

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XII, Number 268

14th Waning of Nadaw 1366 ME

Sunday, 9 January 2005

Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to Senior General Than Shwe

YANGON, 8 Jan — *The following are messages of felicitations from Foreign Heads of State sent to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 57th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.*

From Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
Your Excellency,

It gives me great pleasure to convey to Your Excellency, the Government and the people of the Union of Myanmar my sincere greetings and warm felicitations and those of the Government and the people of Sri Lanka on the happy occasion of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

I am confident that the bonds of friendship and close cooperation that exist between our two countries will continue to flourish for

the mutual well-being of our two peoples in the years ahead.

Please accept, Your Excellency, my sincere good wishes for Your Excellency's health, happiness and personal well-being and for the continued progress and prosperity of the people of the Union of Myanmar.

From Jigme Singye Wangchuck, King of Bhutan
Your Excellency,

The Government and people of Bhutan join me in sending our warm felicitations to Your Excellency and the Government and people of Myanmar on the auspicious occasion of the Independence Day of Myanmar.

We also send our best wishes for Your Excellency's personal well-being and happiness as well as for the continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Myanmar.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration. —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

Cash assistance presented for surgical operations of cleft palate and lip patients

YANGON, 8 Jan — Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Association organized the ceremony to donate cash to be spent on treatment of cleft palate and lip patients at Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital, here, this morning.

Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of

Yangon Command, said that priority is being given to medical treatment in rural areas for narrowing the gap between rural and urban areas in health care services. In building the State, objectives have been laid down for ensuring health and fitness of the people in the health sector. It is obvious that Yangon Division Health Department and Yangon Division MCWA SC jointly conducted field trips to town-

ships and villages and they searched patients so as to ward them at specialist hospitals.

In 1993, cleft palate and lip patients in Yangon Division were provided medical treatment at Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital, Yangon General Hospital and Taikkyi Hospital, he said. Similarly, more patients were warded at Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital the whole year of 2004. In addition,

surgical operations of other baby patients were performed at Yangon General Hospital, Yangon Children's Hospital and Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist Hospital.

Later, the commander thanked the donors.

Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWA SC Daw Khin Thet Htay explained health care service for cleft palate and lip pa-

tients.

The Commander, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo and Chairperson Daw Khin Thet Htay accepted K 300,000 each for the patients donated by U Win Lwin of Kyaw Tha Co, U Aung Myat of Mother Trading Co Ltd and U Aik Lin of Grade Nine Co Ltd; K 250,000 by U Thet Aung of Winner Brother Fish Breeding Industry; K 100,000 each by Thiri Thudhamma

Theingi Daw Aye Myat Nwe of Bagan Hotel, Daw Yan Ti of Hline Township, Lanmadaw Township Organization for Women's Affairs and U Kyee Myat-Daw Le Le Oo; K 50,000 each by Daw Aye Thein of Shin Saw Pu Hotel and electrical goods shops in Latha Township; K 100,000 by U Min Aung of PMG Co; and K 150,000 by U Aung Moe Kyaw of MWTC Co.

Daw Khin Thet Htay presented cash assistance for surgical operations of the patients to Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung Gyi and gifts to the specialists and health staff. After the ceremony, Dr Mya Oo, Daw Khin Thet Htay and officials gave cash assistance to the patients. Surgical operations were performed on a total of 30 cleft palate and lip patients. In 2004, a total of 61 patients have been treated under the supervision of the Yangon Division MCWA SC.

—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses cash donation ceremony for treatment of cleft palate and lip patients.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 9 January, 2005

Try best to become noble-minded nurses

Health and longevity is the key factor to the fundamental improvement of a human society as well as a nation.

Adhering to the motto of the Defence Services Medical Unit "Skilled and helpful medical soldiers", the male nurses are responsible for health care concerns of the entire national people, especially for the Tatmadaw members, who shoulder defence duties for safeguarding the land, water and air territories of the nation.

The graduation parade of the 2nd Intake of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science took place at the Defence Service Medical Academy in Yangon on 7 January, with an address by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye. In his speech, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye exhorted the graduates to safeguard the National Policy — Our Three Main National Causes — with Union Spirit, to preserve the 12 fine traditions of the Tatmadaw as an inherent duty, to try their utmost to become kind-hearted male nurses, and to act according to the motto of the Defence Services Medical Unit.

The Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science is producing medical professionals possessing physical and mental abilities, needed for safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes, as well as nursing and paramedical skills.

Having undergone military training, the newly-graduated male nurses of the DSINPS will have to discharge defence and nursing duties at the same time. They are to be fully equipped with courage and the sacrificing spirit since they will have to nurse wounded soldiers and save their lives under enemy fire during a battle. They are to preserve and uplift the prestige of the Tatmadaw by relaying the 12 noble traditions of the Tatmadaw. Simultaneously, they are to be imbued with noble attitude in carrying out duties concerning disease control and prevention, promotion of health standard of the Tatmadaw members, and medical treatment and rehabilitation.

In addition, they are to make continued efforts to become outstanding male nurses, by enlarging the scope of their education for such degrees as B.Sc Pharmacy, B.Sc Pharmacology (Diagnosis), B.Sc Pharmacology (Radiology) and B.Sc Pharmacology (Physical Treatment).

It is believed that by upholding the motto, the newly-graduated nurses will continue trying to the best of their ability to be noble-minded ones with martial and mental prowess, while performing their duties conscientiously at risk to their lives.

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်

မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ့

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ ဇန်နဝါရီလအတွက်

(၉-၁-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့

နှင့်

(၃၀-၁-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့

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

Rules for Armed Forces Day commemorative poem contest announced

YANGON, 8 Jan—Hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2005, the Poem Contest Organizing Sub-committee under the Poem and Arts Competition Organizing Work Committee, chaired by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, has announced to hold the Poem Contest to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

The contestants can portray objectives of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, matters related to fine traditions of the Tatmadaw, historic events occurred in the periods of Konbaung Era (AD 1824), Independence Era (1948-1988) and the State Peace and Development Council, endeavours of the State Peace and Development Council in religious affairs, construction, peace negotiation and drug elimination sectors.

The entries will be scrutinized with three sectors—theme style, presentation and composing. The poem contest will be divided into two categories.

Those who have won first second or third prizes in the Poem Contest to mark the Armed Forces Day and the National Motto Contest, Sarpay Beik-man Manuscript Award Contest and the poem contest of the Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Contest and National Literary Award winners may participate in the level-1 and those who did not win the prizes may

take part in the level-2.

Those who did not win the prizes can participate in the level-1. However, one contestant may take part in one level only, and the level number must be written on the entry. There will be two events at the level-1— the long poem and the short poem. The contestant can participate in both or one of them. However, it must be one entry for one event. The short poem must be between 100 and 300 stanzas and the long one between 1,000 and 2,000 stanzas. The entries must be in line with the rules. The free verse and modern poems will not be accepted.

The poem must be written on one side of paper and the two copies of the entry must be submitted.

And, the entry must be attached with the name of the contestant, pen-name, names of parents, education, occupation and address together with three 2" x 2.5" size colour photos. The entry must be own creation and has not featured in any publication yet. The State has authority to use the prize-winning works.

The entries are to be sent to Lt-Col Ohn Maung (Retd) (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe), Chief Editor, Nainggan Gonyi Literary House, Sarpay Beikman, 531, Merchant Street, here, Tel: 374532, not later than 31-1-2005.

MNA



USDA CEC member Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin addresses 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative extempore talks.— MNA

Armed Forces Day commemorative extempore talks held

YANGON, 7 Jan—The Yangon Division Union Solidarity and Development Association organized the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative extempore talks at its office on Saya San Street in Bahan Township this morning.

USDA CEC mem-

bers in charge of Yangon Division USDA Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, secretaries and members of division, district and township USDAs, members of the panel of

judges, teachers, social organizations and guests.

The mayor delivered an introductory address. After the contest, the vice-mayor presented first prize to Maung Aung Khin Zaw of Thingangyun Township, the second to Maung Kyaw Maung Maung Sein of

Thanlyin Township, the third to Ma Hsu Wady Nwe of Ahlon Township, and the consolation prize to Ma Soe Mya Mya Aung of Insein Township.

Yangon Division USDA Secretary U Aye Myint presented gifts to the panel of judges.

MNA

School building of BEHS No 1 renovated

YANGON, 7 Jan — A ceremony to open the school building of No 1 Basic Education High School (Phyu National School) in Phyu, Bago Division, which had been renovated without sacrificing its original style, was held in front of the school.

Bago Division

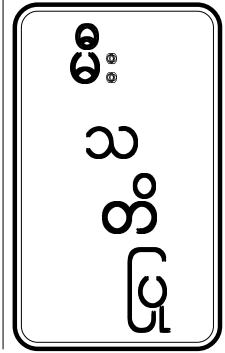
Peace and Development Council Chairman Southern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Minister for Education U Than Aung graced the opening ceremony.

After inspecting the school building, the commander and the minister delivered speeches and accepted a photo of

the national school from the headmistress.

Next, the minister presented a computer and stationery to students. Later, the commander and the minister posed for a documentary photo together with those present.

MNA



China to train plasma professionals for third world countries

HEFEI, 8 Jan —The Plasma Centre of the Hefei Matter Institute under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) announced on Thursday that it had been chosen to train plasma specialists for third world countries.

A spokeswoman with the centre said it was informed of the decision by the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), a non-governmental organization, and that the fellowship training programme, established in accordance with an agreement signed between CAS and TWAS in 2004, would be valid for five years.

CAS, with headquarters in Beijing, will provide fellowships to 50 medical professionals from third countries chosen for the training programme each year. The amount of the fellowship is not disclosed.

TWAS, initiated by Nobel physics laureate Abdus Salam, of Pakistan, was founded in November 1983. It has 626 academicians from 77 countries and regions. A total of 89 Chinese scientists have been elected academicians of TWAS.

MNA/Xinhua

International forum on women, peace opens in Egypt

CAIRO, 8 Jan — An international forum on women and peace opened here Thursday under the auspices of the International Women's Peace Movement, the official MENA news agency reported.

Egyptian First Lady Mrs Susan Mubarak, founder and chairperson of the movement, said in her inaugural address that women can play an important role in maintaining the world peace.

"Women experience and deal with conflicts, and women know what is needed when handling conflicts. Therefore women bring their vision into peace processes," she said. Mrs Mubarak called on the international community to support women's contribution to peace as an integral part of nation-building. "We have to think of establishing a mechanism, like an early warning system which can open a communication channel for women, enabling them to play their role in preventing imminent conflicts or wars," said the First Lady.

The Women's International Peace Movement was launched in June, 2003, with an eye of leading women all over the world to promote peace and establishing connections between women in different parts of the world. — MNA/Xinhua

ဆုတ်တုန်နှစ်သ ထိုးမြင့်စေ

China hopes to work with Russia on energy cooperation

BELJING, 8 Jan—China hopes to make concrete progress in energy cooperation with Russia with efforts made by both, said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan at a regular Press conference here Thursday.

