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Myeik-Taninthayi-Bokpyin-Kawthoung road is the result of harmonious efforts made by the State, the people and the Tatmadaw Vice-Senior General Maung Aye graces opening of Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge Over 150,000 people attend inauguration of the bridge

YANGON, 26 Oct — The opening ceremony of Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge which was built by the Public Works of the Ministry of Construction crossing Kyaukphya River in Myeik, Taninthayi Division, was held this morning at the pandal near the bridge on Kyweku bank. 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 attended the ceremony and extended greetings to the local people.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thihathura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Kyi Min, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers, departmental officials, chairmen and members of Myeik district/ township peace and development councils, local people, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations and cultural troupes, totalling over 150,000 people attended the opening ceremony.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win made a speech on the occasion. He said out of the bridges built in Taninthayi Division, the 3,600 feet long Kyweku-Kyaukphya bridge is the longest one in the division, followed by the Taninthayi river crossing bridge which was opened in November 2000, the Laynya-Mandaing bridge and the Pathaung bridge.

Located in the southernmost part of the nation, Taninthayi Division had to rely mainly on watercourse to access to other states and divisions or other parts of the region. Although there is civil aviation, planes can land and take off at the airports in Dawei, Myeik and Kawthoung and thus there have been some limits and difficulties in travelling.

Only over 1.4 million people are residing in the division and thus, the land, water and mineral resources are very

large in proportion to the population. Due to armed insurgencies and poor transportation, the division cannot develop as it can be.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, realizing the good prospects of Taninthayi Division, gave guidance on taking measures for development of the division overcoming the poor transportation, difficulties in exploiting land and water resources and causes of underdevelopment and he himself occasionally made field trips to fulfill the needs.

Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye who was here today toured Taninthayi Division and made arrangements for rice sufficiency in Taninthayi Division, the division to become the oil bowl of the nation after extending oil palm plantation, regional security and better transportation. The attendances of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council himself at the opening of Laynya-Mandaing Bridge and now the Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge reflect the State's attention to development of Taninthayi Division.

With the goodwill and encouragement of the government, over 440 miles long Dawei-Myeik-Bokpyin-Kawthoung Union Highway is getting into shape. In the past, travelling by car from Kawthoung, the southernmost part of the Union, to Putao, the northernmost part of the nation, was a dream. But now, with the collective efforts of the State, the people and the Tatmadaw, the dream has come true. On completion of Thanlwin river crossing Mawlamyine Bridge in Mon State, there will be easy access to Taninthayi Division, Mon State and Bago Division.

On Dawei-Myeik-Taninthayi-Bokpyin-Kawthoung Union Highway which is vital for Taninthayi Division, the seven bridges— the Winwa Bridge, the Palauk Bridge, the Pulaw Bridge, the Pathaung Bridge, the Taninthayi Bridge, the Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge and the Laynya-Mandaing Bridge— have been built successfully one after another within six years. As a result, transportation between one region and another becomes easier. People living in

Taninthayi, Laynya, Mandaing, Bokpyin, Hankapyu, Karathuri regions who had faced difficulties in transportation are now enjoying better transport using the motorway. Although there has to upgrade the road, infrastructures needed in transportation have been built along the road.

In building Myeik-Taninthayi-Bokpyin-Kawthoung road, it is known to all how difficult it was in carrying the machinery and construction materials to reach the worksite in addition to difficulties in construction work.

Time limit due to the long rainy season in the division in building roads and bridges and labour and gravel scarcity were great challenges for officials concerned. These challenges have been overcome with collective efforts and great perseverance.

Building of roads and bridges is not confined to Public Works only, and thus the Tatmadaw Engineering Unit took the responsibilities in building the 810 feet long Pathaung Bridge and other small bridges were built with the contribution of local people. Local Tatmadawmen participated in collecting gravel and contributed labour.

Therefore, Myeik-Taninthayi-Bokpyin-Kawthoung road is the result of harmonious efforts made by the State, the people and the Tatmadaw. It is sure that the road will be the Union Highway that benefits the whole Union and Taninthayi Division.

The bridges built in Taninthayi Division including the Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge are not merely the ordinary ones but the friendship bridges linking other states and divisions.

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Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge in Myeik, Taninthayi Division, constructed by Public Works of the Ministry of Construction. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 27 October, 2003

To raise the living standard of local people

After laying down the 12 political, economic and social objectives, the State Peace and Development Council, enlisting the internal strength, is striving day and night for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Thanks to the efforts of the Government, the nation is now witnessing fruitful results of development.

Although there exists good opportunities for development, progress in Taninthayi Division was slow in the past due to difficulties in transportation. Therefore, in accordance with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, State dignitaries went down to the grassroots level in the division and fulfilled the requirements.

Road linking Dawei and Kawthoung through Myeik, Taninthayi and Bokpyin has been built and at the same time, Myeik and Kawthoung airports have been built and upgraded. Moreover, new jetties are under construction wherever possible in the region.

While building infrastructures in the transportation sector, the Government is also encouraging businesses that have good opportunities in the region. The region between Kawthoung and Myeik has good potential for oil palm cultivation and thus the government granted permission to national entrepreneurs to run oil palm industry there.

Now, there emerged thousands of acres of oil palm plantations in the region. As plans are under way to build oil palm mills in the region, it is sure that Taninthayi Division will become the oil bowl of Myanmar in the near future.

On 22 October, 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 met private entrepreneurs who are engaging in oil palm cultivation in Khamaukgyi region in Kawthoung Township and gave necessary instructions.

On the occasion, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that with extended planting of oil palms in the division, it will ensure edible oil sufficiency in the country and the surplus can be exported. Thus, running oil palm plantations is an industry that can produce import-substitute products and it can promote the nation's export sector as well, he noted.

Taninthayi Division is blessed with favourable land and weather conditions, and thus rubber and pepper are to be grown in addition to oil palm.

We would like to urge all concerned to strive for regional development and raising the living standard of local people.



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents offertories to Mebaung Sayadaw (News on page 16).—MNA

H&T Ministry and CPT Ministry hold Kathina robes offering ceremonies

YANGON, 26 Oct — The 11th Kathina robes offering ceremony of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism was held at the Dhammayon of the ministry on Arzani Road in Bahan Township here this morning. Present were State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Vice-Chairman Abhidaja Maha Rattha Guru Maha Aungmyay Bonsan Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pañinda and members of the Sangha, Daw Mu Mu Win, wife of Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu and wife, directors-general and managing directors under the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and staff families.

The sixth Kathina robes offering ceremony of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs was held at the Dhammayon of the ministry on Arzani Beikman Street this morning. Present were Bahan Township Maha Withodayon Monastery Sayadaw Tipidaka Dhara Dhamma Banda Garika Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Sirinda Bhivamsa, Shwepyitha Township Sasana Kyawthin Monastery Sayadaw Pannavamsa, Sayadaws and members of the Sangha, Daw Mu Mu Win, wife of Minister for communications, Posts and Telegraphs, departmental heads, guests and staff families. — MNA

Information Ministry offers Kathina robes

YANGON, 26 Oct — The 11th Kathina robes offering ceremony of the Ministry of Information was held this morning at Dagon Pariyatti Monastery on Myomakyaung Street in Dagon Township.

At the ceremony, Minister for Information Brig-Gen

Kyaw Hsan, wife and the congregation received the Five-Precepts from Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Gunananda of the monastery. The minister and wife, and congregation offered robes and soon to the Sayadaw and

monks followed by sharing of merits gained.

At 9 am, Information Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein and congregation also presented Kathina robes and offertories to the Sayadaw and monks.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and family present Kathina robes and offertories to members of the Sangha.—MNA

Kathina robes offering ceremony of State Peace and Development Council Office, Pyithu Hluttaw Office and President's Office held

YANGON, 26 Oct — The 13th communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of the State Peace and Development Council Office, Pyithu Hluttaw Office and President's Office was held at Aletawya Sanpya Monastery on Dhamma Zedi Road in Bahan Township this morning.

It was attended by State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Join-secretary Nyaungdon Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha

Pandita Bhaddanta Osada and SSMNC member Sayadaws, the chairmen Sayadaws of Kamayut and Bahan Townships Sangha Nayaka Committees, members of the Sangha, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, Director-General of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office U Myint Thein and Director-General of the Presi-

dent's Office U Tun Tun, Director-General of the Civil Service Affairs Department U Khin Maung Myint, Director-General of the Department for Propagation and Promotion of the Sasana, departmental heads, staff families, wellwishers and guests. After the ceremony, 'soon' was offered to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.

MNA

UPG Co Ltd obtains ISO 9001:2000 Certificate

YANGON, 26 Oct — A ceremony to mark the obtaining of ISO 9001:2000 Certificate by United Paints Group Co Ltd (UPG) was held yesterday evening at Traders Hotel here.

First, an official of the UPG briefed on the efforts to achieve the certificate.

UPG Co Ltd managed to obtain the certificate by making efforts in accordance with quality improvement system.

MNA



Director-General Lt-Col Pe Nyein presents offertories to a Sayadaw.—MNA



Chairman of United Paints Group Co Ltd (UPG) U Kyi Win spoke on the occasion.—H

IMF outlines key areas of assistance for Iraq rebuilding

MADRID, 26 Oct.— There is much more that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) can and wants to do as the next stage of the reconstruction process gets underway, IMF Managing Director Horst Kohler told the international donors conference on Iraq Friday.

"I see six major inter-related areas for our contribution," Kohler told the two-day conference that has gathered representatives from 71 countries and 20 international organizations to discuss efforts to bring Iraq back to its feet.

"First is economic policy advice. The IMF will help create a stable macro-economic framework which is essential to underpin economic revival," Kohler said.

The IMF's second area of contribution is technical assistance to help Iraqis build

up the administrative and policy-making capacity to run their country, Kohler told the conference. "The IMF will develop training programmes for Iraqi officials."

Kohler also welcomed the establishment of the International Advisory and Monitoring Board, saying it was set up "to ensure that the Development Fund for Iraq is used in a transparent manner and that petroleum sales are made consistent with prevailing international market best practices".

MNA/Xinhua

Russia, Ukraine agree to defuse border row

MOSCOW, 26 Oct.— Russia and Ukraine agreed on Friday to defuse a major row over a Russian construction project in the sea near Ukrainian waters and to resolve a border dispute in the area through talks over the next few weeks.

Russia would suspend work on what it calls a break-water stretching from its southern region of Krasnodar towards the island of Tuzla, which Ukraine claims, Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov told reporters. Ukraine, which this week erected a floating sea frontier of pontoons nearby, would withdraw border guards, Kasyanov said after talks with his Ukrainian counterpart. The row has sparked the worst dispute between Moscow and Kiev in a decade. Ukraine says Tuzla is an island within its territory in the Kerch Strait — which divides Russia from Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula — based on decisions made when it and Russia were both Soviet republics.

Krasnodar officials say Tuzla used to be a spit from

the Russian mainland and they are rebuilding it to protect coastal communities, beaches and farmland. MNA/Reuters

Cambodia focuses on luring more Chinese tourists

PHNOM PENH, 26 Oct.— Cambodia is focusing on luring more Chinese tourists, Tourism Minister Veng Sereyvuth said after returning from a World Tourism Organization conference in Beijing.

"To talk about tourist flow is to talk about the Chinese," the *Cambodia Daily* on Friday quoted him as saying.

Of the nearly 500,000 tourists arriving this year, 40,000 came from China, according to the government figure.

In 2000, Cambodia signed a bilateral agreement with China to waive visa fees

in an effort to put Cambodia on the map as a Chinese tourist destination.

Cambodia hopes to increase the number of flights between China and Cambodia to meet the need of more Chinese tourists. Currently, only Hong Kong, Shanghai and Guangzhou have direct flights to Phnom Penh.

MNA/Xinhua

Foreign civilians killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 Oct.— An assault on a convoy west of Baghdad Saturday killed at least three civilians and wounded at least two, the deadliest single attack on the firms hired to provide basic services for occupation authorities. A US Army Black Hawk helicopter was also shot down near the northern town of Tikrit, injuring one crew member.

The attack on the civilian contractors occurred Saturday afternoon near Habbaniya, 50 miles west of Baghdad in the violence-plagued Sunni triangle, the US military said. Three vehicles were struck by a roadside bomb and then fired on with rocket-propelled grenades and small arms, according to a military spokesman.

The spokesman released no information about the victims' nationalities.

The Associated Press said the vehicles belonged to European Landmine Solutions, a British company. The AP quoted David Rasmussen, an American employee of the firm who was wounded in the attack, and an Iraqi security guard, Laith Yousef — both of whom were traveling in the convoy — as saying their vehicles were attacked by American forces.

A US military spokesman in Baghdad denied that US

forces had fired on the convoy. Another military official said US forces from the 82nd Airborne Division, which is responsible for security in the area, arrived at the scene after the attack and provided first aid.

A CBS cameraman, Nick Turner, who reached the scene minutes after the attack, said in an interview that an American man and a British woman were killed. In addition, he said, three Iraqis were killed and three people wounded, he said.

