

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 188

11th Waning of Thadingyut 1365 ME

Tuesday, 21 October, 2003



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye offers gold foils to the Buddha Images of Inlay PhaungdawU Pagoda in Nyaungshwe Township. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife pay homage to pagodas in Shan State

YANGON, 20 Oct — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than

Win and Brig-Gen Thuang Htaik of Kalaw Station, No 55 Light Infantry Division Commander Col Thet Oo and officials.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party went to Inlay PhaungdawU Pagoda in Nyaungshwe Township by helicopter and paid homage and offered 'soon',



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San pay homage to Konlon Pariyatti Sathintai at Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jorika Bhaddanta Tejaniya. — MNA

Nwe, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Quartermaster General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Kyi Min, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, arrived at Heho Airport in Kalaw Township, Shan State yesterday morning.

They were welcomed there by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Brig-Gen Mya

water, flowers and light to the Buddha Images. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party offered gold foils to the images, made cash donations to the funds of the pagoda through the pagoda board of trustees and signed in the visitors' book.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife paid homage to member of the Inlay PhaungdawU Pagoda Board of Trustees Ovadacariya Namhu Monastery Sayadaw Dhammacariya Bhaddanta Kumuda and presented offertories.

After inspecting renovation of the platform of the pagoda, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party visited ancient Alodawpauk Pagoda in Nampan Village at noon and paid obeisance to the Buddha Images. They offered gold foils to the images.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party paid homage to the Buddha Images and signed in the visitors' book. After that they donated cash to the funds of the pagoda. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party viewed the Buddha statues discovered from the caves to

- 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



the southern and western parts of the pagoda, ancient coins and lead and silver plate records.

On arrival at Taunggyi in the afternoon, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party visited Sulamuni Lawka Chantha Pagoda where they paid homage to Kasapa Buddha Image, and made cash donations to the funds of the pagoda. After signing in the visitors' book, they paid reverence to the pagoda.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party this morning went to Konlon Pariyatti Sathintai in Htethon Village, Pindaya Township. Next, they paid homage to State Ovadacariya Konlon Pariyatti Sathintai Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jorika Bhaddanta Tejaniya and asked after the health of the Sayadaw. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife offered provisions to the Sayadaw. Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and party also presented offertories to the Sayadaw.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party visited Pyidaw Nyeinchanaye Pagoda. — MNA

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Circulation

24,308

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 21 October, 2003

For the success of the roadmap

In building the Union of Myanmar to become a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the Government has given priority to national reconsolidation, regional peace and tranquillity and law enforcement and at the same time various national plans have been laid down and implemented with the aim of building economic, social and development infrastructures.

After consolidating national unity, efforts are being made for regional development, emergence of economic infrastructures and raising the living standards of the people. These efforts are aimed at building the basic foundations for a democratic nation.

At present, armed national race groups in Shan State (North), after realizing the goodwill of the State, have returned to the legal fold and are actively taking part in regional development and nation-building tasks. People living in border areas and the hill region are now enjoying fruitful results of peace and development which they have never experienced before. Shan State (North) is developing not only in form but also in essence. Local people are striving for rice sufficiency by building 437 dams and reservoirs that benefit over 100,000 acres of land.

The main crops grown in Shan State (North) are paddy, maize, groundnut, sesame, sunflower, green gram and soya bean. Moreover, tea, coffee, mango, rubber, lime, lychee, walnut, sweet chestnut, orange, damson and grape are grown as poppy-substitute crops.

Shweli hydropower station that will produce 400 megawatt of electricity is under construction to supply electricity not only to Shan State (North) but also to other regions of the country through the national grid. For the convenience of people living in the five special regions in Shan State (North), 12 post offices, 40 telephone exchanges, 10 telegraph offices plus a satellite station in Laukkai region were established.

These economic and social developments are the results of regional peace and tranquillity and unity among national brethren. Nowadays, the future policies and programmes (roadmap) have been laid down for emergence of a peaceful, modern democratic nation. Mass rallies were held throughout the country in support of the policies and programmes.

At the mass rally held in Lashio, Shan State (North) on 19 October, Law Officer U Ti Khun Myat of Kutkai Township urged the entire national people to unitedly and energetically strive for the successful implementation of the seven-point future policy of the State mentioned in the speech of the Prime Minister For the continued existence of tranquillity and development. At a time when efforts are being made for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation, the entire national people are urged to actively participate in the tasks for accomplishment of the State's seven future policies and programmes (roadmap).



Ye Win and his accomplices seen with narcotic drugs. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife present offertories to Maha Visokdayon Waso Monastery Abbot Sayadaw Bhaddanta Agghiya. — MNA

Talks on HIV/AIDS held

YANGON, 20 Oct — Hailing the campaign against HIV/AIDS Control, health talks were given to the service personnel of the Ministry of Industry-2 at No1 Automobile Factory (Yangon) on Inya Lake Hotel Street this

afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, directors-general and managing directors, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association

President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and CEC members, officials and over 500 staff.

Director-General of Directorate of Myanmar Industrial Planning U Khin Maung made a speech. Chief Medical Officer of the Min-

istry of Industry-2 Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe gave talks on trafficking in persons relating to HIV/AIDS. MMCWA Joint-Secretary Dr Daw Nu Aye Khin also gave talks on HIV/AIDS.

— MNA



Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe gives talks on trafficking in persons. — MNA

English courses of MRA to be opened

YANGON, 18 Oct — Myanmar Royal Academy (MRA) is conducting courses on spoken English classes (Intermediate) and English for medical students, HAs and nurses, doctors and medical English. MRA Principal and Academic Director Dr Myint Hlaing takes charge of teaching.

At the end of the month, special classes of TOFEL, GCE (English), English in accounting and finance and English in marketing and management and basic computer courses will be opened. Contact MRA, No 57, ground floor, Ninth Street Lanmadaw Township (Ph 222121).

— MNA

Delegation leaves for Manila

YANGON, 20 Oct — Myanmar delegation led by Auditor-General Brig-Gen Lun Maung left here by air today to attend 9th Conference of Federation of Auditor-General Offices on Asia to be held in Manila, the Philippines. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Deputy Auditor-General U Khin Win, Deputy Director-General of Auditor-General's Office Daw Tin Kyi Oo and officials.

Member of the delegation Daw Thin Thin, Director-General, the Auditor-General's Office also accompanied the Auditor-General. — MNA

MAAS's paper reading session to be held

YANGON, 20 Oct — The opening ceremony of third paper reading session of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science will be held at Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road here on 23 October morning.

A total of 104 papers will be submitted at the University of Yangon and Yangon Institute of Economics and those interested may attend it. — MNA

Export market promotion course opens

YANGON, 20 Oct — The export market promotion course jointly conducted by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship (AOTS) in Japan was opened at Mingala Hall of Kandawgyi Palace

Hotel this morning.

General Secretary of UMFCCI U Sein Win Hlaing, General Manager AOTS in Bangkok Office Mr Kazuhisa Ogawa and UMFCCI CEC member U Moe Kyaw spoke on the occasion. The 10-day course is being attended by 40 trainees. — MNA



Opening ceremony of Export Market Promotion Course in progress. — MNA

Heroin seized in Muse

YANGON, 20 Oct — Acting on information, a combined team comprising members of the local intelligence unit and Muse Anti-drug Squad searched the house of Ma Mar Ti in Kaungmulwai Ward, Muse, on 25 August 2003. The authorities arrested Ye Win (a) Lauk Hai, Ar Ta, Jian Yi Myint, Gao Tuan Myint, Myin Chun, and Rau Ta Chan together with 144 blocks of heroin kept in a

backpack under the bed, 273 packages of heroin weighing 774 grams, paraphernalia, Ma Jia Ma Li and Ma Ai Bi San of He Tian, Xinjian province, China, and 2.859 kilos of heroin buried in a garden at the back of the house.

Action is being taken against the drug pushers under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic and Substances Law by the Muse Police Station. — MNA

Clear distinction to be drawn between terrorism and the legitimate right of peoples to resist foreign occupation stressed in debate of UN

The following are remarks made by representatives at the 7th and 8th meeting of the Sixth Committee of the 58th Session of the UNGA on 17 October.

Concerted global action carried out in context of the United Nations and all its relevant organs was the only way to defeat the scourge of terrorism, delegates of the Sixth Committee (Legal) affirmed in two meetings on 17 October as they continued debate on measures to eliminate international terrorism.

Delegations called for a definition of terrorism to be included in the comprehensive convention, and for a clear distinction to be drawn between terrorism and the legitimate right of peoples to resist foreign occupation. Some

expressed disappointment that negotiations were stalled by a lack of political will on a matter of the greatest urgency. Others expressed disapproval at the linking of the two conventions so as to preclude finalization of one without the other.

A number of States welcomed the involvement of multiple United Nations organs in combating the terrorism scourge. They urged the Counter-Terrorism Committee to work closely with regional organizations.

China among many others, expressed opposition to misusing the war on terrorism to achieve political or other goals. They called for a strengthening of the United Nations role in the fight.

International cooperation must be undertaken in an atmosphere of mutual respect for the principles of equality and non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States

Amos Wako, Attorney General of Kenya, said his country was determined to work with all States in full observance of the principles and standards of international law to eliminate terrorism.

It believed the United Nations constituted a unique forum for promoting counter-terrorism activities and international cooperation to combat the scourge. International cooperation must be undertaken in an atmosphere of

mutual respect for the principles of equality and non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States. He called upon the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee to intensify its efforts to promote the implementation by the United Nations of all aspects of the Security Council anti-terrorism resolution (1373) which, he said, provided wide-ranging comprehensive steps and strategies to combat international terrorism.

He said Kenya contin-



**Amos Wako,
Attorney General
of Kenya**

ued to develop and enhance its capacities and measures to fight terrorism. A national counter-terrorism centre had been established to coordinate efforts. A prosecution unit would soon be established in the office of the Attorney General. Legislation had also been published which provided measures for the detection and prevention of terrorist activities in Kenya.

**Amos Wako, Attorney
General of Kenya**

Legitimate struggle against colonialism and occupation must be recognized

Ambassador Abdallah Baali, the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations, said success in the fight against terrorism could be achieved only if its underlying causes were attacked.



**Ambassador Abdallah
Baali, the Permanent
Representative of
Algeria**

Legitimate struggle against colonialism and occupation must be recognized. There should be no unilateral acts in the face of the global threat which demanded a global response.

He said Algeria favoured a high-level conference under United Nations auspices to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Consultations

and cooperation at the regional level were essential to supplement international efforts.

He noted the Algerian convention on terrorism and its plan of action adopted at an Organization of African Unity Conference in Algiers, to combat terrorism in Africa. The plan established a framework for action. Similar instruments had been adopted by the League of Arab States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

He announced a number of proposals made by his Government for combating terrorism, and said they included establishment of data banks by the United Nations on terrorist groups; updating of legislation on terrorist groups and their activities; training and exchange programmes on measures to combat terrorism, and the creation of an international fund to help carry out those programmes.

