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Kathina robes offered to members of the Sangha

YANGON, 29 Oct—Under the patronage of Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein and wife Daw Htwe Htwe Nyunt, the families of Defence Service (Air) held a communal Kathina robes offering ceremony at the Yeiktha in Mingaladon at 5.30 am today.

The ceremony was graced by the attendance of Sayadaw of Thukhitayama Monastery of Shwepyitha Township Sangha Nayaka Committee (Shwekyin) Bhaddanta Panā Cakka and members of the Sangha. Also present on the occasion were the

Commander-in-Chief and wife, senior military officers and their wives, officers and other ranks and their family members.

The Sayadaw invested the congregation with the Five Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited the parittas.

Commander-in-Chief Maj-Gen Myat Hein and wife and senior military officers and their wives presented Kathina robes and offertories to members of the Sangha, followed by sharing of merits gained. After the ceremony, "soon" was offered to members of the Sangha. —MNA

Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee meets

YANGON, 29 Oct—The 105th meeting of Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee was held at the meeting hall of Road Administration Department on Thanthumar Road in Thingangyun Township this afternoon.

Present were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and

Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee Vice Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe and members, chairmen and members of various subcommittees, heads of departments and guests.

In his address, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe said the Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee is carrying out its tasks in cooperation with Yangon Division Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport.

Traffic rules enforcement measures are to be undertaken in accord with the international standard while the development tasks are being carried out, he said.

Being the capital of the country, it links all states and divisions. As a result, it is necessary to undertake the traffic rules enforcement tasks widely, he said.

The commander said arrangements are being made to become Yangon as a clean, pleasant and beautiful garden

city.

He spoke at length on success of the committee after it was formed in 1989, designating horn-free zones in 25 townships in Yangon Division, opening of driving training schools to produce skilled drivers, observing traffic rules and reducing road accidents.

Chairman of Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee Vice Adjutant-General Brig-Gen Hla Shwe reported on future tasks.

Joint Secretary of the committee Police Lt-Col Aung Naing reported on measures undertaken from August to 25 October 2003.

The commander and those present took part in the discussions.

MNA

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Writer Maung Htin wins Life-long National Literacy Award

YANGON, 29 Oct—The National Literacy Award Scrutinizing Committee under the Ministry of Information presented National Literacy Award to U Htin Fatt (Maung Htin) as a gesture of recognizing his brilliant life-long writing career which did contribute to the interest of Myanmar literature. The Award will be presented to him at the award presentation ceremony of National Literacy Award to be held at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street here on 23 November 2003.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe makes an address at Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee Meeting. —MNA

11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continue

YANGON, 29 Oct—The 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the 16th day at the designated places here today.

The competitions were attended by Members of the Panel of Patrons of the Committee for Holding the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee for holding the competitions Deputy

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Tin Kha, officials of work committees and subcommittees, foreign tourists and enthusiasts.

The song contest continued at the National Museum on Pyay Road at 9 am today. Chairperson of the Panel of Judges for Song Competitions Assistant Director Daw

Tin Tin Mya of MRTV, Secretary Assistant Engineer Daw May Pyone Khaing and members made judgements on the performance at the song contest.

A total of twelve contestants participated in the professional level Dhammapuza song contest for men, and 16 contestants basic education level old/modern song contest for girls (aged 10-15).

The professional level Maha Gita song contest for women, and basic education

level Maha Gita song contest for men (age 15-20) will be held tomorrow.

The mandolin contest continued at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street today. Leader of the Panel of Judges for the mandolin contest U Nyo Gyi and members made judgements on the performance of the contestants. A total of six contestants participated in the professional level mandolin contest for men, one contestant in the professional

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A contestant at basic education level old/modern song contest (girls, aged 10-15)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 30 October, 2003

Better health care services,
key to all-round national
development

The Government, in its drive for the Union of Myanmar to be able to keep abreast with the development of other nations of the world, chiefly relies on the united strength and active participation of the people. Therefore, the government embodied health and fitness of all the national people in its social objectives and is accordingly taking systematic measures for promoting health care services.

Included in the promotion of health care services are the opening of new clinics and hospitals and the upgrading of the existing ones. Since 1988, a total of 140 new general and specialist hospitals has been built. The opening of a new general hospital (200-bed) was held in Myeik, Taninthayi Division, on 25 October and Vice Senior General Maung Aye, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army), attended the ceremony.

The new hospital was built at a cost of over K 4,000 million and 24 specialists, 22 assistant surgeons and 64 nurses will take care of health care services for the local people. Up to 1988 in Taninthayi Division, there were 65 hospitals and 185 rural health care centres but now the number of hospitals has increased to 72 and that of rural health care centres to 194.

Making investment in the health sector being very important for the all-round development of the nation, the Ministry of Health has been spending more and more money on the improvement of health infrastructure.

With the aim of paving the way for parallel development of various regions across the Union, the Government has designated 24 development regions and Dawei and Myeik regions of Taninthayi Division are among them. A university, a technological college, a computer college and a 200-bed hospital are being built in each development region.

We believe that the entire national people will have an equal chance to enjoy the benefits of better health care services and thus they will be able to enthusiastically lend themselves to national development endeavours.

Myanma Fishery & Livestock Fair
holding Central Committee meets

YANGON, 29 Oct — Meeting of the Central Committee for holding of Myanmar Fishery and Livestock Fair-2003 was held this morning at Yangon Trade Centre on Upper Pazundaung Road. The fair will be held from 31 October to 4 November at the centre. At the meeting, Commerce Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone explained the purpose of the fair. Chairmen of the work committees and officials reported on tasks being undertaken by sector-wise. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the commerce minister. — MNA



MBF President U Maung Maung Swe presents cash award of K 200,000 to best player award (girl) winner Ma Phu Pwint Zan (Sangyoung BEHS-2). — NLM

Kathina robes
offered

YANGON, 29 Oct — The families of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board held its 15th Kathina robe-offering ceremony at its office on Strand Road here this morning. Present on the occasion were Thiri Mingala Sarthintaik of Hline Township Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sumana, members of the Sangha, CSSTB Chairman Dr Than Nyun, members of the CSSTB U Nyunt Swe, U Aung Myint, U Hla Myint Oo and U Kaung Nyunt, directors-general of departments under the CSSTB, rectors and others.

Kathina robes and provisions were offered to the Saydaw and members of the Sangha on the occasion. Afterwards, the congregation shared the merits gained from good deeds and closed the ceremony with three-time recitation of *Buddha Sasanan Ciramtiithatu*. — MNA

CSSTB Chairman Dr Than Nyun offers kathina robes to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein and wife present offertories to a Sayadaw. (News on page 1) — PUPR



Measures for accelerating development affairs tasks coordinated

YANGON, 29 Oct — The Development Affairs Department held a work coordination meeting for speeding up its tasks at the DAD in Thanlyetsun Street, Botahtaung Township, on 27 October afternoon, with an address by Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Than Tun and Col Tin Ngwe, departmental heads and deputy superintending engineers.

In his address, the minister said that the development affairs committees have been implementing rural development tasks for equitable development. They are now involved in the projects for water supply for all villages and three arid zones, and low-cost housing project. These projects are moving into top gear, and it exceeds the targets, he noted. So, it is needed to maintain the momentum. Measures are to be taken for greening and cleanliness of the towns, he said. In an attempt to construct district-to-district roads being undertaken by four divisions in the western part of Yoma, tasks are to be carried out with the use of heavy machinery for ensuring timely completion of the project. And, now is open season and construction tasks are thus to be accelerated, he pointed out.

The deputy ministers also delivered speeches on the occasion.

Director-General of the Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department

Col Than Swe and Deputy Director-General of the Education Planning and Training Department U Tin Win reported on tasks to be undertaken through cooperation of respective departments; and Managing Director of Sabin Thayayay Bank Ltd U Myo Win, on banking services and financial statements.

Next, Director-General of DAD Col Myo Myint made an assessment of the accomplishments in 2003 fiscal year.

The meeting continued for the second day session on

28 October. Directors of State/Division Development Affairs Committees and the deputy superintending engineers reported on matters related to income, conditions of the vehicles, work progress and future tasks. Regarding the reports, high ranking officials made assessments.

The meeting continued to be held for the third day this morning. Officials held a general round of discussions. Afterwards, the minister delivered concluding remarks. — MNA



Minister Col Thein Nyunt makes an address at meeting on upgrading of development tasks. — MNA

Inter-school badminton
tournament concludes

YANGON, 29 Oct — The prize presentation ceremony of Inter-school badminton tournament organized by No 3 Basic Education Department (Yangon City), Myanmar Badminton Federation and Great Wall traditional medicine enterprise was held this morning at Myoma Badminton Gymnasium.

In men's division, first and second prizes were given away to Yangon District (West) B-team and A-team respectively. In women's division, Yangon District (West) A-team and B team stood first and second respectively.

Officials also presented cash awards to the students who won the most progressive players awards and outstanding player awards.

MNA

Officials discuss holding of World
Buddhist Summit

YANGON, 29 Oct — The Work Committee and Subcommittees for the Fourth World Buddhist Summit, to be hosted by Myanmar, held a coordination meeting for successful holding of the summit at the hall of the Ministry of Religious Affairs on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here today, attended by Secretary of the Work Committee Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko and members of the work committee and subcommittees.

The deputy minister made an opening speech. Afterwards, officials of respective subcommittees reported on tasks to be carried out and future plans.

Those present on the occasion took part in the discussions and the meeting came to a close with concluding remarks by the deputy minister. — MNA

Suicide bomb kills four in Iraq; aid workers agonize

BAGHDAD, 29 Oct—A suicide bomber killed himself and at least four more people in Iraq Tuesday, as foreign aid workers agonized over whether to quit the country in the aftermath of Monday's 35-death bloodbath in Baghdad.

The latest of a wave of suicide bombers blew up his small car outside a school 100 yards from a police station in the town of Falluja west of Baghdad, in the "Sunni Triangle" where resistance to US occupation is stiffest.

US soldiers sealed off the area after the blast, which set cars ablaze and scattered body parts across the street. A bloodied corpse lay by a lamp post covered in a blue blanket.

Police initially said the bomber and four civilians had died. Hospital officials later put the toll at six, including the attacker.

Suicide bombers attacked three stations of the US-backed police force in Baghdad Monday, along with the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Police foiled an attempt to bomb a fourth police station.

Faris al-Assam, the deputy mayor of Baghdad, was killed in a drive-by shooting Sunday night, the US-led occupying coalition said Tuesday.

The ICRC's scrupulous political neutrality was no protection against a campaign of violence which seems to have been launched against not only US forces, officials and Iraqis working with them, but foreign organizations of any kind.

President Bush, seeking re-election next year amid

growing criticism of his Iraq policy, said terrorists were retaliating for US successes in Iraq.

Spokeswoman Nada Doumani said the ICRC was weighing its response to the mayhem but would not leave Iraq after 23 years of continuous work through three wars.

"Today is a day of mourning for us," she told reporters. Many ICRC staff were at the funerals Tuesday of two colleagues who were among 12 people killed outside the Red Cross offices.

In the northern city of Mosul, an Iraqi newspaper editor, Ahmed Shawkat, who had written articles criticizing radical Islamists, was found shot dead in his office in mid-morning, journalists said. His attacker or attackers escaped undetected.

Four US soldiers were wounded in two small-arms and grenade attacks in the Mosul area overnight, Sergeant Kelly Tyler, spokeswoman for the 101st Airborne Division, said.

In the normally peaceful south of the country controlled by British-led forces, a bomb wounded a coalition soldier, an Iraqi and a foreign national, a military spokeswoman said.

The US military has said foreign fighters might have been behind Monday's coordinated bombings, in which 230 people were wounded. —*Internet*

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HK, Shanghai airports sign letter of intent for closer cooperation

HONG KONG, 29 Oct — Airport Authority Hong Kong (AA) Monday signed a letter of intent with Shanghai Airport Authority to strengthen exchanges and promote closer cooperation between the two airports and cities.

The letter of intent (LoI) calls for the two airport authorities to share management experience in areas including airport safety and security management system, airport flow management, airport environment management, airport facility planning and management, as well as airport franchise business management.

Both airports will explore cooperation in airport business management, including retail, food and beverage, and advertising.

