

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 169

7th Waxing of Thadingyut 1365 ME

Thursday, 2 October, 2003

Government implementing economic and development infrastructural projects to effect equitable development in states and divisions Prime Minister inspects Kengtawang Hydro-electric power project, Darseik river water pumping project in Loilem

YANGON, 1 Oct.—Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htw2e, the ministers, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council office, heads of departments and officials, left here by Tatmadaw flight and arrived in Namhsan on 29 September.

The Prime Minister and party were welcomed by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung, Brig-Gen Kyaw Aung of Namhsan Station and officials.

The Prime Minister and party arrived at Langkho in Loilem District where they were welcomed by Brig-Gen Nyunt Hlaing of Mongpang Station, members of Loilem District and Langkho Township Peace and Development Councils, departmental officials and members of social organizations.

The Prime Minister and party went to the site of Darseik river water pumping project in Langkho Township.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Khin Maung and Di-



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party pose for a documentary photo in front of Kengtawang Waterfall in Loilem District, Shan State, at which Kengtawang Hydropower Station will be constructed. — MNA

rector-General of Water Resources Utilization Department U Win Shwe reported on flow of water in Nanting Creek all year round, data on Darseik river water pumping project that will benefit 3,400 acres of lands, construction of the 27,800-foot main canal, one main water pumping station and three sub-water pumping stations, arrangements for the 38,000-foot

tributary canal and related programmes for water supply to Langkho.

Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint reported on cultivation acreage and types of crops, extended cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, arrangements for rice sufficiency in the township and rice sufficiency of the townships in the district.

Director of Water Resources Utilization Department U Win Phyto reported on survey for supply of water for agricultural purpose in Wanhat region, data on Namphalon Dam Project that will benefit 5,250 acres of farmlands and arrangements for construction of the dam.

In his address, the Prime Minister said Darseik river water pumping project is

being implemented for extended cultivation of paddy and rice sufficiency and at the same time water supply project is to be undertaken.

He said officials from central level would fulfil the requirements in the region. He spoke of the need for local officials to extend paddy cultivation not only in Langkho Township but also in the rest of the townships for rice sufficiency in accord

with the targets. He called on local authorities and departments concerned to organize farmers for land preparations and reclamation of lands to extend monsoon and summer paddy cultivation. On completion of the project, monsoon and summer paddy and cold season crops will be grown and surplus paddy can be transported to Loilem and Kunhein Townships, he said.

(See page 7)

All strata of population in country have adopted unified approach, supported the roadmap Minister U Win Aung addresses UN General Assembly

YANGON, 1 Oct.—U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar delivered a statement at the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 29 September 2003. The full text of the Minister's statement is as follows:

Mr. President,

Allow me at the outset to extend my warm felicitations to you on your assumption of the presidency of the fifty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly. Your vast experience and diplomatic skills augur well for the success of our deliberations.

I would also like to express our gratitude and appreciation to your predecessor, His Excellency Mr. Jan Kavan, for his invaluable contribution to the success of the last session of the General Assembly.

Our tribute also goes to our esteemed Secretary-General for his tireless efforts in leading the Organization through challenging times.

Mr. President,

We meet at a time when the world is faced with daunting

challenges. In addition to the perennial problems of extreme poverty, spread of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and environmental degradation, we are faced with the challenge posed by new forms of terrorism.

We must confront all these challenges squarely if we are to fulfil the vision of global prosperity and collective security set out in the declaration of the Millennium Summit, three years ago.

The United Nations has a vital role to play in ensuring peace and security. Myanmar firmly believes that the Organization must be revitalized to accomplish our objectives. We cannot overcome the complex problems that beset our world without universal commitment to multilateralism and reaffirmation of faith in the central role of the United Nations in the promotion of global peace and security. The importance of multilateralism and the need for countries to strictly abide by the principles of international law cannot be overemphasized. Indeed, Member States, large and small, have an interest as well as a responsibility to uphold the Charter of the United Nations.

More than ever before, our world needs greater interna-

tional solidarity and cooperation. In this respect, we welcome the intention of the Secretary-General to reform the United Nations into a more effective organization.

My delegation also shares the Secretary-General's concern that the use of force preemptively could set precedents that result in a proliferation of the unilateral and lawless use of force, with or without justification.

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Circulation
24,192

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 2 October, 2003

Actively participate in laying down democracy foundations

The Union of Myanmar is home to various national races who have been living together in unity and amity for ages. It was with their united strength and sacrifices that they regained their freedom and the country its sovereignty. Therefore, it is up to all of us to safeguard what our forefathers have striven for us.

Our national goal, as we have said very often, is the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. It is due to the correct leadership and realistic policies of the Government and the united participation of the people that we are now witnessing the results of development all over the nation.

For instance, in the past, only Taunggyi, headquarters of Shan State, developed and the other areas in the state lacked development owing to instability and poor transport. But now, the Government has been striving for the development of the entire Shan State, dividing it into four development regions. Since 1989, the Government has spent K 7850 million on development of Shan State alone.

In transport sector in Shan State (South) Aungban-Pinlaung-Loikaw railroad, Shwe-nyaung-Yaksauk railroad, Shweyaung-Taunggyi-Banyin-Saikkhaung railroad, Namhsan-Mongnai railroad and Taunggyi-Namhsan railroad were built. As a result, local people can easily travel from one place to another in the region. With improvement in transportation, there has been a remarkable increase in agricultural production of Shan State. Shan State produced about 20 million baskets of paddy a year but now its annual output of paddy stands at 60 million baskets.

The Government has been striving for the emergence of a genuine democracy in accord with the historical background of the nation and culture, customs and traditions of the people. A mass rally to support the Prime Minister's speech on the future policies and programmes of the State was held at the sports ground in Taunggyi, Shan State (South), on 29 September, and local people numbering more than 8,500 attended the rally.

At the rally, Dr Daw Win Nu Nu Thant, anaesthetist of Women and Children's Hospital of Shan State (South) said that the seven stages of the roadmap were in appropriate order, that the national races including those attending the rally enthusiastically supported them and that they promised to fully cooperate with the Government in the march towards a discipline-flourishing democracy.

We believe that the people in various states and divisions will welcome and support the roadmap clarified by the Prime Minister and will actively participate in implementing it.



MYANMAR ATTENDS WUSHU FESTIVAL: At the invitation of Singaporean Wushu Federation, Myanmar Wushu team presented a skill demonstration at the fifth Singaporean Wushu Festival held from 25 to 29 September. Photo shows Myanmar Wushu new generation youths seen together with two Chinese Shaolin Wushu generation youths. MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein being welcomed by Korean Ambassador Mr Lee Kyung-Woo at the reception to mark the 55th Armed Forces Day of the Republic of Korea on 1-10-2003. — MNA



Energy Minister inspects Ayethaya Industrial Zone

YANGON, 1 Oct —

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi yesterday morning inspected production of vehicles, agricultural machinery, turbines and natural fertilizer in Ayethaya Industrial Zone in Taunggyi, Shan

State (South).

Before the inspection, the minister met with responsible officials of the industrial zone and urged them to make efforts for production of vehicles to meet the target. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects the Ayethaya Industrial Zone in Taunggyi Region, Shan State (South).

ENERGY

Vietnam Trade Fair-2003 commences

YANGON, 1 Oct — Vietnam Trade Fair-2003 was opened at Yangon Trade Centre here this morning, with the participation of 46 companies from Vietnam opening 50 booths to display the goods. The fair open from 9 am to 5 pm daily will display textiles, medicine and medical equipment, construction materials, agricultural machinery, electronics and household and personal goods.

At the opening ceremony, President of Vietnam Pharmaceutical Companies Association (VNPCA) Mr Le Van Truyen presented medicine and medical equipment worth US \$ 3,000 to Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and President of Union of

Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industries U Win Myint also donated K 500,000.

It was also attended by Minister for Commerce

Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe,

Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun and Deputy Minister for Trade of Vietnam Mr Do Nhu Dinh.

MNA



The opening of Vietnam Trade Fair 2003 in progress at Yangon Trade Centre on 1-10-2003. — NLM

Myanmar, India discuss outstanding bilateral issues

YANGON, 1 Oct — The Senior Officials Meeting between Myanmar and India on Outstanding Bilateral Consular and Financial Issues was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday morning.

The Indian delegation was headed by H.E. Mr. Priyadarshi Thakur, Additional Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India, officials from the Ministry of External Affairs, H.E. Mr. R.K. Bhatia, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar and Embassy officials. The Myanmar delegation was headed by U Thane Myint, Director-General of the Consular and Legal Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials concerned from the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Immigration and Population as well as the Ministry

of Finance and Revenue.

The two sides discussed outstanding bilateral consular and financial issues in a spirit of friendship and good neighbourliness. As Myanmar-India bilateral relations increased, consular and financial meeting between the two sides enhanced mutual understanding between the two nations.

The meeting continued this morning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the second day and a Joint Report was signed between the two delegation leaders later in the afternoon.

During their stay in Myanmar the Indian delegation called on Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Sein Htwa at his

office this afternoon. The Indian delegation also paid courtesy calls on Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe yesterday and this afternoon respectively.

The delegation also visited places of interest here today. — MNA



The first meeting on outstanding bilateral consular and financial issues between Myanmar and India in progress. — MNA

Small developing countries, could not and should not be expected to follow same policy prescriptions applied to larger, more advanced countries

The following are excerpts from the address of Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of Jamaica Percival James Patterson delivered to the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 29 September.

Small developing countries, he stated, could not and should not be expected to follow the same policy prescriptions applied to larger, more advanced countries. He emphasized the importance of special and differential treatment.

In the aftermath of Cancun, the international community needed to accept that: trade rules must be asymmetrical in recognition of the diversity in levels of development and size of economies; trade rules must also recognize the right of all countries to protect their development priorities and vulnerable groups, especially their small farmers; and development issues, as they related to the World Trade Organization (WTO) agenda, must be defined by developing countries themselves and not by others for them.



Internet

Percival James Patterson

Experience gained by the developed democracies is really priceless



Tajikistan President Emomali Rakhmonov

Establishing a democracy should not be regarded as a simple process, but rather as a most complicated evolutionary one. In this sense the experience gained by the developed democracies is really priceless.

However, even they are still trying to optimally balance the interests of a state and an individual, to find an answer to the question of how to meet the primary needs of their citizens while accepting the primacy of the right to private property in a market economy.

The people of Tajikistan won their independence and democracy through enormous suffering and deprivation.

Tajikistan is in favor of an increased regional cooperation in all areas. Our goal is to create in Central Asia a belt of peace and stability, harmony and prosperity.

Turning Central Asia into a zone free of weapons of mass destruction is a matter of principle for Tajikistan, and that is why my country approved of the idea of establishing a nuclear free zone in the region.—Internet

Dr Marwan Muasher, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

May I move now to the question of Iraq. Iraq has now entered a new phase during which the brotherly people of that country are facing enormous hardships and challenges.

The eyes of all Iraqis are now set on the international community in the hope to receive every possible assistance that would enable them to forge ahead in laying a solid

foundation for building a promising future.

They look forward to rebuilding a new Iraq. An Iraq that reclaims its proper and legitimate status as an active Arab member in this Organization and within the community of nations.

I wish to emphasize the need to safeguard the unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Iraq; to ensure the withdrawal of the foreign occupation forces as quickly as possible; and to enable the people of Iraq to determine their future by themselves.

Therefore, we welcomed the formation of the transitional Governing Council as a first and important step towards the composition of a broad-based government that represents the full spectrum of the Iraqi population, to be elected by the people of Iraq as expeditiously as possible on the basis of a constitution accepted and endorsed by the people of Iraq. Against this backdrop, we decided to deal positively with the Governing Council as well as with all political affiliations in Iraq.

