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# $^{500}$ NEW LIGHT OF MYANN

### Senior General Than Shwe sends messages of felicitations to President of Kenya

YANGON, 12 Dec- On the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Kenya, which falls on 12 December 2003, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Mwai Kibaki, President of the Republic of Kenya. - MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gives instructions to officials at Yeiktha in Kengtwang. (News reported)- MNA

#### Four political objectives

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

#### Four economic objectives

- Development of agriculture as the base and allround 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

#### **Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than tours** Bago Division

YANGON, 11 Dec -Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Bago Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Southern Command Commander Brig-Gen Ko Ko and members, held a meeting with Tatmadaw members and their families at the local regiment of Shwegyin Township on 9 December morning. At the meeting, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on agriculture and livestock breeding on a managable scale and extension of education, health, agriculture and livestock breeding and production and had a cordial conversation with them. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to Myitkyo in Waw Township and inspected the Myitkyo sluice gate. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on maintenance work to be carried out under constant supervision of responsible officials for durability of the facility.

They went to the chosen site for construction of a bridge across the Sittoung Canal at mile post No 5/2 DaikU-Myitkyo-Nyaungkhashei road section. Officials reported on arrangements for construction

of the bridge and progress in construction of the earth road and laterite road. Bago District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Ohn Myint gave a supplementary report. Regarding the reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on meeting the set standards and timely completion of the project. They also inspected thriving black pulse and pigeon pea planta-tions and Wazichaung wooden bridge with 70 feet in length on the road section.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party

met with departmental officials, members of social organizations, townselders and local people in Waw Township. On the occasion, officials reported on geographical facts about the region and production of planned crops. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that in building up a modern developed nation, the first priority is to be given to stability of the State and prevalence of law and order, the second priority to strong economy of the nation, and the third to development of

(See page 8)

#### Myanmar wins three gold, seven silver, eight bronze in XXII SEA Games

YANGON, 11 Dec- The Myanmar sports contingent is taking part in the XXII South-East Asian Games in Vietnam and bagged three gold, seven silver and eight bronze today.

Three gold medal winrs were:

Phone Myint Teza, Khin Maung Myint, Myo Zaw and Yan Paing in men's 500-m canoe event; Khin Mar Oo, Khin Mar Thin, Thein Htay Win and Naw Ahle Lashe in the women's 500-m canoe event; and Khine Khine Maw in the Taijijian event of Wushu

Soe Soe Myar in the women's 51-kilo taekwondo event; Nyo Mi Kyaw, Khin Soe Thaik and Ni Tar in the women's 10-m air pistol shooting event; the men's 500-m two-oar kayak event; the women's 500-m two-oar kayak event; Aung Lin in the men's one oar 500-m canoe event; the men's two-oar 500m canoe event and Moe Thu Aung in the women's 50-m free style swimming event.

Eight bronze winners

Khin Mar Oo in the wom

Seven silver winners | en's 500-m kayak event; Phone Myint Teza in the men's 1000-m canoe event: Win Cho San, Than Than Saw and Khin Pa Pa Tun in the women's 50-m rifle shooting event; the Myanmar team in the kumite team event of karatedo contest; the Myanmar men's team in the sepak takraw team event; the Myanmar men's team in the sepak takraw circle event; Si Thu Win in the men's taekwondo feather weight division and Wai Yee Maung Maung in the Tauklu-Qingshu event of Wushu Contest. — MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets departmental personnel and social organization members in Waw Township.—mna

#### PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 12 December, 2003

#### Strive for emergence of reliable industrial zones

The population of the Union of Myanmar is now more than 53 million and therefore the government has been taking all the necessary measures to ensure that food, clothing and shelter needs of the growing population are fully met. Not only that, it is also trying to enrich the nation and raise the living standard of the entire people.

Ours is an agricultural country and so the agriculture sector is the mainstay of its national economy. This being the case, the government is making all-out efforts to develop the industrial sector based on the development of the agriculture sector and at the same time encouraging the export of agricultural produce and industrial products.

The industrial sector plays a primary role in building a modern and developed nation, steps are being taken for the development of State-owned industries. Moreover, private-owned industries are being encouraged through the establishment of industrial zones. There are now a total of 18 industrial zones and their branches all over the Union. Out of these, Yangon, Mandalay, Ayethaya and Monywa Industrial Zones are making great

Leaders of the State often tour the regions across the Union if and when necessary to inspect the development tasks and fulfil the necessary requirements. 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 visited the Ayethaya Industrial Zone in Taunggyi Township on 6 Decem-

In his meeting with industrial entrepreneurs at the hall of the Ayethaya Industrial Zone, Vice-Senior General Maung Ave said that the industrial zones should become the ones that can contribute a great deal towards the building of a modern and developed nation.

The Ayethaya Industrial Zone is producing automobiles, agricultural equipment and implements and paper, leather and plastic wares. Above all, it is very successful in producing Shan Star jeeps.

We would like to urge the entrepreneurs in all industrial zones to try their best so that their industrial zones will become the ones that can be relied on for all-round development of the nation.



YCDC Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspects prawn breeding.— MNA

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Intergrafica Print & Pack (Thailand) Co Ltd Managing Director Mr Marco Faulhaber and

Mr Toon Santen .- MNA

#### Minister U Win Aung sends felicitations to his counterpart of Kenya

YANGON, 12 Dec—On the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Kenya, which falls on 12 December 2003, U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Kenya .- MNA



#### Minister receives guests

Yangon, 11 Dec -Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Managing Director

Mr Marco Faulhaber and | office this afternoon. Mr Toon Santen of Intergrafica Print & Pack (Thailand) Co Ltd at his

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, departmental heads of the ministry and the head of office.

MNA

#### Korean cultural delegates participate in paper reading session

YANGON, 11 Dec — Under the cultural exchange programme of delegates between the ASEAN and Korea, a total of eight delegates from Korea and the National Committee for ASEAN Culture and Information of Myanmar held a paper reading session at the Traders Hotel here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Acting Chairman of the National Committee Di-

rector-General of the Fine Arts Department U Kyaw Win, officials of subcommittees, and delegates from

U Kyaw Win spoke on the occasion. Next, papers on 'Myanmar Tapestry Art', 'Myanmar Traditional Arts and Crafts', and 'Myanmar Traditional Natural Dyeing and Weaving' were read out by Myanmar resource persons.

Later, Korean resource | Holding the National Crafts persons also read out their papers on 'Korean Government's Policy in the Field of Crafts', 'Current Situation of Korean Crafts Education'. 'How to Promote the Crafts Industry: 'Case of KOPE', 'Invitation to the Cheonju Crafts International Biennale', 'Introduction to the Living Human Treasures System', and 'How to Promote the Crafts Industry:

Competition'.

Afterwards, the Korean delegation visited the University of Culture (Yangon), where they were conducted round the university by Rector U Tin Soe and officials.

In the evening, U Kyaw Win hosted a dinner in honour of the Korean cultural delegation at the Traders Hotel.

#### Tatmadaw C-in-C's soccer continues

YANGON, 11 Dec -The 42nd Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) soccer matches continued here this afternoon. Southern Command Team trounced South-East Command Team 5-1 in Mingaladon Township. Central Command Teamthrashed Tatmadaw (Navy) Team 5-1 in Padonma Sports Ground. - MNA

#### Mayor inspects prawn and fish breeding farm

YANGON, 11 Dec — Chairman of the Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, accompanied by officials, this morning inspected the sea prawn breeding farm being carried out by the Production Department of the YCDC in Kyauktan Township and attended to the needs. An official of the farm reported on condition of prawn and fish ponds and production of fish. The mayor also saw over the milling of rice at the five-ton mill. Afterwards, the mayor urged the officials of the farm to extend the prawn farming and to make efforts to acquire techniques for fish hatchery. - MNA



Defending champion Zaw Zin Win participating in amateur division of Maruman Golf Classic. — MGF

#### **Maruman Golf Classic Tournament goes on**

(n) maruman Golf Classic

Yangon, 11 Dec—The | fending champion Zaw Zin Maruman Golf Classic Tournament which is the fifth leg of Myanmar Golf Tour 2003 continued for the third round at Yangon Golf Club this morning.

In the professional golfers division, Myint Thaung (KM Golf Centre) secured his position at the first with 222 strokes.

His runners-up were Soe Kyaw Naing (Pan-West) and Min Naing (Srixon) with 223 each. Soe Myint Lay (Wilson) and Than Naing (Wilson) stood at the third position with 227 each.

Leader of the men's amateur event was Hla Myo with 224 strokes. Thein Zaw Myint stroked 226 to stand at the second.

Myo Min Aung and Bo Bo shared the third position with 232 each and Naing Naing Lin and de-

Win tied at the fourth with 233 each.

The tournament is being organized by Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation and mainly sponsored by Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd together with Maruman-Kaung Myat Co Ltd, Air Mandalay, Grand Slam (Munsing Wear), Loi Hein (Alpine), UPG, Canon and KM Golf Centre and Wilson.

Maruman-Kaung Myat Co Ltd and Sun Far Travels and Tours and Yangon Golf Club will present prizes to hold-in-one

The arrangement for holding the tournament is being made by Han Event Management. The fourth and final round continues tomorrow.

MNA

## UN chief says security in Iraq unlikely to improve in short term

UNITED NATIONS, 11 Dec-- The security environment in Iraq is unlikely to improve in the short to medium term, and could deteriorate further, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said Wednesday.

In his latest report on Iraq to the | procedures and significant office and Security Council, Annan said that the world body will remain a "high-value, high-impact" target for terrorist activity in Iraq for the foreseeable future. "The acting UN Security Coordinator assessed the current risk to UN personnel in Iraq as falling in the high to critical category," Annan said, adding he would recommend a range of protective measures to reduce the risk. The measures, according to the report, would include a "dedicated, highly mobile, cohesive and responsive' armed force, as well as a preparation and full implementation of enhanced Minimum Operating Safety Standards

(MOSS) to include security plans and

residential building upgrades.

He also called for the establishment of an effective, well-trained and wellequipped security management and coordination structure to include highgrade liaison links with information sources and the capacity to analyze associated information.

Other measures include the training on security matters for staff at all levels, a highly capable and responsive emergency medical support element, protected vehicles and a comprehensive, far-reaching public information strategy that is sensitive and responsive to security considerations.

The UN chief has been put under

pressure on the issue of staff safety after his Special Representative in Iraq, Sergio de Mello, along with 21 of his colleagues, were killed on duties when a deadly bombing grounded the UN headquarters in Baghdad on 19 Aug. Annan has asked former Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari and veterans of many UN missions to form an Independent Panel on the Safety and Security of UN Personnel in Iraq to probe the deadly attack.

The panel said in its report that there was no place in Iraq without risk and that a new security approach was needed in order to ensure staff security in such a high-risk environment

## ထုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ကြ

### Pentagon says US military plane probably hit by missile, lands safely in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 11 Dec—Guerillas hit a US Air Force transport plane with a surface-to-air missile, causing the engine to explode, a senior Pentagon source said Wednesday. The plane landed safely.

