

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Tuesday, 9 December, 2003

## 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



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Daw Mya Mya San participate in the Htidaw hoisting ceremony of Mahateza Dhipati Pagoda in Mongpan.—MNA*

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attend ceremony to hoist Shwehtidaw atop Mahateza Dhipati Pagoda in Mongpan, Shan State (South)

YANGON, 8 Dec—A ceremony to enshrine religious objects into and hoist Shwehtidaw atop Mahateza Dhipati Pagoda on Yadana Hill in Mongpan, Loilem District, Shan State (South) was held in conjunction with the consecration ceremony at the pagoda this morning, attended by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Also present on the occasion were State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws led

by State Ovadacariya Nagahnakaung Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Dhammasiri, member Sayadaws of State Central Working Committee of the Sangha, member Sayadaws of Shan State and township Sangha Nayaka Committees, Secretary Sayadaws and invited Sayadaws and members of the Sangha numbering 108, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Kyi Min, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, ministers, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Brig-Gen Nyunt Hlaing of Mongpan Station, officials of the State Peace

and Development Council Office, heads of department, local authorities and departmental officials, national race leaders and local people, wellwishers, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations and religious associations and others. Before holding the Htidaw Hoisting ceremony,

the ceremony to offer Shwekyathingan and emerald bowls to the four Buddha Images kept at the four archways of the pagoda was held at 6.45 am.

Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San offered Shwekyathingan and emerald bowls to the Buddha Image kept at the eastern archway of the pagoda.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Nwe offered Shwekyathingan and emerald bowls to the Buddha Im-

age kept at the southern archway of the pagoda.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win offered Shwekyathingan and emerald bowls to the Buddha Image kept at the western archway of the pagoda.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council (See page 8)



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Daw Mya Mya San sprinkle scented water on Seinbudaw to be hoisted atop Mahateza Dhipati Pagoda in Mongpan.—MNA*

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## Circulation

23,567

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 9 December, 2003

### Strive for durability of infrastructures

The Government of the Union of Myanmar, in its bid for continued development of all states and divisions, has given top priority to the tasks for ensuring better transport, especially in the regions like Chin State that are hard of access due to their geographical positions.

The Tappin Bridge constructed by Public Works under the Ministry of Construction on Pakokku-Kyaukhtu-Mindat road was opened on 27 November and member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended the opening ceremony. The bridge is situated in Saw Township, Gangaw District, Magway Division.

In his address on the occasion, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that the Government had been implementing the five rural development tasks, that there were delays in transportation of goods and passengers in the past, especially in the rains, because of frequent floods and that the local authorities and people should take responsibility for the maintenance of the bridge.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party also attended the opening ceremony of the Pauk-Kyaukhtu section of Pakokku-Pauk-Kyaukhtu-Mindat road. Sixty-one miles and one furlong of the 97-mile Pakokku-Pauk-Kyaukhtu-Mindat road has been tarred. Similarly, the Pakokku-Pauk-Kyaukhtu-Mindat road and the Pakokku-Mindat-Matupi road have also been opened.

The improvements in transport infrastructure will surely contribute a lot to trade, education and health sectors of Southern Chin State.

The Government, on its part, has been building roads and bridges wherever necessary in the entire Union for parallel development of each and every state and division. Therefore, local authorities and people should cooperate in maintaining the infrastructures for the long-term interest of their respective regions.



Daw Moe Yee Oo of Myanmar Medicine and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association being seen off at the airport. — H

### Executive officer leaves for India

YANGON, 8 Dec— Executive Officer Daw Moe Yee Oo of Myanmar Medicine and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association left here for New Delhi, India, by air this afternoon, to attend Entrepreneurship Develop-

ment and Promotion of Income Generation Activities. She was seen off at the airport by Chairman of the association Dr Maung Maung Lay, Vice-Chairman U Nyunt Tin and General Secretary Dr Saw Hla Tun. — MNA

### Objectives of the 56th Anniversary of Independence Day

- All the national people to collectively safeguard the national independence and ensure perpetuation of sovereignty
- All the national people to be united to ensure non-disintegration of national solidarity
- All the national people to strive for the emergence of enduring State Constitution and for the building of a new modern and developed nation
- All the national people to participate with full sense of Union Spirit and Patriotism in the successful implementation of the seven-point roadmap of the State.

### MA; Buddhism and BA; Buddhism degrees conferred on monks

YANGON, 8 Dec, — Organized by the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Sula Convocation ceremony of the State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon & Mandalay) to confer the ninth Sasana Takkasila Maha Dhammacariya titles (MA; Buddhism and BA; Buddhism) was held at the State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) Kaba Aye Hillock this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife attended the ceremony and presented offertories to Sayadaws.

Present on the occasion

were State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee member Sayadaws, Theravada Buddhist Missionary Ovadacariya Sayadaws, the chairman Sayadaw of the State Pariyatti Sasana Universities Administration Central Committee and Sayadaws, Tipidaka Ovadacariya Sayadaw, Tipitaka Dhara title recipient Sayadaws, the rector Sayadaw of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, Sayadaws and members of the Sangha, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, departmental heads, local authorities and lay persons.

Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka



Ninth convocation of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities (Yangon) and (Mandalay) in progress. — MNA

Committee Abhidhaja Maharatha Guru Bahan Township Maha Aung Myay Bonsan Monastery Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panyeinda Bhivamsa invested the congregation with the Eight Precepts.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko supplicated to the Sayadaws on religious matters.

State Pariyatti Sasana University (Mandalay) Rector Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Vannita conferred Sasana Takkasila Maha Dhammacariya titles on 43 monks individually. State Pariyatti Sasana

University (Yangon) Rector Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Pandita Bhivamsa conferred Sasana Takkasila Maha Dhammacariya titles on 64 monks individually.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pandita Bhivamsa also conferred diplomas on three Laotian monks who got the diplomas on the Theravada Buddhist Special Course for foreigners.

Afterwards, the commander, the deputy minister and wellwishers presented offertories to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.

At the ceremony K 10.1 million including the provisions were donated. — MNA

### Minister attends 75th birthday of Dagon Pariyatti Sathintak Sayadaw

YANGON, 8 Dec— The 75th birthday ceremony of Presiding Sayadaw of Dagon Pariyatti Sathintak on Myoma Kyaung Street, Dagon Township member of State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Gunananda was held at the Sathintak this morning, attended by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the occasion were members of the

Sangha, departmental heads of the ministry, wellwishers, disciples of the Sayadaw and invited guests.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and the congre-

gation received the Five Precepts from the Sayadaw.

Afterwards, the minister, departmental heads and wellwishers presented offertories to the Sayadaw, fol-

lowed by sharing of merits gained for good deeds.

Staff families of the ministry presented 65 mosquito nets worth K 409,500. — MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan donates provisions to a Sayadaw at 75th birthday of Dagon Pariyatti Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gunananda. — MNA

### World AIDS Day lecture given

YANGON, 8 Dec — The World AIDS Day commemorative lecture, organized by Myanmar Dental Association, was given day at the hall of MDA.

Present on the occasion were the chairman of MDA (Central) and executive committee members, dental surgeons and students of the Dental Institute.

Acting project manager (HIV/ venereal disease) Dr Min Thwe of the Health Department, Dr Htin Aung Saw of North Okkalapa Hospital (Waibagi) and lecturer Dr Swe Swe Win of the Department of Plastic and Maxilla Facial and Oral Surgery, the Dental Institute (Yangon) gave the lectures. — MNA



Dr Swe Swe Win of Plastic and Maxilla Facial and Oral Surgery Unit gives talks on World AIDS Day at Myanmar Dental Association Hall. — H

## Strikes against oil pipelines continue in Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 8 Dec** — Long gas lines and lengthy power outages are again plaguing the capital city, the result of continued sabotage of oil pipelines and attacks on contractors.

"We are in a security clampdown," Army Corps of Engineers spokesman Mike McAleer said. Some reconstruction work has been halted while officials examine the threat to workers.

Gas supplies and electricity have been a problem in the capital since Baghdad fell in April. Over the summer, however, the coalition made progress in rebuilding infrastructure. Gas lines dwindled and electricity reached a level of at least 12 hours of power every day in Baghdad.

But stepped-up attacks on contractors in recent weeks have slowed down infrastructure work at a time when sabotage against oil pipelines and oil facilities continues. Restoring a sense of normal life to the capital, with a population of more than 5 million, is critical for winning support for the coalition.

US officials worry that frustrations from long gas lines and power outages play into the hands of insurgents.

"I waited here four hours to fill my car tank," said Hussein Aissi, a former Iraqi army officer now unemployed. Aissi talked as he pushed his red Toyota the final few yards to a gasoline station in Baghdad one day last week. The line stretched four miles.

Kellogg Brown & Root and the US Army Corps of Engineers temporarily halted work on oil facilities in northern Iraq.

Iraqi insurgents killed two Korean subcontractors near Tikrit last week. The two were working on an electricity transmissionline project. A Colombian contractor was killed about the same time in Balad, north of Baghdad.

The Army Corps and Kellogg Brown

& Root, a subsidiary of Halliburton, are responsible for restoring Iraqi oil to the prewar production level of 3 million barrels per day. Production is now 2.1 million barrels per day, according to the Iraqi Oil Ministry.

McAleer said the reconstruction has been slowed by the pace and violence of recent attacks.

Insurgent attacks on oil pipelines and other infrastructure have far-reaching effects, particularly on electricity. "Electricity production depends on the stability of fuel supplies and security," said Kareem al-Kabeesi, general director of the Iraqi Electricity Distribution Company.

In the past week insurgents struck pipelines three times, Iraqi Oil Ministry spokesman Assam Jihad said.

Internet

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## Presidential candidate Kucinich urges to turn Iraq governance over to UN

**NEW YORK, 8 Dec** — Rep Dennis Kucinich said Sunday that he is the only presidential candidate with a plan for withdrawing US troops from Iraq and turning the administration of the country over to the United Nations.

"We are now mired in Iraq," the Ohio Democrat told about 50 supporters at a Manhattan fund-raiser. "I'm hopeful that George Bush will recognize the dead end of policy that he has arrived at. But if he doesn't recognize it, you're looking at the one candidate—with your help—who will be able to extricate the United States from this sordid chapter in our national experience, from this defaming of our national purpose, from this disconnection with the world community."

Kucinich said his campaign "is about a new America, which participates with the world community in the cause of international security." —Internet

## Chinese Vice-President meets Oman guests

**BEIJING, 8 Dec** — China is ready to raise relations with Oman to a new level, Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong said here.

Zeng made the remark during a meeting with Oman Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs Yousef Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah in Beijing. Zeng welcomed Alawi, who is on his fourth visit to China, saying the visit would help push forward the development of bilateral relations.

