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General Khin Nyunt sees off Military Attaches



Military Adviser to the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt sees off military attaches of foreign missions in Myanmar and families. — MNA

YANGON, 5 Nov — Military Adviser to the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt, together with Vice Chief of Military

Intelligence Maj-Gen Kyaw Win and officials, this morning saw off the study group comprising military attaches and their families at the Yangon International

Airport.

The group led by Head of the Office of the Chief of Military Intelligence Brig-Gen Thein Swe and Dean of the Military At-

taches Malaysian Military Attache to Myanmar Col Harun Bin Hitam will visit the areas in the Northern Command.

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

Prime Minister presents prizes to winners of 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

YANGON, 5 Nov — The prize presentation of the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions was held on a grand scale at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street in Dagon Township on 3 November attended by Patron of the committee for organizing the competitions Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, members of Panel of Patrons of the committee for organizing the competitions, Chairman of the leading committee for organizing the competitions Yangon Division PDC Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife, and distinguished guests. On the occasion, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint presented first, second and third prizes to U Kyaw Thu Win of Mon State and U Myint Aung of Ayeyawady Division, U Aung Zaw Htwe

of Yangon Division and U Myint Nyein of Bago Division in the men's professional level piano contest; Maung Zeya Tun of Shan State, U Soe Shwe Wah and U Kyaw Swa Lin of Mandalay Division in the men's amateur level piano contest; Maung Aung Aung of Ayeyawady Division, Maung Win Soe of Yangon Division and Maung Zaw Myo Thet of Yangon Division in the men's higher education level piano contest; Maung Zeya Min of Yangon Division, Maung Soe Thein of Bago Division and Maung Yu Maung of Mandalay Division and Maung Win Htut of Ayeyawady Division in the basic education level piano contest (aged 15-20, boys); Maung Htain Lin Aung of Yangon Division, Maung Hein Htoo Zaw of Yangon Division and Maung Thuta Htun of Mandalay Division and Maung Par Par Aung of Sagaing Division in the basic education level piano contest (aged 10-15, boys); Maung Phone Moe Yan of Mandalay Division, Maung Aung Ko Ko Hla of Yangon Division and Maung Pyi Phyo Maung (See page 2)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets a new generation performing arts contestant. — MNA

Swe Swe Thant wins gold for Myanmar at World Wushu Championship

YANGON, 5 Nov — After the first day of the Seventh World Wushu Championship which started in Macao yesterday, Swe Swe Thant (Industry-2) of Myanmar won gold medal at Nantqunt contest. The athletes from the Philippines and China (Taipei) bagged silver and bronze medals respectively.

At the Hsanso contest, Thein Htaik Oo (Defence Services) of Myanmar beat the athlete from Egypt. He will compete against the athlete from host Macao in the semi-final match. — MNA

Archery Championship, Qualifier continue

YANGON, 5 Nov — The 13th Asian Archery Championship Continental Qualification for 2004 Athens Olympic, hosted by Myanmar continued this morning at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) here. A total of 58 archers from Myanmar, Bhutan, Indonesia, Malaysia, China, China (Taipei), Singapore, Korea, Vietnam, Mongolia, India and Hong Kong took part in Women Recurve and Compound Event (70 metre) and (60 metre) of second day event.

In the afternoon, a total of 90 archers from Myanmar, Bangladesh, India, Mongolia, Bhutan, Japan, Qatar, China, Kazakhstan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Korea, Thailand, China (Taipei), Laos, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Uzbekistan and Iran took part in the Men Recurve and Compound Event (50 metre and 30 metre). The last days of the events and prize presentation ceremony will continue tomorrow at the same venue. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 6 November, 2003

Development of human resources, key to national development

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, on one occasion, said, "The establishment of a discipline-flourishing democracy calls for peace and stability and strong national economic life, and at the same time high educational standard is the sine qua non for the ever-lasting democracy".

The Union of Myanmar is now on the correct path to development owing to the Government's relentless efforts to realize the most appropriate policies with the participation of the national people.

Nowadays, there have been favourable conditions for development in economic, social and technological sectors. At such a time like this, the seven-point policy programme has also been laid down for the emergence of a genuine democracy.

The Special Refresher Course No. 54 for basic education teachers was opened at the Nawarat Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township, Yangon Division on 31 October and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win attended the ceremony and delivered a speech.

In his address on the occasion, the Secretary-1 said that now is the time when the Government is building economic and social infrastructures on a self-reliance basis, that most of the infrastructures necessary for a new nation have been built and that human resources are the key to national development. And he added that it is of utmost importance to turn out patriotic intellectuals and intelligentsia.

Rapid development in science and technologies has had a great influence on education, health, social and economic fields of the human society. The teaching-learning system with the use of electronic computer science is a fundamental requirement for the development of human resources and the enhancement of national education.

It is necessary for the teachers to be well-versed in their respective subjects and teach their students to become outstanding ones. The human society today has to be always learning so as to be able to deal with future challenges.

We would like to urge all the teachers to try as hard as they can to turn out highly-qualified human resources, the key to development. Only then will our nation be able to keep abreast with the development of other nations in the world.

WTO Valuation Agreement Workshop opened

YANGON, 5 Nov — Course No 4 on WTO Valuation Agreement Workshop for Private Sector organized by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Customs Department was opened at UMFCCI Training Centre on Bo Sun Pat street here this morning.

A total of 41 trainees are attending the course. At the opening ceremony, Director-General of the Customs Department Col Khin Maung Lin and President of UMFCCI U Win Myint delivered addresses. — MNA



UMFCCI President U Win Myint makes an address at Course on WTO Valuation Agreement Workshop opening ceremony. — MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Maj-Gen Ye Myint and Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung offer robes to Sayadaws at the Kathina robes offering ceremony of the Central Command. — MNA

Kathina robes offering ceremony of Central Command held

YANGON, 5 Nov — The third Kathina Robes offering ceremony of the Central Command was held at Maha Wizayayama Monastery on 62nd Road between 19th and 20th streets in Aungmyaythazan township,

Mandalay Division, on 3 November morning.

At the ceremony, Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of the Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen

Thura Myint Maung presented the robes and offertories to the members of the Sangha.

Regiments and units under the command collectively donated offertories and robes to 202 monks.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party also attended the 15th Kathina robes offering ceremony of Mandalay Division Police Force at Maha Wizatayon Monastery in Chanayethazan Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint attends Kathina robes offering ceremonies in Mandalay

YANGON, 5 Nov — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of the Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of the Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and officials, on 3 November morning arrived at Dakkhinayama Payagyi Monastery in Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay.

At the monastery, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party presented offertories and paid homage to Sayadaw Agga Maha Panddita Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Maydiya Bhivamsa.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party also presented offertories to Nayaka sayadaws of Dakkhinayama Payagyi Monastery and Sayadaw Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Subana of Maesai, Thailand,

at the Kathina robes offering ceremony held by Thailand Sayadaw and disciples at the monastery.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to Athawakayama Monastery and made cash donations amounting to K 2 million and 100 sets of robes to the monks in the monastery through officials.

Later, they arrived at Moekaung Monastery in Chanayethazan Township. Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented K 3.1 million and 100 sets of robes donated by him and wellwishers to hold the Kathina robes offering ceremony at the monastery.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Mandalay Chanthagyi Rice Donation Association in Aungmyaythazan Township and inspected renovation of the hall of the association.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Salay Monastery in Chanmyathazi Township and contributed K 100,000 for construction of monastic edu-

cation school.

They attended the 13th Kathina robes offering ceremony of the General Administration Department, Mandalay, held at Moegok Monastery in Chanayethazan Township.

On 4 November, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected

Mandalay-Kyaukse section on Yangon-Mandalay six-lane road. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with members of Kyaukse District, Township PDCs, departmental officials and gave instructions on development affairs tasks in Kyaukse.

MNA



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung presents a prize to a winner in the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions. — MNA

Prime Minister presents ...

(from page 1)
of Mandalay Division in the basic education level piano contest (aged 5-10, boy).

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt presented first, second, third and consolation prizes to Daw Sein Sein Yin of Yangon Division, Daw Than Than Nyunt of Mandalay Division in the women's professional level piano contest; Ma Hnin Ei Phyu of Ayeyawady Division and Ma Than Than Lwin of Yangon Division in the women's amateur level piano contest; Ma Tin Sanda

Win of Bago Division, Ma Khin Swe Mya Kyi of Mandalay Division and Ma Cho Thway Aung of Ayeyawady Division in the women's higher education level piano contest; Ma Eint Tharathu of Yangon Division, Ma Khin Thazin Yadana Tun of Magway Division and Ma Lwin Lwin Cho Tun of Ayeyawady Division in the basic education level piano contest (aged 15-20, girls); Ma Ei Phyo Paing of Yangon Division, Ma Wai Phyo Paing of Taninthayi Division and Ma Chan Myay Thu of Mandalay Division and Nan Htet

Htet Aye of Shan State in the basic education level piano contest (aged 10-15, girls); Ma Hnin Aye Wai of Yangon Division, Ma Thiri Myat Su of Ayeyawady Division and Ma Aye Chan Moe Thant of Mandalay Division in the basic education level piano contest (aged 5-10, girls).

Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw presented respective first, second and third prizes to U San Ohn of Yangon Division, U Shwe Soe of Mon State and U Tun Kyaing of (See page 8)



Four wounded in Baghdad blasts

BAGHDAD, 5 Nov—Four Coalition Provisional Authority personnel were wounded Tuesday night when three large explosions shook central Baghdad, the Pentagon said.

Projectiles landed in the heavily secure "Green Zone" that includes a former palace of ousted leader Saddam Hussein, where the US occupation headquarters are located. The projectiles didn't land on palace grounds, officials said.

One of the wounded was treated at the site of the blast, and three were taken to the 28th Combat Support Hospital, the officials said. The Pentagon didn't say whether the casualties were military or civilian.

Explosions were heard at the Palestine and Al-Rashid hotels, where many journalists stay. The latter was targeted in an October 26 rocket attack that killed a US Army officer.

On Monday night, three rockets or mortar rounds hit in the same area, a coalition spokesman said. No damage

or injuries were reported.

One round hit a camp of the 2nd Armoured Cavalry Regiment and two others struck areas near central Baghdad, according to a Coalition Provisional Authority statement. Officials are trying to determine whether rockets or mortar fire caused the explosions.

Hotels come under fire. In the second deadly attack in as many days, a soldier with the Army's 1st Armoured Division was killed Tuesday and two were wounded when their military vehicle struck an improvised explosive device in Baghdad, a coalition official said.

A 4th Infantry Division soldier also died Monday when his vehicle hit a mine in Tikrit, Saddam's ancestral homeland, a US military spokesman said.

With the latest deaths, 382 US troops have died during the war in Iraq, includ-

ing 257 under hostile circumstances.

There is no reliable source for Iraqi civilian or combatant casualty figures, either during the period of major combat or after May 1. The *Associated Press* reported an estimated 3,240 civilian Iraqi deaths between March 20 and April 20, but the *AP* reported that the figure was based on records of only half of Iraq's hospitals and the actual number was thought to be significantly higher.

In northern Iraq, the Mosul Hotel, which houses some US troops, was hit in a rocket-propelled-grenade attack Tuesday, but there were no casualties, a US military spokesman said.