The C-17 had just lifted off from Baghdad International Airport before dawn Tuesday when the engine exploded, slightly injuring one of the 16 passengers and crew, said U.S. Air Force Capt. Carrie Clear of 447th Air Expeditionary Group, based at the airport. The plane returned to the airport and landed safely, Clear said, A senior Pentagon official, speaking on condition of anonymity, described the explosion as a direct hit by a ground-fired missile, "like the DHL" incident that damaged a cargo plane departing the airport last month. That plane, too, landed safely. Clear said the incident was under investigation. - Internet

## 449 US troops killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq

-As of Wednesday, Dec. 10, 449 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq, according to the Department of Defence. Of those, 309 died as a result of hostile action and 140 died of non-hostile causes, the department said.

The British military has reported 52 | jured as a result of hostile action, according deaths; Italy, 17; Spain, eight; Denmark, Ukraine and Poland have reported one each. On or since May 1, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 311 US soldiers have died, 194 as a result of hostile action and 117 of non-hostile causes, according to the Defence Department's figures.

Since the start of military operations, 2,208 US service members have been in-

to the Defence Department's figures. Nonhostile injured numbered 359.

The latest deaths reported by the military: A 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) soldier was killed Wednesday morning by small arms fired from two vehicles in Mosul.

101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) soldier was killed in a convoy ambush in Mosul on Wednesday afternoon. -Internet



Iraqi citizens walk past a US soldier on patrol on 10 Dec, 2003. Drive-by gunmen shot dead a US soldier and a Kurdish official and wounded another American soldier in Iraq's northern capital Mosul, a military spokesman and witnesses said.—Internet

## China speeds up tariff reform to fulfil WTO commitment

Belling, 11 Dec-China has done substantial work in tariff reform and will further cut import duties according to the commitments made during its accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2001, official said.

Liu Wenjie, deputy director of the Chinese General Administration of Customs, said at a Press conference held here Tuesday that China sorted out and revised more than 3,000 customs documents which went against WTO rules and international practices since 2000.

Apart from the amended and practiced Customs Law, a newly-amended national regulation on import and export duties has been promulgated and will take effect as of January 1, 2004, Liu said.

A new regulation on intellectual property protection will be published shortly and

a customs announcement on the predefinition of place of origin is under deliberation, according to Liu.

Meanwhile, China reduced tariff rates yearly. In 2003, the average tariff rate was cut from 12 per cent to 11 per cent. In 2002, the figure was reduced from 15.3 per cent to 12 per cent, Liu said.

Liu went on to say that the decrease of tariffs spurred Chinese imports and helped increase tariff income.

In the January-November period, Liu noted, Chinese imports rose by 39.1 per cent to hit 370.6 billion US dollars.—MNA/Xinhua

## India offers enhanced access in "IT"-related services at WTO

New Delhi, 11 Dec- In line with its interest in liberalization of movement of natural persons, India has offered enhanced access under the mode as part of its offers on services in computer-related services at the WTO.

We have just finalized our initial conditional offer in services. The offer contemplates certain commitments in various sectors already committed and three new sectors - maritime transport services, accounting and book-keeping and medical, dental and nursing services," Junior Minister for Commerce and Industry S B Mookherjee said at the Asia Tech Summit here.

He said since liberalization of movement of natural persons is an area of core interest, India is offering enhanced commitments under this mode.

"We have offered enhanced access in terms of larger number of sectors and also introduced the category

of contractual service suppliers, both employees of firms without office in India and independent professionals," he said, is one of the most promising service sectors with immense growth potential, he said adding "Indian IT companies and professionals have proved themselves amongst the best in the world."-MNA/PTI



strengthening long-term and stable ties between Vietnam and Japan, according to Vietnam News Agency. A Vietnamese delegation led by Viettion, healthcare, science and technology has

namese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai will attend the summit held between Wednesday and Friday. As a new member of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Vietnam has attached importance to developing cooperative ties with Japan, bilaterally and multilaterally. Leaders of the two countries have exchanged visits in recent years. They agreed to build a reliable and long-term partnership

Cooperation in economy, culture, educa-

been boosted and expanded. The two countries signed an agreement last month on investment promotion and protection to create a legal corridor for investors of both nations.

Japan is not only Vietnam's biggest donor, but also the country's No. one trade partner with an average two-way trade of almost 5 billion US dollars a year. Japan ranks the third among foreign investors in Vietnam with a total registered capital of 4.5 billion US dollars .- MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi boy passes US Army Humvees next to the burned out building of Iraq Information Ministry in Baghdad on 10 Dec, 2003. —Internet

## Two US soldiers killed in Mosul

Mosul, 11 Dec-Two US soldiers were killed and four others were wounded in separate attacks Wednesday in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, the military said, while troops in another northern city arrested five Iraqi policemen and 24 other people suspected of ties to insurgents. Guerillas also hit an Air Force cargo plane over Baghdad airport with a surface-to-air missile, according to a high-level Pentagon source.

an emergency landing when an engine caught fire.

The strike, which took place Tuesday, injured one of the 16 passengers and crew and highlighted the danger to air traffic at Baghdad's airport, a key entry point where a ground-fired missile last month hit a DHL cargo plane, which also landed safely

As in the DHL strike, the C-17 had just lifted off from Baghdad airport PUK's Mosul headquarters is across before dawn when its engine exploded the street from the gas station. and it was forced to land.

tion, killing one and injuring another, | soldier and wounding three others, the

The air force C-17 was forced into | said a spokesman for the Army's 101st | spokesman said. Airborne Division.

> U.S. soldiers returned fire and killed one assailant, the spokesman said on condition of anonymity. But witnesses said that the attackers escaped and that U.S. troops opened fire on passing cars, killing a driver, whom they identified as a member of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, or PUK. a major pro-U.S. political party. The

A few hours later, guerrillas deto-In the Mosul attacks, guerillas fired | nated a roadside bomb and opened fire on soldiers guarding a gasoline sta- on a U.S. military convoy, killing one

A US military official, meanwhile, also said Wednesday that the emergency landing Tuesday of a US OH-58D Kiowa observation helicopter near Fallujah, west of Baghdad, was likely the result of smallarms fire or a projectile fired from the ground by insurgents.

It was the fifth US helicopter downed in Iraq in just over five weeks. Fallujah has been a focus of resistance to the US occupation, although the city has been relatively peaceful of late. The town sits in the heart of the Sunni Triangle, where the majority of attacks on US forces have occurred since the ouster of Saddam.

# စက်မှုစွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

#### US plane returns to Baghdad airport after explosion

Baghdad, 11 Dec — A US military C-17 transport plane was forced to return to Baghdad's International Airport after suffering a "catastrophic" engine failure on takeoff, the US military said on Wednesday.

A spokeswoman at the airport said the cause of the incident on Tuesday was under investigation, but a Pentagon spokesman said it is being treated as a "safety incident"

"Yesterday morning at 4 a.m. (0100 GMT) a C-17 plane declared an in-flight emergency shortly after takeoff. There was an explosion in one of its engines, but it returned safely," said the spokeswoman.

She said one person among the 16 crew and passengers on board was slightly hurt.

MNA/Reuter

#### UN sends more Iraqi refugees home from Iran

GENEVA, 11 Dec -- More than 200 Iraqi refugees from a camp in Iran returned to Iraq in a UN convoy this week despite the fragile security situation in their country, the United Nations refugee agency said here.

The returns followed months of negotiations with the US-controlled Coalition Provisional Authority running Iraq, UNHCR spokesman Kris Janowski said.

He said 210 refugees were repatriated by bus on Monday from the Ashrafi camp in Iran and given tents and cooking utensils on their arrival. It was only the second UN-organized convoy of refugees to return to Iraq from Iran. The first returned 69 refugees on November 19.

"It took months of arduous negotiations to arrange the start of these repatriation convoys from Iran," Janowski told a news conference

"I don't think they (the coalition authorities) are trying to stall the return. I think they are trying to manage the pace of the return," he added,-MNA/Reuters



Army Humvees pass by first aid debris Wednesday outside a gas station in Mosul that US troops had been guarding. One soldier was killed when guerillas attacked the station.—Internet

#### China to build rail bridge across Yangtze

WUHAN, 11 Dec -Construction began Tuesday on a bridge across the Yangtze River, with a designed load capacity of 20,000 tons, making it the world's greatest capacity bridge of the kind.

At a cost of 11.06 billion yuan (1.33 billion US dollars), the Tianxingzhou bridge, in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, will be the sixth and also the most expensive bridge across the river.

The double-decked bridge, expected to be completed by 2008, is the second local bridge for trains. The first train bridge was built in 1958, and can no longer handle rapidly growing rail transport demand across the river.

It is also the first cablestayed bridge in China for high-speed trains with a speed limit of 200 kilometres per hour, and the world's first of its kind with a span of 504 metres. The bridge, with four rail lines, will be a key part of China's major rail transport networks and will make Wuhan China's a leading railway transport hub following Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, capital of southern Guangdong Province.

## China increases participation in UN peacekeeping operations

 $\textbf{\textit{Beijing,}} \textbf{11 Dec} - \textbf{\textit{China}} \ \textbf{is gradually increasing its participation in peace keeping}$ operations of the United Nations, said a senior official of the Chinese Ministry of National Defence on Tuesday.

Dai Shao'an, deputy director of the Peacekeeping Affairs Office of the ministry, said the Chinese Army have sent more than 2,000 servicemen to participate in 11 peacekeeping operations of the UN by the end of 2003. Dai said that thanks to the excellent performance of Chinese peacekeeping forces, the UN has repeatedly expressed the desire to have more Chinese participation in peacekeeping operations. China has decided to send a 550-member peacekeeping force to Liberia at the request of the UN's special representative on the

Liberian issue. Sixty of them left China for that African war-torn country on Tuesday.

The Chinese Government has consistently attached great importance to and supported the UN in maintaining world peace and security under the principles of the United Nations Charter. It is ready to make more contributions in the future, said Dai.

China officially established its first blue helmet troops, a military engineering brigade, for UN peacekeeping operations in Cambodia in April 1992.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese models show off the latest hair-dos and make-up by local designers at a show in Beijing.—Internet

#### 18th Asian Int'l Art Exhibition opens in HK

Hong Kong,11 Dec— "Mapping Asia — The 18th Asian International Art Exhibition", featuring some 180 works of art from across East Asia, opened at the Hong Kong Heritage Museum on Tuesday.

The exhibition, which will run till March 8, 2004, was jointly sponsored by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Federation of Asian Artists Hong Kong

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Director of Leisure and Cultural Services Anissa Wong Sean-yee said the event aims to reflect current artistic developments in Asia, to illustrate Asian ways of life and to foster better understanding and friendship among people in the region.

Some 180 works by about 190 artists from Japan, South Korea, the Chinese Mainland, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Macao and Hong Kong are on display, including installations, photography, video and digital art, ceramics, sculpture, and painting.

## Malaysian farmers urged to initiate organic farming

Kuala Lumpur, 11 Dec — Malaysian Agriculture Minister Mohamad Effendi Norwawi urged farmers in the country to initiate organic farming.

The organic crop market | turnover has grown to 80 billion ringgit (21.05 billion US dollars) worldwide, making it among the biggest market segments in the world. the minister told reporters after opening a seminar in Putrajaya, the administrative capital of Indonesia.

"Some 16 million hectares of land all over the world have been planted with organic crops. We should also exploit this trade in this country," he

Effendi said the demand for organic food products was increasing yearly due to awareness among people of the importance of safe nutrition to safeguard health. Organic farming is a system which avoids the use of synthetic inputs such as fertilizers, chemical poison and antibiotics. On top of that, the concept is also environment-

friendly, said the minister.

