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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt sends message of condolences to the Philippines

YANGON, 15 Dec — General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of condolences to Her Excellency Mrs Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines on the demise of Mr Blas F Ople, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines. — MNA

Might of intellectuals and intelligentsia plays major role in enabling the nation to keep abreast with international community Prime Minister attends ceremony to honour those holding doctorate degree

YANGON, 15 Dec—A ceremony to honour those holding doctorate degree at the universities under the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Science and Technology was held at the Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road here at 11 am today with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, members of Myanmar Education Committee, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office, heads of department, rectors, professors, faculty members, graduates holding doctorate degree, guests and others.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of MEC

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the government is now making efforts for enabling the nation to keep abreast with international community. In the process, the might of intellectuals and intelligentsia in the nation plays a major role. With this concept, systematic steps are being taken for producing intellectuals and intelligentsia who are outstanding and highly qualified.

At such a time, constant production of those holding doctorate degree by the respective universities amounts to an increase of the national forces capable of developing the nation. Therefore, it is an honour for the State.

At a time when relentless efforts are being made for the national development based on own national forces the combination of natural resources and highly qualified human resources is of paramount importance. Especially, at a time when development of science and technology is overwhelming other sectors of the world it is incumbent upon the na-

tional people to safeguard Myanmar which is a developing one from falling under the influence of others. At such a time, absolutely imperative is to firmly build the national immunity.

Therefore, the government is making strenuous efforts to possess strong national wealth, strong science and technology might and for development of the national forces, human resources of high nationalism.

In the education sector, the national education promotion programmes at different levels have been laid down and are being implemented for harmonious development of education goals—development of higher education in the nation, uplift of education standard of the entire national people, development of region-wise human resources and development of highly qualified human resources of international level. Thus, progress has been made in the education sector.

To be able to produce highly qualified human resources and to ensure devel-

Safeguard the Union for its perpetuity

Thanks to the unity and farsightedness of our forefathers, our country has existed as a united and consolidated Union and not as separate small nations for thousands of years. We have to accept this historical heritage and further consolidate national solidarity and safeguard the Union for its perpetuity.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From guidance given to trainees of the Primary Teachership Course No 34 of University for Development of National Races on 29-1-2002.)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivers an address at the ceremony to honour these holding doctorate degree.
MNA

opment of higher education, universities and colleges were opened the length and breadth of the nation with extension of major subjects. As a result, there are now 154 universities and colleges in total in the nation.

In accord with the future education goal—emergence of the constant learning Myanmar society—teaching and learning aids are being facilitated at the universities and colleges.

At the same time, the learning centres, the resource

centres and computer networks have been installed at the universities and colleges to create equal opportunities of teaching and learning across the nation. In addition, the Information and Communication Technology Park-ICT Park, the prerequisite for teaching and learning of higher education were set up in Yangon and Mandalay, helping the information and communication network cover the whole nation, he noted.

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Dignitaries attending the ceremony to honour these holding doctorate degree.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 16 December, 2003

Let's strive for national development and perpetual existence of the Union

The Union of Myanmar is a nation with a long history and a high cultural standard. As peace and stability is now prevailing all over the Union, national development tasks are being implemented with increased momentum. Therefore, it is necessary for the entire national people to maintain peace and stability and keep up their efforts for national economic development.

The perpetual existence of the Union is necessary for the bright future of the State and the national people. Therefore, it is the duty of the Union-born nationals to unitedly safeguard their homeland.

The future of a nation is based on its past history and a nation will be able to exist perpetually only if it is built on its national values. Myanmar nationals have a tradition of unitedly fighting against the invaders of their motherland and safeguarding their national independence and sovereignty, sacrificing their life, blood and sweat.

Therefore, the government, taking lessons from history, has given top priority to consolidating national unity and putting national development tasks on the fast track so that the future of the State will be brighter.

Now is the time when we are building our own nation through national unity and relying on ourselves. All the necessary measures are being taken on all fronts for parallel development of all the regions across the Union. Roads and bridges, irrigation and communication facilities are being constructed in the interests of the entire national people. The government has to overcome all the limitations in capital, equipment and time through various ways and means.

At such a time like this, our nation should be built with our own national strength so that it will emerge in accordance with our national objectives. Moreover, it is also necessary to hone the skills and qualifications of human resources that play a pivotal role in building the nation.

As the government is constantly striving for peace and development of the Union, the entire national people, on their part, should also put their energies into their respective regional development tasks. And we would like to urge them to try their hardest to safeguard the Union so that it will last for ever.

Gardening Course ends

YANGON, 15 Dec — Gardening Course No 2/2003 conducted by the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs concluded on 12 Dec-

ember at the training hall in Dagon Myothit Township (North). The 10-week course was attended by 27 trainees under the ministry. Director-General of the DAD Col Myo Myint made an concluding speech. — MNA

Yangon Command reaches final

YANGON, 15 Dec — The semi-final match of the 42nd Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) soccer tournament took place this afternoon at the sports ground of the Thuwunna Youth Training centre here.

In the match, the Yangon Command Team beat the South-West Command Team 3-0 and entered the final. In the second semi-final match, the Southern Command Team will play against the Tatmadaw (Air) Team the next day.

MNA

Donate blood



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt views the dissertations submitted by doctorate students and cordially greets them at Diamond Jubilee Hall. — MNA

Cycling coaching course opened

YANGON, 15 Dec — Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee and Minister for Sports, attended the opening ceremony of

'Cycling coaching course level-1', jointly conducted by the International Olympic Committee and the MOC, at the National Football Training Camp (Thuwunna) this

morning.

After the minister had spoken on the occasion, Mr Clenn Wilson, course instructor of the International Cycling Federation, extended

greetings. A total of 28 trainees from ministries in states and divisions are attending the course, which continues till 19 December.

MNA



Korean ambassador Mr Lee Kyung-Woo makes an address at the Myanmar-Korean businessmen meeting. — MNA

Myanmar, Korean businessmen meet

YANGON, 15 Dec — Under the supervision of the Commercial Division of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea and the Korea Int'l Trade Association (KITA), Myanmar and Korean busi-

nessmen met today at the Traders Hotel here.

At the meeting, the two sides cordially discussed matters on trading of leather, vehicles, batteries, petrol and chemicals, health aids, con-

struction materials and domestic products.

Vice Chairman of KITA Mr Suk Young Lee extended greetings at the meeting. Next, President of the Union of Myanmar Fed-

eration of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and Korean Ambassador Mr Lee Kyung Woo addressed the meeting.

MNA

Mines Minister receives Chinese guests

YANGON, 15 Dec — Mr Chen Jian, Assistant Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China, and party called on Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Mines, at his office at 3.30 pm today.

Also present at the call were officials of the Ministry of Mines. — MNA



Under Secretary Dr Hj Ismail Bin Hj Ahmad of Policy Division of Malaysian army and party visit Defence Services Museum. — MNA

Malaysian Armed Forces delegation visits Yangon

YANGON, 15 Dec — Visiting delegation of Malaysian Armed Forces led by Under-Secretary Dr Hj Ismail Bin Hj Ahmad of Policy Division headed to Naval Training Command Headquarters in Thanlyin this morning, and they were welcomed by Commander of Naval Training Command Headquarters Commodore Maw Thein, Captain Naval Staff

(Navy) Nyan Tun and officials.

First, at the reception hall, Captain Naval Staff (Navy) Nyan Tun explained about the history of Naval Training Command Headquarters with audio visual aids. Next, Commodore Maw Thein and delegation of Malaysian Armed Forces exchanged souvenirs and Under-Secretary Dr Hj Ismail Bin Hj Ahmad of Policy

Division signed in the visitors' book and posed for a documentary photo.

After the delegation of Malaysian Armed Forces had viewed lectures in training halls, they proceeded to Defence Services Museum on Shwe Dagon Pagoda Road where they were conducted round by Major Kyaw Kyaw Myint of the DSM.

Afterwards, they pro-

ceeded to National Museum on Pyay Road where they were explained about the salient points of booths displayed at the museum by officials and leader of the delegation signed in the visitors' book.

After that, they visited Shwe Dagon Pagoda where they were briefed on the history of the pagoda by officials of pagoda board of trustees.

MNA

Saddam tells interrogators "no WMD"

WASHINGTON, 15 Dec — Saddam Hussein denied during the initial interrogation after his capture that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction, *Time* magazine reported on Sunday.

Citing a US intelligence official in Iraq, the report said that when asked if his government had such weapons Saddam replied: "No, of course not. The US dreamed them up itself to have a reason to go to war with us."

The news magazine reported that the official, who

read a transcript of the interrogation of the former Iraqi president, said the interrogator asked: "If you had no weapons of mass destruction, then why not let the UN inspectors into your facilities?"

Saddam's reply: "We didn't want them to go into

the presidential areas and intrude on our privacy."

The US intelligence official, who was not identified, told the magazine that Saddam had not been very cooperative and did not answer any of the initial questions directly.

MNA/Reuters

US general sees more attacks despite Saddam capture

BAGHDAD, 15 Dec — The capture of former president Saddam Hussein will not end attacks against US-led forces in Iraq, the top US general in Iraq said on Sunday.

"We do not expect at this point in time that we will have a complete elimination of those attacks," Lieutenant-General Ricardo Sanchez told a news conference in Baghdad.

Asked if he expected attacks to avenge Saddam's arrest, Sanchez said: "Do I expect an increase in retaliation? I don't know, but we're prepared."

US officials blame Saddam supporters and Muslim militants for guerilla attacks that have killed 197 American soldiers since President George W Bush declared an end to major combat in Iraq on May 1. — MNA/Reuters

Car bomb kills 17, wounds 33 in western Iraq

RAMADI, 15 Dec — An explosion at a police station in western Iraq killed 15 policemen and two civilians, including a seven-year-old girl, and wounded 33 more people, a police lieutenant said.

Witnesses said the explosion was caused by a car bomb, but there was no immediate official confirmation.

Fifteen policemen and a civilian died along with the girl, the lieutenant at the hospital in this western city where the casualties were taken told AFP. The officer refused to be named. Hospital director Qusay Abdullah said the hospital

had so far received 16 bodies including that of a seven-year-old girl. Among 33 wounded, five were in a serious condition, he added.

The casualties were rushed from Khaldiyyah police station to the nearby Ramadi general hospital, 100 kilometres (60 miles) from Baghdad.

Internet

Vietnam strives to boost export

HANOI, 15 Dec — Vietnam has worked out concrete measures, focusing on market forecast, promotion of trade and trademark, to boost its export in 2004.

Specifically, it will put into operation three showrooms in Russia, Dubai of the United Arab Emirates and the United States, and build three new centres for exhibition and fair in capital city Hanoi, central city of Da Nang and southern Dong Nai Province next year.

The Trade Ministry will also intensify trade promotion activities in Vietnam's major export markets such as the United States, Japan, the European Union, China, and Association of the South-East Asian Nations. Notably 32 million US dollars will be spent on assisting local exporters to expand outlets and build their trademarks under a national key programme on trade promotion. — MNA/Xinhua

A US soldier argues with an Iraqi boy while securing the area after a suspicious package was found in Baghdad, on 13 Dec, 2003.