Initial reports indicate that four grenades were fired at the hotel as well as small-arms fire.

Internet

Iraq-Turkey oil pipeline may not reopen for 3 weeks

BAGHDAD, 5 Nov—The key oil export pipeline from northern Iraq to Turkey is highly unlikely to reopen this week as previously planned, and it could take up to three weeks to resume operations, an Oil Ministry source said on Monday.

"I seriously doubt that the pipeline will restart this week. It could take two to three weeks," the source told *Reuters*.

Oil officials had previously said the pipeline would resume operation in the first week of November, after being shut due to damage from sabotage. It had been due to restart in mid-October but that date was also missed due to sabotage. Sabotage and looting have hampered Iraq's efforts to boost oil exports, a vital source of revenue for the shattered economy.—*MNA/Reuters*



Iraqi police guard the site of a bomb attack on the Baratha hotel in the holy city of Kerbala on 4 November, 2003. A roadside bomb killed a US soldier in Baghdad and one of Washington's chief allies, Spain, said it was recalling some embassy and other staff in fresh setbacks to US efforts to bring calm to Iraq. —INTERNET

Putin says Russia won't send troops to Iraq

Moscow, 5 Nov—President Vladimir Putin said Russia won't contribute troops to an international peacekeeping force in Iraq, adding that the latest United Nations resolution had fallen short of creating conditions for Moscow's involvement.

Putin, in an interview with Italian media posted on the Kremlin Web site Tuesday, said that further action is needed to increase the UN's political clout in Iraq and speed up the transfer of power to the Iraqis.

"In order to achieve the full unity of the international community on Iraq, it's necessary to take further steps aimed at giving the United Nations more opportunities for directly managing the political situation in that country," Putin said.

"Until that happens, many countries will see certain restrictions on their active participation in rebuilding Iraq," he said.

Russia strongly opposed the US-led war in Iraq, but after it ended it moved to mend its ties with the United States and last month backed the US-drafted UN resolution aimed at attracting more troops and money to stabilize the country.

Referring to US arguments that the Iraqis still aren't ready to run their own affairs, Putin agreed that "it's necessary to act accurately to avoid creating a vacuum of power," but warned against dragging out the restoration of Iraq's sovereignty.

He ruled out any Russian military role in Iraq.—*Internet*

Khamenei says Iran nuke cooperation has limits

TEHERAN, 5 Nov—Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warned that Teheran would end cooperation with the UN nuclear watchdog if further demands undermined Iran's national interests, state television reported on Monday.

It was the first time Khamenei, who has the last word on all state matters in the Islamic Republic, has aired his views on Iran's deal, struck with three European foreign ministers, to suspend uranium enrichment and sign up to snap nuclear checks. "If we reach the point that Iran's national interests and values are threatened, we will not hesitate to stop our cooperation," he said.

"Anyone who ever tries to challenge Iran's peaceful nuclear programme will be slapped in the face," he added.

But a Western diplomat told *Reuters* in Vienna it was almost inconceivable that Iran would end cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), as a number of hardline Iranian officials have threatened in recent months.

"They are not so stupid," said the diplomat, who added such an action would prompt the international community to isolate the Islamic Republic.

If Iran were to end its cooperation with the agency, the diplomat said the IAEA board would not hesitate to report this to the UN Security Council, which is able to impose sanctions.

The diplomat said Iran would probably escape being reported to the Security Council at the IAEA's governing board meeting in November, despite repeated failures to inform the agency about its past nuclear activities and facilities. Khamenei said Iran had not bowed to pressure in striking a deal with the foreign ministers of Britain, France and Germany who had sought proof that Teheran was not seeking nuclear weapons.

MNA/Reuters

Wounded US soldiers arrive in Germany for medical treatment

BERLIN, 5 Nov—Sixteen American soldiers wounded in Iraq in an attack on the helicopter they were aboard arrived in Germany Monday to receive medical treatment.

The wounded soldiers will be treated in the US military hospital in Landstuhl in the western German state of Rhineland-Pfalz. Nine of the 16 soldiers were placed in intensive care units, said spokeswoman for the hospital, Marie Shaw.

Another five soldiers were in serious state, she said, adding that several patients must be operated on later Monday.

Shaw also noted that more wounded US soldiers will be brought to Landstuhl from Iraq. On Sunday, a CH-47 Chinook transport helicopter with around 35 coalition soldiers, probably all Americans, on board was shot down when it was flying to the Baghdad International Airport. A total of 15 soldiers were killed in the attack.

MNA/Xinhua

Drug seizure in Iran up 24%

TEHERAN, 5 Nov—Seizure of illicit drugs in Iran during the first half of the current Iranian year (starting on March 21) was 24 per cent higher compared with the same period last year, local Press reported on Monday.

Anti-drug police seized during this period a total of 1,642 kilos of heroin, 6,462 kilos of morphine, 46,348 kilos of opium, 33,823 kilos of hashish and 626 kilos of other kinds of narcotics, the report said.

Iran lies at the crossroads of a major drug trafficking route originating mainly from Afghanistan and linking markets in the Gulf states, Central Asia, Western Europe and other regions. More than 3,000 Iranian anti-drug police officers lost their lives in clashes with drug traffickers during the past over 20 years.

Official estimates said anti-drug campaign costs Iran about 800 million US dollars annually.

MNA/Xinhua



A model presents a Mobile Assistant produced by the US Xybernaut technology company, during a fashion show of intelligent 'i-Wear' at the European science and technology week in Berlin, on 3 November, 2003. The Mobile Assistant consists of a portable computer, head set with a mounted display, a camera, wrist-worn mini keyboard and a mini mouse.

INTERNET

Iraq's pipelines ripe for sabotage

KIRKUK (Iraq), 5 Nov—Mannaa al-Ubaidi's explanation of the obstacles to resuming exports from Iraq's Northern Oil Company is interrupted by a knock at the door.

An American soldier pokes his head into the executive's freshly painted office, which was badly damaged by postwar looting. "Excuse me, sir, I've come for the production reports. No bad news, I hope?" Mr. Ubaidi, a 33-year veteran of Northern Oil and its current chief executive, assures the soldier all is well, hands over a summary of crude-oil output from the rich Kirkuk fields, and ushers him out. He says he knows full well why the US is anxious to track his progress.

"The work we do here is vital to the future of Iraq," says Ubaidi. "We help fuel the domestic economy, and oil exports are going to determine how much we can spend on our own reconstruction."

How much, remains Iraq's \$50 billion question. That's the amount the US-led coalition predicts oil exports will contribute to Iraq's government in the next three years.

The good news is that the oil is flowing again. Oil-well fires have been extinguished, looted spare parts replaced, and some pipelines reopened. In October, Iraq exported a daily average of 1.14 million barrels of crude, worth about \$24 million. It's a promising amount when compared

with the coalition's goal for the end of 2004, 1.6 million barrels per day (b.p.d.). But it falls far short of the goal of 2.4 million b.p.d. by the end of 2005.

But just 10 miles from Ubaidi's office in the center of Kirkuk city is the bad news.

All looks well at the sprawling depot that marks the start of the 300-mile pipeline to Turkey's Mediterranean port of Ceyhan. Huge cylindrical oil tanks squat on the landscape, and the four-foot wide pipeline gleams.

But it's strangely silent. Slap the pipeline hard with your palm and you're rewarded with a hollow, resonant thump. That's evidence that the pipeline which accounted for about 40 percent of Iraq's exports of 2 million barrels a day before the war remains dry.

The reason isn't technical. Like almost everything else in Iraq these days, the problem is security, particularly in light of soaring attacks across the country that have shown growing sophistication and coordination among the insurgents.

Iraq's pipelines have been repeatedly targeted by saboteurs. The export pipeline from Kirkuk has been an easy target since it snakes southwest through Baiji in the "Sunni Triangle" where resistance to the US coalition is strongest, before turning north towards Turkey.

The problem isn't just exports—which coalition officials and Iraqi oil executives say they are getting under control. Thousands of Iraqis have been recruited into the Facilities Protection Force, a sort of infrastructure police, and are being put to work guarding the pipeline.

But there have been growing signs that enemies of the coalition have been shifting their attention to the domestic pipelines, as important in their own way to Iraqi stability as oil exports. Guarding the domestic pipelines is a task that makes protecting the 300-mile pipeline from Kirkuk look like child's play.

"We are facing sabotage always," says Salah Aziz Karim, who oversees the domestic distribution network. "It's not dramatic—last week two attacks, the week before that just one—there's no steady pattern. But it has yet to stop."

Internet



Tears in US towns after helicopter loss in Iraq

GENOA, 5 Nov—Anguish, tears and anger swept this northern Illinois town on Monday after the deadliest single attack yet on US soldiers in Iraq took the life of a friend and neighbour.

First Lt Brian Slavenas, son of a Lithuanian immigrant and youngest of a family in which military service was routine and honoured, was piloting the Chinook helicopter in which he and 15 others died when it was shot down by insurgents near the town of Falluja. Twenty-one others on board were injured.

The deaths sent military posts across the country into mourning as the news came to families in towns big and small with a dreaded knock on the door. In Oklahoma, seven-year-old Gage Pennanen struggled to come to terms with the death of his father, Sgt Ross Pennanen of Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where four of the soldiers killed were stationed.

"I don't think it's really hit Gage yet," said Linda Pennanen, the sergeant's stepmother. "He rode motorcycles with Gage. They loved riding motorcycles. They did everything together."

In Genoa, about an hour's drive west of Chicago, Slavenas was remembered as a six-foot five-inch "gentle giant," in the words of his father Ronald. He could have avoided deployment to the war zone when his National Guard unit was called up but chose to go, his family said. —*Internet*

Nicaraguan Army will not destroy missiles as US asks

MANAGUA (Nicaragua), 5 Nov—Nicaragua's Army said on Tuesday it would not destroy all of its anti-aircraft missiles despite being urged to do so by US Secretary of State Colin Powell during his visit to the country.

US officials say Nicaragua has about 2,000 Soviet-made surface-to-air missiles, most of them SAM-7s, and fear they could fall into the hands of political extremists or drug traffickers.

But Powell's call for the Central American nation to get rid of the shoulder-fired missiles was quickly rejected by Army chief General Javier Carrion.

"Obviously, the United States has established its po-

sition that it doesn't want missiles in Nicaragua. We have said that we are going to keep missiles in Nicaragua," said Carrion, who met with Powell earlier on Tuesday.

Carrion said the Army could eliminate some missiles as part of a regional agreement but would not allow itself to be left at a military disadvantage against neighbouring armies.

MNA/Reuters

British soldier killed in Iraq

LONDON, 5 Nov—A 31-year-old British Royal Marine was killed by hostile fire in Iraq last Friday, the Ministry of Defence in London announced.

Corporal Ian Plank, from Dorset in southwest England, died during a military operation, the location of which was not revealed.

His death brought to 52 the number of British troops killed since US and British forces invaded Iraq last March and overthrew Saddam Hussein's regime. Britain currently occupies the southern part of the country. —*Internet*



An Iraqi worker builds a fence on a wall surrounding the Iraqi Ministry of Culture, patrolled by a US tank of the 1st Armoured Division, A Company, in Baghdad on Monday, 3 November, 2003. —*INTERNET*

British HIV man sentenced eight years in jail

LONDON, 5 Nov—A British man diagnosed with HIV was sentenced eight years in jail on Monday for "coldly and callously" infecting two women with the virus.

