

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Monday, 13 October, 2003

## Roadmap, State's own policy to build up modern developed nation Mass rally held in support of Prime Minister's clarification on seven-point roadmap

YANGON, 12 Oct— A mass rally, organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association, was held in support of Prime Minister's clarification on seven policies and programmes of the State (roadmap) at Yamanya Sports Ground in Mawlamyine, Mon State on 11 October morning.

Present on the occasion were Central Executive Committee members of USDA, members of USDAs of Mawlamyine, Mudon, Chaungzon, Thanbyuzayet, Yay, Kyaikmaraw, Paung, Thaton, Bilin and Kyaikto Townships in Mawlamyine and Thaton Districts, members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Working Committee for Women's

Computer College, departmental officials, nurses, merchants, industrialists, workers and local people totalling 23,000.

Before the mass rally, Sittoung column led by column leaders Staff Officer of Fire Services Department of Mon State U Thein Hlaing and Mawlamyine Township USDA Executive U Ngwe Ya together with column signboard and flag bearers marched into the Yamanya Sports Ground from the Mawlamyine No 10 Basic Education High School and took their designated places.

Similarly, Thanlwin Column led by column leaders Deputy Director of Mon State Immigration and National Registration Department U Than Win and



The chairman and members chanting slogans at the mass rally. — MNA

Mon State Forest Department U Than Soe and Mawlamyine Township USDA Executive U Than Aye and Gyaing Column led by Mon State Manager of Inland Water Transport U Pyay Nyein and township USDA Executive U Chit Ko Ko with column signboard and flag bearers marched into the Sports Ground from the front of No 8 Basic Education High School and Arthtaran Hotel and took their designated places.

At the rally, member of USDA Rector of the University of Mawlamyine Prof U San Tint presided over the mass rally together with Mon national Director U Kyin Pe (Retd), Kayin national Specialist Dr Saw Wah Htoo, PaO national PaO Literature and Cultural Troupe Central Committee member Thaton Township PLCT Patron U Khun Sein Maung and Mon

State WCWA member Mawlamyine University Physics Department Daw Khin Than Nwe. Township USDA members Daw Thida Aung Myint and Daw Aye Mya Thi acted as masters of ceremonies.

Rector U San Tint delivered a speech, saying that today's mass rally is to support the Prime Minister's speech on seven-point roadmap of the State, adding that on 30 August 2003, the Prime Minister declared the State's seven future policies and programmes that are crucially important for shaping the future of the Union of Myanmar.

In retrospect, in 1988, the nation was on the point of collapse due to the anarchy all over the country. Therefore, the Tatmadaw under unavoidable circumstances had to take up the State's duties.

After that, the Tatmadaw

made strenuous endeavours day and night to restore peace first and then to ensure smooth and secure transport and to fulfil the basic needs of the people. Simultaneously, it constructed infrastructures to strengthen the national economy, and in cooperation with the people implemented the twelve objectives to build up a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Consequently, the nation has developed in all spheres. It has been witnessed by all the people, he noted.

Braving various destructive acts and obstacles, the State Peace and Development Council with genuine goodwill enlisting the strength of the people, took measures phase by phase for raising the living standard of the entire people. Now, in order to more effectively carry out the tasks in the

interest of the entire people, duties have been assigned to the Prime Minister to implement the State's future policies and programmes. He said that on behalf of the entire people he supports the State's future policies and programmes.

The Prime Minister clarified the State's future political roadmap dividing it into three parts.

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Rector U San Tint delivers a speech at the mass rally. MNA

Affairs, War Veterans Organization, Red Cross Society, Auxiliary Fire Brigade, faculty members and students of University of Mawlamyine, Mawlamyine Education College, Mawlamyine Technological College and Government

Mawlamyine Township USDA Executive U Than Lwin with column signboard and flag bearers marched into the Sports Ground from Ye Baw Gon roundabout.

Likewise, Arthtaran Column led by column leaders Assistant Director of



Those in attendance chanting slogans at the mass rally to support the State's future policies and programmes. — MNA

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 13 October, 2003

### The successful historic trip

The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) was formed on 8 August 1976 to cooperate among nations of the region on economic, social and cultural affairs and for the development of Southeast Asian nations.

Since full membership in ASEAN on 23 July 1997, Myanmar has been actively participating in efforts to promote friendship and cooperation among member countries.

Friendship and cooperation among member countries has developed through exchange of visits of Heads of State and Government and it contributes towards regional peace, stability and development.

Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt, together with leaders of other ASEAN nations, attended the 9th ASEAN Summit held in Bali, the Republic of Indonesia, from 7 to 8 October.

The Prime Minister also attended the Summits of the ASEAN Heads of State/Government and Heads of State/Government of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, ASEAN-China Summit, ASEAN-Japan Summit, ASEAN-Korea Summit and ASEAN-India Summit. During the summits, leaders from the ten ASEAN countries signed the ASEAN Concord II which states a solid platform to achieve an ASEAN Economic Community, ASEAN Security Community, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community.

General Khin Nyunt, on 6 October, met with Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad and Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Goh Chok Tong and on 8 October he met with Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Prime Minister of Thailand, and President Madame Megawati Soekarnoputri of Indonesia. The leaders cordially discussed matters relating to bilateral relations and common interests.

At the meeting of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and President Madame Megawati Soekarnoputri, the Indonesian President said that during her visit to Myanmar, she was briefed on plans for development of Myanmar by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe; and that she hoped Myanmar would develop speedily; and expressed her wish to promote bilateral relations between the two countries.

General Khin Nyunt said that the two countries have been forging bilateral relations based on mutual friendship and understanding since the time of the independence struggles in the two countries. He expressed the wish to further strengthen the friendship based on fine traditions, adding that the two countries should exchange delegations to further promote the economic cooperation.

The statement, issued after the summit, said that ASEAN warmly welcomed the pledge and future policy and programme of Myanmar to transform itself into a democratic nation and believed that the seven-point roadmap is pragmatic approach and deserves understanding and support. Economic sanctions are not helpful in promoting peace and stability essential for democracy to take root.

We firmly believe that the recent trip to Bali, Indonesia, of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt is the successful one as during the trip, the Prime Minister has discussed friendship and common interests with leaders of the region and promoted relations with PRC, Japan, ROK and India.

## Performing Arts Competitions Holding Leading Committee Chairman meets team managers of states/divisions

YANGON, 12 Oct — Chairman of Leading Committee for Holding the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe met managers of the states and divisions teams to the competitions at No 1 Transit Centre (Bayintnaung) here this evening.

Present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the leading committee Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein and members, chairmen of the work committee and subcommittees and officials, team managers and guests.

Secretary of the leading committee Commander

of No 3 Military Region Col Tint Hsan introduced the team managers to the leading committee chairman.

On the occasion, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe made an address and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein extended greetings.

Chairmen and officials of the work committee and subcommittees reported on their tasks being carried out and the team managers on their teams.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe fulfilled the requirements and made closing remarks.

Afterwards, the commander inspected round the hostels, dining hall, health care centre and welfare shops for the contestants. The commander also spoke words of encouragement to the contestants and gave necessary instructions to the officials.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe meets managers of the teams from States and Divisions. — MNA

## Religious Affairs Minister pays reverence to Sayadaws in Mawlamyine, Bago

YANGON, 12 Oct — Central Executive Committee Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung on 10 October afternoon arrived at Mawlamyine, Mon State and paid reverence and pre-

sented robes and offertories to Sayadaws.

In the afternoon, the minister donated cash to the funds of the Mahamyatmuni Buddha Image, Kyeikthanlan Pagoda and Zinamanaung Pagoda in Mawlamyine through boards of trustees.

Yesterday, Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min also paid reverence to Sayadaws of Kyakhetwai, Panhlaing, Dhammalinkara, Myoma and Oktha monasteries in Bago and donated offertories. — MNA

## Contestants, managers, members of panel of judges arrive to participate in performing arts competitions

YANGON, 12 Oct — Contestants, managers and members of panel of judges of the states and divisions, who are going to participate in the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions, arrived here this morning and afternoon.

Today arrivals from Mon State, Shan State, Yangon Division and Sagaing Division were welcomed by officials concerned.

MNA

## Road, bridge construction in Ayeyawady Division inspected

YANGON, 12 Oct — Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein on 11 October morning inspected road and bridge construction along the Yangon-Maubin-Kyeiklatt-Pyabon Road.

He also saw over Pyabon Bridge construction project site where engineers concerned reported on driving of barge on Dedaye bank and Pyabon bank, and other construction tasks.

MNA

## Ambassador presents Credentials to Austrian President

YANGON, 13 Oct — U Nyunt Maung Shein, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Austria, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr Thomas Klestil, President of the Republic of Austria, on 16 September 2003, in Vienna. — MNA

## Opening ceremony of youth education training camp held

YANGON, 12 Oct — Organized by Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, a ceremony to open the youth education training camp (6/2003) was held at Dagon Thiri hall of No 1 Basic Education High School, Dagon Township this

morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Present on the occasion were President of MMCWA Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and CEC mem-

bers, Patron of Supervisory Committee for Yangon Division MCWA Daw Khin Thet Htay, Military Region Commanders, Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and members, Chairman of Supervisory Committee for Yangon Division MCWA Dr Hla Myint and committee members, Chairmen of District and Township PDCs, members of MCWA, instructors, youths and guests. First, Daw Khin Thet Htay explained the purpose of the opening of the camp. President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe accepted a commemorative emblem and flag presented by Daw Khin Thet Htay.

Next, Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party cordially greeted those present.

Altogether 40 youths—20 boys and 20 girls are attending the camp which starts from today up to 17 October. — MNA



MMCWA President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe cordially greets the youths at the opening ceremony. — YANGON COMMAND



## Focus of the war against terror should not lead to another arms race or spark the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction throughout the world

The following are excerpts from the speech delivered by Jean-Bertrand Aristide, President of Haiti, at 58th session of UNGA.

Haiti was actively working towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. But, economic globalization threatened to derail those efforts. To reach its objectives, the country must promote good governance, fight the war on corruption, curtail the drug trade and ensure free and fair elections.

He hoped that the **reduction in global military spending during the past decade and the rise in spending for human development would promote both human and economic growth.** At the same time, the international focus of the war against terror should not lead to another arms race or spark the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction throughout the world. He hoped that the international community would work assiduously to ensure peace wherever wars were inflicting untold suffering.