Though the two countries are far apart, they share long-standing friendship and used to be closely linked together by the maritime Silk Road. Zeng said the two countries had seen continuous development of bilateral links since they established diplomatic relations. He said the two sides had conducted fruitful cooperation in such fields as politics, trade and economy.

They had maintained regular exchanges of visits of high-ranking officials and deepened mutual understanding and trust, Zeng

said. He said the trade and economic links between the two countries developed rapidly, with trade volume growing and cooperative areas expanding. The two sides had always supported and cooperated with each other in the international arena, Zeng said.

Zeng said China places importance on developing the friendly relations with Oman.

Alawi conveyed the greetings from Sultan Qabus Bin Said of Oman to Chinese President Hu Jintao. He said during his visit, he saw great achievements China made in its development and held good talks with his Chinese colleagues. He said the visit was fruitful. He expressed the wish that Oman would continue to expand cooperation with China in all areas, including energy. The two sides exchanged views on other international issues. — MNA/Xinhua



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (L) shakes hands with United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan (R) just before their meeting, which Annan described as 'very constructive and stimulating'. He said that discussions had focused on China-UN relations, Iraq, the Korean Peninsula and efforts to contain AIDS/HIV. —INTERNET

## India, Pakistan to offer preferential market access

**KATHMANDU, 8 Dec** — India and Pakistan have agreed to offer preferential market access to each other's products under the South Asian Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA).

This was decided during a two-day meeting between the officials of the two countries which concluded at the SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) Secretariat here. "The two countries successfully concluded bilateral negotiations on additional lists of products on which they agreed to offer preferential treatment under SAPTA," the SAARC Secretariat said in a statement.

The meeting was authorized by the the Fourth Special Session of SAARC Standing Committee held here in July 2003. India and Pakistan agreed on further inclusion of about 500 tariff lines in the SAPTA basket of tariff concessions, which though bilaterally negotiated, will also be available to all other member states, the statement said.

The depth of preferential tariff concessions extended by both sides ranges from 10 to 25 per cent. These concessions will form part of the fourth round of trade negotiations under SAPTA. —MNA/PTI

## Indonesia to launch micro-satellite in 2005

**JAKARTA, 8 Dec** — Indonesia is set to launch its first imagery viewer micro-satellite in 2005 to carry out remote sensing of the territory and its natural resources.

With its remote sensing capability, the micro-satellite will operate in a polar-orbiting system, measure climatic temperature and humidity, record topography, including forests, and monitor cloud cover and water boundaries. It will also have the capability to receive, measure, process and transmit data from around the world. "The satellite will prevent the Bawean incident from recurring," Air Force Chief Marshall Chappy Hakim was quoted Saturday by *The Jakarta Post* as saying. —MNA/Xinhua

## Beijing trembling amid strong wind, coldest weather this winter

**BEIJING, 8 Dec** — Strong winds battered Beijing Saturday and kept people from the street as the daytime temperature dropped to minus 1 degree Celsius, the coldest day recorded by the meteorological station in the Chinese capital this winter.

The local weather forecast said the temperature would plummet to minus 10 degrees late Saturday night but the wind scale would weaken to gentle or light breeze from strong breeze during Saturday daytime.

Far less people were seen on the street and most people who ventured out wrapped

themselves up in thick overcoats and hats and hurried by.

"The cold weather will continue for two or three days under the influence of the powerful cold front from Mongolia," said Zhou Xiaoping, a senior engineer at Beijing Municipal Observatory.

Zhou said the tempera-

ture would rise to above zero after the chilly weather and clear weather would appear over the coming week.

He said it was still too early to tell whether this winter would be warmer or colder than the previous winters as the current temperature was at about the same level compared to the past years. — MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier from Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 22nd Regiment, of the 4th Infantry Division patrols the streets of Tikrit, north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 7 December, 2003. An Iraqi woman sweeps street near her house in the background. —INTERNET

## Hong Kong's economy to grow 4% next year

**HONG KONG, 8 Dec** — Hong Kong's economy will grow 2.8 per cent this year and 4 per cent next year in real term, according to the latest issue of the Hang Seng Economic Monthly.

Hong Kong economy faces challenges in sustaining the growth momentum amid their respective structural imbalances—with job creation appearing to top their agendas, the report said. The major challenge for Hong Kong in attaining a sustained recovery is to capitalize on the opportunities opened up by the Mainland/Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) to induce investment and create employment, it said.

The Hong Kong economy is expected to be underpinned by buoyant external demand and a mild improvement in domestic demand in 2004. Total merchandise trade is projected to increase by 10.9 per cent in real terms, slightly slower than the estimated growth of 13.1 per cent in 2003, according to the report.

MNA/Xinhua

# Catastrophic housing shortage threatens Iraq, says official

**BAGHDAD, 8 Dec**—Iraq is verging on a catastrophic shortage of housing for its people, a senior housing ministry official said.

"The need for housing has developed from a shortage, to a problem, to a crisis, and probably now it is a catastrophe," Saad Al-Zubaidi, a counsellor to the interim minister of construction and housing, told *AFP* in an interview.

Neglect of the housing sector under Saddam Hussein has been compounded recently by damage during the US-led war that toppled the former regime in April, and subsequent rent hikes by landlords, Zubaidi said.

"A lot of landlords have asked to sharply increase the rent, and if they (the tenants) can't afford it they just

kick them out," he said.

The evictees then move into empty government buildings.

"They are in the thousands, and it's becoming a humanitarian issue of not being able to kick them out, and not being able to keep them in," said the London-educated architect and planner.

*AFP* found several families on Sunday living in squalid conditions at a former Iraqi Air Force office building.

"Eight people live in this room," said Sadake Hamad, a toothless old woman who did not know her age.

The room with a blue tile floor measured about three metres by four (nine feet by 13), or the size of a small bathroom. It's only comfort was a thin, worn mat along one wall.

At night, the family makes room to sleep by moving their cooking utensils outside.

The family said they became squatters just after the war when their landlord increased the rent on their Baghdad home.

Zubaidi said close to half of Iraq's population of about 26 million are considered to be living below the poverty line and cannot afford decent housing.—*Internet*

## Chirac says against EU Constitution at any price

**TUNIS, 8 Dec** — France will not support a European Union Constitution at any price, President Jacques Chirac told Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, who is leading talks on a planned EU Constitution.

"For France, as for many of its partners, this agreement must not be sealed at any price," Chirac's spokeswoman Catherine Colonna said after the two political leaders met for half an hour during a visit in Tunisia.

At an Inter-Governmental Conference next week EU leaders will try to complete an EU Constitution meant to ensure the 15-member state bloc can function after it expands eastwards to 25-member states in May and its population swells to 450 million.

"France believes that an enlarged Europe cannot allow for a bad agreement or throwing together of 15 or 25 (member states)," Colonna said, adding that "Europeans need a Europe that works".

*MNA/Reuters*



*Iraqis riding on a truck pass a US soldier outside the US Army headquarters in Falluja on 7, December, 2003.—INTERNET*

## Dengue kills nine in Bangladesh

**DHAKA, 8 Dec**—A total of nine people have been killed by the disease dengue since its outbreak in Bangladesh late October.

Among the attacked, eight died in hospitals and clinics in the capital and one in Chittagong Medical College Hospital, according to *The New Nation* Saturday.

On the other hand, the number of dengue affected patients have already crossed the 1,000 mark, though the control room of the government is showing the number at 409 till Friday, the newspaper said.

Dengue normally breaks out between July and September in the country. But this year it broke out suddenly during the last

week of October causing deep concern among the people.

The first case of dengue in Bangladesh (former East Pakistan) was recorded in 1963. It broke out in the country in an epidemic form in 2000. A total of 93 people died out of 5,223 persons affected in that year.

In 2001, about 44 patients died out of 2,080 affected. In 2002, 58 deaths were recorded while 6,318 were treated in different hospitals and clinics.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## China works out e-paper prototype

**CHONGQUING, 8 Dec**—A different wallpaper every day in your house? It may soon be a possibility, as electronic paper and ink will soon make it easier and cheaper, just like the way you change the wallpaper on your desktop.

Researchers with the Southwest China Normal University announced earlier this week their success in building the country's first e-paper prototype, which combined organic transistors with an e-ink that could be sprayed at very low cost on virtually any material: plastic, metal, cloth and conventional paper. E-paper, a small, ultra-thin, radiation-free screen that consumes little power and gives a dynamic display of massive information, was designed to imitate to the maximum advantages of conventional paper and ink: flexibility, low cost and the ability to be read using ambient light.

"By replacing

conventional paper with e-paper, we can protect our ecological environment by cutting less trees and minimizing pollution brought by the traditional paper mills," said Professor Fu Xiangkai with the university's Applied Chemistry Institute.

E-paper could be used widely in publication, advertising, commerce and many other sectors and would "make your life easier and more colourful", said Fu, head of the research team.

"You can bring a library with you all the time when newspapers, magazines, textbooks and novels are 'printed' on a portable little screen," he said. "And you'll have clothes, dresses, walls

and decoration papers in richer colours."

Fu and his colleagues are seeking business partners who are expected to translate the state-of-the-art technology into end products at an earlier date.

The e-paper technology was first developed by the US-based Xerox Corp in the

1970s. In 2000, the American E-Ink Corp worked out the world's first e-paper prototype in collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

More than 10 e-paper prototypes are now available in the global market, and are used mainly in the advertising sector.—*MNA/Xinhua*

## Russian tiger handler mauled to death

**KIEV, 8 Dec**—A 24-year-old female handler of a Russian circus troupe was mauled to death by the tiger performing with her Thursday night in the Ukrainian city of Odessa on the coast of the Black Sea.

The tragedy happened when the troupe was on a performing tour in Ukraine. The handler was attacked by the tiger and died on the platform, a Ukrainian news agency said.—*MNA/Xinhua*

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## Iraq attacks 'likely to increase'

**BAGHDAD, 8 Dec**—A top US military commander in Iraq has said he expects more attacks as the US prepares to hand over power to Iraqis. "We expect to see an increase in violence as we move toward sovereignty at the end of June," General Ricardo Sanchez told reporters on Sunday.

He added the hunt for Saddam Hussein was continuing, but that it was like looking for a needle in a haystack.

His comments came shortly after a US soldier was killed by a roadside bomb in the northern city of Mosul.

General Sanchez said the US assumed that Saddam Hussein was still in Iraq. "Clearly we haven't found the right haystack. We're all focused on finding that needle," he said.

But he said he did not expect attacks on coalition troops to end if Saddam Hussein was found.

"The killing or capturing of Saddam Hussein will have an impact on the level of violence, but it will not end it," he said. General Sanchez said the number of military engagements was down to less than 20 a day, compared to almost 40 a day in early November.

**Saddam 'alive'**

A tribal chief told the French news agency *AFP* that the ousted leader was directing attacks against the coalition.

