

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Friday, 11 July, 2003

## Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Mongolia

YANGON, 11 July— On the occasion of the anniversary of the National Day of Mongolia, which falls on 11 July 2003, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Natsagiin Bagabandi, President of Mongolia.— MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt views artefacts found in renovation of ancient pagodas and at Bagan Palace excavation site on 9-7-2003.— MNA

## Secretary-1 attends offering of Waso robes to Aungmye Bodhi Dhamma Yeiktha Alodawpyae Monastery in NyaungU

YANGON, 11 July— Waso robes were offered to Sayadaws of Aungmye Bodhi Dhamma Yeiktha Alodawpyae Monastery in NyaungU yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were Alodawpyae Sayadaw Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Ariyavamsa and members of the Sangha, Secretary-1 of

the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and members, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw Min, wellwishers and laity.

Rector of Yangon Dhamma Cariya Tekkatho Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sucitta Bhivamsa administered the Five Precepts. Members of

the Sangha recited parittas.

The Secretary-1 and wife and members and wellwishers presented Waso robes and offertories to the Sayadaws. The rector Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party, accompanied by Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint inspected the excavation of work site of Bagan palace of King Anawrahta, the founder of the First Myanmar Empire. At the briefing hall, Minister for

Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung reported on tasks being carried out, parts of the building and materials excavated, keeping of ancient cultural works under the supervision of experts, excavation of ancient Beikthano city, Buddha images and other materials unearthed, and arrangements for erecting a plaque at the birth place of Arahata Ashin Punna, donor of Lekaing Sandalwood Monastery. Deputy Director-General of the Archaeology Department

(See page 10)

### 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

## If the desire for peaceful transition and national reconciliation is genuine

The question now arises as to why national reconciliation and harmony between the present government and the National League for Democracy has not yet been realized. What obstacles have stood in the way in spite of the many opportunities and positive conditions? This is in fact due to the misconception that only when an authoritarian system has been eliminated can democracy prevail. In other words this is an interpretation of democracy stipulated by extreme rightists who are also opportunists. Such dogmatic people refuse to understand that democracy and unity can only be gained with patience, determination and fortitude.

(Article on page 8)

### Circulation

24,126



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt inspects Lawkananda River Water Pumping Project in NyaungU District on 9-7-2003.— MNA



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

## PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 11 July, 2003

### Construction of roads and bridges — key to socio-economic development

The importance of better transportation in speeding up the development of a nation cannot be overestimated. Moreover, easy and smooth transportation leads to increased contacts among the national people, thus cementing their friendship. The more consolidated their friendship and unity become, the more powerful Union Spirit will be.

Therefore, the Government has been taking systematic measures to improve the transport between regions across the Union. A total of K 79,394 million plus US\$ 147.07 million has so far been spent on the construction of roads and bridges. Before 1988, there were 13,635 miles of roads and but now there is a total of 18,112 miles of roads. While the roads are being extended, more and more new bridges are being built. Before 1988, there were only four bridges spanning the four major rivers, namely, the Ayeyawady, the Chindwin, the Thanlwin and the Sittoung. Now there are altogether 13 bridges built across these rivers. A lot more bridges that can contribute to social and regional economic development under construction. The Darka Bridge in Kangyidaunt Township in Ayeyawady Division, the 165th built after 1988, was opened on 6 July. The new bridge will surely facilitate the transportation of passengers as well as the flow of goods between Ayeyawady Division, the rice bowl of the nation, and other states and divisions. With the improvement in transport, the agriculture sector of the division will become wider and more developed. New roads and bridges in Ayeyawady Division will surely expedite the exploration of land and water resources and regional economic development.

We strongly believe that, as the Government has been building roads and bridges wherever necessary the length and breadth of the nation, social and economic sectors of respective regions will improve more and more.

## Glimpses of endeavours for socio-economic development



*The renovation of the office of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, and the Hanthawady Exchange compound in progress in Sangyoung Township. Communication is as important as transportation for national development. Emphasis is being laid on development of ICT in line with the Information Age. Necessary infrastructures are built in this regard throughout the country.— MNA*



*Construction of Kyaw-Yaymyetni-Gangaw rail section is being expedited with the use of heavy machinery. It is a significant project being implemented in Yaw region of Central Myanmar. It is a section of the Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay railroad in Magway Division.— MNA*

## Newly opened Hopin Bridge on Shwebo-Myitkyina strategic road

by T.Htut

Transportation is the most important and the most basic need for regional development. In accordance with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than

Shwe, 80 Union highways linking States and Divisions all over the country have been built and extended phase by phase. At the same time, the Government is building

a large number of bridges large and small on the roads. The aim is to build a network of roads ensuring smooth transport in all parts of the Union. In the past, there was only a railroad to link Mandalay Division, Sagaing Division and Kachin State. The Shwebo-Myitkyina strategic road was built in 1996 in addition to rail, water and air transport in the regions.

Hopin Bridge is on a section of the strategic road on the west bank of River Ayeyawady. In accordance with the goodwill and guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe the Mandalay-Tagaung-Bhamo-Myitkyina road was opened on the eastern bank of the river. The two roads are now serving as gateways to Kachin State.

The Hopin bridge on Shwebo-Myitkyina road is 200 feet in length and is of concrete reinforced type. It has also a 75 feet wide clearance with 8 feet in height. The project of the construction of the bridge began on 12-2-2002, Union Day. It has a 26 feet wide motorway and can bear 60 tons of load. The bridge plays a vital role in linking Kachin State to Central Myanmar. It also ensures smooth flow of commodities in Kachin State. It is also contributing towards flourishing of Union Spirit that strengthen relations among different national races.

The Hopin Bridge was built at a cost of K 375.1 million. Mohnyin and Mogaung bridges on the same road will soon be opened.

The Government spends a huge sum of money in constructing roads and bridges so that there will be harmonious development in all States and Divisions of the Union. Better transportation also ensures further strengthening of the national unity which is essential for the perpetuation of the Union.

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*The newly opened Hopin Bridge in Hopin, Mohnyin Township, Kachin State. — MNA*

## Turkey says US main loser in Iraq arrests' row

ANKARA, 10 July — Turkey said on Tuesday the United States had been the biggest loser in a weekend incident involving the arrest of Turkish commandos in northern Iraq which has badly strained ties between the two NATO allies.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul, speaking as Washington's top soldier in Europe flew into Ankara to mend fences, repeated Turkey's call for an apology for the three-day detention of the 11 special forces officers. The men were released on Sunday. "It was the United States that lost in the Iraq incident, not Turkey," Gul told Parliament, referring to the harm done to Washington's image in this traditionally pro-US Muslim nation.

"This matter must be explained. Those who poison Turkish-US relations must be given the necessary punishment. That is what we want," he said.

The arrests stunned Turkey, provoking calls for retaliation. Newspapers

angrily described US troops pulling hoods over the commandos' heads after being invited to drink tea with them.

Anxious to stem the fallout, the two governments agreed to launch a joint probe into the incident. It had been due to open in the northern Iraqi town of Kirkuk on Tuesday, but officials said it would now begin in Ankara on Wednesday.

General James Jones, NATO's top commander, discussed the format of the investigation with the chief of Turkey's General Staff, General Hilmi Ozkok, during a brief visit to Ankara.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry said Jones and Ozkok had agreed to raise the level of those taking part in the

investigation to lieutenant-general.

"It is of great importance that the work starting tomorrow is rapidly concluded and the incident cleared up," it said.

Diplomatic sources in the Middle East said one of the Turks detained was a colonel whom US or British forces had expelled from Iraq twice previously for "suspicious activities".

They said there was some evidence the soldiers were involved in a plot to kill the interim governor of Kirkuk.

Gul told Parliament such claims were "rubbish". Turkey has had small detachments of troops in northern Iraq since the 1990s pursuing Turkish Kurdish separatists. —MNA/Reuters

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## US army under mortar, grenade attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 10 July—Guerillas in Iraq fired mortars or rocket-propelled grenades at US occupation forces overnight in four towns, but there were no immediate reports of casualties.

A US military spokesman said on Thursday three mortar attacks took place in Ramadi.

Rocket-propelled grenades were fired at the US 4th Infantry Division in Tikrit, the home town of former president Saddam Hussein. A mortar was launched at a US logistics base near Balad, the spokesman said.

Gunmen have recently resorted to heavier weapons in attacks against US troops, which along with British forces launched the war against Saddam in March and have occupied Iraq since they ended his rule in April. —Internet

## Fresh calls for judicial inquiry as Iraq dossier row rages

LONDON, 10 July — The government faced fresh calls for a judicial inquiry following further twists in its bitter row with the BBC over the handling of secret intelligence in an Iraqi weapons dossier.

Rodric Braithwaite, who was foreign affairs adviser to former prime minister John Major, told *The Financial Times* newspaper that a judicial inquiry should be launched to address the continued scepticism about the government's justification for going to war.

If within eight months or so it was shown that the case for war had been based on a non-existent threat it would "leave the government looking very tattered," said Braithwaite, a former head of parliament's Joint Intelligence Committee.

The defence ministry said Tuesday that one of its officials had come forward as the possible source of BBC claims that a dossier

on Iraqi weapons had been "sexed up" on the orders of Downing Street.

However neither the defence ministry nor the BBC could confirm whether the official concerned—who was not named—was actually the source for BBC journalist Andrew Gilligan's story.

The disclosure came the day after parliament's foreign affairs committee produced a much-awaited report after examining the two dossiers published by the government in the run-up to war. One, published in September 2002, included a headline-grabbing claim that could deploy chemical or biological weapons in 45 minutes. —Internet



A US soldier looks for improvised explosive device or IED by the roadside near Ramadi, Iraq, on 9 July, 2003. US soldiers have come under daily attacks from Iraqi resistance fighters who have extensively used IEDs to blow up light armoured vehicles and humvees. — INTERNET

## China's national lotus show opens in seaside resort

SHIJIAZHUANG, 10 July—China's lotus show, the country's annual grand flower spectacle, opened Tuesday in Nandaihe seaside resort in northern Hebei Province.

Hundreds of species will blossom into their full beauty at the show, with some newly imported exotic ones, according to the Hebei Provincial Tourism Bureau.

The Nandaihe International Entertainment Centre, the venue of the show, invested more than 30 million yuan (about 3.6 million US dollars) in 2002 to build the 40-hectare China Lotus Park where more than 300 different lotus species have been planted.

The centre, which began operation in June 1997, is the largest tourist attraction of the province in terms of its annual number of tourist arrivals, which reached over one million last year. It won the right to play host to the 17th flower show for its plentiful lotus resources.

During the show, exhibitions of superb traditional Chinese paintings and calligraphy works and photos by noted artists will be held, according to the bureau.

MNA/Xinhua

## Ancient stoneware, ceramic fragments found in Guangdong

GUANGZHOU, 10 July — Ancient finely-worked stoneware and ceramic fragments were found by a middle school student in southern China's Guangdong Province.

Chen Xiaofeng, a pupil studying at Beixiang Middle School in Huazhou City, happened to find the relics near the local Emperor Mountain last year.

Since then, Chen has collected more than 20 pieces of stoneware and ceramics. — MNA/Xinhua

## Vietnam's rice exports likely to reach 3.9 million tons this year

HANOI, 10 July—Vietnam's rice exports are likely to reach around 3.9 million tons this year, representing a year-on-year increase of 400,000 tons, *Vietnam News Agency* quoted an official from Trade Ministry as saying on Tuesday.

The official attributed the rise to the world's increasing demand in recent months, coupled with a decline in exports from leading rice exporters such as

Thailand and India.

Over the first half of this year, Vietnam exported 2.394 million tons of rice, earning 457 million US dollars, a year-on-year increase of 54.1 per cent in quantity and 36.4 per cent in value.

In June alone, the country exported 400,000 tons of rice, raising the staple's export turnover to 83 million dollars.

MNA/Xinhua



An Abrams tank keeps guard as US soldiers check vehicles at a flash check point near Ramadi, Iraq, on 9 July, 2003. — INTERNET

## Indonesia ranks 112 in human development index

JAKARTA, 10 July —The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has lowered Indonesia's ranking in human development index to 112 out of 175 countries in 2003 from 110 in the preceding year.

The score of the country's human development index was down slightly to 0.682 against 0.684 last year, according to a UNDP report released Wednesday at the National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas) compound here.

The decline was attributable to the new entry of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Palestine in UNDP, the report said.

Among Southeast Asian countries, Indonesia ranked the seventh after Singapore, Brunei, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam.

