

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 171

9th Waxing of Thadingyut 1365 ME

Saturday, 4 October, 2003



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win meets departmental heads and officials of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism. — MNA

## Secretary-1 and Secretary-2 deal with development of communication and tourism industries

YANGON, 3 Oct—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein met heads of department and officials of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism at the meeting hall of the former ministry on Pyay Road here this afternoon and gave instructions on departmental works.

First, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw reported to the Secretary-1 and the Secretary-2 on organizational set-up of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, strength of staff, Directorate of Telecommunications and Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications under the ministry, tasks and responsibilities of DT, incomes and expenditure and future tasks.

Next, the minister also reported on organizational set-up of MPT, strength of staff, mottoes of MPT, tasks and responsibilities, present condition of communication network of Myanmar, measures taken by post offices, telegraphs and telephones, installation of telephones in 234 villages under rural area communication development programmes, progress in installation of mobile telephones and wireless local loop telephones, auto-exchanges and lines in Yangon, auto-exchanges and lines in states and divisions, auto-exchange centres to be extended, tasks for the head office-based overseas communication centres, requirements for extension of present communication networks, courses conducted at the communications and postal training school. Afterwards, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein raised queries on communications and security.

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Director-General U Kyi Than of DT and Managing Director of MPT U Maung Maung Tin replied to the queries.

Next, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win gave instructions, saying that as there are DT and MPT under the ministry it can be said that there is an organization which steers rules and regulations regarding telecommunications in addition to modern communication infrastructures.

Efforts are to be made to enable the public to widely use the communications keeping pace with time. With advancement in IT technology, there has been an improvement in the use of computers in government departments and business centres. Linking of cable network in a department, analyzing of figures with the use of software programming, and creating wide area network by telephone lines are to be made in cooperation with the Ministry of Telecommunications, Posts and Telegraphs. The government, on its part, will provide necessary assistance.

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw reported on establishment of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, accomplish-

ments, necessary assistance rendered by other ministries for the ministry and future tasks.

Director-General of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism U Khin Maung Latt reported on organizational set-up, strength and functions of the department, annual arrival of tourists and income, and measures being taken for development of tourism industry; and Managing Director of Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services U Htay Aung, on organizational set-up, strength and functions of the department, number and types of hotels, motels and inns in respective regions, services, and income in 2002-2003. The minister presented a supplementary report.

(See page 9)



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets departmental heads and officials. — 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

## Commerce Minister receives Vietnamese Deputy Minister

YANGON, 3 Oct—Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone received Deputy Minister of Trade Mr Do Nhu Dinh and party of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Vietnamese embassy staff at his office this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Direc-

tor-General of Directorate of Trade U Nyunt Aye, Director-General of Border Trade Department U Nay Win and officials of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading.

In the evening, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun hosted a dinner to the Vietnamese delegation at Karaweik Palace. — MNA

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#### Circulation

24,230

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 4 October, 2003

## Towards successful realization of the seven-point roadmap

Emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation is national goal of the State. The Government, after laying down relevant and correct policies, is striving to realize the goal with the active participation of the national people.

Mobilizing the strength of the people and combining human and natural resources the government has led the nation to progress.

For example, Bago Division is blessed with land and water resources. It is one of the six divisions that contribute to the economic development of the State. In Bago Division, the agriculture sector is the most reliable one followed by the industrial sector and the livestock breeding sector.

Thanks to the building of over 20 dams and sluice gates in the division, paddy sown acreage of the division has reached 1.58 million acres from 1.2 million acres in the past.

In the industrial sector, Indagaw industrial zone has been established in Bago Division. These reflect the goodwill of the State towards the people for gaining more job opportunities and for the industrial development. Moreover, building of bridges of big and small in the division benefits the transport sector and flow of trade. Hydropower projects that will contribute to the economy and productivity of the State are also being implemented in the division. Zaungtu hydropower station in Bago Township and diesel-powered power stations in Myitkyo village in Waw Township and Mone village in Kyaukkyi Township have been built. Moreover, Khabaung, Pyu, Kun, Thaukyekhat, Pathi, Bawkahta, Yenwe and Shwekyin hydropower stations are under construction.

The Government, while raising the existing development momentum, is striving for emergence of modern, developed and democracy-flourishing nation. In support of the Prime Minister's clarification on seven stages of policies and programmes of the State (roadmap), a mass rally, organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association, was held at the sports ground in Bago, on 30 September.

At the mass rally, member of the Organizing Committee of Bago Township War Veterans Organization Township Deputy Law Officer U Kyaw Tint thanked the Government for striving day and night for national development and said that the people are required to further enhance the development of the whole Union and to strive till realizing the discipline-flourishing democracy.

At a time when efforts are being made for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, all the national people are urged to take part in endeavour for the success of translating the seven-point policies into action.



Margan, Tue Lwan and Htoo Gya with seizures. — MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presents offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA

## Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attends ceremony of provisions donation to monasteries in Pyay

YANGON, 3 Oct — The 22nd provisions donation to monasteries in Pyay mountain range was held at Thiri Khitta Thireindhaya Sasana Beikman in Pyay, Bago Division (West), yesterday afternoon.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony and supplicated on religious affairs and donated provisions to the Sayadaws. Present on the occasion were State

Ovadacariya Sayadaws, Member Sayadaws of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Sayadaws of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha, Sayadaws of Division and Township Working Committees of the Sangha, nuns, Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony and supplicated on religious affairs and donated provisions to the Sayadaws. Present on the occasion were State

(West Branch) Chairman Col Hla Min, Col Khin Zaw Oo of Innma Station, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations, wellwishers and guests. The ceremony was opened with three-time recitations of *Namo Tassa* and the congregation received the Five Precepts from State Ovadacariya Sagatoung Kyau-ngaik Sayadaw Agga MahaSaddhammajotikadhaja

Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Vilasacara.

After receiving the five precepts, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than supplicated on religious affairs to the Sayadaws.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Brig-Gen Ko Ko donated provisions to the Sayadaws.

Today's donation towards the monasteries in Pyay mountain range were 3,592 bags of rice, 175 viss of edible oil and K 3,836,185. —MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Professor Robert H. Taylor. — MNA

## Information Minister receives English researcher

YANGON, 3 Oct — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Prof Robert H Taylor, a British researcher who studied Myanmar affairs, at his office on Theinbyu Street this afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General of Myanmar Radio and Television U Khin Maung Htay, Director-General of Information and Public Rela-

tions Department U Chit Naing, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Tin Kha, Managing Director of Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Myint Thein, Adviser to the Ministry of Information U Kyaw Min, Chief Editor U Maung Maung Aye of The New Light of Myanmar daily and Head of Office Major Ye Tint.

MNA

## 12.5 kilos of raw opium seized

YANGON, 3 Oct — A combined team comprising members of the local intelligence unit and Muse Special Anti-Drug Squad, acting on information, on 26 August, stopped and searched a motorcycle and a trailer in Myauk Ward in Muse, and seized 10 packets weighing 12.5 kilos of raw opium wrapped in paper inside the

tyre on the trailer.

In connection with the case, action was taken against Margan, son of U Mahtaw Tan of Pan Chong village, Muse, Tue Lwan, son of U Mway Htaw of Maw Htaung village and Htoo Gya, son of U Aik Swan under Sections 15/19(a)/21 by Muse Police Station.

MNA

## Earthquake Report

YANGON, 3 Oct — An earthquake of slight intensity 4.3 Richter Scale with its epicentre about 151 miles South of Mandalay seismo-

logical observatory was recorded at 10hrs.55min.09 sec. Myanmar Standard Time on 3rd October 2003.

MNA



MYANMAR DELEGATION LEAVES FOR INDONESIA: Myanmar Forest Products and Timber Merchants Association Chairman U Aung Lwin and members left here by air for Indonesia on 2-10-2003 to attend ASEAN Business & Investment Summit from 4 to 7 October.

They were seen off at the airport by UMFCI President U Win Myit. — MNA



## Use of force should be authorized by the Security Council and based on international law, in order to avoid conflicts and tensions within the international community

Askar A Akaev, President of Kyrgyzstan, said that in recent months, the United Nations had become an arena of acute debates. Some "hotheads" had even claimed the Organization had exhausted its potential. But in reality, the disputes and discussions of the past year were democracy at work. The development of that principle assumed exchanges of views, opinions and even criticisms. At the same time, however, while there was nothing reprehensible about disputes per se, polarization in that case had endangered the United Nations.

"Attempts to restrain its role are perceived, especially by small States, as a means of undermining the world body", he said. But the numerous statements thus far had shown that, **although many world leaders had varying opinions about the state of international affairs, they all agreed on the importance of defining a role for the United Nations to ensure that it succeeded in this new century, and fulfilled the promise and expectations of all the world's**

**people.** The most efficient way to overcome contradictions and overcome on such issues as that of Iraq was through compromise.

He went on to say that efforts to reform the United Nations should be accompanied by a return to focusing on specific targets and objectives that must be reached in the immediate future, particularly the Millennium Development Goals and the international war on terrorism. Together, the United Nations, the great Powers, and the wider international community could effectively address those issues and overcome the common challenges of the day. Universal cooperation was crucial, for "if we act separately, we can expect a turn for the worse".

Aside from collective challenges, each nation had its own unique problems, he continued. Kyrgyzstan was determined to address its specific challenges head on. Last year, he had proposed a national initiative "Kyrgyzstan — the country of human rights", to promote the democratic process. To push the idea forward, a Democratic Code had been developed, and a Public Council of Democratic Security had been created. Further, a new draft constitution had been adopted, and more attention was being paid to the establishment of fair and responsible governance, and upgrading anti-corruption policies. The Government was also focusing on fighting poverty and defining key issues that would allow the country to ensure the sustainable development of its mountain regions.

Finally, he said, the United Nations faced abundant challenges, including political and religious extremism, territorial separatism, drug trafficking and the spread of pandemics. He supported firm measures to address the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In addition, he believed that the use of force should be authorized by the Security Council and based on international law, in order to avoid conflicts and tensions within the international community.



Askar A Akaev, President of Kyrgyzstan

ယူနိုက်တက်နက်ရှင်းသော ဘုံမြေကြွေ

### United Nations should play a greater role in rebuilding the country

Turning to the situation in Iraq, he noted that while the people of the country were yet to find peace and stability, without which any hope of national reconstruction would be in vain, it was encouraging that the international community now shared the common view that the United Nations should play a greater role in rebuilding the country.

Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka,  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kenya

### Efforts for reconstruction and the establishment of a democratic society there was the best course of action for stabilizing the country

Iraq was among the most challenging issues facing the international community, and efforts for reconstruction and the establishment of a democratic society there was the best course of action for stabilizing the country.

Underestimating the threat of global terror and weapons proliferation could have a fateful impact for the international community, she said, adding that the Organization should play a decisive role in the fight against both.

Peacekeeping efforts around the world had grown exponentially in the past 10 years, and their success depended on the political will of Member States to contribute contingents and equipment, and support and sustain operations with financial contributions and timely payments.

Klaranovotna  
Ambassador Charge d' Affaires ad of Slovakia to UN

## There could be no prosperity without peace and security

Khandu Wangchuk, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bhutan, said that international peace and security and poverty eradication were the most pressing challenges facing the international community. Those goals were interlinked and could not be achieved in isolation. There could be no prosperity without peace and security, and peace and security, in turn, could not be sustained if billions

were deprived of the basic necessities of life. **The fight against terrorism must be matched by an equal commitment to eradicate the poverty that afflicted more than half of the world's population.**

He said the international community must work with renewed focus and resolve towards a new economic order that was inclusive, equitable and sustainable. He noted that 33 countries, which together

accounted for 26 per cent of the world's population, were reported to be off-track on more than half of the Millennium Development Goals. There was a critical need for adequate financing mechanisms through trade, investment and development assistance.

He also noted that of those 33 countries, 23 were in sub-Saharan Africa, highlighting the need for special attention to Africa.

He called on the inter-

national community to lend its full support to the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), stressing international support was particularly crucial for countries emerging from conflicts. He hoped the international community would provide the necessary support to the people of Afghanistan and Iraq, as they work to rebuild their countries under the most trying circumstances.



Khandu Wangchuk, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bhutan

## What should bring countries together today was the absolute necessity to rebuild the country and restore the rights of the people

It was critical for all to support the establishment of a true multilateral system with the United Nations as a focal point.

At the same time, multilateralism and collective action must be adapted to modern realities.

He said the effort to reform the United Nations system must be continued, especially in the areas of budget and finance.

Also, the Assembly, the Security Council, and the Economic and Social Council needed revitalization.

The Assembly, for its part,

must work toward increased relevance and streamlining of its work.

He said that while there was no need to rehash the particulars that led to the war in Iraq, what should bring countries together today was the absolute necessity to rebuild the country and restore the rights of the people.

It was necessary to establish a clear and substantial mandate, accompanied by the appropriate resources to that end.

In addition, the handover of power and restoration of sovereignty to the Iraqi people should occur as soon as possible.



Permanent Representative to UN  
Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg)

## US soldier killed in attack north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 3 Oct — A rocket-propelled grenade attack on a US convoy near the Iraqi town of Samarra, north of Baghdad, killed a soldier overnight, the US military said on Thursday.

Wednesday night's attack was the third fatal ambush on US forces in the space of a few hours. The soldier belonged to the 4th Infantry Division.

It brought to 84 the number of US soldiers killed in guerilla-style attacks since US President George W. Bush declared major combat over on 1 May.

The US military had earlier reported a 1st Armoured Division soldier was killed and one was wounded in a gun attack while patrolling the Mansur District of Baghdad on Wednesday night. In Tikrit, Saddam Hussein's home town north of Samarra, a US woman soldier was killed and three soldiers were wounded by a roadside bomb blast that hit a military convoy on Wednesday.

In Washington, the US State Department said Secretary of State Colin Powell briefed fellow members of the UN Security Council by phone on changes made to a draft resolution on Iraq's future. — MNA/Reuters

## Advisers say US policy is problem in Mideast

WASHINGTON, 3 Oct—Displeasure with US policy had greatly damaged the country's image in the Muslim world, where majorities now view Washington with disfavour, according to report for the US Congress on Wednesday.

But the group of experts who formulated the report made no suggestions on policy changes, saying their mandate was limited to examining how the United States presents its policies to Arab and Muslim nations.

Instead they recommended bureaucratic changes in the management of US public diplomacy, more language training for diplomats and spending more money on programmes such as scholarships, translating books and US broadcasting.

The group, led by former ambassador and assistant secretary of state Edward Djerjian, said the United States was engaged in a "major struggle to expand the zone of tolerance and marginalize extremists, whether secular or religious, especially in the Arab and Muslim world".

"While the conduct of policy is the primary determinant of success or failure in this struggle, the role of public diplomacy has taken on critical importance," it added.

The report is the latest of many to try to address the failure of the United States to convince Arabs and Muslims of the wisdom of its policies in the region, where Washington is seen as complicit in Israel's treatment of the Palestin-

ians, the ally of authoritarian governments and a bully that threatens to attack any country it dislikes.

The United States has spent tens of millions of dollars since the attacks of September 2001 trying to improve its image in the Middle East, through radio broadcasts, magazines and television advertisements on Muslim life in America.

But the report carried opinion poll results showing that "the bottom has fallen out of support for the United States".

In Jordan, for example, 1 per cent of people had a favourable view of the United States in the spring of 2003, compared with 25 per cent in the summer of 2002. In Egypt, 6 per cent of people had a favorable view in 2002.

The Bush Administration has attributed its unpopularity to envy of American wealth and resentment of the position of the United States as the world's sole superpower.

The report, released at the US State Department, said the "superpower" factor "may well contribute to the animosity, but it is not a satisfying explanation".

MNA/Reuters



Iraqi workers clear the remains of a building. The US Senate began debate on a White House request for 87 billion dollars to fund military and reconstruction efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.—INTERNET

## UNESCO, China sign memorandum on education

PARIS, 3 Oct—The United Nations main cultural body UNESCO and the Chinese Government signed a memorandum of understanding Wednesday to enhance their partnership in the field of education.

In the memorandum, China expressed its willingness to contribute to the development of education worldwide, in particular for developing countries.

The Chinese Government agreed to host and arrange short-term research and study visits to China for international rural education experts and visiting scholars.

China will also launch an inter-regional cooperation project on rural education in Sub-Saharan Africa within the framework of UNESCO's Regional Medium-Term Strategy.

The projects will be organized through the International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education (INRULED).

UNESCO agreed to keep supporting the

Chinese efforts in education for rural development, education in remote and minority areas, higher education and job-oriented technical and vocational education.

UNESCO will also promote the Chinese flagship Project on Environment and Population Education for Development (EDP) within the framework of UNESCO's programme on Education for Sustainable Development.

China attaches strategic priority to the development of education and UNESCO projects have made significant progress in China, said Chinese Minister of Education Zhou Ji, who signed the memorandum with UNESCO Director-General Koichiro Matsuura.

MNA/Xinhua

NEW YORK, 3 Oct—The US-led war in Iraq and the Mideast conflict have heightened Muslim and Arab anger at the United States that must be addressed by stronger public relations efforts, the *New York Times* said on Wednesday, citing a Bush Administration panel report.

The administration report, expected to be released later Wednesday, says that more than 600 million US dollars has been spent to publicize the US side of its policies, but only 25 million US dollars went to "outreach programmes" in the Arab and Muslim world, the *Times* said. Washington should spend more on public relations in the Mideast to help counter widespread misinformation abroad, the panel said in its report, according to the newspaper. Among other recommendations, the panel said Washington should name a White House coordinator for public relations efforts abroad, according to the paper.—MNA/Reuters

**US should  
spend  
more on  
panel  
report in  
M-E**

ဝက်စွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

## Syrian President, Iraqi Kurdish leader urge stability in Iraq

DAMASCUS, 3 Oct—Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and Massoud Barzani, a prominent Kurdish member of Iraq's Governing Council, called for a return to stability in Iraq.

The two men said that it was "necessary for security and stability to be returned to Iraq," Sana news agency reported Thursday. Both leaders also expressed their support for "the consolidation of Iraq's national unity."

Barzani, head of the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP), arrived in Syria on Wednesday for talks about the situation in Iraq and bilateral relations.

After talks with Syrian Vice President Abdel Halim Khaddam, Barzani accused "foreigners infiltrating into Iraq of creating problems for the Iraqi people."

He said "there is no resistance, but terrorist acts that take place from time to time that the Iraqi people are paying the price for."

The KDP and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) led by Jalal Talabani have controlled a Kurdish enclave in northern Iraq since the end of the Gulf War in 1991.

Syria, which fiercely opposed the war in Iraq, is now calling for a rapid transfer of power to the Iraqi people.

Internet

## Blair's Party Criticizes Iraq Involvement

BOURNEMOUTH, 3 Oct—Tony Blair unflinching defence of the war in Iraq has failed to stifle anger in his own Labour Party, with opponents calling it a "war for oil" and a "crime."

The five-day conference in Bournemouth, southern England, which ends Thursday, has been Blair's toughest since he became party leader in 1994 and led Labour to the first of two landslide election victories in 1997.

Opponents of the Iraq war lashed out at the government for taking Britain into war without a second United Nations resolution, and dissent over the government's plans to reform public services is simmering.

In his keynote speech on Tuesday, the British prime minister gave no ground.

"Iraq has divided the international community, it has divided the party, the country, families, friends. And I know many people are disappointed, hurt, angry. ... I ask just one thing: Attack my decision, but at least understand why I took it and why I would take the same decision again," Blair said.

Alice Mahon, a Labour member of Parliament and a fierce critic of the war, accused Blair of lying to get support for the war.

Internet

## 10 kilos of cocaine found at Jakarta airport

JAKARTA, 3 Oct—Authorities at the Soekarno-Hatta International Airport in Jakarta found a bag loaded with 10.6 kilos of cocaine at the terminal of international arrival, an official said Wednesday.

The bag arrived on Monday without a claim tag and is believed to have been transported by a Singapore Airlines plane plying Brisbane-Singapore-Jakarta.

