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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt looks around the World Teachers' Day commemorative exhibition. — MNA

Teachers are placed highly as a 'role model' in our Myanmar culture not only in schools but also in the community Prime Minister attends World Teachers' Day commemorative ceremony, presents prizes to winners in article, essay and poem competitions

YANGON, 5 Oct.—The World Teachers' Day commemorative ceremony was held at the Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road here at 9 am today. Myanmar Education Committee Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the ceremony and presented prizes to winners of essay, poem and article competitions.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairmen of MEC Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, SPDC member Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Yangon Division PDC Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, ambassadors of foreign

missions and charges d' affaires ai, resident representatives and officials of UN agencies, officials of SPDC office, departmental officials, doyen teachers, officials of social organizations, rectors of universities, colleges and institutes, principals, professors, associate professors, state/division education officers, township education officers, schoolheads of basic education schools, teachers, students and invited guests.

On the occasion, Ma Yadana Aye Min and Ma Kathy of Sangyoung BEHS-2 acted as masters of ceremonies and read out the agenda in English and Myanmar.

Ma Nay Chi Oo recited the poem to the accompaniment of harp played by Ma Aye Chan Myint Wai of Dagon BEHS-1, to open the ceremony. The poem on the virtues of noble teachers was written by U Khin Zaw (Kaythipan).

MEC Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt made an opening speech. He said: On this 5th of October, today, countries all over the world are celebrating "World Teachers' day" with the aims of enriching opportunities for successful realization of teachers' responsibilities and to honour teachers who are taking the major role in promoting the progress of the human society by upgrading and promoting the education standard of their countries.

The Union of Myanmar, due to our culture and tradition, having much respect for our teachers, is also heartily celebrating the "World Teachers' Day" ceremony today. As one of the members of the international family, we are not only actively participating and collaborating in this meritorious event but also expressing our noble tradition. Our country Myanmar, which is striving with our national strength and inputs for the emergence of a modern and developed country is now trying to implement the national education development plan by nurturing talented human resources.

In this period of focusing mainly on national education development plan, the importance of the role of teachers is at the forefront.

In our country, teachers are respected and highly regarded and the Government has included the programme to strengthen and empower the status and opportunities of teachers in the national education development plan.

The slogan "Teachers-Opening Door to a Better World" for 2003 "World Teachers' Day", is in fact most suitable for

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

referring to the teachers' attributes and the expectations from the teachers by the State.

In fact, teachers are placed highly as a 'role model' in our Myanmar culture not only in schools but also in the community. Annually, the day for paying obeisance in respect and gratitude to teachers is celebrated in October during the end of lent festival in school as well as in the community. This profession is a really noble one, but the task is not easy to perform, as it involves training and producing a civilized, educated young generation with high morality for our country.

Therefore, in the national education promotion programme, the role of teachers is now being upgraded and many improvement and changes have been made in the field of teacher training so as to produce qualified and effective teachers.

In the year 1988, there were only one Institute of Education, one University for Development of National Races and 17 Teachers Training Schools and Colleges totalling 19 teacher training institutions only. At present these have been increased to two Institutes of Education, one University for Development of National Races and 20 Education Colleges with a total of 23 teacher training institutions.

Regarding teacher training, matriculated students can join the Education colleges for pre-service training. At the Institutes of Education, B. Ed, Post-Graduate Diploma in Teaching (PGDT) and Post-Graduate Diploma in Multimedia Arts (PGDMA) courses are being offered to the university graduates.

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents a prize to Associate Professor Daw Tin Tin Wai, who stood first in the university, college and institute level article competition. — MNA

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24,230

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 6 October, 2003

The seven-point roadmap—key to emergence of democracy-flourishing nation

Myanmar is home to over one hundred national races who have been living in the Union in weal or woe since years countable by the thousands. Throughout the history, they have been living in the country drinking water from the same source and collectively warding off the danger posed to the Union. Therefore, in the Union of Myanmar, patriotism, nationalism and nationalist fervour have been flourishing.

Nowadays, plans have been made to build a modern, developed democracy-flourishing nation. The policies stated in Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt's speech on seven future policies of the State (roadmap) are the goals of the State as well as the ones which the entire people have longed for.

Starting from 20 September, mass rallies, in support of the Prime Minister's clarification on seven stages of policies and programmes of the State (roadmap), were held in Yangon, Mandalay, Hpa-an, Myitkyina, Loikaw, Taunggyi and Bago and on 4 October, it was held in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Division.

At these mass rallies, the motion, calling on the entire mass of people to actively participate in any sector for the successful implementation of the seven-point future policies of the State with full Union Spirit, was tabled and those in attendance approved the motion.

In the Prime Minister's speech on the seven future policies and programmes of the State (roadmap), there includes reconvening of the National Convention that has been adjourned since 1996.

The National Convention has been held since 1993 and consensus have been achieved to lay down basic principles. At a time when it gained momentum, it was adjourned on 31 March 1996 because there appeared such acts ignoring the future of the country and placing the attitude and wishes of an individual and the interests of its own party above the national cause, and perpetrating a scheme aimed at destroying the National Convention.

The 1947 Constitution and 1974 Constitution have been terminated due to their weaknesses and not meeting today's requirements. Therefore, emergence of a new enduring State Constitution is the national duty of all citizens.

The future State is to be shaped after taking lessons from the past that due to the weakness of 1947 Constitution, the Union was on the brink of disintegration in 1962. After successful completion of the National Convention, measures are to be taken step by step for the emergence of genuine discipline-flourishing democracy. In accordance with basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention, a draft of a new constitution must be made.

The entire people are urged to take part in efforts for the successful realization of the seven-point roadmap.

Workshop on Management opens

YANGON, 5 Oct — Organized by Myanmar Industries Association, a ceremony to open the Workshop on Management was held at Myitmakha International Trading Co Ltd in No 15 Ward, Hline Township yesterday afternoon.

It was attended by President of Union of Myanmar Federation of

Chambers of Commerce Industry U Win Myint and executives, President of MIA U Htein Win and executives, departmental officials, course instructors, trainees and guests.

On the occasion, U Htein Win delivered an address and altogether 70 trainees are attending the two-week course. — MNA

Provisions donated to Home for Aged of Little Sisters of the Poor

YANGON, 5 Oct — Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) families and wellwishers donated rice, edible oil, salt, medicines, gram and cash to Kandawgalay Home For the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon East District, this afternoon, attended by Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Chief of Staff (Navy), deputy ministers, senior military officers, departmental heads, wellwishers and guests.

Camp Commandant Maj-Gen Hla Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Col General Staff (Air) Col Ye Chit Pe presented provisions donated by families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) to Kandawgalay Home



Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein views the handicraft of the students. — MNA

for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor -in-charge Marther Trezar.

Today's donation towards the Kandawgalay Christian home for the aged were 52 bags of rice, 57 viss of edible oil, 34 boxes of soft salt, 34 viss of gram, 172 viss of iodized salt, 934 bottles of traditional medicines and K 1,422,812.

Similarly, Defence Services (Army, Navy and

Air) families and wellwishers donated rice, edible oil, salt, medicines, gram and cash to schools for the deaf and schools for the blind in Dagon, Kyinmyindine and Mayangon Townships. The donation ceremony was held in Dagon Township this afternoon.

Senior military officers presented provisions donated by families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and

Air) to Headmistress of school for the deaf Daw Khin May Sint.

Today's donation towards the schools for the deaf and schools for the blind in Dagon, Kyinmyindine and Mayangon Townships were 123 bags of rice, 48 viss of edible oil, 95 boxes of soft salt, 36 viss of gram, 946 viss of iodized salt, 2019 bottles of traditional medicines and K 3,207,090. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects...

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place and the commander, the minister and officials cornerstones.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went to historic Kawtgongu Pagoda in Kawtgon village-tract in Hpa-an Township and paid homage to the Buddha images. They inspected the

farmland reclamation work on the Hpa-an-Mawlamyine road in Maeabaung Village in Hpa-an Township.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party met with members of state, district and township agricultural supervisory committees and farmers of villages in the township and gave instructions on regional de-

velopment tasks.

They went to Letpanthit Village in Kyaikmaraw Township in Mon State. Officials reported on reclamation of virgin land between Attaran and Gyaing rivers. Up to date, a total of 4,216 acres of land have been reclaimed there.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended the demonstration ceremony on harvesting

and threshing of paddy in Khayon Village in the township. They also inspected the threshing machines, tractors, water pumps and other machines produced by Agricultural Mechanization Department, Mawlamyine Industrial zone and Water Resources Utilization Department.

At the Phupwint phosphate fertilizer factory in Mawlamyine Industrial Zone, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party heard report on production process by Superintending Engineer U Thauang of the state construction work and gave necessary instructions. — MNA

Education Minister addresses UNESCO General Assembly

YANGON, 5 Oct — Myanmar UNESCO National Commission President Minister for Education U Than Aung, after attending the 32nd General Assembly of the UNESCO held in Paris in France, arrived back here this morning.

Minister U Than Aung was welcomed back at the airport by Minister backat the Prime Minister's Office U Than Shwe, Deputy Ministers for Education

Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung and U Myo Nyunt, departmental heads, and officials.

Myanmar delegation comprising leader Minister U Than Aung, deputy leader Myanmar Ambassador to France U Wunna Maung Lwin, Myanmar UNESCO National Commission Secretary Dr Khin Zaw, Senior Counsellor U Myint Soe and First Secretary Daw Aye Hla Bu attended the assembly held on 29 September in

Paris, and on 30 September, Minister U Than Aung made a speech. He presented nation-building tasks, national education promoting programmes, increasing chances for pursuing basic and higher education for new generation youths, utilizing of IT in education sector, cooperation of the public and tasks for creating an education system that can generate a learning society. — MNA



Myanmar delegation led by Education Minister U Than Aung attends the 32nd General Assembly of UNESCO in Paris, France. — MNA

Regional development tasks inspected in Loikaw

YANGON, 5 Oct — Chairman of Kayah State Peace and Development Council Col Myint Oo, accompanied by departmental officials at state level, yesterday afternoon, inspected Loikaw Government Computer College where they heard reports presented by the state Superintending Engineer and the principal on progress of work and annual education reports.

Concerning the reports, the chairman and officials fulfilled the needs and viewed round the college, computer room and classrooms. On their arrival at Loikaw 16-bed traditional hospital, they inspected the hospital and gave instructions to officials.

They inspected Home for the Aged, in Kyithaya Ward, Loikaw, and attended to the needs. — MNA

United Nations must play an active role in the future of Iraq

The United Nations would be what its Member States wished it to be.

The success of the Organization would be the success of its Members, and its failure would be the responsibility of none other than its Member States.

She said the **United Nations must play an active role in the future of Iraq, and Chile would continue to work in the Security Council to improve the security situation in that country and to establish a clear timetable for political transition.**

Noting that globalization had created new opportunities, as well as imbalances for the world's people, she called for technological innovation and economic growth to be placed at the service of integration and collective prosperity.

On United Nations reform, she said the main concern was how to overcome the immobility of multilateral institutions and how to embark upon a process of renewal.

In that regard, she welcomed the Secretary-General's initiative to establish a group of eminent personalities to put forward a series of suggestions for reform.

She also called for reforms in the Security Council, which should include the addition of new members, both permanent and elected, and a review of the veto power.

More active interaction between regional organizations was also needed. The experience of the Organization of American States (OAS) could be useful in that regard.