Saying he saw a US convoy heading toward the scene of the attack shortly before the roadside bomb detonated, Turner raised the possibility that the civilians had been caught in crossfire between US forces and Iraqi attackers.

Correspondent Rajiv Chandrasekaran and special correspondent Omar Fekeiki contributed to this report.

Internet

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Senators decry care of troops returning from Iraq

WASHINGTON, 26 Oct.— Two US senators on Friday said the Army was housing some 650 sick and injured National Guard and Reserves personnel in unacceptable conditions at Fort Stewart, Georgia, while they were being evaluated to return to active duty.

Republican Christopher Bond of Missouri and Democrat Patrick Leahy of Vermont, co-chairs of the Senate's National Guard Caucus, said in a report the soldiers who either had served in Iraq or on their way there were not getting proper medical care or evaluation.

The report, that stemmed from an investigation by the senators' staffs, also said the barracks designed for healthy soldiers on annual training were not suitable for ill or injured soldiers.

The worst barracks, it said, were "1950s style, concrete-foundation barracks with no air-conditioning or insulation and detached toilets and shower facilities."

It said poor conditions

resulted from a lack of preparation for the influx of injured soldiers, brought on partly by June's return of the 3rd Infantry Division from Iraq.

It said the base did not have enough medical clinicians and specialists, causing "excessive delays in the delivery of care". It also said the guard and reserves personnel felt they were not getting the same level of care as their traditional active-duty counterparts.

The report urged that many more doctors be assigned to Fort Stewart, and that the care be better coordinated. It also suggested that many of the soldiers be sent to other facilities closer to their homes.

MNA/Reuters



A young boy sits in a closed street next to a sign for a trader in electric appliances in Baghdad on 24 October, 2003. The area was heavily looted after the war, and is still considered a dangerous part of the city, even in daylight.—INTERNET

S-E Asian countries urged to remain peaceful, stable

KUALA LUMPUR, 26 Oct.— Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi said Friday the Southeast Asian countries should ensure the region remains peaceful, secure and stable.

"The important thing is (ASEAN region) is our area. We have to safeguard the security of our area and ASEAN is collaborating to ensure this region remains peaceful, secure and stable," the Deputy Prime Minister told reporters in Penang State, northern Malaysia, in response to United States President George W. Bush's speech during a recent visit to Australia.

Bush reportedly called Australia his "sheriff" in the region for helping in the US-led war on terrorism since the September 11 attacks in the United States.

The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), which now groups 10

states in the region, was set up in 1967 to boost the regional cooperation.

Abdullah said, "What it (the United States) wants to do, what it wants to say, what duties it wants to assign to Australia, all come within its right. It is its right."

But he did not see the need for foreign intervention in the ASEAN region as the area was already peaceful, safe and stable with the close cooperation of the member nations, Abdullah said.

"We do not agree to foreign interference because we ourselves do not poke our nose into other people's affairs," he said.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis walk past trash piled up in a street in Baghdad on 24 October, 2003. Nudged by the United States, donors at a conference in Madrid came Friday with pledges big and small for Iraq but were falling short of the estimated US\$55 billion needed to rebuild the country.—INTERNET

Annan in no hurry to send UN staff back to Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Oct — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan made clear on Friday he was in no hurry to send staff back to Iraq following a highly critical report of security lapses before the August attack on UN offices in Baghdad.

A 40-page probe by an independent panel said a “dys-functional” UN security system led to unnecessary deaths in the August 19 bombing that killed 22 people.

Annan has left a core staff of 15-20 people, mainly aid officials, in Iraq after a second bomb attack on UN headquarters on September 22 that killed Iraqi police.

“Since the two bomb attacks against us, we have had to rethink our own approach and our own presence and that will be a factor in our decision to increase our staff in Iraq,” Annan said. He added that many aspects needed to be worked out “to see exactly what kind of security, what arrangements, who is going to do what and what we will do ourselves”.

The UN Security Council and the United States want him to send in political officers to help Iraqi leaders write a Constitution and organize elections.

But, in his first reaction to the report, Annan said he needed more time to study the investigation and side-stepped questions on whether he or other top officials would accept blame for the security failures.

“Obviously, that is one issue — of accountability, what

happened, who did what or did not do what,” he said.

Annan said the United Nations would have to change its way of doing business, not just in Iraq, but elsewhere.

“Over the past 50 years, the United Nations has been working around the world under a system of security, which has served us well,” he said. “But the world has changed and we will have to change our way of doing business to be able to protect our staff around the world.”

On Wednesday, an independent panel, commissioned by Annan and headed by Martti Ahtisaari, a former Finnish president, issued a chilling report saying some lives might have been saved in the August bombing if the UN security system had heeded advance warnings and followed its own rules. Twenty-two UN staff and visitors were killed, including the head of the mission, Sergio Vieira de Mello, when an orange flatbed truck drove up an access road near UN headquarters and dropped its explosives. Another 150 people were injured.

Ahtisaari and his team blamed UN security officials in Baghdad and in New York as well as high-level managers, who they said blurred the lines of command. —MNA/Reuters

Donors offer Iraq tea, rice, pilgrims

MADRID, 26 Oct — Some brought billions for Iraq, some brought hundreds of millions, some brought food and drink. Neighbouring Iran promised a tourist bonanza. Among the assistance pledged at the donors’ conference for Iraq in Madrid on Friday was 100 tons of tea from Sri Lanka and rice worth 500,000 US dollars from Vietnam.

Iran, which fought Iraq for eight years in the 1980s but retains strong cultural ties, made one of the most unusual offers — 100,000 tourists and pilgrims a month, whom Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi expected to spend 500 million US dollars a year. — MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi child runs past an abandoned military vehicle in a village near Baghdad International Airport on 20 October, 2003. Six months after the end of the war in Iraq the country is still afloat in ammunition, despite coalition efforts to dispose of it. Between 650,000 to 1 million tons of ammunition remain unaccounted for, scattered all over the country. —INTERNET

Bird population in Bangladesh reduced alarmingly

DHAKA, 26 Oct — The bird population in Bangladesh is reduced alarmingly due to excessive use of pesticides in the agricultural fields, destruction of bird habitats and unavailability of foods during the last few decades, reported the official Bangladesh News Agency on Friday.

This was revealed by Bangladesh Environment and Forest Minister Shajahan Siraj while inaugurating a two-day display of cage birds organized by Bangladesh Cage Bird Breeders Association here. Describing bird hunting as anti-human and heinous crime, the minister laid emphasis for conservation of wild birds to ensure ecological balance.

More effective steps, including raising awareness and proper enforcement of laws should be taken in the areas, where migrated birds made their stopover, he added. Shajahan Siraj pointed out the secret wholesale markets for

trading birds in the capital Dhaka would be identified and stern legal action would also be taken against those who do the illegal trade.

The minister said the government has renewed an order prohibiting the hunting of all kinds of birds for indefinite period, as the bird population did not increase during the period despite the ban. He said from the point of commercial view, rearing pet birds could be considered as means of livelihood. Export of pet birds could earn huge amount of foreign exchange, help generate employment and alleviate poverty, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese astronaut, French official talk on phone

BEIJING, 25 Oct — Yang Liwei, China’s first astronaut, told a French official and a former astronaut Ms. Claudie Haignere, Friday, that he was pleased to join all his counterparts in the world in contributing to the mankind’s great cause of peaceful development and utilization of outer space.

Yang spoke on the telephone with the French official, who was in Paris, with the assistance of an interpreter at the China Century Altar, in downtown Beijing, where an exhibition is being held on the country’s first piloted space launch. Ms. Haignere, a ministerial official in charge of research and new technology, had made two space tours, aboard Russia’s *Peace* space station in 1996, and on the *International Space Station* in 2001.

She congratulated Yang on his “perfect” space flight and said that the successful

manned space launch is a boost for China’s status in the space industry. She expressed her hope that China would have female astronauts in the future as 16 European women have become astronauts.

MNA/Xinhua



US isolated on Iran nuke programme

VIENNA, 26 Oct — The United States, which accuses Iran of secretly developing atomic weapons, has become isolated in its hardline attitude towards Teheran as more countries want to engage rather than punish it, diplomats said on Friday.

On Thursday, Iran’s envoy to the UN International Atomic Energy Agency, Ali Akbar Salehi, gave the IAEA a declaration he said “fully discloses” all aspects of Teheran’s nuclear programme, which he insisted is entirely peaceful.

The IAEA governing board set an October 31 deadline for Iran to provide it with such a declaration. Failure to do so would have left the agency’s board with no choice but to report Iran to the UN Security Council for possible economic sanctions.

But US officials insist Iran is in clear breach of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), and if the 35-nation IAEA board agreed, it would have to notify the Security Council.

US Secretary of State Colin Powell told the French daily *Le Figaro* that Iran’s delivery of the declaration was positive, but added that he still did not trust them.

“They have tried to hide their weapons programme from the IAEA and the international community,” he said.

Washington had hoped to push the IAEA board to declare Iran in “non-compliance” with its NPT obligations at a November 20 board session. But diplomats said it would be very difficult after Iran made several major gestures this week to show it may want to cooperate with the UN nuclear watchdog. —MNA/Reuters

China strengthens IPR law, administrative enforcement

BEIJING, 26 Oct — Since its entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO) nearly two years ago, China has stepped up law enforcement in a bid to more effectively protect intellectual property rights (IPR), China’s top IPR watchdog said here Friday.

In an interview with *Xinhua*, Wang Jingchuan, commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO), said that in 2002, Chinese courts at various levels accepted and heard more than 6,200 civil cases on IPR, with a yearly increase of 17.78 per cent, of which 1,824 concerned copyrights, 2,080 concerned patents and 707 dealt with trademarks.

In 409 criminal cases on IPR infringement, 253 violators were brought to justice according to the nation’s criminal law, Wang said. Another 717 cases were related to manufacturing and selling shoddy goods, most of which were violations of IPR.

Meanwhile, nationwide IPR administrative organs, including patent offices, industrial and commercial administrative bureaus and copyright watchdogs, accepted 1,442 patent disputes, investigated 39,105 trademark violations with total fines of 214 million yuan (25.78 million US dollars), and confiscated 67.9 million pirated publication products.

MNA/Reuters



A British Airways Concorde making the last trans-Atlantic commercial flight lands on 24 October, 2003 at London’s Heathrow Airport, as British Airways ended its Concorde flights due to high costs and a drop in passenger numbers since the 9/11 New York attacks and the Iraq war. —INTERNET

Anti-war protesters rally in East and West

WASHINGTON, 26 Oct—To chants of "Impeach Bush," thousands of anti-war protesters rallied in the nation's capital Saturday and delivered a scathing critique of President Bush and his Iraq policy.

Demanding an end to the US-led occupation and the quick return of American troops, the demonstrators gathered on a sunny fall day at the Washington Monument to listen to speeches and songs of peace.

One man's small cardboard sign gave his summing-up of the day: "This administration does not represent me," it said in black capital letters typewritten on white paper.

The Rev Al Sharpton a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, exhorted the crowd not to be content with the gradual withdrawal of US forces from Iraq.

"Don't give Bush \$87 billion, don't give him 87 cents, give our troops a ride home," Sharpton said to loud cheers from the crowd.

Hundreds of anti-war protesters also took to sun-drenched streets in San Francisco.

"We feel it's very important to keep our voices heard because we want our troops home," said Bill Nelson, a Burbank, Calif., bookstore owner. "We want the money here for health care and jobs, not a military industrial complex."

The rallies on both coasts were organized by International ANSWER (Act Now to Stop War and End Racism) and

United for Peace and Justice.

The protest in Washington drew a diverse crowd — young, old, veterans, relatives with loved ones in the armed forces and American Muslims. An activist group of older women called the Raging Grannies, singing anti-Bush songs, brought whoops of agreement from the protesters.

Organizers estimated that 100,000 people turned out for the demonstration, but police at the scene put the number much lower, from 10,000 to 20,000. Police no longer issue official crowd estimates, so the size of the protest could not be verified.

Waving signs reading "Make Jobs Not War" and "Bush is a liar," the protesters marched from the White House, down toward the White House, on to the Justice Department and then back to the Washington Monument.

But the activists weren't afforded the symbolic satisfaction of yelling protests to the White House gates, because the Secret Service put up barriers to keep them from marching directly in front of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Bush was spending the weekend at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland.

Internet

Hot, dry winds fan southern California wildfire

SAN FRANCISCO, 26 Oct— A huge wildfire fanned by hot, dry winds burned out of control in the San Bernardino National Forest in Southern California on Saturday, forcing authorities to order more evacuations.

Residents in the town of

Alta Loma were ordered to leave their homes as the blaze, named the Grand Prix fire, continued to roar through dry heavy brush in the foothills about 60 miles east of Los Angeles.

Evacuations were ordered earlier in the community of Lytle Creek and near Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga, forcing thousands of people to leave their homes.

"We expect a very tough fight today," said Georgia Smith, fire spokeswoman for the San Bernardino National Forest. "The Santa Ana winds are very erratic and shifting, and they are expected to be very strong in the canyons."