Mohammed Dica, a 38-year-old Londoner, was found guilty last month on two counts of causing grievous bodily harm by infecting a divorcee and a mother of two, both in their 30s.

Giving the sentence, Inner London Crown Court Judge Nicholas Philpot told Dica that his behaviour had been "despicable."

Father-of-three Dica, who lived in south-

western London, had told police both women knew of his condition.

Both women face death in a decade following their relationships with Dica.

It was the first time in more than 100 years that someone had been successfully prosecuted in England and Wales for knowingly passing on a sexually transmitted disease.

MNA/Xinhua

Dutch man gets life imprisonment in Thailand on drugs charges

BRUSSELS, 5 Nov—A Dutchman has been sentenced in Thailand by an appeals court to life in prison on drugs charges, Radio Netherlands reported Monday.

The Dutchman Machiel Kuijt was taken to court last Friday despite his acquittal in March 2002, the report said. He has been in custody for the past five years.

Dutch Foreign Minister Jaap de Hoop Scheffer was quoted as saying that the sentence was incomprehensible and summoned the Thai Ambassador to the Netherlands on Monday. —*MNA/Xinhua*



Guillemina Gomez, left, protests outside of the Presidential Palace after US Secretary of State Colin Powell arrived for an official visit, in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on Tuesday, 4 Nov, 2003. Gomez, whose son is serving in Iraq, is demanding that Honduran President Ricardo Maduro send her son back home. The left sign reads: 'Maduro-if anything happens to my son it is your fault' The right sign reads: 'We are demanding the safe return of Honduran soldiers in Iraq'. —*INTERNET*

Paris eyes skyscrapers to beat housing crisis

PARIS, 5 Nov—In a move some fear will ruin the skyline of a city which prides itself on its beauty, Paris City Hall said on Sunday it may turn to skyscrapers to solve the French capital's chronic housing shortage.

A 30-year-old ban on high-rise construction has left Paris with a city centre that is strikingly uncluttered compared to those of New York or London, where historic monuments jostle for space with modern tower blocks.

But with more people reported sleeping on the streets of Paris because of huge waiting lists for social housing, Socialist Mayor Bertrand Delanoe is under pressure to meet an election promise of providing 50,000

new homes. "We are not talking about creating a Manhattan in Paris," Delanoe's deputy Jean-Pierre Caffet told *Le Parisien* daily. "On the other hand, our city cannot become a museum-city."

Any decision will have to await a new urban planning bill due to come in next year. But conservatives are already up in arms, with ex-mayor Jean Tiberi declaring himself "stupefied" by the plans. —*MNA/Reuters*

IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



An Iraqi policeman passes a burning tire as hundreds of policemen demonstrate in the centre of Basra, southern Iraq, demanding their salary be paid, on Monday, 3 November, 2003.—INTERNET



An Iraqi man looks over a charred vehicle on a road near the town of Balad on 3 November, 2003. —INTERNET



Iraqi street cleaners throw stones during a demonstration in Basra, southern Iraq, on Tuesday, 4 November, 2003, to demand their salaries which were not paid over the past two months.—INTERNET



US Army soldiers search for attackers after central Baghdad was rocked by explosions on 4 November, 2003. A US Army spokesman said four people were reported wounded in the second guerilla attack in two nights on the heart of Iraq's US-led administration in central Baghdad.—INTERNET



US soldiers of the Task Force 1-37 Infantry, 10th MTN Division, from Ft Drum, NY, collect their equipment after detonating an improvised explosive device found on the road near Al-musaib, some 30 miles south of Baghdad, on Tuesday, 4 November, 2003.—INTERNET



Sgt John Davies of the 720th Military Police Battalion, right, searches a truck as Iraqi women look on at the Highway 1 outside of Tikrit, 193 km (120 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on Monday, 3 November, 2003. The battalion, assisted by Iraqi police was searching for contraband weapons that could be used by guerillas, a routine operation that has taken on added urgency since insurgents shot down a Chinook helicopter with a missile, killing 16 soldiers and wounding 21 others.—INTERNET

Turkey accuses US of "favouritism" in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 5 Nov — The Turkish ambassador in Washington said on Tuesday the United States was giving excessive favours to Kurdish groups in Iraq, at the risk of encouraging civil war and Kurdish secession in the future.

"The Kurdish representation is much in excess of their real standing in the society," Ambassador Osman Faruk Logoglu said at a breakfast for defence writers.

"We think there is too much favouritism...being given to specifically the Kurdish groups, (on) who runs (Iraq) and how the future of the country is going to be structured," he said.

Logoglu said the favouritism was reflected in the composition of the Iraqi Governing Council and interim Cabinet and in US readiness to consider a federal Constitution.

"I disagree with that assertion," responded a US State Department official, who asked not to be named.

The Governing Council, appointed by the United States, had five Kurds among its original 25 members. Iraq's 4 million Kurds make up about 16 per cent of the total population.

Turkey has its own large Kurdish minority on the northern side of the border with Iraq, and its policy toward Iraq has been dominated by anxiety to discourage

any separatist tendencies among Kurds in any country.

It also complained earlier in the year that the small Turkmen minority in Iraq, estimated at 2 per cent of the population, had only one member on the Governing Council.

Logoglu said, "If, for whatever reason, you say we should have a federation in Iraq and that the north of Iraq should belong to the Kurds, that's a recipe for disaster."

"If you give the impression that you will tolerate a system of federal arrangements that might eventually lead to separation, then you are already building in a module of instability into the future of Iraq and that's why we say: 'Don't do it,'" he added.

The ambassador said Turkey was confident the United States would achieve its objectives in Iraq, despite the daily attacks on its forces and signs that opposition to the US occupation was increasing in some areas.

But he did not rule out the possibility the country would fall into civil strife, like Lebanon in the 1970s. — MNA/Reuters

မြို့ခြံရွှေတာ၊ ဆိန်ဖါလေလွင့်၊ ထုတ်တုန်မြင့်

Chinese State Councillor on Iraq and Middle East situation

BELING, 5 Nov — Chinese State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan on Monday expounded on China's stance on the Iraq issue and the Middle East situation when meeting with Sukru Sina Gurel, former deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Turkey.

Tang said the situation in Iraq was still in turmoil, and frequent bombings had incurred heavy casualties on innocent people, which severely hindered the reconstruction process and had a negative influence on neighbouring nations.

China held that it should be the top priority to restore stability and normal social order in Iraq, he said.

He said the United Nations Security Council had passed Resolution 1551, which was a positive step toward Iraq's early resumption of sovereignty and the UN playing a bigger role there. The international com-

munity should put more effort into implementing the resolution.

Tang noted that Iraq's independence, reunification and territorial integrity should be safeguarded, and Iraq's new government should adopt a policy of befriending its neighbours.

China attached importance to Iraq's reconstruction and hoped that the international community and the Iraqi people would find peace, stability and development at an early date.

Tang said tensions had resumed in the Middle East as Israel and Palestine returned to "violence for violence",

causing the peace process to come to a halt. He said China showed great concern for and worried about the present situation. China held that refraining from violence, building mutual trust and maintaining dialogue were the only way to resolve the conflict, while resorting to force would lead only to more hatred.

China hoped both sides would exercise restraint and cooperate with the international community's peace efforts and return to resolving disputes through negotiations. Gurel agreed with Tang on his points.

MNA/Xinhua

Abdullah says Malaysia must seek new source of economic growth

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 Nov — Malaysia's new Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Monday that Malaysia must seek new source of economic growth to enhance the country's competitiveness in the world.

"We must seek and identify new sources of economic growth. We must develop new approaches to enhance our competitiveness and strengthen our resilience to face global challenges," Abdullah said in his maiden official speech as Prime Minister at the Parliament here.

Abdullah was sworn in Friday as the fifth Malaysian Prime Minister, taking over from Mahathir Mohamad who had been at the helm of the nation for 22 years.

Abdullah said that Malaysians must be ready and courageous enough to face and deal with change, and must enhance research and development in the new and strategic areas of information and communications technology (ICT), biotechnology, science and modern agriculture as their capabilities in these areas are still nascent. Malaysia's per capital of the national income rose to some 4,000 US dollars last year from 300 dollars at the independence in 1957. — MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi woman and her newborn daughter are seen at a hospital in Baghdad. The number of women in Iraq who die of pregnancy and childbirth has almost tripled since 1989 according to a new survey, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) said. — INTERNET

Australia's live sheep exports fall to 12-year low

CANBERRA, 5 Nov — Australia's live sheep exports fell to a 12-year low in September following Saudi Arabia's turning away of 57,000 Australian sheep on health grounds.

The live sheep sold overseas in September numbered 187,116, or a monthly drop of 55 per cent, according to a Meat and Livestock Australia's (MLA) report released on Sunday.

Saudi Arabia, the biggest buyer of Australian sheep, refused to allow *Corno Express* to unload half a million sheep on its board in August, saying 6 per cent of them having scabby mouth disease.

The sheep finally landed in African nation of Eritrea last week as a donation from Australia. — MNA/Xinhua

China launching water resources projects for rural population

SHIJIAZHUANG, 5 Nov — Almost 26 million rural people in China still lack clean drinking water despite massive investment to ease water shortage in its northern and western regions, officials said Monday.

"We have made breakthroughs in easing the rural residents' access to drinking water," Vice-Minister of Water Resources Zhai Haohui said at a national conference on drinking water for rural population, which opened Monday in Shijiazhuang City, capital of the north China's Hebei Province.

"The rural water supply project will move to guarantee the safety of drinking water for rural residents after 2004 when we expect to solve the water shortage in the countryside," Zhai said. Drinking water was

somewhat hard to get for approximately 50.2 million rural Chinese, especially in Hebei and Shanxi Provinces, and Inner Mongolia autonomous region in the north China and Shaanxi and Gansu Provinces in the northwest, according to statistics for early 2000 from the Ministry of Water Resources. In 2000, China launched a massive project with a total investment of 17 billion yuan (about 2.1 billion US dollars) to build water resources projects, sink wells and desalinate alkali-salt water for millions of farmers. — MNA/Xinhua

US soldier killed, two wounded by Baghdad bomb

BAGHDAD, 5 Nov — One American soldier was killed and two more were wounded when their vehicle ran over a bomb planted on the road in the Iraqi capital Baghdad on Tuesday morning, the US Army said.

The soldiers were serving with the US Army's 1st Armoured Division, the military said in a statement. The wounded soldiers were evacuated to a military hospital.

US soldiers face daily attacks in Baghdad and areas to the north and west of the city, where resistance to the US-led occupation of Iraq is strongest. — MNA/Reuters



View of the Galerie des Glaces (The mirror hall) inside the Chateau de Versailles, in this on 27 January, 2003 file photo. The Chateau de Versailles is getting a euro 135 million overhaul to brighten its facade, improve safety and reorganize the way visitors pass through its gilded rooms, France's Culture Minister Jean-Jacques Aillagon said on Thursday, 30 Oct, 2003. — INTERNET

Let's guard against the threat of human trafficking

Khin Myanmar

As the Union of Myanmar shares a 3805-mile-long common border with Bangladesh, India, Laos, Thailand and China, it has to face the problem of human trafficking and its grave consequences. Therefore, the Government of Myanmar constituted Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs on 3 July, 1996, with an object of preventing human trafficking and carrying out women development work systematically on a wider scale. In shaping a better life for women, MNCWA is required not only to pave the way for development but also to remove the hindrances to development. Violence against women poses a serious threat to them. Trafficking in women and children is a kind of violence that can delay the development of their lives. In accord with its objectives — development of women and prevention of human trafficking — the MNCWA, in cooperation with the Government, is cracking down on human trafficking and carrying out the rehabilitation work as a national duty.

