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Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Austrian President

YANGON, 26 Oct— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Heinz Fischer, Federal President of the Republic of Austria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Austria, which falls on 26 October 2005—MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects products of United Paints Group Co Ltd in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone.—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

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe oversees factories in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone

YANGON, 25 Oct — Accompanied by officials concerned, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe went on an inspection tour of Hlinethaya Industrial Zone in Yangon North District yesterday evening and made arrangements to fulfill the requirements.

First, the commander went to Arnawa Lwan Company in Section 6 of Hlinethaya Industrial Zone. At the hall of the jetty, managing director U Khin Soe briefed the commander on functions and work requirements for the cold storage, the jetty and fish and prawn trading services run by Arnawa Lwan Company.

In connection with the reports, the commander gave instructions on measures to be taken for a boost in producing of private livestock and marine prod-

ucts services not only to provide the public with the requirements of meat and fish but also to hit the target of the country. The company staff were to

produce meat and fish to meet the markets demand, he said, and fulfilled the needs.

(See page 8)

Lao delegation arrives

YANGON, 25 Oct— At the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, the Lao delegation led by Mr Somsavat Lengsavad, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and wife arrived here by air this morning to attend the Seventh Meeting of the Myanmar-Lao Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation, to be held in Mandalay from 26 to 27 October.

The Lao delegation was welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife, Myanmar Am-

bassador to Laos U Tin Oo, responsible officials from the Ministry of For-

eign Affairs, Lao Ambassador in Myanmar HE Chanthavy Bodhisane and

wife and staff members of the Lao Embassy in Yangon. —MNA



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win greets Lao delegation led by Mr Somsavat Lengsavad, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

INSIDE

Mongols made an official request for making peace. It was because they all could meet their tragic end if Myanmar troops chased them for elimination when they were retreating. After the retreat of Mongols, King Saw Nit reigned Bagan but Myinsai had become the heart of Myanmar troops. Myinsai was just a garrison town, so it could not become the centre of power of Myanmar. At that time, Thiha Thu was in search of a suitable region for establishment of a new town.

PAGE 7 DR MA TIN WIN (INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 26 October, 2005

Towards harmonizing actions of nations to attain international peace, security and development

It was on 24 October, 1945, that the United Nations came into being with the determination to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. There is no denying the fact that the United Nations plays a vital role in international relations and it has served humanity well. In order to find solutions to the challenges and threats confronting the international community, the United Nations always seeks the advice, cooperation and recommendations of its member states, large and small, by convening summits, international and regional conferences in a timely and effective manner.

In his message on the occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary of the United Nations Day, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe said that the gap between developed and developing countries was becoming wider because of the negative impacts of globalization. Countries were more interconnected and therefore collective efforts for security and development were more relevant than ever before and, as a result, the role of the United Nations was more vital than ever, he added.

Although the United Nations has succeeded in weathering various kinds of challenges and threats, the gap between developed and developing nations has appeared due to the negative impacts of globalization. The world by nature is a pleasant place for mankind to live in. However, due to hegemonism, aggressions, terrorism and negative endeavours, there are many instances of ugly incidents happening in small and weak nations.

The noble purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations are to maintain international peace and security, to attain cooperation in solving international economic, social, cultural and humanitarian issues. Moreover, the high-level meetings also reaffirm the Charter of the United Nations and its principles and purposes, including the principles of State sovereignty, non-interference and the non-use of force in international affairs. These principles have stood the test of time and they are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security.

We place high hope in the United Nations' efforts to save succeeding generations not only from the scourge but also from the new threats and challenges ahead of us and to promote social justice, economic progress and better standards of life. And we believe that the United Nations will become a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of international peace, security and development.



U Thein Tun of Sein Wuthmon Co presents K 500,000 to President of Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation U Soe Myint at the prize presentation ceremony of the federation held on the second floor of the company on 22 October.— MNA

People's Desire

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

Minister for Industry-1 inspects bicycle factory

YANGON, 25 Oct — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thauang, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun and officials inspected bicycle factory of Myanma General and Maintenance Industries in Setsan, Mingala Taungnyunt Township this morning.

The minister inspected installation of machines in the respective units of spare parts and gave instructions.

The minister and party inspected the site for extension of the factory.

The minister then met officials. General Manager of Myanma General and Maintenance Industries U Thauang Nyunt reported on production of seven major parts of a bicycle and arrangements for production of 22 parts needed for the

bicycle.