The fire, which broke out Tuesday and is being investigated as possible arson, has been whipped by the Santa Ana winds that blow through Southern California in the

autumn. They were expected to reach speeds of 30 to 35 miles per hour on Saturday, Smith said.

The blaze has burned through 13,730 acres and destroyed six homes and a US States Forest Service helicopter on the ground. There have been no injuries.

The fire, fuelled by dense old-growth trees and brush that have not burned since 1988, sent thick black and orange smoke drifting across Southern California, choking nearby towns with ash.

The east-west Interstate 210 freeway was shut down early Saturday, but Interstate 15, the major freeway link between Southern California and Las Vegas, was open.

Officials said more than 2,000 firefighters were battling the blaze and it was 21 per cent contained.

MNA/Reuters

Iran offers to help Iraq rebuild with oil swap

MADRID, 26 Oct— Iran offered on Friday to help Iraqi reconstruction efforts by offering its former enemy an oil swap arrangement that could help Baghdad boost crude export revenues.

Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazmi also promised a credit facility of up to 300 million US dollars and offered cross-border electricity and gas supplies.

"We stand ready to supply our electricity and gas to Iraq and to facilitate its oil exports through our oil terminals or enter into a swap arrangement that can amount to 350,000 barrels per day," Kharazmi said in the text of a speech he is due to deliver to a donors' conference on Iraq.

"We have envisaged a comprehensive package of economic cooperation comprising development aid, investment, trade, tourism, project financing and so on," the text said.

Former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein waged a war with Iran from 1980-

1988, financed in part by Western powers, after the Iranian revolution of 1979.

Kharazmi's offer is the most significant commercial advance by Tehran since the March US invasion of Iraq that removed Saddam from power, but the initiative is unlikely to receive a welcome from Washington.

An oil swap arrangement between Iran and Iraq would probably be designed to permit Baghdad to deliver crude across its eastern border to Iranian refineries, oil dealers said. Iran in return would export an equivalent volume of Iranian crude on Iraq's behalf from its Gulf terminals.

MNA/Reuters



A US Apache gunship flies around a burning Black Hawk helicopter, down, in Tikrit, 193 km north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 25 October, 2003. The US Army Black Hawk helicopter was shot down Saturday by ground fire near Tikrit, a center of Iraq's anti-US insurgency, US officials said. At least one person was injured.—INTERNET

One US soldier killed in Iraq attack

BAGHDAD, 26 Oct— Guerillas using small arms killed a US soldier on Friday in an attack in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, the US military said in a statement.

"One 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) soldier was killed in a small arms fire attack in western Mosul," said the statement from US Central Command. Guerillas fighting the US-led occupation have killed 106 American soldiers since Washington declared major combat in Iraq over on May 1. Many civilians have also been killed in attacks meant for Americans, or in crossfire.

Washington has blamed the attacks mostly on fighters loyal to ousted president Saddam Hussein, though officials often refer to foreign Islamic militants operating in Iraq.

An Iraqi civilian was killed and two were wounded in what residents said on Friday was a mortar attack in southern Baghdad.—MNA/Reuters

Laser treatment new option for acne sufferers

LONDON, 26 Oct— It blights the teenage years and can make life a misery but doctors said on Friday that laser therapy could offer new hope for teenagers and adults with acne.

About 90 per cent of teenagers suffer from some form of the skin condition that erupts of the face, neck, arms, back and chest.

It can range from the occasional flare up of pimples or spots that do not require any treatments to severe cases that can cause scarring and psychological problems.

Creams and antibiotics are usually given to control the problem but Dr Anthony Chu, a dermatologist at Hammersmith Hospital in London, said pulsed-dye laser therapy is also effective.

"It is the first time lasers have been shown to have an effect in treating active

acne," Chu told Reuters, adding that lasers were given a sham treatment.

Twelve weeks after just one laser treatment, Chu and his colleagues noticed an improvement in the laser patients but found no difference in the other group.

Pulsed-dye laser therapy targets red blood cells and is given in very short spurts lasting about 0.3 milliseconds. The entire treatment lasts about 10 minutes, is painless and does not have any side effects.

Laser therapy has already been used to increase collagen production in the skin to smooth wrinkles and

facial lines. Chu suspects in acne it reduces inflammation that causes the spots to come up. Most acne treatments, whether cream or oral antibiotic must be used daily. Chu said one laser treatment would probably be needed every three months.

"After a single treatment with the laser you had a persistent effect over a three-month period," he said.

"It is not a cure for acne. It is a treatment and a very good treatment," he added.

Chu and his colleagues said laser therapy should be further explored as an alternative to daily drugs or creams.—MNA/Reuters



Chinese youths play an online game at an Internet content and entertainment exhibition in Beijing on 23 October, 2003. The total number of Internet users in China, up to December 31, 2002, has reached 59.1 million, according to statistics from the China Internet Network Information Centre (CINIC).—INTERNET

“Non, nein, nyet” trio sulk at Iraq aid conference

MADRID, 26 Oct— France led a trio of party-poopers on Friday as the tally of aid for post-war Iraq soared to tens of billions of dollars, criticizing Washington's reluctance to set a clear timetable for handing power to Iraqis.

Germany and Russia — which joined hands with Paris in opposition to the US-led invasion of Iraq — also stood aside from the mounting excitement at a donors' conference in Madrid, pledging no additional funding for reconstruction.

All three countries agreed only grudgingly last week to back a UN Security Council resolution that sets up a multinational force under its control and asks nations to contribute both troops and cash.

They had sought a resolution laying out a clear path for ending the occupation and a bigger role for the United Nations in supervising Iraq's transition to a sovereign government.

“France had suggested a political approach based on the necessary starting point: affirmation of the principle of sovereignty and self-determination for the Iraqi people,” French Trade Minister Francois Loos told the Madrid conference.

“This approach could have created conditions for a greater effort by the international community to open the way for reconstruction and stabilization.”

Some of the more than 70 countries represented in Madrid sent foreign ministers, but not France, Germany and Russia.

Paris and Berlin are contributing heavily to a pledge of 200 million euros from the European Union's budget. But some of their European partners like Britain, Spain and Italy brought much heavier bilateral pledges to Madrid.

Both France and Germany said they were providing humanitarian aid on a large scale. German State Secretary Erich Stather said Berlin was in talks with the United Arab Emirates on training police in Iraq, and overall it was spending 200 million euros on the country.

But he made the same political point as Loos: “We believe that...transfer of sovereignty to the Iraqi people will help to secure peace and will enhance the reconstruction process”.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Fedotov sniped at the needs-assessment report drawn up by the United Nations and World Bank, saying the data needed “additional substantiation”.

In one passage of his prepared speech which he did not read out, Fedotov also questioned the assessment's conclusion that only two billion US dollars of Iraq's estimated oil income for 2004 could be assigned to reconstruction. — MNA/Reuters

မြန်မာ့အသံ၊ ဖိနပ်ပါလေလွင့်၊ ထုတ်ကုန်မြင့်

Donors promise Iraq \$33b

MADRID, 26 Oct — International donors pledged at least 33 billion US dollars in aid and loans over the next four years to help rebuild war-ravaged Iraq on Friday as the response to a US-led drive for funds far outstripped expectations.

Spanish Economy Minister Rodrigo Rato said the combined offer — made at a gathering of more than 70 nations in Madrid — was equivalent to twice Iraq's annual national income and was a global vote of confidence in the country's future.

“If you take the American contribution which is hopefully totally a grant, then we have at least 33 billion US dollars, of which 25 billion US dollars is grants,” said Marek Belka, a former Polish finance minister who is spearheading the fund raising efforts of the US-led Coalition Provisional Authority.

“All in all we are overwhelmed, we are very happy, it surpasses all expectations,” Belka told Reuters.

He said the figure took the lowest likely contribution from the International Monetary Fund and World Bank and excluded trade finance and grants in kind.

The highest estimate for pledges from

non-US donors came from the Iraqis themselves. Planning Minister Mahdi Hafez told reporters they had matched Washington's promise of 20 billion US dollars.

That is on top of 20 billion US dollars promised by Washington and is far in excess of what had been expected a few weeks ago, when political divisions threatened the existence of the meeting.

“A little over six months ago Iraq was the black sheep of the international community,” Iraq Governing Council President Iyad Allawi told a news conference. “Today I am again proud to be Iraqi.”

The 33 billion US dollars falls short of the 56 billion US dollars the World Bank and United Nations have said is needed over four years to rebuild an economy torn apart by war and sanctions, but future oil revenues, foreign direct investment and a refund on the oil-for-food programme could narrow the gap.

MNA/Reuters



Police guard the area around the Palacio Municipal de Congresos in Madrid where the International Donors Conference for the Reconstruction of Iraq is taking place on 24 October, 2003. —INTERNET

Blair accused of breaking aid-poor promise

LONDON, 26 Oct— British Prime Minister Tony Blair has been accused of breaking a promise not to cut aid to poor people overseas as Britain is expected to pledge around 250 million pounds (about 420 million US dollars) to Iraq at the international donors' conference in Madrid.

Charities claimed that much of the money is coming from slashing projects to help alleviate poverty in so-called “middle-income” countries like Bolivia, Guyana and Brazil. Channel 4 News revealed that Blair wrote to Christian Aid director Daleep Mukarji in April to promise that the reconstruction effort in Iraq would not hit programme for the world's poorest people.

“The Secretary of State for International Development has given a public commitment that funds will not be redirected from other emergencies such as southern Africa or Ethiopia/Eritrea, nor from programmes supporting poor people elsewhere,” Blair wrote. In a handwritten note at the bottom of the letter, the Prime Minister added, “I assure you the programmes will continue.”

“It is a broken pledge and we are particularly concerned because of the people it is going to be affecting,” George Gelber, head of policy at Catholic aid charity Cafod, told the TV programme. “Very poor people in middle-income countries are the ones who are going to feel the pain.” — MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia to issue treasury bonds in November

JAKARTA, 26 Oct — The Indonesian Government will issue treasury bonds worth 5.7 trillion rupiah (some 670.6 million US dollars) in November, a one-month delay from its original schedule, Finance Minister Boediono said Friday.

“The total value will be 5.7 trillion rupiah to be issued in two stages,” Boediono told reporters here.

The government planned to issue treasury bonds worth 11.7 trillion (1.4 billion US dollars) in 2003 alone. The first six trillion rupiah (705.9 million dollars) worth of bonds have been issued earlier this year. —MNA/Xinhua

US convoy hit in bomb attack in Fallujah

BAGHDAD, 26 Oct— A US military convoy was hit by a roadside bomb in a western Iraqi city on Friday and casualties were inflicted, witnesses said.

The bomb explosion occurred when the convoy drove through Fallujah, a restive town 50 kilometres west of Baghdad, said the witnesses.

They said they saw a vehicle damaged and several wounded soldiers who were evacuated when reinforcements arrived at the scene.

The US troops were then seen raiding nearby shops and arrested some suspects.

Anti-US resistance has been intensified since two messages purportedly from Osama bin Laden were aired by Qatar-based al-Jazeera TV channel last Saturday. —MNA/Xinhua

Feeble quake jolts southern Iran

TEHRAN, 26 Oct— A feeble earthquake measuring 4.9 on the open-ended Richter Scale jolted Fars Province in southern Iran on Friday morning, the official IRNA news agency reported.

The Geophysics Institute of Teheran University said the earthquake occurred at 9:28 local time (0558 GMT).

The epicentre was near cities of Zarrindasht, Jahrom and Lar, about 300 kilometres from the provincial capital of Shiraz.

The quake caused no death but inflicted

serious damage to many buildings in the region, the report said.

Two moderate quakes measuring 5.8 and 5.6 respectively occurred in the same region in July this year, which killed two people and ruined over 4,200 residential units.

MNA/Xinhua



School children wearing masks resembling the mascot of the Afro-Asian Games ‘Sheroo’ gesture at the camera, in Hyderabad, India, on 23 October 2003. The children are scheduled to participate in the formal inauguration of the games Friday. —INTERNET

The duty defined by the national cause-3

Ketu Nila

Since the Tatmadaw's assumption of the State duties and till now there have surfaced slanderous oppositions and criticisms against the Tatmadaw, saying that the military unjustly seized power and crushed the democracy struggle. But those slanders can be judged with the objective conditions of the national political development in Myanmar.

The Tatmadaw was born of the anti-colonialist struggle, the anti-fascist struggle and the independence struggle. It is growing stronger while crushing internal and external dangers to safeguard independence. Had the Tatmadaw stood idle during the 1948, 1949, 1958, 1962 and 1988 crises, the nation would face destruction in all sectors and lost her independence and sovereignty. It is particularly true during the 1988 unrest. The Tatmadaw has the duty to save the nation from facing any undesirable situation and ensure the security of the people. The Tatmadaw will never let the nation fall under subjugation for no reason. It has the aim of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation. And it is the conviction of the Tatmadaw based on patriotism.

In this regard, the Tatmadaw has solved all the political problems without fear and hesitation. If the Tatmadaw yielded to political problems and pressures, the nation would not be able to enjoy peace, stability and progress at present. Since its assumption of the State duties, the Tatmadaw has been implementing the four political objectives — Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order; national re-consolidation; emergence of a new enduring State Constitution; and building of a modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution.