The two authorities will, in conjunction with major hubs in the Chinese Mainland, build a platform for the transfer of management experience to set in motion modernization of airport management throughout the country.

Cooperation in air cargo business is also covered in the LoI.

AA Chairman Victor Fung said the LoI was a significant milestone in extending the scope of economic and trade cooperation which would further promote the long-term development of the two cities.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese Mainland reports no SARS cases

BELING, 29 Oct—The Chinese Ministry of Health (MOH) reported no severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) cases in the 24 hours from 10:00 am Saturday to 10:00 am Sunday on the Chinese Mainland.

According to reports from all localities, there have been neither clinically confirmed nor suspected SARS cases on the Chinese Mainland since the ministry resumed daily reporting on the epidemic disease on September 19, the MOH said.

MNA/Xinhua



A car bomb exploded on 28 October, 2003, near a police station in the tense city of Falluja, Iraq, killing at least four people. —*INTERNET*

Thailand to slash import tax for neighbouring countries

BANGKOK, 29 Oct— Thailand is poised to slash import taxes on agricultural goods and raw materials from Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar in a bid to stimulate trade and investment, *Thai News Agency* reported Tuesday.

Speaking after a meeting with government ministers from Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand to determine a unified approach to sub-regional trade, Thai Commerce Minister Adisai Bodharamik said that the import tax reductions would see tariffs cut to 0-5 per cent.

The new measures will see the number of Cambodian import items subject to the reduced tariffs rise from 48 to 249, while the number from Laos will rise from 26 to 150 and the number from Myanmar from 72 to between 300 and 400, Adisai said. Import quotas for the three countries will also be increased, subject to Cabinet approval at the end of this year, he said.

The meeting also proposed that the private sectors of all four countries cooperate in the establishment of a business council, while each nation will be encouraged to set up export industrial estates.

Adisai said that the ministers of all three neighbouring countries had requested that Thailand provide financial support for infrastructure development in order to attract more foreign investment.

All these proposals will be proposed to the leaders of the four nations during a sub-regional leadership meeting on November 11-12 in the Myanmar capital of Yangon, the report said. The four ministers met here Monday to seek ways to address obstacles to sub-regional trade. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Indonesian Minister says world oil demand to decline in 2004

JAKARTA, 29 Oct — Indonesian Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro said Monday the world oil demand is predicted to decline next year, peaking at the second quarter when it will drop by two million barrels per day.

"Oil demand will drop by two million barrels per day when the spring season comes next year," he told local media here.

In the third and fourth quarters of 2004, the world oil demand is expected to meet an upturn, said Purnomo who will take over presidency of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) next year.

He said OPEC members have agreed to cut output by 500,000 bpd by November 1 to anticipate an oversupply of 1.4 million bpd in world market next year due to increasing supply in Iraq and Russia.

MNA/Xinhua

Singapore's manufacturing sector expands in September

SINGAPORE, 29 Oct— Singapore's manufacturing output in September went up by 6.3 per cent compared to the same month of 2002, a government release said here on Monday.

The increase was due to higher output from the electronics, bio-medicals, chemicals and precision engineering clusters, said the Press release published by the Economic Development Board (EDB). Output of the electronics cluster surged by 11.5 per cent year-on-year in the period propelled by the strong growth of 42.1 per cent in the semiconductor segment, said the release.

The bio-chemicals cluster recorded an increase of 11.0 per cent in the month, it said, adding the pharmaceuticals segment contributed to the growth with a rise of 13.5 per cent from fine chemicals.

The output of the chemicals and precision engineering clusters grew by 8.1 and 4.1 per cent respectively.

Cumulative manufacturing output for the first nine months this year recorded a 0.5 per cent growth over the same period last year, it said.

In view of improving demands in the global market, the Singapore Government is optimistic about an economic recovery next year, forecasting a positive growth of 3-5 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua



A pair of one-month-old white Bengal baby tigers are shown to reporters and photographers on 28 October, 2003, at the Dusit Zoo in Bangkok, Thailand. —*INTERNET*

Series of blasts rock Iraqi cities

BAGHDAD, 29 Oct.—A wave of attacks rocked cities across Iraq yesterday, a day after 43 people died in the bloodiest attack in Baghdad since US troops seized the capital.

Fallujah: At least six people, including children, were killed by a car bomb;

MOSUL: Three civilians were killed when a rocket-propelled grenade hit a police station;

TIKRIT: Insurgents opened fire last night on the southern gate of the main US military base, wounding at least one US soldier;

BAGHDAD: A missile exploded in a garden near the Babel Hotel and four people were arrested after mortar rounds were found in their car;

Violence in the capital also claimed the life of a US soldier and Baghdad's deputy mayor, according to coalition officials.

BASRA: A roadside bomb in the southern city wounded two US soldiers, an Iraqi contractor and another contractor.

KIRKUK: A US military post in the northern city was hit by five Katyusha rockets last night, Iraqi police said.

At least six severely charred and mutilated bodies lay on the ground after a pickup truck blew up about 150 metres from the police station in Fallujah, 50km west of Baghdad. Another eight people were wounded.

The attack came as police cleared the rubble after Monday's synchronised sui-

cide car bombings in Baghdad which devastated the offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross and four police stations.

Meanwhile, Arabs yesterday blamed US security failures for the latest attacks and some said the bloodbath might only prolong the presence of US troops.

"America is responsible for all deaths in Iraq. It is responsible for the emergence of gangs and thieves because the absence of leadership like Saddam's was filled with chaos and anarchy," said Palestinian taxi driver Dib el-Malek in Gaza.

"I was against the US invasion of Iraq and I believe that the US was unjust in its war on Iraq, but I think America would be even more unjust if it withdraws now from the country because it (Iraq) would be easily torn apart," said Mansour Abdullah, 51, a Saudi government employee.

Meanwhile, a US military spokesperson said it was too soon to tell if a would-be bomber captured on Monday during the suicide bombing rampage in Baghdad was Syrian. The man was apprehended when he tried to drive an explosives-packed car towards a police station in the capital's Al Jadida area. A Syrian passport was found on him. — INTERNET

ဝက်စွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Iraqi oil sales yield \$1.4b so far

UNITED NATIONS, 29 Oct.—Iraq's US administration, under fire for secrecy in its handling of Iraqi oil money, released figures on Monday showing proceeds of 1.4 billion US dollars from oil sales since Saddam Hussein's ouster.

The US-led Coalition Provisional Authority said a total of three billion US dollars had been deposited in its Development Fund for Iraq, authorized by the UN Security Council last May to hold the oil revenues and other money earmarked for reconstruction.

About 666 million US dollars had been spent from the fund, leaving a balance of 2.4 billion US dollars as of last Saturday, the CPA said in a new posting on its web site.

Some Security Council diplomats have criticized the CPA for shrouding the fund in secrecy since it was first set up in May — as an account at the US Federal Reserve Bank of New York, rather than at the Central Bank of Iraq, as specified by a council resolution.

Christian Aid, a prominent British aid agency, last week accused the CPA of failing to account for four billion US dollars to five billion US dollars in oil revenues and other money meant to go toward rebuilding the country.

Christian Aid said the CPA had not pub-

licly detailed cash flows since Saddam Hussein's ouster in April.

The CPA said the following sums had been deposited in the Development Fund for Iraq: one billion US dollars left over from the UN oil-for-food programme, which is being shut down in November; 1.4 billion US dollars from oil sales; 300 million US dollars in Iraqi funds found overseas and repatriated after the US-led war; 200 million US dollars from a US Treasury "special account", and a 120-million-US-dollar reimbursement from the UN World Food Programme for wheat repurchases.

A total of 666 million US dollars has been spent by the fund so far, including 433 million US dollars for the Finance Ministry budget, 125 million US dollars for wheat purchases, 92 million US dollars for a currency exchange programme, eight million US dollars for security equipment, six million US dollars for oil equipment and two million US dollars for electricity equipment, the CPA said.—MNA/Reuters



A British soldier guards a damaged Land Rover after a bomb exploded beside the vehicle in the southern Iraqi city of Basra, on 28 October, 2003. The blast wounded a soldier from the US-led occupying forces and two civilians, the British military said.

INTERNET

HK, Shanghai officials meet for closer ties

HONG KONG, 29 Oct. — The Hong Kong-Shanghai Economic and Trade Cooperation Conference opened here Monday morning to promote cooperation between the two engine cities of the country's development.

The meeting, attended by high-ranking officials and business leaders from the two sides, will discuss ways of enhancing trade, promoting investment, strengthening cooperation in education, science and technology, and speeding talent exchanges.

The Shanghai delegation, led by Mayor Han Zheng, arrived here Sunday for a three-day visit to Hong Kong.

Mayor Han said upon arrival that the two sides will explore overall cooperation to achieve mutual benefit and win-win situation in active and practical manners.

The delegation will hold a series of meetings aimed at finding more opportunities for closer cooperation between Shanghai and Hong Kong under the framework of the newly-signed Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement.

An agreement on cooperation between the two sides is expected to be signed at the end of the visit.

Official statistics show that by the end of June, Shanghai had ratified 30,000 overseas-funded projects, one-third of which were funded by Hong Kong businessmen. The total projects involved 69.45 billion US dollars of contractual overseas investment, one-fourth of which came from Hong Kong.—MNA/Xinhua



Seals rest on a small rocky isle. Scientists in Germany are trying to determine the impact of offshore wind stations on seals which have hearing 10 times more developed than that of humans.—INTERNET

Macao Int'l Fair ends with record number of visitors

MACAO, 29 Oct. —The 8th Macao International Fair ended here Sunday with a record number of 90,000 visitors in four days.

The fair, the largest in the Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR), drew more attention than ever this year, as the signing of the Mainland/Macao Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) this month turned the city into a spotlight.

The facilitated bilateral trade ties would reinforce Macao's role as a designated platform to bridge the Mainland's trade relation with the Western world, the Portuguese-speaking countries in particular.

MNA/Xinhua

China develops ocean medicine

HANGZHOU, 29 Oct. — China has succeeded in sending a man into space, but Chinese scientists are also looking down, into the ocean depths, to tap resources for medicine.

A state-level research programme is underway to discover how microbes survive in extreme conditions in the ocean, as part of the 863 High-Tech Programme (initiated in March 1986), the nation's priority science development plan.

The research, being carried out by Zhejiang University, in the coastal province of Zhejiang, aims to find natural bio-active substances in marine life that live in extreme environments in deep water.

Many micro-organisms thrive around thermal areas, where the temperature is well above boiling, and survive tremendous water pressure thousands of metres below the surface and huge amounts of heavy

metals. The research on the microbe's life systems and the medical benefits would produce large and profound changes in the bio-medicine industry, Yang Weijun, a marine life expert, said at the 21st Century Free Forum of Life Science in Zhejiang.

The importance of ocean resources, and medicines made from them, is coming under increasing international scrutiny. Oceans contain 80 per cent of the Earth's resources, and can provide a wide diversity of materials for medical use. Moreover, extreme deep sea conditions accommodate a lot of marine life with many pharmaceutical usages.

MNA/Xinhua

Arabs blame United States for Baghdad bloodbath

CAIRO, 29 Oct — Arabs on Tuesday saw the latest bombings in Baghdad as an unholy bloodbath. But a few said they were part of a just fight against US occupation and most agreed Washington only had itself to blame for the chaos.

They said the United States had failed to provide Iraqis with enough security to prevent the devastating suicide attacks in the capital that killed 35 people on Monday, at the start of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

"America is responsible for all deaths in Iraq. It is responsible for the emergence of gangs and thieves because the absence of leadership like Saddam's was filled with chaos and anarchy," said Palestinian taxi driver Dib el-Malek in Gaza.

Since the fall of Saddam Hussein, anger in the Arab world — where there was broad opposition to the US-led invasion — has grown with the collapse of law and order in oil-rich Iraq.

"I was against the US invasion of Iraq and I believe that the United States was unjust in its war on Iraq, but I think America would be even more unjust if it withdraws now from the country because it (Iraq) would be easily torn apart," said Mansour Abdullah, 51, a government employee in Saudi Arabia.

Others were keener to see the end of the US-led occupa-

tion that many view as a thinly veiled act of colonialism. They feared Monday's bombings, which included an attack on the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Baghdad, would extend the US presence.

