

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XI, Number 286

6th Waxing of Tabodwe 1365 ME

Tuesday, 27 January, 2004



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe greet Myanmar doctors resident abroad and those from foreign countries who attended the 50th Conference of the Myanmar Medical Association. — MNA

## Prime Minister and wife host dinner to delegates of 50th MMA Conference

YANGON, 26 Jan — Chairman of the National Health Committee and Prime Minister of the State General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe hosted a dinner at Tatmadaw Guest House on Inya Road here this evening in honour of Myanmar doctors resident abroad and those from foreign countries who attended the 50th Conference of the Myanmar Medical Association.

Present on the occasion were Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, the

ministers, the vice-chief of Military Intelligence and senior military officers, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental officials, chairman and executives of MMA, members of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, and guests.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe cordially greeted the doctors and then hosted the dinner to them.

MNA

### Four political objectives

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

### Four economic objectives

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

### Four social objectives

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

## Successful realization of the plans depends on correct and speedy implementation at the grassroots levels, and correct data

### Prime Minister inspects development undertakings in Kayin and Mon States

YANGON, 26 Jan— Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, arrived in Ye, Mawlamyine District, via Mawlamyine yesterday. The Prime Minister and party were welcomed there by local authorities, departmental personnel and members of social organizations.

The Prime Minister and party proceeded to Ye Bridge. After hearing a report presented by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min on facts

about Ye Bridge, the Prime Minister and party strolled along the bridge.

Ye bridge, linking Mawlamyine-Ye road and Ye-Dawei road is rail-cum-road one.

As the bridge has been completed, trains are running daily from Mawlamyine to Dawei via Ye, passing through the bridge. Now, one can easily reach Mon State and Taninthayi Division by car, it is learnt.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party, next, went to People's Hospital in Ye where they were welcomed by Medical Superintendent Dr Saw Myat Oo and

staff.

The Prime Minister inspected X-ray room, medical store, patient wards, operation theatre and out-patient department.

The Prime Minister gave instructions on construction of new hospital building and providing the hospital with medical equipment.

On arrival at Basic Education High School in Ye, the Prime Minister and party were welcomed by Headmaster U Tint, teachers and students.

(See page 9)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets local authorities, departmental personnel and members of social organizations in Mawlamyine. — MNA

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 27 January, 2004

### Strive for completion of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) as targeted

Good transportation being the sine qua non for the development of a region, the Government is giving a special emphasis to smooth and secure transport by building new highways as well as roads linking towns and towns and towns and villages.

To promote economy and trade between Myanmar and Thailand, Myawady-Kawkaeik-Hpa-an highway is being upgraded so that it can be used in all weathers. The better the transportation is, the more the economic, health, education and social sectors will improve and thus the living standard of the people will become higher.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party on 25 January visited the project site of the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) on the Mawlamyine side, inspected the construction work being carried out and gave necessary instructions.

The Prime Minister said that the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) was going to be the longest one in Myanmar and it was being built by Myanmar engineers themselves. Therefore, it was necessary to put them on record and honour them, he added.

The Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) is situated on the Yangon-Mawlamyine-Myeik-Kawthoung highway and it is being built across the Thanlwin river, linking Mawlamyine and Mottama.

The approach road for cars on the Mawlamyine side is 1,624 feet long, the main bridge itself 7,699 feet long and the approach road for cars on the Mottama side 2,252 feet long. The approach road for railway line on the Mawlamyine side is 8,716 feet long and that on the Mottama side 10,051 feet long. On either side of the railway line, there is a motor road 14 feet wide and a walkway 6 feet wide. The bridge is now 70 per cent completed.

We believe that the Thanlwin Bridge Mawlamyine, on completion, will help strengthen the friendship between national brethren. Therefore, we would like to urge all the responsible personnel to put their energies into their work so that the bridge will be completed within the targeted period.

### MICT Week 2004 extended to 31 January

YANGON, 26 Jan — The MICT Week 2004 has been extended upto 31 January 2004 as the number of enthusiastic visitors of the exhibition are on the increase day by day.

MNA



**Myanmar ICT Week (2004)**  
has been extended  
up to 31 January 2004  
MICT Park Yangon

### The 57<sup>th</sup> 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 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

### People's Desire

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

### Efficient use of electricity

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

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

### Fourth Myanmar-Thailand JTC Meeting held

YANGON, 26 Jan — A Thai delegation led by Mr Watana Muangsook, Thai Minister for Commerce, arrived here this morning by Special Aircraft of Thai Royal Army (Air) to attend the fourth Myanmar-Thailand Joint Trade Commission Meeting.

The Thai minister of Commerce and delegation were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Commerce of Myanmar Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, departmental heads, and ambassador-designate to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal and officials of the Thai embassy.

The Myanmar-Thailand JTC Meeting was opened at Grand Plaza Parkroyal Hotel in Dagon Township at 10.20 am.

At the meeting, Myanmar delegation leader Brig-Gen Pyi Sone delivered an address. In his speech, he said with regard to the bilateral trade between Myanmar and Thailand, the volume of trade stood at US\$ 1.3 billion in the 2002-2003 fiscal year, during which the bilateral trade was increased by 24 percent. In the 2003-2004 fiscal year, the export to Thailand was US\$ 530 million while the import from Thailand was US\$ 126 million.

He continued that the investment promotion is one of the important projects un-



Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone and Thai Counterpart Mr Watana Muangsook sign Agreed Minutes for the Fourth Session of Joint Trade Commission (JTC) between Myanmar and Thailand. — MNA

der the Four Countries Economic Cooperation Strategy, adding that discussions are under way to establish investment projects in border areas.

Thai Commerce Minister Mr Watana Muangsook also gave a speech on the occasion.

Matters related to conditions of bilateral trade between the two countries were reviewed and discussed, and the date and time of the next meeting coordinated and designated. Also put into discussions were border trade, the organizing of trade fairs, the exchange of trade delegations, and the implementation of trade and investment programmes under the Four Countries Economic Cooperation Strategy.

After the meeting,

Agreed Minutes for the Fourth Session of Joint Trade Commission (JTC) between the Union of Myanmar and the Kingdom of Thailand were signed by the two commerce ministers.

Next, officials concerned from both sides signed the 'Summary Record of the Progress on Account Trade Arrangement between Myanmar and Thailand' and the 'Memorandum of Understanding between the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Federation of Thai Industries And the Thai Chamber of Commerce and the Bankers Association of Thailand'.

Afterwards, Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone received Thai Commerce Minister Mr Watana Muangsook and delegation and Thai ambas-

sador-designate to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal at the hotel at noon. Later, Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone hosted a lunch to the Thai minister and delegation.

Likewise, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung received the Thai commerce minister at the hotel at 11.30 am. The Thai delegation led by Thai Commerce Minister Mr Watana Muangsook left here for home by Special Aircraft of Thai Royal Army (Air) in the evening. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, departmental heads, the Thai ambassador-designate to Myanmar and embassy staff. — MNA



# Seven American soldiers among 16 killed in Iraq resistance

**BAGHDAD, 26 Jan**—In the continuing resistance in Iraq, at least 16 people, including seven American soldiers, were killed and many others injured during the past 24 hours, according to reports reaching here on Sunday.

As many as three American soldiers were killed and six others wounded when a car bomb exploded at a military checkpoint in the western Iraqi town of Khaldiyyah on Saturday, the US military and witnesses said.

“Three Task Force All American soldiers were killed and six were wounded when a vehicle-borne IED (improvised explosive device) detonated at Khaldiyyah,” a military spokesman said and added that an undetermined number of Iraqis were also wounded in the blast, which took place at 4:15 pm.

Khaldiyyah resident Khaled Awad Faisal told AFP news agency a car rammed a military post in the town, 95 kilometres west of Baghdad. He said that the motorway had been blocked by US troops since shortly after the blast.

Earlier, two US soldiers were killed when a bomb exploded north of Fallujah. The US soldiers were killed by a roadside bomb that struck their four-vehicle convoy north of Fallujah.

In another attack, four Iraqi civilians were killed and scores injured when a bomb exploded in a crowded area outside a courthouse in Samarra, medics and US officials said.

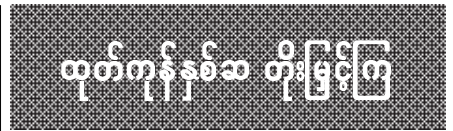
Also, in Baghdad and the northern cities of Mosul and Kirkuk, three Iraqi police officers died in two drive-by shootings and a bombing.

A traffic policeman died and three others were wounded, one seriously, when unknown gunmen opened fire from a car outside a hotel in Baghdad’s upmarket Karrada district in the afternoon, police said.

Earlier, an Iraqi police officer was killed and another wounded when their patrol pick-up truck came under attack in the northern city of Mosul, local police said.

Another policeman was killed and two wounded by an explosive device which detonated as they were guarding a pipeline near the northern oil city of Kirkuk, which has been wracked by ethnic tensions.

Internet



## US soldier dies after Iraq rocket attack

**BAGHDAD, 26 Jan** —A US soldier died Sunday morning in Iraq after being wounded when a rocket-propelled grenade struck his vehicle, a US military source said.

The attack happened Saturday night in the central town of Beiji, just north of Tikrit.

The soldier, whose name has not been released, was assigned to the US Army’s 4th Infantry Division, the military source said. The soldier was riding in Bradley fighting vehicle when a RPG slammed into it. Other soldiers in the patrol convoy returned fire against the attackers and captured six suspected insurgents, the military source said.

The critically wounded soldier was taken to the 28th Combat Support Hospital where he died hours later after surgery, the source said. Beiji is in Iraq’s so-called Sunni Triangle, the volatile region north and west of Baghdad, where many of the deaths have occurred.—Internet



*Iraqi residents walk past coils of razor wire used to protect a US headquarters at the so-called “Green Zone” in central Baghdad, on Sunday, 25 Jan, 2004. Ravaged by three wars in quick succession and battered by an on-going campaign of violence, Baghdad has gone from bad to worse since its capture in April by US forces. — INTERNET*

## Deaths mar start of UN Iraq mission

**BAGHDAD, 26 Jan**—In one of Iraq’s deadliest days this year, five American soldiers and seven Iraqis were killed in a series of bombings and drive-by shootings on Saturday that clouded the start of a two-man UN security mission in Iraq.

Another US soldier died of wounds sustained in a rocket-propelled grenade attack on his vehicle on Sunday in the town of Beiji, north of Baghdad.

The latest US deaths brought to 240 the number of US soldiers killed in hostile action since US President George W Bush declared major combat over last May.

Saturday’s attacks happened near the western city of Fallujah, a stronghold of the Sunni Muslim elite that once ruled the country.

Two US pilots were killed late Friday when their helicopter came down near the northern city of Kayyarah, but it was not immediately clear whether hostile fire was involved.

A car laden with explosives ploughed into a military checkpoint west of Baghdad and exploded, killing three US soldiers and wounding six, the US military and witnesses said.

Three US soldiers “were killed and six were wounded when a vehicle-borne IED (improvised explosive device) detonated at Khaldiyyah,” 95km west of Baghdad, a US military spokesman said.

Khaldiyyah lies between Fallujah and Ramadi, an axis of insurgency against the US-led occupation.

The attacks came as a two-man UN security team began a mission to Iraq, ending a general withdrawal of UN personnel three months ago ordered by Secretary General Kofi Annan after a spate of deadly bomb attacks on UN headquarters in Baghdad.

Efforts to lure the UN into a renewed role in the planned transfer of power from the US-led occupiers to Iraqis had been boosted earlier by a call from top Shiite cleric Ali al-Sistani to halt protests against the plans.—Internet

## 13-year-old boy becomes 6th to die of bird flu in Vietnam

**HANOI, 26 Jan**— A 13-year-old boy has become the sixth person to die of bird flu in Vietnam and an eight-year-old girl is in critical condition with the virus sweeping through Southeast Asia.