INTERNET



Turkey catches Istanbul bombmaker

ISTANBUL, 15 Dec — Turkish police have arrested a man they believe built the four car bombs that killed dozens in Istanbul last month, newspapers reported on Sunday.

The mass-circulation *Hurriyet* newspaper said the man had been arrested while trying to cross from Turkey into Iran using a false passport.

MNA/Reuters

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US troops injured in Kuwait attack

BAGHDAD, 15 Dec — Four US soldiers have received "minor injuries from broken glass" in two attacks with small arms fire against US convoys in Kuwait.

The soldiers "suffered slight injuries in a terrorist attack against two military convoys," the official KUNA news agency said earlier on Sunday, quoting Kuwait Television.

Kuwait served as a launchpad for last March's US-led invasion of Iraq which led to the ouster of Iraqi president Saddam Hussein, whose capture after eight months on the run was announced by US forces earlier Sunday. — Internet



An Iraqi man shouts anti-American slogans while two US soldiers push him back after a car bomb ripped through a police station in Khaldiyyah, 60 km (35 miles) west of Baghdad on 14 December, 2003. At least 17 people died in the latest attack on the force central to Washington's plans to hand over power in Iraq. — INTERNET

S Korea testing for suspected cases of bird flu

SEOUL, 15 Dec — South Korean veterinary experts are carrying out tests on chickens at a farm near the capital Seoul for suspected cases of a highly contagious type of bird flu, which can in the case of certain strains be deadly to humans.

The results of final tests would be released next week and, if confirmed, it would be the first cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza in South Korea, the Agriculture Ministry said in a statement on Friday.

"The National Veterinary Research & Quarantine Service test showed suspected cases of avian influenza in chickens," the statement said.

"According to the quarantine experts, it is highly possible for this case to be highly pathogenic influenza," it added.

As a precautionary measure, Korean authorities had destroyed all the remaining 5,000 chickens at the affected farm, which is about 50 miles southeast of Seoul, the statement said. Between December 5 and 11 some 19,000 chickens had died out of a total of 24,000, it added.

In rare instances, strains of highly pathogenic avian

influenza can be lethal to humans. Bird flu killed six people in Hong Kong in 1997, and another man this year.

"It is too early to say it is HP avian influenza but, if it is, it would be Korea's first case," an official at the ministry told *Reuters* by telephone.

South Korea's poultry industry has 100 million chickens mainly for local consumption with little in the way of exports, official data showed.

Since 1996, South Korea has only recorded cases of low pathogenic avian influenza. The ministry said it would monitor neighbouring farms within a six-mile zone around the affected farm.

Earlier this year, the Netherlands, the world's fourth-largest poultry exporter, slaughtered around 26 million birds at some 250 farms to contain an outbreak of avian influenza that was first discovered in February. — MNA/Reuters

US expects Iraq resistance to continue

BAGHDAD, 15 Dec — The commander of US forces in Iraq said on Sunday he believed the resistance against the American occupation would continue despite the capture of former leader Saddam Hussein.

US officials have said they believed Saddam's capture would be crucial to pacifying the country, which has been in a state of guerilla war in the eight months since President Bush declared major combat over on 1 May.

But Lt Gen Ricardo Sanchez, the commander of US forces in Iraq, cautioned against expecting the resistance — which many said found its direction and inspiration in Saddam's continued freedom — would end quickly.

"We do not expect at this point in time that we will have a complete elimination of those attacks," Sanchez said at a Baghdad news conference where Saddam's capture was announced by L Paul Bremer, the top US civilian leader in Iraq.

Internet

4,000 Iraqi refugees leave Saudi Arabia for home

RIYADH, 15 Dec—Some 4,000 Iraqi refugees in 12 convoys have left the Saudi refugee camp of Rafha for home, an official of the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) said.

The repatriation took place under coordination between the UNHCR and Saudi and Kuwaiti authorities, said Ambassador Mostafa Omar, the UNHCR regional representative to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

He explained that the latest batch of refugees would return to their home on Monday, which is part of a volunteer programme whereby the refugees willingly registered themselves with the UN refugees watchdog to take the responsibility of their repatriation.

Omar pointed out that Saudi Arabia had fully cooperated with the UNHCR in carrying out the programme after hosting the refugees for 12 years.

The UNHCR is coordinating with the civil administration in Iraq to return another group of refugees to the Arab country. Some 1,200 Iraqi refugees are still in the Rafha refugee camp. According to the repatriation programme, they would be returned to Iraq in batches up to the end of January next year.—MNA/Xinhua



A Japanese boy holds a placard reading 'No to sending Japanese troops to Iraq' in Tokyo during a protest against the Japanese government's decision to send its troops to Iraq on 14 December, 2003. According to the organizers, some 5,000 people took to the streets of central Tokyo on Sunday, saying that the dispatch would violate the nation's pacifist constitution.—INTERNET

Britain says more "spectacular" attacks in Iraq inevitable

LONDON, 15 Dec—Britain's envoy to Iraq warned on Friday further massive suicide attacks were inevitable and recommended NATO take a peacekeeping role there in 2004.

In a talk at a London think-tank, Jeremy Greenstock also called for a lead role for the United Nations — sidelined during the US-led and British-backed war — in elections to a sovereign Iraqi government scheduled for 2005.

The British official said 2004 would continue to be "quite difficult" in terms of the political management of the country, lack of unity among Iraqis, and anti-occupation violence.

"The incidents are going to continue. Some of them will be large and, I am afraid, spectacular," he said in reference to this year's string of car bombs and attacks on occupying forces.

"I have not got a message of comfort in those terms for the British public," Greenstock added.

"We will... see a good deal of continuing violence."

Greenstock said his personal view was that the US-European NATO military alliance should step in to dilute some of the political pressure on Washington.

"I will probably be killed by the MoD (British Defence Ministry) for saying so, but I do actually think it's quite a good idea because I think it will be a sign of the kind of multilateral performance that the Iraqis want to see," he said.

MNA/Reuters

Fear rides the highway in Ohio shootings

COLUMBUS (Ohio), 15 Dec—Interstate 270 circling Ohio's capital city is a routine strand of highway; but driving one stretch of it has become for some a trip through a shooting gallery.

"I've seen them (drivers) slumped way down in their seats to keep from being shot at the wheel and seen them driving 90 miles an hour to get through the area as fast as possible," said Richard Harris, a tire salesman whose shop is just north of the highway.

Harris was headed to work on the road-way November 25 when a bullet took the life of a 62-year-old woman riding in the front passenger seat of a car minutes before he passed the scene.

"I was just coming to work about 10 in the morning from my home... that car with the woman in it had stopped alongside the highway and police were just getting there.

It's terrible. (She) wasn't doing nothing, but driving down the road."

Gail Knisley is the only known fatality in the shooting spree concentrated on or near an eight-mile stretch of the road. Police are investigating 15 shootings mostly targeting vehicles, the earliest last May but most of them in the past two months.

Investigators say they believe the 15 are somehow linked, though the only hard evidence they have is that six of the bullets came from the same gun. Those six included the fatality, a shot taken at a car in a dealer's lot, one shot at a school, one at a house and two others at vehicles.

MNA/Reuters

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Bomb kills US soldier in Iraq

BAGHDAD 15 Dec—A US soldier was killed on Sunday when an explosive device he was trying to disarm blew up, the US military said in a statement.

"The soldier, a trained explosive ordnance disposal specialist, approached the improvised explosive device to disarm it when the device exploded," the statement said.

US-led occupation forces, facing almost daily attacks, scored a major coup Saturday with the capture of ousted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.—Internet

Row over Iraqi contracts clouds EU summit

BRUSSELS, 15 Dec—A row over a US decision to bar Iraq war opponents from reconstruction contracts spilled over into a European summit on Friday as officials questioned the wisdom of Washington's move before key debt talks.

Countries that will lose out because of Washington's decision strongly criticized the move in the corridors of a European Union summit and officials said the controversy would probably be discussed later by the leaders.

At the same time, the leaders approved a statement voicing support for Iraqi reconstruction and stressing the importance of good transatlantic relations, which have been shaken by a rift over the Iraq war and trade disputes.

"I don't think the US position (on contracts) is sustainable. It goes against international rules," Swedish Prime Minister Goran Persson told reporters.

Swedish Foreign Minister Laila Freivalds added: "It is completely unacceptable that the United States limits this to certain countries and completely shuts out others from the possibility of competing in a normal way for the contracts."

She said the issue had not been discussed yet at the summit but said it was cer-

tain to come up.

However, Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain, a staunch US ally which stands to benefit from Iraqi contracts, defended President George W Bush's decision.

"It's for the Americans to decide how they spend their money. This is American money," Blair told reporters.

Other officials said the decision was unwise when several of the leading war critics, including France, Germany and Russia, were among big creditors of Iraq whose help Washington needs in its drive to reduce Iraq's debt.

The German Government said on Friday it was optimistic the row could be resolved.

"No decisions have been made yet and we should wait to see what the results are of the meetings with James Baker," said government spokesman Thomas Steg, referring to the former US Secretary of State who will visit Europe next week.

MNA/Reuters

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman on Iraq reconstruction

BEIJING, 15 Dec — Relevant countries' legal rights in the reconstruction of Iraq should be respected and all countries should equally and jointly participate in Iraq's reconstruction, said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao here.

Liu made the remarks when asked to comment on the fact that several anti-Iraq war countries including China were excluded by the United States from tendering for the Iraq reconstruction contracts of 18.6 billion US dollars.

Liu said the Chinese side is concerned about the US action, which is unhelpful to mobilizing the international community to join in the Iraq reconstruction.

China and the international community have made great efforts on the Iraq issue and have provided humanitarian assistance to Iraq, he added.

MNA/Xinhua



Humanoids : Specimens of Sony's humanoid robot 'Qrio' perform a routine at a press preview of 'Sony Explora Science' in Tokyo.—INTERNET

IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



US Lt Col Steven Russell, commander of the 1st Battalion, 22nd Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division sprays over anti-American graffiti which reads 'We will kill every American soldier', while on patrol in Tikrit, Iraq, late Sunday night, on 14 December, 2003. — INTERNET



US soldiers pass a vehicle that was destroyed in a car bomb blast outside a police station in village of Khalidiyah, some 35 miles west of Baghdad, on 14 December, 2003. A car bomb ripped through a police station in western Iraq on Sunday, killing at least 10 people and wounding dozens, witnesses and hospital sources said.—INTERNET



Troops of the US Army's 4th Infantry Division prepare to enter a house during a raid in the town of Baquba in central Iraq, on 14 December, 2003.— INTERNET



Picture shows the antenna of a suspected roadside bomb sitting beside a road in Baghdad on 14 December, 2003. —INTERNET



US soldiers redirect traffic after a suspected roadside bomb was found beside a road in Baghdad on 14 December, 2003. The device was dismantled by a US Army bomb squad.—INTERNET



An Iraqi man laughs while an Iraqi soldier performs a security check in Baghdad, on 14 December, 2003.