**Ambassador Abdallah
Baali, the Permanent
Representative of
Algeria**

The fight against terror must not diminish the need to acknowledge the legitimate struggle of people against foreign occupation

Liow Tiong Lai (Malaysia) said individual efforts of States to fight terrorism were welcome, but the scale of the threat to international peace and security required that such efforts be undertaken on the regional and global level. The United Nations could provide the basis for a truly global response.

He described measures his country had taken at the national and regional levels, and said it was crucial to elaborate a clear understanding of what constituted "terror". **Without a clear and common definition, perpetrators of terrorist acts would continue to justify their actions in the name of State security or national liberation.**

That definition should come out of a high-level international conference. The fight against terror must not diminish the need to acknowledge the legitimate struggle of people against foreign occupation.

Malaysia's representative to the sixth committee of the 58th session of UNGA Liow Tiong Lai

Terrorism could be effectively combated with an international convention under United Nations auspices

Mwelwa Musambachime, Zambia's Permanent Representative to the UN said his country condemned international terrorism and believed it could be effectively combated with an international convention under United Nations auspices.

Zambia had actively participated in the drafting of the African Union convention on the prevention and



**Mwelwa
Musambachime,
Zambia's
Permanent
Representative
to the UN**

combating of terrorism, which it would soon ratify.

It hoped the divergent views on the framing of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism would be narrowed for a consensus text to be adopted. His delegation would cooperate with others towards that end.

**Mwelwa Musambachime,
Zambia's Permanent
Representative to the UN**

Terrorist acts had become more and more dangerous, requiring concerted international efforts, with a central United Nations role, to deal with the problem

Nguyen Duy Chien (Vietnam), speaking for the countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), said that terrorist acts had become more and more dangerous, requiring concerted international efforts, with a central United Nations role, to deal with the problem. Vietnam supported action based on the Charter and principles of international law, and valued work being done by the Ad Hoc Committee framing international anti-terrorist instruments.

He said ASEAN had, at its recent meeting, agreed

to establish an ASEAN security community, through existing institutions and mechanisms, to strengthen national and regional capacities to counter terrorism.

The member countries had also increased their efforts in anti-terrorism cooperation. He said a ministerial meeting on transnational crime would be convened in Thailand next January to further consolidate and intensify regional efforts to combat terrorism.

**Deputy Chief Representative of Vietnam to the UN
Nguyen Duy Chien**

Iraq bomb kills US military policeman, wounds two

BAGHDAD, 20 Oct—A bomb blast killed one US military policeman and wounded two in the Baghdad area on Friday morning, the US military said.

A military statement said the dead soldier was from the 220th Military Police Brigade. The latest death brings to 101 the number of US soldiers killed in hostile action since Washington declared major combat in Iraq over on May 1.

Guerillas opposed to the US occupation of Iraq frequently attack US-led forces with roadside bombs, landmines and rocket-propelled grenades. Iraqis seen as cooperating with the occupation also come under attack. —MNA/Reuters

US plans to reduce forces in Iraq next year

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct—US military commanders have developed a plan to steadily cut back US troop level in Iraq next year, *The Washington Post* reported Sunday.

The plan to cut the number of US troops in Iraq, which stands at 130,000 at present, is well advanced and has been described in broad outline to Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld but has not been approved by him, the report quoted several senior Army officers as saying in recent interviews.

Under the plan, the United States would begin to reduce its military forces in Iraq next spring, cutting the number to fewer than 100,000 by next summer and to 50,000 by mid-2005.

The plan, the report said, amounts to the first US formal military exit strategy for Iraq, which is designed to show how the US presence might be reduced without undercutting the stability in the Middle East country.

The plan reflects the worries of military officials that the morale of US troops in Iraq could be damaged, the Armed Forces shorthanded if crises emerge in other places across the world and a long-term personnel shortage created in the service.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran calls for OPEC's international role

TEHRAN, 20 Oct—Iran's Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh Saturday stressed the need for the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) to devise prudent policies to prevent its role in the world oil market from being undermined.

Addressing the opening ceremony of an oil seminar in Teheran, Zanganeh said OPEC should control an appropriate share

of the international oil market to guarantee the price stability in the long run.

He said building production capacity at a time when the demand is high and the prices are increasing can promote the stability of the market, and would also guarantee the interests of OPEC members as well as those of Iran.

MNA/Xinhua

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Iraqi-Turkish oil pipeline operation breaks down again

ANKARA, 20 Oct—Iraqi oil started to be pumped through Kirkuk-Yumurtalik pipeline on Saturday morning, but the oil could not be transferred to Turkish facilities in Yumurtalik Town of southern Adana Province due to failure in the pipeline, reported the *Anatolia* news agency.

Gurhan Gul, regional director of the Turkish state-run Pipeline Transportation Corp. (BOTAS), told the news agency that oil pumping stopped due to a leak from the pipeline linking Iraqi oil city of Kirkuk and Turkish Mediterranean port of Yumurtalik after two hours of pumping.

Gul said that oil transfer was expected to start again after the pipeline was repaired. Earlier in the day, Turkish Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Hilmi Guler told a meeting of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) that Kirkuk-Yumurtalik pipeline was operational again and oil had started to be pumped through the pipeline. Guler added that "oil started to be pumped through the pipeline again. 600 barrels of oil are to be pumped a day."

The pipeline, which opened for three days in September after Iraq war and closed again after three explosions that had occurred one after another. —MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi youths hold their rifles as they celebrate in Falluja after a US Army ammunition truck burned on 19 October, 2003. Guerillas killed two American soldiers overnight and blew up a US ammunition truck on Sunday, as Iraq's US-appointed Governing Council called for an end to "conspiracies" threatening stability. —INTERNET

US Forces surround office of Iraq Shi'ite cleric

KERBALA, 20 Oct—US troops on Saturday sealed off roads around the office and house of an Iraqi Shi'ite Muslim cleric whose followers the US military has blamed for starting a shootout which killed three American soldiers.

Soldiers surrounded the buildings in Iraq holy Shi'ite city of Kerbala used by local cleric Sayyid Mahmoud al-Hassani with armoured vehicles and helicopters circled overhead.

Three US military police and two Iraqi police were killed on Thursday night in fighting in the city. The US military said the shootout was started by supporters of Hassani, himself a sympathizer of radical Shi'ite leader Moqtada al-Sadr who opposes the US-led occupation of Iraq.

US officers would not comment on whether they were hoping to arrest Hassani. His supporters said he had left his home after Thursday's shooting in which local

people said eight of his followers had been killed.

Shi'ites are in the majority in Iraq and were repressed by Saddam Hussein a Sunni. Moderate Shi'ite leaders have advocated cautious cooperation with Iraq's occupying forces in the hope of securing power in a future government.

Most attacks on US forces have occurred in the so-called "Sunni Triangle" north and west of Baghdad, but Thursday's attack in the Shi'ite city 90 kms (55 miles) south of the capital showed increasing anti-American sentiment among the young followers of radical Shi'ite clerics.

Internet

Health groups pledge to slash world measles deaths

CAPE TOWN, 20 Oct—Health officials from 60 countries pledged on Friday to save the lives of almost half a million children each year through a new campaign to eradicate measles.

Experts and government officials launched the Cape Town Measles Declaration, which in line with a United Nations target, commits to halving the number of measles deaths in 1999 — 875,000 — by the end of 2005.

The declaration, backed by experts and government officials, is not binding for governments but it sets a target for them and for health workers around the world.

"As vaccine-preventable diseases go, none is more deadly than measles. Today and every day, this garden-variety scourge kills 2,000 children under five," UNICEF executive director Carol Bellamy said.

"In a 21st Century where we can safely immunize children against measles for life for less than a dollar per child, these deaths are more than tragic, they are intolerable," she said. Measles accounts for half of vaccine-preventable deaths among children, and is one of the most readily transmitted communicable diseases. Young children are most at risk but it can also affect adolescents and young adults.

The Global Measles Partnership — led by UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO), the CDC and the Red Cross — aims to accelerate measles immunization worldwide.

The campaign hopes to see at least 90 per cent of infants immunized against measles, followed up by a second supplementary booster immunization. It will also put in place high-quality measles surveillance to detect and respond to outbreaks. — MNA/Reuters

FAO coordinates south-south cooperation initiative

ABUJA, 20 Oct—The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) is coordinating a south-south cooperation initiative between Nigeria and China, the *News Agency of Nigeria* reported Friday.

Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Alhaj Adamu Bello was quoted as saying that this was within the framework of Nigeria's special programme on food security.

The programme is aimed at building and rehabilitating the small-scale water-control irrigation scheme in all states of the federa-

tion, Bello said.

According to him, the programme will afford both countries to take advantage of their comparative advantage, particularly in the field of agriculture, to achieve food security and improved productivity and income. — MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis run for cover as gunfire breaks out in the streets of Karbala, 110 kilometres (70 miles) south of Baghdad on 17 October, 2003. A midnight clash with Shi'ite militants in the same location left three Americans and ten Iraqis dead. —INTERNET

Shortage of teachers worries Zambia

LUSAKA, 20 Oct—Zambian President Levy Mwanawasa has expressed the concern over the shortage of teachers in the southern African country.

Addressing a national consultation convention in Lusaka on Friday, the President said the number of teachers in government schools had decreased from 40,448 in 1996 to 38,840 in 1998 and 37,117 in 1999.

Consequently, he said the teacher/pupil ratio has worsened from 37 in 1996 to 45 in 1998 and 47 in 1999.

In rural areas, there is even situations where one teacher teaches all the grades in the school, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Violence continues to affect reconstruction efforts in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 20 Oct—Almost six months after major hostilities in Iraq officially ended, violence continues to plague the war-shattered country where post-war US combat deaths have passed the 100-mark.

Four US soldiers, all with the military police, have died since Thursday night, raising to 101 the number of American troops killed in action in Iraq since US President George W. Bush declared major hostilities over on May 1.

Since they seized Baghdad and sent strongman Saddam Hussein fleeing, the US-led forces have continued to face daily attacks.

On Friday one American soldier was killed and two others wounded when an explosive device blew up in Baghdad, while three lost their lives patrolling a neighbourhood of Karbala, 110 kilometres (70 miles) south of Baghdad.

The coalition blamed the incident on armed followers of little-known local cleric Mahmud al-Hassani, who is influential in the Karbala neighbourhood where he lives.

At least one police officer, on patrol with the Americans, and several of Hassani's bodyguards were killed in the firefight.

The fighting occurred during a curfew that was imposed after at least one person died earlier in the week in a clash between moderate and radical Shiites.

Among those involved in that clash were followers of Moqtada Sadr, a fundamentalist cleric who stepped back into the limelight last week with the announcement he had formed an Islamic-style government to rival the US-installed Governing Council.