The World Health Organization said on Saturday the boy died on Thursday from the H5N1 strain of avian flu, and that the girl had tested positive for the virus.

Both children were in Ho Chi Minh City and were the first confirmed cases of human bird flu in south Vietnam, which has had the country’s most severe cases of flu in chickens. The virus has killed four children and one adult in north Vietnam. Experts do not know why chil-

dren have been the most affected. “This confirms our suspicions that H5N1 would be active in the south,” said Robert Dietz, spokesman for the UN agency in Hanoi.

Dietz said the boy was admitted to hospital in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam’s largest city, on January 11. The girl was admitted on January 15. He said one WHO expert remained in Ho Chi Minh City and more were likely to be sent.

MNA/Reuters

## S’pore, Malaysia stop Indonesian poultry imports

**JAKARTA, 26 Jan**—Singapore and Malaysia have suspended imports of Indonesian poultry because of rising worries over the outbreak of highly infectious bird flu in Asia, media reported on Saturday.

A Ministry of Agriculture official said the move followed the deaths of thousands of chickens on Bali Island over the past three months, the *Jakarta Post* reported. A government official said on Friday that the chickens died from Newcastle disease, a virus that is harmless to humans and does

not affect the safety of poultry meat, but would carry out further investigations.

Singapore and Malaysia “were in the process of examining our poultry industry, checking slaughterhouses and disease prevention system.

With the current bird flu scare, the examination proc-

ess might take a longer time”, Bachtiar Moerad of the Agriculture Ministry was quoted as saying.

Nations worldwide have banned imports of Thai chicken after Thailand confirmed two human cases of bird flu, which has killed five people in Vietnam.

MNA/Reuters

## Singapore suspends all Thai chicken imports

**SINGAPORE, 26 Jan**—Singapore suspended imports of all chicken from Thailand, Asia’s biggest poultry exporter, after Bangkok confirmed two cases of bird flu in humans, the government said on Saturday.

Singapore last week suspended the import of live and whole frozen chicken from Thailand, but not poultry cuts and processed parts, which make up 99 per cent of the island’s annual 15,000 tons of Thai chicken imports.

“We suspended imports of all chicken from Thailand, effective from last night,” said Goh Shih Yong, a spokesman at the Agriculture & Veterinary Authority.

The ban followed similar moves by the European Union and Japan, the top two importers of Thai chicken.

After days of declaring the country free of bird flu which killed five Vietnamese, the Thai Government said two boys, aged six and seven, had been infected with the contagious virus.

MNA/Reuters

## Shenzhen continues to lead nation in foreign trade

**SHENZHEN, 26 Jan** — Shenzhen City in south China’s Guangdong Province has been placed at the top among Chinese cities in both foreign trade volume and export volume for a succession of 11 years. The city did 117.4 billion US dollars’ worth of foreign trade last year, up 34.58 per cent. Of the total, exports made up 62.96 billion US dollars, a rise of 35.24 per cent, said local sources.

The city also had an inflow of 5.04 billion US dollars of overseas capital in the past year, a record high. Out of the world’s 500 top companies, 98 have made investments in this southern Chinese city. Multinationals have built nine regional headquarters and 26 research and development centres in Shenzhen, which faces Hong Kong across a river and is one of China’s busiest land ports for exit and entry. There are now more than 3,400 companies doing foreign trade from Shenzhen.— MNA/Xinhua



*Some 6,000 people staged a rally against sending Japanese troops to Iraq, a day before Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi was expected to give the final go-ahead for the dispatch of the core group of ground troops. — INTERNET*

## Iraq intelligence 'deficient'

**BAGHDAD, 26 Jan—**A former British junior defence minister admitted yesterday it was looking increasingly likely that Prime Minister Tony Blair's government relied on "deficient" intelligence ahead of the Iraq war.

Lewis Moonie, who was sacked from his post as armed forces minister in a June reshuffle, said the government may soon have to concede that intelligence on Saddam Hussein's alleged weapons of mass destruction was faulty.

Speaking to Scottish Television, Moonie said: "If it's the case that the intelligence that we had was deficient, as is increasingly looking likely ... sooner or later we may well have to say 'yep, the intelligence was faulty and the decisions we took were based on the best evidence available and the best evidence available wasn't good enough'."

The Prime Minister's future hangs in the balance as a long-awaited report of the judicial inquiry into the suicide last July of David Kelly will be made public on Wednesday.—*Internet*

## Army copter with two pilots crashes in Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 26 Jan—**A US military helicopter crashed Sunday in the Tigris River in the northern town of Mosul while searching for a soldier, and both crewmembers were missing, a spokeswoman said.

She did not say what caused the crash of the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter, attached to the 101st Airborne Division.

The helicopter was searching for a US soldier missing when the boat he was in capsized earlier Sunday, the spokeswoman said on condition of anonymity. The soldier was on a river patrol with three other soldiers and some Iraqi policemen, she said.

The other three soldiers were safe but two Iraqi police officers and an Iraqi translator

are reported dead, said the spokeswoman.

She said the search for the two pilots is underway as well as an investigation into the crash in Mosul, 225 miles northwest of Baghdad.

It was the fifth helicopter crash in Iraq this month—three of them due to hostile fire. Another Army OH-58 Kiowa Warrior crashed on Friday south of Mosul, killing the two pilots. The cause of that crash also has not been disclosed.—*Internet*



Employees celebrate at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California late on 24 Jan, 2004. The Opportunity space craft has landed on the surface of Mars, NASA engineers at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory said on Saturday. At about 9.06 pm local time (12:06 am EST/0506 GMT) engineers received a signal that Opportunity had touched down on the Meridiani Planum, a smooth plain near Mars' equator on the other side of the Red Planet from its twin rover, Spirit.—*INTERNET*

## "Spirit" to be in critical conditions

**PASADENA (California), 26 Jan—**NASA engineers on Friday declared the crippled martian rover Spirit to be in "critical" condition and said the vehicle would likely remain idle for several days or even weeks.

Meanwhile, the scientists geared up for the landing of a second robotic explorer, Opportunity, on Mars this weekend on the other side of the planet from the troubled Spirit.

And from another current mission to Mars, the all-European Mars Express beamed back high resolution pictures of the planet's south pole that confirmed the presence of frozen water, showing there may be water in other parts of the planet.

Spirit, which had operated virtually problem free for its first 18 days on the red planet, has been out of commission since an abrupt, unexplained communications breakdown on Wednesday, less than a week after successfully rolling off its landing platform to begin searching for geologic signs of life-sustaining water.

Three brief transmissions received from the six-wheeled craft Friday consisted mostly of error messages and limited engineering data, said mission controllers at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory who manage the Mars project for NASA.

For now, NASA engineers and scientists will be playing a sort of interplanetary game of 20 questions with the rover, as they attempt to send commands to the vehicle and gradually tease out electronic clues to what ails it.

## US finds cocaine in Colombian tropical fish cargo

**MIAMI, 26 Jan —**US Customs officials seized 300,000 US dollars' worth of liquid cocaine disguised as water in a shipment of live tropical fish from Colombia.

The US Customs and Border Protection service said on Friday that 41.7 pounds of cocaine was packaged in plastic bags used to ship the fresh water decorative fish to Miami.

"This appears to be a new trend in smuggling, using an old method which officers have not seen in many years," said the agency, part of the US Department of Homeland Security.

The fish were packed in bags with three linings. The inner lining, containing the fish, was filled with water but the middle lining held a yellowish liquid that triggered the interest of a drug dog called "Rocky". In all, six bags in a shipment of the fish sent by cargo plane from Bogota tested positive for cocaine.—*MNA/Reuters*

"We should expect we will not be restoring functionality to Spirit for a significant amount of time, many days, perhaps two weeks, even in the best of circumstances," Mars Exploration Rover Project Manager Pete Theisinger told reporters at a JPL briefing.

He described the rover's condition as "critical", adding, "We do not know to what extent we can restore functionality to the system because we don't know what's broke.... We have a long way to go with the patient in intensive care."

Theisinger said that while the mission's flight software was malfunctioning — plunging the rover into a continual "processor reset loop" — he suspected that the root cause of the problem was some kind of hardware issue, such as a mechanical glitch or sensor flaw. —*MNA/Reuters*

## Briton jailed for stealing US September 11 funds

**NEW YORK, 26 Jan—**A British citizen has been sentenced to six months in prison for stealing federal funds earmarked for revitalizing lower Manhattan after the September 11, 2001, attacks that destroyed the World Trade Centre.

Allan Klein, 30, was sentenced on Thursday for lying on an application for a 12,000-US-dollar government grant. He had promised to live in lower Manhattan for two years but moved to Florida instead.

Klein pleaded guilty last year to defrauding the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Lower Manhattan Development Corp, which distributed federal funds for the revitalization programme.

In addition to sentencing Klein to prison, US District

Judge Richard Casey ordered his deportation.

According to the charges, Klein submitted his application for funds in September 2002 and was approved to receive the 12,000-US-dollar grant over two years.

Within months of submitting his application to the development corporation, Klein left Manhattan and moved to Florida. However, he continued to seek his payments. He was arrested last July after picking up a grant cheque for 5,000 US dollars.

*MNA/Reuters*



## Syria denies receiving Iraq arms

**DAMASCUS, 26 Jan—**Syria has strongly denied allegations that it has been harbouring Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.

The charge that part of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction programme went to Syria before the war came from the ex-head of the US weapons inspection team.

David Kay said former Iraqi officials had given evidence that materials had been moved across the border.

However Syrian Information Minister Ahmad al-Hassan said the allegations were "baseless deception and lies".

The minister told reporters in Damascus that the US was seeking to cover up its failure to find any weapons stockpiles in Iraq, despite using them as a pretext for last year's war.

### 'Unresolved'

The accusations by Mr Kay came in an interview published in Britain's Sunday Telegraph newspaper.

"We are not talking about a large stockpile of weapons," he told the paper.

"But we know from some of the interrogations of former Iraqi officials that a lot of material went to Syria before the war, including some components of Saddam's WMD programme.

"Precisely what went to Syria, and what has happened to it, is a major issue that needs to be resolved."

Mr Kay resigned on Friday as leader of the Iraq Survey Group and has been replaced by Charles Duelfer.—*Internet*

## US soldier dies of raid wounds, 8th US fatality in 24 hours

**BAGHDAD, 26 Jan—**Another US soldier was killed in Iraq, the eighth American troop fatality in a 24-hour wave of attack, as thousands rallied in Tokyo yesterday against sending Japanese troops to the war-battered country.

The American soldier died of wounds sustained in a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) attack on his vehicle on Wednesday night in Beiji, north of Baghdad, military spokeswoman Major Josslyn Aberle said.

The latest death took to 240 the number of US soldiers killed in combat since major hostilities ended on 1 May.

*Internet*



The US military said it was hunting for the two-man crew of an armed reconnaissance helicopter that crashed on 25 January, 2004 in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. A military spokesman in Baghdad said the Kiowa helicopter came down in the Tigris River in Mosul, about 390 km (240 miles) northwest of Baghdad, while on a search-and-rescue mission for a US soldier who had been on a river patrol boat that went missing earlier. A US Army Kiowa helicopter is seen flying in Falluja in this photo on 8 January, 2004.