The problem of human trafficking has arisen not only in Myanmar but also in the whole world starting from the later part of the 20th century. But it was since 1990 that it has attracted the attention of the international community. There is a great deal of historical evidence that human beings were enslaved in western countries, in the Middle East and in Asia. Many blacks in Africa were taken as slaves to America. It is known to all that slavery was abolished about 200 years ago. Human trafficking or modern form of slavery has reared its ugly head again for over ten years now. It can be found that there are many reasons behind the reappearance of slavery supposed to have vanished from the world. It can be studied for the political, economic and social points of view. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, world politics witnessed great changes. The East and West blocs and capitalism and communism that emerged after World War II collapsed together with the fall of the Soviet Union.

As a result, capitalism became dominant. With the development of the capitalism, the technological advancement was gaining such a rapid momentum, the same as the industrial revolution. The partition between the eastern and western countries was reduced by the collapse of the Iron Curtain dividing East and west blocs. At the

same time, the industrial development helped enhance the relations and dealings among the world nations. Unlike the situations in the period of the cold war, the capitalism became an unrivalled ism. Therefore, the developing countries were keen to emulate the higher living standard and strong economy of the developed nations. The new nations that emerged after the collapse of the East bloc are in the vulnerable situation in reconstructing their administrative and economic infrastructures. The situations in which the developed nations do not share their wealth and development with the developing ones and the developed regions in a single country are the rays of hope for ambitious persons. Those wishing to grasp these opportunities are not always able to get them by fair and official means. In an attempt to grasp the opportunities, they do not know how to prevent themselves from being exploited. Such circumstances are a godsend to human traffickers to exploit the needy, poor and ambitious people and those with little knowledge. That is why human trafficking or sex slavery rears its ugly head again.

With the concept that trafficking in persons is a heart-rending case for the entire humankind, Myanmar has placed emphasis on solving the problem taking effective measures including internal laws, national level plans, determinations, and bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation. The national level plan (2002) covered prevention, taking severe actions against the human traffickers, sending back the victims to their home, making field tours of regions in the nation including border areas for preventive measures against trafficking in persons, forming national level committees, holding national level workshops, conducting courses for officers and rehabilitation of the victims. The Myanmar National Working Committee for Women's Affairs and the Working Committee for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons play the main role in tackling the problem. These two committees have been carrying out the tasks under the supervision of the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs.

(to be continued)

Translation: NN + MS
(Myanma Alin: 27-10-2003)

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than discusses development in Rakhine State

YANGON, 5 Nov— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence and Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Oo and party inspected construction of Nayikan Bridge on Yangon-Sittway Road on 1 November. The bridge is situated eight miles from Sittway and is being built by bridge construction project group-10 of the Ministry of Construction.

Senior Engineer U Khin Maung reported on progress of work and Superintending Engineer of Rakhine State U Thein Kyaw gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected laying of concrete and gave instructions on construction in accord with standard set and completion of the bridge in time. The reinforced concrete bridge is 300 feet long and 30 feet wide. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met departmental officials, social organizations, townsenders and local people at the town hall of Rakhine State.

Present on the occasion

were senior military officers, departmental officials, local authorities, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and social organizations, farmers and local people.

Commander Maj-Gen Maung Oo reported on areas of Rakhine State, land use, harvesting and cultivation of monsoon paddy, measures undertaken for production of 100 baskets of paddy per acre, targets for cultivation of summer paddy, cultivation of pepper and cashew, construction of dams, small dams to be built, embankments that prevent the from inflow of salty water, breeding and production of fish and prawn, measures undertaken for livestock breeding, rural development and education and health.

In his discussions, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said it is the duty of everyone for stability, peace and tranquillity; strong economy of the State is the main factors in building up a modern developed nation. He spoke of the need for the people to help officials.

Special emphasis must be placed on agriculture and livestock breeding for strong economy of the State. Therefore plans were laid down and

targets were set. Continued efforts are to be made for reclamation of lands for extended cultivation of 1.2 million acres of monsoon paddy in Rakhine State. He also spoke at length on reaching the target of 30,000 acres of summer paddy, constructing dams, cultivating beans and pulses, oil crops, Thitsein (Bellaric myrobalan) with the use of quality strains, providing assistance to pepper growers, making efforts to become

Rakhine State as the major contributor to national economy, working for national interest and making field trips to grassroots levels to ensure successful implementation of the five rural development tasks.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party visited Rakhine State Cultural Museum. They inspected development of Sittway.

They arrived back here in the afternoon. — MNA

Opium oil seized in Nawngkhio

YANGON, 5 Nov — A combined team comprising members of local intelligence unit, Lashio Special Anti-drug squad and Nawngkhio Police Station, acting on a tip-off, on 28 September, seized 16 packets of opium oil weighing 16.2 kilos from Taraung.

In connection with the case, Nawngkhio Police Station filed Taraung, son of U Kyn Kyauk Shin, of Narkhan Village, Nantpaung Village-tract in Lashio under Section 15/19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA



Taraung seen together with seized drugs. —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

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနမှ

မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရမည့်

လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ်တန်နေ့နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် တန်နေ့တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရမည်ဖြစ်သည်။

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Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe watches the 13th Asian Archery Championship, Athens Olympic Archery Qualifier for 2004. (News page 1)—MNA



Archers takes part in 13th Asian Archery Championship, Athens Olympic Archery Qualifier for 2004. (News page 1)

MNA

Indian goodwill delegation...

(from page 16)

welcomed the Indian Vice-President and party. U Yu Thein explained about the process in making lacquerware to the Vice-President. The principal presented a lacquerware table to the Vice-President. The Indian Vice-President viewed the works round the museum.

Indian Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and party visited the Bagan Archeological Museum. Curator U Myint Soe Aung welcomed the Indian Vice-President and party and conducted them round the museum. Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat signed in the visitors' book.

Magway Division PDC Chairman Col Zaw Min hosted a lunch in honour of the Indian Vice-President and party at Thiripyitsaya Sakura Hotel. At the lunch, Col Zaw Min presented a lacquerware painting of the Ananda Pagoda to the Vice-President. The Vice-President presented a gift to Col Zaw Min. After the lunch, they proceeded to Bagan-NyaungU Airport. The visiting goodwill delegation was seen off at the airport by Magway Division PDC Chairman Col Zaw Min, NyaungU District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Khin Maung Oo, Secretary Maj Myint Thein and departmental heads.

The Indian goodwill delegation led by Indian Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat left Bagan-

NyaungU by a special aircraft and arrived at Mandalay International airport in TadaU Township in Mandalay Division at 3.45 pm. They were welcomed at No 8 Tube of the airport by Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint and Indian Consul-General to the Union of Myanmar Mr P K Bhutiani.

At the VIP lounge of the airport, a Myanmar girl student presented a bouquet to the Indian Vice-President.

The Indian Vice-President and party were also welcomed by members of Mandalay Division PDC, members of Mandalay City Development Committee, departmental personnel, officials of the Consulate-General and students.

In welcoming the Indian Vice-President and party, the flags of the Republic of India and the Union of Myanmar were hoisted at the entrance to the airport.

The Indian Vice-President and party together with Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint arrived at Sedona Hotel in Mandalay at 4.30 pm.

The Indian delegation accompanied by Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister Col Tin Hlaing, the ambassadors, the Counselor General and officials, arrived at Mandalay Hill at 5.15 pm. They were welcomed there by members of Division PDC, members of MCDC, local authorities and members of the Pagoda

Board of Trustees.

The visiting Vice-President and goodwill delegation offered flowers to Kakuthan Buddha image on Mandalay Hill and posed for souvenir photos.

The visiting Vice-President and goodwill delegation watched the scenic view of Mandalay and beauty of Mandalay Hill and sunset scene from Mandalay Hill.

Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat signed in the visitors' book of Mandalay Hill Hsutaungpyi Pagoda and donated cash. The pagoda board of trustees presented a certificate of honour and a painting depicting Mandalay Hill. Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and party paid obeisance to Hsutaungpyi Pagoda.

In the evening, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint hosted dinner in honour of Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and guests.

Cultural troupe of upper Myanmar entertained the guests. After the dinner, they exchanged gifts. The visiting Vice-President presented bouquet to members of the cultural troupe and posed for souvenir photos.

Today morning, on arrival at Maha Lawka Marazein Zedi Kuthodaw Pagoda, Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and party were welcomed by members of the pagoda board of trustees.

The Vice-President offered flowers and lights to



Secretary of NCCC Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. (News on page 16)



Chairman of NCCMC Maj-Gen Lun Maung. (News on page 16)



Chairman of NCCWC U Aung Toe. (News on page 16).



Joint Secretary of NCCC Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint. (News on page 16)

Kuthodaw Pagoda. The guests posed for souvenir photos and viewed inscription of Buddha's treatise.

The Vice-President and party went to Myanansankyaw Shwenandaw where they were welcomed by officials of Archaeology Department.

Director of Archaeology Department U Hla Gyi Maung Maung reported on Shwenandaw. The Vice-President and party observed Myanmar artistic works at the palace. Afterwards, they posed for souvenir photos.

The guests visited Shwenandaw Cultural Museum and signed in the visitors' book. They went round Mandalay Nanmyo. They went to the resident of Consul-General of the Republic of India. Consul-General Mr P K Bhutiani and Deputy Minister for State of External Affairs Mr Digvijay Singh extended greetings.

Staff of Consulate-General presented a portrait of the Vice-President. The Vice-President and guests met Indian entrepreneurs from seven townships and

signed in the visitors' book. They then posed for souvenir photos.

The guests went to Mandalay International Airport and left for home. They were seen off at the airport by Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing and Ambassador-designate to India U Kyi Thein, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia and embassy staff, Consul-General Mr P K Bhutiani and officials, teachers and students.

MNA

Prime Minister presents...

(from page 2)

Magway Division in the professional level oboe contest; Sgt Tun Tun Oo (Myawady) of Yangon Division, U Tanaw of Mandalay Division and U San Lwin of Mandalay Division in the amateur level oboe contest; Maung Myo Min Thant of Yangon Division, Maung Zaw Myo Thet of Yangon Division and Maung Win Myint Khaing (a) Maung Khaing of Sagaing Division in the higher education level oboe contest; Maung Min Swe of Magway Division, Maung Sein Than Zaw of Yangon Division and Maung Myat Zaw of Rakhine State in the basic education level oboe contest (aged 15-20); Maung Nanda Aung of Yangon Division, Maung Kyaw Ko Latt of Magway Division and Maung Ye Win Tun of Bago Division in the basic education level oboe contest (aged 10-15); Maung Aung Myint Tun of Yangon Division, Maung Sithu Phyog of Mandalay Division and

Maung Myo Ko of Mandalay Division in the basic education level oboe contest (aged 5-10).