MNA/Xinhua

## Bush ducks questions on false Iraq intelligence

PRETORIA, 10 July — US President George W Bush ducked questions over a White House admission that he used flawed intelligence on Iraq's nuclear programme, while insisting he was right to oust Saddam Hussein.

Bush, in South Africa on the second leg of an African tour, faced reporters for the first time since the White House admitted early Tuesday that he had overstated Iraq's alleged efforts to procure uranium.

But he deflected a question on whether he regretted highlighting the allegation in his State of the Union address in January.

"There is no doubt in my mind that Saddam Hussein was a threat to the world peace and there is no doubt in my mind the United States along with our allies and friends did the right thing in removing him from power," Bush said at a joint appearance with South African President Thabo Mbeki.

"I am absolutely confident in the decision I made. I'm confident that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass

destruction."

Back in Washington, Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was running a similar gantlet before the Senate Armed Services, where opposition Democrats grilled him on the quality of the prewar intelligence used as a pretext for invasion.

Still savoring the White House's backpedalling on its claims that Iraq had tried to obtain nuclear materials from Africa, New York Democrat Hillary worried about "the quality, the accuracy and the use of intelligence" including the now-discredited claims of an Africa-Iraq link.

"In this new threat environment in which we find ourselves, we are increasingly reliant on intelligence," Clinton said.

Rumsfeld testified he had only re-

cently learned the intelligence reports saying Iraq had tried to obtain processed uranium from Africa were bogus.

In London, Britain stood by its claim that Iraq had tried to buy uranium from Africa to kickstart its nuclear weapons program.

Prime Minister Tony Blair's spokesman said Britain had its own intelligence, apart from documents used by the US, which turned out to be based on forged information. "We had included the material in our dossier on the basis of our knowledge, which was different," the spokesman said. He was referring to a British government dossier published in September which laid out the threat posed by Saddam and said Iraq had sought to buy significant amounts of uranium from Africa.

Internet

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## Tri-state soldier killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 10 July—According to the Pentagon, Spc Chad Keith, from Batesville, Ind, died after a roadside bomb exploded as he was driving in a convoy in Baghdad, WLWT Eyewitness News 5 reported.

Keith, 21, was a member of the 325th Infantry, based at Fort Bragg, NC.

He's the third soldier from Indiana to be killed while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 478th Army Reserve Engineering Battalion is coming home from Kuwait, according to WLWT.

The unit, based in Fort Thomas, Ky, reportedly is leaving the Middle East much sooner than expected.

The soldiers will depart for Fort Campbell on 16 July, according to WLWT.

The 478th was called up in February. Operation Iraqi Freedom was the first time the unit saw active duty since World War II.

Internet



Several pieces of some 200 Iraqi artifacts confiscated by the Jordanian Customs Department are shown in Amman on 9 July, 2003. Jordanian customs have foiled several smuggling attempts of Iraqi treasures looted during the US-led war in Iraq. The confiscated items include bronze statues, clay pots, and stamps in different sizes, belonging to the ancient Sumerian era. —INTERNET

## Rebuilding Iraq farming slowed by postwar strife

WASHINGTON, 10 July—Western efforts to rebuild Iraq's agriculture sector are slowed by the worsening security situation in the country, the top American and Australian farming advisers said on Wednesday.

Shoring up Iraq's ability to feed its people with adequate supplies of wheat, rice, poultry and other commodities has been a top priority in postwar Iraq. A vibrant Iraqi farm sector is also seen as one key to reviving a bankrupt economy and establishing trade ties between Iraq and other Middle East countries. "The security issue is serious. We have difficulty getting around," said Daniel Amstutz, the top US agriculture adviser to Iraq, who recently returned from his first visit to Baghdad. Amstutz and his Australian counterpart, Trevor Flugge, told reporters that security problems also have impeded coalition efforts aimed at restoring electricity and water, which are necessary

for successful farming operations.

Flugge said that "over the past couple weeks, things have changed" in Iraq. "Security is not as good as it should be," he said, noting sabotage to some utilities and "random shooting events."

The result, Flugge said, is that US and Australian efforts to get Iraq's Agriculture Ministry operating again will be slowed "significantly." Lee Schatz, a senior economist at the US Department of Agriculture who has been in either Kuwait or Iraq for most of this year, told reporters the Agriculture Ministry building in Baghdad nonetheless will be the first Iraqi ministry to reopen, probably in about two months. — Internet

## UNCTAD publishes survey on commodities

GENEVA, 10 July — The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) published a survey on commodities Tuesday, which analyses the principal trends in raw materials, the evolution context and market instability as new risks emerge.

The 330-page World Commodity Survey gives information on markets, structures and innovations for more than 80 commodities, examines the global factors which have had an impact on raw material markets for metals, farm products and energy.

UNCTAD says improved management of the commodity sector, on which three quarters of the rural population depend, remains a vital tool in combating poverty.

However, it points out that most developing countries lack access to the basic information which would enable them to negotiate the best prices, understand underlying market mechanisms, position themselves in dynamic sectors, learn about quality standards and be aware of the various links in the process of trade. — MNA/Xinhua

## Portugal has biggest EU gap between rich, poor

LISBON, 10 July—Portugal has the biggest gap between poor and rich among European Union (EU) member countries, says a report on human development in countries released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on Tuesday. According to the report, 10 per cent of the richest in Portugal have an income 15 times higher than that of 10 per cent of the poorest, while 20 per cent of the richest earn eight times that of 20 per cent of the poorest.

MNA/Xinhua

## European countries agree on e-government network plan

ROME, 10 July—Italian Technology and Innovation Minister Lucio Stanca revealed Tuesday in the northern Italy that a plan to create a Europe-wide e-government network had been given the go-ahead.

Speaking at the close of a two-day e-Government Conference in northern city

Cernobbio, he said an informal meeting of ministers from current and future European Union (EU) members as well as some European Free Trade Association states had given the green light to the project.

Italy took over the six-month rotating presidency

on 1 July. The minister explained that the conference declaration on e-government "fixed certain principles" that will later be formalized by an EU communique and "registered" at the European telecommunications council on 20 November.

Stanca stressed the im-

portance of the document, "the first such to be drawn up at a ministerial level", and expressed his satisfaction at the decision.

"The Italian proposal to embark upon e-government on a European scale received the full support of all the countries present," he said. — MNA/Xinhua

## SARS batters Canada's tourism

OTTAWA, 10 July —The Canadian tourism industry will suffer a loss of 519 million Canadian dollars (about 380 million US dollars) because of the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) this year, the Canadian Tourism Commission said Tuesday.

Nearly 5,300 tourism-related jobs could be lost as a result of SARS, said the commission in reports assessing the impact of the Iraq war and SARS on Canada's tourism industry.

MNA/Xinhua



An Indian family shares an umbrella on the roof of their house, in the flooded district of Silguri, about 600 kms (375 miles) north of Calcutta, on 9 July, 2003. — INTERNET

## "Saddam" tape tells Iraqis to combat US presence

**DUBAI, 10 July**—A purported audio tape from ousted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein broadcast on Tuesday told Iraqis covert guerilla attacks were the best way to end the US occupation of Iraq.

Qatar's al Jazeera and Lebanon's LBC-al-Hayat television stations aired the undated and poor quality audio recording, in which the voice urged Iraqis to also combat the US and British presence through trade boycotts and civil disorder.

"Returning to covert attacks is the appropriate means for resistance," said the voice, which sounded like Saddam.

"Your main mission, Iraqis, is to evict the invaders from Iraqi territory," it said. "This is your fundamental mission, you Iraqis, Arabs, Kurds, Turkmen, Shi'ites, Sunnis, Muslims and Christians...therefore you must work on unifying your ranks."

The tape was the second such recording in a week purportedly made by Saddam.

On Friday, al Jazeera aired an audio tape it said was from Saddam in which he said he was alive and still living in Iraq almost three months after the US-led war on his country.

The voice on the latest tape mocked the United States for believing Iraqis would greet their armies as liberators. Twenty nine US soldiers have been killed in what appears to be a concerted guerilla campaign

since Baghdad fell on 9 April.

"The aggressive, invading enemy came laden with foiled hopes, believing Iraqis would receive them as liberators... but the people of Iraq did not and will not receive the invading armies as these losers had hoped for," it said.

The voice also called on Iraqis to use "all appropriate means" to fight the invaders, from a trade boycott, peaceful demonstrations, civil disorder to "firing bullets at the occupiers from the rifles and cannons of the faithful youth".

There was no immediate independent confirmation of the identity of the speaker, but like the tape aired on Friday, the recording bore all the hallmarks of Saddam's style of speech.

In Washington, a US intelligence official said he did not know whether the tape was authentic or not.

"We will, of course, review the tape to determine if it is authentic," the intelligence official told *Reuters*.

The Central Intelligence Agency has said that the Friday tape was probably made by Saddam. — *MNA/Reuters*



British soldiers patrol a street in the center of the main southern Iraqi city of Basra. Basra's new governor Wail Abdul Latif said there was no resistance to British forces occupying Iraq's main southern city. — INTERNET

## Iraq-Turkey oil pipeline crippled by new sabotage

**BAGHDAD, 10 July**—Iraq's northern export pipeline to Turkey was damaged by a new sabotage blast over the weekend and repairs will take two weeks, a senior Iraqi Oil Ministry official said on Tuesday.

The official, who asked not to be named, told *Reuters* Iraq was also facing what he called widespread "economic sabotage" along a pipeline from Iraq's southern oilfields.

"The Iraq-Turkey pipeline was sabotaged 36 hours ago and will take two weeks to repair," he said.

"It will take two weeks to repair if there are no new explosions and we still have several damaged areas on the pipeline that are still to be repaired from earlier explosions."

The weekend attack on the Kirkuk line to the Turkish Mediterranean port of Ceyhan delivers a further blow to Iraqi hopes of raising crude exports.

The war-torn country has been hit by a series of pipeline blasts since the end of the war that ousted president Saddam Hussein and has yet to reopen the Kirkuk export pipeline.

The deliberate attacks have suppressed oil supplies with the only exports so far from crude held in storage at export terminals since before the war began.

In July Baghdad is planning to sell only eight million barrels, all from its southern fields, at a rate of just 260,000 bpd, compared to pre-war sales of two million barrels daily.

The Iraqi official said oil was being stolen and sold on the black market from a pipeline that carries crude from

its southern fields to Baghdad.

"We recently discovered serious economic sabotage in the south along the Strategic Pipeline that connects the south and the north," the Iraqi official said.

"These criminals are piercing the pipeline, draining the crude, transporting it on road tankers through the Basra area. The crude is eventually taken to barges and is smuggled to Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates," he added.

He said Iraq was expecting to produce only between 800,000-900,000 bpd by mid-July, well below its previous target. It needs up to 500,000 bpd to run domestic refineries. — *MNA/Reuters*

## Pakistan not making decision to send troops to Iraq yet

**ISLAMABAD, 10 July**—Pakistani Defence Minister Rao Sikandar Iqbal has stated that there is no decision to send troops to Iraq and final decision will be made after taking Organization of Islamic Conference (ICO) into confidence in this regard, the *Associated Press of Pakistan* reported.

The minister made the remarks on Monday while responding to a question about the demand made by United States and Britain to send two brigades of Army to Iraq before attending the joint parliamentary party meeting of Pakistan Muslim League (Q) and its allied parties. "This is very clear that there is no decision to send troops to Iraq so far, however the matter is on the cards still," he said.

He said, "We will approach ICO and other Islamic countries before taking final

decision to send troops because it is a very important decision and we cannot do it without the consent of brethren countries."

The minister made it clear that troops which would be sent to Iraq only to assist and serve their Iraqi brethren. Replying to a question about reported allegations made by the opposi-

tion regarding roll back of the country's nuclear programme, Rao Sikandar said, "No, not at all, there is nothing about it. How we can compromise on our prime national interests."

He pointed out that this is baseless and unfounded propaganda of those elements who just want to make issue. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Hospital sources at Raffles Hospital in Singapore said that Ladan Bijani (L) and her conjoined sister Laleh had both died on 8 July, 2003, after two days of unprecedented, high-risk surgery to separate their heads and brains. Doctors said that 29-year-old Ladan passed away first and a hospital nurse told *Reuters* that her sister Laleh died a short time later. The conjoined twins from Iran attend a news conference at Raffles Hospital in this photo taken in Singapore on 11 June, 2003. — INTERNET

## Iranian twins die after separation operation fails

**SINGAPORE, 10 July**—Twin Iranian sisters joined at the head since birth 29 years ago died within hours of each other on Tuesday after surgeons in Singapore separated them in an operation they knew could cost their lives.