Yusuf Indarto, head of the Customs Office at the airport, told local media the cocaine has premium quality worth estimated some 2.24 million US dollars. "Our office has contacted the Singapore's Central Narcotic Bureau (CNB) to clarify why the cocaine of that size could go through Singapore," he said. On the same occasion, a senior police officer said the owner of the smuggled bag has not been identified, adding that the finding was the third largest cocaine delivery over the past two years.—MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi police secure a local government building in Fallujah. The US has hailed a pledge by Jordan to train Iraqi police and soldiers, the first such promise for post-war Iraq from an Arab or Muslim state.—INTERNET



# US UNDER INTENSIFIED IRAQ RESISTANCE



Iraqi students walk near a tank with their mother to the first day of school in Baghdad on 1 October, 2003. — INTERNET



House to house : An Iraqi waits outside his home as US troops conduct a house-to-house search in the village of Alaiba, 70 kms southwest of Mosul, Iraq.

INTERNET



Soldiers of US Army 101st Airborne Division disperse a group of unemployed men demonstrating for jobs in front of mayor's office in Mosul, 400 kms (250 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq on 1 October 2003. — INTERNET



An Iraqi pushes a burning tire to the middle of the road during a demonstration in Baghdad.

INTERNET



US soldiers and Iraqi policemen guard a riot spot in Baghdad, Iraq, on 1 October, 2003. About 100 unemployed people held a demonstration here Wednesday, during which some threw stones at Iraqi police officers and set fire on cars. The police fired shots into the air to disperse the demonstrators, causing at least two people injured. — XINHUA



US soldiers search the street opposite the mayor's office in Fallujah, Iraq, after coming under fire from attackers Thursday on 2 October, 2003. One man was killed in the incident 65 kilometers northwest of Baghdad, and at least four peoples injured in the crossfire. US officers said the man killed was an attacker, but hospital officials said he was a bystander. — INTERNET

## General says 3-6 GIs die each week in Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 3 Oct**—Each week in Iraq, an average of three to six Americans are dying and another 40 wounded by a foe that has become more lethal and sophisticated since the fall of Baghdad in April, the commander of coalition forces said Thursday.

US soldiers are facing 15-20 attacks a day, including roadside bombs, Lt Gen Ricardo Sanchez said. Seven to 10 attacks a day involve small groups of fighters.

Most attacks occur in Baghdad and the surrounding Sunni Muslim stronghold to the west and north of the capital, although it's unclear whether Iraqi or foreign forces account for the majority.

"The enemy has evolved — a little bit more lethal, a little more complex, a little more sophisticated, and in some cases, a little bit more tenacious," Sanchez said.

Since May 1, when President Bush declared the end of major combat operations, 90 American soldiers have been killed by hostile fire in a low-level, guerrilla-style insurgency. A total of 314 Americans have

died since the war began March 20, according to the Pentagon.

On Wednesday alone, three Americans were killed: a soldier from the 1st Armoured Division who was shot while on patrol in the al-Mansour district of Baghdad; a female soldier from the 4th Infantry Division who died when a roadside bomb exploded about 300 yards from the main US base in Tikrit, Saddam's hometown; and another soldier from the 4th ID, who died after a rocket-propelled grenade attack on a convoy near Samara, 60 miles north of the Iraqi capital.

While most wounded Americans are treated at two military hospitals in Iraq, those with more serious injuries are evacuated to the US military hospital in Landstuhl, Germany. —*Internet*

## GIs come under fire in Fallujah, Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 3 Oct** — US soldiers came under fire Thursday near the Fallujah mayor's office and killed one of their attackers, an American officer said, while a witness said a US convoy was attacked southeast of the volatile city.

The violence came a day after three American soldiers were killed in separate attacks as the US-led coalition faced an increasingly sophisticated resistance movement.

Also Thursday, US officials announced that a suspected former top Baath Party official who was in northern Iraq has been arrested.

None of the Americans was hurt in the attack by three gunmen in Fallujah, a major city in the so-called "Sunni Triangle," but two girls were injured in the crossfire, Lt Col

Brian Drinkwine said. Their condition was not known.

"While we were conducting a meeting in the city council building (mayor's office), we were fired upon. We returned fire and killed one enemy," Drinkwine said.

Shortly before the attack, a fuel tanker in a US convoy near Amiriyah, southeast of Fallujah, was hit by a mine or roadside bomb, according to Mohammed Hamid, 31, who lives nearby. He said a soldier in the passenger seat of the cab pulling the tanker was killed and the driver was wounded. —*Internet*

## Report says poverty condemns Africa to ill-health

**ADDIS ABABA, 3 Oct**—Even without "AIDS" and HIV, Africa's 800 million people are the world's unhealthiest, experts said on Tuesday.

The African Health Sciences Congress, an annual meeting of experts, said in a report that improvements in African healthcare in the 1960s and 1970s had in many cases been lost due to poverty.

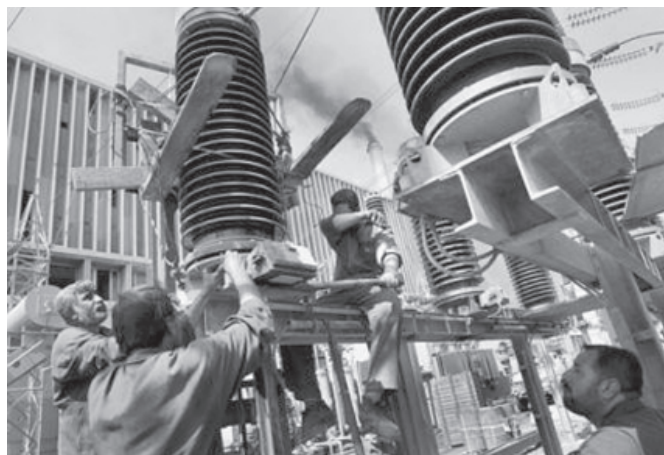
"In spite of the availability of suitable tools and technology for prevention and treatment, poverty and weak health systems have worsened health problems in Africa," said the report released at the gathering in the Ethiopian capital.

In addition to unnecessary deaths and suffering, it said economic development and the social fabric were being undermined by poor health, and it called on African countries to set up workable systems to respond promptly to threats from disease. — *MNA/Reuters*



Soldiers of US Army's 101st Airborne Division, 320th battalion of field artillery, block a road some 100 km (62 miles) south of Mosul, northern Iraq, on 1 October, 2003, after an operation searching for weapons in a nearby village. —*INTERNET*

## မြို့ခြံရွှေတာ၊ ထိန်းပါလေလွင့်၊ ထုတ်ကုန်မြင့်



Workers replace transformers at the al-Doura power plant in Baghdad on 27 September, 2003. The power shortages crippling Baghdad since a US invasion force occupied it in April are feeding the antagonisms of its 5 million people toward the Americans, who are struggling to resurrect an outdated power grid damaged in the war and in months of sabotage that have followed. Restoring electricity carries the biggest price tag \$5.7 billion of any programme in US President George W Bush's request to Congress for \$20.3 billion next year for Iraq reconstruction. —*INTERNET*

## 317 US soldiers killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 3 Oct** — As of Thursday, Oct 2, 317 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, one; and Ukraine, one.

On or since May 1, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 179 US soldiers have died in Iraq, according to the latest Defence Department figures.

Since the start of military operations, 1,380 US service members have been wounded as a result of hostile action, according to US Central Command. Non-hostile injured numbered 330.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

No new deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by the military: Army Command Sgt Maj James D Blankenbecler, 40; Alexandria, Va; died Wednesday in Samara, Iraq when his convoy was attacked; assigned to 1st Battalion, 44th Air Defence Artillery Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas.

Army Spc Dustin K McGaugh, 20; Derby, Kan; died Tuesday in Balad, Iraq from a non-hostile gunshot wound; assigned to the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 17th Field Artillery Brigade, Fort Sill, Okla. — *Internet*

## Iraq war critics in Blair's party vent their anger

**BOURNEMOUTH (England), 3 Oct** — Anti-war members in Britain's ruling Labour Party said on Wednesday Prime Minister Tony Blair had lied to justify invading Iraq and accused him of creating a "wasteland" in the name of peace.

Angered at being deprived of a chance to vote on the Iraq war at their annual conference, activists queued up to criticize the military action which Blair has defiantly defended.

"We were told there were weapons of mass destruction that could be deployed at 45 minutes' notice," parliamentarian Alice Mahon said. "We were lied to. There is no delicate way of putting it." "We can't have a vote on it today and that is a dis-

grace." Blair's popularity has plunged since the conflict which he has conceded split the world and angered many in his party. But he said he would take the same decision again.

"I know this thing is tremendously divisive, because a lot of people feel the war in Iraq was just simply and plainly wrong, and I don't think I'll ever persuade people about that," he told BBC radio on Wednesday.

This year's party confer-

ence comes at the darkest time of Blair's six-year rule. His trust ratings have plummeted as a failure to find any weapons of mass destruction in Iraq — his main justification for military action — has fuelled doubts over his case for war. "In Iraq we have destroyed a country and called it liberation. We have created a wasteland and called it peace," said Jimmy Elsbey, a member of Labour's national executive body.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Iraq may restart Kirkuk oil sales by November

**BAGHDAD, 3 Oct** — Iraq may resume oil sales along its northern export pipeline in early November once storage tanks are filled at the line's terminal in Turkey, a senior Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) official said on Wednesday. The pipeline, which carries crude oil from Iraq's Kirkuk fields to Turkey's Mediterranean coast, was closed by sabotage in mid-August just as it was set to ship large volumes to world markets after a five-month closure. Repairs should be completed by mid-October, the official said. — *MNA/Reuters*



# World Teachers' Day

Hla Tun (Twantay)

The United Nations has designated 5 October as the World Teachers' Day, starting 2002. Being a member nation of the UN, the Union of Myanmar observed the first World Teachers' Day of that year on a grand scale. This year is the second one.

Arrangements have already been made for observing the day on a grand scale.

The leading committee chaired by Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung and work committees have been already formed to observe the day on a wider scale.

I would like to present the objectives of observing the day. They are:

(a) to underscore the role of teachers who are one of the Five Benefactors in our Myanmar Culture

(b) to honour teachers by fixing the World Teachers' Day, and

(c) to observe the day that depicts the gratitude of teachers all over the country.

Plans have systematically been drawn up to observe the World Teachers' Day with these objectives. It is learnt that the day will be observed at the Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road in Yangon.

