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Monday, 21 July, 2003

## It is out of the question for those without IT knowledge to have access to other fields of education Secretary-1 attends clarification on e-Government of e-National Task Force

YANGON, 20 July—A clarification on e-Government of e-National Task Force was held at MICT Park in Hline Township at 5 pm today, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Computer Science Development Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General

partmental officials, officials of Myanmar Computer Federation, Myanmar Computer Scientists Association, Myanmar Computer Industry Association and guests.

Col Tin Oo of the Ministry of Defence acted as master of ceremonies.

First, Chairman of

trialists.

The IT science is now making progress with added momentum in the international spheres, and a piece of information could be sent to various parts of the world in keeping up with the times. With the advancement in science and technology, the world has become a global village, he noted.

In the international community, it is out of the question if IT is not taught and known. With this concept, efforts are being made to be able to widely use the IT science in every sector and strata in Myanmar.

In developed countries, those who know nothing about IT science are not in a position to unsocialize with others. It is out of the question for those without IT knowledge to have access to other fields of education. Myanmar has been keeping in touch with computer science for years but is in its infancy when it comes to IT science, he stressed.

Hence, the government in cooperation with computer industrialists and computer scientists is making earnest efforts for the emergence of e-Government, development and wide use of IT science in Myanmar.

The Government links those who are to provide the assistance and officials who are to practically implement the tasks to be able to hold discussions on assistance to be provided, the nature of e-Government and measures to be taken for successful implementation of e-

Government system.

Accordingly, responsible officials of departments concerned and IT industrialists and IT scientists are to make concerted efforts for the emergence of e-Government.

It can be said that Myanmar is in its infancy in IT development. But it is obvious that Myanmar youths acquired a good command of IT science in no time since they are highly qualified. Myanmar IT scientist youths who pursued IT science in developed countries are now efficiently using the IT science with the use of IT equipment in Myanmar.

With the active participation of IT industrialists and IT scientists and support of the Government, the IT infrastructures like international level MICT Park and Bagan Telepost have emerged in Myanmar in a short time. The advanced IT infrastructures have emerged and IT science has flourished in Myanmar due to the efforts of Myanmar scientist youths with high calibre and entrepreneurs and the emergence of highly qualified technicians.

In the software sector, there are now many companies which cooperate with their counterparts at home and abroad.

Under the circumstances, efforts are to be made for the emergence of e-Government to enable the nation to stand shoulder to shoulder with the global nations.

(See page 9)

### 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



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt addresses presentation on e-Government tasks of e-National Task Force.—MNA

Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, senior military officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department, members of the Board of Directors of Myanmar Information and Communications Technology Development Committee, members of e-National Task Force, de-

Myanmar Computer Science Development Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt made a speech. He said that the ceremony was held to clarify the salient points of e-Government needed to be known to officials of the ministries concerned, the heads of department, the departments and organizations that taught IT science and the industrialists who are engaged in IT science, the present conditions on e-Government in Myanmar and future work programmes, and assistance to be provided by IT indus-

### Circulation

24,056



Ministers and officials attending the ceremony to present e-Government tasks of e-National Task Force.—MNA

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 21 July, 2003

### Greater role of Ayeyawady Division in nation-building endeavours

Today, the State Peace and Development Council is striving for the Union of Myanmar to be on a par with nations of the world. In doing so, the State has been implementing projects for equitable development of all the regions of the nation, narrowing the development gap between one region and another and harmonious socio-economic development of various regions.

The opening ceremony of the newly-built Maubin University Main Building for human resources development implemented by the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) was held on 18 July at the university with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said that to bring about equitable development in Ayeyawady Division, Maubin region has been designated as a special development region in addition to Patheingyi and Hinthada regions and special development projects are being implemented there.

As the division is teeming with creeks and rivers the government has built 39 bridges in the division and with the emergence of a network of roads and bridges there are now over 1300 miles of roads in the division, up from only 440 miles before 1988.

Ayeyawady Division is a fertile region and agriculture is thriving in the division. The division produces one fourth of the total rice production of the State. Moreover, fish and prawn breeding tasks can be carried out on a large scale as it is adjacent to the sea and has many rivers, creeks and lakes and therefore, it can be said that it is a region with firm economic foundation.

As regards tourism industry, modern hotels have emerged on Ngwe Hsaung beach and Chaungtha beach in the division and thus one can see development of the industry in the division.

With the emergence of hospitals, rural health care centres and regional health care centres in the division, people of the division are now enjoying full health care services.

In the education sector, students are now pursuing their education at various educational institutions as many new basic education schools, colleges and universities have emerged in the division.

At a time when efforts are being made for the development of education, health, transportation and social sectors in the division, local people are urged to actively take part in nation-building endeavours.



Opening of two-storey school building of BEPS No 6 in progress in Ward 168, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township. (News page 7)—MNA

### Tatmadaw families, ...

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Thein Sein supplicated on the purpose of the donations. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kalyana delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

Today's donations in Dagon Myothit (South) and (North) Townships were 296 bags of rice, 240 viss of edible oil, 1,335 viss of iodized salt, 217 tubes of tooth paste, 6,533 bottles of traditional medicines and 277 viss of gram and K 2,563,690. Similarly, families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated provisions gram and cash to 23 monasteries, seven nunneries and Hninzigon Home for the Aged in Bahan Township, at Mingalazay Dhammayon on Gyartawya Street in Bahan Township, this morning, attended by Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present were State Ovadaçariya Joint-Sasana-baung of Shwekyin Gana Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Thirimanta Sankyaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa, Chairman of Yangon Division Sangha



Senior military officers donate provisions to a Sayadaw.—MNA

Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kosalla and members of the Sangha, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear Admiral Soe Thein, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, local authorities, social organizations and students.

First, Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers and the congregation took the Eight Precepts from Thirimanta

Sankyaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa.

Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and the ministers donated provisions to the Sayadaws. On behalf of the Tatmadaw families, Maj-Gen Mya Win of the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein and Colonel General Staff (Air) Col Zin Yaw presented 854 bags of rice, 348 viss of edible oil, 114 bags of salt and 24 bags of gram to the Sayadaws, nuns and Joint-Secretary of Hninzigon Home for the Aged U Thein Aung.

Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepted K 300,000 donated to the funds of the monasteries by Tatmadaw families;

K 90,000 by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council; K 350,000 by U Maung Maung of Asia Express. Similarly, Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Maj-Gen Mya Win and Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence accepted the donations from wellwishers.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kosalla delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits. Today's donations in Bahan Township were 861 bags of rice, 348 viss of edible oil, 24 viss of gram, 114 viss of iodized salt, 683 tubes of tooth paste, 9,051 bottles of traditional medicines and K 3,101,890.—MNA

### MMU construction inspected

YANGON, 20 July — Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, accompanied by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and officials, this morning inspected Myanmar Maritime University construction at Thilawa in Thanlyin Township. Officials of Golden Flower Construction reported to the minister on progress of work. U Thein Tun, Rector of MMU also presented a supplementary report.

Next, the minister attended to the needs. Afterwards, he saw over progress of construction tasks.

MNA



Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe inspects completion of lecture halls of Myanmar Maritime University.—MNA

### Do not be bolstered whenever flattered



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presents prize to an outstanding officer. (News page 16)—YANGON COMMAND



# Wolfowitz says US unprepared for Iraq order collapse

LOS ANGELES, 20 July — Deputy Defence Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said the United States was unprepared for the collapse of law and order in postwar Iraq and the subsequent difficulties there, the *Los Angeles Times* said on Friday.

Wolfowitz, a leading architect of the war in Iraq, told the paper that no amount of advance planning could have foreseen the collapse in law and order after the US and British military victory.

"The so-called forces of law and order (in Baghdad) just kind of collapsed. There is not a single plan that would have dealt with that," Wolfowitz was quoted as telling the newspaper.

"This is a country that was ruled by a gang of terrorist criminals and they're still around. They're threatening Iraqis and killing

Americans," he said.

Wolfowitz was interviewed as part of a lengthy investigation by the *L.A. Times* into the apparent failure to plan sufficiently for postwar Iraq.

Wolfowitz, who was in Baghdad on Friday, and other senior US officials interviewed, said the speed of the US military victory had created problems in itself, leaving large areas of Iraq under only nominal control by US and British forces.

But Wolfowitz said: "I would not for a moment go back and say 'Gee we should

have gone slower so we could have had more forces built up behind us to control areas that we went past."

The *Los Angeles Times* investigation said serious multi-agency discussions on postwar Iraq started only in February and they had been plagued by false assumptions and infighting among various government departments and agencies.

Jay Garner, the retired Army general who was appointed the first civilian administrator of Iraq, said there was little co-ordination between the various depart-

ments.

"Each one of them did their own planning and they did it... with the perspective of their agency. What needed to happen was the horizontal integration of these plans," Garner was quoted as telling the *LA Times*. Senior officials and experts noted that many of the doomsday predictions over the war had proved wrong, including forecasts for a long and bloody battle for Baghdad, instability across the Arab world, mass oil field fires, a refugee crisis, famine, and the threat of Turkey intervening. —MNA/Reuters

## Anger at US makes some Iraqis regret Saddam's fall

FALLUJA, 20 July — Slogans hailing Saddam Hussein emblazon walls in the restive town of Falluja, where some Iraqis said on Friday they were so disgruntled with the US military that they want their deposed leader to return.

"Saddam's rule of fire is better than this occupation," said real estate agent Mohammed al-Badrani, gnashing tobacco-stained teeth. "Saddam is an Iraqi, he's of our flesh and blood, but these foreigners are intolerable. We are suffering."

Trouble in Falluja began in April when US forces killed 17 demonstrators, sparking revenge attacks on American troops.

Anti-US feeling is still rife among the town's Sunni Muslim tribesfolk, who quickly blamed the Americans for a mosque explosion that killed eight people earlier this month.

US commanders denied any role in the blast, but troops have now withdrawn from most of the town, 50

miles west of Baghdad, in an effort to calm tensions.

"Saddam, for all his faults, was like the tent that protected us," said 14-year-old Mohammed Abbas. "The Americans promised us security and a better life but now we feel violated. Life under Saddam was heaven compared to this."

Such sentiments are not universally held.

Islamists and mosque preachers jostling to fill the political vacuum left by the Baath Party belittled grassroots support for Saddam and urged Iraqis not to back him.

"The situation we are in calls for calm," Sheikh Khaled Ahmed Saleh, preacher at Falluja's main mosque told some 800 worshippers at Friday prayers.

"We should not resist the Americans, nor should we support Saddam because both of them have only brought death and destruction to Iraq." Nevertheless, there is palpable nostalgia for Saddam in a town where many have lost their old jobs in the government or the now-disbanded armed forces and security services.

Nobody can help us but Saddam, and we want him back," said former soldier Ahmed Salem, who now ekes a living from carrying goods in his battered and rusty pickup truck.

"We had jobs, we didn't have to worry about going out at night. The only thing that is keeping us alive now is what Saddam left for us," he said. —MNA/Reuters



US soldiers repair a fallen tank track in Baghdad. Washington was considering a new United Nations mandate for troops in Iraq amid continuing attacks against US soldiers and UN calls for a timeframe for the restoration of Iraqi sovereignty.

INTERNET

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A copy of one of a number of documents obtained by Italian newspaper *La Repubblica* that may have been used as proof that Iraq was trying to buy uranium from Niger. An Italian journalist said in an interview published on 19 July, 2003 that she gave documents on Iraq seeking uranium from Niger to the US embassy in Rome in 2002 to try to find out if the information was credible. The documents have become central to a charged debate over whether President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, knowingly or not, made exaggerated claims over Iraq's nuclear weapons program to justify going to war. —INTERNET

## Sky News journalist resigns over "fake" Iraq report

LONDON, 20 July — A Sky News journalist accused of "faking" a television report from a British Royal Navy submarine during the Iraq war has resigned, Sky News said on Friday.

The report purported to show the preparation and firing of a cruise missile from *HMS Splendid*. But a BBC documentary crew filming at the same time said it had been specially staged for the benefit of Sky's camera and no missile was fired.

Sky News said James Forlong's report was unacceptable to a news operation which had built a "proud reputation for accuracy and integrity".