While answering questions about the proposed oil pipeline project linking the two countries, Kong said energy cooperation constituted an important part of China-Russia strategic partnership and the mutually beneficial economic cooperation between the two countries. State leaders, governments and relevant departments attach great importance to the project, and have discussed different plans and proposals, he said. There is no official information yet on the plan to lay the pipeline, Kong said. —MNA/Xinhua



An employee of Samsung holds Samsung's new SPH-A800 mobile phone with a 2-megapixel camera and a speech-to-text conversion capability which it claims is the world's first, enabling users to send text message using their voice in Seoul on 6 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

1350 US soldiers killed since beginning of Iraq war

BAGHDAD, 7 Jan — As of Friday, 7 Jan, 2005, at least 1,350 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,056 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is eight higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 am Friday. The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 16; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,212 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 947 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers. —Internet

Petroleum field discovered in southeast Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 8 Jan — Brazilian state-run oil firm PETROBRAS discovered on Thursday a light-oil field in the sea off the coast of Espirito Santo State, southeast of the country.

Guilherme Estrella, director of Exploration and Production of PETROBRAS, confirmed the discovery, saying a sandy structure of 90 metres in thickness was found saturated with high-quality oil and natural gas during their exploration in the Atlantic Ocean. He said commercial extraction of the oilfield will start in 2006 after calculation of its reserves, and the output is estimated to reach at least 100,000 barrels per day. — MNA/Xinhua

Panama, Singapore to resume free trade negotiations

PANAMA CITY, 8 Jan—Panama and Singapore agreed to resume negotiations on a free trade agreement (FTA) during 30 March to 8 April, the Trade and Industry Ministry of Panama said Thursday.

The negotiations between the two countries have remained frozen since July 2004, as they failed to reach a final agreement in the second round of talks due to differences in telecommunications, governmental purchases, transnational financial services of Panamanian banks and the recognition of the Certificate of Origin of the Free Zone of Colon. However, they reached consensus on eight of 12 chapters of the agreement.

On market access, there are still 11 pending issues on industrial products and four agricultural products. Despite the differences, the third round of negotiations could be decisive to close the talks. The two countries also reached a maritime accord in which they agreed not to discriminate against operations of their merchant ships.

Panamanian Trade

and Industry Minister Alejandro Ferrer said the FTA with Singapore will bring more investments to Panama, the first Latin American country to sign a free trade agreement with the Asian nation.

MNA/Xinhua

Peruvian police seize 324 kilos of cocaine

LIMA, 8 Jan—Peruvian police have seized 324 kilos of cocaine in an operation and arrested six suspects, national police chief for drug enforcement Eduardo Montero said Thursday.

Montero told the Press that the cocaine was discovered Wednesday in a truckload of vegetables on the outskirts of Lima, separated in 279 packets.

The drug traffickers had tried to carry the drugs to neighbouring Ecuador and then smuggle to the United States or Europe.

Peru is the second largest cocaine producer in the world after Colombia, with an output of nearly 300 tons per year. —MNA/Xinhua



A US Marine from Lima Company gives a sign to the others as they patrol the devastated city of Fallujah on 7 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

Cambodian, Thai officials meet on promotion of ties

PHNOM PENH, 7 Jan — The 2nd meeting of the governors of the Cambodian-Thai border provinces was held here on Thursday focusing on further promotion of bilateral relations between the two countries.

Cambodia's Co-ministers of the Interior Ministry Sar Kheng and Prince Norodom Sirivudh attended the meeting with their Thai counterpart Bhokin Bhalakula.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction over the close and cordial cooperation and the implementation of the resolutions adopted at the first meeting, held in Thai's Chonburi Province last November.

In a joint communique, they agreed to strengthen the management of border crossing, including using valid border passes, the use of border passes in specific border areas, and to find common, efficient procedures in order to facilitate border crossing transportation operators.

At the same time, the leaders determined to further cooperation on the

prevention and suppression of all illegal activities in the border areas, particularly those related to transnational crimes including terrorism, illicit drugs trafficking, trafficking in persons, acts of piracy and smuggling of illegal weapons, money laundering, international economic crimes and cyber-crimes.

The two nations agreed to continue the exchange of visits of high-ranking officials, working groups and their respective officials at all levels. Moreover, channels of communication will be established between the authorities of the two countries at various levels in order to enhance effectiveness of their bilateral cooperation.

Both sides agreed to hold their third meeting in 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

Oil producing countries seek security of demand

NEW DELHI, 7 Jan — Middle East oil producers stressed on Thursday here the need for continued demand if they were to expand their output.

"Producing countries would like to ensure availability of demand for their oil before embarking on major investment projects to expand oil production capacity," the *Indo-Asian News Service* quoted Energy Minister Mohammed bin Dhaen Al-Hamli of United Arab Emirates (UAE) as saying at the first regional roundtable on energy security here.

"While consumers seek security of supply, suppliers seek security of demand to justify investing in new capacities," added Qatar Second Deputy Premier and Minister of Energy and Industry Abdulla bin Hamad Al-Attiyah.

Organized by the Riyadh-based International Energy Forum and hosted by India, the one-day ministerial roundtable was attended by Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Oman, Qatar, UAE, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, Japan and South Korea. Asia consumes two-

thirds of the region's oil production, and major Asian oil producers and consumers are seeking security, stability and sustainability in supplies and demand.

Though the Middle East has considerable proven reserves, the UAE stressed that for oil producing countries to put in the required investment, there was a need to have security of demand and stable prices to generate sufficient revenues for investments to create additional capacity.

"Oil producing countries must generate sufficient oil revenues to be reinvested in oil production capacity expansion projects, and this can only be achieved when oil prices are at fair levels," said Al-Hamli.

Iran Petroleum Minister Bijan Zangeneh stressed that a constructive cooperation can only emerge through better understanding and recognition of realities.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်စုမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



A Chinese couple walk down a stairway in palace made from ice blocks in a park during the annual ice festival in Harbin, capital of Heilongjiang Province, on 6 Jan, 2005. —INTERNET

French Foreign Ministry confirms journalist missing in Iraq

PARIS, 7 Jan — French Foreign Ministry confirmed Thursday that the journalist of French daily *Liberation* Florence Aubenas and her assistant, Hussein Hanoun Al-Saadi, had gone missing in Baghdad since Wednesday morning.

"Since the daily *Liberation* inform us of the news, every effort is being made by our representatives in Baghdad and by the ministry in Paris to find them," French Foreign Ministry's spokesman Herve Ladsous said. "We renew our advice to all our nationals, including media representatives, to avoid going to Iraq given the current security risks in this country," he added.

Liberation announced earlier in the day that it had had no news from Florence Aubenas in over 24 hours, nor of her Iraqi assistant, Hussein Hanoun Al-Saadi, who collaborates with all correspondents of *Liberation* for almost two years. Florence Aubenas, 43, and Saadi left their Baghdad hotel early Wednesday but did not return and have not been seen since, *Liberation* said in a statement. —MNA/Xinhua

S Korean newly appointed Vice-PM resigns

SEOUL, 8 Jan — South Korean newly appointed Vice-Prime Minister and Education Minister Lee Ki-jun offered resignation on Friday amid a continuing controversy over his ethical standards.

"I wish to step down from my post as I failed to fulfil my duty as an education minister," said Lee in a news conference held at the main government complex in downtown Seoul in late Friday.

"I wanted to do my best in my ministerial post because I thought this was my last chance to serve the country, but I apologize to our officials of the Education Ministry and other educational workers for causing social disputes," he said.

Lee's resignation came three days after South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun tapped him as Vice-Prime Minister and minister for education and human resources development. Since the nomination, local media and non-governmental organizations raised lots of doubts about his ethical standards. Lee has been criticized for his service as an outside director of a conglomerate and his free-spending ways when he was president of Seoul National University. —MNA/Xinhua

US 'facing bigger bombs in Iraq'

LONDON, 8 Jan — Guerillas in Iraq have increased the amount of explosives they pack into bombs targeting US army patrols, a top Pentagon official has said.

Brig Gen David Rodriguez was speaking after a roadside bomb killed seven US soldiers in Baghdad on Friday — the highest US death toll so far this year.

Troops were encountering fewer bombs, he said, but they were more powerful.

A "multi-pronged effort", gathering intelligence on bombs and adapting tactics could

reduce losses, he said.

Brig Gen Rodriguez warned, however, that boosting armoured protection for US vehicles was not enough in every case.

The seven soldiers killed on Friday were travelling in a Bradley armoured fighting vehicle — the most heavily-protected US vehicle after the Abrams tank.

US soldiers and their families have complained

the military has not given their vehicles adequate protection in Iraq.

Earlier this week, Maj Gen Peter Chiarelli, a US commander, said his forces were having greater success in finding and defusing roadside explosives and car bombs.

But, he warned, stopping them altogether required more cooperation from ordinary Iraqis.

Internet



US soldiers ask Iraqis before entry into their home as troops from the 1st Battalion 24th Regiment are conducting a house-to-house search during a raid in Mosul on 7 Jan, 2005. — INTERNET

India signs 25-year LNG deal with Iran

NEW DELHI, 8 Jan— India and Iran signed Friday a 25-year agreement under which Teheran will supply 7.5 million tons of liquefied natural gas (LNG) annually from 2009.

A memorandum of Understanding was signed here by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and GAIL with the National Iranian Gas Export Corp.

The signing followed talks between Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Mani Shankar Aiyar and his Iranian counterpart Bijan Nzangeneh, the *Indo-Asian News Service* reported.

In return, India has been given stakes in the development of two oil fields in Iran — at Yadavaran and Juseyr. While New Delhi will invest 20 per cent in Yadavaran equivalent to 60,000 barrels a day, in Juseyr it will have a 100 per cent buy-back agreement.

According to the pact on the LNG deal, IOC and GAIL will take delivery of the Iranian gas and GAIL will be the nodal agency for the sale of gas in India, GAIL chairman and managing director Proshanto Banerjee said.

Aiyar said India's main concern was to buy the best possible quality gas at best possible prices.

He also said that an Iranian delegation would visit India on the eve of the Asian Gas Summit here 14 February for talks on delivery of Iranian gas by a pipeline at the India-Pakistan border.

The minister's comments mean that India may not participate in the proposed multi-billion-US-dollar pipeline project but would be willing to buy the gas if it was delivered at its doorstep.

The minister added that India's gas requirements were expected to increase four-fold by 2020.

"Today our output is less than 100 million standard cubic metres, and the demand is expected to reach 400 million. Despite new discoveries in India, we will be in need of substantial quantities of gas," he said. —MNA/Xinhua

US has only spent small portion set aside for Iraq rebuilding

WASHINGTON, 7 Jan— The United States has still only spent a small portion of the 18.4 billion US dollars it set aside for rebuilding Iraq and is being forced to reallocate funding from some projects because of the poor security situation, a new government report shows.

According to a copy of the Bush Administration's latest quarterly update to Congress on Iraq obtained by *Reuters* on Thursday, as of December 29 only 2.2 billion US dollars of the funds had actually been spent.

"Insurgency and terrorism remain the most significant challenges to the reconstruction of Iraq," the report said.

"Intimidation of local workers has delayed projects, while the insecure environment has driven away critically needed foreign technicians in essential services." As a result, costs for private security has soared, adding to overall rebuilding costs.

The report comes as the Bush Administration prepares to ask Congress for an emergency spending package to pay for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan seen totalling 80 billion US dollars to 100 billion US dollars. Extra money for police training, which falls under reconstruction, is expected to be part of that request.

Administration officials say that request is likely to be submitted in February or March, somewhat later than some had expected.

The amount of money spent is only a small increase from the 1.2 billion US dollars in the previous quarterly report, dated 22 September. However, the portion of the money promised to companies for projects has risen to 10.5 billion US dollars from 7.1 billion US dollars in the prior report.