In implementing the first objective, the Tatmadaw unilaterally ceased its offensive against the KNU insurgents although it was on the upper hand, and extended the olive branch. But when the KNU brass under the influence of colonialists rejected the peace offer, the Tatmadaw has to continue its military offensive against the insurgents in an unavoidable situation. As the KNUs dare not live in the Myanmar territory, they have to take refuge in the border areas and in the other country.

The Tatmadaw Government held the multi-party democracy general election on 27 May 1990. The National League for Democracy won the election with 31 per cent of the votes or 7,934,622 votes. But when compared with the nation's population of over 47 million during the time, we cannot say that the party won the support of the entire people. However, the NLD shouted that it won the support of the entire people, and was demanding power. At the press conference on 9 June 1989, the Tatmadaw Government had explained that power could not be transferred immediately after the election; and that it would transfer State power to the government that emerged in accord with the Constitution approved by the entire people. It is an undeniable fact that the 93 parties that entered the election had already understood the Government's clarification at the press conference.

The Tatmadaw Government issued the notifications to realize the political objectives and invited the political parties including the NLD to take part in the nation-building task in accord with the existing law. In other words it has opened the door for all to take part in drawing a constitution in accord with the essence of democracy. But the NLD gave

more priority to grabbing power than to take part in the national task. Thus, the NLD started to oppose the Government and made confrontations. In the Gandhi declaration, the NLD demanded the convening of the Hluttaw in September 1990, and transfer of the State power to the NLD in accord with the constitution drawn by the party itself. At the secret meeting in Mandalay, the NLD compiled a paper to grab power through three opposition means. Chairman of the NLD Sein Win and cohorts and some representatives-elect contacted KNU Bo Mya on 18 December 1990 and formed the expatriate government outside the nation. It launched political and military attacks against the Government from inside and outside the nation. It is the NLD's first act to go against the Government offer to collectively take part in drafting of a constitution.

The NLD issued its view slandering the discussion and participation of delegates at the National Convention. The NLD delegates also took part in drawing the rules and principles of the Convention to draft a constitution. On 11 November 1995, it sent a letter slandering the National Convention with negative views. The letter also stated that the NLD would not attend the National Convention anymore as its demands to meet with the State Law and Order Restoration Council were not answered by the National Convention Convening Commission chairman in his address. The person who created the problems was the ex-NLD general secretary who had already been dismissed from the party. Her personal influence could overrule the decision of the party central executive committee, and it showed the real image of the NLD. Thus, the organizational task and democracy rights of the NLD were based on a single person. It had led to downgrading the party's organizational task and democracy rights.

The NLD deviated from the course of serving the national interest and sacrificed the right to do national politics for achieving self-interest. This has left a black mark in history. The NLD also opposed and left the National Convention while delegates from all walks of life and national races were holding discussion to draft a constitution. Hence, we can say that it has failed to discharge the duty defined by the national cause. It is the NLD's second act to oppose the collective national task serving the interest of the nation.

(To be continued)

(Translation: TMT)

Kyemon+Myanma Alin: 11-10-2003.



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Myanmar delegation arrives back

YANGON, 26 Oct — The Myanmar delegation arrived back here by air this afternoon after attending the 21st conference of engineering associations of the ASEAN countries held in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 22 to 23 October.

The delegation included Chief Engineer (Bridge) U Han Zaw, Senior Engineer (Bridge) Daw Si Si Than and Engineer (Bridge) Daw Mya Sein Aye, who received the ASEAN engineering out-

standing awards on behalf of Public Works of the Ministry of Construction, and Chairman of Myanmar Engineering Association Porf Dr Sein Myint, who attended the meeting of the ASEAN Engineering Federation and has taken charge of President of ASEAN Engineering Federation, and Vice-Chairman of MEA U Thein Lwin.

They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Managing Director

(Project) U Tin Htut of Public Works, Deputy Director-General of the Construction Inspection Department Lt-Col Htwe Maung, chief engineers, engineers, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Engineering Association Director-General of the Irrigation Department U Kyaw San Win and officials.

The 18-member delegation submitted the papers on engineering during the conference.

MNA

People's Desire

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

Efficient use of electricity

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

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

Efficient use of fuel

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

All this needs to be known

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



MYANMAR GOLF TOUR 2003
Kanbawza Open Golf Championship

29 October - 1 November, 2003
Aye Thar Yar Golf Resort, Taunggyi





Vice-Senior General Maung Aye extends greetings to those attending the opening of Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge. — MNA

For Taninthayi Division to...

(from page 16)

offshore fishery, there emerged many fish, prawn and crab breeding camps, cold storage factories, and feedstuff factories in the surrounding area of Myeik.

Under the project for equitable development of various regions in the Union, the 24 regions have been designated as development regions. In Taninthayi Division also, Dawei and Myeik regions have been designated as development regions where 200-bed hospitals, universities and colleges have been built.

Taninthayi Division has witnessed development in all aspects such as the economic, education, health, transport and communication sectors.

These achievements must be attributed to efforts of local authorities, service personnel and local people under the guidance based on correct policies and far-sightedness of the Head of State. These achievements were gained by relying on the strength, technology and investment of our own.

It can clearly be seen that a total of 163 bridges including 37 bridges of 1,000 feet and above like Kyweku-Kyaukphya bridge have been constructed by Public Works of the Ministry of Construction all over the country, spending K 88,000 million and US\$ 150 million and relying on the

capability of Myanmar engineers.

All the national people can take pride in being able to construct such significant bridges on self-reliance basis.

As the State, the people and the Tatmadaw are striving for building the modern and developed nation relying on the national strength, development infrastructures for the transport, economic, education, health and social sectors have emerged one after another. At the same time, measures for building a democracy nation must also be taken.

In the political objectives of the State, the first and second objectives calling for stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and national reconsolidation have met with success thanks to the cooperation between the State and the people. In other words, peace and tranquillity of regions and national reconsolidation can be established firmly. Therefore, the third and the fourth objectives — emergence of a new enduring State constitution and building of a new modern and developed nation in accord with the new State constitution—must be implemented stage-by-stage and correctly.

The seven-point roadmap that was recently announced to the nation is the correct programme for building a new nation and

political programmes to be practically implemented in accord with the political objectives of the State.

Such a time like this, some big nations eager to influence the State, turning blind eyes to the objective developments of the State, are putting pressure through political and diplomatic means and imposing economic and financial sanctions on the State with the excuses of democracy and human rights.

Therefore, what I would like to urge the people now is to undertake the tasks based on patriotism and love for the Union, and safeguard the national interest from all aspects. True essence of success is the motto that strength of the nation lies within. Unity, hard working, and good intention of local national races are the genuine determining factors for the perpetuity of the Union of Myanmar.

Future political programmes must be collectively carried out with the high awareness of the entire people.

In conclusion, on behalf of the local people, I would like to thank engineers, staffs, and local people who have constructed and maintained the bridge which is important for regional development and transport, and a pride of the region. I would also like to urge local people to maintain the bridge for its perpetuity.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun

made a speech. He said under the guidance of the Head of State, the ministry has been constructing roads and bridges day and night since 1988. Altogether 4,477 miles of roads have been constructed. A total of 163 bridges each of which is 180 feet long and above including the Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge have been opened to date. When the three bridges constructed by the Tatmadaw for the Public Works are included, the number will be 166. The bridge was constructed on 14-11-2000 and it was opened after a period of 2 years and 11 months. The bridge is 3,612 feet long in total—the main bridge is 2,112 feet, the approach bridge on Kyaukphya bank is 200 feet and the one on Kyweku bank is 1,300 feet. About K 3,400 million has been spent on building the bridge.

Afterwards, Commander Brig-Gen Ohn Myint made a speech. He said the bridge with 28 feet wide motorway and two six-feet wide pedestrians on both sides is the biggest and longest one in the division. As a result, one can travel from the northernmost to the southernmost part of Myanmar. So, it was a significant day not only for Taninthayi Division but also for the State. In the past, water route was mainly relied on for travelling from one region to another. In addition, water and air routes played a key role in

transportation sector. The division lagged behind in development of economic, social, education and health sectors, for there was no stability in the past.

Once stability prevails in the region, in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, roads and bridges have been built in the division. Before 1988,

opened in Myeik. Thanks to building of transportation infrastructures such as construction of new roads, renovation of old ones, construction of the Yay-Dawei railroad and extension of Myeik and Kawthoung airports will result in development of the division year by year.

In conclusion, on behalf



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win makes a speech at the opening of Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge. — MNA

there were only 363 miles of road in the division. At present, the 522-mile long Union Highway from Mahlae Taung in Dawei District to Kawthoung has already built. In agriculture sector, over 468,000 acres of land was put under cultivation before 1988. At present, the number increased to over 670,000 acres. In meat and fish sector, the division produced 170,000 tons in the past. Nowadays, it produces over 500,000 tons of meat and fish. In pearl producing sector, over 72,000 momme of pearl is produced, up from over 7,300 momme in the past. In poultry breeding sector, over 986,000 poultry have been raised. There are 664 miles of road in the division, up from 397 miles in the past. In education sector, 1,109 basic education schools have been extended and opened in the division, up from 962 in the past. There are two universities and five colleges in the division, up from only one university in the past. The number of hospitals is increased to 23 from 17 in the past. On 25 October, a modern hospital (200-bed) was

of local people, the commander thanked Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, officials concerned at different levels for opening the bridge and pledged to maintain it for long-term use together with local people.

On behalf of the local people, Joint-Secretary of Myeik District Union Solidarity and Development Association U Min Thein spoke words of thanks to the government for the construction of the bridge.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye extended greetings to the local people. He said political, economic and social objectives were firmly laid down and have been implemented for peace and prosperity of the entire Union including Taninthayi Division.

Thanks to the harmonious efforts of the State, the people and the Tatmadaw, development has been achieved in all aspects of the State such as the political, economic, education, health and social sectors.

As the synchronous development of all regions is a

(see page 9)



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein formally opens the Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye poses for documentary photo together with local people at the opening of Kyaukphyay Bridge. (News Page 1) — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt...

(from page 16)

fulfilling the water supply and greening tasks of the university.

The Prime Minister gave instructions on making systematic arrangements for construction of the university as a prestigious institution of Kayin State. Next, the Prime Minister and party inspected round the construction of the three-storey main building and two-storey building.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to the construction site of Hpa-an Government Technological College.

Principal Daw Than Than Htay reported to the Prime Minister on background history, location and area, courses, and number of students and teaching staff. Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Nyi Hla Nge gave a supplementary report on teaching and administrative affairs. The Prime Minister gave instructions on nurturing qualified engineers of the future and inspected round the construction site of the college.

Next, the Prime Minister and party went to Mebaung Monastery and Dhamma Piya Bayme Monastery in Hpa-an and paid homage to State Ovadacariya Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru

Bhaddanta Indriya and Myainggying Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sujana. The Prime Minister presented robes and offertories to the Sayadaws.

Next, the Prime Minister presented gifts to a national race leader.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister arrived at Phayagon Nyeinchanye Village in Hpa-an Township, where he was welcomed by national race leaders Phado Aung San and U Saw Tha Mu He, members and local national races. The Prime Minister met with the national race leaders, local national races at the Peace Hall of the village and inquired about the regional development, rice sufficiency and conditions of agriculture, livestock breeding, education and health. The national race leaders reported to the Prime Minister on regional development tasks and requirements. The Prime Minister fulfilled the requirements and spoke on the occasion. He said that the State would render assistance for regional development and promotion of the living standard of the local national races, and urged the local national races to unitedly strive for regional development.

Next, the Prime Minister presented souvenirs to national race leaders Phado Aung San and U Saw Tha Mu He. The leaders also presented gifts to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister cordially greeted the local people and left for the land reclamation site in Mebaung Naunglon Chaung Region. The Prime Minister inspected round the tasks for prevention of the regions from floods and land reclamation works by car.

At the briefing hall of the site, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Cho Tun Aung reported to the Prime Minister on condition of the agriculture sector in the state, cultivated acreage, condition of fallow and virgin land, exceeding the target of monsoon paddy, rainfalls for the year, land reclamation tasks being carried out in wetlands of Mebaung Naunglon Chaung region, and cultivation of 2458 acres of land out of 3000 acres reclaimed this year. Deputy Director of the Irrigation Department U Aung Kyaw Win reported to the Prime Minister on tasks being carried out to reclaim over 25,000 acres of wetland in the region. Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation

Brig-Gen Khin Maung made a supplementary report on providing necessary assistance for the success of the land reclamation project. The project is



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents gifts to national race leader Phado Aung San. — MNA

being carried out with the aims of preventing the region from floods, cultivating double crops, and reclaiming of cultivable land. Under the guidance of the Head of State, 25,000 acres of land are to be reclaimed within 3 years.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister inspected round the flood prevention tasks of the region. The Prime Minister and party arrived back here via Hpa-an in the evening. — MNA



Progress in construction of the three-storey building of Hpa-an University. — MNA

For Taninthayi-Division to...