*INTERNET*



# IRAQ UNDER US OCCUPATION



Iraqi women look down from their bomb damaged apartment window in Baghdad after a roadside bomb exploded below, on Sunday, 25 Jan, 2004. Widespread attacks in Iraq in the past few days underscore continued resistance to the American occupation despite the 13 December capture of Saddam Hussein. — INTERNET



British soldiers patrol a street in Basra. A former junior defence minister admitted it was looking increasingly likely that Prime Minister Tony Blair 's government relied on 'deficient' intelligence ahead of the Iraq war.—INTERNET



US soldiers walk across the blocked off bridge leading from the Iraqi town of Khaldiyyah to Ramadi on 25 January 2004 near the spot where three fellow soldiers were killed and six wounded when a car carrying a bomb rammed the military checkpoint at the foot of the bridge. A number of Iraqis were also injured in the blast.—INTERNET



A US soldier surveys the scene of an explosion in Baghdad. Another US soldier was killed in Iraq, the eighth American troop fatality in a 24-hour wave of attack. INTERNET



Iraqi girls look out of their shattered window after an explosion went off as a US patrol drove past, near a hotel in Baghdad's upmarket Karrada district on 25 Jan, 2004. — INTERNET

Traffic in central Baghdad comes to a halt in a traffic jam after a bridge was temporarily closed by a road block on Sunday, 25 Jan, 2004. Ravaged by three wars in quick succession and battered by an on-going campaign of attack, Baghdad has gone from bad to worse since its capture in April by US forces. INTERNET



# Opinion poll shows Iraqis fear civil war the most

**BAGHDAD, 26 Jan**—Iraqis, rattled by daily carnage since Saddam Hussein's fall, fear a sectarian civil war would be the biggest threat to their country, an opinion poll released by the US-led administration on Saturday showed.

Nearly 30 per cent of respondents said they feared sectarian bloodshed the most, followed by 16.5 per cent who were most anxious about large vehicle bombs planted by guerillas that have killed scores of people.

The poll, conducted from January 1 to 7 in selected cities, canvassed the opinions of 1,167 Iraqis.

The findings came amid uncertainty over an American plan to hand over power to Iraqis by July. It is opposed by a powerful cleric in the majority Shiite community who wants direct elections.

Iraqis and their Arab neighbours have long feared that the removal of Saddam could unleash a civil war between Iraq's Shiite, Sunni and Kurdish groups.

So far there have been no signs of a

civil war brewing but many Iraqis fear it could erupt.

In interviews with *Reuters*, some Iraqis said they opposed the US occupation but feared civil war if the Americans left. Many have called for an immediate US departure.

The survey said 56.8 per cent of respondents said they would feel less safe if US-led troops left today, 27.8 per cent said they would be more safe and 12 per cent felt it made no difference.

An official from the US-led Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) declined to say which companies had been hired to conduct the survey.

Roadside bombs planted by guerillas and street crimes also rank at the top of a list of Iraqi fears, the poll said.

MNA/Reuters

# Malaysia, Singapore ties improving

**KUALA LUMPUR, 26 Jan**—The presence of Singapore leaders at the Malaysia National Chinese New Year Celebration signals improving relations between the two countries, Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has said.

Speaking at the celebration in Johor Baru, south Malaysia, Saturday night, Abdullah thanked his counterpart Goh Chok Tong and his deputy Brigadier-General Lee Hsien Loong for joining in the celebrations to experience Malaysian warmth and hospitality.

It was the second time this month that the two prime ministers have met, following Abdullah's visit to the republic on January 12.

Eleven Cabinet ministers from Singapore also attended the celebration at Danga Bay, Johor Baru.

Some 300,000 people including 50,000 Singaporeans braved the rain to attend the glittering event, which was launched by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamallulail.

Meanwhile, Abdullah reminded Malaysians to remain united and exercise tolerance and goodwill towards each other so that the nation would continue to prosper.

Relations between the two neighbours have been choppy, largely concerning the dispute over price of water Malaysia sells to Sin-

gapore, jurisdiction of Batu Putih Island in the straits between them and the second bridge linking the two countries.

Earlier last year, Singapore published a book presenting its version on the water dispute. Malaysia responded by placing a series of advertisements in local and international newspapers, presenting its side of the story.

However, Singapore greeted Abdullah's appointment as Prime Minister last November as a fresh opportunity to resolve outstanding issues.—MNA/Xinhua

# Australia confident of keeping bird flu out

**CANBERRA, 26 Jan**—The Australian Government is confident that its import regulations will prevent the spread of bird flu to Australia via poultry products, according to Acting Agriculture Minister Ian MacFarlane Saturday.

"Those regulations to date have also not seen any chicken products come to Australia," he told Australian Broadcasting

Corporation radio. He said Australian authorities are screening passengers from the countries at risk.

Commonwealth chief medical officer John Horvath said Saturday that there has been little chance of the flu, that has killed several people in Vietnam, getting into Australia.

MNA/Xinhua



Two American soldiers have been killed in a roadside bomb attack on their convoy near the volatile town of Falluja, the US Army says. Iraqi men visit a damaged auto dealership in the restive town of Falluja in this January 22 file photo. —INTERNET



US Army soldiers survey the scene where a car bomb exploded on Saturday at the entrance to an American military base in the Iraqi town of Khaldiya, killing three soldiers and wounding six. Another American soldier died on Sunday following a rocket-propelled grenade attack, bringing the death toll from a series of weekend ambushes to five US troops and four Iraqi civilians. — INTERNET

# Democrat Edwards wants Iraq war case investigation

**LACONIA (New Hampshire), 26 Jan**—Democratic presidential hopeful John Edwards called on Saturday for an independent commission to investigate if the Bush Administration misled the US Congress in making its case for war with Iraq and demanded an end to "war profiteering".

The senator from North Carolina was responding to remarks by former chief US arms hunter David Kay, who told *Reuters* after stepping down on Friday that he had concluded there were no stockpiles of biological and chemical weapons to be found.

"It's a serious issue and it's why I have called for an independent commission to investigate the discrepancy between what's found there and what we were told before," Edwards told reporters in New Hampshire before next Tuesday's primary.

Edwards voted for the congressional resolution authorizing US President George W Bush to wage war against Iraq.

Asked if he felt the Bush Administration had misled lawmakers when making its case for war, Edwards said, "That's exactly why... we need an independent commission to get to the bottom of this."

Before the war, the Bush Administration said it feared Iraq was stockpiling weapons of mass destruction. But Kay said on Friday, "I don't think they existed."

Edwards also called for an end to "war profiteering". He said Halliburton Co and others who had secured contracts to rebuild Iraq were major Bush political contributors.

Halliburton said on Friday that its workers might have taken kickbacks from a Kuwaiti subcontractor supplying US troops in Iraq, prompting the company to send a 6.3-million-US-dollar cheque to the US Army to cover potential overbilling.

"The American people know there is something wrong going on with war profiteering and Halliburton and the contracts in Iraq because there is something wrong going on, and we have to change it," Edwards said.—MNA/Reuters

# Japan supports Vietnam to fight against bird flu

**HANOI, 26 Jan**—The Japanese Government has decided to provide Vietnam approximately 20 million yen (more than 183,000 US dollars) worth of medicine (100,000 tablets of Tamiflu) to help the country fight against avian influenza.

The medicine will be provided to chicken house workers and those who have contact with them, and also to residents of local communities where infection among chickens is confirmed, according to the Japanese Embassy in Vietnam on Saturday.

The World Health Organization has

confirmed that seven local victims have been tested positive with the virus H5N1, which has been found in infected poultry.

As of January 23, bird flu has been found in 24 localities in Vietnam, infecting some 3.2 million fowls.

MNA/Xinhua

# Indonesia supports Bangladesh's wish to be ICO S-G

**JAKARTA, 26 Jan**— Indonesia fully supports Bangladesh's wish to serve as secretary general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (ICO), Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs Hasan Wirayuda said here on over the weekend.

"Indonesia supports Bangladesh to be the secretary-general of the ICO," Hassan was quoted by state news agency *Antara* as saying.

He said while discussing the outcome of talks between President Megawati Soekarnoputri and Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at the State Palace.

Hassan also said Bangladesh supported Indonesia's wish to become a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council in 2007.

The Bangladesh Prime Minister arrived here on Friday evening for a three-day visit aimed at boosting bilateral relations between the two countries.—MNA/Xinhua



## Ministers, ambassadors, diplomats and UN resident representatives observe development tasks for Wa region

YANGON, 26 Jan — Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Vice-Chairman Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung and Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, members Minister for Labour U Tin Winn and Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, together with ambassadors of foreign missions in Yangon, diplomats, resident representatives of UN agencies, CCDAC Secretary MPF Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yee and officials, visited Shan State (East), Shan State (West), Mandalay Division and Magway Division starting from 23 January to observe regional development tasks and drugs elimination tasks.

On 24 January, they visited the border area development training school in Kengtung where they were welcomed by Director U Khin Maung Swe of Shan State (East) Development Affairs Department and officials. Acting Principal U Kyaw



Diplomats and UN Resident Representatives view a tea plantation in Mongmau. — CCDAC

As regards the infrastructure sector, with a view to promoting regional efficiency, emphasis is placed on building social and economic infrastructures, having market share, necessary services and having smooth communication. As regards the education sector, efforts have been made for promoting the education standard of the people and pursuing education with the prescribed texts of the State. As regards the agriculture sector, priority is given to preserving natural

Panghsan at 11.50 am where national race leader U Li Zee Yu and party welcomed them. At the briefing hall, Wa national race leader U Pauk Yu Chan made a presentation. He said arms have been exchanged for peace with the government since April 17, 1989. During the past 15 years, Wa region has developed remarkably. With the development achieved, efforts for elimination of drugs in 2005 can be carried out. As regards the transportation sector, there were only 300 kilometers of road before 1989

32,500 tons of rice was produced in 2003. Surplus 6,000 tons of paddy was sold to the other regions. 3,000 more tons of maize was produced. As regards the livestock breeding sector, two big-scale Hong Peng livestock breeding farms were established in northern and southern parts to fulfil local needs. In addition, rubber plants were grown on 18,122 acres of land and 80,000 teak plants were also grown. Lychee, orange, mango, citron, tea and grape were grown on 36,860 acres of land. Moreover, cigarette factory, wine distillery, gems enterprise, paper mill, match factory, drinking water factory, brick factory, beer distillery and foodstuff factories have been built. A total of 15,796 students are pursuing education at 288 schools including six middle schools. These were opened with the cash provided by the State, the UN and the people of Wa region. There are 988 teachers, 20 hospitals, 106 dispensaries and 591 health care staff. A women's organization was established in the region in 2003, he said.

Drugs elimination tasks have been carried out since 1996. The region has the population of over 600,000. Altogether 16 ethnic groups are living in 29 districts. According to the opium yield survey, there grows no poppy in Mongmau, Weinkaung, Mongpauk, Lonhtan, Namtit, Panghsan and Mongpyin regions. The difficulty is that the region is mountainous. So, it is difficult to carry out regional development tasks and there is also a problem in UNODC's project for regional development. The programme to resettle the people to the southern region needs a lot of funds. Raw materials produced from poppy-substitute agriculture tasks and livestock breeding tasks have a problem with market. Some essential chemicals for other industries cannot be imported due to the strict bilateral chemicals control programme. Those migrated to southern part need medicines. But, these difficulties will not change the opium elimination objective in 2005. If the assistance of Myanmar government, the Republic of

China, Thailand and international organizations be rendered, the objectives will be realized smoothly.