There are 600 hectares of organic farms across Malaysia, most of them are privatelyowned. He said the Agriculture Department would issue certification to farms implementing organic farming as an official endorsement. With the certification, consumers need not worry about the authenticity of the organic food products which they purchased, he said.—MNA/Xinhua

## IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



A soldier of the US Army's 4th Infantry Division passes by a billboard of Saddam Hussein's former national guards in Tikrit, Iraq, on Monday, 8 Dec, 2003. INTERNET



A US soldier checks Iraqis in a car in Baghdad recently. INTERNET



A soldier of the US Army's 4th Infantry Division guards detained Iraqi men suspected of a hand grenade attack against US troops during operation Buhriz in the town of Baquba in central Iraq, on 11 December, 2003. — Internet



US soldiers place a concrete block at the site of a suicide attack outside a US military base in Tall Afar, near Mosul. A massive suicide car bomb that exploded outside the military base on 8 December wounded 58 American soldiers and an Iraqi translator. — Internet



A soldier of US Army's 4th Infantry Division watches an Iraqi family in their home during a night raid in Khadasiya, a northern suburb of Tikrit, Iraq on 9 Dec, 2003. — Internet



Iraqis look at a car damaged after a bombing in central Baghdad which killed  ${\it 3 \ Iraqis \ on \ 9 \ Dec, \ 2003. \ In \ northern \ Iraq \ , \ a \ suicide \ bomber \ wounded}$ 58 US soldiers and three Iraqis in an attack on a military base.

#### Russia warns against international split over Iraq

BERLIN, 11 Dec — Warning against a new international split over Iraq, Russia criticized on Wednesday a US decision to bar opponents of the Iraq war from winning lucrative contracts to help rebuild the country.

"We believe the interests of a political settlement of the situation in Iraq, and the rebuilding of Iraq, are best served by uniting the efforts of the international community and not splitting it," Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said.

"As regards the reconstruction of Iraq, I think that it's a general desire, and all who are prepared to participate in this should be given every possibility to do that," he told journalists during a visit to Berlin.

Ivanov said Russian companies were already operating in Iraq, and added: "We hope that as the necessary security conditions are created, that cooperation will be widened."

Russia, France and Germany were the most vocal opponents of the US invasion of Iraq earlier this year.

All three were omitted from a US list of countries eligible for prime contracts in Iraq worth up to 18.6 billion US dollars, which will be advertised in coming days.

Washington said that for security reasons, the only companies eligible would be from the United States, Iraq and "coalition partners and force-contributing nations".— MNA/Reuters

# UNSG says UN role in rebuilding Iraq not clear

UNITED NATIONS, 11 Dec— UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said Wednesday the world body's role on the political front of Iraqi reconstruction needs to be further clarified.

"On the political front in the immediate to medium term, it has yet to be established what role, if any, Iraqis and the Coalition Provisional Authority would like the United Nations to play in the formation of the transitional national assembly by 31 May 2004," Annan said in his latest report on Iraq to the Security Council.

The UN chief also said that he is not clear how substantive the UN role might be in relation to the "evident security risks", and whether circumstances would permit the UN to play any such role effectively, if requested to do so.

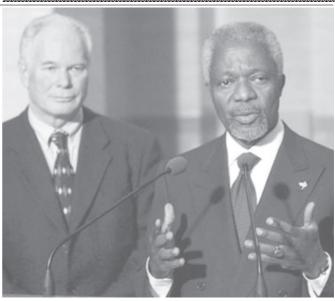
In his report, the UN chief urged the 15-member Council to clarify "what might be expected of us" for the respective new responsibilities, set out in the Council's Resolutions 1511.

The Council on October 13 adopted Resolution 1511 requesting the world body to play a "strengthened vital role" during the course of rebuilding Iraq, as circumstances permit.

The report, to be discussed by the Council next Tuesday, briefly described UN activities and key developments in Iraq during the period of July 17, when his first report was issued, and August 19, when the UN headquarters in Baghdad was bombed.

It also outlined a plan of action with regard to security, the deployment of the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq and the conduct of UN relief, recovery and reconstruction activities in Iraq. — MNA/Xinhua

## ခြိုးခြံချွေတာ၊ ထိန်းပါလေလွင့်၊ ထုတ်ကုန်မြှင့်



Kofi Annan right, UN Secretary General speaks next to New Zealand of Ross Mountain, left, director of UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and new interim envoy to Iraq, during a press briefing at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, on 10 Dec, 2003.—Internet

## China finds clue to uncover mystery of gunpowder invention

CHENGDU, 11 Dec—Chinese archaeologists have found a large ancient saltpeter manufacturing base which they believe was used to manufacture gunpowder over 1,000 years ago. A team of archaeologists discovered last month a network of caves at the Laojun Mountain in southwestern China's Sichuan Province.

Xu Xiangdong, leader of the expedition and former president of the Beijing Ancient Building Museum, said the caves were used to manufacture saltpeter, one of the major ingredients of gunpowder.

In two caves, the remains of workshops and storage pits were discovered, while in another cave the team found four work spaces, each covering hundreds of square metres, along with several saltpeter pits, and scattered fragments of chinaware.

Based on the finds, scientists estimated the ancient miners could have extracted one kilo of saltpeter from 100 kilos of earth and the kitchens could have fed 100 workers

The finds proved that the Laojun Mountain was the largest base for saltpeter production, said the experts.

They speculated that the saltpeter, named "Chinese Snow" by foreigners, was probably transported from here to Europe and West Asia via the road twisting between Sichuan and Gansu provinces.

Experts agreed that the large number of halls in towns and cities around the area were used to trade saltpeter in ancient times.

Gunpowder is one of the four great inventions in ancient China along with paper, printing and the com-

According to historic records, ancient Chinese found that the mixture of saltpeter, sulphur and carbon was explosive, which led to the invention of gunpowder sometime before the Tang Dynasty (618-907).

MNA/Xinhua

### US poll finds support for UN except among Republicans

UNITED NATIONS, 11 Dec
— Despite the Bush Administration's coolness toward
the United Nations, a US poll
released on Wednesday
found support for the world
body among three out of five,
or 59 per cent. of Americans.

A major exception was among Republicans, where only 37 per cent agreed that the United Nations was needed more than ever in world affairs and believed the world body was less relevant and less influential today.

President George W Bush, who failed to win UN Security Council authorization for the US invasion of Iraq, had said the world body's stance against Saddam Hussein would test its relevance.

In the poll, 65 per cent of women polled supported the United Nations as compared to only 53 per cent of men, according to Zogby International, which conducted the survey on behalf of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Those viewing the United Nations as more necessary than ever included 81 per cent of Democratic Party supporters, 66 per cent of young voters between 18 and 29 years of age and 65 per cent of union members. Zogby, based in Utica, New York, said it conducted telephone interviews with 1,000 likely voters September 5-9 chosen at random across the country from listed residential phone numbers. — MNA/Reuters

#### EU to query US limits on Iraq deals at WTO

Brussels, 11 Dec — The European Commission said on Wednesday it was investigating whether a US decision to exclude Iraq war opponents from bidding for contracts to rebuild the country meets world trade rules.

"We are now going to start looking into the 26 contracts in order to make sure that limitations to competition for these public procurement contracts to certain countries is compatible with World Trade

Organization rules," European Commission spokeswoman Arancha Gonzalez

Gonzalez, noting that the contracts were worth 20 billion US dollars, said the Commission expected to have some results from its inquiry in the coming weeks.

The US decision has affected European Union members France and Germany as well as Russia.

MNA/Reuters



British soldiers patrol a road in the southern Iraqi city of Basra on 9 December
Internet

# Germany says exclusions from Iraq contracts unacceptable

BERLIN, 11 Dec— The German Government said on Wednesday it would be unacceptable for the United States to bar firms from countries which opposed the war in Iraq from competing for prime contracts to rebuild the country.

In a policy document released on Tuesday, US Deputy Defence Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said he was limiting competition for 26 reconstruction contracts worth up to 18.6 billion US dollars that will be advertised in coming days.

He cited national security reasons for the exclusion of firms from countries that opposed the war including France and Germany. They may bid for sub-contracts.

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's chief spokesman Bela Anda said that if the reports of such an exclusion were true:

"That would not be acceptable for the German government. And it wouldn't be

in line with the spirit of looking to the future together and not into the past." He declined at a news conference to comment on what action the government would take.

Germany has sought in recent months to patch up relations with Washington that were badly hurt by its criticism of the Iraq war, offering to help train Iraqi police and support reconstruction and humanitarian aid projects in the country. France, which together with Germany was the most vocal opponent of the US-led war in Iraq, said earlier it was studying with its European partners whether the decision was in line with international competition law.-MNA/Reuters

## Singapore-Kunming railway begins to take shape

The much-awaited Singapore-Kunming Railway Link (SKRL) project had begun to take shape with steps taken to fill up the missing rail sectors, Transport Minister Chan Kong Choy said.

project's special working group (SWG) chairman, said that the biggest challenge of the pan-Asian project covering 5,513 kilometres was the missing rail sectors at the Thailand-Cambodia-Vietnam stretch.

The railway project, from Singapore passing through Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh City, Phnom Penh, Hanoi, Laos, and Myanmar before reaching Kunming in China, was proposed by former Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad some 10 years

came back from attending the fifth SWG meeting in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, said that the Thai Government had indicated that it would build the shortest missing rail sector from the Thai border to Poi Peep, the border town of Cambodia, by the end of next year.

He said that Malaysia had agreed to assist the construction of the second missing rail link from Poi Peep to Sisophon both in Cambodia, covering a length of 48 kilometres, by donating used railway tracks.

the longest covering 255 kilometres, was between Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and Locninh, the border town of Vietnam.

He said that Vietnam had shown keen interest to build the fourth missing sector between Locninh and Ho Chi Minh City, covering a distance of 192 kilometres and had conducted its own feasibility study, which would be finalized by the end of this month.

He said that South Korea had also volunteered to conduct a feasibility study Chan said that the third on the missing link between

The minister, who just | missing sector, which was | Cambodia and Vietnam while China had indicated that it was keen to help.

"Once, the technical details are worked out, we will look into the funding," Chan said.

"We have been talking about this project for more than 10 years and now with something concrete taking place, the SKRL project can become a reality not too long from now," he added.

The project is expected to cost 2.5 billion US dollars and part of the money will be provided by the Asian Development Bank.

MNA/Xinhua

#### Many hurt in vehicle pile-up in Britain

London, 11 Dec — Up to 19 people were believed injured after at least 15 vehicles were involved in a crash at Staffordshire, northwest of London, it was reported here on Wednesday.

Two coachloads of school children, 12 cars and an articulated lorry were involved in the crash, which happened during foggy weather at about 0945 GMT on the southbound carriageway between Fradley Park and Streetay, the Sky News reported.

At least one driver with serious injuries was cut free and rushed to hospital, the report said.

Eighteen others were injured, two with possible serious injuries and others were described as "walking wounded", the report added.

Although there were reports of numerous casualties after the pile-up, no one was believed to have been killed in the crash.