INTERNET



Hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day:

The unyielding spirit of national people of Myanmar

Myanmar is a sovereignty nation and has its own history. According to the evidence of Pondaungia fossils geologists found in Pondaung region in central Myanmar, it can be assumed that Myanmar is the origin of human beings. Man has lived in Myanmar since over 40 million years ago. Myanmar have been living under the umbrella of their own kings from King Abhiraja of Tagaung Dynasty to King Sibaw of Konbaung Dynasty. Tagaung, Sri Khittara, Bagan, Pinya, Sagaing, Inwa, Toungoo and Nyaungyan proved the grandeur of ancient Myanmar cities.

The first Myanmar Empire was established with its capital in Bagan under the reign of King Anawrahta who ascended the throne in AD 1044. The Second Myanmar Empire came into existence in AD 1551 when King Bayintnaung was on the throne, with Toungoo and Hantawady as its capital cities. In AD 1752, the Third Myanmar Empire was founded by King Alaung Phaya U Aung Zeya, who made Shwebo its capital.

Taking advantage of industrial advancement in the Europe in the 19th century, the British came to wage wars to own colonies. They later launched attacks on Myanmar without apparent reasons.

As Raja of Manipur Majit Singh, who was made king by Myanmar, rose in revolt, the King of Sagaing had to send his armies to Manipur to put down the rebellion in 1819. Majit Singh slipped into Cachar, and then to the British soil and asked the Cachar raja's favour. Myanmar armies and British armies engaged in a fight in Cachar and the latter was hit hard and suffered many losses.

Upon hearing the attempt of Assam raja to rise in revolt with British assistance, General Maha Bandoolla was sent to

quell the rebellion. In 1823, a British army unit stationed on Shinmaphyu Island of Myanmar. However, they were repulsed on the order of the King of Sagaing. General Maha Bandoolla also conquered their next invasion of the island. The first Anglo-Myanmar war broke out as the British interfered in the internal affairs of Assam and Manipur of Myanmar and occupied the Shinmaphyu Island. On 5 March 1824, the governor of India declared war on Myanmar. In light of that announcement, there broke out major battles in Assam, Manipur and Panwa regions. General Maha Bandoolla defeated them. General Maha

in the vicinity of Pyay. In that fight, Bogoyoke Maha Nay Myo and the raja of Maukmai lost their lives. Myanmar armies had to retreat to Wettigan, where many British soldiers including a colonel were killed.

Myanmar troops had to retreat again on account of difference in strength. Gradually, the British armies approached Yandabo village, only 25 miles away from Inwa Palace.

Sein Shwe Hlaing

Therefore, the Myanmar Hluttaw urged the king of Sagaing to negotiate with the British for the sake of

February 1826 that the Yandabo Treaty was signed and K 2.5 million was paid as war reparation

treaty, Myanmar had to agree on such major points as: to abstain from all future interferences with the principality of Assam and its dependencies and Manipur; to recognize Yoma Phokhaung range as British-Myanmar border; and to pay K 10 million as war reparation to cover the military expenditure.

Agga Maha General Maha Bandoolla was the one who fought bravely in Panwa battle, the most significant battle in Konbaung era and the battle in which the British suffered heavy losses. And the name of Maha Bandoolla deserved to be documented.

Wettigan battle also stood as a proof that all the national races residing in the Union of Myanmar would launch counterattacks whenever the sovereignty of the nation was threatened.

Wettigan battle was a historic battle in which Myanmar fought the colonialists on the basis of Union Spirit springing from the national

solidarity. The first Anglo-Myanmar war lasted nearly two years. Bamars, Kachins, Chins, Mons, Rakhines and Shans took part hand in hand in the battlegrounds of Assam, Manipur and Chittagong. Moreover, Shan women along with Shan men also fought the colonialists in the first Anglo-Myanmar War.

Under the Yandabo Treaty, Myanmar had to give up Assam, Manipur, Rakhine and Taninthayi regions to the British. However, Kayins, Bamars, Mons and Rakhines, after mobilizing men and weapons, waged wars against the colonialists. National patriots led by Bo Lan and Man Kya Gyi in Danubyu region, Mayors U Shwe Loak and U Myat Lay in Myeik region, U Aung Kyaw Shi, U Aung Kyaw San, Bo Shwe Pan, and Bo Tha Kho in Rakhine showed their bravery in the first Anglo-Myanmar War, in which they all fought the colonialists in the spirit of not wanting to be enslaved.

(Translation: KTY)



British Military Officer pays courtesy call on Alaungmintaya.



As Majit Singh, Raja of Manipur, who was made king by Myanmar, rose in rebellion against Myanmar, the King of Sagaing had to quell them in 1819. Majit Singh fled to Cachar and then to British soil, and asked for assistance from the raja of Cachar. Myanmar armies engaged with British armies at a battle in Cachar. In the fight, British armies suffered many losses. In the photo, General Maha Bandoolla was seen inspecting colonialist prisoners caught in the fight.

Thiha Thura, after capturing Panwa, continued to march to Chittagong. However, he had to cancel his former plan owing to heavy rains. After conquering Manaung, Mawtin and Haingyi islands, they streamed down to Yangon on 7 May 1824 as ordered by the king of Sagaing.

The battle was at its high peak when helping armies led by General Maha Bandoolla arrived there. It was due to weapon inequality that General Maha Bandoolla had to retreat to Danubyu, where he fell. Myanmar armies fought against the British navies and armies

peace. The secretary of Yaw met with Sir Archer Campbell in Yandabo village.

It was on 24

satisfying what the British demanded. There were 11 points in the Yandabo Treaty.

According to the



The battle of Wettigan.

Hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day:

Leaders of anti-colonialist struggle



The colonialists invaded Lower Myanmar in 1627 on the pretext of trade. Myanmar indefatigable patriots managed to capture the Thanlyin fortress of Nga Zin Ka, quelling who helped the colonialists assault the sovereignty of Myanmar.



Bo Min Yaung of Myolulin: There occurred a series of anti-colonialist struggles throughout Myanmar for a decade from 1886 to 1895. The photo shows Bo Min Yaung, who fought against the colonialists in Myolulin as of 1886.

The anti-colonialist struggles and the national independence struggles the people had daringly launched in unity at the risk of their lives and with courage and firm Union Spirit and patriotism have always been prominent.



Bo Cho of Bagan region: Anti-colonialist struggles took place all over Myanmar for a decade from 1886 to 1895. Bo Cho, heroic patriot from Bagan, the cradle of Myanmar History, fought against the colonialists bravely.



At dawn on 1 April 1825, Commander Maha Bandoola, despite his tiredness owing to lack of sleep, managed to take charge of his armies on the battle ground with the undaunted intrepidity. In the photo, he was seen inspecting a check-point built on a tree in a battle ground and giving orders to his subordinates. Great General Thadoe Thudhamma Maha Bandoola, Myanmar hero, died in action in that battle.



Bo Ya Nyunt of Welaung: The photo shows Bo Ya Nyunt, Governor of Myingaug, who received Nay Myo Min Hla Kyaw Khaung Title and fought against the colonialists in Welaung township beginning 1886.



The photo shows Kyunbis, Taichunchin revolutionary leader, and patriots of Chin race. They took part in anti-colonialist struggles bravely.

Might of intellectuals and intelligentsia plays...

(from page 1)

At a time when teaching and learning aids are on the go for higher education, it is encouraging to witness the extended conducting of courses on post-graduate diploma, Master degree, M Research degree and PhD degree at universities to produce highly qualified human resources all the more.

Likewise, departments for human resource development have been opened at universities, and over 150 courses on post-graduate diploma, Master degree and others are being conducted to create the opportunity of constant learning, he stressed.

He said over 2,600

students are taking 31 doctorate courses at Yangon University, Mandalay University, Yangon Institute of Economics and Yangon Institute of Education under the Ministry of Education. Similarly, nearly 180 trainees are doing 36 Ph.D and Dr. Med.Sc courses under the Ministry of Health.

Some 470 trainees are attending doctorate courses on engineering science, engineering and architects and information and communication conducted at Yangon Technological University, Mandalay Technology and Yangon University of Computer Studies, he said.

Universities and

institutes under the Ministry of Education produced 119 Ph.D graduates; institutes of medicines, 71; and universities under the Ministry of Science and Technology, 173; totalling 363 Ph.D graduates.

He said continuous development of highly-qualified human resources are better foundations for uplift of national education and for the State to keep abreast of communities of the world, and they are the forces that can preserve and promote the dignity of the nation and the people.

In an effort to promote better foundations for development of science and technology, prospects for high national education standard and educational development, capabilities of intellectuals and intelligentsia such as Ph.D graduates who are well-versed in science and technology of international standard are very important, he said.

He said the Ph.D graduates are to serve the interest of the nation making the most of

educational opportunities and better foundations created by the government, knowledge learned, perseverance, diligence, determination and lofty education goals.

After being honoured by the government deserving, the Ph.D graduates are to participate in efforts for emergence of a modern developed nation by applying advanced education, valuable experiences and research findings for national interest, he said.

He urged them to take part in the government's efforts by playing their respective roles for continuous development of highly-qualified human resources, propagation of science and technology in the country and development of research up to international level and to make endeavours to become knowledge-based Myanmar society.

He called for their cooperation in successful implementation of the seven-point future programme of the State to shape a peaceful, modern development nation.

In conclusion, he urged



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents a prize to a Ph.D degree holder from a university under the Ministry of Education. — MNA

them to make efforts for development of the nation with added momentum with the application of their knowledge and to serve the interest of the nation.

Next, the Prime Minister presented awards and certificates of honour to Ph.D graduates of various universities and institutes.

On behalf of the Ph.D

graduates, Associate Professor of Yangon Institute of Medicine-2 Dr Nay Win spoke words of thanks.

The Prime Minister and party posed for documentary photo. The Prime Minister observed theses submitted by the Ph.D graduates.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents a prize to a Ph.D degree holder from a university under the Ministry of Science and Technology. — MNA

Military and marching song competition to commemorate 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day to be held

YANGON, 15 Dec — As a gesture of hailing the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, which falls on 27 March 2004, the subcommittee for holding the military marching song competition of the work committee for poem and arts competitions announced that military and

marching song competitions will be held.