"Iraq, on the first day of Ramadan, was the scene of a bloodbath and occupation forces are directly responsible for this because of the instability they created in Iraq," wrote the daily *al-Khaleej*, published in the United Arab Emirates.

"The bombing which targeted a humanitarian organization... serves the occupation and extends it instead of ending it."

Many were outspoken against those who carried out the attacks that cost the lives of dozens of Iraqis and wounded 230 by targeting the Red Cross and three police stations.

"What happened yesterday in Baghdad is a crime by all measures, but it is more disgraceful than a crime: it is a deadly political mistake," wrote Lebanon's *as-Safir* daily.

"Such political mistakes help the occupation to justify its horrible crimes."

MNA/Reuters

China urged to improve emergency medical service

BEIJING, 29 Oct — Medical experts have urged China to set up a modern system of emergency medical service (EMS) to cope with disasters more efficiently.

The system should operate under unified instructions from designated government departments with integrated work by hospitals, police, the fire department, and members of the public who have been taught rescue skills, according to experts at a forum on modern disaster and emergency medicine here Monday.

Li Zonghao, chairman of the China Association of Emergency and Disaster Medicine, said the world is confronted with severe disasters, such as rampant terrorist activities, newly-emerging infectious diseases and frequent earthquakes.

"Although we cannot prevent these disasters, we can minimize damage through a highly efficient disaster emergency service," he said.

But he admitted that China faces many disasters, which are always complicated and destructive, due to the lack of rescue professionals and services.

In many regions of China, EMS is provided in hospitals without effective cooperation of fire and police departments, which caused the loss of many precious opportunities of pre-hospital medical care, he said. Compared with some developed countries, China needs to train more EMS professionals, said Wang Faqiang, chief of the General Hospital of the Chinese People's Armed Police Forces.

Li, also a member of the World Association for Emergency and Disaster Medicine, researched the first-aid system used by the United States.

MNA/Xinhua

China Aerospace, New World form joint venture

HONG KONG, 29 Oct — China Aerospace Science & Technology Corp, the state-owned enterprise responsible for China's space programme, and New World Group, a Hong Kong conglomerate, announced Monday to create a joint venture through Hong Kong listed subsidiaries.

The China Aerospace New World Technology Ltd, (CANW) formed by China Aerospace International Holdings Ltd (CASIL) and New World Infrastructure Ltd. (NWI), will focus on interactive cable and satellite digital TV and the development of other satellite technologies.

CASIL and NWI have both actively pursued digital TV initiatives with the development of the unique technologies, the establishment of marketing foundation and services in select Mainland provinces.

According to the agreement, NWI contributes unique interactive digital TV technology, a cable TV network in Fujian Province, market survey, value-added

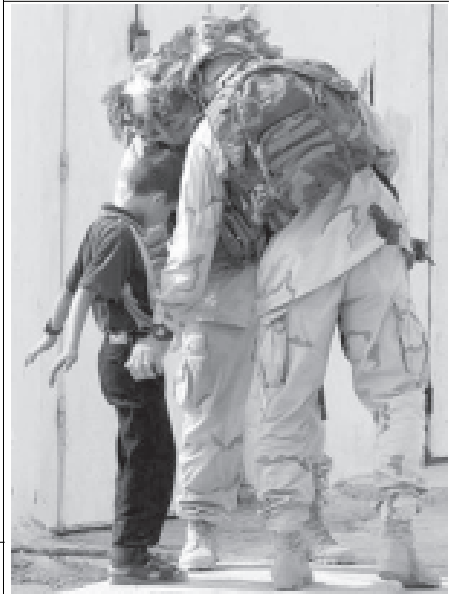
services supplications and capital markets experience to CANW.

The newly formed joint venture will initially serve the cable and satellite digital TV market in the Mainland.

Through the services of the advanced digital TV and the creation of an aggressive sales, CANW aims to substantially increase the value of its services and products.

MNA/Xinhua

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Two US Army soldiers, of Charlie company, 1-22 Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, look inside the pockets of an unidentified Iraqi boy while patrolling a street in Tikrit, 193 km (120 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 28 October, 2003. —INTERNET

Kunming-Bangkok highway project to be launched soon

BEIJING, 29 Oct — A trans-national highway linking Kunming city in southwestern China with Bangkok of Thailand will soon start construction, said Chinese Minister of Communications Zhang Chunxian on Monday.

With a total length of 1,887 kilometres, the highway will start in Kunming, capital of Yunnan Province, run through Laos and end in the Thai capital of Bangkok.

China, Laos, Thailand and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have agreed to launch the project shortly, Zhang said. China will spend about 17.25 billion yuan (2.1 billion US dollars) to build new highways or renovate old roads in Yunnan Province by 2007. China will also help Laos to build its section with loans and donations amounting to 30 million US dollars, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Smoking increases risk of multiple sclerosis

WASHINGTON, 29 Oct — Smokers are up to three times as likely to develop multiple sclerosis than nonsmokers, researchers said on Monday.

Researchers at the University of Bergen in Norway and Harvard University in Massachusetts surveyed 22,000 people aged 40 to 47 from 1997 to 1999 and found the risk of developing multiple sclerosis nearly three times higher for men who smoked and about two times higher for women smokers than for their nonsmoking counterparts.

"Cigarette smoke is a cocktail of chemicals that are potentially neurotoxins," said Alberto Ascherio, a researcher at the Harvard School of Public Health, who worked on the study.

However, when asked specifically how smoking triggers the disease, Ascherio responded, "Honestly we don't know. That is why this data is important." He said more research is needed.

The researchers found that most of the 87 people in the study who had multiple sclerosis started smoking 15 years before they developed the incurable disease. Of the multiple sclerosis patients, nearly 24 per cent had never smoked and about 76 per cent were current or past smokers.

"In order to be classified as smokers, they had to smoke at least one cigarette a day, and the number of years of smoking, in the total study population, ranged from one to 38," Trond Riise, who led the Bergen arm of the study, said in an interview conducted by email.

It was not clear why male smokers had a higher rate of MS than women, Ascherio said. The study will be published in the October 28 issue of *Neurology*, the scientific journal of the American Academy of Neurology.

"Putting all the studies together, I feel pretty confident to say that, at this point, smoking increases the risk of multiple sclerosis," Ascherio said.

Gary Franklin at the University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine in Seattle said the effect of smoking on multiple sclerosis was not extremely high.

"It's not like the relative risk of smoking and lung cancer," where people are three to five times more susceptible of getting the cancer if they smoke, he said.

MNA/Reuters

US Army troops secure a blast site outside the Baghdad headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross, on 27 October, 2003. President George W Bush on 28 October, 2003 blamed a wave of violence in post-war Iraq in part on foreign terrorists, and said he expected Syria and Iran to enforce border controls to stop infiltrators.

INTERNET



Rocket-propelled grenades kill US soldier in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 29 Oct—A rocket-propelled grenade attack Monday killed a US soldier and wounded six others in Baghdad, the US military in Iraq said Tuesday.

A spokesman said the troops from the US Army's 1st Armoured Division came under attack while destroying "improvised explosive devices" — a term the military uses to describe makeshift bombs often left by roadsides to target soldiers.

The death brought to 114 the number of US soldiers killed by hostile

fire since President Bush declared major combat over on May 1 in the war that ousted Saddam Hussein, sites as Iraqi leader.

The attack came on the bloodiest day in Baghdad since Saddam's fall in April. Four suicide bombings killed at least 35 people and wounded 230 in attacks on the International

Committee of the Red Cross and three Iraqi police stations.

Attacks by guerillas opposed to the US-led occupation in Iraq are particularly frequent in Baghdad and areas to its north and west, where Sunni Muslims predominate and support for Saddam — himself a Sunni — is strongest.

Internet

Hu's visits to Thailand, Australia, NZ a great success

BEIJING, 29 Oct—Chinese President Hu Jintao's state visits to Thailand, Australia and New Zealand are a great success, Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said.

President Hu paid state visits to the three countries from October 17 to 27, and attended the informal Economic Leaders' Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum held in Bangkok.

The visits to the three countries are the first by a Chinese head of state since 1999. Li told a group of Chinese reporters Monday in Auckland, New Zealand, during an interview at the end of the three-nation tour.

The visits are aimed at increasing understanding, enhancing friendship, broadening cooperation and fostering common prosperity, Li said, adding that Hu's 10-day visits are fruitful and a "complete success."

The visits showed to the world again that the new Chinese leadership is steadfast in furthering the reform and opening up, Li said.

During his visits, the President briefed the leaders of the three countries and public figures there about China's latest economic and social developments, the target of building a well-off society in an all-round way and the focus of China's reform and opening-up policy in the next few years.

The President expounded on China's

independent foreign policy of peace, stressing that China would pursue the policy of treating neighbours as friends and partners, maintaining long-term friendly relations with ASEAN and Oceanian countries, following the principle of mutual benefit and win-win for all, Li said.

The visits have helped deepen the three countries' understanding of China's internal and foreign policy and development trend, and expanded common ground and enhanced the friendship between them.

Hu's visits have also increased political mutual trust between China and three countries, the Chinese Foreign Minister said.

President Hu stressed that the new Chinese leadership attaches great importance to developing friendly cooperation with the three countries, Li said.

During his visits, Hu proposed that China and Thailand should develop all-round cooperation of good neighbourliness and mutual trust. He also put forward principles and blueprints for China's all-round cooperative relations with Australia and New Zealand. These have drawn positive responses from the three countries.

The leaders of the three countries spoke highly of Hu's visits—MNA/Xinhua

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A US Army soldier holds an unidentified Iraqi man by the head in Tikrit, 193 km (120 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 28 October, 2003. The man who was seen driving a motorcycle he had been warned against using was stopped. His vehicle was confiscated.—INTERNET

Singapore, Bahrain to negotiate free trade agreement

SINGAPORE, 29 Oct—Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong announced here on Monday that Singapore and Bahrain have agreed to negotiate a free trade agreement.

Goh made the announcement when kicking off the week-long Global Entrepolis Conference, which attracts some 10,000 entrepreneurs and venture capitalists from all over the world.

A Singapore-Bahrain joint statement published by the Prime Minister's Office of Singapore said that Prime Minister Goh and visiting Prime Minister of Bahrain Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa agreed in their meeting on Monday that there is great potential for the two countries to further develop their bilateral relationship.

The two prime ministers also shared the view that Bahrain and Singapore could be two nodes working together to facilitate cooperation between the Gulf Cooperation Council countries and

ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) countries, said the statement.

The two leaders agreed that their countries should enter into negotiations to conclude a free trade agreement, which would have "a catalytic effect" in encouraging further economic cooperation between the two regions, it said.

The statement added that the two prime ministers also agreed to commence negotiations on the Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement.

On the situation in Iraq, they stressed the importance of the international community's support for Iraq's reconstruction and expressed the hope for the early integration of Iraq into the international community, it said.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese Premier inspects Three Gorges reservoir area

BEIJING, 29 Oct—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao underlined economic development in the Three Gorges reservoir area, the relocation of migrants, environmental protection and construction quality of the reservoir during his inspection of the reservoir area on October 24-26.

Wen visited the new residential areas for people resettled from the reservoir area, calling for efforts to promote economic growth and create jobs for the residents from Hubei Province and Chongqing Municipality.

Government departments involved should step up efforts to facilitate environmental protection and pollution control, he said, calling for substantial efforts to guard against natural disasters and improve water pollution treatment as well as ensure the quality of the reservoir project.

MNA/Xinhua

Deaths from lung-destroying disease underestimated

LONDON, 29 Oct—A disease that destroys the lungs and is already a leading cause of death worldwide kills more people than previously thought, British scientists said on Tuesday.

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which includes chronic bronchitis and emphysema, kills an estimated 2.9 million people each year, according to the World Health Organization.

But researchers in London said the real death toll could be much higher.

"We already know that COPD is quite an important cause of death worldwide but it could be more important than we thought previously because it is contributing to a whole host of other deaths," Dr Anna Hansell, of Imperial College School of Medicine, said in an interview.

Every year 27,000 people in England and Wales die from COPD. But when Hansell and her colleagues studied death

certificates from 1993-1999 they found that COPD was linked to an additional 18,000 deaths.