The minister gave instructions on speedy implementation of the project to produce all parts of the bicycle, application of expertise and technology and quality control.

MNA



Minister U Aung Thauang inspects bicycle spare parts at the bike factory (Yangon). — INDUSTRY-1

Minister inspects construction of rural roads in Ayeyawaday Division

YANGON, 25 Oct — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, accompanied by Director-General of the Development Affairs Department U Myo Myint, on 22 October inspected construction of rural roads in Pantanaw Township, Ayeyawady Division.

Two rural roads are being constructed in Pantanaw Township by the township Development Affairs Department.

The earthen road linking Pantanaw and Gommin village is 2 miles long and the village-to-village gravel road is over 2 miles long.

In the evening, the minister met with executives and members of Ayeyawady Division Union Solidarity and Development Association at the office of the asso-

ciation.

At the meeting, Township and inspected the rural road being constructed by the township DAD. — MNA



Minister Col Thein Nyunt meets USDA secretaries in Ayeyawady Division. MNA

secretaries of township USDAs in Ayeyawady Division reported to the minister on implementation of regional development tasks by the association and the minister fulfilled the requirements.

On 23 October, the minister went to Darka Village in Kangyidauk

Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Austria

YANGON, 26 Oct — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to HE Dr Ursula Plassnik, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Austria, which falls on 26 October 2005.

MNA

USDA CEC member U Thein Sein gives lecture

YANGON, 25 Oct — Central Executive Committee member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein gave a lecture on national policy and national development to 100 trainees of USDA basic organizing course No 22 opened at No 1 Basic Education Middle School in Ward-10, South Oakkapala Township this afternoon. — MNA

Tourism opens gate for China, ASEAN cultural exchanges

NANNING, 24 Oct— Apart from the soaring growth of economic and trade communication, China and ASEAN are extending their cooperation in the field of culture, and the ongoing second China-ASEAN expo discloses that tourism is the key to opening this gate.

"To ordinary tourists who come to visit the expo, they may not remember the specific trade turnover between China and ASEAN countries," said Wen Zhongliang, deputy secretary-general of the expo, "but they can have deep impressions on the activities of 'City of Charm', for this really brings them the mood of festival."

In front of the display area of Chiang Mai, the wooden houses with Thai flavours become the camera focus of hundreds of travellers, while in the area of Beijing, many tourists from ASEAN nations were deeply allured by the traditional "flour figure art" of the traditional

folk artists. One of the most shining features of this expo, "City of Charm" showcases the most typical tourism cities of China and ASEAN.

The staff of the exhibition hall said thousands of visitors, both from home and overseas, come to enjoy the hallmarks of the 11 cities. City of Charm deserves its fame.

According to statistics from China National Tourism Administration, 2.76 million Chinese, one third of the total who travelled abroad, visited the ASEAN countries last year, an increase of 45 per cent over the same 2003 period.

MNA/Xinhua

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A Chinese worker sprays disinfectant on a truck at the entrance to the bird flu-hit Tengjiaying Village in Hohhot, capital of north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 24 Oct, 2005.—INTERNET

IEDs: Iraq guerillas' deadly weapon against US troops

BAGHDAD, 24 Oct— The most powerful military force in the world faces a steady loss of life in Iraq from makeshift bombs planted by or even under the roadside — deadly items soldiers call improvised explosive devices, or IEDs.

While the euphemism is a catch-all term that also includes small bombs made with home-made explosives, in Iraq it more often refers to bombs built by guerillas using military-grade ammunition.

"They are unique in nature because the IED builder has had to improvise with the materials at hand," according to a description by GlobalSecurity.org, a Washington-based group that follows military issues.

The US-led force that

invaded Iraq in March 2003 toppled the regime of Saddam Hussein, but did not assign enough soldiers to guard abandoned Iraqi weapons and ammunition depots.

The sites were widely looted. Some of the depots remained unprotected for months until news reports of the wholesale pilfering shamed US officials into action.

As a result, Iraqi guerillas have access to hand grenades, land mines and mortar rounds, as well as large artillery shells and

"dumb" airplane bombs powerful enough to level a big building.

According to the Iraq Coalition Casualty Count, which keeps close track

of US casualties, more than 25 percent of US military personnel killed in Iraq have been killed by IED blasts.

Internet

Reporters' hotel in Iraq attacked; at least 20 dead

BAGHDAD, 24 Oct— Suicide bombers including one in a cement truck packed with explosives launched a dramatic attack on Monday against the Palestine Hotel, where many foreign journalists are based, sending up a giant cloud of smoke and debris over central Baghdad. American troops and journalists escaped without serious injury but at least twenty people were killed.