The visitors left there and arrived at Mongmau 2.30 pm where national race leader U Pauk Yu Lyan and Tactical Operations Commander Col Sein Win and party welcomed them. They visited tea plantations there. At 3.30 pm, they arrived at Namtit where national race leader U Lu Shin Kya made a report. He said it took ten years for the Wa region to have the present situation. Thanks to the assistance of the State and foreign countries, the difficulties could be overcome and the region has developed. The main income comes from mining, local trade, toll tax, and the assistance of traders. Strenuous efforts have been made to reduce poppy growing for drugs elimination tasks of the region. As a result, only about 600 families of two village-tracts out of 2,800 families of six village-tracts are growing poppy. In resettling the people from the two village-tracts, housing and rice sufficiency is of prime importance. A total of 50,000 rubber plants, 100,000 lychee, 120,000 Chinese plum, 350,000 tea plants, 140,000 pineapple plants, 150,000 Chinsawkhya plants (*Cydonia cathayensis*), 5,000 walnut plants, 50,000 mango trees and 1,050,000 flower plants have been grown to

substitute poppy-growing. In addition, one factory that takes out rubber seeds, one brick tile factory and one brick factory have been built. And tasks for drinking water were implemented. In road transportation sector, 53 miles of gravel road, 115 miles of earthen road, 6 miles of tarred road, 16 bridges and 235 miles of road were constructed. Water supply tasks for 4,500 acres of plantation and 5,600 acres of land have been implemented. But, present plantation cannot provide local people with sufficient rice. Arrangements for land reclamation and digging of the canal of 115,000 feet are being made. A rubber factory will be built there. Assistance of international community will benefit the region. There are some difficulties to buy some chemicals due to the strict bilateral chemicals control programme. So, to solve these problems, the region needs a huge sum of cash for local food sufficiency in eliminating narcotic drugs.

Afterwards, queries of the ambassadors, the diplomats and the UN resident representatives were replied. The visitors then left there and arrived at Lashio 5.45 pm. At 7 pm, on behalf of the North-East Command Commander, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint hosted a dinner in honour of the visitors.

MNA



Diplomats and UN Resident Representatives visit the border area development training school in Kengtung. — CCDAC

Kyaw Oo and Assistant Registrar Daw Wai Wai Naing of Kengtung Degree College made presentations.

The ministers, the ambassadors, the diplomats and the UN resident representatives left Kengtung by helicopter and arrived at Mongpauk at 10.10 am. National race leader U Aik Phu and party welcomed them. Resident Representative of UNODC Mr Li Ming Hu extended greetings and Project Manager Mr Jeremy Milson explained tasks for Wa region development project at the office of the project. He said altogether 44,143 people of 8,452 households are living in 337 villages of the five townships in Mongpauk District. A total of 12 ethnic groups are living there of which majority are Lahu, Shan and Wanationals. The major objective of the project is to control drugs and to ensure no production and abuse of drugs. Of its six major branches, as regards health sector, efforts are being made to educate the public and to have better health and nutrition, to reduce the number of drugs users at present and in the future and to establish a health system that exists after the project.

resources and to producing sufficient rice and increasing incomes. As regards the information sector, opium yield survey was conducted in 337 villages in five townships in 2003. Poppy was grown on 1,915 acres of land. It shows the decrease of 19 percent when compared with 2002. In addition, as regards the rural development sector, courses are opened to educate the people, with a view to having their participation.

As a result, poppy-growing and opium-production in the region has remarkably decreased. Poppy was grown on 1,212 hectares of land in 1999, and the number decreased to 956.37 hectares in 2002. It is estimated that the number will decrease further to about 500 hectares in 2004. Afterwards, queries of the ambassadors, the diplomats and the UN resident representatives were replied. At Mongpauk Hospital, in-charge Dr Saw Aung Hla conducted them around there.

The ministers, the ambassadors, the diplomats and the UN resident representatives left Mongpauk by helicopter at 11.30 am and arrived at

compared with 1,800 kilometers at present. In addition, over 250 bridges have been built and over 3,000 kilometers of road linking southern and northern townships of Wa region was constructed.

As regards the energy sector, at present there are seven hydel power stations to generate 13,560 kilowatts, up from only a 40-kilowatt hydel power station before 1989. This helps industrial and economic development. As regards civil construction tasks, Panghsan, Mongmau and Namtit in northern Wa region can be seen developing. Arrangements, for development of southern Wa region are being made.

As regards the agriculture sector, with the assistance of the State, high-land farming has developed thanks to Wanlin Dam and Mongka canal. Similarly, projects for development of agriculture sector have been implemented in every township. So, rice is sufficient for the region from 6 to 8 months, up from 4 to 6 months before 1989. There are 27 canals, six dams in Wa region and 120 tractors, and 550 cattle have been distributed to the farmers with no interest. So,



MKF Vice-President Dr Ye Naing Win presents certificate to a trainee. — MKF

### Karate-Do Coaching Course ends

YANGON, 26 Jan — Karate-Do Coaching Course 1/2004 concluded at Aung San Stadium today. Vice-President of the Myanmar Karate-Do Federation Dr Ye Naing Win gave a speech. He also presented certificates of honour to the trainees.

Dr Ye Naing Win discussed with the trainees the development of the sporting event at the respective regions of Myanmar. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attends the opening ceremony of the three-storey library of Mawlamyine University. Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Minister U Than Aung formally open it. — MNA



### Mawlamyine University gets new three-storey library

YANGON, 26 Jan — A ceremony to open the three-storey library of Mawlamyine University took place in front of the library in Mawlamyine, Mon State, yesterday morning. Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee and Prime Minister of the State General Khin Nyunt attended the ceremony.

Also present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development

Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, ministers, deputy ministers, responsible personnel of the State Peace and Development Council, departmental officials, social organizations, Rector of Mawlamyine University U San Tint, professors, faculty members, and others.

In explaining why the li-

brary was opened, Rector U San Tint said that during the inspection tour of the university on 28-12-1993 the Prime Minister gave instructions that a convocation hall, a library, and buildings around the swimming pool should be built. Now that the library has been completed, researchers, teachers and students can now use it. A total of 106,920 copies of books and periodicals are kept there. Commander

Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Minister for Education U Than Aung formally opened the newly-constructed three-storey library of Mawlamyine University.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt unveiled the signboard of the library, and the Prime Minister and party viewed round

the library. After the ceremony, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party posed for a group photo together with the faculty members of the university and students in front of the library. Later, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party went to the convocation hall construction site at

the university and heard reports on the architectural design of the convocation hall and progress of construction works. After giving instructions on the architectural designs, the Prime Minister looked into the construction project of the convocation hall.

MNA

#### U Nay Win presents Credentials to President of ROK

YANGON, 27 Jan — U Nay Win, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Korea, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr Roh Moo-Hyun, President of the Republic of Korea, on 15 January 2004, in Seoul. — MNA

#### U Saw Hla Min presents Credentials to Emperor of Japan

YANGON, 27 Jan — U Saw Hla Min, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to Japan, presented his Credentials to His Majesty Emperor Akihito, Emperor of Japan, on 16 January 2004, in Tokyo. — MNA

#### Seminar on Energy Database System, Forecasting Techniques

YANGON, 26 Jan — Seminar on Energy Database System and Forecasting Techniques jointly sponsored by ASEAN Centre for Energy and Academy of Energy Economic of Japan, opened at Traders

Hotel here this morning.

Director-General of Energy Planning Department U Soe Myint gave a speech. Officials of the two organizing bodies, Energy Ministry, Electric Power Ministry, For-

estry Ministry, Science and Technology Ministry, Mines Ministry and National Planning and Economic Development Ministry took part in the discussions. The seminar continues on 27 January. — MNA



Director-General of Energy Planning Department U Soe Myint gives a speech at Seminar on Energy Database System and Forecasting Techniques. — ENERGY



UMFCCI officials meet Thai businessmen. — UMFCCI

#### UMFCCI meets two Thai business bodies

YANGON, 26 Jan — Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry held meeting with the Federation of Thai Industries and Thai Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel here yesterday.

President of the UMFCCI U Win Myint, Vice-Presidents U Win Aung and U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and executives and Deputy Director-General of Foreign Trade Department, Commerce Ministry of Thailand Mr Vichak Vistenoi and officials of the two Thai business bodies discussed investment, trade, farm products, wood and wood-based industries and other sectors.

U Win Myint and party held a separate meeting with Thai businessmen led by Chairman of FTI Mr Plengsakdi Prakaspesat.

MNA



Ambassador of India Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia and wife welcome Foreign Minister U Win Aung and wife at reception marking the 55th anniversary of the Republic Day of India on Monday. — MNA



Ambassador Mr Paul Grigson and wife welcome Foreign Minister U Win Aung and wife at reception marking the Australia Day on Monday. — MNA



Headmaster U Tin Maung Tun speaks at the annual PTA meeting of Dagon Township BEHS 2. Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo attends the meeting. — H





Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects the multimedia classroom at Ye Township Basic Education High School on 25 January. — MNA

## Successful realization of the plans depends...

(from page 1)

The Prime Minister and party inspected electronic media (language lab), printed and display media (reading corner), electronic media (video system), printed media (visual presenter) and computer room.

Next, the Prime Minister met with members of Township Peace and Development Council, departmental personnel and members of social organizations.

First, Chairman of Ye Township Peace and Development Council U Htay Win reported to the Prime Minister on location and area of the township, cultivation of summer paddy, food sufficiency in the region, cultivation of pepper, rubber and beans and pulses, measures being taken in the education and health sectors and requirements.

Township Manager U Khin Maung Aye of

Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise reported on yearly cultivation of rubber in Ye Township and cultivation of rubber on 58830 acres of land this year.

After fulfilling the needs in education, health and agriculture sectors, the Prime Minister made a speech saying that he has inspected education, health, transport and development sectors that will contribute towards the development of Ye Township. According to reports presented by officials and the findings, arrangements have been made to build two-storey building in Ye People's Hospital and provide medical equipment in order to provide better health care services to the people living in the township. Moreover, arrangements have also been made to open rural health centres where necessary, he said.

(See page 10)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects Convocation Hall Project of Mawlamyine University on 25 January.—MNA

## Seminar, workshops of MICT Week-2004 go on

YANGON, 26 Jan — The third MICT Week-2004 continued today for the sixth day at MICT Park on Hline

University Campus in Hline Township here.

The seminar on Wireless & Broadband Applications was held at 9 am at the conference hall and the workshop on Better Software Faster at 1 pm, attended by officials of Myanmar Computer Federation, Myanmar Computer Scientists Association and Myanmar Computer Industry Association and those interested in computer science and IT. Similarly, The final of Myanmar National Counter-Strike Championship-2004 took place at the conference hall. MICT Director Col Tin Oo presented K 2.8 million donated by MICTDC and K 2.52 million by Bagan Cybertech to the winners.

MNA

## MICT Week-2004 continues

YANGON, 26 Jan — The third MICT Week-2004 continued today for the sixth day at MICT Park on Hline University Campus in Hline Township here.

Chairman of the central committee for organizing MICT Week-2004 Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-

Gen Thein Zaw, e-National Task Force Vice-Chairman Civil Service Selection and Training Board member U Aung Myint and officials today visited the exhibition which was packed with all walks of life. It is kept open from 9 am to 5 pm and has been extended up to 31 January. — MNA



Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw visits a booth at MICT Week 2004. — MNA



Myanmar Technology Gateway opens booth at MICT Week 2004. — H



An official takes part in the workshop of MICT Week 2004. — MNA

## Successful realization of the plans depends...

(from page 9)

Arrangements are also being made to open basic education primary schools in areas where there are no BEPS and to upgrade the BEPS to BEMS.

At a time when the government is implementing the five rural development tasks, district and township level officials are to go right down to the grassroots level and strive for regional development and raising the living standard of local people, he said. Only when there are successes in rural development tasks will there be progress of socio-economic life of local people, he pointed out.

In addition to the conventional farming in the region, the respective departments are to render assistance to farmers for realizing the objectives laid down by the State in agriculture and livestock breeding sectors.

Rubber is the main crop of Mon State and Taninthayi Division. For achieving more development in cultivation of the crop, necessary assistance including agricultural method and strains are to be provided to farmers, he

noted.