"Looking at all deaths to which COPD contributed, there were approximately 45,000 per year—a figure that is two-thirds higher than the official one," Hansell said, who reported her findings in the *European Respiratory Journal*.

"This effect is likely to apply to other countries," she added. Smoking is the leading cause of COPD. A smoker is 10 times more likely to die of COPD than a non-smoker. The illness begins with a persistent cough and increased mucus. It eventually leads to fatigue, shortness of breath and difficulty breathing as the lungs are destroyed.—MNA/Reuters



An artist's rendition of the proposed international space station as it will look upon completion which is scheduled for 2003. Key members of Congress told NASA in a letter made public to delay the launch of its project for a new spacecraft to carry gear and astronauts to the International Space Station.—INTERNET

Simpluter

COMMON MAN'S COMPUTER

The Following article by Radha Krishna Rao is a reproduction from India Perspectives of September 2003 — Ed

India's excellence in the Information Technology (IT) sector has been recognised the world over. Against this backdrop the development of a common man's computer called "Simpluter" by a team of researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISC) in Bangalore is expected to reduce the "digital divide" in the country. According to Dr Murli Manohar Joshi, Minister for Human Resources Development and Science and Technology, this low cost portable device is expected to be of immense use in reaching the benefits of IT to common man by allowing simple interface, based on "audio and touch", to ensure that even a simpleton can handle computers. The Simpluter, which is planned to carry a price tag of US dollars 200, will find utility in a diverse range of sectors - from micro banking and large data collection to agricultural information and as a school laboratory. Dr. Swami Manohar, leader of the IISC team which developed Simpluter, a no-profit trust has been floated to promote the technology not as an end product but as an evolving platform.

According to Vinay Deshpande of the Bangalore-based Encore Software, which will provide software solutions for the functioning of Simpluters, there has been a phenomenal response to this device from countries like Peru, Brazil, Middle East, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. "I don't know anyone else in the world who is producing a comparable sophisticated computer at a price tag of US dollars 200", said Kenneth Kenniston, Social Scientist with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in USA.

The move of the Indian IT Ministry to set up internet kiosks in various parts of India is likely to boost the market for Simpluter, the first commercial version of which is expected to be available before the end of this

year. Meanwhile India is taking steps to protect the intellectual property rights of the Simpluter.

Simple, inexpensive and multilingual Simpluter has attracted global attention for its innovative design features. The model now being readied for commercial production carries a stylus based text entry system called "tap tap" which obviates the use of keyboard. Using a specially developed software called "Dhvanit" (sound), a built-in loudspeaker speaks the text entered in Hindi, Kannada or Tamil. In another innovation it works on just three standard batteries. Voluntary agencies working in the rural areas have also evinced keen interest in this device.

On another front, Simpluter, described by Dr Joshi as IISC gift to the third world, is also designed for operation using smart cards. By inserting smart cards into Simpluter, it is possible to use it as a personal information management system. It can also be used in adult education, census operations and as a school laboratory. "The impact of these features coupled with the rich connectivity of the Simpluter can be dramatic", says Dr Swami Manohar of IISC.

Two Bangalore-based companies, Pico Peta Simpluter Pvt Ltd and Encore Software Ltd, are currently working on versions that are expected to reach the market shortly. While Pico Peta, a commercial venture promoted by the inventors of the device, will target their range at the rural and micro banking applications, Encore Software will focus on areas like e-governance and sales force automation. Both the companies have licensed the product design from the Simpluter Trust to manufacture the product.

Encore expects to sell around 100,000 units of Simpluter in the first year and hopes to touch a figure of 350,000 over the next three years.

The author is a noted freelance writer on scientific subjects.

Commander inspects No 1 Bayintnaung Transit

YANGON, 29 Oct — Chairman of the Leading Committee for the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council, Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by Deputy Commander Col Wai Lwin, Commander of No 3 Military Region Col Tint Hsan and officials, inspected the No 1 Bayintnaung Transit, where contestants put up, this afternoon.

At the meeting hall, the commander met with officials of respective work committees and subcommittees and team managers from states and divisions. He gave instructions to them and attended to the requirements.

The commander, after inspecting the dining hall and hostels, spoke words of encouragement to the contestants and left there in the evening. — MNA

Commander inspects agriculture and livestock breeding tasks in Mawlamyine District

YANGON 29, Oct — Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, accompanied by departmental officials, attended a ceremony to harvest monsoon paddy, to cultivate second crop and to demonstrate pilot farms in Tawku Tagundaing Village in Mudon Township on 27 October morning.

After hearing reports presented by the officials, the commander viewed the harvesting of monsoon paddy with the use of machines.

Later, the commander met with local farmers at No 2 Agricultural Education Camp in Tawku Village.

Local farmers reported to the commander on requirements at the meeting. The commander fulfilled the requirements and gave instructions on striving for the development of the agriculture sector, cultivation of triple crops, and using modern farm machinery and cultivation methods. Next, the commander inspected the livestock breeding farms in the village.

Afterwards, the commander left for perennial crop plantations, water melon, pepper and fruits plantations, livestock breeding farms of the command in Tin Hlaing Village, Kyonphite Village, Ninpyaing Village in the township.

In the afternoon, the commander arrived at Hsutaungpyi Pagoda in Kyaikmayaw and inspected the renovation tasks of the pagoda. The commander gave necessary instructions to members of the pagoda board of trustees. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung enjoys the men's professional level xylophone contest. — MNA

11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing...

(from page 1)

level mandolin contest for women, five contestants in the basic education level mandolin contest for men (aged 15-20), and one contestant in the basic education level mandolin contest for women (aged 15-20).

The xylophone contests were held at the Kanbawza Theatre this morning. A total of 11 contestants participated in the professional level xylophone contest for men, and four contestants in the professional level xylophone contest for women. Leader of the Panel of Judges

U Yi Nwe and members acted as judges at the contests.

The Saing Troupe contests continued at the Padonma Theatre in Sangyoung Township. A total of four troupes participated in the professional level Saing troupe contest for women and the basic education level Saing troupe contest for women (aged 15-20), and three troupes in the basic education level Saing troupe contest for girls (aged 5-10). Panels of Judges led by U Sein Sa Tin and U Sein Hla Myaing acted as judges.

MNA



Managing Director of NPE U Tin Kha enjoys the men's professional level mandolin contest. — MNA

MWJA CEC meets

YANGON, 29 Oct — The central executive committee meeting (10/2003) of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association was held at the Sarpay Beikman Building Yesterday.

It was attended by MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Vice-

Chairmen U Than Maung (Than Maung) and U Myint Thein (Myint Thein Aung), Secretary U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay), the joint-secretaries and CEC members. At the meeting, U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), who presided over the meeting, made an opening speech, and

U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay) reported on the implementation of the resolutions of the previous meeting (9/2003).

Next, those present took part in the discussions and the meeting ended with concluding remarks by the meeting chairman. — MNA

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မြို့တက်မယ့်လမ်း။

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

"Is that so, Maung Ka Lu?" — "It's more than that"

Maung Ka Lu

(Continued from yesterday)

Grandpa: Ah, you know much about her. The KNU has been committing terrorist acts since January 2002, and till now. I am afraid, it would not be easy to collect a complete list of the KNU's acts of murders, arson and destruction. During the whole 2002 and up to September 2003, it raided and looted villages for 13 times, blew up explosives to kill and injure innocent civilians for 31 times, robbed off passenger buses for 11 times, blew up passenger buses for five times, mined roads and bridges for seven times, destroyed the natural gas pipe lines for seven times, exploded time bombs for 17 times, and torched public property and seized people for six times. The atrocities of the KNU had killed 42 people and injured 156 during the period.

Maung Ka Lu: At the press conference, Vice-Chief of Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win said that the KNU had not made any offer to come back to the legal fold at present; that with a view to ensuring peace and stability and national development and ending all the terrorist attacks, the Government would warmly welcome KNU if the latter returned to the legal fold. Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win also refuted the groundless accusations, which said that the indiscriminate felling of trees in Myanmar had damaged the natural environment and climate of the country.

Grandpa: It is somewhat like hearing jokes. It seems those persons of the west do not have anything to do. They have got much time to slander other countries. The persons from inside and outside the country who held the negative view stood up and shouted that the natural environment was destroyed due to the laying of a gas pipeline in Myanmar. These persons do not wish to see Myanmar earning more foreign exchange from exporting offshore natural gas to Thailand through the pipeline, and building more infrastructure needed for national development from the funds. Thus, they were trying to criticize the plan to lay the pipeline.

Lu: As Prime Minister Dr Mahathir of Malaysia always opposes and rejects American interferences, groups of the west under various names shouted that Malaysia was facing drought because of the indiscriminate felling of trees.

Grandpa: Over 52 percent of Myanmar's land area is covered with valuable forests. Myanmar people have upheld the tradition of forest conservation for 150 years. Nowadays, the country is conserving and protecting the forests with the use of advanced techniques and gear. Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win explained in detail the setting up of millions of acres of forest plantations in the country. The press conference also explained that Myanmar was recognized by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) as one of the six countries of the world which were achieving sustainable forest management (SFM).

Lu: Myanmar is rich in land and water resources. It will become a prosperous country, if all make ardent and energetic efforts in a peaceful and modern environment. It does not need to extend economic markets by applying the use of force, intrusions and domination.

Grandpa: That's why, the neo-colonialists and their minions are always aggressive towards us. They were feeling bad to see

Lu:

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Lu:

Myanmar achieving development in leaps and bounds despite the sanctions and disturbances. It is not strange that they under the greed, illusion and anger cannot see things in an objective way.

They are so unjust as they are criticizing and pointing a finger at us as if they had not cut any tree in setting up factories and infrastructures in their countries.

The neo-colonialists' intention of raising the forced labour issue is to bar Myanmar from using her manpower in the nation-building endeavours. The issue of human rights is an unlawful means to destroy Myanmar. In reality, they are disturbing the peoples of the world countries to prevent them from bringing peace and progress to their own nations; they are the ones that are violating the human rights and freedom of the peoples around the world. Although Myanmar is making great strides in rooting out the drug problem that is the evil legacy of the colonialists, they are saying that Myanmar fails to cooperate with them. But if the narcotic drugs can be totally wiped out from the world, millions of drugs addicts of their countries will die because of the end of drug supply. They are also groundlessly raising the issue of Myanmar soldiers' sexual violence against Shan women, as the neo-colonialists wish to drive out the Myanmar Tatmadaw members, who are guarding the nation against entering of drug traffickers into the territory, from the border areas. The peoples of Okinawa in Japan and Korea can tell them the true stories about rapes and murders of local girls.

We are now able to see their conspiracies clearer. What about the accusation concerning the indiscriminate felling of trees in Myanmar.

Our country has started her development undertakings in 1988 and 1989. Since then the neo-colonialist and their minions have been trying to hinder Myanmar's development. The neo-colonialists' policy is to give trouble to any country that defies their influence. But we can build over 160 major bridges, over 150 dams, thousands of miles of railroads and motor roads, and a large number of schools and new towns. Thus, they are imposing economic sanctions on Myanmar to make her poor. But we have built all the development infrastructures with our own resources. They cannot stop our developments.

Right, Grandpa.

So, they are trying to find the source of Myanmar's income to build the nation, and they see our forests as the main source. But our forest resources are inexhaustible, as we are growing much more trees than we have cut. Sometimes forest fires in America destroyed towns and public property. In our country there is no forest fire caused by nature or human negligence.

Grandpa, I am going to cut the bushes growing in front of my house, but I have not done yet.

Why, you can cut the bushes, if you wish. But I am afraid that BBC and VOA might shout that the global environment has been destroyed because I had cut a patch of bushes.

Is that so, Maung Ka Lu?

Its more than that.

(Concluded)

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin+Kyemon: 25 October 2003.

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

* ကော်ဖီစိုက်ပျိုးဝင်ငွေတိုး

* ကော်ဖီစိုက်လျှင်အရိပ်ပင်

ယှဉ်တွဲစိုက်ပျိုးဒေသဖွံ့ဖြိုး

လယ်ယာစိုက်ပျိုးရေးနှင့်ဆည်မြောင်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန

The best time to plant a tree was

20 years ago.

Second best time is now.