Violence and slavery were rooted in darkness, he said, but peace and freedom were rooted in light. Haiti, though



**Jean-Bertrand Aristide, President of Haiti**

impoverished, would continue to shine beyond the darkness of colonization like a gleaming beacon. It was the geographical axis for the freedom of all blacks. It was the mother of liberty, and its sons and daughters the product of that liberty.

**Jean-Bertrand Aristide, President of Haiti,**

## The United Nations to increasingly become a meeting place between cultures and civilizations.



**Ricardo Maduro, President of Honduras**

Ricardo Maduro, President of Honduras, said that his country's commitment to the United Nations had been demonstrated by its decision, although possessed of only modest resources, to send a humanitarian mission to Iraq.

In the same spirit of participation, Honduras also

renewed its commitment to see the Organization hold a referendum on the status of Western Sahara. Along with its sister republics of Central America, it had developed plans to combat international terrorism, as well as organized crime, in all its forms. His Government had put forward timely initiatives aimed at increasing exchanges of information and creating an order for regional arrests, so that the enjoyment of impunity through the crossing of a border was put to an end. **The Central American region had, moreover, moved forward in adequately limiting investment in weapons, so as to ensure adequate spending on social issues.**

Hopeful that the slow pace of human development seen throughout the world could be overcome with growing international solidarity and the more equitable and just distribution of the benefits of globalization, he urged the United Nations to increasingly become a meeting place between cultures and civilizations. The Organization should be made more efficient in meeting new challenges and channeling differences.

**Ricardo Maduro, President of Honduras**

## The Baghdad bombing and other violent eruptions elsewhere in the world grimly remind us that serious threats to world peace and security remain

Terrorism has always menaced the human race in one form or the other. Yet, never before have we witnessed acts of terrorism so organized, so frequent and so lethal, threatening international peace and security in its entirety.

**The Baghdad bombing and other violent eruptions elsewhere in the world grimly remind us that serious threats to world peace and security remain,** undermining the noble principles that so far had contributed to the survival of the world order and the sustenance of the values that we upheld.

Yet the persistence of these de-



**HE Mr. Fathulla Jamee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Rep of Maldives**

plorable acts signals our failure to address the fundamental causes of these threats.

Bold decisions need to be taken swiftly to address them.

We should all recognize that the strength and stability of the international security system or any political order would be determined by the strength of its weakest members, and not just the endurance or the prevalence of the strongest among them.

**HE Mr. Fathulla Jamee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Rep of Maldives**

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## The United Nations in need of reform

Prince 'Ulukalala Lavaka Ata, Prime Minister of Tonga, said attacks such as "9/11" and those that were carried out at the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad last month served as stirring reminders to all to remain vigilant and strong in fighting terrorism.

Thus, after careful study of the United Nations conventions on terrorism, Tonga was now a party to all 12 instruments. But merely becoming parties to those instruments was not enough, as concrete steps would continue to be needed for small countries like his to fully and meaningfully implement their obligations.

Tonga continued to participate in national and regional activities designed to assist countries implement viable counter-terrorism measures. In that regard, the ongoing assistance of traditional development partners and other organizations, such as the Commonwealth and Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, had been a boon.

On HIV/AIDS, he said the epidemic remained a devastating development and public health challenge for all, particularly in small and remote island communities. He



**Prince 'Ulukalala Lavaka Ata, Prime Minister of Tonga**

welcomed the work of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the funding it had recently approved to assist Tonga and other countries in the region. That action complimented the country's own national strategies and programmes to combat the epidemic.

Concluding, he said that one of the lessons of "9/11" and Iraq was not just that the United Nations was in need of reform, but the urgency with which that reform was so desperately needed. Describing Iraq as a "sharp backdrop" for the Organization, he reiterated his support for calls to reform the Security Council by expanding its permanent and non-permanent members, adding, "Otherwise we shall be dealing with today's realities through mechanism of yesteryear".

**Prince 'Ulukalala Lavaka Ata, Prime Minister of Tonga**

## Iraq must regain its Arab, regional and international role

Shaikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al-Khalifa, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain, said that since its inception, the United Nations had carried out the responsibilities of its Charter in a range of fields relevant to both the lives of individuals and to the international community as a whole, such as peacekeeping operations, development programmes and the promotion of human rights.

However, **any achievements the Organization had made during the past 58 years threatened to be undone by lingering regional conflicts, civil war and ethnic strife in many parts of the world.** Stressing that the wider Middle East also faced great challenges, as well as unique opportunities that would determine the future of the region for generations to come, he said it was fundamental that the international community, the United Nations and influential parties normalize political, economic and civil life in Iraq. That country must regain its Arab, regional and international role. Furthermore, the Iraqi people must be allowed to rebuild their own economic, political and social foundations.

**Shaikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al-Khalifa, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain**

## Islamic nations call for US out of Iraq

PUTRAJAYA, (Malaysia) 12 Oct—Delegates to the world's largest gathering of Islamic nations opened their biggest meeting in three years Saturday with calls for the eviction of US troops from Iraq.

The US-appointed Iraqi Governing Council also sought to get backing for its effort to prevent the deployment of Turkish peacekeepers to its territory.

"We don't like to have any peacekeeping troops from neighboring countries, because it might cause problems inside Iraq," said Riyadh al-Fadhli, an Iraqi delegate attending preparatory meetings for next week's summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

"The situation now in Iraq is very sensitive," al-Fadhli said. "It cannot take more difficulties and more dangerous situations inside Iraq."

The gathering of the 57 countries in the Islamic Conference, the world's biggest Muslim political grouping, is its first regular summit since the Sept. 11 attacks brought terrorism to the center of world politics.

Divisions over Iraq threatened to prevent Islamic leaders from finding a unified voice to address a widespread feeling that the war against terrorism has turned into a war against Muslims.

Senior officials opened discussions with a prayer Saturday in Malaysia's new administrative capital, Putrajaya. They will lay out positions for their foreign ministers and

national leaders to consider later in the week, ranging from Israel's airstrike on Syria to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians.

But Iraq took center stage.

Musa Braiza, head of the Jordanian delegation, said a resolution would acknowledge that positive change was underway in Iraq but would emphasize the full restoration of Iraqi sovereignty.

Abdelouahed Belkaciz, the OIC's secretary general, said Islamic nations "are still under the strain of extremely difficult challenges and unprecedented threats to our countries' independence, sovereignty, security and courses."

Top priority should go to "the eviction of foreign forces from Iraq, allowing the United Nations to administer Iraqi affairs (as a) prelude to restoration of Iraq's independence, and to the rebuilding of what has been destroyed over the past 20 years, all in accordance with a clear and short timetable," he said.

Host Malaysia, led by blunt-spoken Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, had attempted to keep the US-picked Iraqi council from taking the seat formerly held by Saddam's government, viewing the council as puppets.—Internet

## China to improve export tax rebate system

BEIJING, 12 Oct—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao Friday urged all localities across the country to work to facilitate reform on the export tax rebate system which may have an impact on the benefits of local governments.

Wen said at a meeting on the reform that with the rapid growth of China's exports, the problem that the share of tax falls to be refunded to enterprises has become increasingly prominent. This has affected the normal operation of export-oriented enterprises, especially those engaged in export business.

The Premier attributed the failure to the unreasonable export tax rebate mechanism, saying it failed to meet the needs for industrial restructuring and the volume of the rebates has grown far beyond the capacity of the central finance. As a result, "the more rapid exports grow, the heavier the financial burden the central finance faces," Wen said.

To reform the current export tax rebate system, he said, efforts should be intensified to deepen the reform of the financial and foreign trade systems, which will help improve enterprises' competitive edge, export product mix and the efficiency of export business, alleviate the government's financial burden, promote exports and enhance management of tax refunding.

China has accumulated sufficient foreign exchange reserves thanks to years of fast growth in economic development and exports as well, which creates a good condition for the reform, Wen said, stressing, "we must lose no time to promote the reform".

According to Wen, plans have been drawn out for the reform after mass investigations. The major reform measures cover readjustment of the export tax rebate rates, with the increased share of rebated tax paid by both the central and local fiscal departments. —MNA/Xinhua

## US and France face diplomatic gulf on Iraq

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct—France is eager to "turn this bitter page" in the dispute over Iraq, says Paris' ambassador in Washington, but significant differences remain with the United States over Iraq's future.

France and America, allies for two centuries, have taken steps to repair a searing fissure, created when France opposed the US-led invasion of Iraq to overthrow Saddam Hussein.

While there is cooperation in Afghanistan and the Balkans, Bush administration officials say US pique with Paris, and suspicions about its long-term intentions, remains acute.

"One has to at some point decide if they really do believe this crap about multipolarity and that they have some kind of mission to counterbalance US policy," a senior US official told Reuters. "That's unacceptable."

France insists it is not developing Europe as a rival to the American superpower but US officials are skeptical.

A US perception that France wants America to fail in Iraq does not bode well for French-American relations, says Phillip Gordon, an expert on France with the Brookings Institution.

If President Bush is re-elected in 2004, "France will be listened to less than ever in Washington," he wrote recently in Le Figaro.

"In the event of a unilateral American failure in Iraq, France could congratulate itself by having been proven right, but it will surely suffer from the tangible repercussions of attacks and of the instability of a failed occupation. This would be tragic for the Iraqis, for the future of the region and for France's own security," he added.

Internet



Koreans clash with riot police during a rally to oppose possible dispatch of South Korean troops to Iraq in Seoul, on 10 October, 2003. The South Korean Parliamentary defence committee chairman said on Wednesday that the National Assembly should send its own fact-finding mission to Iraq to help the government decide whether to send combat troops to the war-torn country. —INTERNET

## Experts say traditional Chinese medicine safe in SARS treatment

BEIJING, 12 Oct—The combination of Western medicine and traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) is a safe treatment method for severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), according to medical experts attending an international seminar here Friday.

The combination method can alleviate the breathing difficulties of SARS patients and help reduce inflammation, said Deputy Director Li Zhenji of the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine at a Press conference.