After the crash, the road was closed in both directions and drivers were being warned to avoid the area for most of the day, local reports

MNA/Xinhua

#### 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

#### 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

#### နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ့

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ်တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် ကနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စ ရပ်များမှအပ ်မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ့ဖြစ်သည်၊ ၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဖင်ဘာလအတွက်

(၁၄–၁၂–၂၀၀၃) ရက်နေ့နှင့် (၂၈–၁၂–၂၀၀၃) ရက်နေ့





The 9th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment

The 2" ASEAN+3 Environment Ministers Meeting Yangun, Myanınar 16-19 December 2003

## **Dengue-plagued Venezuela** declares national emergency

CARACAS, 11 Dec — Venezuela's Ministry of Health and Social Development declared a national emergency Wednesday because of a serious outbreak of dengue fever, which has killed four people.

By November 22, Venezuela's 24 states had recorded 22,197 cases of dengue fever, and it was continuing to spread in 13 states, Health Ministry officials said.

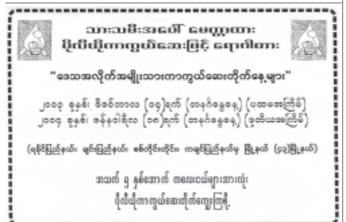
The epidemic is particularly serious in Caracas, the capital, with 2,255 cases being reported this year, while the figure was 1,336 in the same period last year. About 30 per cent of Venezuela's 24 million citizens live in Caracas.

Dengue is a tropical epidemic, which is spread by mosquito bites. Its symptoms are high fever, muscle pain and headaches. Seriously infected victims can develop internal haemorrhage, which can result in

Haemorrhagic dengue fever is rampant in Latin American countries. The dengue season usually peaks in July and August when heavy rains provide a feeding place for mosquitoes.

Venezuela's Health Ministry has launched a widespread educational campaign to popularize preventative knowledge and kill mosquitoes.

MNA/Xinhua





စတုတ္တအကြိမ်မြောက် ကျေးလက်စေသပွဲ့ပြီးစေးနှင့် ဆင်းစဲချို့တဲ့မှုပပျောက်စစု အားဆီယံ အဆင့်မြင့်အရာရှိများအစည်းအဝေး ၂၀၀၃ စုနှစ်၊ ဗီဖင်ဘာလ (၁၅-၁၆) ရက်၊ ရန်ကုန်၊

4th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting

Rural Development and Poverty Eradication 15-16 December 2003 Yangon, Myanmar



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than pays homage to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Visuddha Dhamma Lankara in Bago.— MNA

#### Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than...

(from page 1) human resources. In the process, tranquillity and peace has been restored and there has prevailed law and order in the nation, he added. And more and more basic education schools, universities, colleges and degree colleges are being constructed to ensure development of human resources. Likewise, arrangements are being made for development of agriculture and livestock breeding sectors fundamental requirement for economic growth. Bago Division is one of the six divisions striving for economic development of the State. In 2003-2004 financial year, out of the ten major crops, Bago Division could put over 2.4 million acres under monsoon paddy. So, efforts are to be made for meeting the target of cultivation of summer paddy on 0.26 million acres of land. Waw Township is to make endeavours in order to bring honour to the division, he pointed out. Waw Township could take measures to exceed the target of monsoon paddy cultivation, and efforts are therefore to be made for meeting the target in growing summer paddy. Waw Township is a region on which the State can rely regarding beans and pulses production sector. However,

successs in cultivating these crops in the present year less than the rate in the previous year. Thus, effective measures are to be taken to main the development momentum. Only if edible oil crops are cultivated in respective seasons, will edible oil production meet the target, he noted

It is required to extend planting of Thitseint (bellerric myrobalan) trees and pepper as many as possible. Extended fish breeding tasks are to be implemented in the fields not suitable for cultivation of paddy. Poultry farming is to be also extended and it is needed to organize local people to run ing. Departmental officials are to discharge duties with goodwill for regional development and to make collective efforts for greening and beautifying the region, he remarked.

Later in the afternoon. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than visited the chosen site for keeping the Tampa Loha Maha Muni Buddha Image in Bago. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than paid obeisance to Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Visuddha Dhamma Lankara and presented offertories to him.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived back here in the evening.

MNA

#### small-scale livestock breedthe region can achieve Development affairs tasks coordinated

YANGON, 11 Dec - Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt met with staff of departments under the ministry at Shan State (South) Development Affairs Committee on 8 December

On the occasion, the minister gave instructions, say ing that service personnel of development affairs committees are to carry out 31 tasks included in the Development Affairs Law and to make the subordinates understand them. And efforts are to be made for better transport and

water supply in rural areas, he added. At the same time. measures are to be taken to ungrade the towns to cities and to ensure equitable development between rural and urban areas, he noted.

Officials reported on financial statements of Shan State (South) DAC for 2003

2004 fiscal year, tasks for greening the region, work progress and future plans. The minister attended to the needs

After the meeting, the minister inspected the tasks carried out for greening the region.

MNA

#### Air Mandalay extends its airline operation

YANGON, 11 Dec — Air Mandalay, a joint-venture airline of Myanma Airways under the Ministry of Transport, will extend its twice-a

week air route to Yangon, NyaungU, Mandalay and Monywa, as of the fourth week of December.

MNA

#### **UDE** books for IPRD

YANGON 11 Dec Yangon University of Distance Education donated books to the libraries of the Information and Public Relations Department, Ministry of Information, at the meeting hall of the university this morning.

Rector Dr Mya Oo of the UDE explained the purpose

of the donation and presented annual magazines and texts for first year Myanmarsar and English specialization of the university worth K 6.6 million to the director-general of the IPRD. The director-general presented certificate of honour to the rector and spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Ma Yanvo Ti and Kvan Mvint Kvin seized with 11.165 kilos of heroin in Muse on 3-12-2003.- MNA



Rector of Yangon University of Distance Education Dr Mya Oo presents annual magazines and text books of Information and Public Relations Department Director-General U Chit Naing.-

#### 11.165 kilos of heroin seized in Muse

YANGON, 11 Dec -A combined team comprising members of local intelligence unit and special antidrug squad in Muse on 3 December, acting on a tipoff, searched the house of Ma Yanyo Ti, daughter of U Yang Si, of Shwethamin Ward, Muse, and seized 32 blocks heroin weighing 11.165 kilos hidden in the kitchen. The authorities also arrested Kvan Mvint Kvin who was in the house.

The police station concerned filed Ma Yanyo Ti and Kyan Myint Kyin under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. MNA

#### U Myint Swe presents his credentials to Nepali King

Myint Swe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Nepal, presented his Cre-

YANGON, 11 Dec- U | dentials to His Majesty King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev, King of Nepal, on 5 December 2003, in Kathmandu.

#### U Nyunt Maung Shein presents his credentials to President of Poland

Nyunt Maung Shein, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Poland, presented his Cre-

YANGON, 11 Dec— U | dentials to His Excellency Mr Aleksander Kwasniewski. President of the Republic of Poland, on 28 November 2003, in Warsaw - MNA





gold in Wushu XXII SEA Games



#### Khine Khine Maw wins gold

YANGON, 11 Dec — The XXII Southeast Asia Games continued in Hanoi, Vietnam, today. Myanmar secured one more gold and one more bronze in Wushu events this morning.

women's In the Taiqiquan category, Khine Khine Maw of Myanmar stood first, while Singapore and Vietnam stood second and third respectively. In the men's Jianshu category, first prize and second prize went to athletes from the

Philippines and Vietnam, while Aung Si Thu of Myanmar took the third

In the men's Gunshu category, Pyi Wai Phyo of Myanmar stood second, while the Philippines and Vietnam took away first prize and third prize respec-

The Myanmar Wushu team has so far secured one gold, two silver and one bronze in the games

NLM

#### MDA to hold conference

YANGON, 11 Dec — The 24th Conference of Myanmar Dentists' Association and the 5th FDI MDA Joint Education Meeting will be held at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road from

28 to 31 January 2004.

Dentists wishing to attend the conference may enroll at the conference hall of the hotel from 9 am to 2 pm on 26 and 27 January.

#### Construction of No 2 Thanlyin bridge inspected

Yangon, 11 Dec — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe yesterday afternoon inspected the No 2 Thanlyin bridge construction project and the Kayan creek sluice gate construction project being implemented in Thanlyin township, Yangon South District, and gave instructions to officials.

The commander arrived at the briefing hall of the bridge construction project Dagon Myothit (Hseikkan), Yangon East District, at 2 pm. The commander was welcomed there by Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Commander of No 2 Military Region Brig-Gen Myo Myint, departmental heads, and local authorities.

At the briefing hall of the project, departmental officials reported on progress in the construction of the bridge and future tasks, arrange-

ments for construction of a sluice gate and the digging of a six-mile-long canal, measures being taken for supply of irrigation water to Thanlyin, Thongwa and Kyauktan townships to cultivate summer paddy.

After hearing the reports. the commander gave instructions on extended construction of the ring road from Thayetpin creek village. Dagon Myothit (Hseikkan), to the No 2 Thanlyin bridge along Bago river. Next, the commander inspected the construction of the bridge and gave instructions.

Later, the commander and party went to the sluice gate construction project being implemented by the Irrigation Department in Thanlyin township. They were welcomed there by No 1 Military Commander Lt-Col Myint Kyi, local authorities and officials.

At the temporary briefing hall of the project, the commander met with departmental officials and local farmers. At the meeting, the commander heard reports on steps being taken for construction of a 36-valve concrete sluice gate measuring 6 feet by 16 feet, prospects of benefiting over 30,000 acres of land on completion of the sluice gate, and tasks being carried out for construction of the sluice gate and future tasks.

Giving instructions to farmers, the commander said that plans were under way to be able to cultivate various kinds of crops all the year round within a 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport. With this end in view, he continued, irrigation facilities were being provided to ensure sufficient supply of irrigation water, adding that single, double and triple cropping would enable the farmers to enjoy the fruitful results.

Later, officials reported on cultivation of summer paddy, beans and pulses,

edible oil crops and economi-cally-profitable crops with the application of scientific agricultural methods, and matters related to technical assistance to be rendered to farmers. Local authorities from Thanlyin, Kyauktan, Thongwa and Kayan townships also reported on measures being taken for timely cultivation of economicallyprofitable crops and arrange ments for putting the harvests under shelter.

Afterwards, the commander and party inspected the tasks being carried out at instructions on timely com-

Hsan Co Ltd and left instructions on production of vehicles meeting the set standard. — MNA





- To strive hand in hand with the people for successful realization of the State's sevenpoint policy programme
- To crush internal and external destructive elements hindering the stability and progress of the State through people's militia strat-
- To implement border area development tasks and the five rural development tasks hand in hand with the entire people
- To build up a strong and efficient Tatmadaw to uphold 'Our Three Main National Causes'



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe hears reports by an official on Shwe Hlay sluice gate.

#### **A&I Minister attends...**

(from page 16) and skills in the interests of the State. So, as the fruitful result of the farsightedness of the Head of State, the paper-reading sessions of the MAAFLF were held, he pointed out

Myanmar is an agritultural country and her major production enterprises are based on agriculture sector. So, development of farm sector plays a key role in the development of the socioeconomic life of the majority of her citizens and the development of the State With the increasing population of the country, arrangements for boosting agricultural produce have been implemented. In so doing, extension of sown acreage. multiple-cropping in all seasons and boosting per acre vield as well as availability of quality strains and effectiveness of suitable cultiva-

tion methods are important. Making use of modern technologies in transforming into mechanized farming is an unavoidable process. Besides rice, the staple crop of the country, growing of 10 maior crops such as maize. groundnut, sesame, sunflower, Matpe, Pedisein, Pesingon, cotton and sugarcane is to be emphasized. Objectives are to be set to export old items as well as new ones, he said.