"The Iraqi president is commanding the military operations against the American forces," said the loyalist who called himself Abu Mohammad.

He said the former leader was "in good health and living in the west of Iraq," *AFP* reported.—*Internet*

## Britain provides counter narcotics training for Afghans

**LONDON, 8 Dec**—The British Government on Friday announced a project that would provide training and equipment to detect and disrupt drug trafficking within Afghanistan.

"I am delighted to be able to announce today this practical package of support. Afghan police will get the training and equipment they desperately need to detect and disrupt the drug traffickers' routes and attack the drugs trade at source," British Foreign Office Minister Bill Rammell said in a statement, following the official presentation of the equipment to the Afghan interim government in Kabul on Friday.

According to the Foreign Office, the equipment in-

cluding two vehicles and searching equipment, totals approximately 100,000 pounds (about 170,000 US dollars). "During my visit to Afghanistan this summer I witnessed first hand the need for international assistance in the war on drugs. I met determined detection officers positioned at the checkpoints on the outskirts of Kabul city who had received no training to search for the drugs that are trafficked in such large quantities by road," Rammell said.

*MNA/Xinhua*



*Protesters march in a street in downtown Tokyo, opposing dispatch of Japanese troops to Iraq on 7 Dec, 2003.*

*INTERNET*

# IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



A US soldier from 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment orders an Iraqi woman and her kids to leave the room as they raided her house Saturday southeast of Baghdad. —INTERNET



US troops block a highway on the outskirts of Baghdad after a roadside bomb attack on 7 Dec, 2003. Guerillas blew apart a US Humvee with a roadside bomb in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, killing one American soldier and wounding two in the latest deadly strike on occupying forces.. — INTERNET



Italian soldiers of the 'Sassari Brigade' drive towards flames and thick black smoke coming from a damaged oil pipeline near the southern Iraqi town of Nasiriyah, on Saturday, 6 Dec, 2003. —INTERNET



A US tank secures the area of a derailed freight train, foreground, after an explosive device went off on Saturday evening, on the northern outskirts of Samarra, 120 miles north of Baghdad, on Sunday 7 Dec, 2003. On background is the remain of another train which derailed by an explosion on 15 Nov, 2003. — INTERNET



A soldier of US Army's 4th Infantry Division checks an Iraqi man with a metal detector before he enters an office building in Tikrit, on 29 Nov, 2003. —INTERNET

A US soldier of the B-Co 2-325th Air 82nd Airborne Division, leads his platoon during a search in the south suburbs of Baghdad, on Saturday, 6 Dec, 2003.—INTERNET



## Nine children among 10 dead in US Afghan raid

**KABUL, 8 Dec**—Aircraft from the US-led military force killed nine children in an attack in the south of Afghanistan on a "known terrorist" responsible for the deaths of two road contractors, the military said on Sunday.

The children were the latest civilians killed accidentally by US-led forces in Afghanistan, who are pursuing remnants of the Taliban regime overthrown in late 2001 and allied Islamic militants.

Colonel Bryan Hilferty said in a statement at the US military's Afghan headquarters the incident happened on Saturday morning south of the town of Ghazni and the intended target was killed in the attack.

He said the US-led force regretted the loss of innocent life and the incident was under investigation.

Ground troops of the

US-led force found the children's bodies near that of the intended target after the attack by planes with gunfire, he said.

"Coalition forces are remaining in the area and over the next several days will make every effort to assist the families of these innocent casualties and determine the cause of the civilian deaths," he said in the statement.

It said a commission was being formed to investigate what it called a tragic incident and would make an immediate on-site assessment.

"Coalition forces regret the loss of any innocent life,"

he said. "Coalition forces follow stringent rules of engagement to specifically avoid this type of incident, while continuing to target terrorists who threaten the future of Afghanistan."

In November, six Afghan civilians were killed in an aerial bombardment by US-led forces hunting Islamic militants in the eastern province of Paktika, the provincial governor there said.

And nearly three weeks before that in the province of Nuristan, eight members of the same family were killed in an aerial bombardment, according to witnesses.

MNA/Reuters

## Karzai seeks explanation for US children-killing air raid

**KABUL, 8 Dec**—Afghan President Hamid Karzai has sought explanation from the US-led coalition forces in the country over the air bombing of a residential area in a southern province which killed nine children, a Press release said Sunday.

As a result of a US air raid on a village in Gilan District of the Ghazni Province, some 130 kilometres from Kabul, nine Afghan children along with a suspected Taliban commander were killed on Saturday morning.

"The Afghan Government, while strongly supporting the war against terrorism, is seeking explanation from the international coalition forces on the tragic

incident in Gilan District in which nine innocent people martyred," said the Press release issued by the Presidential Palace.

President Karzai ordered the immediate necessary assistance to families of the victims while expressing his condolence to them, it added.

"We are hopeful such unpleasant incident will not be repeated in the future," Karzai said in the Press re-

lease.

It was the second time within two months that civilian Afghans had been killed mistakenly by US forces in their operations against suspected Taliban fighters.

Eight persons of an Afghan family were killed and a few others injured in early November in the eastern Nooristan Province in a US airstrike.

MNA/Xinhua

## First winter storm of season socks northeast US

**BOSTON, 8 Dec**—The season's first major winter storm blanketed the northeastern United States on Saturday with a foot of snow that continued to pile up, grounding hundreds of planes and making driving

hazardous across the region.

The slow-moving storm system, on track to become the heaviest December storm to hit Boston in nearly three decades, barreled up the eastern coast early Saturday after brushing the US capital,

Maryland and northern Virginia overnight.

At least two people were reported killed in snow-related traffic accidents in New Jersey. Hundreds of flights at Logan International Airport, the region's busiest,

were cancelled or delayed.

"We've gone through the hors d'oeuvres of this storm but the main course is still to come. The ugly part will get us tonight," warned Peter Judge, public affairs officer at the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. Snow, wind and icy conditions also hampered travellers. At Logan, where 850 flights were scheduled to arrive and depart on Saturday, 325 had been cancelled by early afternoon, said Barbara Platt, an airport spokeswoman.

Continental Airlines said it had cancelled 120 flights for the day, mainly out of its hub in Newark, New Jersey. At Newark Liberty International Airport, flight delays of up to three hours were being reported. Airports in Maryland and New Jersey were closed briefly for snow removal and flight delays and cancellations were reported at airports from New Hampshire to New York.

MNA/Reuters



*Shoppers make their way down Boylston Street in downtown Boston, Massachusetts, on 6 December, 2003 during the first winter storm of the season. The Boston area expects over one foot of snow and high winds from the storm.*

INTERNET

မြို့ခြံရွှေတာ၊ ထိန်းပါးလေလွင့်၊ ထုတ်တုန့်မြင့်



Workers melt aluminium parts gathered from military planes at a scrap metal yard in Baghdad, Iraq, in this photo made on 7 December, 2003. —INTERNET

## Raul Castro says Cuba ready if US attacks

**HAVANA, 8 Dec**—Cuban Defence Minister Raul Castro said on Sunday that should the Communist state's arch-enemy the United States invade Cuba its forces would pay a far heavier price than the US troops occupying Iraq.

"Our people will pay a terrible price, but we will exact from the aggressors a high cost, be they the Yankees alone or with their cousins the British or Spanish," Castro told reporters after attending a Veterans Day ceremony.

The Bush Administra-

tion denies it plans to attack Cuba but since the US-led invasion of Iraq in March Cuban officials have expressed concern that they might be targeted too. Western diplomats say the government has used the prospect of such an invasion to rally Cubans.

Raul Castro, President Fidel Castro's younger brother and designated successor, said the Bush Administration's doctrine of preemptive strikes and accusation that Cuba may have weapons of mass destruction amounted to direct military

threats.

"The price they pay will be much higher (than in Iraq) and they are not going to dominate this country," Castro said. Nearly 450 Americans have been killed in combat and non-combat incidents in Iraq since the March 20 invasion.

"For any invader who sticks a boot here, at the very least the boot with the foot inside will remain," he said, adding there would be a mine and an ambush awaiting foreign troops every square metre of the country.

MNA/Reuters

## Rockets explode in Pakistan near US quarters

**MIRAN SHAH (Pakistan), 8 Dec**—Four rockets exploded near a school housing US security personnel in the remote western region of Pakistan but there was no damage or reports of casualties, officials said on Sunday.

A witness told Reuters residents of the village Miran Shah, in Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province, were shaken out of their beds at night by the blasts.

Three rockets exploded a few hundred metres away from the school building where a few US security personnel are temporarily stationed to check the movement of Taliban and al-Qaeda members in Pakis-

tan's tribal rim.

Another exploded closer to the compound but did not cause any damage, said one local official who did not want to be named.

Police and paramilitary border forces have detained at least 25 members of a local tribe from whose village the rockets were believed to have been fired, the official said.

MNA/Reuters

## 25 killed as overcrowded Indian bus crashes into gorge

**JAMMU (India), 8 Dec**—Twenty-five people were killed and 18 injured when an overcrowded bus skidded off the road and fell into a deep gorge in India's Kashmir State on Sunday, police said.

The accident happened at Magarkote in Doda District, 110 miles east of Jammu, the winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir state.

"The bus was negotiating a curve when the driver lost control and it fell about 200 metres into the valley," an official told Reuters by telephone. "Nine are in a critical state." —MNA/Reuters

# Border area development: The rain at Mawpha

*Myint Soe (Na-ta-la)*

## Mawpha region development tasks

Being a Tatmadaw government, the leaders of the State and the senior military officers have been to almost every place in the country. They know very well the troubles of Mawpha region. So, border areas development projects for the region started in 1989.

The lists of the family members had been collected from every house in 69 villages, 11 village-tracts of Mawpha region from June to September, 1989. Three shops were opened to sell rice, salt, cooking utensils, soap, fish paste, dried fish, potato, kerosene, candles and green tea.

In 1989, primary schools were opened in Metman, Kaunglan, Ayekyant, Hngetyaung, Weinnaung, Sutwoe, Mawwam and Takawlay villages. Later primary schools were opened in Mulu, Manwein, Aikalaung, Pankhu, Namkaw, YaungU, Pannin, Wansalaung, Mangauk, Pankwe, Kunkaunggyi, Twenauk and Ngahaung village. So, there are 20 primary schools and Metman BEPS was upgraded into a middle school. In addition, hospitals were opened in Metman and Sutwoe and a dispensary in Weinnaung in 1989 to give health care services. Dispensaries were later opened in Wansalaung, YaungU, Hngetyaung, Kaunglan, Mulu, Takawlay and Manwein villages.