According to research reports submitted to the seminar, which focuses on treating SARS with the combination of Western medicine and TCM, SARS patients of identical age and physical condition enjoy higher survival chances using the combination method compared with those just receiving Western medicine alone.

The cost of the combination method, experts say, is also lower compared with the purely Western medicine method.

Research findings also show that of doctors and nurses attending to SARS patients, those that had taken Chinese herbal medicine as prevention were all free from SARS infection during the SARS outbreak in parts of China in the first half of this year.

MNA/Xinhua



US soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment secure the perimeter, on 11 October, 2003 as troops search a house for an alleged bombmaker during an early morning raid in Tikrit, Iraq. —INTERNET

## China gives "farming" therapy to mentally ill people in recovery

SHANGHAI, 12 Oct—Chinese psychiatrists have come up with a novel therapy for the mentally ill — let them do moderate physical labour on farmland or in orchards during their recovery after a period of treatment.

Moderate farm work will enable the mental patients to relax and lessen their chances of relapse, experts of the Shanghai Mental Health Centre said Friday on World Mental Health Day, which falls on October 10 each year.

The centre has, working in cooperation with the Shanghai-based Shenlong Forestry Company, set up a two-thirds-hectare farming base in the suburbs, offering therapeutic programmes like growing crops or planting fruit trees or breeding aqua-

tics.

The centre plans to accommodate 200 people with mental problems in the initial stage, who will work and live in both a self-reliant and cooperative manner. According to experts, many recovering mental patients are usually disengaged and have difficulties in further recovery because of the lack of professional instruction and guidance.

In addition to traditional methods helping mentally-ill people, experts in recent years

have come up with a series of new therapies involving music, sports, painting, cooking, knitting and doing Chinese calligraphy. Yao Weixin, a senior psychiatrist and official with Shanghai's mental health promotion department, cited the farming therapy as conducive to increase patients' working ability, distract their wrongly-placed attention, reduce hallucinations, and rid themselves from forced thinking resulting from their mental illness.

MNA/Xinhua



# US FACES WORLDWIDE PROTESTS, IRAQI RESISTANCE



Smoke rises from a burned truck as Iraqi men stand near it in the city of Baiji, some 250 kms (160 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 10 October, 2003. The truck, which delivered water supply for US troops through Baiji, exploded and its driver was reported seriously wounded. —INTERNET



US soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment secure the perimeter, on 11 October, 2003 as troops search a house for an alleged bombmaker during an early morning raid in Tikrit, Iraq. —INTERNET



An American soldier guards an Iraqi family during a raid on their home near Tikrit, Iraq . Iraq and Afghanistan have appealed for the support of other Islamic nations during the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in Malaysia. —INTERNET



Turkish students chant anti-American slogans as they march during a protest in front of the Istanbul University, Turkey, in this on 8 October, 2003 file photo, a day after the parliament debated the government's motion for dispatching Turkish soldiers to Iraq . Turkey became the first Muslim country to approve sending peacekeeping troops to Iraq without requiring that the United States first turn control over to the United Nations . The president of Iraq's US-appointed Governing Council on 11 October, 2003 objected to the deployment of Turkish peacekeepers but said the issue is still under discussion, seeking to play down differences with the Americans over the issue. —INTERNET



Egyptians chant anti-US slogans during a demonstration at the Al-Azhar mosque in Cairo. Nearly 3,000 Egyptians gathered outside the mosque to protest against the recent Israeli raid on Syria and the US occupation in Iraq. —INTERNET

South Korean civic group members and students march in Seoul, South Korea, after a rally opposing a possible dispatch of South Korean troops to Iraq on 11 October, 2003. The banners say 'No dispatch of South Korean troops to Iraq and Oppose the occupation in Iraq by USA' More than 2,000 protesters attended the protest. —INTERNET



## Blasts start oil fires in Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 12 Oct**—Two explosions caused large fires at two parallel oil pipelines in northern Iraq today, the director general of Iraq's Northern Oil Co said.

The first explosion started a fire at 7:15pm on a pipeline linking the northern city of Kirkuk with al-Debs oil fields, further to the north, Adel Gazzaz told *AFP*.

A second blast at 8:30pm started a fire on a parallel pipeline running at about five metres from the first, he said.

Firefighters rushed to the area in an attempt to extinguish the fires, Gazzaz added.

The first explosion was caused by a bomb planted on the pipeline and the second pipeline blew up because of the heat, firefighters said.

Earlier today, unknown assailants hurled hand grenades at a disused portion of an oil pipeline outside Kirkuk, starting a small fire, police and oil company officials said.

Police commander Jawdat Mohammad told *AFP* that gunmen threw the grenades at about 5am at the pipeline near the village of Hattin, about 45km north of Kirkuk.

Iraqi police, firefighters and coalition troops converged on the area to put out the fire and search for the assailants, Mohammad said, adding no arrests had been made so far.

Mannaa Abdullah al-Ubaidi, director general of Iraq's northern oil company, confirmed "there was no major damage, just a small fire started by oil remnants in the pipeline, which has not been in use and was targeted at dawn with hand grenades". —*Internet*

## US denies Iraq war link in Ford Belgium job cuts

**BRUSSELS, 12 Oct** — The United States on Friday dismissed reports linking 3,000 job cuts at a Belgian plant of US car giant Ford Motor Co to Belgium's opposition to the war in Iraq.

Ford Europe is to cut the jobs at its plant in Genk in eastern Belgium amid slumping sales and cut-throat price competition. Two newspapers said the decision was linked to Belgium's opposition to the US-led invasion.

"There is no link whatsoever between these matters," the US Embassy said in a statement.

"Overseas direct investment decisions are solely the responsibility of the investing companies," it added.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Malaysia urges Muslim peacekeeping in Iraq under UN

**KUALA LUMPUR, 12 Oct** — Malaysia said on Friday that Muslims should take responsibility for peacekeeping in Iraq, but only under the command of the United Nations.

Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar, speaking on the eve of an Islamic summit, said Muslim countries should not send troops to help the US-led coalition that toppled Saddam Hussein. "You cannot have peacekeepers from countries which are not Muslim," Syed Hamid told a news conference before the eight-day meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) in Malaysia's new administrative capital, Putrajaya.

"It must be done under the umbrella of the UN. We cannot take part if it is still under the United States," he said.

Syed Hamid said Turkey, a Muslim neighbour of Iraq, was a special case. When pressed about Turkey's potential involvement, he replied: "I think the Iraqis are not happy."

Iraq and the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians are expected to dominate the meeting, which will be the first OIC summit since the September 11 attacks on the United States in 2001. Up to 35 heads of state are expected to attend. A delegation from Iraq's US-appointed Governing Council, and a Palestinian representative are also expected to be there.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Poll says UK opposition overtakes Blair's Labour

**LONDON, 12 Oct** — Britain's opposition Conservatives have overtaken the ruling Labour Party of Prime Minister Tony Blair, who continues to suffer a post-Iraq war slump, according to an opinion poll published Sunday.

The YouGov survey in the *Mail* Sunday gave the right-wing Conservatives — who dominated 20th century British politics with leaders like Winston Churchill and Margaret Thatcher — a 38 percent level of support.

That was five points higher than Labour's 33 percent.

Conservative leader Iain Duncan Smith, who defied a plot to oust him at this week's party conference, saw his approval rating rise to 31 percent from 22 percent a week ago.

Blair's approval rating

was down to 37 percent from 40 percent a week ago, according to the survey of 2,205 people interviewed Friday and Saturday.

Duncan Smith, trying to make political capital out of a dire year for Blair since his decision to go to war split Britain down the middle, said his party would mount a serious challenge at the next general election, expected in 2005. "The truth is we do have a hell of an opportunity, with the government in serious trouble and disarray," he told the *Sunday Express*. —*Internet*

## China Merchants Bank opens representative office in New York

**BEIJING, 12 Oct** — The first representative office of China Merchants Bank (CMB) has opened in New York, in a landmark move of Chinese banks in the international finance market.

It is also the first representative office of a Chinese business bank authorized by the US banking regulatory structure since 1996.

CMB has intended to set up a representative office in the United States since 1999 and made great efforts in its applications under both Chinese financial regulations and the US laws.

*MNA/Xinhua*



A US Army soldier mans a heavy machinegun outside the Spanish embassy after an official was shot dead while leaving his home in the Baghdad suburb of Mansour on 9 October, 2003. The Spanish government, facing media criticism at home over the killing, insisted that its personnel in Iraq were properly protected. —*INTERNET*

## Vietnam strives to control blindness

**HANOI, 12 Oct** — Vietnam will make greater efforts to control blindness which still casts shadow on the country.

Over 50,000 people will be offered eye examinations, consultation and treatment free of charge, while more than 7,000 poor patients with impaired eyesight will receive free operations, according to a report of the local newspaper *Pioneer* on Friday.

Specifically, the Central Institute of Ophthalmology in Hanoi will conduct free surgeries for 300 patients in the capital city.

The incidence of people with impaired eyesight in Vietnam dropped from 1.25 per cent in 1995 to 0.63 per cent in 2002. There are now 500,000 blind people and 1.5 million visually-impaired ones throughout the country. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## Cambodia to host regional conference on poverty reduction

**MANILA, 12 Oct** — The Second Regional Conference on Poverty Reduction Strategies will be held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on October 16-18, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), one of the four sponsors of the meeting, announced here Thursday.

The meeting, jointly sponsored by ADB, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank, will be attended by delegates from Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Mongolia, East Timor, and Vietnam, an ADB statement said. Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka will send their observers to the meeting.

While decades of strong growth in the region contributed to some of the fastest declining poverty rates anywhere in the world, for many of the lower-income Asian countries, progress on steadily reducing poverty and achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) remains a serious challenge. The MDGs are a set of eight goals pledged by world leaders to halve poverty, eradicate hunger, put every boy and girl in school and improve health and environment indicators by 2015. As a way to address these challenges and help countries meet their poverty reduction objectives, low-income countries in Asia and around the world have been increasingly developing National Poverty Reduction Strategies as a vehicle to set policy and guide progress. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## Philippines' top oil firm signs contracts to upgrade refinery

**MANILA, 12 Oct** — Contracts worth 63 million US dollars to upgrade refineries have been signed between Petron Corp, the top oil firm in Philippines, and an international consortium, Petron said on Friday.