In this context, let me elaborate that my Government has accepted the assumption, on a temporary basis, by the representatives of the transitional Iraqi government of the seat of Iraq in the League of Arab States on the understanding that Iraq will subsequently move towards the drafting of the constitution of Iraq and the holding of elections leading to the formation of a representative Iraqi government.—Internet



Dr Marwan Muasher

Mr M Morshed Kham, MP Foreign Minister of Bangladesh

The UN is indispensable as the central organ for the collective management of world affairs. Third, **legitimacy**. As has been underlined, the greatest strength of the UN remains its legitimacy founded on the bedrock principles of international law. There is no substitute for such legitimacy. It is in this gauge that we look to the United Nations.

The people of Iraq inherit an ancient and glorious civilization. The present situation in Iraq should be resolved preserving the interests of the Iraqi people and longterm peace, security and stability of the region.

Bangladesh reiterates its support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the country. We stand ready to take part in the reconstruction and rebuilding of Iraq in the true spirit of brotherhood that characterizes the relationship between our two nations.

We reiterate our call for ensuring a clear, effective and credible role for the United Nations in Iraq's transition to democracy and in the country's reconstruction.

Bangladesh supports the forthcoming international conference for Iraq reconstruction convened by the UN and looks forward to a successful outcome.—Internet

ထုတ်ဖန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်း

Our task now must be to prevent the disintegration of Iraq

Human security, which is what all States, large and small, are seeking, depends exclusively on our dedication to the collective security architecture that we have concentrated in the United Nations. Our duty, then, is to defend and strengthen at all costs our Organization's objectives and purposes, and in particular to respect the integrity and authority of our international legal system. Our task now must be to prevent the disintegration of Iraq, a country with profound ethnic and religious cleavages and one that, as we all know, has a sorry history of civil conflict.

Panamanian Foreign Minister
Harmodio Arias Cerjak

We further call for the empowerment of the Iraqis to exercise their right of sovereignty

The statements delivered during the few past days clearly demonstrated the keenness of the international community to preserve international peace and security.

We, while adding our voice to those calling for the revitalization of multilateralism, call for a prompt handling of the security and humanitarian situation in Iraq.

We further call for the empowerment of the Iraqis to exercise their right of sovereignty as stipulated in international law so that this brotherly country could live in peace and harmony with its neighbors.

In this context, it gives me pleasure to remind this august Assembly of the important resolution adopted, a few weeks ago, by the Council of Ministers of the Arab League, which temporarily recognized the Transitional Council of Governance in Iraq. Such recognition is a significant step that would hopefully enable Iraq to play its role at both regional and international levels.

Sudanese Foreign Minister
Dr Mustafa Osman Ismail

Revert sovereignty to the Iraqi people as quickly as possible

Clearly, Iraq continues to remain a serious issue. Now that the war is over the global community must agree to revert sovereignty to the Iraqi people as quickly as possible, to let them govern themselves and to help them rebuild their country. The United Nations should be given an enhanced role in this process.

Nepalese delegation leader
Dr Bhekh B Thapa

Professor Jayakumar, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore



Professor Jayakumar

The 2002-2003 crisis over Iraq in the Security Council only underscored what we have known all along: the Security Council can only authorise intervention when the Permanent Members are in agreement and that all states, big and small, will do what they must to protect their vital national interests.

This is not the occasion to revisit old debates over

whether the war in Iraq was authorised on the basis of a continuity of authority from 1990 to 2003. Certainly, as Resolution 1441 recognised, Iraq had been in material breach of several resolutions. My point is that the intense diplomatic effort to secure another explicit authorisation for the use of force, whatever its eventual outcome, was itself testimony to the importance attached by all to the Security Council's legitimising role. In May, only weeks after a formal end to major combat operations was declared, Resolution 1483, adopted without any dissenting vote, recognised that the UN had a significant role in post-war Iraq.

Internet

Chinese, French presidents stress UN role in Iraq

BEIJING, 1 Oct— Chinese President Hu Jintao said Monday that the United Nations should give scope to its role in the reconstruction of Iraq and China supports a new resolution on Iraq by the UN Security Council (UNSC) acceptable to all parties concerned.

President Hu made the remarks during a phone conversation with his French counterpart Jacques Chirac Monday evening.

The Chinese Government maintains that the security and stability of Iraq should be resumed as early as possible and the administration of Iraq by the Iraqi people should be materialized, Hu said. A new UNSC resolution, which is acceptable to all parties concerned, is conducive in pushing forward the process of reconstruction, Hu said.

French President Chirac said Iraq is in a state of turbulence and turmoil and the problems should be settled through political means.

The sovereignty of Iraq should be transferred to the

Iraqi people gradually, and the United Nations should play a key role in that process, Chirac said.

Moreover, Chirac briefed Hu on his experience in the 58th session of the UN General Assembly as well as his views on the current Iraqi situation.

The two presidents said they were satisfied with the sound development of bilateral ties, noting that they will continue to make joint efforts to promote the progress of the comprehensive partnership between the two nations to a new height.

MNA/Xinhua

UAE, Egypt urge for security and stability in Iraq

ABU DHABI, 1 Oct—The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Egypt here Monday stressed that it is important to bring about security and stability in Iraq.

UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan al-Nahayan and his visiting Egyptian counterpart Hosni Mubarak made the remarks during their talks.

Mubarak arrived here earlier in the day for a two-day visit.

During the meeting, the two presidents called on the

international community to help Iraqis gain rights to reconstruct homes, run the state and elect their leaders.

The two leaders also discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian territories as well as bilateral ties between Egypt and the UAE. — MNA/Xinhua

Thai air force chief pledges beefed-up security for APEC meeting

BANGKOK, 1 Oct — The chief of the Royal Thai Air Force on Monday dismissed report that Bangkok's Don Muang International Airport was under terrorist threat, saying the airport was safe enough for the upcoming APEC Meeting 2003.

Air Commander-in-Chief Kongsak Wantana told reporters that the location of the airport, which is located among civilian community, was not a barrier to security operation as civilians could provide useful information in case that anything went wrong.

He said the Royal Thai Air Force was currently in its second phase of the APEC security procedures, including reorganizing its runway traffics, establishing electronic fences with laser devices for weapons detecting, stationing up to 1,300 security guard personnel, with well-trained military dogs, patrolling both inside and outside the airport.

Concerning security procedures, Thai officials were already in contact with security officials of the participating members, especially the US and Russia, he said.

Since October 1, Thailand would enter the final phase of security measures for the holding of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 2003 meeting, he added.

To provide security for world leaders and delegates, the Royal Thai Air Force would mobilize F-16 fighter jets to patrol the air and clear way for the planes carrying them.

Moreover, a large number of fighter jets would be standing by to be able to take off within five minutes in case of any emergency.

MNA/Xinhua



An anti-Prime Minister Tony Blair protester marches during the second day of the Labour Party conference in Bournemouth on 29 September, 2003. Blair faced angry protests from anti-war members of his ruling Labor Party as Iraq was kept off the agenda at the toughest party conference of his leadership.

INTERNET

Iraqi minister appeals for full return of UN agencies to Iraq

GENEVA, 1 Oct—Iraq's Minister for Migration and Exiled Persons, Mohammed Khudir, urged UN agencies and other aid groups to return in full force to his country, saying that their absence would lead to more suffering.

The United Nations now has fewer than 50 international staff in Iraq or less than one-tenth the number before last month's deadly suicide bombing on its headquarters in Baghdad.

"The staff of the United Nations and particularly the staff of the UNHCR (the UN refugee agency), if they do not return to the country, this will have very deleterious (harmful) consequences on a humanitarian level," Khudir told an annual meeting of the executive committee of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva. Speaking through an interpreter, he said that it was "absolutely essential" that a very clear signal should be sent to the international community to find a solution to the current humanitarian crisis in Iraq.

Efforts must also be made to prevent militant groups from causing more harm in the country, he said.

"The programmes of the UNHCR must be fully delivered even more than in the past," the minister implored.

Internet

စက်မှုပစ္စည်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Majority of Britons say Blair lied on Iraq

LONDON, 1 Oct— Nearly 60 per cent of Britons believe Prime Minister Tony Blair lied over the threat posed by Iraq in the run-up to the US-led war to oust Saddam Hussein, an opinion poll showed on Tuesday.

Blair, whose popularity ratings have dived since the war, faces one of the toughest speeches of his career on Tuesday at the ruling Labour Party's annual conference as he tries to ride out anger among activists over his support for the invasion.

The NOP poll, published by the *Independent* newspaper, found 41 per cent wanted Blair to resign while 52 per cent did not. Fifty-nine per cent thought Blair lied over Iraq and 29 per cent did not.

Other polls have also shown a majority of Britons no longer trust Blair after the failure of US-led forces to find any banned weapons in Iraq, his main justification for the war.

The NOP poll suggested that replacing Blair with Finance Minister Gordon Brown, an option favoured by many Labour activists, would not boost the party's appeal significantly.

Labour, on 38 per cent, had a nine-point lead over the opposition Conservatives. If Brown took over as prime minister, Labour's lead would increase by only one point, the poll showed. — MNA/Reuters

Philippines says most HIV cases unreported

MANILA, 1 Oct— Philippine Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit said Tuesday an estimated 8,000 cases of HIV/AIDS are not reported in the country, where other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are also observed to be on the rise.

"We estimate that there are about 10,000 cases, but only 2,000 have been reported," the ABS-CBN on-line news quoted Dayrit as saying.

Dayrit has warned about the possibility of an AIDS epidemic hitting the country, citing the rising trends of STIs among Filipinos.

He said that the Department of Health conducts surveys among prostitutes yearly, yet despite this, many HIV/AIDS cases remain unreported. — MNA/Xinhua



Stones and a buoy are seen on the bed of the river Rhein in Duesseldorf, western Germany, on 29 September, 2003. A long heat wave and rainless period has left the river at its lowest level since 1947. The Cologne gauge indicated the rivers level at only 80 centimeters on Monday, three centimeters less than in 1947. — INTERNET

US UNDER INTENSIFIED IRAQ RESISTANCE



Iraqi cars cross into Syria at the Iraqi border with Syria Saturday Sept. 27, 2003. Guarding against cross-border infiltrators from Syria, where the regime has been harshly critical of the U.S. occupation of Iraq, has become a high priority in the battle against insurgents who are attacking American forces daily in the Sunni heartland to the west and north of Baghdad as well as in the capital itself. —INTERNET



Iraqi official escapes bid on life Baghdad: US forces used tanks and rocket-firing helicopters to fight their way out of ambushes on Monday as two convoys came under heavy attack west of Baghdad, leaving at least one soldier dead. —XINHUA

311 soldiers US killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq

As of Monday, Sept 29, 311 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq, according to the Department of Defense.

The British military has reported 50 deaths. Denmark's military has reported one death.

On or since May 1, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 173 US soldiers have died in Iraq, according to the latest Defense Department figures.

Since the start of military operations, 1,368 US service members have been wounded as a result of hostile action, according to US Central Command. Non-hostile injured numbered 327.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

— A 17th Field Artillery Brigade soldier died Tuesday from a non-hostile gunshot wound at a base camp near Balad.

— A soldier from the 800th Military Police Brigade died Monday night when his vehicle overturned in a Baghdad canal. A second soldier from the 82nd Airborne division drowned trying to rescue the trapped soldier.

The latest identification reported by the military:

— Army Staff Sgt. Christopher E Cutchall, 30, McConnellsburg, Pa.; killed Monday when an explosive device detonated near his vehicle west of Baghdad; assigned to Delta Troop, 4th Cavalry, Fort Riley, Kan. — *Internet*



Iraqi children watch as British soldiers carry out a patrol in Basra, in southern Iraq on 29 September, 2003.