There will be only one category, professional level, for the military marching song competition, while the military song competition is grouped into two categories, level 1 and level 2. First, second and third prizes as well

as consolation prizes will be awarded. Rules of the competitions are as follows:

In military marching song competition, any one will be allowed to take part in it as professional level. In military song competition, there will be two levels — level 1 and level 2. For the military

song competition, songs must be composed and based on the twelve objectives of the 59th Anniversary Armed Force Day and the twelve fine traditions of the Tatmadaw. Composers and vocalists are not permitted to compete in level 2 of the military song competition nor those who stood first, second or third in level 2 of the last year's military song competition. They are to enter the level 1. Only one song is allowed for individuals or groups. Entry songs must be in accord with military song composing techniques. Military song must be in melody and mode as well as in own tune. The time taken for the song must be between 4 and 6 minutes. There will be a preliminary contest for entry songs with strong vocals and suitable music. Only a song must be recorded on the entry cassette or reel. A suitable title may be given. Words of the entry songs together with its ten typed copies and an original of its music notes must be attached to the cassette or reel. The brief autobiography of the entrant and the singer together with three passport size colour photos must be sent. Those tentatively selected will be informed. The tentatively selected songs must be re-recorded and are to compete for final. Entry songs should be sent to U Ko Ko Htwe, Secretary, subcommittee for the military and marching song competitions, Myanmar Radio and Television, Pyay Road, Yangon, not later than 31 December 2003. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Ph.D degree holders pose for a documentary photo in honour of the Ph.D degree holders from the universities under the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Science and Technology. — MNA

Cash donated to disabled athletes

YANGON, 15 Dec — A cash donation ceremony for the disabled athletes who will participate in the 2nd ASEAN games for the disabled to be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 18-28 December, took place this afternoon at National Sports Stadium here.

Minister for Sports Brig-

Gen Thura Aye Myint also made an address at the ceremony and accepted the donations.

At the ceremony, Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint also presented US \$ 10,000 donated by the Ministry of Sports through Director of Resettlements of the Ministry of Defence Maj-Gen

Aung Thein.

Afterwards, Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Maj-Gen Aung Thein and officials accepted the donations made by the ministries, Yangon City Development Committee, companies and wellwishers and presented certificates of honour.

MNA

Chinese Assistant Minister of Commerce calls on F & R Minister

YANGON, 15 Dec — Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun received Assistant Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China Mr Chen Jian and

party at his office here this afternoon.

Also present at the call were F & R Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe and officials.

MNA



Minister Col Thein Nyunt and leaders of delegation from ASEAN nations pose for a documentary photo at the opening of the Fourth ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication.—MNA

Fourth Senior Officials Meeting...

(from page 16)

lasted for nearly 40 years and that only in 1989, the armed groups started to come into the legal fold. The national races leaders joined hands with the government to work for the development of their respective regions starting from 1989.

The government of Myanmar has been implementing the following three development projects:

- Project for the Development of Border Areas,
- Project for Special Development Zones, and
- Project for Rural Development.

To foster the development of border areas, the government established the Central Committee for the Development of Border Areas and National Races, the Work Committee for the Development of Border Areas and National Races with the State Leaders as Chairman and members and also the Regional Work Committees and Work Sub-committees. Development endeavours have been made with only the financial resources of the State but without any assistance of the international community.

The development measures have been implemented in coordination with various ministries and relevant departments, starting from all the basic needs.

Development measures had started since 1989 and the Master Plan for the Development of Border Areas and National Races was implemented starting from 1993-1994 fiscal year up to 2005-2006. The plan consists of short-term and medium-term plans including regional integrated development measures.

Development endeavours that have been given priority include building of roads and bridges, schools, hospitals and dispensaries which are important infrastructure development. In the past, there were only earthen roads in the border areas. At present there are asphalt roads and gravel roads, steel bridges and suspension bridges.

To provide basic education and primary health services in the border areas primary schools and dispensaries and station hospitals have been established. To date, a total of over 5,000

miles of roads have been constructed along with 890 bridges, 750 schools, where 100,000 students are being enrolled. Altogether 52 hospitals and 110 dispensaries have been opened for the provision of primary health care services. A total of K 49,065 million have been spent for the development of border areas and national races during the period from 1989 to date.

To have equitable development all over the country, the State has established 24 Special Development Zones and has been implementing health, education and socioeconomic development endeavours. For the human resources development, the State has been establishing universities, technological universities, computer colleges, high schools, middle schools and 200 bedded hospitals for health services. Today there are 154 universities and colleges and 140 200-bed hospitals have been established throughout the country.

At the same time while implementing border areas development tasks, the Head of State instructed the im-

plementation of rural development measures. Accordingly, the Ministry for PBANRDA has been implementing the construction of rural feeder roads and the provision of safe drinking water schemes.

There are about 23,000 villages where safe drinking water is scarce in the central dry zone of Mandalay, Magwe and Sagaing divisions in Myanmar. The 10-year Master Plan for providing safe drinking water for 8,000 villages in the above mentioned Divisions have been formulated and implemented. Two years after the implementation of the project, over 4,000 villages are now enjoying safe drinking water.

This project has been implemented with the funds provided by the government and donations from the people, foreign embassies, international agencies, NGOs and wellwishers who have donated generously for the betterment of rural populace.

Sixty percent of the rural populace are farmers and are engaged in agriculture. Myanmar is also an agriculture country and in order to enhance the production, the State has been reclaiming wet lands and virgin lands to ex-

1st Korean Trade Fair-2003 to be held

YANGON, 15 Dec — Jointly-organized by Korean Embassy to Myanmar and Trade Investment Promotion Agency of the Republic of Korea, the 1st Korean Trade Fair-2003 has been arranged to be held at Yangon Trade Centre from 18 to 20 December, 2003.

At the fair, altogether 45

Korean companies will exhibit electronic gadgets, electrical goods, telephone and telegraph items, machine spare parts, medicines and chemicals, construction materials, fashion items and different kinds of household goods. It will also include entertainment and lucky draw programmes. — MNA

pand the land use for cultivation. The State encouraged and facilitated the farmers not only for the monsoon rice but also for summer rice cultivation.

A total of 1,000 million baskets of paddy have been produced annually since 2000-2001 fiscal year and that has increased the income of the farmers and uplifted the standard of living of the farmers.

In conclusion, he wished all the distinguished delegates who have attended this fourth SOMRDPCE a most joyous and pleasant stay in Yangon, and for the successful deliberations in order to work for the rural development and poverty eradication in the region.

Afterwards, the minister, the deputy ministers, leaders and members of ASEAN

member nations and officials posed for documentary photos and the ceremony came to a close.

Leader of Myanmar delegation Director-General U Than Swe of Border Areas Development Department presided over the meeting which started at 10 am. Leader of the Philippine delegation Deputy Director-General Mrs Veronica Fenix Villavicencio of National Anti-poverty Commission of the Philippines acted as emcee.

Matters on rural development and poverty eradication in ASEAN nations were discussed at the meeting which was attended by 48 delegates from ASEAN nations. The meeting continues tomorrow.

MNA

MCCRA holds Annual General Meeting

YANGON, 15 Dec — The 7th annual general meeting of Myanmar Customs Clearing Representatives Association was held at Lapyawin Plaza on Alanpya Pagoda Road in Dagon Township here yesterday morning.

It was attended by Customs Department Director-General Col Khin Maung Lin, Deputy Director-General Thiha Thura U Thein Tun Tin, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry President U Win Myint, Vice-President U Zaw Min Win, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and executives, Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association President Daw Khin Myint Myint, Secretary Daw Hla Wady, members of MCCRA and guests.

First, MCCRA President U Myo Thant, Col Khin Maung Lin and U Win Myint made speeches.

Next, the annual report and financial statement of the executive committee of the MCCRA were read out

and approved.

Later, the new 15-member executive committee including Chairman U

Myo Thant and Secretary U Myo Hsaung were elected.

MNA

Heroin and stimulant tablets seized

YANGON, 15 Dec — Authorities searched suspects Hla Shwe, Zaw Min Tun, Soe Win Htein and Kyaw Thein at Nantpalay checkpoint, Selu Region, Shan State East on 16 October and seized them with 11 packets of heroin weighing 1.178 kilos concealed in condones. They were handed over to Kengtung District Police Force on 10 October.

In connection with the case, action is being taken against the above four culprits—Hla Shwe, son of U Ramad of Pouktawwa, Insein Township, Zaw Min Tun, son of U Maung Nay of the same township, Soe Win Htein (a) Saw Win Htein at No 2 Ward, Thingangyun Township and Kyaw Thein, son of U Khet Yat at No 156th Street, Tamway Town-

ship under Section 15/19(a)/ 21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Kengtung Police Station.

Similarly, a combined team comprising members of Local Intelligence Unit and Lashio Special Anti-Drug Squad, action on information, searched the house of Tom Konechi at No 1306, 5 Ward, Lashio on 3 December evening and seized him with 298 packets of 59600 stimulant tablets bearing 888 brand.

In connection with the case, action is being taken against Tom Konechi, son of U Tom Yin Shein of No 1306, 5 Ward, Lashio under Section of 15/19(a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by No 1 Police Station of Lashio.

MNA



Training course on disease diagnosis in village chicken concludes

YANGON, 15 Dec — The training course on disease diagnosis in village chicken, conducted by Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, concluded at the meeting hall of the LBVD in Insein Township.

LBVD Director-General

U Maung Maung Nyunt gave a course concluding speech. Expert Dr Ian Wilkie and Professor Allan Frest of Queensland University of Australia and Director Dr Than Hla explained facts about the course. Eleven trainee veterinarians were presented conclusion certificates.

MNA

Chairman U Myo Thant addresses the annual general meeting of Myanmar Customs Clearing Representatives Association. —MNA

Premier league soccer continues

YANGON, 15 Dec — The matches of the premier league soccer tournament, organized by the Myanmar Football Federation, continued today at Aung San Stadium here this afternoon.

MNA



Tom Konechi seen with seized drugs. —MNA

Domestic Science Training Schools open in different states and divisions

YANGON, 15 Dec — The Education and Training Department of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs opened Basic Domestic Science Training Course No (35/2003) and Advanced Tailoring Course No (7/2003) in Lashio this morning, attended by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council North-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and wife, chairmen of district and township PDC and members, members of women's affairs and maternal and child welfare association.

Altogether 48 trainees are attending the above courses.

Similar opening ceremonies of Basic Domestic Science Training Course No (35/2003) and Advanced Tailoring Course No (7/2003) were held in Kengtung this morning, attended by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Triangle Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and wife, chairmen of district and township PDC and mem-

bers, members of women's affairs and maternal and child welfare association.

Altogether 30 trainees are attending the courses.

Similar opening ceremonies of Basic Domestic Science Training Course No (35/2003) and Advanced Tailoring Course No (6/2003) were held in Myeik this morning, attended by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Coastal Region Command Commander Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and wife, chairmen of district and township PDC and members, members of women's affairs and maternal and child welfare association.

Altogether 17 trainees are attending the courses.

Likewise, opening ceremonies of Basic Domestic Science Training Course No (4/2003) and Advanced Tailoring Course No (1/2003) were held in Pha-an this morning, attended by Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Khin Kyuu and wife, Brig-Gen Ngwe Thein of Pha-an Station, chairmen of district and township PDC and members, members of women's affairs

and maternal and child welfare association.

Altogether 40 trainees are attending the courses.