The deaths of Laleh and Ladan Bijani from massive blood loss after an historic 52-hour operation by 28 specialists and 100 assistants plunged Iran into grief and brought tears to Singapore's Raffles Hospital, where the surgery took place. "We were hoping to try and do better than the worst odds. But alas we didn't make it," hospital chairman Loo Choon Yong told reporters.

"We knew that one of the scenarios was that we may lose both of them. Ladan and Laleh knew it too."

Facing the world's media last month, Ladan had said she and her sister had no fear. "We know that every surgery has a high risk," Laleh, sharing a cream headscarf, added. "We would like

to see the face of each other without the mirror."

But their gamble for life failed to beat the odds. They died within 90 minutes of each other. Iran's official *IRNA* news agency said their bodies would be flown home on Thursday.

Both women had law degrees — and separate ambitions. Ladan — the more outspoken — wanted to be a lawyer in their home town of Shiraz while Laleh wanted to be a journalist in Teheran.

The operation, led by neurosurgeon Dr Keith Goh, ran into several major complications. The women's blood pressure had been fluctuating and surgeons discovered the brains were more closely linked than previously thought.

The women had laughed and joked with the crowd as the stretcher rolled towards the operating room. It was the last time their supporters saw them alive.

Many in the lobby were still cheering at the news the twins had been finally separated when doctors confirmed Ladan had died after losing large amounts of blood.

Surgery continued on Laleh, but she too faded away. The pair were named after flowers in their native Farsi and Iranian ambassador Shaban Shahidi Moadaab said: "Today these two flowers do not exist anymore."

In Iran, Alireza Safaian, the doctor who adopted the twins as children, wept as he

spoke to *Reuters* at his home in Teheran of his grief and distress at the decision of his daughters and the doctors to go ahead with an operation other surgeons had deemed simply too risky.

"Me and my brother, who is a doctor in Germany, we told everyone that this separation surgery was impossible. Nobody would listen to us," he said. Iran's Vice-President Mohammad Ali Abtahi told *Reuters*: "It is a sad day for Iran."

Iranian media said the twins had contacted their real father Dadollah Bijani, a poor farmer from southern Iran, shortly before the operation. They had not been in contact with their adoptive family for 18 months.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Ex-intel official says US gave inaccurate Iraq picture

WASHINGTON, 10 July — The Bush Administration gave an inaccurate picture of Iraq's military threat before the war, a recently retired State Department intelligence official said on Wednesday, saying intelligence reports showed that Baghdad posed no imminent threat.

"I believe the Bush Administration did not provide an accurate picture to the American people of the military threat posed by Iraq," said Greg Thielmann, who retired in September from his post of director of the strategic, proliferation and military affairs office in the State Department's bureau of intelligence and research.

"Some of the fault lies with the performance of the intelligence community, but most of it lies with the way senior officials misused the information they were provided," he said at a Press conference held by the Arms Control Association.

President George W Bush justified going to war based on the threat from Iraq's alleged biological and chemical weapons and nuclear weapons programme.

"As of March 2003, when we began military operations, Iraq posed no imminent threat to either its neighbours or to the United States," Thielmann said.

Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Wednesday said the United States did not go to war with Iraq because of dramatic new evidence of banned weapons but because it saw existing information in a new light after the September 11 attacks.

Administration officials trying to make the case for war said that aluminum tubes that Iraq was trying to procure were definitely for a uranium enrichment centrifuge.

But the October 2002 National Intelligence Estimate report on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction said that "most" intelligence analysts believed

the tubes were for Iraq's nuclear weapons programme, while "some" believed they could be used for other purposes, Thielmann said.

CIA Director George Tenet also made "some inaccurate formulations" when he told Congress that Iraq "retains" a small number of *Scud* missiles, Thielmann said.

"This was not what the intelligence community said," Thielmann said. The intelligence community said Iraq "probably" had *Scuds* because some could not be accounted for, he said.

Critics have accused the Bush Administration of publicly hyping the threat from Iraq by leaving out caveats and qualifiers that were included in intelligence reports.

MNA/Reuters

မိုးမြင့်စွာ၊ မိန်းပါလေလွင့်  
ထုတ်ကုန်ခြင်း

## US troops seize large cache of weapons near Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 10 July — US forces have seized a large cache of rocket-propelled grenades (RPG), the weapon of choice for anti-American guerillas in Iraq, near a flashpoint town west of Baghdad, the US military said on Wednesday.

A statement said 3rd Armoured Cavalry Regiment soldiers seized 400-500 RPGs from a vehicle at a checkpoint near Ramadi on Tuesday. Four men in the car were detained.

It also reported finding other ammunition in central Iraq. Iraqi guerillas have mainly used RPGs and explosives in daily attacks on US forces. Twenty-nine US soldiers have been killed by hostile fire in Iraq since President George W Bush declared major combat over on 1 May. Six British soldiers and more than 100 Iraqis have also died during that period.

US officials blame remnants of the government of Saddam Hussein for the increasingly bloody attacks. — MNA/Reuters



US soldiers patrol the city of Baghdad in their vehicles. Three troubled months after the fall of Saddam Hussein on 9 April, the United States is still confronting "complex security" problems in Iraq. — INTERNET

## Insurgents strike at US forces in Iraq

FALLUJAH, 10 July — US forces came under renewed attack Wednesday, with insurgents in this restive Iraqi town firing two rocket-propelled grenades at soldiers. The US military and police in Fallujah said there were no injuries and no arrests made.

Iraqi police Lt Iyad Abed said one of the two grenades exploded in the air and the second landed on the street outside a building occupied by US soldiers in central Fallujah, 35 miles west of Baghdad.

Witnesses said two US helicopters flew over the site soon after the early morning attack.

The Qatar-based Al-Jazeera satellite station reported a second skirmish in Fallujah, when a US patrol came under fire. The station also reported a 10-minute gunbattle early Wednesday between US forces and unidentified gunmen farther west in the town of Ramadi. It had no word on casualties in either attack, and the US military in

Baghdad said it had no information on the reported incidents.

Meanwhile, an American soldier attached to the 101st Airborne Division died Monday from what the military said was a non-combat gunshot wound near Balad, 55 miles north of the capital.

The soldier's name was withheld pending notification of next-of-kin, and no further details were available.

Attacks on US forces in Iraq have been taking place virtually every day, but America's top official in Iraq, L. Paul Bremer, is standing by Washington's assertion that the violence does not amount to a full-fledged guerrilla war. — Internet

## Vietnam strives to boost flower export

HANOI, 10 July — Vietnam is expanding flower-growing areas at many places with an aim to make flower export turnovers of 60 million US dollars in 2010, according to a source from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on Wednesday.

To this end, Vietnam will focus on developing large flower-growing areas in the capital city of Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, the northern city of Hai Phong, the central highlands province of Lam Dong, and the northern provinces of Lao Cai, Vinh Phuc and Thai Binh. The country is carrying out a project worth 325,000 US dollars to develop high-quality flower varieties. It has recently imported 43 new flower varieties from the Netherlands, and 10 others from China, according to the source. — MNA/Xinhua

## China's first liver-kidney transplant proven successful

CHANGSHA, 10 July — China's first-ever transplant of both a liver and a kidney in a single operation has been proven successful, according to the local *Hunan Daily* newspaper in Changsha, capital of central-south Hunan Province.

The Xiangya No 3 Hospital, affiliated to Zhongnan (Central-South) University in Changsha, said on Wednesday that the 44-year-old woman patient, surnamed Ma, had been out of danger since Sunday and is recovering. Mrs. Ma told the newspaper that she felt quite well after the three-day observation period following the operation which took place at 9 pm on 4 July.

"After replacing the liver and kidney, I feel much at ease and more comfortable than prior to the operation," she said, giving the "V" sign with her right hand.

Mrs Ma had maintained her life only by a life-support system for her severely dys-

functional liver and kidney when Professor Ye Qifa, vice-president of the hospital's transplant research institute and chief surgeon of the operation, informed his senior colleagues about her serious condition.

The doctors decided to do the operation with techniques Professor Ye himself developed after a decade of assiduous and solid researches. These techniques require no external-body blood circulation support and do not change the physiological function of the patient, the newspaper quoted the doctor, who received his medical doctorate degree at a German university, as saying.

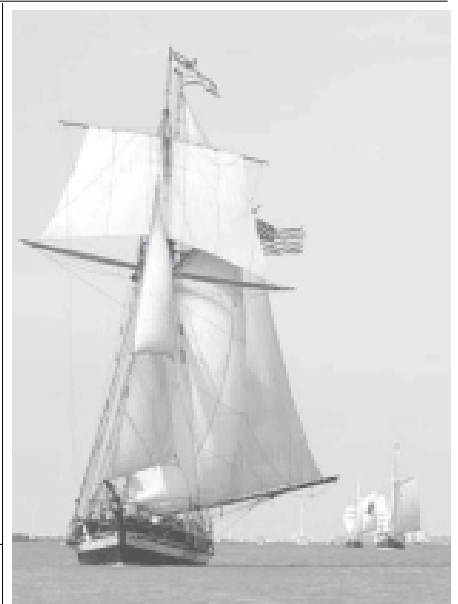
MNA/Xinhua

## "AIDS" cuts down Thailand's life expectancy

BANGKOK, 10 July — Life expectancy for average Thai people has fallen from 70.3 years to 68.9 due to the incidence of HIV/AIDS, local Press on Wednesday quoted a United Nations Human Development report as saying.

Lack of access to anti-retroviral drugs for Thais infected with the disease is the

main reason for the drop of life expectancy, newspaper *The Nation* quoted a UN Human Development report, which was issued Tuesday, as reporting. It is estimated that there are 700,000 people in Thailand infected with HIV/AIDS, but only 10,000 of them have access to the drugs needed to provide their life. — MNA/Xinhua



The *Pride of Baltimore* sails ahead of the pack during the 'Parade of Sail' of Tall Ships, on 9 July, 2003, on Lake Erie near Cleveland. Eighteen tall ships from as far away as India, the Netherlands and the Cayman Islands will dock at the Port of Cleveland from Wednesday through Saturday. Throughout the summer, 25 ships are scheduled to participate in the Tall Ships Challenge, a race that's part of the event. — INTERNET

# Democrats call for probe as White House backpedals over Iraq nuclear claim

WASHINGTON, 10 July—Democrats renewed their calls for a wide-ranging congressional probe into US intelligence lapses, after the White House backpedaled on its claim that Iraq tried to obtain nuclear materials from Africa.

"It's a recognition that we were provided faulty information," said Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle.

"And I think it's all the more reason why a full investigation of all of the facts surrounding this situation be undertaken — the sooner the better."

Limited reviews of past intelligence are currently underway in both the House

of Representatives and the Senate, but Democrats have said a broader bipartisan investigation is needed to determine whether the White House manipulated prewar intelligence on Iraq's weapons programme — a move Republicans have blocked so far.

"Bipartisan investigations of this kind have been done in the past, to great suc-

cess. Now is the time to do one in this case," the South Dakota Democrat said.

"It ought to be the subject of careful scrutiny... with regard to what it was we knew, what actions were taken, what statements were correct and which ones were incorrect. The sooner we can acquire that information, the better for the country."

The Bush administra-

tion backed away from assertions that Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein tried to purchase "yellow cake" uranium from Africa to kickstart Iraq's idled nuclear weapons programme. Bush included the allegation in his State of the Union speech in January, but the White House said Monday it regretted having done so.

Internet

## Chinese Premier meets S Korean President

BEIJING, 10 July—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao met with visiting South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun here Tuesday. Wen said Roh Moo-hyun's visit to China was a big success.

The meeting between South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun and Chinese President Hu Jintao resulted in the establishment of a co-operative partnership between China and South Korea, which indicated that Sino-South Korean ties had developed to a new stage, Wen said. Roh said he had successful talks with Chinese President Hu Jintao, and met with Chairman Wu Bangguo of the National People's Congress Standing Committee and Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong, noting that he was very satisfied with the positive results achieved through the talks and meetings. — MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese, Spanish foreign ministers hold talks

BEIJING, 10 July—Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing held talks with Spanish Foreign Minister Ana Palacio here Tuesday.

Li said bilateral relations developed smoothly since the establishment of diplomatic links 30 years ago.