A few days after he announced the project, Sadr said he dropped it for lack of popular support, but then went on to revive it on Friday, saying he would seek UN recognition for his self-announced government.

At the same time, he claimed the

Americans were planning to arrest him, and accused them of stirring up trouble among the Shiite Muslim community in a bid to discredit him.

The coalition forces, for their part, said they were closely monitoring Sadr, who has repeatedly condemned the US occupation of Iraq.

US troops on Thursday moved against his followers in the Sadr City neighbourhood of Baghdad where the firebrand cleric draws much of his support.

The soldiers dislodged Sadr followers from municipal council offices in Sadr City, returning councillors to the building that was taken from them a week earlier.

Tension has been high in Sadr City since the death last week of two US soldiers during a firefight involving members of Sadr's Mehdi Army militia. —Internet

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More US troops killed in Iraq. — INTERNET

US military vehicle explodes as convoy comes under fire in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 20 Oct—A US vehicle exploded when assailants attacked a convoy apparently transporting weapons and ammunition in the flashpoint Iraqi city of Fallujah, witnesses said.

None of the occupants were seen emerging from the vehicle as it burst into flames, according to Ahmed Suheil, 40, and Juma Abbas, 35, who both said they witnessed the attack.

A US military spokesman said he had no immediate confirmation of the incident in the city 50 kilometres (30 miles) west of Baghdad.

In the aftermath of the blast, AFP photographer Patrick Baz and a Reuters cameraman were detained by Iraqi police who said they were acting on orders from US military forces.

Witnesses said the convoy came under rocket-propelled grenade fire. Pieces of rockets were later seen on the ground.

Some of the witnesses said a detonation, apparently from an explosive device, also was heard.

US troops left immediately after the attack but returned a little later and opened fire, wounding two Iraqis, the witnesses said.

American forces in armoured vehicles took position at the scene. "We are here to secure the area," a US officer said, declining to give details of the attack.

A number of people at the scene chanted slogans in support of ousted president Saddam Hussein.

"This is a first reaction after (Osama) bin Laden's declaration," said Suheil.

In two "messages" to the Iraqi and American people aired by Al-Jazeera television Saturday, a speaker purporting to be the al-Qaeda leader threatened to send suicide bombers to the United States and to attack any forces joining the coalition in Iraq. — Internet

More US troops killed in Iraq, Saddam "letter" urges holy war

BAGHDAD, 20 Oct—US forces in Iraq said that two of their soldiers were killed, and an Iraqi was also struck down during a gun battle, while a letter purportedly written by Saddam Hussein called for jihad, or holy war, against "the hated invaders."

US President George W. Bush, meanwhile, said a new audiotape purportedly by Osama bin Laden threatening Washington over its occupation of Baghdad meant that "the war on terror goes on."

Coalition officials announced that two soldiers of the US 4th Infantry Division were killed and one wounded in a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) and small arms attack late Saturday near the northern oil centre of Kirkuk, 260 kilometres (160 miles) north of Baghdad.

The two deaths confirmed by the coalition bring to 103 the number of Americans who have died in combat since Bush declared an end to major combat on May 1.

And in the flashpoint

town of Fallujah, an Iraqi was killed and another wounded when US soldiers opened fire after they came under RPG attack while removing a military vehicle hit earlier by an RPG, witnesses and hospital sources said.

The US vehicle had exploded when assailants attacked a convoy apparently transporting weapons and ammunition in the town, 50 kilometres (30 miles) west of Baghdad, witnesses said.

US troops left immediately after the attack but returned a little later and then opened fire, wounding two Iraqis, the witnesses said.

A local hospital doctor, Aiman Abdul Qader, said five Iraqis were wounded in the first incident, three of them seriously.

Internet

Chinese scientist predicts no SARS outbreak in coming winter

BEIJING, 20 Oct—A leading Chinese scientist on Friday predicted there would be no outbreak of SARS in the coming winter, but warned of the possibility of sporadic cases and urged the public not to ease up on preventive measures.

Professor Zhong Nanshan said that the Chinese Government has begun to revive all-round measures to prevent a possible comeback of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), which infected some 8,400 people worldwide in the past spring, killing more than 900, mostly in Asia.

"Various governmental departments have been working to get ready, such as improving the monitoring system and publishing a national guideline to provide suggestions on prevention, diagnosis and treatment," Zhong told Xinhua.

"With these active measures, I believe there will not be an outbreak of SARS this winter," he said. But the academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering did not exclude the possibility of a resurgence of sporadic cases, saying that much work remains on those basic measures like early discovery, early isolation, and early contact tracing.

Zhong earned fame in China when he led a research team at a respiratory disease institute to effectively fight against SARS in south China's Guangdong Province, where the disease first appeared.

MNA/Xinhua

WHO body seeks pact on handling SARS virus

GENEVA, 20 Oct—The World Health Organization (WHO) said on Friday it wanted controls on laboratories holding SARS virus samples in order to prevent a return of the disease which killed more than 800 people in the past year.

The risk of transmission from laboratories, the only place where SARS is known to still exist, will be high on the agenda when scientists meet at WHO headquarters on Monday for a week of meetings aimed at preparing for any fresh outbreak.

"We are trying to ready ourselves and ready the world for what could happen this year if SARS did come back," Professor John Mackenzie, coordinator of the WHO's scientific advisory committee, told a news conference.

The respiratory disease, which is believed to have originated in southern China in November 2002, infected about 8,500 people in 30 countries and health officials

are on high alert for a possible resurgence. The United Nations health agency declared the outbreak over in July, but there has since been one case in Singapore where a research student caught the disease while working in a laboratory that kept samples of the virus.

Mackenzie said that the WHO hoped scientists would call for countries to keep tight control over allowing laboratories to work with the virus and to keep close track of stocks.

"Not all laboratories should have the right to work with the virus. We do not want it to be too available for accidents," he added.

MNA/Reuters



Iraqis from the restive town of Fallujah watch as a US Army ammunition truck explodes throwing flaming shrapnel on 19 October, 2003. Witnesses said the vehicle had been hit with a rocket propelled grenade in an ambush, and there was no information on casualties. —INTERNET

State Dept study foresaw trouble now plaguing Iraq

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct—A yearlong State Department study predicted many of the problems that have plagued the American-led occupation of Iraq, according to internal State Department documents and interviews with administration and Congressional officials.

Beginning in April 2002, the State Department project assembled more than 200 Iraqi lawyers, engineers, business people and other experts into 17 working groups to study topics ranging from creating a new justice system to reorganizing the military to revamping the economy.

Their findings included a much more dire assessment of Iraq's dilapidated electrical and water systems than many Pentagon officials assumed. They warned of a society so brutalized by Saddam Hussein's rule that many Iraqis might react coolly to Americans' notion of quickly rebuilding civil society.

Several officials said that many of the findings in the \$5 million study were ignored by Pentagon officials until recently, although the Pentagon said they took the findings into account. The work is now being relied on heavily as occupation forces struggle to impose stability in Iraq.

The working group studying transitional justice was eerily prescient in forecasting the widespread looting in the aftermath of the fall of Mr Hussein's government, caused

in part by thousands of criminals set free from prison, and it recommended force to prevent the chaos.

"The period immediately after regime change might offer these criminals the opportunity to engage in acts of killing, plunder and looting," the report warned, urging American officials to "organize military patrols by coalition forces in all major cities to prevent lawlessness, especially against vital utilities and key government facilities."

Despite the scope of the project, the military office initially charged with rebuilding Iraq did not learn of it until a major government drill for the postwar mission was held in Washington in late February, less than a month before the conflict began, said Ron Adams, the office's deputy director.

The man overseeing the planning, Tom Warrick, a State Department official, so impressed aides to Jay Garner, a retired Army lieutenant general heading the military's reconstruction office, that they recruited Mr Warrick to join their team.

Internet



Dozens of Iraqi youths cheer and dance atop a burned out US Army military ammunition truck after it was attacked in Fallujah, Iraq, Sunday, on 19 October, 2003, 35 miles (60 kms) west of Baghdad.—INTERNET

Underground train derails in London

LONDON, 20 Oct—An underground train in London derailed on Friday night but there were no reports of any injuries.

The accident took place shortly before 10 pm on the Piccadilly Line at Hammer-smith Station, leading to a halt in other underground services on that route, according to police.

There were 76 passengers on board when the derailment happened and police said no other trains were involved.

Police, firefighters and underground staff have come to the aid to the passengers.

MNA/Xinhua

**Donate
blood**

US approves first drug for late-stage Alzheimer's

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct—US health officials on Friday approved the first medicine for the late stages of Alzheimer's, the degenerative brain disease that afflicts an estimated four million Americans.

Namenda, made by Forest Laboratories Inc., slowed the decline in awareness, reasoning and daily function experienced by patients with moderate to severe Alzheimer's who were treated in clinical trials, the Food and Drug Administration said.

The disease causes a gradual loss of brain cells that results in memory loss and dementia, and can eventually lead to death.

In the studies, most patients' mental and functional ability did deteriorate. But on average those given Namenda were better able to perform tasks such as feeding themselves or dialing a phone than those

given a placebo, the FDA said.

Forest said Namenda will address an important medical need because the moderate to severe stages of Alzheimer's can last years.

"It certainly provides a modest, but we think meaningful, benefit," said Charles Triano, Forest's vice-president for investor relations.

The drug should be available in January, Triano said.

The FDA action follows last month's unanimous recommendation for approval from an FDA advisory panel. Members of the panel agreed the drug was safe and effective but stressed that benefits appeared limited.—MNA/Reuters

မြို့ပြဧက ဝိန်းပါးလေလွင့် ထုတ်ကုန်မြင့်

Two soldiers killed in attack on patrol in Iraq

FALLUJAH, 20 Oct—Two US soldiers were killed and one was wounded in an ambush north of Baghdad, the military said, and insurgents on Sunday attacked a convoy in this turbulent city west of the capital, setting off huge explosions in several vehicles.

In a third incident, three apparent Iraqi attackers were also reported killed.

There were no reports of casualties in the Sunday morning attack against what appeared to be a US ammunition truck here in Fallujah, 35 miles west of Baghdad in the "Sunni Triangle."

Dozens of Iraqi youths cheered and danced in celebration as contents of the flaming vehicles continued to explode.

US troops and Iraqi police kept journalists away from the scene, but from a distance it appeared that three American vehicles, including at least one truck and one Humvee, were ablaze.

There were conflicting reports whether the attack in the eastern end of the city was triggered by a roadside bomb or by rocket-propelled grenades.

"Shells were flying everywhere, like fireworks," said Khalil al-Qubaisi, 45, a nearby shopkeeper.

In the northern attack, an American mounted patrol was ambushed by rocket-propelled grenades and small arms fire at 10.45 pm Saturday outside the northern city of Kirkuk, 159 miles north of Baghdad, said Maj Josslyn Aberle, spokeswoman for the 4th Infantry Division.