The projects would allow Petron's products to meet stricter anti-pollution requirements stipulated in a Clean Air Law passed in the 1990s, the company said in a statement to the Philippine Stock Exchange.

The consortium includes Stone and Webster International Inc and CTCT Corp of Taiwan, and the two companies won the engineering procurement and construction contracts with Petron worth 49.17 million US dollars and 767.27 million pesos (13.98 million US dollars) respectively, the statement added. — *MNA/Xinhua*



In this 16 April, 2003 file photo taken in Baghdad, books that survived a fire set by ransackers are seen on the floor of the Iraqi National Library where some 17,000 of books were lost following the US led war on Iraq. But after decades of censorship under Saddam Hussein and devastating postwar plunder, Iraqi book lovers at Frankfurt's Book Fair say they are eager to restore a vibrant literary scene to their struggling country and set forth its ancient literary tradition. —*INTERNET*



# Democracy does not come down from heaven

Aung Moe San

In laying down a political programme, it is required to set up the strategy and tactical programmes. Tactical programmes are the ways that involve organizing and nurturing the people based on political, economic and social experiences in order to accomplish the strategic goal. They therefore are the stopovers along the long march of the revolution.

It is essential that a political programme takes its base on objective social and economic conditions of the society concerned. A political programme subjectively laid down and free from the objective social and economic conditions will meet its end with numerous sufferings. It can be seen that certain political programmes had failed to realize their goals in the history of Myanmar. Myanmar clearly has laid down the goal of building a democratic nation and phase-by-phase political programme (roadmap) that corresponds with her present social conditions. It is required to collectively strive for the accomplishment of the goal through the National Convention. In undertaking the tasks for meeting the basic human needs such as food, clothing and shelter, man can attain his goal commensurate with the degree of development of productive forces under his management. Productive relations or social relations cannot be carried out at will. A combined set of productive relations is called an economic system. It is from this foundation that wisdom, laws, and political programme of man emerge. It is required to uphold this trend of modern political economy. It is because laws and political programmes cannot be drawn as desired by man. They cannot stand by themselves. They must take their base in objective social conditions.

A constitution which corresponds with the objective conditions of the country may not be in harmony with her objective conditions when her productive forces develop. It is natural to amend the inharmonious part of the constitution. Development of a system requires to meet the material preconditions. In the volume-2 of "An inquiry into the poverty of nations" written by Dr Gunnar Myrdal, it is mentioned that political democracy means a popular government elected through universal suffrage, independent administration of justice, and extensive civil liberty. The west Europe was not able to enjoy the democratic rights as today during the industrial revolution. The ruling class gradually increased the civil liberty only when they felt they had established well. Legal, social political and racial equalities are the civil rights. They are now called the rule of law. There emerged parliamentary representative systems, constitutional monarchies, semi-representative systems.

They are far from meeting the definition of democracy today. The voting right continued to be restricted according to wealth and education qualification. This practice existed up to the 20th century. Restriction on the right to vote imposed according to wealth was lifted first in the United States and France.

There is not an instance in the history of the world that a democratic system could be established and practised in a short period in an under-developed country. Only when

their economies develop, their living standards are raised, their literacy rates are high, and they can enjoy equal rights for basic human needs, can the full-fledged democracy begin to be practised. Furthermore, there are other preconditions that they must have sufficient experience in civil liberty and effective responsive political institutions. According to the experience of new democratic nations in Central Europe, East Europe, and southern Europe, establishment of a democratic government before the maturity of economic and political condition has led to dictatorship. The practise of democracy politics in immature stages of Latin American countries has also run into difficulty. This should also be taken into consideration.

In western European countries, affluent class had to try for centuries to win the voice in the government administration. Likewise, workers and poor farmers also had to try for decades to win the right to vote. Due to a rise in the people's education standard and their diligent efforts, there emerged universal suffrage in which everyone had the right to cast the vote. During the 19th century, women had more rights because of the organizations' claims and wishes of the people. In Asian countries, people got their political rights laid down by their own state without having to claim the rights. This is because they could not fully exercise the rights they got. In the post-independence era, the newly independent Asian countries included in their constitutions democratic rights which were enjoyed by the European nations only in the advanced and modern stage. The idea of universal suffrage is related with the concept of equalitarianism which is now popular in the world. Well-known western constitution experts also contributed in drafting such new constitutions. They had not seriously thought whether it would be practical or not and what consequences would follow if a system with the full characteristics of democracy was introduced in developing countries. And there is hardly any serious thought to this point. It is required to keep in mind how the new democratic nations which emerged in the East Europe, Central Europe and Southern Europe were unstable. New generations of the big democratic nations of the West Europe should also bear in mind that the system in which limited casting of votes was practised up to the period of some 30 or 40 years ago when their countries had already become modern developed ones. It is likely that most of the western countries have neglected or forgotten the weaknesses of political constitutions which were drafted during the time when their countries had not developed. Those constitutions are different from now.

The above-mentioned facts are the assessments of Dr Gunnar Myrdal. If we look from the natural law point of view, most of the old East Europe socialist countries had broken up and bloodshed occurred in their democratic revolution. It is needed for Myanmar to take lessons from these incidents. It is also true that the constitutions of Myanmar drafted in the past were unable to turn the nation into a modern developed one. The State's constitution drafted in 1947 mostly included the constitutional rights of western industrialized nations. The 1974 constitution also failed to run the country properly due to the speedy establishment of the socialist system.

That is why it is required to draft the accurate and correct State constitution in accord with the present socioeconomic development of the country drawing lessons from the advantages and disadvantages of the State's constitutions of the past. Scientists, whenever they discover natural law, have to wait until the people come to understand it.

Similarly, in political affairs or social science, democracy does not come down from heaven. It will take some time to try to establish the democratic state.

(Translation: MWT+ST)

Myanma Alin+Kyemon: 6-10-2003

## Myanmar bags two gold, three silver in Asian Youth Wushu Championship

YANGON, 12 Oct — In Kunsu contest (age 12-14) of the second Asian Youth Wushu Championship held in Beijing, the People's Republic of China, Ma Yin Min Thu of BEHS No 2 in Sangyoung Township won the third, Vietnam the first and Japan the second.

It is the first time for Myanmar to participate in the championship. Among the eight Myanmar contestants, seven won ten medals — two gold, three silver and 5 bronze.

The victorious Myanmar sports team will arrive back here on 14 October. — MNA



Bronze medalist Ma Yin Min Thu. — NLM

## 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



## Roadmap, State's own policy...

(from page 16)

Dams and reservoirs, sluice gates were built and river water pumping projects and underground water tapping projects implemented all over the nation to ensure development of agro-economic sector.

As a result, over 150 dams and reservoirs have been constructed and 265 river water pumping projects implemented, thereby contributing to extended cultivation of over 2 million acres of paddy. In the education sector, more basic education schools, universities and colleges were opened the length and breadth of the nation for improvement of the national education standard and creating the opportunity to pursue the education throughout the nation.

That is why there are over 40,000 basic education schools across the nation in 2003 when compared with

opened after designating the development zones in states and divisions for creating the opportunity for students to pursue the higher education. Therefore, there were 32 universities and colleges in the nation in 1988, and there are now 154 in total.

There were altogether 617 hospitals in 1988 and there are now 757, and 114 hospitals were upgraded. Thus, the government has been able to improve the health care services of the public.

The second part of the Prime Minister's speech includes those to be taken as lessons. One of which is the national reconciliation, the unprecedented achievement in Myanmar history. Myanmar is giving priority to forging the national solidarity and the national reconciliation based on Union Spirit. Making efforts for regional development and im-



Rector U San Tint chairs the mass rally together with Director (Retd) U Kyin Pe, Dr Saw Wah Htoo, U Khun Sein Maung and Lecturer Daw Khin Than Nwe. — MNA

proved after designating the development zones in states and divisions for creating the opportunity for students to pursue the higher education. Therefore, there were 32 universities and colleges in the nation in 1988, and there are now 154 in total.

That is why the conflict that reigned among the national races for over 40 years came to an end.

At a time when peace and tranquillity prevail in the nation, the government had been able to convene the National Convention in 1993. The representatives from people of all walks of life attended the convention to be able to draft a new constitution of the State.

Human resources, natural resources, capital, technology and tranquil political environment are of paramount importance in building a genuine democratic nation. However much disturbances and obstacles are, the State Peace and Development Council has publicly announced the future politi-

cal policies and programmes of the State without losing sight of its goal.

The entire national people of Myanmar want peace and development the way the ancient men longed for the sun and moon.

The seven-point political roadmap of the State is the prerequisite in building a peaceful modern developed democratic nation the entire national races long for. Therefore, I enthusiastically tabled the motion which calls for "active participation of the entire national people in realization of the seven-point political roadmap of the State by doing their bit with Union Spirit".

He said: the speech of the Prime Minister featured the social and economic development achieved in the time of the Tatmadaw government sector by sector. I am glad to precisely know the development of each sector such as the agriculture, livestock breeding, meat and

modern and developed democratic nation in the near future. I would like to highlight the development of Mon State out of the all-round development of the State in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

Just after the assumption of the State duties by the Tatmadaw, total paddy production in Mon State was only a 32 million baskets. It now reached 50 million bas-

kets, and 9 million baskets became surplus paddy production of the region.

The extended cultivation of rubber helped improve the regional economy. One of the cash crops, pepper, was also grown up to 10,000 acres in Mon State. Cultivation of *Bellaria Myrobalam*, an oil-bearing plant, exceeded its target of 7,640 acres and reached 10,403 acres. Thanks to Azin, Winphanon, Shwenattaung, and Wapa dams, irrigated area of Mon state increased from 1357

secure the sufficiency of food.

In the road and bridge sector, total length of tarred, gravel and earthen roads in Mon State was 1,200 miles before 1988. It has now increased to over 1,500 miles. That of railroads increased from 182 miles to 275 miles. Number of bridges of 180 feet and above also increased from 3 to 6. Yay creek bridge and Thanlwin bridge (Mawlamyine), the longest in Myanmar, are now under construction.

(See page 9)



Dr Tun Tun Soe seconds the motion.

