

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 201

10th Waxing of Tazaungmon 1365 ME

Monday, 3 November, 2003

## Indian Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat arrives on goodwill visit



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye welcomes Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat at the airport. — MNA*

YANGON, 2 Nov — At the invitation of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, a goodwill delegation led by Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat arrived here this afternoon on a goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar.

Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and members were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and U Kyaw Thu, Myanmar Ambassador-designate to India U Kyi Thein, Director-General of Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Thura U Aung Htet, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia and embassy staff.

The special aircraft carrying the goodwill delega-

tion led by Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat touched down at Yangon International Airport at 2 pm. Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet and Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia boarded the plane and welcomed Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat.

Next, a Myanmar damsel of the University of Culture (Yangon) presented a bouquet to the visiting Vice-President.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greeted the

visiting Vice-President. The visiting Vice-President greeted those who arrived there to welcome the delegation.

Likewise, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greeted the delegation members.

Next, Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and Vice-Senior General Maung Aye proceeded to the saluting dais. Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and Vice-Senior General Maung Aye took the salute of the Guard of Honour while the State Band played the national anthems of the two countries.

Next, Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected the Guard of Honour.

Afterwards, the visiting Vice-President introduced the delegation members to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye. Likewise, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye introduced his members of the welcoming party to the visiting Vice-President.

Next, the visiting Vice-President greeted the embassy staff of Indian Embassy to Myanmar and their families.

(See page 8)



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat inspect the Guard of Honour. — 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

## Prize presentation ceremony of Myanma Performing Arts Competitions to be broadcast live

YANGON, 2 Nov — A ceremony to hold prize presentation ceremony of the 11th Myanma Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions will take place at National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, Dagon Township at 1 pm on 3 November. Prize presentation ceremony of Myanma Performing Arts Competitions will be broadcast live by Myanmar Radio and Television. — MNA

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 3 November, 2003

## To raise the patriotic efficiency of the people

With the six objectives—to vitalize patriotism and nationalism in all citizens; to preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage; to perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts; to preserve Myanmar national character; to nurture spiritual development of the youths; to prevent influence of alien cultures—the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions were held on a grand scale in Yangon from 14 to 31 October.

The contestants participated in the competitions earnestly and they will go back home holding awards won from the competitions.

Today, as all nations of the world are becoming linked as one in a global expanse due to development of communications in the international scene.

Some major nations with superiority in wealth and technology are taking advantage of the situation and trying to overwhelm and interfere in the affairs of developing countries including Myanmar politically, economically, socially and culturally.

At such a time, the Government is striving to raise the patriotic efficiency of the people, especially the youths of the future generations. Systematic arrangements are being made for revival and further promotion of Myanmar culture and traditions and fine arts.

The Government has been annually holding these competitions so as to build national self-defence powers while reviving the grandeur of Myanmar history, high level of Myanmar culture, deep and profound nature of Myanmar fine arts and such fine qualities.

With the aim of nurturing spiritual development of the youths and the citizens, the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions have been held since 1993.

Myanmar's traditional cultural performing arts had developed for years countable by the thousand with no blemish on its national character but staunchly in its national style and today it stands as purely Myanmar culture in the world.

The national people and the maestros are to preserve the national culture in order to uplift the prestige of the State and its people.

At a time when all nations of the world are becoming linked as one in a global expanse due to development of communications in the international scene, all the national people are urged to strive hand in hand with the Government for raising the patriotic efficiency of the people and the youths.



Director-General U Sein Than of Cottage Industries Department and party seen at the airport before departure to study handicraft manufacturing enterprises in Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia on 31 October. — (H)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt offers Kathina robes and offertories to State Ovadacariya Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamajotika Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Bhaddanta Jotipala at 54th Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony of Kyakhatwaing Sarthintaik in Bago on 2 November. — MNA (News page 10)

## Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe attends Kathina robes offering ceremony

YANGON, 2 NOV — Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Pariyatti Sasanapala Association collectively offered Kathina robes at Pali University Nyaungdon Kyaungtaik, Bahan Township, Yangon West District, this morning. Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended the ceremony and offered Kathina robes to members of the Sangha.

Present on the occasion were State Ovadacariya Agga Maha Pandita Presiding Nayaka Bhaddanta Sobhana of Pali University and members of the Sangha, Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and members, departmental

officials at division level, chairmen of district and township Peace and Development Councils and wellwishers. The commander and the congregation received the Five

Precepts from Presiding Nayaka Bhaddanta Sobhana of Pali University and members of the Sangha delivered a sermon and the congregation shared merits gained.

Next, the commander and officials offered Kathina robes and provisions to Presiding Nayaka Bhaddanta Sobhana of Pali University and members of the Sangha. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe offers robes to a Sayadaw at the Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Pariyatti Sasanapala Association. (Yangon Command)

## PPE, MMPE offer Kathina, robes

YANGON, 2 NOV — Under the auspices of Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and the deputy ministers, staff families of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise and the Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise of the Ministry of Information today offered Kathina robes to the members of the Sangha at Yadana Beikman Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Ward-5, Mayangon Township.

Present on the occasion were Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Maha Saddhammajotika-dhaja Bhaddanta Candobhasa and members of the Sangha, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Managing Director of PPE U Myint Thein, Managing Director of MMPE U Bo Kyi, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Tin Kha, Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Hla Myaing, central executives and staff.

The deputy minister and the congregation received the Five Precepts from the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw.

Afterwards, the deputy minister offered the Kathina robes and provisions to the Nayaka Sayadaw. The managing directors and their wives and the chairman of MWJA offered the Kathina robes and provisions to the Sayadaws. The Sayadaws then recited Parittas. Dhammakatika Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kesara delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits. Afterwards, 'soon' was offered to members of the Sangha.—

## Ministry of Health offers Kathina robes

YANGON, 2 NOV — The seventh Kathina robes offering ceremony of the Ministry of Health was held at the Dhammayon of the ministry on Yedashe Road in Bahan Township this morning. It was attended by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and wife, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo's wife, directors-general and deputy directors-general of the departments under the ministry, officials and staff families. The minister and the congregation

received the Five Precepts from Thakayta Township Thuseiktalankara Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Kemindabhivamsa and offered Kathina robes and provisions to the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha.

Kyaku Dhamma Beikman Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta U Indobhasa delivered a sermon. Later, 'soon' was offered to members of the Sangha. — MNA



Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein offers robes and offertories to a Sayadaw at the Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony of Printing and Publishing Enterprise and Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise. — MNA



# US chopper downed, 13 soldiers killed

**BAGHDAD, 2 Nov—**Thirteen American soldiers have been killed and more than 20 wounded in an attack on a US military helicopter.

It is the highest number of casualties suffered by the US-led coalition in a single incident since Saddam Hussein was toppled in April.

The helicopter came down in a cornfield near the flashpoint town of Falluja, 50 kilometres (32 miles) west of the capital.

Local Iraqis report that it was hit by one of two surface-to-air missiles fired at it, but a US military spokesman has said it may have crashed while taking evasive action.

The helicopter was one of two twin-rotor Chinooks flying nearly 60 personnel from a US military base to Baghdad International Airport.

The troops on board were due to fly abroad for rest and recreation leave.

The helicopter was almost totally destroyed. Television pictures showed US personnel recovering the dead and wounded from smoking debris.

Villagers displayed blackened pieces of wreckage to journalists, and residents in nearby Falluja celebrated in the streets. "This was a new lesson from the resistance, a lesson to the greedy aggressors," one Iraqi told the *Associated Press* news agency.

"They'll never be safe until they get out of our country."

The downing of the helicopter was one of a number of

attacks on US forces in Iraq on Sunday.

One American soldier died when his convoy was attacked in the early hours in Baghdad, while unconfirmed reports say that up to four Americans were killed in an attack on a convoy in Falluja. Falluja lies within the so-called "Sunni triangle" of central Iraq - a largely Sunni Muslim area where resistance to the US-led coalition's occupation has been intense.

US military officials have repeatedly warned that hundreds of surface-to-air missiles remain unaccounted for in Iraq. The Chinook, which has a crew of four, is a heavy-lift helicopter used primarily for moving troops and transporting artillery.

A total of 136 American troops have now been killed in attacks since US President George W Bush declared major combat operations over on 1 May.

Attacks on coalition troops have intensified in the past week, reaching an average of more than 30 a day.

The BBC's Jill McGivering, reporting from Baghdad, says the planning and execution of some recent attacks has led to speculation the militants opposed to the coalition have now formed into a more cohesive, better organised force.

There had been rumours that this weekend would see co-ordinated attacks on coalition targets. —Internet

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## UN Assembly approves new treaty on corruption

**UNITED NATION, 2 Nov—**The UN General Assembly on Friday approved the world's first anti-corruption treaty that requires nations to return stolen assets to countries from which they were pillaged.

The treaty, two years in the drafting, will enter into force 90 days after 30 governments have ratified it. It opens for signatures in Merida, Mexico, from December 9 to 11.

"Corruption hurts the poor disproportionately," UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan told the 191-member assembly. "Corruption is a key element in economic under-performance and a major obstacle to poverty alleviation and development."

The treaty, he said, "makes a major breakthrough by requiring member states to return assets obtained through corruption to the country from which they were stolen."

Developing nations were anxious to have the asset recovery provision adopted,

particularly those where high-level corruption plundered the national wealth.

The treaty, called the Convention Against Corruption, criminalizes bribery, embezzlement of public funds and money-laundering. It enables illegally acquired assets to be seized and calls on governments to allow a long statute of limitations for corruption cases.

It says that acts in support of corruption or those that obstruct justice in corruption investigations also should be considered crimes.

And the convention calls for international cooperation to prevent corruption and to investigate and prosecute offenders.

MNA/Reuters

## Aid workers keep leaving Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 2 Nov—**The UN staff were being withdrawn from Iraq pending talks in Cyprus on whether to keep working in Baghdad. Most foreign staff had already left after a truck bomb attack in August killed 22 people including the head of the UN mission.

This week's evacuation followed suicide car bomb attacks on the International Committee of the Red Cross and three police stations on Monday, which killed at least 35 people in the bloodiest day in Baghdad since Saddam Hussein's fall in April.

In the northern city of Mosul, a bomb was detonated outside a police station as two US vehicles drove past on Saturday. The US Army's 101st Airborne Division said two of its soldiers were killed and two wounded. —Internet

## China issues annual winter conscription order

**BEIJING, 2 Nov—** China has issued an order to recruit new soldiers as of November 1 from across the country.

According to the order issued by the State Council, or the central government, and the Central Military Commission, governments and military organizations at all levels should improve their leadership to ensure conscription targets are met.

A senior conscription officer with the Ministry of National Defence said most of the recruits should be 18-20 years old for men, and 18-19 years old for women.