The patrol from Task Force Ironhorse — a force that includes the 4th Division — returned fire, but no additional enemy contact followed, Aberle said.

In other action in the north early Sunday, US troops were attacked by grenades and small arms and returned fire, killing three Iraqis near Hawija, 150 miles north of Baghdad, the 4th Infantry Division reported.

Other American forces detained five attackers north of Beiji, 120 miles north of Baghdad, after a brief firefight. Resistance forces have mounted an average of 22 attacks a day on the US occupation forces in Iraq in recent weeks, mostly in the so-called "Sunni Triangle," a Sunni Muslim-dominated area stretching from the west of Baghdad to the north. The area was a strong base of support for Saddam's Baath Party regime toppled by the US-British invasion earlier this year.

Saturday's deaths came barely a day after four American soldiers were killed in a roadside explosion in Baghdad and a clash with Shiite Muslim gunmen in the southern shrine city of Karbala, on the deadliest day for the occupation force in a month.

Internet

US forces in Iraq admit morale is low

BAGHDAD, 20 Oct—US defence officials said on Thursday they are drawing up plans to mobilize more American forces for duty in Iraq in the expectation that too few international troops will be available by early next year.

A survey of US troops in Iraq, meanwhile, found that one-third described their morale as low and half did not plan to reenlist — findings that led Pentagon leaders to say on Thursday they are closely watching for such problems.

The additional reservists to be called up have not been notified because Pentagon planners have yet to decide which units to call on, and there remains a chance that international troops can be used instead.

The extra forces — which could turn out to be a mixture of international troops, active-duty US Marines and National Guard and Reserve soldiers — are to replace active-duty units due to return home.

Some members of Congress said it was time to bring home some units already in Iraq.

"You have to have some sort of rotation scheme for the men or women that are over there that's a limit to how long they'll stay. Then you have to bring in other people, other divisions or other National Guard or whatever," said Senator Trent Lott of Mississippi.

The survey of 1,935 troops, published in a series of special reports on Iraq in the Stars and Stripes newspaper, also found that a significant number of troops were confused about the purpose of their presence, and had lost faith in their mission.

Coinciding with the report, the army on Thursday admitted that at least 13 US troops had committed suicide in Iraq, representing more than 10 per cent of American non-combat deaths there, and said the army had sent a suicide-prevention expert to Iraq.—Internet



Chinese tourists walk past the ruins of western style buildings looted by French and English troops during the Qing Dynasty at the Old Summer Palace in Beijing, China on 18 October, 2003.

INTERNET

A tribute to our teachers

Yenanmyay Ko Tin

I had occasion to drop in on my granddaughter at a school one day. She was only about eleven years old and wasn't the praiseworthy type at all at home. In fact, all bad adjectives — headstrong, stubborn, unbending, unmanageable, etc., could have been hurled at her.

However, I was in such a shock that day. On reaching there, my granddaughter happened to spot her teacher coming towards the school. And I saw my granddaughter rushing to her teacher to pay obeisance respectfully and to take over her teacher's tiffin-carrier as a way of giving a helping hand and following her teacher one pace behind, like a well-trained puppy.

I was amazed at the change of my granddaughter's demeanor. Was the teacher a wizard or a modern Madame Hudini? I noticed that my granddaughter had serenely taken refuge in her and that a stanza from the "Loka Niti—Buddhist Philosophy", came to me as :-

- * The shade of the tree is cool.
- * The refuge of parents and relatives is cooler.
- * Even more is the refuge of the teachers.
- * The coolest is the refuge of the Buddha.

My granddaughter's teacher filled me with admiration. Perhaps she belonged to that category of good and memorable teachers that were able to impart education, and at the same time instill discipline and awaken moral awareness.

Globalisation, and the advances in Information Technologies has propelled education to the forefront and incidentally the "Loka Niti" highlighted education as :-

* Men or animals are capable of sleeping, eating or having sex.

* Education is the quality where man excels.

Education is the tool used to develop and sharpen one's mind, skills, character, etc., and the only medium of acquiring it is solely through teachers at all levels of learning. Hence the role of teachers or educationalists is by no means trifling or minimal.

Prior to Myanmar's annexation, monastic education remained in prominence. Subsequent to coloniza-

tion, many vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools came into existence. Next came the Yangon College and the Yangon University, for higher education. With the systems of national schools through national fervour, all the teachers remained steadfast to their role as educationalists amidst all the changes. Then came the Second World War and its attendant hardships. The teachers nevertheless stood by their posts and continued to impart education, in spite of the many anomalies unavoidable in education at that time.

The post-war period witnessed an influx of facilities for the primary, middle and high schools, leading to the establishment of colleges and universities in States and Divisions and in recent years, also in the border areas. And with the widening scope in learning, many new subjects also came into existence, calling for the availability of a large number of Educationalist Corps, both generalists and specialists. The creation of a cadre of teachers was assisted by the Government of Myanmar, with the opening of more training schools for teachers, training colleges as well as post-graduate courses.

We are grateful to all educationalists who have responded to the needs of the nation. We remain highly indebted to them for their patience, devotion and skills in educating and nurturing such a motley flock of youngsters.

Myanmar's Education Index (based on primary, secondary and tertiary enrollment), and the rate of adult literacy remains highly favourable. And according to the UNDP's Human Development Report, 2000, Myanmar's Education Index is (0.75), while the Adult Literacy rate is (84.1%). The rate refers to the year 1998 and should definitely be much higher, as of date.

The New International Webster's Pocket Thesaurus defines 'education' as "teach, train, inform, tutor and instruct". That's what by former gurus did in sincerity and devotion. All of them passed away, but my respect for them still lingers on and I remain resolute. By now, they will have attained higher levels of existence.

Education, however, will have to go on. Our chil-

dren's time, between the age of five and up to about twenty two years, are mostly spent in schools and institutions in pursuit of education. It constitutes the period when they could be moulded either into Saints or criminals. But in credit to their noble profession, the educationalists have never failed us, the parents.

They have unflinchingly produced intellectuals and worthy citizens. And it's no wonder that Myanmar's regard all teachers as one of the Five Gems, in conjunction with the Lord Buddha, the Dhamma, the Sangha and Parents.

And in paying my tribute to all educationalists on the "World Teacher's Day, 2003", may I echo the concluding words of UNESCO, ILO, UNDP and UNICEF's joint message, that pertinently stresses, "We salute your courage, commitment and determination. Be assured that there is no substitution for your profession, which deserves the respect and support of everyone. Let there be no mistake: our future depends on it."



A contestant taking part in dance contest (man, aged 10-15). — MNA



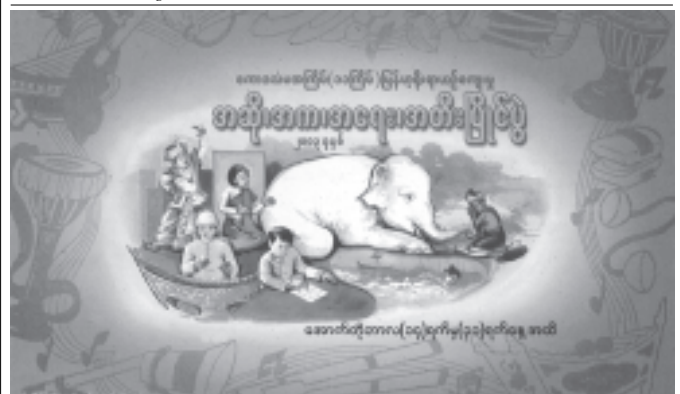
The 17-member engineering delegation led by President of the Myanmar Engineering Association Prof Dr Sein Myint being seen off on 19 October at the Yangon International Airport together with officials before departure for Indonesia to attend the ASEAN engineering conference (CAFE-21). — NLM



President of the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association Dr Khin Shwe makes an address at 7th annual meeting of the association at Karaweik Palace on 16 October. — NLM



Enthusiasts visit Soft Guide Language Lab of the Fifth International ICT Exhibition 2003 being held at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on 19 October. — MNA



Not only the people of Myanmar but also ASEAN and international community support the seven-point roadmap of Myanmar

TekKatho Myat Thu

(continued from yesterday)

All the ASEAN member countries and dialogue partners realized and accepted the seven-point roadmap for building the discipline-flourishing democratic nation and unanimously expressed their stand that the internal affairs of Myanmar should be resolved by her people.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt explained the seven-point roadmap of democratic transition of Myanmar to the leaders of the ASEAN countries. The Prime Minister said on the occasion that he announced the seven-point roadmap soon after he had taken charge of the responsibilities of the prime minister, and, that the National Convention was to be reconvened and the state constitution was to be drafted for the successful implementation of the roadmap. The draft constitution would be adopted through a national referendum and afterwards, free and fair elections were to be held and Pyithu Hluttaws (Legislative bodies) to be convened, he added. The new government would be formed by the Pyithu Hluttaw in accord with the state constitution, and the state power would be transferred to the government.

The new government would carry on the national development projects. At present, the National Convention Convening Commission and the work committee have already been formed. The Prime Minister noted that those duties could not easily be carried out overnight. He expressed his belief that all would realize the delicate situation in which the government had to tackle the tasks as Myanmar is home to over one hundred national races. National races of the country had once fought against each other. And now the government has been able to make peace with seventeen armed groups, he said. In drafting a constitution, there should not be weakness and flaws. If there are flaws in the constitution, the nation would face danger.

People from all walks of life including the representatives of the national races, political parties, peasants, workers, intellectuals, technicians and service personnel are participating in the Nation Convention. A consensus was sought through mutual negotiations in the National Convention. Therefore, the tasks could not be carried out within a limited period hastily. The government, he said, had no wish to prolong the duration. Appropriate period of time must be allowed to gain mutual understanding and consent of all the parties. He expressed his hope that the friendly nations and regional countries would realize the situation of Myanmar and help overcome the difficulties. Outside pressure and interference would adversely affect the delicate tasks.

The Prime Minister expressed his strong belief that the desired goal would be achieved through building the national unity and mutual understanding, and all would realize the situation of Myanmar and cooperate with her. All the news indicated that the country won the understanding and support of the members of the ASEAN countries.

Statement of the ASEAN Summit and the AESAN+3 Summit dated 7, October, 2003, issued by Chairman of the Summits and alternate Chairman of the ASEAN President of the Republic of Indonesia Madame Megawati Soekarnoputri mentioned the future tasks, success and matters discussed at the summits in detail. Paragraph 25 of the statement said that the leaders welcomed the recent positive developments of Myanmar and the Government's pledge to bring about a transition to democracy through dialogue and reconciliation. The roadmap as outlined by the Prime Minister of Myanmar that would involve all strata of Myanmar society is a pragmatic approach and deserves understanding and support. The ASEAN leaders also agreed that sanctions are not helpful in promoting peace and stability essential for democracy to take root. Some people and media from the west had a lot of negative words and writings over the democratic transition of Myanmar together with speculations and

instigation about the summit. They hinted that so and so leader from an ASEAN member country would blame and criticize Myanmar. In reality, the summits, with complete mutual understanding and friendship, agreed on the emergence of the only market in the ASEAN region in 2020 and guided towards the emergence of a free trade area of the ASEAN+3.

Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi expressed his wish to witness democratic development in Myanmar. He and Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt did not hold a separate meeting as exaggerated by the western media. They only greeted and chatted for about 5 minutes on the corridor after a meeting. The statement of Myanmar issued in Bali on 8 October said that Myanmar is striving to establish democracy amidst many challenges: establishing democracy in accord with the wishes of Myanmar people is more important than that of an individual person or a particular organization; and the Government will do its best for Myanmar. Concerning the speech of the Japanese prime minister, what Myanmar would like to confirm is that it will do its best for the country.

Now they have known that provocation, instigation, sowing of discord made with ill will up to just before the summit proved nothing in their favour and could not penetrate or destroy the unity of the ASEAN, and that the ASEAN is staunchly exercising its over-thirty-year-old practice of non-interference in the internal affairs of member-countries. But some persons and media in the west have begun to criticize the leaders of the ASEAN. The UN charter also explicitly states that nothing in the Charter is to authorize the UN to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state.

Myanmar people themselves fought for their independence. Myanmar itself safeguard the union and sovereignty (independence). Myanmar herself strove for stability and tranquillity, and development. Therefore, Myanmar will also make efforts for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation and a new state constitution required for her in accord with the attitude, wishes and efforts of Myanmar.

The democracy roadmap or seven-point future policies and programmes of Myanmar forwarded by the Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at the right time matches with the historical experience and prevailing conditions of Myanmar. All the ASEAN countries, friendly nations, and most of the world nations that hold correct view have observed the roadmap as an appropriate one and supported it. It is no need to explain the support of the people of Myanmar as all the states and divisions have been holding mass rallies in support of the roadmap or the seven-point future policies and programmes of the State since 20-9-2003.

(Concluded)

(Translation: MWT)

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 17-10-2003

၂၀၀၃-၂၀၀၄ ပညာသင်နှစ် ကျောင်းနှင့်ဝန်းကျင်သန့်ရှင်းရေးနေ့

၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ ၂၅ ရက်
(စနေနေ့)

အခြေခံပညာကျောင်းအားလုံး
ပါဝင်ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါစို့

ပညာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

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

အစုလိုက်ဝက်သက်ကာကွယ်ဆေးထိုးနှံခြင်း
၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ (၁၉) ရက်မှ (၂၆) ရက်အထိ
(ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊ ဧရာဝတီတိုင်း၊ ချင်းပြည်နယ်နှင့်
ရခိုင်ပြည်နယ်အတွင်းရှိ မြို့နယ်များအားလုံးတွင်
တစ်ချိန်တည်း တစ်ပြိုင်တည်း ထိုးနှံပေးပါမည်။)
အသက် (၉)လမှ (၅)နှစ်အတွင်းရှိ
ကလေးငယ်များအားလုံး
နီးစပ်ရာ ကာကွယ်ဆေးထိုး စုရပ်များသို့
မမျက်မကွက် အရောက်လာကြပါ

ကလေးတစ်ဦးလျှင် တစ်ခါသုံး ဆေးထိုးအပ်ဆေးထိုးဖြန့်
တစ်စုံစီဖြင့် ကာကွယ်ဆေး အခမဲ့ထိုးနှံပေးပါမည်။

အဓိကသတင်းအချက်အလက်များ

- ◆ ဝက်သက်ရောဂါသည် ကူးစက်မြန်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပြီး ကလေး
မြောက်မြားစွာ သေဆုံးနိုင်ပါသည်။
- ◆ ဝက်သက်ရောဂါမဖြစ်ပွားအောင် ကာကွယ်ဆေးထိုးပေးခြင်း
ဖြင့် ကာကွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။
- ◆ အသက် (၉)လမှ (၅)နှစ်အတွင်း ကလေးများအားလုံး
ကာကွယ်ဆေးထိုးပြီးသည့်ဖြစ်စေ၊ မထိုးနှံရသေးသည့်ဖြစ်စေ
ဝက်သက်ကာကွယ်ဆေး လာရောက်ထိုးနှံရမည်။
- ◆ ကာကွယ်ဆေးထိုးခြင်းဖြင့် ကလေးများအား မည်သည့်
အန္တရာယ်မျှ မရှိပါ။

Vice-Senior General...

(from page 16)

Vijitayon monastery in Mandalay Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Vicareindabhivamsa read the message of condolence of the committee.

Secretary Sayadaw of Shwekyin Gana Working Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Sishin monastery of Maha Visuddhayan Taikthit in Mandalay Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Gandhavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Agga Nanabhivamsa read the "Thanwaiga Dhamma Gatha" of the Shwekyin Nikaya Central Committee.

Member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Presiding Sayadaw of Tipitaka Maha Gandhayon Taik in Mayangon Township, Yangon, Sayadaw Tipitakadhara Dhamma Bandhagarika Agga Maha Pandita Dr Bhaddanta Sumangala Lankara read the message of Yangon Division Shwekyin Nikaya Vinaya Department.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Soe Win, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Commander Brig-Gen Khin Maung Myint covered the remains of the Sayadaw with velvet. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye supplicated matters on religious affairs.

Next, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung read out the message of condolence sent by the ministry, followed by the brief biography of the Sayadaw read by Sayadaw Bhaddanta Mahosadha Pandita. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San presented offertories to the State Ovadacariya Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Mandalay

Maha Visuddhayan Taikthit Waso Monastery Sayadaw.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win also offered provisions to the Sagaing Sitagu World Buddhist University Chancellor Sitagu Sayadaw.

Later, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the commander, ministers, and senior military officers presented offertories to members of the Sangha.

After the recitation of the "Thanwaiga Dhamma Gatha" by Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Nanissara, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San and party, and the congregation shared the merits gained from good deeds. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party paid homage to the Kangyi Pariyatti School Sayadaw.

Sayadaw Dhamma Kathika Bahujana Hitadhara Bhaddanta Dhammavara announced the conveyance of the remains onto the carriage. Flanked by those holding the portrait of the Sayadaw and religious pennants, the members of the Sangha, the Secretary-1 and party, and officials conveyed the remains of the Sayadaw onto the carriage.

Later, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye pressed a button to set fire to the remains of the Sayadaw for the final rites. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San and party, and the congregation paid homage to the remains of the Sayadaw.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San and party left for Heho and then flew to Yangon, and arrived back here in the evening. —MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San present offertories to Namhukyaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumula.—MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and party cover the casket of the remains of the Kangyi Pariyatti Sathintak Sayadaw with diamond velvet robes.—MNA

Shwesaryan Open Golf Tour concluded



YANGON, 20 Oct — Shwesaryan Open Golf Championship of the Myanmar Golf Tour 2003 organized by the Central Command, Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA continued yesterday at Shwesaryan Golf Course in Mandalay.

After the 18-hole contests, prize presentation ceremony followed. Officials

of Htoo Trading Co Ltd presented prizes to winners who stood first, second and third in handicap 13-18 contest, amateur level contest and professional golfers contest, and the hole-in-one award winner.

Next, special project manager of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd and Commander of the Central Command Brig-Gen Nay Win awarded daily best player in amateur level tournament and professional golfers tournament respectively.

Similarly, winners of the amateur level tournament and professional golfers tournament concluded also received prizes presented by President of MPGA and MGF Maj-Gen Win Hlaing. Likewise, on behalf of the Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Nay Win gave away cash award to the champion of the professional golfers tour.

Maj-Gen Win Hlaing also presented a gift to Htoo Trading Co Ltd, the title sponsor, through Managing Director U Te Za.

The golf tour was co sponsored by Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd, Htoo Trading Co Ltd, Nadi Myanmar Hotel, Air Mandalay, Grand Slam (Munsing Wear), Loi Hein (Alpine), Honma and Wilson, UPG and Myanmar Elephant Cement and Han Event Management took responsibilities to organize the tourney.—MNA



Brig-Gen Nay Win, presents a cheque to Min Naing (Srixon) who emerges champion in the professional golfers contest.—MGF

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects...

(from page 16)

Kyaukse Township where the Hospital In Charge Dr Sai Pan Ohn reported on the

salient points of the hospital.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint fulfilled the needs and gave instructions on public health care services and growing of perennial crops in the compound of the hospital.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected the hospital and attended to the needs.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the village telephone booth of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at Minsu Model Village Basic Education High School where Headmaster U Yan Naing

Aung reported on the number of the students and requirements.

Township Education Officer U Mya Thein gave a supplementary report.

Later, Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented cash donations for the school.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected learning of the students, the language lab, the computer aided instruction, and the computer skills rooms.

Next, they proceeded to Monastic Parahita Basic Education Middle School of National Parahita Home in Myittha Township. They offered robes and requisites to Academic and Admin Sayadaws Bhaddanta Yewata, Bhaddanta Neminda and Bhaddanta Pannasami of the school. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented cash donation for the school through officials.

Later, they inspected development of Myittha Region and village-to-village roads. Next, they arrived at Ywakhinegyi Village Station Hospital in Myittha Village and attended to the needs. After that Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the hospital.

Then, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Ywakhinegyi Village Affiliated Basic Education High School where they inspected construction of the two-storey building of the school. They then donated cash for the building. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected renovation of Pyaungpya Canal that supplies water for agricultural purpose and cultivation of monsoon paddy.

At 1 pm, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party paid homage to Lawka Manaung Shwegugyi Pagoda in Minsu Model Village, Kyaukse Township.—MNA

Mid-year Gems Emporium continues

YANGON, 20 Oct — Under the programme of the Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2003, 168 lots of gems were put on sale at the Myanmar Gems Museum this morning through tender system and the competitive bidding.

At the emporium, local and foreign gems merchants bought 33 lots of gems through the competitive bidding till 5 pm today.

Gems sale will continue tomorrow through competitive bidding.—MNA

Ophthalmic Surgeon's Conference to be held

YANGON, 20 Oct — The 15th Ophthalmic Surgeon's Conference sponsored by Ophthalmic Surgeons Society of Myanmar Medical Association will be held here on 13 and 14 November 2003.

Those who are inter-

ested to attend and those who are interested to read papers at the conference are requested to contact the Secretary of Ophthalmic Surgeons Society of MMA, Yangon Eye Hospital on Namauk Road, Yangon.

MNA

Wonderful experiences

Tin Maung Than



A truck travelling on Mandalay-Muse Union Highway.

Laukkai, Muse and Kongyan are the rapidly developing modern towns in northern Shan State, thanks to the peace and stability prevailing in the whole region due to the earnest and sincere efforts of the Government.

As there is peace and stability in the region, business prospers, leading to raising the living standard of the local people and coming into

being of the modern facilities needed for well-rounded development of the northern Shan State in particular and the whole nation in general.