Forlong said: "It was, in 10 years of unblemished service with the company, a single lapse of judgement which for me is a source of

deep regret.

"There was never any conscious intent to deceive the viewers, though I accept that was the outcome."

Head of Sky News Nick Pollard said he was pleased the issue had been dealt with quickly.

The BBC allegations are made in a documentary "Fighting the War" which will be aired on Sunday.

A second member of staff who had also been suspended during the investigation was cleared.

Sky News is controlled by Rupert Murdoch's News Corp.

MNA/Reuters

## Urumqi Trade Fair to open in September

BEIJING, 20 July — The 2003 Urumqi Trade Fair is to be held in Urumqi, capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, from September 1-8.

Ismail Tiliwaldi, the chairman of the regional government, said at Friday's Press conference in Beijing that 900 companies and 50,000 domestic and overseas business people were expected to participate in the annual event.

The first Urumqi Trade Fair was held in 1992 and since then more than 27,000 overseas business people from 73 foreign countries and regions have attended the fair. —MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

## US may be forced to go back to UN for Iraq mandate

WASHINGTON, 20 July — The Bush administration, which spurned the United Nations in its drive to depose Saddam Hussein in Iraq, is finding itself forced back into the arms of the international body because other nations are refusing to contribute peacekeeping troops or reconstruction money without United Nations approval.

With the costs of stabilizing Iraq hovering at \$4 billion a month and with American troops being killed at a steady rate, administration officials acknowledge that they are rethinking their strategy and may seek a United Nations resolution for help that would placate other nations, like India, France and Germany.

Administration officials contend that they are being practical, but within their ranks are policy makers sharply critical of the United Nations and those who would consider it humiliating to seek its mantle after risking American lives in the invasion that ousted Mr Hussein.

The administration's quandary deepened today, when Russia announced that it would consider sending peacekeeping troops but only with a United Nations mandate that set out a specific mission and timetable.

President Bush meeting this week with Kofi Annan, the United Nations secretary general, was part of a flurry of consultations

in recent days between administration and United Nations officials. Condoleezza Rice, the national security adviser, reached out to diplomats on the Security Council, and Secretary of State Colin L Powell emerged from a meeting with the German Foreign Minister, Joschka Fischer, saying he was discussing ways to expand international support for the Iraq occupation, including seeking a new United Nations resolution.

Mr Powell said Security Council Resolution 1483, which was approved in May and calls on all members to assist in Iraq's reconstruction, should be enough "cover" for countries to claim an endorsement from the United Nations. But he acknowledged that the nations that matter most are not buying that.

"There are some nations who have expressed the desire for more of a mandate from the United Nations, and I am in conversations with some ministers about this, as well as with the secretary general of the United Nations," Mr Powell said. —Internet

## UN claims broad role in Iraq, chides US on safety

UNITED NATIONS, 20 July — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan spelled out on Friday a broad and ambitious plan for a UN role in Iraq and prodded Britain and the United States to quickly establish order and let Iraqis control their future.

In a report covering the first few weeks of UN activity in postwar Iraq, Annan stressed that restoring security and Iraqi sovereignty should be the top goals for Iraq's US-British military government.

Annan sent his report to the Security Council as the US death toll in Iraq surpassed that of the first Gulf War in 1991 and Washington said it was considering whether additional UN action was needed to convince other governments to more freely offer their help.

Annan welcomed the move by Iraq's US governor, Paul Bremer, to name a Governing Council of 25 Iraqis able to appoint ministers and make policy, subject to Bremer's veto.

But he said Iraqis were lining up to tell the UN special representative in Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello, that quickly creating an interim government was their "central concern".

Continued looting and what appeared to

be the emergence of organized sabotage "pose a significant threat to the restoration of basic services. In addition, the large illegal trade in oil and fuel directly affects the access of Iraqis to these vital supplies, as well as their perception of progress in the current environment," Annan said.

Annan set out a lengthy list of tasks the UN intended to pursue in Iraq, ranging from economic reconstruction to delivering humanitarian aid to encouraging the development of an Iraqi Press to planning for future elections.

And he said he envisaged 300 local and international staff in the UN operation, which he dubbed UNAMI, the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq.

The political role to be played by the United Nations in assuring a future Iraqi Government would have international legitimacy has been a major controversy in the Security Council.

MNA/Reuters



Kelly was a British weapons expert who subsequently advised British ministers on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and was named by the government as the possible source of a highly contentious BBC report on Iraq. British media said his body was found west of London.

INTERNET

## Boeing to cut more jobs this year

WASHINGTON, 20 July — The Boeing Co., a giant US aircraft-maker, plans to cut 4,000 to 5,000 more jobs by the end of this year amid the continuous woes of the airline industry. The layoffs will be from the commercial airplane division of the company, a media report said Thursday.

The airline industry has been in deep troubles due to a series of factors including the terrorist attacks, the US economic recession in the Year 2001 and the following anaemic recovery.

On top of that, the severe acute respiratory syndrome outbreak this year also dealt a heavy blow to the airline industry. All those have left many airline companies in difficult financial situations.

MNA/Xinhua

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## BBC comes under fire over death of Kelly

LONDON, 20 July — Peter Mandelson, a former British minister and one of Prime Minister Tony Blair's closest allies, launched a bitter attack against the BBC and its role in the war of words that led to the suicide of former UN arms inspector David Kelly.

Writing in *The Observer* as Blair faced the worst crisis in his political career, Mandelson hit out at the British Broadcasting Corporation's "obsession" with attacking Blair's communications chief Alastair Campbell.

"It was the BBC's obsession with him (Campbell) that led more than anything else to the breakdown in relations between the Government and Britain's principal public service broadcaster, with the result we have seen," Mandelson said Sunday.

Kelly, 59, had been fingered as the unnamed intelligence official who had told BBC reporter Andrew Gilligan in May that Downing Street had "sexed up" a September 2002 dossier on Iraq and weapons of mass destruction in order to beef up the case for joining the United States in war against Saddam Hussein.

But, before a parliamentary committee last Tuesday, Kelly — an expert in biological weapons in the Ministry of Defence in London — denied he was the main source of the story.

Internet



The two lions donated to Afghanistan by China play together at the Kabul Zoo in the capital city of Afghanistan, on 18 July, 2003. The first baby lion of the two lions was born last week.

XINHUA PHOTO

## British arms expert confirmed dead

LONDON, 20 July — The family of a former UN arms inspector who appears to have committed suicide after being grilled about a news story critical of the British government is demanding officials take responsibility for the death.

The late David Kelly at his appearance before Parliament. David Kelly's body was found in a wooded area in central England on Friday, not far from where he was last seen going on a walk. Police didn't confirm the identity of the corpse until Saturday.

He died from blood loss caused by a wound to his left wrist, British police announced at a news conference Saturday.

It seemed to be a suicide but the investigation is continuing, police said.

"Events over recent weeks have made David's life intolerable, and all of those involved should reflect long and hard on this fact," his family said in a statement read to reporters by police. Kelly was a government advisor and a former UN weapons inspector in Iraq. He was suspected of being a source of a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) story accusing the British government of doctoring intelligence information to justify the war in Iraq.

According to the story, the British government ignored the advice of experts who doubted Iraq could deploy chemical and biological weapons in 45 minutes.

Kelly appeared before a parliamentary committee earlier this week. He admitted speaking to the reporter who broke the story, but denied being the source.

The BBC rejected the government's request to reveal the source's identity but has said the person didn't work for the ministry.

Kelly was reported missing by his wife on Thursday after he failed to return from an afternoon walk. She said he was very distressed by controversy into which he found himself.

The case has plunged the British government deeper into controversy over intelligence regarding Iraqi weapons of mass destruction. British Prime Minister Tony Blair said he would welcome an independent inquiry into Kelly's death. —Internet



## UN, World Bank warn of tough times in Iraq's transition to market economy

BAGHDAD, 20 July —Iraq will have a difficult transition to a market economy after a decade of economic sanctions and must make social reforms to protect the most vulnerable members of society, the World Bank and United Nations warned.

"The main challenge is the security situation," said Joseph Saba, the World Bank director for the Middle East.

Iraq faces a "very difficult economic transition ... that must not be underestimated", Saba told AFP on the sidelines of a conference in Baghdad of UN, World Bank and Iraqi officials.

"The real challenge is creating jobs. Fifty percent of the population is under 16 years. So how do you translate the growth into productive efficient employment? How do you create proper jobs for these young people?"

"We have to be careful about our expectations because you don't recover from 20 years of beating in one day," Saba cautioned.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita is estimated to have plummeted to 1,200 dollars before the springtime US-led war from over 3,300 dollars in 1980, according to World Bank figures.

"People have to feel secure and enjoy social welfare. These are challenges," Saba said, adding that the "emphasis has to be on education and health."

The World Bank, however, had not worked in a transitional country with as much wealth or as many qualified people as Iraq, Saba added, noting the state's vast water and oil resources.

But he warned that the "existence of resources alone in a transitional period will not provide successful job creation."

Internet



Shi'ite Muslim protesters converge on the headquarters of the US-led administration in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad on 19 July, 2003. At least 10,000 demonstrators marched in support of Shi'ite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, who on Friday denounced the new US-backed Iraqi Governing Council.—INTERNET

## US soldier killed in Iraq; UN may be asked to help

BAGHDAD, 20 July — Attackers firing guns and rocket-propelled grenades killed a US soldier in Baghdad on Saturday as Washington considered asking the United Nations to help restore order in Iraq and contain a guerrilla insurgency.

A US spokesman said the soldier was attacked in the early hours as he guarded a bank in western Baghdad. He was the second soldier killed in Iraq in 24 hours, bringing the number of US troops to die from hostile fire to 149 -- more than the 147 killed in the 1991 Gulf War.

The spokesman said four soldiers had also been wounded in the Rashid district of Baghdad on Saturday morning when a home-made bomb was detonated near their patrol.

In another expression of Iraqi anger, more than 10,000 Shi'ite Muslim protesters marched through the capital to demand an end to alleged US harassment of Shi'ite leader Moqtada al-Sadr. Sadr on Friday denounced Iraq's new US-backed Governing Council, saying it did not represent the country.

Facing daily attacks, Washington may turn to the United Nations to try to persuade countries to send soldiers or share costs, running at around \$4 billion a

month, diplomats said.

The State Department said Washington was open to giving the UN a bigger role in Iraq, especially if other governments respond by offering more to peace-keeping and reconstruction.

"We're open to this prospect. We're indeed talking about it with other people, but at this point I can't draw to a conclusion," spokesman Richard Boucher said.

In his first major report on postwar Iraq, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan said Iraqis did not want democracy imposed by outsiders and rated lawlessness as their main concern.

Annan, who sent the report to Security Council members on Friday for discussion on Tuesday, also envisioned an ambitious UN role in Iraq in the transition to help form a new Iraqi government. He made clear that role would exclude responsibility for law and order.

Internet

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## Blair, in East Asia, silent on quitting over Iraq expert's death

BAGHDAD, 20 July—British Prime Minister Tony Blair dramatically refused to say whether he might quit over the death of a former UN arms inspector at the center of allegations that Downing Street misused intelligence and exaggerated the threat of Saddam Hussein's Iraq.

Caught out at the start of an East Asia tour by the worst crisis in his six years in power, a visibly exhausted Blair said nothing when asked, point-blank, at a press conference if he had "blood on his hands" and might resign.

Instead, he stared silently out across the room full of journalists and television cameras for several tense seconds and then with Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi at his side, left the room.

Minutes before, Blair reiterated the stance he took earlier Saturday on the startling death of David Kelly, 59, a Ministry of Defense consultant on biological weapons and former UN arms inspector in Iraq -- that an independent judicial inquiry must be allowed to

run its course and find out the truth.

"I totally understand why you would like me to go back into what I said earlier," said Blair, who was meeting Koizumi and spending the night in the Japanese mountain spa resort of Hakone. "But I think what is important is that there is some due process, and the reason for having an inquiry -- and I think people would have expected us to have one because of the tragedy that has occurred -- is so that the facts can be established," he said.

"I don't think it's right for anyone, ourselves or anybody else, to make a judgement until we have the facts."