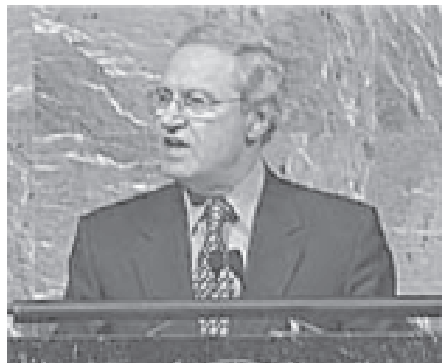
Soledad Alvear, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chile

The grave situation in Iraq is a major cause for concern for the international community due to the threat it poses to international peace and security

The grave situation in Iraq has become a source of grave concern for our peoples who are already plagued by the Israeli occupation and the continued threats against them. This situation is also a major cause for concern for the international community due to the threat it poses to international peace and security. The credibility of our organization has suffered tremendously when it was unable to prevent the war against Iraq, a war waged outside the context of international legitimacy.

For weeks and months, the Security Council was drawn into a bitter strife debating the war resolution prior to the war. We had the marathon of the Inspectors' report that preceded the accomplishment by the inspectors of the tasks entrusted to them. This situation notwithstanding, Council members were able to stay the course, upholding international legitimacy and the United Nations Charter. The war was ultimately waged outside the framework of international legitimacy. They chose not to linger under its burden.

Along with other neighboring countries, Syria remained committed to the principles of international legitimacy and the UN charter. In an unprecedented demarche, our countries unanimously stressed their collective concerns that



should this war break out, its repercussions on regional, "Security and international peace will be more devastating than the precarious situation prevailing in Iraq at the time.

Mr. Farouk Al-Shara, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic

More meaningful role of the United Nations in Iraq

The process that led to this engagement of the United Nations in Iraq constituted a major crisis for the existing mechanisms dealing with threats to international peace and security, first and foremost the Security Council.

This organization is subject to and dependent on the political will of its Member States. Its distinctive quality lies in the fact that it provides legitimacy in accordance with international law.

This outstanding quality it must not lose, and we are all challenged to stand up for this core function of the United Nations, which is a good part of its *raison d'être* in today's world.

The crisis the United Nations has gone through in connection with the action taken against Iraq will not simply be overcome by adopting a pragmatic approach in dealing with the aftermath thereof.

We welcome the ongoing discussions in the Security Council on a stronger and more meaningful role of the United Nations in Iraq.

At the same time, there must also be a recognition that international law continues to be the foundation for our actions in dealing with problems of international peace and security and that the rule of law needs to be applied both at the national and at the international level.

Dr Ernst Walch Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Principality of Liechtenstein

The situation demanded resourcefulness and cooperation by all Security Council members to ensure that the reconstruction of Iraq encompassed peace, democracy, equal rights and justice for all Iraqis'

As for the Security Council, he reiterated his country's position in favour of an expanded membership in both the permanent and non-permanent categories.

The new permanent members should, moreover, have all the same rights and obligations of the current permanent members, but the use of the veto should be restricted and an obligation to state the reasons for its use should be established.

The transparency of the Council's decision-making process should also be increased.

Iceland has contributing to Iraq's reconstruction and would continue to do so, he said.

The situation demanded resourcefulness and cooperation by all Security Council members to ensure that the reconstruction of Iraq encompassed peace, democracy, equal rights and justice for all Iraqis.

Halldor Asgrimsson, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iceland,



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United Nations could strengthen further its active humanitarian and civil role in Iraq

The necessary conditions for social and economic development in Iraq would be established only through security, stability, independence, democracy, the rule of law and respect for rights.

In that light, he hoped that the transitional Government of Iraq, supported by the Security Council, could fully enjoy its right to self-determination and sovereignty and establish a democratic and representative government, which was internationally recognized and able to guarantee the conditions necessary for the country's reconstruction.

He expressed hope that United Nations could strengthen further its active humanitarian and civil role in Iraq to contribute to its rebirth through democracy and development.

He also hoped all countries cooperating in Iraq under the aegis of the United States would reach agreement with the United Nations, and said a new Security Council resolution would be a major political and diplomatic achievement which would pave the way to democracy and progress in Iraq.

Small States could also contribute to finding balanced and shared solutions in order to foster dialogue and understanding, and he pointed out that San Marino would be pleased to contribute to the reconstruction process in Iraq.

Fiorenzo Stolfi, Minister for Foreign and Political Affairs of San Marino,

A strengthened United Nations commitment to work together, within the framework of international consensus, to maintain peace and security and meet the challenge

The continued lack of security and stability, the proliferation of crises and conflicts, the propagation of diseases, and the increase of poverty and exclusion in many parts of the world had all contributed to a further deterioration of the world situation in the last year.

That should be met by a strengthened United Nations commitment to work together, within the framework of international consensus, to maintain peace and security and meet the challenge of those pending issues.

To accomplish that, the Organization must be reformed, particularly the Security Council and General Assembly.

Furthermore, the implementation of a comprehensive and multidimensional approach, based upon the interdependence of peace, security and development, would help to eliminate the root causes of instability through the eradication of the poverty and deprivation that constituted breeding grounds for trouble and tension.

Rashid Abdullah Al-Noaimi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia

The United Nations' activities in rebuilding Iraq must continue

The extreme seriousness of today's world situation meant that, while the United Nations must rise to meet new challenges to international peace and security, it was not surprising that the Organization's credibility would be put to the test, nor that the lives of its employees would be jeopardized.

Yet, the United Nations' activities in rebuilding Iraq must continue. In fact, the future of the wider Middle East region must be of primary concern for the Organization; the Road Map provided the sole hope for restoring peace between the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Jean Ping, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Gabon,

Guerilla ambush kills US soldier in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 5 Oct — A rocket-propelled grenade and gun attack killed an American soldier in Baghdad, the US military said on Saturday, as Washington's efforts to get allies to share the burden of stabilizing Iraq hit new setbacks.

The ambush late on Friday, which killed a 4th Infantry Division soldier and wounded another, brought to at least 85 the number of US troops who have died in guerrilla attacks since President Bush declared major combat over on May 1.

In further incidents on Saturday, two US soldiers and several former Iraqi troops were wounded in clashes in Baghdad and a British military spokesman said Iraqi ex-soldiers rioted in the southern city of Basra.

Facing a guerrilla insurgency and mounting financial costs, Washington is trying to agree a new United Nations resolution giving the world body a broader mandate in Iraq in an effort to coax reluctant countries to provide troops and funds.

But Security Council members France and Russia said on Friday they were unhappy with the draft US resolution. The two countries, which opposed the war in Iraq, want a faster handover of power to Iraqis as a condition for their support.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has also said the world body could not play a proper political role in Iraq under the terms wanted by the United States.

Annan's unusual defiance of Washington stiffened re-

sistance in the Security Council to the US resolution. The UN envoy from Spain, which supports the US position, said at least six of the 15-member council might abstain on any vote on the resolution. Washington says the draft may be revised.

France wants an Iraqi government to be set up quickly, receiving executive powers in a gradual UN-overseen process.

Washington says that before power can be handed back to Iraqis, the country's US-appointed Governing Council must oversee the drafting of a constitution — a process that Iraqi officials say could take more than a year.

Adding to tensions between the United States and France, Polish troops in Iraq said on Friday they had found four French-built advanced anti-aircraft missiles which had been produced in 2003.

France said it had issued no arms export licenses to Iraq since 1990 and that it was impossible its newest missiles, though not weapons of mass destruction, should turn up in Iraq.

US forces have been hunting for months in Iraq for chemical and biological weapons, but so far have found none, intensifying political pressure on Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair over the war that toppled Saddam Hussein — *Internet*

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An Iraqi girl plays in a street in Baghdad on 2 October, 2003 as US Army soldiers man a checkpoint. Iraq will remain poor for years as oil revenues will not fund budget spending, money from donors is likely to fall short of what is needed and few companies will invest there, the Institute of International Finance (IIF) said. — INTERNET

Blix says no surprises in Iraq weapons report

LONDON, 5 Oct — Former UN chief weapons inspector Hans Blix said on Friday there were no surprises in the report by the US-led team hunting for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.

"The most important point is that they can confirm they have not found any stocks or weapons of mass destruction of any kind," Blix said of the report by CIA adviser David Kay.

"I don't think there are any surprises," he told BBC World Service Radio.

Blix said he doubted whether Iraq posed the "clear and present danger" that prompted London and Washington to invade.

"I am of the view that the action could not be reconciled with the demands of the UN charter," he said.

"The intelligence was not so strong in reality that it (the threat) could be said to be manifest," he said.

"If they could develop weapons of destruction in five years or 10 years, well that certainly is not imminent. It probably failed in my view on these two counts."

But British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw, reacting to the report on Friday, insisted that Saddam Hussein's regime "did indeed pose a current and serious threat".

"Military action today is as justified as it was in March," he told BBC Radio. "There is not the least evidence of serious compliance by the regime."

Blix urged caution about the evidence given to Kay's team.

"Many Iraqi scientists and technicians will feel that they would have a chance to be rewarded for speaking to the Americans and the British. One should be a little cautious about what they may say," he said.

MNA/Reuters

French-made missiles turn up in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 5 Oct — Polish troops discovered French-made anti-aircraft missiles in Iraq, a US military source said Saturday. France swiftly denied selling any weapons to Iraq in violation of a UN arms embargo.

Iraqi newspapers said the four Roland surface-to-air missiles were made this year, though France said it stopped producing any type of Roland missile in 1993.

The allegations "are as false today as they were yesterday," French President Jacques Chirac said, speaking in Rome at a meeting of European Union (news - web sites) leaders.

The US source, who asked not to be identified, said the Iraqi report was impossible to confirm because a Polish weapons team had destroyed the missiles after it discovered them days ago. The source also said it was difficult to contact the Poles be-

cause of communications problems.

The French Foreign Ministry emphasized that France has not authorized the sale of weapons, or even spare parts, to Iraq since after July 1990.

The United Nations imposed sanctions on weapons sales to Iraq after Saddam Hussein's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Also, France stopped making Roland 2s in 1988 and Roland 3s in 1993, the ministry said. "There can be no 2003 missiles since these missiles have not been made for 15 years," Chirac said. "Polish soldiers confused things. I told Polish Prime Minister Leszek Miller so frankly — friendly but firmly."

Officials at the Polish Defence Ministry declined to comment Saturday. But a statement on a ministry Web site said: "Soldiers of a Polish patrol of sappers found four modern anti-aircraft short-distance Roland-type rockets near Hilla in Iraq." — *Internet*

Iraqi girl killed by random mortar bombings in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 5 Oct — A handicapped Iraqi girl was killed and three others injured early Friday in a hail of random mortar bombardments in northern Iraq, witnesses said.

The 10-year-old girl, known as Tamarra, was killed in her room when a mortar round hit the house before dawn, said her father, a resident in al-Dhuloeiya, 90 kilometres north of Baghdad.

"We heard the bombings and were very afraid. I told my family to leave the house, but my girl couldn't move because she is a cripple," the father told *Xinhua*.

Witnesses said three other civilians were also wounded. Many houses were damaged, with walls collapsed and windows smashed.

The mortar attack started at around 4:00 am local time (0100 GMT) and lasted for three hours.

Residents in the town said they heard a bombing every five to 10 minutes from different directions.

US troop deployed outside the town said they had nothing to do with the attack.

MNA/Xinhua



A total of 13 new couples take to street while holding red umbrellas and balloons under drizzle, in Ruyang County, central China's Henan Province, on 2 October, 2003. Along with local economy booms, people in this remote county perched in the interior of mountainous area begin striving for higher grade of life taste and living standards, including such a nuptial of pageantry. — INTERNET

Microsoft to invest \$100m in India

NEW DELHI, 5 Oct — Microsoft is investing 100 million US dollars in India over the next five years to double the number of Indian developers working on its technologies. Currently, Microsoft technologies constitute around 20-25 per cent of the total eight-billion-dollar offshore work done from India. In India, around 3,000 firms, involving over 250,000 developers and thousands of product support executives, are currently working on Microsoft technologies. As global corporates look at India for outsourcing their computer wares, Microsoft is stepping its investment and go-to-market agreements with systems integrators (SIs), consultants and application developers in the country.