(from page 8)

requirement for the State, rural development projects, border area development projects, and special development zones projects are being implemented harmoniously for the reduction of disparity of progress among the regions.

Tasks are being carried out with the aim of contributing towards the accomplishment of Our Three Main National Causes — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

As the State, the people and the Tatmadaw are unitedly and collectively exerting efforts, the entire State will achieve further development, he concluded.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party took the designated place in front of the archway of the bridge. At the auspicious time, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Commander Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun formally opened the bridge.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party, officials of the bridge construction project and local people had the documentary photo taken in front of the archway. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye formally unveiled the stone inscription of the bridge and sprinkled scented water on it. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party strolled along the bridge and cordially greeted the local people, members of USDA, social organizations and pom pom troupes, teachers and students.

The bridge, with the length of 3612 feet and 40 feet breadth, is situated on Myeik-Dawei road. Construction project started in 2000. Upper structure of the bridge was constructed with the use of PC beams and iron frames and lower structure reinforced concrete bore piles. Clearance area of the bridge is 230 feet in breadth and 28 feet in height. It can withstand 60 tons of load. — MNA

Doesn't rain whenever frogs croak

- * Whenever many frogs croak
Think not the rain will come instantly
Don't be mistaken there will be
Downpours you can depend
- * While many frogs are croaking
Recall the rain pouring down
With dark clouds threatening deluge
Rainfall and dark clouds
Are sheer coincidence, as one sees.
- * The sky above, with no clouds present
Stars a twinkle, moon shining bright
At such time, there may be
Loud croaks reaching the sky
May be that way
But may not see
A single raindrop fall.
- * Currently, our Myanmar's
Skies are clear
With no clouds, stars are a twinkle
And the moon's shining bright.

Po Wa (Trs.)

The bridges on the road to southernmost tip

Thiha Tin



Laynya-Mandaing Bridge in Bokpyin Township, Taninthayi Division.

In the past, major towns along the Taninthayi coast relied on air and coastal transport, while the minor ones had to depend only on water transport.

As many rivers and creeks are crisscrossing the region that is a thin stretch of land facing the Andaman Sea in the west and bordering Thailand with the

Taninthayi Mountain Range in the east, road building in the Taninthayi Division is a much difficult work. It needs manpower and mechanical power.

Besides, heavy rains and the rough terrain also pose as a barrier to all development undertakings in the division.

But roads are essen-

tial requirement for regional and national development. In this regard, the Government has made a firm determination to develop the transport infrastructure and ensure a smooth and secure transport in the whole nation.

Mainly relying on the internal strength or in other words, the concerted

efforts of the government bodies, the local authorities, the people and the Tatmadaw, the State has built miles and miles of roads and a large number of major and minor bridges the length and breadth of the Union of Myanmar.

Braving high winds, rough terrain and heavy rains, the forces of the na-

tion conquered the land in building infrastructures including the roads and bridges needed for the success of the nation-building task. Because of the correct and effective leadership of the State and the ardent and energetic efforts of the nation-building forces, a large number of major bridges and new highways have emerged all over the Union.

Regions including the Ayeyawady Division, Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division, where road construction seemed almost impossible in the past, now have Union Highways and major bridges spanning rivers and large creeks.

In building the Dawei-Myeik-Taninthayi-Bokpyin-Kawthoung Union Highway alone, six over-500-foot bridges — the Winwa, the Palauk, the Palaw, the Taninthayi, the Pathoung and the Laynya-Mandaing — have already been constructed.

Among the six, the Laynya-Mandaing Bridge was commissioned into service in Bokpyin Township on 23 October.

Spanning the Laynya River, the 860-foot concrete bridge supports a 24-foot wide motorway on it. The road is flanked by three-foot wide pedestrian lanes. The maximum load-bearing capacity of the bridge is 60 tons.

Another large facility on the highway, running from north to south in the Taninthayi Division, the Kywegu-Kyaukphyia Bridge near Myeik, was also opened on 26 October.

As the Dawei-Myeik-Taninthayi-Bokpyin-Kawthoung Highway or the road to southernmost tip of the Union is linked with the Yangon-Mawlamyine-Dawei Highway, it will serve as the major land route to visit the Taninthayi Division and to reach Kawthoung at the Cape of King Bayintnaung.

Perfroming Arts Competitions continue

YANGON, 26 Oct — The 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the 13th day at the designated places here today.

The competitions were attended by member of the panel of patrons of holding the competitions Chairman of the leading committee Chariman of Yangon Division Peace and Developemnt Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, members of the panel of partons of holding the competitions Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung and Chariman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Chairman of the leading committee Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Brig-Gen Than Tun of the Ministry of Defence, Director-General of the SPDC office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, work committee Chariman No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint Hsan, departmental heads, officials of the work committee and subcommittees, tourists, students and enthusiasts. The song contest continued at the National Museum on Pyay Road at 9 am today.

Chairperson of the Panel of Judges Assistant Director Daw Tin Tin Mya of MRTV, Secretary Assistant Engineer Daw May Pyone Khaing and members made judgements on the song

contest held in the National Theatre. A total of 16 contestants participated in the basic education level religious song contest (aged 10-15, girls) and 11 contestants in the professional level (men) modern classic song contest. The song contest composed by the professional level contestants continued at the Kanbawza Theatre on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road. Chairman of the Panel of Judges for the contest Bogale U Tint Aung and members made judgements on the performance of the contest. A total of 12 contestants participated in the contest.

A total of six drum troupes participated in the professional level (men) drum contest (group) held at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, Dagon Township today. A total of seven drum troupes participated in the basic education level (boys) drum contest (group). During the contest U Sein Ba Maw and members made judgements on the performance.

The saing contest (individual) continued at Padonma Theatre in Sangyoung Township. One contestant took part in the professional level saing contest (individual) (women). Five contestants took part in the basic education level saing contest (girl, age 15-20). Seven contestants took part in the basic education



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife enjoy performance of Shweyadana Myaing marionette at the Maha Janaka Drama Contest. —MNA

level saing contest (girl, age 5-10). Member of the panel of judges U Sein Hla Myaing and members judged the performance of the contest.

The competitions continue at the designated places tomorrow. — MNA

Prize presented to winners of Wushu competition

YANGON, 26 Oct — The prize presentation ceremony of the third Yangon Division inter-basic education schools Wushu compe-

tion was held at Aung San Gymnasium this afternoon.

It was attended by departmental heads and officials of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Sports, patrons, presidents,

vice presidents, and executives of sports federations, teachers, students and guests.

Officials presented prizes to the prize winning Wushu athletes of basic education schools. —MNA



Teza Phyto at Yangon Division Inter-Basic Education School Batminton Tournament. —NLM

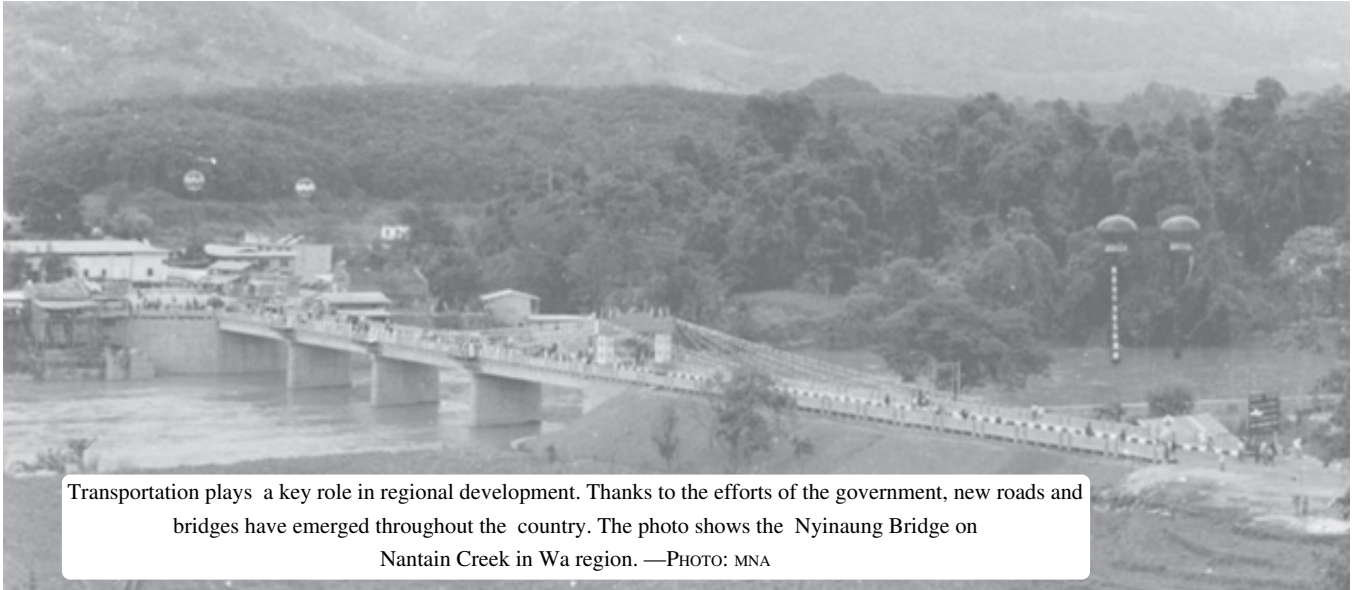


Vice-President of Myanmar Wushu Federation Daw Kyu Kyu presents prize to a winner. —NLM

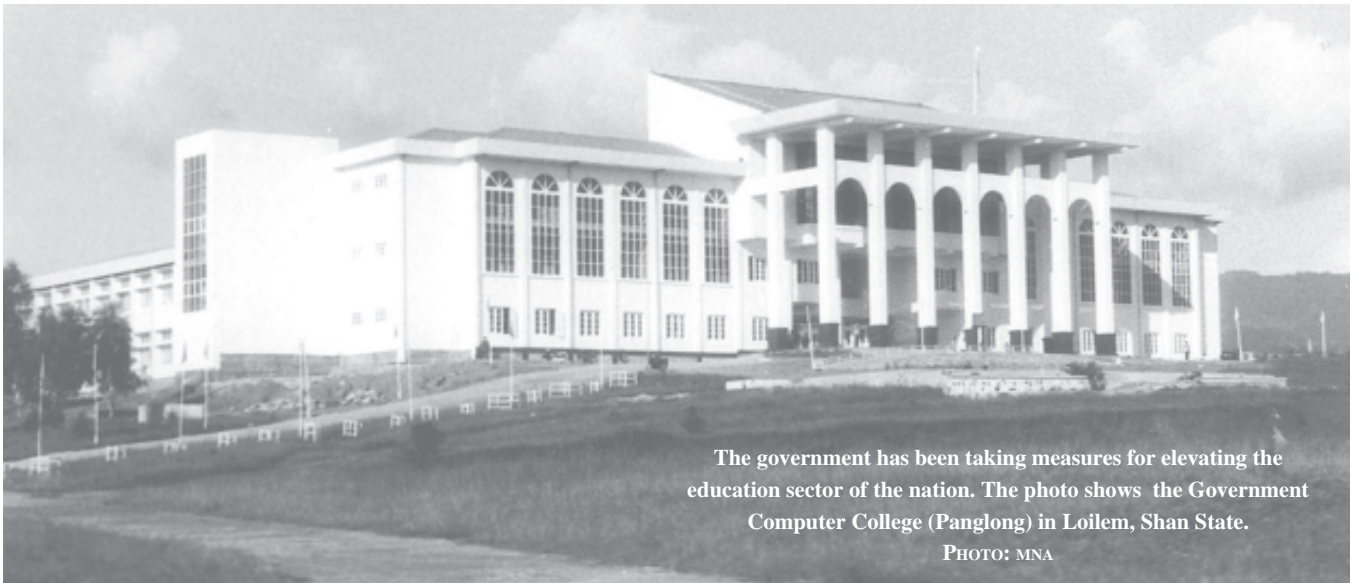
Chinese Auditor General arrives

YANGON, 26 Oct — At the invitation of Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, the Chinese delegation led by Auditor-General Mr Li Jinhua arrived this afternoon by air. Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Auditor-General U Khin Win, Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun and officials welcomed the delegation at the airport. —MAN

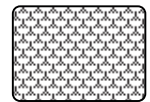
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country



Transportation plays a key role in regional development. Thanks to the efforts of the government, new roads and bridges have emerged throughout the country. The photo shows the Nyinaung Bridge on Nantain Creek in Wa region. —PHOTO: MNA

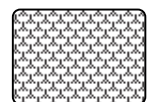


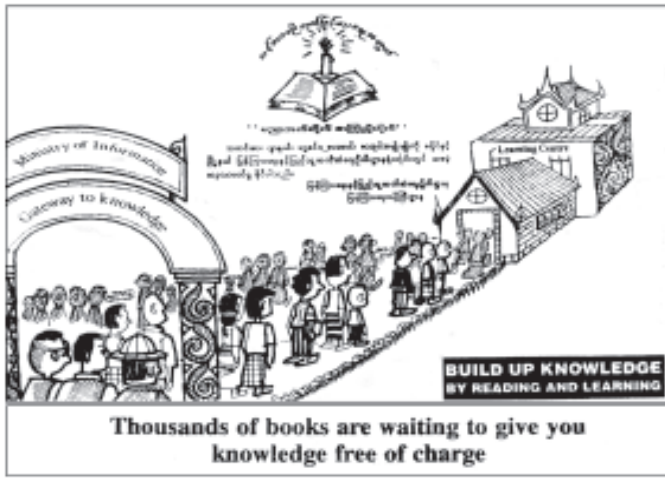
The government has been taking measures for elevating the education sector of the nation. The photo shows the Government Computer College (Panglong) in Loilem, Shan State.
PHOTO: MNA



Dams and reservoirs have emerged throughout the nation. The photo shows Khawa Dam Construction Project site in Bago Division.