Tasks for upgrading of Kandawgyi Gardens and its environs inspected

YANGON, 29 Oct — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspected tasks for upgrading of Yangon Kandawgyi Gardens and its environs this afternoon.

The commander first inspected the site chosen for construction a high-class restaurant in the education zone. Head of Parks and Playgrounds Department of the Yangon City Development Committee U Nyunt Pe, Wood Land Co Ltd Managing Director U Win Aung, Myanma Electric Power Enterprise Managing Director Dr San Oo and officials reported on tasks to be carried out.

The commander and party proceeded to the chosen site for construction of a restaurant at Myaing Ma-



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects upgrading tasks on the environs of Kandawgyi Garden and Yangon Zoological Gardens.—MNA

lar Kyun in the central symbol zone. Officials reported on work progress and dredging of Kandawgyi Lake. The commander left necessary instructions.

Afterwards, they inspected arrangements made for building a restaurant at the orchid garden and gave instructions to the officials. — MNA



MMCWA President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe accepts K 3,120,000 donated by Chairman of Dagon International Ltd U Win Aung for two day-care nurseries. —MNA

Cash and kind donated to MMCWA

YANGON, 29 Oct — Wellwishers donated cash and kind to the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association at the multi-purpose building of MMCWA at the corner of Thanthumar and Parami Streets in South Okkalapa Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were MMCWA President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Vice-Presidents Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and Dr Kyi Soe, CEC members and wellwishers.

Dagon International Ltd Chairman U Win Aung presented K 3,120,000 for construction of two buildings in the day care nursery; Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Khin Nwe

Yee (Shwe Pazun) and family, K 1 million for giving medical treatments to cleft lip and palate patients; Daw Kyin Chein (Nawarat Shwezarmani in Taunggyi), K 500,000 and teaching aids worth K 240,600; FISCA Co Managing Director U Zaw Weik-Daw Su Su Aye, K 500,000 and teaching aids worth K 237,600; U Khin Maung Myint-Daw Wai Wai and family, K 510,000; Myanmar Medicines and Medical Equipment Traders and Entrepreneurs Association, medicines worth K 100,000 to the president, who next presented certificates of honour to them, and expressed words of thanks.

MNA

President's Office offer Kathina robes

YANGON, 29 Oct — Director-General U Tun Tun and staff families of the President's Office offered robes and provisions to ten members of Sangha at the Dhammayon in the President's House on Ahlone Road here this morning. The members of the Sangha were offered "soon".

MNA

Commander opens Kanbawza Open Golf Championship



YANGON, 29 Oct — The opening of Kanbawza Open Golf Championship, jointly organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA, was held at No 2 Defence Services Golf Course (Ayethaya Golf Course) in Taunggyi this morning.

On the occasion, golfers took positions at 10th Tee and Shan State Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Commander Col Win Myint, Executives of

MPGA and MPF U Ko Ko Lay, Regional Sales Manager U Tin Tun Oo of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd, General Manager of Kanbawza Bank (Taunggyi Branch) U San Maung and General Manager of Eden Group Co Ltd U Kyaw Soe Tun teed off the ball to open the championship.

After the first day event, Zaw Zaw Latt (Pan-West) led the championship with 70 strokes, followed by Min Naing (Srixon) with 72 and Nanda Kyaw (YCDC) with 73 and Myint Thauang (KM Golf Centre) with 74 at the professional level contest.

At the amateur level contest, Yin Aung Latt

secures the first position with 74 strokes. The runners-up are Kyaw Thiha and Aung Aung Kyaw with 76 each and Htay Aung Htay with 76.

Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd, KBZ bank, Air Mandalay, Grand Slam (Musing Wear), Loi-Hein (Alpine), K M golf Centre,

Maruman and Wilson, Canon, UPG Paint and Eden Group Co Ltd also sponsored the championship.

Han Event Management took responsibilities of the championship, which continues at the same venue tomorrow.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint tees off to mark the opening of the third leg of Myanmar Golf Tour (2003). —MGF

Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand to cooperate in tourism industry

YANGON, 29 Oct — Director-General of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism U Khin Maung Latt and representatives of tourism industries from Cambodia, Laos and Thailand held a coordination meeting for cooperation for promotion of tourism industry at Bagan Hotel in NyaungU this afternoon.

MNA

The meeting focused on launching Four Countries One Destination, spreading the wings of airlines, arrangements for trans-border travels, cultural and religious travels, Water Festival travels, promotion of tours of sister cities, doing researches on tourism industry, and conducting courses.

Myanmar delegation back from Bangladesh

YANGON, 29 Oct — Director-General of the Department of Health Dr Wan Maung, and members Director (Public Health) Dr San Shwe Win and Deputy Director (Health Education) of the Health Planning Department Dr Khin Maung Lwin attended the South Asia Conference on Sanitation held in Dhaka, the People's Republic of Bangladesh from 21 to 23 October.

At the meeting, the ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads of Myanmar, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, the Maldives, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan adopted

objectives on environmental sanitation and individual cleanliness. The meeting issued Dhaka Declaration on Sanitation.

And the leader of Myanmar delegation presented matters related to environmental sanitation, construction of fly-proof latrines, supply of clean water, tasks on individual cleanliness being carried out in Myanmar and future tasks. He also discussed successful implementation of the objectives through cooperation.

The delegation arrived back here by air on 24 October.

MNA



MWJA Chairman U Hla Myaung accepts cash donated by Wirter Daw Khin Khin Sein (Yuwadi Khin Sein Hlaing). —MNA



Ma Myat Poe Khit of Yangon Division competes at basic educational level classic/modern song contest (girls, aged 10-15).—H

The reliable Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway)

Article by Phankha Maung Maung



Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway) in Magway-Minbu region.

The State Peace and Development Council, true to its name, is making relentless efforts with added momentum around the clock to enhance the economic, agricultural, health, education, religious and social sectors.

In conformity with the market-oriented economic system, Myanmar, with its own ways and style, stands proud and tall among the world nations. Success

has been achieved in the establishment of industrial zones on a self-reliant basis across the nation.

The construction of housing estates, staff quarters and low-cost houses to ensue the higher living standard of the people; implementation of irrigation facilities for agricultural purpose, the construction of bridges, railroads and motor roads for smooth and secured transport system;

and upgrading and extension of international airports, reflect the practical steps being taken by the Government with genuine goodwill and noble attitude to the public.

The Government has made Magway Division the third capital of Myanmar. To have all the characteristics of the third capital city in Magway Division, a new medical university and a modern

airport were opened there on 1-1-2000 and on 7-6-2003 respectively. Moreover, the Institute of Health in Yangon Division was upgraded into the University of Health and moved to the third capital. Therefore, Magway Division no longer looks the same as before, but undergoes prosperity to a greater extent.

The State Peace and Development Council held the Special Projects Imple-

mentation Committee Meeting (1/99) on 2-6-1999.

According to the resolutions of the meeting, the Public Works of the Ministry of Construction, in line with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, started the construction of the Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway), which is 8,989 feet long and the longest one in Myanmar, on 20-1-2000.

Although the project was first targeted to accomplish in three years, it was completed on 7-11-2002 taking just two years, nine months and 17 days owing to the strenuous and harmonious efforts of dutiful employees, and breaking the record in the bridge construction history of Myanmar. The bridge was constructed at a cost of K 7,951 million and US\$ 8.58 million.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe himself opened the bridge on 24-11-2003. Due to the opening of the Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway), nearby areas can now be reached

at any time.

Businessmen down to vendors can now enhance their living and reap more income more easily.

After visiting the Magway Myosun Myathalun Pagoda, pilgrims and tourists can go to Sakeinte, Shwesatdaw, Kyaungdawya and Dattaw-kon pagodas crossing the Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway) and take a rest there. In addition, visitors can also watch amazingly big fish (Phaya Nga), which do not take any food in the afternoon during the Lent, at the Kyaungdawya Pagoda.

The Magway-Min-hla trip, which could be reached only by ship in the past, can now be made conveniently through the Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway). Words will fail to express completely the benefits of the bridge. Therefore, it is incumbent upon the local people to maintain the bridge as a national duty for its long-term durability.

(Translation: KTY)
Myanma Alin: 15-10-2003

Poll shows independents' support for Bush on Iraq declines

WASHINGTON, 29 Oct — Independent voters are losing confidence in US President George W Bush's leadership over Iraq as attacks there continue, a new poll showed.

In the USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll released on Tuesday, 39 per cent of independents approve of the way the administration has handled the situation in Iraq since the President declared an end to major combat on May 1, and 57 per cent of independents disapprove. In the public overall, 47 per cent approve.

The figures show a substantial decline in support from late April, when 73 per cent of independents approved the conduct of the war, and 80 per cent of the public approved.

According to the poll, independents are less inclined to vote for Bush next year than to vote for a Democrat, with 35 per cent choosing Bush while 42 per cent favour an unnamed Democrat. Among all registered voters, Bush leads the unnamed Democrat 46 per cent against 43 per cent, which is within an error margin of four percentage points.

"It's a huge problem," Merle Black, a political scientist at Emory University in

Atlanta, was quoted as saying by USA Today newspaper. "Bush prematurely claimed the fighting was over, and the public continues to see Americans at risk. Every time something bad happens, it further erodes administration support, especially among independents."

The survey showed that 57 per cent of those canvassed - 70 per cent of Democrats, 58 per cent of independents and 43 per cent of Republicans - say the United States should withdraw some or all of its troops from Iraq.

The poll also found 53 per cent approve the job Bush is doing as president, down from 56 per cent earlier this month but above his lowest rating, 50 per cent, in mid-September.

The poll was conducted from Friday to Sunday among 1,006 adults, with a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points, except for a four-point error margin on the Bush election question.

MNA/Xinhua

UN, US face problems in ending Iraq oil, food plan

UNITED NATIONS, 29 Oct — UN Security Council members told the United States and Britain on Tuesday to extend the UN role in the complicated multibillion dollar oil-for-food programme so contracts could be renegotiated properly.

At issue is a UN programme, established in December 1996 to ease the impact of UN sanctions against the government of Saddam Hussein by channeling civilian goods to the population under strict supervision.

Once the war ended, the Council decided to end the programme by November 21, but doing so has proved far more difficult than anticipated. Some 8.9 billion US dollars worth of contracts had been ordered and paid for by Iraq's oil revenues but not delivered when the war began in March.

US and British ambassadors, at a lengthy Council meeting, said the deadline for the oil-for-food system to be handed to Iraqis and the occupation authorities would not be changed.

"It's going to be turned over to the Iraqi Government and people and to the Coalition Provisional Authority, and that's what we're doing now," US Ambassador John Negroponte said.

One problem is renegotiating contracts signed before the war, particularly in the

northern Kurdish areas where the world body ran the programme rather than monitor its implementation. Some goods are no longer of use and other contracts have to be amended to suit current needs.

Benon Sevan, director of the programme, said 151 projects and activities worth 1.85 billion US dollars have been completed and another 117 projects worth nearly 600 million US dollars are expected to be completed by November 21. But he said his department would hand over 159 projects worth 1.1 billion US dollars to the coalition that would not be completed by November 21.

Germany's UN Ambassador, Gunter Pleuger, chairman of the Council's committee that supervises the programme, was among those who worried that firms around the world as well as Iraqi civilians would suffer during the transition. He noted that only 52 per cent of the contracts involved had been amended or renegotiated to date.