The latest report said the US Embassy in Baghdad planned to divert 457 million US dollars from its reconstruction funding for high-impact projects in the electricity sector to essential programs key post battle cities.

Hampered by security problems in many areas and mindful of the need to show impatient Iraqis that progress is being made to rebuild their country, the United States has been shifting around funding for projects and changing its strategies. —MNA/Reuters



Pentagon plans review of Iraq strategy as nine US troops die

BAGHDAD, 8 Jan— The Pentagon has reportedly ordered a top-level review of its strategy in Iraq as nine US troops were killed.

The second-in-command of US forces in Iraq, Lieutenant General Thomas Metz, told reporters Thursday security was lacking in four provinces in central Iraq's Sunni Muslim belt, but said postponing the elections would be a mistake.

According to an internal State Department poll, only 32 percent of Sunnis are "very likely" to vote and 88 percent said they would stay away from the polls if they feared attacks.

A US official said the findings were "not surprising" but said efforts would continue to encourage the participation of Sunnis, who enjoyed power until US troops toppled Saddam Hussein regime in 2003.

Amid increasing unrest, US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld is sending a retired general to Iraq to evaluate the development of Iraqi security forces, a centerpiece

of the US strategy to defeat a growing attack, a Pentagon spokesman said.

The mission, first reported by *The New York Times*, reflected the administration's deepening concern over the situation in Iraq where guerillas are mounting an intensifying campaign to derail 30 January elections.

The Times said retired General Gary Luck's review will be "open-ended" and include a broader look at US military operations, including US troop levels and the strategy for fighting the guerilla.

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said Luck's primary task was to assess the efforts to train and field Iraqi security forces, whose halting performance has compared unfavourably with an Iraqi guerilla that appears to be growing in strength and sophistication. —Internet

Baskets of fresh shrimp at a seafood processing factory in the Vietnamese Province of Quang Binh on 7 Jan, 2005.

INTERNET

Blatter to visit south Africa to meet Mbeki

JOHANNESBURG, 8 Jan— International soccer governing body FIFA head Sepp Blatter will meet South Africa President Thabo Mbeki during a twoday visit to the country next week, the organization said on Thursday.

The trip will be Blatter's first to South Africa since it was awarded the 2010 World Cup last May. Blatter will be in the country on January 12 and 13 to meet Mbeki in Pretoria and will also have talks with the South African Football Association and the World Cup 2010 Local Organization Committee.

MNA/Xinhua

France advises against sending journalists to Iraq

PARIS, 8 Jan— French President Jacques Chirac on Friday affirmed that the French authorities advise against sending journalists to Iraq, following the confirmation that the French journalist Florence Aubenais went missing in Baghdad.

Chirac expressed his worry about the fate of the journalist of the French daily *Liberation* and said France would find her by all means.

"Today, we have no news of your colleague and we are worried. Naturally, we are mobilizing all possible means to obtain information and to find her," Chirac told reporters attending a New Year's reception at the Elysee Palace. "I want to reiterate that the French authorities have formally advised against sending journalists" to Iraq, he said.

"For everyone, it's a question of responsibility. At the current time, the security of our correspondents cannot

be ensured."

Chirac said while he "understood the demands of the profession," there were clear limits, adding: "It's not good to put people's lives in jeopardy".

Liberation announced Thursday that it had had no news from Florence Aubenais in over 24 hours, nor of her Iraqi assistant, Hussein Hanoun Al-Saadi, who collaborates with all correspondents of *Liberation* for almost two years.

Florence Aubenais, 43, and Saadi left their Baghdad hotel early Wednesday but did not return and have not been seen since, *Liberation* said in a statement.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi boys throw stones at a US Bradley armoured vehicle in the Shiite suburb of al-Sadr city in Baghdad, on 7 Jan, 2005. —INTERNET

CEA to help expand int'l scope of China's trade show

LAS VEGAS, 8 Jan — The Consumer Electronics Association (CEA) announced a partnership here Thursday with its Chinese counterpart to help expand the international scope of SINOCES, China's largest consumer electronics exhibition.

The association is the producer of the annual International Consumer Electronics Show, which opens here Thursday. It said the new business venture with the China Electronic Chamber of Commerce will strengthen trade and business opportunities for the US consumertechnology industry.

China is a huge market and the chamber is

the most important electronics trade association in China, said Gary Shapiro, president and CEO of the association.

The third annual SINOCES, the only government-sanctioned consumer electronics show in China, will take place on July 1-4 in Qingdao, a coastal city in east China, some 550 kilometres southeast of Beijing.

Over 60,000 people

from around the world attended the 2004 SINOCES show, where more than 300 vendor companies exhibited.

More than 120,000 people from about 110 countries are attending the 2005 International Consumer Electronics Show, the world's largest showcase of latest digital technology and products.

MNA/Xinhua



Logitech expands mouse manufacturing facility in China

BELING, 8 Jan— Swiss Logitech, the world's leading computer parts supplier, plans to reinforce its global mouse manufacturing base in China by launching a new factory project that will entail an investment of about 20 million US dollars.

Logitech Chief Executive Officer Guerrero De Luca said at a Press conference Thursday in Suzhou of East China's Jiangsu Province that the new facility, which will be in operation in September, is expected to increase its annual mouse output by 30 per cent.

Its current production facility at the Suzhou New Area, which was set up in 1994, now produces annually 80 million mice, but they cannot meet the growing demand of the China market, the *China Daily* reported Friday.

"We need efforts to enlarge our production ca-

capacity since China is such a huge market," he said. Logitech will double its growth rate of 30 per cent in a short time as the market expands, the daily reported. Its mice are sold to more than 20 big Chinese and foreign PC manufacturers.

MNA/Xinhua

Students listen to a speech during the launching ceremony of the Olympic education campaign among youths, in Beijing on 7 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

Tanzania to take part in Beijing tourism exhibition

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 8 Jan — Tanzania is set to take part in the scheduled tourism exhibition in April in Beijing of China to further tap its tourism resources, according to the Tanzania Tourist Board.

Plans are now under consideration for opening direct flights from Tanzania to China, which signed a memorandum of understanding on tourism with Tanzania last year, said board managing director Peter Mwenduo.

"The exhibition in Beijing is therefore of paramount significance for Tanzania," the director said, adding that it will be the first time for his country to take part in such tourism-oriented exhibitions in China.

The official cited as favourite prerequisites to further tap Tanzania's tourism resources political stability and hospitality of local people apart from the country's assortment of tourist attractions in national parks, nature conservation areas, UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) world heritage sites and Mount Kilimanjaro.

MNA/Xinhua

Photo exhibition held to celebrate China-Tajikistan dip ties

BELING, 8 Jan — A photo exhibition was held here Thursday by the Tajikistan Embassy in China to celebrate the upcoming 13th anniversary of the establishment of China-Tajikistan diplomatic ties.

Ismail Amet, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), said in the opening ceremony that the cultural exchange is one of the most important parts of

bilateral ties.

"A prosperous country should not only be materially abundant, but also rich in national culture and spirits," Amet said. "Through the photo show, we are convinced

that the Tajik people can score greater achievements in national development and rejuvenation."

Zaur Dakhte is a renowned Tajik cameraman, photographer and

laureate of many contests in a number of film and photography festivals. The pictures presented in the show were taken by Zaur Dakhte in the past three years.

MNA/Xinhua

Uganda loses \$23m annually in poor milk handling

KAMPALA, 8 Jan— Uganda loses 23 million US dollars annually due to poor handling of milk at farms, during transportation and marketing, reported local Press on Friday.

Uganda Dairy Development Authority (DDA) boss Nathan Twinamatsiko was quoted as saying that "in Uganda, approximately 27 per cent of milk produced is lost".

"Six per cent is wasted at the farms, 11 per cent and 10 per cent is either lost to spillage or spoilage during transportation and marketing. The Food and Agricul-

tural Organization (in a report) calculated the value of this loss at 23 million US dollars," Twin-amatsiko said.

He said the loss could be saved if collection centres in milk producing areas meet the standards.

Twinamatsiko said the report showed that Kenya and Tanzania also have higher losses, which adds up to 59 million US

dollars in losses for the three East African countries.

"In Kenya, around 95 million litres worth 22.4 million US dollars are lost every year, cumulative losses in Tanzania amount to about 59 million litres worth 14.3 million US dollars.

We need joint efforts to save the sector," he said.

MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese artist makes final touches to a snow sculpture during a competition in a park during the annual ice and snow festival in Harbin, capital of Heilongjing Province. —INTERNET

The Golden Summit of Myanmar

Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)

The Sasana and Myanmar always shine like gold that never rusts or becomes dull in colour due to the reaction caused by any element. Thanks to the efforts of Tapussa and Ballika, the Sasana was introduced in Myanmar during the life time of the Lord Buddha. Myanmar warmly welcomed and accepted the missionary Buddhist monks who were sent to the country from India after the completion of the Third Buddhist Synod. The eminent monk Shin Araham and King Anawrahta made great strides in the effort to propagate and promote the Sasana.

Since then, Myanmar has seen the flourishing of the Pariyatti, Patipatti and Pativedha Sasana and the emergence of monks and lay persons who are well versed in the Three Pitakas throughout the successive eras.

Myanmar held the World Buddhist Summit for purification, promotion and propagation of the Sasana till the future. The grand Summit was held in Maha Pasana Cave, the venue of the Sixth Buddhist Synod, in Yangon for three days from 9 to 11 December 2004.

In addition to heads of state and government, venerable monks, senior Buddhist researchers and guests from 38 nations attended the Summit, opened in accord with the tradition and religious rites.

At the opening ceremony, Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee (SSMNC) Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotica Bhaddanta Kumara and Most Ven Dr Phra Maha Vichit Singharaj of Laos offered lights to the Jade Buddha in the cave. Local and foreign monks recited parittas, followed by the greetings extended by Myanmar Prime Minister, and the reading out of messages of the SSMNC Chairman, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, President of Bangladesh Dr Iajuddin Ahmed and President of India Mr APJ Abdul Kalam.

Prime Minister of Thailand Dr Thaksin Shinawatra and Prime Minister of Laos Mr Bounnhang Vorachith delivered speeches, and Prime Minister of Cambodia Mr Samdech Hun Sen, President of Sri Lanka Madame Chandrika Vandarnaika Kumaratunga, Prime Minister of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of Vietnam Mr Phan Van Khai, and Prime Minister of Nepal Sher Bahadur Deuba sent messages to it.

Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy and Honourary Professor of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Maha Dhammakathika Bahujanahitadhara Dr Nyanissara, on behalf of the SSMNC, delivered the keynote speech.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe paid respects to Myanmar Sayadaws and venerable monks from 18 foreign nations attending the Summit at 10.20 am on the opening day. The Senior General also presented a Buddha image each to them. He was accompanied by SPDC Vice-Chairman Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, SPDC Member General Thura Shwe Mann, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win, SPDC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and others.

The ceremony continued, and the Myanmar Prime Minister presented a Buddha image each to monks of Sweden, Netherlands, Nepal, Switzerland, America, Singapore, Cambodia and Sri Lanka and a certificate of honour to Mr Nakajima Yasuyoshi for donating 34 cars to the Summit. The Secretary-1 presented one Buddha image each to eight Sayadaws from Germany, Australia, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

"Today, the world is witnessing numerous conflicts and crimes. All those evils result from greed (*lobha*), anger (*dosa*) and delusion (*moha*). We should rid the world of the roots of all evils and sow the seeds of goodwill, tolerance, kindness and altruism

for the sake of peace and prosperity," stated the Senior General in his message.