The deafening attack triggered confusion and panic throughout the hotel, and sent cars swerving wildly on a roundabout to escape the blasts. Inside the 19-storey hotel, the force of the blasts shattered glass, tore pictures off walls and brought down light fixtures and ceilings.

The cement truck was the last of three vehicles trying to break through the wall outside the hotel. The first car drove up to the wall and exploded, blasting out a section of the concrete. According to the US military, the second car was headed for the fresh breach in the wall but exploded near the 14th Ramadan Mosque when it was engaged by civilian security forces.

Within minutes, the truck made it through the

breach but apparently became stuck on a road between the Palestine and the neighbouring Sheraton hotel.

The truck rocked back and forth and then blew up after a US soldier opened fire on it. Had the truck travelled 20 or 30 yards farther and blown up at the hotel entrance, it could have killed many people inside the Pales-

tine.

The attack happened at dusk just as Iraqis would have been breaking the daylong fast they observe during the holy month of Ramadan and eating their first meal, called Iftar. It could have been an effort to catch Iraqi security forces at a vulnerable moment when they might have been less attentive.

Internet

US officer wounded in bomb attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 24 Oct— A roadside bomb went off near a US military patrol in eastern Baghdad on Sunday, wounding a US officer and damaging a US vehicle, an Interior Ministry source said.

"An improvised explosive device struck a US patrol near al-Mustansriyah super market, damaging a US Humvee and wounding a US captain aboard," the source told Xinhua.

The US military had no immediate word on the incident.—MNA/Xinhua



A huge explosion rattles central Baghdad, near the Palestine Hotel, on 24 Oct, 2005.—INTERNET

British Govt's counter-terrorism strategy failing

LONDON, 25 Oct— Warning that British government's counter-terrorism strategy is failing, a report prepared for Prime Minister Tony Blair has said that key policies designed to prevent al-Qaeda attacks and stop terrorism taking root in Britain are "immature" and "disjointed."

Other policies are unrelated to the "real world" and show no sign of making progress, *The Sunday Times* said quoting the

leaked paper by the Prime Minister's delivery unit. The paper formed the backbone of a presentation this month to Downing Street insiders, it said, adding it will be seen by some as criticism of Home Secretary Charles Clarke, responsible for running much of British counter-terrorism effort.

The document suggested that a possible solution to the problem would be to appoint a new minister in the Cabinet Office charged with delivering an effective counterterrorism strategy, the daily said.

The Downing Street leak is a critique of Project Contest, the codename for the government's overall counter-terrorism strategy, it said. Apparently drawn up last year in the wake of the Madrid bombings, the strategy was given added impetus by the 7 July suicide attacks in London. The document said, according to the daily, the policy is mired in confusion, with "little effective coordination" and no clear leadership.

There is "little confidence" in ability of the security apparatus to tackle the problem and that "it is very difficult to demonstrate that progress has been made."

MNA/PTI



An Indonesian vendor waits for costumers in Jakarta's textile market on 24 Oct, 2005. —INTERNET

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Iraq war foes ready for 2,000th US military death

WASHINGTON, 24 Oct— Cindy Sheehan, the military mother who made her son's death in Iraq a rallying point for the anti-war movement, plans to tie herself to the White House fence to protest the milestone of 2,000 US military deaths in Iraq.

"I'm going to go to Washington, DC and I'm going to give a speech at the White House, and after I do, I'm going to tie myself to the fence and refuse to leave until they agree to bring our troops home," Sheehan said in a telephone interview last week as the milestone approached.

"And I'll probably get arrested, and when I get out, I'll go back and do the same thing," she said.

The death toll among US military forces since the March 2003 invasion stood at 1,996 on Sunday.

The milestone's approach prompted plans for hundreds of other demonstrations across the United States, but for Sheehan, each military death in the

Iraqi war has been a tragedy. "To me, every single member since Number One has been tragic and needless and unnecessary," she said. "My son was somewhere around 615, and I've been working so hard for peace since my son was killed and now almost 1,400 more soldiers have been killed since Casey died."

Army Specialist Casey Sheehan was killed in Iraq on 4 April, 2004.

Beyond Sheehan's plans, a candlelight vigil is planned at the White House to mourn the 2,000-death milestone. Hundreds of other demonstrations are scheduled for the day after the milestone number is reached.