In February 1990, 17 shops of the Ministry of Defence Services donated 1,000 viss of dried fish, 5,000 viss of salt, sugar and biscuits to national brethren in Mawpha region. Similarly, the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races presented corrugated iron sheets, plain iron sheets, bags of cement and nails and 4 KVA generators. The Ministry of Education presented them exercise books. The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the Ministry of Forestry, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and the Myanmar Red Cross Society sent personal goods to Mawpha region. The power generators were presented by the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs to Metman, Weinnaung and Sutwoe villages starting from 27 March 1990. Later, Mawwam, Nannan, Wansalaung, Takawlay and YaungU have been electrified.

In 1990, agricultural tasks in the region started by reclaiming the land near Nannan Creek and Mawwam model plantation. Paddy strain, maize strain, fertilizers, pesticides were sent there. At present, an agricultural office and two agricultural stations are opened. The Lwepa-Lweho-Lalan road, the Tarkawlay-Metman road and the Point 6028-YaungU-Pandan road have already been constructed and the 370-ft long Wantarkhat bridge has been built.

## Establishment of Metman Myothit

Metman was upgraded from a village to a town. Under the supervision of No 773 Tactical Operations Command of No 77 Light Infantry Division, Tatmadawmen and departmental staff actively participated in the construction tasks in July 1991. The Min Yanaung Pagoda and a monastery were built. Being a township, an exchange with 30 telephone lines was established there. There is a telegraph office in Tarkawlay. New buildings for Metman BEMS and Metman Yeiktha were built. Arrangements have already been made for water supply tasks.

## Field research work for drawing master plan

The master plan for development of border areas and national races was drawn and the implementation of the plan began in 1993. Before that time, data, figures and statistics were collected regionwise at the grassroots level. After coordinating with local authorities, the group led by Major Soe Aung of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races visited there. The group was accompanied by officials responsible for road/bridge, land records, education, health, energy, agriculture and communications from different ministries. Representative U Soe Myint of Department for Drawing the Master Plan was transferred to the Ministry of PBANRDA.

The group of the Department for Drawing the Master Plan left Kengtung by car and arrived at Mongpyin. It stopped for the night in Tarkawlay. The next morning, the group went to Metman. It took a day to reach there. All

had to push the car when it bogged down in mud while crossing small creeks. At that time, roads were that bad. It was partly because of incessant rain.

The commander of local battalion in Metman gave advice on tasks to be undertaken instantly and long-term tasks and gave necessary instructions. The group had just missed the ceremony to novitiate 100 boys held for the first time.

## Flourishing of the Sasana in the region

Due to the long-term influence of BCP in the region, the Sasana did not flourish there. People worshipped spirits and followed other faiths. The Min Yanaung Pagoda and a monastery were built. The ordination hall of the monastery is the very first one in the region. Local people did not have a chance to take shelter of the Sasana.

At such a time, under the aegis of the commanding officer of local battalion and the active participation of departmental staff, a novitiation ceremony was held on a grand scale and 100 boys were novitiated. On their return journey, the guests from different places were sent back by car. Local people who had never seen or ridden the car before were very happy. Thanks to the merits gained, commanding officer of local battalion Col Than Swe was transferred to different places and at last arrived back there as the director-general of Department for Development of Border Areas and National Races.

## Pleasant Metman where staff are happy

"When the development tasks began to be undertaken, service personnel were in great troubles. They had to hitchhike or walk from Mongpyin to the places where they were assigned duties. Some had to walk three or four days. They were very disappointed. When they had to go to Mongpyin on duty, they did not come back instantly. When the director-general and the commander arrived, the Min Yanaung pagoda's precinct became a rendezvous for the staff to discuss regional development affairs. Afterwards, they collectively cooked their meal, had it together and held sport events. If there were problems, they solved together and it became a place of happiness. They are so attached to Metman that they come back in a day or two when they have to go to Mongpyin," elaborated Mon, Kayin, Taninthayi and Rakhine Regional Director Lt-Col Zaw Oo who had lived in Metman and Sutwoe around 1994/95. His experiences included the boldness of the nurses from Sutwoe Hospital who stitched the wounds of the man whose scalp was torn by a bear (at that time the doctor was in Metman), the locally-called Ngwe-na-nyunt, these sprouts that can kill man if included a sprout or two in the curry, and the dangerous march from Sutwoe to Wansalaung during which he nearly lost his life in the forest of reed because of fire. He was transferred to the place again when in-charge doctor Dr Tin Tun Win of Sutwoe Hospital died.

When the commander concerned, at the meeting of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races, proposed building of a TV retransmission station in Metman, Work Committee Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt seemed unhappy while listening to the proposal with keen interest.

"Oh, yes, a TV retransmission station is to be built in Metman. This is the town we built. It has been a long time." He recounted the difficulties and hardships encountered in the early part of border areas development tasks. Parents usually wish to give their sons and daughters equally. They have the same loving-kindness towards all their children. So is the goodwill of the State towards all regions. National people in Mawpha region know it well.

## Peaceful and beautiful Mawpha region

Mawpha is not popular like other regions. Moreover, it is not included in well-known towns and villages. But in this less-known region, many lives were sacrificed and many service personnel discharged duties facing difficulties. But, the goodwill of the State, "equitable development of all regions" project, has been implemented many years in advance to the other places. Thanks to the loving-kindness of the State, truthfulness of those who sacrificed their lives for the region and the goodwill of the staff, the Mawpha region will be peaceful and pleasant forever.

Translation: KKK  
(Kyemon: 7-12-2003)

## People's Desire

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

## Efficient use of electricity

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

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

## Efficient use of fuel

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

## All this needs to be known

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

## စတုတ္ထအကြိမ်

မြန်မာ့တိုင်းရင်းဆေးသမားတော်များညီလာခံ

ကျိက္ခာကွင်း၊ ပြည်ထောင်စုခန်းမ

၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာလ (၁၆)ရက်နေ့မှ (၁၈)ရက်နေ့

## စတုတ္ထအကြိမ်

တိုင်းရင်းဆေးနှင့်ဆေးပစ္စည်းပြပွဲ

တပ်မတော်ခန်းမ

၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာလ (၁၇)ရက်နေ့မှ (၂၆)ရက်နေ့

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife...

(from page 1)

Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin offered Shwekyathingan and emerald bowls to the Buddha Image kept at the northern archway of the pagoda.

Afterwards, the Shwehtidaw hoisting ceremony followed at the Gandhakutitaik of the pagoda. Master of ceremonies Adviser of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Min Kyi supplicated the agenda for the ceremony.

The ceremony was opened with the three time recitation of Namo Tassa. Vocalist U Tun Shwe together with Saung U Soe Win sang a classical song with the accompaniment of Mingalasidaw orchestra group.

The congregation led by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San received the Fice Precepts from member of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Nyaungshwe Township Shwebontha Kyaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vepull-abhivamsa.

Next, members of the Sangha recited parittas.

Vice-Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San presented the Seinphudaw to be hoisted atop the pagoda and Patima Buddha image to be enshrined into the pagoda to Joint Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Pyay Jotikayon Sayadaw. Then, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San presented eight requisites to the Sayadaw.

Next, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Han presented Ngetmyatnadaw and eight requisites to members of the Sangha.

Next, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win presented Kakusandha Buddha image,

silver bodhi plant and eight requisites to members of the Sangha.

Next, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and wife Daw Khin Hnin Wai presented Konagamana Buddha image, silver bodhi plant and eight requisites to members of the Sangha.

After that, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin presented Kasapa Buddha image, silver bodhi plant and eight requisites to members of the Sangha.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and wife Daw Win Win Nu presented Gotama Buddha image, silver bodhi plant and eight requisites to members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, ministers, senior military officers, heads of department, officials and wellwishers presented eight requisites to members of the Sangha.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented Cetiya, Cetiya-sambaya, Cetiya-parivara, Cetiyingana, Cetiya-pakara, Cetiya-sanbhadha and Cetiya-land for the pagoda to members of the Sangha.

Next, Joint Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Pyay Jotikayon Sayadaw Kondalajoti delivered a sermon and Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San and party shared merits gained.

Next, Director of Directorate of Supply and Transport of the Ministry of Defence Maj-Gen Than Htay presented gifts for the architects who built the pagoda to Architect Col Tun Tun.

Next, Col Tun Tun read the document to hand over the pagoda to lay persons.

Next, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung performed rituals.

(see page 9)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents provisions to a Sayadaw at Hoisting ceremony of Maha Tezadipati Pagoda in Mongpan.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San donate alms and 'soon' to Sayadaws at Maha Tezadipati Pagoda in Mongpan.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye conveys the Seinbudaw round Maha Tezadipati Pagoda in Mongpan.—MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife present eight requisites to a Sayadaw.—MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife offer eight requisites to a Sayadaw.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attending enshrinement ceremony of Mahateza Dhipati Pagoda in Mongpan.— MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party receiving Nine Precepts from Shwewontha Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vepullabhivamsa.— MNA

### Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife...

(from page 8)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San went round the pagoda conveying the Seinbudaw and Hngetmyat-nardaw. Vocalist U Tun Shwe sang Dhamma songs and Mingala royal drum troupe and national race troupe played Dhamma songs.

At the auspicious time 8:30:25 am, Vice-Senior

General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San sprinkled scented water on Hngetmyat-nardaw and conveyed it to the top of the pagoda through the decorated carriage of Mya-lay-yin Htadaw hoisting team of the Tatmadaw (Air).

At the top of the pagoda, the Secretary-1 enshrined Buddha images and relics.

Next, Minister Col Thein Nyunt, member of the State

Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint enshrined Buddha images and relics. At the same time, the ministers hoisted Shwehtidaws atop eight encircling pagodas. Members of the Sangha recited religious verses.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party sprinkled scented water on the reliquaries.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Daw Mya

Mya San sprinkled scented water on bells, Shwekya Thingan (lotus robe) and religious flag and conveyed them to the top of the pagoda through the decorated carriage.

The Secretary-1 and party hoisted the tiers of the golden Htadaw at the top of the pagoda. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Daw Mya Mya San sprinkled scented water on the Seinbudaw and atop the pagoda through the decorated carriage.

The Secretary-1 and party hoisted Hngetmyat-nardaw and the Seinbudaw and the religious flag.

The Secretary-1 offered Shwekya Thingan (lotus robe) to the pagoda.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Daw Mya Mya San, wellwishers and local people donated provisions to the members of the Sangha. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Daw Mya Mya San and party offered "soon" to 108 members of the Sangha.