The message was read out by the Secretary-1. The message highlighted the causes behind the evil consequences the world is facing at present.

"Lord Buddha's message of the four cardinal values—loving-kindness (*metta*), compassion (*karuna*), appreciative joy (*mudita*) and equanimity (*upekkha*)—is the best path that will lead humanity to peace and harmony. Those teachings are applicable not only to Buddhists, but to all humankind, regardless of race or creed."

I agree with the message, and believe that the people wish the loving-kindness to spread all over the world.

Here, I would like to present the excerpts of the address delivered by Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win at the Summit as follows:

"Of the two requirements of mankind, physical and spiritual, while progress in science and technology can fulfil the physical needs only the teachings of the Lord Buddha can satisfy the spiritual requirements.

"The Buddha Dhamma is preventing the decline of moral values and contributing to enhancing patience, loving-kindness, compassion and selflessness. It purifies the hearts and minds of mankind

"Lord Buddha's message of the four cardinal values—loving-kindness (*metta*), compassion (*karuna*), appreciative joy (*mudita*) and equanimity (*upekkha*)—is the best path that will lead humanity to peace and harmony. Those teachings are applicable not only to Buddhists, but to all humankind, regardless of race or creed."

and promotes these values.

"While social development can be achieved through science and technology, mental attributes can be gained and peace and tranquillity developed through the teachings of the Lord Buddha. It is most important to control at all times excessive greed, violent anger and false pride.

"In the international arena, men are frightened and shocked by arms rivalry, terrorism, the gap between rich and poor and bullying of the weak by the strong. Men's feelings are enflamed by the three evil fires of greed, anger and fear. These fires can be extinguished by Lord Buddha's Teachings and bring global peace, loving-kindness, tolerance and forgiveness. It is our ardent hope that the Theras and religious leaders would unswervingly strive to attain peace and prosperity and the flourishing of the Eternal Truths, for the world and the country in which we reside, in accordance with the teachings of the Buddha." Now, I am going to present the excerpts of the address delivered by the Thai Prime Minister as follows:

"Buddhism is the religion of moderation and tolerance. A peace of mind and the salvation from *Atta* (self) are the ultimate goals of all Buddhists.

"We, Buddhists, are taught to abide by *Sila* (the precepts), the first of which is to refrain from killing. We are also taught, among other things, to observe the four divine abidings, namely the loving-kindness (*Metta*), compassion (*Karuna*), sympathetic joy (*Mudita*) and equanimity (*Upekkha*)."

By reading the excerpts, everyone can know what Buddhism really means. Hence, I hope that the World Buddhist Summit held in Myanmar will surely contribute to changing the world to be a better place under protection of loving-kindness from the place of crime and evil.

(Translation: TMT)

Myanma Alin+Kyemon: 8.1.2005.

ပညာရေးနှင့်ကြီးကြပ်ရေး
အစောင့်မြန်မာ့ပညာရေးဦးစီးဌာန
(အောက်မြန်မာပြည်)
ရန်ကင်းအစောင့်အရှောက်ဦးစီးဌာန
e-Education Learning Centre သင်ခန်းစာ
ထုတ်လွှင့်မည့်အစီအစဉ်

၁၈-၁-၂၀၀၅ (အင်္ဂါနေ့)

- * နံနက် ၉:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၁:၀၀ ထိ - စာတုဗေဒ
 - * နေ့လယ် ၁၁:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၁:၃၀ ထိ - ဘောဂဗေဒ
 - * နေ့လယ် ၁၁:၃၀ နာရီမှ ၁၃:၀၀ ထိ - ဓမ္မဗျူဟာချိန်
 - * နေ့လယ် ၁၃:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၅:၅၀ ထိ - ရူပဗေဒ
- ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲဖြေဆိုမည့် ကျောင်းသား/ကျောင်းသူများ

၁၉-၁-၂၀၀၅ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့)

- * နံနက် ၉:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၀:၄၅ ထိ - သမိုင်း
 - * နံနက် ၁၀:၄၅ နာရီမှ ၁၁:၃၀ ထိ - စိတ်ကြိုက်မြန်မာစာ
 - * နေ့လယ် ၁၁:၃၀ နာရီမှ ၁၃:၀၀ ထိ - ဓမ္မဗျူဟာချိန်
 - * နေ့လယ် ၁၃:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၄:၃၀ ထိ - ပထဝီဝင်
- ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲဖြေဆိုမည့် ကျောင်းသား/ကျောင်းသူများ

နေ့လယ် ၁၃:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၅:၀၀ နာရီထိ

၂၀-၁-၂၀၀၅ (ကြာသပတေးနေ့)

- * ပုဂံမြို့ဟောင်းနှင့်ကျွန်းတော် စာတမ်းငယ် လေ့လာချက် - ပထမနှစ် အထူးပြုအားလုံး၊ မဟာဝိဇ္ဇာအရည်အချင်းစစ်နှင့် မဟာဝိဇ္ဇာ (မြန်မာစာအထူးပြု)
- * ပုဂံခေတ်ကျောက်စာများတွင် ထင်ဟပ်နေသော ပုဂံခေတ် အမျိုးသမီးများ - ပထမနှစ်မှ မဟာဝိဇ္ဇာတန်းထိ အရည်အချင်းစစ်နှင့် မဟာဝိဇ္ဇာ (မြန်မာစာအထူးပြု)နှင့် အများပြည်သူများ

၂၁-၁-၂၀၀၅ (သောကြာနေ့)

- * မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ထုံးတမ်းဥပဒေအရ သာသနိကများ အမွေဆက်ခံရေး - ဒုတိယနှစ်ပွဲပေး၊ မဟာဥပဒေ(ပြည်တွင်း) တက်ရောက်နေသော ကျောင်းသား/ကျောင်းသူများ
- * Priority of Maritime Lien - နောက်ဆုံးနှစ် မဟာဥပဒေ (ပင်လယ်ရေကြောင်းအုပ်ချုပ်ရေး) တက်ရောက်နေသော ကျောင်းသား/ကျောင်းသူများ။

နံနက် ၉:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၆:၀၀ နာရီထိ

၂၂-၁-၂၀၀၅ (စနေနေ့)

- * အစောင့်အရှောက်တက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းသား/ကျောင်းသူများအတွက် သင်ခန်းစာများ

၂၃-၁-၂၀၀၅ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)

- * အစောင့်အရှောက်တက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းသား/ကျောင်းသူများအတွက် သင်ခန်းစာများ

၂၄-၁-၂၀၀၅ (တနင်္လာနေ့)

- * နံနက် ၉:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၀:၂၅ ထိ - မြန်မာစာ
 - * နံနက် ၁၀:၂၅ နာရီမှ ၁၁:၀၀ ထိ - အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ
 - * နေ့လယ် ၁၁:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၂:၀၀ ထိ - သင်္ချာ
 - * နေ့လယ် ၁၂:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၃:၀၀ ထိ - ဓမ္မဗျူဟာချိန်
 - * နေ့လယ် ၁၃:၀၀ နာရီမှ ၁၅:၃၀ ထိ - စိဝေဒ
- ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲဖြေဆိုမည့် ကျောင်းသား/ကျောင်းသူများ

သားသမီးအပေါ် မေတ္တာထား
ပိုလိမ့်ကားကွယ်ဆေးဖြင့် ရောဂါတား

"ဒုတိယနှစ်ဒေသအလိုက်အမျိုးသားကာကွယ်ဆေးတိုက်ခန်းများ"

၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၉)ရက် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) (ပထမအကြိမ်) ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၂၀)ရက် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) (ဒုတိယအကြိမ်)

(ရန်ပြည်နယ်၊ ရှမ်းပြည်နယ်၊ စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်း၊ ကချင်ပြည်နယ်မှ ဖြန့်ချိ) (၂၀) ဖြန့်ချိ

အသက် ၅ နှစ်အောက် ကလေးငယ်များ အားလုံး
ပိုလိမ့်ကားကွယ်ဆေး တိုက်ကျွေးကြည့်

Sub-inspectors of police course concludes

YANGON, 8 Jan — The course No 50 for sub-inspectors of police concluded yesterday at the parade ground of the Central Training School of the Myanmar Police Force in Zibingyi, PyinOoLwin township, with an address delivered by MPF Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi.

Present were Police Quartermaster-General Police Brig-Gen Win Soe, Principal Police Brig-Gen Khin Maung, Director (Admin/Training) Police Col Win Khaung, departmental officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs in Mandalay Division, guests, and relatives of the outgoing sub-inspectors.

At the ceremony, MPF Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi took the salute of the sub-inspectors and inspected the companies. Next, he presented a best trainee award to Sub-Inspector Ye Htut, an outstanding award to Sub-Inspector Khin Maung Myint for his excellent performance in law, an outstanding

award to Sub-Inspector Hla Myo Aung for his excellence in military tactics, and outstanding award to Sub-Inspector Ko Myint for his excellence in shooting. In his speech, MPF Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi stressed the need to try to become good leaders capable of maintaining the fine traditions of the police force. He urged them to prepare themselves for national defence duties apart from such tasks as regional stability and enforcement of law, MPF's prime responsibilities. He also spoke of the need to keep the national policy in the fore by building administration, development and organizational walls in defence of the country. Later, he called for their efforts to uphold and uplift the prestige of the Myanmar Police Force.

The Central Training School of the Myanmar Police Force conducted the course attended by a total of 204 trainees. — MNA



Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi of Myanmar Police Force speaking at concluding ceremony of Course No 50 for sub-inspectors of police.— HOME AFFAIRS



Pahtama Taungkyauingyi Sayadaw.— MNA

Pahtama Taungkyauingyi Monastery Sayadaw passes away

YANGON, 8 Jan — The Religious Affairs Department announced that State Ovadaçariya Pahtama Taungkyauingyi Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Varinda, aged 86 and 66 vasa, of Taunggyi, Shan State (East), passed away at 4 pm on 6 January, 11th Waning of Nadaw, 1366 ME. — MNA

Export crop plantations in Myingyan District, Magway Division inspected

YANGON, 8 Jan — Accompanied by Myingyan District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Tun Win and departmental officials, Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun on 4 January arrived at the site of Shwepadetha Co in Pinlai Village, Myingyan, Mandalay Division where onions, a kind of export crops, were grown after vacant land was reclaimed and inspected cultivation of 81 acres of onions.

Next, the deputy minister inspected the onion plantation of Maha Brothers Co in Myaynukyun, Thapaung Village-tract, Myingyan District. On 5 Jan, he attended the opening of the new school building of Orin Village primary school in Myaeng

Township and delivered a speech.

Pyae Phyoo Aung Co Managing Director U Aung Kyaw Moe donated a 21-inch colour TV to the school.

On 6 January, the deputy minister inspected the onion plantation of local farmers in Yenangyaung, that of MSKM Co in Shabinhla Village, that of Diamond Star Co in Thayatlaybin Village-tract and that of Golden Crop Co.

Later, the deputy minister went to Magway and inspected onion plantations of Pyae Phyoo Aung Co and Nyinaung Co in Natmauk Township, and the onion plantation of Toetat Lin Co in Myothit. On 7 January, the deputy minister also inspected cultivation of onions in Pyay.