MNA



Lecturer Daw Mi Moe Aye seconds the motion. MNA

**The seven-point political roadmap of the State is the prerequisite in building a peaceful modern developed democratic nation the entire national races long for.**

over 33,000 in 1988. In addition, 3,800 more post-primary schools were opened for creating the opportunity to pursue the middle school education in rural regions.

Likewise, more universities and colleges have been

provement of the living standard of the people are the basic requirement for democratic nation after fostering the national solidarity.

Therefore, the government has been making efforts for enabling the national

cal policies and programmes of the State without losing sight of its goal.

The entire national people of Myanmar want peace and development the way the ancient men longed for the

fish, forestry, industrial, transportation, education, and health sectors and future programmes of the State.

Therefore, I do believe Myanmar will soon emerge as a discipline-fuourishing,

Mawlamyine Township USDA member Daw Thida Aung Myint acts as master of ceremonies together with Mawlamyine Township USDA member Daw Aye Mya Thi. — MNA

kets, and 9 million baskets became surplus paddy production of the region.

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(See page 9)



The mass rally held in support of the State's future political roadmap in progress at Yamanya sports ground in Mawlamyine Township, Mon State. — MNA



## Roadmap, State's own ...

(from page 8)

In the education sector, the State is nurturing human resources needed for building a modern nation. To this end, Mawlamyine University, Government Technological College and Education College been upgraded, and a government computer college has also been opened.

Number of basic education schools in Mon State, which stood at 1,205 in the past, increased to 1,354. A total of 64 monastic education schools have been opened, and multimedia classrooms have been opened in the 19 basic education high schools in Mon State.

In the health sector, 200-bed Mon State General Hospital has been upgraded into a 350-bed one, a 50-bed one in Thaton into a 100-bed one, and eight 16-bed ones into a 50-bed ones and seven 25-bed ones. Number of station hospitals increased from 10 to 15. To provide effective healthcare services to the people of Mon State, a traditional medicine hospital has

that we, based on the Union Spirit, will collectively and actively exert our utmost efforts for the development of the nation.

He also quoted the address delivered at the course conclusion ceremony of the Union Solidarity and Development Association by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe on 11 November 1996.

**Enitre nation is now enjoying the fruits of development and prosperity thanks to the concerted efforts exerted by making best use of the natural resources in the interest of the nation.**

**"To set the people free from the troubles which they experienced in the past due to lack of peace in the country, the government is working for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy compatible with Myanmar, at the same time making arrangements to enable people to enjoy the basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter as fundamental human rights; If steps are taken with priority to grant superficial human rights that**

**why the fourfold People's Desire has been laid down so as to be able to annihilate all destructive elements obstructing and hindering progress. These should permeate not only in the association but also among the people."**

Enitre nation is now enjoying the fruits of development and prosperity thanks to the concerted efforts exerted by making best use of

the natural resources in the interest of the nation. In view of the development of all the sectors of the entire nation including Mon State, it will be seen that no other government in the history of Myanmar was able to effectively contribute towards the national interest as the Tatmadaw government.

It is required for the entire national people to participate with the Union Spirit in the efforts for the success of the stage-by-stage implementation from



Those in attendance at the mass rally. — MNA



Those in attendance at the mass rally. — MNA



Gyaing Column marching to the mass rally. — MNA

been opened in Mawlamyine, and number of traditional medicine clinic increased from 4 to 10.

Development of Mon State must be attributed to the effort of the government based on goodwill that all the states and division must enjoy harmonious development. I would like to pledge on behalf of the local people

**permit people to do as they like without there being a good foundation, the nation will be destroyed.**

**Striving for national development is not walking along the path strewn with flowers, without obstructions and obstacles. It is necessary to have ideology to overcome obstructions and obstacles. That is**

reconvening the National Convention to the emergence of a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

In addition, destructive acts and hindrances must be overcome in accord with the fourfold People's Desire.

In conclusion, he enthusiastically supported the motion calling on the entire

national people to actively participate in any sectors for the successful implementation of the seven-stage future policy of the state with the essence of the Union Spirit tabled with the aim of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation desired by the entire 52 million people of the country by Daw Nwe Nwe Htay.

Member of Mawlamyine Township Maternal and

the Prime Minister clearly pointed out the future political programmes to be implemented step by step for the emergence of a modern, developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Sustainable development of border areas undertaken by the present government would be present.

As the sectors being carried out for the development of border areas include edu-

Kawthoung and Maungdaw have developed like urban cities. Similarly, national race regions such as Laingza, Panwa, Pangsang.

Mongla, Laukkai and Chin Shwe Haw have significantly progressed. The State has spent over K 45000 million plus over US\$ 506 million on the development projects in the border areas.

Due to the efforts of the State, significant progress has been made in the border areas and national unity and Union Spirit forged. A historic work programme which was included in the Prime Minister's speech is the achievement of the Tatmadaw government in national reconciliation. Firmly building of national reconsolidation in the State and tasks for regional development, emergence of economic infrastructures and raising of living standards are an essential prerequisite for establishing the democratic system.

(See page 15)

**The border towns of Tamu, Loiye, Muse, Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung and Maungdaw have developed like urban cities. Similarly, national race regions such as Laingza, Panwa, Pangsang. Mongla, Laukkai and Chin Shwe Haw have significantly progressed.**

Child Welfare Association Lecturer of Mawlamyine University Daw Mi Moe Aye seconded the motion calling on the entire mass of people to participate in any sector for the successful implementation of the seven-point future policies and programmes of the State with full sense of Union Spirit. She said that in his speech,

cation, health, agriculture, livestock breeding, electric power, communication, construction of roads and bridges and mining of metal, the people of the border regions are now enjoying the fruits of development which they have never expected before.

For example, she said, the border towns of Tamu, Loiye, Muse, Tachilek, Myawady,





## Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attends opening ceremony of Heho Airport

YANGON, 12 Oct—A ceremony to open the Heho Airport in Heho, Shan State (South) was held at the airport this morning, with an address by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Brig-Gen Mya Win of Kalaw Station, senior military officers and officials, Shan State level departmental officials, the Chairmen of Taunggyi District and Kalaw Township Peace and Development Councils and members, local authorities, the Managing Director of Asia World Co, the Project Manager and officials, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association and Maternal and Child Welfare Association, members of the Working Committee for Women's Affairs and the War Veterans Organization, the national race cultural troupes, guests and local people numbering over 9000.

In his address, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe said that the government in cooperation with the people has been making relentless efforts for the emergence of a peaceful modern and developed nation and for bringing about harmonious development across the nation. In the process, the rural development projects, projects for development of border areas and national races and the 24 development zones have been laid down and are being implemented in the states and divisions.

Systematic measures are being taken for ensuring equitable development in all spheres and further improvement of socio-economic life of the people. That is why efforts are being made to ensure better



Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe and Managing Director U Tun Myint Naing formally open Heho Airport. — MNA

transport, the prerequisite for improvement of socio-economic life of the people. With better transport, there have been frequent contacts among the national races, thereby contributing to flourishing of the spirit of national unity and Union Spirit.

Better transport plays a leading role in development of a nation or a region. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance, saying that communication is of paramount importance for economic development. The communication covers waterways, motor ways and airways as well as telegraphs communications. To ensure economic development, efforts are to be made for better transport.

Therefore, the government has been building roads, bridges, railroads and new airports and upgrading the old ones. In this context, priority is being given to development of air transport sector. Thus, the new airports were built and the old ones upgraded. At the same time, airport buildings, runways were upgraded. Facilities for air transport and air control system have been upgraded to the international level.

In the time of the State Peace and Development Council, the Mandalay International Airport which has the longest runway in the Southeast Asia was

built. The airport has been equipped with modern facilities. There are now two gateways for the international airways as the Mandalay International Airport has emerged in addition to Yangon International Airport. This contributes to development of tourism industry in Myanmar.

Under air transport development project, the Heho Airport and its runway were

Jets could use only 6. The Fokker F-29 could now use 18 airports out of 26. Taunggyi and Panglong regions, the main regions in Shan State (South) have turned out to be development regions. The emergence of the newly upgraded Heho airport is a triumph for development of Shan State.

The government has been making efforts with

provement of socio-economic life of the people.

Next, the Minister for Transport made a speech. He said that under the guidance of the Head of State, the 6,000 feet long and 50 feet wide tarred runway has been upgraded to a 8,500 feet long and 100 feet wide nylon tarred one. And the 600' x 300' apron was also upgraded to a 720' x 300' one. The

Magway Division, Nyaung U and Ela airports in Mandalay Division, Monywa and Hkamti airports in Sagaing Division, Heho, Lashio and Kengtung airports in Shan State, Bhamo airport in Kachin State, An airport in Rakhine State, Patheingyi airport in Ayeyawady Division, Myeik and Bokpyin airports in Tanintharyi Division and Yangon Interna-



Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presses the button to unveil the stone inscription of Heho Airport in Heho, Shan State (South). — MNA

upgraded in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. In the process, the 6000 feet long and 50 feet wide runway was upgraded into the 8500 feet long and 100 feet wide one. Thus, Fokker F-28 Jets could now land and take off at the airport.

There were altogether 21 airports large and small across the nation in the past, and there are now 26 airports. In the past, out of 21 airports, Fokker F-28

goodwill for the nation to keep abreast with the global nations and for the people to enjoy the fruits of development. The national people, on their part, are to strive for national and regional development.

In conclusion, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe urged the departmental officials, local authorities and local people to make efforts in safeguarding the airport for its durability, for regional development and for im-

newly-constructed 300' x 50' airport building can accommodate 600 passengers simultaneously. Arrangements are being made for upgrading of the runway to a 10,000 feet long and 200 feet wide one.

In order to contribute towards the tourism industry, the Ministry of Transport has been implementing the projects for upgrading Magway, Pakokku and Kyaukhtu airports in

tional Airport in Yangon.

In conclusion, he called for maintenance and beautifying of the airport, and expressed thanks to those who contributed towards the project.

Next, the commander delivered a speech.

On behalf of local people, Shan national U Saing Lon Kyaw expressed words of thanks.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presented gifts to the employees through Project Manager of Asia World Co U Myo Min.

Afterwards, the opening of the airport followed. Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe and Managing Director U Tun Myint Naing formally opened the airport. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe unveiled the stone inscription of the airport.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, the commander, the minister and guests posed for a documentary photo together with local people.