The Prime Minister urged officials concerned to strive for development of the township, ensuring community peace and tranquillity, raising the living standard of rural people after realizing the five rural development tasks laid down by the State.

Next, Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presented a TV set, a VCR, a set of computer and teaching aids to the township education officer and medicines to the medical superintendent.

Later, they proceeded to Thanbyuzayat. Col Khin Maung Si of Thanbyuzayat Station, local authorities, departmental personnel and members of social organizations welcomed the Prime Minister and party.

The Prime Minister met with members of Township Peace and Development Council, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townsenders.

Chairman of Thanbyuzayat Township Peace and Development Council U Thein Win reported to the



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects Mon State People's Hospital in Mawlamyine on 15 January. — MNA

Prime Minister on targeted, cultivation and yield of monsoon and summer paddy in the township, cultivation of perennial crops including rubber, Thisseint (Belleric Myrobalan), Sithabyay and pepper, cultivation of beans and pulses and edible oil crops, sea prawn breeding, measures being taken in education and health sectors and requirements.

The Prime Minister attended to the needs and made a speech saying that with the conviction that efforts are to be made for national development, he accompanied by in-charge of the region and ministers, was in Kawkareik and Myaingyungu region in Kayin State and again in Ye, Thanbyuzayat, Mudon and Mawlamyine townships to fulfill the requirements in education, health, social and economic sectors of the townships.

In Ye, he said, arrangements are being made to fulfill the needs in health, social, transport and economic sectors in the township. In Thanbyuzayat also, necessary assistance has been provided for regional development and the success of the five rural development tasks.

The State dignitaries themselves today tour right down to the grassroots level to fulfill the needs and for harmonious development of all regions in the country.

At such a time, officials of states, divisions, districts and townships and departments are to make earnest efforts with goodwill forrais-

ing the living standard of local people, he said.

According to the reports, officials in Thanbyuzayat Township are to seek ways and means to realize the goal of regional food sufficiency, he pointed out. Efforts are to be made to meet more success in cultivation of rubber and other crops. Officials at different levels are to supervise the agricultural works such as rubber which a project item.

On completion of Singapore-Kunming railroad, which will be built in cooperation with ASEAN and China, Phayathonzu, Thanphuzayat railroad will emerge and the township will become the hub of the region, he said.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister spoke of the need of officials to form work committees for speedy implementation of development tasks for the township and rural development tasks.

Chairman of MEC Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presented TVs, VCRs and a set of computer each for Nos 1 and 2 BEHS in Thanbyuzayat to the headmasters.

At the People's Hospital in Thanbyuzayat, the Prime Minister and party inspected the medical store, maternity ward and operation theatre.

Next, the Prime Minister and party went to No 1 BEHS in Thanbyuzayat and inspected computer aided instruction, computer application and e-mail, language lab, display media and printed

media, electronic media (video system) and domestic science room.

Afterwards, The Prime Minister and party arrived in Mudon where they were welcomed by local authorities and officials. At the town hall, the Prime Minister met with members of Township Peace and Development Council, departmental personnel and members of social organizations.

Chairman of the Township PDC U Kyaw Kyaw Maung reported to the Prime Minister on land use in the township, sown acreage, dams and benefited acres, cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, edible oil crops, beans and pulses, regional food sufficiency, measures being taken in the education and health sectors and requirements. Officials also reported on health and education matters, cultivation of paddy, edible oil crops, beans and pulses and supplying water from dams for agricultural purpose.

After fulfilling the requirements the Prime Minister made a speech.

In his speech, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the purpose of the visit to Mon State is to render necessary assistance for health, education, and regional development. And such kind of provisions has also been given to Mudon. Arrangements were to be made for building schools and dispensaries in necessary places taking into consideration the density of population as the villages in

Mon State were very big and densely populated.

The State is taking measures for development of human resources in all the states and divisions including Mon State to ensure the emergence of intelligentsia and intellectuals who are particularly required for building a modern nation.

Being a hereditary farming, the rubber cultivation should be conducted extensively on a commercial scale. Officials are to encourage and offer assistance to those who earn their living as breeders to enable them to enlarge their businesses from managerial to commercial scales. As Mudon Township enjoys good rainfalls, the dams the State constructed for agricultural purpose are filled with waters. Therefore, it will be necessary to grow not only monsoon paddy but also summer paddy extensively.

The Government is making all-out efforts to ensure equitable development all over the nation, including remote areas. Realizing the measures the Government is taking, township officials should devote themselves to regional as well as rural development tasks and the higher living standard of the people. Thanlwin bridge (Mawlamyine), which will be the biggest one in Myanmar, is now under construction in Mawlamyine of Mon State by spending a huge sum of money. On completion, the bridge will help the social and economic development drive in an astonishing velocity also in Taninthayi division that borders Mon State.

Bridges, roads and dams are being constructed at nobody's request. They are being built in accord with the Head of State's noble intention that every state and division must be equal in terms of development.

(See page 11)

### Correction

Please read India instead of Australia in the news report "SPDC Vice-Chairman sends felicitations to India" featured on page 1 of 26 January 2004 NLM issue.

NLM

## Pansay Bridge inaugurated in Mandalay...

(from page 16)

emergence of a modern developed nation.

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun spoke on the occasion. He said priority has been given to transport infrastructure and efforts are being made for development of political, economic and social structures in building a peaceful modern developed nation.

He said Myanmar engineers are now proficient in modern technology and can handle and utilize modern machinery. With the aim of forging closer relation among the national races, consolidation of national solidarity and national development, roads and bridges are being built as a priority task. In 1988, there were 13,635 miles of roads. Now there are 18,112 miles of roads.

He said the ministry is

endeavouring for opening of a bridge every month and called for public participation in construction work.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint spoke on the occasion.

On behalf of the local people, a local thanked the government. At the auspicious time the commander and the minister formally opened Pansay Bridge.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint formally unveiled the stone inscription. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party posed for a souvenir photo together with local people.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party passed through the bridge.

The reinforced bridge is 200 feet long and 72 feet wide. It has six feet wide walkways on each side. Its clearance is 80 feet wide and 10 feet high. It can bear 60 tons of load.—MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint speaks at the opening of Pansay Bridge in Tada U Township, Mandalay Division. — MNA



# Successful realization of the plans depends...

(from page 10)

Officials are to go down to the grass-roots level and provide necessary assistance and should not stay aloof from the general public. Officials are also to find the requirements of the people and fulfil them. If the matter was not the one they could handle, they should inform their seniors of the matter correctly and quickly.

As the Government always learns what the general public need from the central level down to grass-roots level and attends to the requirements, it is incumbent upon officials-in-charge of the townships and departmental officials to put their energy on regional development with the sense of duty, he concluded.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt donated one television, one video cassette player, and a set of computer each to Nos 1 & 2 BEHS through the school heads concerned.

Later, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party inspected the emergency room, the surgical room, the medical storeroom, patient wards, the ECG room and X-ray room at Mudon People's Hospital.

The Prime Minister and party also went to Mudon No 1 BEHS, where he oversaw the projected media

and language lab. Next, the Prime Minister and party flew to Mawlamyine by Tatmadaw aircraft and viewed the construction works from the aircraft.

On arrival at Mawlamyine, the Prime Minister and party met with local authorities, departmental officials, and members of social organizations at Aung San Hall in Mawlamyine.

On the occasion, Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung reported to the Prime Minister on arrangements for cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, possible crop yield, cultivation of winter crops and peppers, the reclamation of vacant and virgin lands to make Mon State 'rubber state', the production of chicken and eggs, the production of marine products. After hearing the reports, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered an address.

He said that the purpose of his visit was to meet with local authorities and departmental personnel in Mon State and to fulfil the requirements for the development of the state and to explain the situation of the State.

The Prime Minister, accompanied by the ministers, the deputy ministers and departmental heads, arrived at Hpa-an, Kayin State, on 24 January and fulfilled the requirements for the construction of Hpa-an University and Government Technological College.

Then, he and his party visited the Myainggying region and attended the opening ceremony of the 34-mile Myaing gyingu-Hpa-an road built by Myainggying Sayadaw and wellwishers with the intention of contributing to the development of the State.

Moreover, he met with local authorities and fulfilled the requirements for the development of the areas north of Hpa-an. He and his party also visited Kawkareik and exhorted local authorities to extend agricultural and livestock breeding work that could contribute to the education, health, transport and economic sectors of Kawkareik District.

Next, he proceeded to the construction project site of the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) and attended to the requirements.

He said he also visited Ye, Thanbyuzayat and Mudon townships and attended to the requirements for their development, giving necessary instructions to the local authorities especially for opening primary schools where necessary and for upgrading primary schools to middle schools and middle schools to high schools. Moreover, to promote health care services for rural people, rural health care centres were opened and hospitals upgraded.

Not only that, he fulfilled the needs for good transport and for the success of agricultural and livestock breeding work of the local people.

The Prime Minister went on to say he believed that the harmonious development of the entire Union depends on the concerted efforts of responsible officials of the State, local authorities, departmental personnel and the entire national people. Accordingly, he said, he was touring various regions himself and fulfilled the requirements for development.

National unity and strong Union Spirit are very important to the Union of Myanmar, home to various national races. The Head of State now and then instructed that all the necessary requirements must be fulfilled for the development of national people and their regions.

Therefore, in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, responsible personnel of the State have been touring states and divisions, districts, townships and even villages. He also said that, he himself declared the seven-point policy programme of the State on 30 August, 2003, that it was being implemented and that it was necessary for the national people from all walks of life living in the Union to make concerted efforts for the success of the policy programme.

He emphasized that community peace, prevalence of law and order, fulfilment of the basic needs of the people and development of human resources are fundamental requirements for successfully implementing the policy programme for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democracy.

While trying to fulfil these three requirements, he said, we should put our energies into the step-by-step implementation of the seven-point policy programme.

In doing so, all the responsible officials at central, state and division and township levels should fully discharge their responsibilities with the conviction "we will surely reach our national goal".

Mon State is enjoying peace, rays of peace can be seen in Kayin State.

With mutual understanding, respect, trust and honesty, the whole nation would be peaceful and law and order prevail all over it.

For the prevalence of law and order and community peace, departmental personnel at different levels including members of Myanmar Police Force must unitedly try their utmost.

The economy of Myanmar, he said, is based on agriculture. Therefore, in fulfilling the fundamental needs of the people, we must try for the success of mechanized farming system and for the establishment of an industrialized nation. He

## All this needs to be known

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

said that, as agriculture plays a very important role in raising the living standard of the people, he would like to urge all those responsible in the agricultural sector to execute their duties conscientiously and with goodwill. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education are responsible for health and fitness and uplift of education standard in the development of human resources.

In connection with the education sector, requirements of the region are to be fulfilled. Officials concerned should make field trips to grassroots levels. He spoke of the need to open primary schools where there is no school and some are to be upgraded.

Since all service personnel are responsible for regional development, efforts are to be made for development through cooperation, collective leadership and responsibility without separation of the duties. After formation of the sector-wise committees tasks are to be undertaken through mutual assistance.

He said successful realization of the plans laid down by the State depends on speedy and correct implementation at the grass-roots levels, and correct data. He spoke of the need for officials at state, division, district and township levels to check the data correctly and work hard in combination with diligence and goodwill.

On 17 January, he said, he met judicial and law officials in Yangon. Law is the life of the State. They must manage the State in accord with the law. Administrative machinery should be in accord with the law. He spoke of the need for those who pass judgement and observe the law to carry out the task correctly. Judicial matters should not be done lawlessly. He warned local authorities not to interfere in the affairs.

Only when the laws prescribed by the State are to be exercised uprightly in accord with the true and fair judicial policy will the life of the people be secure. He said judicial and legal officials should be aware of this fact in carrying out their tasks.