I would also like to present the plans for holding the grand ceremony. They are the opening ceremony, the opening of the exhibition, prize-presenting ceremony to winners of the essay, poem and article competitions and the paper reading sessions. Preliminary activities include publishing of postcards and pamphlets, broadcasting of movies and video plays and discussions related to teachers on Myanma Radio and Television, and featuring of articles on the World Teachers' Day in newspapers and periodicals.

Arrangements for

preliminary activities are as follows:

On-job trainee teachers at the Institutes of Education and the Education Colleges and basic education high school and middle school students took part in the essay and the poem competitions entitled "Gratitude to teachers" on 24 September. In the article competition titled "What a teacher is", there are two categories—basic education level and higher education level. Teachers from universities, colleges and institutes and retired teachers took part in the higher education level article competition, and schoolheads and teachers of high, middle and primary schools, in the basic education level article competition. Retired teachers also partook in the respective levels.

I would like to present the reasons why the day is observed on such a grand scale.

Being a member nation of the UN, Myanmar has placed emphasis on implementing the objectives and followed the procedures of the UN.

Observance of the World Teachers' Day is to emphasize the great value of teachers who play a crucial role in nurturing the most basic resource, human resource, for the development of every nation. In other words, it is observed in honour of the integrity and morals, dignity and gratitude to teachers who are one of the Five Benefactors.

As the saying "The very first teachers are parents" goes in Myanma society, the Myanmar people regard parents as the first teachers. In other words, parents are assigned duty to nurture own children to be clever and play a role in the society.

In addition, there is a good Myanmar tradition. The Myanmar people regard anyone who gave them some



education or knowledge as Thin Saya (someone who teaches lessons), Myin Saya (someone from whom one learns something) and Kya Saya (someone from whom one hears methods of doing something).

At this point, I would like to quote my elder uncle's words of advice. Uncle Saya Kyu, while doing his work, said "Maung Hla Tun, be careful in dealing with people when you grow up. There are three ways of associating with people. They are: to deal with them with mind only, to deal with them with body only, and to deal with them with mind and body." His words of advice have been valuable.

It means that appropriate response should be given to those who exploit us, who do not tolerate us, and who have ill-will towards us. They should be dealt with care. In other words, we can deal with those who have good-will towards us, who are good-natured and who tolerate us with openness.

I am now over 60 and have been in service for over 40 years. According to my own experiences, my uncle's admonition could be applied in dealing not only with people but also with countries.

The Myanmar people admire those whom they owe gratitude in some kind of education or wisdom and regard teachers as one of the Five Benefactors—the Buddha, the Dhamma (His discourse), the Sangha (Monks), Teachers and Parents. It is one of the most fine Myanmar traditions.

In our Myanmar society the attributes and value of teachers are admired. In return, like the parents of the pupils and the leaders of the society, teachers are to behave in accordance with the integrity and morals of teachers.

This article is written to hail the World Teachers' Day and to express the gratitude we owe to all kinds of teachers.

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(Translation: KKK)

## Blood donated

YANGON, 3 Oct — Thanlyin Government Technological College Principal U Aung Win, heads of department, teachers and students collectively donated blood at the college to mark World Teachers' Day which falls on 5 October.

Dr Thida Aung of Yangon General Hospital National Blood Division and staff went there and accepted the blood donated.

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



Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win being welcomed by German Ambassador Dr Klaus Peter Wild at the reception to mark Day of German Unity on 3-10-2003. — MNA



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## "သတိပေးနိုးဆော်ချက်"

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# Human trafficking prevention — a national duty

*Khin Myanmar*

The Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs has been formed and duties assigned with the aim of developing the Myanmar women on all fronts and enabling them to stand as a national force launching operations in the whole country. The MNCWA has launched its operations covering many sectors the entire nation in harmonious cooperation with other social organizations for national progress in addition to its efforts to develop the women's sector, and prevent trafficking in persons.

A team led by member of the MNCWA and the Myanmar National Working Committee for Women's Affairs Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe toured Nayunglebin and Bago Townships Bago Division (East). During the tour, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and her team met with members of Township Working Committees for Women's Affairs, representatives of the social organizations, local women, schoolgirls and young women. At the meetings, she explained the purpose of the tour, saying, "As the women represent over half the nation's population, their strength is much important for the State. As is known to all, the Government is working night and day for development in all sectors of the nation including the border areas. The womenfolk should use their strength to the most effective degree to contribute towards the nation-building tasks. Some foreign countries which do not wish to see Myanmar enjoying progress are trying to cause disturbances in the nation. They are resorting to various means to make youths addicted to drugs, and discard their own traditions and culture. Some people who do not value Myanmar traditions and culture favour outlandish style of dress. These

indecent style of cloths are taking the place of Myanmar traditional costumes. The MNWCWA and the womenfolk have the duty to ward off the narcotic drugs and indecent culture. Teachers, local elders and local people will have to make concerted efforts to save young women from falling prey to human trafficking and the deceit of the human trafficking brokers. They will have to give information on the movement of the traffickers to effectively curb the crime."

Members of the team made focus group discussions with local people of towns and villages in a family spirit. The team members gave task on knowledge on health, education, economic and social fields to the local people, and gave advice to solve their problems. The team members also made coordination with the respective bodies to fulfil the local people's requirements and discuss means to expose and arrest human traffickers. The teams of the MNWCWA made field tours of Shan State, Mon State and Kayin State, organizing and giving knowledge to the local young women and girls. The teams were able to successfully organize and educate the young women from the borders to have vigil against the deceit of the traffickers. Later, the teams of the MNWCWA visited the plain regions. The teams also launched organizational and educative activities in Chin State, eastern and western Bago Division and Mandalay Division, and cordially met with local young women. Their educative and organizational programmes have born fruits of success. The Myanmar National Working Committee for Women's Affairs (Central) have also been launching organizational

and educative programmes through the TV and books with greater momentum.

Human trafficking has posed as an obstacle to the development of the Myanmar women's sector. Because of the effectiveness of the organizational and educative programmes of the respective Women Affairs Committees, the ardent cooperation of the partnership bodies and harmonious efforts of the anti-human trafficking groups, 390 traffickers were exposed and arrested in 206 cases during the period from 17 July 2002 to 16 July 2003. During the period, the personnel concerned were able to save 1,008 women from being sold abroad. Severe action was taken against the traffickers. The Women Affairs Committees and the respective bodies were able to educate and organize nearly 20,000 young women and prevent them from going to work in other countries. They were able to safely send over 10,000 persons back to their homes.

In Myanmar, women are enjoying equal rights with their male counterparts. The Myanmar women stand as the example in the world in preserving the traditions and culture. But they should continue to uphold their practice of preserving the traditions and culture. The MNWCWA will continue to launch its activities to develop the women's sector and prevent human trafficking without losing momentum. So, I would like to urge the people of the entire nation to render assistance to the Association's activities as a national task.

(Translation: TMT)

Kyemon: 26 September 2003.



Myanmar delegation members being seen off at the airport before their departure for Bali, Indonesia. — NLM

## Myanmar delegation of NDCG leaves for Indonesia

YANGON, 3 Oct — The Myanmar delegation of National Development Company Group led by Chairman of the NDCG U Khin Shwe left here by air this afternoon to attend the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit to be held in Bali island of the Republic of Indonesia from 5 to 7 October.

The chairman was accompanied by nine members.

They will also attend the meeting of IFAWPCA (International Federation of Asian Western Pacific Contractor's Associations) in Singapore on 9 October.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and officials concerned. — NLM

## Germany to further downsize military forces

BERLIN, 3 Oct — German Defence Minister Peter Struck said Thursday that the country's military forces will continue to be downsized in this decade. Under a plan that Struck will formalize next year, German soldiers and officers will be reduced from current level of 280,000 to 250,000 in the year 2010.

In the same period, the number of military civilians will decline from 128,000 to 75,000, while more than 70 of 530 barracks in Germany will also be closed. The reduction is expected to save several hundreds of millions of euros annually which will be re-allocated for new military hardware and better carrying overseas missions, Struck said. The new concept of military downsizing is "quality instead of quantity," he was quoted by German media. — MNA/Xinhua

## Thailand's auto production to reach 1 million units by 2006

BANGKOK, 3 Oct — Visioned by the world's top automakers as the "Detroit of Asia", Thailand's auto production would reach one million units a year by 2006 and the vehicle sales in the country could reach one million units a year within the next decade, Ninnart Chaithirapinyo, vice-chairman of Toyota (Thailand) said.

Thailand Board of Investment quoted Ninnart Thursday as saying that the greater Bangkok area is demonstrating much the same popularity with the world's automotive manufacturers over the past few years as Detroit did several decades earlier.

Ninnart, who is also the chairman of the Federation of Thai Industries said that Thai auto industry's target is "to go from a production base of 585,000 units in 2002, to one million units by 2006 with 40 per cent targeted for export".

Ninnart said global automakers including Toyota, GM, Ford, Isuzu,

Honda and Mitsubishi, cite several factors for selecting Thailand as a regional production base, such as the large domestic market, competitively priced autparts, quality labour force and infrastructure, liberal government policies and strategic location.

He also predicted that Thai market, which had been averaging more than 30 per cent sales growth over the past few years, had huge potential, as the country had a relatively low ownership ratio of one vehicle to 12 people, compared to 1:6 in Malaysia and 1:2 in Japan and the United States.

MNA/Xinhua

## Vietnam to host World Rice Conference

HANOI, 3 Oct — Vietnam will host the second World Rice Commerce (WRC 2003) conference, Asia's premium rice industry gathering, in Hanoi on October 16 and 17, the Vietnam Trade Promotion Agency told Xinhua on Thursday.

"WRC 2003 will focus on discussions about world rice trade outlook in the 2003-2004 period, and rice production and trade in the Chinese Mainland, Thailand, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, the Philippines, Hong Kong,

the United States, the European Union, Africa, and Vietnam," said Do Kim Lang, deputy head of the agency's International Cooperation Division.

Panelists at the conference will also talk about re-

search, transport, insurance and legal documents relating to rice, he added.

Some 200 local and foreign officials and experts are expected to attend WRC 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

## UN members agree on global anti-corruption treaty

VIENNA, 3 Oct — UN member states have finally agreed on an international treaty to combat corruption after two years of haggling, UN officials announced on Thursday.