The motor road from Mandalay, the second largest city and a tourist destination, lying in the central Myanmar, to Muse, a prospering town at Myanmar-China border, the Shweli River Bridge and other new infrastructures are also the

results of the peace and stability and the endeavours of the Government, the peace groups, the entrepreneurs and the local ethnic races.

The Mandalay-Muse road is a Union Highway linking the central and the north-east regions of the country, also serving as vital land route between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China.

Starting from Man-

dalay, the road runs through PyinOoLwin, a beautiful hill station in Mandalay Division, before entering the northern Shan State in Nawnghkio Township where the famous Gok-htake viaduct is located. Gok-htake is a gorge, where a creek flows through it. The creek is also called the Gok-htake Creek.

In PyinOoLwin, a visitor may go sightseeing at Pwegaok Falls, Anisakan

Falls, Wetwun Falls, and Paik-chin-myaung Falls and Cave.

The Paik-chin-myaung Cave was formed by the forces of nature millions of years ago. Inside the cave are the ancient Buddha images and small streams. National Kandawgyi Gardens is also an interesting place in the town.

From Nawnghkio, the Union Highway reaches

Kyaukme, a business town in northern Shan State, famous for its various kinds of local agricultural produce. The highway continues to Hsipaw, a silent town, with many natural mini streams crisscrossing it. Between Hsipaw and Lashio, the regional capital, is a deep forest, serving as the source of water for the magnificent Mansam Falls.

The railroad from Mandalay to northern Shan State ends in Lashio, but the Union Highway keeps on going till reaching Muse. The regional capital is famous for its hot springs.

From Lashio, the highway passes through the Hsenwi plains, one of the major rice growing areas in northern Shan State, and entered Hsenwi, a small town in the region. And from there, the Union Highway reaches Muse, a busy border town, and also serving as an entry point for tourists coming in from China.

Apart from its vitality in the trade between the towns along the road and with China also, the highway passes through many interesting towns and places. Thus, travelling on the highway will give a passenger a lot of wonderful experiences.

11th Myanmar performing arts competitions continue

YANGON, 20 Oct—The 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the seventh day at respective venues today.

The song contest was held at the National Museum on Pyay road, the dance contest at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, the song-composing contest at Pantra School on Kaba Aye Pagoda road, the xylophone contest at Kanbawza Theatre on Kaba Aye Pagoda road and the Dobat contest at Padonma Theatre on Bagaya road here on a grand scale.

The competitions were attended by Member of the Panel of Patrons of the Committee for Holding the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Chairman of the Leading Committee for Holding the competitions Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, members of Panels of Patrons Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe and Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlements Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee

for Holding the competitions Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Col Wai Lwin, senior military officers, Chairman of the Work Committee for holding the competitions Commander of No-3 Military Region Col Tint Hsan, officials of work committees and sub-committees, enthusiasts and tourists.

Chairman of the Panel of Judges Assistant Director Daw Tin Tin Mya of MRTV, Secretary Assistant Engineer Daw May Pyone Khine and work committee members made judgements on the performance of the contestants at

the song contest.

At the professional level religious song contest (female), a total of 15 contestants competed with Tay Bonma song composed by U Pyone Cho. At the basic education level classic/modern song contest (boys, aged 15-20), a total of 15 contestants competed with Sabe song composed by Gita Netan Ko Saw Nyein.

The professional level religious song contest (male), and basic education level classic/modern song contest (aged 15-20, girls) will be held tomorrow.

A total of 15 contestants participated in the basic education level dance contest (aged 15-20, girls).



A contestant taking part in song contest (boys, aged 15-20). —MNA

Chairman of Judges for Dance Contests Wunna (See page 15)

16th ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting commences

YANGON, 20 Oct—The 16th ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting hosted by the Union of Myanmar was held at Sedona Hotel this morning.

Present were senior officials of member of ASEAN nations Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam and delegates, officials of ASEAN Secretariat, delegates of Myanmar and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Leader of Myanmar delegation Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung presided over the meeting and delivered a speech.

He recalled on the future tasks decided by 8th ATM and 14th STOM Meetings which were held in Indonesia last year. Some of the objectives laid down by Hanoi Plan of Action are still pending. The three important transport related agreements, ASEAN framework agreement on the facilitation of Goods in Transit, Multimodal Transport and inter-State Transport still need to be concluded as soon as possible. He said 7 ASEAN Transport related meetings will be held consecutively in Yangon.

He hoped that the meetings will be able to achieve our objectives and conclude these meetings to our satisfaction.

Leader of the delegations and members and officials of ASEAN Secretariat posed for souvenir photos.

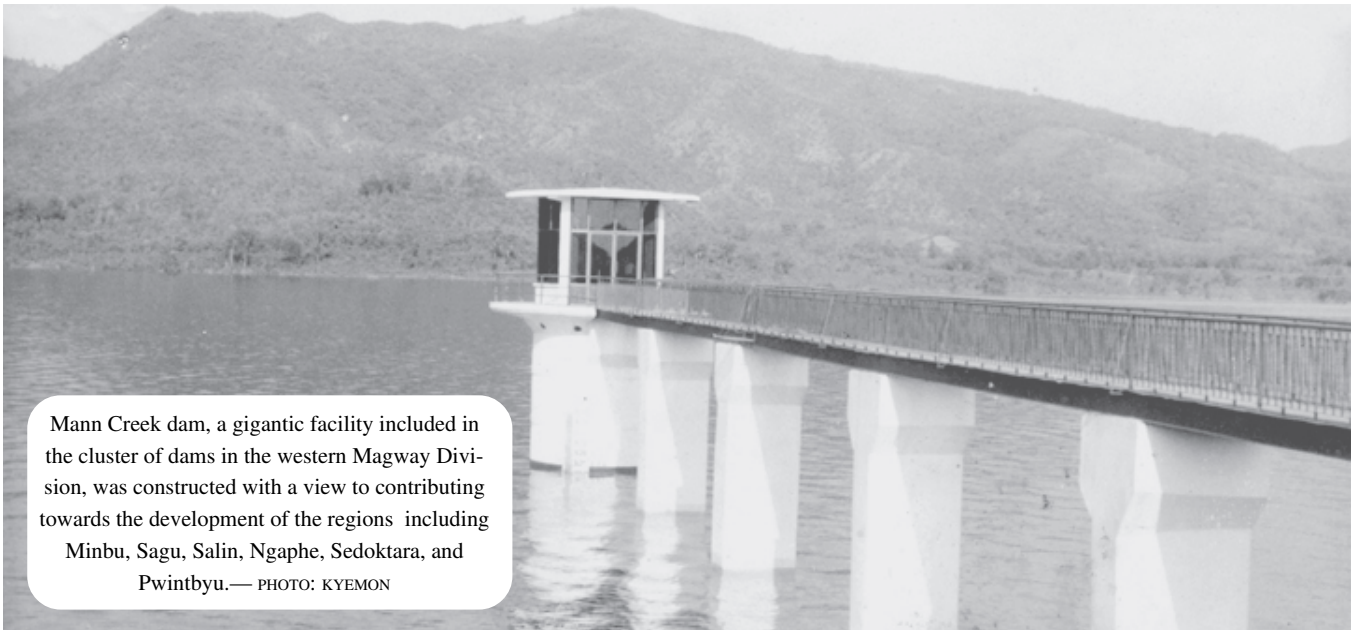
In the afternoon session, participants discussed reports prepared by ASEAN Secretariat on resolutions, statements and future tasks laid down by the 9th ASEAN Summit held in Bali, Indonesia, implementation of the agreements on transport with the application of ASEAN minus X formula, reports of transport facilitation working group, cooperation on transport among dialogue partners—the People's Republic of China, India and Japan, ASEAN Highway Network Plan, Singapore-Kunming Railroad Project and general issues.

The first day session ended in the evening. The meeting continues tomorrow. Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung hosted dinner in honour of delegates of the 16th ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting and officials of ASEAN Secretariat at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel.—MNA

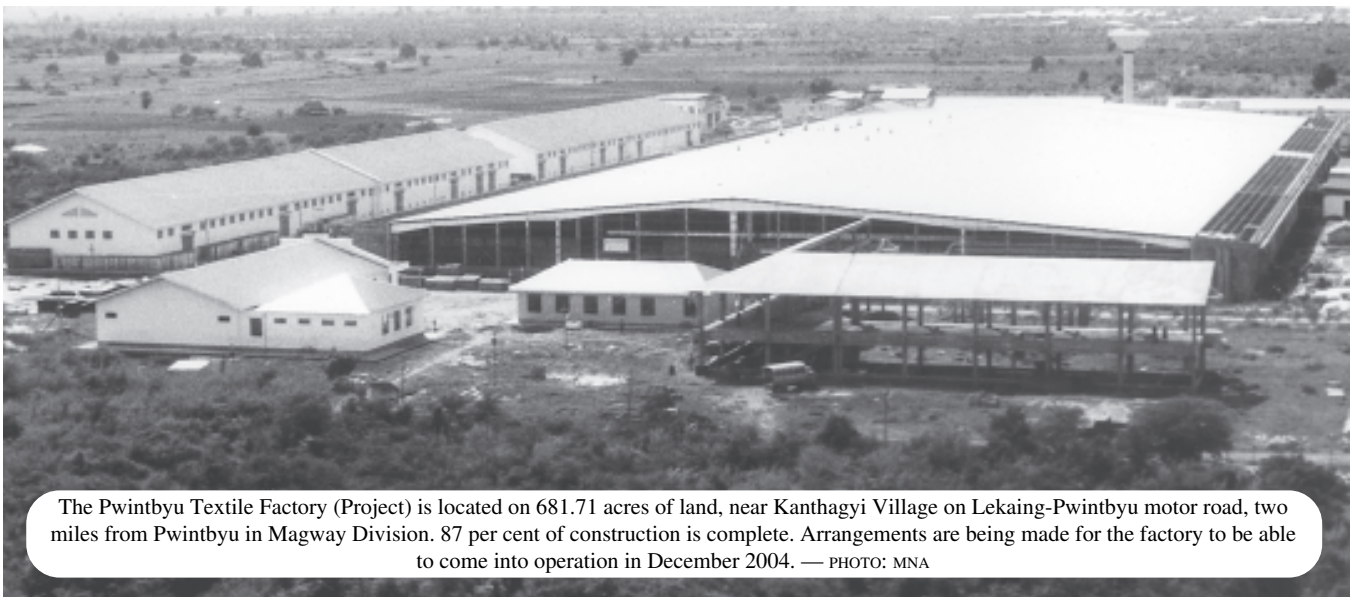


Transport Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung addresses the 16th ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting.—MNA

Tangible results of Development in Shan State (North)