MNA/Reuters

US prison population continued to grow in 2004

WASHINGTON, 24 Oct— The US prison population, already the largest in the world, grew by 1.9 per cent in 2004, leaving federal jails at 40 per cent over capacity, according to Justice Department figures released on Sunday.

Inmates in federal, state, local and other prisons totalled nearly 2.3 million at the end of last year, the government said. The 1.9-per-cent increase was lower than the average annual growth rate of 3.2 per cent during the last decade.

According to the International Centre for Prison Studies at King's College in London, there are more people behind bars in the United States than in any other country.

China had the second-largest prison population with 1.5 million prisoners, according to statistics updated in April and cited by King's College. The

total US population is about 296 million, while China's is 1.3 billion.

The Justice Department said the US incarceration rate hit 486 sentenced inmates per 100,000 last year, up 18 per cent from 411 a decade ago.

The five states with the highest incarceration

rates last year were all in the South, led by Louisiana with 816 sentenced prisoners per 100,000 state residents. The five states with the lowest rates were all in the North, with Maine experiencing 148 sentenced inmates per 100,000 state residents in 2004, according to the Justice Department

figures.

The US prison population continued to grow last year even though reports of violent crime during 2004 were at the lowest level since the government began compiling statistics 32 years ago, according to a government report released in September.

MNA/Reuters

US military deaths rise to 1,997 in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 24 Oct—As of Monday, 24 Oct, 2005, at least 1,997 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 1,555 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,858 US military members have died, according to *AP's* count.

That includes at least 1,446 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Internet



A British soldier walks past a school girl during a patrol of a neighbourhood in Basra, Iraq, on 24 Oct, 2005. —INTERNET

117 on board killed in Nigerian air crash

LISSA (Nigeria), 24 Oct—All 117 people on board a Nigerian airliner died when the *Boeing 737* crashed and disintegrated in flames shortly after take-off from Lagos airport, the government confirmed on Sunday.

Dismembered and burned body parts, fuselage fragments and engine parts were strewn over an area the size of a football field near the village of Lissa, about 20 miles north of Lagos.

"The Federal Government announces with regret the unfortunate air crash of Bellview Airlines ... which resulted in the loss of life of all passengers and crew on board," a government

statement released late on Sunday said.

A senior police official at the scene said: "The aircraft has crashed and it is a total loss. We can't even see a whole human body." Bellview Airlines Flight 210 left Lagos at 8:45 pm (1945 GMT) on Saturday night on a scheduled flight to the capital Abuja and lost contact minutes later during a heavy electrical storm.

The pilot made a dis-

stress call after take-off, indicating the plane had a technical problem, a source at the presidency told *Reuters*.

The plane crashed not long after, leaving a smoking 70 foot crater in the marshy earth, uprooted trees and blew the roofs off nearby houses. The plane was carrying 111 passengers and six crew, the Federal Airport Authority said.

MNA/Reuters

Three US soldiers wounded in car bomb blast in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 24 Oct—A car bomb detonated near a US military patrol in eastern Baghdad on Sunday, wounding three soldiers aboard, an Interior

Ministry source said.

"A car bomb blew up near a US military convoy when it was patrolling an area near the Iraqi Ministry of Culture in

Zaiyouna District, wounding three soldiers aboard and damaging a US Humvee," the source told *Xinhua*.

US troops cordoned off the area and prevented Iraqi police and civilians from approaching the scene, he said.

Earlier, a US officer was wounded when a roadside bomb struck his patrol near al-Mustansriyah super market in eastern Baghdad.

The US military had no immediate word on the two incidents.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Xinhua

Car bomb kills four in central Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 24 Oct—A car bomb killed four people, including two police officers, when it exploded near a police patrol in central Baghdad on Sunday morning, Iraqi police said.

The blast also injured 13 others, both police and civilians. It was not immediately clear if it was a suicide attack, police said.



Residents walk on a street after Hurricane Wilma hit Playa del Carmen in Mexico's Caribbean state of Quintana Roo, on 22 Oct, 2005. — INTERNET

China, ASEAN march steadily towards world's third largest FTA

NANNING, 23 Oct — With a fast growing trade volume, China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) are trying to show the world that the planned free trade area will be an accelerator for regional economy.

"Among all the FTA negotiations that China has been in, the negotiation with the ASEAN is definitely the fastest and most fruitful one," said Zhai Kun, a scholar with the China Institute of Contemporary International Relations.

China and the ASEAN have agreed to build up a free trade area before 2010. There were quite some suspicions

when this initiative was first brought out in 2001.