INTERNET



A US Army Abrams tank secures an area following a firefight in the Iraqi town of Khaldiya, on 29 September, 2003. Poised for a fiery debate on an \$87 billion bill for Iraq, Senate Republicans pushed to give President George W Bush broad authority over money to rebuild the country, resisting calls to make Baghdad repay the funds. —INTERNET



Anti war protestors demonstrate outside the Bournemouth International Centre as Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair delivers his keynote speech at the Labour Party conference on 30 September, 2003. British Prime Minister Tony Blair acknowledged on Tuesday that his support for war in Iraq had divided the nation and the world, but told his ruling Labour Party he had no regrets and would battle on. —INTERNET

Allies Bush and Blair feel fresh heat on Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 1 Oct—President Bush and his British ally Tony Blair felt renewed heat on Tuesday over their war on Iraq, with critics homing in on damaging leaks on both sides of the Atlantic.

The U.S. Justice Department said it had opened a criminal investigation into the leak of a CIA agent's identity allegedly to try to deflect criticism of the war, a case very similar to one that has shaken British Prime Minister Blair.

Bush said after meeting business leaders in Chicago he wanted anyone with information about the leak to come forward.

"If anybody's got any information inside our administration or outside our administration, it would be helpful if they came forward," Bush said in his first public comment on the issue.

In Britain, Blair defended his position on the Iraq war, which he acknowledged had divided the nation and the world.

The speech aimed to repair damage done by the British leak of the identity of a government expert in Iraqi weapons of mass destruction who had anonymously questioned the handling of pre-war intelligence to a journalist. A judicial inquiry was launched after the expert committed suicide.

Party leaders have headed off a full-scale debate on Iraq at the Labour conference, but anti-war dissidents plan to get in

their challenge when Foreign Secretary Jack Straw and Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon address the gathering on Wednesday.

Bush's spokesman said the White House had ordered staff to cooperate fully with the U.S. investigation into what Justice Department lawyers termed "possible unauthorized disclosures concerning the identity of an undercover CIA employee."

The controversy centers on the disclosure that Valerie Plame — the wife of Joseph Wilson, a former U.S. ambassador to Gabon — was an undercover CIA operative specializing in weapons of mass destruction.

Wilson, a critic of prewar intelligence on Iraq, says his wife's cover was blown by administration officials looking to discredit him. The investigation is a further blow to Bush as he seeks more help in tackling a guerrilla insurgency in Iraq and shouldering the costs of rebuilding the country by drafting a new resolution for the United Nations Security Council to consider.

France and Germany have led calls for Washington to transfer power from U.S. occupation forces to an Iraqi government within months as a condition for supporting a resolution in the Security Council. — *Internet*



A political assassination, two bombings at the UN in Baghdad and a strike against an American television network have together prompted a massive re-think of security in US-occupied Iraq. — *INTERNET*

Lawmaker alleges vastly bloated Iraq rebuilding costs

WASHINGTON, 1 Oct—The cost of rebuilding war-torn Iraq could be drastically reduced if local companies provided construction services instead of huge corporations like Bechtel and Halliburton, a senior US lawmaker said.

Representative Henry Waxman sent a letter Tuesday to White House Budget Director Joshua Bolten expressing concern about alleged overspending and lack of transparency in the Iraq reconstruction operations.

The California Democrat said in the letter that his concerns stemmed from recent conversations with members of the Iraqi Governing Council who "told my staff that the costs to the American taxpayers could be reduced by 90 percent if the projects were awarded to local companies rather than large government contractors like

Halliburton or Bechtel."

"Rather than seeking low-cost solutions based on inexpensive local Iraqi labor, the administration appears to be requesting huge dollar amounts for complex projects that will be awarded to well-connected US contractors operating at expensive premiums," Waxman wrote in his letter.

The criticism comes as the White House has encountered stiffer shock from US lawmakers to its request for 87 billion dollars in funding for stabilizing Iraq and Afghanistan.

Internet

Shanghai issues rules on government administration

SHANGHAI, 1 Oct—The Shanghai Municipal Government recently launched a set of detailed rules to better regulate administrative efforts, said government sources in this east China's metropolis Sunday.

The new rules, the first of the kind in Shanghai, stress the popularization of scientific and democratic decision-making processes and improvement of government efficiency, according to a spokesperson for the Shanghai Municipal Government, Jiang Lan.

The rules demand that local government canvasses responses to government decisions and objectively evaluate the decisions.

MNA/Xinhua

မြန်မာ့သမိုင်း၊ မိန့်ဝါလေလွန်း၊ ထုတ်တုန့်မြင့်

Jordan's king promises to train 30,000 Iraqi security forces

AMMAN, 1 Oct—Jordan's King Abdullah II on Monday promised that his country is going to train 30,000 Iraqi security forces.

"At the moment we are in the final stages to prepare for training in Jordan a little over 30,000," Iraqis, Abdullah told a foreign media in an interview.

He added that "there will be eight-week courses, and every course will be attended by 1,500 Iraqis. Soon we will receive the first batch of 3,000."

The Iraqis will take part in military exercises that will be conducted on the Jordanian lands, the King said, ruling out sending its own police or military to Iraq.

Sending Jordanian po-

licemen to patrol Iraqi lands is not a normal issue neither to Iraqis nor to their neighbours, he said.

Meanwhile, the King called on France and the United States to come to a solution to their differences on the timing of handing over power to Iraqis.

Americans still believe that time is not appropriate to hand over power to Iraqis while France believes that Iraqis should be in control as quickly as possible, Abdullah noted.

"The situation in Iraq affects all the countries in the region. Once Iraq develops

into a modern, democratic and stable country, the whole Middle East will become more stable," he stressed.

As for the situation in the Palestinian lands, the King called on Israel to back the new Palestinian Government, adding Israel should end settlement constructions, assassinations and all military acts.

Jordan is ready to bring back its ambassador to Tel Aviv if the success of the peace process is linked to his return, the King said.

MNA/Xinhua

Tikrit "triggermen" slip the net in huge US raid

TIKRIT, 1 Oct—US troops and Iraqi police staged their biggest search operation yet in Saddam Hussein's hometown Tikrit on Monday, swooping on 15 houses but failing to grab the men they were looking for.

Lieutenant-Colonel David Poirier said four suspects were detained in the raid in the "Sunni Triangle", a heartland of support for Saddam that has been a centre of resistance to the US-led occupation of Iraq.

But the pre-dawn raids failed to net 12 to 15 "triggermen" — members of Saddam's Fedayeen fighters who US troops believe are behind drive-by shootings, assassinations of members of Iraq's new police force and roadside explosions.

"The 12 to 15 we were after were the trigger pullers. This was the biggest operation we've conducted in Tikrit so far," Poirier said. "Unfortunately it looks like we didn't get any of them," he told reporters who witnessed the raids by 200 Iraqi police and about 100 US troops while helicopters patrolled overhead.

Faced with almost daily attacks, US troops have been keen to hand over policing to Iraq's new police force. But Monday's raids raised serious questions about when the local force would be able to

operate without major US help.

In one incident, Iraqi police officers spent five minutes trying to break down the door of a house with hammers. A US soldier simply knocked out a pane of glass and reached inside to unlock the door.

Despite the failure to catch the wanted Fedayeen, Poirier was optimistic about efforts to make the city 110 miles north of Baghdad safer. "e didn't get them because they are on the run and moving from house to house every night now," Poirier said. "They've been on the run for some time now." "We're tightening the noose and choking off the efforts of the bad guys."

Poirier said that although he believed US forces were winning the battle for control of Tikrit, where authorities believe Saddam may be hiding, the city would not be easily subdued. "Tikrit is, or was, a tough nut to crack," he said.

He did not rule out the possibility that the wanted rebels evaded capture because they were tipped off to the raid. — *MNA/Reuters*



An expert on tea planting from south China's Fujian province arranges the potted tea trees at the Badachu Park in Beijing, on 8 Sept. 2003. About 100 tea dealers gather here Sunday to celebrate the opening of the second Beijing Chinese Garden and Tea Culture Festival. More than 200 potted tea trees of about 10 categories from Fujian found their new home in the park on the same day. — *XINHUA*



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets staff of Myanmar Gems Enterprise and private gems entrepreneurs in Lwehtaukhsaung region, Monghsu gems land on 30-9-2003. — MNA

Government implementing ...

(from page 1)

He spoke of the need to move sugarcane plantations to fallow lands at the foot of the mountain. By doing so, paddy plantation acreage will

increase.

On completion, the Darseik river water pumping project will irrigate over 3,000 acres of land. There are now 2,500 acres of

monsoon paddy. Due to the project monsoon paddy acreage will increase up to 3,000. Moreover, triple-cropping can be undertaken and 3,000 acres of fallow lands can also be reclaimed.

Next, the Prime Minister met local people and explained measures to be undertaken for development of agriculture. Local people are glad to learn about the implementation of the project.

The Prime Minister and party inspected the construction of the main canal. They went to the site of Kengtawng Hydro-electric power project on Namting Creek, 31 miles east of Monai. The Prime Minister and party closely observed water falling from Kengtawng Waterfall. Director-General of Hydro-electric Power Department U Win Kyaw reported on data on Kengtawng Hydro-electric power project, aims of the project and location, flow of water of the Namting Creek, findings in the hydrological record, geological conditions, construction of concrete diversion weir, intake facility and canal, installation of steel pipe and power lines and progress of work.

Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut reported on arrangements for distribution of power generated from Kengtawng Hydro-electric power project. The Prime Minister then gave instructions. He said the government has systematically laid down plans and is implementing them as required by the respective regions. It is doing so, he said, with a view to effecting equitable development of the States and Divisions concentrating on economic and development infrastructures. There are still development gaps in 11 townships in Loilem District. This is why the government is making arrangements for development of Loilem District. The project is expected to complete in 2006. On completion of the project, 24-hour electric power can be distributed to 11 townships and surplus power can also

be supplied to the national grid. Industries in the township including cottage industries and the whole region will develop by the year 2006, he said.

The Darseik river water pumping project is being built for rice sufficiency and agricultural development in Langkho Township. Moreover, arrangements have been made for construction of Nanfalok Dam Project. Eleven townships including Langkho and Loihein Townships in Loilem District will develop economically in the near future, he said. The government is launching projects for development of 11 townships in the district and it is necessary for officials to make concerted efforts for realization of the project in accord with the targets.

The Prime Minister and party inspected ground position of the project. Three 18-megawatt vertical turbines will be installed at the power station that will generate 472 million kwh a year.

In the evening, the Prime Minister and party arrived in Loilem. They went to Yadanasi TatOo Monastery and presented offertories to Yadanasi Sayadaw Bhaddanta Silananda and members of the Sangha.

On 30 September, the Prime Minister and party, accompanied by commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, arrived at the site of Maharatha Bhitha Maggi Pagoda on Wikathini Hill in Panglong.

Director of Asia World Co U Maung Kye reported on (See page 10)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt gives instructions to the officials at the Kengtawng Hydropower Project on 29-9-2003. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt views gems industry at Monghsu gems land on 30-9-2003. — MNA



A breathtaking scenery of Kengtawng Waterfalls in Loilem District, Shan State. — MNA

The Border Area (Unconditional surrender of MTA)

Myint Soe (Na-ta-la)

(continued from 30-9-2003)

On 11 January 1996, at the meeting hall of the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Col Thein Sein (Now Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein) briefed the members of the border area special administrative board on the instructions of Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defences Services General Maung Aye (Now Vice-Senior General Maung Aye). Next, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo (deceased) gave instructions. Respective ministries gave lectures at the short-term courses on the border area development.

The MTA group members were transported from Yangon to Namsang by Tatmadaw aircraft at 8.40 pm on 19 January. On arrival at Namsang airport, they were briefed on the conditions of the region and duty assignments by the minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs and the commander of Eastern Command. They were later transported to Langkho by car. While in Langkho, Tactical Operations Commander Col Thein Nyunt (Now the minister for PBANRDA) briefed them on the conditions of Homain region, stock-pile of provisions and matters related to the surrender of arms for the third time.