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein presented respective first, second, third and consolation prizes to U Khin Maung Yin of Yangon Division, U Ba Thet of Mon State and U Khin Maung Kyi of Mandalay Division in the men's professional level violin contest; Maung Thant Zaw of Mandalay Division, Maung Sithu Aung of Yangon Division and U Kyaw Aye of Chin State in the men's amateur level violin contest; Maung Zin Min Tun of Mandalay Division, Maung Ye Wint Kyaw of Yangon Division and Maung Bo Bo Kyaw of Mandalay Division in the men's higher level violin contest; Maung Thein Htet Aung of Yangon Division, Maung Win Arkar Aung of Bago Division and Maung Thein Htaik Aung of Kachin

State in the basic education level violin contest (aged 15-20, boys); Maung Min Thukha of Yangon Division, Maung Saw Kalo Htoo Doh of Kayah State and Maung Thet Aung Soe of Ayeyawady Division and Maung Nay Lin Soe of Kachin State in the basic education level violin contest (aged 10-15, boys); Maung Nyi Nyi Lwin of Yangon Division, Maung Kyaw Wunna of Mandalay Division and Maung Myo Thiha Ko of Mandalay Division in the basic education level violin contest (aged 5-10, boys).

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi presented first prize to Ma Khaing Zar Kyi of Kachin State in the women's professional level violin contest; respective first, second, third and consolation prizes to Ma Thuza Thant Zin of Yangon Division, Ma Su Myat Phyog and Ma Khin Swe Mya Nyunt of Mandalay Division and Ma Hnin Nwe Soe of Ayeyawady Division in the (See page 9)



Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt presents a prize to a winner at the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.—MNA



Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint presents a prize to a winner at the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.—MNA



Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi presents a prize to a winner at the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.—MNA



Minister for Labour U Tin Winn presents a prize to a winner at the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.—MNA

Prime Minister presents...

(from page 8)

women's higher education level violin contest; Ma Aye Su Mon of Kachin State, Ma Aw May Kyaw of Yangon Division and Ma Sanda Win of Yangon Division and Ma Lwin Lwin Cho Tun of Ayeyawady Division in the basic education level violin contest (aged 15-20, girls); Ma Thiri Hlaing of Yangon Division, Ma Khin Nanda Tun of Yangon Division and Ma Naw May Thaw Htoo Shein of Kayah State and Ma Thet Phyu Hlaing of Taninthayi Division in the basic education level violin contest (aged 10-15, girls); Ma Nwe Myo Aye of Mandalay Division, Ma Naw Do Nay Htoo of Kayah State and Ma Thin Thin Yu Aung of Mon State in the basic education level violin contest (aged 5-10, girls).

Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented respective first, second, third and consolation prizes to U Hla Htay of Bago Division, U Kyi Shwe of Yangon Division and Gita U Aung Shein of Yangon Division in the men's professional level mandolin contest; U Min Zaw of Bago Division, U Htay Win of Mon State and U Maung Maung Lwin (a) Paukhaung Maung Maung Lay of Yangon Division in the men's amateur level mandolin contest; Maung Thura Kyaw of Taninthayi Division in the higher education level mandolin contest; Maung Aung Hein Oo of Mon State, Maung Han Win Aung of Yangon Division and Maung Win Lwin Oo of Ayeyawady Division and Maung Aung Naing Win of Rakhine State in the basic education level mandolin contest (aged 15-20, boys); Maung Ko Ko Win of Bago Division, Maung Hlaing Moe of Magway Division and Maung Pyi Sone Phyo of Rakhine State in the basic education level mandolin contest (aged 10-15, boys); Maung Ye Win Aung of Bago Division, Maung Aung Naing Soe of

Ayeyawady Division and Maung Mya Moe of Magway Division in the basic education level mandolin contest (aged 5-10, boys).

Minister for Labour U Tin Winn presented respective first prize to Daw Mya Hnin Yi of Yangon Division in the women's professional level mandolin contest; first prize to Daw Ohn Mar of Ayeyawady Division in the women's amateur level mandolin contest; first prize to Ma Thiri Hlaing of Yangon Division in the basic education level mandolin contest (aged 15-20, girls); first and second prizes to Ma Nan Thuza of Bago Division in the basic education level mandolin contest (aged 10-15, girls); first prize to Ma Kyi Kyi Mar of Magway Division in the basic education level mandolin contest (aged 5-10, girls).

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint presented respective first, second, third and consolation prizes to Shwelinban U Thein Hlaing of Yangon Division, Gita U Aung Shein of Yangon Division and U Soe Win of Mandalay Division in the men's professional level Myanmar guitar contest; U Than Aye of Rakhine State, U Khin Maung Win of Yangon Division, U Kyaw Myint of Mon State, U Kyaw Tint of Ayeyawady Division and U Myo Myint of Shan State and U Tin Tun of Taninthayi Division in the men's amateur level Myanmar guitar contest; Maung Aung of Yangon Division and Maung Kyaw Swa Lin of Bago Division in the basic education level Myanmar guitar contest (aged 15-20, boys); Maung Sithu Htet Aung of Yangon Division in the basic education level Myanmar guitar contest (aged 10-15, boys); Maung Min Htut of Yangon Division, Maung Nan Tain Yan Htun of Bago Division and Maung Htet Ko Ko Lin of Yangon Division in the basic education level Myanmar guitar contest

(aged 5-10, boys); Ma Nwe Zin Win of Yangon Division in the basic education level Myanmar guitar contest (aged 15-20, girls); Ma Thiri Hlaing and Ma Thinza Tun of Yangon Division in the basic education level Myanmar guitar contest (aged 10-15, girls); Ma Su Yi Ko Ko of Yangon Division in the basic education level Myanmar guitar contest (aged 5-10, girls).

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun presented respective first, second, third and consolation prizes to U San Tint of Yangon Division, U Kyaw Htay of Magway Division and U Maung Maung Myint of Shan State in the men's professional level Donmin contest; U Maung Han, U Sein Tin Aung of Bago Division and U Naing Oo of Mon State, U Tin Win of Yangon Division and U Hla Kyaing of Shan State, U Khin Maung Nyunt of Kachin State and U Thuang Myint Tun of Rakhine State in the men's amateur level Donmin contest; U Htoo Aung and Maung The Lwin Aung Tun of Yangon Division, Maung Thura of Bago Division and Maung Chan Myay Oo of Sagaing Division in the basic education level Donmin contest (aged 10-15, boys); Maung Zeya Soe Oo of Yangon Division, Maung Maung Aung Kyaw Myint of Bago Division in the basic education level Donmin contest (aged 5-10, boys); Daw Sein Sein Yin of Yangon Division in the women's professional level Donmin contest; Daw Aye Aye Maw of Ayeyawady Division in the women's amateur level Donmin contest; Ma Shwe Zin Chit of Yangon Division, Ma Ei Mon Kyaw of Bago Division and Ma Ei of Shan State in the basic education level Donmin contest (aged 5-10).

Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min presented respective first, second, third and consolation prizes to U Ye Lin Bo of Yangon Division, U Aung Wan Too (a) Sein

Kalar of Yangon Division and Pantra Kyaw Zaw (Myawady) and U Kaung Thant (a) Kyaw Zin Tun of Mandalay Division in the men's professional level Saing contest (individual); Sgt Mya Win Bo (Myawady) of Yangon Division, U Myat Zin Aung (a) Mya Aung of Bago Division and U Kyaw Moe Naing of Mandalay Division in the men's amateur level Saing contest (individual); Maung Chan Tha Toe of Sagaing Division, Maung Aung Aung of Mandalay Division and Maung Myo Thant of Yangon Division in the men's higher level Saing contest (individual); Maung Thura Kyi Moe (a) Phoe Thingyan of Yangon Division, Maung Star Bo Htet of Yangon Division and Maung Myo Naing (a) Star of Magway Division in the basic education level Saing contest (aged 15-20, boys, individual); Maung Myo Zaw Hein (a) Myo Zaw Aung of Yangon Division, Maung Hla Kyaw (a) Ye Min of Yangon Division and Maung Chan Myay Oo of Sagaing Division, Maung Wai Yan Tun of Kayah State, Maung Tun Tun Hlaing of Rakhine State in the basic education level Saing contest (aged 10-15, boys, individual); Maung Yan Paing of Mandalay Division, Maung Htet Arkar Oo (a) Htet Arkar of Yangon Division and Maung Aung San Min (a) Hay Myanmar Sein Kywet Thoe in the basic education level Saing contest (aged 5-10, boys, individual).

Minister at the Prime Minister's Office U Ko Lay presented first, second prize to Doh Bo Ma of Mandalay Division in the women's professional level Saing contest (individual); respective first, second and third prizes to Daw Yin Yin Nu of Yangon Division, Myanmarpyi Sein of Ayeyawady Division and Daw Mya Mya Win of Bago Division in the women's amateur level Saing contest (individual); Ma Ei Ei Mon of Yangon Division, Ma Aung Bo Ma of Sagaing Di-



Wushu gold medalist Ma Swe Swe Thant (Ministry of Industry-2). (News page 1) — NLM

vision and Ma Moe Sanda Thin (a) Chit Su Ma in the women's higher education level Saing contest (individual); Ma Wint Thinza Stin of Yangon Division, Ma Htet Htet Lin of Mandalay Division and Ma Zar Zar Lin (a) Pauk Kyaw Mya of Yangon Division in the basic education level Saing contest (aged 15-20, girls); Ma Kay Zin Chit Su of Yangon Division and Ma Aye Chan Myat Phyo of Bago Division, Ma Thiri Thant Zin of Ayeyawady Division and Ma Nwe Nwe Tun (a) Tone Tone of Yangon Division in the basic education level Saing contest (aged 10-15, girls); Ma Nanda Win Bo of Yangon Division, Ma Zarni Nan Lwin of Yangon Division and Ma Kyi Kyi Tha of Kachin State in the basic education level Saing contest (aged 5-10, girls).

Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe presented the first prize for professional level Ozi contest (in group) to U Ohn Ngwe group of Mandalay Division, the second to U Sein Kalar group of Mandalay Division and the third to Chindwin Sanay group of Sagaing Division; the first prize for amateur level Ozi contest (in group) to Maung Myo Aung Oo (a) Maung

Oo group of Yangon Division, the second to U Hein Htet group of Mandalay Division and third prizes to Ko Thein Naing group of Sagaing Division and U Zin Min Latt group of Bago Division; the first prize for higher education level Ozi contest (in group) to Maung Zeya Tun Wai group of Yangon Division, the second to Maung Aung Thein Myint group of Mandalay Division and the third to Maung Min Thein Tun group of Sagaing Division.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung presented the first prize for basic education level Ozi contest (in group) (aged 15-20) to Maung Star Bo Htet group of Yangon Division, the second to Maung Pyi Phyo Maw group of Mandalay Division and the third to Maung Ye Win Tun group of Sagaing Division; the first prize for basic education level Ozi contest (in group) (aged 10-15) to Maung Hla Kyaw (a) Ye Min group of Yangon Division, the second to Maung Zaw Min (a) Po La Pyae group of Yangon Division, the third to Maung Thuta Tun group of Mandalay Division and consolation prize to Maung Tun Pe (a) Laurence group of Kayah State; the first prize for basic (See page 15)

Chin State will be famous soon as tea garden

Article by Thein Win Latt & photo by Shweinntha Khin Maung Win (Kyemon)

The national races, regarding themselves as national brethren, have been living in the Union sharing weal and woe throughout the history of Myanmar.