Utilization of modern machinery and modern methods are important in implementing the objectives to be successful. Priority is to be given to growing of crops of quality strains obtained from the agricultural researches. More efforts are to be made with added momentum for research and technical development.

To systematically use water resources in the inter-

#### Premier league soccer

YANGON, 11 Dec — The Myanmar Soccer Federation continued its premier league soccer tournament today at Aung San Stadium here this evening. In today's match, Defence Services (Army)-A team beat the team of Ministry of Mines 2-0. The man of the match award went to Aung Chan Min of the Defence Services team. - MNA

ests of the State and minimize wastage, technical and research development tasks are to be carried out. As regards forest sector, for the development and prolongation of the State's forests. efforts are to be made to increase State's income, carry out environmental conservation, and to ensure moderate climate.

At a time when efforts are being made to exploit forest resources systematically, to extract various marketable timber more and to produce value added wood products for earning more foreign currencies, forest conservation tasks are to be made, he added.

In conclusion, he said the scholars of the MAAFLF realizing the State's objectives are making efforts to uplift living standard of the people. He believed that the good results of the paperreading session are beneficial to not only the agriculture, fisheries and forest sectors of Myanmar but the State's economy.

Afterwards, the minister presented the scholars certificates through Vice-Chairmen Dr Myint Thein and Dr Nyan Tun. After the ceremony, the ministers, the deputy ministers and members of the MAAFLF posed for documentary photos.

The paper-reading sessions of the groups were held at the meeting hall of Myanma Farm Enterprise (Head Office), Tawwin Hall of Forest Department in West Gyogon, Insein Township and the hall of the Livestock, Feedstuff and Diary Products Enterprise on Butayon Road in Insein Township. They continue tomorrow.

#### Commander inspects...

(from page 16) roads and 15,370 feet long earth road linking among villages, plans on building of bridges and tarred roads, cooperation of local people with departmental personnel in regional development tasks and cultivation tasks to be carried out from double cropping to triple cropping for economic growth.

Officials accepted one set of TV and VCR for the library, books for the post primary school and uniforms for auxiliary fire brigade and red cross members donated by Minister Col Tin Hlaing; one generator for the library by Vice-Mayor

Col Maung Pa; and K 50,000 for Ward Maternal and Child Welfare Association by Deputy Director-General U Maung Win of General Administration Department.

Afterwards, the commander and party inspected the ward health care unit and attended to the requirements.

They then oversaw construction of the roads linking villages and wards and cleaning of drinking lakes.

Later, they inspected the place where factories and workshops will be built near Alatchaung Ward.

MNA

#### National races visit Thanlyin, Kyauktan

Yangon, 11 Dec vited by the chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races, a national race study group of Mawchee region in Kayah State paid homage to Kyaikkhauk Pagoda in Thanlyin Township today. Officials and members of the pagoda board of trustees briefed them on history of the pagoda.

Next, the study group proceeded to Pada Ngahtatgyi pagoda in Thanlyin and Kyaikmhawwun pagoda Kvauktan.

The group donated cash towards the fund of the pagodas

Afterwards, they visited Union National Race Village in Thaketa Township. Officials welcomed and conducted them round the village. The director-general of the Department of Border Areas and National Races Development presented gifts to them. Leader of the national races group U Saw Yu He spoke words of thanks. After visiting the View Point Amusement Park, they left for guest house in the evening. — MNA



National people from Mawchee region visiting View Point Amusement Park. — MNA

## Pindaya, first prize winning township for outstanding performance in tea cultivation

Article & Photos by Khayan Soe Myint (Kyemon)

Kyemon daily arrived at Pindaya Township in Shan State (South) on 11 November

Pindaya Township is located in the western part

is dividing the border with Ywangan. Generally, the land is high in west and gradually lower to the eastern part of the township.

The Mount "Ashaemyin Anoutmyin" located Thein Dan. Zawgyi river rising in the north of the town is flowing down from south to north. The township enjoys fair

Pindaya Township

2003, with a total production of 1.352,731 viss of tea. 263.18 viss per acre yield, 5.140 acres of harvested land and 5.365 acres of cultivated land of tea

So, arrangements are being made to cultivate a total of 5,565 acres of tea in the year 2003-2004. It is expected to produce a total of 1.652,800 viss of tea by 320 viss per acre yield on 5.165 acres of harvested

Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Tin Maung Win explained to the Kyemon daily that he himself had made field tours of village-tracts in the township. He frequently



World Food Day commemorative first prize for outstanding performance in tea cultivation won by Pindaya Township in 2003.

tural Services Manager U Aung Bo also explained that the aims of the tea cultivation are; to cultivate the tea with modern due to the existence of

Township Agricul- | export to earn foreign exchange.

Pindaya has the favourable geographical condition for tea cultivation



Members of tea cultivation supervisory committee being supervised the tea plantations.

of the old Shan plateau. Its | physical feature of the land is not smooth. The mountain range stretching from south to north in the western part of the township

in the North-West of the town is well-known and its height is 7.752 feet above the sea level. Other wellknown mountains are Mount Pwe and Mount Mya

won the first prize of FAO for outstanding performance in tea cultivation, presented by the central committee for holding the ceremony to mark the World Food Day



A damsel picking tea leaves in the thriving tea plantations in Pindaya Township.



Thriving tea plantations in Pindaya Township.

met with local farmers and | organized them extended cultivation of tea. Necessary assistance in township level had been provided.

The tea cultivation supervisory committees were formed in the township and assigned duty for the

targeted quantity of plant in the present tea plantations; to nurture the tea plants by cutting branches; to pick the tea leaves systematically; to fertilize to boost per acre yield and to produce green tea and pickled tea leaves not only for local consumption but also for

techniques; to meet the | mountain ranges stretching south to north in the west of the town. So, efforts are being made by officials concerned and departmental organizations of the region to achieve the success of tea cultivation which can benefit for long term.

(Translation: SH) Kyemon 3-12-2003

## Nigeria recovers 62 stolen artifacts from abroad

Lagos, 11 Dec — The Nigerian federal government has recovered 62 stolen Nigerian artifacts from Switzerland and South Africa, Director-General of the National Commission for Museums and Monuments of Nigeria Omotoso Eluyemi said Tuesday.

Eluyemi told reporters in Kano, an ancient city with brilliant historical culture and long history, that the recovery of the artifacts followed talks between Nigeria and the two countries.

"The federal government discovered to its dismay that some of its pre-historic artifacts were smuggled into the two countries," Eluyemi said.

He explained that 46 artifacts were retrieved from Switzerland, while 16 were recovered from South Africa.

According to Eluyemi, an indigene of Ebonyi, Eric Johnson, had donated 33 assorted artifacts to the commission

He said the commission currently had 33 well established museums across the country and planned to set up three more to be located in the northern, southwestern and eastern zones of the most populous African country with a population of over 133 million.

The director-general said the proposed three museums would be inaugurated in June 2004, noting that it was the ambition of the commission to ensure that each of the nation's 36 states has one museum.

Nigeria is one of the oldest countries in Africa, with a civilization of several thousands of years, hence it is rich in cultural relics and historical sites. - MNA/Xinhua

## 31 killed in road accidents in Ugandan capital in November

Kampala, 11 Dec — A total of 31 people died and 422 were injured in road accidents in November in Kampala, capital of Uganda, the Kampala regional police has announced.

Kampala regional traffic officer Gabriel Tibayungwa was quoted on Wednesday by local daily The Monitor as saying that police recorded 991 accidents in November, out of which 280 were serious.

At least 1,586 vehicles were involved in the accidents and the police issued 1,871 express penalty scheme tickets. The road accidents are listed as the second killer in the East African country after HIV/ AIDS. Uganda lost about 150 million US dollars in 2002 due to road accidents and at least 1,250 people died in road accidents from January to September this year.

MNA/Xinhua

## Smooth and secure transport stands witness to tangible results of constant efforts exerted by Tatmadaw Government for national development





The construction of bridges across major rivers shorten the travel time. With this end in view, bridges are being constructed wherever necessary. The photo taken on 23-3-2003, the opening day of the bridge, shows the aerial view of Dedaye Bridge linking Kungyangon Township and Dedaye Township.

Рното: мла

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

Рното: мла



Easy access will help accelerate the flow of commodities between one region and another, including border areas, across the nation. The photo shows Kissapanadi Bridge on Yangon-Sittway Road in Rakhine State. —Photo: MNA



Transport infrastructure—roads, bridges, ports and airports—are being constructed with added momentum to narrow the development gap between one region and another in all parts of the nation. The photo shows the Mandalay International Airport, equipped with modern facilities, in TadaU

Township, Mandalay Division.—Photo: MNA

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

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1. Sealed tenders are invited by Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries, Ministry of Industry (1) for lab chemicals for Myanma Pharmaceutical Factory.

Sr.No Tender No Description Closing Date/Time 601 (T) MPHI/MPF/ Lab Chemicals 24 12 2003 2003-2004 39 Items 16:30 Hrs

- (2) Tender documents are available at the office of Managing Director, 192, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Yangon, during office hours.
- (3) Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without furnishing reasons

**Managing Director** Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries.

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To Let (In Kvat)

New Building 2/RC on Kan

Road, Hline Township,

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TRADE MARK CAUTION

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#### **CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (342)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR Voy No (342) are here by notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-12-03 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE CORPORATION

Phone: 256908/378316/376797

## Caspian Sea conference opens in Teheran

TEHERAN 11 Dec.—The 12th meeting of a special working group to compile the Convention for the Legal Regime of the Caspian Sea opened in Teheran on Tuesday. Addressing the opening ceremony of the two-day gathering, Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi said the Caspian Sea is a "source of peace, understanding and friendship for its littoral

The Caspian Sea, which is shared by Iran, Russia Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan, provides a background for cooperation among them, he said.

He noted that the signing of the Convention to Protect Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Teheran Convention) in November opened up a new chapter in mutual cooperation among the littoral states

of the working group following the Ashkhabad Summit in May 2003 has been effective in bringing the views of the concerned countries closer together which led to the signing of the convention, Kharrazi said. He stressed that Iran attached special importance to the Caspian Sea and Teheran always welcomed speeding up the negotiations for a peaceful settlement to the sea's problems.

MNA/Xinhua

Negotiations and efforts

## Reg. No. 2414/2003 MYONAL

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#### PARIET

Reg. No. 5535/1999 Reg. No. 2416/2003

in respect of "pharmaceutical preparations and substances'

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L for EISAI CO., LTD. P.O. Box 60, Yangon. Dated: 12 December 2003

The best time to plant a tree

was twenty years ago.

The second best time is now.