"The convention means business," UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) chief Antonio Maria Costa told reporters. "It has teeth...I

believe it's going to get a few fish." The agreed draft criminalizes bribery, money laundering and embezzlement of public funds. It enables the recovery of illegally acquired assets and will force states to prevent corruption rather than merely prosecute offenders. But anti-graft campaigners said it was not tough enough on private sec-

tor corruption. The UN Convention against Corruption will be formally adopted by the U.N. General Assembly "in the coming weeks", UNODC's head of treaty affairs, Eduardo Vetere, said.

It will enter into force once 30 states have ratified it, which will probably take about two years, he added.

The US ambassador to the UN in Vienna, Kenneth Brill, gave his backing to the treaty saying it would strengthen international efforts to fight corruption. The convention will provide mechanisms for the cross-border recovery of assets pil-

fered by public officials. "Corruption is not only criminal behaviour which has to be prosecuted. It also undermines society," Costa said, adding that it hindered development in poorer countries. "So it is much more than just trying to stop this sort of activity but trying to salvage economies which otherwise would go bankrupt." Peter Rooke of the independent anti-graft pressure group Transparency International (TI) welcomed the treaty as "an opportunity to create public awareness and commitment to curbing corruption". MNA/Reuters





Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein view telephones for rural areas. — MNA

## Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than tours Bago Division (West)

YANGON, 3 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, left here by car at 8.40 am on 1 October and arrived at Meening creek bridge at the border of Yangon Division and Bago Division (West). Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party, accompanied by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Ko Ko, Chairman of Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council Col Hla Min, Col Khin Zaw Oo of Innma Station and officials, proceeded to the local battalion in Thayawady. He cordially met with Tatmadawmen and families and gave instructions on undertaking manageable agriculture and livestock breeding tasks.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the farmers' educative training camp of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Thayetabin, Minhla. After hearing reports on educative tasks for use of natural and chemical fertilizers to meet the targeted per acre yield of monsoon paddy, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions and cordially greeted the farmers. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also inspected the pilot plots there. Next, he put the bio-fertilizer into the paddy fields of farmers.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than arrived at Pyidawtha fish breeding camp of the Fisheries Department in Okpo. After hearing reports on fish

hatching, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on hatching fingerlings for extension of 20,000 acres of fish breeding ponds in the division next year.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the hall of the Irrigation Department in the town. Officials of the department reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on construction of water supply systems of Bawbin dam and Swa creek dam, irrigation for summer paddy. The commander made a supplementary report on 30,000-acre extended cultivation with the use of water from the dams. Lt-Gen Khin

Gyobingauk. The chairman of the Township Peace and Development reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on location, area, population, agricultural tasks, and social and economic conditions of the township. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attended to the needs and made a speech. In his speech, he said to build a new, modern and developed nation, the government placed emphasis on agriculture and livestock breeding sectors. Arrangement had also been made to cultivate crops more than local consumption with a view to exporting the surplus. Agriculture and livestock breeding sectors of

make concerted efforts under the Township Peace and Development Council, he said.

After the meeting, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than cordially greeted the departmental personnel and members of social organizations.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the Hsinhlwailatt monsoon paddy model farm in Laungyi Village, Thegon Township. He inspected Hsinhlwailatt quality paddy strain and vegetable plantations and cordially greeted the farmers there. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected the thriving paddy fields on both sides of Thegon-Padigon road by

## Secretary-1 and Secretary-2...

(from page 1)

The Secretary-1 assessed the reports, saying that measures are to be taken through media to make tourists realize that Myanmar, a safe tourist attraction, is worthy of paying visit at any time. The nation still has to mainly rely on the agricultural sector and so collective endeavours are to be made for service and industrial sectors in accord with the changes.

Only then, will the tourism industry meet with success after successful building up of a democratic nation, enhancing the national economic strength.

He called on the officials concerned to carry out tasks energetically and heartily in translating the goal that the ministry will make effective contribution towards the national economic life through services.

The Secretary-2 said that it is important for the nation to be economically strong in turning itself into a democratic one. The State's economy, politics and secu-

city sectors are interrelated. The Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism are contributing towards economic growth of the nation.

The two ministries have prospects of meeting the target of earning income. The tourism industry and telephone communication service have been making remarkable progress. He called for effective use of assistance rendered by the State. Arrangements are to be made for systematic use of equipment for the Ministry of CPT, which was imported at huge sum of money.

Emphasis is to be placed on thrift and minimizing loss and wastage. With the development of communication services, security measures are to be taken into account, he said.

After the meeting, the Secretary-1 and the Secretary-2 viewed the Internet, E-mail and video phones, and phones for rural regions.

MNA

Maung Than made a speech. In his speech, he said the township was able to exceed the monsoon paddy and ground nut cultivation targets in 2003-2004. Other crops must also be grown to exceed the targets.

The division was able to meet the 2.4 million acre cultivation target for monsoon paddy. Necessary measures must be taken in the township in advance to meet the 2.6 million-acre monsoon paddy cultivation target of the division next year. Thitsein (*Bellaric Myrobalan*) must also be grown in the township. The

township is also to make efforts for the extended breeding of fresh water fish in accord with the set target of the division.

In conclusion, he urged departmental personnel to conscientiously strive for the country and make field tours for tranquillity and rule of law.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Byugon Village in Pyay Township at 7 pm and cordially greeted the local people. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party stopped for a night in Pyay. —MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets departmental officials, townselders and members of social organizations in Thegon Township. — MNA

Maung Than gave instructions on timely completion of water supply systems to meet the targeted acreage of monsoon paddy cultivation. Arrangements have been made to grow 260,000 acres of summer paddy in the division this year.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also met with departmental officials, townselder and members of social organizations and War Veterans Organization at the hall of Township Peace and Development Council in

the division greatly contributed towards the national economy. So, efforts must be exerted for exceeding the monsoon paddy cultivation target of 2.4 million acres in 2003-2004. Besides, land reclamation, extended cultivation, and fresh water fish breeding must be carried out in the respective townships in the division. It is required to grow pepper that earn foreign exchange in the township. For the developments of the township, departments concerned are to

car and arrived at Thegon in the evening. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party met with departmental personnel, townselders, members of social organizations and local people at the town hall and gave necessary instructions. The chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on location, area, population and economic and social conditions of the township. After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Khin

## MICTDC to sell shares

YANGON, 3 Oct — With a plan to extend its functions and to pave way for wider public participation, the Myanmar ICT Development Corporation in Hline Township, will sell 500,000 shares at K 1,000 each beginning 15 October.

Interested persons may contact MICT Park or dial 652272, 652273, 652274, 652278, 652279. — H

## Soccer warming up

YANGON, 3 Oct — The tentatively selected Myanmar football team beat Myanmar Youth A team 4-2 at a warming up match at the Youths Sports Training Centre in Thuwaunna here this evening.

The two teams are undergoing training for their international matches. — MNA

# Bwatgyi Dam in Aunglan Township

Article -Kyaw Sein, Photos — Thwin Aye (Kyemone)

Bwatgyi Dam built near Dandauk Village 26 miles east of Aunglan Township in Thayet District, Magway Division, was inaugurated on 30 September.

It was constructed by the Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

The newly-opened dam is the 152nd one among the ones which had been constructed by the Irrigation Department since the Tatmadaw Government has assumed duties and responsibilities of the State.

The earthen dam is 4,620 feet long and 113 feet high. It can store 73,190 acre-ft of water. At present, 40 percent of its storage capacity has been stored.

The dam will supply water through two 380-foot con-

duits to the catchment area and will benefit 10,000 acres of farmlands. Moreover, the Bwatgyi Dam is aimed at preventing floods in rainy season and it will also distribute irrigation water in summer time in the region.

There were only farm lands in 47 villages alongside the dam. Now, arrangements are being made in the region to convert the vacant lands into the paddy lands. A total of twenty six dams including Bwatgyi Dam, have been built in Magway Division. The Bwatgyi Dam is the 11st one opened in the division.

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(Translation AMS)  
(Kyemone: 30-9-2003)



Newly opened Bwatgyi Dam in Magway Division. —MNA

## AIDS Control Activities Exhibition 3-9 November

YANGON, 3 Oct — The meeting for AIDS Control Activities Exhibition to be held in Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road took place at the National Health Committee on Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road in Dagon Township this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of the Leading Committee for the Exhibition Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, members of the Leading Committee deputy ministers, departmental heads, representatives of social organizations, officials and guests.

The minister delivered a speech on the occasion, saying that now the disease AIDS has spread in various nations of the world. The

nations are taking measures for prevention and control of the disease to the full capacity. Myanmar has been systematically implementing the projects in conformity with the directives of the NHC and the objectives laid down by Central Committee for AIDS Prevention and Control formed in 1989.

Myanmar has annually held World AIDS Day commemorative activities since 1989. Arrangements have been made to organize an exhibition to expose anti-AIDS activities in Myanmar to the people and international sphere.

The minister called for participation of related ministries, UN agencies, local and international NGOs in the exhibition.



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan addresses the meeting on extended transmission of new Myanmar TV channel of Myanmar Radio and Television. — MNA

The Department of Health under the Ministry of Health is implementing AIDS/Venereal Disease Control Project. And it has been realizing other related projects since 2000-2001, he

added.

In the process, much reliance should not be placed on international community and it needs broader use of national forces. Only when respective organizations and the people make collective efforts, will the project be accomplished, he noted.

In conclusion, the ministry called for successful holding of the exhibition.

Heads of departments under the ministry reported on progress of work of respective subcommittees. The deputy ministers and departmental heads gave supplementary reports and the meeting passed resolutions.

The minister made concluding remarks. The exhibition will be held from 3 to 9 November 2003. — MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint delivers a speech at the meeting for AIDS Control Activities Exhibition. — HEALTH

MRTV programmes have undergone changes both in form and essence

## Coordination meeting on extended transmission of new Myanmar TV channel held

YANGON 3 Oct—The coordination meeting on extended transmission of new Myanmar TV channel of Myanmar Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information was held at the meeting hall of the ministry on Theinbyu Road here at 3 pm today, with an address by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the occasion were the directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry and officials, delegates from social organizations, the director of Forever Group Co and officials, guests and others.