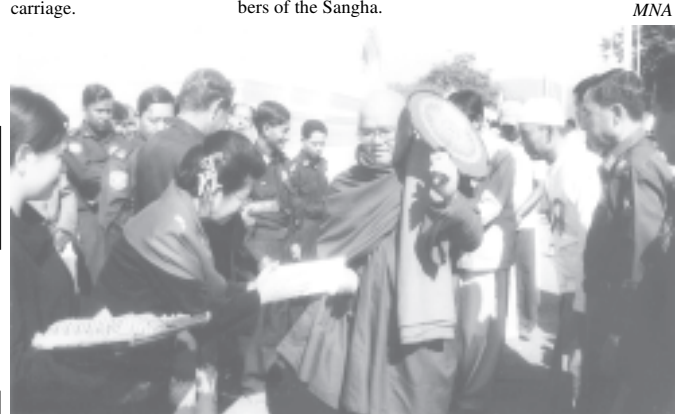
Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Daw Mya Mya San and party performed rituals of golden and silver showers to mark the success of the Htadaw hoisting ceremony.

The Saddhama Vichathini ordination hall and the Buddha images in Bodhi Garden were built in north-east of the pagoda, lake in the north, monasteries in south-west, Sasana Beikman in the south and a hall where Shin Upagutta resided in the lake.

MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San offer Seinbudaw to a Sayadaw.— MNA



Daw Mya Mya San offers provisions to a Sayadaw.—MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win sprinkles scented water on Seinbudaw.— MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers provisions to a Sayadaw.— MNA



## Commander, Minister attends...

(from page 16)  
and the minister formally opened the new school building and performed rituals of silver and golden showers. The commander explained facts about the donations. Chairman of the committee for building the new school building U Pho Tut handed over the documents related to the building to Deputy Director-General U Thuang Khaing of No 2 Basic Education Department. The minister and wife then presented the documents related to the tube-well to officials. Deputy Director-General U Thuang Khaing spoke words of thanks for the donations.

The minister, accompa-

nied by Deputy Commander Col Khin Maung Ohn and officials, inspected the current of Chindwin River, condition of watercrafts in the river and retaining walls.

On arrival at Indaw river water-pumping station, Deputy Director U Hla Min of Water Resources Utilization Department and Deputy Director U Aung Htut of Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems presented reports.

The minister and the deputy commander visited Nyaungbingyi river water-pumping project and attended to the needs.

MNA

*Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai formally launches XXII South-East Asian Games in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 5-12-2003 evening.— MNA*



## Teachership Course for Reproductive Health Project opens

YANGON, 8 Dec — Jointly-organized by the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and UNFPA, opening ceremony of Teachership Course for Reproductive Health Project (MYA/02/PO2) was held at the meeting hall of the association at the corner of Thanthuma and Payami Streets, South Okkalapa this morning.

Present on the occasion were President of the MMCWA Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Vice-President Dr Kyi Soe, executives, resident representative of UNPF Mr

Najib M Assifi and officials and representatives of Dadaye, Kyaiklat, Nyaungdon, Pantanaw and Hinthada Township MWCAs.

First, President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe made an opening speech and resident representative Mr Najib M Assifi made a speech.

Next, the teachership course followed and the course instructors gave lectures. Altogether 75 trainees are attending the course which continues up to 12 December.

MNA

*Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe addresses opening ceremony of Reproductive Health Project Teachership Course.— MNA*

## Coop societies inspected in Shwepyitha township

YANGON, 8 Dec — Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Htay Oo, accompanied by departmental officials, yesterday afternoon inspected the piano training centre, opened by the Cooperatives Department at Thamaing junction in Mayangon Township and gave instructions on maintenance of the training centre.

The minister also inspected the shop of the cooperatives Ltd of Mayanmye general trading and gave necessary instructions.

Next, the minister and party went to the industrial chemical cooperatives society at Shwepyitha industrial zone in Shwepyitha township. At the meeting hall, officials concerned reported on tasks being carried out by their societies.

After hearing reports, the minister gave instructions on efforts to promote the quality of products in conformity with the market-oriented system.

Later, the minister and party looked into the products manufactured by the society and production process at the factory.

The minister also inspected the factory owned by the metallurgical engineering and general trading and the Shaehsaung mechanical engineering and general trading and left necessary instructions.

MNA

## Bronze winners in SEA Games



Maung Kyu.—MNA



Han Khan Kutt.—MNA



Nan Saing Main.—MNA



Kay Khine Lwin.—MNA

## ASEAN Children's...

(from page 16)  
Next, the students who had won ASEAN Kindness Painting Competition opened the ASEAN Children's Prize Winning Painting on Kindness Exhibition.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and members and guests viewed the ASEAN Children's Prize

Winning Paintings and children's painting drawn by artists and students. The commander, ministers and guests signed in the visitors' book.

The exhibition will display 200 prize winning paintings of ASEAN countries starting from today up to 14 December free of charge.

MNA

## Management Committee for Observance of 57th Anniversary Union Day meets

YANGON, 8 Nov — The Management Committee for Observance of the 57th Anniversary Union Day held its first meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw building on Pyay Road this morning, with an address by Chairman of the Management Committee for Observance of the 57th Anniversary Union Day Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Present were Chairmen of Subcommittees deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, the deputy commander of Yangon Command, senior military officers, heads of departments, officials and guests.

In his address, the commander said Myanmar is a Union and various national races have been living in the country. He said the subcommittees are to implement the tasks for holding of the Union Day on a grand scale in accord with the 57th Anniversary Union Day objectives — for all national races to safeguard the national policy; non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty,

to keep the Union spirit alive and dynamic among the national people, for all national people to defend and safeguard the Union for its perpetual existence, to prevent the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development through national solidarity and for all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point future policy programme.

He said officials concerned are to make arrangements for the convenience of the delegates who will be attending the Union Day ceremony. Discharging their respective duties contributes towards the consolidation of national solidarity, he said.

Secretary of the Management Committee Director-General of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office U Myint Htin reported on formation of 13 Subcommittees for observance of the Union Day and their arrangements.

Next, chairmen of various Subcommittees reported on work to be done. The meeting came to a close with the concluding remarks by the commander.—MNA

## Thailand Trade Fair on 10-13 Dec

YANGON, 8 Dec — Under the programme of the economic promotion between Myanmar and Thailand, the 8th Thailand Trade Fair, jointly conducted by the Import Promotion Department of the Ministry of Trade of Thailand and the Trade Department of the Thai Embassy in Myanmar, will be held in the Yangon Trade Centre in Mingala Taungnyunt township here from 10 to 13 December.

Entry tickets will be required to visit the trade fair on 10 and 11 December, and it will be kept open to all free of charge on 12 and 13 December.

Entry tickets will be available free of charge at TTF (Yangon) Co Ltd, No 96, Bogale Market Street, Yangon, Tel: 294006, 296227, 245137 and 245138.

MNA

## Earthquake report

YANGON, 8 Dec — An earthquake of slight intensity 4.6 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside of Myanmar about 151 miles north of Kaba Aye seismological observatory was recorded at 05 hrs 23 min 06 sec MST today.— MNA

## Earthquake report

YANGON, 8 Dec — An earthquake of slight intensity 5.2 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside of Myanmar about 158 miles north of Kaba Aye seismological observatory was recorded at 02 hrs 52 min MST today.— MNA

## Drug dealers sentenced

Ngwe of Yele village, Kyaukkyi Township under Section 15/19(a)/21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Natthankwin Police Station.

Toungoo District Court on 2 September handed down on Hamit (a) Tin Win and Khin Soe to 20 years' imprisonment each respectively under Section 19 (a).

Similarly, a combined team comprising members of Local Intelligence Unit and Phaungpyin Police Station, acting on information, searched the house of

Hla Htoo on 12 December in Ywatha village, Phaungpyin Township and seized him with 0.1796 kilo of raw opium. In connection with the case, action was taken against Hla Htoo, son of U Thuang Nyunt of Ywatha village, Phaungpyin Township under Section 15/19(a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Phaungpyin Police Station.

Mawlaik District Court on 18 September handed down on Hla Htoo to 25 years' imprisonment under Section 19 (a). — MNA

# Myanma Railways' nation-building endeavours



With better transportation, there will be more contacts among national brethren and friendship among them will be further consolidated. With this end in view the government is building new roads, railroads and bridges across the country. The photo taken on 25 November 2003 shows a train of MR carrying local people starts travelling on the Ye Bridge after the opening ceremony of the bridge. Ye River crossing bridge was built by Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation in Ye Township, Mawlamyine District, Mon State. — MNA


Tatmadaw men are engaged in nation-building endeavours. The photo shows Tatmadaw men building railroad at Namsam-Punchaung railroad section, part of Namsam-Saikaung railroad in Shan State. The section is 55 miles long between Namsam and Punchaung.

PHOTO: YE CHAN MYINT

Without sparing its energy, Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation is taking various innovative measures to manufacture new coaches for travellers' convenience. The photo shows the products — DMU 302 and DMU 303 coaches — of Ywahtaung Loco-Shed under MR.

PHOTO: YE CHAN MYINT





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သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်းနှင့်အညီ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ သင်ခန်းစာများပါရှိပါသည်။

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တိုက်လုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်လက်လီဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

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### Dutch court convicts 11 Chinese people smugglers

BRUSSELS, 8 Dec — A court of justice in the Dutch port city of Rotterdam has handed down jail sentences of up to four years to 11 Chinese people smugglers, Radio Netherlands reported Friday.

The smugglers were said to have been found guilty of illegally transporting hundreds of Chinese nationals to European countries. Some of these illegal immigrants

## ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ပို့အရေးပေါ်

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KOTAMUTIARA VOY NO (061)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTAMUTIARA Voy No (061) are here by notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-12-03 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV MAS SUTRA VOY NO (048)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAS SUTRA Voy No (048) are here by notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-12-03 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.L.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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အလှူ ထိမ်းမြားမှုကလေး အစည်းအဝေး အခမ်းအနားများတွင် ခေတ်မီ  
ပတ်စပတ်စာရင်းနှင့် ကုလားထိုင်များ ဖျော့နုသောသင်္ဘောတွင် ငှားရမ်းနေပါသည်။

နံနက် ၉:၃၀ မှ ညနေ ၄:၃၀ နာရီအတွင်း စက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

အမှတ် ၂၂၀-သိမ်မြို့လမ်း နိုင်ငံတော်လမ်းမ

ရန်-၂၅၅၈၂၀ ၂၅၅၈၂၀

### UNICEF to procure HIV/ "AIDS" drugs for Zambia

LUSAKA, 8 Dec — The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has offered to procure HIV/AIDS drugs on behalf of the Zambian Government, local newspaper *Daily Mail* reported Saturday.

The drugs would be procured using the World Bank's 42.5-million-US-dollar Global Funds given to Zambia. UNICEF Country Representative Stella Goings disclosed that this exercise would be done under the in-

ternational organization's Procurement Services plan.

Goings said UNICEF would have no stake in the process but merely help the government acquire the needed Anti-Retro Virals (ARVs).

The offer came after Zambia qualified for the Global Fund meant to fight malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. Until Zambia was able to produce its own ARVs, it needed a partner like UNICEF in accessing the drugs.