The Financial Times termed the death "an immense blow" to the government.—Internet

## China launches project to ensure safety of food, medicine

BEIJING, 20 July — Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi Friday called on local authorities around the country to make marked improvement in guaranteeing the safety of food and medicines this year.

"This is a project that has a bearing on the personal interests of the general public, on public security, on the healthy development of the food and pharmaceutical sectors, on China's foreign trade and on its international image," Wu said at a teleconference of the State Council on the safety of food and medicine.

She said products that are closely linked with the general public, such as grain, meat,

vegetables, fruits, dairy products, soybean products and aquatic products, will be the major focus of the rectification of the food market.

She urged the tightening of controls on key links, including production, processing, distribution and consumption, to ensure the safety of these products. With regard to medicine, Wu urged the strengthening of beginning-to-end supervision of research, production, sales and use of these products.

Wu stressed firm resolve must be made to prohibit the

production and sale of the powerful rat poison "dushuqiang" (tetramine), which has been blamed for several major food poisoning cases in recent years.

She called for the early establishment of a social credit system in the food and pharmaceutical sectors, with public opinion playing a supervisory role in this regard.

Wu said governors and mayors would continue to be held accountable for the safety of food and medicine programme in their respective jurisdictions.—MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese President appoints ambassadors

BEIJING, 20 July — Chinese President Hu Jintao announced the appointments of seven new ambassadors Friday in accordance with the decisions made by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

The appointments are as follows:

— Wu Jiahong was appointed Chinese Ambassador to Kuwait, replacing Ceng Xuyong;

— Wang Yongqiu was appointed Ambassador to Nigeria, replacing Liang Yinzhu;

— Liang Yinzhu replaced Chen Laiyuan as Ambassador to Namibia;

— Zhao Jinjun replaced Wu Jianmin as Ambassador to France;

— Xu Shiguo was appointed Ambassador to Nauru;

— Wu Changsheng replaced Ju Yijie as ambassador to Columbia; and

— Ju Yijie replaced Wang Zhen as Ambassador to Venezuela.—MNA/Xinhua



Two people of the De'ang Nationality perform for tourists at a village in the city of Baoshan, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 17 July, 2003. Tourists worldwide are attracted the area by its beautiful scenery and the typical culture of minority nationalities.—XINHUA PHOTO

## Iraqi militants vow attacks on US-led forces

DUBAI, 20 July—Al Arabiya television station aired a videotape on Friday of men identified as Iraqi militants vowing to attack US and British forces and warning Iraqis against dealing with the occupiers.

The Arabic television network said it received the tape of a hitherto unknown group called Muslim Youths at its offices in Iraq.

"We vow in the name of God that in the coming days we will teach a lesson to US forces (in revenge) for our youths who died," said one masked militant.

The speaker, surrounded by a group of simi-

larly masked militants and with some holding automatic rifles, also warned other countries against sending troops to Iraq.

"We urge the countries of the world not to send any force to Iraq because we will deal with them as we deal with US and British occupation forces," the speaker said.

"We warn whoever co-operates with the US occu-

pying forces that death will be their fate," the unidentified man said.

The black-and-white blurry footage follows videotapes issued on Tuesday by two previously unknown Iraqi groups in which they also warned countries against sending troops to Iraq.

Troops from Spain, Poland, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, the Baltic states and possibly from the Philippines, Thailand, Mongolia and Fiji are likely to be part of peacekeeping forces in Iraq.

US troops have been coming under daily attacks since US President George W. Bush declared major combat over on May 1. More than 30 US troops have been killed in what US commanders call guerilla warfare against them.

MNA/Reuters

## Robertson slams "buy America" defence bill

BRUSSELS, 20 July — NATO chief George Robertson branded a US defence procurement bill on Friday as an unjustified attempt to protect "little companies in little parts of America" and said it could put joint arms programmes at risk.

Robertson also criticized an export licensing bill passed in the House of Representatives that would mean restrictions on the sale of defence equipment between the United States and Britain.

Robertson said he was not advocating an "anything goes" liberalization of US arms export controls, but without steps to create a more level playing field arms co-operation and procurement would remain expensive and complicated, hobbling both military capability and cohesion within the NATO alliance.

"Protectionism and, worse still, more protectionism is not the answer," Robertson told a seminar on Transatlantic defence industrial cooperation in Brussels. "It brings huge associated penalties with it, not only in costs, but in political unity."

British and other European companies want a bigger piece of the huge US defence procurement budget, especially given the stagnation in defence spending in many of their own countries.

But the US military only rarely awards contracts to foreign defence contractors,

preferring to do business with its own stable of five prime contractors and smaller sub-contractors.

Robertson singled out a version of the 2004 Defence Authorization Bill passed by the US House of Representatives "which would unacceptably extend existing 'buy America' laws".

"Were these to be accepted by the Senate and signed into law by President Bush they would increase the percentage of defence items purchased by the Department of Defence that must be made in America from 50 per cent to 65 per cent," he said.

He said this would destroy NATO's push to narrow the yawning gap in military capabilities between the United States and European allies, comforting those who argue that — militarily — the two sides of the Atlantic should go their separate ways.

It would also imperil major cooperative programmes such as theatre missile defence and the F-35, or Joint Strike Fighter, a giant warplane project involving seven countries.

MNA/Reuters



A child stands next to a crater caused by an explosion that according to eyewitnesses was caused by a booby-trapped bomb in Baghdad, on 19 July, 2003. Eyewitnesses said that 4 US servicemen were injured in the blast but the military has not confirmed the incident.

INTERNET

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## US says open to changing Iraqi mandate

WASHINGTON, 20 July—The United States is open to giving the United Nations a bigger role in Iraq, especially if other governments respond by offering more to peace-keeping and reconstruction, the State Department said on Friday.

"We're open to this prospect. We're indeed talking about it with other people, but at this point I can't draw to a conclusion," spokesman Richard Boucher told a briefing.

India and Russia have suggested they might consider contributing troops to help US forces in Iraq if the United Nations adjusts the current system, which gives the United States and Britain the dominant role in post-war Iraq.

France, which had previously said it could not help under current circumstances, said it could look at supporting a peace force if the United Nations had a central role. Washington

insisted on the current system, which recognizes the United States and Britain as occupying powers, after overthrowing Saddam Hussein, but it is now facing a high cost in cash and casualties as it tries to control the country.

"I leave it to others to say, for example, if there were such a mandate, that they would contribute significant numbers of troops. In many of the statements I've seen, other than perhaps the Indian statement, that's not as clear as some might think," Boucher said.

A senior Pentagon official, Under Secretary of Defence Douglas Feith, said the United States was "happy to

go to the UN and work with them in ways that can benefit the effort in Iraq," but did not specifically embrace a fresh resolution. There's clearly a role for the UN and we're happy to work with them on the various types of contributions they can make to the effort," said Feith, one of the group of US policymakers who had long advocated invading Iraq.

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, visiting Washington this week, said he did not receive any request for troops. Germany could not contribute anyway because of its military commitments in Afghanistan.

MNA/Reuters

## Beijing to rejuvenate SOEs through foreign, private investment

BELING, 20 July —The doors of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) in Beijing, the national capital, have opened to both foreign and Chinese private investors, according to an announcement from the Beijing municipal government.

Vice-Mayor Lu Hao said Thursday that the city had selected 104 well-performing state-owned industrial enterprises to attract both foreign and private investors to participate in regrouping the SOEs, in a bid to further the reform of its state sector.

The move is aimed at gradually withdrawing the state capital from certain industrial fields, boosting investment into the state sector and invigorating the SOEs, Lu said.

The selected enterprises are in the fields of electronics, machinery, medicines, light industry, textiles and building materials. More than 90 per cent of them were profitable in 2002. With 75,521 employees, these 104 enterprises boast a combined capital of 3.05 billion US dollars and register 1.46 billion US dollars in sales volume annually.

With the debt ratio being below 100 per cent, none of these enterprises has a long-term record of losing profits, according to Zhou Yuqiu, deputy director of the city economic committee. Zhou said investors could take over stock ownership and property rights of the selected SOEs and enterprises whose shares are under state control, take over all or part of the creditor's rights and capital of the selected SOEs or input funds into those whose shares are under state control to increase their capital stock.—MNA/Xinhua

## Italy starts to crack down on animal cruelty

ROME, 20 July — Italy is finally getting tough on animal cruelty with a new law that promises hefty fines and imprisonment for anyone caught abandoning pets, organizing dog fights or making illegal furs.

Parliament is expected to approve the ground-breaking legislation before the start of the August summer holidays when thousands of dogs are traditionally dumped on the roadside as their owners head off to the beach.

While many other European Union countries provide legal protection for animals, Italy has until now ignored the problem.

"For the first time, animals in Italy are going to be treated as living beings and not damaged goods," said Maurizio Santoloci, vice-president of the WWF in Italy.

Under the terms of the law, which was approved by a parliamentary committee on Thursday, people who abandon pets face up to one year in jail and fines of up to 10,000 euros and 15,000 euros respectively.

MNA/Reuters

## Holidaymakers evacuated in French forest fire

SAINT AYGULF (France), 20 July—Thousands of holidaymakers were evacuated from resorts on France's Cote d'Azur as fire devastated huge areas of forest in the popular southeastern tourist region, officials said on Friday.

Fanned by strong winds, the blaze swept through 14,830 acres of forest and scrubland and at one stage the flames travelled 16 miles in three hours.

The 1,300 firefighters sent to battle flames received reinforcements from neighbouring regions and the blaze was under control by Friday afternoon.

More than 6,000 people, including many holidaymakers, were evacuated overnight as homes became encircled by fire and four camping sites were shut.

No one was seriously

injured, officials said, but several houses and around 40 cars were destroyed.

"It's the biggest fire we've seen in 15 years," said Gregory Allione, a fire services official in Saint Aygulf, a coastal resort between Cannes and Toulon.

MNA/Reuters





Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt attends the ceremony and Minister for Education U Than Aung addresses the opening of the building of BEPS No 6 in Ward 168, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township.—MNA

## Secretary-1 attend opening ceremonies of school buildings at BEPSs in Thakayta, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan)

YANGON, 20 July — Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt attended the opening ceremonies of basic education primary schools in Thakayta and Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) townships this afternoon and evening.

Accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the Secretary-1 arrived at Basic Education Primary School No 18, Ward 10 (North) in Thakayta Township at 2 pm and they were welcomed by Minister for Education U Than Aung, ministers, deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, departmental officials and local authorities, members of the School Board of Trustees, wellwishers, teachers and students.

The ceremony to open the new building of the school was held. Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe and Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt formally opened the building.

Director-General of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development U Arnt Kyaw reported on construction of

the school building. He said that the school is located near Ayeyawun Road and Thanlyin Bridge. Arrangements have been made for uplift of the ward — purchase of the plots, allotment of the people at the buildings in accord with the hut-to-highrise plan and construction of new housing estates.

It can be seen that four-storey buildings have been constructed by DHSHD. In addition, single unit housing estate projects with construction of concrete roads, digging of drains and erecting of lamp-posts of Golden Flowers Co, Solomon Co and Asia Express Co are under construction.

Moreover, a Dhammayan as a community centre is being built. The plan is under way to construct more buildings in the remaining plots.

The school was an old wooden building on the narrow area in the past. Therefore, the school was constructed as the three-storey building with the aim of upgrading it to middle or high school level.

After extending the plot of the school, the building comprising 22 classrooms and one assembly hall for about 800 students was built with not only school facilities and school equipment for the students and teachers but also with one TV set.

Next, Deputy Director-General Col Tin Tun handed over documents related to the school building to Director-General U Tin Win of No 3 Basic Education Department.

Next, the Secretary-1 accepted K 500,000 each for the school building donated by DHSHD; Golden Flower Co; Tosta Co; and Asia Express Co; K 300,000 each by Solomon Co; and Shwe Gabar Co.

Minister for Education U Than Aung accepted K 100,000 each donated by Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township Development Co Ltd; U Than Lwin of Steel Stone Co; Shwe Pyi Oo Co (Mandalay); U Chan of Chan Co; U Cho of Shwe Family Co; and U Win Htein-Daw Tin Tin Chit (Professional Development Centre of Classic International).