In recent years, the two nations had deepened mutual political understanding, enlarged economic and trade cooperation, and enhanced cultural, educational and technological exchanges.

China praised the Spanish Government for insisting on the "one-China" policy and actively implementing the "Asian Pacific Plan" which focused on China. China is willing to promote bilateral relations to a higher level through joint efforts.

MNA/Xinhua

## Iraq war civilian death toll past 6,000

LONDON, 10 July—New information from remote locations of Iraq has pushed up the civilian death toll from the US-led war by 500 in the last month to at least 6,000, an Anglo-American research group said on Wednesday.

The Iraq Body Count's (IBC) latest figures, based on media reports and more than a dozen counting projects from independent investigators in and outside Iraq, put the minimum number of civilians dead at 6,055 and the maximum at 7,706.

"Both the US and the UK said they were taking every effort to minimize civilian casualties and talked a lot about smart, precision weapons," IBC researcher John Sloboda told Reuters.

"From that, one could have expected a clean war with very few casualties, but I don't call 5,000 to 7,000 very few. It is clear the coalition claims were political claptrap."

The latest IBC toll has risen by about 500

after information arrived from areas that had not been reached before by outsiders. The group says its statistics are the most comprehensive collation of civilian deaths available.

"If you look at a map of Iraq, there are still a lot of places, that you would imagine allied troops have gone through, where there have been no reports of killings yet, simply because no journalist or researcher has gone there," said Sloboda, a psychology professor from Britain's Keele University.

The IBC, run by British and American academics and peace activists, has chastised London and Washington for not setting up an official investigation into civilian deaths.

Internet

## Thailand emerges as world's 19th most populous nation

BANGKOK, 10 July—Thailand has become the 19th most populous nation in the world, with its population increasing at a rate of one person a minute, according to the data from the National Statistical Office.

The data available Wednesday, was released in anticipation of World Population Day on 11 July. The data show that Thailand's population currently stands at around 63 million, making it the 19th most populous nation in the world, and home

to around 1 per cent of the global population.

According to the statistics, each minute Thailand's population increases by an average of one person, either due to new births or immigration. The rate of increase is on the decline, in line with

overall global trends.

The National Statistical Office forecast that in 23 years' time, Thailand's population will stand at 70 million, clearly demonstrating the fall in the rate of population expansion.

The office attributed the reduction to the success of

Thailand's family planning campaigns, which have reduced average family size to 1.8 children, lower than the replacement rate.

MNA/Xinhua

## Tornado kills 16 in east China

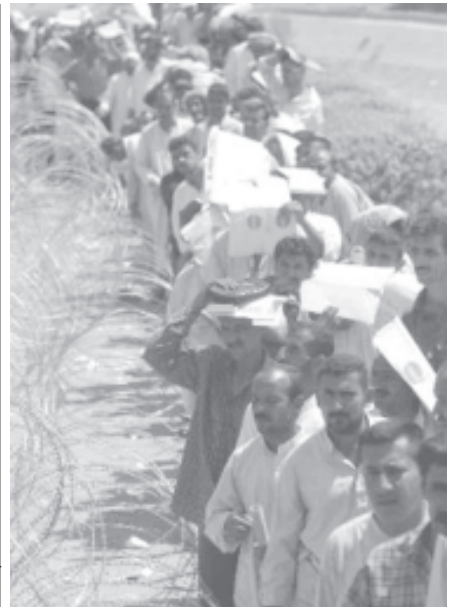
HEFEL, 10 July—A fierce tornado killed 16 people and injured 162 as it swept through Wuwei County in east China's Anhui Province on Tuesday night. The provincial office of disaster relief said the tornado struck several towns 11.10 pm Tuesday and 2 am Wednesday.

Fifty-seven people are still being treated in hospital with serious injuries.

The storm affected 23,681 people, destroyed 715 houses and caused estimated direct economic losses of 24 million yuan (2.9 million US dollars), according to officials. — MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier waits by the roadside with a shoulder fired weapon system at a roadblock near Ramadi, Iraq on 9 July, 2003. — INTERNET



Former Iraqi soldiers wait in long, hot lines behind barbed wire to receive months of back wages being paid by the Iraqi interim government, on 9 July, 2003, in the town of Barcuba, 60 kilometres, (38 miles) northeast of Baghdad, Iraq. — INTERNET

## Iraq operations cost 3.9 billion dollars per month

WASHINGTON, 10 July—US Defence Department officials put a pricetag on two major US overseas military operations, saying that commitments in Iraq cost some 3.9 billion dollars per month, while monthly US military spending in Afghanistan comes to about 950 million dollars.

US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld revealed those figures at a hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee. The hearing aimed to draw lessons learned from recent US military engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Rumsfeld and recently-retired General Tommy Franks — who until earlier this week led US Central Command — agreed with various members of the panel that the military contingents on the ground in Iraq should include a broad array of nations, in part to help foot the enormous costs of postwar occupation and reconstruction. — Internet

## US Marine indicted on charge of raping in Okinawa

TOKYO, 10 July—Japanese prosecutors on Tuesday indicted a US Marine based in Okinawa, south Japan, on a charge of raping and beating a local woman in late May.

Lance Corporal Jose Torres was accused of rape resulting in injury. He was arrested by Japanese police on June 18 after the United States agreed to hand him over prior to indictment.

According to Kyodo News, Torres, 21, allegedly hit the woman once in the face and raped her on May 25. Her nose was broken.

Okinawa prefectural police obtained an arrest warrant for Torres on June 16 and the Japanese Government presented its request for a handover to the US the same day. He was turned over to the police two days later. — MNA/Xinhua

## If the Desire for Peaceful Transition and National Reconciliation is Genuine

*Kyaw Myint Naing*

Recently in a radio interview between the BBC and one U Aye Thar Aung, the latter stated that they desired a peaceful transition and national reconciliation.

This corresponds with the desires of the entire Myanmar people and is therefore a most welcome and gratifying statement.

But 14 years have passed but a peaceful transition and national reconciliation between the National League for Democracy and the present government has yet to be realized.

So the question is - has there been no opportunity for a peaceful transition within this long period of time? Absolutely not! There have been many such opportunities in the past as there are now new prospects at present.

There have been many such opportunities to date. For example:

(1) "We are making plans to hold a nationwide people's referendum next month. If the results show that the people desire a multi-party Democracy then the Election Commission will supervise a general election that is free and fair to the utmost. Subsequently a government will be formed by the parliament that has emerged and State power accordingly transferred."

This was the pledge made to the nation on 24 August. It was further said at 8 pm on 1 September 1988:

"This is not a pledge that I am making personally, in my own behalf. It is a pledge made unanimously by my colleagues and me with sincere and genuine good will." (This was broadcast to the nation by the then President of the Union of Myanmar Dr Maung Maung during the 1988 unrest)

(2) In 1990 the Government of the State Law and Order Restoration Council conducted general elections and on 27 July it issued Announcement No 1/90 to inform the nation that arrangements would be made to enable the elected representative to draw up a new State Constitution.

(3) The fact that in 1993 the government convened the National Convention to draw up a draft Constitution is evidence of the endeavours made for a peaceful transition of power.

Then after laying down the Four National Objectives as a political task required for bringing about a national reconciliation:

The National Convention was assembled for the purpose of drawing up a State Constitution and thus laid the groundwork for a peaceful transition; it also provided the best opportunity to hold round-table discussions for national reconciliation at the highest level. Then in 1995 the restraints imposed on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi were lifted and regional branches of the National League for Democracy party, which had been declared null and void were legally reinstated. In addition political detainees who were not considered a threat to peace in the nation were set free periodically. Peace accords were also reached with 17 armed national race groups and in cooperation with the government they are now engaged in narcotic drug eradication and regional development programmes. This provides irrefutable evidence of the endeavours of the present government to rebuild national unity, bring about national reconciliation and close the divisive gaps among the national races of the Union.

The question now arises as to why national reconciliation and harmony between the present government and the National League for Democracy has not yet been realized. What obstacles have stood in the way in spite of the many opportunities and positive conditions?

This is in fact due to the misconception that only when an authoritarian system has been eliminated can democracy prevail. In other words this is an interpretation of democracy stipulated by extreme rightists who are also opportunists. Such dogmatic people refuse to understand that democracy and unity can only be gained with patience, determination and fortitude. Erroneously persist in the view that since "Independence must be fought for" and that "Democracy also cannot be obtained without a fight," they have drawn a false analogy concluded that the two are identical.

Therefore although those who maintain that democracy can be obtained only with the fall of an authoritarian system may give lip service and call for a peaceful transition of power and national reconciliation and harmony their actions are to the contrary. For in reality they

attack the present government militarily and perpetrate terrorist acts, commit mayhem by murdering innocent people, explode bombs, hijack airplanes and attempt to seize embassies. Some participate in these acts of violence while others give moral support in the name of democracy. They call for international economic sanctions against the country to create an economic downturn in the hope that it would instigate people to rise up and protest. They demand that all international aid and assistance be stopped. So these people form dissident organizations under a variety of names and aliases and they fling all kinds of allegations against the government so that the international community will ostracize it. They accuse the government of violating human rights and suppressing democracy and makes the government appears to be a dictatorship. And then they try to convince others that they are fighting for democracy.

Consequently, no matter the numbers of UN Envoys who come to discuss and mediate ways and means for a peaceful transition and national reconciliation and harmony, these goals still remain far away beyond reach. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's countrywide party organizational campaign trail, which led to direct confrontation with anti-Suu Kyi protestors resulting in violence, death and injury constitutes evidence of their real motives.

What was the cause that led to these developments? Who is real culprit that started this violent conflict causing death and injury? That is not the main issue. The real problem is their distorted outlook that democracy will be obtained only with the downfall of authoritarianism. This is the real cause - a cause that shuns and rejects all attempts for a peaceful solution. So their goal is to bring down the present government or bring about its downfall for only if their party can grab power will there be democracy according to their theory. It is a theory that does not advocate peace only antagonism and conflict.

To put it bluntly, the real aim of the political campaign of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and supporters of the National League for Democracy is to bring down the present government in a show of force. But the people who support the present government and are opposed to the NLD responded with protests and demonstrations. So there is now antagonism and conflict among the people. This state of affairs is due to the fact that the principle subscribed to by the dissidents wholly ignores the desires of the people.

If one studies the history of the development of world democracy, it will show that democracy arose not in accordance with the desires of the people but due to development of productive forces.

In the history of mankind production relations that are composed of systems of governance, political systems, laws, education, health and cultural systems are the resulting effects of productive forces at each stage of development, (i.e. the existing level of the political and cultural intellect of particular forces of production). Hence, "although man can create productive forces, production relations cannot be brought about through man's will and desire."

Thus the reason why, in the history of mankind although a parliamentary democracy republic could be set up under certain circumstances, but if the material base, suitable the productive forces of a parliamentary democracy has not yet developed, that parliamentary democracy republic will surely develop into a dictatorship or a military government. Such developments have occurred in the world and are still occurring today. There is ample evidence that Myanmar has also had the same experience.

So, in accordance with this principle, if there is a genuine desire to establish a strong and permanent parliamentary democracy through a peaceful period of transition and if we truly want national reconciliation and national harmony then we must enhance the nation's economy in order to develop our forces of production. When the nation's economy has thus made progress, then to meet the demands of the day, we must endeavour to establish peace and stability in the country and develop a market economy.

If a country is behind times and the standard of its economy is low, there is bound to be great disparity among the various classes and class antagonisms will become more intense. This will mean a weakening in national unity and in the efforts to bring about national reconcilia-

### 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.

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်ခေတ်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ.

လစဉ်လစာ ၃ တိယပတ်တန်နွေနေ့နှင့်နောက်ဆုံးပတ်တန်နွေနေ့တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည်ကိုစွဲရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေဖြစ်သည်။

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tion. Since 1948 we have witnessed disintegration of unity in political parties. There was conflict of interests between "those with power and those without", between parties deemed "legal and illegal. By 1988 when the formation of parties was permitted under a system of multi-party democracy over 200 political parties emerged for registration. Today also, there are a horde of political organizations under different names both at home and abroad and all of them pulling in different directions.

Therefore now, is the time to analyze and give up the dogmatic view that "only with the downfall of an authoritarian system will democracy be obtained" and in accordance with the people's desire establish a market economy (that is the emergence of a new and developed nation) that will pave the way to a peaceful transition of power and national unity, which at present is solely needed. So whatever the system of the present government it is necessary to acknowledge it is an ally ...