She said engaging UNICEF in such an international trade matter would be advantageous to Zambia.

"We are an international firm, so we are also talking about best price offers using our procurement service," she said. Goings recalled that her organization had been acquiring many vaccines on behalf of the Zambian Government which it could not manufacture locally. Measles vaccines in the ended campaign were also procured by UNICEF. —MNA/Xinhua

### Swiss dog lover protests alleged Athens killings

BERLIN, 8 Dec — A Swiss animal rights campaigner clad in a dog costume tied himself to a four-metre high crucifix at the Greek Embassy on Friday to protest the alleged killing of stray dogs in Athens before the Olympics.

Draped in a banner bearing the slogan "No blood for the Olympics", 23-year-old Max Sartore — a perform-

ance artist and stunt man — said he would stay on the crucifix a metre above ground for three days, taking five hours a day off for sleep.

"Thousands of dogs are going to fall victim to this vision of a clean Olympics," Sartore, strapped to the crucifix, told *Reuters*. "I am not against the Games but this is no way to treat animals."

MNA/Reuters

# မညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်မှု

## Uganda to get \$137m from Global Fund against "AIDS"

KAMPALA, 8 Dec — The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria has finally approved 137 million US dollars to fight the diseases in Uganda.

This was disclosed by visiting US Secretary for Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson, when he visited Uganda's eastern district of Tororo, accompanied by Ugandan Minister of Health Jim Muhwezi, according to local newspaper *Sunday Vision* to be published on Sunday. Thompson, who is also the chairman of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, said the United States would increase funding to supplement Uganda's globally acclaimed success story against the HIV/AIDS pandemic that has affected more than 40 million people worldwide. "I can assure you that we shall increase funding to supplement Uganda's efforts," he added.

Thompson is currently paying a three-day working visit to assess Uganda's progress against the killer HIV/AIDS scourge.

MNA/Xinhua

## Argentina says Britain should apologize for Falkland nukes

GENERAL PICO, 8 Dec — Argentine President Nestor Kirchner demanded an apology from Britain on Saturday for the "monstrous" act of arming its warships with nuclear depth charges during the 1982 Falklands War.

Britain admitted for the first time this week that warships in the task force sent to repel Argentine forces that invaded the disputed archipelago were armed with type WE177 nuclear depth charges.

"It is regrettable and monstrous," Kirchner told reporters who accompanied him on a visit to the town of

General Pico in La Pampa Province, deep in Argentina's farming heartland 400 miles west of Buenos Aires.

"Britain should never have usurped sovereignty over the Malvinas... I am simply demanding the rights of Argentines and I hope (Prime Minister) Tony Blair understands that and is listening," Kirchner said. "What Argentina needs is for (Britain) to have the decency to make a necessary apology."

Kirchner said he had not yet had the chance to talk personally to Blair about the matter.

Britain's Defence Ministry said the nuclear weapons never entered the territorial waters of the Falkland Islands — known in Argentina as the Malvinas — or any other South American nation and that they were transferred to other ships heading home.

Britain says it was routine for its naval surface ships to carry nuclear weapons during the 1980s. The practice was finally ended in 1993.

But Argentina wants reassurances that no nuclear devices are lying in sunken vessels on the South Atlan-

tic ocean floor.

The Argentine Government issued an angry statement on Friday, saying the deployment of nuclear weapons could have had "huge consequences for the inhabitants, natural resources and environment of the region".

Argentina, which has a centuries-old claim to the islands, invaded the Falklands on 2 April, 1982. By June 14, Argentine forces had surrendered to British troops.

The war claimed around 1,000 lives — most of them Argentine.

MNA/Reuters



More than half a million people in France, including many children, have contracted flu, gastro-enteritis or bronchitis in recent weeks. Meanwhile, two big flu vaccine makers said on 6 December, 2003 that their entire production had been sold to hospitals and other providers as Americans rushed to get shots in an outbreak that has killed a number of children. The developments do not mean that flu shots are no longer available in the medical supply chain, but they offer further evidence of an unusually early and severe onset of the illness.—INTERNET

## Germany's "Goodbye, Lenin!" sweeps Europe Film Awards

BERLIN, 8 Dec — A heart-warming German box office blockbuster, "Goodbye, Lenin!", dominated the European Film Awards on Saturday, taking six top prizes at the 16th annual competition.

The bittersweet German comedy — about a son who conceals the fall of the Berlin Wall from his ailing mother because he fears the shock might kill her — took best film, best actor, and best screenwriter.

The film by Wolfgang Becker also won three "People's Choice" awards for best directing, best actress and best actor in the contest sometimes referred to as the "European Oscars".

"Dogville", by Danish director Lars von Trier and starring Nicole Kidman, won best director and best cinematography.

German actor Daniel Bruehl won the European Film Academy statuette for best actor for "Good Bye, Lenin!" and Britain's Charlotte Rampling won best actress for her performance in "Swimming Pool".

"Goodbye, Lenin!" also took the EFA prize for best screenwriting, won by Bernd Lichtenberg.

In the "People's Choice" category, in which cinema-goers throughout Europe voted via the Internet and ballots at cinemas, Bruehl won another award for best actor while his co-star Katrin Sass won best actress and "Good Bye, Lenin!" and Becker won the public's prize for best director.

"The film may be local to Berlin but its message and the emotions can be understood around the world — a son's love for his mother," Becker said at a news conference.

"It's more than just a story about German unification." The film's producer Stefan Arndt said "Good Bye, Lenin!" proved a good story can't "It's just incredible that more than 300 million people in Europe have picked a German film in the German language, this ugly German language," Arndt said half in jest.

MNA/Reuters

## Three young singers win China Gold Record Awards

BEIJING, 8 Dec — Three young Chinese singers won the fourth China Gold Record Awards here and were awarded a Passat and two Polo cars financed by the Shanghai Volkswagen Corporation.

Sources with the organizer said the China Gold Record Awards, since they have been held three times with more than 100 domestic and overseas artists awarded.

Zhao Daxin, director of the organizing committee, said the songs entered in the competition ranged from 1995 to 2003, covering a

wide range of artistic styles, including pop music, folk music and local operas.

"The competition this time is actually a comprehensive show of the achievements in China's music circle," said Zhao, adding that specific awards for records from Hong Kong and Taiwan have been set up for the first time.

MNA/Xinhua

## Two Chinese scientists granted \$128,200 prize

BEIJING, 8 Dec — Two well-known Chinese scientists, botanist Wu Zhengyi and biochemist Zou Chenglu, were each awarded a lifetime achievement prize and one million Hong Kong dollars (128,200 US dollars) here.

The Ho Leung Ho Lee Foundation, which granted the prize, regarded the two scientists as "making prominent contributions to China's scientific advancement".

Mathematician Hu Hesheng and another 41 scientists were granted the second-tier prize worth 200,000 Hong Kong dollars.—MNA/Xinhua

## US Democrats fault Bush, Republicans on jobs

WASHINGTON, 8 Dec — Democrats on Saturday faulted President George W Bush and the Republican-led Congress for not doing enough to create new jobs after data showed US employers hired far fewer workers than expected last month.

"Nationwide, a total of nine million Americans remain unemployed," Oregon Democratic Representative Darlene Hooley said in the party's weekly radio address.

"All of this is the result of economic policies that are badly off track."

The number of workers on US payrolls outside the

farm sector last month edged up by 57,000, the Labour Department said on Friday, far lower than economists' forecasts.

MNA/Reuters



Greg Potter of Whitt, Texas parts company with Dipping Tahonta in the bull riding on 7 Dec, 2003, during the third round of the National Finals Rodeo at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas.—INTERNET

## 100 kilos of cocaine seized in Colombia

BOGOTA, 8 Dec — Colombian police have seized 100 kilos of cocaine hidden in a container bound for Spain, anti-narcotics authorities said on Saturday.

The agents discovered the drug during an inspection of the container in Buenaventura harbour, in Valle del Cauca State, 600 kilometres southwest of capital Bogota. The cocaine, worth four million US dollars, was contained in packages inside four sacks.

The container came from the Ecuadorian port of Guayaquil, and was bound for the Spanish city of Valencia. The anti-narcotics authorities did not indicate whether there were arrests after the confiscation of the drug in Buenaventura, Colombia's principal Pacific port.—MNA/Xinhua

## SPORTS

**Furyk romps to eight-shot victory at Grand Slam of Golf**

KAUAI (Hawaii), 8 Dec—US Open champion Jim Furyk cruised to a massive eight-shot win in the PGA Grand Slam of Golf at the Poipu Bay course on Saturday.

Furyk hit a four-under-par 68 in the second round to finish with a nine-under total of 135 in the 36-hole competition for this season's four major winners.

US Masters champion Mike Weir of Canada was second on 143 following a closing 71. US PGA champion Shaun Micheel (70) finished third on 145, one over par, followed by British Open winner Ben Curtis (73) on 146.

For the first time since 1992, all four players were making their Grand Slam of Golf debuts.

Furyk pocketed 400,000 US dollars for his win. Left-hander Weir took home 250,000 US dollars, Micheel 200,000 US dollars and Curtis 150,000 US dollars.

The US Open champion began the day with a five-shot lead and was never troubled, especially after holing a 50-foot chip for par at the ninth hole and draining a 20-foot birdie putt at the 10th.—MNA/Reuters



Inter Milan's striker Christian Vieri (C) is congratulated after he scored both goals for his team against Perugia at San Siro Stadium in Milan, during their Serie A soccer match.—INTERNET

**Eriksson backs Blatter on Ferdinand ban**

LONDON, 8 Dec—England manager Sven Goran Eriksson has said he agrees with FIFA president Sepp Blatter that Rio Ferdinand should have been banned while awaiting a hearing over his missed drugs test, British media reported.

The Swede also said the English Football Association (FA) were taking too long over the case.

"Sepp Blatter is right in

one respect, you miss a drugs test and you are banned," Eriksson was quoted as saying in the Sunday Mirror and News of the World newspapers.

"The Rio Ferdinand situation has been going on for 10 weeks, it is far too long. "It is the system that is wrong but I think it will be changed now. It is no good for the game, it is no good for the player."

Manchester United defender Ferdinand was charged by the FA in October with "failure or refusal" to take a drugs test after missing one at the club's training ground on September 23. The 24-year-old is to have his case heard on December 18-19.

He was dropped by England over the missed test before their October 11 Euro 2004 decider against Turkey but has since played 10 times for United, seven of which were after being charged on October 29.

MNA/Reuters

**Ferguson on brink of signing new United contract**

LONDON, 8 Dec—Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson says he has reached agreement with the club on a new contract and expects to sign the deal "very soon".