In his address, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that as the transmission programmes of MRTV have undergone changes both in form and essence, it could draw more attention of viewers at home and abroad. Officials of the ministry are making strenuous efforts to make media sharp and dynamic. The coordination meeting was to be held with the respective officials of the ministries concerned for extended transmission of a new

channel of MRTV in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, calling for extension of media as much as possible, taking measures for media coverage across the nation including border areas, making efforts for greater of media coverage at home and abroad, and enhancing the standard of media to be sharp and dynamic. All officials concerned are to hold discussion to be able to extend the transmission of a new channel of MRTV.

Next, Director of Forever Group Co U Win Maw reported on arrangements being made sector-wise for extended transmission of the new channel of MRTV. Afterwards, officials of the respective ministries and delegates from social organizations reported on their participation in the project.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the minister. The MRTV is making arrangements for transmission programmes such as information, education and entertainment with the use of the new channel in addition to the existing MRTV programmes and MRTV-3. —MNA



ASEAN RADIO QUIZ HELD: The ASEAN radio quiz was held at Myanmar Radio & Television on 1-10-2003. Ma Yadana Htwe of Hlinethaya Township (first), U Aung Myo Shwe of Shwepyitha Township (second), U Than Win of Mawlamyine (third) and Ma Win Nu of Shwepaukkan Myothit (consolation prize). — MNA

နိုင်ငံအဝန်း သစ်တောစွမ်းဖြင့်  
စိမ်းလန်းစေရမည်။

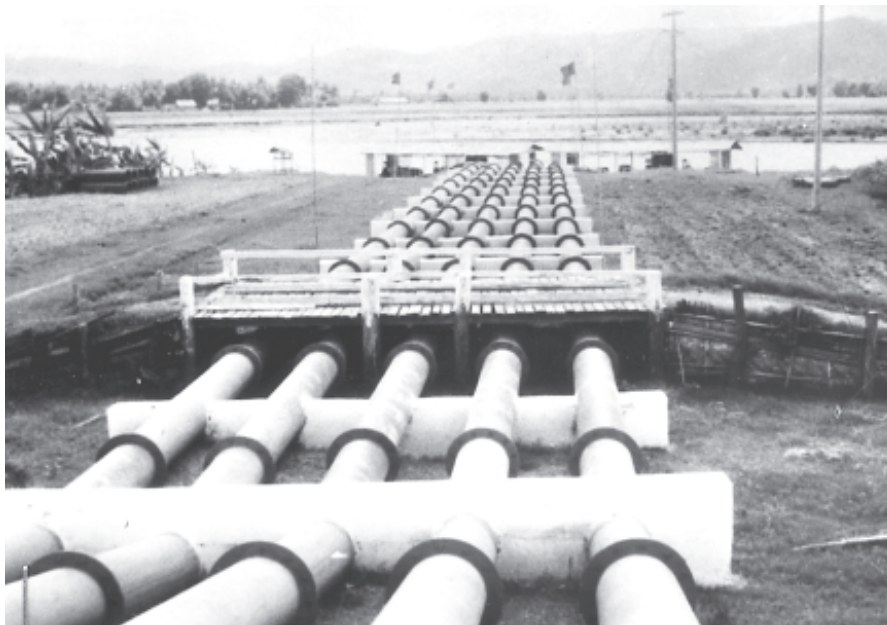


## Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

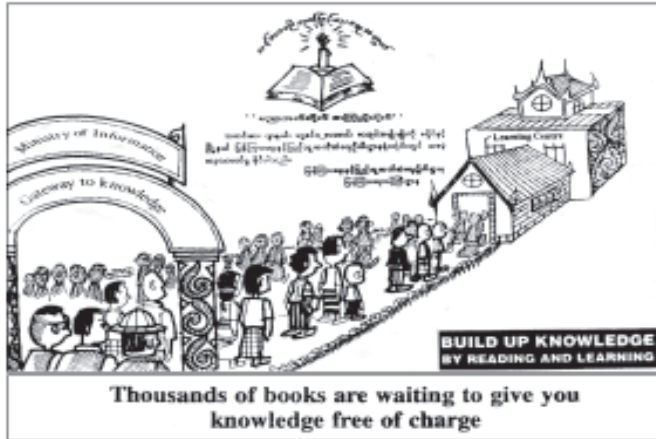


Only when there are plenty of intellectuals and intelligentsia can a modern nation be built with the strength of brilliant human resources. That is why universities, colleges and basic education schools are opened in states and divisions and other major regions. The photo shows the Kale University in Kale, Sagaing Division. — PHOTO: MNA

Chin State located in the far corners of the nation is now witnessing progress in all sectors including the health, communication, livestock breeding and social sectors. The photo shows the Microwave Station in Falam, Chin State. — PHOTO: MNA



In the past, the saying “no need for gold but water” was common in the arid zone of Myanmar. But now, thanks to the efforts of the government for supplying sufficient and potable water in the zones, there emerged river water pumping stations across the country to fulfil the water needs. The photo shows the Kyawzi river-water pumping project in Taungtha Township, Mandalay Division. — PHOTO: MNA



## ADVERTISEMENTS

### ရိပ်စိတ်တင်ဒါအော်ယူခြင်း

၁။ အမှတ်(၁)စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာစက္ကန့်နှင့်စာတုဗေဒလုပ်ငန်းကြီးကြပ်မှုအောက်ရှိ စက်ရုံများအတွက် အောက်ပါပစ္စည်းများအား မြန်မာကျပ်စွဲဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူလိုကြောင်း ကြော်ငြာအပ်ပါသည်။

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မြန်မာစက္ကန့်နှင့်စာတုဗေဒလုပ်ငန်း

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

#### MV "LUCKY STAR" VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV "LUCKY STAR" Voy No ( ) which arrived on 30-9-03 are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily between 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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### INVITATION TO TENDER

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by the Myanma Petrochemicals Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of 50,000 Metric Tons HSD (Gas Oil Regular 0.5%).
2. Tender Closing Date (9-10-2003) at 12.00 Noon.
3. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, No. 23 Min Ye Kyaw Zwa Road, Yangon, during office hour commencing (6-10-2003) on payment of one hundred (100) FEC (or) USD per set.
4. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director  
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise.

## Scientist says India should revive work on cold fusion

BOSTON, 3 Oct — A top Indian nuclear physicist has said that India should revive work on cold fusion because the phenomenon appears to be real with potential applications.

"It is evident from the papers presented that cold fusion which was rejected by mainstream scientists 14 years ago is going to bounce

back as a fascinating new area of nuclear science," M Srinivasan, formerly associate director of physics group at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) who participated at the global cold fusion conference that ended here recently told PTI. Srinivasan said, India which stopped funding cold fusion research in 1992,

should not lag behind in the area. About 120 scientists from the US, Italy, Russia, China and Japan, Britain, Ukraine, France and Israel presented their work at the meeting that Srinivasan described as "a turning point in condensed matter nuclear science". Japan has formed a society for nurturing the growth of this field and its

applications.

It was in 1989 when American scientists Stanley Pons and Martin Fleischmann stunned the world with their claim that using a tabletop setup they had induced deuterium nuclei to fuse inside metal electrodes and generate heat. (Deuterium is a heavier form of hydrogen). — MNA/PTI

## မြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

## Zimbabweans urged to support elderly in face of HIV/AIDS

HARARE, 3 Oct — A Zimbabwean non-governmental organization Tuesday urged the society to support and take care of the elderly who now bore the burden of taking care of orphans and people living with HIV/AIDS.

"Older people are now a priority for development in the face of HIV/AIDS," Nathaniel Chikunda, finance and administration manager of Help Age Zimbabwe, was

quoted by *New Ziana* as saying Tuesday.

"They are the ones who take care of their sick children and the orphaned grandchildren with the limited resources that they have," he said.

Chikunda made the remarks ahead of the commemoration of the World Day for Older Persons which falls on Wednesday.

The United Nations set aside the day to highlight the plight of older persons, rights to life, liberty to work and freedom from discrimination in every aspect.

"There is a new twist to older people's plight as they now look after their sick children who are supposed to be

looking after them, hence the need to highlight their plight," said Chikunda.

Chikunda appealed to individuals and organizations to offer good care and support to the elderly.

"Aging is a process that calls for society to take cognizance of the fact that these old people contributed their part to society and it was time the society recognized and rewarded them for the good that they did," he said.

Help Age Zimbabwe advocates for the recognition and better treatment of the elderly in society. It has a membership of 12 million, about 10 per cent of the country's population.

MNA/Xinhua

## S African receives new "AIDS" treatment plan

JOHANNESBURG, 3 Oct — South African Health Minister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang has received an AIDS treatment plan from a task team on Tuesday, which includes the provision of antiretroviral drugs at state health facilities, the *South African Press Association* reported.

The health department said Anthony MBewu, leader of the task team that drew up the plan, presented the document to the minister and nine health officials in Pretoria, executive capital of the country.

"I will study the report in

detail for the purpose of submission to Cabinet," Tshabalala-Msimang said.

Tshabalala-Msimang established the team last month soon after the Cabinet instructed her to formulate an operational plan for comprehensive HIV/AIDS care and treatment. They drew up the operational plan with the help of staff of the William Jefferson Clinton Foundation of the United States. The drafting included visits to all nine provinces to assess provincial plans and preparedness. "The process has gone smoothly," MBewu said.

MNA/Xinhua

## World's largest doline "museum" open to tourists in S China

NANNING, 3 Oct — A group of "doline", ancient sink holes, in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, opened as a tourist attraction on Wednesday.

The doline group, the oldest and largest in the world, is located in Leye County, 460 kilometre from Nanning, capital of the autonomous region. It was formed some 65 million years ago.

"Dashiwei", the largest hole of the group, is 613 metres deep and 420 metres wide. The virgin forest on the bottom of the doline covers an area of more than 10,000 square metres, about one and half football grounds. It is inhabited by more than 1,000 varieties of plants, including many rare species, such as blind fish, crabs, shrimp, and flying squirrels.

Dolines, a special geological landscape found in

karst regions, were formed by repeated cave-ins of the tops of underground caves. They are mainly seen in China, Mexico and Papua New Guinea.

Hong Zongdao, party chief of Leye County, said that Guangxi has invested several hundred million yuan in building local infrastructure, improving security and service systems. The doline "museum" is capable of receiving 3,000 tourists daily.

The doline group was not found until 1998 when the Ministry of Land and Resources surveyed in Leye county.