"India is a growth market for our enterprise product business as it is becoming the destination of choice for the global businesses," Simon Witts, vice-president of

Microsoft said in Bangalore Thursday.

He said India's relevance was growing for the company as more and more global SIs and computer services companies were setting up operations in India.

Commenting on the backlash in the United States against offshoring to India among other countries, he said, "No one can have protective policy for businesses which are global in nature. Work should be done where skills are available." Microsoft's "enabling partners" programme with Indian companies is gaining strategic importance as the software giant is moving from desktop only environments to desktop and enterprise segments. Microsoft's Indian partners such as HP and Tata Consultancy Services have developed messaging and portal solutions, while Wipro has developed workflow applications. — MNA/Xinhua

Former Iraq troops riot in Baghdad, Basra

BAGHDAD, 5 Oct—Former Iraqi soldiers angry over rumours their pay would be cut off clashed Saturday with coalition troops in Baghdad and in the southern city of Basra in riots that left two Iraqis dead and dozens injured. Elsewhere, a US soldier from the 4th Infantry Division was killed and another was wounded in an ambush early Saturday in Sadiyah, 60 miles north of Baghdad.

The death brought to 88 the number of American soldiers killed by hostile fire since President Bush declared major combat over on May 1.

The trouble started in Baghdad when hundreds of ex-soldiers assembled Saturday morning at a US base at the city's former downtown airport to collect their \$40 a month stipend, which the coalition has been paying since Saddam's army was disbanded in May. The crowd began hurling stones at US troops and Iraqi police, who fired shots to try to disperse them.

Some of the rioters moved to the nearby Mansour district, where they burned and looted four liquor stores and set fire to an Iraqi police car in the upscale neighbourhood. Back at the US base, an Iraqi police colonel finally persuaded most of the crowd to line up in an orderly fashion so they could receive their pay from the Americans.

One ex-soldier died from a gunshot wound to the head and 25 people were hurt during the Baghdad riot, according to Dr Abbas Jafaar of the city's al-Yarmouk Hospital. US officials said there were some injuries to coalition troops but refused to give further details.

Meanwhile, in Basra, Iraq's second largest city, coa-

lition spokesman Maj Niall Greenwood said one protester was shot and killed by British troops when ex-soldiers rioted after hearing rumours that Saturday was the last day they would receive stipend payments.

Coalition officials in Baghdad blamed loyalists for provoking the riots. The officials, briefing reporters on condition of anonymity, noted that the riots broke out on the day that the first battalion of newly retrained Iraqi soldiers completed their nine-week basic course — a first step toward establishing a new Iraqi army.

"The fact that the payments to the old conscripts have gone without incident so far and the successful graduation of the first battalion of the new Iraqi army seem to have been a bit too much for the old guard to accept," one official said.

"They started to stir the crowd, they spread rumours the last of the conscripts would not be paid, that the coalition forces did not have enough money. There were clearly groups of former Baathist officers with green banners in the crowd, inciting the others," the official said.

President Bush's administration plans to spend \$2 billion to create a 40,000-member Iraqi military by the end of next year. —Internet



An Iraqi man walks past a burning fuel tanker from a US convoy which was attacked near Amiriyah, southeast of Fallujah, Iraq on 2 October, 2003. The tanker was hit by either a mine or roadside bomb in the incident 65 kilometres northwest of Baghdad. —INTERNET

Japan, ASEAN to map out strategy to deepen ties

Tokyo, 5 Oct — Japan and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) are striving to set out a new strategy to deepen mutual relations in political, economic and social fields over the medium to long term.

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and his counterparts from the 10-member ASEAN are to adopt the strategy when they assemble in Tokyo in December, according to *Kyodo News*.

The strategy is scheduled to be mapped out in two documents — one charting the future course for the Japan-ASEAN partnership and another containing a number of specific measures to strengthen the relationship.

The latter, titled "Japan-ASEAN Joint Action Plan", would consist of such steps as promotion of trade and investment relations, conducting research on security co-operation and development of human resources in the newer, less-developed mem-

bers of ASEAN.

Japanese and ASEAN leaders are due to sign a framework for the economic partnership at their summit Tuesday in Indonesian resort island of Bali and the two sides would seek to create a regional FTA by 2012.

In addition to the economic partnership, the action plan would prompt Japan and ASEAN to step up cooperation in harmonization of legal institutions and transport, mobility of business people and tourism, the draft says.

As for political cooperation, the two sides would inaugurate a study group to explore avenues for strengthening security partnership and seek to jointly play a role for the prevention and peaceful settlement of conflicts in the region.

They would also promote the universality of non-proliferation and disarmament treaties, intensify cooperation in counterterrorism, especially in the area of capacity building.

MNA/Xinhua

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Putin takes swipe at US over Iraq

Moscow, 5 Oct—Russian President Vladimir Putin took a dig at the United States over Iraq on Friday, telling an international audience that Iraqis trusted Moscow more than they did Washington.

"The country's (Iraq's) people, of course, have far greater trust in their traditional partners than in, shall I say, those who now control the situation," he told a World Economic Forum meeting.

Russia has for years maintained close relations with Baghdad and was an opponent of the US-led war that toppled Saddam Hussein.

The Kremlin leader was far gentler in tone than UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan who, in blunt criticism of Washington, said earlier the world body could not play a proper political role in Iraq under Washington's terms.

The United States has been struggling to get through the United Nations Security Council a new resolution on how Iraq should run. Russia is a permanent Security Council member.

Answering a question from a foreign investor, Putin said he was hopeful a UN resolution on Iraq would be agreed this month but insisted Russian contracts agreed during the rule of Saddam Hussein had to be honoured.

"So far we are dissatisfied with the resolution proposed by our US partners. But we do see a desire for compromise. I believe that if we are guided by these principles we can count on such a compromise being found," he said.

Asked by the investor whether Saddam-era deals would be honoured, Putin said: "We believe that previously concluded contracts can and must be used to rebuild the country."

"Our partners, including our US partners, understand this. They want to improve the situation as quickly as possible. We must be careful in our actions by avoiding the creation of a power vacuum but the role of the international community must be enhanced," Putin added. —MNA/Reuters

US troops in Iraq mourn slain female soldier

TIKRIT (Iraq), 5 Oct—Hundreds of US troops held a memorial service on Friday at their base in one of Saddam Hussein's former palaces in Iraq to mourn a female soldier killed when a roadside bomb exploded as she drove past.

Private Analaura Esparzo-Gutierrez, 21, was killed on Wednesday when the blast hit the Humvee vehicle she was driving outside the base in Tikrit, Saddam's home town. Three other soldiers were wounded in the attack.

A US Army spokeswoman said Esparzo-Gutierrez was the fourth female US soldier to die in combat operations since the start of the war and the first killed in action since President George W. Bush declared major combat over on May 1.

Esparzo-Gutierrez, from Houston, Texas, had arrived in Iraq on April 5 and was midway through a one-year tour.

MNA/Reuters

Indonesian power company to issue one trillion rupiah bonds

JAKARTA, 5 Oct—Indonesia's state electricity company PLN will issue bonds worth 1 trillion rupiah (some 117.65 million US dollars) in 2004 to help finance the development of power plants and distribution networks.

"I hope to issue PLN bonds in mid-2004, with the hope that not many other companies will do so, so that the market may give a positive response to ours," PLN president director, Eddy Widiono, was quoted by the official *Antara* news agency as saying Thursday.

He said proceeds from the bond issue will be used to finance the development of facilities outside Java and Bali, particularly in Riau, on Sumatra Island and on the entire of Kalimantan Island.

MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese dragon performs before the China-Russia 2003 Women's World Cup quarterfinals on 2 October, 2003, at PGE Park in Portland, Ore. —INTERNET

Drive safely

Groups say Iraq needs \$24b for infrastructure

WASHINGTON, 5 Oct— Iraq needs 24.2 billion US dollars to rebuild its infrastructure, 7.2 billion US dollars for education, health and jobs, and three billion US dollars for agriculture, according to a needs assessment from international organizations.

An estimate of the costs put together by the World Bank, United Nations and International Monetary Fund, a copy of which was obtained by *Reuters*, estimates 35.6 billion US dollars will be needed over the next four years to get key areas of the economy up and running.

Those funds would be needed in addition to the 20-billion-US-dollar estimated by the US-led Coalition Provisional Authority.

The breakdown confirms numbers told to *Reuters* by UN sources on Wednesday.

The assessment is being unveiled in Madrid on Thursday at a meeting of governments and international agencies preparing for the donors meeting, due to take place in the same city on October 23-24. The meet-

ings are being sponsored by Spain, the United States and the United Arab Emirates.

The breakdown for the 20 billion US dollars from the US includes five billion US dollars for security and police, eight billion US dollars for the cost of rebuilding the oil industry and 3.5 billion US dollars for the environment.

Delivery of the money should be front-loaded with a large chunk of the money needed next year, the studies said.

The US estimates that 8.2 billion US dollars will be needed in 2004, mostly for security and police, and the assessment carried out by the Bank, Fund and United Nations said an additional 9.3 billion US dollars will be needed next year in key sectors. — MNA/Reuters

Singapore Air tightens security with cabin cameras

SINGAPORE, 5 Oct— All Singapore Airlines aircraft will have surveillance cameras just outside the cockpit from November to view the cabin as a security precaution, Southeast Asia's biggest airline said on Friday.

Singapore Airlines and its unit Silk Air have already installed bullet-proof reinforced cockpit doors and use sky marshals armed with stun guns on flights deemed high risk.

Singapore stepped up security after the September 11, 2001 hijack attacks on the United States and tightened it again after last October's devastating bomb blasts on the resort island of Bali in neighbouring Indonesia. "We have completed the installation of bullet-proof cockpit doors in April," said SIA spokesman Rick

Clements.

"We are also in the process of installing surveillance cameras so that the cockpit crew can immediately see outside the cockpit and the cabin area."

The installation of cameras across the fleet would be completed by the beginning of November, he said.

Security has been stepped up across the city-state, a major base for Western businesses in Asia. Soldiers patrol the airport and border crossings with Malaysia. The government has said Singapore was a target

for militants because of its support for the US war on terror.

Clements said Singapore Airlines had also strengthened building security, guarding aircraft on the tarmac, while conducting random baggage searches.

Asked about the cost of the extra security, he said it could run into the "tens of millions over a period of time, over one or more years". Singapore Airlines is installing the cameras in its operating fleet of 75 aircraft. It has a total of 97 aircraft in its fleet. — MNA/Reuters

India reacts coolly to Pakistan's test-firing of missile

NEW DELHI, 5 Oct—India Friday reacted coolly to Pakistan's test firing of a surface-to-surface missile in the day, saying it was "nothing new" as such tests had been carried out by Pakistan before.

"There is nothing special about it," Defence Minister George Fernandes told reporters. His remarks came as Islamabad announced the "successful" test firing of the 290-kilometre-range missile capable of carrying conventional and nuclear warheads.

Foreign Secretary Kanwal Sibal also echoed Fernandes' comment by saying "this is nothing new. They have had missile tests before also." — MNA/Xinhua



British police on patrol near the M16 headquarters in London. British diplomat Sir Peter Heap cast doubt on the quality of intelligence which led Britain into the Iraq war. Heap warned that M16 is prone to hyping up the authority of its sources. —INTERNET

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Bush asks \$600m for Iraq weapons hunt

NEW YORK, 5 Oct— More than 600 million US dollars is needed to continue searching for evidence of weapons of mass destruction or other illegal arms in Iraq, the *New York Times* reported on Thursday, citing Bush Administration officials.