Asia World Co launched the project on 27 August 2001. — MNA

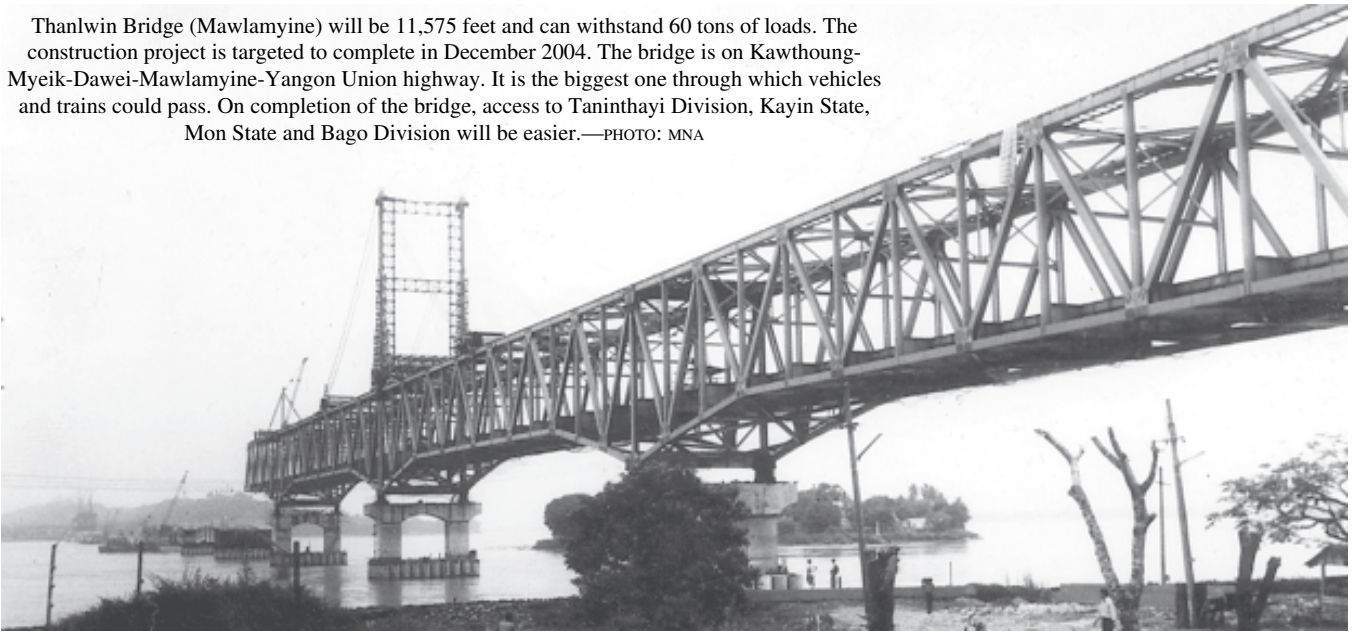


Lt-Gen Aung Htwe addresses the inauguration of Heho Airport in Heho, Shan State (South). — MNA



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

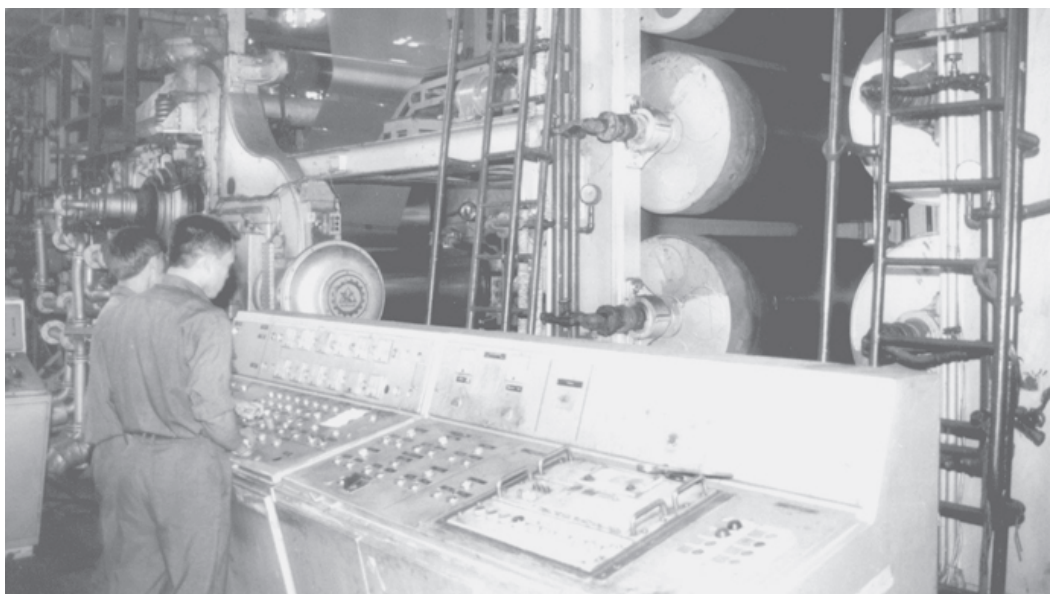
Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) will be 11,575 feet and can withstand 60 tons of loads. The construction project is targeted to complete in December 2004. The bridge is on Kawthoung-Myeik-Dawei-Mawlamyine-Yangon Union highway. It is the biggest one through which vehicles and trains could pass. On completion of the bridge, access to Taninthayi Division, Kayin State, Mon State and Bago Division will be easier.—PHOTO: MNA



The Zaikkaye Sluice Gate lies by the Zaikkaye canal near Aungkantha Village in Thaton Township in Mon State. It is of reinforced concrete type and has 21 gates each of which is 6 feet by 12 feet wide. The benefited area of the sluice gate is 20,000 acres. It is built with the aim of letting rain water flow out rapidly during the rainy season and supply water in summer.

PHOTO: MNA

No 1 Tyre and Rubber Factory of Myanma Tyre and Rubber Industries under the Ministry of Industry-2 is located six miles from Thaton, Mon State. Being surrounded by many rubber plantations, the factory gets raw materials with ease. Thanks to the factory there are job opportunities for over 1,000 people. It produces different kinds of tyres. The photo shows part of the production process at the factory. —PHOTO: HTWE KYI







# စညာရးပြင် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## Singapore economy to register positive growth in third quarter

SINGAPORE, 12 Oct — Advance estimates show that Singapore's gross domestic product (GDP) in the third quarter of 2003 expanded by 1.0 per cent in real terms, over the same period last year, a government release said here on Friday.

The resumption to positive growth in the quarter was supported by improvements in both the goods-producing and services-producing industries, reflecting the gaining strength of the global economy, as well as the recovery from the SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) in the second quarter, said the Ministry of Trade

and Industry.

The manufacturing sector is estimated to have expanded by 2.5 per cent in the third quarter, with stronger electronics cluster, supported by increased production of semiconductors and disk drives, it said.

Activity in the construction sector remained lackluster, which is estimated to have contracted by 9.5 per cent year-on-year in the third quarter, it said. The services-producing industries are estimated to have grown by 0.8 per cent, mainly on the strength of entrepot trade and financial services, it added.

It said in a Press release that the global economic recovery is gaining pace and an upturn in investment spending appears to be in progress. "Barring significant adverse developments such as a second outbreak of SARS in Asia, Singapore's economic growth momentum is expected to continue into the final quarter of the year," it said.

The Singapore economy contracted by 1.3 per cent year-on-year in the first half of 2003. The ministry has earlier set its economic growth forecast for the year as a whole at 0-1 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese, Irish Presidents vow to enhance bilateral ties

BEIJING, 12 Oct — Chinese President Hu Jintao and visiting Irish President Mary McAleese vowed here Thursday to enhance bilateral ties in their official talks.

Hu made a four-point proposal for strengthening Sino-Irish relations:

— Enhance and develop political ties by maintaining high-level exchanges, expanding inter-governmental and inter-parliamentary communication, and actively developing political dialogue and consultations at various levels.

— Expand and deepen economic cooperation. China

welcomes more Irish business people to invest in China and encourages competent Chinese enterprises to participate in infrastructure construction in Ireland.

— Strengthen scientific and technological and cultural and educational exchanges, make efforts to ensure the smooth operation of the joint fund for science and technology and the sound operation of a cultural festival in the other's territory next year, and promote a healthy and orderly development of educational exchanges and cooperation.

— Properly handle differences and expand consensus between the two countries so as to make Sino-Irish ties a model of state-to-state relations between countries of different social systems.

McAleese agreed to the proposal and said the Irish side is willing to work with the Chinese side for the promotion and expansion of bilateral cooperation in political, economic, educational, scientific and technological, and cultural areas. During the talks, Hu expressed appreciation of the Irish Government's adherence to the one-China policy and its support of China's reunification cause. —MNA/Xinhua

## Shanghai's Pudong Airport to expand

SHANGHAI, 12 Oct — The headquarters for the second phase construction of the airport in Pudong New District of Shanghai has begun soliciting designs worldwide for the airport's expansion.

In its bidding brochure, the headquarters, set up to supervise construction of the second phase, said it would include a runway, a terminal, and a logistics centre, and the construction is estimated to cost 12 billion yuan (1.45 billion US dollars).

Li Derun, deputy president of Shanghai Airports Group, said the investment needed to build the second phase of Pudong Airport

would be raised through more flexible measures.

"But details regarding money-raising are still under discussion," said Li, who is also assigned to be deputy commander-in-chief with the headquarters for the second phase project.

The economic development demands of Shanghai, especially the city's successful bid in winning the 2010 World Expo, had made the second phase construction imperative, said Li.

The new terminal would have to be able to handle 40 million passengers annually. By 2015, Pudong Airport, with operations of the existing first phase and the projected second phase, would be able to handle 60 million passengers annually, according to the bidding brochure.

MNA/Xinhua



Bullfighter Fernando Robledo gets hooked by a bull during a corrida in Zaragoza, Spain, on 10 October, 2003. —INTERNET

## Gene scan tracks a bee as she grows up

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct — A honeybee turns on and off 40 per cent of her genes as she matures from being a "nurse" to a forager in her short, busy life, US researchers said on Thursday. The findings suggest that genes and behaviour are more closely related than commonly believed — that nature and nurture are closely entwined, the researchers said.