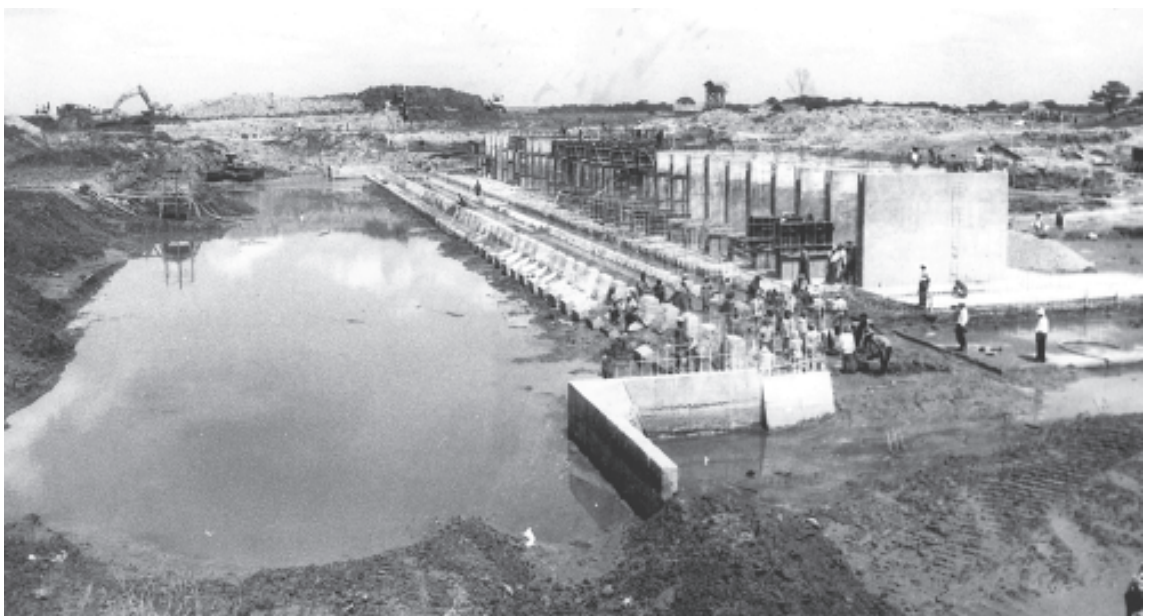
Mann Creek dam, a gigantic facility included in the cluster of dams in the western Magway Division, was constructed with a view to contributing towards the development of the regions including Minbu, Sagu, Salin, Ngaphe, Sedoktara, and Pwintbyu. — PHOTO: KYEMON



The Pwintbyu Textile Factory (Project) is located on 681.71 acres of land, near Kanthagyi Village on Lekaing-Pwintbyu motor road, two miles from Pwintbyu in Magway Division. 87 per cent of construction is complete. Arrangements are being made for the factory to be able to come into operation in December 2004. — PHOTO: MNA

Shwehlay sluice gate is located at the confluence of Hsema Creek and Bago River in Kawa Township, Bago Division. It will prevent floods in the rainy season and also prevent brine and silt carried by Bago River. Moreover, it is built with the aim of supplying water to 35,000 acres of summer paddy.

PHOTO: MNA



မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

China's Chemistry Institute holds first open day

BEIJING, 20 Oct— China's leading chemistry research institution held its first open day Saturday to raise public awareness of the subject's importance in daily life.

Thousands of people flocked through the doors of the Institute of Chemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (ICCAS) in Beijing to see the laboratories and displays and to listen to lectures.

"Chemistry Creates Better Life" was the theme slogan for the open day.

Dr Wang Meixiang, direc-

tor of the ICCAS, said chemistry was the core science of the natural sciences, and was vital to knowing and changing nature.

Founded in 1956, the ICCAS focused on the national key strategic research programmes and had made many contributions to Chinese chemical development, he said. *MNA/Xinhua*

Int'l centre set up for materials technology promotion

BEIJING, 20 Oct— The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) set up Sunday an international centre in Beijing for promoting new technologies of materials.

The International Centre for Materials Technology Promotion, also supported by China's Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Commerce, is expected to help developing countries improve their research of development on materials.

Chinese enterprises should wisely use the inter-

national network constructed by the centre to obtain more advanced materials technologies and sell more products to global markets, Shi Dinghuan, a senior official with the Ministry of Science and Technology, said at the inauguration ceremony for the centre.

MNA/Xinhua

Four more nations approved to receive Chinese tourists

BEIJING, 20 Oct—The Chinese Government has approved Cuba, Croatia, Hungary and Pakistan to receive Chinese tourists from November 1.

A China International Travel Service official said the company was designing routes to send the first groups on 1 November. The Hungary and Croatia tours were likely to be the first to sell.

Experts said the travel costs to Croatia, Hungary and Pakistan will each exceed 10,000 yuan (1,250 US dollars). A trip to Cuba for a week will cost over 20,000

yuan (2,500 US dollars). However, a survey indicated high fees would not necessarily deter Chinese tourists, as scenery and knowledge of a destination were the major factors in deciding a holiday.

More travel agencies are focusing on Canada, which will enable tourists to transfer to Cuba via Vancouver and thus lower the travel costs. —*MNA/Xinhua*



The photo taken on Saturday, 18 October, 2003 shows a couple of Siamese twins, born on 7 October, at the Hospital Affiliated to Luzhou Medical University in southwest China's Sichuan Province. The hospital is to separate the twins in an operation when they are three to six months old.—INTERNET

Beijing leads Chinese cities in consumer goods retailing

BEIJING, 20 Oct— The city of Beijing is ahead of Tianjin, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Chongqing in growth rate of consumer goods retailing.

Latest figures from Beijing Municipal Statistics Bureau show the city achieved 138.61 billion yuan (about 16.7 billion US dollars) in retail sales of consumer goods from January to September, up 13.7 per cent on the same period last year.

In September alone, the city chalked up 17.18 billion yuan (about 2.07 billion US dollars) in retail sales of consumer goods, up 11.7 per cent, a record high.

The retail sales of consumer goods over the whole year is expected to grow by about 13 per cent, said an analyst with the statistics bureau.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam strives to reach GDP growth of 7.5-8% next year

HANOI, 20 Oct— Vietnam will take urgent measures to gain gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 7.5-8 per cent in 2004, the country's National Assembly Office said on Friday.

The country targets growth of more than 10 per cent in the industry and construction sector, over 7 per cent in the services sector, and over 4 per cent in the agriculture, forestry and fishery sector, next year.

Meanwhile, it will strive to ensure that total state budget collection accounts for more than 21 per cent of GDP, and that capital for development investment is equivalent to 30 per cent of budget spending.

Regarding exports, the Ministry of Trade has set a target of gaining total export turnover of 21 billion US dollars next year, an estimated increase of 8.8 per cent against this year.

To realize the targets, the Vietnamese Government will focus on reviewing schemes on developing key regions, industries and products, applying flexible monetary policies, accelerating implementation of bilateral and multilateral commitments, and raising quality of education and training.

The country is to increase spending on education, training, science, technology, and poverty reduction. It will give more development assistance to the northern mountainous region, the Central Highlands region, and the Mekong Delta.

As for external economic affairs, the country will further negotiations so that it can become a member of the World Trade Organization by 2005. It will also try to fulfil its commitment to the Association of the South-East Asian Nations' Free Trade Area (FTA) agreement.

After gaining remarkable socioeconomic achievements in the first nine months of 2003, Vietnam made forecast for the whole year that it will record GDP growth of 7.2-7.3 per cent, export turnovers of 19.5 billion dollars, state budget collection of 8.55 billion dollars, budget spending of 10.82 billion dollars, and creation of 1.5 million new jobs.

MNA/Xinhua

Trade between Guangxi, ASEAN rises by 59%

NANNING, 20 Oct— Trade between south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and the 10 members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) rose to 610 million US dollars during the first nine months, up 59 per cent from the same period last year.

The volume included 200 million dollars of imports from ASEAN and 410 million dollars of exports.

Border trade accounted for most of the trade at more than 60 per cent of the total volume, or 400 million dollars.

State-run enterprises accounted for half of Guangxi's trade with ASEAN, or 300 million dollars.

Private firms in the region imported 64.46 million dollars of goods from ASEAN from January to September this year, up 670 per cent year-on-year, with exports rising by

510 per cent to 160 million dollars.

Machinery and electronic products were Guangxi's main items exported to ASEAN, valued at 130 million dollars, up 60 per cent.

Other major exports were garments and clothing accessories, Chinese herbal medicines, fruits, garlic and fertilizer.

Vietnam leads ASEAN countries in trade with Guangxi, with bilateral trade growing by 79 per cent to 490 million dollars.

China and ASEAN agreed to establish the China-ASEAN free trade zone by 2010.

MNA/Xinhua

Singapore's external trade up 17% year-on-year in September

SINGAPORE, 20 Oct— Singapore's foreign trade totalled some 24.1 billion US dollars in September 2003, an increase of 17 per cent over the corresponding period last year, a government release said on Friday.

Non-oil domestic exports (NODX) grew by 25.9 per cent year-on-year in September 2003, with exports of electronic products expanding by 15.3 per cent, said the Press release published by International Enterprise Singapore (IE Singapore), previously known as Trade Development Board.

NODX of non-electronic products also posted a robust 41.1 per cent

growth in the month, said the release, adding the strong year-on-year expansion was sustained by strong exports of pharmaceuticals to the European Union and the United States.

Oil domestic exports registered a 9.6-per-cent growth in September, similar to the 10-per-cent rise in the previous month, it said.

Non-oil re-exports re-

corded a third month of positive growth at 17.1 per cent, which is significantly higher than the growth achieved in the preceding two month, said IE Singapore.

Advance estimates show that the Singapore economy expanded by 1.0 per cent in the third quarter of 2003. The official growth forecast for the year as a whole stands at 0-1 per cent.—*MNA/Xinhua*



The 'Gemini' solar car from the Queens University of Canada races during the start of the 7th World Solar Challenge in Darwin, on 19 October, 2003. The World Solar Challenge entrants will traverse more than 3,000 km (1,864 miles) of the Australian continent from tropical Darwin to balmy Adelaide in a race that started on Sunday.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Bochum win to stay near top in Bundesliga

BERLIN, 20 Oct— VfL Bochum beat Schalke 04 in Gelsenkirchen 2-0 on Sunday to stay within striking distance of leaders Bayer Leverkusen in the Bundesliga while mid-table Kaiserslautern thrashed struggling Hamburg SV 4-0.

Schalke, who have reached the second round of the UEFA Cup, fell to second half goals from defender Frank Fahrenhorst in the 65th minute and striker Momo Diabang in the 79th.

Bochum, sixth with 15 points and unbeaten in six straight matches, had fended off a series of Schalke attacks in the first half in an ill-tempered Ruhr River Valley derby.

Schalke's attack, with only five goals in five home matches, continued to struggle to find the net. Striker Victor Agali missed several solid chances and drew loud boos from the large home crowd.

Bayer Leverkusen reclaimed the top of the table on Saturday with a 4-1 trouncing of Hertha Berlin while VfB Stuttgart moved into second with a 3-1 victory over previous leaders Werder Bremen. Bayer have 22 points and Stuttgart 21.