Next, the Secretary-1 handed over K 3.3 million for the school donated by wellwishers to in-charge of the school Daw El Tha Maung Kalay who spoke words of thanks.

On behalf of the Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee, Minister for Education U Than Aung gave a speech.

Next, the Secretary-1 and guests inspected the new school building.

At 3 pm, the Secretary-1 attended the ceremony to open the building at BEPS

NO 6 in Ward 168, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township.

Deputy Minister U Tint Swe and Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt formally opened the new school building. Next, the ceremony to mark the opening of the school building was held. Director-General U Arnt Kyaw of DHSHD reported on the construction of the building. He said that the school is located in the east ward of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township. There are 1,169 houses in the ward and 1,977 40' by 60' plots are ready to be allotted. In addition, students of the industrial zone are attending the school. As over 400 are attending the school, it is necessary to build more schools because the buildings of the school will not be enough for the students in the long term.

More roads have been constructed in the ward for its development. In addition, the market and monasteries near the school are under construction. Similarly, the dispensary, the reading room and the office of Ward Peace and Development Council have been built in the eastern part of the ward. In addition, the tube-well has been sunk through a water supply system. Newly-opened reinforced concrete two-storey building has 10 classrooms with school equipment and facilities.

Next, U Thein Tun-Daw San Aye of Unicolour donated 1,500 dozens of exercise books worth K 1.5 million to Myanmar Education Committee Chairman Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt.

The Secretary-1 accepted the donations including K 500,000 by the Department for Human Settlement and Housing Development; 500 dozens of exercise books worth K 500,000 by U Thein Tun-Daw San Aye of Unicolour; K 300,000 each by Chairman U Win Htein of Dagon

### 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 frightened whenever intimidated

Myothit (Seikkan) Industrial Town and U That Aung of Winner Brothers Int'l Co; and K 1.5 million by U Maung San of Mya Thida Construction.

Minister for Education U Than Aung accepted donations including K 100,000 each by Dagon Seikkan Development Committee, Aung Construction, Great Wall Construction, Sinma Construction, IEG Engineering Group, Professional Development Centre, Shwe Family Furniture Mart and Contractor U Chan Aye and K 50,000 each by Su Htaik Tan Co, Fresh-up Toothpaste.

Next, the Secretary-1 handed over K 2.15 million donated by wellwishers to Headmaster U Tun Shwe of No 6 BEPS.

Then, Minister U Than Aung made a speech on behalf of the Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee. He said Myanmar is implementing the national education promotion programme step by step through the cooperation of the public. In basic education sector, opening the post-primary schools started three years ago. Therefore, 3,800 post-pri-

mary schools where up to sixth grade education can be pursued, have been opened so far. Moreover, over 500 post-primary schools, where the seventh grade education can be pursued, also have been opened.

In Myanmar there are over 43,000 basic education middle schools and the number of post-primary schools is also increasing year after year. As a result, the children in wards and villages of the basic regions can pursue their education at the schools.

The minister also expressed thanks to the wellwishers who contributed towards the construction of school buildings.

Later, Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt and party viewed round the new school building and inspected students' learning lessons at the classrooms.

The Secretary-1 and party went to the project site for construction of the hospital of the Department for Human Settlement and Housing Development in Ward-168, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, and gave necessary instructions to officials.

MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt views computer accessories related to e-Government displayed by companies at MICT Park. (News on page 1)—MNA

# Daw Suu Kyi, the NLD Party and Our Ray of Hope — 10

Maung Yin Hmaing

"Who set this booby trap?"

**May 19**

Our group led by Auntie Suu left Myitkyina for Bhamo before nine in the morning. Kachin State NLD secretary U Ne Win and U Tin Wai of Mohnyin accompanied by over 20 party members from Mogaung, Mohnyin, and Phakthant townships left ahead of us in vehicle (9/ka/9882).

The party members on this spearhead vehicle travelled in and out of towns and villages to broadcast, "Daw Suu Kyi is coming" and thus stirred up the people. But when our convoy passed through Waingmaw and Aung Mye (1) and Garyan villages, no one paid much attention and no crowd had gathered to watch us.

When our convoy entered Bhamo it was past 3 o'clock in the morning. When we arrived at Wetkon village about 3 miles from Bhamo we saw that a group of local people numbering over 300 with handheld placards on which were written "The People's Desire" had rallied to protest against us.

We waited for the situation to calm down and when we finally entered Bhamo the sun had risen with streaks of red in the east. It was now 5 am.

The place where we were to put up was the residence of Bhamo Township NLD vice-chairman (2) U Ba Myint and his wife joint secretary Daw Yin May in the Myoma Ward of Bhamo. The lights in the house were rather dim.

**20 May**

The signboard raising ceremony of the Bhamo Township NLD party began at 10 am. After the usual proceedings came Auntie Suu's speech making. I failed to understand

would be further embarrassment. So with a sign I made him get back into the car. This is the kind of awkward situation we have to face. We arrived at Shwegu at 5.30 pm.

We stayed at the house of the Township NLD party secretary U Mya Thein in Ward No.4 of Bawgabala sector in Shwegu. This was also the venue of the signboard raising ceremony. The ceremony was to start as usual at about half-past six in the evening. In the speech made by Auntie Suu after the ceremony contained the following statements:

"...Democracy is not for five years or for fifty years. It is for future generations to live in safety and security for as long as this world shall exist."

I wondered if our Auntie Suu had totally forgotten the basic tenets of "Anicca, Dukha and Anatta."

**21 May**

At a little after eight in the morning our entourage headed by Auntie Suu left Shwegu. As we passed the downtown area of Shwegu party members in the lead car raising their arms shouted the slogans

"...Give us our human rights at once"

"...Victory to democracy."

The tone and the body language made it perfectly clear that they were staging a protest and making demands. The trip, which had started out under the semblance of an organizational campaign had now turned into a demonstration with intent to incite the public.

Personally, in my view, our activities during the journey should not have been an extra burden for responsible officials concerned and nothing should have been done to cause mis-

understanding. If possible we should have peacefully gone about our business and implemented our organizational goals with integrity and dignity. But Auntie Suu and the NLD leadership far from prohibiting the lower echelon party members from their unruliness showed not even a sign of disapproval.

On the Shwegu-Momeik segment of the journey the cars in our convoy met with many mishaps - they got stuck in mud, tires were punctured and engines malfunctioned. As a result we arrived at Momeik only late in the evening at about half past eight. Auntie Suu and Granduncle U Tin Oo put up at Township NLD chairman U Myint Shwe's house on "Sibin Tharyar" street in Letkottan Ward of Momeik. The rest of us were given accommodations in Daw Khin Soe's house directly across the street.

**22 May**

A little after half past one in the afternoon our group led by Auntie Suu left Momeik for Mogok, escorted



Disorderly scene of NLD members on the road in front of Madaya NLD Office on 26-5-2003.

by about 40 motorcycles that had arrived from Mogok for the purpose. We arrived at Mogok around five in the afternoon. By the time we arrived in Mogok the number of motorcycles had multiplied. Motorcycles now not only flanked our convoy, but there were also forerunners riding two abreast in the lead, so there were about 100 motorcycles when we entered Mogok. The townspeople became alarmed and started asking questions. It was learnt later that the traditional Gem Open Market had to be closed down.

We were active in Mogok nearly the whole day on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. We also put a signboard in front of the house where we were accommodated with the announcement.

"Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will take a rest on 24 May and will leave Mogok at 0600 hours on 25 May."

There were many people who read the signboard as they went about their business. But a comment shouted out by a man who passed by on a motorcycle is noteworthy: He said:

"Rest...rest for life." "Go... go quickly!"

Our pitiful group seemed to be the object of the town's goodwill.

Then while we were resting in Mogok, some local party members asked if it was true that Auntie Suu had acted very tough in Bhamo. We, who like to appear to be always in the know welcomed all questions and told them everything we knew, without leaving out a word.

What happened to the Bhamo group was truly unfortunate. No sooner had Auntie Suu arrived in Bhamo than Bhamo Township NLD party secretary Daw Yin May turned up with a long tale of woe. She recounted that although they had made arrangements for two cars to welcome Auntie Suu at Myothit only one car had been available at the last minute. So they had all piled in, but that after 17 miles the overloaded car had broken down and the driver had chosen that moment to go down with a high fever. The car could go no further and the welcoming party was then forced to complete the rest of the journey on foot to Myothit.

(See page 9)



NLD members alarm the public by shouting from the roof of a car of the convoy led by Daw Suu Kyi in Shwegu on 20-5-2003.

some of the assertions she made in her speech that day. She said that 'Metta' (Loving kindness) could be obtained only if fear could be overcome, and that 'Metta' could also generate a lot of courage. I could not grasp Auntie Suu's understanding and interpretation of the Four Buddhist Cardinal Virtues. It may be that my I.Q. is low.

After the speechmaking we got ready to proceed to Shwegu, but actually left only when it was near 12 noon. When we had gone a little beyond Wet Toe Bridge Auntie Suu's car got stuck in mud. It would require manpower to get the vehicle out, but most of the party members were less than eager and were trying to dodge the work because they did not want to be smeared with mud. In the end, the daily labourers of the Special Road and Bridge Construction project losing patience at the ineffectiveness voluntarily came to push the car out of the mud. Being hard labourers who had to work whether in rain or sunshine, each wore the peasant style bamboo conical hat. A member of our party mistaking the reason for wearing bamboo hats was presumptuous enough to start the following conversation with one of the labourers.

"Have you come here to greet us?"

"Oh! Nonsense. Don't make jokes like that"

"Then why are you wearing a conical bamboo hat?"

"Don't you see we have to work, rain or shine"

"We can't possibly work with umbrellas"

"Why are you asking such silly questions...it's really idiotic!"

If this bloke continued with his questions there



Madaya Township NLD Vice-Chairman U Nyo (wearing robes) and group fighting local people who protest Daw Suu Kyi and party on the latter's arrival in Madaya on 26-5-2003.





Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt and party receiving Five Precepts from Dawei Sayadaw Bhaddanta Açinnabhivamsa at the 25th Waso robes offering ceremony of Kalewa Tawya Monastery.—MNA

## It is out of the question ...

(from page 1)

There are the ministries that are using IT science, and those that are making arrangements to be able to use IT science. That is why all the ministries are to strive for the emergence of e-Government.

Myanmar IT companies have created the IT programmes that can effectively be used in government departments, economic, education, health sectors and banking services. Therefore, the ministries are to coordinate and cooperate with the relevant IT companies and organizations for the emergence of e-Government.

Afterwards, Chairman of MICTDC Brig-Gen Thein Swe explained about What is e-Government.

Next, Joint Secretary of e-National Task Force U Pyon Maung Maung explained about the ICT Pilot Project.

Next, officials of the respective IT companies explained about softwares produced by their companies to ensure the emergence of e-Government.

Next, the Secretary-1 gave instructions and the ceremony ended.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 and party inspected the demonstrations on e-Government presented by the companies concerned at MICP Park—MNA

**Do not be softened  
whenever appeased**

## Daw Suu Kyi...

(from page 8)

On arrival at Myothit they were drenched with heavy rains, but not a single house there would provide them shelter. They all had to stand under the eaves to shelter from the rain, but even then some were driven away by the householders. Daw Yin May was on the verge of a crying spell. Auntie Suu, afterwards told them that if the members of the NLD township organizing committee in Bhamo were so afraid they could withdraw; that the National League for Democracy feared no one and that anyone active in the party should be bold and quick to do anything etc: She wound up with the conclusion that the Bhamo Township NLD organizers were weak and inefficient.

Then there were others who asked about what had occurred between Auntie Suu and the famous Myanmar poet "Bhamo Nyo Nwe." Since there was a question being asked there had to be a reply. During the Bhamo trip there were two persons who bore the brunt of Auntie Suu's invective. These two who belonged to the Bhamo leadership circle were U Pu Htwe (Bhamo Nyo Nwe) and U Mya Aung. They were roundly rebuked for not being able to give proper training and leadership to Bhamo party members to do their work systematically and with discipline.