They were divided into two groups and transported to Homain from Langkho by aircraft in two flights times starting 11.20 pm on 20 January. The tactical operations commander himself was on the first flight. At noon in Homain, they were briefed at length on the conditions of the region by No 55 Light Infantry Division Deputy Commander Col Moe Hein (Now Commandant of National Defence College Maj-Gen Moe Hein) and Lt-Col San Pwint of Military Intelligence (Now Col San Pwint of Military Intelligence Office).

I noticed all the instructions given by the senior officials placed emphasis on the acts to be avoided in order not to make people misunderstand the government and to carry out the tasks with diligence from the four points of view.

Our Yangon-Homain trip took only two days using aircraft, cars and helicopters. But we would have reached the destination in a day if we did not have to wait the helicopters. It will be wrong to assume that everything was OK in Homain region. Although the people could be transported quickly, there were many things such as rice that could not be. As they had returned to the legal fold with strong convictions, the State had to accord warm welcome to them and look after them. They could not afford to consume Thai rice of fine quality since they had no longer enjoyed any earnings. How rice could be transported to them? No aircraft for distributing a number of bags of rice. The motor road did not get to the bank of Thanlwin River. Bags of rice with the use of had to be transported from Langkho to Wansalaung and Tatswatein Jetty by car and then to Thanlwin River stretching about 12 miles by three power scooters. Then they had to be carried to Taonmu Jetty. As the road did not get to Taonmu Jetty, soldiers had to carry the bags of rice to Taonmu Point-3775 climbing up and down. It took four or five hours for a person to get to the point when climbing up even without carrying anything. It was hard to breathe climbing up such a steep mountain.

The generosity and goodwill of the Tatmadaw members was marvellous. A great number of bags of rice were

carried for many times and days. They then transported them by car to Homain.

On 20 January 1996... When I got to Homain, I first noticed that temporary national registration cards were being issued to the MTA troops, who would be going home. There were hundreds of people including toddlers and children at the place. Some were very happy to go home because they would meet their parents. Authorities concerned arranged to transport them by land, by boat and even by air.

The administrative board carried out the tasks to form the ward law and order restoration councils (now ward peace and development councils), to ensure the rule of law, to open schools, hospitals and dispensaries and to collect relevant data. The board members made field trips from the town centre of Homain down to the regions of Meaw, Kholon, Naungaw, Namkat, Hsankan, Hwayhaung, Monehtaw/Monehta. Data were collected and work projects submitted. Within a short period, schools, hospitals and dispensaries were opened. Issues on the rule of law had been addressed gradually. Heads of the wards also fulfilled the requirements. Doctors, nurses and medicines were brought in by helicopter. Power tillers, No 203 paddy strains, fertilizers and agricultural workers were also provided by land. If I say about the agricultural matter, I remember Ko Khin Maung, who was first a member of KNPP and then of MTA. Whenever all the goods supplied by the Development of Border Areas and National Races Department arrived in Homain, the position of the local ethnic people was like someone who had been unable to make use of something valuable in his hand.

There were a lot of merchants in Homain but very few farmers. I saw the vacant lands when going about in the town. Those lands were only used as the pastures for donkeys and horses used in military operations and in carrying heroin. Now the lands are ownerless. While in Pekhon, Ko Khin Maung used to run a farm. So, he was supplied with a power tiller and fertilizers, and given training how to operate the machine. It did not take even a day to train him and he was able to do his farming business very well. I had to prevent him from doing his work through the night.

When there came the day on which paddy was cultivated, Commander Brig-Gen Khin Maung (now Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation) was surprised when he saw some 300 women were ready to volunteer in the farmland. In the days of U Khun Sa, members of our administrative board took part happily in Homain Thingyan festival in 1996 together with the women members of the WASS. As a result of our organizational efforts, we got their help and strength whenever we carried out activities. If there was any school or dispensary to be opened, it was crowded with people. Due to the cooperative efforts, plantations of No 203 paddy strains produced about 100 baskets of paddy per acre. However, I did not have the chance to ask old bachelor Ko Khin Maung whether he got married or not that year when he made a good harvest. We have not seen each other ever since.

(concluded)

(Translation: ST)

Myanma Alin: 28-9-2003



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meets staff at Loilem District Information and Public Relations Department on 30-10-2003. (News page 1) — MNA

People's Desire

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

Efficient use of electricity

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

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

Efficient use of fuel

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

All this needs to be known

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

သတိ

၁။ မြောက်အိုးဖောက်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြည်သူများ အထိတ်တလန့် ဖြစ်စေခြင်း မသမာသူများမှ ရပ်ရွာအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် လုံခြုံရေးကို ထိခိုက်အောင် လုပ်လာနိုင်ခြင်းတို့ကြောင့် မြောက်အိုးဖောက်ခြင်းကို တားမြစ်သည်။

၂။ တားမြစ်ချက်အား ဖောက်ဖျက်ပါက-

- (က) မြောက်အိုးဖောက်လျှင် ထောင်ဒဏ် ၃ နှစ်။
- (ခ) မြောက်အိုးရောင်းလျှင်၊ မြောက်အိုး ထုတ်လုပ် လျှင် ထောင်ဒဏ် ၅ နှစ်။
- (ဂ) သတင်းပေးသူကို ထိုက်တန်စွာဆုပေးမည်။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့်
ခွဲခြားရေးကောင်စီ

Secretary-2 tours...

(from page 16)

Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity and Perpetuation of sovereignty.

Strengthening of the national economy and literacy of entire people also play a vital role. As stability, security and rule of law are essential in strengthening the economy, the government, after assuming the state duties, placed great emphasis on them from 1988 to 1992 and was able to restore stability and tranquillity in the entire nation. Seventeen armed groups have returned to the legal fold and taken part, hand in hand with the government, in regional development and promoting the living standards of the local people.

The government, laying down border area development project, 24 special development zones project and five rural development tasks, is striving to bridge the development gap between one region and another day and night. As for the economic development, short term economic plans were successfully implemented.

Bago Division is one of the six divisions that vitally contribute to the economy of the State. Agriculture sector of the division is the most reliable one, followed by industrial and livestock breeding sectors. As so many acres of vacant and virgin land remain uncultivated in the division, efforts must be made for the development of the agriculture sector based on five agricultural development tasks in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. Furthermore, efforts must also be made for increasing the per acre yield. Besides ten major crops such as paddy, cotton, sugarcane, corn, ground nut, sesame, sunflower, Pedisein, black pulse and pigeon pea, extended cultivation of coffee, tea and pepper for foreign market and Thitsein (*Bellaric myrobalam*) must be carried out in the division.

One of the reliable sectors in the division is the fishery sector. Natural lakes in the division must be systematically upgraded for fish breeding.

Agriculture must be carried out in wetlands where possible and fish breeding, in wetlands where cultivation is impossible. As the breeding of local strain fowls much contributes towards rural economy, local authorities are needed to make field tours of villages and to effectively organize the people to raise local fowls in every household in villages.

As for the administrative affairs, Peace and Development Councils at various levels, being the administrative bodies assigned by the government, are required to lead the people and carry out the tasks with integrity, and departmental personnel are to cooperate in projects of ministries and regional development tasks. In implementation of works, efforts must be exerted for completion of works meeting the set standards within short period, avoiding the loss and wastage of money, materials, time and labour.

In conclusion, the Secretary-2 urged local authorities and departmental personnel, realizing the policies and tasks of the State, to actively participate in building the modern, developed and democratic nation in respective roles with the essence of Union Spirit.

Chairman of the Central Organizing Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein met with chairmen and members of War Veterans Supervisory Committees in Bago Division (West), 14 townships in Pyay District and Thayawady District, and district and township members of WVOs at the same venue at 11.30 pm.

After hearing reports on implementation of the five tasks laid down by the Central Organizing Committee of MWVO presented by the chairman of Bago Division (West) War Veterans Organization Supervisory Committee, the Secretary-2 explained matters related to objectives, expansion, training and welfare of MWVO,

Anniversary of Myanmar Police Force marked

YANGON, 1 Oct —The 39th Anniversary of Myanmar Police Force which falls on 1st October was celebrated this morning at the Ministry of Home Affairs.

At the ceremony, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and Chairman of the Myanmar Police Force Management Reform Committee Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented outstanding awards to Police

Sergeant Kyaw Nyein of Taninthayi Division and Police Corporal Aung Aung Shwe of No 15 Police Battalion.

It was also attended by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, senior military officers, deputy ministers and officials concerned.

MNA

Civil Service Journal comes out

YANGON, 1 Oct — Journal for Civil Service, a biannual journal, (Public Service Journal) was published by the Civil Service Selection and Training Board yesterday. Further information can be available at No 65, Awaia Road, Myittanyunt Ward, Tamwe Township, Yangon, Ph 01-557383. — MNA

and urged the members to actively participate in building the modern, developed and democratic nation in respective roles with the essence of Union spirit. Afterwards, the Secretary-2 cordially greeted the members. Next, the Secretary-2 and party inspected Ayeyawady river crossing Nawade bridge, the greening tasks on both sides of the Ayeyawady river and water way of the river and gave necessary instructions. The Secretary-2 also met with families and Tatmadawmen of battalions and units of Pyay Station at Nawade Hall of the station at 1.30 pm.

The Secretary-2, after attending the opening ceremony of Bwetyi Dam yesterday morning, arrived at Pade Dam construction project site being implemented by the Irrigation Department near Shwepandaw Village in Aunglan Township, Magway Division.

At the briefing hall, Deputy Director of the construction 3 of the irrigation Department U Tin Win reported to the Secretary-2 on facts about the project, construction works being carried out and benefited acreage. Director-General U Kyaw San Win gave supplementary report. Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw

Min reported on condition of the clusters of dams in eastern and western parts of Magway Division and area of the benefited farmland. The Secretary-2 gave instructions on meeting the set standard and timely completion of the dam and inspected round the construction site.

Afterwards, the Secretary-2 and party inspected the condition of benefited farmland, development of Aunglan, inflow of water into Taungnawin Dam, thriving monsoon paddy and other crops around the area of the cluster of dams in eastern part of Magway Division and in Myanaung Township, Ayeyawady Division. The Secretary-2 and party arrived at Myanaung at noon. Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Chairman South West Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, senior military officers and officials welcomed them.

At the meeting hall of Myanaung Oil Field of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy, Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay reported to the Secretary-2 on facts about the Myanaung Oil Field and Shwepyitha Oil Field, daily and monthly production of oil, natural gas and crude oil in the oil fields across the country and income and spending of foreign currency. The commander presented supplementary report. The Secretary-2 gave necessary instructions and inspected the drilling of new well No 165/A in the Myanaung Oil Field.

The Secretary-2 met with local authorities of Hinthada District and Hinthada, Myanaung, Ingapu, Laymyathna, Zalun and Kyangin Townships, township level departmental officials of Myanaung and members of social organizations at the Aungzeya hall in Myanaung.

The chairman of Myanaung Township Peace and Development Council reported on economic, social and management affairs of the township and the commander on that of Ayeyawady Division.

The Secretary-2 gave instructions on active participation of local authorities and departmental officials in their respective sectors with patriotic spirit and Union spirit in building a new democratic nation in accord with the seven-point roadmap of the State clarified by the Prime Minister, efforts to be made for economic development of the region, extended cultivation of suitable crops out of ten major crops, measures for livestock raising and minimizing loss and wastage in carrying out the tasks. The Secretary-2 cordially greeted those present. Later, the Secretary-2 and party arrived back here in the evening. — MNA

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Drug trafficker gets 11-year imprisonment sentence

YANGON, 1 Oct — Toungoo District Court on 8 August sentenced Thein Soe, a drug trafficker, to 11 years in prison under Section 19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

A combined team comprising members of local intelligence unit and local police force in Toungoo on 12 February 2003 seized 2.776 kilos of marijuana hidden in his house.