MNA

Education facilities in Bago Division (East) inspected

YANGON, 8 Jan — Minister for Education U Than Aung inspected the multimedia teaching centre of Nyaunglebin BEHS No 1 and No 2 on 6 January.

In Kanyutkwin BEMS in Pyu Township, the minister met the headmistress and teachers and instructed them to carry out academic and sports activities.

On arrival at Toungoo University, the minister heard reports on facts about the university and instructed them to conduct research works so as to benefit the human society.

On 7 January, the minister inspected progress in construction of the two-storey building at Pyu BEHS No 2. He also looked into the language lab and the computer aided instruction. At Pyinbongyi BEHS (Branch) in Bago Township, the minister met with students and fulfilled the requirements of the language lab.— MNA

1st South-East Asia Archery Judges Seminar held

YANGON, 8 Jan — The 1st South-East Asia Archery Judges Seminar was held at Olympic Hotel on Waizayata Road in Thingangyun Township this morning with an opening speech by President of the South-East Asia Archery Federation Mr Sanguan Kosavinta.

Vice-President of South-East Asia Archery Federation President of Myanmar Archery Federation Dr Khin Shwe extended greetings on the occasion.

A lecture was given in the seminar to 20 judges from Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Myanmar to be advanced international judges and the seminar will continue up to 9 January.

MNA



Use Natural Gas Vehicles and save fuel oil

- * In automobiles, natural gas can be used in place of petrol and diesel.
- * The use of natural gas can not only save fuel oil but also extend engine life.
- * Natural gas exploited at home can be used effectively and safely.
- * Natural gas burns cent per cent and is environment-friendly.
- * Adequate supply of natural gas helps facilitate passenger and cargo transport.

Commander inspects rural development tasks in Taunggyi Township

YANGON, 8 Jan — Thayetbin-Hona-Pon-in rural gravel road was commissioned in honour of the 57th Anniversary Independence Day in Taunggyi Township on 3 January morning.

Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, authorities and local people numbering over 4,500. Shan State Com-

missioner U Sein Thin and Director U Thuang Sein of Development Affairs Committee formally opened the road.

The road links Thayetbin Village and Pon-in Village on Shwenyaung-Yaksawk Road and it is three miles and six furlongs long.

Next, the commander attended the ceremony to launch 2-in tubewell in Pon-in Village. Shan State Police Force

Commander Police Col Thura Tin Hla and Director U Thuang Sein formally opened the tubewell. The commander inspected supply of water and the water tank. The tubewell can pump out 1,200 gallons of water per hour and the tank can store 4,000 gallons of water. In Pon-in Village, the commander presented K 100,000 to the funds of Pon-in Village Post-Primary School to Headmaster U Kyaw Soe Wai.—MNA



Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min and guests on 7 January observe items displayed at the pavilions of the Myanma Cooperatives Centenary Commemorative Products Show and Festival being held at the Cooperative Commercial Centre (Saya San Plaza) at the corner of Saya San Road and University Avenue (News reported). — MNA

Independence Day Exhibition goes on

YANGON, 8 Jan — The 57th Anniversary Independence Day Exhibition organized by the 57th Anniversary Independence Day Information Organizing Subcommittee and the Exhibition Staging Subcommittee continued for the sixth day today at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road in Dagon Township.

The exhibition was crowded with members of social organizations, students, monks and the

people including Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung and members.

The Photograph of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and his guidance on independence, the booth on human origin from Myanmar, that on ancient Myanmar empires, that on independence struggle, that on regaining the independence and safeguarding it, that on scenic Myanmar, that on eye-catching national culture, that on nation-building endeavours

and others.

Students of township basic education high schools took part in the computer quiz organized by Yangon University of Computer Studies and the teaching contest with audio language lab and BEHS No 1, Kamayut Township, won the contests. Officials presented prizes to winners in the contests. The exhibition is kept open free of charge till 11 January from 9 am to 5 pm daily. — MNA

Myanmar traditional Chinlon contest to be held

YANGON, 8 Jan — The first Myanmar traditional Chinlon (cane ball) competition will be held to hail the Buddha Pujaniya Festival of the Kyaikkhauk Pagoda in Thanlyin from 16 to 24 February from 12

noon to 10 pm daily at the south west stairways of the pagoda.

Chinlon teams are to offer Shwe Thingans to the pagoda on 23 February. Chinlon committees and teams from across the country are to

contact Police Lt-Col Win Myint (Ph 01-245502), Lt-Comdr Maung Tint (Navy) (Ph 01-380325), U Khin Maung Myint (Ph 01-511057), U Myo Myint (Ph 01-226872) and U Hok Wan (Ph 01-570222). — MNA

60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

- To work in concert with the people to achieve success in implementation of the seven-point Road Map for emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation
- To exert energetic efforts in carrying out the five rural development tasks
- To strive hand in hand with the people for successful realization of the twelve State Objectives while upholding Our Three Main National Causes
- To build a strong, efficient and modern Tatmadaw

Coord meeting of Bago Division PDC and divisional level departments held

YANGON, 8 Jan — Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko attended a coordination meeting of the Bago Division PDC and divisional level departments at Thiri Oaktha Hall in Bago yesterday afternoon.

tended by Secretary Lt-Col Thein Lwin and members and chairmen from district and township PDCs. First, the commander addressed the meeting. Respective departmental officials reported on tasks being carried out by the departments concerned and future tasks, and the chair-

men from district and township PDCs on harvest of monsoon paddy and cultivation of summer paddy and other crops. Later, the commander fulfilled the requirements regarding the reports and gave concluding remarks to the meeting. — MNA

Prizes awarded in Dagon BEMS No 1

YANGON, 8 Jan — A ceremony to present prizes to outstanding students of Dagon BEMS No 1 for the 2003-2004 academic year was held at Nawarat hall of the school this morning.

Headmistress Daw Cathy Soe Thein extended greetings at the ceremony.

Next, the Headmistress, members of the school board of trustees and teachers awarded prizes to the outstanding students of the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth standards in 2003-2004 academic year.



Headmistress Daw Cathy Soe Thein presenting prize to a winner. — MNA

သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်အတွင်း မောင်းနှင်သွားလာလျက်ရှိသော မော်တော်ယာဉ်များအနက် အချို့မော်တော်ယာဉ်များသည် မီးခိုးအလွန်အကျွံ ထွက်ရှိလျက် အများပြည်သူဆိုင်ရာ လမ်းများပေါ်တွင် မောင်းနှင်သွားလာနေသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ အဆိုပါမီးခိုး အလွန်အကျွံထွက်သော မော်တော်ယာဉ်များကြောင့်ပတ်ဝန်းကျင် လေထုညစ်ညမ်းမှု ဖြစ်သည့်အပြင် ပြည်သူများ၏ ကျန်းမာရေးကိုပါ ထိခိုက်နိုင်သဖြင့် မီးခိုးအလွန်အကျွံထွက်သော ယာဉ်များအား စစ်ဆေးတွေ့ရှိပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူဆောင်ရွက်သွားမည် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စဉ်ကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြံ့ခိုင်မှုကော်မတီ

ကျေးရွာတို့၌ ကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့ ဗိုင်းငန်းကျညီဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့

၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၃)ရက်နေ့ထိ နိုင်ငံအဝန်းတွင် ကျေးရွာကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက် (၁၁၁၄၁)တိုက် ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျေးရွာကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် သုတ/ရသစာအုပ်များကို ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေး ဦးစီးဌာန ခရိုင်/မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

Buddha Pujaniya of Kyaikkasan Hsandawshin Pagoda to be held

YANGON, 8 Jan — The 105th Buddha Pujaniya of the Kyaikkasan Hsandawshin Pagoda in Thingangyun Township will be held in conjunction with the Shwe Thingan offering ceremony on 23 February.

On 22 February, rice will also be offered to 300 monks and 100 nuns at 2 pm. Those wishing to donate rice can dial 565452. — MNA

FEA continues its research seminar

YANGON, 8 Jan — The fifth research seminar of the Forest Experts Association went on for the second day today at TawWin Hall of the Forest Department, with an address delivered by Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Minister for Forestry.

The seminar was organized by Forest, Livestock and Fisheries Experts Association. U Soe Win Hlaing, Director-General of the Forest Department, chaired the morning session of the seminar. On the occasion, resource persons read out five research papers.

U Win Kyi, Rector of the Forest University, presided over the afternoon session, in which resource persons read out three research papers.

Dr San Win's paper "Study of 'slash and burn' farming method being practised by people of hilly regions in Myanmar for invention of agricultural techniques for mixed-cultivation of crops and forest" was chosen best research paper, and an honorary prize was presented to him.

Prizes were also presented to other resource persons. — MNA

USDA CEC member inspects public welfare tasks

YANGON, 8 Jan — Union Solidarity and Development Association Central Executive Committee member in-charge of Yangon Division USDA Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, accompanied by officials, inspected this morning public welfare tasks being carried out in Dagon Myothit (East) and South Okkalapa townships under the supervision of respective township USDAs.

The mayor inspected the construction works in Dagon Myothit (East) Township being undertaken for the self-reliant tar road by the township and ward USDAs in cooperation with townsenders and YCDC staffs.

Next, the mayor and party inspected sanitation tasks with the use of machinery and earth works at the junction of Yadana street and Thumngalar street Ward in South Okkalapa township. — MNA

Preparations for Naga Traditional New Year Festival inspected

YANGON, 8 Jan — Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu on 2 January inspected preparations for 2005 Naga Traditional New Year Festival to be organized by Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council in Lahe, Hkamti District, and accommodation for visitors.

In Hkamti, the deputy minister met Tactical Operations Commander Col Min Swe and Chairman of Hkamti Dis-

trict Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Tint and discussed matters concerning the New Year Festival.

On 3 January, the deputy minister inspected construction of Laungngauk and Monhtwe camps and hostels for tourists in Lahe. Officials reported on accommodation matters, transport and reception tasks. The deputy minister fulfilled the requirements of their tasks. — MNA

Armed Forces Day commemorative article contest to be held

YANGON, 8 Jan — In commemoration of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2005, the Working Committee for organizing the competitions announced today to hold the professional level article contest in accord with the objectives of 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2005.

The faculty members from universities, colleges, institutes and basic education schools under the Ministry of Education can participate in the contest with the title, "New Century and the

Tatmadaw". Words of the article contest must be between 3,000 and 5,000.

The entrants are to submit their works together with admission of own creation, two (2.5" x 2") colour photos and the brief biography to Secretary of the Working Committee Director-General of the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) U Saw Lwin, not later than 15 February.

Handsome prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third winners of the contest. — MNA

Rules on Armed Forces Day Commemorative Painting and Sculpture Contests announced

YANGON, 8 Jan — Hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2005, the Painting and Sculpture Contests and Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee under the Poem and Arts Competitions Organizing Work Committee chaired by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung announced rules on the Arts and Sculpture Contests.

Six categories

The Painting Contest will be divided into six categories — the pre-primary level (school children from Pre-Primary School, the primary (junior) level (KG, first and second standards), the primary (senior) level (third and fourth standards), the middle school level (fifth to seventh standards), the high school level (eighth to tenth standards and technical and agricultural schools) and the open level (university, college, institute, State School of Fine Arts, amateur and professional contestants).

Sculpture Contest

Contestants can participate in only the open class of the Sculpture Contest. But, they may take part in the two events — the open class (plaster) and the open class (wood). All the contestants including amateurs, professionals and students may take part in both contests.