Then Auntie Suu added that no member of the Bhamo NLD party organizing committee would be permitted to resign; and that if they were afraid of leading the party they could vacate their present positions and become followers. In the Kachin State, she said, the Bhamo Township organizing committee was the weakest, and that was why she (Auntie Suu) had not said as much as she did in other places but had spoken only briefly and bluntly.

U Pu Htwe (Bhamo Nyo Nwe) in an attempt to pacify Auntie Suu told her that he had made arrangements for her to pay homage at the "Shwe Kyay Nar Pagoda" and "Thein Maha Pagoda" and that he had also scheduled a meeting with the town elders. He had hoped that this would calm her down somewhat and put her in a good mood. He expected her to say, "Oh! Good! Have you made such arrangements? So let's go."

## Commander inspects test-mining in Momeik

YANGON, 20 July — Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, accompanied by departmental officials, arrived at the test mining of Shweli Yadana

Co in Lekkhokpin region, Momeik, on 16 July afternoon. In-charge Lt-Col Myo Kyin reported on finding of natural resource and Technician U Ngwe Aung on exploration of minerals.

The commander gave necessary instructions and

inspected exploration of No 1 and No 2 test mines.

Afterwards, the commander went to the site for construction of Namhmaung Creek Bridge on Momeik-Konwat Road. In the briefing hall, Assistant Engineer U Kyaw

Nyunt Shein reported on progress in construction works.

The commander gave instruction on timely completion of the bridge.

Next, the commander proceeded to the gold test mine of Shweli Natural Resource Production and Trading Co Ltd in Thitsaingon Village-tract, Momeik Township. Technician U Lay Maung reported on test-mining of the natural resources. Project Director U Maung Kyay of Asia World Co reported on prospects for production of gold and tasks to be carried out on a commercial scale.

Ngwesin Co Ltd Director U Soe Myint gave a supplementary report. The commander gave instructions on tasks to be carried out with added momentum and attended to their needs. —MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt accepts cash donations from a wellwisher at 52nd Waso robes offering ceremony of Kalewa Tawya Monastery.—MNA

But he was wrong. The expression on her face did not change and U Pu Htwe was rebuffed with the words: "I am not going; I don't feel like going anywhere." But U Pu Htwe (Bhamo Nyo Nwe) tried once again. He presented Auntie Suu with a thick sheaf of papers.

"What are these?"

"Poems Ma'am"

"What poems?"

"Poems that I composed about the fourteen states and divisions."

"I don't want to read them. Right now I'm not in the mood to read anything."

"...Neither do I want to eat anything."

We left for Shwegu on that note. As for the rest of us... we had already eaten.

**May 25.**

When our group led by Auntie Suu left Mogok and arrived at Bogan Ward in Kathe Village Tract, a crowd of over 200 people were staging a silent protest against us. As usual they were holding placards. Fortunately, no brawls broke out then.

We continued our journey and when we arrived at the entrance to Khun-na-maing Village in Thabeikyin Township, we met with a large crowd of over 1,000 people holding placards. They were not waiting to extend a warm welcome to our convoy, but to oppose and denounce it.

We also faced a crowd of over 500 locals holding placards and demonstrating against us at Kyi-tauk Pauk Village in Singu Township at 7:30 in the evening. The members of the convoy did not make a sound. After a half-an-hour's drive, we were passing Nweyon Village, when some members of our group using darkness as cover attacked a crowd of people staging a peaceful demonstration with slingshots and stones. Later, we learnt that three locals were injured in our attack.

**May 26.**

After our arrival in Madaya, while we were singing the National Anthem and shouting slogans, a number of people arrived at the scene to stage a protest against us. Some party members tried to create a problem with them and acted aggressively. About six persons wearing the robes

of a Buddhist monk led the attack, hitting the locals with chains, rods and with slingshot pellets.

The leader of the assailants was vice-chairman of Madaya Township NLD Party U Nyo. He was in the robes of a monk but only he and the persons he had consulted would know best his intentions in being ordained into the monkhood about two months ago.

Again, we met with a crowd of locals numbering over 600 opposing and denouncing our convoy at Patheingyi Village in Patheingyi Township at 5 pm. We heard that a young woman's leg was injured when it was run over by a motorcycle when the motorcyclists tried to rush head on into the crowd. According to the information released by the authorities concerned, we came to know that she was a 21-year-old woman named Ma Mya Thin Thu.

While the motorcyclists were trying to disperse the crowd by charging into it, the team led by U Nyo under the guise of a monk got off from the cars, hit the demonstrators with rods and fists and destroyed the placards. A girl among the demonstrators was badly bruised as she had been beaten on her chest and hips with sticks by five NLD Party youths. We, later found out that she was Ma Aye Aye Khaing, a 24-year villager from Patheingyi Village.

I, as well as other members of our group, realized that the situation was getting out of hand. But none of us dared to say a word about how to resolve the situation. You see it was because even the leaders of our group refused to do whatever was necessary.

They did not contact the local authorities to coordinate with them; they did not reprimand the youths of the convoy for causing undesirable problems, nor explain to persons like U Nyo of Madaya that aggression was not the method for organizing people and forbid him from assaulting others while wearing the robes of a Buddhist monk. The result was more confusion. There was no discipline at all in our group. And some members were behaving in a most disorderly way wielding clubs, steel chains and catapults in their hands. The situation was thus aggravated and deteriorating into chaos.

(To be continued)

## Tikyit coal-fired power plant to fulfil electricity requirement

Article by Kayan Soe Myint Photo by Yay Chan Myint

With the aim of meeting the increasing demand for electricity in Myanmar, Myanma Electric Power Enterprise of the Ministry of Electric Power has been constructing a coal-fired power plant that will generate 120 megawatt of electricity east of Pyntha Village in Pinlaung Township, using coal produced in Tikyit region in the township.

Two coal-fired boilers and turbines, each of which can generate 60 megawatt will be installed at the plant. Plans are also made to install another one in the future.

With the permission of the Head of State, a contract to purchase equipment required for the sub-power station and power lines worth US\$ 42,930,000 was signed with China National Heavy Machinery Corporation on 27 August 2001. Installation of a 1.5-mile 11 KV overhead power line and a two-mile 400 V overhead power line,

construction of 11/0.4 KV, 160 KVA, 500 KVA and 33/11 KV 1250 sub-power stations, the briefing hall, staff quarters, the motor vehicle workshop, plinth for Nos 1 and 2 boilers, store and workshop buildings and the laboratory have been carried out.

Two transformers of about 60 tons, two turbines, turbine casing generator stator

core and other equipment have arrived at the construction site between 21-8-2001 and 16-4-2003. Some equipment are also on the way from Yangon to the site.

According to the calculation of the Ministry of Mines, 20.7 million tons of Heat Value 10320 Btu/LB coal can be produced from Tikyit. CNHMC and Shan

Yoma Naga Co Ltd will produce 750,000 tons of coal per year for the power plant.

Arrangements to sign the coal purchase contract between MEPE and SYN Co Ltd are also under way.

Electricity generated by the plant will be supplied to the main power distribution system by two power lines, one from Tikyit to

Thazi, Kinta, Tagundaing (Mandalay) and Monywa via Kalaw, Chauk and Kyunchaung sub-power stations and another from Tikyit to Yangon Division via Lawpita power plant, Toungoo and Hlawga sub-power stations.

The project is included in the programme to generate 2000 megawatt during

the first five years of the short-term plan approved by the third four-monthly work coordination meeting for 2000.

MEPE is exerting relentless efforts for the completion of the plant to implement the plans laid down by the State.

**Translation: MWT**  
Kyemon: 19-7-2003



Coal-fired power plant being constructed near Pyntha Village in Pinlaung Township 22 miles away from Kalaw in Shan State (South). The plant will generate 120 megawatt of electricity at the first phase to be distributed to Upper Myanmar and Yangon Division.

## Water pumping projects benefit more farmlands

(Article by Thaung Win Bo & photos by Ko Ko Soe Nyunt)

To bring about harmonious and equitable development the length and breadth of the nation, the government has been implementing the river water pumping projects since 1995. Up to the end of March 2003, there have emerged 265 river water pumping projects now benefiting 28,210 acres of farmlands across the nation.

Myokwin (Dhambi) river water pumping project is being implemented in Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Division. Upon completion, it will benefit some 9,000 acres of farmland.



Lawkananda River Water Pumping Project which will benefit 11,000 acres of farmland.



Ngathayauk River Water Pumping Project in NyaungU Township.

Plans are under way for implementation of eight more river water pumping projects which will benefit 97,500 acres of farmlands nation-wide. The government has earmarked K14,500 million plus US\$ 23.05 million for the eight projects.

Myanmar is an agro-based country, and agriculture plays an important role in development of the national economy. Thus, the government is giving priority to building of dams and reservoirs and implementation of river water pumping stations for development of the agricultural sector.

Myanmar is rich in land and water resources. There are 43.63 million acres of cultivable lands. Out of them, only 25 million acres of land could be put under paddy and other crops because of scanty water supply. Water resources are the most essential requirements for agriculture sector. Fully aware of this, the Ministry of Agricul-

ture and Irrigation is constructing such irrigation facilities as dams, reservoirs and sluice gates. At the same time, it is implementing river water pumping projects wherever necessary.

River water pumping projects are being implemented most in Anyar (upper Myanmar) region. Lawka Nanda river water pumping project in NyaungU Township is benefiting 11,000 acres of farmland, Ngathayauk river water pumping in NyaungU Township, 8,700 acres, Kawzi river water pumping project in Taungtha Township, 8,000 acres and Thaphanseik river water pumping project in Magway Township, 7,200 acres.

With the emergence of river water pumping projects, water from rivers in Anyar region is now being effectively utilized for agricultural purpose, thus further contributing towards development of economy of the State.

(Translation: TS)



## Accomplishments for equitable development of regions in the country



*A hospital built in Mongshu region to provide health care service to local people.*



*Shweli Hydel Power Project located 17 miles from Namkham in northern Shan State.*



Development of a region depends much on easy access to it.

With this end in view, the State has been building a network of roads and bridges the length and breadth of the nation.

As a result, new roads and bridges have emerged one after another throughout the country.

The Government is continuing its efforts to build new roads and bridges.

The photo (left) shows Gyaing Bridge (Zathabyin) that links Kayin and Mon States across the Gyaing River.

The Government, with no discrimination against states and divisions, has paid constant attention to their equitable development and has been bridging the gap between one region and another. With a view to enabling far-flung and rural areas of states and divisions not to lag behind in development, projects are being implemented and the five rural development tasks are being carried out.

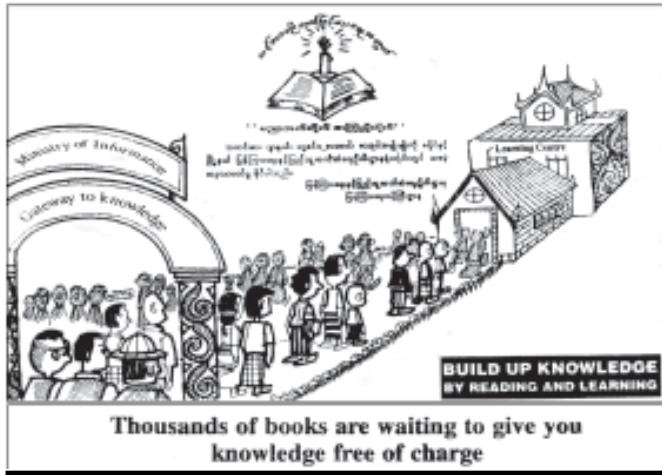
Providing health care service to rural people is one of the five rural development tasks. Therefore, hospitals are being built for the people across the nation.

The Ministry of Health is taking responsibilities for providing health care services to national people.

The photo (right) shows a maternity ward of Lashio People's Hospital being built by the Ministry of Health.