The age limit can be lifted to 21 for men if they have received senior high school education, or they are employees of companies or institutions, and 22 if they had received junior college education.

The minimum education criteria is junior high school education for applicants from rural areas, and senior high school education for applicants from urban areas.

MNA/Xinhua

## Iran says its nuclear declaration comprehensive

**TEHRAN, 2 Nov—** Iran's declaration of its nuclear activities to the UN nuclear watchdog was "transparent and comprehensive", an Iranian official said on Friday, the day a key international deadline for the Islamic Republic expires.

"We submitted a comprehensive, transparent and faultless report to the agency," a government official, who asked not to be named, told *Reuters*.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) gave Teheran an ultimatum to prove by October 31 that it has no secret arms programme, or be reported to the UN Security Council for possible sanctions.

Iran submitted a declaration to the UN nuclear watchdog on October 23 on its nuclear programme, which Washington suspects is a front for building atomic weapons. Iran insists its energy programme is peaceful.

On Thursday, IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei said Iran's declaration seemed to be comprehensive at first glance but the agency had to verify the report.

The Iranian official said Teheran was determined to continue its full cooperation with the agency. "Right now, our cooperation is above the Additional Protocol. After

signing it, we will act in its framework."

A fierce debate blew up inside Iran after the IAEA set the deadline for Teheran to come clean about its nuclear programme.

Reformists allied to President Mohammad Khatami argued in favour of tougher inspections but hardliners opposed signing the Additional Protocol to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) which allows surprise international inspections of sites.

Iran on October 21 agreed to freeze uranium enrichment and to allow the snap inspections, saying the decision was made with the consent of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

After the announcement, leading conservatives stopped railing against the decision.

"I suggest you do not express your views when you are not an expert and are not familiar with an sensitive issue like nuclear issues," Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati told worshippers on Friday at Teheran University.

MNA/Reuters



A US Chinook CH-47 helicopter lands to pick-up troopers to take back to Kandahar airfield on 26 Feb, 2003. A similar US Chinook helicopter believed carrying dozens of soldiers to their leaves abroad was struck by a missile and crashed in corn fields west of Baghdad on Sunday, 2 Nov, 2003 witnesses and US officials said. At least 13 soldiers were killed and 20 injured, a coalition official said. —INTERNET

## Goh Chok Tong congratulates Malaysia's New PM

**SINGAPORE, 2 Nov—** Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong sent his "warmest congratulations" to Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Friday on the latter's appointment as Prime Minister of Malaysia.

In a letter to his newly appointed Malaysian counterpart, Goh said that Badawi took over as Malaysia's fifth Prime Minister at a time of great change and uncertainty in the world.

"But with your long years of experience in government, you are well placed to handle these challenges," Goh said in the congratulatory letter. "I am confident that under your stewardship, Malaysia will achieve further success," said Goh.

In a separate letter to former Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad, Goh said that Mahathir has transformed Malaysia into a "modern, progressive and confident nation". "I write to wish you the best in your future endeavours," said Goh. —MNA/Xinhua



A US Army 4th Infantry Division soldier guards as Iraqis stand in a queue to get ID cards in a village of Uja, outside of Tikrit, 193 km (120 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 30 October, 2003. —INTERNET

## Iraq bomb kills 2 US soldiers, more attacks feared

BAGHDAD, 2 Nov—Guerillas killed two US soldiers on Saturday in a bomb blast in northern Iraq, and warnings of further bloodshed prompted fearful Iraqis to stay off the streets and keep their children out of school. Exactly six months after he declared an end to major combat in Iraq, President Bush vowed to stand firm and said leaving Iraq prematurely would strengthen "terrorists" he blamed for recent deadly suicide attacks.

Iraq's US governor, Paul Bremer, warned that attackers would probably strike again before occupation forces or Iraqi police could track them down.

"They are dangerous and persistent and it will take time to root them out," Bremer told a news conference in Baghdad.

Rumors were rife in major cities that guerrillas planned a series of bombings this weekend. By Saturday evening, the Iraqi capital was quiet. US troops and

Iraqi police patrolled the streets, checking vehicles and questioning passengers.

"My family wouldn't allow my two sisters to go to school today because of the threats. Even my friends at university and college are staying at home," said Luay Adeb, 19, a cigarette vendor in a Baghdad commercial district.

"To be honest, I'm scared, but I have to work."

A handful of United Nations foreign staff who had stayed in Baghdad left their bomb-shattered headquarters early in the morning in a bus escorted by American soldiers in Humvees.

Internet

## Timber import rises in Beijing

BEIJING, 2 Nov—China's capital, Beijing, imported 19.42 million US dollars worth of timber and wood products in the first three quarters of the year, up 22.4 per cent from the same period last year.

Statistics from Beijing Customhouse show that the municipality imported 15.57 billion US dollars worth of timber from January to September, up 73 per cent, including 65,000 cubic metres of unprocessed logs worth 10.09 million US dollars, but imported sheet materials went down by 59.8 per cent to hit 2.39 million US dollars.

Imports of unprocessed timber kept rising. In the first three quarters of the year, the city imported 264,000 US dollars worth of plywood, posing a drastic increase over the 2002 corresponding period, said the Customs sources.

MNA/Xinhua



Two US soldiers were killed in an attack north of Baghdad late on Tuesday, the US military says, taking the combat death toll among US troops in Iraq since the war higher than the wartime total. Picture from earlier this week shows US troops securing a blast site outside the Baghdad headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross.—INTERNET

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## Syria invites Iraqi minister to Damascus

DAMASCUS, 2 Nov—Syria, a stern opponent of the US-led war against Iraq, said on Friday it had invited Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari to Damascus ahead of weekend regional talks after Baghdad complained it had been left out.

Syrian officials said Iraq's neighbours would decide at the first session of the talks on Saturday whether Zebari would be allowed to participate. The talks were expected to focus on the need to prevent foreign militants from crossing borders to fight the US-led forces occupying Iraq.

The US-appointed Iraqi Governing Council in Baghdad had complained it had not been asked to attend the talks and would not accept any decisions the other states might take.

The Syrian announcement followed speculation in Damascus that some countries had threatened not to attend unless an Iraqi representative was invited.—MNA/Xinhua

## RCRC S-E Asia Partnership Meeting 2003 ends in Vietnam

HANOI, 2 Nov—The Red Cross Red Crescent South-East Asia Partnership Meeting 2003 ended here on Friday after delegates exchanged experience and worked out measures to intensify partnerships in conducting charity and humanitarian works.

The International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) has issued new policy of cooperation with national societies to increase coverage of humanitarian needs, and offer greater quality in the services provided, Emmanuel Campbell from ICRC said at the meeting.

Regarding measures to boost Red Cross operations internationally, Jeffrey Chan Wah Teck, chairman of the Singapore Red Cross Society, said possible measures include "greater linkages with governments, closer cooperation between national societies and stronger dissemination of Red Cross principles and activities".

These suggestive measures

were partly translated into action when Vietnam and Malaysia signed an agreement to exchange delegations of Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers at the end of the meeting. Malaysia will ink two similar agreements with Singapore and Thailand in the next two weeks, said Hisham Harun-Hashim, vice chairman of the Malaysian Red Crescent Society.

The three-day meeting was attended by 78 delegates from Red Cross societies in 24 countries, including Singapore, Thailand, the United States, Australia, Switzerland and host Vietnam.

MNA/Xinhua



Longer Arctic summers and thinning sea ice are threatening the habitats of polar bears and the livelihood of native people. The thickness of the Arctic ice has decreased by as much as 40 percent in the past 50 years.—REUTERS

## Hundreds of Kenyan women protest at British army

ARCHER'S POST (Kenya), 2 Nov—Several hundred women who claim to have been raped by British soldiers training in Kenya staged a demonstration on Friday to protest at what they said was a partisan investigation, witnesses said.

Britain's military police announced a probe this month into some of 600 rape claims that might be genuine, although they said most of the Kenyan police reports relating to allegations of rape spanning 30 years appeared to be forgeries.

Women dressed in the traditional red robes and beads of the Samburu tribe gathered at the Archer's Post trading centre, some three miles from a British Army camp in northern Kenya, saying the Army would not conduct a fair investigation.

"This is a deliberate attempt by the British Army to frustrate us from achieving justice," said Nandiliana Kuuri, who is almost 60, and who claims to have been raped by British soldiers in 1988.

Many residents in nearby towns accuse the women, most of whom are living in impoverished rural areas, of inventing rape claims in the hope of winning compensa-

tion in an area where even a relatively small amount of money represents a fortune.

One witness put the number of women protesting in Archer's Post on Friday at about 300, while a local member of Parliament, Sammy Leshore, put the number at 400 to 650.

Leshore accused the British military police of using threatening language when they asked the women to come to a camp to make statements about their allegations.

"They are trying to cover it up," Leshore told Reuters. "I'm appealing to women lawyers in Kenya and all over the world to come and investigate the case so the right suspects will be identified," he said.

The British lawyer acting for the women, Martyn Day, said this month that while most of the 600 claims were probably bogus, he believes at least 100 were real.

MNA/Reuters

## CEPA boosts HK, Shanghai cooperation

HONG KONG, 2 Nov—The recent signing of CEPA between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government and the central government has opened up a new era of Hong Kong/Shanghai synergies, Hong Kong's Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa said here Friday.

The chief executive made the remarks during a speech titled "Through Leverage on Complementary Strengths To Mutual Prosperity" at a conference organized by the Business and Professionals Federation of Hong Kong to examine the prospects for cooperation between Hong Kong and Shanghai following the signing of the Mainland/Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA).

Tung noted that Shanghai is a strategic partner in the future of Hong Kong.

He pointed out that in this era of globalization as the world's freest economy and a premier international finance, shipping and business centre, Hong Kong maintains constant exchanges with other economies and major cities around the world, which are crucial to the SAR's future.

In the context of China's economic advancement, Hong Kong/Shanghai cooperation will enable these two

most creative and dynamic cities to contribute to the country's medium- and long-term development in different but complementary ways, he held.

Moreover, the development of Shanghai fosters the development of Hong Kong, hence creating this win-win situation, said the chief executive.

He elaborated that Hong Kong and Shanghai together can optimize their resources by encouraging exchanges among IT experts and professionals, integrating market institutions and infrastructure networks and coordinating the respective industrial formations.

Through these exchanges and cooperative efforts, Hong Kong, with the advantages of a well-established market mechanism, modern management and international best practices, can play a key role in speeding up Shanghai's alignment with the international market, Tung remarked.—MNA/Xinhua



# IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



A US soldier with an unidentified person walks in front of blast damaged vehicles in Mosul, northern Iraq, on Saturday, 1 November, 2003, in this image taken from TV. A roadside bomb killed at least two US soldiers in Mosul on Saturday. —INTERNET



An Iraqi policeman stands guard outside the al Hamra hotel in Baghdad on Saturday, 1 November, 2003. The Australian government has warned that the hotel, popular with foreign journalists and aid workers, could be targeted for an attack, and urged all Australians in Iraq to stay away.