MNA/Reuters



First ASEAN - INDIA Tourism Consultation

Bagan, Union of Myanmar

October 31, 2003



Twentieth Meeting of the Task Force on ASEAN Tourism Marketing

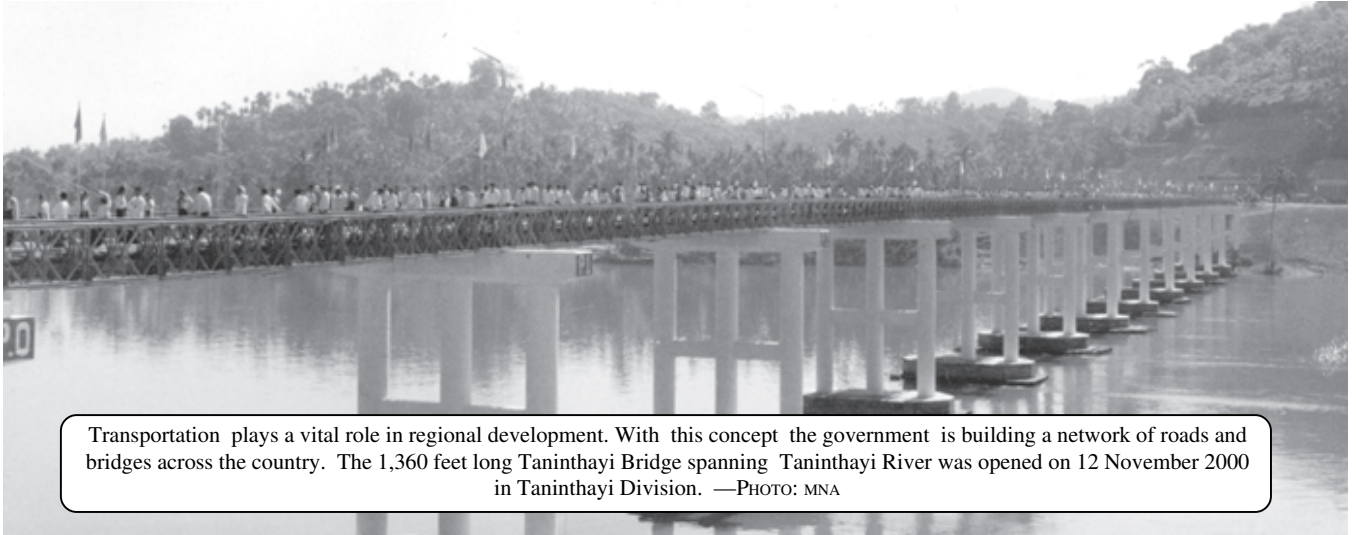
Ninth Meeting of the Task Force on Tourism Manpower Development

Eighth Meeting of the Task Force on Tourism Investment

Bagan, Union of Myanmar

October 29-30, 2003

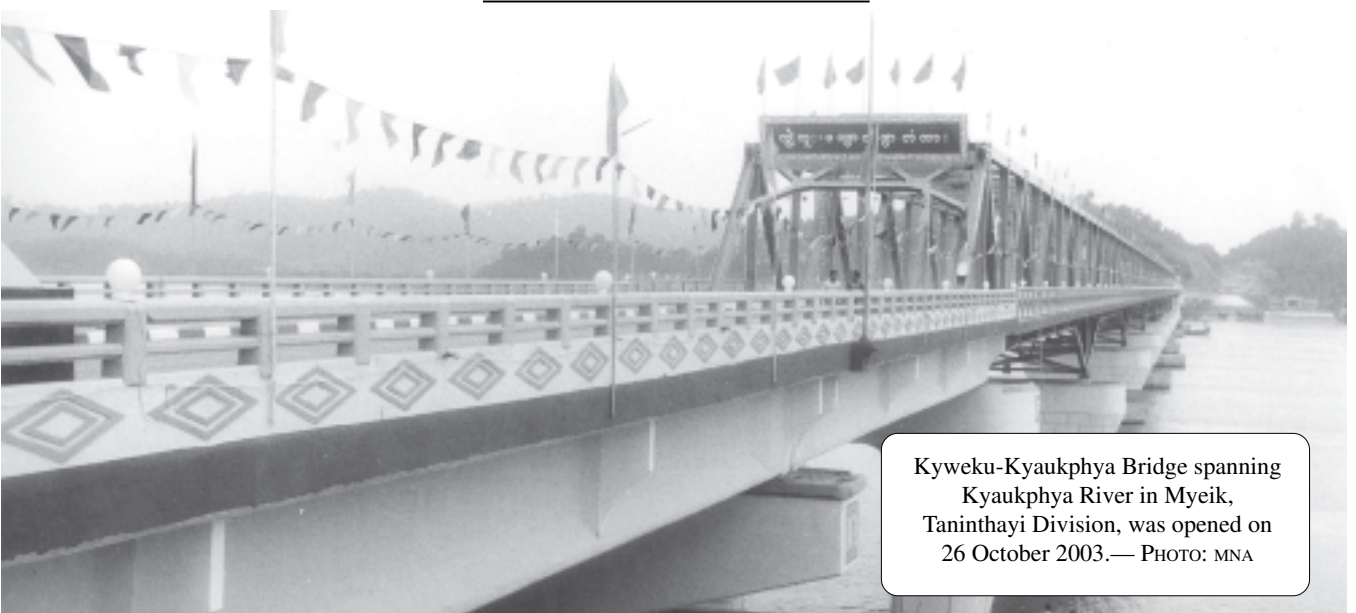
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country



Transportation plays a vital role in regional development. With this concept the government is building a network of roads and bridges across the country. The 1,360 feet long Taninthayi Bridge spanning Taninthayi River was opened on 12 November 2000 in Taninthayi Division. —PHOTO: MNA



Altogether six bridges which are over 500 feet and above in length—the Winwa Bridge, the Palauk Bridge, the Palaw Bridge, the Taninthayi Bridge, the Pathoung Bridge and the Laynya -Mandaing Bridge—have been constructed in Taninthayi Division. The photo shows 860 feet long Laynya-Mandaing Bridge in Pyigyí Mandaing in Bokpyin township, Taninthayi Division.—PHOTO: MNA



Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge spanning Kyaukphya River in Myeik, Taninthayi Division, was opened on 26 October 2003.— PHOTO: MNA

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China's health insurance market may reach 150 billion yuan

BEIJING, 29 Oct— China's market scale may reach 150 to 300 billion yuan (18.2 to 36.4 billion US dollars) in the next five years, said Wu Dingfu, chairman of the China Insurance Regulatory Commission.

Statistics from the Ministry of Health show that the annual average increase rate of medical spending has reached 24 per cent in past years, with a total of 532 billion yuan (64.5 billion US dollars) in 2002, of which 61 per cent was spent by individuals.

Part of the huge sum can be channelled into commercial insurance fields, said Wu.

In China, only 3 per cent of the population have health or medical insurance, a sign that there remains a huge space for commercial health insurance to develop.

Commercial health insurance has developed rapidly in China with insurance premiums increasing by a yearly average of 30 per cent in recent years. Currently, 29 life insurers and eight property insurers have gradually opened health insurance and offer over 300 health insurance products. New products and management models are also under trial in some areas.

"As the next step, we will improve the medical risk control mechanism, promote mutual-benefit and cooperation between insurers and medical service institutions and try to promote professional and international oriented business," said Wu.

The Chinese Government has been pushing social medical insurance as a basic medical safeguard for years.

MNA/Xinhua



Soyuz TMA-2 capsule with Yuri Malenchenko of Russia, Pedro Duque of Spain and Edward Lu of the US lands near Arkalyk, about 330 km southwest of Astana.—INTERNET

"ISS" crew return to earth

Moscow, 29 Oct— A Russian spacecraft carrying an American, a Russian and a Spaniard from the *International Space Station* (ISS) landed in Kazakhstan early Tuesday, Russia's Mission Control Centre outside Moscow said.

"Landing went according to plan," *ITAR-TASS* quoted an official from the centre.

The *Soyuz TMA-2* capsule landed in the area of Kazakhstan's city of Arkalyk at 05:40 Moscow time (0240 GMT), taking back the seventh ISS crew of Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko and American astronaut Edward Lu, and a short-term Spanish visitor Pedro Duque, of the European Space Agency.

Vladimir Popov, head of the aerospace search-and-rescue centre, said that unprecedented precautions had been taken in the landing area to prevent a ballistic descent similar to what happened to an identical Russian capsule in May.

He said that extra rescue helicopters and planes had been sent to the landing zone.

The astronauts were equipped with mobile phones for reliable contact with rescue teams.

Malenchenko and Lu have been in orbit for 185 days since they arrived at the orbiting space hub in late April, carrying out some 30 scientific experiments and maintenance of the 16-nation space station. They were replaced by American Michael Foale and Russian Alexander Kaleri. They will stay on board the space station until April 2004.

Pedro Duque, who arrived at the ISS with the eighth crew, will be regarded as national hero when he returns to Spain, for he is the first Spaniard to board the ISS.

MNA/Xinhua

BFA brings about local all-round progress in China

BEIJING, 29 Oct— Qionghai will soon become a modern city because of the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA), that has given an impetus for social and economic development here, said a senior official in the city of south China's Hainan Island province.

The BFA, as an unofficial, non-profit, open and regular international conference organization, is held regularly at Bo'ao, Hainan's Qionghai City.

Qionghai owes its dramatic change to the BFA, the official added.

Qionghai, a city with a population of 460,000, lagged behind the coastal developed areas in economic development, but it has taken a leap forward in social and economic development in the last three years by attracting foreign investment, develop-

ing new industries, ecological agriculture and tourism.

In 2000, the GDP in Qionghai was 3.98 billion yuan (about 480 million US dollars); fixed assets investment was 1.38 billion yuan (166 million US dollars); actually used foreign and domestic investment were six million dollars and 320 million yuan (39 million US dollars) respectively.

Compared to 2000, in the first nine months of 2003, the GDP rose to 3.542 billion yuan (about 415 million US dollars); fixed assets investment rose to 1.132 billion yuan (136 million US dollars); and actually used foreign and domestic investment rose to 9.33 million dollars and 604 million yuan (73 million US dollars) respectively.—MNA/Xinhua

Samsung, Sony in \$2b flat screen venture

SEOUL, 29 Oct— South Korea's Samsung Electronics Co Ltd and Sony Corp agreed on Tuesday to invest two billion US dollars in a venture to make liquid crystal display (LCD) flat screens for televisions.

The deal is seen tipping the balance in favour of LCD over plasma, the current choice for large screens, in a battle over which technology ultimately replaces boxy cathode ray tube TVs.

LCDs currently monopolise the smaller flat screen market, but are rapidly getting bigger and cheaper and are set to challenge plasma.

The deal will give Sony, the world's largest consumer electronics maker, a steady supply of flat screens for televisions and computers — a key growth area for its struggling electronics division.

It will guarantee Samsung a large customer and increase the chances their screens will become the industry standard.

"Sony and Samsung's LCD investment underscores their confidence that large-sized LCD screens will be the dominant TV screen technology in the next couple of years," said Song Myung-sup, tech analyst at Meritz Securities.

Samsung said the two sides signed a memorandum of understanding to form a 50-50 joint venture in South Korea in the first quarter of 2004 and start producing LCD panels in 2005.

The chief executive will come from Samsung and the chief financial officer from Sony, it added.

MNA/Reuters

UN fund urged to finance Nigerian women development programmes

ABUJA, 29 Oct— Nigerian Vice-President Atiku Abubakar here on Monday called on the visiting delegation of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) to help Nigeria source funds for its women development programmes.

Meeting with UNIFEM Director of Programmes Joanne Sandler and the fund's six other officials, Abubakar said UNIFEM should facilitate Nigeria's women development process.

"Women are an important segment of the Nigerian society and women development is the key to national development," Abubakar said.

He assured that the Nige-

rian federal government would continue to support women development programmes. The Vice-President listed the establishment of the Ministry of Women Affairs and women's appointment into ministerial positions as a testimony to the fact that the Nigerian Government was gender sensitive.

He however urged UNIFEM not to limit its de-

sire to access funds to Nigerian women and the Ministry of Women Affairs alone, but to assist in educating them on how to source funds for small enterprises.

Abubakar said UNIFEM could assist in formulating policies, which could solely target women development in allocation of funds from banks and other financial establishments.—MNA/Xinhua

Expert expects Chinese economy to grow 8.5% next year

BEIJING, 29 Oct— China's national economy is expected to grow 8.5 per cent in 2004, said Liu Shijin, director of the Research Department of Industrial Economy of the Development Research Centre of the State Council.

The industrial added value next year will increase 13 to 15 per cent, and the price level will remain stable, he said.