*An aerial view of developing Mongla in Shan State (East).*



## ADVERTISEMENTS

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်  
ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့  
ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ် ၂၉/၂၀၀၃  
(၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်၊ ဇူလိုင်လ ၁၅ ရက်)  
လျှောက်လွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ သမဝါယမဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ အိမ်တွင်းစက်မှုလက်မှုလုပ်ငန်းဦးစီးဌာနတွင် လစ်လပ်လျက်ရှိသော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ရာထူးနေရာများအတွက် လျှောက်လွှာများ အလိုရှိပါသည်-

- စဉ် ရာထူး ပညာအရည်အချင်း လစ်လပ်**
- (က) လက်ထောက်အင်ဂျင်နီယာ/ စက်မှုအင်ဂျင်နီယာဘွဲ့ ၄ နေရာ  
အလုပ်ရုံခွဲမှူး
- (ခ) လက်ထောက်အင်ဂျင်နီယာ/ ဓာတုအင်ဂျင်နီယာဘွဲ့ ၁ နေရာ  
အလုပ်ရုံခွဲမှူး (သို့မဟုတ်) မဟာသိပ္ပံဘွဲ့  
(ဓာတုဗေဒ/ဓာတ်တုတ်  
ဓာတုဗေဒ)
- (ဂ) လက်ထောက်အင်ဂျင်နီယာ/ မြို့ပြအင်ဂျင်နီယာဘွဲ့ ၁ နေရာ  
အလုပ်ရုံခွဲမှူး

၂။ လျှောက်ထားသူသည်-

- (က) ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားဖြစ်ရမည်။  
(ခ) ၁၂-၈-၂၀၀၃ နေ့တွင် အသက် ၃၅ နှစ် (ဝန်ထမ်း  
ဖြစ်ပါက အသက် ၄၀ နှစ်) ထက် မကျော်လွန်သူဖြစ်ရမည်။

၃။ လျှောက်လွှာကို ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့မှ အသိပေးရမည့် ၁၂-၈-၂၀၀၃ နေ့ အရောက် ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၄။ လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ဖော်ပြရမည့်အချက်များ ပူးတွဲပါရှိရမည် စာရွက်  
စာတမ်းများ၊ ဝင်ကြေးငွေ ၅၀/-ပေးသွင်းရမည့်နည်းလမ်း၊ ရေးဖြေ  
နှုတ်ဖြေ စစ်ဆေးမှု အတွက်လေ့လာရန် လိုအပ်ချက်များနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်း၍  
ဤအဖွဲ့ကကြေညာချက် အမှတ် ၁/၉၁ ဖြင့် ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော  
ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ကြော်ငြာစာခေါ်ယူသော ရာထူးများသို့

လျှောက်လွှာတင်သွင်းသူများအတွက် လမ်းညွှန်စာစောင်ပါ သတ်မှတ်ချက်  
များနှင့်အညီ လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ရန်ဖြစ်သည်။

၅။ ရန်ကုန်မြို့နှင့် မန္တလေးမြို့များတွင် ရေးဖြေစာမေးပွဲစာစစ်ဌာနများ  
ထားရှိမည်။ မိမိဖြေဆိုလိုသောစာစစ်ဌာနကို လျှောက်လွှာတွင်  
ရှင်းလင်းတိကျစွာ ဖော်ပြရမည်။

၆။ ဝန်ထမ်းများသည် မူရင်းလျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို မိမိတာဝန်  
ထမ်းဆောင်သည့် ဌာနအကြီးအကဲမှ တစ်ဆင့် ဝန်ကြီးဌာန၏ စွဲပြုချက်  
ရယူပြီး ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ရှိသည့် ၁၂-၈-၂၀၀၃  
နေ့အရောက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။ လျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို ဓာတ်ပုံနှင့်အတူ  
ဤအဖွဲ့ရှိသည့် တိုက်ရိုက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၇။ ၂၀-၈-၂၀၀၃ နေ့နှင့် ၃၁-၈-၂၀၀၃ နေ့များတွင် အရည်အချင်းစစ်  
ရေးဖြေ စာမေးပွဲကျင်းပမည်။ ၂၈-၈-၂၀၀၃ နေ့မှစ၍ မန္တလေးတိုင်း  
အေချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မရှီနှင့် ဤအဖွဲ့ရှိသည့်  
ဖြေဆိုခွင့်ကတ်ပြားများ ထုတ်ပေးမည်။

၈။ စုစမ်းမေးမြန်းလိုပါက ပြည်နယ်/တိုင်း၊ ခရိုင်နှင့်မြို့နယ်အေချမ်း  
သာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မရှီများ ပြည်နယ်/တိုင်း၊ မြို့နယ်အလုပ်  
သမားညွှန်ကြားရေး ဦးစီးဌာနရှိသည့် တွင်ဖြစ်စေ၊ ဤအဖွဲ့ရှိသည့်  
လူကြီးတိုင်းဖြစ်စေ၊ တယ်လီဖုန်း အမှတ် (၃၇၈၀၆၃)သို့ဖြစ်စေ  
ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

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P.O. Box No 26, Yangon  
Ph: 372416

Date: 21st July, 2003

## Singapore's total trade expands by 4.7% in June

SINGAPORE, 20 July—Singapore's total trade expanded by 4.7 per cent in June 2003 over the same period last year, registering some 38.5 billion Singapore dollars (22 billion US dollars), a government Press release said here on Thursday.

Non-oil domestic exports grew by 18.7 per cent year-on-year in June 2003, totalling 9.2 billion Singapore dollars (5.3 billion US dollars), said the Press release published by International Enterprise Singapore (IE Singapore), which was previously



### The Government of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Forestry Myanma Timber Enterprise

Date 21-7-2003

Myanma Timber Enterprise will hold the sealed tender sale as follows:

#### Sealed Tender Sale (STC-04/2003-2004)

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Commodity     | - Teak Scantlings                      |
| Quality       | - Third & up quality                   |
| Location      | - Yangon Sawmills                      |
| Sales Basis   | - FOB Yangon in US dollars.            |
| Earnest Money | - For Overseas Companies - US \$ 10000 |
|               | - For Myanmar Companies - US \$ 5000   |
| Payment       | - By PAA LC (T T R)                    |
| Closing date  | - 30-7-2003 (Wednesday)                |
|               | 12.00 Noon                             |

Bids in sealed envelopes are to be dropped into the box marked "Sealed Tender Sale for Teak Conversions" which is kept at Marketing Unit (1) of the Export Marketing and Milling Department of the Myanma Timber Enterprise. Please contact the above unit if further information is required.

Secretary  
Export Committee (MTE)

## Power from Three Gorges eases Shanghai's power shortage

SHANGHAI, 20 July — China's biggest city Shanghai began to receive electricity generated by the Three Gorges generators on Friday, easing its power shortage, local power company officials said.

Xu Hang, deputy-general manager of the East China Company of the State Grid Corp. of China, said the electricity reached Shanghai via a transmission network.

The transmission line linking the power plant of the Three Gorges Project, China's largest water conservancy project, and Shanghai is almost 1,000 kilometres long, crossing the provinces of Hubei, Anhui and Jiangsu.

Bian Beilei, another official with the company, said the power came at the right time as total electricity consumption in Shanghai jumped to 13.1 million kilowatts on July 14, a record high due to a heat wave.

Power consumption in the city rose by 20 per cent during the first quarter of this year due to demand from fast-growing industrial sector.

Bian said the use of hydroelectricity from the

Three Gorges would help Shanghai reduce consumption of coal, cutting the discharge of air and solid pollutants.

With two generators already producing power and connected to East China Power Grid that covers Shanghai and other east China areas, the Three Gorges Power Plant is expected to produce 5.5 billion kilowatts hour of electricity this year.

A total of 1.12 billion kilowatts hour of that has been earmarked for Shanghai, about 43 per cent of the 2.62 billion kilowatts hour forecast China. Experts said Shanghai still needed up to one

million kilowatts this year despite the power from the Three Gorges.

Two powerful generators of China's Three Gorges Project in Yichang City, Hubei Province, on the middle reaches of the Yangtze River, began power generation after trial operations earlier this month. Each of the foreign-built generators has a designed generating capacity of 700,000 kilowatts.

Launched in 1993 and expected to be completed in 2009, the Three Gorges Project will be installed with 26 generators, each with a generating capacity of 700,000 kilowatts.

MNA/Xinhua

## Laos dam project threatened by French pullout

BANGKOK, 20 July—The future of a 1.1-billion-US-dollar hydropower dam project in Communist Laos was in doubt on Friday after a major French investor pulled out and neighbouring Thailand said it might buy power elsewhere.

The decision by state-owned Electricite de France (EdF) to withdraw from Indochina's biggest dam project came a week after a diplomatic spat between Paris and Vientiane over a 15-year prison sentence Laos handed a French journalist before deporting him. EdF said its pullout, a day before the scheduled signing of a power purchase agreement in Vientiane, had followed advice from French Government officials.

But Laos said the company's decision was not politically motivated and it urged former colonial ruler France to help find a new investor to take up EdF's 35-per-cent stake. This was purely a business

decision, nothing to do with the journalist," Laotian Ambassador to Thailand Hiem Phommachanh told Reuters. "France, which has been present in Laos for years, should take part in helping the project move forward," he said. "EdF, which has invested in Laos for over 10 years, cannot just leave the project after saying a couple of words."

The Frenchman, along with a Belgian journalist and a US citizen who were also handed the same prison sentence before deportation, had been arrested last month while reporting on an ethnic Hmong rebellion in northern Laos.

MNA/Reuters

## Nepali Finance Minister presents budget for new fiscal year

KATHMANDU, 20 July—Nepali Finance Minister Prakash Chandra Lohani on Thursday presented a budget estimate of 1.36 billion US dollars for the fiscal year 2003/2004 which has given topmost priority to the country's poverty alleviation plan.

Of the total budget, 807.3 million US dollars is for regular expenditure and 557.9 million US dollars is in the development expenditure.

The budget targets to collect the revenue of 829.6 million US dollars and 206.8 million US dollars from the bilateral and multilateral grants, while the 328.8 million US dollars deficit will be fulfilled from foreign loan and domestic borrowings.

The revised estimate of the last fiscal year's budget was 1.13 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua



# ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## Tens of thousands of US students to lose college aid

WASHINGTON, 20 July — The largest grant programme in the United States will be reduced by 270 million US dollars, a Congress report published Friday said.

Some 84,000 college students will be barred from receiving any award at all because of a new formula for financial aid designed by the government, the report said.

The vast majority of financial aid for college students in the United States, whether it comes from states, universities or the federal government, is dictated by a single formula that determines how much of a family's income is discretionary, and thus available for college expenses.

Just as with income tax, families can deduct some of what they spend on state and local taxes. But this year, with few exceptions, the Education Department reduced the deduction amounts, sometimes cutting

them in half or more. Families will thus often appear to have larger incomes and will be expected to contribute more toward their students' college education.

The report, by the Congressional Research Service, the research arm of Congress, said the new formula would trim the government's primary award programme, the Pell grant, by 270 million dollars once it takes effect in the next academic year. Hundreds of thousands of students will end up getting smaller Pell grants, not counting the 84,000 who it is estimated will no longer qualify, the *New York Times* quoted the report as saying.

Word of the changes has kindled a small storm in

Washington in the last month. Members of Congress have put forward legislation in hopes of either gauging the toll of the new formula or stopping it; they have characterized the change as a way to cut education spending without facing the public.

Brian K Fitzgerald, director of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance estimated that more than one million students could receive smaller Pell grants because of the new formula.

It will also have a ripple effect through all the other financial aid programmes and the cumulative effect could be much larger, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Ruins of 3,000-year-old village unearthed in central China

ZHENGZHOU, 20 July — Chinese archaeologists have discovered the ruins of a complete ancient village on the western edge of Yinxu, an important archaeological excavation site dating back more than 3,000 years, in central China's Henan Province.

Archaeologists from the Archaeological Research Institute under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and Henan Provincial Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Research Institute unearthed 27 homes (or suites) with 70 rooms during their excavations at Yinxu.

The village has the first houses inhabited by ordinary people to be found at Yinxu.

"This is the first time that semi-subterranean residences half built into the ground have ever been found

at Yinxu or among ruins from the Xia (2100 BC-1600 BC), Shang (1600 BC-1100 BC) and Zhou (1100 BC-771 BC) Dynasties," said Wang Xuerong, an associate research fellow with the Archaeological Research Institute under the CASS.

"Although the unearthed rooms are small compared with the foundations of palaces and temples unearthed at Yinxu, they reflect the vivid and colourful lives of ancient common people who lived in areas adjacent to the city proper," Wang said.