"My contract is with my lawyer now. He was at the (Aston) Villa game (a 4-0 win for United on Saturday) and we will now go through it together," Ferguson told British newspapers on Sunday.

"It is all straightforward from this point because an agreement has been reached with the club on every single detail. "I am very close to signing it. It will all be done and dusted very soon," added Ferguson, 61, who underwent hospital treatment for an irregular heartbeat on Thursday.

Scotsman Ferguson said the heart problem was detected at a regular check-up about two months ago.

"I could have either taken aspirin for the rest of my life or go into hospital for treatment that brings the heartbeat back on track. I said 'let's go for it' because I knew that if it didn't work it carried no risk."

Ferguson is one of the most successful managers in British soccer history, having guided United to eight Premier League titles in the last 11 seasons and the 1999 Champions League crown.—MNA/Reuters

**Vieri double keeps Inter in touch with leaders**

MILAN, 8 Dec—Christian Vieri scored twice for Inter Milan as they beat Perugia 2-1 in Serie A on Sunday to maintain their unbeaten run under coach Alberto Zaccheroni and fire them back into the title race.

Third-placed Juventus suffered their third defeat inside a week, going down 2-0 to Lazio on Saturday.

European champions AC Milan lead Serie A by three points from AS Roma after Saturday's 1-0 win at Empoli. Roma face Chievo in Verona later on Sunday.

Fifth-placed Parma kept in touch with the leaders with two goals from Alberto Gilardino giving them a 2-1 win at Lecce.

Inter are unbeaten in Serie A since Zaccheroni took over from Hector Cuper in October and the victory over Perugia was their fourth win in a row.

Vieri, returning from an injury lay-off, fired Inter ahead in the 25th minute with a left-foot finish after a neat exchange between Emre Belozoglu and Julio Ricardo Cruz.

Inter struggled under pressure from Perugia for long periods of the game but Vieri doubled their advantage 10 minutes from the end — racing on to a pass from Cruz and confidently firing home.

Giovanni Tedesco pulled a goal back for the visitors two minutes from time but Inter held on to keep hold of fourth place.

Many pundits expected Parma to fade

when their Brazilian striker Adriano was sidelined with a serious hamstringing injury but Italy Under-21 international Gilardino is proving to be an able replacement.

Gilardino was brought down by Lecce keeper Vukasin Poleksic in the 31st minute and the debutant was sent off for the challenge, but substitute keeper Marco Amelia saved Domenico Morfeo's penalty.

It was Gilardino though who put Parma ahead just after the break, latching on to a Mark Bresciano through ball and beating Amelia with a fine left-foot strike.

Impressive Uruguayan Ernesto Chevanton brought lowly Lecce level with a 69th minute penalty but Gilardino secured the three points for Parma with some smart footwork and a clinical finish in the 77th minute.

Bologna picked up their first win since September with a 3-2 victory over Ancona, including a spectacular strike from Carlo Nervo and an instinctive finish from Giuseppe Signori.

Germany international striker Carsten Jancker scored only his second goal in two and a half seasons as Udinese beat Reggina 1-0. Jancker managed just one goal last term in Serie A following his goalless final season in the Bundesliga with Bayern Munich.

Sampdoria moved up to seventh after goals from Francesco Glachi and Fabio Bazzani gave them a 2-1 win over Siena.

MNA/Reuters

**Mallorca continue revival with fifth win in row**

MADRID, 8 Dec—Real Mallorca continued their remarkable revival under new coach Luis Aragones with a 1-0 win over in-form Valladolid on Sunday to notch their fifth league victory in a row.

Striker Fernando Correa poached the only goal of the game when he drilled home a rebound in the 15th minute after Valladolid keeper Albano Bizzarri had palmed a stinging shot from Brazilian midfielder Nene into his path.

The victory catapults Mallorca up into sixth place in the table, two points behind Atletico Madrid who bounced back from their defeat against city rivals Real in midweek to record a 2-0 win over basement club Espanyol.

Teenage striker Fernando Torres redirected a Rodrigo shot into the net midway through the first half and made sure of the win when he slotted in from the penalty spot 15 minutes from

time to take his tally for the season to nine.

Atletico are now just a point behind modest Navarran outfit Osasuna, who continued their impressive start to the season with a classy 3-2 win over Celta Vigo on Saturday.

Champions Real Madrid stretched their lead at the top of the table to three points on Saturday after they snatched their first league victory in 20 years at the Nou Camp with a 2-1 win over arch-rivals Barcelona.

Goals in each half from Brazilians Roberto Carlos and Ronaldo put Real 2-0 up with 16 minutes to go, but the visitors had to endure a nervous finish after Patrick Kluivert pulled one back for Barca seven minutes from time.

Deportivo, who edged a 1-0 win over Malaga, are second and Valencia, who host Athletic Bilbao in Sunday's late match, are two points further back in third.

MNA/Reuters

**Ormerod snatches late win for Southampton**

LONDON, 8 Dec—A late strike by Brett Ormerod earned Southampton a 3-2 Premier League win over Charlton Athletic on Sunday after his team had squandered a two-goal lead.

Everton edged out of the relegation zone with a scrappy 0-0 draw with Manchester City at Goodison Park in an early kickoff.

But Southampton provided by far the better entertainment at St. Mary's, leading 2-0 at the break after Swedish midfielder Michael Svensson gave them a sixth minute lead and Ormerod got his first of the day in first-half injury time.

Two fantastic goals from midfielder Scott Parker, who will have impressed watching England manager Sven-Goran Eriksson, brought Charlton level before Ormerod stole victory four minutes from time.

Charlton stay sixth in the table but victory catapulted Southampton from 13th to eighth place.—MNA/Reuters



Real Mallorca's Fernando Correa of Uruguay celebrates after scoring against Murcia, during their Spanish First Division match in Palma on 9 November, 2003. INTERNET

**MRTV-3**



**9-12-2003 (Tuesday)  
(Programme Schedule)  
Morning Transmission  
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune Greetings
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 9:06 Golden Mandalay Hill
- 9:10 **Headline News**
- 9:12 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Tenderized Eggplant"
- 9:15 **National News**
- 9:20 Ye River Bridge Construction Project
- 9:25 Kayin Dance (Ton pana)
- 9:30 **National News**
- 9:35 Lifestyles along the Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay) (Part-II)
- 9:40 Song "Aristocratic Beauty"
- 9:45 **National News**
- 9:50 Myanmar Ramayama (Part-XII) Ramma Disconsolate
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**9-12-2003 (Tuesday)  
Regular Programmes for  
Viewers from Abroad  
Evening Transmission  
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune Greetings
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 15:36 Golden Mandalay Hill
- 15:40 **Headline News**
- 15:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Tenderized Eggplant"
- 15:45 **National News**
- 15:50 Ye River Bridge Construction Project
- 15:55 Kayin Dance (Ton pana)
- 16:00 **National News**
- 16:05 Lifestyles along the Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay) (Part-II)
- 16:10 Song "Aristocratic Beauty"
- 16:15 **National News**



**Tuesday, December 9**

**View today:**

- 7:00 am 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Oattamathara
- 7:15 am 2. တိပိဋကဓရ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဝါရိတ၊ အပ္ပမာယပုတ္တိတ၊ တက္ကသိုလ် ဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဘောကြားတော်မူအမိန့်သော ဥပုသယဉ်ပါဠိတော်
- 7:25 am 3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am 4. Morning news
- 7:40 am 5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am 6. တရားနဲ့ဥယျာဉ်
- 8:10 am 7. အစိုးရသုံး

- 16:20 Myanmar Ramayama (Part-XII) Ramma Disconsolate
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 16:30 **National News**
- 16:35 Current Affairs "No Pain! No Gain"
- 16:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Prawn Curry"
- 16:45 **National News**
- 16:50 Native of Pa-O Nationals (Kyauktalane)
- 16:55 Dance of the Drums
- 16:58 Shan Market Day
- 17:00 **National News**
- 17:05 Bagan Our Pride and Glory of the Past
- 17:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Greetings from Chin Hills"
- 17:15 **National News**
- 17:20 Ancient Pakhangyi Monastery
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**Evening Transmission  
(19:30 - 23:30)**

- 19:30 Signature Tune Greetings
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 19:36 Myanmar Natural Spirulina (Part-III)
- 19:40 **Headline News**
- 19:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Loach Fish Curry in oil"
- 19:45 **National News**
- 19:50 Beautiful Pleasant Beach Village
- 19:55 Three Types of Dances
- 20:00 **National News**
- 20:05 Ancient Htoke Kan Thein Temple
- 20:10 Song "Sumpabrum"
- 20:12 Green Turtle
- 20:15 **National News**
- 20:20 Lifestyles along the Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay) (Part-I)
- 20:25 Song "Let My First Love Know"
- 20:30 **National News**
- 20:35 A Thousand Bo-trees from Greening Tropic Zone
- 20:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Potato Pudding"
- 20:45 **National News**
- 20:50 Myanmar Traditional Bronze Casting
- 20:55 Kayah Dance
- 21:00 **National News**
- 21:05 Photo by Artist Photo Show (Aung Min)

- 8:20am 8. Songs of yesteryears
- 8:30 am 9. International news
- 8:45 am 10. Grammar made easy
- 3:15 pm 1. (၂၂)မြို့နယ်တို့ အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ အားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲ (အမျိုးသား) တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်အစဉ် (အကြိုခံစားပွဲ) (မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအိမ်)
- 5:15 pm 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 5:25 pm 3. Musical programme
- 5:40 pm 4. Sing and enjoy
- 6:25 pm 5. မြန်မာ-ဂျပန်ကြည့်ရှုရေးအစဉ် "ဂျပန်လူမှုရေးအဖွဲ့အစည်းများ" (ဂျပန်ရိုးရာဆုတောင်းကဏ္ဍ)
- 6:30 pm 6. Evening news
- 7:00 pm 7. Weather report
- 7:05 pm 8. Milo success in soccer

- 21:10 Song "Two, Together"
- 21:12 Weaving Industry of Pakokku
- 21:15 **National News**
- 21:20 A Trip to Naga Land
- 21:30 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 21:35 Golden Mandalay Hill
- 21:40 **Headline News**
- 21:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Tenderized Eggplant"
- 21:45 **National News**
- 21:50 Ye River Bridge Construction Project
- 21:55 Kayin Dance (Ton pana)
- 22:00 **National News**
- 22:05 Lifestyles along the Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay) (Part-II)
- 22:10 Song "Aristocratic Beauty"
- 22:15 **National News**
- 22:20 Myanmar Ramayana (Part-XII) Ramma Disconsolate
- 22:25 Song "One and only yours (Maung Mu Paing Shin)"
- 22:30 **National News**
- 22:35 Current Affairs "No Pain! No Gain"
- 22:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Prawn Curry"
- 22:45 **National News**
- 22:50 Native of Pa-O Nationals (Kyauktalane)
- 22:55 Dance of the Drums
- 23:00 **National News**
- 23:05 Bagan Our Pride and Glory of the Past
- 23:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Greetings from Chin Hills"
- 23:15 **National News**
- 23:20 Ancient Pakhangyi Monastery