In the pre-primary and all basic education levels of the Painting Contest, the size of the entry must be 20" x 15"

presented by any colour and system. The entry must be endorsed by respective principals with the name of contestant, standard, school, township, date of birth, father's name, full address and two passport size photos. The entries are to be sent to the Education Planning and Training Department at 123, Natmauk Street, Bahan Township, not later than 1 March 2005.

The size of entries for the open division painting contest must be 30" x 20" size work presented by any colour and system. Name, Citizenship Scrutiny Card Number, date of birth, father's name, occupation and full address must be written with two passport size photos. The entries must be own creation.

The entry for the wood and plaster events of the Sculpture Contest must not be higher than 36 inches and circumference not larger than 24 inches. The work must be own creation. The entry is to be attached with the name, Citizenship Scrutiny Card number, full address and a brief biography and three passport size colour photos.

Any title can be given to the entry. The entries must be the ones have not entered the contest and exhibition yet. The entries are to be sent to the Secretary of the Painting and Sculpture Contests and Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee, Tatmadaw Convention Hall, U Wisara Road, not later than 3 March 2005.

All the entries must

reflect 12 Objectives of the State, objectives of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day and 12 fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Entries for the open class painting and sculpture contests are to be sent to the Secretary of Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Association (Central) of 187, east wing of Bogyoke Market, Pabedan Township, not later than 1 March 2005 or the Secretary of the Painting and Sculpture Contests and Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee, Tatmadaw Convention Hall, U Wisara Road, here, from 1 to 3 March 2005.

Other entries

Apart from the entries, other paintings and sculptures may be sent to be displayed at the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition. They must also reflect the 12 Objectives of the State, objectives of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day and 12 fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

In addition, the works may reflect the ancient Myanmar Tatmadaw, historic matters of the Tatmadaw which occurred in the periods of Pre-Independence and State Peace and Development Council, and its endeavours in safeguarding and developing the State. The other paintings and sculptures are to be sent directly to Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road from 1 to 5 March 2005.

MNA



Headmaster U Aung Kyi of Insein BEHS No 1 presents prize to an outstanding teacher at School Family Day on 3-1-2005.—(H)

Researchers say mega-dose of Vitamin C reduces oxidative stress

WASHINGTON, 8 Jan — Researchers who set out to prove that a mega-dose of Vitamin C can improve exercise performance in fact showed it has no effect at all, according to a report published on Friday.

The Vitamin, given intravenously to younger and older volunteers, did nothing to help them work harder on a treadmill, the team at the University of Colorado found.

But the Vitamin, given as ascorbic acid, did reduce oxidative stress chemical damage done to cells and proteins in the body, the researchers found.

“We did see a decrease in oxidative stress with large doses of Vitamin C, but this decrease didn’t improve aerobic abilities either for younger or older subjects,” said Christopher Bell, now at Colorado State University, who led the research. The experiment was based on the theory that aging and weakness is caused to a large degree by oxidative stress — the same chemical process that

leads to rusting. This can affect the heart’s ability to pump, for instance, as cells are damaged by day-to-day living.

The researchers tested 12 healthy but mostly inactive people aged 22 to 24, and 10 people aged 59 to 61. They checked their exercise ability several times — before any treatment, during treatment and after a month of tests.

Partway through they gave the volunteers daily 500 milligramme Vitamin C tablets for a month. At the time of testing the volunteers randomly got salt water or ascorbic acid in a slow-drip infusion.

The researchers hoped to show that the huge doses of the Vitamin given directly in the blood would increase breathing capacity and heart output.

But oxygen uptake and heart output were unaffected, they reported in the *Journal of Applied Physiology*. Volunteers given a saltwater solution did no worse than those given Vitamins.

MNA/Xinhua

Israeli troops kill two Palestinians in Gaza

GAZA, 8 Jan — Israeli troops shot dead on Friday two Palestinians in two separate incidents in Gaza City and the Gaza Strip southern town of Khan Younis, Palestinian medics and witnesses said.

They said that Israeli troops stationed on the road leading to the Jewish settlement of Nitzarim shot dead on Friday night a Palestinian militant in an exchange of fire with Israeli soldiers.

Medics at Shiffa Hospital in Gaza City said that Bashir Ayyad, 26, was shot and killed in east of Zaytoon neighborhood in Gaza City, adding there were no other injuries.

Earlier Friday, another Palestinian, who is believed to be a member of Hamas movement, was shot dead as he

approached to the Jewish settlement of Gani Tal west of the town of Khan Younis in southern Gaza Strip.

Israeli and Palestinian sources said that the man was killed as he approached to the settlement in a bid to plant a roadside bomb near the settlement’s fence. Palestinian medics at Rafah Town, meanwhile, said that a nine-year-old child was shot and critically wounded by Israeli soldiers stationed on the borderline between Rafah Town in southern Gaza Strip and Egypt.

Palestinian security officials expressed concerns that the Israeli Army’s escalation in the Palestinian territories would obstruct holding the presidential elections on Sunday.

MNA/Xinhua



Maldivian National Security Service personnel attempt to clear the carcass of a blue whale which washed ashore at the Full Moon Resort. The whale added to the huge problem of cleaning up the pristine Maldivian beaches. —INTERNET

Jordan calls for UN role in Iraqi elections

AMMAN, 8 Jan — Jordanian Foreign Minister Hani Mulqi called here Thursday for a leading UN role in facilitating the Iraqi elections to be held on 30 January.

He said at a session of Iraqi neighbouring countries’ conference that the interim Iraqi Government should hold elections on time with participation of all Iraqis in line with the UN Security Council Resolution 1546. The elections reflected the

aspirations of Iraqi people for a prosperous and free life, said the minister, adding that achieving such a goal would also positively influence its neighbouring countries.

“I have no doubt that a stable, secure and prosperous Iraq will contribute to promoting developmental goals that we all need,” Mulqi said.

He also stressed the importance for all Iraqis to seize the opportunity to put Iraq back on the right track with a view to

imposing the rule of law and restoring security and stability to the war-torn country.

The one-day meeting drew foreign ministers from Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Turkey, Iraq and representatives of the United Nations, Iran, Egypt and Bahrain.

The upcoming Iraqi election was high on the agenda of the meeting, which kicked off earlier Thursday in the Jordanian capital Amman.

MNA/Xinhua

Thailand to set up consulate office in S-W China

CHENGDU, 8 Jan — Thailand will set up a consulate office in Chengdu, the capital of southwest China’s Sichuan Province, this year, making it possible for Chengdu residents to apply for and get visas without leaving town.

The Foreign Affairs Office of the Sichuan provincial government said on Thursday the Chin-

ese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has informed it that China has signed a memorandum of understanding with Thailand on establishing the office.

The office in Chengdu will be established to serve the increasingly exchanges between Sichuan and Thailand on economy, culture and tourism, said the Sichuan Foreign Affairs Office. The office is

expected to open within the first half of this year.

Sichuan Province has been trying in recent years to win over more countries to establish consulates and offices in Sichuan, said the Foreign Affairs Office. Germany has opened a consulate in Chengdu in November 2004. A consulate of South Korea will also open soon.

MNA/Xinhua

Abbas attacks against Israel cannot be justified

RAMALLAH, 8 Jan — Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization Mahmoud Abbas said Friday night that Palestinian militants’ attacks against Israel cannot be justified.

Abbas made the remarks in the West Bank town of al Beera in response to an ambush carried out by al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, the armed wing of Fatah, against an Israeli vehicle

near the West Bank town of Nablus.

One Israeli was killed and three others were injured in the attack.

“Attacks have its reasons and motives, but I don’t justify anybody to carry out these attacks. But in the same time, there are many reasons, there is an occupation and there are many issues I don’t want to go into it now,” he said.

He revealed that Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades

promised him that they would be committed to his programme once he was elected as the new Palestinian leader in Sunday’s elections, adding that he hoped a new era would begin.

The group said in a leaflet distributed in the northern part of the West Bank that the attack is to revenge the Israeli Army military actions carried out against the Palestinians.

MNA/Xinhua



Hitachi, Ltd’s new 8GB Mikey drive is shown with dominoes to demonstrate its smaller profile. Mikey is a new miniature hard drive from Hitachi that can store several thousand songs or pictures in 8 GB of storage.

INTERNET

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V "MAWLAMYINE" VOY NO. ML 113/N

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V "MAWLAMYINE" Voy No. ML 113/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon port on 9-1-2005 and will be berthing on about 10-1-2005 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the bye-laws and conditions of the port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.30 am and 12 noon to 4 pm into 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.

CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

Phone: 293147, 296507, 295754

မြန်မာ့ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားအတွက် အသုံးပြုရန် လိုအပ်သောစက်များ ဝယ်ယူရန် တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ မြန်မာ့ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့်ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားတွင် အသုံးပြုရန် လိုအပ်သော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါသတင်းဖမ်းယူရေးနှင့် သတင်းတည်းဖြတ်ရေး စက်ပစ္စည်းများကိုဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်။

- (က) DV Editing VCR (Recorder). 4 Nos BR DV 6000 U (JVC)
(ခ) DV Editing VCR (Player). 3 Nos BR DV 3000 U (JVC)
(ဂ) Editing Controller 5 Nos RM-G 820 (JVC)
(ဃ) DV Tape 229 Nos DV 180 ME (Sony)

၂။ တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူမှုကို (၂၁-၁-၂၀၀၅) ရက် (၁၆:၃၀)နာရီတွင်ပိတ်ပါမည်။
၃။ တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့်အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကိုအောက်ပါလိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြည်ထောင်စု/ပြည်ပစဉ်းများ ဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့်ထည့်ရောင်းချရေးကော်မတီ မြန်မာ့ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန အမှတ် ၂၂၊ သာသနာ့ဌာန၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊ ဖုန်း- ၂၄၀၆၂၄၊ ၂၄၀၆၂၅၊ ၂၄၀၆၂၆

နှစ်ဦးသဘောတူကုသမှုရရှိရေးပြတ်စဲပြီးခြင်း

ဒေါက်တာ ကော်စွာမြတ် [၁၂/ကမရ(နိုင်)၀၅၁၀၅၅]နှင့် ကျွန်ုပ်မ ဖေဖော်ဝါရီအဖွဲ့ဝင် [၁၂/မရက(နိုင်)၀၅၁၀၅၅] တို့သည် စိတ်သဘောထားခြင်း မတိုက်ဆိုင်ပါသဖြင့် ၂၀-၁၂-၂၀၀၄ နေ့တွင် ရန်ကင်း တောင်ပိုင်းဆိုင်ရာရုံးမှ ခရိုင်တရားသူကြီးချုပ်မှောက်တွင် နှစ်ဦး သဘောတူကုသရေးဝင် ကွဲရှင်းပြတ်စဲပြီးပါကြောင်း။

ဖေဖော်ဝါရီအဖွဲ့ဝင် [၁၂/မရက(နိုင်)၀၅၁၀၅၅]

Population growth slows down in central China province

ZHENGZHOU, 8 Jan—Central China's Henan Province — the most populous province of the country — has seen a decrease of more than 6 million births in the past decade, said the provincial statistics bureau.

By the end of 2003, the population of Henan reached 96.67 million. It is estimated to hit 100 million by 2009.