In connection with the case, Thein Soe, son of U Maung Maung, of Hthilaing Ward-1, Toungoo, was charged with pushing drugs by Toungoo No 2 Police Station. — MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Pade Dam Construction Project in Shwepandaw Village, Aunglan Township, Magway Division. — MNA

Government implementing ...

(from page 7)

project data on the pagoda, pre-engineering work and progress of work on the pagoda platform, wall and Bridge.

Next, Associate Professor Civil Engineering Department of Yangon Institute of Technology U San Kyu reported on technological assistance for construction of the pagoda, architectural design and inspection of durability and quality control.

Next, Myanmar handicraft expert U Ohn Tin reported on Myanmar artistic works in the pagoda. Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint reported on

arrangements for keeping the pagoda compound and entrance and exit of the pagoda pleasant.

The Prime Minister gave instructions on durability, use of modern techniques, coordination among technicians and realization of the objectives.

The Prime Minister inspected progress of work. Next, a cash donation ceremony for the pagoda was held.

The Prime Minister and party presented offertories to Member of the State Sangha Maha Nakaya Committee Panlong Mwaydaw Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha

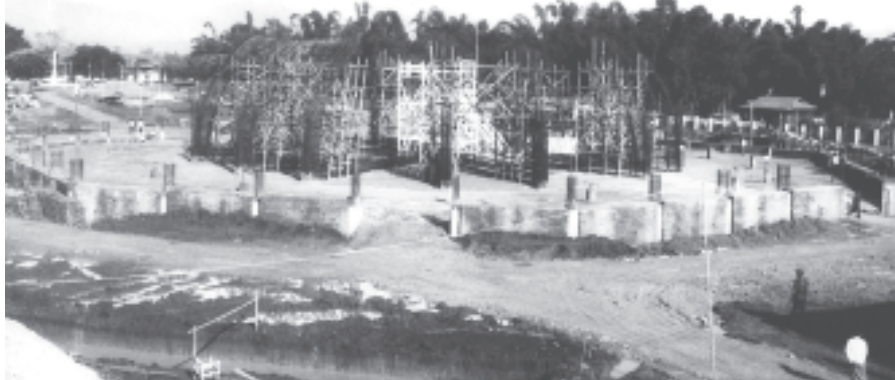
Pandita Bhaddanta Sobhita and members of the Sangha. The General presented K 100 million to Maha Rathabhisra Maggi Pagoda through Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint.

Shan Yoma Gems Co Ltd presented K 30 million to the pagoda; Eden Group Construction Co Managing Director U Chit Khaing, K 20 million; Chairman of Pa-O Peace Group of Shan State (South) Special Region 6 Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Manizawtadara U Aung Kham Hti and Asia World Co Ltd, K 10 million each; Shan State (South) Special Region 6 Pa-O Peace Group Ruby Dragon Co

Chairman Thiri Thudhamma Manizawtadara U Nay Win Tun-Daw Nan Aye Aye Myint and family, and Naungton Construction Co, K 7.5 million each; Ruby Dragon Co Director Maung Kaung Myat, K 2.5 million; Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, K 1 million; Ministry of Information, K 600,000; Eastern Command, Tamoeyel Region Bamar Cultural Troupe (Panlong), U Khun Tun Shwe-Nan Hsaing Haung, Ministry of Electric Power, Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Posts, Communications and Telegraphs, Ministry of Forestry and Ministry of Health, K 500,000 each; Ministry of

Science and Technology and Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, K 200,000 each; and Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Construction, Ministry of Education, U

Than Shwe-Daw Than Than Myint and family of Ward 1, Panlong, U Khun Hlaing-Daw Nan Shwe Ohn and family of Monghsu, U Kyin Maung-Daw Than Win and family of Monghsu and (See page 15)



Maha Rathabhisra Maggi Pagoda Construction Project being implemented in Panglong, Shan State. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects all-round renovation of ancient Pawdawmu Buddha Image in Mongkai on 30-10-2003. — MNA

All strata of population in country ...

(from page 1)

Mr. President,

Recent attacks by terrorists in Baghdad, Bali, Casablanca, Jakarta, Jerusalem, Mumbai and other places serve to remind us of the grim fact that the fight against terrorism is not over. It is evident that the use of force alone cannot wipe out terrorism. If we wish to achieve enduring results, we must address such fundamental problems as the persistence of extreme poverty,

disparity of income between and within countries, racial and religious prejudice and attempts by some countries to impose their values on small and developing countries.

Terrorism poses a common threat to mankind. It respects neither borders nor religion nor race. All nations must therefore join hands to meet the challenge posed by terrorists. It is only through increased cooperation at the national, regional and international levels that we can hope to overcome this menace.

I wish to reiterate that Myanmar is against all forms of terrorism. We have had bitter experiences with terrorism in our own country and we are firmly committed to work with the international community to prevent, counter and eliminate this terrible scourge of mankind.

Last month the terrorists brought their war to the doorsteps of our Organization when they attacked the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad.

They took the lives of 22 people, including that of Mr. Sergio Vieira de Mello, one of the most outstanding international civil servants. We join the rest of the world in paying tribute to his memory and profess our profound sadness over the loss of the life of the Special Representative and other lives in the unwarranted attack.

Mr. President,

I would now like to turn to recent political developments in my country.

Some have accused us of deliberately creating a political impasse in order to delay the transfer of power.

If one takes a close and objective look at the situation in the country, one will see that what needs to be done to effect a smooth transition to democracy is first and foremost to have the political will.

Let me assure you that we have the political will. We are firmly committed to bringing about a systematic transformation to democracy.

In the past, successive governments in Myanmar failed in their attempts to build a multiparty democratic system because they were unable to overcome the fundamental issues facing the nation — the issue of peace and stability, the issue of national unity among all national races which number more than one hundred, the issue of economic development and the issue of human resources development. Attempts were made without first solving these fundamental problems. The country drifted and the

people suffered.

The present Government, aware that fundamental issues must first be addressed, adopted a different approach. It laid down four political objectives:

- Establish peace and stability in the whole nation and ensure prevalence of law and order;

- Consolidate unity among all national races;

- Strive for a durable constitution; and

- Build a modern and democratic nation in keeping with the new constitution.

At the outset, an olive branch was extended to the armed groups that had been fighting the government for decades. Following successful negotiations these groups returned to the legal fold. National unity was achieved. Peace now reigns in the entire country, providing an opportunity for long neglected border areas to develop quickly.

The gap between urban and rural areas has been narrowed. At the same time we have taken developmental initiatives to promote a better life for our peoples. We have worked tirelessly to provide better health care, education and housing for all our peoples.

We have had to rebuild the country from scratch.

Those who come to Myanmar will be able to observe first hand the immense transformations taking place in the country. As the adage goes, "Seeing is believing."

Today our people can

look forward to the future with confidence and renewed hope. Now that firm foundations have been laid, we have moved on to the next phase to commence work on the drafting of a new constitution and to build a modern democratic nation in keeping with it. The new Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, who was appointed on 25 August 2003 outlined a road map for the transition to democracy. The seven-step programme includes:

- Reconvening of the National Convention that has been adjourned since 1996;

- After the successful holding of the National Convention, step by step implementation of the process necessary for the emergence of a genuine and disciplined democratic system;

- Drafting of a new constitution in accordance with basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention;

- Adoption of the constitution through national referendum;

- Holding of free and fair elections for Pyithu Hluttaws (Legislative bodies) according to the new constitution;

- Convening of Hluttaws attended by Hluttaw members in accordance with the new constitution; and

- Building a modern, developed and democratic nation by the state leaders elected by the Hluttaw; and the government and other central organs formed by the Hluttaw.

All strata of the popula-

tion in the country have adopted a unified approach and supported the road map.

Mr. President,

In recent weeks, Myanmar has taken substantial steps on the road to democracy. It is important that the international community recognize the positive changes. Credit must be given where credit is due.

Myanmar is working to ensure an environment in which we can achieve our objectives. The people of Myanmar are enthusiastic about consolidating the progress achieved so far.

At the same time we seek to maintain good and friendly relations with all countries in the region and the world so that we can thrive and prosper. We have never posed a security threat to any neighbour and have always sought to promote regional peace and stability and the common weal of all our nations.

It is disconcerting that some countries have chosen to turn a blind eye to the reality and have subjected Myanmar to a wide array of unfair economic sanctions for their political ends. These unilateral coercive measures not only go against the spirit and letter of the Charter of the United Nations but also violate international law and rules of the international trade. They are intrinsically unfair and only add to the hardships of the people already marginalized by globalization.

Countries that place a high premium on democracy and human rights have a re-

sponsibility to live up to the noble ideals in relation with others. Our common aspirations for peace and development can only be fulfilled if nations avoid double standards and adopt a more positive attitude.

Mr. President,

We live in challenging and dangerous times. Conflicts and tensions in various parts of the world threaten global peace and security. Transnational crimes and new forms of terrorism also add to our problems.

Yet it is in our power to make the world a better place.

Here, it is pertinent to recall what I stated last year in these hallowed chambers. If we want to ensure a better future for mankind we must heed the teachings of the great religions of the world. Every religion calls for tolerance, understanding and compassion for fellow human beings. Only when we can overcome anger and hatred and do away with false pride and prejudice will we succeed in establishing a world in which peace and justice prevail.

All conflicts, rivalries and hostilities have their roots in hatred and enmity. We must try to overcome them. We should all try to build a global order, where the strong will not impose their will on the weak, where democracy prevails not only within nations but also in the international arena.

Let us work together, as a family of nations, to overcome the serious common challenges we face.

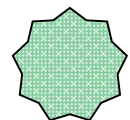
MNA

Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country



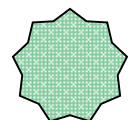
As transport was difficult in Rakhine State, the Government has spent billions of kyats to build roads and bridges in the state for its rapid development. The 300 feet long Kyaukkyibauk bridge is on Taungup-Maei-Kyaukphyu Road in An Township in Rakhine State. Construction started on 6-2-2001 and it was built within one year and five months and was opened on 25 June 2002.— PHOTO: MNA

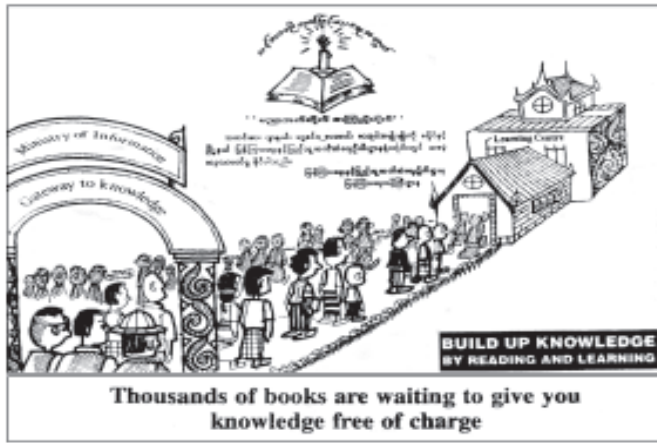
Intellectuals and intelligentsia are key players in national development. Therefore, with the aim of nurturing students for human resources development, the government has opened universities and colleges wherever suitable in the country. The photo taken on 14 July 2003 shows the Dawei University which was opened on 22 February 2000.— PHOTO: MNA



Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation is taking various innovative measures to manufacture new coaches for travellers' convenience. The photo shows the DMU 302 coaches assembled at Ywahtaung Loco-Shed under MR.

PHOTO: KYEMON





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Schroeder, Putin to meet next week

BERLIN, 1 Oct — German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and Russian President Vladimir Putin will meet next week to discuss bilateral and international issues including Iraq, it was announced Monday.

According to the Chancellor's Office, the two-day meeting from October 8 to 9

in the town of Jekaterinburg, in the Russian Ural region, is part of the regular government consultations between the two countries.

Participants from the German side include Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, Interior Minister Otto Schily, Economic Minister Wolfgang Clement and Minister for Family Affairs

Renate Schmidt. Representatives from German business circle will also be present.