And work hand in hand for the good of the country. It is also required that they acknowledge and accept the fact that the Armed Forces must of necessity play a role in the national leadership; and that together they must strive for the "emergence of a new constitution; that they must give their cooperation in the reconstruction efforts of the present government, and try to mend the difference that exist with patience and forbearance." There is no other choice, for this the only path open for a peaceful transition of power and national reconciliation.

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

*Hla Tun (Twantay)*

The world's population is increasing day by day. It is needed to systematically solve the social problems which have come up with the growing population.

In 1987, the world's population reached five billion. The 11th of July has been designated as the World Population Day and the World Population Day ceremonies have been held on a grand scale in the member countries of the United Nations. The ceremony was held in conjunction with the UNFPA.

The UNFPA sets a motto every year for each World Population Day for the work programme to sort out the problems on the growing world population.

This year's motto for the World Population Day which falls on 11 July is "1 billion adolescents: the right to health, information and service". The motto released by the UNFPA was translated into Myanmar by the Committee for Observing World Population Day. The UNFPA has observed and conducted researches on conditions and problems on world's population and reported them to the world's nations.

The United Nations was founded with noble ob-

jectives — for the world to be peaceful, to have enough food, to eradicate lack of knowledge and to be free from diseases. This year's motto pays attention to 1 billion out of the world's rising population or adolescents. All are urged to educate and take care of these teenagers to be healthy.

The world's population is growing day by day, and in 2003, the number amounted to over 6.3 billion. The number of one billion adolescents is the highest in the world's history, and the majority of them are living in developing countries. So, concerted efforts are to be made to provide assistance to them to enjoy a better life. In so doing, efforts are to be made for them to have the chance to pursue education and to be healthy. A lot of adolescents in the world have no chance to go to school and no sufficient health care services. This leads to severe consequences.

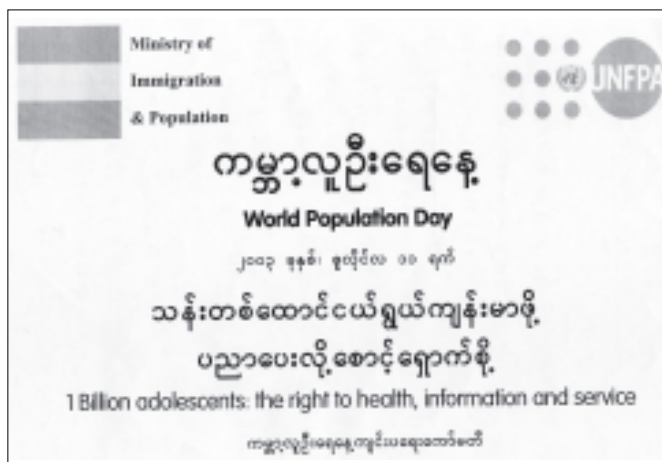
Nowadays, over 70,000 teenage girls get married each day in the world. Among them, there are those who get married without their own consent. About 40,000 young women give birth to babies. These teenagers have less

opportunities for a better life and their health condition becomes poor due to untimely marriage and incomplete education.

If they are given assistance to finish middle school education and to get married at proper time, ill consequences of poor health, illiteracy and poverty will be overcome. In addition, systematic measures are to be taken to prevent violence against young women, exploitation and trafficking in them.

Nowadays, the world is challenged by a grave danger — HIV/AIDS infection. Half of the number who have been infected with HIV are youths. Over six thousand youths are infected with the deadly virus daily. The figure clearly shows that it is necessary to give education on the disease to youths and provide them with effective health care services. By disseminating education on reproductive health, there will be a decline in irresponsible behaviour and effective decision can be made.

Being a member country of the UN, Myanmar is paying serious attention to objectives and procedures of the world body. With the cooperation of the State, the



Ministry of Immigration and Population and the UN Population Funds, this year's World Population Day will be held on a grand scale at International Business Centre on Pyay Road. In accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, strenuous efforts are being made to ensure every school-age child to attend school and promotion of health care services for the entire people.

In his capacity as the Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee and the Chairman of National Health Committee, Sec-

tary-1 General Khin Nyunt is laying emphasis on education and health care tasks. Promotion of education and health of the youth plays a vital role in implementing these tasks.

Myanmar population has reached 52.4 million, 23.8 per cent being the youth between 12 and 24 and 18.1 per cent between 15 and 24. Measures are being taken in the country for education promotion and raising the health standard of these youths. Especially, activities of the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Re-

settlement and social organizations such as Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs, Myanmar National Working Committee for Women's Affairs and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association are gaining momentum.

To put it in a nutshell, endeavours for promotion of health, education and social standards of the State are in line with this year's World Population Day motto — **1 billion adolescents: the right to health, information and service.**

(Translation:KKK+BG)

## Facilities for development of Kayin State

### Agriculture sector

1. Construction of 2 miles of embankment and 22.2 miles of drainage to benefit 13,608 acres of cropland.
2. Land reclamation in Maebauing-Nawnglon creek region fallow lands in Hpa-an is under implementation. 15,000 acres of cultivated land will emerge in 2003-2004 fiscal year.

### Transport sector

1. Thanlwin River (Hpa-an) Bridge was opened on 3-8-97; Gyaing River (Zarthabyin) Bridge on 24-3-99; Gyaing River (Kawkaireik) Bridge on 22-5-99; Dawlan Bridge on 22-3-99 and Donthami Rail Bridge on 19-1-2002. Hlaingwa, Maekanair and other small bridges are under construction.

2. Altogether 748 miles of tarred, gravelled, metalled and earth roads have been built in Kayin State. Hpa-an to Mawlamyine can now be travelled by road.
3. Three microwave stations, 2 satellite stations, 2 auto-exchanges and 10 rural communication stations have been built.

### Education sector

	<i>Past</i>	<i>At present</i>
1. Basic education schools (BEHS, BEMS, BEPS, post primary)	1149	1322

2. University	-	1
3. College	1	3

### Health sector

1. Hospital	17	25
2. 150-bed Hpa-an Hospital was upgraded to 200-bed Specialist Hospital on 16-10-91. The 25-bed Myawady Hospital was upgraded to 50-bed one on 14-3-97 and specialists were also appointed.		
3. Doctor	63	131
4. Rural health centres	38	44

## An insurgent killed in mine explosion

YANGON, 10 July — A blast occurred on 7 July night beside Kowa Creek Bridge near Mawlamyine and a man was killed in the explosion. On investigation, it is learnt that the man killed was a member of an insurgent group and a bomb went off while he was planting it.

The State is making efforts to build a modern developed nation in keeping the fore Our three Main National Causes and Twelve Objectives. However, the insurgent groups and organizations opposing the State are committing terrorist acts with the intention of disturbing peace and tranquillity of the community. — MNA

## Do not be frightened whenever intimidated

### Course on Entrepreneurship on 1-30 Aug

YANGON, 10 July — The Training Course No 1 on Entrepreneurship, to be organized by Myanmar Education Research Bureau of the Ministry of Education will be opened on 1 August.

Professors, computer scientists and entrepreneurs will give lectures on basic life of entrepreneurs, formation of projects, management of human resource, accounts, financial and market management, e-Business Modelling and observation of correct incidents from 7 am to 9 am every day and 9 am to 4 pm on Saturday from 1 to 30 August except Sunday totalling 72 hours.

The number of the trainees is limited at 25. Those wishing to attend the course may contact MERB, on Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, Tel: 535860/527053, Fax 95-01-525042/526153, and e-mail merbmirc@mptmail.net.mm. — MNA

## Annual magazine of ITBMU comes out

YANGON, 10 July — The annual magazine of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University published in English language has come out today.

The magazine features interesting articles and poems on Theravada Buddhism. — MNA



The annual magazine of ITBMU.

## Sermons to be delivered at Myalaynwe Pagoda during Lent

YANGON, 10 July — Member Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee will deliver sermons on new moon days and fullmoon days during the Lent in the compound of the Myalaynwe Hsutaungpyae Pagoda built in the Athawattaitak Twantay Missionary School on Phoneygi Road, Ward 2, North Okkalapa Township.

Sermons will be delivered by Mandalay Maha Nandithenayama Monastery Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Ariyavamsa on 13 July, Full Moon Day of Waso; by Wakema Kyunkon Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pandavamsa, on 28 July, the new moon day of Waso; by the Sayadaw of Tatkon YwaU Sandayon Sarthintak, on 12 August, the Full Moon Day of Wagaung; the Sayadaw of Gyobingauk Pali University Sayadaw, on 26 August, the new moon day of Wagaung; the Sayadaw of Pathein Nyaungpintha Niyaundayon Sarthintak, on 10 September, the Full Moon Day of Tawthalin; the Lecturer Sayadaw of Mandalay Chanthagayitak Yadana Beikman, on 25 September, the waning day of Tawthalin; and the Lecturer Sayadaw of Kaingon Pariyatti Sarthintak, on 10 October, the Full Moon Day of Thidingyut. All are invited to hear discourses. — MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt hears reports on construction of Nanmyint Tower and the hotel by Htoo Trading Co Ltd Chairman U Teza on 9-7-2003.— MNA

## Secretary-1 attends offering of Waso robes...

(from page 1)

U Aung Kyaing reported on excavated structures— two big brick buildings, two small brick buildings, an 85 metres long brick wall stretching south and north, two 40-metre long brick wall stretching east and west, brick floors, posts, the drain of Bagan period, the site assumed to be the west gatehouse of the palace of King Anawrahta, earthen pots and broken earthen pots, 53 earthen pots, 73 earthen ear-plugs, unearthed utensils including earthen potsherds and earthen beads, and measures being taken for durability of the excavated things.

Next, Deputy Director of the Archaeology Department reported on excavation of ancient Beikthano city and excavated structures at the mounds of the palace.

The Secretary-1 gave instructions on maintenance of the ancient works, and carrying out ongoing research in cooperation with Myanmar historians.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party viewed earthen bone pots, baked earthen plates with floral motif, bronze and earthen saucers and earthen potsherds. They observed the Buddha images and ancient utensils. They also inspected excavation tasks round the site.

The Secretary-1 and party proceeded to the Nanmyint tower and hotel construction project site. Chairman of Htoo Trading Co Ltd U Teza reported on salient facts about the project, tasks being undertaken and future tasks. The Secretary-1 gave instructions on durability of the tower, ensuring a splendid one with ancient Bagan period style. On completion, the tower's foundation will be 138 feet and it will be 198 feet high. And the Nanmyint tower located in the ancient Bagan region will consist of an assembly hall, a meeting hall, an office, a souvenir shop, a restaurant and the sites for viewing scenic beauties.

The Secretary-1 and party headed for the arid region model plot agricultural farm of Hong Pang Co in NyaungU Township. Officials reported on thriving plantations of coconut, vineyard, grape fruit, orange, mango and seasonal crops on 82.15 acres. The Secretary-1 left necessary instructions and inspected the plantations.

Then, they went to Lawka Nanda River Water Pumping Project site in NyaungU District. Director-General of the Water Resources Utilization Department U Win Shwe reported on progress in constructing 30,500 feet long main canal and 12 157,000-foot-long canals, installation of 42 pumps, electrical work, and experimental distribution of

water.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint reported on arrangements for cultivation of paddy, groundnut, sesame, sunflower, cotton, beans and pulses with the use of water from the project. Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave a supplementary report. The Secretary-1 inspected the water pumping station. They then went to Pakokku, where they were welcomed by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, local authorities and departmental personnel.

The Secretary-1 and party proceeded to Pakokku General Hospital and inspected the new emergency and outpatient ward and the new ward for members of the Sangha. Medical Superintendent Dr Htay and officials conducted them round the hospital.

Then, the Secretary-1 and party arrived at Bagan-NyaungU Airport. They arrived back here in the evening.

MNA

## Facts for Life course for housewives opened at MMCWA

YANGON, 10 July— The ceremony to open the Facts for Life course for housewives from Kyimyindine, Kawhmu, Mindon, Saw, Ngaputaw and Thabaung townships, organized by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and UNICEF, was held at the meeting hall of MMCWA at the corner of Thanthuma and Parami roads in South Okkalapa Township here this morning.

Present were President of MMCWA Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Vice-President Dr Kyi Soe, Chairperson of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MMCWA Daw Khin Thet Htay, officials of UNICEF, instructors and trainees.

President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe gave a speech.