PHOTO: MNA





ADVERTISEMENTS

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်
ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့
ကြော်ငြာစာအမှတ် ၄၀/၂၀၀၃
(၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ ၂၀ ရက်)
လျှောက်လွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ အားကစားဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ အားကစားနှင့် ကာယပညာဦးစီးဌာနတွင် လက်ထောက်အင်ဂျင်နီယာ အောက်မီဗြဟ္မာ ရာထူးနေရာများအတွက် လျှောက်လွှာများ အလံ့ရှိပါသည်။

စဉ် ရာထူး လက်ထောက် ပညာအရည်အချင်း
(က) လက်ထောက်အင်ဂျင်နီယာ ၁၆ နေရာ မြို့ပြအင်ဂျင်နီယာဘွဲ့ (မြို့ပြ)

(ခ) ဦးစီးအရာရှိ (မြို့နယ်) ၄၀ နေရာ

တက္ကသိုလ်တစ်ခုခုမှ ဘွဲ့ ရရှိပြီး အနည်းဆုံး ပြည်နယ်/ တိုင်း အားကစား (အလွတ် တန်း) ကတစ်နှစ် ဖြစ်ပြီး သုတေသနရပ် (အားကစား နှင့် ကာယပညာ ဦးစီးဌာနမှ ထောက်ခံခံချက် ပူးတွဲ တင်ပြရမည်) ရှိသူများအား ခေါ်ယူခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အားကစားနှင့် ကာယပညာ ဦးစီးဌာနမှ ထောက်ခံချက် ပူးတွဲ တင်ပြရမည်။

၂။ လျှောက်ထားသူသည်-

- (က) ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားဖြစ်ရမည်။
- (ခ) ၁၇-၁၁-၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်တွင် အသက် ၁၅ နှစ် (ဝန်ထမ်းဖြစ်ပါက အသက် ၄၀ နှစ်) ထက် မကျော်လွန်သူဖြစ်ရမည်။
- (ဂ) မည်သည့်ပြည်နယ်/တိုင်းဒေသသို့မဆို သွားရောက် တာဝန် ထမ်းဆောင်နိုင်သူ ဖြစ်ရမည်။

၃။ လျှောက်လွှာကို ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ ၁၇-၁၁-၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ် အောက်တိုဘာလ ၂၀ ရက်နေ့တွင် ခံယူရမည်။

၄။ လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ဖော်ပြရမည့်အချက်များ ပူးတွဲပါရှိရမည့် စာရွက်စာတမ်းများ ပါဝင်ကြောင်း ၅၆/၁-မ-သုတ်ခံရမည့်လမ်း၊ ရေးမြေ၊ နယ်မြေ စစ်ဆေးမှု အတွက်လေ့လာရန် လိုအပ်ချက်များနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်း၍ ဤအဖွဲ့ကြေညာချက်အမှတ် ၁/၂၀၁ ဖြင့် ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ် လေ့ကျင့်ရေး အဖွဲ့ကြေညာချက် ဖော်ပြချက်များနှင့်လျှောက်လွှာတင်သွင်းသူများအတွက် လမ်းညွှန်စာစောင်ကို သတ်မှတ်ချက်များနှင့်အညီ လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ရန်ဖြစ်သည်။

ရန်ကုန်မြို့နှင့် မန္တလေးမြို့များတွင် ရေးမြေစာမူပေးစာစီစဉ်နေရာများ ထားရှိပါသည်။ မိမိမြေဆိုလျှင်လေ့လာစာစီစဉ်နေရာကို လျှောက်လွှာတွင် ရင်းလင်း တိကျစွာ ဖော်ပြရမည်။

၆။ ဝန်ထမ်းများသည် မူရင်းလျှောက်လွှာတင်စာစီစဉ် မိမိတာဝန် ထမ်းဆောင်သည့် ဌာနအကြီးအကဲမှ တစ်ဆင့် ဝန်ကြီးဌာန၏ ရန်ကုန်မြို့နှင့် မန္တလေးမြို့များရှိ ဝန်ထမ်းရွေးချယ်လေ့ကျင့်ရေးအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ ၁၇-၁၁-၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်အောက်တိုဘာလ ၂၀ ရက်နေ့တွင် ခံယူရမည်။

၇။ ၁၃-၁၂-၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်နှင့် ၁၄-၁၂-၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်များတွင် အရည်အချင်းစစ် ရေးမြေ စာမူပေးစာစီစဉ် ၁၁-၁၂-၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်မှစ၍ မန္တလေး၊ တိုင်းဒေသချုပ်သားများနှင့် ဖွဲ့စည်းရေးကော်မတီများနှင့် ဤအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ တွဲဖက် ဆွဲချိန်ကတိပြုချက်များကိုထုတ်ပေးမည်။

၈။ စုစည်းရေးမြန်မာလိုဝါက ပြည်နယ်/တိုင်း၊ ခရိုင်နှင့်မြို့နယ်အချင်းချင်း သာယာရေး နှင့် ဖွဲ့စည်းရေးကော်မတီများ ပြည်နယ်/တိုင်း၊ မြို့နယ် အလုပ်သမားညွှန်ကြားရေး ဦးစီးဌာနများတွင်ဖြစ်စေ၊ ဤအဖွဲ့ရုံးသို့ လူကြီး ယ်တိုင်ဖြစ်စေ၊ တယ်လီဖုန်း အမှတ် (၃၇၈၁၆၃) သို့ ဖြစ်စေ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

IBM to set up research laboratory in S Korea

SEOUL, 26 Oct— IBM Corp, the world's biggest computer hardware maker, reached an agreement with South Korean Government Friday to set up a research and development laboratory in South Korea.

According to the agreement, IBM and South Korean Government each will

invest 16 million US dollars in the next four years to establish the laboratory: IBM Ubiquitous Computer Laboratory.

The laboratory will develop embedded software for mobile communications and wireless applications for vehicles. Initially, the laboratory will employ 70 researchers including 10 staff from IBM's Watson Research Centre in the United States.

MNA/Xinhua

Drive safely

Senior CPC official meets Disney president

BEIJING, 26 Oct— Liu Yunshan, head of the publicity department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met here Friday with Robert Iger, president of The Walt Disney Co of the United States.

Liu, also a member of the Political Bureau and the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee, extended his congratulations on the successful production of "Reflections of China", a large-format film produced by Disney with the support of China's State Administration of Radio, Film and Television.

Liu expressed satisfaction with the cooperation between Disney and China's film and television departments over many years.

Robert Iger said he hoped that Disney's collaboration with relevant authorities of China could be speeded up in the future.

MNA/Xinhua

China sets up NGO to protect wild plants

BEIJING, 26 Oct— A non-government organization, the China Wild Plant Conservation Association (CWPCA), was set up in Beijing Friday.

As a voluntary association of members engaged in wild plant protection, the organization will work to serve the country's wild plant protection cause, said Ma Fu, director of the newly-founded association.

Under the direction of state guidelines on wild plant protection, the association will unite social forces and promote knowledge of wild plants to improve public awareness.

The State Forestry Administration is in charge of the association and the professional work is guided by the State Forestry Administration and the Ministry of Agriculture.

China is home to 30,000 species of higher plants, about 10 per cent of the

world's total, in which about 57 per cent or 17,300 are endemic.

China has set up a basic legal system and administrative management on wild plant protection and has been protecting wild plant habitats and saving endangered species, said Zhao Xuemin, deputy-director of the State Forestry Administration.

As an integrated part of nature, wild plants are crucial to the ecological balance and the setup of CWPCA completed the country's protection of natural resources at the 20 anniversary of China Wildlife Conservation Association, said Chen Runsheng, general-secretary of the CWPCA.

MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်လှန်အားပေးပါ

Australia, China boost ties with gas deal, free trade

CANBERRA, 26 Oct— Australia and China strengthened trade ties during a visit by President Hu Jintao on Friday, with China handing Australia its biggest ever export deal and both agreeing to explore a free trade pact.

Resource-rich Australia is seeking to tighten economic ties with China, the world's fastest growing major economy, while China wants to build up its economic relationships in the Asian region to ensure imports of raw materials to feed its growth.

The two nations signed a trade and economic frame-

work to deepen ties but the spotlight was stolen by China's state-controlled oil and gas producer CNOOC, which signed a 30 billion Australian dollars (21 billion US dollars) deal to buy a 12.5 per cent stake in Australia's Gorgon gas field and take between 80 and 100 million tons of liquefied natural gas (LNG) over 25 years.

This deal topped Australia's previous largest single export deal — a 25 billion Australian dollars contract awarded last year to supply China's Guangdong Province with 3.3 million tons of LNG a year over 25 years.

Hu said China saw Australia as an increasingly important trading partner, particularly in areas of energy and resources.

"The potential for Australia-China economic cooperation is immense," said Hu, who was the first Asian leader to address Australia's National Parliament.

While Australia has tight-

ened its ties to the United States in recent years, culminating in a visit by President George W. Bush on Thursday, it has also continued to pursue trade links in Asia which accounts for about 50 per cent of its total trade.

This year Australia, a key agricultural and mineral exporter, has sealed free trade deals with Thailand and Singapore and it is eyeing accords with the United States and China to build up a network of bilateral pacts as global bids to free up trade stall.

Australia and China, its third largest trading partner, agreed on Friday to a detailed study into the benefits of a free trade accord, to be completed by October 2005.

Trade between the two nations has surged in recent years with two-way trade almost trebling to 21 billion Australian dollars (14.7 billion US dollars) since Australia's conservative government took power in 1996.

MNA/Reuters

Overseas Chinese gather to seek investment opportunities

HEFEI, 26 Oct— More than 150 overseas Chinese living in 20 countries and regions gathered Friday in Huangshan, a scenic spot known for Mount Huangshan in east China's Anhui Province, to attend an investment fair to probe business opportunities in the province, especially in local cities on the Yangtze River.

The two-day fair is expected to help overseas Chinese increase their knowledge of cultural and economic development in Anhui, in a bid to promote the province's image on the world stage, said Provincial Vice-Governor Wen

Haiping.

A number of projects to use overseas investment are expected to be signed at the conclusion of the fair.

So far, 23 of the world's top 500 enterprises have invested in Anhui.

By the end of 2002, Anhui had ratified 5,544 overseas-funded enterprises, actually using 7.3 billion US dollars of overseas investment.

More than 70 per cent of the enterprises were funded by overseas Chinese, including those from Hong Kong and Macao, with investment accounting for 60 per cent of the total.

MNA/Xinhua

Shanghai Telecom launches Internet cafe chain

SHANGHAI, 26 Oct— Shanghai Thursday unveiled 30 newly-built chain Internet cafes run by Shanghai Telecom, the first time that the telecom trade extended their business to this field.

Uniform management policies will be applied to the Internet cafes, according to an official from Shanghai Telecom. All the cafes will provide uniformly high-quality services, use uniform logos and have a uniform style of environment.

The official said that the chain cafes are expected to help Shanghai Telecom ex-

tend their broadband services and serve as bases where new sorts of Internet services such as e-commerce and online games are tested.

The building of the 30 new Internet cafes was part of the "green power" project, and 100 cafes were planned by the end of this year, said the official. He said the "green power" project was initiated by China Telecom, parent company of Shanghai Telecom, with the aim of bringing Chinese Internet cafes a standardized management and a healthy development mode.— MNA/Xinhua

ဟိုဟောင်ကောင်မြို့ နေတင်စီမံကိန်းရေးဆွဲခြင်းတို့ကိုလေ့လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်မှု

China, Netherlands start joint programme on yellow river

ZHENGZHOU, 26 Oct— China and the Netherlands launched a cooperation programme on the Yellow River, China's second longest river, at an ongoing international forum on the river in Zhengzhou, capital of Henan Province.

At an inauguration ceremony on Thursday, Huang Ziqiang, deputy director of the Yellow River Water Resources Committee said the programme was the start of large-scale cooperation between China and the Netherlands on the river.

Huang said the cooperation programme would focus on satellite-based monitoring of water and river movement forecast in the Yellow River Valley. Liu Zhiguang, a senior official with the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources, said both countries had cooperated on another programme involving the harnessing and development of the estuary of the Yangtze River, China's longest river, since 1985.