"Some of these changes are a result of growing up," said Gene Robinson, a professor of entomology and director of the Neuroscience Programme at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, who led the study. "About 40 per cent of the genes change as the bee grows up and changes from taking care of baby bees in the hive to graduating and becoming a forager," Robinson added in a telephone interview.

"These changes are so consistent from individual to individual that a computer programme can look at the expression profiles and characterize the individual as a nurse bee or a forager."

Robinson, graduate student Charles Whitfield and colleague Anne-Marie Cziko analyzed 5,500 different active genes in honeybees for their study, published in the journal *Science*.

They created their own gene chip for the study — a plate on which chemicals react with active genetic products, glowing luminescently when exposed to certain lights. They could track the development of 60 different bees as some genes switched off and others switched on. "The pace at which a bee grows up is based on its needs, its family, its colony," Robinson said. Honeybees live in colonies dominated by females, with males used only for mating with the queen. The bees mature into new roles over a period of two to three weeks.

Nurse bees care for the young for their first two to three weeks of life, then shift to foraging for nectar and pollen. But if the colony is short of foragers, for example, some of the nurse bees will mature more quickly. All of this happens fast.

MNA/Reuters

## Vietnam makes efforts to reduce rate of malnourished children

HANOI, 12 Oct — To mark the national nutrition week, Vietnam has set a target of lowering the rate of malnourished children by 1.5 per cent and the rate of people with low calories intake by 2 per cent in 2004.

This year's nutrition week running from October 16 to 23 will focus on the importance of family meals and balanced food for children, according to a report of *Vietnam News Agency* on Friday.

Vietnam's healthcare sector is confronting with many challenges such as malnutrition, Vitamin A deficiency among children and chronic diseases. Up to 25.7 per cent of Vietnamese children aged under five now suffer from malnutrition.

MNA/Xinhua

## Study says uncircumcised men have higher HIV risk

LOS ANGELES, 12 Oct — Uncircumcised men are eight times as likely to become infected with HIV than circumcised men, according to a study of nearly 2,300 men in India released on Thursday.

A researcher at Baltimore's Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine suggested that the inner surface of the foreskin does not have the same protective layer as the outside, and is potentially more vulnerable to HIV.

In the United States, some two-thirds of male infants are circumcised annually. Worldwide, the rates vary widely, depending on culture and religion. In many

countries, including India, circumcision is uncommon.

"It's important that we offer measures to help curb the spread of AIDS, particularly in developing countries, where it continues to grow at an alarming rate," Dr Steven Reynolds, post-doctoral fellow in the division of infectious diseases at Johns Hopkins and a study investigator said in a statement.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has said it no longer recommends routine circumcision because — despite some medical benefit — there can be complications.

Johns Hopkins also studied the risk of other sexually transmitted diseases

among circumcised and uncircumcised men. Although the incidence of diseases like syphilis, gonorrhea and genital herpes was slightly higher among uncircumcised men, the difference was not statistically significant.

The research was part of a larger study investigating risk factors for HIV infection based on men attending one of three sexually transmitted disease clinics in Pune, India between 1993 and 2000.

Demographics, sexual risk behaviours — including having sex with a prostitute — and condom use were similar between both groups, Reynolds said.

MNA/Xinhua

## WHO warns workforce crisis affects TB control

GENEVA, 12 Oct — The World Health Organization (WHO) warned here on Friday that a growing "workforce crisis" is a serious obstacle to achieving targets for global tuberculosis (TB) control set for 2005 by WHO.

Faster and more effective recruitment and training of TB health workers are needed to ensure that vacancies in developing

countries be quickly filled, said a report written by TB experts.

Poor pay and conditions, unhealthy and unsafe working environments and HIV-related illness among staff are factors which the report said are restricting progress towards the goal of detecting 70 per cent of cases and curing 85 per cent of the people detected.

MNA/Xinhua

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## England through to finals after 0-0 draw in Turkey

ISTANBUL, 12 Oct—Captain David Beckham missed a first half penalty but England still secured their place in the Euro 2004 finals with a 0-0 draw against Turkey to win Group 7 on Saturday.

England endured a controversy-filled run-up to the decider against the World Cup semifinalists but produced a disciplined performance to stifle Turkey who have still to score a goal against England in nine internationals.

England were rarely threatened and should have gone ahead after 37 minutes but Beckham skied his penalty high over the bar, slipping just as he approached the ball, after Steven Gerrard was fouled by Tugay Kerimoglu.

Wayne Rooney and Paul Scholes also spurned excellent first half chances and Beckham had a late headed goal disallowed for offside as England battled for the point they needed to top the group.

Turkey went through to the play-offs. England were without any visiting support after a ruling to keep their fans away because of threatened crowd violence and they also lost their defender Rio Ferdinand who was pulled out after failing to undergo a drugs test.

MNA/Reuters



Italian referee Pierluigi Molina shows the yellow card to Turkey's goalie Rustu Recber, right, after his fouls against England's Kieron Dyer during the EURO 2004 qualifier Group Seven game between Turkey and England in Istanbul on 11 October, 2003. The game ended, 0-0.—INTERNET

## Beckham pays tribute to "magnificent" England

ISTANBUL, 12 Oct — England captain David Beckham paid handsome tribute to his players after a battling 0-0 draw in Turkey on Saturday earned them a place in the Euro 2004 finals in Portugal.

"We said all week that we would stick together and that's what we did. Our reward was (the result) tonight," he told Sky TV.

The England build-up could hardly have been worse after losing striker Michael Owen through injury and then defender Rio Ferdinand who was dropped from the squad for failing to attend a drugs test.

Ferdinand's absence led to a threatened player strike but Beckham said there could be no questioning England's determination to gain the draw in front a partisan Turkish crowd to finish top of Group Seven.

"A 0-0 draw showed our character more than maybe a 1-0 win would have done because that proved we stuck together, got everyone behind the ball and worked hard."

"Every one of our players was magnificent out there." Beckham missed a 37th-minute penalty which he skied over the bar after slipping just as he was about to strike the ball.

"The ground just gave way from behind me right under my foot," he said.

He said a clash with Turkish defender Alpay Ozalan at halftime had been swiftly dealt with during the interval by Italian referee Pierluigi Collina.

"As we were walking off he went past me and clipped me around the ear," he said. "He then said something about my mother but these things happen."

"Collina told us this game was too big and too important to be ruined by a bit of silliness."

England had no fans at the match after a Football Association ruling, backed by European body UEFA, to ban them for fear of crowd trouble which has marred matches between the countries in the past.—MNA/Reuters

## Netherlands hit five on way to playoffs

EINDHOVEN (Netherlands), 12 Oct—The Netherlands ended their Euro 2004 qualifying campaign with a 5-0 win over Moldova on Saturday having already booked their spot in the playoff draw that takes place in Frankfurt on Monday.

Patrick Kluijver opened the scoring two minutes before halftime and Wesley Sneijder doubled their lead just after the break. Pierre van Hooijdonk, Rafael van der Vaart and Arjen Robben then completed the rout in the second half.

The Dutch finished second in Group Three with 19 points three points behind the Czech Republic, who clinched first place with a 3-1 victory over the Netherlands last month and completed their fixtures with a 3-2 win in Austria, also on Saturday. Both sides created early chances but the Dutch only put the Moldovans under serious pressure when coach Dick Advocaat introduced a more attacking formation by bringing on striker Roy Makaay for defender Michael Reiziger in the 33rd minute.

Five minutes before the break van der Vaart hit the post from outside the box and three minutes later Kluijver headed home a Marc Overmars corner to put the Dutch in front.—MNA/Reuters

## France achieve perfect record with 3-0 win over Israel

PARIS, 12 Oct—Holders France achieved a perfect record in their Euro 2004 qualifying campaign with a 3-0 victory over Israel at the Stade de France on Saturday.

France, who had already qualified, have won all eight of their Group 1 games to pave their way to the defence of their title in next year's championship in Portugal. Israel had already been eliminated before the kickoff.

The champions opened the scoring after nine minutes with a low shot from just inside the box by striker Thierry Henry. David Trezeguet then doubled the tally when he fired a powerful volley under Nir Davidovich's bar in the 25th minutes.

Jean-Alain Boumsong wrapped up the win with a third two minutes before the break when he headed home a Zinedine Zidane free kick.

Israel had two good chances, but Idan Tal in the first half and Haim Revivo in the second were unable to convert.

MNA/Reuters



England's David Beckham, right, reacts after missing a penalty as Turkey's Emre Belozoglu jubilates during the Euro 2004 qualifier Group Seven game between Turkey and England in Istanbul on 11 October, 2003.—INTERNET

## Vitek double gives Slovakia 2-0 win over Liechtenstein

VADUZ (Liechtenstein), 12 Oct — Slovakia completed their Euro 2004 qualifying campaign with a comfortable 2-0 victory over Liechtenstein on Saturday.

Striker Robert Vittek, recalled to the starting line-up by coach Ladislav Jurkemik, struck either side of halftime at the Rheinpark Stadium. Slovakia, who were unable to qualify for next year's finals, claimed their second away victory and finished third on 10 points behind Group Seven winners England and runners-up Turkey. Caretaker-manager Walter Hormann's Liechtenstein finished bottom of the group with just one point.—MNA/Reuters

## Answer for yesterday's Crossword Puzzle





## Roadmap, State's own ...

(from page 9)

While projects were being laid down and implemented for border areas and national races development, the State also could endeavour to get national armed forces to return to the legal fold.

As a result, three national armed groups in Mon State have returned to the legal fold. And they are participating in the efforts for regional stability and development tasks.

Owing to the full use of such natural resources as rubber plantations, agricultural farms, paddy fields and livestock and fisheries and people's active participation in the development tasks, our Mon State will surely enjoy greater prosperity, peace and tranquillity.

In presenting the development images of the state, she said that with the emergence of Thanlwin Bridge (Hpa-an), Donthami Bridge (Durin Jetty), Zathabyin Bridge (Gyaing) and Atharan Bridge, every region is accessible with the result that socio-economic life of the state has developed further. Thanlwin Bridge, the longest and the most beautiful one in Myanmar, which had never been dreamed of before in the state, will emerge soon.