Altogether 66 trainees are attending the course which will last up to 14 July. — MNA



Lawkananda River Water Pumping Project in NyaungU District on 9-7-2003. — MNA

**Do not be softened  
whenever appeased**

## Waso robes offered at Koedatgyi Pagoda

YANGON, 10 July— Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended the ceremony to pay homage to Atula Dhipati Maha Muni Çakka Koedatgyi Pagoda at its consecration ceremony in conjunction with the second Waso robes offering ceremony in Sangyoung Township this morning.

Also present were Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Thayet Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kesara, Secretary Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara and member Sayadaws, No 2 Military Region Command Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint, military region commanders, Chairman of Yangon West District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein and officials. — MNA



Supply of water from Lawkananda River Water Pumping Project to cultivation areas through main canal. — MNA



Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspect preparations for prawn breeding tasks near Donthami Bridge in Hpa-an.— MNA



## Whole nation achieving...

(from page 16)

achieving rapid development as all are implementing the work programmes laid down by the Head of State with vision and goodwill.

However, the danger of insurgents still exists in Kayin State and some other regions. Thus, the government despite its goodwill is not able to undertake development endeavours in the areas. As the Tatmadaw alone cannot manage for the region to achieve cent per cent peace, the people will have to make harmonious efforts to this end. All will have to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes and to strive for perpetuation of the nation and the race.

The Tatmadawmen and the State service personnel are required to serve the interests of the nation and the race with correct and comprehensive vision. Their services are for the State and the people. All will have to prevent the recurrence of the 1988 unrest. They will have to safeguard the nation and the race for their perpetuation and to work in accord with the rules and regulations while striving to enhance their qualification. At the Kayin State People's Hospital, they met with Kayin State Health Officer Dr Myo Lwin, Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung, specialists, doctors and nurses.

At the Hpa-an Education College, they also met with trainee teachers attending the on-job teachers training course No 7, and Daw Nu Nu Yi, principal of the college, reported on matters related to the college.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win gave instructions and presented cash assistance for the college to the principal.

The Secretary-2 and Lt-Gen Maung Bo arrived at the Hpa-an University, where they were welcomed by Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) Director-General U Saw Lwin, Pro-Rector U Saw Han Shein, rectors,

lecturers and faculty members.

At the hall of the university, they heard reports on matters related to human resource development courses being conducted at the university.

The Secretary-2 and Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with faculty members and urged them to work hard for education promotion tasks and nation-building tasks.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party went to Mebaung Monastery in the evening, where they paid homage to Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Indriya and offered provisions to him.

They also paid homage to Myainggyingu Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sujana, who is currently staying at Ward-3 in Hpa-an, and offered provisions to him. Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspected fish and prawn ponds of private entrepreneurs on Hpekala Wetland, Hpa-an Township, at 7 am on 9 July, and heard reports on the breeding of fish and prawn and the digging of fish ponds.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspected the reclamation of virgin land and the digging of ditches being undertaken by the irrigation department in Mebaung-Naunglon region, Hpa-an Township. Kayin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Cho Tun Aung and Deputy Director-General of the Irrigation Department U Khin Zaw conducted them round the work site.

The Irrigation Department is digging two 137,800 feet long ditches and three 27,000 feet long drain and reclaiming 25,465 acres of farm lands in Mebaung-Naunglon region of Hpa-an Township. Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspected the digging of ditches with the use of bulldozers and fulfilled machinery. After giving instructions, they left for Mon State. Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, who accompanied Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party, inspected the Kayin State People's Hospital.—MNA

## Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 10 July — The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking the tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce.

One 200 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 250,000; one 400 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000; and one 200 feet deep four-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000.

Those wishing to donate cash for the tube-well sinking projects for rural areas may contact the Director-General (Tel: 01-245420 & 253088), the Deputy Director-General (Tel: 01-240118), the Director (Engineering) (Tel: 01-291967), the Directors (Sagaing Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 071-21012), the Director (Magway Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 063-23164) and the Director (Mandalay Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 02-54657).

MNA

## Thoughts on returning to village

- \* Haven't been to native village for long time  
When I was back, there was welcome  
By friends of youthful days  
"Hey, Fatty", "Hey, man" the shout  
Who in welcomed me with shouts of joy  
I heard them brimming my ears  
And in my heart  
Those days of my youth  
I felt I had returned to.
- \* I watched them, smiling  
With happiness, felt back in adolescence  
"Hey, you, Fatty, you"  
That time he called you  
Your uncle called you to the city  
Educated you in school there  
We were left gazing from a distance  
You must know you saw us  
Nowadays, the situation is  
The one who's left gazing is you  
To know the difference, you hark.
- \* These days, in our village  
There's High School, there's clinic  
Village road is, clean and pleasant  
Water plenty to drink and use, it's so good.  
With artesian well, and cultivation  
There's water aplenty  
Economic wellbeing, look at the houses  
Just see the difference, You Po Wa
- \* Country bumpkin who's been in the city  
While back home in village, keeps bragging  
You must be a braggart.  
Reminiscing, when one walks in village  
Must simply be bragging  
But when one looks, surprise fill one  
Could see what they said  
Gaze and think  
You'll really be filled with joy.
- \* Umm! Born in the city  
Married a bumpkin, the housewife  
The one full of lip, about my village  
That good news  
I must tell her all about.

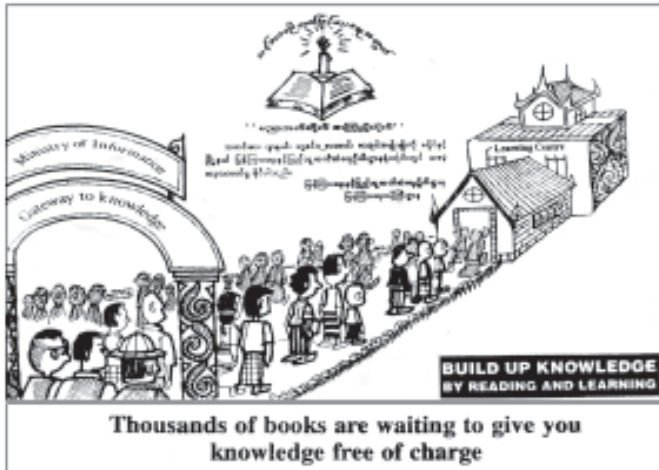
Po Wa (Trs)



Yadanabon Market in Mandalay. (News reported)— MNA



Escalator installed at Mandalay Hill. (News reported) MNA



## ADVERTISEMENTS

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Dated: 11 July 2003

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**TIN OHNMAR TUN**  
B.A.(Law) LL.B.L.L.M(UK)  
P.O. Box 109, Ph: 248108  
(For. Domern Somgiat & Boonma Attorneys at Law, Thailand)  
Dated 11 July 2003

### 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 **Patheingyi Suspension Bridge** across Ngawun River.
- The particulars of **Patheingyi 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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**

## Canadian Govt cuts subsidies to magazines

OTTAWA, 10 July — The Canadian Government is making a major cut in subsidies to Canada's magazine industry, local media reported Tuesday.

Heritage Minister Sheila Copps said earlier that the magazine industry is healthy and no longer needs the same level of funding. The government

will reallocate the money to community newspapers.

The Canadian Magazine Fund will lose 14.6 million Canadian dollars (about 10 million US dollars) this year and two million Canadian dollars (about 1.4 million US dollars) next year due to the cuts.

MNA/Xinhua

## မြန်မာ့နိုင်ငံအားလုံးပါ

## National Geographic Channel to shoot documentary in China

BEIJING, 10 July — The National Geographic Channel Asia will shoot a documentary in China to tell the story of an American photographer's journey along the "Marco Polo route" from the West to the East.

Film crew members, including the photographer Michael Yamashita, are preparing to fly to China's westernmost city of Kashi in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region to start the one-month shooting work, it was announced here Wednesday.

The film-making project will begin in Xinjiang and proceed eastward through Gansu and Inner Mongolia to Beijing, then move south through Shanghai, Jiangsu and Zhejiang, tracing the fabled route of Italian adventurer Marco Polo in the 13th century and Yamashita in the year 2001.

Film footage of Yamashita's travels in China will be an important part of the channel's 90-minute programme series, which may reach 160 million households around the world, said Ward Platt, managing director of the National Geographic Channel Asia.

National Geographic photographer Michael Yamashita traced the route of Marco Polo, beginning in Venice and moving eastward through Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan and China in 2001, using his camera to describe the changes that have taken place in the sites previously visited by Marco Polo.

His work was published in the *National Geographic* magazine and also in the book *Marco Polo*, which has been published in 12 languages.

It was in 1998, the 700th

anniversary of the publishing of Marco Polo's renowned travelogue, that Yamashita was inspired to make the trip. He said he wanted to find out if Marco Polo had ever really made the journey, given the reservations of some historians.

Now people will be able to discover the truth through a TV camera, as well as through original documents and photos, he said.

Hong Kong-based Phoenix Satellite TV will also send film crews to accompany Yamashita to shoot an on-location documentary for the National Geographic project.

National Geographic programmes have reached millions of viewers on the Chinese Mainland through collaboration with local television channels.

MNA/Xinhua

## Ancient mummy reproduced as statue for museum tours

CHANGSHA, 10 July — A second statue of a beautiful woman who lived about 2,200 years ago was successfully reproduced Wednesday in central China's Hunan Province, marking an important advancement in replicating ancient human bodies.

The woman, named Xin Zhui, was the wife of the prime minister of the Changsha Kingdom who lived during the early Western Han Dynasty (206 BC-24 AD) and died at the age of 50.

When her body was first excavated in 1972 at

Mawangdui on the eastern outskirts of Changsha, archaeologists hailed it as an archaeological miracle because most of her hair was in its original state, her joints were relatively flexible and her soft tissue was still intact.

In order to preserve the ancient mummy, Zhao Chengwen, a professor with the Chinese Criminal Police Institute, sculpted a statue of the woman in January, with the help of skull X-rays.

Since the original statue of the ancient mummy has a permanent home in the Hunan

Museum, the second statue was made for the purpose of touring museums.

Compared with the original, the No 2 Xin Zhui statue was produced strictly in line with the archaeological findings and historical records and looks much more life-like and charming, said Chen Guoan, deputy researcher of the museum.

Made of silicon rubber and measuring 1.58 metres, the figure of the woman dressed in yellow has elastic skin and can be washed with water.

MNA/Xinhua

## US parents spending more on kids' clothes

WASHINGTON, 10 July — US parents are spending more on their kids' clothes, pushing up the kids' apparel sales against the backdrop of the declining apparel sector, said the *Time* magazine.

"The children's market has bucked the trend," the latest edition of the magazine quoted Marshal Cohen,

co-president of the market-research firm NPD Fashionworld, as saying.

"It's the only apparel sector that grew in 2002," Cohen added.

According to the market-research firm, sales of children's apparel rose by 6 per cent in 2002, while sales of apparel in general fell 1.7 per cent. And the trend is

continuing.

Kids' apparel for newborns through about age 10 grew even as the birthrate slightly but steadily declined, said the magazine.

War and terrorism are said to have contributed to parents' growing desire to protect and pamper their children.

MNA/Xinhua

## Indonesia to build first intelligence college

JAKARTA, 10 July — Indonesian President Megawati Soekarnoputri on Wednesday laid the foundation stone for Indonesia's first intelligence school on the industrial island of Batam, the *Antara* news agency reported.

Seven of the 10 Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries have confirmed they will send their citizens to study at the International School of Intelligence (ISI).

"The development of ISI is in line with the idea the President presented at the multilateral meeting held in Jakarta in June 2002," Head of State Intelligence Board (BIN) Hendropriyono was quoted as saying.

Megawati, during the meeting which was attended by representatives of ASEAN countries, noted that ASEAN should be ready to face the global challenge related to the multi-dimensional threat. As such, the

BIN, in cooperation with the University of Indonesia (UI) and the Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB), developed a study programme on intelligence.

"Intelligence could be applied not only in the military but in business activities as well," Hendropriyono said, adding that while the school building is being constructed in Batam, its students could be accommodated in the UI. He pointed out that in academic year

2004/2005, the UI could take in about 100 foreign and Indonesian students.

"The construction of the school building will use up funds from Indonesia's state budget. It is expected to be completed in 10 months," he added. The intelligence college at Batam in Riau Province will provide a graduate programme while a separate college at Sentul in West Java will offer an undergraduate course.

MNA/Xinhua

# မညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## Chinese Vice-President meets S Korean President

**BEIJING, 10 July** — Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong met with visiting South Korea's President Roh Moo-hyun and other South Korea guests here Tuesday.