In 2004, China's automobile and steel industries will maintain rapid growth, and the computer and machinery industries will increase steadily.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese visitors to an exhibition about Shenzhou 5, China's first successful manned space mission, stand near models of the launch rockets in Beijing, China, on 28 October, 2003. China's next manned space launch might carry two astronauts into orbit, a government news agency said Saturday, citing a senior space programme official. Following the success of the manned flight on 16 Oct, officials said China plans to launch another Shenzhou within two years and eventually wants to send up a space station.—INTERNET

Tajik President in Indonesia for closer ties

JAKARTA, 29 Oct — Tajikistan President Emomali Sharipovich Rakhmonov began his five-day state visit to Indonesia, aimed at enhancing economic cooperation between the two countries, the daily *Jakarta Post* reported Tuesday. The President is due to meet with his Indonesian counterpart Megawati Soekarnoputri on Tuesday at the Presidential Palace.

Rakhmonov is also scheduled to meet other high-ranking officials, including Vice-President Hamzah Haz, People's Consultative Assembly Chairman Amien Rais and House of Representatives Speaker Akbar Tanjung. During his stay, President Rakhmonov will also visit the Jababeka industrial estate in Cikarang, West Java, 40 kilometres east of the capital, on Wednesday.—MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Wenger delighted as young gunners go through on penalties

LONDON, 29 Oct—Arsene Wenger was delighted after one of the youngest Arsenal sides in the club's history battled through to the fourth round of the League Cup with a thrilling 9-8 win on penalties over Rotherham United on Tuesday.

Including substitutes, the Frenchman gave debuts to seven players, the most notable being that of Spanish midfielder Francesc Fabregas who became the youngest Arsenal player at 16 years and 177 days.

"I'm very happy that we won the game, especially as the team we finished with must be the youngest to have played for Arsenal," Wenger said.

Arsenal looked to have the tie sewn up after Jeremie Aliadiere gave them an early lead in the first half but Darren Byfield's last-minute strike took the tie into extra time.

The First Division club were reduced to 10 men in the first period of extra time when goalkeeper Mike Pollitt was red-carded for handball outside the penalty area but they dug in to force a tense shootout.

"Even the more experienced players were caught up in the intensity of the tie," Wenger said.

MNA/Reuters



Real Madrid's Portuguese player Luis Figo, right, passes the ball past Zaragoza's Brazilian player Alvaro Luiz Mayor de Aquino, left, and Paraguayan Adelio Cesar Toledo during a major league soccer match in Zaragoza, Spain, on 28 October, 2003.—INTERNET

Newcastle aiming for League Cup success, says Robson

NEW CASTLE (England), 29 Oct—Newcastle United's interest in the League Cup has been heightened by their exit from the Champions League, manager Bobby Robson said on Tuesday.

The Premier League club failed to make the lucrative group stage of Europe's most prestigious club competition this season after losing a qualifying tie to Partizan Belgrade and have had to make do with the UEFA Cup instead.

Dortmund's Kehl banned again for violent play

BERLIN, 29 Oct—Borussia Dortmund midfielder Sebastian Kehl has been given a lengthy ban for violent play for the second time this season.

The German Football Association (DFB) ruled on Tuesday that Kehl would be suspended for five Bundesliga games after being sent off for kicking Thomas Zdebel in his side's 3-0 defeat by VfL Bochum on Sunday.

His club appealed the ruling, saying the sanction was too severe. A final decision from the DFB was expected over the next few days.

The 23-year-old German international missed the first six weeks of the season after being banned for pushing the referee in the German League Cup final in July.

MNA/Reuters

Robson, whose side face First Division leaders West Bromwich Albion in the League Cup third round on Wednesday at St James' Park, told reporters: "We're aware of the significance of the League Cup and the West Brom game is an important one for us."

"We're aware we've been doing very well recently and we know we have to keep that good run going regardless of who we play or leave out. I'm not picking a side to lose and the players know that."

"If I get any off-key performances I'll be very angry and the players will understand that on the next selection day. Any players that have been waiting for an opportunity must not waste it."

He added: "Although I was disappointed with losing to Everton in the League Cup last season at the time, I remember thinking I wouldn't be too upset if we went through to the second stage of the Champions League because we'd have a lot of games to play."

"That proved to be the case but it's fair to say things are a little bit different this season and we really want to do well in the League Cup."

Midfielder Lee Bowyer will miss the West Brom game due to illness.

MNA/Reuters

New FIFA guidelines on offside give attackers more chance

MILAN, 29 Oct—New guidelines on the offside rule issued by world soccer's governing body FIFA should give greater advantage to forwards and put an end to the debate about what constitutes 'interfering with play'.

The guidelines were issued in a recent circular to national football federations and while they are not a rule change they will now change the handling of offside decisions. In effect they end offside for players who do not touch the ball or directly block the vision or movement of an opponent.

The guideline should mean the end of a player not directly involved in a move being flagged for offside.

The laws of the game state that a player can only be penalized for offside if he is "involved in active play by: interfering with play, interfering with an opponent or gaining an advantage by being in that position".

The new guidelines are more precise saying that offside for "interfering with play" means "playing or touching a ball passed or touched by a team mate".

"Interfering with an opponent" is defined as "preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball, for example, by clearly obstructing the goalkeeper's line of vision or movements" or "making a

gesture or movement while standing in the path of the ball to deceive or distract an opponent".

The tricky issue of whether a player is "gaining an advantage" by his position is explained as "playing a ball that rebounds off a post or the crossbar having been in an offside position" and "playing a ball that rebounds off an opponent having been in an offside position".

Serie A has operated informally with such interpretations this season and the changes have resulted in linesmen being forced to delay their decisions until the end of a move. When players have been in a 'passive' offside position not involved in the game, the linesman's flag has stayed down but has later been raised if the player touches the ball.

The FIFA circular says the aim of the new interpretation "is to respect the laws of the game and to protect attacking play intended to result in a goal, which is the ultimate objective in football".—MNA/Reuters

Ten-man Real Madrid claim draw at Zaragoza

MADRID, 29 Oct—Real Madrid had to settle for a goalless draw at Real Zaragoza on Tuesday after playing the final 20 minutes with 10 men.

Real were pushing hard for the victory they needed to move back on top of the Primera Liga standings when centre-back Francisco Pavon was sent off for a second booking on 72 minutes.

Carlos Queiroz's side continued to press but the Zaragoza defence held out, with Argentine centre-back Gabriel Milito in outstanding form against the club that rejected him over the close season.

The result left Real in second place in the table with 20 points from nine games, a point behind leaders Deportivo Coruna and one ahead of third-placed Valencia.

Depor can stretch their advantage over Real to four points if they win at home to Real Mallorca on Wednesday, while Valencia have a chance to move into second place in their home game against Celta Vigo.

Zaragoza's best chance came as Luciano Galletti was put through on goal 10 metres out on the right side of the area only to hit the far post with his shot.

Real, once again missing injured England midfielder David Beckham, looked disjointed early on but they gradually started to dominate from the mid-point of the first half.

Ronaldo had a decent shout for a penalty when he was tugged in the area by Alvaro

before Raul blasted over when well placed.

Real came close to scoring three in the space of five minutes in the second half.

With 63 minutes gone, Roberto Carlos hit the post with a low shot and two minutes later Raul could only shoot straight at keeper Cesar Lainez after being put clean through.

Zinedine Zidane then beat three defenders on a snaking run into the area but Lainez made another good save from the Frenchman's low shot. —MNA/Reuters

Leeds Utd annual losses soar

LONDON, 29 Oct—Leeds United's annual losses have almost doubled to 49.5 million pounds, the struggling Premier League club said on Tuesday.

Second from bottom in the English top flight, the club announced turnover fell by 21 per cent to 64 million pounds and debt stood at 78 million pounds, from 77.9 million a year ago. "We have taken 20 million pounds of costs out of the business and rebuilt the management team. As such it is now possible to begin to look forward with some confidence," chairman John McKenzie said in a statement. The club announced it had appointed Trevor Birch as chief executive officer.—MNA/Reuters



Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain returns the ball to Nicolas Mahut of France, during the second round of the Paris ATP Masters Series in Paris, on 28 October, 2003. World number one Ferrero was given a first set scare by Mahut before sealing a 7-6, 6-4 victory.—INTERNET

MRTV-3



**30-10-2003 (Thursday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)**

9:00	Signature Tune Greetings
9:02	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar (K. Ja Nu)"
9:06	Breeding of River Cat- fish by using floating cage in Nga-Wun River
9:10	Headline News
9:12	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Curry of Hilsa)
9:15	National News
9:20	Sagaing Pagoda - studded Hills
9:25	Myuu-kywa Thanzin Kagyo Sin
9:30	National news
9:35	Red Panda
9:40	Myanmar Modern Song "Lodestar"
9:42	The Patheon Umbrella
9:45	National News
9:50	The Ramayana in Myanmar (Part -7) (INDRA'S BOW CONTEST FOR THE HAND OF SEETA)
9:58	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**30-10-2003 (Thursday)
Regular Programmes for**

Viewers from Abroad Evening Transmission (15:30 - 17:30)	
15:30	Signature Tune Greetings
15:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Pano- rama & Myanma Sen- timent"
15:36	Breeding of River Cat- fish by using floating cage in Nga-Wun River
15:40	Headline News
15:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Curry of Hilsa)
15:45	National News
15:50	Sagaing Pagoda - studded Hills
15:55	Myuu-kywa Thanzin Kagyo Sin
16:00	National news
16:05	Red Panda
16:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Lodestar"
16:12	The Patheon Umbrella
16:15	National News
16:20	The Ramayana in Myanmar (Part -7) (INDRA'S BOW CONTEST FOR THE HAND OF SEETA)
16:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
16:30	National News
16:35	Travelogue (PyinOo- Lwin)
16:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Prawn Curry"
16:45	National News
16:50	Village of Palaung
16:55	Kayan Dance
16:58	Myanmar As Told By History
17:00	National News
17:05	Thabotseik Village on Seaside
17:10	Myanmar Modern

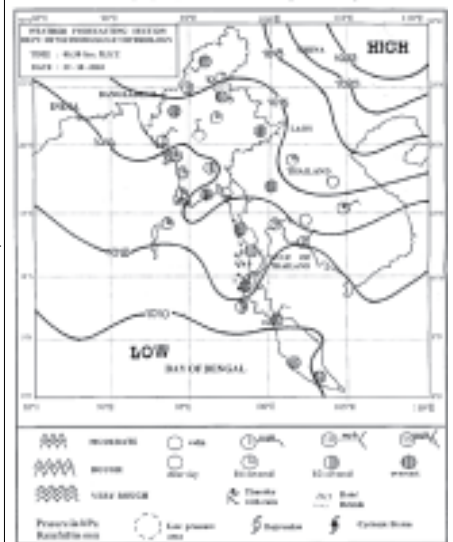
Song "Dream of Ngwe Hsaung"	
17:15	National News
17:20	The King of Musical Instruments
17:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"
Evening Transmission (19:30 - 23:30)	
19:30	Signature Tune Greetings
19:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar (K. Ja Nu)"
19:36	Myanma Pearls on the Market
19:40	Headline News
19:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Fish with Drumstick Sour Soup"
19:45	National News
19:50	The Grand Bagaya Monastery (INWA)
19:55	Kayah Dance
19:58	The World's Biggest Book
20:00	National News
20:05	Village of "EN"
20:10	Song "Hill Resort Town"
20:12	The Art of Making Pennant
20:15	National News
20:20	Greening of Inlay Lake Project
20:25	Song "Flourishing"
20:30	National News
20:35	The Mountain with Antique Stone Sculp- tures
20:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Pineapple Salad"
20:45	National News
20:50	Myanmar's Ancient City Bagan
20:55	Myanmar Traditional Marionette

21:00	National News
21:05	Daungumaw Mudcrab Breeding
21:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Connected as a Network"
21:12	Inn-Waing Waterfall
21:15	National News
21:20	Traditional Chin Cui- sine
21:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
21:35	Breeding of River Cat- fish by using floating cage in Nga-Wun River
21:40	Headline News
21:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Curry of Hilsa)
21:45	National News
21:50	Sagaing Pagoda - studded Hills
21:55	Myuu-kywa Thanzin Kagyo Sin
22:00	National News
22:05	Red Panda
22:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Lodestar"
22:12	The Patheon Umbrella
22:15	National News
22:20	The Ramayana in Myanmar (Part -6) (INDRA'S BOW CONTEST FOR THE HAND OF SEETA)
22:25	Song "Pleasant and Greenish Lake"
22:30	National News
22:35	Travelogue (PyinOo- Lwin)
22:40	Myanmar Cuisine "Prawn Curry"
22:45	National News
22:50	Village of Palaung
22:55	Kayan Dance
22:58	Myanmar As Told By History
23:00	National News