The request is included in the classified section of the White House's \$7 billion US dollars supplemental spending request for Iraq and Afghanistan expenses, the *Times* said.

The size of the request suggests that the search for weapons will go on, despite the fact there has not been any solid evidence that Iraq had chemical, biological or nuclear weapons, said the *Times*.

The money is earmarked for the Iraq Survey Group, which is comprised of teams of troops and experts who are managed by the Pentagon but whose activities are coordinated by David Kay, the daily reported. Kay is former United Nations weapons inspector who has been coordinating the Central Intelligence

Agency-led hunt for banned weapons in the country.

If the Administration gets all the money, it will allow the survey group to boost its staff to 1,400 from about 1,200 members, said

the *Times*, citing officials familiar with the request.

A Pentagon spokesman declined to comment to the *Times* about the classified request for funds.

MNA/Reuters



Iraqi members of the dissolved intelligence service gather around at the slogan "No to occupation" which they wrote in chalk on the road outside the Coalition Provisional Authority headquarters in the former presidential palace of Iraq's deposed leader Saddam Hussein in Baghdad, during a demonstration to demand salary payments. —INTERNET

China-France Culture Year hailed as milestone of bilateral ties

BELING, 5 Oct— More than 300 years ago, five French priests were sent by their Emperor to Beijing as the first French cultural envoys.

This year Chinese artists will go to France to take part in a diversified art and performance exhibition during the upcoming Chinese Culture Year. The year's activities will debut in Paris on October 6, and with more than 300 programmes, will bring the cultures of Asia and Europe together.

Chinese Culture Minister Sun Jiazhen said in an interview with *Xinhua* on Friday that the Chinese Culture Year will greet the French people with Chinese culture programmes of unprecedented size, innovation and quality, marking a milestone in history between the two countries.

Sun said Sino-French culture relations had reached a peak, with an annual ex-

change of more than 200 projects. In recent years, the two countries have signed a series of documents to set up culture centres and strengthen inter-government culture co-operation.

The Chinese Culture Year will cover various fields of literature and arts, education, technology, physical culture, minority groups and tourism, said Sun.

More than 20 provinces and cities in China will host activities with their French counterparts.

He said the Chinese Culture Year will host many exhibitions and performances, such as a Chinese modern life exhibition, a Chinese 20th Century art exhibition and tour performances by the Chinese Central Ballet Troupe. —MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi judge orders confiscation of smuggled oil

BAGHDAD, 5 Oct— An Iraqi judge said Friday that two seized oil tankers and several thousand of tons of smuggled oil on board should be confiscated.

The *Gizan*, with 150 tons of fuel oil, and the *Manara II*, with 2,145 tons of oil, were seized by the US-led coalition forces in Gulf waters in August, a statement issued by the coalition said.

The judge from the port city of Umm Qasr permitted the Iraqi Finance Ministry to sell or appropriate the oil and the vessels, said the statement. The coalition naval forces have seized a total of 10 suspect vessels and more than 11,000 tons of diesel fuel and oil in the past weeks, the statement added.

The Iraqi judiciary system has begun to play its role in fighting the oil smuggling that became rampant in the oil-rich country following the ouster of Saddam Hussein's regime.

Last Monday, the Iraqi court started a legal process to try two Ukrainian suspects, who were accused of trying to smuggle 3,400 tons of diesel oil on board the *Navstar I* tanker. —MNA/Xinhua

Going into the darkness from the light

Akko Bhini

A war may have many definitions from many angles. But finally there are only two kinds of wars — the war of aggression and the war of safeguarding or restoring the sovereignty, with full patriotism and unyielding spirit for the nation and the people. Whatever reason an aggressive war has, it really is an unjust act of domination, insult on other's sovereignty, and making indirect threat against others, with the show of force.

The internal affairs of a nation is the issue of its own people. The people will have to solve an internal problem by themselves. The act of issuing multi orders and imposing sanctions on a country, under various excuses, with the aim of enabling a person or an organization in their favour to win power, amounts to interfering in the internal affairs of that country. It is also a political insult, an unlawful act and the domination, like the act of launching an armed invasion, with the use of a large manpower and fire power. Sadly, there always exist the internal traitors relying on the aliens to warmly welcome the act. But the traitors will feel sorry after being severely punished by the Tatmadaw members and the people, who will safeguard the nation, the citizens and the sovereignty at the risk of their lives.

In a community, there are persons who wish to lead a sincere and peaceful life, within the framework of law, while living in peace and amity with the surrounding communities. And there also exist some, overestimating themselves, and thinking that their participation is always needed in every case, and are getting involved in every problem. Because of the existence of the latter type of persons, the community has to face deterioration of peace and stability, slowdown in the development, sufferings both in body and mind, and loss of lives and property. The strength and wealth of the rowdy persons can poison the human community.

The US, which faced the consequences of the civil war for a period of over 100 years has been gaining the greater degree in the global military affairs since the later period of the World War I. Because of the capitalists and the fascists, wishing to colonize the whole planet, the world faced a great deal of destruction due to the eruption of the World War II, and its consequences for a very long time.

Myanmar, which lost her independence and sovereignty, also experienced a worse situation while struggling to free itself. It suffered bitter experiences under two kinds of colonialism — the capitalism and the fascism. Once, Myanmar faced a great deal of trouble under the colonialist war. And the consequences had led to deterioration of the internal peace and stability and a slowdown in the development for decades after it became an independent and sovereign nation. Since then, the traitors who lack the qualifications and strength, a good citizen should have, have been disturbing the nation and the people.

The British launched a major military operation with a large naval, air, ground, artillery and mechanized forces of the Indian, African, American and Kuomintang armies to drive out the fascist troops and take a foothold in Myanmar. The fascist troops faced their enemy with nine army divisions. But those forces were not to liberate the Myanmar people and the country. The Myanmar land was destroyed by the tanks, guns and bombs of the battling armies. The battles had flattened many towns and villages and killed and destroyed a countless number of lives and property. As the invaders did not want to give back inde-

pendence to Myanmar, they tried to form the Tatmadaw in accord with their wish.

America dropped one atomic bomb each on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to end the WWII. The America Navy carried six atomic bombs on board the ships and demanded Japan to unconditionally surrender on 15 August 1945. It made an ultimatum, saying that one atomic bomb each would be dropped on large cities including Kyoto, Osaka and Tokyo. Japanese King Hirohito ordered the surrender in consideration to the interest of the Japanese people. Till now, the world will never forget that America is the country that uses the atomic bomb first on this planet. At present, America is the country possessing a large number of nuclear bombs many times more destructive than the atomic bombs of the 1945. It can be assumed that America has more such bombs than other powers.

After the WWII, America totally controlled Japan, with the restrictions, the demands for war compensation, war tribunals and manipulations on the Japanese government and army. The American troops under the guise of UN took part in the Korean conflict.

Although Myanmar and Indonesia regained independence after the WWII, the Indochina region was still under French colonialism. The countries — Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam emerged — after they had launched a just war against the colonialists. Based on ideology, Vietnam was divided into two parts. The American troops extended their participation in the Vietnam conflict, with South Vietnam's request as an excuse. In reality the America's involvement in the conflict was to invade Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. Based on ideology, the respective countries opposed the American involvement. The world nearly faced the eruption of the World War III.

America did not officially announce the war till the death of over 50,000 soldiers. Another 100,000 had already been wounded in the war. The American people opposed the war as the acts of successive US presidents were against the international laws and the US constitution itself. The people staged demonstrations opposing the conscription.

America assisted the Kuomintang troops openly and secretly, when the latter intruded into Myanmar territory. The Kuomintang troops helped the British army when it retreated from Myanmar in 1942. And when the Allied Forces entered Myanmar, they provided assistance for them again. The Ledo Road connecting India and China via Myanmar was the result of the cooperation between America and Kuomintang troops to serve the interest of the colonialists. Myanmar filed a complaint against the Kuomintang intrusion to the UN with firm evidence. A long report on the American involvement in the Vietnam war was compiled. When The New York Times issued the report, American government tried to stop the featuring of the news about it in the daily.

On 4 February 1966, American President Johnson, the cabinet members, US generals and the South Vietnamese government officials met in Honolulu. The US government issued an announcement to provide US \$ 70 million for economic and social aid to South Vietnam. The then US vice-president Humphrey toured Thailand, Laos, Pakistan, India, New Zealand, the Philippines and South Korea from 13 to 22 February.

(To be continued)

(Translation: TMT)

Training on Entrepreneurship Development concluded

YANGON, 5 Oct — The training on Entrepreneurship Development for Women in Myanmar, jointly conducted by Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and Greater Mekong Subregion-Business Forum (GMS-BF), concluded at the International Business Centre yesterday. Present were UMFCIPresident U Win Myint, CEC members, Vice-President of MWEA and executives. Dr Dhungana of Trade and Investment Division of UNESCAP, Project Director Daw San Yu Yu Ohn of GMS-BF, President U Win Myint and Adviser and Founder of MWEA Prof Daw Yi Yi Myint made speeches.

U Win Myint, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing of UMFCCI and officials presented the course completion certificates to the trainees. — 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



An official of UMFCCI presents certificate to a trainee.—(H)



Teachers are placed highly...

(from page 1)

Moreover, in-service teacher training courses such as distance education, education college-based, and township-based are being provided and B. Ed two-year course through distance learning is also given in Institutes of Education in order to upgrade the professional qualifications of teachers to improve their prospects.

If we look back to the year 1988, it can be observed that only about 4000 teachers were given in-service training. However, in the 2002-2003 academic year, a total of over 30,000 teachers were given training and so it is found that, the number of trained teachers have increased nine times compared to the previous years.

Today, basic education and higher education students numbering over 8.45 million are now being taught by two hundred and forty thousand teachers.

With regard to the improvements in education sector, in 1988, there were only 32 universities and colleges and 33,747 basic education schools. But now it has increased to 154 universities and colleges and 40,099 basic education schools. The number of students in 1988 was one hundred and thirty-eight thousand university students and 5.24 million basic education students making a total of 5.37 million only. But now it has risen to nine hundred thousand university students and 7.55 million basic education students a total of 8.45 million increment.

In viewing the teacher strength, in the year 1988, there were only 6,600 university teachers and about one hundred and seventy-five thousand basic education teachers with a total of only one hundred and eight thousand teachers. Now there are over 17,000 university teachers and two hundred and twenty-four thousand basic education teachers making



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win presents a prize to JAT Daw Taw Tar Min, who stood first in the middle school level article competition. — MNA

a total increment of two hundred and forty-one thousand teachers.

In the higher education sector only the masters degree was offered as post-graduate course in the past. Nowadays master's degree on a research doctorate degree courses are being provided resulting not only in uplifting the national education standard but also research programmes. Human resource development centres are being established with "One Campus Multi System" system at universities and degree colleges providing appropriate courses and trainings to meet local needs.

By improving the mode of teaching-learning process, teachers should try to change their role as facilitators to assist in the children's self learning.

In order to fulfill our education vision: "To create an Education System that can generate a learning society capable of facing the challenges of the Knowledge Age" our teachers are encouraged to become active learners to keep up with the challenges of science and technology, and education philosophy.

Therefore, in order to produce well-versed and qualified technicians, and intellectuals, I would like to urge all teachers to take a leading role in accord with Myanmar culture and tradition by organizing students, parents and communities in the endeavour for the emergence of a modern and developed country.

In conclusion, on the occasion of "World Teachers' Day", I would like to stress the following points:

- To train and nurture the students to become all-round developed, civilized citizens, in response to the entrustment of the community and the state,
- To preserve and promote the status and dignity which are the attributes of teachers highly respected by parents and the community.