Similar opening ceremonies of Basic Domestic Science Training Course No (24/2003) and Advanced Tailoring Course No (7/2003) were held in Haka this morning, attended by Chair-

man of Chin State Peace and Development Council Col Tin Hla and wife, chairmen of district and township PDC and members, members of women's affairs and maternal and child welfare association.

Altogether 50 trainees are attending the courses. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents gifts to a doctorate degree holder at the ceremony to honour those who received doctorate degrees. (News on page 1) —MNA

Regional development measures inspected in Thandwe District

YANGON, 15 Dec — Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council and Commander of Western Command, accompanied by departmental officials, inspected roads and bridges

along An-Ma-i motor road on 12 December and gave instructions to officials.

First, the commander arrived at Talaitaung camp at the mile post No 31/4 on An-Padekaw-Ma-i motor road, where he heard reports on

progress in construction of roads and bridges and gave instructions.

Next, the commander went to Ma-i village and at the briefing hall of the village, officials reported on construction of the Lontawpauk bridge and the Pinkyaung creek bridge. After hearing the reports, the commander gave instructions and attended to the requirements.

The commander also inspected other bridge construction projects and the tasks for reclamation of farmland and gave instructions.

In the evening, the commander arrived at the briefing hall in Ma-i and met with local authorities and township-level departmental officials and gave instructions on agriculture and livestock breeding work. He also heard reports presented by officials and fulfilled the requirements.

At the guest house in

Taungok on 13 December morning, the commander met with townsenders, departmental officials, and members of social organizations and gave instructions on implementation of the five rural development tasks. He also attended to the requirements.

After inspecting roads and bridges along Taungok-Thandwe motor road, the commander attended a ceremony to donate cash to the construction of school buildings at the basic education primary school in Phayamaw village, Thandwe township.

On the occasion, the commander handed over K 1.25 million donated by Rakhine State Peace and Development Council and U Myint Thauang of Yamonna Fisheries Enterprise, K 300,000. The donations were received by an official of the village.

Next, the commander gave instructions on implementation of the five rural development tasks.

He also heard reports and attended to the requirements.

In the afternoon, the commander went to the office of Thandwe District Peace and Development Council. At the meeting hall, he met with local authorities and departmental officials and gave instructions on agriculture and livestock breeding work.

After hearing reports presented by officials, the commander fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



MOC Chairman Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint accepts certificate of honour from Director Maj-Gen Aung Thein for presenting US\$ 10,000 to disabled sports athletes. — MNA



The Fourth ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication in progress. (News on page 16) — MNA

People's Desire

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

The 57th Anniversary Union Day objectives

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

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

Hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day:

Images of electric power projects

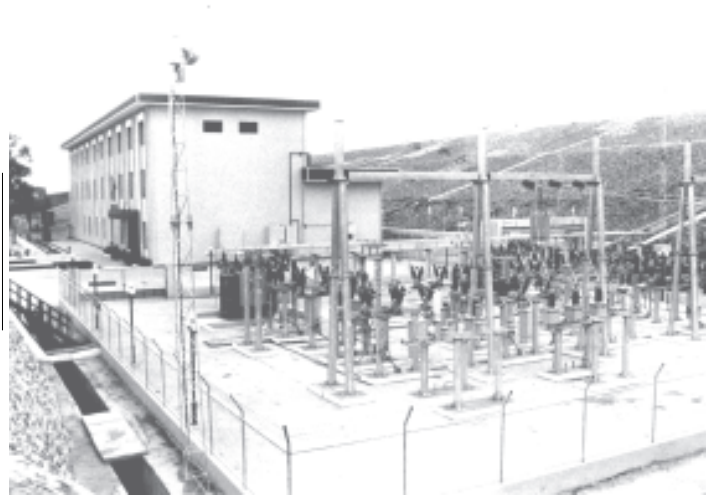
Emergence of electric power station projects in the time of State Peace and Development Council

Subject	1988	2003
Units consumed (in million)	Over 2,000	Over 5,000
Maximum capacity (Megawatt)	Over 300	Over 800
Installed capacity (Megawatt)	Over 700	Over 1,200
Length of 230 KV Line (mile)	Over 600	Over 850
Length of 132 KV Line (mile)	790	Over 1,165
Hydel power station project	—	28
Gas-fired power station project	—	6
Power projects under implementation	—	11

Mone Creek Hydel Power Station, which will generate 75 megawatts of electricity, is being constructed with modern equipment at the multipurpose project of the Mone Creek Dam to fulfil the needed electricity in Magway Division.

Mass-producing electricity in Myanmar

The Thaphanhseik Hydel Power Station, which was opened on 18 June 2002, is located near Thaphanhseik Village, Kyunhla Township, Shwebo District, Sagaing Division.

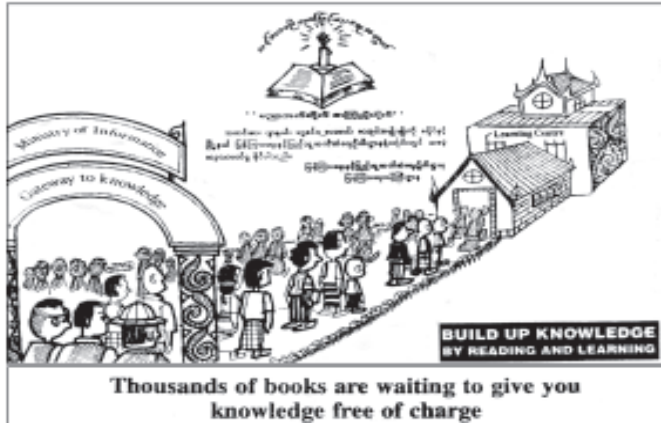


The photo shows Maipan Hydel Power Station constructed on the east of Monghsat Township in Shan State (East).



Measures are being taken systematically in order to meet the rising demand of electricity as the consumption of electricity is on the increase along with the higher living standard of the people at a time when the nation is undergoing development.

Under construction are 11 hydel power station projects including the Paunglaung Hydel Power Station Project that can generate 280 megawatts of electricity and the Yeywa Hydel Power Station Project that can generate 780 megawatts of electricity. On completion of the projects, more than 1,960 megawatts of electricity will be generated.



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သင်နိုးညွှန်းတမ်းနှင့်အညီ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ သင်ခန်းစာများပါရှိပါသည်။

JUNIOR LEADER



အတွဲ(၅) အမှတ် (၃၉) ဖြန့်ချိလိုက်ပါပြီ

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်ရာပေးပို့စာအုပ်ဆိုင်ခွင့်သတင်းစာ
ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် လက်လီဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ တတ်ကျွမ်းသူတို့၏ ဂျူနီယာလီဒါကို ဖတ်ကြည့်ပါ။
Read Junior Leader to improve your English.

စားပွဲနှင့် ကုလားထိုင်များငှားရန်

အလှူ ထိမ်းမြားမင်္ဂလာ အစည်းအဝေး အခမ်းအနားများတွင် ခေတ်မီ
ပတ်စတစ်စာနယ်ဇင်းနှင့် ကုလားထိုင်များ ရွေးချယ်သက်သာစွာဖြင့် ငှားရမ်းနေပါသည်။

နံနက် ၇:၃၀ မှ ည ၁၁:၃၀ နာရီအတွင်း စောင့်ဆိုင်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

အမှတ် ၂၂-အိမ်ခြံလမ်း၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်မြို့နယ်၊
ရန်-၂၄၈၆၂၀၊ ၂၄၈၆၂၁

သစ်တောသစ်ပင် ချစ်ခင်တဲ့လူမျိုး
သစ်ပင်ကိုနှစ်စဉ်စိုက် ရွှေတိုက်ကိုစိုက်။

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Reg. No. 4928/2002

INVEST
Reg. No. 3422/1996
Reg. No. 4929/2002

SAVIOUR
Reg. No. 3423/1996
Reg. No. 4930/2002

in respect of "Insecticides, larvicides, fungicides, herbicides, pesticides, molluscicides, nematocides, rodenticides and preparations for killing weeds and destroying vermin."

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Win Mu Tin,
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **BASF Agro B.V**
P.O. Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 16 December 2003

ပြည်တွင်းဖြစ်ကိုအားပေးပါ

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Thein Aung Hlaing, Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@myanmar.net.mm
Tel: 254037 G.P.O Box 686
Yangon, 16 December 2003

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Reg. No. IV/4911/2003
in respect of "Medicine for human purposes; all included in Int'l Class 5".
Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Mark shall be dealt with according to law.
Khine Khine U, Advocate
LL.B, D.B.L, LL.M (UK)
for **ZHEJIANG LIZIYUANG DAIRY FOOD CO., LTD.**, 425645, Thieringular Housing, Brand Rd, Aizhou 715, Yangon.
Dated December 16, 2003.

Don't smoke

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား
ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့်ပြည်သူ့ဆက်သွယ်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
အသံ-မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား
စက်ပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရန်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား၊ ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ ဆက်သွယ်ရေး ဦးစီးဌာနတို့အတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါစက်ပစ္စည်းများကိုဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်-

(က) မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားအတွက် ဝယ်ယူမည့်ပစ္စည်းများ

(၁) MRTV-3 New Studio Complex ဆောက်လုပ်ရေးတွင် Power Distribution ပင်မလိုင်းဆွဲခြင်း လုပ်ငန်းအတွက် လိုအပ်သောပစ္စည်းများ

(၂) NEC TV TX (PCN-1213 BH/4) Spare ပစ္စည်းများ

(၃) Earth Tester များ

(၄) China TV TX Spare for 9 Base TV TX Station စက်အရန်ပစ္စည်းများ

(ခ) မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားအတွက် ဝယ်ယူမည့်ပစ္စည်းများ

(1) Camera (28 to 90 mm Wide Zoom Lens With Case)

(2) Flash Gun

(3) Nikon Camera F 5 (Body Only)

(4) Nikon Lens 28 to 105 mm

(5) Nikon Flash Gun

(6) Air Conditioner (1 HP) (Window Type)

(7) Generator 2 KVA, BSK (120 X KDN 5 B)

(8) Television Receiver (29")

(9) Television Receiver (21")

(10) Radio Cassette Recorder

(11) Video Cassette Player

(12) Safe Guard (TV, Video)

(13) TVRO & LNB

(14) SET-TOP BOX

၂။ တင်ဒါပေးသွင်းမှုကို (၂၆-၁၂-၂၀၀၃) ရက်နေ့ (၁၆:၃၀) နာရီတွင်ပိတ်သိမ်းပါမည်။

၃။ တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကိုအောက်ပါ လိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပ ပစ္စည်းများ
ဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့်ထုတ်ကုန်ရောင်းချရေးကော်မတီ
ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
အမှတ် (၂၂)၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်မြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
အမှတ်၊ ၂၄၈၆၂၀၊ ၂၄၈၆၂၁၊ ၂၄၈၆၂၁

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV JATI WANGI PB-400 VOY NO (373)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JATI WANGI PB-400 Voy No (373) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-12-03 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINE
Phone : 256908/378316/376797

Shenyang-Bangkok charter flights start

SHENYANG, 15 Dec—The northern branch of China Southern Airlines (CSA) is offering a regular charter flight service from this capital of northeast China's Liaoning Province, to Bangkok, capital of Thailand.