Zhai said people were wondering whether the FTA, whose members were all developing countries with similar economic structures, would be finally completed and effectively boost the integration of regional economy.

However, statistics from the ASEAN Secretariat showed that the China-ASEAN trade volume has been growing at an average speed of 40 percent over the past three years. In 2004, the trade volume surpassed 100 billion US dollars.

"There is little doubt that the trade volume

between China and the ASEAN will reach 200 billion US dollars before 2010," an anonymous official with China's Ministry of Commerce said at the ongoing China-ASEAN Expo, held in Nanning, capital of Southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Zhai said so far China and the ASEAN have completed the negotiations on trade in goods and are beginning talks on the fields of investment and services.—MNA/Xinhua

Iraq oil exports halted by attacks, bad weather

KIRKUK 24 Oct — Oil exports from Iraq — estimated to have the world's second largest reserves — have been completely halted by a combination of guerilla attacks in the north and bad weather in the south.

"Exports of crude oil have been stopped since Friday because of bad weather and high waves (in the Gulf) that prevent tankers from hooking up" to terminals in southern Iraq, an oil ministry

spokesman said on Monday.

Exports from the southern oil fields had been running at as much as 1.6 million barrels per day before the halt.

Oil exports in the north had already been cut by guerilla attacks on pipelines that carry crude oil to the Turkish port of Ceyhan.

Rebels attacked the pipelines on Monday, for the second time in four days, sparking fires and

setting back the resumption of exports through Turkey that had been halted by the previous attack on Thursday.

"Three mortars fell just after 10:00 am (0700 GMT) on a network of oil and gas pipelines that had already been hit on Thursday by mortar fire," said an official responsible for oil security.

As a result of the attack, "no less than 16 oil pipelines are on fire" around the network, some

60 kilometres (40 miles) west of the northern oil centre of Kirkuk, a technician in charge of repairing installations told AFP.

Internet

Car bomb kills two policemen in central Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 24 Oct — A car bomb blew up near a police patrol in central Baghdad on Sunday, killing two policemen and wounding 11 people including two policemen, an Interior Ministry source said.

"A booby-trapped car parking on the side of a road near Tahrir Square went off at about 11:35 am (0835 GMT) near a police patrol, destroying a vehicle and killing two policemen and wounding two others, one of them a Lieutenant-Colonel," the source told Xinhua. The blast in a crowded area also wounded nine civilians and damaged several cars and shops nearby, the source added.

MNA/Xinhua

At least four dead as storms sweep southeast Italy

BARI (Italy), 24 Oct — At least four people were killed as torrential rain battered southeastern Italy overnight, demolishing a bridge and derailling a Eurostar train, police said on Sunday.

Three members of a family were killed as their car plunged into a ravine when a bridge collapsed near Bari, the capital of the Apulia region, while south of the city a man drowned as his car was swept away by a flood of water and mud.

Early on Sunday, at least 15 people were injured when six carriages of a Taranto to Milan Eurostar train were derailed as a landslide swept away earth beneath the rail tracks, leaving the wagons overhanging a chasm.

MNA/Reuters

Bomb blast kills police officer, four others north of Baghdad

TIKRIT (Iraq), 24 Oct — A police officer and four others were killed in a bomb blast in Tikrit, north of Baghdad, on Sunday, police said.

"A bomb detonated in front of the house of Colonel Haitham al-Tikrity in Tikrit's northern district of Qadessiyah at about 8:00 am (0500 GMT), a rush hour as people and children go to work and schools," police Colonel Hassan Ahmed told Xinhua.

An oil tanker, close to the house, caught fire in the blast and set Colonel Haitham's house ablaze, he added.

The blast killed Haitham and two of his sons, along with two little girls who

were passing Haitham's house on their way to school, Ahmed said. Tikrit, some 170 kilometres north of Baghdad, is capital of

the Sunni-dominated Salahudin Province and hometown to former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein.

MNA/Xinhua

Tropical Storm "Alpha" kills five in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Haiti), 24 Oct — Record-breaking Tropical Storm Alpha drenched Haiti and the Dominican Republic with torrential rain on Sunday, killing at least five people and forcing thousands from their homes, before weakening over the mountains of Hispaniola.

Eye witness Carlo Francois in Carrefour near the Haitian capital said four people were walking along a dry river bed when a torrent of water crashed into them, killing two. A separate witness reported another death nearby in similar circumstances.