Next, Coordinator of Myanmar Education for All Direc-



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents a prize to SAT Daw Yin Myint, who stood first in the high school level article competition. — MNA

tor-General U Tin Nyo of No 1 Basic Education Department read out the MESSAGE on World Teachers' Day sent by the chiefs of the UNESCO, the ILO, the UNDP and the UNICEF under the UN.

Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science Chairman U Than Oo explained the endeavours of Sayagyi U Po Hto, who compiled General Science subject in Myanmar for primary, middle and high school students, Sayagyi U Khin Than, 94, who has been contributing educational papers throughout his life under the pseudonym "Ba Gyi Thu", and Saya U Maung Hsat, who sacrificed his life together with three pupils in preventing Ywapa Village in Matupi Township (Now Yayzwa Township) from forest fire.

The Prime Minister presented prizes to U Khin Than, U Kyaw Kyaw Thein, son of Sayagyi U Po Hto and Ma Hpwa Bu, daughter of Saya U Maung Hsat.

He also presented first, second and third prizes to Associate Professor Daw Tin Tin Wai of Myanmar Department of the UDE, Lecturer Daw Su Su Khaing of Myanmar Department of YU, and Demonstrator Daw Wint Shwe Wa Hlaing of Physics Department of YU in university, college and institute level article contest, and SAT Daw Yin Myint of Pabedan BEHS-1 in Yangon Division, SAT Daw Khin Aye Myint of Hinthada BEHS-4 in Ayeyawady Division, and SAT Daw Swe Swe Thant of Kangyidaunt BEHS in Ayeyawady Division in high school level article contest.

Secretary-1 of SPDC Lt-Gen Soe Win presented the first, second and third prizes to JAT Daw Thawda Min of North Okkapala BEHS-3 in Yangon Division, JAT U Shwe Tin (Chunwe) of Thaton BEMS-1 in Mon State and JAT Daw Moe Si Khin of Sagaing BEHS-1 in Sagaing Division in middle school level article contest, Schoolhead Daw Khin Win (Khin Khin Win -BED) of Chanayethazan BEPS-17 in Mandalay Division, PAT Daw Kye Pin Zein of Thantlang BEPS-3 in Chin State and PAT Daw Ohnmar Lwin of Chanayethazan BEHS-14 in Mandalay Division in primary school level article contest.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented the first, second and third prizes to Second Year Student Ma Nyo Zin

Myint of Myaungmya Education College, Second Year Student Ma Swe Zin Nu of Mandalay Education College and Second Year Student Ma Pyi Phyo Thu of Sagaing Education College in educational university and college level essay contest, Second Year Student Maung Nay Soe Aung of Mandalay Education College, Second Year Student Maung Min Myat Phone of Yankin Educational College and Second Year Student Ma Hsu Hnin Paing of Myaungmya Education College in educational university and college poem contest.

Member of SPDC Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented the first, second and third prizes to Ninth Grader Ma Myint Myat Thu of Thaton BEHS-2 in Mon State, Ninth Grader Ma Phyo Wai Theint of Minhla BEHS in Bago Division (West) and Eighth Grader Nan Nguwa Phu Pwint Oo of Bago BEHS-1 in Bago Division in high school level essay contest, Eighth Grader Maung Thura Soe of Nattalin BEHS in Bago Division (West), Ninth Grader Ma May Zin Oo of Patheingyi BEHS-6 in Ayeyawady Division and Eighth Grader Ma Ei Sin Thu of Hpa-an BEHS-1 in Kayah State in high school level poem contest.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presented the first, second and third prizes to Seventh Grader Ma Nu Htet Htet Lwin of Sittway BEHS-4 in Rakhine State, Seventh Grader Ma Hayman of Loikaw BEHS-1 in Kayah State and Seventh Grader Ma Hsu Sandi Aung of Thanlyin BEHS-4 in Yangon Division in middle school essay contest, Seventh Grader Maung Zawtika Maung Maung Myint of Bago BEHS-3 in Bago Division, Fifth Grader Maung Htet Aung Lin of Myitkyna BEHS-3 in Kachin State and Fifth Grader Ma Yu Myat Nanda of Patheingyi BEHS-6 in middle school level poem contest.

Afterwards, gold medallist students of Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions and high school students presented entertainment programmes. After the ceremony, the Prime Minister cordially greeted those present and looked around the World Teachers' Day commemorative exhibition 2003.

MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents a prize to second year student Ma Nyo Zin Myint who stood first in the essay competition. — MNA

Second four-monthly coord meeting of Ministry of Rail Transportation held

YANGON, 5 OCT.—The second four-monthly coordination meeting of the Ministry of Rail Transportation was held at the meeting hall of the ministry this morning.

It was attended by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Ministers Thura U Thaung Lwin and U Pe Than, the directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry, the principal of the Central School for Transport and Communications, advisers, the head of office and officials.

First, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min made a speech. He said that officials of the ministry are to make earnest efforts for successful realization of the guidance of the

Head of State. Measures are to be taken for physical and spiritual welfare of the staff to ensure development of the ministry. As the Ministry of Rail Transportation is to serve the interests of the people, those under the ministry are to double their efforts for

the public to be convenient in travelling.

As the ministry is the one which serves the interests of the people, efforts are to be exerted with goodwill, he stressed.

Next, Deputy Ministers Thura U Thaung Lwin and U

Pe Than gave instructions on improvement of the undertakings of the ministry.

This was followed by a general round of discussions.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the minister.

MNA



Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min addresses the four-monthly coordination meeting of the ministry. — (RAIL)

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attends...

(from page 16)

First, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence unveiled the signboard of the monastic education school.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint and member of the School Board of Trustees U Maung Maung formally opened the it.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected it.

Afterwards, the merit-sharing ceremony for the two-storey building was held in conjunction with the cash-presentation ceremony at Gyothiriyadana Kyaung of the Kyaungtaik.

First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from member of State Central Working Committee of Sangha Presiding Sayadaw of Kammine Kyaungtaik in Lashio Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Muninda.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party presented offertories to members of the Sangha.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe accepted K 40 million donated by wellwishers led by North-East Command for the two-storey building, K 500,000 by U Lauk Hte of Yahtak Co, K 1 million by U Kyaw Sein of Top and Top Co, K 1 million by U Htay Aung of Ngwe Hsin Co, K 500,000 by U Sai Aye for the monastic education school.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presented 500 dozens of exercise books and 200 dozens of pencil for the students through member of the School Board of Trustees U Maung Maung.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing presented documents related to the newly-built two-storey building to Presiding Sayadaw of Seikta Thukha Kyaungtaik Bhaddanta Nannobhasa (Dhammacariya).

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sumana of Khayo Pariyatti Sathintaik delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

Altogether 1,379 national race students are pursuing education at the monastic education school.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected the coffee nurseries of the North-East Command and gave necessary instructions to officials.

They then arrived at the 1000-acre poppy-substitute agriculture zone of the North-East Command on Lashio-Hsenwi Road.

At the briefing hall, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing reported on progress in cultivation of poppy-substitute crops and future tasks.

In Charge of the agriculture zone Lt-Col Nay Lin reported on efforts being made by the North-East Command for extended production of poppy-substitute crops in the 1000-acre agriculture zone and tasks to be carried out.

In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe gave instructions.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung



Lt-Gen Aung Htwe offers provisions to Sayadaws of Seitta Thukha Monastery in Lashio. MNA

Htwe and party inspected thriving of sunflowers, Thitseint, research plot of Special High Yield Shweli paddy, Hsinyadana Highland paddy and Macademia plantations.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe together with the commander, senior military officers and departmental officials paid homage to

Maha Myatmuni Buddha Image in Lashio and made cash donations there.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party proceeded to Myole Pariyatti Sathintaik where they paid homage and presented offertories to Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Candima.

Next, they inspected the

newly built two-storey Sunsarkyaung of the Sathintaik.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected Sasana Jotika Kyaung and Thein Kyaung under construction in the compound of the Kyaungtaik and gave necessary instructions to officials.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presents a prize to seventh standard student Ma Nu Htet Htet Lwin who stood first in the middle school level essay competition. (News on page 1). — MNA

Commander attends offertories donation ceremony

YANGON, 5 Oct — A ceremony to offer dawn Soon to members of the Sangha from the monasteries in Patheingyi Township Sasana Beikman at 5 am on 2nd October.

It was attended by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Tint Swe, senior military officers of Regiments and Units Patheingyi Station, departmental officials, members of Division Women's Af-

fairs, social organizations and wellwishers.

Next, the commander and wife donated offertories to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pannasiri and the Sayadaw delivered a sermon and the congregation shared merits gained.

Similar ceremony was held on 3rd October at Tagaung Maha Pagoda, Patheingyi.

After that, the commander and party inspected furniture and finished wood factory, in Myintzu street, Patheingyi and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

**The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
Second best time is now.**

Commander, Minister meet industrialists of Patheingyi Industrial Zone

YANGON, 5 Oct — Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, in-charge of Patheingyi Industrial Zone, on 3 October, met with members of industrial zone supervisory committee and industrialists at the Patheingyi Industrial Zone Management office.

At the meeting, the commander called for concerted efforts to be made for development of the State and the minister for production of import-substitute machinery and vehicles.

Chairman of the industrial zone supervisory committee Chairman of Patheingyi

District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Hla Thwin reported on implementation of the zone, situation and area, power supply, running of private industries, assembling of vehicles, investment and strength of labour and the zone management committee chairman industrialist U Maung Maung Myint on their needs. The commander and the minister fulfilled the requirements.

Afterwards, the commander and the minister inspected the assembling of Ayar Hi-speed double cab vehicles and gave necessary instructions.

Later, they inspected the engine production and Ayar Swan Aar rice mill of the command and fulfilled the requirements. — MNA

Co-op stores in Ayeyawady Division inspected

YANGON, 5 Oct — Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo arrived at Shwe A Yar Department Store opened at the general business cooperative syndicates in Ayeyawady Division and gave instructions on cooperative works yesterday morning.

The minister inspected the shops of the cooperatives store Ltd at the department store and fulfilled the requirements.

At the government high school of Hseik Village in Kyaungong Township, the minister met with members of the board of directors of AryonU Farm and General

Business Cooperatives Ltd, staff officers of the township cooperatives department and staff and gave instructions on promotion of cooperatives works.

Afterwards, the minister inspected the grocery and a power plant of the co-op Ltd and gave instructions on maintenance of machinery and distribution of basic consumer products.

Later, the minister inspected the site chosen for supply of water for agricultural purpose by the Ayeyawady division general business cooperatives syndicate and left necessary instructions. — MNA



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presents a prize to ninth standard student Ma Phyo Wai Theint who stood second in the high school level essay. (News on page 1) — MNA

Regional development tasks inspected in Manaung

YANGON, 5 Oct — Chairman of Rakhaing State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Oo, accompanied by departmental heads at state level arrived in Manaung Township on 1st October and met with departmental officials, members of Myanmar National Women's Affairs, members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association, social organizations and townsmen.

During the meeting, he gave instructions on implementation of the five rural development tasks, regional rice sufficiency and extended cultivation of paddy.

The commander and party arrived in Beinn vil-

lage, Manaung and met with local people and gave instructions to them and they donated offertories to members of the Sangha at Manaung, Myoma monastery on 3rd October.

Next, the commander and party inspected construction site of Ohn Creek bridge with the length of 210 feet and fulfilled their needs and attended cash donation ceremony.

The commander attended cash donation ceremony for construction of new building for Kha-oh-hmaw Village Primary School. He inspected the 16-bed hospital in Manaung Township and left necessary instructions.

MNA

National Kandawgyi Garden in PyinOolwin



Entrance to National Kandawgyi Garden decorated with the trunks of teak, ironwood and Yinma.