Cui Yu, flight control manager of the CSA's northern branch, told reporters that previously there were only irregular charter flights between the two cities, but the growing number of tourists from Shenyang wishing to fly to Bangkok in the past few months has made regular charter flights a necessity.

The regular charter flight service, using Airbus-300s, which debuted December 5, is available at Shenyang every Friday evening this month until late March next year.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဆက်ရေးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Internet summit makes call to "wire up" the world

GENEVA, 15 Dec—More than 170 countries approved on Friday an ambitious call to extend the Internet and the benefits of information technology to the poorest corners of the world, but dodged some of the difficulties of doing so.

In particular, they put off a decision on whether to set up a special fund to finance the necessary infrastructure, for which African countries had lobbied hard.

The first World Summit on the Information Society wound up three days of lofty speech-making by endorsing a declaration of principles and a 29-point action plan, completed after hard bargaining just hours before the gathering got under way.

The declaration committed them to using telecommunications technologies, such as the Worldwide Web and mobile phones, to boost economic growth and meet United Nations development targets for eradicating extreme hunger and poverty by 2015.

"The declaration represents a sort of Constitution for the Information Society which must contain a social dimension and foster development," said Swiss President Pascal Couchepin, whose country hosted the UN-sponsored gathering.

Around 90 per cent of the world population is not connected to the Internet, depriving them of a 21st Century resource and

digging a "digital divide" between rich and poor. But richer states, notably Japan and the European Union, which generally did not send top government officials to Geneva, resisted calls for a "Solidarity Fund" to close the gap. As a compromise, states agreed to study the issue further and report back before the follow-up summit in Tunis in 2005.

But it was not just the wealthy states that opposed rushing into new financing. Senior UN officials agreed it was better first to explore improved use of existing resources from the World Bank and other sources.

"It must take its place in line along with health and education. It has to be linked to investment in these areas otherwise it would be just a waste of public money," said Mark Mallock Brown, head of the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

Also postponed was a showdown over Internet management, with developing countries such as Brazil pressing for a greater role for the United Nations or intergovernmental agencies in a business currently left to the private sector in rich states.—MNA/Reuters

Pakistan to remove mistrust, suspicion with India

ISLAMABAD, 15 Dec—Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri has said that his country's foreign policy has always been to remove all mistrust and unwarranted suspicions between India and Pakistan, English newspaper *The News* reported Saturday.

At a two-day conference on "Peace Dividend — Progress for India and South Asia" Friday in New Delhi, Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee called for mutual security cooperation, open borders and even a single currency in the long run in South Asia.

Responding to these remarks, Kasuri told the newspaper that the real issue is to remove mistrust and suspicions from the Pakistani-Indo relations and this can only be possible if there is a dialogue.

"There is no intervention in the world which can solve issues without dialogue. The first step will be the meetings at the 12th summit of the South Asian Associa-

tion for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)," said Kasuri. The SAARC summit is to be held in Islamabad on January 2004.

While recalling the last few months when there was no forward movement between the two nuclear rivals, Kasuri noted that India and Pakistan should not waste any more time as both have a home-grown plan toward peace and they should move quickly to remove all the mistrust and unwarranted suspicions.

Kasuri, however, said he was not ready to comment specially on Vajpayee's remarks on open borders and a single currency for not having read the speech.

MNA/Xinhua

Hong Kong marks "Aviation Days 2003"

HONG KONG, 15 Dec—Hong Kong started to mark "Aviation Days 2003" on Saturday at the old Hong Kong Kai Tak Airport.

Lee Suk-ye, Permanent Secretary of Hong Kong SAR Economic Department and Labour Bureau, said at the opening ceremony that Hong Kong SAR Government will spare no effort in supporting and developing Hong Kong's aviation activities and aviation undertaking so as to reinforce Hong Kong's position as an aviation hub of the world.—MNA/Xinhua

Thai Air Force Chief receives military award in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 15 Dec—Thailand's Air Chief Marshal Kongsak Vantana was presented Singapore's military award, the Meritorious Service Medal, by Singapore's Defence Minister Teo Chee Hean here on Saturday.

Singapore's Ministry of Defence said that the award was conferred in recognition of the significant role the Thai Air Force chief has played in fostering close ties between the Royal Thai Air Force and the Republic of Singapore Air Force.

MNA/Xinhua

US public health system not prepared to handle

LOS ANGELES, 15 Dec—Despite a two-billion-dollar federal investment, the US public health system is only marginally better prepared today to handle a bioterrorism attack or other health emergency than it was in 2001, the *USA Today* quoted a report as saying Friday.

The study by the non-profit organization, Trust for America's Health, found that efforts to prepare for health emergencies have been hampered by state budget deficits, a shortage of medical workers, red tape and disagreements between state and local officials over who should get the money.

The report shows that only two states, Florida and Illinois, have shown that they could receive and distribute shipments from a national stockpile of vaccines, antidotes and other medical supplies that can be sent within 12 hours of an attack or outbreak.

Whether it is terrorists or a virulent strain of flu that causes a health emergency, "we are not ready", said Shelley Hearne, director of the Trust for America's Health.

The report said progress has been made to upgrade state health laboratories, develop bioterrorism plans and increase communication between state and local health officials. But Hearne said that even a massive influx of federal money can not make up for what she called "two decades of underinvestment" in public health.

MNA/Xinhua

Briton dies after wandering in Australian desert

SYDNEY, 15 Dec—A British tourist died after wandering through the searing heat of Australia's Great Sandy Desert, because he abandoned his bogged-down campervan to seek help, police said over the weekend.

Thomas Henry Sykes, from London, was found alive but severely dehydrated on Friday, having walked more than 30 miles from where he abandoned the four-wheel drive Toyota campervan, near the remote Punmu Aboriginal community in Western Australia.

The 35-year-old, who was travelling alone, later collapsed and attempts to revive him at a health clinic failed. "He became bogged then broke rule number one. (He) left the vehicle," Police Sergeant David Hornsby told *Reuters* by phone from Marble Bar in the 103,000-square-mile desert.

Local workers found the abandoned vehicle on Thursday near Lake Disappointment,

roughly 750 miles northeast of Perth. Temperatures hovered around 42 degrees Celsius (108 degree Fahrenheit), and Aboriginal trackers were called in to follow Sykes' footprints across the ochre desert.

But an sandstorm forced rescuers to call off the search and the disoriented tourist was only found early on Friday.

"If he'd stayed with the vehicle he would have been fine," Hornsby said. "It's pretty hot and certainly not the weather to go walking."

Police said Sykes was trying to drive thousands of miles cross the outback from West Australia to the east and his campervan was well equipped.

MNA/Reuters



Laetitia Bleger (L) waves after being crowned Miss France in the Miss France 2004 competition in Deauville on 13 Dec, 2003. Forty six participants competed for the title.—INTERNET

Africa appeals for help to tackle water crisis

ADDIS ABABA, 15 Dec—African ministers appealed on Friday for help to avert water shortages threatening to fuel a cycle of poverty, hunger and conflict on the world's poorest continent.

Experts fear demand for water from Africa's rapidly

growing population will outstrip supply in years to come, hitting farmers' yields and making the continent increasingly dependent on food aid.

"Water crisis in Africa is a threat to economic development, poverty reduction and the environment and hence for peace," said a statement issued at the close of a two-day conference of African water resource ministers in Ethiopia.

The conference appealed for funds to halve the numbers of people without access to clean water and sanitation by 2015 in Africa, where millions survive on water drawn from rivers or live in slums with open sewers.

MNA/Reuters

Vietnam signs contracts to export 700,000 tons of rice next year

HANOI, 15 Dec—Vietnam has signed contracts to export 700,000 tons of rice, including 150,000 tons to Brazil in 2004, according to the Trade Ministry on Saturday.

The ministry estimated that the country would export at least 3.8 million tons next year, of which 46 per cent are to go to the Asia-Pacific Region, mainly to Indonesia and the Philippines; and 22 per cent to Africa. It also warned that shipments to the Philippines would be more difficult because the government-to-government rice contracts between the two countries will be removed, and the foreign country will import much less rice in 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Balde begins rehabilitation with goal in Celtic win

GLASGOW, 15 Dec—Guinean defender Bobo Balde took his first, faltering steps towards rehabilitating himself with Celtic's fans as he got on the scoresheet in his side's 3-2 Scottish Premier League victory over Dundee on Saturday.

Three days after his late rush of blood literally handed Olympique Lyon a late penalty to knock Celtic out of the Champions League, Balde struck in the 69th minute to put them 2-1 ahead in a tricky encounter.

Ex-Celtic midfielder Mark Fotheringham had earlier cancelled out Henrik Larsson's 15th minute header with a superb long-range strike after 20 minutes as Dundee battled valiantly at a sodden Celtic Park.

But Balde's header and substitute John Kennedy's first goal for the club after 87 minutes turned the game.

A last-minute mistake by Scotland goalkeeper Rob Douglas, who replaced Magnus Hedman after the Swede's indifferent display in Lyon, allowed Lee Mair to net a consolation in injury time for Dundee but it was too late to deny Celtic the victory. Celtic move to 46 points, eight ahead of champions Rangers, who visit Dunfermline on Sunday.

MNA/Reuters



Barcelona's Philippe Cocu (L) and Brazilian Ronaldinho (R) embrace their Dutch teammate Patrick Kluivert after he scored against RCD Espanyol during their Spanish first division soccer match at the Lluís Companys Stadium in Barcelona, Spain, on 13 Dec, 2003. — INTERNET

Late own goal gives Bolton shock win at Chelsea

LONDON, 15 Dec—High-flying Chelsea were brought crashing to earth by Bolton Wanderers on Saturday as the Premier League's big spenders surrendered top spot after a shock 2-1 defeat at Stamford Bridge.

The Londoners, who topped their Champions League group in midweek with a comfortable win against Besiktas, were overtaken by Manchester United who beat fierce rivals Manchester City 3-1 at Old Trafford.

Chelsea slipped to their first home league defeat of the season when John Terry deflected substitute Henrik Pedersen's last-minute cross past goalkeeper Carlo Cudicini.

It had looked as though Chelsea were heading for a routine three points earlier when Hernan Crespo glanced them in front after 22 minutes but Bolton failed to cave in.

Chelsea had all the play but were pegged back six minutes before the break when Bolton defender Bruno N'Gotty rose unchallenged to head in Youri Djorkaeff's inswinging free kick.

Chelsea introduced Joe Cole and Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink in the second half but Claudio Ranieri's side gradually ran out of steam against a well-organized Bolton side.

Defending champions United now top the standings with 37 points, one ahead of Chelsea and two in front of third-placed Arsenal who can go top with a victory at home to Blackburn Rovers on Sunday.