The discovery provided

completely new materials for the study of society during the Shang Dynasty (1600 BC-1100 BC).

The ruins of Yin (Yinxu) were discovered in 1899 in Anyang, capital of the Shang Dynasty.

Yin was the ancient name for the Shang Dynasty.

Excavations at Yinxu ruins have revealed tombs, foundations of palaces and temples, bronzes, jade carvings, lacquer, white carved ceramics, and high-fired, green-glazed ware, and oracle bones.

MNA/Xinhua

## Oil prices rise for second straight session

NEW YORK, 20 July — Oil prices rose Friday for the second straight session on buying ahead of the weekend as tight US crude in ventories kept dealers nervous about supply.

US benchmark crude futures were up 55 cents, about 1.8 per cent, at 31.96 dollars per barrel, while benchmark Brent followed, posting a 31-cent gain to 28.93 dollars a barrel. The rise was caused by traders buying to keep from being caught in short positions over the weekend, a production glitch in Louisiana and generally low crude oil supplies, traders and analysts said.

Prices are up around 65 cents on the week as the price rally Thursday and Friday made up for losses sustained Wednesday, when US oil industry inventory data showed

a big build in the supply of gasoline, the key summertime oil product.

Tight US supplies, with US crude stocks 11 per cent less than a year ago, are putting a floor under prices.

Also, a gasoline-making unit will shut Monday at the Marathon Ashland LLC refinery northwest of New Orleans, a company source said. The two-week outage comes at a time of summertime demand for gasoline. Gasoline futures on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) rose 3.06 cents or 3.4 per cent to 92.13 cents per gal-

lon. Still, gasoline futures fell more than a cent on the week, because of the large gasoline supply build reported by the US Energy Information Administration on Wednesday.

The OPEC cartel will meet July 31. It is expected to maintain crude production quotas. Slightly diminished production this week from the US Gulf of Mexico caused by precautionary rig evacuations during Hurricane Claudette also underpinned crude by spurring some supply worries among futures traders on the NYMEX and the International Petroleum Exchange in London. —MNA/Reuters



Tourists go sight-seeing by boat in Beihai wetland in tengchong Country, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 19 July, 2003. It is a well-protected wetland and the only one of its kind in the province. —XINHUA PHOTO

## Centuries-old encyclopaedia comes back to life

BEIJING, 20 July — The *Yongle Encyclopaedia*, the most renowned encyclopedia in Chinese history, went on show to the public Thursday in Beijing after nine months of painstaking restoration.

The *Yongle Encyclopaedia* was compiled in 1408 during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) at the order of the then Yongle Emperor. More than 3,000 scholars collected nearly 8,000 kinds of books available at that time into 11,095 volumes. The encyclopaedia, a treasure-house of ancient Chinese books, covers a wide range of subjects. The copy on show Thursday is the only one still existing in the world, with merely about 400 volumes left after frequent damages by foreign invaders in modern times.

Only 223 volumes are stored in China and the 221 volumes in the National Library

are all somehow damaged. Most of the pages are hard to turn.

With the support from the ministries of Finance and Culture, ten craftsmen from the National Library spent nine months repairing the huge work.

"The reparation strictly follows the original style though many parts of the encyclopaedia have lost their original look after being repaired many times in the past several hundred years," said Zhang Ping, director of the restoration group from the National Library. A special rosewood container has been made for the encyclopaedia. —MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese Premier urges continuation of SARS-control efforts

BEIJING, 20 July — There should be no letup in SARS prevention and control efforts and much has to be done to make major breakthroughs in SARS research, treatment and quarantine, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said here recently.

Accordingly, the national SARS prevention and control headquarters shall be maintained, Wen said while meeting with the entire staff of the headquarters prior to its work review conference.

Wen said the Chinese people have achieved significant progress in the containment of SARS, to which the national SARS prevention and control headquarters has made important contributions.

The Premier stressed the government will give priority to social issues and public service, step up the construction of public health facilities, and improve the work of public health in rural areas so as to achieve social progress and economic development in a well coordinated way.

Vice-Premier Wu Yi, who leads the headquarters, also spoke at the meeting, calling on the staff to sum up the experience, step up research and promote international exchanges in the field of SARS prevention and control, and cooperate with local governments in establishing an effective mechanism to deal with public health emergencies. —MNA/Xinhua



Ten-day-old conjoined twin girls are seen on 19 July, 2003 in Chorhutta, 135 kilometres east of Multan, Pakistan. The twins share a heart and liver, and their weight has fallen from four kilograms (8.8 pounds) to 3.5 kilograms (7.7 pounds).

INTERNET

## SPORTS

## Love enjoys lucky break to set Sandwich pace

SANDWICH (England), 20 July— American Davis Love III set the British Open second-round clubhouse pace at Royal St. George's on Friday, becoming the first player to beat par for 36 holes.

At one stage, he led by three strokes but bogeys at the 10th, 12th and 13th sent him dropping towards the field and a failed attempt to escape a greenside bunker at the treacherous 17th pulled him further back.

He looked likely to make his fifth bogey at the last after a drive into the rough, but a masterly pitch, using the contours of the green, saved his par for a round of 72, one under par overall following Thursday's 69.

"I'm putting real well, and I've had two or three putts that maybe I did not like over two days," said Love, who was fortunate when his ball struck an out-of-bounds marker at the par-five 14th and bounced back into play.

"That was three good bounces all used up in one shot," the 39-year-old American said of his lucky break. "This course is a great test. It lets you get a few early birdies and then it just gets harder and harder."

"These pin placements are some of the hardest I've ever seen. I feel fortunate just to have got in under par." "Anything under par would be very good come Sunday night. If I can get to four or five under, that would be good enough." With the cut projected for eight over par and many top players struggling to master a tricky crosswind in baking sun on the difficult south-eastern English links, it left Love perfectly poised for a weekend charge for his first Open title.

The 1997 US PGA champion's three birdies on Friday came at the long seventh, ninth and 11th holes. His 141 total led by two in the clubhouse from South Korean SK—MNA/Reuters

## Big-spending Chelsea snare Bridge from Southampton

LONDON, 20 July— Southampton have accepted an undisclosed bid for Wayne Bridge from Chelsea, the Premier League's big spenders, after the England full back handed in a transfer request.

"I regret to inform our supporters that we have today given Wayne Bridge permission to speak to Chelsea Football Club with a view to signing for them," Southampton chairman Rupert Lowe said in a statement on the south coast club's web site on Friday.

"Wayne has quickly achieved great footballing success in his time with our club and has served us well."

"He has, however, made it known to both (manager) Gordon Strachan and me that he believes a move to Chelsea to be a career progression and an opportunity he cannot turn down."

A report on Southampton's official web site said the club had strongly resisted Chelsea's first two offers, believed to be five million pounds and six million pounds, but accepted a third offer after Bridge, 22, made it clear he wanted to leave.

"The exact fee has not been revealed but there has been widespread speculation that it is around seven million pounds plus (Chelsea full back) Graeme Le Saux," said the report.

This week Chelsea, bought by Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich earlier this month, have signed Cameroon midfielder Geremi and West Ham United defender Glen Johnson, and agreed a fee for Blackburn Rovers winger Damien Duff. —MNA/Reuters



Fernando Gonzalez from Chile returns a backhand to his Spanish opponent Tommy Robredo during their semifinal match of the Mercedes Cup ATP tennis tournament at the Weissenhof in Stuttgart, southern Germany, on 19 July, 2003. Robredo won by 6-2, 4-1 after Gonzalez stepped down due to stomach problems.—INTERNET

## Zamora signs for Spurs

LONDON, 20 July — Tottenham Hotspur completed the signing of Brighton striker Bobby Zamora for 1.5 million pounds (2.39 million US dollars) on Friday, the Premier League club said.

Zamora, who will be stepping up to the top flight after being relegated to the Second Division with Brighton at the end of last season, signed a three-year contract with a further three-year option at the north London club.

A regular at Under-21 level for England, Zamora has scored 70 league goals

for Brighton since joining them permanently in August 2000 after a brief loan spell at the south coast club.

"It's definitely going to be a challenge," the 22-year-old told a news conference. "I'm here to learn. I expect every single aspect of the game to be harder and I'm looking forward to it."

Spurs manager Glenn Hoddle said: "He's played up front for Brighton at times on his own, he's played wide — he's got a few strings to his bow and I think that's always good. "It shows what talent he's got that he can take on different roles as a young man and still produce the goods."

"He's got good pace, he's a clever player, he's got great movement."

Looking back to Spurs' problems in the second half of last season, Hoddle said: "We were unfortunate in the winter (transfer) window that we didn't get anybody in and we got some injuries up front afterwards and that hurt us. "At the time, we said that at least that would allow us to have the financial clout in the summer and that's unfolding now."

Zamora joins another new signing at White Hart Lane after Spurs paid Porto 6.25 million pounds (9.96 million US dollars) for 20-year-old Portuguese forward Helder Postiga last month.—MNA/Reuters

## Midfielder Morris completes move to Leeds

LONDON, 20 July — Former England Under-21 midfielder Jody Morris became Peter Reid's first signing at Leeds United after completing his medical and joins on a two-year contract, the Premier League club said on Friday.

The 24-year-old, released by Chelsea at the end of last season, made his debut for the west London club as a 17-year-old and played 124 league games, scoring five goals.

"I am delighted to be joining Leeds United," said Morris. "It's a great move for me. Obviously, everyone is aware that Leeds United are trying to rebuild for the future and I hope I can play my part. I am looking forward to doing so."

Cardiff City, promoted to the First Division at the end of last season, had been in the market for Morris before the player opted to remain in the Premier League with Leeds.

MNA/Reuters

of his career." City manager Kevin Keegan told the club's web site. "He can play left side wide, right side wide and up front so he will strengthen us and give us options." City are hoping to complete the paperwork on a four-year deal with the 30-year-old after a medical on Monday as he aims to join the squad on a pre-season tour of Denmark next week.

The former Blackpool and Queen's Park Rangers player, who was born in London but raised in Manchester, is a lifelong City fan and Keegan included him in several of his England squads.

"Trevor did not take too much convincing," said Keegan. "He is a Manchester lad, born in London but

brought up in the city, and hopefully he will now have plenty of time to get to know his new teammates prior to our competitive games."

"I tried to sign Trevor when I was (manager) at Newcastle. It didn't come off and now 10 years later I am still thrilled to have him," added Keegan, who believes Sinclair will increase his options both in midfield and up front. Sinclair, who has 11 caps and played for England at last year's World Cup finals, joined West Ham from QPR at the start of 1998 in a 2.3-million-pound players plus cash deal. He made 175 league appearances for the club scoring 37 goals.

MNA/Reuters



Costa Rica's Winston Parks (21) soars over El Salvador's Marvin Rene Gonzalez as they compete for the ball in the first half of their 2003 CONCACAF Gold Cup quarterfinal soccer match in Foxboro, Massachusetts on 19 July, 2003. INTERNET

## ANSWERS FOR YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE







Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt inspects construction of dispensary in Ward 168, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township (News page 7).—MNA



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt views students at BEPS No 6 in Ward 168, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township (News page 7).—MNA

## Chinthitay-Pyaungpyin-Kolan laterite road in Mogok Township opened

YANGON, 20 July—Chinthitay-Pyaungpyin-Kolan laterite road in Kathe Village tract was opened at the junction of Chinthitay Village in Mogok Township on 18 July, attended by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, officials of Mandalay Division Development Committee, and

local people.

Chairman of Mogok Township Peace and Development Council U Myo Han and Executive Officer of Township Development Committee U Aung Myint formally opened the road. The commander inspected round the road.

The Mogok Development Committee has spent K 8 million on the 12 feet wide and 2 miles long road.

The commander inspected construction of the three-storey building for Kyatpyin BEHS in Mogok Township.

The three-storey building was built at a cost of K 60 million—K 5 million contributed by the State, K 5 million donated by the public and K 50 million donated by wellwisher U Ba Htay of Mogok. —MNA

## Malaria preventive measures undertaken in Twantay

YANGON, 20 July—National level activities on prevention of malaria were carried out on July 5-11 in eight wards, the station hospital and villages in Twantay Township.