Flowers of late monsoon and spring were blooming with brilliant colour in the National Kandawgyi Garden of PyinOolwin, a town honoured as a city of flowers thanks to the ever-blooming various flowers in it.

Monsoon flowers such as dahlia, sunflower, spider, land lily were competing with the spring flowers of Tulip, Stock, Delphinium, Felicia, Afrostemma Gitato and Linum Grwnlijorum.

The staff of Kyemon visited the garden on 15 September. National Kandawgyi Garden is full of fascinating landscapes and scenic views, covering 436.96 acres of land including natural forest, refreshment lawns and lakes at various levels.

Under the guidance of the Head of State, all-round upgrading tasks of the garden was jointly carried out by Woodland Group of Companies, Winlandscaping and Design (Japan), GEO-BCS Construction Group (Myanmar).

In order to upgrade the garden into a national garden of international standards, Woodland Group of Companies carried out the tasks phase by phase. The first phase of the project started on 1 October, 2001 and completed on 30th March, 2002, expanding another 104.81 acres of land. National Kandawgyi Garden Upgrading Project was carried out with a view to strengthening the beauty and essence of a garden according to the designs of international standards

drawn with the assistance of technicians at home and abroad.

General Manager U Tin Aung Hla and incharge of the sections of garden conservation and natural forest and birds conservation Daw Aye Aye Maw conducted the staff of Kyemon round the garden in a mini-car.

First, we entered archways constructed with the natural trunks of teak, Pyingadue, and Yinmar. Enjoying the atmosphere of forest, we continued the tour in the mini-car. At the end of the road, abundant array of flowers were welcoming us. The sun was shining through a fountain and created a beautiful rainbow.

Landscaping tasks were carried out with a view to conserving the existing trees, and growing of grass, pines, flowering plants were arranged in an attractive way.

Although the area of the garden was only 240 acres before the project, after the second extension of 92.15 acres, total area of the garden increased to 436.96 acres with 369 embankments of flowering plants and 16 species of trees numbering 324.

Walking through the banks of flowers, we reached a garden filled with land lilies. On the other side of the garden was a 620-foot long stone garden. And a small lane, which looked like a dry creek, carried us into a rain forest.

Translation: MWT
(28-9-2003 Kyemon)

Article: Kayan Soe Myint (Kyemon)
Photos: Yay Chan Myint (Kyemon)



A pedestrain lane through the stone garden of National Kandawgyi Garden.



Scene of flowering viewpoint in National Kandawgyi garden in PyinOolwin.

Poem:

Head Ever Bowed to the Teacher

* Nobel Teacher

Teacher Noble

Leaving out none that should be learned

Teaches everything

Mind of loving kindness

Brimming as always

On their pupils.

* If known as Teacher

Is full of these qualities

For him there's great love

Pupils all.

* Goodwill of the Teacher

Held ever high overhead

Crouched in fashion of obeisance

With ever increasing compassion

Let's pay full respects.

(A tribute to Teachers on World Teachers' Day)

Po Wa (Trs)

Mahathir says US decision to attack Iraq hasty

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 Oct — Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said Saturday US President George W Bush's decision to attack Iraq was hasty and made without sufficient proof.

"I don't believe that they didn't know. If they suspected that there were (weapons of mass destruction), they should have given Dr Hans Blix (United Nations chief weapons inspector) a chance to carry out a full investigation," the Prime Minister told reporters in Putrajaya,

the Federal Administrative Centre 30 kilometres south of here.

Mahathir was asked to comment on reports that the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had reported that it had not found any signs of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq although there was ample proof to show that Saddam Hussein intended to make chemical and biological weapons.

It was said that the Bush Administration, which was responsible for world peace, was prepared to make

the drastic decision to attack Iraq, killing so many people in the process, based merely on grounds that were not fully proven, he said.

He said that in the absence of strong proof, it was a big lie for US to attack Iraq.

Asked whether any legal action could be taken against US through the United Nations or other world bodies for attacking Iraq, he said: "I think we can't do that but what can be done is that their own people must realize this and use

it when considering the leaders that they want to choose."

He also said that the conflict over the US attack on Iraq, including the CIA report, could be discussed further at the OIC summit if the leaders were agreeable.

However, he added: "I'm not interested in blaming others. What I'm interested in is what we can do (to improve ourselves in the OIC).

I don't think blaming others can get us anywhere."

MNA/Xinhua

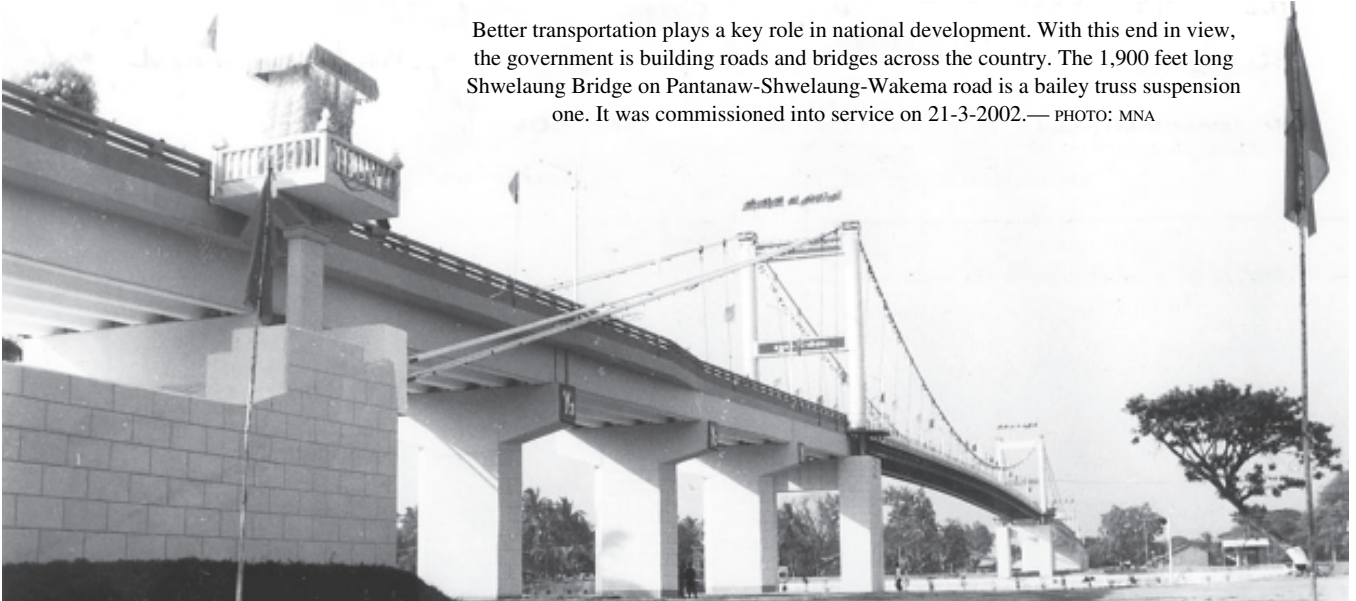
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

In the time of Tatmadaw Government, many dams and reservoirs have been built for agricultural purpose. The photo shows the Salin Dam with the length of 2,770 feet and height of 220 feet which was opened on 15 August 2001 in Salin Township, Magway Division to irrigate 33,000 acres of farmland.

PHOTO: MNA

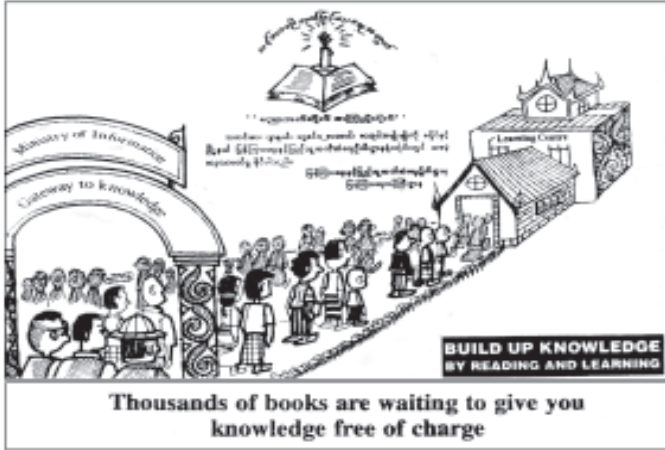


Better transportation plays a key role in national development. With this end in view, the government is building roads and bridges across the country. The 1,900 feet long Shwelaung Bridge on Pantanaw-Shwelaung-Wakema road is a bailey truss suspension one. It was commissioned into service on 21-3-2002.— PHOTO: MNA



Human resource development programmes are being implemented with greater momentum in basic and higher education sectors. The photo shows the magnificent main building of Mandalay Yadanabon University which was opened on 7 July 2003 in Mandalay.

PHOTO: MNA



ADVERTISEMENTS

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်
ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့
ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ် ၃၇/၂၀၀၃
(၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်၊ စက်တင်ဘာလ ၃၀ ရက်)
လျှောက်လွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ အမှတ်(၁)စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန ကြီးကြပ်မှုအောက်ရှိ အဖွဲ့အစည်းများတွင် လစ်လပ်လျက်ရှိသော အောက်ပါရာထူးများအတွက် လျှောက်လွှာများ အလိုရှိပါသည့်-

စဉ် ရာထူး ပညာအရည်အချင်း လစ်လပ်
(က) ဌာနခွဲမှူး/အလုပ်ရုံခွဲမှူး ဝါထိန္ဒာ့ရုံးရှိလက်မှတ်ရ ၁၅ နေရာ
(ဘဏ္ဍာရေး/ငွေစာရင်း) ပြည်သူ့စာရင်းကိုင်
အောင်လက်မှတ်ရရှိသူ

(ခ) အလုပ်ရုံခွဲမှူး/လက်ထောက်မန်နေဂျာ (သို့မဟုတ်) စီမံရေး/ကုန်ထုတ် စိုက်ပျိုးရေးသိပ္ပံဘွဲ့ ၁၅ နေရာ

၂။ လျှောက်ထားသူသည်-
(က) ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားဖြစ်ရမည်။
(ခ) ၂၈-၁၀-၂၀၀၃ နေ့တွင် အသက် ၃၅ နှစ် (ဝန်ထမ်းဖြစ်ပါက အသက် ၄၀ နှစ်) ထက် မကျော်လွန်သူဖြစ်ရမည်။

၃။ လျှောက်လွှာကို ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့မှ သိရှိရသည့် ၂၈-၁၀-၂၀၀၃ နေ့ အရောက် ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၄။ လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ဖော်ပြရမည့်အချက်များ- ပူးတွဲပါရှိရမည့် စာရွက်စာတမ်းများ၊ ဝင်ကြေးငွေ ၅၀/-ပေးသွင်းရမည့်လမ်း၊ ရေးဖြေနှုတ်ဖြေ စစ်ဆေးမှုအတွက် လေ့လာရန် လိုအပ်ချက်များနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်း၍ ဤအဖွဲ့က ကြေညာချက် အမှတ် ၁/၃၁ ဖြင့် ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့၏အမည်ရှိသော စာတမ်းများကို လျှောက်လွှာတင်သွင်းသူများအတွက် လမ်းညွှန်စာစောင်ပါ သတ်မှတ်ချက်များနှင့်အညီ လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ရန်ဖြစ်သည်။

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

၆။ ဝန်ထမ်းများသည် မူရင်းလျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို မိမိတာဝန်ထမ်းဆောင်သည့် ဌာနအကြီးအကဲမှတစ်ဆင့် ဝန်ကြီးဌာန၏ စွန့်ပြန်ချက်ရယူပြီး ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ရှိသည့် ၂၈-၁၀-၂၀၀၃ နေ့ အရောက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။ လျှောက်လွှာတစ်စောင်ကို ဓာတ်ပုံနှင့်အတူ ဤအဖွဲ့ရှိသည့် တိုက်ရိုက်ပေးပို့ရမည်။

၇။ ၁၅-၁၁-၂၀၀၃ နေ့နှင့် ၁၆-၁၁-၂၀၀၃ နေ့များတွင် အရည်အချင်းစစ် ရေးဖြေစာမေးပွဲကျင်းပမည်။ ၁၃-၁၁-၂၀၀၃ နေ့မှစ၍ မန္တလေးတိုင်းအေချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီရှိသည့် ဤအဖွဲ့ရှိသည့် ကြေးမုံခွင်ကတိပြာများကိုထုတ်ပေးမည်။

၈။ စုစမ်းမေးမြန်းလိုပါက ပြည်နယ်တိုင်း၊ ခရိုင်နှင့် မြို့နယ်အချင်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီများ၊ ပြည်နယ်/တိုင်း၊ မြို့နယ်အလုပ်သမားညွှန်ကြားရေး ဦးစီးဌာနရှိ များတွင်ဖြစ်စေ၊ ဤအဖွဲ့ရှိသည့် လူကြီးတိုင်းဖြစ်စေ တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ် (၃၇၈၆၃၂)သို့ဖြစ်စေ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

Two killed in crash of firefighter air tanker in S California

LOS ANGELES, 5 Oct—Two people were killed Friday as a firefighting air tanker crashed and burst into flames in southern California.