## ပြည်တွင်မေးမြောက်အေနပေးပါ

GAMBRO LUNDIA AB of P.O. Box 10101, SE-220, 10 Lundia, Sweden is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademarks-

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Class 9: Data processing equipment and computers for medical purposes, for example for use in operating computer operated medical apparatus, for use in medical database management, for monitoring and controlling of one or more dialysis monitors, water treatment equipment like RO machines, central solution preparation machines, or for operating blood component collection systems, especially for use in measuring dialysis output of dialysis monitors, for generating dialysis patient reports, and for managing dialysis facilities; and for measuring and predicting blood component product yields, for generating blood component donor reports, for managing blood component collection facilities and blood banks; and for disease management. Class 10: Medical apparatus and instruments; especially apparatus and instruments for blood component collection and for blood treatment, for example dialysers, dialysis monitors, blood tubes, blood pumps, cannulas, catheters, articoaquiant pumps, tube sets for priming, drip chambers, expansion chambers, pressure sensors, flow meters, temperature meters, conductivity meters, ion strength meters, heat exchangers, devices for heating and cooling connectors, apparatus for measuring of urea and other substances in blood, apparatus and means for preparation of dialysis fluid and other medical fluids, for example replacement fluids, disinfection solutions, cleansing solutions, decalcifying solutions, water treatment equipment intended for medical use, for example RO machines, apparatus for extracorporeal blood handling related to bone marrow processing, cell processing, apheresis, blood separation and filtering, therapeutic blood treatments, and disposables therefor; bags and cartridges for concentrates in solid or liquid form, bags and cartridges for solutions intended for medical use, for example for peritoneal dialysis fluid; membranes intended for medical use, including membranes for use in filters for dialysis, hemofiltration and hemodiafiltration.

Class 16: Printed matter, for example brochures, magazines; instructional and teaching material. Class 37: Repair and maintenance of medical apparatus and instruments; especially apparatus and instruments for blood component collection and for blood treatment, for example dialysis monitors, apparatus for extracorporeal blood handling related to bone marrow processing, cell processing, apheresis, blood separation and filtering, water treatment equipment intended for medical use, for example RO machines, central solution preparation machines.

Class 41: Educational services, for example providing classes and individual instruction on the subject of dialysis or blood component technology and dialysis clinic and blood center management, especially the use of medical products, medical devices, pharmaceutical and therapeutic products, dialysis monitors, dialysis instrumentation, dialysis disposable products, dialysis solutions, dialysis operations software, and related products and parts components, accessories, and attachments therefor; the use of medical apparatus for extracorporeal blood handling related to bone marrow processing, cell processing, apheresis, blood separation and filtering, therapeutic blood treatments, and disposables therefor.

Class 42: Medical services, for example care for patients with acute or chronic kidney diseases in hospitals, satellites facilities or at home, and related services, especially medical procedures, patient care management services for end stage renal disease patients; disease management; clinical medical laboratory services; collection of blood components.

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> Their Aung B.Sc, R.L., D.B.L. Advocate MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM

E-mail: mbjp@mptmail.net.mm Tel: 254037 Yanoon.

G.P.O Box 666 1.2 December 2003

## UN predicts 9 billion people by 2300, many of them old

United Nations, 11 Dec The human race could have nine billion people by 2300, Japanese will live to 108, and Africa's population will explode while Europeans could become a dwindling species, the United Nations predicted on Tues-

In its first projection of how the world's population will have evolved in three centuries from now, the UN Population Division forecast an increase from the current 6.3 billion people to about nine billion, provid ing the trend toward smaller families continues

But if fertility levels in the developing world remain at today's levels, the global population would reach 244 billion in 2150 and 134 trillion in 2300, according to the report, "World Population in 2300".

"It's like the Titanic with an iceberg ahead," said Joseph Chamie, director of the population division. "You sink because the rates are so low or you simply grow too rapidly because the rates are too high. Either way you have to change course.'

Even small changes could make a huge difference, he said. The nine billion estimate is based on a two-child family but onequarter of a child more per family could boost the population in 2300 to 36.4 billion.

"It's like if you are too obese you could die,' Chamie said. "But if you are too light and you start wasting away you could die because you are underweight. It's the same with population, being too large, too small, growing too rapidly or too slowly.

MNA/Reuters

## ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## **Buddha figures carved into stone** discovered in north China

Tianjin, 11 Dec- Chinese archaeologists have discovered 446 Buddha figures, dating back to the Tang Dynasty (618-907), carved into stone on a mountain in Jixian County, Tianjin, a port city in north China.

The 446 Buddha figures were found in areas around the Qianxiang Temple (Thousand Figures Temple) which stands at the eastern foot of the Panshan Mountain, 12.5 kilometres from the seat of Jixian County.

This is the largest group of Buddha figures carved in stone that have ever been found in China, according to archaeologists with the Tianjin Municipal Cultural Heritage Protection Centre.

These Buddha figures of different sizes are carved on stones of various shapes and each piece of stone contains several figures.

The Qianxiang Temple used to be one of major temples in China held sacred by Buddhists. The temple was destroyed in the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression (1937-1945). Today, only the foundations of the temple exist.

Jin Wan Bao evening news reported that these Buddha figures date back to between the Tang and Ming (1368-1644) dynasties. Most of the statues were done by folk craftsmen, the paper quoted archaeologists as saying. Su Bai, a professor with the archaeology department of Beijing University, and other experts of archaeology with the Palace Museum and the State Administration of Cultural Heritage spoke highly of the artistic and historic value of the Buddha figures.

They said an over-two-metre-high statue of the Laughing Buddha was of high artistic value as it was cast in an extraordinary mould and has graceful lines. It would have a niche in the history of China's Buddha figure carving, they said. - MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese woman looks at her eyebrows after receiving free make-up at a hair dressing and cosmetology exhibition in Beijing on 10 Dec, 2003. China has more than 1.2 million beauty parlours, with some 10 million cosmeticians and an annual turnover of 24 billion yuan (\$2.9 billion). The beauty industry has become one of the country's fastest developing service industries. — Internet

## China gains 19 "Guinness World Records" in 2003

Beijing, 11 Dec—The world's largest afforestation project, fastest commercial maglev train and even the longest continuous motorcycle ride with the rider standing on the seat without touching the handlebars were verified by the Guinness Book of World Records in 2003 and all belong to China.

The second issuing ceremony of a Guinness World Records Certificate was held in Beijing Wednesday with the presence of Chief Executive Officer of Guinness World Records Alistair Richards and the president of its sole Chinese agent — the Liaoning Publishing Group — Yu Xaioqun.

The ceremony authenticated 19 world records altogether broken by Chinese teams or individuals in 2003.

The tree-planting project launched in China's north, northwest and northeast regions covers 4.069 million square kilometres, and is recognized as the world's largest afforestation project.

The magley train made its maiden trip September 20 in Shanghai. It took eight minutes to complete the 30 kilometres one-way journey — from Longvang Road to Pudong International Airport, making it the world's fastest commercial maglev train for sightseeing use. - MNA/Xinhua



A Red-Winged Parrot, from Papua, Indonesia, dries itself after the rain on 9 Dec, 2003, at the new bird garden at Taman Safari wildlife park, in West Java, Indonesia. The new bird sanctuary, with approximately 60 different species, officially opened today. — Internet

## South Africa loses war on skin cancer

JOHANNESBURG, 11 Dec-South Africa is losing the war on skin cancer and a lot of lives too, warned Dagmar Whitaker, Kenilworth dermatologist and executive member of the Dermatological Society of South Africa.

The scientist was quoted by local English daily The Star as saying on Wednesday, while Australia, with its similar outdoor lifestyle and serious sun risk, is improving statistics with its dedicated sun awareness campaigns, South Africa is trailing miserably with the risk here for skin cancer at an alarming one in 36.

The standard risk of developing melanomas is one in 75 in sunny countries like South Africa and Australia, but local dermatologists are warning that people are clearly ignoring the prevention campaigns.

collated by the University of perposure, but the message is Cape Town, show South Africans now have a one in 36 chance of developing a melanoma," said Whitaker.

"And we're not just talking about a sunspot here. A melanoma is the deadliest cancer around, killing more people than breast, blood or colon cancer. It's the fastest killer too, and it affects young people," said the scientist.

In Cape Town, she said, 124 new melanomas were being diagnosed every month, adding: "It's extremely frightening for us because we've all worked very hard to educate people about the dangers of sun

clearly not getting through."

She gave her best advice. It's essential to use sunscreen whenever you go outside, and that even means if you're driving because you're exposed to the sun through car windows.

Don't buy sunscreen without double-UVA and UVB-screen. UVB factor should be as high as possible - considering safe time in the sun in Cape Town is just 10 minutes, a sunscreen with an SPF20 means it multiplies by 20 the safe time, and you'll be protected for about 200 minutes.

But Whitaker said the

UVA protection rate was vital too, and should be a minimum 12 and a highest 20.

Whitaker urged sun worshippers to ignore stories about the ozone repairing itself, and about sunscreen ingredients in products with SPFs of more than 15 being more dangerous to the skin than the rays of the

All it needs, Whitaker warned, is three blistering sunburns in a particular area to irreversibly damage the genetic information of those cells, so setting the stage for possible cancer develop-

MNA/Xinhua

## Over 400,000 women suffer from obstetric fistula in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 11 Dec- Over 400,000 women are suffering from obstetric fistula in Bangladesh, which means the number of women living with fistula in the country is estimated at 1.69 per 1,000 ever-married women, reported the New Nation on Wednesday.

at the "South Asia Conference for the Prevention and Treatment of Obstetric Fistula" opened here on Tuesday, said the newspaper.

The government of Bangladesh is going to set up a modern National Obstetric Fistula Centre with the assistance from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities

The three-day meeting

The figure was released | organized by the UNFPA is | the first-ever regional conference on fistula in South Asia, and Bangladesh was chosen to be the first host country for it.

Medical experts said at the conference that the direct causes of fistula include premature child bearing or stillborn baby, limited access to obsteric care and malnutrition, while the indirect causes are poverty, women's status in the society and lack

of education which stop them from getting services to prevent or cure the disease.

They pointed out that obstetric fistula affects an estimated 50,000 to 100,000 women each year globally. Women living with fistula in Bangladesh are usually in the age group of 15 to 30 years old, as well as the group of illiterate and poor women who are not aware of the disease or cannot afford treatment.-MNA/Xinhua

#### Dengue fever spreads fast in Ho Chi Minh City

Hanoi, 11 Dec— As many as 5,278 people in Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City were infected with dengue fever in the first 11 months of this year, up 117 per cent over the same period last year.

Five patients have died

of the disease so far this year. according to local newspaper Youth on Wednesday.

Most of the patients live in immersed areas adjoining sea and rivers. Dengue fever in the city is in peak period, which will last until the end of

January 2004.

To curb the spread of the disease, the Medicine Prevention Centre of Ho Chi Minh City called for local people to use mosquito nets and intensify mosquito-killing activities. - MNA/Xinhua

#### China promotes own internet domain

Beijing, 11 Dec-Local operators have been encouraged to adopt "cn", China's national domain for domestic web sites, and so far the number of Chinese web sites using "cn" has exceeded 300,000, a spokesman for the Internet Bureau of the State Council Press Office said here. Over 80 per cent of central and local news web sites have adopted the domain. Web sites using "cn" are increasing by 10,000 every month, the official told a Press conference on the opening of www. youth.cn, the China Youth Computer Information Network.

Domestic web sites are safer using "cn", because it can be technically maintained within the country by the China Internet Information Centre, the official administrator of the mushrooming web sites opened by Chinese operators. -MNA/Xinhua

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## Real Sociedad hold off Galatasaray to advance

San Sebastian (Spain), 11 Dec — Real Sociedad clinched a place in the second phase of the Champions League with a nervy 1-1 draw at home to Galatasaray in their final Group D game on Wednesday.

Galatasaray, needing a win to pip the Spanish side to the runnersup spot behind Juventus and a place in the last 16, took the lead after 26 minutes when Hakan Sukur converted from a Berkant Goktan pass.