Port-au-Prince civil protection director Alta Jean-Baptiste said a person was electrocuted in Carrefour after a power cable fell in water. The government's representative in the southeast, Margareth Martin, said a fifth person was electrocuted in the city of Jacmel.

In the Dominican Republic, which shares the is-

land of Hispaniola with Haiti, authorities said 35,000 people were evacuated from their homes in the south of the country after Alpha came ashore near the town of Barahona.

The storm formed in the Caribbean Sea on Saturday as the 22nd named tropical cyclone of the Atlantic season, breaking the record set in 1933 and making 2005 the most active hurricane season since records began 150 years ago.

Forecasters said the storm dumped as much as 15 inches (38 centimetres) of rain over some parts of Hispaniola. Haiti is vulnerable to floods and mudslides because much of the impoverished country has been stripped of trees. Last year, Hurricane Jeanne killed up to 3,000 people in and around the port city of Gonaives while it was still a tropical storm. Alpha weakened to a tropical depression as it moved inland and sustained winds dropped

from 50 mph (80 kph) to 35 mph (56 kph), the US National Hurricane Centre said.—MNA/Reuters



Iraqis carry a wounded woman outside an emergency hospital following a suicide attack in central Baghdad, Iraq, on 23 Oct, 2005. —INTERNET

Russia-China ties at historical high

Moscow, 25 Oct — The strategic partnership with China is a priority of Russia's foreign policy and ties between the two countries are at a historical high, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Alekseyev said Monday.

"The relations of strategic partnership have been established between Russia and China.

They are not subject to circumstantial changes and are a priority direction of Russia's foreign policy," Alekseyev said in an interview with the *ITAR-TASS* news agency.

The two countries have reached "a new, extremely high level of mutual trust and understanding," Alekseyev said.

"Russia and China are experiencing the most favourable period in the history of their relations," he said. Moscow and Beijing are engaged in a constant political dialogue at all levels and have set up a unique mechanism of interaction, the official said. Top Chinese and Russian leaders have met three times so far this year and are scheduled to meet a fourth time later, and Russia's Prime Minister

and China's Premier would also hold the 10th regular meeting, Alekseyev said.

"With the completion of border demarcation between Russia and China, no problems could seriously complicate the development of the strategic

partnership at present," he said, adding that the focus of the top-level dialogue is being shifted to matters of mutually beneficial cooperation in the interests of the two peoples.

MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese airport security official uses a thermographic camera to check the body temperature of incoming passengers, to prevent people with fever entering, at Shanghai's Pudong International Airport on 24 Oct, 2005.

INTERNET

Russia, Iran agree on solving nuclear issue within IAEA

Moscow, 25 Oct — Russia and Iran agreed a solution to the dispute over Iran's nuclear programme should be sought within the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the two countries' foreign ministers said on Monday.

"Of course, we discussed the Iranian nuclear problem and our common position is that all remaining questions should be settled through the IAEA," Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said

after talks with his Iranian counterpart, Manuchehr Motaki, according to the *Interfax* news agency.

Lavrov called for an acceptable solution that would secure Iran's right to access to peaceful nuclear energy.

"We agreed to continue contact on the issue to promote its solution in cooperation with other countries, in the first place with the European troika," Lavrov said, referring to Germany, France and Britain which have represented the European Union (EU) in the talks with Iran aimed at persuading Teheran to scrap uranium enrichment.

The talks collapsed after Iran ended a freeze on uranium conversion in August. The EU trio have warned of hauling Iran before the UN Security

Council for possible sanctions.

Motaki, for his part, warned Iran will not back down if its nuclear dossier is referred to the UN Security Council.

"Rather, it will insist on being able to exercise its legitimate rights," Motaki said.

Should Iran be referred to the Security Council, Teheran may refuse to fulfill obligations set in the additional protocol to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, Motaki said.

Developing Iran's nuclear energy sector is "the people's will," he said.

The United States accuses Iran of seeking nuclear weapons under the guise of a civilian nuclear programme. Iran, however, says its nuclear programme is dedicated exclusively to power generation.

MNA/Xinhua

US Marine killed in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 25 Oct — A US Marine was killed on Sunday by small-arms fire in clashes with guerrillas in western Iraq, the US military said on Monday.

"A Marine assigned to the 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), was killed in action by small-arms fire during combat operations against the enemy in Ramadi, on 23 October," the military said in a statement. — MNA/Xinhua

Twelve construction workers killed in S Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 25 Oct — Gunmen opened fire at a group of construction workers south of Baghdad, killing 12 workers and kidnapping their contractor, an Interior Ministry source said on Monday.