The consultations will cover bilateral economic cooperation, security policy coordination and the situation in Iraq, said Bela Anda, spokesman for the German Government.

MNA/Xinhua

China's first marine satellite operating well

BEIJING, 1 Oct — HY-1A, China's first marine satellite, has sent back data on ocean colour, water temperatures and coastal zones since it was launched in May last year.

"The satellite is working well after it was delivered to our bureau on September 18 last year," said Wang Shuguang, director of the National Bureau of Oceanography, at a Press conference

here Sunday. Since September last year, the satellite has monitored large sea areas of China, the Pacific, Indian, Atlantic and Arctic oceans, as well as the North and South poles, he said, adding that a large number of remote sensing images on water colour have been obtained. Meanwhile, the satellite monitored many marine disasters, including red tides along China's coast. As part of the marine environment monitoring system, the satellite has also played an important role in curbing marine pollution and boosting the marine economy, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

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Report says more in US living without health insurance

WASHINGTON, 1 Oct — The ranks of Americans without health insurance grew by an estimated 2.4 million in 2002, the second consecutive yearly increase, the US Census Bureau reported on Tuesday.

About 15.2 per cent of the population, or 43.6 million people, lacked medical coverage for the entire year, the Census Bureau said in a report that prompted new calls for lawmakers and President George W. Bush to address the problem. In 2001, 14.6 per cent lacked health coverage.

Last year's drop was attributed largely to fewer people receiving insurance from employers. The percentage of those covered by employment-based health insurance slid to 61.3 per cent in 2002 from 62.6 per cent in 2001, the report said.

Some of the uninsured

had lost their jobs as the economy struggled through a recession, according to policy experts. In other cases, employers dropped health coverage as premiums rose, or increased employees' portion of the cost to the point that some workers could not afford to pay.

"Clearly employers are struggling to hang on to their coverage," said Kate Sullivan, director of health care policy for the US Chamber of Commerce.

Government insurance programmes such as Medicaid provided a cushion. About 25.7 per cent of people were covered by the gov-

ernment programme in 2002, up from 25.3 per cent in 2001.

"Things could have been substantially worse" without the government assistance, said Leighton Ku, a senior fellow at the liberal-leaning Centre on Budget and Policy Priorities.

The new figures should spur politicians to quickly agree on ways to help more people obtain medical coverage, said Ron Pollack, executive director of Families USA, a health advocacy group. "The failure to do so may have significant repercussions in the 2004 elections," Pollack said.

MNA/Reuters

Study says suncreams cannot guard fully against cancer

LONDON, 1 Oct — Sunscreen creams cannot fully protect people against an increasingly common form of skin cancer even when correct amounts are applied, according to research published on Monday.

The study by scientists at a British medical charity found that the creams fail to stop harmful rays of the sun from penetrating the skin.

Professor Roy Sanders, a consultant plastic surgeon with RAFT, the Restoration of Appearance and Function Trust, said suncreams were much less effective at blocking ultraviolet A (UVA) light, which can cause the skin cancer melanoma, than UVB.

"When ultraviolet A impinges on the skin it triggers the release of highly reactive chemicals called free radicals which we believe can induce a malignant change," he told BBC Radio.

"Since ambient sunlight is principally ultraviolet A and since sunscreens protect mostly against ultraviolet B, if we use the sunscreens it may increase the risk of us developing a rather unpleasant cancer called malignant melanoma," he said.

Cases of malignant melanoma have doubled every 10 years since the 1950s and the cancer now kills around 1,500 people in Britain every year.

RAFT, which published the research on its website on Monday, predicts that by the year 2010, the lifetime risk of the disease will approach one in 50 of the British population.

Sanders and colleagues

at RAFT exposed skin samples removed from consenting patients during surgery to UVA light at intensities similar to that of sunlight.

The skin had been treated with three popular high factor suncreams which say they contain some UVA protection. While the creams prevented the sun from burning the skin, they did not stop UVA rays from penetrating it, RAFT said.

Sanders said the concern was that people were using the creams believing that they offered protection against cancer and, comforted by that, might be putting themselves at risk.

MNA/Reuters

HK keen to attract talents from Chinese Mainland

Hong Kong, 1 Oct — Hong Kong Chief Secretary for Administration Donald Tsang stressed here Monday, "We are very keen to attract talented people from the Chinese Mainland and elsewhere in the world."

Speaking at a conference hosted by the *South China Morning Post*, Tsang said Hong Kong welcomes staff from overseas as long as they possess skills and talent not readily available in Hong Kong.

In addition, Hong Kong is to encourage investor-immigrants to settle in Hong Kong and take advantage of Hong Kong's position as a regional business and financial hub and of our low taxes.

Tsang admitted that although Hong Kong adopts an open door policy towards talents and professionals from overseas, Hong Kong's

previous policy on the entry of Chinese Mainland talents and professionals had been rather restrictive.

He said, however, a new and more flexible admission scheme introduced in July this year should change this situation.

Tsang said that the importance of the admission scheme has grown with China's accession to the WTO and the conclusion of Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA).

MNA/Xinhua

Don't smoke

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Annan urges developed world to do more to help Africa

UNITED NATIONS, 1 Oct — United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan Monday urged developed countries to do a lot more on aid, trade and debt relief to help Africa to meet its current challenges.

In a message delivered to the third Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), Annan said overall aid levels to the continent were still too low, and the principle of African ownership was still too often compromised by tied aid.

"Moreover, the aid developed countries give is often undercut by their trade policies, particularly by agricultural subsidies. These subsidies hinder Africa's ability to export its way out of poverty and dependence, and they must be phased out," Annan said.

"Regrettably, the recent meeting of the World Trade Organization in Cancun did not achieve agreement on this issue. It is essential that progress is made once negotiations resume," he said.

Meanwhile, the UN chief said there had been some progress in making official development assistance more effective.

He said the UN system was committed to doing everything it could to help Africa meet the vast challenges it faces, and he knew the TICAD process had the same aim.

"We need to see effective action, from all stakeholders, on all fronts, to address Africa's great problems, and to ensure that Africa realizes its even greater promise," he said.

Since the TICAD process was launched a decade ago, it had emphasized the importance of African ownership of the African development process, as well as the need for the international community to support African efforts in the spirit of partnership.

Annan said he was confident that the TICAD process would now be geared towards supporting Africa's own strategy for African development, namely, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), an African-led initiative of self-help efforts.

"African countries must make bold reforms, and they need to find ways to allocate additional core funding to NEPAD priorities. NEPAD must be popularized at the national level, so as to ensure greater ownership by all stakeholders in civil society and the private sector," Annan said. *MNA/Xinhua*

Russian rocket launches disaster monitor satellites

Moscow, 1 Oct — A Russian rocket successfully launched on Saturday half a dozen satellites, including three devoted to monitoring natural disasters throughout the world.

State television showed the *Kosmos-3M* lifting off from the Plesetsk launch site in Russia's far north, with spectators on a viewing stand embracing each other after it was completed.

News agencies, quoting Russia's rocket forces, said all six satellites aboard — two of them Russian and others belonging to organizations in Britain, Nigeria, South Korea and Turkey — had later been placed in orbit without incident. The launch had been postponed from Friday "for technical reasons".

"The launch is proceeding according to plan," *Interfax* quoted the rocket forces' Press service as saying.

Television said the two Russian satellites — *Mozhaets-4* and *Larets* — were to conduct research and coordinate radar monitoring stations for the Defence Ministry.

The British, Nigerian and Turkish satellites were part of the 40-million-US-dollar Disaster Monitoring Constellation Project, which its British backers say will provide day-to-day monitoring of disasters. — *MNA/Reuters*

India's FM asks NAM to "unequivocally" condemn terrorism

UNITED NATION, 1 Oct — Asserting that there can be no justification for terrorism on any ground, India's External Affairs Minister Yashwant Sinha has asked the Non-Aligned Movement to "unequivocally" declare that killing of innocent people is an "evil to be condemned by all".

Warning that terrorism has spread across the world and terrorists have reached new targets, Sinha said recent attacks in Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Morocco and other places show that no region and followers of no religion are immune to it.

"This reinforces the view that there is no connection between terrorism and any religion and there can be no justification (for it) based on political, territorial or ideological grounds," he told the ministerial-level meeting of Coordinating Bureau of NAM here Friday.

Referring to Iraq, Sinha said the "unfolding crisis" shows that a collective approach through multinational institutions is preferable to "unilateral impulses".

"As members of NAM, we must strive now to see that full sovereignty is restored to Iraqis as early as possible and that a credible, viable, and widely accepted political roadmap is drawn and quickly implemented," he said and called for a "central and critical" role for the United Nations in the process.

Talking about the crisis in the Middle East, Sinha called for putting an end to the "spiral cycle of violence, to violent or precipitate actions" which, he said, can only complicate the search for peace.

The minister strongly backed reforms and restructuring of the United Nations system including expansion of the Security Council

which, he stressed, is an "urgent imperative".

On the economic front, Sinha said, "We could draw some comfort from the unity and solidarity shown at Cancun by developing countries, the majority of whom are members of NAM."

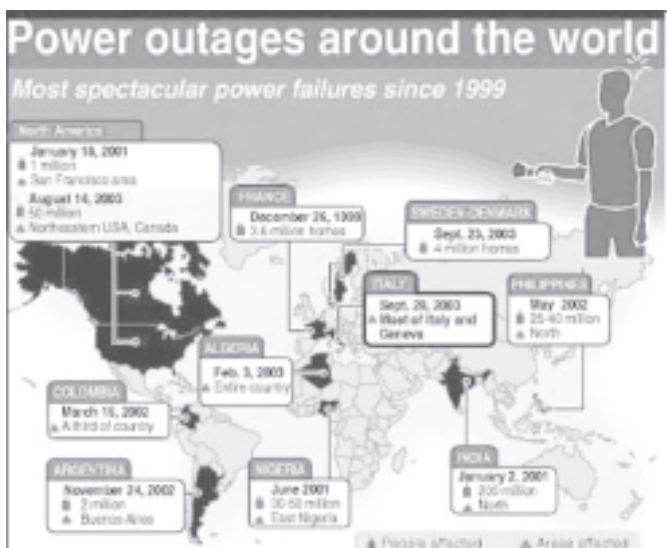
India, he told the meeting, is prepared to work with other NAM members in such serious and substantive endeavours.

The World Trade Organization talks at Cancun had failed after the developing countries led by India took a strong stand against subsidies being given to farmers in the rich nations and called for reducing them with the ultimate objective of removing them.

MNA/Pri



The file picture shows the Ariane-5 rocket during the 7 May, 2002 launch at Kourou, in French Guiana. Europe's first mission to the moon blasted off late on 27 September, 2003, aboard a European Ariane rocket, the Ariane-5, carrying the SMART-1 Moon exploration probe and two commercial satellites. The rocket blasted off at 8.14 pm (2314 GMT) from the European Space Agency (ESA) launch centre at Kourou, in French Guiana on the northeast coast of South America. — INTERNET



Graphic recapping the major blackouts in the world following a large power cut in Italy. — INTERNET

France blames Swiss-Italian power line for blackout

PARIS, 1 Oct — France's electrical grid operator said a blackout in Italy on Sunday was caused by four successive line failures between Switzerland and Italy, followed by interruptions to supplies from Austria and France. "The origin of the main failure is not French. There was a failure between Switzerland and Italy around 3 a.m. (0100 GMT)," *Reseau de Transport d'Electricite* (RTE) spokesman Patrick Larradet said. A second Swiss power line went off-line at 3:25 a.m. (0125 GMT), followed by two others and an Austrian line failure, RTE later said in a statement, citing data from the Swiss coordination centre for the European electricity network, ETRANS. — *MNA/Reuters*

Income of wealthiest Americans down

WASHINGTON, 1 Oct — The income of the richest top 1 per cent of Americans declined 18 per cent in 2001 resulting mainly from the plunge of stock market and economic recession, the *New York Times* reported Saturday.