There are many development projects being undertaken by the State. One of them is Mawlamyine Thanlwin River Bridge. It is the biggest and longest rail-cum-bridge in Myanmar. He

called for cooperation for completion of the project.

He said the government is carrying out regional development tasks for equal development of all states and divisions. Dams such as Azin, Winphanon and Warpar were built for development of agriculture and livestock breeding and economic progress of farmers. Katakai Dam and sluice gate are being built in the region, he added.

He said implementation of these projects aim for support of economic life of the country and economic progress of the farmers. He spoke of the need for those in charge of the projects in-charges to realize the objectives of the State.

He said the State will build canals for availability of water and cultivation of summer paddy. Realizing the fact that investments of the State are in the interest of the people, departmental officials are to make efforts with might and main and sense of duty.

The Prime Minister spoke on maintenance of dams built at a cost of a large amount of cash and utilization of water in agriculture beneficially.

He spoke of the need to understand goodwill and measures undertaken by the government for development of Mon State. Departmental officials in the state are to make efforts for successful implementation of the State's objectives.

In conclusion, he called

on all to work in harmony for emergence of a peaceful modern democracy-flourishing nation in implementation of seven-point future political programme. The Prime Minister and party arrived back here on 25 January evening. On 24 January, the Prime Minister and party went to Sasana Beikmandaw in Mawlamyine and paid respects to members of the Sangha led by Kawhlar Pariyatti Sathintaiik Presiding Nayaka Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Obhasa. The Prime Minister presented offertories to the members of the Sangha.

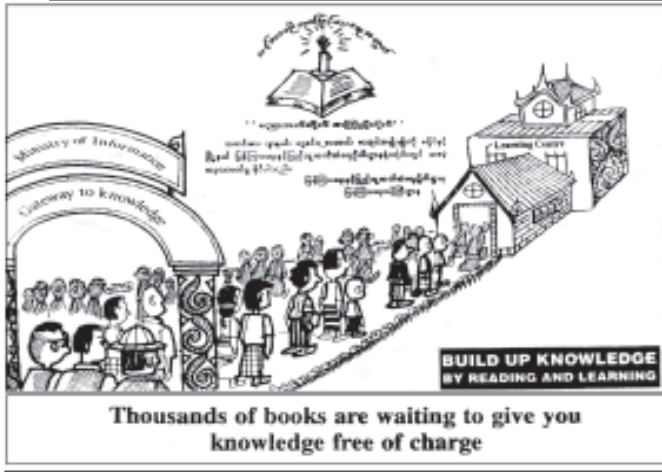
The Prime Minister and party visited Maha Myatmuni Pagoda and donated cash to it.

The Prime Minister and party also visited Kyaikthanlan Pagoda and donated cash. They also visited Lawkahmanku Pagoda, Lawkaokeshawng Pagoda and Hsandawshin Zinamanaung (U Zina) Pagoda. MNA

### လူတွင်ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်သော ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါကာကွယ်ရေး သတိပေးနည်းစာချက်

- ၁။ ယခုအခါ အိန္ဒိယနိုင်ငံများအပါအဝင် ကမ္ဘာ့နိုင်ငံအချို့၌ ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါများ ဖြစ်ပွားလျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ဤရောဂါသည် နိုင်ငံရပ်ပိုင်းကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပြီး ကြက်ငှက်များမှ တစ်ဆင့် လူများသို့ ကူးစက်ပျံ့နှံ့ကာ ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားစေနိုင်ပါသည်။
- ၂။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားခြင်းမရှိသေးသော်လည်း ကြက်ငှက်တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ ဝင်ရောက်မလာနိုင်ရေး အတွက် ကာကွယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ အထူးလုံခြုံရေးလုပ်ငန်းများကို ဆောင်ရွက်ပါသည်။
- ၃။ ကြက်ငှက်များတွင်ဖြစ်ပွားသော တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါလက္ခဏာများမှာ
  - (က) ကြက်ငှက်များ ရုတ်တရက် သေဆုံးမှုများလာခြင်း၊ ဥကြက်တွင် ဥနှုန်းကျသွားခြင်း၊
  - (ခ) ကြက်များကုတ်၍ အစားအစာအားဖြင့် ကျကျ ရေသောက်နှုန်းများ၍ ဝမ်းသွားခြင်း၊
  - (ဂ) အသက်ရှူမိမိခြင်း၊ မျက်စိနှင့်နှာရည်ကျခြင်း၊
  - (ဃ) ဦးခေါင်းနှင့် မျက်နှာပေါ်သော ဝေဒနာများ၊
  - (င) အမောက်နှင့်ပါးမျှင်ယောင်၍ ဖြားနံ့လာခြင်း၊
  - (စ) ခြေထောက်နှင့် ခြေစိတ်တို့တွင် သွေးယိုနီမှုဖြစ်ပြီး အနီစက်ပြောက်များပေါ်လာခြင်း၊
  - (ဆ) သေနှုန်းမြင့်မားခြင်းတို့ပါရှိပြီး ကြက်ငှက်များ သေဆုံးခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- ၄။ ကြက်ငှက်များတွင် တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါမဖြစ်ရန် ဆေးဝါးရရှိရမည့်လုပ်ငန်းများမှာ
  - (က) ဓမ္မမြူရေးကြက်ငှက်များကို ဆေးဝါးကြက်ငှက်များ၊ ဆေးဝါးဗိုလ်များနှင့် ထိတွေ့မှု မရှိအောင်ထားခြင်း၊
  - (ခ) အခြားဓမ္မမြူရေးမြူ ကြက်ငှက်များ တင်သွင်းခွင့်မရှိအောင်ထားခြင်း၊
  - (ဂ) မိမိကြက်ခြံအတွင်းသို့ စည်းသည့် သူ၏ဗိုလ်များနှင့် ကလေးငယ်များအား ဝင်ရောက်မှုမပြုခြင်း၊
  - (ဃ) မည်သူမဆို ကြက်ခြံအတွင်းဝင်ရောက်ပါက သတိမှတ်ထားသည့် ဖိနပ်၊ ဝတ်စုံ၊ ခေါင်းစည်း၊ နှာခေါင်းစည်းနှင့် လက်အိတ်များ ဝတ်ဆင်ဝင်ရောက်ခြင်း၊
  - (င) ကြက်ခြံအတွင်းသို့ ပြင်ပပိုးများမဝင်ရောက်ရန် ထုံး၊ ပိုးသတ်ဆေးများသုံး၍ ပုံမှန်သန့်ရှင်းခြင်း၊
  - (စ) ကြက်ခြံလုပ်သားများ ကြက်၊ ဘဲများနှင့်သို့ သွားရောက်မှုမပြုခြင်းနှင့် သွားမိပါက အဝတ်အစားနှင့်ဖိနပ်လဲ၍ ပိုးမွှားသန့်စင်ပြီးမှသာ မိမိကြက်ခြံအတွင်းဝင်ရောက်ခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- ၅။ ကြက်ငှက်များမှတစ်ဆင့် လူများသို့ ကူးစက်ခြင်းကို ကာကွယ်ရန်အတွက် ကြက်ငှက်များနှင့် ခြေထောက်ပစ္စည်းများကို ကိုင်တွယ်ပြီးနောက် ကူးစက်မှုမရှိရန်
  - (က) လက်ကို ဆပ်ပြာဖြင့် စင်ကြယ်စွာ ဆေးကြောခြင်း၊
  - (ခ) ကြက်ငှက်အညစ်အကြေးများမှ မျက်စိနှင့် နှာခေါင်းကို သန့်ရှင်းခြင်း၊
  - (ဂ) ကြက်ခြံနှင့် ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်သန့်ရှင်းမှုကို စနစ်တကျပြုလုပ်ခြင်း၊
  - (ဃ) ယခုကလေးအတွင်း စားသောက်ဆိုင်များတွင် တောရိုင်းငှက်များကို သို့လျှောက်၊ ချက်ပြုတ်၊ ရောင်းချမှုများနှင့် ကြက်ငှက်များနှင့်ထိတွေ့မှုရှိသော လူများတွင် တုပ်ကွေးရောဂါ လက္ခဏာများ ပေါ်ပေါက်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာကျန်းမာရေးဌာနသို့ ပြသ၍ ကုသမှုခံယူရန် သတိပေးနည်းစာချက်အပေါ်ပါသည်။

ဓမ္မမြူရေးနှင့်လေ့လာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့်ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



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သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ စာပေဗိမာန်စာအုပ်ဆိုင်နှင့် သတင်းစာ ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် လက်လီဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV JATI WANGI PB-400 VOY NO (381)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JATI WANGI PB-400 Voy No (381) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-1-04 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  
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Phone : 256908/378316/376797

**Britain's steel giant eyes China market**

SHENYANG, 26 Jan — Britain-based LNM Group, the world's second largest steel producer, has beefed up its efforts to increase its presence in China.

LNM plans to set up a cold-rolled and coated steel plant in the city of Yingkou, northeast China's Liaoning Province, in the next two years, according to a memorandum of understanding recently reached between LNM and the management committee of the Yingkou City Economic and Technological Development Zone.—MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters

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**U KYI WIN, B.Com., B.L.**  
for **ALCATEL CIT,**  
by its Attorneys  
**REMFRY & SAGARINDIA**  
Dated 27 January 2004

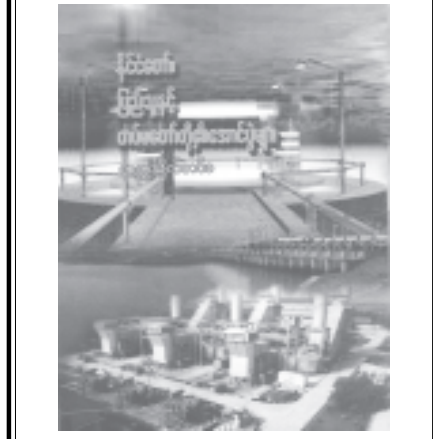
**Castro dines with Orthodox Patriarch, former Greek King**

HAVANA, 16 Jan — Cuban President Fidel Castro dined with Christian Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew and former King Constantine of Greece who are in Cuba for the opening of an orthodox church built and donated by his Communist government, officials said on Saturday. Castro has treated the patriarch like a head of state. The visit is the most important to Cuba by a religious leader since Pope John Paul's historic trip in 1998.