We Kyemon Daily group attended the mass rally held in support of the Prime Minister's clarification on the State's seven-point roadmap, in Chin State. During our stay there, we seized the golden opportunity to enjoy natural scenic beauties in the region to our heart's content and to write an article about the region.

Chin State's main business is agriculture. Local people cultivate paddy, maize, corn, sesame, sunflower, groundnut, cotton, rice bean (*Phaseolus calcaratus*), soya-bean, coffee and potato. They also run gardening. Now, the region's seasonal fruits such as apple, orange, damson and grape are in abundance.

With the cash assistance rendered by the government, silkworms breeding training centres are opened in Mindat, Matupi and Tonzang in Chin State.

Such small hydropower projects as Lwee Creek Hydropower Station, Ngasitla Creek Hydropower Station, the 600-kilowatt Laiva Hydropower Station (Haka), 200-kilowatt Chi Creek Hydropower Station (Mindat), 200-kilowatt Namlaung Hydropower Station (Matupi) and 200-kilowatt Tweesaung Hydropower Station (Tonzang) have been constructed with a view to providing sufficient power supply not only to the towns but also to the villages of Chin State.

The region's 605-square mile forest reserve produces valuable *Aquilaria agallocha* (aloewood), pine, teak and cane. There have been constructed six microwave stations, five TV retransmission stations (Tonzang, Mindat, Matupi, Paletwa and Thantlang) and Myawady TV retransmission stations (Haka, Tiddim, Tonzang, Mindat and Matupi). So, it can be said that Chin State has enjoyed fruitful results of media coverage. With regard to the community health care sector, Chin State has got four hospitals with 44 doctors and 191 medical staff.



Microwave Station in Falam, Chin State.

In a bid to be Chin State as a tea garden, 1999-2000 fiscal year was designated as the basic year of the project and the period from 2000-2001 to 2005-2006 as the period of the project.

Haka, Thantlang, Falam, Tonzang and Tiddim in Falam District and Mindat, Matupi and Kanpetlet townships in Mindat District are designated as the regions in which tea is to be grown on a commercial scale.

Measures are being taken to put 37,154 acres of land under tea during the six-year period of the project in Chin State. Therefore, among States and Divisions, Chin State will be well-known as the tea garden of the nation, and it will be able to earn much foreign exchange for the nation in the near future.

(Translation: MS)
Kyemon: 29-10-2003

Yangon, Mandalay Mayors leave for China

YANGON, 5 NOV — At the invitation of International Friendship Association of the People's Republic of China, the delegation led by Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor of Yangon Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Mandalay City Development Committee Chairman Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein this afternoon left here for China

to study the development measures there.

They were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Vice-Mayor of Yangon City Col Maung Pa and YCDC members and officials of the Chinese Embassy. — MNA



Mayors Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Brig-Gen Yan Thein being seen off at the airport. — MNA



U Hla Myint (a) Ko Toe of Ngwethawda restaurant of City Golf Course, on behalf of Thiha Thudamma Theingi Thiri Thudamma Theingi Daw Mi Mi Khin, presents K 100,000 for aged literati. — MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets local authorities, departmental personnel, members of social organizations, teachers and townselders in Maungtaw. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets departmental officials in Maungtaw, Buthidaung townships

YANGON, 5 NOV — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence and Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Oo and officials met Tatmadawmen and families of local regiments and units in Maungtaw on 31 October and gave instructions on agriculture, livestock breeding and production. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to Mingala nursery in Kyeekanpyin village-tract where they inspected plantations of pepper, perennial plants, beans and pulses.

There are 283,400 saplings of pepper in the nursery and over 300,000 saplings were distributed to

nearby village-tracts in 2003.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected five acres of monsoon paddy of local battalion and gave instructions on cultivation of matpe and pepper. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected planting of shade trees and windbreak trees on the roadsides, plantation of cashew in Nwayontaung and monsoon paddy ready for harvest on Buthidaung-Maungtaw road. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met departmental officials, local authorities and guests in Maungtaw at 9 am.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said officials at different levels are to cooperate with the people for community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order and they are to make trips to grass roots levels and

work for winning public confidence. Despite exceeding the targets of summer and monsoon paddy, per acre yield is lower than the set output. Quality strains and fertilizer and modern methods are to be utilized, he said.

He spoke of the need to organize farmers to apply cultivation methods, to reclaim lands and to grow pea and perennial trees. Growing pepper will serve both regional and national interest. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than greeted those present at the meeting. He also attended the coordination meeting on border trade at Thiri Mingala Hall in Maungtaw.

First, Commander Maj-Gen Maung Oo reported on border trade.

Deputy Director of Border Trade Department U Than Win reported on trade

volume, taxes collected and functions. Lt-Col Myint Oo of regional station and Chairman of Maungtaw District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Soe Htwe gave supplementary reports. Those present reported on marine products and export of general merchandise.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on development of trade between the two countries, normal trade, collection of taxes and supervision on smooth flow of commodities. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to Buthidaung and met local authorities and people.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived in Sittway in the evening. They visited Lawkananda Pagoda and Cakkamuni Mudra Bronze Buddha Image.

MNA

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



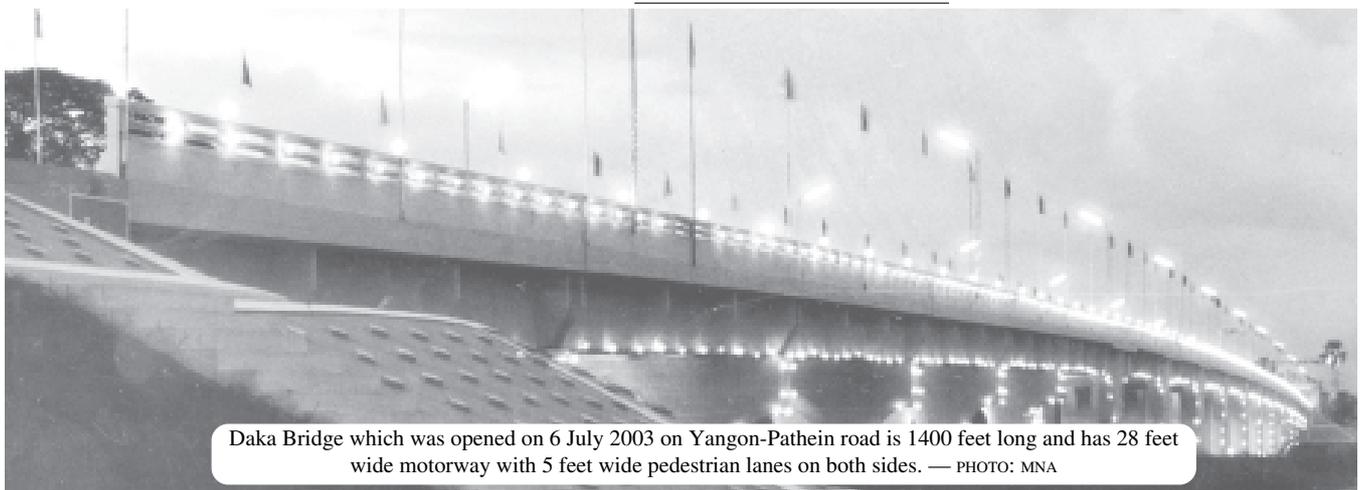
Many new bridges have emerged in the time of the Tatmadaw Government. The photo shows an aerial view of Dedaye Bridge linking Kungyangon Township and Dedaye Township. The bridge was opened on 23 March 2003.

PHOTO: MNA



Maubin Bridge across the Ayeyawady River was opened on 10 February 1998 in Maubin Township of Ayeyawady Division. The bridge is 2362 feet long.

PHOTO: MNA



Daka Bridge which was opened on 6 July 2003 on Yangon-Pathein road is 1400 feet long and has 28 feet wide motorway with 5 feet wide pedestrian lanes on both sides. — PHOTO: MNA

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UNSG panel to adapt UN to looming global threats

UNITED NATIONS, 5 Nov— UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan asked 16 world figures on Tuesday to identify looming threats to global peace and security and determine how to adapt the UN system to best deal with them.

Annan asked former Thai prime minister Anand Panyarachun to head the blue-ribbon panel on UN reform, which he dubbed the High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change.

He said its tasks would be to identify "the major threats and challenges the world faces in the broad field of peace and security, including economic and social issues insofar as they relate to peace and security, and making recommendations for the elements of a collective response."

Annan disclosed plans to create the panel in a speech to the General Assembly in September as the United Nations sought to heal deep rifts caused by the US-led invasion of Iraq, launched without Security Council approval.

He said at the time that sidestepping the United Nations in waging war against Iraq or elsewhere called into question the entire structure of collective action forged when the world body was created from the ashes of World War Two.

Among the panel's members are League of Arab States Secretary-General Amr Moussa of Egypt; former US na-

tional security adviser Brent Scowcroft; former Russian prime minister Yevgeny Primakov; former Organization of African Unity secretary-general Salim Ahmed Salim of Tanzania, and former Australian foreign minister Gareth Evans. Others include Inter-American Development Bank President Enrique Iglesias of Uruguay; former French justice minister Robert Badinter; former Organization of American States secretary-general Joao Soares of Brazil; Gro Harlem Brundtland, former Norwegian prime minister and ex-head of the World Health Organization, and former British UN ambassador David Hannay.

The remaining members are former UN high commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata of Japan; former vice prime minister Qian Qichen of China; former UN Population Fund head Nafis Sadik of Pakistan; former International Labour Organization deputy director-general Mary Chinery-Hesse of Ghana, and Satish Nambiar of India, force commander of the UN Protection Force in the former Yugoslavia. —MNA/Reuters

Tajik President says Asia must cooperate to overcome challenges

BOAO (Hainan Province), 5 Nov— All Asian countries should cooperate to face the risks and challenges of globalization, President Emomali Sharipovich Rakhmonov of Tajikistan said at the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) here on Monday.

The rapid process of globalization and the development of science and technology had brought countries closer, and integrated cultures and ideas, Rakhmonov said, but this also brought new threats and challenges in social, economic and ecological areas.

Rakhmonov held that neither developing nor developed countries could overcome the challenges alone, and that the developed countries were also held responsible for the economic development of poor countries.

He appealed for more efforts to strengthen Asian regional cooperation and sub-regional cooperation among Central Asian countries.

Asia has abundant natural resources and great potential for development, but

also most of the world's poor people, Rakhmonov said, adding that Asia's problem was of vital importance to world peace and prosperity.

He expressed Tajikistan's willingness to cooperate with other countries in all fields including the exploration of water resources, security of energy supplies and the renaissance of the ancient Silk Road trade route.

The BFA had become an important mechanism to discuss Asian problems, President Rakhmonov said.

The BFA, which opened Sunday, is the first high-level international forum organized by Asian nations aimed at increasing exchanges and cooperation among Asian countries and between Asia and the rest of the world.

MNA/Xinhua

Nicaraguans protest against US embargo on Cuba

MANAGUA, 5 Nov— Civil organizations and Lower House representatives of Nicaragua's opposition, Sandinista Front of National Liberation (FSLN), Monday demonstrated outside the United States Embassy in Managua against the US economic embargo on Cuba.