Sociedad, fighting to keep their debut Champions League campaign alive, surged forward and eventually claimed the equalizer six minutes after the break through Oscar de Paula.

The home side managed to keep Galatasaray at bay for the rest of the game, with only a couple of desperate punts forward in the final couple of moments hinting at a comeback from the Turks, who had to settle for a place in the UEFA Cup third round.

Sociedad went into the game still smarting from a 4-0 home defeat by Real Betis in the Primera Liga, a result that left them in the relegation places, but they were immediately back in their more assured European form against Galatasaray.

Needing just a draw to go through, Raynald Denoueix's side took control of the midfield from the start, with Xabi Alonso and Igor Gabilondo both in eye-catching form.-MNA/Reuters



Juventus' players from left, unidentified, David Trezeguet of France, Antonio Conte, and Marcelo Zalayeta from Uruguay celebrate during the first half of the Champion's League match between Juventus and Olympiakos, in Turin's Delle Alpi stadium, northern Italy, on 10 Dec, 2003. — INTERNET

#### Juve set record with 7-0 thrashing of Olympiakos

Turin (Italy), 11 Dec — Juventus set a new Champions League record with a 7-0 victory over Olympiakos on Wednesday that assured them top spot in Group D.

winning margin in Champions League history and means the Greeks finish bottom of the group and fail to qualify for the consolation spot in the UEFA Cup.

Juve had already qualified for the second phase but after three straight defeats in Serie A and Europe they showed no mercy as they ripped apart a woeful Greek defence.

After Serbian striker Predrag Djordjevic had forced a save out of Juve keeper Antonio Chimenti in the 10th minute, last season's Champions League runnersup took control.

David Trezeguet put them ahead in the 14th minute with a simple tap-in after being set up by midfielder Enzo Maresca. Five minutes later, Fabrizio Miccoli worked some space for himself inside the area and fired a low, left-foot shot past Dimitris Eleftheropoulos to make it

A straightforward coun- upright.

The result was the biggest | ter-attack provided the third with Maresca releasing Miccoli who slipped the ball into the path of Trezeguet who converted another straightforward chance.

It was 4-0 in the 28th minute with once again the Olympiakos defence being opened up with unnerving

A long ball forward from Igor Tudor found Miccoli on the left flank and his shot was parried out by Eleftheropoulos but Maresca crashed home the loose ball.

Straight after the break. Trezeguet went close to a hat-trick with a header while at the other end. Neri Castillo wasted a rare chance for Olympiakos, firing over the bar from a tight angle after he had rounded Chimenti.

But Juve were in no mood to settle for 4-0 and the outstanding Miccoli was unlucky not to have a second goal when his shot hit the far post, rolled across the line and came out off the other

Trezeguet was injured in his attempt to convert the rebound but the arrival of Marco Di Vaio in his place merely meant more trouble for the hapless Greek de-

The Italy international made it 5-0 with a first-time strike in the 62nd minute and then he set up fellow substitute Alessandro del Piero to make it six from 10 metres out just moments after replacing Miccoli.

The only striker who had not found the target was Uruguayan Marcelo Zalayeta and he put that right with a firm header from a Maresca corner in the 79th minute.

To add just an extra touch of bitterness to the humiliation for the Olympiakos, their striker Castillo had an effort disallowed for offside in the

The result also equals Juve's record win in the European Cup, matching their 7-0 victory over Valur Reykjavik during the 1986/87 season. — MNA/Reuters



Real Sociedad's Xabi Alonso, left, is fouled by Galatasaray's Hasan Sas while Mikel Aranburu of Real Sociedad looks on during their UEFA Champions League soccer match, Group D, in San Sebastian, Spain, on 10 Dec, 2003. — INTERNET

#### Arsenal beat Lokomotiv but both teams qualify

LONDON, 11 Dec - Arsenal completed their Champions League resurrection on Wednesday with a 2-0 victory over 10-man Lokomotiv Moscow at Highbury that meant both teams qualified for the knockout phase from Group B.

Arsenal win the group, an outcome that seemed implausible after the English side took only one point from their first three games. But after wins over Dynamo Kiev and Inter Milan, goals in each half by Robert Pires and Freddie Ljungberg on Wednesday earned Arsenal the victory that sealed their place in the last 16.

Lokomotiv, who had defender Jacob Lekgetho sent off just before halftime, were never in the match but Inter Milan's 1-1 draw at Dynamo Kiev, who scored a late equalizxer, meant they fin-

### Unconvincing Bayern edge into last 16

Munich, 11 Dec-Bayern Munich edged into the Champions League knockout stages by beating Anderlecht 1-0 in a tense Group A encounter at the Olympic Stadium on Wednesday. But the German champions may face one of the competition's heavyweights in the next phase after finishing second in the group on nine points. French side Olympique Lyon defeated Scotland's Celtic 3-2 to top the standings.

Bayern had a number of chances in the first half before Dutch striker Roy Makaay gave the 2001 winners the lead on 42 minutes, driving home a penalty after Anderlecht defender Michal Zewlakow had brought down Claudio Pizarro.

Anderlecht enjoyed sustained periods of pressure on the Bayern goal in the secondhalf, pacy forward Aruna Dindane twice coming close to scoring in the 70th minute. MNA/Reuters

ished second, with Interforced to settle for a UEFA Cup place.

Arsene Wenger's team ended with 10 points, two more than Lokomotiv who pipped Inter, who also had eight points, on head-to-head record. Kiev finished bottom with seven points.

Needing a victory to be sure of qualifying, Arsenal went for the Russians' throats straight from the kick off and needed only 12 minutes to pierce Lokomotiv's massed defence.

Thierry Henry, who was key to their stunning 5-1 win at Inter Milan last month, was again the instigator, showing great pace to win the ball and then play a perfect square pass into the penalty area for the onrushing Pires to thrash his shot into the Lokomotiv net at the near

Henry, favourite for FIFA's world player of the year award to be decided next

week almost made it 2-0 after 29 minutes but his curling shot after another slick build-up shaved the wrong side of the post.

Lokomotiv's hopes of retrieving the match were then dealt a terminal blow when South African left back Lekgetho was sent off for a second bookable foul on Ljungberg on the stroke of halftime.

The Russians brought on Costa Rican striker Winston Parks for the second half and he at least forced a saved from otherwise redundant Arsenal keeper Jens Lehmann.

But Arsenal continued to carry the bigger threat and Ljungberg made it 2-0 midway through the second half. Skipper Patrick Vieira linked with Henry who hooked the ball into the Swede's path and he lifted it over Lokomotiv keeper Sergei Ovchinnikov.

MNA/Reuters



Arsenal's Thierry Henry (top) is tackled by Lokomotiv Moscow's Vadim Yevseyev during their Champions League Group B soccer match in London, on 10 Dec. 2003 Arsenal won 2-0 — INTERNET

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Bamboo Shoot Fry) National News Maungmagan, The Seaside village

dron Blooms

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National News
Excursion in Yangon
River
Myanmar Cuisine
"Traditional Moun
bine daunt"
National News
Kongtayung waterfuls

seum
National News

Myanmar

13-12-2003 (Saturday)

-12-2003 (Saturday rning Transmission (03:30 - 07:30) Signature Tune Greetings Song of Myanmar

Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Pano-rama & Myanma Sen-

timent? The Beauty of Zwe-gabin and Livelihood of Kayin National Headline News Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Chicken with

gourd curry bachelor

National News
The Reh Lake (The
Greatest attraction in
Chin State)

National Dance "Vrai Naga Harvest Dance National News

Lifestyles along the Ayeyawady (Manda-lay to Pyay) (Part-IV) Song "Mesmerize your longing wish"

Myanma Ramayana

longing wish" National News

Naga Traditional Handicrafts Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See

23:55

00:10

00:12

00:15

00:25

00:30

00:40

00:50 00:55

01:00

01:10

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01:15

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03:30

03:32

03:36

**03:40** 03:42

**03:45** 03:50

03:55

04:00

04:05

04:10



#### 12-12-2003 (Friday) (Programme Schedule) Morning Transmission (9:00 - 10:00)

Signature Tune
Greetings
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-9:00 9:02 rama & Myanma Sen-

9.06 Myanma Artistic Myanma Artistic
Works at Shwedagon
Pagoda Archways
Headline News
Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes (Prawn and
Bamboo Shoot Fry)
National News

9:15 National News
Maungmagan, The
Seaside village
Performance of King
Brahminy Bird Dance
National News
Illustrious handiwork
in Kveethe 9:25

in Kyeethe Song "With a weak Song "With a weak point" Where the Rhododen-9:40 9.42

Where the Rhododen-dron Blooms
National News
Kan-Peik Ti Border
Town in Kachin State
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights

9:58 Sights "Come and See Myanmar

#### 12-12-2003 (Friday) Regular Programmes for Viewers from Abroad Evening Transmission (15:30 - 17:30)

15:30 15:32

15:36

(15:30 - 17:30)
Signature Tune
Greetings
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
Myanma Artistic
Works at Shwedagon
Pagoda Archways
Headline News
Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes (Prawn and
Bamboo Shoot Fry)
National News
Maungmagan, The
Seaside village
Performance of King

Performance of King Brahminy Bird Dance National News 15:55 16:00

16:00 National News
16:05 Illustrious handiwork
in Kyeethe
16:10 Song "With a weak
point"
16:12 Where the Rhododendron Blooms
16:15 National News

Mvanmar

Friday, December 12

View today:

1.Recitation of Parittas by

Oaktamathara

2. တီပိဋကရေ မွေဘဏ္ဍာဂါရီက

ဘိုဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်)

ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော

3. To be healthy exercise

5. Nice and sweet song

ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

4. Morning news

**အဂ္ဂမဟာပတ္ထိ**တ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္က သိရိန္နာ

Missionary Savadaw U

7:00 am

7:15 am

7:25 am

7:30 am

7:40 am

7:55 am

6. ရုပ်သေးပြိုင်ပွဲ

Kan-Peik Ti Border Town in Kachin State Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Pano-rama & Myanma Sen-timent" 16:25

timent"
National News
Excursion in Yangon
River
Myanmar Cuisine 16:40

Traditional Moun bine daunt 16:45 National News National News
Kengtawng waterfalls
Long Drum Folk Song
and Dance
National News
Myanmar Traditional 16:55

Snacks Song "Fetch me in a horse-cart" Kambawza Thardi Mu-17:10 17:12

seum
National News
Naga Traditional
Handicrafts
Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar'

Evening Transmission (19:30 - 23:30) :30 Signature Tune Greetings :32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Pano-19:32 rama & Myanma Sen-

The Beauty of Zwe-gabin and Livelihood of Kayin National Headline News

Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Chicken with gourd curry bachelor

National News
The Reh Lake (The
Greatest attraction in Chin State) Vram Naga Harvest 19:55 National News 20:00

Lifestyles along the Ayeyawady (Manda-lay to Pyay) (Part-IV) Song "Mesmerize your longing wish"
National News
Myanma Ramayana