**မြည်တွင်းပြင်ကိုအားပေးပါ**

- \* တပ်မတော်နှင့်ပြည်သူ့ ကြည်ဖြူလက်တွဲချီတက်လျက် နိုင်ငံတော် တာဝန်ကျေပျဉ်းစွာ ထမ်းဆောင်နေကြသည်ကိုဖော်ပြရန်အားပေးသည့် စာအုပ်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- \* တပ်မတော်သည် တိုင်းပြည်တည်ဆောက်ရေးလုပ်ငန်းများကို ဆက်လက်ချီတက်ထမ်းဆောင်ရင်း တစ်ဖက်ကလည်း ဒို့တာဝန် အရေးသုံးပါးကို စွမ်းစွမ်းတစ်ဆောင်ရွက်နေသည်များကို ဖော်ပြရန် ပြဆိုထားသည့် စာအုပ်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- \* ထာဝရမှတ်တမ်းမှတ်ရာ သိမ်းဆည်းထားရန်အတွက် နိုင်ငံတော်၊ ပြည်သူနှင့် တပ်မတော်တို့၏ အောင်ပွဲများကို (၅၅)နှစ်မြောက် ပြည်ထောင်စုနေ့နှင့် (၅၉)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ကိုဂုဏ်ဖြူ ကြိုဆိုထုတ်ဝေလိုက်သည်။

**တက္ကသိုလ်တင်ခေါ် နိုင်ငံတော် ပြည်သူနှင့်တပ်မတော်တို့၏ အောင်ပွဲများ**



ရက်စိုင်းအတွင်းမြန်မာ့စာအုပ်ဆိုင်  
သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ စာပေဗိမာန်စာအုပ်ဆိုင်နှင့် သတင်းစာ ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များထံတွင် ဝယ်ယူရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။  
သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း ခု-၂၉၄၁၀၆

**ပို့ဆောင်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန မြန်မာ့လေကြောင်း ကြော်ငြာချက်အမှတ် (၃/၂၀၀၄)**  
လေယာဉ်မောင်း လေယာဉ်မယ် လူတွေ့စစ်ဆေးရန်ကိစ္စ  
ပို့ဆောင်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့လေကြောင်းမှ ခေါ်ယူ ထားသော လေယာဉ်မောင်း လေယာဉ်မယ် ရာထူး လျှောက်ထားသူများအနက် ပဏာမ၊ လူတွေ့ စစ်ဆေးမှု အောင်မြင်သူများအား အပြီးသတ်စစ်ဆေးခြင်းကို (၂၈-၁-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ (၀၈:၀၀)နာရီမှ စတင်စစ်ဆေးမည့်အစား (၂၉-၁-၂၀၀၄)ရက်နေ့ (၀၈:၀၀)နာရီအချိန်မှ စတင်စစ်ဆေးမည် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း ကြေငြာအပ်ပါသည်။

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P.O Box 60, Yangon  
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Dated 27 January 2004





ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုစိုးတတ်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

### Indian President says Int'l community must fight terrorism

NEW DELHI, 26 Jan — Asserting that terrorism cannot be compartmentalized, Indian President A P J Abdul Kalam Sunday night said it was imperative for the international community to come together to combat this menace.

"It is evident, even more than before that terrorism is a global phenomenon transcending borders and regions that requires collective action to combat it." Kalam said at a banquet he hosted in honour of visiting Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

He said as a long-standing victim of terrorism, India has repeatedly stressed that "terrorism cannot be compartmentalized and there can be no justification for

terrorism on any ground, including ideological, religious, racial, ethnic or any other".

Action must be taken not just against the perpetrators of terrorist attacks but also against those states that support and sponsor such groups or provide them with safe havens.

"India believes that the fight against terrorism has to be long-term, sustained and comprehensive."

MNA/PTI

### Shanghai adjusts population, birth control policy

SHANGHAI, 26 Jan — Shanghai has adjusted its population and birth control policy, giving residents more freedom to control their reproductive activities, the Shanghai Municipal Population and Birth Control Committee has announced.

The revised Shanghai Municipal Population and Birth Control Statute will come into effect on 15 April.

The former statute allowed couples, who were both only children themselves or whose first child was disabled due to non-genetic reasons, to have a second child four years after the first was born.

The four-year time gap has been removed in the revised statute and qualified couples are allowed to have a second child according to their own schedule.

Under the revised policy, women who give birth to their first legitimate child over the age of 24 can enjoy a 30-day late childbirth vacation.

If an only child is disabled or dies before the age of 16 and his or her parents are unwilling to adopt or have a second child, they will receive a government birth control subsidy.

MNA/Xinhua

### Increasing number of Mainland visitors enter HK

HONG KONG, 26 Jan — About 21,000 Mainland visitors travelled to Hong Kong individually on Friday, and more are expected to come in the next couple of days, said a Hong Kong official here Saturday.

Speaking on a radio talk show, Hong Kong's Director of Immigration Lai Tung Kwok said that most of the Mainlanders passed through immigration points at about 6 pm and 7 pm.

To handle the influx, the immigration and other government departments have set up a command post to monitor the situation. Close liaison with the Guangdong Provincial Tourism Administration will also be maintained to watch visitor flow. Visitor figures will be released on the department's and the administration's web sites.

Lai said to handle the increasing number of visitors, the department aims to implement the Automated Passenger and Vehicle Clearance Systems in phases from the end of the year. Noting that funds for the systems have been approved by the Legislative Council, Lai said the contract will be awarded soon.

Lai said the systems will support self-service immigration clearance by Hong Kong permanent residents holding smart identity cards. The system will cut clearance time of travellers and vehicles. — MNA/Xinhua

### Food firms oppose fat tax amid move to health food

DAVOS (Switzerland), 26 Jan — The food industry has recognized obesity as a problem and will develop healthier products, but is strongly opposed to laws that could make junk food more expensive, executives said on Saturday.

Food companies gained support from US Health Secretary Tommy Thompson who believes he does not need to raise taxes to convince food manufacturers to create healthier products, as part of a larger US programme for Americans to lose weight.

"Taxation can have a negative impact on the progress we're making now," he said at the World Economic Forum, adding that talks with companies such as PepsiCo had already helped raise the output of healthy foods.

PepsiCo now generates 60 per cent of its revenues from healthy foods, versus 40 per cent a few years ago, he said. PepsiCo said an extra tax on candy bars in some US states and cities failed to work in the early 1990s.

Unilever Chairman Antony Burgmans, asked to represent food companies who were accused by the British National Consumer Council of mainly marketing high sugar and fat products to children, said his sector had recognized the issue.

"This is serious. It's a problem. The food industry is prepared to work on a solution. But I don't think taxation (of junk food) is going to sustain it.

We've tried it with tobacco and it failed," he said.

He said the food industry

also needed better labels to tell consumers which elements their product contained.

"That is an area where we can remarkably improve," Burgmans said.

Obese people, who are seriously overweight, cost the United States 117 billion US dollars in healthcare every year.

Worldwide there are 300 million obese people, while one billion are overweight.

Obesity is linked to all kinds of diseases, including heart disease and diabetes. Some 16 million US citizens are suffering from diabetes and another 17 million almost have it.

Thompson did not rule out that regulation could be implemented if progress through discussion and collaboration with food makers was not effective enough.

He and other policy makers said governments, companies and special interest groups should first work together to promote a mix of measures, including healthier food production and promotion of lifestyles with exercise and healthy eating.

"I'm willing to go down that route as far as it takes us. If it's not enough, there may be regulation or taxation," he said.

MNA/Reuters



US singer Britney Spears performs at the NRJ awards ceremony in Cannes, southern France, on 24 Jan, 2004. The NRJ music awards launch the opening of the 38th MIDM (International record music publishing and video music market). — INTERNET

### Beijing strives to keep unemployment rate under 2.5% in 2004

BELING, 26 Jan — The national capital Beijing will work hard to keep the local unemployment rate under 2.5 per cent in 2004, according to the municipal labour and social security bureau.

Zhang Xinqing, the bureau head, said Beijing would face a tough employment situation in 2004, with 451,000 people seeking jobs.

Of the total job seekers, 221,000 would be new graduates from universities and other tertiary

institutes. Beijing has set a goal to help 180,000 new graduates to find jobs and help 160,000 jobless people to find new jobs this year.

Beijing reported an unemployment rate of 1.43 per cent last year.

MNA/Xinhua

### Number of Australian tourists to Bali drops 27% in 2003

JAKARTA, 26 Jan — The number of Australian tourists who came to the island resort of Bali in 2003 dropped 27 per cent from the previous year, a local tourist official said on Saturday.

Head of the provincial tourism office, IGde Pitana, said the number of Australian tourists visiting Bali last year dropped to 183,000 from 232,410 in 2002.

He said the total number of foreign tourists arriving in Bali in 2003 was 984,000, down from 1,210,320 in 2002.

Pitana said various promotions were being made to attract more foreign tourists to Bali, especially those from Australia. "Australia remains a great market for Bali's tourist industry at present and in the future," he was quoted by state news agency Antara as saying.

The chairman of the Council of the Australian-Indonesian Institute, Philip Flood, who was in Bali recently, said Australia wanted to help revive Bali's tourist industry following the 12 October, 2002, bombing that killed more than 200 people, including 80 Australians. — MNA/Xinhua

### Second rover lands on Mars, sends pictures

PASADENA (California), 26 Jan — NASA's second Mars rover, Opportunity, fell to a safe landing on an eerie plain featuring the first bedrock ever seen on the Red Planet, scientists at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory said on Sunday.

Views of red and gray soil and an outcrop of "slabby" rock taken hours after the landing by Opportunity puzzled and delighted the scientists, who were already elated that the spacecraft's sick twin appeared on the path to recovery.

The outcrop, directly in front of the lander, was exposed bedrock that could have been formed by volcanoes, or sedimentation at the bottom of bodies of water, Principal Science Investigator Steve Squyres told reporters.

"One of the things about bedrock is you know where it came from," Squyres said. "These rocks grew up right in this neighbourhood," unlike loose stones at twin rover Spirit's landing site that could have come from anywhere.

Opportunity's mission is to explore a wide flat plain,

Meridiani Planum, which may have an iron-bearing ore that forms in the presence of water on earth.

At 9:05 pm PST (12:05 a.m. EST/0505 GMT), the US space agency made history by successfully setting down two robotic rovers on opposite sides of Mars within a month to search for signs of water and, ultimately, life.

Opportunity emerged from its cocoon in time to send a slew of images to the orbiting Odyssey satellite, which relayed them to Earth. The rover seems to be in perfect health, NASA said.

One colour photo showed a gray landscape punctuated by dots of red where the lander, swathed in protective airbags, had bounced across the plain, disturbing the fine soil, and what looked like red, wind-swept dunes.

MNA/Reuters

## SPORTS

**Brazilian-born player gives Tunisia win**

**RADES (Tunisia), 26 Jan—** Brazilian-born striker Francileudo dos Santos gave African Nations Cup hosts Tunisia a fortunate 2-1 win over rank outsiders Rwanda in the opening game on Saturday.

Dos Santos, who took Tunisian citizenship after playing club football in the country for Etoile Sahel, prodded the ball home from close range following a controversially awarded free kick in the 57th minute.

Rwanda had appeared capable of forcing a draw until then after Angolan-born Joao Elias, who plays in the Belgian Third Division, had curled in a free kick in the 32nd minute to wipe out Ziad Jaziri's opening goal for the hosts.

Both teams finished with 10 men after Rwanda's Abdul Sibomana and Tunisian playmaker Slim Benachour were sent off in a four-minute spell either side of the Tunisian winner.

Tunisia will sorely miss the Paris St. Germain player, who must serve an automatic suspension, as he provided their best moves.

Tunisia, who have hosted the tournament twice before but never won it, predictably attacked early on, and were given extra impetus by the inability of Rwanda goalkeeper Ramadhani Nkuningoma to clear the ball upfield.

MNA/Reuters

**Ravanelli goal fails to save Perugia**

**ROME, 26 Jan—** Former Italy striker Fabrizio Ravanelli celebrated his return to Serie A with a goal though his new club Perugia still lost 2-1 to Siena on Saturday, while promoted Sampdoria beat Reggina 2-0.

Perugia led until the 87th minute, thanks to Ravanelli's sixth-minute free kick, but late strikes by Tore Andre Flo and Fernando Menegazzo ruined Perugia's hopes of recording their first win of the season.

European Cup winner Ravanelli, who signed for the Umbrians last week, quickly broke the deadlock, curling a free kick past home keeper Generoso Rossi.

The balance of the contest swung decisively in Siena's favour in the 58th minute when Perugia defender Fabio Grosso was sent off for a second bookable offence.

Perugia keeper Zeljko Kalac preserved his side's lead with a series of fine saves but three minutes from time he spilled a cross into Flo's path and the Norwegian striker poked the ball in from close range.

Siena piled forward and midfielder Menegazzo sealed the result in the first minute of injury time when he fired through a mass of bodies to beat Kalac at his near post.

The victory lifted Siena to 10th in the division on 21 points, while Perugia remained 17th with 10 points.