INTERNET



An armed guard keeps watch at the entrance of a school which closed early in Baghdad, on Saturday, 1 Nov, 2003. Most schools were closed Saturday after rumours spread through Baghdad that bombings or other resistance action would strike the capital Saturday. —INTERNET



US soldiers stand with their weapons at the ready around a detained Iraqi man outside his home during a night raid in Tikrit on 30 October, 2003.

INTERNET



US soldiers guard the centre of Baghdad, on Saturday, 1 November, 2003. Security stepped up after rumours swept Baghdad that bombings or other resistance action would strike the capital Saturday. A leaflet attributed to Saddam's ousted Baathist party declared Saturday a "Day of Resistance," and called for a three-day general strike. —INTERNET



A British Army soldier guards a damaged car after a bomb exploded beside the vehicle in the southern Iraq city of Basra in this file photo taken earlier this week. Britain's participation in the Iraq war has so far cost 1.26 billion pounds, including commitments to the country's reconstruction and funds for additional security at posts in the Middle East, the government said on Friday. —INTERNET

## Annan vows tighter Iraq security

UNITED NATIONS, 2 Nov—The United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan, has written a letter to all UN staff promising action to improve security in the light of the bomb attack on UN headquarters in Iraq in August.

In the letter, Mr Annan said he was taking immediate action to implement the recommendations of an independent panel chaired by the former Finnish President, Martti Ahtisaari, which found serious shortcomings in the UN security system in the weeks running up to the attack in Iraq.

His letter is the first formal response to Mr Ahtisaari's damning report.

Among the measures Mr Annan said he would be taking in response to the report is the appointment of an independent panel of experts to review the responsibilities of key individuals in the weeks before the attack.

But some UN staff members have already expressed disappointment that action is not being taken immediately against a number of senior UN managers who they

believe were clearly responsible for placing UN workers in Iraq at risk, or failing to recognise the scale of the threat against the UN in Iraq.

In his letter, Mr Annan said he was also conducting a review of the serious weaknesses that had been revealed in the UN security system, not just in Iraq, but across the world.

He also confirmed that the UN's position in Iraq was under constant review, and that the remaining international staff in Baghdad would, for the foreseeable future, be relocated outside the country while discussions continued on the security arrangements that would be required to allow them to continue their work.

Internet

## China's first astronaut Yang Liwei arrives in HK

HONG KONG, 2 Nov — The Delegation of China's First Manned Space Mission, including China's first astronaut Yang Liwei, arrived in Hong Kong Friday afternoon for a six-day visit.

With flowers, China's national flags and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) flags in hands, over 600 Hong Kong students and quite a number of community representatives gave Yang and the delegation a warm welcome.

China's first manned spacecraft successfully completed its space mission on October 15-16 and the 38-year-old Yang Liwei, a fighter pilot turned astronaut who travelled 600,000 kilometres in space in *Shenzhou-V* spacecraft, became a hero of the Chinese nation.

The visit has been earnestly awaited by Hong Kong residents who are very much proud of the Motherland's success in space exploration and of the national hero himself.

The 26 member delegation, led by vice director-general of China's manned space flight programme Hu

Shixiang, will meet with people from all walks of life in Hong Kong.

HKSAR Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa will hold a welcoming dinner at the Government House Friday night.

On Saturday morning, the delegation will attend the opening of the Exhibition on China's First Manned Space Mission at the Science Museum.

A big welcoming gathering will be organized by community groups at the Hong Kong Stadium Saturday afternoon.

Yang Liwei will deliver a speech on the development of China's aerospace programme next Monday.

He is also scheduled to have dialogues with Hong Kong primary and secondary school students. The delegation will leave Hong Kong for Macao next Wednesday.

MNA/Xinhua

## UN to move Iraq staff out of Baghdad over weekend

UNITED NATIONS, 2 NOV — The United Nations intends to move its remaining international staff in Baghdad to Cyprus over the weekend where they will decide if and when to return to the volatile Iraqi capital, UN officials said.

The withdrawal will involve some 18 international workers in Baghdad while another 40 or so foreign staff would remain in the northern area around Erbil where it is safer.

Some 4,000 Iraqi staff are still on the UN payroll throughout Iraq. UN officials insisted on Thursday the pull out was not an evacuation but a reevaluation of the security situation after a series of deadly suicide bombings in Iraq this week.

"This is a temporary relocation," US spokeswoman Marie Okabe said. "It does not represent a policy decision to disengage from Iraq."

MNA/Reuters

## မြန်မာ့စွေတာ၊ ဆိန်ဝါလေလွင့်၊ ဘုတ်ကုန်မြင့်



Iraqi police officers rescue an injured comrade during clashes in Fallujah on 31, Oct.

INTERNET

## Ranking Chinese economists call for deeper reform

BEIJING, 2 NOV — China's political, governmental and institutional reform should be further deepened as the nation is moving ever forward with market-oriented system, a call voiced by ranking economists and officials in Beijing.

"Our current political system, mainly resulting from the planned economic system, needs to be further reformed as the country is becoming economically energetic," Gao Shangquan, president of the China Society of Economic Reform, was quoted by Friday's *China Daily* as saying.

China's economy has achieved an average growth rate of 9 per cent over past 25 years, but all the pouring-in money is not being used efficiently. "The investment (in China) is huge but inefficient," said Wu Jinglian, China's renowned economist with the Development and Research Centre under the State Council.

MNA/Xinhua

## Americans warned of new spate of resistance in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 2 NOV—The US consular office in Baghdad has issued a statement warning US citizens of potential attacks in the coming days.

The statement warned that the capital city might witness a new spate of resistant attacks on Saturday and Sunday, the beginning days of November.

It encouraged the US citizens to "continue to maintain a high level of vigilance and continue to take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness".

Unidentified fighters have mounted sensational attacks to mark the start of Ramadan, or Muslim holy month, on Monday. At least six rockets were fired at the Rashid Hotel where visiting US Deputy Defence Secretary was staying, killing a US colonel and wounding 15 others.

The following day, a string of suicide bombings rocked Baghdad in less than one hour. At least 34 Iraqis and one US soldier were killed and over 200 others injured in the explosions.—MNA/Xinhua

## Int'l investors show great confidence in China

BEIJING, 2 NOV—Goldman Sachs Chairman and CEO Henry M Paulson said here Friday the huge success that China achieved in global bonds shows the strong confidence of international investors in China's economic growth. China issued global bonds worth 1.5 billion US dollars last Thursday in New York that attracted unexpected investment enthusi-

asm. Goldman Sachs is one of the major underwriters.

Paulson said that international investors have been watching China closely. They are very impressed with China's leadership, social stability and economic progress.

The success of China's manned space programme is also great news for them, Paulson said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Chen urges to cultivate talents on economic management

BEIJING, 2 NOV—Chinese State Councillor Chen Zhili urged Thursday the cultivation of more people skilled in economic management, who are adaptable to the mechanism of the socialist market economy.

Chen made the call in a speech delivered here to members of the consulting committee of the Economic Management Institute of Qinghua University, who were participating in the fourth meeting of the committee. To create such professionals is an important task in reaching the magnificent target of building a well-off society in the country, said the councillor.

The consulting committee, established three years ago, has made a large contribu-

tion to the development of the institute and offered a platform for exchange among the committee members, she said.

The committee is made up of more than 30 presidents and board chairmen from well known multinational companies, heads of domestic enterprises and institutions, and the presidents of the Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Harvard Business School.

At this meeting, the committee mainly studied the role that China should play after its entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the strategies of the enterprises in the new political and economic pattern of the world.—MNA/Xinhua



China's first astronaut Yang Liwei (3rd L) and Chief Executive of China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Tung Chee Hwa (2nd R) cut the ribbon at the opening ceremony of the Exhibition on China's First Manned Space Mission in Hong Kong Science Museum in Hong Kong, on 1 Nov. The delegation of China's first manned space mission, including Yang, arrived in Hong Kong Friday afternoon for a six-day visit.—XINHUA



## Border area development (Shan region)

Myint Soe (Na-ta-la)

(Continued from yesterday)

Another memorable place for me in the region was a hillock beside Tangyan-Lashio road, on which a small pagoda was located. It was only about seven miles from Tangyan. Our company fought with a combined force of about 60 BCP and SSA insurgents, who were waiting to capture the soldiers of the two platoons alive. The platoons were taking road security duty then. Both sides were engaging in a fire fight that tarnished the beautiful early scene of the area. The explosions of 60-mm rounds could be seen from the hill where our tactical command was stationed. When I returned to the tactical command after the battle, a friend of mine, Maw Si told me that the tactical command was thinking of giving a supporting artillery fire for us. But they were afraid that the shells might mistakenly land on us. When I revisited Tangyan after years had passed, I went to the hillock where three soldiers of my company sacrificed their lives for the national cause during the battle. The SSA had already returned to the legal fold at that time.

### Unforgettable Yan-aung-myin

Yan-aung-myin was the name of a building of the No 33 base battalion. Most of the persons, whether they were senior military officers or junior officers, stayed at the building before 1989 were on military missions or duties. Thus, the voices in and around the building were the discussions to attack the enemy, seize enemy positions and kill the enemy. After peace had been achieved, armed group leaders and members and their families arrived at the place and stayed there temporarily. During the time, talks were concentrated on regional development. There were laughter, cordial discussions and peace inside the building and in its compound.

### Shan region development

The SSA returned to the legal fold on 24 September 1989. It was the fourth armed group that came back to the legal fold in that year. I was still in Tangyan when the group returned to the legal fold. The No 1 Tactical Operations Command was discharging the duties to develop the region of the Wa ethnic race. The Shan region development undertakings were under the direct supervision of the Military Command.

The Shan region development undertakings covered Lashio, Hsenwi, Kyaukme, Hsipaw and Nawngkhio townships. Bawgyo-Onhma road, Ponhton-Hanna road, Hsaunggyi-Mongkhe road, Mongkhe-Manmon road, Narmon-Hsaunggyi-Hsinkyaw-Mongyai road, Nanlan-Holi road and Hsipaw-Konhauk road were repaired and upgraded.

In the education sector, 14 primary schools, one

middle school and one high school were opened in the region. Two hospitals, five dispensaries, and four rural health centres were also opened. Other development plans in the region included three agriculture offices, five agriculture camps, two tractor stations, one livestock farm, one veterinary centre, one hydel power station, one post office, two telegraph stations, four carrier stations, one ground satellite communication station and four TV retransmission stations.

