U Maung Nyo appointed as Ambassador to Pakistan

YANGON, 9 July — The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Maung Nyo, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. — MNA



Professor Daw Nu Nu Yin of Management Science Department of Yangon Economics University presents certificate to a trainee at the closing ceremony of the course. — MNA

ICT professional course concludes

YANGON, 8 July — The ICT professional training course No 2, jointly sponsored by the Myanmar Computer Federation and the Myanmar Economic & Management Institute (MEMI), concluded with ceremony at the MICT Park in Hline Township, Yangon on 8-7-2003 morning.

MCF President U Thein Oo, Vice-President U Tin Win Aung and Professor Daw Nu Nu Yin of Management Science Department of Yangon Economics University presented certificates to the trainees. — MNA

U Soe Win appointed as Ambassador to Australia

YANGON, 9 July — The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Soe Win, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Commonwealth of Australia. — MNA

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

YANGON, 9 July — The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Wyoso Prodjowarsito as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Indonesia to the Union of Myanmar. Born on 17-7-1944, he obtained his bachelor's Degree from Faculty of Economy, University of Indonesia. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1974 and served in various capacities at the Ministry and the Permanent Missions of the Republic of Indonesia in Geneva and New York. He has been serving as deputy Chief of Mission at the Indonesian Embassy in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam since 2000. — MNA

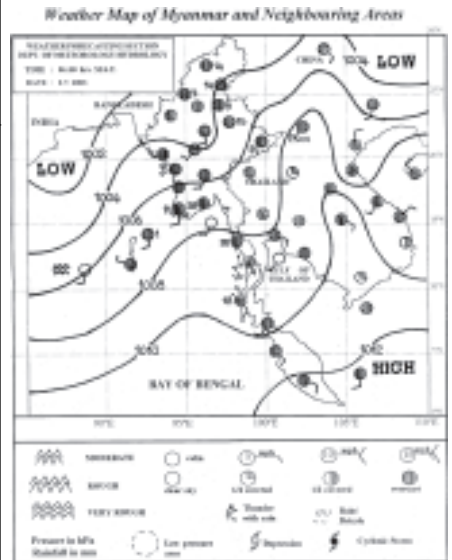
Nursery Market Festival continues

YANGON, 8 July — The Nursery Market Festival continued at Mayyha Padetha Park in Bahan Township here today with the aim of providing necessary assistance to growers and attracting the public to be interested in agriculture, horticulture, livestock breeding and vegetable farming.

Kitchen crops, fruits and saplings of herbal plants are being shown at the festival. Poultry farming and fish breeding are also exhibited there. — MNA



Thaon Association (Yangon) offered Waso robes to members of the Sangha on 6-7-2003 at Santisukha Dhammayon of Kohtatgyi Pagoda. Association Chairman U San Lwin offers Waso robes to a Sayadaw. (H)



WEATHER

Tuesday, 8 July, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway and Bago Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin and Mon States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Shan and Rakhine States and isolated in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Machanbaw (2.64) inches, Ye (1.61) inches, Dawei (1.30) inches and Mawlamyine (1.18) inches. Maximum temperature on 7-7-2003 was 31.5°C (89°F). Minimum temperature on 8-7-2003 was 21.0°C (70°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 8-7-2003 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 7-7-2003 was (1.7) hours approx. Rainfall on 8-7-2003 was 4 mm at Yangon Airport, 28 mm at Kaba-Aye and 4 mm at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 1071 mm (42.17 inches) at Yangon Airport, 1181 mm (46.50 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1192 mm (46.93 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from West at 17:50 hours MST on 7-7-2003. **Bay inference:** Monsoon is generally moderate in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 9-7-2003:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Chin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and scattered in Shan, Kayin and Rakhine States and isolated in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division. Degree of certainty is 80%. **State of the sea:** Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Increase of rain are likely in the northern Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Ygn & neighbouring area for 9-7-2003:** Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%. **Forecast for Mdy & neighbouring area for 9-7-2003:** Partly cloudy.

Flood Bulletin (Issued at 11:00 hr MST on 8.7.2003) According to the 06:30 hour MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Monywa is 950 cm. It will continue to rise and reach its danger level of 1000 cm during the next 48 hours commencing noon today. According to the 06:30 hr MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Hkamti, Homalin and Kalewa stations are 1509 cm, 2990 cm and 1566 cm respectively. It may remain above their respective danger levels of 1360 cm, 2900 cm and 1550 cm during the next 72 hours commencing noon today.



View today:

Wednesday, July 9

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးတင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယက အဗ္ဗိဒ္ဓကိတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာဟာရဌာန၊ အဘိဓမ္မာဓာရဏသဘာဝသုတ္တံ
- ဓာတ်တင်တိုင်းဂရုဓမ္မသတ္တကိရိက
- ဆရာတော်ဘုရားနိဗ္ဗာန်သဘာဝသုတ္တံ၊ ဓမ္မပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am Morning news
- 7:40 am Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am မြေမြေကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:10 am ရိုင်းကျွန်းတံခါး

8:20 am

7. Musical programme

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. English For Everyday

Use

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold national spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in Reading

4:40 pm

4. Musical programme

4:50 pm

5. အစောဆုံးသောကုသိုလ်ပညာရေး

ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ

ဒုတိယနံပါတ်

(ရှေ့ဆောင်အထူးပြုအားလုံး)

(ရှေ့ဆောင်)