"Armed men in two cars opened fire at a group of workers who were building a house in the town of Iskandriyah at about 5:00 pm (1400 GMT) on Sunday, killing 12 workers and kidnapping the contractor who hired them," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. Police were investigating the incident. — MNA/Xinhua

Five die as UN relief helicopter crashes in Azerbaijan

Moscow, 25 Oct — All the five people aboard a Russian military helicopter chartered by the United Nations died when the craft crashed on Saturday about 200 kilometres west of the Azerbaijan capital of Baku, said reports from the city.

It went down shortly after taking off from a refueling centre in Azerbaijan, deputy head of Azerbaijan's state-owned AZAL air company Sabir Iliasov said. "I think all of them are dead," he said. The helicopter, a Russian *Ka-32*, was carrying relief supplies to earthquake victims in Pakistan, said Iliasov. — MNA/Xinhua

"Wilma" pummels Florida, kills four, keeps millions in dark

MIAMI, 25 Oct — Hurricane Wilma left a swath of flooding and destruction across Florida on Monday, killing four people and leaving millions in the dark on its four-hour rampage across the state.

Risk assessment companies estimated insured losses from Wilma at 6 billion US dollars to 10 billion US dollars in Florida.

Wilma smashed into southwestern Florida as a surprisingly strong Category 3 hurricane after feeding for days over the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico and killing 17 people in a rampage through the Caribbean.

It swamped the low-lying Florida Keys, then hit the mainland south of the fast-growing retirement city of Naples on the southern Gulf Coast and sped across the Everglades to the populous Miami-Fort Lauderdale area on the Atlantic Coast.

Four deaths were confirmed in Florida, including a man who died when a tree fell on him in the Fort Lauderdale suburb of Coral Springs. Two people died in Collier County in southwest

Florida and one in St. Johns County in northeast Florida.

State officials said 3.1 million households, or more than 6 million people, were without electricity. Wilma flooded parts of the Overseas Highway linking the Keys with the mainland. Emergency officials in Marathon, in the middle of the 110-mile island

chain, reported residents stranded on roofs by flooding and said leaking propane tanks and gas lines had caused small explosions.

The hurricane buried coastal roads in sand, blasted windows out of high-rise buildings, demolished mobile homes, flipped cars and felled trees in the Miami-Fort Lauderdale area.

Monica Rivadeneira, 34, retreated to a closet when Wilma's winds whipped concrete blocks against her Miami Beach apartment building. "I took a book and a light and my cellphone and I called everybody I knew from the closet," she said.

"It was wild. The wind was howling."

MNA/Reuters



Cars are seen during a traffic jam on one of Moscow's main thoroughfares on 24 Oct, 2005.

INTERNET

Prestigious are the people who have their own nation and territory

Dr Ma Tin Win (Institute of Education)

As for me, interesting questions are “Who were nation builders?” and “Who were the people that played a leading part in enabling the nation to overcome the usual difficulties and setting it on the path to development. Every nation has to face many turning-points. And when a nation is in her turning-point we cannot say that she is finished. But we can say she is in a critical moment.

We normally refer our nation’s history starting from Bagan. In reality, we should start our history from the Pyu city states that emerged in many parts of the nation. Only then will we be able to find an answer to the question “Why did a united nation like Bagan emerge in history?” Excavation sites and ancient edifices bear witness to the fact that Pyu city states did flourish throughout history. The excavations at old towns — Beikthano, Hanlin, Srikestra and Myanadi — prove that the people of Pyu city states are highly intelligent and civilized. They knew how to construct large religious edifices, city drainage canals, clean water supply works and irrigation facilities. And there still remain many Pyu city states in Myanmar that have not been excavated yet.

Though we cannot say the exact time of the Pyu civilization that flourished in Myanmar, the carbon dating of the charred items at Beikthano old town indicated that they were nearly two thousand years old. So, I dare say that Pyu city states emerged in Myanmar much earlier than that time.

As Pyu city states were small and sparsely populous, they often faced the aggression and invasion of the peoples of the neighbouring areas. It is usual in history that loss of lives and property under such conditions was serious and great. But we the people of Myanmar had the tradition of raising the city states again from their ruins. The Pyu people re-built their cities whenever they were destroyed by the enemy. And if they failed to do so, there cannot be a prosperous and resource-rich country called “Myanmar” at present.