23:05	Thabotseik Village on Seaside
23:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Dream of Ngwe Hsaung"
23:15	National News
23:20	The King of Musical Instruments
23:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"
30-10-2003 (Thursday) & 31-10-2003 (Friday) Evening & Morning Transmission (23:30 - 01:30)	
23:30	Signature Tune Greetings
23:32	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Pano- rama & Myanma Sen- timent"
23:36	Breeding of River Cat- fish using by floating cage in Nga-Wun River
23:40	Headline News
23:42	Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes (Curry of Hilsa)
23:45	National News
23:50	Sagaing Pagoda - studded Hills
23:55	Myuu-kywa Thanzin

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00:45	National News
00:50	Village of Palaung
00:55	Kayan Dance
00:58	Myanmar As Told By History
01:00	National News
01:05	Thabotseik Village on Seaside
01:10	Myanmar Modern Song "Dream of Ngwe Hsaung"
01:15	National News
01:20	The King of Musical Instruments
01:25	Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Wednesday, 29 October, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin State, isolated in upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and weather has been cloudy in the remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 28-10-2003 was 34.5°C (94°F). Minimum temperature on 29-10-2003 was 20.5°C (69°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 29-10-2003 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 28-10-2003 was (8.8) hours approx. Rainfall on 29-10-2003 was 3mm at Yangon Airport, nil at Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 2206 mm (86.84 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 5 mph from North-west at (17:30) hours MST on 28-10-2003.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (09:30) hrs MST today, yesterday's depression over West Central Bay has crossed northern part of ANDHRA Coast near VISHAKAPATNAM, INDIA. Weather is partly cloudy in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 30-10-2003: Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers in Kachin State and Tanintharyi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of rain in Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-10-2003: Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30-10-2003:** Partly cloudy.

ကောသလမာကြိမ် (၁၁ ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အဝတ်ပြပွဲ
ပြိုင်ပွဲကုဒ်ပရေ ဆက်ကော်မတီက ပြိုင်ပွဲ အစီအစဉ်လေး

စဉ်	ရက်စွဲ	အဆို	အက	အရေး	အဝတ်
၁၇။	၃၀-၁၀-၂၀၀၃ ကြာသပတေး	မဟာဂီတ (နံနက်) (၁) ပညာရှင် (မ) မဟာဂီတ (နေ့လယ်) (၂) အခြေခံ (၁၅-၂၀) (ကျား)	မယ်အလင် (၁) အခြေခံ (၁၀-၁၅) (ကျား+မ) (နံနက်) (၂) အဆင့်မြင့် (ကျား+မ) (နံနက်)	ပညာရေး (၁) ဝါသနာရှင် (မ) (နံနက်) (၂) အခြေခံ (၁၅-၂၀) (ကျား) (နေ့လယ်)	စောင်း (၁) အခြေခံ (၅-၁၀) (ကျား+မ) (နံနက်) (၂) ဝါသနာရှင် (ကျား+မ) (နေ့လယ်)



View today:

Thursday, October 30

7:00 am	1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Oattamathara
7:25 am	2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am	3. Morning news
7:40 am	4. Nice and sweet song
7:55 am	5. Dance of national races
8:05 am	6. အတိတ်ပြပွဲ
8:15 am	7. Dance variety
8:30 am	8. International news
8:45 am	9. Let's Go

4:00 pm	1. Martial song
4:10 pm	2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
4:25 pm	3. English For Everyday Use
4:35 pm	4. Musical programme
4:45 pm	5. အစောဆုံးတက္ကသိုလ်တက္ကသိုလ် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ပထမနှစ် (သိပ္ပံအတွက်အားလုံး) (မ)တက္ကသိုလ်
5:00 pm	6. Cute little dancers
5:15 pm	7. Musical programme
5:30 pm	8. "အမှန်မြတ်လုံးလက်ဆောင်" ဓနရီလင်း၊ နှင်းဥ၊ ဓနရီလင်း၊ ဓနရီလင်း(ရှမ်းပြည်)၊ ခေါ်တင်တင်လှ (ခါရုကတား-ဓနရီလင်းမြင့်)
5:55 pm	9. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစာတေး
6:10 pm	10. ဗုဒ္ဓသုတ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်

6:30 pm	11. Evening news
7:00 pm	12. Weather report
7:05 pm	13. Milo success in soccer
7:10 pm	14. Musical programme
7:25 pm	15. ရွှေတိဂုံတား
7:35 pm	16. နိုင်ငံအဝန်းသစ်တောရင်းမြင့် စိမ်းလန်းစေရမည်
8:00 pm	17. News
8:05 pm	18. International news
8:10 pm	19. Weather report
8:15 pm	20. ၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်၊ ကောသလမာကြိမ် (၁၁ ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အဝတ်ပြပွဲ "စံနမူနာပြပွဲရောင်လင်း"
8:20 pm	21. သုတေသန၊ စုပေါင်းသောကြာ၊ ဓမ္မသုတ္တံ၊ စင်ပြည့်စုံ (ခါရုကတား-သုတေသန)
8:25 pm	22. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar	
Thursday, October 30 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
9.15 am	News/Slogan
9.20 am	Lunch time music -I don't want to talk about it (Rod Stewart) -Nothing's gonna change my love for you (George Bensa) Aspects of Myanmar - The largest, longest & oldest bridge over Taungthaman Lake Article/Music Topics potpourri - Controlling weight key to health - China gives farming therapy to mentally ill people in recovery
9.30 pm	Favourite songs chosen by - "Miss Nan Long" - I'm not a girl, not yet a woman (Britney Spears) - How deep is your love (Bee Gees) - Always (OTT)
9.45 pm	News/Slogan
10.00 pm	PEL

Life-long National Literary Award winner

Article and photo by *Thwin Aye*



Life-long National Literary Award Winner Doyen Literati Maung Htin.

The National Literary Award Scrutinizing Committee under the Ministry of Information today announced the list of the National Literary Award winners. U Htin Fatt (Maung Htin) was presented the Life-long National Literary Award in recognition of his brilliant life-long efforts to serve the interests of Myanmar literature.

Saya Maung Htin, aged 93, lives at 248, Bayintnaung Road-4 in Insein, with family and grandchildren. He became famous as the writer of *Ngaba* that is well-known in the literary world. He contributed stories and articles to magazines and journals. He won the National Literary Award for translating *Gulliver's Travels* into Myanmar that was prescribed as the school textbook. He was the Editor-in-Chief of *Yangon Newspaper* in AFPFL era. He also contributed articles to other newspapers. He told *NLM* that he was delighted for winning the award.

(Translation: KKK)

Winner of National Literary Award (Youth Literature)

Article and photo by *Thaung Win Bo*

Yaynanmyay Maung Maung Kyi, who won National Literary Award 2002 (Youth Literature) for his "*Little flowers are fragrant*" selected short stories, started writing poems in *Natshinnaung* magazine in 1961. As a student, he took great interest in the writing career, and wrote articles for *Chotaythan* magazine in 1964.

In February 1968, he started writing short stories in *Myawady* magazine and then worked for it as a daily wage earner. Later, he went through the positions till he became assistant editor, and then editor-in-charge. At present, he is working as editor-in-charge at *Ngwetayi* magazine published by Myawady Book House.

Stories and articles are his favourites. And he is the one who won National Literary Award for the first time for his first-published selected short stories.

He has produced more than 200 short stories about youths, and he expressed his thanks to Myatpanyagon book house, which published his award-winning book.

He also said that he felt very happy for being awarded, and he also valued it very much as it was the thing he wanted most, and would regard it as a milestone in his life.

He added that this kind of award was the biggest one for all writers; that the short stories were all based on his own experience and on the real facts he encountered on his

environment; that he wrote them in the interest of youths; that it could be said that he got his reward for his efforts as the Government recognized his goodwill.

He is a native of Chauk and is only son of U Hla Maung and Daw Tin Aye. His wife is Daw Phyu Phyu and has five children. He is now living at No 160/2, Kauklyin Lane-1, Thuwunna. His mentors for his writing career are Saya U Htay Maung, U Lay Myaing and Chit Naing (Psychology).

Translation: KTY

Shops, clinic opened for contestants of 11th MTCPCAC

YANGON, 29 Oct — Clinics, welfare shops and book-stall have been opened for the contestants of the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions at the No-1 Transit Centre in Bayintnaung.

The Ministry of Industry-1, Printing and Publishing Enterprise and News and Periodicals Enterprise, the Ministry of Health, cooperative societies, private shopkeepers have opened consumer product shops, clinics and bookstalls, and the Ministry of Communication, Posts and Telegraphs is also providing auto-telephone services. — MNA

Winners of National Literary Award 2002 announced

YANGON, 29 Oct — The National Literary Award Scrutinizing Committee under the Ministry of Information, after scrutinizing the books published in 2002, today announced the list of writers winning National Literary Award.

National Literary Awards went to Ma Sanda in the novel category, Than Myint Aung in the collection of short stories category, Zaw Min Min Oo in the collection of poems category, Maung Khin Min (Danabyu) in the belles-lettres category, Min Shwe Min (Insein) in

the children's literature category, Yaynanmyay Maung Maung Kyi in the youth literature category, Hein Latt in the translation (knowledge) category, Nat Nwe in the translation (aesthetic) category, Ma Kyan in the Knowledge (arts) category, Dr Kyaw Than Tun (Yangon Medical University) in the Knowledge (Science) category, and Dr Tun Aung Kyaw (Optical) in the Knowledge (Applied Science) category.

In spite of 14 categories in National Literary Award, no award was won in the

Myanma culture and arts category, the play category and the politics category.

The award-winning writers are to contact the Sarpay Beikman on Merchant Street in Yangon through the telephone numbers 252560, 240048 and 381449. The award presentation ceremony will be held at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street on 23 November 2003, eve of Sarsodaw Day. The winners are requested to report to the chief editor of Sarpay Beikman not later than 7 November.

MNA

Informative literature widens youths global views

Article and photo by *Thaung Win Bo*

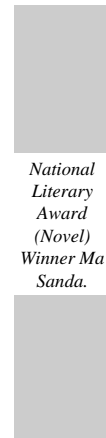
Writer Ma Sanda won the 2002 national literary award for her novel "*Saddhagan*" (hexagon), 13th of her novels.

In an interview with the *New Light of Myanmar*, she said, "I'm extremely pleased to win the National Literary Award. Majority of the writers have aims to contribute towards the interest of the nation rather than earning money. They value honour and acknowledgement above all else. After being published, most of the readers think that the novel should win the award. I diffidently hoped to win the award."

The book was published by Parami Publishing House. The plot was based on six pregnant women with different characters under different circumstances. The novel described lives and conditions, worries and difficulties of the would-be mothers. She created it with sympathy.

Ma Sanda, a daughter of great writer Mann Tin, was born in 1947. Her original name is Daw Cho Cho Tin.

She entered the literary world by contributing short stories in magazines. Her first novel was "*Nge-thu-moh-ma-thi-bar*" written in 1972.



National Literary Award (Novel) Winner Ma Sanda.

She wrote over 100 short stories, two novelettes and 13 novels. She first won the national literary award for her "*Bawa-ein-met-pan-ein-met*" (Dream of life, dream of flower) in 1994.

She won the second national literary award for her Short Stories-3. Some of her short stories and novels were translated into English, Japanese, Russian, German and Thai languages.

Although she obtained a bachelor of architecture from Yangon Institute of Technology in 1971, she is fond of writing and devotes herself to writing career.

"In the literary world short stories of today are excellent but novels are light. There are a lot of short story writers in lower and upper Myanmar. Their writing is sharp and bright. I'm very glad that youths read informative literature and study it, she said.

"Youths of today have a wide view on the world affairs due to the informative literature.

It is encouraging to note that the State has given encouragement to literati," she told NLM.

(Translation: NY)



National Literary Award (Youth Literature) Winner Yaynanmyay Maung Maung Kyi.



The orchestra contest (girls-age-15-20) of 11th Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions in progress.