An expedition consisting of experts from nine countries traversed the doline group last year. Zhu Xuewen, the initiator of the exploration, has participated in exploration operations into the dolines in Leye since 1999.

MNA/Xinhua



# မညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဒ်းတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်မှု

## One US soldier killed, 2 others wounded in southeast Afghanistan

KABUL, 3 Oct — A US soldier was killed, with two others wounded as a result of fighting with Taleban fighters in a Paktika Province to the southeast of Afghanistan, a local broadcast station reported on Tuesday.

According to Radio Liberty, the US soldiers were killed and injured on early Tuesday in a clash which took place on Monday near a coalition firebase at Shkin District in Paktika Province. "Two suspected Taleban were also killed by the coalition reaction," reported the radio.

The radio added the coalition service member died because of hard wounds received in the combat and that two others were wounded as a result of clash that continued for several hours.

Up to now, the Bagram-based Coalition Headquarters have not confirmed the report of Radio Liberty.

Shkin and another coalition firebase in southeast Khost Province, both along the porous border with Pakistan, have come under nearly daily rocket attack, and skirmishes are also commonplace, the radio said.—MNA/Xinhua

## S Korea marks anniversary of armed forces foundation

SEOUL, 3 Oct — South Korea held large-scale parade to mark the 55th anniversary of its Armed Forces foundation Wednesday in a military airport in Seoul's suburb in which many high-tech weaponry were displayed.

The ceremony was attended by President Roh Moo-hyun, Defence Minister Cho Young-ki and other top officials along with thousands of residents. Roh also delivered speech calling on self-defence of South Korean Army and peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Wednesday also marked the 50 anniversary of the signing of South Korea-US Bilateral Defence Treaty. The United States stations 37,000 troops in South Korea. Ten US Apache attack helicopters gave an aerial display with their South Korean counterparts at Seongnam Military Airport. It was the first time US forces in South Korea participated in the Armed Forces Day ceremony since the signing of the mutual defence treaty 50 years ago.

During the parade, South Korean military displayed high-tech weaponry such as

UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles) and two South Korea-made missiles — Singung and Biho.

Later in the day, the Asian country's military is scheduled to conduct a large-scale parade through the streets of downtown Seoul for the first time in five years. During the hour-long march, the military is expected to put on display the US-made Popeye and Harpoon missiles.

The introduction of the air-to-surface Popeye missiles, which can carry a 365-kilogramme warhead and have a proven strike success probability of more than 94 per cent, has since been kept under wraps, according to Ministry of Defence of South Korea. The Boeing-made Harpoon, an air-to-surface and anti-ship missile, is all-weather capable and can be launched from the ground, aircraft or submarines.

MNA/Xinhua

## Cross-boundary transport beefed up in HK

HONG KONG, 3 Oct — Cross-boundary public transport services have been beefed up in anticipation of a surge in the number of visitors from and to the Chinese Mainland during the National Day Golden Week, which starts October 1, the Hong Kong Transport Department said Tuesday.

Coach, shuttle bus and rail services will all be increased, a Transport Department spokesman said in a Press release Tuesday. He said that as for Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation (KCRC)'s East Rail between Hong Kong and Shenzhen, Lo Wu service frequency will increase to a maximum of 14 trains per hour in each direction during the Golden Week, increasing handling capacity to 52,500 passengers per hour. Currently, KCRC operates 10-11 trains to Lo Wu per hour, carrying 37,500 to 41,250 passengers.

As for Lok Ma Chau (LMC) — Huanggang Shuttle Buses (or Yellow Buses), starting September 30, two additional buses will be added to the service fleet, increasing passenger capacity by about 14 per cent, from 1,860 to 2,112 per hour in each direction, the spokesman said.—MNA/Xinhua

## IAEA chief urges Iran to fully cooperate in N-programme

VIENNA, 3 Oct — Mohamed ElBaradei, chief of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Tuesday urged Iran to fully cooperate in verifying the country's nuclear programme.

Also on Tuesday, Iran stressed that it has the full right to benefit from the nuclear energy to serve its nuclear programme for peaceful purpose, saying the IAEA is being under pressure by Washington.

ElBaradei told reporters that "if we cannot have full cooperation, full disclosure, unfortunately I'll have to say that I am not able to verify the Iranian statements" that the country's nuclear programme is purely peaceful.

The IAEA has set an October 31 deadline for Iran to prove that it is not secretly developing nuclear weapons.

The UN nuclear watchdog is expected to convene a governing board meeting in November on the issue. If the board was told by ElBaradei that he cannot verify Iranian statements that its programme is only for civilian use, the board would have to report Iran to the UN Security Council for possible sanctions.

ElBaradei said, "We need to complete the process before I come to a conclusion whether it is a programme dedicated for peaceful purposes" or if it has "a military

dimension".

On Sunday, Iran said it is willing to cooperate with the UN nuclear watchdog. Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazi told the ABC television in the United States that "we are trying and we are determined to cooperate" with the IAEA.

But "the problem is that United States Administration asked us to stop enrichment activities in Iran. While it is legal and nothing is wrong as long as it is under the auspices of the IAEA and the inspection regime," he added.

The United States has branded Iran part of an "axis of evil" and accused Teheran of using a nuclear plant near the capital to test centrifuges used to make highly enriched uranium, which can be used to make atomic bombs.

The United States warned that it would press for Iran's nuclear programme to be referred to the UN Security Council for possible sanctions if Teheran does not meet the October 31 deadline.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese President Hu Jintao (L front) meets with representatives of advanced individuals who returned to China after studying abroad and of advanced working units who are commended at a meeting in Beijing on 30 September, 2003. —XINHUA

## Trade fair held on ancient city wall in Beijing

BEIJING, 3 Oct — A Beijing trade fair held on a 500-year-old city wall has attracted over 120 foreign embassy and representatives of the world's top 500 enterprises.

Andre Santini, mayor of Issy-les-Moulineaux, a precinct of Paris, said at the opening ceremony that China has made great achievements in economic development and the establishment and improvement of a market economy has created a more open country, which has brought more cooperation opportunities for enterprises from both countries. Guy Carere, a senior official of France Telecom, said his company planned to set up a research and development centre in Beijing within six months.

China will open its information industry market over the next few years, in line with its WTO (World Trade Organization) commitments.

The trade fair is sponsored by the government of Chongwen District, the Beijing branch of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), and the Beijing investment promotion office.

Jia Hongmei, Chongwen District foreign affairs director, said more foreign business delegations are expected to come to Beijing by the end of the year.—MNA/Xinhua

## 40 kilos of hashish seized in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 3 Oct — The Pakistan Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) recovered 40 kilos of hashish on Tuesday in different raids in Faisalabad, a major city in the northeastern Punjab Province. The Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) quoted a Press release from the ANF as saying that based on a tip-off information, an ANF special squad conducted three raids in the city, nabbed three suspected drug dealers and seized the contraband.

Three cases have been registered against the three accused and further investigations are underway, said the report.—MNA/Xinhua

## Global breast cancer prevention trial launched

LONDON, 3 Oct — Scientists launched an international trial on Tuesday to determine if a drug used to treat breast cancer can prevent the disease in high-risk women.

Anastrozole, which is made by AstraZeneca PLC under the brand name Arimidex, has already been shown to be as good or better than the drug Tamoxifen in a trial of older women with hormone-sensitive tumours.

Researchers will now test it against a placebo, or dummy pill, in 10,000 older women who have twice the normal risk of breast cancer to see if it can stop the disease from developing.

Professor Jack Cuzick, of the charity Cancer Research UK and the University of London, said the new trial could have a dramatic impact on the disease and could reduce the risk of hormone-sensitive breast tumours by more than 50 per cent.

"It is about 1-1/2 times as good as Tamoxifen in terms of treatment," he told a news conference to launch the trial, which will be run from 40 centres worldwide.

In an earlier study Tamoxifen, which is the standard hormone treatment for oestrogen-sensitive tumours, was shown to reduce the incidence of breast cancer by a third in women at a higher

risk of the disease.

"It is an important strategy for controlling breast cancer," said Professor John Forbes of the University of Newcastle in Australia, who will work on the 10-year trial.

Anastrozole belongs to a class of drugs called aromatase inhibitors. They suppress the production of the female hormone oestrogen in post-menopausal women. Tamoxifen works by preventing the action of oestrogen on the cells of the breast.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women with more than one million cases diagnosed worldwide each year. A family history of the disease, early puberty, late menopause, delaying childbirth or not having children are risk factors.

Cuzick, who will lead the international research team, said anastrozole has fewer side effects than Tamoxifen, which can increase the risk of endometrial cancer, blood clots and hot flushes, so more women are able to take the drug.

MNA/Reuters

## SPORTS

## Boca lose perfect record, River's slump continues

BUENOS AIRES, 3 Oct — South American champions Boca Juniors have lost their 100-per-cent record in Argentina's Apertura championship, while their arch-rivals River Plate continued their slump with a 1-0 defeat at Arsenal. Boca stayed top despite being held in a goalless stalemate at home to Lanus, who have drawn six of their seven matches in the championship. Boca, who won the Libertadores Cup earlier this year, had won their previous five games.

Champions River never recovered after falling behind to a ninth minute goal by Patricio Gonzalez at Arsenal, coached by Argentina's 1986 World Cup-winning striker Jorge Burruchaga.

River, whose Chile international striker Marcelo Salas made an unimpressive return after a one-month injury lay-off, slumped to 15th with six points from seven games after scoring only six goals.

Independiente, coached by World Cup winner Oscar Ruggeri, moved into second place, three points behind Boca, with a 2-0 win at Olimpo, who are bottom of the standings. — MNA/Reuters



VfB Stuttgart's Andreas Hinkel, left, and Manchester's Cristiano Ronaldo fight for the ball in the Champions League group E soccer match in Stuttgart, southwestern Germany, on 1 October, 2003. — INTERNET

## Arsenal aim to secure stadium funding by year end

LONDON, 3 Oct — Arsenal hope to have funding in place for their new stadium at Ashburton Grove by the end of the year, the Premier League club's managing director said on Thursday.

Keith Edelman said the club hoped to start construction of the new 60,000 capacity stadium, which is expected to cost around 400 million pounds (667.5 million US dollars), in the early part of 2004 if the money is finalized. The club still needs about 260 million pounds for the project, according to reports. "In terms of funding it is a complicated process," Edelman told shareholders

at the club's annual meeting on Thursday.