As the highway from Putao, the northernmost part of Myanmar to Kawthoung, the southernmost part, and Myitkyina-Dawei railroad are passing through the state, friendship between national brethren will be consolidated throughout the Union.

Depending on stability of state and community peace and tranquillity, the National Convention is to be convened and basic principles are to be discussed for drafting the constitution in order to shape the future State into a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. She went on to say that reconvening of the National Convention comprising delegates from all strata would be a great achievement for the development of national politics. So, the entire mass of people are urged to lend themselves to the task in unity with the sense of Union Spirit.

In conclusion, she said she enthusiastically seconded the



Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspects cultivation of Hsin Shwewa special high yield paddy in Heho Farm.—MNA

motion tabled by Daw Nwe Nwe Htay calling on the entire mass of people to actively participate in any sector for the successful implementation of the seven-point future policies and programmes of the State with full sense of Union Spirit.

Afterwards, the chairman sought the approval of the mass rally concerning the motion for active participation of the entire national people by doing their bit for the successful implementation of the seven future policies and programmes tabled by lecturer Daw Nwe Nwe Htay.

The master of ceremonies announced the resolution of the mass rally calling for active participation of the entire national people by doing their bit for the successful implementation of the seven policies and programmes. The mass rally concluded by chanting the slogans. —MNA

## Lt-Gen Aung Htwe tours Shan State (South)

YANGON, 12 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, left here for Heho, Shan State (South), by air on 11 October morning.

On arrival at the Heho airport, he was welcomed by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Brig-Gen Mya Win and Col Thet Oo of Kalaw Station, senior military officers, departmental officials, and members of social organizations.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected the farm of Myanmar Agriculture Service. After hearing reports on trial cultivation of and research on Hsinshweli (203) and SR-456 paddy strains, he gave instructions on rendering assistance to local farmers to enable them to accept and cultivate quality strain paddy and making systematic arrangements for distribution of quality strain paddy not only in Shan State (South) but also to Shan State (East).

Later, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe cordially met with local farmers and urged them to cultivate quality strain paddy with the systematic use of fertilizer and strive for the development of the agriculture sector. He also inspected the research farms

of Hsinshwewa, SR-456, and other paddy strains and gave necessary instructions.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party arrived at Heho-Shwenyaung road section upgrading site of Meiktila-Taunggyi-Kengtung-Tachilek Union Highway. After hearing reports on upgrading tasks of roads sections on the union highway and strength of machinery and worker, he said Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on taking systematic measures to make the union highway serviceable in all seasons. Transport was difficult in the past due to poor condition of the road. Only when transport between Shan State (North) and Shan State (East), and between Shan State and plain region is smooth, can the local national races travel from one place to another. Regions in Shan State will develop. Departmental personnel and local people are to collectively strive for the smooth transportation. In conclusion, he thanked the departmental personnel and local people for the collective effort for the upgrading tasks of the union highway and urged them to contribute towards serving the interests of the State and people. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspected the production of granite, construction works and upgrading tasks of Heho-Taunglelone road section.

MNA

### Development of Mon State

Sector	1988	2003
<b>Agriculture and Irrigation</b>		
Rice production	32 million baskets per year	over 50 million baskets per year
Rubber		extended rubber production over 10,000 acres
Pepper		10,403 acres
Thitseint ( <i>Bellaria myrobalan</i> )		over 40,000 acres
Benefited areas of dams		
<b>Livestock breeding</b>		
Livestocks	over 1.5 million	over 3.5 million
Area of fish and prawn breeding ponds	400 acres	1,300 acres
<b>Roads and bridges</b>		
Tarred, gravelled and earthen road	1200 miles	over 1,500 miles
Rail road	182 miles	275 miles
180 feet and above bridge	3	6
		(Yay creek bridge and Thanlwin bridge (Mawlamyine under construction))
<b>Education</b>		
Higher Education		Mawlamyine University Government Tenological College Education College Government Computer College 1354
Basic Education School	1205	64 monastic education schools 19 BEHS equipped with multi-media classrooms
<b>Health</b>		
		—200-bed General Hospital in Mawlamyine was upgraded into 350-bed one
		—50-bed hospital in Thaton was upgraded into 100-bed one
		—16-bed hospitals in 8 townships were upgraded into one 50-bed and seven 25-bed hospitals
Station hospital	10	15
Traditional medicine hospital		1
Traditional medicine dispensary	4	10

### ချောင်းဆုံ (ခ) ခေါ်ခင်ကြို

#### အသက်(၇)နှစ်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ အမှတ်(၁) ၃ ရွှေတိဂုံဘုရားလမ်းနေ (ဦးသိန်းတန်(ခ)ဦးတာနုနီ) ၏ ဇနီး၊ ဦးကျော်ဝင်း-ခေါ်အိတ်တင်း၊ ဦးကျော်ဟို-ခေါ်ဖိမိနီ၊ ဦးကျော်မိုး-ခေါ်လောင်လေး၊ ဦးကျော်မိုး-ခေါ်သီတာလွင်တို့ ၏ မွေးသမီးခင် မြေး (၇)ယောက်တို့ ၏ အဘွားဖြစ်သူခေါ်ခင်ကြိုသည် ၁၂-၁၀-၂၀၀၃ နေ့၊ ညနေ(၁၁)နာရီတွင် နေအိမ်၌ ကွယ်လွန်သွားပါသည်။ ၁၄-၁၀-၂၀၀၃ (အင်္ဂါနေ့) နံနက်(၁၁)နာရီတွင် ရေဝေးသုဇာန်သို့ ဖို့ ဆောင်မီးသင်္ဂြိုဟ်ပါမည်။

နေအိမ်မှတစ်ဆင့် နံနက် (၁၀)နာရီတွင် ကွယ်လွန်ပါမည်။

ကျန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု



The mass rally held in support of the future political roadmap of the State in progress at Yamanya sports ground in Mawlamyine, Mon State. — MNA

## Roadmap, State's own policy to build up...

(from page 1)

He said that it is very heartening to know distinct and significant progress in respective sectors of the State, which the Prime Minister clarified in the first part.

During the period from 1988 to date, the government, in its drive to build up a peaceful, modern and developed nation, has tried its

roadmap phase by phase which all the national races will have to implement unwaveringly and steadfastly in order to turn Myanmar into a discipline-flourishing modern developed nation in future. The State's seven future policies and programmes are:-

(1) Reconvening of the National Convention that has

members in accordance with the new constitution.

(7) Building a modern, developed and democratic nation by the state leaders elected by the Hluttaw; and the government and other central organs formed by the Hluttaw. These points are our own programmes laid down by the State Peace and Development Council in the interest of the State and its people and the points correspond with the four political objectives in essence.

These seven policies and programmes play a key role in successful holding of the National Convention and emergence of an enduring State Constitution.

He quoted Head of State Senior General Than Shwe in his guidance, as saying that **"the National Convention is the one at which the representatives draft basic principles on behalf of the entire people for the emergence of a State Constitution to build up a discipline-flourishing democratic nation"**.

As the clarifications of the Prime Minister, during the period of past over 50 years, Myanmar had not been able to carry out nation-building tasks broadly and effectively due to internal conflicts, clashes and power struggles among the political parties, which are consequences of pratising sectarianism and political dogmatism, and lack of tranquillity and peace. As a result, the nation lagged behind in de-

velopment in all sectors when compared with other nations. That is why the Tatmadaw, the patriotic one, has been intensively and constantly undertaking the tasks for the emergence of a modern developed nation, he pointed out. In the process, the government enlisting the strength of the people made significant success based on patriotism, nationalistic spirit, national solidarity spirit and Union Spirit essential for perpetuation of the Union.

He said that indeed, the future plan is the State's own policy to build up a modern developed nation. And it is also the one which can make effective contribution towards polishing of the traditions of the Union, uplift of the national prestige and integrity and improvement of national characters, he added.

He called on the entire people to be fully equipped with Union Spirit to actively and energetically participate in the tasks for successful implementation of the State's seven future policies and programme by doing their bit.

Next, member of Mudon Township Union Solidarity and Development Association Lecturer of Botany Department of Mawlamyine University Daw Nwe Htay tabled the motion calling for "active participation of the entire national people in realization of the seven-point political roadmap of the State by doing their bit with full Union Spirit". She said that in the first part of the speech, the Prime Minister clarified all-round development achieved in the nation with firm tables and figures

### 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



Lecturer Daw Nwe Htay tables a motion. MNA

best to make great changes in the sectors of agriculture, meat and fish, forestry, industry, bridges and roads, rail transportation, air and water transportation, communication, electric power, education, technology, health and border areas development. One can vividly and clearly witness the images of these remarkable development of the nation, he remarked.

In the second part, the Prime Minister made clarifications on the efforts of the government to shape the future of the State after assessing the strong and weak points of political changes, progress and democratic system practised in the past.

And in the third part, the Prime Minister clarified the State's future political

been adjourned since 1996.

- (2) After the successful holding of the National Convention, step by step implementation of the process necessary for the emergence of a genuine and discipline-flourishing democratic system.
- (3) Drafting of a new constitution in accordance with basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention.
- (4) Adoption of the constitution through national referendum.
- (5) Holding of free and fair elections for Pyithu Hluttaws (Legislative bodies) according to the new constitution.
- (6) Convening of Hluttaws attended by Hluttaw

as the Tatmadaw with the participation of the people had made strenuous efforts day in, day out after its assumption of the State's duties. At a time when the Tatmadaw assumed the State's duties, the nation was on the verge of disintegration in the absence of peace and tranquillity. At the same time, all infrastructures for national development were destroyed due to anarchism reigned in the nation during the 88 unrest.

The government adopted the market-oriented economic system that encourages the private sector in accord with the economic objectives while restoring

peace and tranquillity and rebuilding the infrastructures which had fallen into ruin.

At the same time, roads, bridges large and small, dams and reservoirs, universities and colleges, schools and hospitals, the prerequisites for national development, were built across the nation.

Means and ways were sought for boosting the paddy yield of paddy, the main crops for development of the national economy.

There were 654 million baskets of paddy produced in 1988. There were 1,000 million baskets of paddy production in 2002-2003.

(See page 8)



Those from the New Mon State Party, Hongthayaw and Myainggyingyi Special Regions and Phayagon Peace Group at mass rally to support the State's political roadmap.— MNA