Liverpool slipped to their fourth home defeat of the season, going down 2-1 against Southampton who move into the top six thanks to goals from Brett Ormerod and Michael Svensson. Emile Heskey struck a consolation for Liverpool but it came too late to avoid another damaging setback for manager Gerard Houllier. —MNA/Reuters

Scholes' double hands United derby victory

MANCHESTER, 15 Dec—Paul Scholes showed how much he had been missed by Manchester United as he headed two goals to clinch a 3-1 derby win over neighbours Manchester City on Saturday.

The England midfielder had not started a league game for nearly two months after a hernia operation but he proved the difference between the sides in a surprisingly close encounter. City, who had not won in seven games and scored just once in the last 624 minutes, were attempting to win at Old Trafford for the first time since 1974.

But the writing was on the wall for another fruitless trip across the city when Scholes put United in front after seven minutes — glancing in a whipped cross from Gary Neville.

City hardly threatened in the first half, although United keeper Tim Howard did well to tip over Robbie Fowler's looping deflected shot following a wayward pass from Phil Neville.

Fowler had just been foiled again when United extended their lead as City duo Joey Barton and Richard Dunne got in a tangle on the edge of their box. The ball bounced off Dunne to Scholes, who fed Ryan Giggs for a pinpoint cross that Ruud van Nistelrooy guided past David Seaman with a cushioned header.

City had looked a shambles in the first half but they came out much more positive for the second and Shaun Wright-Phillips gave them a lifeline in the 52nd minute.

He was fortunate to nudge the ball through Scholes' legs on the edge of the area, but there was no luck involved as his accurate low drive flew inside Howard's far post.

MNA/Reuters

Makaay ends Stuttgart's unbeaten run

BERLIN, 15 Dec—Champions Bayern Munich handed VfB Stuttgart their first Bundesliga defeat of the season on Saturday, beating them 1-0 courtesy of Dutch striker Roy Makaay.

Bayern rarely threatened at the Olympic Stadium until Makaay exploited a blunder by the Stuttgart defence to hit the winner with an angled effort from just inside the box on 75 minutes. Werder Bremen moved back to the top with a 3-1 win at Bayer Leverkusen in a tense clash in which each team had a player sent off.

Stuttgart, who had gone 15 matches without defeat, dropped to second place a point back. Bayern remained in fourth but moved level on points with third-placed Bayer Leverkusen and closed the gap on the top spot to four points.

"We had to win and we did," said Bayern coach Ottmar Hitzfeld, whose team have failed to shine so far this season and face a daunting task against Real Madrid in the first knockout stage of the Champions League.

"We had a few problems," he added. "Our defence was tight but we showed too little initiative up front."

"In the end Makaay won it for us. He never loses nerve and he only needs one chance to score."

Stuttgart coach Felix Magath, whose team will face Chelsea in the Champions League, did not look for excuses.

"We started well but we wasted our chances and then there was that stupid mistake that led to Makaay's goal," he said.

While there was little action in Munich, there was plenty in Leverkusen, where Werder took control with goals in quick succession from prolific Brazilian striker Ailton and defender Mladen Krstajic shortly before the break.

Werder had French playmaker Johan Micoud sent off for a dangerous tackle in the 67th minute and defender Jens Nowotny then restored hope for the home side, scoring on 72 minutes.

Nowotny was sent off in added time for bringing down Greek striker Angelos Haristeas and Hungary midfielder Krisztian Lisztes converted the resulting penalty to seal Werder's win.

"We made the most of our chances," said Werder coach Thomas Schaaf. "Leading at halftime was a big help. It became difficult for us after Micoud was sent off but we managed to hold on."

Leverkusen coach Klaus Augenthaler, whose team have recovered from a disastrous run last season, paid tribute to Werder. "They proved again today that they are a top team," he said.

Werder and Stuttgart will now fight for the lead halfway through the championship. Werder entertain Hansa Rostock on Tuesday and Stuttgart host Leverkusen on Wednesday in the final round of matches before the winter break. —MNA/Reuters

Lyon draw allows PSG to pull level in second

PARIS, 15 Dec—Second-placed Olympique Lyon suffered a hangover from their midweek Champions League heroics when they were held 0-0 at Bastia on Saturday, allowing Paris-St. Germain to draw level on points in Ligue 1.

PSG's Pedro Pauleta, a Girondins Bordeaux player for three years, scored the winner in a 2-1 victory against his old club.

The Portugal striker pounced to slide home a cross-shot by Brazilian midfielder Reinaldo two minutes after halftime at the Parc des Princes. Bordeaux's Jean-Claude Darcheville fired a penalty over the bar in injury time.

Champions Lyon and PSG, who have played one extra match, have 34 points and are five behind leaders Monaco who host Racing Strasbourg on Sunday in the penultimate round of matches before the three-week winter break.

Sochaux stayed in touch after their sixth league win in succession, 2-0 over AC Ajaccio, while Djibril Cisse scored his 14th goal in 18 matches in AJ Auxerre's 2-0 win over RC Lens.

Sochaux are in fourth place on 33 points with Auxerre one place and point behind.

Lyon earned a last 16 match against Real Sociedad in the Champions League thanks to a late penalty at home to Celtic on Wednesday and, deciding to rest several players, looked out of sorts against Bastia.

Lyon strikers Giovane Elber and Peguy Luyindula started on the bench but were brought on midway through the second half, triggering a battle royal for the final 15

minutes.

Both goalkeepers, Bastia's Nicolas Penneteau and France's number two Gregory Coupet, pulled off fine saves but Lyon will feel the result means two wasted points.

Pauleta, who joined PSG in the close season after 65 goals in 98 matches for Bordeaux, should have scored in the 17th minute against his former club but his penalty was superbly saved by Ulrich

Rame diving to his right.

Seconds later Bordeaux took the lead when Spanish midfielder Albert Celades finished off in style after great work by Darcheville down the right.

The home side pulled level through Reinaldo, although whether the Brazilian's 35-metre effort was a cross or a shot was open to question. Whatever his intention, the ball sailed over Rame's head into the net. —MNA/Reuters



Cory Spinks holds his championship belts after defeating WBA welterweight Super Champion-WBC Super Champion Ricardo Mayorga from Managua, Nicaragua (L) in Atlantic City, on 13 Dec, 2003. Spinks is the son of former heavyweight champion Leon Spinks. —INTERNET

MRTV-3
**16-12-2003 (Tuesday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greetings
9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
9:06 University of Culture
(Yangon) (Graduation
Ceremony) (Part-I)
9:10 **Headline News**
9:12 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Catfish Curry"
9:15 **National News**
9:20 Kachin hand-woven
material
9:25 The Pindaya Natural
Cave
9:30 **National News**
9:35 Thu Wunna Tha Ma
Jataka Scene (6)
9:40 Song "We'll be wait-
ing for you"
9:45 **National News**
9:50 Equal wishes that
come from the heart
9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**16-12-2003 (Tuesday)
Regular Programmes for
Viewers from Abroad
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune
Greetings
15:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
15:36 Kachin hand-woven
material
15:40 **Headline News**
15:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Catfish Curry"
15:45 **National News**
15:50 University of Culture
(Yangon) (Graduation
Ceremony) (Part-I)
15:55 The Pindaya Natural
Cave
16:00 **National News**
16:05 Thu Wunna Tha Ma
Jataka Scene (6)
16:10 Song "We'll be wait-
ing for you"
16:15 **National News**
16:20 Equal wishes that
come from the heart
16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Mingalabar"

- 16:30** **National News**
16:35 Reclamation & Cul-
tivation in the Uplands
16:40 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Hot and Sour
Fresh-water Prawn
Soup"
16:45 **National News**
16:50 The Beauty of the 1st
Defile of The River
Ayeyawady
16:55 Lon Yuu Festival
Dance
17:00 **National News**
17:05 Colourful Garden City
of Yangon
17:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers
Land"
17:15 **National News**
17:20 Ship Building of
Myanmar
17:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

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

- 19:30 Signature Tune
Greetings
19:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
19:36 Rakhine State
19:40 **Headline News**
19:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes (Fried Prawn
with Cyrtus Plant)
19:45 **National News**
19:50 100 Shuttle Traditional
Weaving Industry
Sandwich
19:55 Tour In Myanmar
"Mrauk-U, Ngapali"
20:00 **National News**
20:05 Rakhine Ordination
Novitiation & Ear-bor-
ing Auspicious Cere-
mony
20:10 Song "Rice Flowing
Like a Canal"
20:15 **National News**
20:20 Rakhine State Cultural
Museum
20:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Speaking
through our eyes"
20:30 **National News**
20:35 The Source of the
River Ayeyawady
20:40 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Ridged gourd
and bean curd Curry"
20:45 **National News**
20:50 Myanmar Traditional
Flower Arrangements
(Decoration with Lac-
quer)
20:55 A Lonesome Song
20:57 Golden Jubilee Era of
Myanmar Motion Pic-
tures
21:00 **National News**
21:05 Naga Traditional Cul-

- tural Showroom
Myanmar Modern
Song "What Love is?"
21:15 **National News**
21:20 Conservation of Forest
Resources in Myanmar
21:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Myanma Panorama &
Myanma Sentiment"
21:35 Kachin hand-women
material
21:40 **Headline News**
21:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Catfish Curry"
21:45 **National News**
21:50 University of Culture
(Yangon) (Graduation
Ceremony) (Part-I)
21:55 The Pindaya Natural
Cave
22:00 **National News**
22:05 Thu Wunna Tha Ma
Jataka Scene (6)
22:10 Song "We'll be wait-
ing for you"
22:15 **National News**
22:20 Equal wishes that
come from the heart
22:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Ma Ma Moe"
22:30 **National News**
22:35 Reclamation & Cul-
tivation in the Uplands
22:40 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Hot and Sour
Fresh-water Prawn
Soup"
22:45 **National News**
22:50 The Beauty of the 1st
Defile of The River
Ayeyawady
22:55 Lon Yuu Festival
Dance
23:00 **National News**
23:05 Colourful Garden City
of Yangon
23:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers
Land"
23:15 **National News**
23:20 Ship Building of
Myanmar
23:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

**16-12-2003 (Tuesday) &
17-12-2003 (Wednesday)
Evening & Morning
Transmission
(23:30 - 1:30)**

- 23:30 Signature Tune
Greetings
23:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
23:36 Kachin hand-woven
material
23:40 **Headline News**
23:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Catfish Curry"
23:45 **National News**
23:50 University of Culture
(Yangon) (Graduation
Ceremony) (Part-I)

- 23:55 The Pindaya Natural
Cave
24:00 **National News**
00:05 Thu Wunna Tha Ma
Jataka Scene (6)
00:10 Song "We'll be wait-
ing for you"
00:15 **National News**
00:20 Equal wishes that
come from the heart
00:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Mingalabar"
00:30 **National News**
00:35 Reclamation & Cul-
tivation in the Uplands
00:40 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Hot and Sour
Fresh-water Prawn
Soup"
00:45 **National News**
00:50 The Beauty of the 1st
Defile of The River
Ayeyawady
00:55 Lon Yuu Festival
Dance
01:00 **National News**
01:05 Colourful Garden City
of Yangon
01:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers
Land"
01:15 **National News**
01:20 Ship Building of
Myanmar
01:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