Reggina suffered their third consecutive league defeat when they were overpowered by Sampdoria in Genoa.

MNA/Reuters

**Larsson moves up Celtic scoring charts in 3-1 win**

**GLASGOW, 26 Jan—** Swedish striker Henrik Larsson became the third-highest scorer in Celtic's history when he notched his 220th goal for the unbeaten Scottish Premier League leaders in Saturday's 3-1 win at Aberdeen.

Larsson's 43rd minute strike, sandwiched between Stilian Petrov's 30th minute opener and Stephen Pearson's third after 57 minutes, — overhauled the 219 managed by the club's 1967 European Cup winner Steve Chalmers.

It also helped ensure a 20th successive league win for Celtic, who have 61 points from 21 games and are now 14 ahead of champions Rangers in the standings.

Rangers can cut the gap to 11 if they beat Livingston at home later in the afternoon but that will not overly concern Celtic with such a commanding lead.

"I thought there were periods in the game when we played outstanding football," said manager Martin O'Neill.

"It was great to see Henrik get that goal and he looked more like his old self today after not scoring for a few games."

Larsson trails Bobby Lennox (273) and Jimmy Gormley (397) in Celtic's all-time list.

Celtic dominated the early exchanges at Pittodrie with John Hartson's header clawed away by goalkeeper David Preece and Larsson smacking the bar with a shot.

But they made their pressure count when Larsson crossed for Petrov to despatch a volley into the net.

MNA/Reuters

**Ronaldo on target as Real go back top in Spain**

**Madrid, 26 Jan—** Ronaldo scored his 16th league goal of the season to help Real Madrid reclaim top spot on Saturday with a 2-1 win at home to Villarreal.

Argentine midfielder Santiago Solari, playing in place of the injured Zinedine Zidane, opened the scoring after 14 minutes, squeezing a shot under the body of Villarreal keeper Pepe Reina.

Real continued to press and their second goal came nine minutes into the second half when Guti picked up a loose ball on the edge of the box and passed for Ronaldo

to sweep into the roof of the net.

Sergio Ballesteros headed in from a corner four minutes from time to give Villarreal hope, but Real held on to extend their perfect home record in the league this season.

Victory for Real took them back above Valencia at the top with 46 points from 21 games. Valencia, with 44

points and a game in hand, will have to win at home to sixth-placed Osasuna on Sunday to reclaim top spot.

Atletico Madrid were looking to consolidate fourth place with victory away to Albacete in a game being played later on Saturday.

Villarreal, in fifth place going into the 21st round of matches, failed to live up to their glowing reputation and Real, while hardly playing brilliantly themselves, were able to dominate.

"I think we showed a lot of character and strength in our tackles and in the way we played as a whole," said Real's England midfielder David Beckham.

"We have to be happy with our performance. This was always going to be difficult after a midweek Cup game."

Real's opening goal owed much to a mistake from Villarreal keeper Reina.

Luis Figo set up the chance managing to ride a couple of challenges on the edge of the box and squirt a pass towards Solari, who fired in a shot that Reina should have saved easily.

Reina redeemed himself with two good saves from Beckham but there was nothing he could do with Ronaldo's instinctive blast for the second shortly after the break.—MNA/Reuters



Real Madrid's Brazilian player Ronaldo, center, fights for the ball against Villarreal's Pedro Marti, right, while David Beckham looks on during their Spanish league soccer match at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, Spain, 24 Jan, 2004.—INTERNET

**Heerenveen move up to fourth after 1-0 win at Vitesse**

**AMSTERDAM, 26 Jan—** Heerenveen moved up two places to fourth after a 1-0 win at lowly Vitesse Arnhem in the Dutch First Division on Saturday but are 11 points off the pace. Ajax Amsterdam are top with 40 points after 16 matches, three points above PSV Eindhoven, who travel to Groningen on Sunday when the leaders entertain NEC Nijmegen.

AZ Alkmaar, who lost 1-0 at home to ADO Den Haag on Friday as the league resumed following the winter break, stay third on 32 points while Heerenveen have 29 after midfielder Richard Knopper scored the only goal at Vitesse after five minutes.

Fifth-placed Feyenoord host Utrecht on Sunday while Twente Enschede, who also

have 28 points, moved above Willem II into sixth place after beating them 3-2 in Tilburg.

Collins John opened the scoring after nine minutes and 15 minutes later Raymond Victoria doubled Twente's lead as he scored an own goal.

Blaise N'Kufo settled the match with his 10th goal of the season after 76 minutes before James Quinn pulled one back for Tilburg a minute later and Victoria, making amends for his earlier strike at the other end, made it 3-2 in added time.

Bottom club Zwolle lost 3-0 at home to mid-table RBC Roosendaal and are six points adrift of Vitesse, ADO Den Haag and Volendam, who lost 3-2 at NAC Breda, after 17 games.—MNA/Reuters

**Russian soccer shocked by Titov's positive test**

**Moscow, 26 Jan—** Russian soccer officials have said they are shocked after Yegor Titov, one of the country's most recognized and influential players, failed a drug test. The 27-year-old Spartak Moscow captain was handed a 12-month ban on Friday from all UEFA competition matches after he tested positive for the banned stimulant bromantan.

"This is a bombshell," Russian soccer chief Vyacheslav Koloskov told Soviety Sport newspaper on Saturday. "I got home late on Friday and was ready to go to sleep and then I received this news. It's just a nightmare."

Titov, who has 36 caps, tested positive after Russia's

Euro 2004 qualifying playoff first leg against Wales in Moscow on November 15, when he was an unused substitute. He started the second leg in Cardiff on November 19. Wales are considering whether to appeal against the

result, which Russia won 1-0. Spartak say they will appeal against the decision and demand a second test.

The midfielder, who was also fined 6,400 euros (8,122 US dollars) while Spartak received a 12,800-euro (16,240 US dollars) fine, has declined to comment. "I know about it but I will not say anything right now," he was quoted as saying by Soviety Sport.

Fellow international Alexander Mostovoi said: "I was as shocked as everyone."

"I haven't spoken to Yegor or anyone else on the team just yet because I only found out about it late last (Friday) night," he told Reuters by telephone from Vigo, Spain.

MNA/Reuters



Istanbulspor's Cem Can, foreground, fights for the ball with Fenerbahce's Brazilian striker Marcio Ferreira Nobre in Istanbul, Turkey, on Sunday, 25 Jan, 2004, during their soccer Turkish Super league derby match. Fenerbahce defeated Istanbulspor 1-0.—INTERNET



Yegor Titov







Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives delegation led by Thai Minister of Commerce Mr Watana Muangsook at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta. —MNA

**Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Thai Minister of Commerce**

YANGON, 26 Jan — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt received the visiting delegation led by Thai Minister of Commerce Mr Watana Muangsook at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta at 4 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Com-

merce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Protocol Department Director-General Thura U Aung Htet and Ambassador Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal, who has been accredited to Myanmar.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win welcomes Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Committee of the Lao PDR Dr Thongloun Sisolith and party. — MNA

**Lao PDR Deputy Prime Minister, wife arrive on goodwill visit**

YANGON, 26 Jan — At the invitation of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Committee of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Dr Thongloun Sisolith and wife Madame Naly Sisolith arrived here by air this evening on a goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar.

The Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and wife and members of the delegation were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife

Daw Khin Thet Htay, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Director-General of the Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, Ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to Myanmar Mr Chanthavy Bodhisane and the staff of the Laos Embassy in Yangon.

The Laotian Deputy Prime Minister was accompanied by Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Phongsavat Boupha, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Mr Sitaheng Lasaphonh, Deputy Head of Prime Minister's Office Mr Boviengkham Vongdala, Governor of Luang Namtha Mr Senghong Vongkhamchanh, Governor of Bokeo Province Mr Khammanh Souvileuth and other high-level officials. — MNA

**Pansay Bridge inaugurated in Mandalay Division**

YANGON, 26 Jan — An inauguration of Pansay Bridge constructed on the road to the Mandalay International Airport by bridge construction project special group-14 of Public Works, the Ministry of Construction was held at the Mingala Mandat near the bridge in Tada U Township Mandalay Division this morning, with an address by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence.

Also present were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, officials of the Ministry of Construction, local authorities, social organizations, students and local people numbering 7,000.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint delivered an address. He said Pansay Bridge lies on the

road to Mandalay International Airport. The bridge leads to Innwa Bridge from the international airport.

There are two bridges crossing Dokhtawady River and Pansay Creek.

Dokhtawady River Bridge was opened on 26 January 1999. Air passengers from Sagaing, Monywa, Shwebo, Amarapura can easily go to the airport directly. Air passengers from Monywa, Shwebo and Sagaing can go to the airport in no time through the bridge.

He said after the Tatmadaw government had taken up State duties, altogether 166 bridges which are 180 feet and above were built. The bridge is the seventh one in Mandalay Division. Zawgyi River Bridge, Dokhtawady River Bridge, Panlaung Bridge, Samonpauk Bridge, Tanga Bridge and newly opened Pansay Bridge are famous. Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) is being built, he said.

Transport tasks which

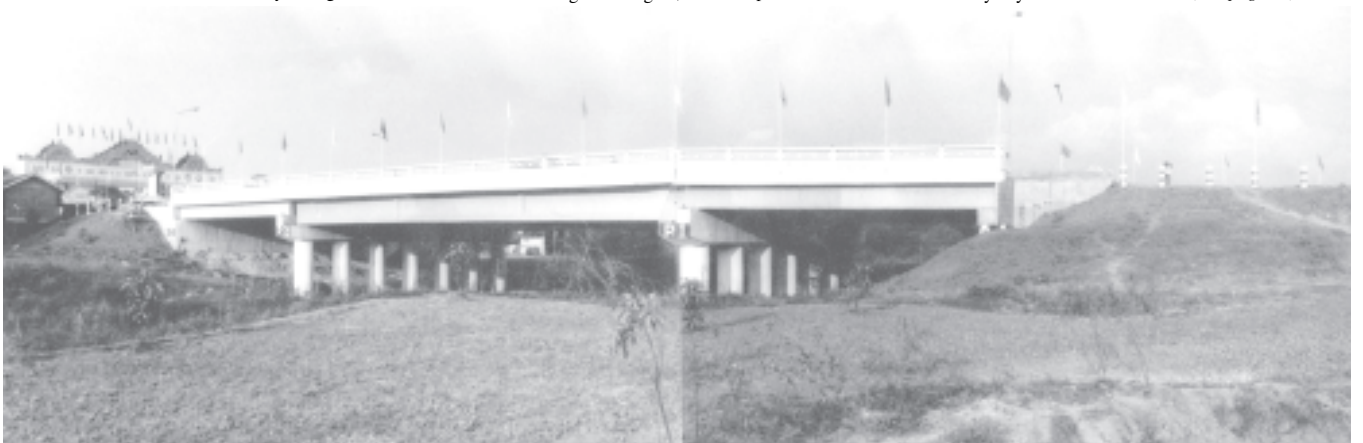
are basis for regional and national development were implemented one after another on self-reliance basis under the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe.

Myanmar engineers built transport infrastructures such as new airports, roads, bridges and jetties and upgraded old airports. By doing so, transport between states and divisions will become easier. Highways on which one can go from Putao-Myitkyina-Manda-

lay-Yangon-Mawlamyine-Dawei have emerged. One can travel from Myitkyina to Dawei by rail.

He said transport is the most important and the most basic requirement in development of a region. With better transport, trade and manufacturing sectors will develop and regional economy also improve. He said roads and bridges have linked all the regions of the Union. He called for active participation in efforts for

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Newly opened Pansay Bridge on the road to the Mandalay International Airport. — MNA

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**Circulation**

**23,514**