A 50-watt TV retransmission station was commissioned into service in the region on 12 September 2003. SSA peace group built a sugar mill near Dokhtawady at Bawgyo village. Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council (now Prime Minister) General Khin Nyunt formally launched the mill at a ceremony on 5 May 1998. The State has been making systematic and long-term arrangements for regional development and to enable the members and families of the peace groups to earn their living. Thus, the peace groups have been taking part in the regional development undertakings on self-reliant basis.

The SSA peace group built schools and dispensaries at villages in Tangyan Township on self-reliant basis. The peace group has built new roads and repaired the existing ones and also constructed dams to extend agriculture in the region.

In 2003, over 948 acres of land was put under groundnut, pineapple, orange, corn, tea and thitseint by U Pan Pha of the peace group and his men. They also cultivated 100 acres of rice. Livestock breeding farms have been extended at Tawlok village in Tangyan Township. The extension plan included raising of pigs and cows of pedigree strains. Fish has been raised in 77 ponds in the area. As the State has been paying heed to the regional development tasks, it has set up mines including anti-mony and coal mines.

We are sure that we will not face any suspicion among the all the national races in the future, if they including the Kachin, the Kayah, the Kayin, the Chin, the Bamar, the Mon, the Rakhine and the Shan, always firmly keep in their hearts Union Spirit and the spirit of national solidarity, and live together in unity and amity. All the national races are the true brethren and the descendants of a single stock. Moreover, I firmly believe that like all other places of the Union, the Shan region will also achieve development in leaps and bounds.

(Concluded)

(Translation: TMT)

Kyemon+Myanma Alin: 31 October 2003.

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## Kathina robes offered

YANGON, 2 Nov— Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and wife, and officials of the ministry this morning offered Kathina robes to the members of the Sangha in Dakkhinayon Monastery in Thingangyun Township.

After the 7th Kathina robes offering ceremony, officials also offered 'soon' to the monks and shared the merits gained. — MNA



Central executive committee members of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Nyein and U Tun Aung left here by air on 1st November to attend GMS Workshop on Agricultural Investment and Cooperation in People's Republic of China. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by President U Win Myint and officials of UMCCI. — MNA



Commandant Brig-Gen Myo Myint and wife offer robes to a Sayadaw at Communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of Defence Services Records Office. — MNA

## Defence Services Records Office offers Kathina robes

YANGON, 2 Nov — The 18th Kathina robes offering ceremony of Defence Services Records Office was held at No 1 meeting hall of the office this morning.

Present were Yankin Township Thirimingala Kyaungtaik Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vajira and members of the Sangha, Yangon Station Commander No 2 Military Region Commander Defence Services Records Office Commandant Brig-Gen Myo Myint and wife Dr Daw Thi Thi Aye, the Deputy Commandant, heads of departments, their families and guests.

The congregation received the Nine Precepts from Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vajira, and members of the Sangha delivered a sermon. Brig-Gen Myo Myint and wife and officials offered Kathina robes and provisions to members of the Sangha. — MNA

## People's Desire

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

## Efficient use of electricity

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

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

## Efficient use of fuel

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

## All this needs to be known

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

\* ကော်ဖီစိုက်ပျိုးဝင်ငွေတိုး

\* ကော်ဖီစိုက်လျှင်အရိပ်ဝင်

ယဉ်တွဲစိုက်ပျိုးဒေသဖွံ့ဖြိုး

လယ်ယာစိုက်ပျိုးရေးနှင့်ဆည်မြောင်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန

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

The second best time is now.

## Indian Vice President...

(from page 1)

Afterwards, the delegation led by Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat together with Vice-Senior General Maung Aye proceeded to Inya Kantha State House in a motorcade.

Welcoming the visiting Vice-President and members of the goodwill delegation an archway was put up at the entrance of Yangon International Airport welcoming the distinguished guests in both Myanmar and English. "Warm welcome to Vice-President of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat" The archways were also put up on Pyay Road at the entrance to the airport, at Inyalay, the People's Square and corner of Inya Road and flags of the two countries were hoisted along the road from the airport, at the junction of 8th Mile, Inyalay, Inya Lake

bund, the junction of Kamayut, the People's Square and Hanthawady roundabout.

The delegation members led by Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, accompanied by Vice-Chairman Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, arrived at the Inya Kantha State House at 2.30 pm.

After greeting the visiting Vice-President at the Inya Kantha State House, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye left there at 2.45 pm.

Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat was accompanied by Minister of State for External Affairs Mr Digvijay Singh, Member of Parliament (RS) Mr Anil Kumar, Member of Parliament (RS) Mr B.J. Panda, Foreign Secretary Mr K. Sibal, Secretary to Vice President Mr Anil Kumar and departmental officials.

MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye accompanies Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat. — MNA

## Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attends opening of Polyethylene Bag Factory

YANGON, 2 NOV — The opening ceremony of Sun Flower brand Polyethylene Bag Factory implemented under joint-venture between Myanmar War Veterans Organization and Green Light Co Ltd was held at the above factory at the corner of Kinwunmyingyi Street and U Myu Street in Industrial Zone Section 4 of Shwepyitha Township this morning. Chairman of Central Organizing Committee for the MWVO Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the ceremony and formally unveiled the signboard of the factory.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Vice-Chairman of Central Organizing Committee for the MWVO Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Central Organizing Committee members Minister for Science and Technology U

Thaung and deputy ministers, members of district and township Peace and Development Councils, chairmen and members of Shwepyitha, Hlithayya, Insein and Mingaladon Township War Veterans Organizations, band troupe and pom pom troupe, officials of the Green Light Co Ltd and guests.

First, Central Organizing Committee member of the MWVO Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thauung Lwin and Chairman of the Green Light Co Ltd U Yone Mu formally opened the factory.

Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein formally unveiled the signboard of the factory and viewed production process round the factory.

After that, at the briefing hall of the factory, Chairman of the Green Light Co Ltd U Yone Mu reported to Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party on location of the factory, investment, number of parts installed and productivity. Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave necessary instructions. — MNA

Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Sunflower brand polyethylene bag factory of MWVO and Green Light Co Ltd. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win welcomes Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat. — MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein welcomes Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat at the airport. — MNA

## Commander opens new road in Dagon Myothit (East)

YANGON, 2 NOV — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended opening of Arthawady road and stake driving ceremony of Buddha Adivasa Gandaguri Phaya Kyaungsaung and Atisukhavasa Sankyaung in Thiri Letkhanayama Dagon Sasana Yeiktha this morning.

Present on the occasion were Agga Maha Kamahtanacariya Bhaddanta Letkhana, No 2 Military Region Commander Brig-Gen Myo Myint, Ambassador U Aye Pe (Retd) and members, students and wellwishers.

First, the commander and ambassador U Aye Pe (Retd) and wellwisher U Aung Thein formally opened the new tarred road.

Next, at the auspicious

time the commander drove stake in Thiri Letkhanayama Dagon Sasana Yeiktha. Wellwisher U Aung Thein explained arrangements to be made for construction of Kyaungsaungs and ambassador U Aye Pe (Retd), timely completion of the buildings.

Afterwards, the commander and wellwishers offered provisions to members of the Sangha. — MNA



## Prime Minister attends Multi-media classrooms opening ceremony in Payagyi Model Village BEHS, Bago

YANGON, 2 Nov — The opening ceremony of Multi Media rooms of Basic Education High School in Payagyi Model Village, Bago Township, was held this morning, attended by Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

The ceremony was also attended by Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander Brig-Gen Ko Ko, ministers, the chief of staff (Navy), deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, the director-general of the No 1 Basic Education Department

minister and those in attendance saluted the State Flag.

Next, outstanding students unveiled the stone inscription of Myanmar education goal and education motto.

Afterwards, the opening ceremony of multi-media rooms followed.

At the ceremony, Headmistress Daw San San Yi and Patron of School Board of Trustees U Sein Maung formally opened the multi-media classrooms. Next, the prime minister unveiled the signboard to mark the opening ceremony.

Next, the prime minister and party inspected the rooms of Electronic Media (Visual Presenter), Electronic Media (Language Lab), Computer Aided Instruction Computer Appli-

mistress Daw San San Yi and members of SBT U Sein Lwin reported on the purpose of the opening of multi media rooms and teaching with the use of teaching aid and making efforts for the media rooms.

Next, the prime minister presented teaching aid tapes, a set of computer, television and video cassette.

Commander Brig-Gen Ko Ko, on behalf of wellwishers, handed over the donations for the school to Minister U Than Aung. The donations included a set of computer by Bago Division Peace and Development Council, K 2.3 million by U Teza-Daw Thida Zaw (Htoo Trading Co Ltd), K 500,000 by U Maung Gyi-Daw Tin Tin Ohn (Myint Tun Oo Co Ltd), K 500,000 by old stu-



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt views learning activities at the opening ceremony of multimedia classrooms of BEHS Phayagyi Model Village, Bago Township. — MNA

and officials, social organizations, members of the school board of trustees, teachers and students.

A ceremony to unveil the stone inscription of Myanmar education goal and education motto at the school was held.

First, while the band troupe was playing the national anthems, the prime

education and E-mail, Electronic Media (Video System) and Printed Media (Reading Corner) and viewed the learning of students in the rooms.

Afterwards, they inspected the Arts room and domestic science room, and skill demonstration of the students in the music room.

At the opening ceremony of multi-media rooms, Head-

dents and K 300,000 by U Kyaw Lin (Bell Co Ltd) of Yangon).

Minister U Than Aung made a speech. He thanked Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt for attending the ceremony. It is heartening to see teachers giving lectures with the use of modern teaching/learning aids to the students learning lessons actively with full self-confidence for successful implementation of national education promoting programmes. In basic education sector, as measures have been taken for enrolment of all school-going age children, over 95 percent of school-going age children are pursuing education. The State has been making arrangements for giving them the opportunity to continue schooling in their own region. The number of universities, colleges is 154, up from 32 in the past. He then urged teachers, students, parents and members of school board of trustees to strive for national education promotion with added momentum.

After the ceremony, the Prime Minister and party together with members of school board of trustees, the Schoolhead, teachers and students, posed for documentary photos.

MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party greet Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and members at the meeting in Mingalar Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party and goodwill delegation led by Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat pose for documentary photo at the meeting in Mingalar Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw. — MNA



U Khin Maung Win and Foreign Secretary Mr Sibal sign Myanmar-India Agreement on Visa Exemption for Official and Diplomatic Passports. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat attend ceremony to sign agreement and MoU when Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt and Foreign Secretary Mr Sibal sign MoU between the Ministry of Education of Myanmar and the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. — MNA

## SWRR ministry offers Kathina robes

YANGON, 2 Nov — Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement held its seventh Kathina robes offering ceremony at Thida hall of Fire Services Training School in Mayangon Township this morning. Parahita Mettawadi Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita

Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Candobhassa of Mettawadi Hinthada monastery in Hlaing Township administered the Five Precepts. Minister for SWRR Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and wife, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and

wife, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung and their wives and officials offered Kathina robes and provisions to the Sayadaws, followed by sharing of merits gained. Afterwards, soon was offered to the Sayadaws. — MNA

### Poem

## Shall meet again at 12th Competitions

**\* This journey, the Performing Arts Competitions  
With vibrance of the State and pride of lineage  
Culture that benefits Myanmar  
Directed at national benefit  
With amity and unity, we held these  
The 11th Competitions  
Have been successfully held.**

**\* Though the 11th Competitions have been completed  
Myanmar character and lineage strong  
Beneficial culture in total  
Must be nurtured for posterity  
Myanmar blood kin, citizens all  
Hand in hand we must in amity  
Work for posterity of Myanmar lineage  
Must work for success of Myanmar character  
Together and in unity  
Let's meet again at the threshold  
Of the 12th Competitions, O blood brothers.  
Yan Naing Oo (Trs)**



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt supplicates religious matters at the 54th Communal Kathina robes offering ceremony in Kyakhatwaing Sarthintaik in Bago.—MNA

## Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attends 54th Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony of Kyakhatwaing Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Bago

YANGON, 2 NOV.—Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, ministers, the Chief of Staff (Navy), deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and officials, left here by car this morning. The Prime Minister was welcomed at Wanbawdat Bridge near Thayagon Model Village at the border of Bago Division by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Ko Ko and officials. Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party arrived at Phayagyi Model Village in Bago Township and attended the opening ceremony of multimedia classrooms of the basic education high school of the village. Next, the Prime Minister and party arrived at ancient Maha Wizaya Ranthi Pagoda in the village. The Prime Minister was welcomed there by Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, departmental officials, members of religious and social organizations, local authorities and people.

First, the Prime Minister paid obeisance to the Buddha image at the prayer hall and viewed round the all-round renovation tasks of the pagoda. The Prime Minister and party proceeded to Dakkhina Rama monastery, where the Prime Minister and party paid homage and presented offertories to members of the Sangha led by Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Visuddha of Dhammalankara monastery in Bago.

Cash donation ceremony for the all-round renovation of the pagoda was held at Aungsekkya Dhammayon of the pagoda. Joint-Secretary of the all-round renovation of the pagoda U Aung Myat reported on conveyance of original Seinbudaw, Hngetmyatnadaw, and Htidaw and renovation of the pagoda. Deputy Minister

Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko made a supplementary report. The Prime Minister gave instructions on taking measures for perpetuity of the pagoda.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Brig-Gen Ko Ko accepted the cash donation of wellwishers including K 10 million by the State and the public, K 50.2 million by U Thein Win, Daw Ni and Shwe Thanlwin family, K 4.3 million by wellwishers led by Shwepawkyun Missionary Sayadaw U Kovida and U Kyi Lwin, K 1 million by U Myint Swe, Daw Nu Nu Win, K 1 million by U Teza, Daw Thida Zaw of Htoo Trading Co, K 700,000 by U Hla Han, Daw Tin Hla and family of Phayagyi Model Village, K 700,000 by Daw Mya Kyi and family of Phayagyi Model Village, K 700,000 by royal Marine Co Ltd, and K 700,000 by Daw Aye Mya Nwe (the Bagan Hotel). A total of K 75,748,140 including K 6414080 of today's donation by 29 wellwishers.

Next, the Prime Minister and party attended the ceremony to honour the Shwekyin Nikaya Joint Sasanabaing Sayadaw and the Agga Maha Pandita Taikok Sayadaw and the 54th Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony held at Kyakhatwaing Parayatti Sarthintaik at noon. The congregation received the Nine Precepts from State Ovadacariya Shwekyin Nikaya Joint Sasanabaing Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Jotipala. Members of the Sangha recited *parittas*.

Next, the Prime Minister supplicated on religious matters to the Sayadaw. He said he was pleased to pay homage to all the members of the Sangha led by State Ovadacariya Sayadaws, Nayaka Sayadaws of Shwekyin Gana, and member Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee at the ceremony.

He was informed of the fact that the ceremony was held in honour of State

Ovadacariya Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Jotipala, who was elected as the Shwekyin Nikaya Maha Nayaka Joint-Sasanabaing, and Taikoke Sayadaw Neya Dhamma Bhivamsa, who was conferred Agga Maha Pandita title by the State, he said. The 54th Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony of the monastery was also to be held after the ceremony, he added.

The Sayadaw was elected as the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Kyakhatwaing monastery after attaining monkhood for 10 years in 1312 ME. There were only seven buildings and 8 monks at the monastery when the Sayadaw was elected as the Presiding Nayaka. Now, there were 60 buildings and over 1,000 learning monks at the monastery thanks to the efforts of the Sayadaw.

The Sayadaw, who was conferred Sasanadhaja Siripavara Dhammarcariya title and Vinayardhika Pariyattipavara Dhammarcariya title, could manage to nurture outstanding monks at the monastery.

A total of 45 branches of the monastery had to be opened as the members of the Sangha from all the regions and orders of the country came to study under the teaching, administration, and Ovada of the Sayadaw. There were many monasteries each of which accommodated about 1,000 learning monks in the country. But, what was the characteristic of the monastery was that there was only one refectory and one lecture hall under the close supervision of the Sayadaw.

Encouraging number of monks who passed pariyatti examinations can be seen at the monastery thanks to the complete learning environment such as magnificent building to accommodate learning monks, corridors between the buildings, and provision of four kinds of requisites managed by the Sayadaw.

Besides, the Sayadaw



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets Vice-President of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat. (New on page 7)—MNA

was able to compile 45 books although he was busy teaching, lecturing and delivering sermons. It was also known that the Sayadaw was also taking meditation. In conclusion, the Prime Minister honoured and paid homage to perseverance, persistence, wisdom of the Sayadaw and efforts made in the interest of the Sasana by the Sayadaw. Afterwards, the Prime Minister, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander, ministers and wellwishers presented offertories and Kathina robes to Sayadaw and members of the Sangha.

The Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of the merits gained. Next, the Prime Minister and party paid homage to Seinthalayung Buddha Image in Bago.

The opening ceremony of Gandakutitaik of Seintha Shwekyia Buddha Image and the stone inscription took place on the platform of Seinthalayung Buddha Image.

The Prime Minister formally opened the stone inscription of Sein Yadana Gandakutitaik and sprinkled the scented water on it. Wellwisher Daw San Yi formally opened the Gandakutitaik.

The Prime Minister and party, guests and the congregation paid homage to Seintha Shwekyia Ananda Buddha Image. The Prime Minister performed the ritu-

als of golden and silver shower to mark the successful completion of the ceremony.

At 2 pm, the Prime Minister and party attended the cornerstone laying ceremony of Yadana Theikhti Yokeshindaw Throne of Gandakutitaik of Bawzana Theikhti building held at Panhlaing Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Panhlaing Ward in Bago.

First, the Prime Minister, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and ministers paid reverence to member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Panhlaing Pariyatti Sarthintaik Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Sasana and members of the Sangha and presented offertories to the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha. The cornerstone laying ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of *namotassa*.

The Prime Minister placed the gem casket. The Prime Minister, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and ministers laid the cornerstones.

The Prime Minister laid the stone inscription and sprinkled the scented water on it. The Prime Minister performed the rituals of golden and silver showers to mark the successful completion of the ceremony.

Next, the Prime Minister and party arrived at the

construction site of Naungdawgyi Myathalyaung Buddha Image.

Engineer in-charge U Tun Shwe reported to the Prime Minister on completion of construction work of the Buddha Image and Myanmar traditional handicraftsman U Ohn Tin on completion of Myanmar traditional handicraft work and future works.

Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko reported on stock piling of construction materials, cash donation and expenditure and arrangement for holding a ceremony to enshrine religious objects.

The Prime Minister inspected round the construction site and gave necessary instructions. The Prime Minister also viewed the Bo trees in the precinct of the Image.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party arrived at the construction site of casting Tampilawha Buddha Image in Bago. At the Dhammalankara Buddhakarhita Monastery, the Prime Minister and party paid reverence to Dhammalankara Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Visuddha and presented offertories to the Sayadaw. Later, the Prime Minister and party viewed round the construction site of the image.

The Prime Minister and party arrived back here in the evening.

MNA



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

River water pumping projects are being implemented in the country with the aim of supplying water for agricultural purpose. The photo shows Lawkananda River Water Pumping Project in NyaungU District, Mandalay Division.

PHOTO: MNA



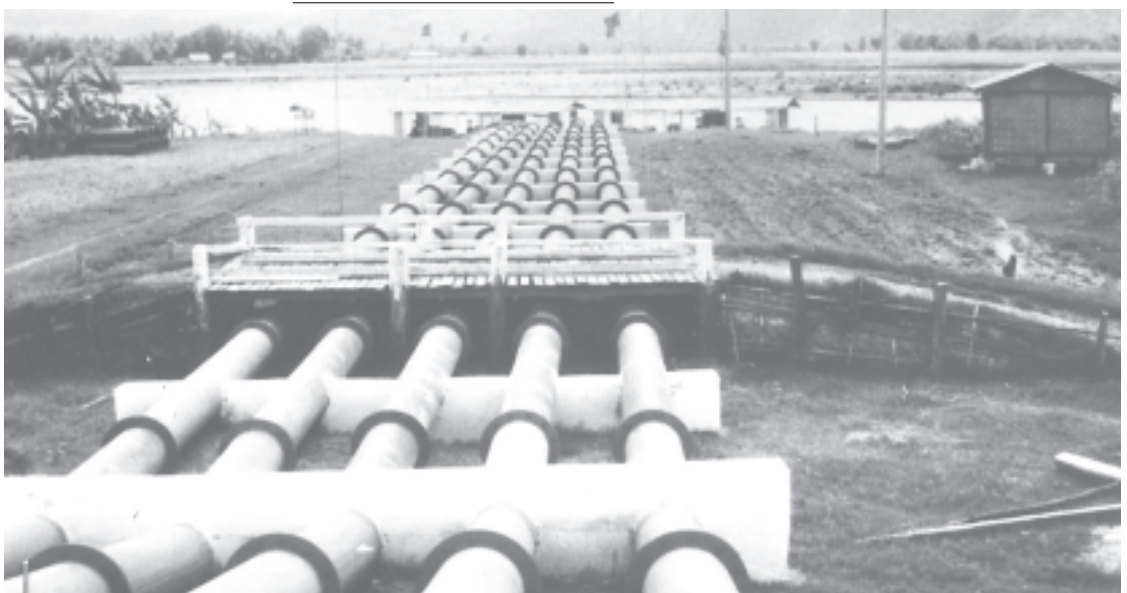
Thaphanseik river water pumping project, located in Thaphanseik village, Magway Township, benefits over 8,000 acres of farmland.