Under the Yangtze River programme,

more than 100 Chinese water resources technical workers had received specialist training in the Netherlands. A joint committee had been set up under China's Ministry of Water Resources and its Dutch counterpart to give guidance in water management.

The Yellow River, with a length of 5,464 kilometres is one of the muddiest rivers in the world. It is known as "China's sorrow" for the serious damage caused by frequent floods on the river. China's central government had focused on reigning in the unruly river since the founding of New China in October 1949 and had some success in silt control, flood control and disaster reduction, said Suo Lisheng, Deputy Minister of Water Resources. — MNA/Xinhua

IMF official predicts strong growth of Chinese economy

HONG KONG, 26 Oct— David Robinson, deputy director of the Research Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), said here Wednesday that he saw a strong growth of the Chinese economy and expressed the belief that the growth rate of China's gross domestic product (GDP) may witness a faster speed next year.

Speaking at a symposium titled "World Economy Outlook", David Robinson said the IMF predicted a 7.5-per-cent GDP growth in China in 2003, adding that the growth rate may possibly exceed the number in 2004.

Robinson told the Press after the symposium that China's economic growth has changed the old global industrial structure map, adding that more foreign companies chose to establish ventures in China, more foreign investment rushed to China and more lower priced industrial products made in China entered the world market. He said that the strong growth of Chinese

economy also benefitted other countries.

A latest report released by APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) last week indicated that China's foreign trade volume in the first half of this year reached 376.1 billion US dollars and its export rose 44.5 per cent. The report also indicated that China introduced 52.7 billion US dollars of direct foreign investment in 2002, up 12.5 per cent over that of the previous year.

Answering a question about the Renminbi exchange rate, Robinson said it is not important for the appreciation of Renminbi, the important thing for China is to build up a flex-

ible system that can encounter with any major financial shocks. On the Hong Kong economy, he said that at the beginning of this year, the IMF predicted a 2.2-per-cent GDP growth in Hong Kong, but the IMF lowered the figure to 1.5 per cent after SARS hit Hong Kong. But he expressed belief that Hong Kong's economic growth rate this year would surely be higher than the adjusted figure.

To allow more residents from major cities in Chinese Mainland to visit Hong Kong individually has boosted the tourism industry in Hong Kong, the IMF official said.

MNA/Xinhua

Seminar on Beijing-HK economic cooperation opens in Beijing

BEIJING, 26 Oct— The seventh seminar and fair on economic cooperation between Beijing and Hong Kong opened here Thursday to probe new opportunities of cooperation between the two sides.

Participants to the seminar believed that the cooperation should be based on the framework of the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) signed between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) and the Chinese central government.

More than 700 officials, scholars, experts and entrepreneurs from Beijing and Hong Kong attended the two-day seminar.

Acting Mayor of Beijing Wang Qishan said both Beijing and Hong Kong hold very important strategic positions for the general economic development in China. Economic and in-

dustrial specialties in the two cities lay solid foundation for the bilateral exchange and cooperation, he added.

Hong Kong SAR Financial Secretary Henry Tang Ying-yen said that the signing of CEPA offers a historical opportunity for economic and trade development for both Hong Kong and the Mainland. He expressed hope that Beijing and Hong Kong will take the opportunity to expand bilateral cooperation.

Beijing expects to invite 9.7 billion US dollars of investment for 177 projects listed at the fair, which are involved in infrastructure, hi-

tech, manufacturing, real estate and tourism areas.

By August this year, Hong Kong had set up 6,789 enterprises in Beijing with 17.26 billion US dollars of contractual investment, making Hong Kong the largest overseas investor in Beijing.

And the number of enterprises set up by Beijing in Hong Kong had reached 38, involving 42.76 million US dollars in total investment.

In 2002, the trade volume between Beijing and Hong Kong reached 1.67 billion US dollars. Hong Kong is Beijing's third largest trade partner.

MNA/Xinhua

GE sees China global production centre

BEIJING, 26 Oct — General Electric (GE) has announced that it will make China its global production centre, with its purchase and sales volumes in the country reaching 5 billion yuan each by 2005.

As part of its global strategy to enhance China's status, GE has established an industrial park for medical system in the Beijing Economic and Technological Development Zone, which has cost the group 26 million dollars in direct investment. "It represents a landmark investment by GE in China," said Chen Zhi, president of GE Medical System China.

The park, which covers medical equipment R&D, manufacturing sales and after-sales service, will take up one third of GE's CT scanner equipment production, making China third only to the United States and Japan in CT scanner manufacturing.

China, together with Japan and India, has already

become the company's most important Asian market, and is expected to become its largest market in 10 years. GE is also ambitious to enhance its purchase and sales volumes as chief executive officer Jeff Immelt believed "China is the world's fastest-growing economy." Immelt said that GE was prepared to expand in China through three fundamental business strategies, namely, stepping up localization from production to after-sales service to win customers, improving local manufacturing facilities and caring more about cultivating a talent pool.

It is GE's objective, stressed Immelt, to make GE in China a localized company and an important part of GE. — MNA/Xinhua

China sees soaring grain prices this year

BEIJING, 26 Oct— China has, for the first time in the past six years, seen its grain prices soaring on the whole this year, which signified a vital change in domestic food supplies and demands.

Official statistics show that recent prices for paddy rice in east China's Anhui Province reached 1,050 yuan per ton, up 80 to 120 yuan over the same period last year.

The purchase price for wheat in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province rose by 32 per cent to 1,100 yuan per ton. The maize price in Hebei and Shandong provinces also went up by 50 to 70 yuan per ton.

MNA/Xinhua

WFP appeals for \$17m to help Tanzania

GENEVA, 26 Oct— The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) on Wednesday appealed to the international community for 17 million US dollars to help feed nearly two million people battling to stave off the effects of severe drought in central and northern Tanzania.

The WFP said more than half of Tanzania's 34 million people live on less than one US dollar per day. Compared to a normal year, food and cash crop production in the drought-affected areas has fallen by 30 to 50 per cent, seriously damaging the food security and incomes of the poorest farmers who depend almost entirely on subsistence agriculture.

"The WFP's assistance will dovetail with the Tanzanian Government's action plan to feed the most vulnerable people between December and the end of March next year," WFP country director Nicole Menage said.

"However, we only have

a small window of opportunity in which to get food aid positioned in time for the leanest months to support those worst affected by the drought," he added.

The WFP said compounding the effects of the drought is the HIV/AIDS pandemic which has played a significant role in reducing Tanzania's agricultural productivity as well as undermining the coping strategies of affected populations.

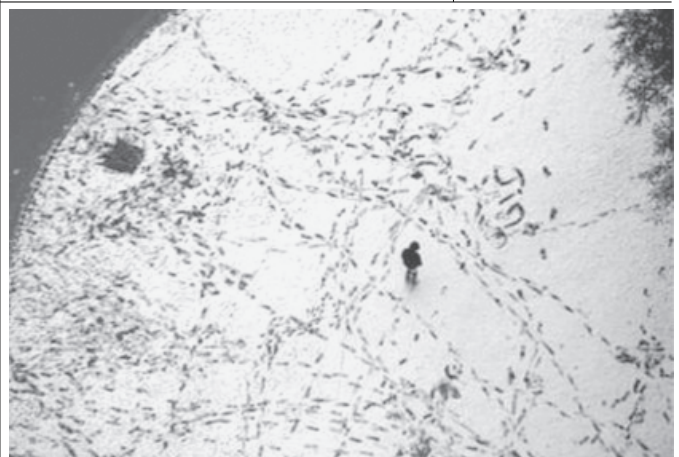
Tanzania has an adult HIV prevalence rate of about 12 per cent and there are more than 800,000 children who have been orphaned by AIDS. The WFP plans to feed two million people over

a six-month period starting in December, by providing 45,000 tons of food.

The WFP has also joined forces with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to provide seed to all those receiving food aid, thereby creating a "food for farming" package that will help optimize production levels in the next farming season.

"Today's appeal assumes that the short-rain harvest in February 2004 will be at near normal levels," Menage said. "If this is not the case, then there could be an increased need for food aid in the worst-affected areas."

MNA/Xinhua



A man walks among foot prints in the snow covered Olympic park in Munich, on 24 October, 2003. Overnight snowfalls in southern Germany caused traffic problems as Bavaria was covered with more than 15 centimetres of snow. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Malaga claim narrow win over Zaragoza

MADRID, 26 Oct—Malaga survived a late fightback from Real Zaragoza to claim a 2-1 home win in the Primera Liga on Saturday.

A near-post header from Litos in the 28th minute and a Salva Ballesta penalty in the final minute of the first-half gave the home side a comfortable lead going into the break.

Zaragoza hardly created a chance in the second period before Goran Drulic reduced the arrears with two minutes left of normal time.

The visitors poured forward but the Malaga defence came through a couple of nervous moments to secure a victory that takes them up to 10th place.

League leaders Valencia are away to second-placed Deportivo Coruna in the highlight of the weekend's programme later on Saturday.

MNA/Reuters



Alex Corretja of Spain returns a shot during the quarter-final match against Sebastien Grosjean of France at the St Petersburg Open tennis tournament, on 24 October, 2003. Corretja won 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (5). —INTERNET

Chievo climb after win at Empoli

MILAN, 26 Oct—A superbly taken goal from Brazilian striker Amauri gave Chievo Verona a 1-0 win at Empoli on Saturday to put them level with Parma in fourth place in Serie A.

Amauri's volley from a Franco Semioli cross on the hour was all that separated the sides in a tight contest which ended with Empoli's fifth defeat from seven games leaving them next to bottom. — MNA/Reuters

Deportivo beat Valencia to move top in Spain

MADRID, 26 Oct—Deportivo Coruna carved out a 2-1 win at home to Valencia on Saturday to bring an end to the last unbeaten record in the Primera Liga and replace the 2002 champions at the top of the table.

Reigning champions Real Madrid took advantage of Valencia's defeat to move up to second, a classy Zinedine Zidane volley and two late goals from Raul earning them a 3-1 home win over Racing Santander despite a generally unimpressive performance.

With eight games played, Deportivo lead the standings with 21 points, followed by Real Madrid and Valencia on 19.

While Real produced only flashes of their best form against Racing at a rainswept Bernabeu, Deportivo clinched victory over Valencia with arguably their best

performance of the season.

Juan Carlos Valeron hooked in their opener from close range after 14 minutes — the first goal Valencia had conceded in the league since their opening-day 1-1 draw against Valladolid.

Valencia hit back with a Mista strike after 74 minutes, the former Real Madrid B forward converting a David Albelda cross, but Diego Tristan crashed in a free kick five minutes later to give Deportivo the points.

Real Madrid, missing injured England captain David Beckham, were second best to Racing for all but the final quarter-hour, when the visi-

tors ran out of steam.

"You have to know how to suffer in order to win," said relieved Real coach Carlos Queiroz.

"We played with intelligence, patience and a lot of sacrifice."

Most teams this season have come to the Bernabeu with a damage limitation exercise in mind but Racing took the game to Real from the start.

With Fernando Moran, Rodolfo Bodipo and Yossi Benayoun in eye-catching form, Racing carved the Real defence apart repeatedly, only for poor finishing to let them down.

Their goal came just past the quarter-hour when Moran ran with the ball across the front of the Real area and picked out Benayoun in the centre who turned and fired past Iker Casillas.

A Casillas flap from a corner almost led to a second Racing goal but the Real defence scrambled the ball clear.

Racing passed the ball better than their illustrious opponents and created a string of chances but they failed to extend their lead and paid the price in the 27th when Zidane produced a precise volley from Ronaldo's cross.

MNA/Reuters

Fulham topple Man United as Chelsea go top

LONDON, 26 Oct—Champions Manchester United crashed to a sensational 3-1 home defeat by Fulham, while Chelsea went top with a 1-0 victory over Manchester City in a pulsating day of Premier League action on Saturday.

Lee Clark gave Fulham a third minute lead, Diego Forlan levelled for United just before the break but second-half goals from Steed Malbranque and substitute Junichi Inamoto gave the west Londoners their first win over United since 1964.

Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink scored Chelsea's first-half winner to put them top on goals scored but level on 23 points with Arsenal, who play at Charlton Athletic on Sunday. United stay third on 22 points.

Elsewhere, Wolverhampton Wanderers produced an amazing comeback to beat Leicester City 4-3 after trailing 3-0 at the break, Liverpool ended a three-match losing streak by beating Leeds United 3-1 and Newcastle United's revival continued with a 3-0 win over Portsmouth.

But aside from Wolverhampton, the place to be for drama was clearly Manchester.

United, who had not conceded a goal at Old Trafford all season and had not lost at home in the league since September 2002, went in to the game as runaway favourites.

But they were rocked by Clark's early goal after a slip by Mikael Silvestre and were saved by the crossbar before Uruguayan Forlan levelled with his first goal since January.

Forlan squandered further chances in the

second half and United paid the price when Malbranque, who signed a contract extension on Friday, scored in the 66th minute. Inamoto made sure of the win in the 79th, when the Japan midfielder pounced on some slack defending to steer the ball past keeper Tim Howard.