The natural population growth of Henan Province dropped from 18.4 per thousand in 1990 to 5.64 in 2003, below the country's average level for the thirteenth consecutive year, said the bureau

Wednesday. Meanwhile, with improved medical service and living conditions, Henan maintains a low death rate. Life expectancy in Henan was 72.82 years in 2000.

The effective control on population growth has also contributed to the province's economic development. Its gross domestic product (GDP) has quadrupled since 1990, with per capita GDP hitting 1,000 US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

DRIVE SAFELY

Guinea-Bissau PM calls for int'l aid to tackle locust menace

LUANDA, 8 Jan—Guinea-Bissau's Prime Minister Carlos Gomes Jr has appealed for international assistance to combat locust swarms that threaten crops and grazing land in the northern and eastern parts of the country.

According to a report reaching here on Friday, Gomes Jr made the remarks after a fact-finding trip to Mansoa in the north and Bafata in the east, two of the areas worst affected by swarms of locusts that were first reported in Guinea last month.

He said that "resources are scarce. We therefore appeal for help from our international partners before it is too late".

According to small farmers, the locust swarms were the worst they had seen for many years and that the only means so far used to combat them had been to burn car tyres to drive the insects off, the report said.

Officials from the World Food Programme and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization accompanied Gomes Jr on his provincial trip and said their organizations would offer help to combat the locust threat when the Bissau Government drew up an action plan, said the report.

Guinea-Bissau lies on the west coast of northern Africa, bordered by Senegal to the north, Guinea to the east and south, and the Atlantic Ocean to the west. It includes the island of Bolama and the Bijagos Archipelago.

MNA/Xinhua



Genghis Khan's medicine finds its home with common herders

BEIJING, 8 Jan— Traditional Mongolian Medicine — The kind used by Genghis Khan (1162-1227), founder of the vast Mongol empire of the Middle Ages, and his family — has found wider uses both at home and abroad, said veteran medical expert Yu Lianyun.

Attending the Annual Chinese Traditional Medicine (CTM) meeting here on January 6-7, Yu, an official of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Regional Health Department, found numerous reasons to feel good about the future of Mongolian Medicine.

"When Genghis Khan, born in Temujin, swept through Europe, Mongolian Medicine was like the wind beneath his wings," said Yu.

More brother than cousin to CTM, the distinctive Mongolian medicine can be traced back more than 1,000 years. It is famous for its "bizarre"

treatment of hypertension with blood-letting and drinking fermented horse milk.

"Mongolian Medicine, which helped Genghis Khan conquer high and low in the Asian-Euro continent, has found a place in everyday life of common Mongolian," acknowledged Yu.

Many traditional Mongolian medicines have proved effective in clinical diagnosis. According to the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, at the end of 2004, there were approximately 14,900 traditional medical doctors in Inner Mongolia, with

4,777 Mongolian Medical doctors.

"The web of doctors and clinics links up all the herdsman who are widely scattered in Inner Mongolia, putting medical services within their reach," Yu said.

Part of the job at the annual meeting of CTM is to explore the new possibilities of traditional medicine, including the medicine of minority ethnicities. An offshoot of CTM, Mongolian medicine stands out for its easy way of taking, cheap price and effectiveness.

Unlike CTM, which is known for its hours of preparation and the attitude that "Bitter medicine treats you well," Mongolian medicine is now in tablet, pill and powder forms to cater to the accustomed habits of modern people.

But given the above-mentioned advantages, Mongolian medicine still retains a strong accent — only finding most of its strong influence in Mongolian area — the problem confronting all traditional medicine today.

MNA/Xinhua

China becomes world's second largest source of spam

BEIJING, 8 Jan—A source from the Internet Society of China's anti-spam team on Wednesday said China has become the world's second largest source of spam, after the United States.

The source acknowledged that 180 of 400 IP addresses blocked by the International Anti-Spam Organization in November 2004 were Chinese.

"From the beginning of December to December 19, another 80 Chinese IP addresses were blocked," acknowledged by the source which was quoted by the China Business Times.

The source cited spam as a global problem, fingering the United States, which generated 42.11 per cent of it, as the dominant origin of junk e-mail.

The source said too many IP sites were black-listed and blocked by the International Anti-Spam Organizations, affecting China's normal e-mail delivery.

MNA/Xinhua

Head-on collision kills 28 in E China province

FUZHOU, 8 Jan—At least 28 people were killed in a traffic accident in eastern China's Fujian Province at around 2 pm Thursday, local police said.

A runaway truck loaded with containers had a head-on collision with a coach carrying 45 people on an expressway linking Fuzhou, the provincial capital, and Xiamen, a coastal city, killing 24 at the scene.

Four others died on the way to a local hospital, and the 19 injured are under medical care, said the police. Investigation into the cause is underway.

MNA/Xinhua



A Volkswagen assembly plant in Germany. Europe's leading carmakers are facing a profit margin squeeze in the coming year as soaring raw materials costs look set to outstrip any price rises the companies can force through in what remains a consumer-led market. —INTERNET

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ပြိုးတိုးတက်လာ ခိုင်ခံ့တော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဆုံ

Researchers says CCL3L1 gene may protect people from AIDS

WASHINGTON, 7 Jan — A gene that may help block the AIDS virus from getting into cells seems to protect some people from the deadly and incurable infection, researchers said on Thursday.

They found that people who carry extra copies of the gene are less likely to become infected with the virus, which affects 40 million people worldwide.

The findings may eventually lead to better ways to prevent and treat HIV, which has killed more than 25 million people since it was first identified in the early 1980s, said the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which funded the study.

It also may help explain overall human immunity against infectious diseases, the researchers write in an advance report

in the journal *Science*. The gene, called CCL3L1, controls production of an immune system signaling chemical, or chemokine.

Normally, genetic variation means people have slight mutations or variations in a gene, or working and non-working copies — one copy inherited from the mother and one from the father. In this case, people actually have multiple copies of the entire gene, said Dr Sunil Ahuja of the University of Texas Health Science Centre in San Antonio, who led the study.

“About 5 per cent of

the human genome has got large chunks of sequence that are duplicated,” Ahuja said in a telephone interview. For CCL3L1, some people have no copies of the gene at all and some people have four, five and more. This chemokine is associated with a receptor — a cellular entryway — known as CCR5.

CCR5 is known to affect susceptibility to HIV infection and to how quickly an infected person progresses to AIDS.

For their study Ahuja and colleagues in the United States, Britain and Argentina analyzed blood samples from more than

4,300 HIV-infected and non-infected people of different ancestral origins.

They counted how many copies of the CCL3L1 gene each person had, and found big variations.

For example, HIV-negative black adults had an average of four copies of CCL3L1, while HIV-negative European-Americans averaged two copies each and uninfected Hispanic-Americans had an average of three copies. The more copies a person had, the less likely he or she was to be infected with HIV.— MNA/Reuters



Two lion cubs play with a tiger cub in the Jinan Wildlife World, Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, on 6 Jan, 2005. Three lion cubs have been put in the same cage with four tiger cubs with an aim of fostering intimacy among them.

INTERNET

“Lord of the Rings” director Jackson eyes “The Lovely Bones”

WELLINGTON, 8 Jan—Peter Jackson, who is director of “Lord of the Rings”, has confirmed that his next film will be an adaptation of the book *The Lovely Bones*, the Wellington-based daily *The Dominion Post* reported Friday.

With King Kong set for release in December, rumours have been circulating as to what the Kiwi director will turn his attention to next.

In an interview with a magazine *Lord of the Rings Fan*, Jackson and co-writer Philippa Boyens confirmed they would team up again to turn Alice Sebold's bestseller into a celluloid reality, the report said.

“One next project after King Kong is *The Lovely Bones*,” Boyens was quoted as saying.

“We feel comfortable with each other. I am sure there will be other projects we do separately but at the moment, as long as it works, we'll keep doing it,” he said. When asked about his filming a genda after King Kong, Jackson also said it would be to make “*The Lovely Bones*”.

The story is based on a 14-year-old girl watching from heaven as her family copes with her rape and murder. She narrates the story as she watches the turmoil they go through.—MNA/Xinhua

Death toll from freight train collision in US rises to eight

WASHINGTON, 8 Jan—Eight people have been found dead and about 240 treated for respiratory and other ailments one day after a freight train carrying chlorine gas collided with a parked train in southeastern US state of South Carolina, authorities said Friday.

The collision happened about 2.30 am EST (730 GMT) Thursday at the town of Graniteville in the southern end of the state. Thirteen cars derailed.

MNA/Xinhua

Drug trafficking offences down in Tanzania in 2004

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 8 Jan— The number of drug trafficking offences went down in Tanzania in the past year when 7,185 cases were reported compared with 8,052 cases in the previous year, according to police statistics available on Friday.

The East African country's anti-narcotics effort ended up with the catch on the last day of last year of a businessman who had swallowed 72 pellets of heroin weighing 720 grammes worth 12.96 million Tanzanian shillings (12,960 US dollars) at street value while travelling to Dar-es-Salaam from abroad.

Most of the drug traffickers detained by police were Tanzanian nationals from

Dar-es-Salaam and Zanzibar.

Also last year, 32 Tanzanian nationals were caught for either trafficking or in possession of illegal drugs in nine foreign countries. Of these overseas offenders, 13 were nabbed in Pakistan, four each in Germany and Kenya, three each in India and Ethiopia, two in Britain, one each in Uganda, Mauritius and the United Arab Emirates.

MNA/Xinhua

New vaccine against rotavirus launched in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 8 Jan—A new vaccine against child-killer rotavirus is being launched this week in Mexico rather than in the developed world, marking a sea change in how major companies market drugs worldwide.

GlaxoSmithKline will introduce its oral vaccine Rotarix on Friday, after it was licensed for sale by Mexican authorities in July.

This is the first time a drug company has side-stepped US and European regulators, allowing it to get out the drug in time for the peak infection season in one region where the disease is deadliest, and to beat competitors working on similar vaccines.

Heralded as a public health breakthrough that could significantly dent child mortality, the vaccine's global launch in Mexico sets a new model for bringing such remedies first to poorer populations often ravaged by prevent-

able diseases.

“Rotavirus occurs most in the winter and in less developed countries like Mexico and much of Latin America,” said America Anguiano, a company spokeswoman.

The drug giant is changing a pattern of vaccine development in which products are traditionally introduced in the United States and Europe and then sold in poor nations. This new scheme could apply to drugs for malaria and AIDS, for example.

“The experience in Mexico will be very important for the public health impact but also to inform decision makers in poor countries in Latin

America and around the world,” said Dr John Wecker of the US-based, nonprofit Rotavirus Vaccine Programme.

“This approach certainly has merits for drugs and vaccines for diseases endemic in the developing world,” he said. “It also highlights the need to strengthen the regulatory capacity in many of these countries to ensure that sovereign nations are able to make informed decisions.”

The fight against rotavirus was set back in 1999, when a vaccine sold in the United States by Wyeth was pulled for fears it could cause a sometimes deadly bowel obstruction.—MNA/Reuters



People look at smog covering the skyline of Hong Kong recently.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Giggs likely to back match earlier from injury

MANCHESTER (England), 8 Jan— Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson expects in-form winger Ryan Giggs to be back in action in a fortnight following a hamstring injury.

Reports had suggested Giggs would be sidelined for six weeks with the injury he sustained in Tuesday's goalless Premier League draw with Tottenham.

"It's not going to be six weeks as has been reported in the Press. He should be back in two weeks," Ferguson told a news conference on Friday.