Since the two countries forged diplomatic ties in 1992, Zeng said, bilateral relations have developed in a comprehensive manner, which has served the practical interests of the people of both countries and contributed to regional peace and stability. The Chinese side is confident that the all-around cooperative partnership of the two countries will have a bright future, he added.

Vice-President Zeng enunciated China's stance on the nuclear issue of North Korea, saying that China welcomes an improvement in relations on the peninsula. He said the Chinese side appreciates the peace and prosperity policy advocated by President Roh.

The Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Millennium Democratic Party (MDP) of South Korea have maintained friendly exchanges, Zeng said, and mutual understanding and trust have also kept deepening since they established inter-party

relations in 1998.

The CPC stands ready to strengthen friendly exchanges with the MDP and with other South Korea's parties to contribute to the full development of bilateral relations, Zeng said.

President Roh said that bilateral relations have made noticeable progress with the caring attention of the leaders of both countries in recent years. South Korea side is willing to work with the Chinese side to deepen the all-around cooperative partnership, including inter-party relations, he noted.

Meanwhile, President Roh thanked China for its support for both sides of the Korean Peninsula in their efforts to improve and develop relations, stressing that South Korea side would continue to work for peace and stability on the peninsula.

President Roh, who arrived in Beijing Monday, is presently on a four-day state visit as guest of Chinese President Hu Jintao.

MNA/Xinhua

## NASA sends Mars rover on its way

**CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 10 July** — Despite a late glitch that stopped the countdown at seven seconds, NASA managed to launch its latest Mars mission successfully on Monday after fixing the problem and resetting the clock.

The liftoff ended almost two weeks of frustrating delays for the space agency. Engineers had to scramble to diagnose a problem with a pressure valve on the first stage of the *Delta 2* rocket in order to get the rocket off at 11.18 pm EDT (0218 GMT on Tuesday), 43 minutes late.

When the six-wheeled Mars Expedition Rover *Opportunity* reaches the Red Planet, it will scour the surface for signs that could point toward ancient life.

Already speeding toward Mars is the first of the twin rovers, named *Spirit*, which was launched on June 10.

But the *Delta* rocket holding *Opportunity* had been idled since June 25 by scheduling and technical problems, bad weather, and even an errant fishing boat in restricted waters near the launch site.

The 400-million-US-dollar mission finally got away in spectacular fashion, streaking across the night sky over Florida like a

massive fireball, lighting up the beaches below. The two rovers will land 6,000 miles apart in January, then begin their exploration, moving about the Martian surface for about three months, wielding scoops and drills to collect samples of soil and rock.

NASA said that scientists do not expect the rovers to find life there, or even direct evidence of ancient life, but they hope to determine whether conditions were favourable on Mars three billion to four billion years ago for life to evolve.

"This is a desolate, dry, barren world today, yet when we look at Mars from orbit we see tantalizing clues it was once wetter and warmer," Steve Squyres, the Cornell University scientist and principle investigator for the mission, told reporters in a pre-launch briefing.

On Earth, life was "somehow coming into being from non-living material" at about the time those same conditions existed on Mars, said Squyres. —MNA/Reuters



(L-R) US astronaut Mike Goale, Russian cosmonaut Alexander Kaleri and their Spanish colleague Pedro Duque wave from inside a simulator of Soyuz-TMA, during a training at Star City outside Moscow, on 8 July, 2003. The crew are due to fly to the International Space Station (ISS) in October.

INTERNET

## Pakistan never to indulge in nuclear proliferation

**ISLAMABAD, 10 July** — President Pervez Musharraf on Monday reiterated Pakistan's resolve not to indulge in nuclear proliferation, the *Associated Press of Pakistan* reported here.

"Pakistan will never proliferate, Pakistan's nuclear potential is under very strong custodial control and we have very strong safeguards to prevent its proliferation and its assets going into wrong hands," he said.

While speaking at the 28th International Nathiagali Summer College on Physics and Contemporary Needs, the President stated that Pakistan's nuclear programme is totally indigenous and in response to the threat faced by the country.

He said all necessary measures have been taken to prevent nuclear proliferation

and prevent its strategic assets going into wrong hands.

Musharraf reaffirmed Pakistan's desire for peace in South Asia through peaceful resolution of all disputes including the key Kashmir issue.

"In its ultimate context, peace in this South Asian region will be through resolution of all political disputes including the Jammu and Kashmir dispute," he added.

However, the President stated that before such a peace is achieved through the resolution of political disputes, "we have to ensure that there is no-win situation for the two contenders — Pakistan and India."

He said Pakistan is following the strategy of minimum defensive deterrence, adding that the country is not in the arms race but would maintain such a deterrence at all levels.

The President said that to achieve the ultimate peace the two countries have to reach political resolution of all disputes. —MNA/Xinhua

## Megawati to re-launch multibillion-dollar projects

**JAKARTA, 10 July** — Indonesian President Megawati Soekarnoputri is scheduled on Thursday to re-launch a number of development projects worth billions of US dollars, which were shelved in the wake of the 1997 economic crisis, the daily *Jakarta Post* reported Tuesday.

The projects include a power project in Central Java, a number of toll road projects in East Java and a flood control project in Jakarta.

The re-launching ceremony will be held at the site of the Tanjung Jati B power plant project in Jepara, Central Java, one of the projects to be revived by the President.

The 1,329-megawatt power plant, which was half finished prior to the crisis,

had changed hands several times until Japanese construction firm Sumitomo agreed to continue the project in a joint venture, PT Central Java Power, with Indonesian state electricity company PT PLN.

Japan Bank for International Cooperation has agreed to provide 1.65 billion US dollars in loans for the development of the project.

During the ceremony, Megawati will also re-launch

the development of three toll roads in East Java worth 4.92 trillion rupiah (\$95 million dollars).

The development of toll road will improve traffic flow in Surabaya and its surrounding areas.

Another giant project to be re-launched by the President is the East Canal flood-control project in Jakarta.

The canal, which will be built gradually along Cipinang, Cakung, Sunter, Buaran, Jatikramat and Blencong rivers, is expected to protect 207-square-kilometre areas in eastern Jakarta from floods, Roestam Sjarief, Director General for water resources at the Ministry for Resettlement and Regional Infrastructure, has said.

The three projects are expected to be completed in 2005, 2006 and 2007 respectively. —MNA/Xinhua

## Small US plane crashes in Lake Ontario

**OTTAWA, 10 July** — Canadian search teams scoured Lake Ontario for an American pilot and anyone else who might have survived the crash Monday of a small aircraft that vanished from radar screens while trying to land on Toronto Island, reports reaching here said.

Police, with the help from the Canadian Coast Guard, said they have the name of the pilot who was commandeering the small aircraft from the Chicago area, but they were not releasing the identity until next-of-kin were notified, police sources said.

There was no confirmation of any other passengers, although the aircraft can hold up to six passengers including the pilot.

The search crews have

recovered a tyre and aircraft documents, including navigational charts, among debris in the water five kilometres southeast of the waterfront of the Toronto City.

MNA/Xinhua

## Indonesian TNI plans to purchase "Sukhoi" jets

**JAKARTA, 10 July** — Indonesian Military Forces (TNI) officially proposed to the Indonesian House of Representatives (DPR) here Tuesday to purchase two squadrons of *Sukhoi* jet fighters.

"We would like to buy at least two squadrons of the planes, now we are studying the capability to purchase the planes," TNI Chief General Endriartono Sutarto told reporters after

a hearing with the DPR Commission One at the Parliament building here.

According to the general, the plan would be financed by the 2004 state budget.

Previously, Indonesian Air Force Chief Marshall Chappy Hakim said that the purchase of the *Sukhoi* jet fighters from Russia was a breakthrough to control the Indonesian Air Territory.

MNA/Xinhua

## SPORTS

**Beckham, Real get green-light for HK appearance**

HONG KONG, 10 July — Spanish powerhouse Real Madrid and newly-signed superstar Beckham have been allowed to make their appearance here, Hong Kong Government officials said Tuesday.

"The visit of the top Spanish football team, which boasts some of the world's most popular superstars including Beckham, Zidane and Ronaldo, will showcase Hong Kong as a truly world-class city, an ideal venue for international sports and cultural events, and a powerful magnet for investment and tourism," said Hong Kong Secretary for Home Affairs Patrick Ho after a contract signing ceremony paving the way for the match.

The Spanish champions will face off against the Chinese national squad at Hong Kong's Stadium on August 8 as part of the territory's package of events to help kickstart its ailing tourism industry. — MNA/Xinhua

**Gillespie signs for Leicester City**

LONDON, 10 July — Northern Ireland winger Keith Gillespie became promoted Leicester City's fifth close-season signing after agreeing to a two-year deal on Tuesday.

The 28-year-old joins the Premier League club on a free transfer from Blackburn Rovers where he was out of contract.

"I'm delighted to have signed someone with Gillespie's pedigree," City manager Micky Adams told the club's web site. "He is an experienced player in the Premiership and at international level, and I believe he will be a very valuable addition to our squad."

"He plays wide on the right, has a lot of pace and skill and will fit into the way we want to play this season. And at 28 years old he still has a lot to offer."

Gillespie agreed to move to the Walkers

Stadium after concluding negotiations this week and the signing was completed on Tuesday after he passed his medical.

The winger began his career at Manchester United where he made his debut in 1994 but opportunities were limited and he joined Newcastle United for one million pounds (1.64 million US dollars) in the 1994-95 season.

Gillespie made 121 starts for Newcastle before moving to Blackburn for 2.25 million pounds in 1998.

He has spent the last five years at Ewood Park and made 34 appearances for Blackburn last season. — MNA/Reuters



Russian teen-ager Maria Sharapova, who caused quite a sensation by reaching the fourth round at Wimbledon thinks she is ready to take on the Williams sisters. "Of course. I have to be ready," the 16-year-old was quoted as saying in the 8 July, 2003 Sport-Express newspaper when asked if she could challenge the powerful Americans. Sharapova returns to Yugoslavia's Jelena Dokic in their third round match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, on 28 June.

INTERNET

**Barca bid for Ronaldinho**

MADRID, 10 July — Barcelona have made an official bid for Paris St Germain forward Ronaldinho and are close to reaching a deal to sign Sporting Lisbon's highly rated young winger Ricardo Quaresma, the Catalan club said on Wednesday.

"I don't want to go into details," Barcelona president Joan Laporta told reporters when questioned about the club's interest in Ronaldinho. "But we have made a firm and serious offer that reflects what a great club like Barcelona is capable of doing."

Brazilian international Ronaldinho has also been targeted by Manchester United, but last week Paris St Germain rejected a reported offer of 20 million euros (22.70 million US dollars) by the English champions.

"I know that Manchester United today made an offer of 35 million euros (39.73 million US dollars) for the Brazilian," Barcelona vice-president Sandro Rosell told the club's television channel Canal Barca.

But Rosell went on to say that if there was only a small difference between the offers from the two clubs he believed the player would prefer to sign for Barcelona.

Barcelona also confirmed on Wednesday that they were trying to put the finishing touches to a deal to sign Portuguese winger Quaresma.

The 19-year-old arrived at the Nou Camp with his agents in an attempt to agree a four-year deal with the Catalan club. "He's a strong young player and is a good option for the future," Barca coach Frank Rijkaard told the club's web site. — MNA/Reuters

**Kewell says deal still on despite hitch**

MELBOURNE, 10 July — Australian forward Harry Kewell's expected television announcement of a move from Leeds to Liverpool on Tuesday has been postponed but he insisted a deal would still go through.

Kewell had been tipped to join the Anfield club this week and Australia's Channel Nine had trailed an interview with him when the 24-year-old was expected to confirm the deal.

But the channel announced the interview would now not be going out because of a last-minute complication.

Kewell said later in a pre-recorded interview aired on Channel Nine: "It feels great to have it, but I haven't signed it yet."

"No, I'm not going to change my mind and hopefully they don't change theirs."

A station had said earlier on Tuesday: "At this stage we gather that he hasn't signed with anybody. We basically can't run the story until he has signed. That's the deal all along."

"There has been a last-minute hitch." — MNA/Reuters

**Turkey's Sukur signs for old club Galatasaray**

ISTANBUL, 10 July — Turkish international striker Hakan Sukur has signed for his former team Galatasaray after leaving Blackburn Rovers at the end of last season, the Istanbul club said on Tuesday.

The Galatasaray web site said Sukur took part in training on Monday evening and was to join the squad on a pre-season trip to Austria this week.