PHOTO: MNA

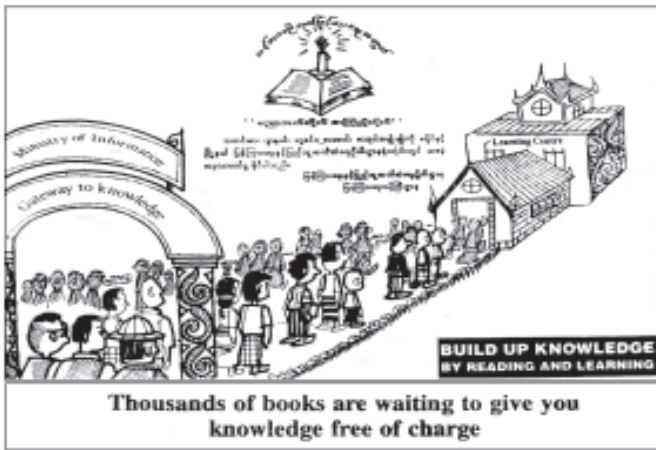


River water pumping projects benefit people in the arid zone of the country. The photo shows Kyawzi river-water pumping project in Taungtha Township, Mandalay Division.

PHOTO: MNA







## ADVERTISEMENTS

### မြန်မာ့လူမှုဝန်ထမ်း ချိပ်မိတ်တင်ဒါ ခေါ်ယူခြင်း

စဉ်	ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည်	အရေအတွက်	တင်ဒါပိတ်ရက်
၁။	Submersible Pump	1 Set	၂၀-၁၁-၂၀၀၃
၂။	PR Gas (47) Liter	1 Cylinder	၂၀-၁၁-၂၀၀၃

အမှတ် (၁) စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန မြန်မာ့ကြွေတည်မြေတည်လုပ်ငန်း၊ ရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဌာန၊ အမှတ် (၁၉၂) ကမ္ဘာ့အေးတော့လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်တွင် ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်စုံစမ်းပြီး တင်ဒါပုံစံများကိုလာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

**တင်ဒါပုံစံတရားဝင်ဝယ်ယူသူများထံမှ တင်ဒါကိုသာ လက်ခံပါမည်။**

(အသေးစိတ်သိရှိလိုပါက စုံစမ်းရန် တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ်-၅၆၆၂၅၅၊ ၅၆၆၂၅၂)

မြန်မာ့ကြွေတည်မြေတည်လုပ်ငန်း

### Nepal marks December 11 as Int'l Mountain Day

KATHMANDU, 2 Nov — Nepal is marking December 11 as the International Mountain Day from this year in a bid to contribute to the sustainable development of the mountain region and the welfare of local inhabitants, said a spokesman of the Nepali Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation.

"Nepal has taken the decision regarding the event as per the declaration made by the United Nations General Assembly, which comes as part of implementing the recommendation of the Global Mountain Summit held at Bishket of Kyrgyzstan in 2002," state-run English daily *The Rising Nepal* on Saturday quoted Mohan Prasad Wagle, spokesman of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation as saying.

The first meeting of an eight-member national co-ordination committee has set nine programmes to mark the event, which will focus on generating public awareness about the importance of the mountain region through publicity materials, Wagle said.

The other programmes include holding a two-day exhibition reflecting potential of the sustainable mountain development and facilitating the institutions and personalities making outstanding contributions for the development of the mountain region. — MNA/Xinhua

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Hain Lin Co (LLB) Advocate  
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Yangon. November 2, 2003.

### Ugandan Government Army kills 33 rebels

KAMPALA, 2 Nov — The Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) has killed 33 rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in separate battles in east and north Uganda in the past three days.

Eighteen of the rebels were killed on Thursday in two separate attacks in Kaberamaido and Katakwi districts in eastern Uganda and the rest were killed on Wednesday in Lira District, northern Uganda, according to *The New Vision* newspaper. — MNA/Xinhua

## မြန်မာ့လူမှုဝန်ထမ်း

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Dated this 3rd day of November 2003.

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Garden Street, Yangon

## Ramos underlines China's role in promoting Asia's eco integration

BOAO (Hainan), 2 Nov — Fidel Ramos, chairman of the board of the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA), Friday underlined the important role China plays in advancing Asia's economic integration process.

The free trade zone which is to be set up in 2010 between China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is an important step in the process of Asia's economic integration, said Ramos, former president of the Philippines, at a Press conference held prior to the opening of the 2003 BFA annual conference in Boao, in southern China's Hainan Province.

Other east Asian countries such as Japan and South Korea, are considering following China's step to set up a similar free trade mechanism with ASEAN, said Ramos.

China is a huge market for ASEAN and other Asian countries, he said, adding that the ASEAN nations with combined population of 500 million is also a big market for China.

Ramos also emphasized China's role in keeping balance in regional affairs, especially its efforts in helping find solutions to the nuclear issue of the Korean Peninsula.

MNA/Xinhua

## Official says Shanghai World Expo to cost over \$3b

SHANGHAI, 2 Nov — The Shanghai World Expo scheduled for 2010 will cost about 25 billion yuan (about 3.01 billion US dollars), according to Jiang Yingshi, director of the Shanghai Municipal Development and Reform Commission.

Addressing a forum on Shanghai World Expo Thursday, Jiang said 17 billion yuan (about 2.05 billion US dollars) will be spent in land acquisition and relocation of residents and institutions, and another eight billion yuan (about 964 million US dollars) will go to construction of facilities for the expo.

Shanghai World Expo Group Corporation will soon be set up to take charge of fund raising, management and debt repayment for the expo, said Jiang.

Zhu Linchu, deputy head of the development and research centre of Shanghai Municipal People's Government, said apart from advancing modernization and internationalization of the service trade, the expo would propel the municipality's gross domestic product (GDP) to grow at an annual average rate of about 2 per cent over the next seven years. — MNA/Xinhua

## Congo signs diamond pact to halt illegal trade

SUN CITY (South Africa), 2 Nov — The diamond-rich Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) said it signed a pact with neighbouring Congo Republic on Friday which it hopes will stamp out illegal trade on possibly the world's biggest diamond smuggling route.

The deal stipulates that by the end of the year, all diamonds shipped from the

small Congo Republic must be certified as legitimate, the chief executive of the DRC's state controlled mining board Victor Kasongo Shomary told *Reuters*.

The DRC exports some 400 million US dollars worth of diamonds every year and it is estimated Congo Republic ships some 200 million US dollars, but experts doubt it has enough diamonds to justify this figure.

"We are angry that our brothers in Congo-Brazzaville (Congo Republic) are exporting a value of diamonds higher than their geological capacity," Kasongo Shomary said in an interview.

He was speaking on the fringes of the Kimberley Process, aimed at stopping trade in "blood" or "conflict diamonds" — blamed for fuelling instability in many African countries.

MNA/Reuters

## Picture album on Silk Road published in N-W China

URUMQI, 2 Nov — A picture album on China's ancient Silk Road was officially published on Friday in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

The album was a joint project of the Tourism Bureau and the Information Office of the region. With more than 460 photos depicting scenery, folk customs, and historic sites along the Silk Road, the album was completed after three years' work by more than 20 scholars all over the country.

The album also includes 61 special topics on the Silk Road to comprehensively introduce the history and culture of the ancient road in Chinese, English and Japanese.

MNA/Xinhua



# မညာရးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

## Malaysia continues to implement current policies

KUALA LUMPUR, 2 Nov — Malaysian new Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Saturday he would continue to implement current development policies planned by former leader Mahathir Mohamad.

"All the policies were drawn up through consensus. They are actually our joint policies," Abdullah said at the Bayan Lepas Airport in Penang State upon his arrival for a visit there.

In a smooth transfer of power, Abdullah was sworn in as the country's fifth Prime Minister on October 31 to replace Mahathir, 77, who stepped down on the same day due to ageing.

The policies could be successfully implemented as all member parties of the National Front (BN), the ruling coalition, and people gave their support to enable the country to continue charting its progress, he was quoted by local *Bernama* news agency as saying.

He urged BN member parties to work harder to face

the next general election for a bigger victory.

The next general election is scheduled for 2004. In the last general election in 1999, the ruling BN won two-third majority seats in the Parliament.

"This is my aspiration. I'm not asking you to work for me, but (you) must work together with me for the people ... and country," he said.

Meanwhile, Abdullah expressed his thanks for inheriting such an effective government and success of the country's development due to the leadership of his predecessor Mahathir Mohamad.

He added the success was due to the efforts and contributions of Mahathir during his 22-year tenure as Prime Minister.

MNA/Xinhua



Malaysia's new leader Abdullah Ahmad Badawi gestures as he deliver his first public speech upon arrival at the Penang International Airport, north of Malaysia, on 1 Nov, 2003. Abdullah started his first day in office Saturday with a visit to his hometown, where thousands of people were gathering to give him a hero's welcome and mark a fresh era.

INTERNET

## India keen on cooperation with China

BOAO (Hainan), 2 Nov — Amit Mitra, secretary-general of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry said Saturday that India is keen on the cooperation with China, which he termed as a sub-continental cooperation.

Good political relations and comparative advantages in economic development in China and India lay good foundation for the connection and cooperation of the two nations, especially in trade, investment, tourism and cultural areas, said Mitra in an exclusive interview with *Xinhua* on the eve of the opening of the 2003 Boao Forum for Asia in southernmost China's Hainan Province.

China's official statistics show that bilateral trade between India and China exceeded 4.9 billion US dollars in 2002, up 37 per cent year-on-year, and reached 2.9 billion dollars during the first five months of the year, up 70 per cent year-on-year.

The bilateral trade is expected to hit 10 billion US dollars in 2005.

India has great advan-

tages in information, biological, pharmaceutical as well as entertainment technologies, said he, adding that India could learn from China the experience in economic, cultural and educational development.

The combination of China's hardware facilities with India's software technologies will give big boost to the development of the two countries, and the two nations even could join hands to explore markets in other countries worldwide, he said.

Haier Group, one of China's leading manufacturers of electric household appliances, has got approval from India to make huge investment in building factories in India, becoming China's largest manufacturing investor in India, said Mitra.

MNA/Xinhua

## WHO calls to recognize value of traditional medicine

KAMPALA, 2 Nov — The World Health Organization (WHO) Saturday called on African countries to formally recognize the value of traditional medicine in health systems particularly in primary health care through development of national policies to be implemented according to national health policies.

WHO regional director for Africa Ebrahim M. Samba made the call in a message to mark this year's International Traditional Health Day which falls on November 1 every year.