"No-one from Old Trafford ever predicted that kind of thing. We know the situation with Ryan. He gets these from time to time and we have handled it really well in the past couple of years and the time factor in his recovery is now much better."

Giggs should return for their Premier League game at Arsenal on February 1, and could also face Chelsea in the second leg of the League Cup semifinal six days earlier.

Ferguson also expects striker Ruud van Nistelrooy to return on schedule from an Achilles tendon injury, which has kept the Dutch international out since the end of November.

Van Nistelrooy is undergoing a programme of rehabilitation, dividing his time between Old Trafford and the Netherlands as he works towards being fit for the resumption of United's Champions League campaign on February 23.

"He's got every chance of being ready for the AC Milan game and we expect him to be ready for that game," Ferguson said.—MNA/Reuters



Ruud van Nistelrooy (R) and Ryan Giggs (L) are both on track to return to action for Manchester United ahead of schedule, United boss Sir Alex Ferguson revealed.—INTERNET

Singapore wants fair play in Tiger Cup final in Jakarta

JAKARTA, 8 Jan— The Singaporean soccer team has arrived here for the Saturday final of the Tiger Cup Southeast Asian soccer tournament with coach demanding a fair play from the home squad.

"We hope there will be fair play by the players and local fans will behave fairly as well," Radojko Avramovic told a Press conference here Friday.

The organizers have said local supporters already bought nearly all tickets for the Saturday final at the 100,000-seater stadium.

The Saturday final will be the first leg of the home-and-away finals and Singapore will host the second leg on January 16.

"Both teams have equal chance in the finals. We played a draw in our first meet of the tournament," said Avramovic, referring to a goalless Group A match held in Vietnam on 9 December.

The Indonesian Football Association (PSSI) said some 1,500 police officers will be deployed inside the stadium and Army soldiers were hired to safeguard the entrances.

Indonesia, seeking its first trophy of the tournament, book the final place by defeating Malaysia 5-2 on aggregate while the 1998 champion Singapore defeated Myanmar in two semifinal matches.

The biyearly event involves Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam.

MNA/Xinhua

S Korean int'l Song back to home K-League

SEOUL, 8 Jan— South Korea international Song Chong-gug will play for K-League champions Suwon Bluewings next season after losing his place at Dutch club Feyenoord, Suwon officials said on Friday.

The 25-year-old Song joined Feyenoord from Pusan I-cons on a five-year contract after helping South Korea reach the 2002 World Cup semifinals.

He has been largely overlooked by Feyenoord coach Ruud Gullit, however, since the former Chelsea boss took over a year ago, prompting the wing back to seek a return home.—MNA/Reuters

Brazilian midfielder becomes third signing for Panathinaikos

ATHENS, 8 Jan— Brazilian midfielder Anderson became the third signing of the week for Greek champions Panathinaikos in a 700,000-euro (926,200-US-dollar) deal on Friday.

Anderson, 25, who will

make his debut against fellow title-chasers AEK Athens on Sunday, joined second-placed Panathinaikos from another Greek club, Halkidona.

Panathinaikos released Cameroonian Joel Epalle, who was given a 100,000-euro (132,300-US-dollar) pay-off, to make room for Anderson.

Earlier in the week, Panathinaikos signed Cyprus international winger Costas Charalambides from APOEL Nicosia.

"Panathinaikos are the side that fulfil my personal ambitions. I want to prove myself in the Greek league," said the 23-year-old who has 14 caps for Cyprus.

Their third signing of the week was 26-year-old defender Manolis Roubakis from OFI Crete.

Panathinaikos are one point behind league leaders Olympiakos Piraeus. AEK Athens are third, two points further behind.

MNA/Reuters

Slovakia reaches Hopman Cup finals

CANBERRA, 8 Jan— Slovakia breezily reached the Hopman Cup finals for the second year in a row as they eased past the Netherlands 3-0 in their last group match in the tournament in Perth, Western Australia on Friday.

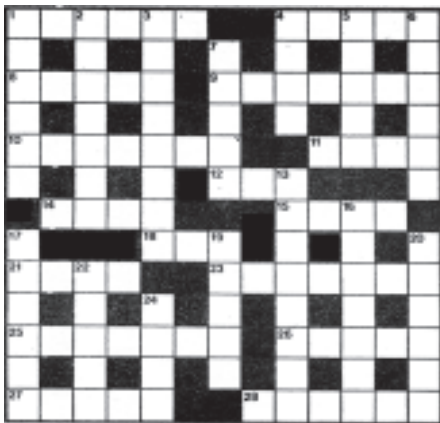
Daniela Hantuchova overcame Dutch Michaela Krajcick 6-4, 6-2 before Dominik Hrbaty had a walkover as Peter Wessels withdrew with a chest muscle injury when trailing 5-2 in the opening set.

Wessels also pulled out of the mixed doubles, and the Slovaks were granted a walkover and a place in the finals against Group A leaders Argentina.

Two-time defending champions, the United States, who play Australia in the day's other Group B match, are now unable to overtake Slovakia at the top of the pool.

MNA/Xinhua

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Sharp
- 4 Soft down
- 8 Beat strongly
- 9 Carrion bird
- 10 Shoulder-piece
- 11 Armour
- 12 Largest of all deer
- 14 Learning
- 15 Simple
- 18 Small fish
- 21 Threatening
- 23 Peewit
- 25 End of daylight
- 26 Trembling poplar
- 27 Artificial fabric
- 28 World War I British Naval commander

DOWN

- 1 Nipped
- 2 Wind-storm
- 3 Mabled me (anag.)
- 4 People
- 5 Part of throat
- 6 Infirm
- 7 Egg-shaped
- 13 Remembrance gift
- 16 Scrap
- 17 Cosmic source of regular radio signal
- 19 Movement of the eyelid
- 20 Specialised department
- 22 Tall and ungainly
- 24 Advance

Wales striker signs 2-1/2-year contract extension with Celtic

GLASGOW, 8 Jan— Wales striker John Hartson signed a two-and-a-half-year contract extension with Celtic on Friday to boost his team before Sunday's Scottish Cup third-round showdown with Old Firm rivals Rangers.

The 29-year-old Hartson, whose existing deal was due to expire in the close season, has scored 77 goals from 139 appearances since joining Celtic from Coventry City in August 2001.

The new deal will keep him at Parkhead until May 2007.

"I am very relieved, to be honest, because it has been dragging on for a while and, as the manager said, these things can sometimes take a bit longer than you would like," he told a news conference on Friday.

"But I am pleased to have signed and also looking forward to the next two-and-a-half years.

"Reports that I was looking to move elsewhere and that I was using interest from other clubs to

hurry Celtic up in any sort of way were not true at all.

"I always wanted to stay and I made that clear to the manager on a number of occasions ... it was just a matter of sorting a few things out in finer detail."

He added of his future at Celtic: "I just want to enjoy the amount of success that I have had in my previous three-and-a-half years.

"Winning the Championship was obviously very special in the first year I was here and the UEFA Cup run we had and some great results we have had in Europe.

"I just want to score plenty more goals and help the club achieve more success; that's really what I am here to do."

MNA/Reuters



Russian tennis star Maria Sharapova (front) gives a thumbs up sign, while compatriot Vera Zvonareva claps, after her racket and a T-shirt were sold for HK\$520,000 (\$66,700) during an auction in Hong Kong on 8 Jan, 2005.—INTERNET

Sri Lankan Prime Minister sends felicitations to Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win

YANGON 8 Jan — *The following is a message of felicitations from Mahinda Rajapaksa, Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, sent to Lt-Gen Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 57th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.*

Excellency,

I have great pleasure to congratulate Your Excellency on the happy occasion of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

It is my fervent hope that the existing ties of friendship and co-operation between our two countries will be further strengthened and enhanced in the future.

May I take this opportunity to extend to Your Excellency, my best wishes for your good health, happiness and personal well-being. —MNA

Commander and mayor inspect proper drainage, reconstruction of pavements

YANGON, 8 Jan— Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials inspected cleanliness, proper drainage and reconstruction of pavements in the city this

Road between Bogyoke Aung San Street and Yawmingyi Road in Dagon Township, sanitation work and reconstruction of pavement at the corner of Maha Bandoola Street and Sule Pagoda Road and sanitation work in Pabedan Township.

The commander and party inspected paving with concrete tiles in front of the Pyithu Hluttaw Building, plant-

paving of road and construction of bridge across Toegyonggalay Creek in Dagon Myothit (North).

Head of Engineering Department (Roads/Bridges) of YCDC U Bo Htay and officials explained the work done.

The commander and the mayor told the officials to finish the upgrading of roads and pavements in time and to supervise the work. —MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspect upgrading of the road of the overpass on Sule Pagoda Road. — YANGON COMMAND

morning.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials inspected tarring on Alanpya Phaya

ing of flowers, tarring of roads, sanitation work in Sangyoung, Yankin and North Okkalapa Townships.

They also inspected

BABY SHOW CONTEST: Insein Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association organized a baby show contest to commemorate the 57th Anniversary Independence Day in Taungthugon Ward in the township on 8-1-2005. Photo shows Township MCWA Chairperson Daw Ohnmar Tun Lwin presenting first prize to Naw Jose Phine Au Bwae. — H

Minister visits Tipitakadhara Selection Exam

YANGON, 8 Jan — Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung visited the ongoing 57th Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Selection Examination, organized by the Religious Affairs Department, at Maha Pasana Cave on Thirimingala Kaba Aye Hill here this afternoon.

Accompanied by Director-General of the Religious Affairs Department Dr Myo Myint and officials, the minister paid obeisance to Ovadacariya

Sayadaws and offered robes to them. The minister also paid homage to members of the Sangha who were sitting the exam.

The examination will last 33 days from 26 December 2004 to 27 January 2005. A total of 121 members of the Sangha are taking the oral exam, while 105 taking the written exam.

Wellwishers are invited to donate cash to the funds set up for the members of the Sangha at the cave. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung visits members of the Sangha who are sitting for the 57th oral examination for Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Title. — MNA

Self-reliant library, school building put into service

YANGON, 8 Jan — The self-reliant library in Kanbyu Village of Madaya Township was opened in conjunction with the ceremony to donate 10,000 books to the library on 6 January morning.

Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Commissioner U Kyin Lin of General Administration Department, Director-General Lt-Col Win Htein of No 2 Basic Education Department and officials attended the ceremony.

Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Myo Nyunt handed over books to Chairman of the library construction committee U Ohn Maung. Next, Director-General Lt-Col Win Htein also presented 412

books donated by No 2 BED (Upper Myanmar) to U Ohn Maung. After the ceremony, the commander inspected the library.

Next, the commander attended the ceremony to hand over the new school building of No 35 Post-Primary School to the Ministry of Education in Nyaungwun Village of Singu Township. The commander and wellwisher U Tin Maung formally opened the new building. Director-General Lt-Col Win Htein expressed gratitude. Next, the wellwisher handed over documents related to the building to the director-general.

The school building, 100 feet long and 30 feet wide, was built at a cost of K 13,244,590 contributed by Great Wall Co Family. — MNA



INSIDE

Lord Buddha's message of the four cardinal values—loving-kindness (metta), compassion (karuna), appreciative joy (mudita) and equanimity (upakkha)—is the best path that will lead humanity to peace and harmony. Those teachings are applicable not only to Buddhists, but to all human-kind, regardless of race or creed.