Sandinista representative Nelson Artola said the demonstration was held because on Tuesday, at the United Nations, the US Government would seek to continue the embargo against the Cuban people.

MNA/Xinhua



The studios have conceded the weekend to Halloween, since the costume party falls on Friday this year. Only Disney is opening a wide release, and it doesn't arrive until 1 November, 2003 once the trick-or-treating is history. As a result, 'Brother Bear,' the studio's latest animated treat, is likely to give up the top spot for the three-day frame to the Halloween-friendly 'Scary Movie 3,' which earned an incredible \$48.1 million during its opening last weekend. 'Scary 3' is expected to hold well considering that teenage audiences could be showing up late Friday to give the film a boost. —INTERNET

Vajpayee for action plan for carpet industry

NEW DELHI, 5 Nov— India's Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee Tuesday proposed an action plan to achieve quantum growth in carpet-making and offered to set up Secretariat of the World Forum of Handmade Carpets in the country.

"I would like the Ministry of Textiles along with others to prepare a time-bound action plan to achieve a quantum growth in India's handmade carpet industry, with a specific focus on increasing employment," Vajpayee said inaugurating the first world conference on handmade carpets.

He said India would be happy to offer space and other such facilities to house the Secretariat of the World Forum for Handmade Carpets proposed by world industry leaders.

The purpose of such a secretariat would be to provide training, design technology and other infrastructure support required by handmade carpet industry to contribute to growth in world trade, he said adding government was required to work out methods for estab-

lishment of raw material bank. Around 500 delegates from 20 countries are participating in the two-day conference, organized by Carpet Export Promotion Council and Ministry of Textiles.

India ranks first in terms of volume and third in terms of value in the world carpet industry, Textiles Minister Syed Shah Nawaz Hussain said adding the country's total share was pegged at 17.69 per cent of 1926 million dollar global market of handknotted carpets.

Stressing the need for attracting new private sector investment, the Prime Minister said sustained research and development efforts were required in the sector and industry should consider sharing the cost of education, research and training by forming a corpus fund.

MNA/PTI

Kumaratunga suspends Parliament, sacks three ministers

COLOMBO, 5 Nov— In a surprise move, Sri Lankan President Chandrika Kumaratunga on Tuesday sacked three key ministers, suspended Parliament and deployed troops as her arch rival Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe was away in Washington, throwing the country into political crisis and raising questions over the future of the faltering peace process.

"Several platoons" of troops have been deployed in the state printing Press, television, radio and power stations to "prevent any disturbances," military spokesman Colonel Sumedha Perera said.

The President, who has wide executive powers and has been at loggerheads with the Prime Minister over the peace process, caught the cohabitation government by surprise by first dismissing Defence Minister Tilak Marapana, Interior Minister John Amaratunga and Information Minister Imthiaz Bakeer Markar.

She also removed the bureaucrats responsible for the day-to-day running of the three ministries and took control of them, officials said. The three ministers still hold other Cabinet-level posts. —MNA/PTI

\$1.8b education development programme launched in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 5 Nov— A 1.81-billion-US dollar programme to improve the quality of primary education system has been launched in Bangladesh, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced here on Monday.

Over 17 million pupils in 78,000 primary schools will benefit from the ADB-led Second Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP II), the Bank said in a briefing.

The PEDP II expenditure is expected to target the poor by prioritizing support to poor and disadvantaged pupils, and the programme focuses on four components including organizational development and capacity building, school and classroom quality improvement, infrastructure development,

South Africa tries on new HIV vaccines

JOHANNESBURG, 5 Nov— The South African AIDS Vaccine Initiative (SAAVI) on Monday announced the start of two separate HIV vaccine trials in the country.

Addressing a Press conference in Johannesburg, SAAVI director Tim Tucker said phase one of the clinical trial of the Alpha Vax would commence in Johannesburg and Durban next week and would assess the safety and immune system responses induced by the new vaccine.

Tucker was quoted by the South African Press Association as saying "this is an incredibly exciting time".

Alpha Vax is one of two vaccines approved earlier this year for phase one testing by the Medicines Control Council, the government agency in charge of the test and distribution of new medicine in South Africa.

The second trial involves a modified vaccine Ankara sponsored by the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative which will also commence in the next few weeks.

"It is important to note that a vaccine is not a panacea, therefore we still advocate safe sex and safe sexual practices," Tucker said. —MNA/Xinhua

as well as supporting equitable access to schools.

According to the briefing, the government of Bangladesh will contribute 1.16 billion dollars or 64 per cent towards the programme, including an extensive stipend programme for the poor pupils in primary education sector.

On the other hand, the development partners will provide the rest of 0.65 billion dollars for the six-year programme which began in the current fiscal 2003-2004.

ADB will administer

grant cofinancing from the European Commission and development agencies from Britain, Canada, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden, while coordinate with other partners including the World Bank, the UN Children Fund, as well as donor's agencies from Japan and Australia.

The ADB authorities described PEDP II as one of the most advanced programme in terms of harmonization of donor procedures including financial management, procurement, monitoring and evaluation. —MNA/Xinhua

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Holland double gives Charlton win at Birmingham

LONDON, 5 Nov— Two goals from Matt Holland helped Charlton Athletic to a 2-1 win at high-flying Birmingham City on Monday, extending the London side's unbeaten Premier League run to five games.

The result moved Charlton up to seventh in the standings, level on 18 points with Manchester City and Fulham. Birmingham remained fourth on 19 points, eight adrift of leaders Arsenal.

Ireland midfielder Holland, who joined Charlton from First Division Ipswich Town in the close season, headed the opening goal from a Claus Jensen corner in the 11th minute, his first goal for his new club.

The 29-year-old's second came midway through the second half when a clearance by Birmingham forward Christophe Dugarry following another Jensen corner bounced off Holland's chest into the back of the net.

French forward Dugarry made amends five minutes later, leaping high to head the ball powerfully into the net for his first goal of the season, but Birmingham failed to find an equalizer despite creating chances in the closing stages.

MNA/Reuters



Zinedine Zidane, right, of Real Madrid challenges for the ball with Partizan's Branimir Bajic, left, during their Champions League, Group F, soccer match—Partizan Belgrade against Real Madrid on Tuesday in Belgrade. The game ended in a 0-0 draw.—INTERNET

Real advance after tough draw with Partizan

BELGRADE, 5 Nov— Real Madrid secured a place in the last 16 of the Champions league with a hard-fought 0-0 draw against Partizan Belgrade on Tuesday.

The result kept the nine-times European champions top of Group F with 10 points from four matches, though their perfect record was ended by an inspired Partizan side roared on by a passionate 32,000 crowd.

The Serbia and Montenegro champions, needing a win to keep alive any hope of qualifying for the knockout stages, dominated the match and missed a hatful of chances to grab victory.

The best two fell to skipper Sasa Ilic, who missed incredibly from point blank range in the 82nd minute and then saw his injury-time shot from the edge of the box parried by Real Madrid keeper Iker Casillas.

The Spanish champions seemed content to clog the midfield and play a waiting game, trying to catch Partizan on the break with Luis Figo and David Beckham keeping

the balance with neat passing.

Ronaldo could have given Real the lead against the run of play in the 31st minute but Partizan's keeper made a diving save with his feet after the Brazilian striker raced clear of his markers.

Casillas pulled off a superb save at the other end in the 44th minute, denying striker Andrija Delibasic who volleyed the ball into the keeper's body after a good team move.

Ivica Iliev, who caused all sorts of problems for the visitors, saw his fierce shot from the edge of the box drift just wide of the near post in the 50th minute as Real's defence began to wilt under incessant pressure.

Pantic then made a diving save to deny Zinedine Zidane as Real regained composure midway through the second half and Ronaldo shot wide from a good position in the 61st minute.

The home team launched a final onslaught in the closing stages but were let down by poor finishing.—MNA/Reuters



Manchester United's Ruud van Nistelrooy, right celebrates with his teammates after scoring against Glasgow Rangers during their Champions League Group E, soccer match at Manchester United's Old Trafford ground in Manchester, England, on Tuesday, 4 November, 2003.—INTERNET

Van Nistelrooy double puts paid to Rangers

MANCHESTER (England), 5 Nov— Ruud van Nistelrooy edged closer to Manchester United's European scoring record with two goals in their 3-0 thumping of Scottish rivals Rangers in the Champions League on Tuesday.

The Dutch forward struck twice from close range to raise his European tally for United to 27, one less than Denis Law's club record of 28, as his side moved to the brink of qualification from Group E.

Van Nistelrooy's double, which ended a four-game drought, followed a cracking sixth-minute opener by in-form Uruguayan Diego Forlan in a one-sided encounter at Old Trafford.

United's second win over the Scottish champions — they won 1-0 at Ibrox two weeks ago — lifted their points total to nine, the same as group leaders VfB Stuttgart with Rangers languishing on four points.

Alex Ferguson's English champions, the 1999 Champions League winners, can clinch qualification in their penultimate game against Panathinaikos in Greece on November 26.

Ferguson, a Rangers striker in his playing days, had rested captain Roy Keane especially for the re-match and within six minutes he had created the opening goal.

The Irish midfielder delivered from the right and although a Rangers defender got his head to the cross, Forlan pivoted to

arrow an instinctive volley into the corner of the net. It was the once-maligned Uruguayan's fourth goal in as many games.

Alex McLeish's Rangers were completely out-fought in midfield by Keane and Phil Neville so it was little surprise when the hosts doubled their advantage two minutes before the break.

Cristiano Ronaldo crossed from the right and when the ball was cut back, Forlan whacked it against the crossbar and the rebound trundled into the net off Van Nistelrooy's knee.

Rangers' Michael Ball stung United goalkeeper Tim Howard's fingers with a ferocious drive soon after the restart but Van Nistelrooy killed off the Scottish team after 59 minutes.

Ryan Giggs whipped in a free kick and the Dutchman flicked the ball past Rangers keeper Stefan Klos to move to within one goal of Law.

The Dutchman was being watched from the stands by Netherlands coach Dick Advocaat, with whom he has fallen out, and he began to turn on the style, forcing Klos to parry a fierce drive and then tip over a delightful chipped effort.

Van Nistelrooy was denied the chance to equal Law's mark when Ferguson substituted him with 13 minutes to go, but by then Rangers were out on their feet, with their Champions League campaign in a similar state.

MNA/Reuters

Chelsea fire four past hapless Lazio

ROME, 5 Nov— Chelsea demolished Lazio 4-0 in the Champions League on Tuesday with goals from former Lazio striker Hernan Crespo, substitute Eidur Gudjohnsen and midfielders Damien Duff and Frank Lampard.

The result put the English side firmly in control of Group G with nine points ahead of Besiktas on six and sent Lazio, favourites to win the group at the start of the competition, to the bottom on four.

The match was marred by two sendings off after Lazio's Sinisa Mihajlovic was dismissed in the 53rd minute and Chelsea's Glen Johnson was red-carded two minutes from the end.



Chelsea's captain John Terry (top) celebrates with Frank Lampard at the end of the Champions League Group G, soccer match against Lazio at Olympic stadium in Rome.—INTERNET

Chelsea went ahead in the 15th minute when Crespo bundled in a free kick by his Argentine and former Lazio team mate Juan Sebastian Veron which was parried by second-string goalkeeper Matteo Sereni.