The message said that traditional medicine was the only system available for health care for centuries for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of social, mental and physical illnesses.

"The use of traditional medicine is widespread in Africa, its acceptability, availability and popularity is not in doubt as about 80 per cent of Africans have recourse to it for their health care needs," the message said.

It pointed out that di-

minishing national income, cuts in foreign aid and the search for effective treatment for common diseases such as malaria, and opportunistic infections associated with HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, "is driving renewed policy interest in traditional medicine in Africa".

"WHO has been supporting and leading the process through technical support and policy advice to member states," it assured.

The WHO also advised African countries to "create an enabling environment for the practice of traditional medicine through development of legal and regulatory frameworks for the practice and registration of traditional medicines and qualified tra-

ditional health practitioners".

"Conduct research with involvement of traditional health practitioners, to validate claims on safety, efficacy and quality of traditional medicines used for treating common diseases, using WHO protocols and guidelines," it said.

It also called to carry out large-scale cultivation and conservation of medicinal plants with involvement of traditional health practitioners and the local communities and create an enabling political, economic and regulatory environment for increasing local production from small-scale to large-scale manufacturing of traditional medicines.

MNA/Xinhua

## Singapore's employment shows signs of picking up

SINGAPORE, 2 Nov — Singapore's employment shows signs of picking up after eight consecutive quarters of decline, the Ministry of Manpower said Friday.

Preliminary estimates indicate that total employment rose by 1,000 in the third quarter of 2003 after declining by 26,000 in the previous quarter, the ministry said in a Press release published on Friday.

It said that the turnaround is brought about by the return of more services jobs as companies affected by the SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) outbreak in the previous quar-

ter have started hiring, against the backdrop of a strengthening economy.

However, the ministry noted that although employment is starting to improve, the gains are not sufficient to absorb the increased pool of job seekers as this year's new entrants join the labour market.

Preliminary estimates show that the seasonally adjusted overall unemployment rate rose from 4.5 per

cent in June 2003 to 5.9 per cent in September 2003, exceeding the previous high of 4.6 per cent hit in September 2002, it said.

The ministry added that a survey of private sector establishments each with at least 25 employees shows that an estimated 3,700 workers were retrenched in the third quarter of 2003, a 28-per-cent decrease over the previous quarter.

MNA/Xinhua

## Laos strives to achieve 6-7% economic growth

HANOI, 2 Nov — Laos has targeted to obtain a gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 6-7 per cent in the 2003-2004 fiscal year, Lao news agency KPL reported on Friday.

This was the message from the final session of the Lao Government in the 2002-2003 fiscal year, the agency said.

The three-day session also discussed measures to boost production, deal with difficulties in the fields of state budget and finance,

consolidate and intensify the role of state management, according to KPL.

At the session which was closed on Thursday, Cabinet members agreed to give priority to ensuring political stability and social security. —MNA/Xinhua

## Donate blood



Malaysian dancers take part in a welcoming ceremony at the Guangzhou Baiyun Airport for the first Malaysia Airlines flight from Kuching, the capital city of Sarawak in eastern Malaysia, on 2 November, 2003. Malaysia Airlines on Sunday started flights between Kuching and Guangzhou. —INTERNET

## SPORTS

## Monaco go three points clear after 4-2 win

PARIS, 2 NOV— Monaco went three points clear at the top of France's Ligue 1 on Saturday after they beat bottom side Le Mans 4-2 and Olympique Marseille finished with nine men after losing 1-0 at Girondins Bordeaux.

Champions Olympique Lyon thrashed 10-man Nice 5-0 but had three players carried off after brutal tackles.

Monaco, unbeaten in the league since August 9, have 27 points from 12 games followed by Lyon and Marseille on 24. Paris St. Germain have 20 and play RC Lens in Sunday's only game.

Marseille were disappointed at being refused permission by FIFA to have France goalkeeper Fabien Barthez on loan from Manchester United and they will now be without striker Didier Drogba and defender Philippe Christanval for next week's visit by Lyon.

Drogba was sent off in the 74th minute for retaliation and Christanval — in only his second league match since signing from Barcelona — stopped a pass with his hand when he was the last defender.

Jean-Claude Darcheville scored the only goal in first half injury time after beating the offside trap and slipping the ball past Vedran Runje. It is 26 years since Marseille won at Bordeaux who have got four points in the two games since new coach Michel Pavon was appointed. —MNA/Reuters



World number one Andy Roddick of the US returns the ball to opponent Tim Henman of Britain in their semifinal of the Paris Masters ATP tennis tournament at Paris Bercy stadium, on 1 November, 2003. —INTERNET

## Sutton hat-trick keeps Celtic five points clear

LONDON, 2 NOV — Chris Sutton hit a hat-trick and leaders Celtic chalked up their 10th successive league win by demolishing Kilmarnock 5-0 to stay five points clear of Rangers on Saturday. Champions Rangers defeated bottom club Partick Thistle 3-1 at Ibrox with two goals from Spanish midfielder Mikel Arteta but emerged with more injury worries.

After 11 matches, Celtic have 31 points while Rangers have 26. Hearts, who beat Livingston 3-1 at home, are third on 20 points.

It was a triumphant return to Kilmarnock's Rugby Park for Sutton, who was hit with a four-match ban for receiving two red cards having abused the match officials in the aftermath of Celtic's 4-0 win on the final day of last season.

Sutton's first came from a 20th minute penalty after a foul on Stilian Petrov but Celtic had to wait until the 70th minute to double their lead through John Hartson's header.

Sutton then added his second and after substitute Shaun Maloney had hit a fourth, the striker completed his hat-trick in the 90th minute to take his tally to nine for the season.

MNA/Reuters

## Answers for yesterday's Crossword



## Utah Olympic execs bribed to win, says prosecutor

SALT LAKE CITY, 2 NOV — Two former Utah Olympic executives used "good old American greenbacks" to bribe international Olympic dignitaries with cash, trips to Paris and Disneyland, and even medical care in their zeal to bring the Olympics to Utah, a federal prosecutor said on Friday.

John Scott, a senior US Justice Department attorney, said on the opening day of trial before US District Judge David Sam that defendants Tom Welch, who was president of the Utah Bid Committee and Dave Johnson, a senior vice-president, mocked the process of how Olympic host cities are selected.

The two men, at first heroes in 1995 when Salt Lake City was awarded the Games, have been charged with one count of conspiracy, five counts of mail fraud, five counts of wire fraud and four counts of interstate travel in aid of racketeering. If convicted on all counts they could go to prison for up to 75 years. They have pleaded not guilty.

Scott also tried to take steam out of the defence contention that the defendants were only doing what was necessary to bring the 2002 Winter Games to Utah by admitting there were excesses among bidding cities. Corruption did exist among some members of the International Olympic Committee, he said, but the two defendants took it to new heights.

"Instead of choosing to say no to the corruption they embraced it. They perpetuated it. They refined it," Scott said. Some of the money for the one- million-US-dollar cash-for-votes scandal came directly in cash from a US travel agency that was a sponsor for Utah Olympics, the prosecution said.

MNA/Reuters

## Arsenal, United and Chelsea all winners

LONDON, 2 NOV — Arsenal hammered Leeds United 4-1 to stay top of the Premier League on Saturday but there was no let-up in the pressure as champions Manchester United and title rivals Chelsea both clocked up victories.

Thierry Henry scored twice and Robert Pires and Gilberto grabbed one apiece at Elland Road as Arsenal swept to an easy victory over struggling Leeds to stay top on 27 points.

But Chelsea remain just a point behind after Romanian striker Adrian Mutu got the only goal of their game at Everton, while third-placed United have 25 points after a 3-0 win over Portsmouth.

United, beaten at home by Fulham last weekend, made no such mistake at Old Trafford on Saturday as Diego Forlan gave them a first-half lead. Portuguese winger Cristiano Ronaldo added his first for the club and substitute Roy Keane smashed home a late third.

Elsewhere, Newcastle United drew 1-1 with 10-man Aston Villa after skipper Alan Shearer had a late penalty saved, Manchester City won 2-0 at Southampton and Tottenham Hotspur suffered their first defeat under caretaker boss David Pleat, losing 1-0 at home to Bolton Wanderers.

Saturday's defeat rounded off a miserable week for Leeds after they announced record losses for a Premier League club of nearly 50 million pounds (84.69 million dollars) and debts of 78 million pounds.

Matters on the pitch for Peter Reid's side fared no better as Arsenal accelerated into a 3-0 lead by halftime after a series of counter-attacks to keep Leeds second from bottom.

"They were very, very good and we didn't handle them on the break, in particu-

lar," Reid said of Arsene Wenger's side. "They've got world class players and... ultimately we paid the penalty."

Thanking the club's supporters, he told Sky Sports: "We've just got to get through this difficult time and one of the ways we'll get through it is with the fantastic support of our fans."

Arsenal ended a week in which the club were fined 175,000 pounds and four players were suspended after ugly scenes at the end of a 0-0 draw at Manchester United in September.

Wenger, who said the bans had affected his squad during training, told Sky Sports: "Today we responded well, because we can focus on what's in front of us and get on with it."

Anticipating the media's response, Henry said: "After all those people were talking about Arsenal for the wrong things, I hope tomorrow they'll be talking about us for the right things."

Chelsea coach Claudio Ranieri had to be grateful for a string of misses by Everton in both halves before recording their victory at Goodison Park.

"In the first half it was all Everton," Ranieri conceded. "The second for us was much better. I just told them to try and keep possession, because we cannot play like Everton — they have good organization and always get the ball forward."

A blossoming Forlan scored his third goal in three games to kick-start United's win against Portsmouth.

MNA/Reuters

## Deadly Ronaldo steers Real to the top

MADRID, 2 NOV — World Player of the Year Ronaldo produced a virtuoso performance to steer Real Madrid to a 3-0 win over Athletic Bilbao that sent them top of the Primera Liga on Saturday after Deportivo Coruna were held to a 0-0 draw by lowly Murcia.

The Brazilian striker, who had hit a minor drought after failing to score for three games, produced two brilliant finishes either side of the break and then served up a third for Luis Figo as he turned in a match-winning performance at the Bernabeu.

Earlier, Deportivo, who lost 2-0 at home to Real Mallorca in midweek, turned in a lame performance in their goalless draw against a determined Murcia at the Condomina Stadium.

Real now lead the table with 23 points from 10 games, one ahead of Depor and three clear of Valencia, who make the trip to play Real Mallorca on Sunday.

Despite the apparently comfortable scoreline, Bilbao pushed Real hard throughout the 90 minutes and it took a string of stunning reflex saves from keeper Iker Casillas to keep the champions in the game early on and deny the visitors a deserved goal.

David Beckham, returning to the starting line-up after two games out with a pulled hamstring, showed little sign of his injury as he too produced a fine performance at the heart of the Real midfield.