Myanna Ramayana
"Seeta Rejecting
Dasagiri's courtship"
(Part-XIII)
Song "Welcome to
Treasure Land"
National News
Nan-Thae Model Planterior (Jalus Islas) 20:25

tation (Inlay lake) Myanmar Cuisine 20:40

"Fish Soup"
National News
Myeik, a Town in the
Southern part of 20:45 Myanmar

Culture Stage "Taking Shelter at Mandalay 20:55

7. The Mirror Images of the

Musical Oldies 8:15 am

8. ဘော်ဘင်ရေလှောင်တမံ 8:30 am 9. International news

8:05 am

10. English for Everyday Use 3:45 pm

1. (၂၂)ကြိမ်မြောက်အရှေတောင်အာရှ အာကစားပြိုင်ပွဲဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲ (အမျိုးသား) တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှု အဓိအစဉ်(တတိယနေရာလုပ္ပဲ) (မြန်မာနှင့်မလေးရှား)

5:45 pm

2. Song to Uphold National Spirit

6:00 pm

3. နည်းစနစ်မှန်မှန်အားကစားအခြေခံ 6:10 pm

4 Girls' Education (UNICEF)

6:20 pm

5. မြန်မာ-ဂူပန်ချစ်ကြည်ရေးအဓိအစဉ် ဂျပန်လူနေမှုဘဝအစီအစဉ်များ

(ဂျပနီရိုးရာဟင်းလျှာများ)(အဝိုင်း–၂) 6:30 pm

Hill"
National News
Usefulness of the
whole Toddy Palm
Myanmar Modern
Song "Golden Myanmar Golden Welcome"
National News
Myanmar's Ancient
City Bagan
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights

Beauty & Scenic Sights

"Mingalabar"
Myanma Artistic
Works at Shwedagon
Pagoda Archways
Headline News
Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes (Prawn and
Bamboo Shoot Fry)
National News
Mauremann The

National News
Maungmagan, The
Seaside village
Performance of King
Brahminy Bird Dance
National News
Illustrious handiwork
in Kveethe

Song "With a weak point" Where the Rhododen-

Where the Rhododen-dron Blooms
National News
Kan-Peik Ti Town in
Kachin State
Song "Have Sweet
Droppe"

National News
Excursion in Yangon

Myanmar Cuisine
"Traditional Moun

National News
Kengtawng waterfalls
Long Drum Folk Song

Myanmar Modern Song "Fetch me in a

horse-cart" Kambawza Thardi Mu-

National News
Naga Traditional
Handicrafts
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See

bine daunt"
National News

National News Myanmar Traditional Snacks

seum
National News

Myanmar

and Dance

in Kyeethe

River

'Mingalabar'

**21:00** 21:05

21:10

21:30

21:40 21:42

21:45 21:50

21:55

22:10

22:12

22:25

22:40

22:50 22:55

**23:00** 23:05

23:12

23:15

23:25

23:30

23:32

23:36

6. Evening news

7:00 pm 7. Weather report

7:05 pm 8. Milo success in soccer 7:10 pm

9. Musical programme 7:25 pm

10. ရှမ်းပြည်နယ်တောင်ပိုင်းလင်းခေး

7:35 pm 11. Song of Yesteryear

8:00 pm

12 News 13. International news

14. Weather report 15. Myanmar Video Feature;

''နိုးသွားမှာစိုး" (အပိုင်း–၁) (လူမင်း၊အိန္ဒြာကျော်စင်) (ဒါရိုက်**တာ – သီဟတင်**သန်း)

16. The next day's programme

Myanmar

12-12-2003 (Friday) &
13-12-2003 (Saturday)
Evening & Morning
Transmission
(23:30 - 1:30)
:30 Signature Tune
Greetings
:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
:36 Myanma Artistic
Works at Shwedagon
Pagoda Archways
:40 Headline News
:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes (Prawn and 'Seeta Rejecting 

8.30 am

#### Myanmar Friday, December 12

#### Tune in today: Brief news

8.35 am Music 8.40 am Perspectives 8.45 am Music National news/ 8.50am Slogan 9.00 am Music 9.05 am International news 9.10 am Music News/Slogan 1.30 pm 1.40 pm Lunch Time Music - Silver bells (Elvis Presley) -Love change: (Clime Fisher)

Independence day 9.00 pm talk · Promotion of national education

Article/Music 9.15 pm 9.25 pm Music at your Request

Merry X'mas darling (The carpenters) -Jingle bells (Boney M)

News/Slogan 9.45 pm 10.00 pm PEL

Dasagiri's courtship"
(Part-XIII)
Song "Welcome to
Treasure Land"
National News Brahminy Bird Dance"
National News Illustrious handiwork 06:05 seaside village Performance of King Brahminy Bird Dance" National News Illustrious handiwork in Kyeethe 04:30 Nan-Thae Model Plan-tation (Inlay Lake) Myanmar Cuisine 04:35 06:12 in Kyeethe
Song "With a weak
point"
Where the Rhododen-"Fish Soup"
National News
Myeik, a Town in the
Southern part of
Myanmar
"Taking Hill Shalter of 06:15 06:20 06:25 dron Blooms
National News
Kan-Peik Ti Border
Town in Kachin State
Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment" "Taking Hill Shelter at Mandalay" National News 06:30 05:00 National News
Usefulness of the
whole Toddy Palm
Myanmar Modern
Song "Golden Myanmar Golden Welcome"
National News 06:45 05:15 Myanmar's Ancient City Bagan Song of Myanmar 06:55 05:30 07:00 Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar" 05:35 07:10 Kengtawng waterfalls Long Drum Folk Song Long Drum Folk Song and Dance National News Myanmar Traditional Snacks Song "Fetch me in a horse-cart" Kambawza Thardi Mu-07:12



100 - 10 00 by N 100 - 11 12 100 LOW ватренечна 839 AM <u>.O.</u> 9 ARRA 9888 & Thomas (N) Bear 6 5

#### WEATHER

#### Thursday, 11 December, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was (1.02) inches in Kawthong. Night temperatures were 6°C above normal in Kachin State, 3°C above normal in Chin and Rakhine States, 5°C below normal in Scaping Division, 3°C to 4°C below normal in Scaping Division Scaping Divisi mal in Sagaing Division, 3°C to 4°C below normal in northern Shan State, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas.

in the remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 10-12-2003 was 35.0°C (95°F). Minimum temperature on 11-12-2003 was 17.5°C (64°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 11-12-2003 was 68%. Total sunshine hours on 10-12-2003 was (8.5) hours approx. Rainfall sunshine hours on 10-12-2003 was (8.5) hours approx. Rainfall on 11-12-2003 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 14 mph from North at (09:20) hours MST on 10-12-2003.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 12-12-2003: Likelihood of isolated rain in Kachin State, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions and gengrally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Outlook for subsequent two days: Slight increase of

waters. Outlook for subsequent two days: Slight increase of night temperatures in lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 12-12-2003: Partly cloudy. Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 12-12-2003: Fair weather.

Untimely Rainfall Warning
(Issued at 10.30 am on 11th December, 2003)
According to the observations at (09:30)hrs MST today, isolated to scattered rain are likely in Rakhine State, Mon State, Taninthayi, Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions within the next (72)hours commencing this morning.

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### Commander inspects regional development tasks on bank of Hline River in Kyimyindine

YANGON, 11 Dec-Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and departmental officials, this morning, inspected regional development tasks in wards on the other bank of Hline River in Kyimyindine Township.

At 2 pm, the commander and party arrived at Setsan Ward where they attended the opening ceremony of the library. Chairman of Yangon West District Peace and DeMaung Maung Shein and Chairman of Kyimyindine Township Peace and Development Council U Tin Win formally opened the library.

The commander and party inspected the library and fulfilled to the require-

They then went to Aungmingala Monastery in Setsan Ward and paid homage to Sayadaw Visada and donated provisions. Next, the commander supplicated on arrangements to be made for providing assistance to the wards in Kyimyindine Township on the bank of Hline

velopment Council Lt-Col | River for ensuring gradual development of tasks.

At No 7 Post-Primary School in Setsan Ward, a ceremony to donate materials for regional development was held. Local authorities reported on education, health and transport sectors and supply of drinking water for the wards and future tasks.

Speaking on the occasion, the commander gave instructions on arrangements for fulfilling requirements of the wards in Kyimyindine Township on the other bank of Hline River. construction of school buildings, concrete

(See page 9)

#### **SEA Games gold medalists**



Phone Myint Teza.- MNA



Khin Mar Oo.-



Khine Khine Maw.-



Khin Maung Myint.- MNA





Yan Paing .- MNA



Naw Ahle Lashe -

#### Myanmar women win silver in soccer

Yangon, 11 Dec-Myanmar women's soccer team won silver in XXII SEA Games today.

They lost 2-1 to host

Vietnam in the final. Vietnamese got the first goal in the second half. Forward My Nilar Htwe of Myanmar equalized with her fine header. The host team concentrated on long passes while Myanmar's strategy was based on dribblings and short passes. Myanmar women advanced to final after beating Malaysia 8-0. They also beat Thailand 4-2 and Singapore 3-0 in the

#### Vehicle and ship owners associations meet in Kachin State

group matches .- NLM

YANGON, 11 Dec — A coordination meeting between vehicle owners association and ship owners association in Kachin State was held at the hall of Kachin State Peace and Development Council in Myitkyina on 8 December afternoon.

It was attended by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, departmental officials, authorities of Myitkyina, Mogaung, Mohnyin and Waingmaw townships, officials of the associations in Myitkyina, Mogaung, Mohnyin, Bhamo, Shwegu, Tanai and Phakant townships and guests.

The commander gave a speech. Then, Head of Kachin State Transport Planning Department U Khin Maung Myint reported on running of vehicles and ships in the state. Next, the commander gave necessary instructions and attended to their needs .- MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe meets with officials and local people in Setsan Ward, Kyimyindine Township.— MNA

#### **A&I Minister attends opening of paper-reading sessions of MAAFLF**

YANGON, 11 Dec— The opening of the paper reading sessions of the Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forest, Livestock and Fisheries took place at the meeting hall of Myanma Farm Enterprise (Head Office) on Pyay Road, here, yesterday, with an address by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein,

Deputy Minister for Forestry | ter Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin made | Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint, Chairman of the Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forest, Livestock and Fisheries U Tin Hlaing, Vice-Chairmen Dr Myint Thein, Dr Nyan Tun and Dr Maung Maung Sa, members directors-general and managing directors from the ministries, officials, researchers and resource persons and distinguished guests.

On the occasion, Minis

an opening address

He said he was delighted to see the scholars of agriculture, meat and fish and forestry sectors holding meeting to present papers and discuss them.

It was an effort to implement the State's objectives with their own knowledge and skills, he elaborated.

Nowadays, it is known to all that the government is making efforts for the country to keep abreast of others. Emphasis is placed upon development of national economy with momentum to

uplift the living standard of | the people. In so doing, utilizing of abundant natural resources with far-sightedness plays a vital role. Intellectuals and intelligentsia are essential for the State's interests, he added.

As the world is changing rapidly with the advancement of technology, a developing country like Myanmar is to make all-out efforts in all sectors to be able to keep pace with the international development and to successfully implement the State's objectives.

The importance of being

skillful and acquiring of modern and advanced technologies should not be neglected.

So, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe had different academies formed with outstanding and experienced scholars and guided them for the development of the country. So, the MAAFLF became an important academy for the development of State's economy. The State exhibited its reliance on the scholars by forming the MAAFLF to utilize their priceless knowledge (See page 9)



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin addresses opening of 2003 paper-reading session of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forest, Livestock and Fisheries .-

#### INSIDE

**Perspectives** Strive for emergence of reliable industrial zones

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Pindaya, first prize winning township for outstanding performance in tea cultivation Page 10

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