The top 1 per cent of the wealthiest American citizens reported 1.09 trillion dollars of income in 2001, down from 1.34 trillion dollars in 2000, the paper quoted a latest report by the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as saying.

Meanwhile, the minimum income to reach the richest top 1 per cent in the United States declined to 293,000 dollars in the year from 313,500 dollars in 2000, but almost identical to the threshold in 1999.

Some analysts said the sharp decline in incomes at the top 1 per cent "is obviously due to the collapse of the stock market boom and the recession". The IRS report also showed that the US federal tax revenue fell 9.4 per cent in 2001 mainly because the incomes of those at the top, who pay the highest tax rates, dropped sharply.

Taxes paid by the top 1 per cent group declined to 300.1 billion dollars in 2001 from 366.9 billion dollars in the previous year. The drop accounted for the most part of the decline of 92.7 billion dollars in US individual income tax revenue in 2001. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Chilavert hits first goal for Penarol

MONTEVIDEO, 1 Oct — Paraguayan goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert scored his first goal for Penarol when he converted a penalty in a 2-0 victory over Villa Espanola in the Uruguayan Championship.

The 38-year-old, who captained his country at the last two World Cups, struck after the penalty was controversially awarded for handball.

Chilavert, who has scored more than 50 goals in his career, also tested Villa goalkeeper Juan Obelar with a free kick before halftime. Mario Leguizamon added the second goal for Penarol in the first half.

Penarol, Uruguay's most popular club, are unbeaten since Chilavert joined them in July and lead the second stage of the championship with 19 points from a possible 21.

The match was played on Penarol's 112th anniversary in front of a 50,000 crowd. —MNA/Reuters

Corinthians coach resigns after record defeat

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 Oct — Corinthians coach Geninho resigned after his team crashed to a record 6-1 defeat at relegation-threatened Juventude in the Brazilian Championship on Sunday.

"I don't think a team like Corinthians can lose by a scoreline like this," he told reporters in the players' tunnel. "It's not normal." "We're having some difficulties and I did the best I could. Some people thought I could have left earlier but I'm not one to throw in the towel. But there comes a moment when you have to stop, so I'm leaving."

Geninho, the 36th coach to fall since the championship began at the end of March, took over at the start of the year from Carlos Alberto Parreira, who left to run Brazil's national side.

But Geninho lost two of the club's top players halfway through the championship, central defender Fabio Luciano joining Turkey's Fenerbahce and left-back Kleber moving to German Bundesliga club Hanover 96.

His departure means that only Cruzeiro, Santos, Coritiba, Ponte Preta and Internacional have kept the same coach throughout the championship.

Corinthians, runners-up last year, are 10th in the table. Their previous worst results in the championship, which started in 1971, were two 5-1 defeats.

MNA/Reuters

S Korea destroy Nepal 16-0 in Asian Cup qualifier

INCHEON (South Korea), 1 Oct — Midfielder Park Jin-sub scored five goals to spearhead South Korea to a 16-0 demolition of Nepal in an Asian Cup qualifying match on Monday. Strikers Woo Sung-yong and Kim Do-hoon also scored hat-tricks for the 2002 World Cup semifinalists, who lead Group E with nine points from three games.

Oman, who host the second-leg matches next month, beat Vietnam 6-0 at the same venue and occupy second spot on six points.

Nepal have lost all three games so far. They have yet to score and have conceded 28 goals.

South Korea coach Humberto Coelho named a weakened squad for the Asian Cup qualifiers in the absence of his overseas-based players. —MNA/Reuters



China's Bai Jie shoots at the goal in the Group D game against the team of Russia at the fourth Women's World Cup soccer tournament in Portland, the United States, on 28 September, 2003. Chin won the match 1-0 to qualify for the quarterfinal. —XINHUA PHOTO

Morphine not a performance-enhancer, says player's lawyer

PARIS, 1 Oct — The lawyer of Racing Strasbourg's Czech defender Vaclav Drobny, who failed a dope test for morphine after a match at Stade Rennes in May, says the drug cannot be considered as a performance-enhancer.

"I want to make it clear that, as far as I know, morphine does not help you to run faster or jump higher but only to kill pain," Jean-Louis Dupont told Reuters on Tuesday.

Drobny, 23, faces a French Football Federation (FFF) hearing on October 15. "Technically, it's doping but I think that the moral context in which we are is radically different," said Dupont.

The Belgian lawyer, who became famous by representing footballer Jean-Marc Bosman, said the traces of morphine probably came from a treatment taken for an injury.

"Two products were detected, codeine and morphine, and there seems to be a chemical link between the two, codeine being a product that can partially metabolize into morphine," Dupont said. "We're going to try to demonstrate that there were no repeated takes but an isolated case," the lawyer added, saying he was convinced Drobny had taken the drug as part of a treatment.

MNA/Reuters

Rivaldo changes mind, decides to stay with Milan

MILAN, 1 Oct — European champions AC Milan said on Monday that Brazilian World Cup winner Rivaldo was staying with them after all, despite last week agreeing to cancel the player's contract.

"Rivaldo remains at Milan and tomorrow will leave with the squad for Vigo," Milan vice-president Adriano Galliani told the club's official web site after a meeting with the player on Monday.

Milan face Celta Vigo in the Champions League on Wednesday and Rivaldo has been named in a travelling party of 21 players.

After announcing on Friday that he was leaving Milan, with the club's blessing, Rivaldo, who has not featured for Milan in Serie A or the Champions League this season, had said he was considering offers from English clubs.

But on Sunday, after the Brazilian was given a warm "send off" from Milan fans at the San Siro before the 3-0 win over Lecce, Galliani asked him to reconsider his decision.

The documents relating to the cancella-

tion of the player's contract had not been lodged with the Italian Football Federation, and so Rivaldo remains under contract.

While the former Barcelona forward's decision to stay with Milan is a remarkable turnaround, it means, at the very least, the player can keep in training and match fitness until the transfer window opens in January.

Had he left Milan now and become a free agent, he would not have been able to play for a new club for three months. Such a lengthy absence from competitive football might have brought his place in the Brazilian national side into question.

His future now depends on whether or not he can gain a regular starting place in the Milan line-up and few doubt that, if he is still on the fringes when the transfer market re-opens, he will look for a new team.

MNA/Reuters

Ranieri's Chelsea may soon leave their nursery

LONDON, 1 Oct — Claudio Ranieri has a difficult task choosing his best team each matchday from a talent-laden squad of more than 30 top-class professionals, most of them internationals and all eager to impress the boss.

But the Chelsea coach laughs at suggestions that it is the toughest job he has ever done.

"I remember 15 years ago when I started my pre-season with nine players. It's much harder trying to pick a team from nine players than 30," the 51-year-old Italian said after a training session last week.

Ranieri has come a long way since those Serie B days with southern Italian side Campania Puterlana.

He now works for one of the richest clubs in soccer, fuelled by Roman Abramovich's oil fortune and intent on glory in the Premier League or in Europe — preferably both.

His squad, shaped over three years, had last season been producing competent, entertaining and, on occasion, exciting football to earn fourth place in the League and a chance to play Champions League. Since July it has been swollen with some 180 million dollars' worth of explosive new talent.

From mercurial Romanian striker Adrian Mutu, through Argentines Juan Sebastian Veron and Hernan Crespo to midfielders Geremi of Cameroon, Frenchman Claude Makelele and Ireland's Damien Duff, Ranieri has added a list of soccer celebrities to the club's books.

"I told Mr. Abramovich I wanted two players at least for each position. That is what I have got — in some cases three," Ranieri said.

"Where possible I try to rotate so I always have fresh players," he added, citing the fourfold obligations of Premier League, Champions League, FA Cup and League Cup.

"You can play lots of matches but sooner or later players will lose some motivation, some quality. They are tired.

They don't think they are. They think they are in good form. Then it's up to the manager always to choose his best player for that match."

The result, he maintains, is players working hard in training to make an impact and extending that enthusiasm on to the pitch.

Ireland winger Duff has felt the competition keenly. "It's been demanding," he said. "Everyone is trying to impress the gaffer because we are all trying to get a game."

But while Ranieri enjoys an embarrassment of riches to choose from he also suffers from the weight of expectation and intense

pressure. The spotlight this season has been firmly on the south-west London side. Newspapers and pundits have speculated endlessly on whether money can buy success on the pitch, on whether Chelsea can match champions Manchester United and 2002 champions Arsenal and on how long Ranieri can hang on to his job.

Few gave him long after England coach Sven Goran Eriksson was spotted meeting Abramovich three months ago and the rumours of his imminent departure resurfaced after Chelsea chief executive Trevor Birch was pushed aside in favour of former Manchester United supremo Peter Kenyon.

Ranieri said he earned a vote of confidence from Abramovich shortly after the Russian bought Chelsea and has had no reason since to doubt the new owner. Abramovich impressed Ranieri with his knowledge of football, of Chelsea's players and of the coach's track record, which includes stints at Napoli, Fiorentina, Valencia and Atletico Madrid. Ranieri shrugs when asked for the umpteenth time how he is coping with the pressure. "I am used to it. I had it in Italy. I had it in Spain. It does not affect me." —MNA/Reuters

River held by eight-man Quilmes in Argentina

Buenos Aires, 1 Oct — Defending champions River Plate were held to a 2-2 draw by eight-man Quilmes in an astonishing Argentine Championship match.

Quilmes clung on for a point after having Raul Saavedra, Patricio Camps and Ariel Lopez sent off with 20 minutes to go.

Saavedra was dismissed for a second bookable offence while Camps and Lopez were given straight red cards following fierce protests from the Quilmes players.

The visitors raced into a two-goal lead after defender Juan Herbella scored after 38 seconds and Colombian Kilian Virviescas put through his own net in the 33rd minute.

Fernando Cavenaghi pulled a goal back for River in the 68th minute before Alejandro Dominguez forced an 83rd-minute equalizer. Boca Juniors stayed four points clear at the top of the table by winning 4-1 at Racing Club in a clash of the country's two most popular clubs. —MNA/Reuters

Government implementing ...

(from page 10)

Loilem District Peace and Development Council, K 100,000 each to Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe.

The Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

The Maha Ratha Bhisamaggi pagoda is being built for the people of Panglong, the people in Shan State and the national people in the Union. The Panglong region is the right place for the Union. The State has implemented the projects for development of the region and some have materialized and some under construction. The Panglong University, the Panglong Government Technical College and Panglong Government Computer College have emerged. As a result, the offspring of the people in the region can pursue higher education in the region.

In upgrading the health care services of the people in Panglong region, the State has already upgraded the Panglong Hospital into a 200-bedded one. Health care services for the public have been upgraded.

In road transportation sector, the road linking the southern and northern parts of Shan State has been renovated to make it serviceable in all seasons. The roads linking 11 townships in Loilem District have been upgraded. There is smooth transportation in the region. The Government has made efforts with goodwill for development of Shan State. Efforts have also been made for development of education and social sectors of Panglong Region which was lagged behind in development. The Maha Ratha Bhisamaggi pagoda to be built in Panglong region is not the same in structure and construction methods as the others all over the country. The Shwedagon Pagoda replica is being built upon the 120-feet wide cave with no pivot. Steel frames are used in building the pagoda with high technology to be able to endure the weather and earthquakes. It is a pagoda that will last as long as the world exists.

The State's thanks go to the people and organizations making donations for the pagoda being built with noble aims.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party together with local people posed for a documentary photo in front of Panglong Monument in Panglong that symbolizes national solidarity.

The General and party visited the Aungmyingala Pariyatti Sarthintak in Panglong to pay homage to members of the Sangha led by Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajinda and presented offertories to them.

After paying obeisance to Aungmyingala Pagoda and viewed all-round renovation tasks for the pagoda, the General and party made cash donations towards the trust funds of the pagoda.