The plane, contracted to the US Forest Service, crashed in the San Bernardino National Forest while flying from Arizona state to San Bernardino, 64 kilometres to the east of Los Angeles, the Federal Aviation Administration office here said.

Authorities said the crash started a one-and-a-half-acre fire, but it was quickly doused.

The tanker was one of two that were heading to the San Bernardino Air Tanker Base after fighting a fire in Arizona. The other plane landed safely, a Forest Service spokesman said.

The identities of the two victims in the crash were not immediately released.

It was foggy at the base at the time of the crash, but it remained unclear whether that overcast extended into the mountains.—MNA/Xinhua

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Dated: 6th October 2003

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Dated: 6 October, 2003

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

Hollywood singer-actress Courtney Love booked for drug overdose

LOS ANGELES, 5 Oct—US singer and actress Courtney Love was hospitalized for drug overdose following her arrest for breaking windows at a friend's house, local media reported Friday.

Love, 39, was released late Thursday after she was booked for allegedly being under the influence of a controlled substance outside a Wilshire-area home, the NBC4 TV reported.

She admitted having broken the windows in an attempt to enter her friend's

house, Los Angeles Police Lieutenant Art Miller said. She was booked and released by the police.

But less than an hour later, Beverly Hills police and paramedics responded to a call for help at a private residence, where Love was found and taken to a hospital for treatment.

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Dated: 6 October, 2003

She was taken to Century City Hospital for treatment for a possible drug overdose, the report said.

Love, widow of grunge rock star Kurt Cobain, is the founder of the influential band Hole, and was a Golden Globe nominee for her role in the movie "The People vs. Larry Flynt." She also played roles in "Man on the Moon" and "Beat".

MNA/Xinhua

US natural gas price up 15% in a year

WASHINGTON, 5 Oct—The natural gas prices in the United States increased sharply in the past 12 months and Americans are expecting higher home-heating bills this winter, the US Natural Gas Supply Association said in a study released Thursday.

The study said that current average price of natural gas in the country is already 15 per cent higher than a year ago.

However, US homeowners could pay much high gas prices this winter because utilities paid high prices this summer to replenish their inventories.

Natural gas that was bought and stored for this winter averaged 5.28 dollars per 1,000 cubic feet (28.32 cubic metres), comparing with the average prices of 3.42 dollars in the summer of last year, the study said.

Meanwhile, the US Department of Energy also reported in its latest monthly energy review that the stock of underground natural gas storage reservoirs at the end of last June was 26 per cent lower than the level of stocks one year ago.—MNA/Xinhua

India to launch online gold futures trading

NEW DELHI, 5 Oct—The National Multi Commodity Exchange of India (NMCE) is scheduled to launch online gold futures trading Friday, enabling India to join the ranks of New York Mercantile Exchange and Tokyo Commodity Exchange.

The online trading will enable Indian jewellers, exporters and banks engaged in bullion trade to reap the benefit of hedging against price fluctuations, Geojit Corp. Managing Director C.J. George told reporters in Kochi in southern India Thursday.—MNA/Xinhua

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Thai PM dismisses surface-to-air missile threat to APEC summit

BANGKOK, 6 Oct — Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra called as "rumours" the reports that said six shoulder-fired surface-to-air missiles may have been smuggled into the country for terrorist attacks during the APEC summit, scheduled to be held later this month, the *Bangkok Post* reported Thursday.

He was quoted as saying that there were rumours that some weapons might have been smuggled into the country from Cambodia, but the Thai authorities had investigated to be sure that it was not true, just rumour. If any surface-to-air missiles from Cambodia were left, then they must be antiques that cannot be used, he joked, reiterating that the country was safe and that security services were coordinating

closely with foreign intelligence services to guard against any potential threats.

Thaksin stressed that security had been tightened significantly and anybody attempting to launch an anti-aircraft missile would be arrested immediately. Police would also hold a seminar Thursday to explain to 4,000 taxi motorcyclists working around the airport just what a missile and launcher looked like.

The local Press reported on September 29 that some Singaporean security experts singled out Bangkok's Don Muang Airport as the most vulnerable major airport in the region, especially the planes flying out of the airport were relatively easy targets for surface-to-air missiles.

MNA/Xinhua

India should become regional financial services hub

MUMBAI, 6 Oct — India should become a regional hub for financial services and constantly engage in new activities to sustain economic growth, Indian Finance Minister Jaswant Singh said on Thursday.

"We should improve the financial sector to provide services to the entire region and we can do this," Singh said after laying the foundation for Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) proposed new headquarters in western Indian city of Mumbai. Indian business and fi-

nance community has a natural flair to deal with money and capital markets and people working in this sector should go out in the world to grab opportunities, Singh said adding, "government will provide all support to this endeavour". Citing the example of Surat which was once a thriving banking centre, Singh said those involved in trade had then perfected the "hundi" (traditional financial instrument) system.

On the growth of Indian economy, he said "our growth must never stop and we must continuously engage in new activities".

The system should not be the victim of destiny and instead become a catalyst for change, he added.

SEBI chairman GN Bajpai said the market regulator has prepared a four-pronged strategy, including revamping the organization and establishment of a data centre, to bring Indian capital market on par with global standards. "The government has granted permission to Asian Development Bank and International Finance Corporation, part of World Bank group, to raise funds from the Indian market," Bajpai added. — MNA/PTI

Vietnam TV reporter named as PM's first spokesman

HANOI, 6 Oct — Vietnam's Prime Minister will have his own spokesman for the first time, and a 45-year-old television reporter has been appointed to the job.

Prime Minister Phan Van Khai on Wednesday named Nguyen Kinh Quoc, a current affairs reporter at the state-run Vietnam Television, as his spokesman, officials said.

While most heads of state and government have media experts on their personal staff, the concept is still new in Communist Vietnam, which is often criticized for its lack of transparency and tight control on information.

Up to now, the Foreign Ministry has been the government's public face, with its spokesman speaking on a range of issues from investment rule changes to human rights. The ministry holds media briefings twice a month. Quoc, who worked for Vietnam's Army newspaper before reporting for the state television until the end of last month, could not be reached for comment.

Hanoi also plans to set up a spokesman in every ministry but has yet to say when those appointments will be completed.

MNA/Reuters

Bangladeshi exports to US to face setbacks under new rules

GHAKA, 6 Oct — Bangladesh exports to the United States are likely to face a setback, as registration with the US Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (BCBP) may become mandatory for local exporters from Bangladesh, reported the *Financial Express* on Thursday.

This will be part of the measures under the Bio-terrorism Act-2002 (BTA) passed by the US Government recently which requires registration with the departments concerned and prior statements of consignment by the exporters to ensure the new container security initiative.

Visiting US official of

the BCBP Patrick Day was quoted as saying here Tuesday that local exporters will not get entry into the US market without meeting these requirements.

The deadline for the registration has been fixed on October 12, and the BCBP will begin the enforcement of the BTA by December 2003, said the BCBP sources.

The fresh move coincides with the reported step of Southern Shrimp Alliance of the US that passed a motion in August to pursue an anti-dumping/countervailing duty petition against the shrimp exports from developing countries including Bangladesh.

MNA/Xinhua



A soldier with the US Army's 108th MP company guard former Iraqi soldiers waiting to collect their payments in Mosul, 400 kms (250 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq on 4 October, 2003. — INTERNET

China's auto output forecast to top 4 million in 2003

BEIJING, 6 Oct — Experts have forecast that over 4 million vehicles will be produced in China this year.

China produced 2.728 million motor vehicles in the first eight months this year, up 36 per cent over the same period of last year. China produced 3.25 million motor vehicles last year.

China registered sales of 2.723 million motor vehicles in the eight-month period, 30.7 per cent higher than the figure for last year's corresponding period.

Sales of sedan cars accounted for 42.5 per cent of total auto sales in the first eight months.

MNA/Xinhua

India's satellite to operate by month end

NEW DELHI, 6 Oct — India's latest communication satellite *INSAT-3E*, launched last week, is expected to reach its designated space home on October 10 and be operational by the end of this month, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) Chairman G. Madhavan Nair said Thursday. "It is expected to be operational by the end of this month," Nair told reporters at the ISRO Master Control Facility (MCF) at Hassan in southern India from where the satellite is being tracked and monitored.

INSAT-3E, launched on 28 September by an *Ariane 5* rocket by Arianespace from the spaceport of Kourou in South America, was performing well, he said, adding the satellite, with 36 transponders, carried one third of ISRO's transponder capacity and would "enhance the capacity to cater to domestic and international customers".

MNA/Xinhua

Sister cities bridge China-France cultural exchanges

BEIJING, 6 Oct — The splendour of the Chinese culture will blossom in France through the channel of sister cities, said the organizing committee of the Chinese Culture Year, an event scheduled to open in Paris on 6 October. Advocated by top leaders from both countries, the China-France Culture Year will last till July 2005, with the Chinese Culture Year to be held in France from this October to July 2004, and the French Culture Year ensuing in China.

According to Sun Jiazhang, chairman of the Chinese organizing committee and China's Cultural Minister, a notable characteristic of the event is the active involvement and interaction between the sister cities from the two countries. Apart from Paris, many other French cities will also stage performances and exhibitions sent by Chinese cities they have established sisterhood ties with. China and France currently boast 47 pairs of sister provinces and cities. Some big cities, like Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing and Guangzhou, will stage their own "culture week" in Paris, Marseilles, Toulouse and Lyon. — MNA/Xinhua



Man uses his portable phone in Singapore as he walks past an advertisement for Nokia. Finnish telecommunications giant Nokia has won a contract to supply the third generation network of Singapore mobile phone operator Starhub. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Burns low on confidence as Loeb leads in Sanremo

MILAN, 5 Oct—Championship leader Richard Burns struggled through the first two stages of the Sanremo rally on Friday as his French rival Sebastien Loeb opened up a comfortable lead for Citroen.

Asphalt expert Loeb won both stages to lead Finland's world champion Marcus Gronholm, in a Peugeot, by 16 seconds. Ford's young Belgian Francois Duval was third, running 20.6 seconds off the pace. Gronholm complained of soft brakes on the damp and slippery mountain roads, made more treacherous by morning fog and leaves on the surface.