Local authorities, Red Cross members, staff of health department and locals led by Dr Maung Maung Than, Head of Twantay Township Health Department, carried out measures to rid the township of mosquitoes and tasks for proper drainage, and sprayed the insecticides. Educational talks on malaria were also held.

MNA

## Drug possessor gets jail term

YANGON, 20 July—Tachilek District Court sentenced Tun Win Kyaw, son of U Hla Aung, of No 4/64, Maikaung Ward, Tachilek, to 13 years imprisonment under Section 19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law on 24 June.

Tachilek special anti-drug squad members on 17 January searched him in Palyan Village in Haunglek Village-tract, Tachilek Township, and discovered 180 stimulant tablets from his trouser pocket. In connection with the case, Tachilek Police Station has taken action against him.

MNA

## Sayadaws of Maha Dwara Gana honoured

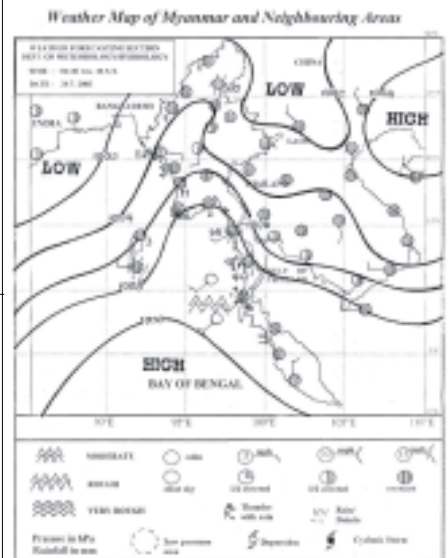
YANGON, 20 July—A ceremony to pay homage to the Sayadaws of Maha Dwara Gana and seek Ovada was held at Maha Dhammikayon Pariyatti Monastery in Maha Bawdi Street in Yankin Township this afternoon.

At the ceremony lay persons presented offertories to five Sayadaws.

State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee member Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Vacaka Pandita Dhammacariya Pali Paragu Yangon Maha Dwara Gana Sayadaw Thiri Bhaddanta Gunaysanaka gave Ovada and explained religious matters.

After the ceremony, U Maung Ohn-Daw SandaOo family donated provisions to the members of the Sangha.

MNA



## WEATHER

Sunday, 20 July, 2003

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin and Kayah States, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions. Rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan State, Upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Kachin State and Bago Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Mon State and Taninthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (3.78) inches, Ye (3.66) inches, Kawthoung (3.39) inches and Ann (2.28) inches. Maximum temperature on 19-7-2003 was 33°C (91°F). Minimum temperature on 20-7-2003 was 22.5°C (72°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 20-7-2003 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 19-7-2003 was (6.5) hours approx. Rainfall on 20-7-2003 was tr at Yangon Airport, 2mm at Kaba-Aye and tr at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 1120 mm (44.09 inches) at Yangon Airport, 1247 mm (49.09) inches at Kaba-Aye and 1246 mm (49.06 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 13 mph from Southwest at (17:35) hours MST on 19-7-2003.

**Bay inference:** Monsoon is generally moderate in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 20-7-2003:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kayin, Mon and Shan States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Kachin and Rakhine States, Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in Mon and Kayin States and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Increase of rain in the Coastal areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-7-2003:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-7-2003:** Partly cloudy.



View today:

Monday, July 21

- 7:00 am  
1. ကော့စူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံသယဟော နာယကအဖွဲ့အကြီးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မဟောရှုရှု အဘိဓမ္မဆရာ မဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မစာတော်ကတိဝိသုကဓရ ဓမ္မသက္ကာဂါရိကဆရာတော် အဋ္ဌန ဝိမိတ္တသာရာတိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am  
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am  
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am  
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am  
5. အမျိုးမျိုး
- 8:05 am  
6. Song of national races
- 8:15 am  
7. Cute little dancers
- 8:30 am  
8. International news
- 8:40 am  
9. Island of Dhamma

- 8:50 am  
10. အဋ္ဌနပည့်မှာတိဝံသ (အဘိဓမ္မ မဟာရှုရှု)၊ ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံသယဟော နာယကအဖွဲ့အကြီးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မဟောရှုရှု အဘိဓမ္မဆရာ မဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မစာတော်ကတိဝိသုကဓရ ဓမ္မသက္ကာဂါရိကဆရာတော် အဋ္ဌန ဝိမိတ္တသာရာတိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 4:00 pm  
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm  
2. Song to uphold national spirit
- 4:30 pm  
3. အမှတ်(၃)အခြေစိုက်ပညာရေး တက္ကသိုလ်ကြီးမှ ကျောင်းဝင်ခွင့် ရရှိသူများ (တတိယဆုရ) (အထက-၂၊ ဒဂုံ) (အမျိုးသမီးတက်ရောက်သူ)
- 4:50 pm  
4. အလင်းတက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရရှိသူများ (တတိယဆုရ) (သက္ကရာဇ်အထက-၂) (သက္ကရာဇ်)
- 5:05 pm  
5. Musical Programme
- 5:15 pm  
6. "စစ်ဆေးရေးကဏ္ဍ" (အပိုင်း-၂) (ခရီးစဉ်အား ပြန်ကြည့်၊ နိုင်ငံတော် မြှင့်တင်ရေး၊ စစ်သုံးနှုန်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ- သက်တင်) (ကရင်သာသနာတော်ဖြင့်)

- 5:30 pm  
7. Dance variety
- 5:45 pm  
8. Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)
- 6:00 pm  
9. ရုတ်တရက်အလား၊ စရာတော်ဖြင့်ကူး၊ မကျေးတတ်တော့
- 6:15 pm  
10. Discovery
- 6:30 pm  
11. Evening news
- 7:00 pm  
12. Weather report
- 7:05 pm  
13. ရတနာတော်အဖွဲ့ ဆုတောင်းပြည့်မြို့သုရား
- 7:15 pm  
14. Strong and healthy Myanmar
- 7:25 pm  
15. Musical Programme
- 7:40 pm  
16. နိုင်ငံခြား စာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ သစ်ပင်စုံ
- 8:00 pm  
17. News
18. International news
19. Weather report
20. နိုင်ငံခြား စာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ သစ်ပင်စုံ
21. မင်းတုန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးစီးဦးစီးသော ရဟန်းတော်များ၏ အလှူအတန်းများ ပေးအပ်သော အလှူအတန်းများ
22. The next day programme



Monday, July 21

Tune in today:

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music
- 8.50 am National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am Music
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music
- 1.30 pm News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch Time Music
- Saving all my love for you... Whitney Houston Experience... Diana Ross
- 9.00 pm Spotlight on the star
- Article
- 9.15 pm Radio Magazine/ Drugs Elimination
- 9.25 pm Woman's affairs
- Corporation with the world nations in Myanmar's anti narcotic drive (Part-IV)
- 9.35 pm Vocal Gems/Golden Land's Melody
- Beautiful Kanthayar
- 9.45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm Portfolio for easy listening

## Secretary-1 attends Waso robes-offering ceremony of Kalaywa Tawya Monastery

YANGON, 20 July — The 52nd Waso robes-offering ceremony of Kalaywa Tawya Monastery on the hill-ock of Naga Cave Pagoda was held at the Thukumara Magga Dipini three-storey building of the monastery in Mayangon Township at 9am today, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt.

Present on the occasion were State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Vice-Chairman Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Dawei Sayadaw Bhaddanta Acinnabhivamsa, Joint-Secretary Dwipitakadhara Dwipitakakovida Kalaywa Tawya Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa, member Sayadaws of the SSMNC, Sayadaws of the monastery and members of the Sangha, the ministers, the Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Yangon Mayor, officials of the State Peace and Development

Council Office, departmental heads, members of district and township Peace and Development Councils, social organizations, nuns, wellwishers, lay persons and guests.

First, the ceremony was opened with the three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa*, the Secretary-1 and congregation received the Five Precepts from Dawei Sayadaw. The Sayadaws and members of the Sangha recited *parittas*.

Next, the Secretary-1 donated provisions to Dawei Sayadaw and Waso robes, rice, edible oil and salt to Kalaywa Tawya Sayadaw.

The ministers, the mayor and wellwishers also donated Waso robes and offertories to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.

Then, a ceremony to donate cash was held. The donations included K 1.11 million for 300 sets of Waso robes for 300 monks of border region and hill region



Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt offers provisions to Dawei Sayadaw Bhaddanta Acinnabhivamsa at 52nd Waso robes offering ceremony of Kalaywa Tawya Monastery. — MNA

missionaries by Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara U Maung Maung; K 1 million for all-round renovation of the monastery by U Chu Kawt Ann-Daw Htay

Htay Maw family; K 1 million to the fund of the monastery by U Myat Kyaw-Daw Khaing Sanda Lwin of Royal Diamond Shop; and K 500,000 to the fund of the monastery. The Secretary-1 accepted the donations.

Later, Kalaywa Tawya Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained. The ceremony then ended with the three-time recitation of *Buddha Sasanam Ciramitthatu*.

The Secretary-1 performed the rituals of gold and silver showers, and offered soon to the monks.

At the monastic education school of Kalaywa Tawya Monastery, more than 5,000 monks, novices and nuns were taught during the period of 10 years and 1,605 are being taught in 2003-2004 academic year. Today's do-

nations also included 100 sets of Waso robes by the State Peace and Development Council; 100 sacks of rice, 30 viss of edible oil, 30 viss of salt and 150 viss of gram by the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races; 1,400 sets of Waso robes, 370 robes for nuns, 1,200 alms bowls,

10 sacks of rice, 100 viss of edible oil and K 11 million and 'soon' and meals for the monks and guests by the managing director of IML Co Ltd and Resident Director of Focus Energy Co Ltd U Maung Maung Kha Swe-Thirithudhamma Theingi Daw Aye Aye Soe and family. — MNA



Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers provisions to a Sayadaw at the ceremony to present offertories to monasteries, nunneries and Hninzigon Home for the Aged. — MNA

## Tatmadaw families, wellwishers donate provisions to monasteries, nunneries, Hninzigon Home for the Aged

YANGON, 20 July — Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated rice, edible oil, salt, gram and cash to monasteries and nunneries in Dagon Myothit (South) and (North) Townships, Yangon East District, at Pylon Chantha Maha Convocation Hall of Five Nikaya Pitakat Thonbon Monastery in Ward 26, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, this morning, attended by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Administrator Sayadaw of Five Nikaya Monastery Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kalyana and members of the Sangha of the monasteries, nuns, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, local authorities, social organizations

and wellwishers.

First, the ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa*. Dagon Myothit (South) Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Secretary Sayadaw Bhaddanta Jatila administered the Eight Precepts.

Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear Admiral Soe Thein and senior military officers donated provisions to the Sayadaws. On behalf of the Tatmadaw families, Camp Commandant Maj-Gen Hla Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein and Colonel General Staff (Air) Col Zin Yaw offered rice, edible oil and gram to the Sayadaws and nuns.

Next, departmental officials and wellwishers donated rice, edible oil, salt, medicines and gram to the Sayadaws.

Afterwards, Tatmadaw families, Yangon Division Peace and Development Council, departments and wellwishers donated cash towards the funds of the

monasteries to Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein and senior military officers.

(See page 2)

## Prizes presented to outstanding Tatmadawmen of Yangon Command

YANGON, 20 July — A ceremony to present prizes to outstanding Tatmadawmen and families of regiments and units under the Yangon Command for 2002-2003 was held at the hall of Yangon Command Headquarters this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay.

Also present were military region commanders and their wives, officers and other ranks, their wives, prize winners and guests.

First, the commander ex-

plained matters on presentation of outstanding prizes to the winners.

Next, the commander presented prizes to winners in the Code of Conduct Contest (Central Level) and training courses. No 2 Military Region Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint presented prizes to best players in the sports events of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services' Shield Contests; Daw Khin Thet Htay gave away gifts to the teachers from universities and the students who passed in the 2003 matriculation examination. Later, officials presented prizes to others. — MNA



Opening ceremony of Basic Education Primary School No 18 in progress in Ward 10, (North) Thakayta Township. — MNA