The 31-year-old arrived at the English Premier League club on a short-term deal from Italian club Parma in December and had a difficult time in England. A hernia operation and a broken leg restricted him to just eight league appearances.

There were signs that he was settling in at Blackburn after returning to the first team in March and the club's coach Graeme Souness, who worked with Sukur while manager of Galatasaray, had hoped to keep him at the club.

Sukur scored 173 goals during his eight seasons with Galatasaray. The fee involved has not been disclosed. Sukur left the club in July 2000 to move to Inter Milan.

MNA/Reuters

**Viduka not for sale, says Leeds chief**

LONDON, 10 July — Reeling Leeds United chairman John McKenzie has made it clear that Australia striker Mark Viduka is not for sale after the acrimonious completion of Harry Kewell's transfer to Liverpool on Wednesday.

Leeds will receive a net fee of three million pounds (4.89 million US dollars) for Kewell, described by McKenzie as a "paltry sum",

and media reports have already suggested his compatriot Viduka could be next to leave the troubled Elland Road club.

"I have made it quite clear he is not for sale," McKenzie told Sky Sports television. "On the last day of the season... I spoke to Mark Viduka myself at some length and we both agreed that his future was with Leeds United."

"I've had that reinforced in several conversations with his professional advisers in Australia during the summer period."

Kewell is the latest high-profile player to leave indebted Leeds, following the departures of Rio Ferdinand, Robbie Fowler, Lee Bowyer, Jonathan Woodgate and Robbie Keane in the past year.

McKenzie was left fuming after being forced to pay Kewell's representatives two-million of the five-million-pound fee agreed with Liverpool for the player, who otherwise could have left the

club for nothing in a year's time.

But he said he had received no bids for any other Leeds players and hoped the Kewell saga would bind the club together. "There have been no other bids in the course of the summer period," McKenzie added.

"I would be a fool to say if a player asks to go that we don't consider that very seriously and what the reason for it is but, as far as the club is concerned, we want to keep that team as it is together."

"We want to add players to that team and we want now to try as a club, as a manager and as a set of fans to try and put the really very unsatisfactory unpleasant situation behind us."

"I think that we are beginning to turn Leeds round. The first thing you have to do is to have players that clearly want to stay and play for you and we will now be giving some money to (manager) Peter Reid."

"Harry Kewell was on wages of 2-1/2 million (pounds) a year so that plus the three million will give us some start to go out and find

some new opportunities that Peter is actively looking at.

"We have to try and rebuild and, frankly, I think

that this crisis as I see it will probably bring all of us together again."

MNA/Reuters



Argentine striker Gabriel Batistuta (R) shows a plaque given to him by the head of Argentina's Soccer Association, Julio Grondona, in recognition of his great career in the national team during a gala match to celebrate his country's first World Cup victory in 1978, at the River Plate stadium in Buenos Aires, on 9 July, 2003. Batistuta, who played in three World Cups between 1994 and 2002 holds the Argentine record of 56 goals in 78 international matches and 10 at the World Cup. — INTERNET

## Commander inspects tax-free markets in Yangon City

YANGON, 10 July— Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by military region commanders, local authorities and officials of Yangon City Development Committee, this morning inspected tax-free markets and fulfilled requirements to officials.

The commander toured Pantaya Tax-free Market, Tamway Tax-free Market, Yankin Tax-free Market,

Nawade Tax-free Market, Konmyinthath Tax-free Market and Hanthawady Tax-free Market and inspected the sale of goods.

Speaking at the markets, the commander said that the tax-free markets are being opened with the aim of easily buying of fresh vegetables, meat and fish at tax-free markets for the city dwellers. The goods are to be sold at correct weight to the consumers. The markets are also to be kept clean and pleasant. — MNA



Newly-built modern Railway Station in Mandalay. (News reported) — MNA



Newly renovated Shwekyangdaw Golden Monastery in Mandalay. (News reported) — MNA



Newly renovated Maha Atulawayyan Atumashi Monastery in Mandalay. (News reported) — MNA

## ကုသကာကွယ် မူးယစ်အန္တရာယ်

၁။ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲလျှင်

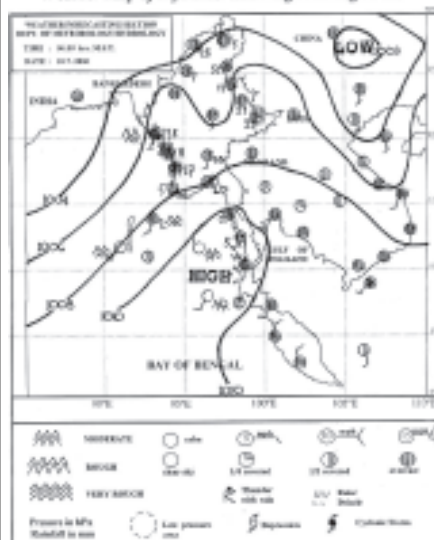
အသည့်ရောင် အသားဝါရောင်၊ အသည့်ခြောက်ရောင်၊ အသည့်ကင်ဆာရောင်၊ သွေးဆိပ်တက်ခြင်းနှင့် နှလုံးရောင်၊ အဆုတ်ရောင်များ၊ ခုခံအားကျဆင်းမှုရောင် (AIDS) နှင့်၊ စိတ်ပိုင်းဆိုင်ရာရောင်များ စသည့်တို့၊ ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သည့်အပြင်၊ စီးပွားရေးနှင့် လူမှုရေးများ ထိခိုက်ပျက်ပြားခြင်း၊ ဥပဒေအရ အရေးယူခံရခြင်းတို့ဖြစ်နိုင်သည်။

၂။ ထိုကြောင့် အဆိုပါဒုက္ခများမှတင်းဆေးစေရန်၊ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးကို လုံးဝ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

၃။ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲသူများသည် သတ်မှတ်ဆေးရုံများတွင် မှတ်ပုံတင်၍ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

## Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



## WEATHER

Thursday, 10 July, 2003

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin, Mon and Rakhine States, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Shan State and Yangon Division and isolated in the remaining areas.

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myitkyina (2.20) inches, Maungdaw (2.17) inches, Thandwe (1.30) inches, Sittwe (1.22) inches, Aungmye and Kyaukpadaung (1.18) inches.

Maximum temperature on 9-7-2003 was 32.0°C (90°F).

Minimum temperature on 10-7-2003 was 22.0°C (72°F).

Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 10-7-2003 was 89%.

Total sunshine hours on 9-7-2003 was (4.6) hours (Approx). Rainfall on 10-7-2003 was nil Yangon, 2mm at Kaba-Aye and 4mm at central Yangon.

Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 107.61 mm (42.17 inches) at Yangon Airport, 1184 mm (46.61 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1196 mm (47.09 inches) at central Yangon.

Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 14 mph from South at (15:00) hours MST on 9-7-2003.

**Bay inference:** Monsoon is generally moderate in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 11-7-2003:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and scattered in Chin, Rakhine and Shan States. Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions and isolated in the remaining area. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Moderate monsoon.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11-7-2003 :** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 11-7-2003:** Partly cloudy.

## Whole nation achieving rapid development as all join in implementing work programmes laid down by the Head of State

YANGON, 10 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, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, arrived at Donthami Bridge in Hpa-an Township, Kayin State, on 8 July afternoon.

They were welcomed there by No 22 Light Infantry Division Brig-Gen Ngwe Thein, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Cho Tun Aung and officials.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspected Donthami Bridge and preparations for breeding prawn at the environs of Donthami Creek.



*Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann meets local authorities, departmental personnel and local people at Zwegabin Hall in Hpa-an.—MNA*

Next, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and Lt-Gen Maung Bo arrived at Basic Education High School in Tayokhla Model Village, Hpa-an Township, where they were welcomed by officials.

At the hall of the school, Col Cho Tun Aung reported on development tasks of the village. Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave a supplementary report.

Officials reported on agriculture, livestock breeding, health, education and requirements. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo explained health matters and Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung

Thein, extended breeding of poultry, fish and prawn.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann gave necessary instructions. Tayokhla Model Village has developed as a model village.

The Secretary-2 and party arrived at Cement Plant which can produce 4,000 tons a day in Myainggaile. At the briefing hall, Factory Manager Lt-Col Aung Min reported on production process of the factory. The Secretary-2 gave necessary instructions and inspected the factory, the main control room and production process.

On arrival at Govern-

ment Computer College in Hpa-an, Principal in-charge Daw Soe Soe Min reported on academic matters and student affairs. The Secretary-2 gave necessary instructions.

At 3 pm, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann, the Secretary-2, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and officials met with local authorities, departmental personnel and local people at Zwegabin Hall in Hpa-an.

Col Cho Tun Aung reported on the area of Kayin State, formation of district and townships, net cultivation acres of monsoon and summer paddy and other crops in the state, per-acre

yield, water supply for paddy cultivation, development of meat and fish sectors, aims and accomplishments and per capita income of the state.

The Secretary-2 said Kayin State is achieving multi-sectorial development year after year thanks to the collective efforts of the local authorities, departments and the people in accord with the leadership of the State. The progress will be attained with greater momentum, if peace and stability has been restored and cooperation achieved to the full. Peace and stability and mutual understanding and trust have been built even in the border areas where locals had to live in constant fear in the past due to lack of peace. Now, the regions are developing amazingly.

The government is attending to the needs of Kayin State for the state to enjoy progress that is equal to all other states and divisions. More roads and bridges have been built in the state. Now the state has about 750 miles of roads. Hpa-an can be reached from Yangon or Mawlayine easily and swiftly. The government has already built a number of bridges including Thanlwin Bridge (Hpa-an), Gyaing Bridge (Kawkareik), Gyaing Bridge (Zathabyin), Dawlan Bridge, Yunsalin Bridge, Hlaingwa Bridge, Donthami rail bridge and Mekane Bridge. Similarly, its had

extended microwave stations, satellite stations and rural communication centres.

A total of 173 more schools have been built in the state; it now has 1,322 schools. Hpa-an Degree College was upgraded to university in April 2003. Government technological college, government computer college, and education college were also opened in the state. Arrangements are being made for the locals to get access to basic education and higher education.

Eight more hospitals have been opened and 130 doctors appointed. In addition, the government has spent over K 2 billion in launching the border area development programme. The State's aim is to narrow the development gap between all the states and divisions and ensure a proportionate development.

The local authorities and departmental personnel at different levels should understand the State's goodwill and should actively and correctly discharge their duties. They have the duty to serve as a bridge between the State and the people, to work with goodwill in helping the people, to use the good conditions achieved in the whole nation for the state to gain further progress.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann said the whole nation and all the states and divisions are (See page 11)



*Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Soe Win inspects control room of Cement Plant which can produce 4,000 tons of cement a day in Myainggaile.—MNA*

## Construction of dams, cultivation matters in Mandalay Division inspected

YANGON, 10 July — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin inspected ginning of cotton by double roller gins of Myanma Cotton and Sericulture Enterprise in Meiktila on 8 July morning. In Nyauंगाing Village, the minister inspected quality strain of model long staple cotton plantations.

The minister and party arrived at Kyauktaga Dam

Project near Kyauktaga Village, Natmauk Township. Deputy Director of Construction-7 U Victor reported on progress of works and future tasks.

The minister inspected construction of the conduit and 150 feet wide spillway, construction of embankments, soil test and blocking of Kyauktaga and TaungU creeks.

Afterwards, the minister

and party saw over the canal under Meiktila-Kyaukpadaung Road. The minister also inspected construction of Taungyaychaung Dam in Tebinte Village, Kyaukpadaung Township. In the irrigated area of Kyetmauktaung Dam, the minister inspected harvest of summer paddy and per-acre yield of model plot.

At Hsepauk Grape

Farm, the minister heard reports on grafting of grape and mango, technology for pepper cultivation and production of grape and mango wines.

In the evening, the minister inspected proliferation of perennial trees and seasonal crops and growing of crop-museum and dragon fruit plantation with the least use of water and the herbal plantation.—MNA

## Drug traffickers sentenced

YANGON, 10 July — Thaton District Court on 16 May sentenced drug dealers Hsan Maung and Kyaw Thu to 30 years imprisonment each under Section 15/19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Police of Theinzayat Police Station in Kyeikhto Township, Mon State, on 13 December 2002 searched them near Pyinkadogon Village in Kyeikhto Township and seized 6.5317 kilos of marijuana.

In connection with the case, action was taken against Hsan Maung, son of U Tun Maung, and his son Kyaw Thu under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. —MNA