Burns, who has not won a race for Peugeot since leaving Subaru as world champion in 2001, was 12th overall and one minute 15.6 seconds slower than Loeb.

Burns, who is returning to Subaru next year, leads future teammate Petter Solberg of Norway and Citroen's Carlos Sainz of Spain by seven points with three rounds remaining after Sanremo.

Sainz was fourth after two stages while Solberg was eighth. Finland's Toni Gardemeister was the first retiree, crashing his Skoda in the fog. —MNA/Reuters

English soccer faces rape allegations scandal

LONDON, 5 Oct—A teenage girl's allegations she was gang raped by at least seven professional soccer players in a luxury London hotel is threatening to rock English football with its worst-ever "players behaving badly" scandal.

The story has for days commanded the front pages of British tabloids, which reported that the 17-year-old said she consented to sex with one Premier League player, but that seven more from different teams joined in against her wishes.

Police have neither charged nor named any of the accused, but it has not stopped fans from speculating about who might have been involved by posting their guesses on soccer Web sites, opening a wider debate over players' privacy and libel.

It is also a story that English soccer can do without.

Several well known players, including England internationals, have in recent years tarnished the game with off-pitch antics that led to charges of assault and affray.

But the latest scandal could prove much more damaging to the game and the league because of the sheer number of players accused and the gravity of the allegations.

Police confirmed on Tuesday that detectives from a special sexual offences unit launched an investigation after the girl came forward and said she was raped and sexually assaulted at the five-star Grosvenor House Hotel in central London.

"The female made the allegation in person at a central London police station. There have been no arrests," police said.

Not surprisingly, the Football Association,

the governing body for the game in England, is keeping tight-lipped.

"We're not in a position to do or say anything that could get in the way of a police investigation," an FA spokesman told Reuters on Friday. "We're not in a position to comment at all," he said.

But unofficial comment is rife on the Internet with some sites fearing they could open themselves to legal action if players are falsely accused.

Web site operators and Internet service providers must remove defamatory statements from their sites once they are alerted to the offending material or they will lose protection provided to them under Britain's 1996 Defamation Act.

"We've temporarily closed our message boards because we don't want them to be abused and until the situation clears up a little bit," said a spokeswoman for football Web site rivals.net, which boasts 2 million users per month. But the biggest test of privacy may come at the weekend when fans across England, notorious for their colourful taunts, are expected to rile specific players with the rape allegations from the stands during live television broadcasts.

"I don't think the seriousness of these charges will make them hold back," a spokesman for the Football Supporters Association said. —MNA/Reuters

Beckham returns to training with Real Madrid

MADRID, 5 Oct—Real Madrid midfielder David Beckham continued his recovery from a painful foot injury by taking full part in training at the Spanish club on Friday.

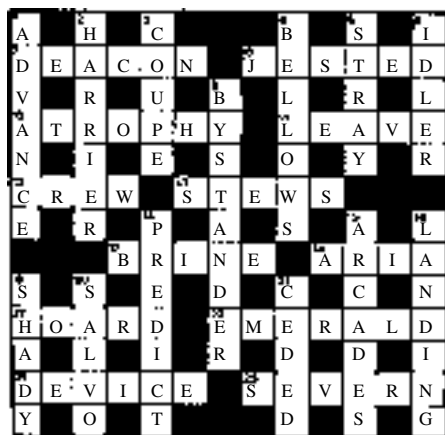
Real have not yet passed Beckham fit to play in Sunday's league game at home to Espanyol, however, with the club preferring to make an assessment on the eve of the match.

"(Beckham's status) is dependent on the evolution of the injury over the next 24 hours," Real's medical department said in its official report.

The England captain suffered the injury to the sole of his right foot in Real's 2-0 defeat by Valencia last weekend and was forced to miss the 3-1 win over Porto in the Champions League in midweek.

The player himself had said his place in the England side for the decisive Euro 2004 Group Seven qualifier in Turkey on October 11 was in doubt but his return to training should have allayed those fears.

MNA/Reuters

Answers for yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"

16:30 National News



8:05 am
7. Song of national race
8:15 am
8. Cute little dancers

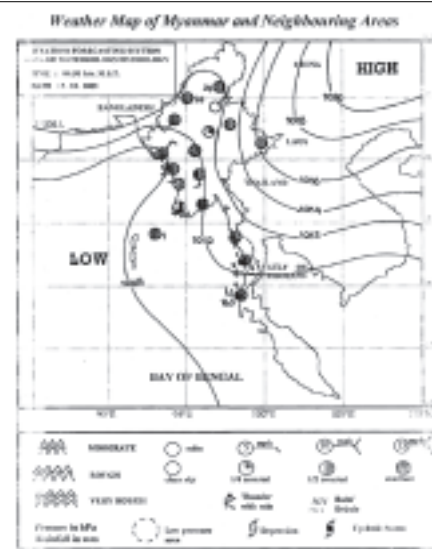
21:15 National News
21:20 Myanmar Profile

23:45 National News
23:50 Annual Pilgrims from
the River
23:55 The Beauty and Grace
of the hands

04:30 **National News**
04:35 Let us preserve the
Watershed Areas
04:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Cu-
cumber Salad"
04:45 **National News**

During the past 24 hours, rain scattered in Kachin State, upper divisions, isolated in Yangon, Ayeyarwady Divisions and weather has been cloudy in areas with isolated heavyfalls.

or thundershowers have been
er Sagaing and Taninthayi Divi-
awady, Mandalay and Magway
n partly cloudy in the remaining
n Taninthayi Division. The note-



Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taininthy Divisions, isolated in Yangon, Ayeeyawady, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Taininthy Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Kawthong (6.54) inches and Putao (1.34) inches.

Maximum temperature 4-10-2003 was 34.5°C (94°F). Minimum temperature on 5-10-2003 was 22.0°C (72°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 5-10-2003 was 65%. Total sunshine hours on 4-10-2003 was (9.5) hours approx. Rainfall on 5-10-2003 was nil at Yangon Airport. Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 2175 mm (85.63 inches) at Yangon Airport, 2264 mm (89.13 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 2300 mm (90.55 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 16 mph from Northeast at (14:30) hours MST on 4-10-2003. **Bay inference:** Weather is cloudy in West Central Bay, South Bay and partly cloudy in elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 6-10-2003:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Taninthayi Division, Chin and Mon States, isolated in Rakhine and Kachin States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers in southern Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-10-2003:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-10-2003:** Partly cloudy.

It is with profound sorrow that we mourn the passing away of U Win (aged 63), Director (Engineering), Engineering Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, father of Ma Chaw Su Win of Petronas Carigali, at 7 pm on Thursday (2-10-2003). We are grief stricken and share the sad moment equally together with the bereaved family.

**General Manager Mr Rusli Jusho and
staff of Petronas Carigali**

Radio
Myanmar

10.00 pm PEL

အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေ၊ အတီး၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲ
ဝင်များလေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန်မေတ္တာတော်
(ဝါသနာရှင်အဆင့်) (အမျိုးသား)

24. The next day's
programme

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects all-round construction of Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image

YANGON, 5 Oct — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, arrived at Mindhamma Hill in Insein Township at 11 am today. Yangon Divi-

sion Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the Mayor of Yangon, the Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and members of the Board of Trustees of Lawka Chantha Abhaya

Labha Muni Buddha Image welcomed the Prime Minister. First, the Prime Minister and party paid homage to the Buddha image.

Afterwards, responsible officials reported to the Prime Minister on all-round

construction tasks of the hill. The Prime Minister gave necessary instructions.

Later, the Prime Minister inspected the construction of religious buildings and left there later in the morning.

MNA

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attends monsoon paddy harvesting ceremony in Lashio

YANGON, 5 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence left here by air on 3 October morning and arrived at Lashio at 9 am.

Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint, senior military officers, national race leaders in Shan State (North), departmental officials, local authorities and members of social organizations wel-

comed them. First, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party attended the harvesting ceremony of 840-acre Hsinshweli model farm in Mansukwin, Lashio. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe spoke on the occasion.



Lt-Gen Aung Htwe views the 840-acre Hsinshweli monsoon paddy harvesting in Lashio District, Shan State (North). — MNA

comed them.

Also present were Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint, senior military officers, national race leaders in Shan State (North), departmental officials, local authorities, members of social organizations, agriculturists, local people and farmers.

First, the commander explained the purpose of the ceremony. The deputy commander reported to Lt-Gen Aung Htwe on arrangements for cultivation of the hybrid quality strain paddy, cultivation of Hsinshweli paddy, supervision and assistance, and work plans with the use of charts.

Afterwards, the manager of Shan State Myanmar Agriculture Service and agriculturists reported on progress in cultivation of paddy and other crops.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe pre-

sent 10 units of threshing and winnowing machines to in-charge of Shan State (North) Agricultural Supervisory Committee Joint-Commissioner U Yan Myo Aung Thein, K 1 million to an agriculturist who participated in successful cultivation of quality strain paddy, K 100,000 to the staff of MAS who participated in high yield paddy cultivation, and K 100,000 to the staff of MAS who participated in successful cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy. The commander presented prizes to farmer U Nai Eik Pe who

won first prize in paddy cultivation and Daw Aye Sar who won third prize.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe made a speech. He said the Head of State had given guidance on exerting effort for local rice sufficiency. If a region can produce sufficient rice for its own consumption, there is no need to import rice from other regions and local economy will prosper. Now, percentage of the production of paddy in Shan State (North) is higher than the previous year, and the region is enjoying the sufficiency of rice. Efforts must also be made to boost the yield of highland paddy. Profits gained from the increased production of paddy will be enjoyed by the farmers. Responsible officials, those in charge agricultural supervision and local farmers are to cooperate with each other for boosting production. Production of paddy can increase the per capita income and living standard of local people.

Thanks to the efforts of the government, Shan State

(North) has become peaceful, and roads that link northern and southern Shan State emerged in the region. This facilitates the flow of goods and Shan State (North) has developed.

The entire national people are to strive in unity as the government has been making all-out efforts for national development, putting Our Three Main Causes in the fore. The government is taking measures for bringing about harmonious development in all parts of the nation, and officials at different levels will provide

ice booths and farming equipment booths displayed at the harvesting ceremony. Later, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party attended the opening ceremony of the two-storey building for Seiktathukha Kyaungtaik Monastic Education School in Mawthiri Ward, Lashio. Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint, senior military officers, the national race leaders of Shan State

necessary assistance.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected harvesting, threshing and winnowing, and surveying of the paddy yield.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party looked into Myanmar Agriculture Serv-

(North) Special Region, Shan State level departmental officials, local authorities, service personnel, members of social organizations, the cultural troupes of national races, local people and wellwishers.

(See page 9)



Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party view demonstration on harvesting and threshing of paddy in Khayon Village, Kyaikmaraw Township. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects all-round construction of religious buildings on Mindhamma Hill.

MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects regional development in Kayin and Mon States

YANGON, 5 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, together with Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Commander of No 22 Light Infantry Division Brig-Gen Ngwe Thein, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Cho Tun Aung and officials, on 3 October, arrived at the construction site of Hpa-an University, where they were welcomed by Pro-Rector U Saw Han Shein and officials.

At the briefing hall, Chairman of Yuzana Construction Group U Htay Myint reported on completion of the main building and lecture halls and construction of entrance road to the university. Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the construc-

tion site and gave necessary instructions. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended the corner-stone laying ceremony of Hpa-an Government Technological College. Principal of the college Daw Than Than Htay reported on facts about the college and U Htay Myint on work done. Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave necessary instructions. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung and officials laid the corner-stones.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party then proceeded to Government Computer College and attended the cornerstone laying ceremony of the college. Before the ceremony, they inspected the scale model of the college. After that, Lt-Gen Maung Bo laid the casket at the designated

(See page 2)