Next, they visited the Panglong University where they were welcomed by Pro-rector U Tha Oo, professors/heads, lecturers, demonstrators and tutors.

Secretary-1 and Secretary-2 attends...

(from page 16)

— Daw Thein Hsaing (Ma Myat Lay), Daw Saw Yin (Kye Kyee Saw), U Thaw Zin (Thiha Bala U Thaw Zin), U Shwe Daung Nyo, U Pyay Han, U Ohn Pe (Tet Toe), Daw Nu Yin (Nu Yin), U Ba Galay (Cartoonist U Ba Galay), U Tin Maung (Thint Bawa), Sculptor U Lwin and Wunna Kyaw Htin U Sein Mya Maung.

The Secretary-2 presented gifts, medicines and K 60,000 each to goldsmith U Hmi, U Tin Nyunt, U Phone Kyaw (Natmauk Phone Kyaw), Banjo U Maung Maung, Daw Yin Yin (Saw Mon Nyinn), Major Tun Nyein (Retd), Academy U Tin Yu, Artist U Thukha, Diving U Tin Hla, Daw May Nwe and U Sein Aung Min.

Member of Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs and Myanmar National Working Committee for Women's Affairs presented gifts, medicines and K 60,000 each Daw Aung Than Tin, U Tin Aung (Bogalay Tint Aung), U Htein Lin (Ko Ko Tun), U Sein Win (Guardian U Sein Win), Thakhin Hla Tun (Moe Nyo) and U Kyaw Hsan (Thu Khi Aung).

Adviser to the MNWCWA Daw Khin Than Nwe presented gifts, medi-

cines and K 60,000 each to Brig-Gen Khin Ohn (Retd) (Yamanya Ko Ko Naing), U Hla Kyauing (Paragu), Col Saw Myint (Retd) (Hla Tha Mein), U Sein Hla Myaing and U Myint Soe.

Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa presented K 1,000 each to 1,214 elderly persons of Hninzigon, Shwe Than Lwin, the Little Sisters of the Poor and Kayan homes for the aged, Muslim Home for the Aged (Women) and six homes for the aged in Yangon Division through respective officials.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint presented K 40,000 each to 42 homes for the aged in the States and Divisions, and Director of the Social Welfare Department U Bo Than, K 20,000 each to 24 persons who are the oldest man and woman from the States and Divisions through officials.

The Work Committee for Observance of the International Day of the Older Persons will personally present gifts, medicines and K 60,000 each to older persons who could not attend the ceremony.

MNA



The main canal under construction of Darseik River Water Pumping Project in Langkho Township, Loilem District. — MNA

The Prime Minister and party inspected construction tasks and heard reports by Managing Director U Chit Khaing of Eden Group Construction Co Ltd on construction of lecture halls as the second phase.

At the hall of the university, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt briefed on the background history of the university and courses being conducted, number of students, and staff strength and matters on teaching and administration. Chairman U Nay Win Tun and wife Daw Nan Aye Aye Myint of Ruby Dragon Co Ltd of PaO Peace Group, Shan State Special Region-6, presented K 10 million for the university through Pro-rector U Tha Oo.

The Prime Minister made a speech on the occasion. He said he was there to witness progress of works and to fulfil the requirements after opening Panglong University. For development of Panglong Region that depicts the national solidarity, the State has made efforts for all-round development including opening of universities and colleges. In other words, it is a way of repaying the debt of gratitude to the auspicious ground. In striving for regional development, efforts have been made for the youth of the region to be able to pursue higher education for becoming intellectuals and intelligentsia who are able to take responsibilities of the region in the future.

Students from this university, being born and bred in the region where national solidarity originated, are to be trained by the teachers to bear the Union Spirit in mind and to become good children of the Union that will serve the interest of the State.

Teachers are to take pride in themselves for discharging duties to nurture the youth in the historic region. It is heartening to see teachers unitedly and actively discharging duties of the State.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister urged teachers to train students like their own children to be well-versed in literature and mentally-developed ones who serve the interest of the Union, who contribute to the national solidarity and who are able to strive for the country to be modern and developed one.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party arrived at Mongkai in Loilem District where they were welcomed by township Peace and Development Council members, departmental officials, teachers, students and social organization members. The General and party paid homage to the Buddha images at the ancient Shwe Myin Htin pagoda there. Then, they paid obeisance to Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Revata and members of Sangha and presented offertories to the Sayadaws.

The Prime Minister and party arrived at the construction site for ancient Pawdawmu Buddha image where Deputy Director (Engineer) U Myo Nyunt of the Archaeology Department reported on renovation tasks and construction of Gandhakuti Taik with scale models. The Prime Minister and party looked around the construction site.

Shan Yoma Gems Co Ltd Eden Group Construction Co Managing Director U Chit Hsaing, Ruby Dragon Co Chairman U Nay Win Tun and wife Daw Nan Aye Aye Myint and family, and Naungton Co Chairman U Sai Tin Aung presented K 5 million each for all-round renovation of ancient Pawdawmu Buddha image through Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint.

The Prime Minister and party paid obeisance to ancient Pawdawmu Buddha image and its relics, ancient images.

Next, the General visited Mongkai People's Hospital where he inspected construction tasks for the high-class hospital building. Ruby Dragon Co Chairman U Nay Win Tun and wife Daw Nan Aye Aye Myint and family presented K 5 million towards the funds of the hospital through Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung Tin.

At Kehsi in Loilem District, township Peace and Development Council members and departmental officials and others welcomed the General and party who later attended the opening of multimedia classrooms at Kyaythee BEHS in the afternoon. Also present on the occasion were State Peace and Development Council member Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Shan State Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, ministers, deputy ministers, officials of State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and district and township Peace

and Development Councils and others.

Schoolhead Daw Khin San May and chairman of School Board of Trustees U Sai Pan Hla formally opened the multimedia classrooms. Then, General Khin Nyunt formally opened the billboard of the multimedia classrooms.

Next, the Prime Minister and party inspected language lab, computer aided instruction and audio visual rooms, computer skills room, printed media room, art room and the workshop.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party enjoyed the skill demonstrations of students.

Headmistress Daw Khin San May accepted K 5 million donated by Shan Yoma Gems Co Ltd and another K 5 million by Managing Director U Chit Khaing of Eden Construction Co for the funds of the school.

Shan Yoma Gems Co Ltd and Eden Construction Co also donated K 5 million each and Naungton Co K 1 million for the funds of Khesi People's hospital through officials.

The Prime Minister and party paid homage to members of the Sangha led by Sayadaw Agga Maha Sathamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Javana at Sadutisa Maha Vihara monastery.

The Prime Minister donated funds to the Sayadaw.

The Prime Minister and party proceeded to Loihsaungtauk region of Mongshu Gem Land. They were welcomed there by local authorities, officials and local people.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint reported to the Prime Minister on gems production and tax collection.

Deputy Director U Than Htaik of Myanmar Gems Enterprise reported on area of the gem land, numbers of plot for gem exploration, private entrepreneurs doing business in the gem land, joint venture between the State and private entrepreneurs, condition of Loihsaungtauk, Sailyang, Pangkwe, Nape, Wantut and Kyaukpyutaung gems areas, worksite safety, development tasks being carried out for the gem land, regional development tasks such as education and health and efforts being made for self-sufficiency on a manageable scale.

Next, the Prime Minister delivered an address. He said that it is necessary to use modern machinery instead of convention methods in gems work. He also urged the officials to make systematic arrangements to sell value-added gems to be able to penetrate the foreign market.

The gem industry should not be conducted with greed but with straightforwardness. In this way, success will be achieved in the long run.

He urged the entrepreneurs to carry out their respective work with firm determination that they will acquire gems through truthfulness. He also urged the departmental officials to supervise the tasks with straightforwardness for worksite safety and for the flourishing of the gem industry.

Finally, he wished all the entrepreneurs to achieve success in gem industry.

Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint accepted K 1 million each donated by U Win Naing and wife of Ruby Dragon Co, U Maw Lay Myint and wife, U Sai San Tint and wife, U Kyaw Hsan and wife, U Zaw Moe and wife, U Tun Aung and U Kyi San and wife of Aung Panglong Co; K 200,000 by Eastern Sun Co, K 100,000 each by U Khun Hlaing, U Kyin Maung of Mongshu; and K 10 million by companies in Mongshu gem land for the funds of Maha Rathabhisamaggi Pagoda in Panglong.

Next, the Prime Minister and party viewed the gem samples mined from the plots of the joint-venture of the State and private entrepreneurs and plots of the private entrepreneurs.

They next visited the gem industry at Mongshu Gem Land. They arrived back in Loilem in the afternoon.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, who accompanied the Prime Minister, met with officials of Loilem District Information and Public Relations Department in Loilem. Daw Su Su of Loilem District IPRD reported to the minister on condition of the district and township IPRDs. The minister gave instructions on staff affairs and office work. The minister, next, inspected e-library, computer room, library and photo booth.

MNA

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 Lt-Gen Soe Win presents medicines and cash donations to an elderly person at the ceremony to mark the International Day of Older Persons. — MNA

Secretary-1 and Secretary-2 attend ceremony to mark International Day of Older Persons

YANGON, 1 Oct — The ceremony to mark the International Day of Older Persons took place at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road here this morning, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the mayor of Yangon, the deputy ministers, officials, departmental heads, members of Myanmar National Working Committee for Women's Affairs, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Singaporean Ambassador Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz, WHO Resident Representative Dr Agostino Borra, guests and the older persons.

actively observed the International Day of Older Persons every year since 1995 in accord with the objectives laid down by the United Nations. It reflects and polishes Myanmar's adorable tradition of taking care of elderly persons.

Altogether 2,054 elderly persons receive warm and kind treatment at 48 homes for the aged in States and Divisions established by Non-governmental organizations and religious associations. The State has been rendering rice and cash assistance and has spent over K 10.77 million in 2002-2003. Efforts should be made for successful implementation of the three objectives on observance of the International Day of Older Persons, he noted.

The Secretary-1 presented gifts, medicines and K 60,000 each to the older persons aged 80 and above (See page 15)

Entire people of the nation are to strictly follow the national policy or Our Three Main National Causes

Secretary-2 tours Bago Division (West), Magway Division, Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 1 Oct — Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the ministers, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, left here by air and arrived in Pyay, Bago Division, at 9.15 am on 29 September.

The Secretary-2 and party were welcomed there

by Col Tin Maung Win and senior officers of Pyay Station and departmental officials.

The Secretary-2 met with members of Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council, departmental officials, local authorities in the division and members of social organizations in Khittaya Yadana Hall in Pyay.

After hearing reports on area, climate, land utilization, economic, social and agricultural conditions, live-

stock breeding tasks, transportation, industrial development and construction tasks of the division presented by Col Tin Maung Win, the Secretary-2 said they came there to attend the opening ceremony of Bwetyi Dam in Aunglan Township, Thayet District, Magway Division.

During the tour, he said he would also explain the guidance of the Head of State and the latest developments of the country to local authorities, departmental offi-

cial and members of social organizations so that they would accept them as working guidelines.

The Secretary-2 continued to explain that on 30 August, the prime minister clarified the seven future policies of the State to be employed in building a modern, developed and democratic nation.

In doing so, entire people of the nation are to strictly follow the national policy or Our Three Main National Causes — (See page 9)



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Ayeyawady River-crossing Nawadei Bridge in Pyay. — MNA

Shwe Naing Nagan Journal comes out

YANGON, 1 Oct — The Shwe Naing Nagan Journal volume 2 No 13, published by the education affairs committee of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Headquarters), has come out today.

It features the news and documentary photos on mass rallies, organized by the USDA, held in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions and Kayin State in support of the speech of the Prime Minister on seven future policies and programmes of the State, articles by Anyarthar, Tekkatho Tin Kha, Dr Hla Maung (Economics), Maung Pyinnya Kyaw and U Hla Min, poems, activities of the USDAs, international news and others. — MNA