Sereni was also at fault in the second and fourth goals when he failed to clear shots in second half as a rampant Chelsea bombarded the home goal. Lazio looked disjointed and lost all rhythm after Mihajlovic was sent off for two yellow-card tackles.

The Rome side started without injured first-choice goalkeeper Angelo Peruzzi and reliable Dutch defender Jaap Stam.

Sereni looked ill at ease and should have held Veron's free kick awarded after Adrian Mutu was tripped 30 metres out.

The home side appeared edgy. A series of corners by defender Sinisa Mihajlovic floated harmlessly out of play. Crosses flashed across the box without contact.

For a few minutes either side of halftime Lazio regained some composure. Dejan Stankovic had a chance in the 39th minute saved by Chelsea keeper Carlo Cudicini and less than a minute later another cut out by England defender John Terry.

After the break they were denied a 47th-minute equalizer only by a brilliant double save by Cudicini from Stankovic and Bernardo Corradi. The balance of the match tipped decisively in the London side's favour after Mihajlovic was sent off.

MNA/Reuters

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Prime Minister presents...

(from page 9) education level Ozi contest (in group) (aged 5-10) to Maung Aung Zin Myo (a) San Shar group of Yangon Division, the second to Maung Thiha Zaw group of Sagaing Division and the third to Maung Nyo Tok group of Ayeyawady Division.

Chief Justice U Aung Toe presented first prizes for professional level Dobat contest (in group) to U Sein Kalar group and U Ohn Ngwe group of Mandalay Division, the second to U Thein Win Tun group of Yangon Division and the third to Chindwin Sanay group of Sagaing Division; the first prize for amateur level Dobat contest (in group) to Maung Kyaw Han (a) Thar Htwe Stin group of Yangon Division, the second to U Htay Lwin group of Sagaing Division and the third to U Zaw Win Aung (a) Zaw Min Tun group of Bago Division; the first prize for higher education level Dobat contest (in group) to Maung Aung Kyaw Khaing group of Mandalay Division, second prizes to Maung Kyaw Nyein Chan group of Yangon Division and Maung Aung Than Zaw group of Sagaing Division and the third to Maung Chit Soe Wai group of Ayeyawady Division.

Attorney-General U Aye Maung presented the first prize for basic education level Dobat contest (in group) (aged 15-20) to Maung Star Bo Htet group of Yangon Division and Maung Pyae Phyo Maw group of Mandalay Division, second to Maung Aung

Moe Oo group of Mandalay Division and the third to Maung Ye Win Tun group of Sagaing Division; the first prize for basic education level Dobat contest (in group) (aged 10-15) to Maung Kyaw Swa Win Myint group of Mandalay Division, the second to Maung Thuta Tun group of Mandalay Division, the third to Maung Han Myo Kyaw group of Yangon Division and consolation prize to Saing Thiha (a) Saing Kham group of Kayah State; the first prize for basic education level Dobat contest (in group) (aged 5-10) to Maung Thiha Zaw group of Sagaing Division, the second to Maung Yan Kyaw group of Mandalay Division and third prizes to Maung Kaung Myat Thu group of Yangon Division and Maung Nyo Tok group of Ayeyawady Division.

Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung presented the first prize for professional level men's Myanmar traditional orchestra contest (in group) to Maung Win Naing Tun (a) Nagarbyan Sein Win group of Yangon Division, the second to U Sein Win Myint group of Mandalay Division and the third to Pantra Sein Hla Myaing group of Yangon Division; the first prize for amateur level men's Myanmar traditional orchestra contest (in group) to Padamyia Stin group of Yangon Division, the second to U Myo Thant Tin (a) Bo Bo Thein group of Mandalay Division and the third to Myanmarpyithalay Po Zaw group of Yangon Division; the first prize for higher education level men's orchestra contest (in group)

to Maung Myo Thant group of Yangon Division, the second to Maung Aung Aung group of Mandalay Division and the third to Maung Lwin Ko Ko Oo group of Yangon Division.

Member of the National Convention Convening Commission U Thaung Nyunt presented the first prize for basic education level men's orchestra contest (in group) (aged 15-20) to Maung Star Bo Htet group of Yangon Division, the second to Maung Lin Htet Htet Oo group of Yangon Division and the third to Maung Thein Tun Oo group of Sagaing Division; the first prize for basic education level boys' orchestra contest (in group) (aged 10-15) to Maung Myo Min Paing group of Ayeyawady Division, the second to Maung Myo Zaw Hein (a) Myo Zaw Aung group of Yangon Division and the third to Myaingyingu Sein Ba Maung group of Kayin State; the first prize for basic education level boys' orchestra contest (in group) (aged 5-10) to Maung Phyo Htet Aung group of Sagaing Division and Maung Min Ko Ko (a) Sein Bo Htwa group of Mandalay Division, the second to Maung Htet Arkar Oo (a) Htet Arkar group of Yangon Division and the third to Maung Chantha group of Mandalay Division.

Chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyunt presented the first prize for professional level women's orchestra contest (in group) to Do Bo Ma (a) Moe Thu Zar group of Mandalay Division, the second to Daw Yin Yin Nu group of Yangon Division and the third to Daw Aye Mar Thi group of

Yangon Division; the first prize for amateur level women's orchestra contest (in group) to Daw Hla Hla Khaing group of Ayeyawady Division, the second to Ma Cho Cho Mar group of Yangon Division and the third to Daw Khin Thit Lwin group of Mandalay Division; the first prize for higher education level women's orchestra contest (in group) to Ma Mya Mya Win group of Bago Division, the second to Ma Ei Ei Mon group of Yangon Division and the third to Ma Thida Win group of Mandalay Division.

Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee for Holding the Competitions Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein presented the first prize for basic education level women's orchestra contest (in group) (aged 15-20) to Ma Zar Zar Lin (a) Pauk Kyaw Ma group of Yangon Division, the second to Ma Wint Htinzar Stin group of Yangon Division and the third to Ma Htet Htet Lin group of Mandalay Division; the first prize for basic education level girls' orchestra contest (in group) (aged 10-15) to Ma Nwe Nwe Tun (a) Ton Ton group of Yangon Division, the second to Ma Kay Zin Chit Su group of Yangon Division and the third to Ma Yu Wai Hnin group of Ayeyawady Division; the first prize for basic education level girls' orchestra (in group) (aged 5-10) to Ma Zar Ni Nan Lwin group of Yangon Division, the second to Ma Cho Cho Bo group of Mandalay Division and the third to Ma Aye Chan Swe group of Ayeyawady Division.

The best performance prize winner in basic educa-

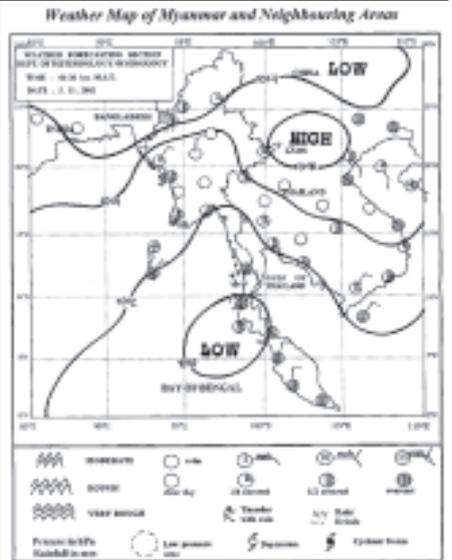
tion level Donmin contest (aged 5-10) Ma Shwe Zin Chit, the violin troupe of Kayah State, and consolation prize winner in basic education level Dobat contest (aged 10-15) Saing Thiha (a) Saing Kham group of

Kayah State presented entertainment programmes to the audience. After the prize-presentation ceremony, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt cordially greeted doyen artistes and youths constants. —MNA

Development tasks in Patheingyi inspected

YANGON, 5 Nov — Director-General Col Myo Myint of the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and

Development Affairs together with officials inspected development tasks being implemented by the Patheingyi Township DAD in Patheingyi on 1 November evening. —MNA



TV Myanmar logo and a list of programs for Thursday, November 6, including 'Let's Go', 'Martial song', and 'Songs to uphold National Spirit'.

A list of programs for 8:45 am to 6:15 pm, including 'Evening news', 'Weather report', 'Musical programme', and 'International news'.

A list of programs for 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm, including 'Evening news', 'Weather report', 'Musical programme', and 'The next day's programme'.

Radio Myanmar logo and a list of programs for Thursday, November 6, including 'Brief news', 'Perspectives', 'National news/Slogan', and 'Interview: 13th Asian Archery Championship'.

WEATHER section for Wednesday, 6 November, 2003, providing a summary of observations, maximum/minimum temperatures, humidity, and forecasts for Yangon and Mandalay.

National Convention Convening Commission, Work Committee, Management Committee meet

YANGON, 5 Nov —The work coordination meeting of the National Convention Convening Commission, the National Convention Convening Work Committee and the National Convention Convening Management Committee was held this morning at Pyidaungsu Hall in Kyaikkasan Grounds here.

Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of the NCC Work Committee

Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Chairman of the NCC Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and committee members attended the meeting.

At the meeting, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein briefed on the matters on organizing the National Convention and functions of the Work Committee and Management Committee.

Afterwards, Secretary of the NCCC Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Joint Secretary Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint reported on formation of the

commission, work committee and management committee.

Next, Chairman of the NCC Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Chairman of the NCC Management Committee

Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung also reported on National Convention tasks and management affairs.

The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the Secretary-2.

MNA

Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses the work coordination meeting. — MNA

The work coordination meeting of the National Convention Convening Commission, the National Convention Convening Work Committee and the National Convention Convening Management Committee in progress. — MNA



Indian goodwill delegation led by Vice-President Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat concludes visit

YANGON, 5 Nov— The Indian goodwill delegation led by 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 Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Myanmar Ambassador-designate to the Republic of India U Kyi Thein, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia and officials, left Yangon International airport on 4 November and arrived at Bagan-NyaungU airport at 10.10 am.

Magway Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Zaw Min welcomed the Indian Vice-President and party at the airport. NyaungU District PDC

Chairman Lt-Col Khin Maung Oo, Secretary Maj Myint Thein and departmental heads also welcomed the Indian Vice-President.

A Myanmar girl presented a bouquet to the visiting Vice-President.

Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and party proceeded to Ananda Pagoda. They were welcomed there by Deputy Director-General of Archaeology Department of the Ministry of Culture U Aung Kyaing and members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees. The officials conducted the Indian Vice-President and party round the pagoda.

Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat paid homage to Ananda pagoda and viewed the ancient images of Bagan era. Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat signed in the visi-



tors' book and made cash donation for the pagoda. The members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees presented a lacquerware painting with Bagan scene to the Vice-

President. Next, they arrived at Bagan Lacquerware Art College. Principal U Yu Thein, staff and students (See page 8)

Vice-President of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and goodwill delegation at Myanansankyaw Shwenandaw. — MNA

Vice-President of India Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat and goodwill delegation being seen off at Mandalay International Airport by Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint. — MNA



INSIDE
Perspectives Development of human resources, key to national development page 2
Article Let's guard against the threat of human trafficking page 7
Foreign News pages 3,4,5,6,12,13,14
Circulation 24,022