Chelsea had Dutch striker Hasselbaink to thank for their win at Stamford Bridge as they bounced back from last weekend's derby defeat by Arsenal.

Michael Owen and substitutes Danny Murphy and Florent Sinama-Pongolle scored the goals that gave Liverpool their first league win since September 20 and ease the pressure on manager Gerard Houllier.

"I think they knew it was an important game for everyone who loves the club and I'm pleased because in terms of effort and football they delivered something special," Houllier told Sky Sports.

As for fielding Owen, who played the first half on his comeback from injury before being replaced by French teenager Sinama-Pongolle, Houllier said: "There was no risk, otherwise I would not have played him. 'Michael is a vital player for us, we know that, he gave a boost probably to the whole team and also maybe to himself.'"

MNA/Reuters

Stuttgart extend unbeaten run to recapture lead

BERLIN, 26 Oct—VfB Stuttgart recaptured the lead in the Bundesliga by extending their unbeaten run to 10 games with a 1-0 win over VfL Wolfsburg on Saturday.

Substitute striker Ioannis Amanatidis hit the winner in the 74th minute to send Stuttgart two points ahead of previous leaders Bayer Leverkusen, who entertain Borussia Moenchengladbach on Sunday.

Three days after a 2-0 win over Panathinaikos took them to the top of their Champions League group, Stuttgart pleased their fans with another victory but were made to work hard and needed a couple of crucial saves from goalkeeper Timo Hildebrand "I'm satisfied with the result but not with our performance," said Stuttgart coach Felix Magath.

"We were a bit lucky to win this one. Wolfsburg were very aggressive in midfield and would have deserved a draw."

Two goals from prolific Brazilian striker Ailton helped Werder Bremen win 4-2 at SC Freiburg to move into third, level on points with second-placed Leverkusen.

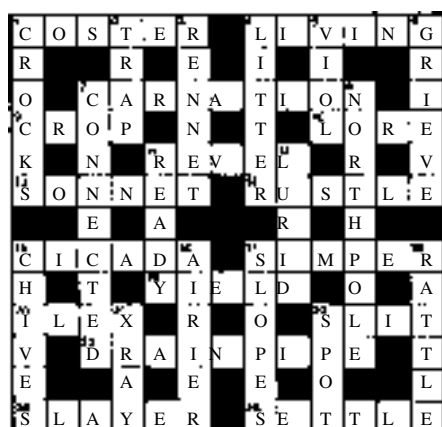
Werder, who lost the lead when they were beaten 3-1 by Stuttgart last weekend, bounced back to record their fourth victory from five away games.

Germany midfielder Sebastian Deisler and Dutch striker Roy Makaay both struck twice to present Bayern with a 4-1 win over Kaiserslautern that lifted the champions one place to fourth, three points off the pace.

Kaiserslautern were 3-0 down when Germany striker Miroslav Klose scored their goal in the 78th minute, two minutes after having a penalty saved by Bayern goalkeeper Oliver Kahn.

"We made too many mistakes and gave away possession far too often," said Bayern coach Ottmar Hitzfeld, who paid tribute to Deisler, back at his best after fighting injury worries.

MNA/Reuters

Answers for yesterday's Cross Puzzle

Aerial view of SL Benfica's new soccer stadium shot on 14 October 2003 in Lisbon. The new Luz stadium which can seat 65,000 and cost 120 million euros (142 million dlrs), will be inaugurated on Saturday, 25 October. The venue will host the final of the Euro 2004 European soccer championships to be held in Portugal in 2004. —INTERNET



Prime Minister inspects reclamation of Cultivable Lands in Mebaung Naunglon Creek region in Hpa-an District.—MNA



22-member Ava group of tourists from Germany being welcomed at Yangon International Airport.—H & T

22 tourists arrive by chartered flight

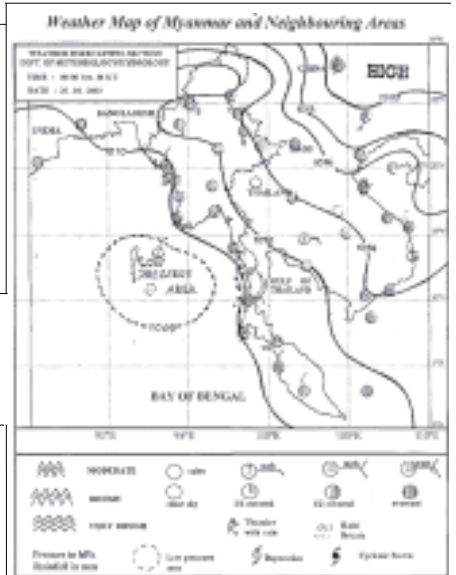
YANGON, 26 Oct — Under the supervision of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, sponsored by the Ministry of Transport, and with the arrangement of Yangon Airways and Asian Trails Tour Ltd, 22 tourists from Germany arrived here this afternoon by chartered flight of Yangon Airways.

Officials of YA and Asian Trails Tour Ltd and cultural troupes welcomed them at the Yangon International Airport. During their stay in Myanmar, the tourists are due to visit Yangon, Heho, Inlay, Nyaungshwe, Popa and Bagan. On 30 October, they will leave for Phuket, Thailand.—MNA

Earthquake report

(Issued at 22:30 hours MST on Today)

An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.7) Richter Scale with its epicenter about (1200) miles northeast of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at (19)hrs (16) min (02) sec MST on 25th October 2003.



WEATHER

Sunday, 26 October, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin, Mon States, Magway, Bago Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in upper Sagaing, Tanintharyi Divisions and isolated the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Mawlaik (1.57) inches.

Maximum temperature on 25-10-2003 was 34.5°C (94°F). Minimum temperature on 26-10-2003 was 21.5°C (71°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 26-10-2003 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 25-10-2003 was (9.0) hours approx. Rainfall on 26-10-2003 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 2202 mm (86.68 inches) at Yangon Airport, 2315 mm (91.14 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 2381 mm (93.74 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from East at (15:30) hours MST on 25-10-2003.

Bay inference: According to the observation at (09:30)hrs MST today, the low pressure area over Gulf of Thailand has move into the Southeast Bay of Bengal. It is likely to move Northwest ward and may intensify further into a depression. Weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 27-10-2003: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be widespread in Kachin, Rakhine States, Upper Sagaing Division and isolated to scattered in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Moderate to rough seas are likely off and along Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, Mon-Taninthayi Coast and surface wind speed may reach (30) mph. Seas will be slight to moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of thundery conditions in lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 27-10-2003: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 27-10-2003: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Untimely Rainfall warning

(Issue at 11:30 am on 26th October, 2003)

According to the observation at (09:30) hrs MST today low pressure area over Gulf of Thailand has moved into the Southeast Bay of Bengal. It is likely to move Northwestwards and may intensify further into a depression.

Under this influence, scattered rain are likely in Rakhine State, Ayeyarwady and Bago Divisions during the next (48) hours commencing noon today.

ကောသလသမ္မတကြိမ် (၁၁ ကြိမ်) ဖြစ်မည့်အခါ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆင့် အကဲ အခန်း အခန်းကြည့်ပွဲ ဖြစ်ပွဲကျင်းပရေး ဆောင်ရွက်မည့်အခါ ဖြစ်ပွဲ အစီအစဉ်ရေးသား

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View today:

Monday, October 27

7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Oaktamathara

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. Song of national races

8:00 am

6. အတီးမြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

7. Cute little dancers

8:20 am

8. ကျင်းပသောနေ့ရောက်တံခွန်

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Let's Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold

National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in reading

4:45 pm

4. Musical programme

5:00 pm

5. အဆင့်မြင့်တက်ရေးအတွက်

ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ

- တတိယနံပါတ် (သတ္တမအဆင့်)

5:10 pm

6. Dance variety

5:25 pm

7. မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ တေးဂီတ ကျော်လက်

5:35 pm

8. Strong and healthy

Myanmar

5:45 pm

9. Musical Programme (The

Radio Myanmar Modern

Music Troupe)

6:00 pm

10. နတ်ပန်ချီအလား ဧရာဝတီမြစ်ကူး

တံတား

6:15 pm

11. Discovery

6:30 pm

12. Evening news

7:00 pm

13. Weather report

7:05 pm

14. Milo success in soccer

7:20 pm

15. Musical programme

7:25 pm

16. သားငါးစုံဖြူ ပြည့်အကျိုး

7:40 pm

19. နိုင်ငံအဝန်း သင်တန်းအဖွဲ့

နိမ့်လမ်းနေရမည်

8:00 pm

18. News

19. International news

20. Weather report

23. ၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်၊ စတင်သောအကြိမ်

(၁၁ ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု

အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးမြိုင်ပွဲ

24. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတံခွန်

"မေတ္တာပျာသည့်" (အပိုင်း-၃)

26. The next day's

programme



Monday, October 27

Tune in today:

8:30 am

Brief news

8:35 am

Music

8:40 am

Perspectives

8:45 am

Music

8:50 am

National news/Slogan

9:00 am

Music

9:05 am

International news

9:10 am

Music

1:30 pm

News/Slogan

1:40 pm

Lunch time music

-Friend (Paul Slade)

-Oh yes (Whitney Houston)

9:00 pm

Spotlight on the star

"Jennyfer Lopez"

9:15 pm

Article

9:25 pm

Radio Magazine/Drugs

Elimination/Women's

affairs

-The best mean to

eliminate poppy fields

(Tin Maung Than)

9:25 pm

Vocal Gems/Golden

Land's Melody

-Another day in

paradise (Phill Collins

- Cuto both may

(Gloria Estefan)

9:45 pm

News/Slogan

10:00 pm

PEL



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye formally unveils the stone inscription of Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge.—MNA

For Taninthayi Division to become oil bowl of the nation, national entrepreneurs have put 80,000 acres of land under oil palm

(from page 1)

Taninthayi Division is developing year by year due to the building of infrastructures in the transportation sector such as new roads and bridges, extension of flights after renovating Myeik and Kawthoung airports and constructing Ye-Dawei railroad.

As regards the agriculture sector, although the division has not achieved rice sufficiency, paddy cultivation in the region has increased year by year. There were only over 190,000 acres of paddy in the division in the previous decade but now there are over 270,000 acres. Therefore, it can be

seen that 80 percent of rice sufficiency has been achieved.

Under the project implemented for the division to become the oil bowl of the nation, the national entrepreneurs have put 80,000 acres of land under oil palm. Efforts are being made for extended cultivation of oil palm and building bran oil mill.

Similarly, plans for extended cultivation of rubber meet with success.

The fishery sector, the promising one in Taninthayi Division, has developed with momentum. Apart from

(See page 8)

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects tyre and rubber factory, construction projects of university, technological college, land reclamation works in Hpa-an

YANGON, 26 Oct.—Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by ministers, the Chief-of-Staff (Navy), deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, left here by helicopter and arrived at No-1 Tyre and Rubber Factory of the Ministry of Industry-2 in Thaton industrial region at 8.30 am today.

The Prime Minister was welcomed there by Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Brig-Gen Myint Soe of Thaton Station, Commander of No 44 LID Col Thet Naing Win, local authorities, the managing director of Myanmar Tyre and Rubber Industries and officials.

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin reported to the Prime Minister on location of heavy industries of the ministry and products, measures taken for boosting production, products supplied to other ministries and prices, salient points, products, and tasks for boosting production of No 1 Tyre and Rubber Factory.

Managing Director U Oo Zun of MTRI reported to the Prime Minister on organizational set-up of MTRI, location, area, technology, technical assistance, and investment of the factory, production of tyres at the factory, production to fulfill the market demand, production of

tyres for vehicles, light trucks, heavy trucks, power tillers and bicycles, arrangements for producing radial tyres.

After hearing reports, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions. He said that with the development of the State, demand of various kinds of tyres would increase in proportion with the increase in use of different vehicles. Systematic plans to fulfil the demand of tyres with the local production and measures for the emergence of an import substitute industry must be carried out in cooperation with national entrepreneurs. Arrangements must also be made for estab-

lishing rubber plantations of the ministry.

Next, the Prime Minister and party viewed round the production process of the factory and inspected tyres produced by the factory.

Later, the Prime Minister and party arrived at Hpa-an in Kayin State. Commander of No 22 LID Brig-Gen Ngwe Thein, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Cho Tun Aung and officials welcomed the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister and party proceeded to the construction site of Hpa-an University. Pro-rector U Saw Han Shein, professors, associate professors,

heads of departments and teachers welcomed the Prime Minister.

Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt reported to the Prime Minister on background history, courses, specialization, and number of students and teaching staff of the university, opening of IT rooms installed with 65 sets of computers, and teaching and management affairs; Chairman of Yuzana Construction Group U Htay Myint on blueprints, architectural designs of the buildings of the university, completion of the three-storey main building, two-storey lecture rooms, Block-A and

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

Block-B, water and electricity supply and greening tasks; the director of Kayin State Development Affairs Department on extension of the entrance road and

upgrading tasks of the university; and Kayin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Cho Tun Aung on

(See page 9)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects No 1 Tyre and Rubber Factory in Thaton Industrial Region in Mon State.—MNA