"We are dealing with a number of banks who have to go off to credit committee. We are making good progress and we would hope to be able to come to some kind of conclusion by the end of the year.

"We feel fairly confident but we have to put a bit of caution into that because we haven't actually achieved it yet. However, we are working very hard to do it."

The Ashburton Grove project, which will replace the 38,000 capacity Highbury stadium, is seen as vital for generating revenue so the league leaders can compete financially with clubs such as champions Manchester United, whose Old Trafford stadium holds 67,000. Edelman said the new stadium would be a good proposition for investors.

"We can predict returns based on the number of people attending and the price they are going to pay... Investment in the stadium has got a very good (rate of) return in the long term," he said.

Arsenal have spent 94.6 million pounds so far on the stadium, on property purchases and associated costs. The club announced last month net debt stood at 45.8 million pounds after reporting a return to profit in the year to May. Ashburton Grove has become a cause for concern among many fans, however, who are worried that costs of the project are preventing manager Arsene Wenger from spending money on new players. In the close season Wenger spent only 1.5 million pounds on players, most of that going on goalkeeper Jens Lehmann. The manager preferred to invest his budget in sealing long-term contracts with captain Patrick Vieira and fellow French midfielder Robert Pires. — MNA/Reuters

## Ajax beat Bruges with Sonck double

AMSTERDAM, 3 Oct — Wesley Sonck struck once in each half against his compatriots Club Bruges to give Ajax a 2-0 win in their Champions League Group H match on Wednesday.

The Belgium striker opened the scoring after 11 minutes and doubled Ajax's lead nine minutes after the break.

Ajax, beaten 1-0 at AC Milan in their opening match two weeks ago, are second in the group with three points, one less than the Italians, who drew 0-0 away to the Dutch side's next opponents Celta Vigo in Spain.

The home side came close to an early opener when goalkeeper Tomislav Butina just managed to block a Sonck shot from 20 metres and tipped a Zlatan Ibrahimovic attempt from outside the box over the bar minutes later.

In the 11th minute, Tomas Galasek opened the ball out to Ibrahimovic, who passed it on to the unmarked Sonck.

The Belgian international, just inside, advanced into the box and left Butina with no chance.

Bruges almost equalised four minutes later when Bengt Saeternes intercepted a sloppy pass from Petri Pasanen, but after he rounded keeper Bogdan Lobont, French defender Julien Escude cleared his attempt off the line.

The unexpected opportunity for the Norwegian striker gave the Belgian champions the courage to pressurize the Amsterdam defence, but they never came closer than a header just wide from Philippe Clement.

Four minutes into the second half the visitors were again close to equalizing but Ivan Gvozdenovic missed from close range.

Five minutes later, Sonck doubled the Amsterdam side's lead when he picked up a defence-splitting pass from substitute Wesley Sneijder in what appeared to be an offside position and beat Butina again.

The second Ajax goal broke the resistance of the Belgian side, who were missing two suspended and several injured players and were seldom able to threaten last season's quarterfinalists seriously.

Eight minutes before the final whistle, Butina denied Sonck a hat-trick with his reflex save from the former Racing Genk striker's header.

In the final minute, Clement's header looked like saving the Belgians' honour but Lobont saved on the line.

MNA/Reuters

## Drogba hat-trick gives Marseille 3-0 win

MARSEILLE (France), 3 Oct — Free-scoring striker Didier Drogba hit a second-half hat-trick as Olympique Marseille beat 10-man Partizan Belgrade 3-0 in their Champions League Group F match at the Stade Velodrome on Wednesday.

The Ivory Coast forward bundled in his first goal after 62 minutes, headed his second in the 68th and forced home his third after a solo run in the 84th.

The southern French team made most of their numerical superiority following the dismissal of Partizan striker Andrija Delibasic late in the first half.

Drogba's treble took his tally this season to nine goals and helped ensure that coach Alain Perrin's side wiped away all reported fears that they were suffering from a chronic "malaise" following their 4-2 defeat at Real Madrid.

Delibasic was sent off after being cautioned twice, the first time for a foul in the 40th minute and the second when he was adjudged to have dived in a vain bid to win a penalty in the final seconds of first half added time. Italian referee Domenico Messina showed no hesitation in flourishing his yellow and red cards in quick succession to the joy of a huge and noisy Provençal crowd celebrating their team's return to Champions League action after a three-year absence.

Until Delibasic's dismissal, Partizan, well organized by their German coach Lothar Matthaeus, had coped well with

Marseille's attacks and produced several sharp counters.

But Drogba, who warned of his intentions when he hit a post after 16 minutes, ultimately showed he had the finishing touch to settle the outcome.

The win was only Marseille's second in 10 Champions League outings after beating Chelsea more than three years ago. But it was not until the second period that they took full control. Matthaeus' well-drilled Partizan side looked the most likely scorers, particularly with their sharp counter-attacking, but Marseille defended well and, with a more direct style, mixed with some dribbling runs, were also dangerous.

Drogba forced in his first goal from a cross by Mido to lift the anxiety that had settled on the crowd and then added his second just six minutes later with a well-placed header after goalkeeper Radovan Radakovic missed a cross from Camel Meriem. Once Marseille were ahead, they dominated and Drogba completed his treble when he exchanged passes with Russian substitute Dmitri Sytchev in the 84th minute, broke clear and prodded his shot, with the aid of a deflection off the goalkeeper, into the net. — MNA/Reuters



Didier Drogba of Marseille, left, challenges for the ball with Partizan Belgrade goalkeeper Radovan Radakovic during their Champions League, Group F, first round soccer match played in Marseille, southern France, on 1 October, 2003. Marseille defeated Belgrade 3-0, with Drogba scoring three times. — INTERNET



**R 489** Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 296115, Manager 296864, Circulation 297093, Advertisement 296843, Accounts 296545. Administration 296161. Production 297032 (Office) /297028 (Press).

## Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gives instructions on regional development in Paukkhaung Township

YANGON, 3 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Ko Ko and officials, met with Tatmadawmen and their families at the local battalion in Paukkhaung Township, Pyay District, yesterday morning.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the construction site of new Paukkhaung Basic Education High School. The headmistress and officials reported on teaching condition and the new school construction works. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than fulfilled the requirements and inspected the construction works.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party then met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsmen at the meeting hall of Paukkhaung Township Peace and Development Council office. The chairman of the township



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets departmental officials and members of social organizations in Paukkhaung, Pyay District. — MNA

reported on transportation of the township, condition of bridges, water supply from dams, land utilization, growing of ten major crops, extended cultivation of monsoon paddy and fish and livestock breeding tasks.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave a speech saying that measures are being taken by placing emphasis on yearly expansion of cultivable land and boosting of fish and meat production for the development of the State's economy relying on agricul-

ture and livestock breeding. In Bago Division, monsoon paddy has been cultivated meeting the targeted acres of 2.4 million in the year 2003-2004. Similarly, 260,000 acres of cultivable land have been targeted for summer paddy cultivation. So, efforts are to be made to meet the target. As for Paukkhaung Township, monsoon paddy, sesame, groundnut and cotton could be cultivated exceeding the targeted acres. Moreover, Paukkhaung Township is a reliable town-

ship for Bago Division in edible oil production. So, the Thitseint (bellaric myrobalan) cultivation is in need to be extended for increased production of edible oil, he said.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party attended the 22nd rice offering ceremony for Pyitaungtantawya monasteries held at Thathana Beikmandaw in Pyay and presented rice and offertories.

At the meeting hall of the main building of Pyay Uni-

versity under construction, Rector U Mya Win reported on number of teachers and students, teaching condition, purpose of construction of the four-storey lecture hall and work done.

The commander presented a supplementary report. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions and inspected round the lecture halls.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the land reclamation project site of the extended

industrial zone in Pyay. At the briefing hall, Joint Division Commissioner of Bago General Administration Department (West) U Pe Thant reported on land reclamation work, power and water supply and arrangements for construction of the road.

Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Kyaw Win in-charge of Pyay Industrial Zone gave a supplementary report. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs.

MNA

## Tatmadaw U-21 soccer tourney continues

YANGON, 3 Oct — The second round matches of the 19th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's cup (Army, Navy and Air) U-21 soccer tourney continued at the respective football grounds in Yangon this evening.

South-East Command team beat No 33 LID team 7-0 in Mingaladon Township and Defence Services (Air) beat Southern Command 3-2 in Sangyoung Township.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin delivering an address at the Seminar on Rice Sector Policy of Neighbouring Countries. — MNA

## Minister attends opening of Seminar on the Rice Sector Policy

YANGON, 3 Oct — The opening ceremony of Seminar on the Rice Sector Policy: Neighbouring Countries Experiences jointly organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization was held at the Sedona Hotel this morning. Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin made a speech.

Also present were departmental heads of the ministry, the resident representative of FAO, officials of the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Education, experts from Philippines International Rice and Paddy Research Centre, Vietnam, Thailand and People's Republic of China, the chairman of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fisheries, officials of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and social organi-

zations. In his speech, the minister said the government put into motion a new rice policy to boost the yield and trading of paddy.

In doing so, it is required to learn the rice sector policies and experiences of the neighbouring countries.

As rice is the most important food, the United Nations has declared 2004 as the International Year of Rice. The seminar also serves as a welcoming national event for the forthcoming International Year of Rice 2004.

Next, Resident Representative of FAO Mr Tang Zhengping and Director-General U Tin Htut Oo of the Agricultural Planning Department spoke on the occasion.

Vice-Chairman Dr Myint Thein of MAAFLF, Dr David Charles DAW of IRPRC, Dr V Bruce J Tolentino of Vietnam and Mr Vichai Sriprasert of Thailand, and Mr Tang

Shengyao of PRC explained the rice sector policies and experiences of the respective countries. — MNA

## Law Officers Course ends

YANGON, 3 Oct — The Law Officers Course No 21 concluded at the meeting hall 2 of the Attorney-General's Office this morning.

Attorney-General U Aye

Maung delivered an address on the occasion.

The attorney-general presented gifts to three outstanding trainees.

MNA



The billboard that depicts the first step of the State's political roadmap — Reconvening of the National Convention — near Yangon International Airport seen on 3 October 2003. — NLM