**ဦးတက်တိုး (ဦးအုန်းမေ)**

**အသက် (၉၁) နှစ်**

**သာသနာရေးနှင့်လူမှုရေး အဆွေအဖွဲ့အသင်းများ**

**စာရေးဆရာ၊ သတင်းစာဆရာကြီး**

ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ အင်္ဂလိပ်ကျေး၊ ယောမင်းကြီးရပ်၊ အမှတ်(၁၁)၊ နေအိမ်လမ်း၊ နယ်လှည့်စာပေဌာန၊ မကွေးမြို့ (ဦးမောင်ကလေး+ခေါ်မိန့်ညွန့်)တို့၏ သား၊ စာရေးဆရာ ကဏ္ဍာဆရာမ ဒေါ်နုနု၏ ကျေးဇူးရှင်ခင်ပွန်း၊ ဦးမင်းအောင် (သိပ္ပံမင်းကြည်)၊ ဒေါ်အောင် (ကျောင်းဆရာမ)၊ ဒေါ်နုနု၏ ဦးမင်းအောင် (စာသင်သားဂျာနယ်) တို့၏ မွေးသမီး ကျေးဇူးရှင်၊ မြို့(၅)ယောင်တို့၏ အမိ၊ စာရေးဆရာ သတင်းစာဆရာကြီး ဦးတက်တိုး (ဦးအုန်းမေ)သည် ၇-၁၂-၂၀၀၃ ခု နံနက် ၇ နာရီတွင် ကွယ်လွန်အနိစ္စရောက်ပါကြောင်း ဆွေမျိုးမိတ်သံဃာအပေါင်းအား အကြောင်းကြားအပ်ပါသည်။ ဆရာကြီး၏ ရုပ်ကလာပ်ကို ၉-၁၂-၂၀၀၃ ခု၊ (အင်္ဂါနေ့) မွန်လွဲ(၂)နာရီတွင် ရေဆေးသန့်စင်ပြီး ရသ့သုံးသန့်စင်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ရေအိမ်မှကားများ မွန်လွဲ(၁)နာရီတွင် ထွက်ပါမည်။

**ကျန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု**



**Tuesday, December 9**

**Tune in today:**

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music
- 7:10 pm 9. The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 7:25 pm 10. နတ်မိုး (အိမ်-၂)
- 7:35 pm 11. Musical programme
- 8:00 pm 12. News
- 8:13. International news
- 14. Weather report
- 15. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းကွဲ "မေတ္တာပညာသင်" (အိမ်-၁၉)
- 16. Calcio Serie A highlight
- 17. The next day's programme

- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music
- 8:50am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music
- Let it be me (Skitter Davis)
- Don't cry Joni (Conway Twitty)
- 9:00 pm English Speaking Course Level I Unit II
- 9:15 pm Article/Music
- 9:25 pm Weekly sports reel
- 9:35 pm Music for your listening pleasure
- Careless whisper (George Michael)
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



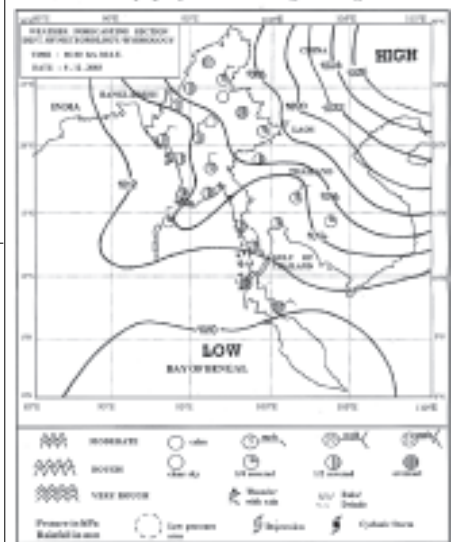
**The 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment  
and  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN+3 Environment Ministers Meeting  
Yangon, Myanmar  
16-19 December 2003**

- 23:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"
- 9-12-2003 (Tuesday) & 10-12-2003 (Wednesday)  
**Evening & Morning Transmission  
(23:30 - 1:30)**
- 23:30 Signature Tune Greetings
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 23:36 Golden Mandalay Hill
- 23:40 **Headline News**
- 23:42 Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Tenderized Eggplant"
- 23:45 **National News**
- 23:50 Ye River Bridge Construction Project
- 23:55 Kayin Dance (Ton pana)
- 24:00 **National News**
- 00:05 Lifestyles along the Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay) (Part-II)

- 00:10 Song "Aristocratic Beauty"
- 00:15 **National News**
- 00:20 Myanmar Ramayama (Part-XII) Ramma Disconsolate
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 00:30 **National News**
- 00:35 Current Affairs "No Pain! No Gain"
- 00:40 Myanmar Cuisine "Prawn Curry"
- 00:45 **National News**
- 00:50 Native of Pa-O Nation-

- 00:55 Dance of the Drums
- 00:58 Shan Market Day
- 01:00 **National News**
- 01:05 Bagan Our Pride and Glory of the Past
- 01:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Greetings from Chin Hills"
- 01:15 **National News**
- 01:20 Ancient Pakhangyi Monastery
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**



**WEATHER**

**Monday, 8 December, 2003**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:**  
During the past 24 hours, weather has been fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were 3°C to 4°C below normal in Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, 5°C to 6°C below normal in Rakhine and Shan States, 7°C below normal in Mandalay, Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was 0°C in Hakha.

Maximum temperature on 7-12-2003 was 34.5°C (94°F). Minimum temperature on 8-12-2003 was 15.8°C (60°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 8-12-2003 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 7-12-2003 was (8.4) hours approx. Rainfall on 8-12-2003 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 2211 mm (87.05 inches) at Yangon Airport, 2315 mm (91.14 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 2394 mm (94.25 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10mph from South at (16:50) hours MST on 7-12-2003.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 9-12-2003:** Except for the possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin State, weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (40%).

**State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Generally fair weather in the whole country.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-12-2003:** Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 9-12-2003:** Fine weather.



Opening ceremony of XXII South-East Asian Games in progress in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 5-12-2003 evening.— MNA



Myanmar sports contingent leader Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu and party taking part at opening ceremony of XXII South-East Asian Games in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 5-12-2003 evening.— MNA

## XXII SEA Games opened

YANGON, 8 Dec — A ceremony to open the XXII Southeast Asian Games took place at the National Stadium in Hanoi, capital of Vietnam, on 5 December evening.

When the Olympic Flag team conveying the Flag of Vietnam and the SEA Games Flag entered the stadium, athletes from 11 contestant nations took their designated

places. Myanmar athletes led by Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, leader of the Myanmar sports team, also took their designated places.

Outstanding athletes from 11 contestant nations conveyed the torch, which was brought from the Ho Chi Minh Museum, to the flame in the stadium.

Next, the chairman of the

committee for XXII SEA Games extended greetings. The leadership of the host country presented commemorative pennants and banquets to leaders of respective sport teams.

The flags of the contestant nations were conveyed with parachutes, and the Prime Minister of Vietnam declared the tournament

open.

Afterwards, athletes left the stadium and dance troupes of the host country entertained with traditional songs of respective contestant nations and their traditional variety of dances. Fireworks were also displayed to mark the successful conclusion of the opening ceremony. — MNA

## ASEAN Children's Prize Winning Paintings on Kindness Exhibition opens

YANGON, 8 Dec — A ceremony to open the ASEAN Children's Prize Winning Paintings on Kindness Exhibition was held at National Museum on Pyay Road this morning.

Present on the occasion

were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the Ministers, the Attorney-General, the Yangon Mayor, the Deputy Ministers, ASEAN member countries to

Myanmar, Ambassadors and officials of the People's Republic of China, Korea and Japan, heads of department, teachers and students, prize-winners and guests. First, Secretary of National Committee for ASEAN Culture

and Information Director of Department of Cultural Institute Daw Nanda Hmun explained about emergence of the above exhibition and 200 winning paintings to be displayed in ASEAN countries.

(See page 10)

## Coord meeting on holding School Family Day held

YANGON, 8 Dec — The coordination meeting on holding the School Family Day (2003-2004) was held at Diamond Jubilee hall on Pyay road here this morning, with an opening address by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Holding the School Family Day Minister for Education U Than Aung.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairmen Deputy Minister Col Aung Myo Min and U Myo Nyunt, leading committee members, chairmen and Secretary of the committee Head of Of-

fice Lt-Col Myo Myint.

Minister U Than Aung made an opening speech. The directors-general and chairmen of Sub-committees under the Work Committee 1 and 2 presented reports. Work Committee-1 Chairman Deputy Minister Lt-Col Aung Myo Min and Work Committee-2 Chairman Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt presented supplementary reports.

The meeting came to a close with concluding remarks by the minister.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers and ambassadors of ASEAN countries attending opening ceremony of ASEAN Children's Winning Paintings on Kindness Exhibition at the National Museum.— MNA

## Myanmar girls enter soccer final

YANGON, 8 Dec — Myanmar girls reach the final after thrashing the Malaysian eleven 8-0 in the semi-final of the SEA Games soccer this evening.

The Myanmar team was much stronger than the Malaysian team, dominating the field throughout the 90 minutes, and scored half a dozen goals in the first half. They added two more goals in the second half. — MNA

## Myanmar bags three silver, five bronze more

YANGON, 8 Dec — The Myanmar Sports contingent taking part in the XXII SEA Games held in Vietnam, today won three more silver and five bronze medals.

Winners of silver medals were the women's team in 10 m air pistol event, the men's team in 50 m prone pistol event and the women's team in table tennis event.

Winners of bronze medals were the women's team in blitz chess event, Maung Kyu in men's 50 m prone pistol event (single), Kay Khine Lwin in women's 400 m race, Han Kan Khat in men's 55-kilo Kumite Karatedo event (single) and Nan Saing Main in women's 53-kilo Kumite Karatedo event (single). — MNA

## Commander, Minister attends opening of tube-well, new school building

YANGON, 8 Dec — North-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe attended the ceremony to open a tube-well donated by Minister Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe and wife Daw San San Myint at Shwedwington Village, Oakshitgyi Village-tract in Ayadaw Township, Monywa District in Sagaing Division, held on 6 December morning.

Also present on the occa-

sion were departmental heads, USDA members, social organization members, local people and students.

The commander and the minister formally opened the tube-well. Afterwards, they attended the ceremony to hand over the new post-primary school building donated by Maha Bodhi Tahtaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Narada held at the post-primary school in the village. The commander

(See page 10)