The England captain sprayed a series of pin-point passes around the pitch and came close to scoring with a well-struck dipping free kick in the second half.

But the former Manchester United player was fortunate to stay on the pitch when he escaped with just a booking — his third in 10 games — when he brought down Andoni Iraola as the Bilbao defender raced towards the Real area in the final minute of the half.

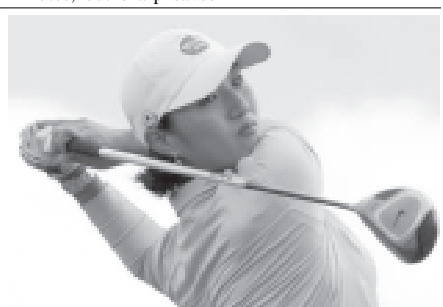
Bilbao made a sprightly start at the Bernabeu and created two clear scoring chances in the opening 10 minutes, but sharp saves

from Casillas denied the Basques an early lead.

The Real keeper made a great point-blank save to block a bullet header from Santi Ezquerro on five minutes and then got down quickly to turn away a Jonan Garcia shot after a lightning break initiated by pacy winger Joseba Etxeberria.

The two sides proceeded to trade attacks in a pulsating first half, Casillas coming to Real's rescue twice more when he saved an Etxeberria effort with his foot and then tipped a goal-bound Tiko free kick over the bar.

MNA/Reuters



South Korean Grace Park drives a shot on the sixth hole during the second round of the CJ Nine Bridges Classic, a US LPGA Tour event, in Cheju island, south of Seoul, on 1 November, 2003. Park shot a six-under par 66 and is in second place after the first round. —INTERNET





On behalf of the King of Thailand, Thai delegation leader Dr Sorajak Kasemsuvan, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, offers Kathina robes and offertories to Abhidhaja Maharathaguru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara Mahathera. — MNA

## Kathina robes offering ceremony of King of Thailand held

YANGON, 2 Nov — The merit-sharing of the Kathina robes offering ceremony of the King of Thailand was held at Pañca Nikāya Tipitaka monastery in Dagon Myothit (South) this morning.

Present on the occasion were Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara and members of the Sangha, Presiding Sayadaw of the monastery Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovidha Bhaddanta Silakkhandabhivamsa, Patron Sayadaws and members of the Sangha from the monastery, Deputy Minister of the Foreign Affairs of the

Thailand Dr Sorajak Kasemsuvan, Ambassador Mr Oum Maolanon and embassy staff, Director-General Dr Myo Myint of the Religious Affairs Department, Director-General U Sann Lwin of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, officials of the ministry, chairmen and members of Thailand-Myanmar Cultural and Economic Association and the Myanmar-Thailand Cultural and Economic Association, guests from Thailand, Thai families in Myanmar, members of the MMCWA and social organizations and others.

The Deputy Minister and the Director-General of DPPS offered candle lights to the Buddha image.

The ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa*. On behalf of the Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, the Secretary Sayadaw administered the Five Precepts. Afterwards, members of the Sangha recited Metta Sutta paritta.

On behalf of the King of Thailand, the Deputy Minister offered royal Kathina robes to Sayadaws. He then explained the purposes of the donation. He presented the donation made by the King to Director-General U Sann Lwin. The ambassador handed over the donation made by the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Thailand; Min-



Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and wife offer Kathina robes to a Sayadaw at 7th Kathina Ceremony of Ministry of SWRR. (News on page 9) — MNA

ister Opas Chantarasap the donation made by the Royal Thai Embassy, Counsellor Mr Kallayana Vipattipumiprattaprasit the donation made by the Thai families in Yangon, General Sanan Kajornklam of the Thailand-Myanmar Cultural and Economic Association the donation made by the association, Chairman Lt-Gen Kyaw Than (Retd) of the Myanmar-Thailand Cultural and Economic Association the donation made by the association. Director-General U Sann Lwin accepted the donations.

Presiding Sayadaw of the monastery delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained. After the ceremony, officials offered "soon" to the members of the Sangha.

MNA



Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint presents championship trophy for professional golfers event of the third leg of Myanmar Golf Tour (Kanbawza Open) to Zaw Zaw Latt (Pan-West). — MGF

## Archery athletes arrive

YANGON, 2 Nov — Archery Athletes from Indonesia, Singapore, China and Mongolia arrived here today to participate in the 13th Asian Archery Cham-

pionship and 2004 Athens Olympic Archery Qualifier. They were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by officials concerned. — MNA

## WEATHER

Sunday, 2 November, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Mandalay Division, isolated in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were 3°C below normal in Ayeyawady Division, 8°C above normal in Rakhine State, 3°C to 4°C above normal in Bago, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 1-11-2003 was 34.5°C (94°F). Minimum temperature on 2-11-2003 was 20.0°C (72°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 2-11-2003 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 1-11-2003 was (8.5) hours approx.

Rainfall on 2-11-2003 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 2211 mm (87.05 inches) at Yangon Airport, 2315 mm (91.14 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 2394 mm (94.25 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from Northeast at (11:40) hours MST on 1-11-2003.

**Bay inference:** Weather is partly cloudy in the South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 3-11-2003:** Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be generally fair 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:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 3-11-2003:** Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 3-11-2003:** Partly cloudy.

## Maung Khin Min (Danubyu), winner of National Literary Award

Article by Kyaw Sein, photos by Thwin Aye



Winner of National Literary Award for Belles-Lettres Saya Maung Khin Min (Danubyu). Photo: Thwin Aye

Kyemon Daily interviewed writer Maung Khin Min (Danubyu) who won National Literary Award for his belles-lettres.

**Kyemon** Well, we would like to know how you have tried to win the award.

**MKMI** I felt very happy for winning the award. To begin with, I contributed articles about myself in the Myodaw Magazine.

My father passed away when I was about ten years. My mother also died when I was 15, forcing me to be an orphan. I was brought up under the care of my relatives. I experienced the turbulent times facing vari-

ous hardships in my life. Although I was driven by what I had been in the habit of reading and writing. I have become a writer probably due to these driving factors.

Being a bookworm in my younger days, I tried my best in pursuing education. As a result, I was recognized as an outstanding student. Starting from my middle school days, I won stipend.

I also won scholarship and I had been able to pursue higher education, which I had not expected. I did well in the university and finally I became a professor of Myanmar.

I started to write about my turbulent life in Myodaw Magazine when I was over 40 on the assumption that it will benefit youths.

I believed youths would be able to draw lessons from my experiences. Unexpectedly, I won National Literary Award for my belles-lettres titled "Milestones in 40 years of life".

I felt very happy to win the award because I have written the book with the aim of imparting

knowledge and giving lessons to the youths.

I also won the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award (first prize) in the Knowledge (arts) category in 1987.

My wife and my daughter have encouraged me to write. They strongly wished me to win the National Literary Award. The book titled "Milestones in 40 years of life" won the award in accordance with the wishes of my family. I was very pleased that my efforts have been recognised.

I am a professor/head of department of Myanmar Department with Yangon University and was conferred D-Litt last year. I am pleased to note that many books on knowledge and aesthetic of doyen writers have been reprinted again and again. This can be assumed that the number of readers in our country is not small.

I believe that the moral lies in the books and knowledge gained from various kinds of books could lead a person to a better life.

(Translation: TS)

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Vice-President of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat meet

YANGON, 2 NOV — The delegation led by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and the delegation led by Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat met at Pyithu Hluttaw Building on Pyay Road here at 6 pm today.

Also present at the meeting together with Vice-Senior General Maung Aye were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win,



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party meet goodwill delegation of Republic of India led by Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat at Mingala Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw. —MNA

Myanmar Ambassador-designate to India U Kyi Thein, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Lt-

Col Pe Nyein, and Director-General of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Thura U Aung Htet.

The Indian Vice-President was accompanied by Minister of State for External Affairs Mr Digvijay Singh, Member of Parlia-

ment (RS) Mr Anil Kumar, Member of Parliament (RS) Mr B J Panda, Foreign Secretary Mr K Sibal, Secretary to Vice-President Mr

Anil Kumar, officials and Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia.

MNA

### Indian-Myanmar bilateral agreement, MoU, signed

YANGON, 2 NOV — A ceremony to sign the bilateral agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and India was held at 7.20 pm today at Pyithu Hluttaw Building here.

It was attended by Vice Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, U Kyi Thein, Myanmar Ambassador-designate to India, departmental heads, Indian Minister of State for External

Affairs Mr Digvijay Singh, Member of Parliament (RS) Mr Anil Kumar, Member of Parliament (RS) Mr B J Panda, Foreign Secretary Mr K Sibal, senior officials and Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia.

First, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and Mr K Sibal signed the Myanmar-India Agreement on Visa Exemption for official and Diplomatic Passports and exchanged the documents.

Next, MoU between the Ministry of Education, Government of Myanmar, and the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, was signed by Education Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt and Mr K Sibal. The documents were exchanged and the ceremony came to an end. —MNA

### Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hosts dinner in honour of Vice-President of India

YANGON, 2 NOV — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting goodwill delegation led by Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat at the reception hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building on Pyay Road here this evening.

Also present at the dinner were Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon mayor, deputy ministers, Myanmar Ambassador-designate

to India U Kyi Thein, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia and directors-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the Government Office, the Presidential Office, the Pyithu Hluttaw office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

First, the State Orchestra played the national anthems of the two countries.

Before and during the dinner, song were presented with the accompaniment of Myanmar Athan modern music troupe.

After the dinner, artistes of the Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture entertained the guests with variety dance show.

After that, the Vice-President presented a flower basket to the artistes.

MNA

### Grandchildren of Vice-President of India visit Myanmar Gems Museum

YANGON, 2 NOV — Ms Mural Rajvi, Mstr Vikramaditya Singh Rajvi and Mstr Abhimanyu Singh Rajvi, grandchildren of Vice-President of the Republic of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat who was here at the invitation of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior-General Maung Aye, accompanied by officials, visited Myanmar Gems Museum on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township this afternoon.

They were welcomed there by Deputy Director U San Lwin and officials. The guests viewed round the museum.

Next, they went to Yadana White Elephant Garden near Mindhamma Hill in Insein Township.

Director-General U Shwe Kyaw of the Forest Department and Director U Myint Swe of Zoological Gardens Department welcomed them.

At the White Elephant House, the director-general and the director explained facts about the White Elephants to the guests.

The guests fed the White Elephants and left there in the evening.

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#### INSIDE

*Perspectives*  
To raise the patriotic efficiency of the People  
Page 2

#### Foreign News Pages

3,4,5,6,12,13,14

#### Circulation

24,047



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hosts a dinner in honour of the goodwill delegation of India led by Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat at Pyithu Hluttaw. — MNA