Champions Bayern Munich are in fifth on 18.

MNA/Reuters

Servette dumped out of Swiss Cup by part-timers

GENEVA 20 Oct— Seven-times Swiss Cup winners Servette were knocked out of the competition on Sunday after going down 3-2 to part-timers Malcantone Agro in the second round.

Servette, second in the Swiss league and cup winners in 2001, were undone by an extra-time goal from Gianluca Penzavalli for Malcantone.

Marcelo Citran had put Second Division club Malcantone in front after 10 minutes only for Goran Obradovic and Philippe Cravero to give Servette the lead. But Alberto Regazzoni equalized in the 89th minute to take the game into extra-time before Penzavalli struck after 95 minutes to secure a surprise victory.

Cup holders Basel comfortably progressed into the last 16 with a 4-1 win at Fourth Division Urania Geneva-Sports. MNA/Reuters



World number one tennis player Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain serves to Chilean Nicolas Massu during their final match at the Madrid Master's ATP tennis tournament on 19 October, 2003. Ferrero won 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

INTERNET

Devastating Valencia back on top after 4-0 win

MADRID, 20 Oct— Valencia were in devastating form as they crushed bottom club Espanyol 4-0 at the Mestalla to record their sixth win on the trot and reclaim top spot in the Primera Liga on Sunday.

Two goals from striker Mista and one from the outstanding Ruben Baraja put Valencia 3-0 up by the break and winger Vicente added a fourth 11 minutes from time to complete the rout against a sorry-looking Espanyol, who have yet to win this season.

The result means Valencia, who have conceded just one goal in their seven matches, retain top spot after the weekend's matches with 19 points, one ahead of Deportivo Coruna, who beat Barcelona 2-0 at the Nou Camp on Saturday.

Champions Real Madrid, who claimed a valuable 2-0 win at Celta Vigo on Saturday, are two points further back in third.

Osasuna, who are more accustomed to battling it out at the other end of the table, regained fourth spot after a goal in each half from Ivory Coast striker Ibrahima Bakayoko gave them a 2-1 win against nine-man Murcia at El Sadar.

Valencia are now the only unbeaten

team in the top flight after neighbours Villarreal slipped to their first defeat of the season when they lost 2-0 at Athletic Bilbao.

Atletico Madrid moved out of the relegation zone after a sweetly struck free kick from substitute Jorge gave them a last gasp 2-1 victory at home to Real Mallorca, who remain in trouble.

Valencia, whose winning streak has included victories over Real Madrid and Barcelona, were gifted an early goal by their unlucky opponents at the Mestalla.

Espanyol goalkeeper Toni attempted to clear a harmless through pass from Baraja, but the ball took a deflection off a defender and fell to the feet of Mista who guided the ball into the empty net from the edge of the area after eight minutes.

Boosted by their early stroke of good fortune, Valencia took control of the game with Baraja and Pablo Aimar bossing the midfield and Mista threatening up front.

MNA/Reuters

Spurs comeback stuns Leicester, Villa hold City

LONDON, 21 Oct— Tottenham Hotspur stole a barely deserved 2-1 victory at bottom club Leicester City on Sunday to continue their improved run under caretaker-manager David Pleat.

A 79th-minute goal by South African substitute Mbulelo Mabizela on his debut and a last-minute winner from Frenchman Frederic Kanoute turned the match on its head after a Kasey Keller blunder allowed Paul Dickov to give Leicester a first-half lead. The win meant Spurs jumped to 11th in the English Premier League table on 11 points, while Leicester remained a point

adrift at the bottom on five points.

There were no goals in Sunday's other two games between Birmingham City and Aston Villa in the Midlands derby at St. Andrews and Everton and Southampton at Goodison Park.

Birmingham's point meant they went fourth in the table on 16 points, four adrift of third-placed Chelsea who were beaten 2-1 by leaders Arsenal (23) on Saturday.

Second-placed champions Manchester United (22) won 1-0 at Leeds on Saturday.

Mabizela, signed from Orlando Pirates in the close season, had only just come on as a substitute for Spurs when he hammered a 20-metre shot high into the roof of the net at the Walkers Stadium.

Spurs had trailed to a 38th-minute goal by an offside-looking Dickov after their American goalkeeper Keller had embarrassingly allowed the Leicester striker's weak shot to pass through his legs. Kanoute converted the winner after a fine shot by another Spurs substitute, Frenchman Stephane Dalmat, came back off the post but Leicester will be kicking themselves after dominating the game.

Kanoute was carried off with an ankle injury almost immediately after the goal.

Spurs have now won three games and drawn one since David Pleat took over as caretaker manager from Glenn Hoddle, who was sacked last month.

"It's fantasy land," Pleat told Sky Sports television. "I'm enjoying being the caretaker in a strange way you haven't got that pressure (of being manager). This is a nice little Indian summer."—MNA/Reuters

Ronaldo welcomes Cuper sacking

MILAN, 20 Oct— World Player of the Year Ronaldo has welcomed Inter Milan's decision to sack his former coach Hector Cuper. "I am pleased for all the Inter supporters," Ronaldo told Italian television on Sunday, just hours after Cuper was sacked by Inter and replaced by former AC Milan coach Alberto Zaccheroni.

"I am speaking as an Inter fan because I have remained one and I was hoping that coach would go as soon as possible," added the Real Madrid forward.

Ronaldo left Inter for Real last year after five seasons in Milan and cited Cuper as one of the reasons behind his decision to quit the Italian club. The Brazilian's appearances for Inter had been limited after two serious knee operations but he recovered to lead Brazil to their World Cup triumph in 2002 before joining Real.

"I left because of differences with Cuper that is true," said Ronaldo, "I felt he was too defensive and we didn't agree on things even if there weren't specific problems."

MNA/Reuters

Inter sack coach Cuper and turn to Zaccheroni

MILAN, Oct— Inter Milan have sacked their Argentine coach Hector Cuper and brought in former AC Milan boss Alberto Zaccheroni, the Serie A club said on Sunday.

Inter were held to a 2-2 draw at Brescia on Saturday, their fourth successive Serie A match without a win and a result which leaves them seven points behind leaders Juventus. Cuper, in his third season at Inter, had been warned by chairman Massimo Moratti that further setbacks would not be tolerated after the 3-1 derby defeat by rivals AC Milan two weeks ago.

"Last night after the match away to Brescia there was a meeting between the president and Hector Cuper. At the end of the meeting the decision was made to dismiss Cuper and all his staff," Inter vice-president Giacinto Facchetti said.

"The club thanks Cuper for the work done in the last two years. From Wednesday Alberto Zaccheroni will be the new Inter coach."

Assistant coach Corrado Verdelli, who has enjoyed success with Inter's youth team, takes charge temporarily for the Champions League game against Lokomotiv Moscow on Tuesday.

Cuper, a former Argentina central defender, took over at Inter in June 2001 after

coaching stints in Argentina and at Real Mallorca and Valencia in Spain.

Having taken Valencia to two runners-up spots in the Champions League in successive seasons, he was charged with the task of ending Inter's long wait for an Italian title.

Inter last won in 1989 and Moratti had tried several coaches including Marcello Lippi, Roy Hodgson and Marco Tardelli in his bid to bring back the glory days of the 1960s when his father Angelo was president and Inter won two European Cups.—MNA/Reuters



Justine Henin-Hardenne of Belgium returns a ball to Jelena Dokic of Serbia-Montenegro during their final match at the Swisscom Challenge Tennis Tournament in Kloten, Switzerland, on Sunday, 19 October, 2003. Henin-Hardenne won the match by 6-0, 6-4 to become the new women's number one of the world.—INTERNET



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, and party pay homage to remains of Shwekyin Sasanabaing XIII Sayadaw Abhidaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife attend final rites of Shwekyin Sasanabaing Sayadaw

YANGON, 20 Oct—While serving the interests of religious affairs, member of the State Ovadacariya Chairman of Shwekyin Nikayadhibasi Maha Nayaka Dhamma Senabati Terasama Shwekyin Sasanabaing Shan State (South) Nyaungshwe Kangyi Pariyatti Monastery Presiding Nayaka Abhidhaja

Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimalabhivamsa passed away at 9.02 pm on 13 October.

The final rites of the Sayadaw was held at noon today, attended by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye supplicated matters on religious affairs. Also present on the occasion were State Ovadacariya

Sayadaws, State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws, Sayadaws and members of the Sangha from monasteries and disciples, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, SPDC members Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha

Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Kyi Min, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein, Shan State PDC Chairman Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, ministers, officials from the SPDC Office, departmental heads, members of Shan State PDC, state level departmental officials, officials of Taunggyi District and townships, relatives of the Sayadaw, officials of the various committee for holding the final rites, religious associations, invited guests, wellwishers, disciples, local people and nuns.

Presiding Sayadaw Agga

Maha Gandhavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Odata Siribhivamsa of Awaiya Rama Yankin monastery in Seinban Thanlyethmaw (East) Ward in Mandalay acted as Master of Ceremonies. After opening the ceremony, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San received the Five Precepts, administered by State Ovadacariya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Mandalay Maha Visuddhayan Taikthit Waso monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Agghiya.

Joint-Secretary Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Maha

(See page 9)



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects BEHS (Branch) of Minsu Model Village. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects upgrading of road sections, development of Kyaukse region

YANGON, 20 Oct—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, inspected tarring of the 18-mile Mandalay-Singaing sub-section of Mandalay-Meiktila Section under the six-lane Yangon-Mandalay Highway Extension Project undertaken by Hongpan Construction Co yesterday morning.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at the Toll

Gate near Myothagon Village, Singaing Township where General Manager U Sai Philip Yi reported on progress in construction of the Toll Gate and weighing of vehicles with the use of computer. Afterwards, Lt-

Gen Ye Myint and party inspected tarring of 14-mile Singaing-Kyaukse section and upgrading of the old road with the use of heavy machinery.

They then inspected the 10 miles and 6 furlongs long

Kyaukse-Minsu-Myittha section and gave necessary instructions to officials.

In the morning, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to the Station Hospital in Minsu Model Village, (See page 9)

Saddan Hsinmin Drama Competition continues

YANGON, 20 Oct—The Saddan Hsinmin Drama Competition of the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued today for the sixth day at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street in Dagon Township, here.

Pantra Tin Moe Win's drama troupe from Yangon Division performed at the venue today.

Among those who enjoyed the performance were Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yongan Command Commander Maj-Gen

Myint Swe, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, senior military officers, Commander of No 3 Military Region Col Tint Hsan, doyen artistes, and enthusiasts.

The Pantra Tin Moe Win's drama troupe staged its performance with artistic sense. Tomorrow evening, Mandalay Division will present its performance of Mahajanakka marionette for the first day at the same venue. — MNA



Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe enjoys performance of Pantra Tin Moe Win of Yangon Division in Saddan Hsinmin (King of Elephants) Drama Competition. — MNA