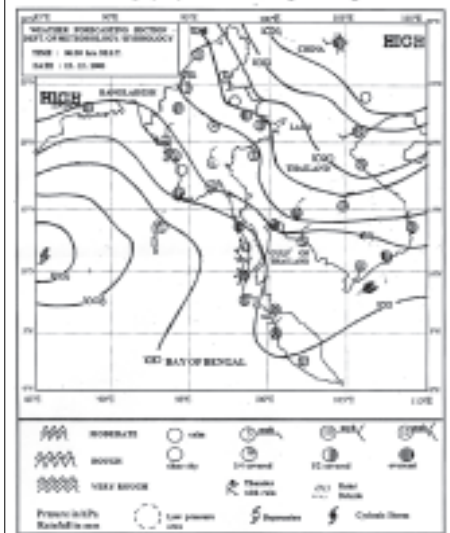
**17-12-2003 (Wednesday)
Morning Transmission
(03:30 - 07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune
Greetings
03:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma Pano-
rama & Myanma Sen-
timent"
03:36 Rakhine State
03:40 **Headline News**
03:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes (Fried Prawn
with Cyrtus Plant)
03:45 **National News**
03:50 100 Shuttle Traditional
Weaving Industry
Sandwich
03:55 Tour in Myanmar
"Mrauk-U, Ngapali"
04:00 **National News**
04:05 Rakhine Ordination
Novitiation & Ear-bor-
ing Auspicious Cere-
mony
04:10 Song "Rice Flowing
Like a Canal"
04:15 **National News**
04:20 Rakhine State Cultural
Museum
04:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Speaking
through our eyes"
04:30 **National News**
04:35 The Source of the
River Ayeyawady

- 04:40 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes (Ridged gourd
and bean curd Curry)
04:45 **National News**
04:50 Myanmar Traditional
Flower Arrangements
(Decoration with Lac-
quer)
04:55 A Lonesome Song
04:57 Golden Jubilee Era of
Myanmar Motion Pic-
tures
05:00 **National News**
05:05 Naga Traditional Cul-
tural Showroom
05:10 Myanmar Modern
Song "What Love is"
05:15 **National News**
05:20 Conservation of Forest
Resources in Myanmar
05:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
"Myanma Panorama &
Myanma Sentiment"
05:35 Kachin hand-woven
material
05:40 **Headline News**
05:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Catfish
Curry"
05:45 **National News**
05:50 University of Culture
(Yangon) (Graduation
Ceremony) (Part-I)
05:55 The Pindaya Natural
Cave

- 06:00** **National News**
06:05 Thu Wunna Tha Ma
Jataka Scene (6)
06:10 Song "We'll be wait-
ing for you"
06:15 **National News**
06:20 Equal wishes that
come from the heart
06:25 Myanmar Modern
Song "Ma Ma Moe"
06:30 **National News**
06:35 Reclamation & Cul-
tivation in the Uplands
06:40 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes "Hot and Sour
Fresh-water Prawn
Soup"
06:45 **National News**
06:50 The Beauty of the 1st
Defile of The River
Ayeyawady
06:55 Lon Yuu Festival
Dance
07:00 **National News**
07:05 Colourful Garden City
of Yangon
07:10 Song "Sagawa Flowers
Land"
07:15 **National News**
07:20 Ship Building of
Myanmar
07:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and See
Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas


WEATHER

Monday, 15 December, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) above normal in Eastern Shan State, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin, Kayin, Chin States and Taninthayi Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Northern Shan State, Ayeyawady and upper Sagaing Divisions, (7°C) below normal in Rakhine State, Bago and lower Sagaing Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was (1°C) in Hakha.

Maximum temperature on 14-12-2003 was 33.5°C (92°F). Minimum temperature on 15-12-2003 was 15.6°C (60°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 15-12-2003 was 67%. Total sunshine hours on 14-12-2003 was (8.6) hours approx. Rainfall on 15-12-2003 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-12-2003 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 11 mph from East at (12:10) hours MST on 14-12-2003.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (09:30) hrs MST today, yesterday's depression over Southwest Bay and adjoining West Central Bay has centred at about (200) miles Southeast of CHENNAI (India). It is forecast to move North-west wards. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 16-12-2003: Likelihood of isolated rain in Kachin, Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%). **State of the sea:** Temporary strong easterly wind with (35) mph and moderate to rough seas are likely off and along Myanmar Coast.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain in Rakhine State.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 16-12-2003: Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 16-12-2003:** Partly cloudy.



Tuesday, December 16

View today:

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးတင်လေးစားမှုအခမ်းအနား
ဘုရားကြီးမြတ်စွာသောမဟာရာဇာသတ်
အစွဲအတိုင်းတော်စောင့်ရှောက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ
ယောဂဗျူဟာအဘိဓမ္မာယောဂသဒ္ဓမ္မ
မောတိကထိကဗျူဟာသုတ္တံ၊ ဘုရားတော်ဘုရား
ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

- တရားပန်းဥပုသ်

8:00 am

- အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

- Songs of yesteryears

8:20 am

- သုံးဆယ်လေးလှောင်တံခွန်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Grammer made easy

3:15 pm

၂. ဝေဠုနဂါး (၄၂)ကြိမ်မြောက်
တော်မူတော်မူသောဓမ္မစာအုပ်
ဇယား တော်မူတော် (ကြည့်ပါ၊ ဇယား
လေး) သောတိုလီပုံ
တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်ဝေမှုအစီအစဉ်
(ဒုတိယအကြိမ် ပုံနှိပ်လုပ်)

5:15 pm

- Songs to uphold national
spirit

5:30 pm

- မိုးခင်းဆင်းတော်စောင့်တိုင်

5:45 pm

- Sing and enjoy

6:30 pm

- Evening news

7:00 pm

- Weather report

7:05 pm

- Milo success in soccer

7:10 pm

- Musical programme

7:20 pm

- The mirror images of
the musical oldies

7:35 pm

- အမျိုးသမီးအားကစားပွဲ၊ ရုပ်ရှင်
ရုပ်ရှင်ဇာတ်ကားများ
(ကိုယ်တိုင်ကိုယ်ရည်ကိုယ်သွေးဖြင့်
မြင်ခမ်းမူရည်ထုတ်) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်

8:00 pm

- News

- International news

- Weather report

- နိုင်ငံခြားစာတင်လမ်းကွဲ

- "တုန့်၊ ဖုလုံ" (အပိုင်း - ၂)

- Calcio Serie

- A highlight

- မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး
ဦးစိန်စွာသာဓကတော်အစု
ဆယ်ဖျက်ရာမဟောသောစာအုပ်

- ဖျားမြင်းတရားတော်

- The next day's
programme



Tuesday, December 16

Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
8.35 am Music
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music
8.50 am National news/
Slogan
9.00 am Music
9.05 am International news
9.10 am Music
1.30 pm News/Slogan
1.40 pm Lunch time music
- Move on (ABBA)
- My love (Westlife)
9.00 pm English speaking
course I - Unit III
9.15 pm Article/Music
9.25 pm Weekly Sports Reel
9.35 pm Music for your
listening pleasure
Holy Night (N'sync)
9.45 pm News/Slogan
10.00 pm PEL

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Meeting on organizing 56th Anniversary Independence Day Flag-hoisting and State Flag Saluting ceremony held

YANGON, 15 Dec — The second coordination meeting of the subcommittee for organizing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day Yangon City Flag-hoisting and State Flag Saluting ceremony was held at Pyithu Hluttaw building on Pyay Road here this afternoon.

Subcommittee Chairman Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chair-

man Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addressed the meeting. At the meeting, the commander explained that the 56th Anniversary Independence Day Yangon City Flag-hoisting and State Flag Saluting ceremony was to be held in accord with the four objectives of the 56th Anniversary Independence Day.

Next, Subcommittee

Secretary Yangon Division PDC Secretary Lt-Col Kyaw Tint reported on arrangements for holding the ceremony, and the commander gave necessary instructions.

Later, the commander and party inspected samples of the billboards for the Independence Day Anniversary and left necessary instructions.

MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivers an address at the second coordination meeting of the Flag-hoisting and State Flag Saluting sub-committee of the 56th Anniversary Independence Day.—MNA

Fourth Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication opens

YANGON, 15 Dec — The opening of the Fourth Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication, hosted by Myanmar, was held at Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, this morning, with an opening address by Minister for

Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Than Tun and Col Tin Ngwe, the ambassadors of ASEAN member nations to Myanmar, officials from the ASEAN Secretariat, senior officials and members of ASEAN member nations, observers, invited guests, officials of the ministry and departmental officials.

On the occasion, Minister Col Thein Nyunt made an opening speech. He said under the auspices of the ASEAN, the First ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication was held at Subang, Malaysia, in 1997 and decided that AMRDPE meetings be held every two years and SOMRDPE meetings be held annually on a rotation basis in ASEAN member countries. It was also agreed upon that SOMRDPE be held before the AMRDPE.

ASEAN member countries are committed to rural

development and poverty eradication and they realize the need to respond effectively to the opportunities and challenges of globalization and closer economic integration. To further implement ASEAN's priorities for development of rural areas and eradication of poverty, the senior officials will share their experiences on strategies pursued at all levels of government to address poverty and status of project implementation.

Rural areas in Myanmar are situated in different geographical conditions. The national races have been residing in the mountainous areas, dry zones and coastal areas and are lagging far behind in socio-economic development. There were difficulties in transport and communication between the regions and also due to insecurity caused by the armed groups that came into being after the independence of the nation in 1948, and the development was not fostered. The armed insurrections

(See page 9)



MWVO opens advanced organizational courses

YANGON, 15 Dec — The Myanmar War Veterans Organization opened its Advanced Organizational Course No 3/2003 at the training school of the MWVO in Hmawby Township here this morning.

Secretary of the Central Organizing Committee for the MWVO Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung attended the ceremony and spoke on the occasion.

Present on the occasion were members of the Central Committee, senior military officers, departmental heads, officials, local authorities and others.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung explained the

purpose of establishing the MWVO, its five tasks, its seven future tasks, and its agriculture, livestock breeding, education, economy and social welfare tasks.

Next, he cordially greeted the trainees and inspected their hostels and dining hall.

Likewise, similar courses were also opened at the respective training schools of the MWVO in Mandalay and Magway Divisions.

The opening ceremony of the course in Mandalay was attended by Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein and the other one in Magway was attended by Secretary of Magway Division Peace and Development Council

Lt-Col Myo Aung. The courses were attended 50 trainees each.

MNA

Minister Col Thein Nyunt addresses the opening of the Fourth ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication.—MNA



MWVCOC Secretary Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung addresses the opening of Advanced Organization Course 3/2003 of MWVO. —MNA