5:05 pm

6. Classical songs

5:20 pm

7. Song of notional races

5:35 pm

8. Musical programme

5:45 pm

9. ရိုင်းကျွန်းတံခါးသစ်တောအုပ်စု

စိမ်းလန်းဆန်းသစ်

6:00 pm

10. ရွယ်လုံလင်အောင်အိမ်အစဉ်

6:15 pm

11. Discovery

6:30 pm

12. Evening news

7:00 pm

13. Weather report

7:05 pm

14. Musical programme

7:15 pm

15. မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာဇာတ်လမ်းအစဉ်

7:25 pm

16. အာဇာနည်ရုပ်သိမ်းအစဉ်

7:35 pm

17. ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအစဉ်

8:00 pm

18. News

8:00 pm

19. International news

20. Weather report

21. ရိုင်းကျွန်းတံခါးသစ်တောအုပ်စု

(အပိုင်း-၆)

21. The next day

programme



Tune in today:

Wednesday, July 9

8.30 am

Brief news

8.35 am

Music

8.40 am

Perspectives

8.45 am

Music

8.55 am

National news/Slogan

9.00 am

Music

9.05 am

International news

9.10 am

Music

1.30 pm

Brief news

1.35 pm

Music

1.45 pm

National news/Slogan

1.55 pm

Music/Article

2.05 pm

International news

2.15 pm

Music

2.25 pm

Discovery

Secretary-1 attends cash donation presentation for Shwepyitha Dhamma Beikman and Thaya Shwepyi ordination hall in Mandalay

YANGON, 8 July — The cash donation presenting ceremony for Shwepyitha Dhamma Beikman under construction and Thaya Shwepyi three-storey ordination hall to be constructed for Nyeinchan Shwepyi Monastery of Tagundaing Tamardan Mula Thitseint Taik in Pyigyidagun Township, Mandalay, was held at the monastery yesterday morning.

It was attended by Sagaing Thitzanawdayachung Sayadaw Tipitaka Ovacariya Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Sizznabhivamsa and members of the Sangha, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt and party, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, members of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council, social organizations and Upahtaka religious association and wellwishers. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sizznabhivamsa administered the Nine Precepts.

U Thein Han of Mandalay Shwepyitha Co and Daw Than Than Nwe presented K 30 million for Shwepyitha Dhamma Beikman to the Secretary-1.

Next, U Myo Myint Than-Daw Nyein Nyein (Great Burma Motel) in Mandalay, Ko Than Win-Ma Nu Nu Lwin (Yadana Win Industry) in Kyimyindine, Yangon, U Kyaw Min-Daw San San Wai (Thahtaymin Rice Mill 3)



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt accepts donation of K 30 million from U Thein Han and Daw Than Than Nwe. — MNA

in Mandalay, and U Zaw Win-Daw Sein Sein (Zaw Win Car Workshop) in Mandalay presented K 300,000 each for construction of Thaya Shwepyi three-storey ordination hall; U Chit Swe-Daw Khin Ohn Myint (Lettheiktan, Mandalay), U Moe Zaw-Daw Nwe Nwe San (Batik Taingpyi) in Mandalay, and U Min Oo-Daw Aye Saw Sanda Myint and family, K 150,000 each; U Hla Shwe-Daw Than Tin (Shwe Wah Tun Saw Mill) and U Chit Swe-Daw Wai Wai (Ananda Myitta Trading), U Than Htay-Daw Khin Than (Kyelachan Family) in Monywa

(See page 13)



Shwepyitha Dhamma Beikman under construction of Nyeinchan Shwepyi Monastery of Dagundaing Tamardan Mula Thitseint Taik in Pyigyidagun Township, Mandalay. — MNA

Diplomatic ties between Myanmar and Macedonia established

YANGON, 9 July — The Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Macedonia, guided by the principles enunciated in the Charter of the United Nations and being desirous to establish relations of friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation on the basis of the principles of equality, non-interference in the internal affairs of the other, respect for independence and territorial integrity, have decided to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries at Ambassadorial level on 9 July 2003. — MNA

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win tour Hinthada, Patheingyi in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 8 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win met with local authorities, departmental officials, responsible personnel of social organizations, and townsenders in Hinthada and Patheingyi and gave necessary instructions.

At the town hall of Hinthada on 4 July afternoon, a ceremony to meet with local authorities and departmental personnel was held. It was attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Chairman South-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Htay Oo, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the Chief-of-Staff (Navy), senior mili-

tary officers of the Ministry of Defence, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, division-level departmental officials, district/township-level local authorities, officials from social organizations, and townsenders.

On the occasion, Chairman of Hinthada District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Pyone reported on efforts to ensure prevalence of law and order in the district, agricultural work of the district, sectorwise implementation of projects, tasks for

development of rural areas, and endeavours for regional development.

After hearing the reports, Commander Maj-Gen Htay Oo said that Ayeyawady Division is one of the divisions that help accelerate the growth of the national economy. As the

people of the region have made effective use of land and water resources, the region is now developing. Hinthada District being endowed with favourable conditions, arrangements are under way to make it more developed.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe

Win also said that Yangon is located at a distance of over 90 miles away. Although Yangon is not far from Hinthada, valuable times were spent due to being difficult of access. At the time of the State Peace and Development Council (See page 14)



Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann meets with administrative bodies and departmental officials at the City Hall in Hinthada. — MNA