The past experiences taught the Pyu people to coordinate and cooperate among themselves to build a new city state at a place near Bagan. After passing through time and different stages Bagan became a prominent city state in round about 9th century. The persons who built and developed Bagan were none other than the people of Myanmar.

According to a stone inscription recorded during the time of King Narapati Sithu, Bagan developed from a city state to a nation whose size was nearly that of present-day Myanmar. Moreover, Bagan was a reliable state for all other city states existed during the time in the present-day territory of Myanmar. When Juan invaders attacked Bago, Bagan

had to help the city state drive out the enemy troops. But Bagan itself was not always peaceful. Even King Anawrahta, the founder of the state, fell in a battle. But Bagan continued to develop and flourish with greater momentum after his demise.

Like Myanmar, many of the world nations have the history of trying to maintain their ancient states. Because it is the nature of a nation. Although Bagan fell in the 13th century, not all its sovereign land fell into enemy hands. Using Myinsai as their base, Shan and Bamar brethren fought back the Mongols to save Bagan from being destroyed by the invaders.

The life span of Myinsai was short and it was not a large city. But the name “Myinsai” continues to live on in our hearts as a symbol of unity to kindle patriotism to fight back intruders. Myinsai managed to repulse the enemy relying on the internal strength.

Mongols were skilled warriors of central Asia. They killed people and burnt down every thing in their occupied territories. They even reached today’s Palestine and took hold of some eastern European nations. A general once wrote that Mongols were good at fighting and they could have their meals on horsetack while marching; and that they could make swift maneuvers to launch surprise attacks against their enemies.

Although they reached Bagan in central Myanmar they could not stay there for long. Some said that they left the city earlier because of the dry weather. But I thought that there might be more important factor behind their earlier retreat. It might be because of the guerrilla tactics of the Myanmar people living in and around Bagan. Beside Tuyin hill, many temples like Dhammayangyi pagoda offered ideal places for guerrillas to attack and resist the enemy.

Mongol troops retreated and stationed near Ngahsaungchan, known as Bhamo at present. It was rather brazen of Kyaw Swa of Bagan to ask Mongols to recognize him as the king of Bagan. Why did he do so? It was because he had not been nurtured and taught well. It was also an assumption that he was the youngest son and only his elder brothers deserved to ascend the throne. So, he was not given a chance to undergo any training, and he was not active. He did not have enough qualification and was incapable of discharging national defence duties effectively. It seemed that he therefore felt depressed for his weak points despite having ascended the throne. That was why he asked the enemies to recognize him as the king of Bagan even though he was reigning Bagan that had fine traditions. His appeal prompted Myanmar national patriots and Myinsai troops to be united. Then, Myinsai troops and national races dethroned King Kyaw Swa. The down-

fall of King Kyaw Swa prompted Mongol troops to station in Ngahsaungchan to besiege Myinsai.

Myinsai was a small region but occupied a strategic point as it was a garrison town, the entrance to mountain ranges of Shan State. Myinsai, whose people were men of lion heart, came under fierce attacks launched by Mongols.

Before and after intruding into Myanmar, Mongols, war warriors, always won victory over their opponents in the battles. Surely, they marched to Myinsai to occupy it with the anticipation of victory. Myanmar nationals’ concept was that the art of warfare was vital, not superior or inferior power. They always repulsed in unison their enemies with unyielding spirit. Myinsai survived the invasion despite the fact that both sides suffered heavy casualties. National patriots safeguarded the motherland at risks to their lives, putting an end to the record of the ever-winning victory of Mongols who therefore had to retreat from the territory of Myanmar. A lot of people from the entire nation including Myinsai sacrificed their lives. However, their relatives could be proud of the supreme sacrifices to protect and safeguard the nation, people and the Sasana. The Myinsai troops repelled the intrusion of Mongols whose strength was much superior to them. They were in fact the ancestors of present Myanmar people. They handed down the invaluable land to their posterity. It means Myanmar people inherited the dignity and prestige from their ancestors.

Mongols made an official request for making peace. It was because they all could meet their tragic end if Myanmar troops chased them for elimination when they were retreating. After the retreat of Mongols, King Saw Nit reigned Bagan but Myinsai had become the heart of Myanmar troops. Myinsai was just a garrison town, so it could not become the centre of power of Myanmar. At that time, Thiha Thu was in search of a suitable region for establishment of a new town. Innwa royal city was established for four times. But, every time just after the establishment, the city came under ruin. So, he chose an appropriate region to establish a royal city titled Wizaya Pura that was later well-known as Pinya. However, Pinya period lasted just for 53 years. But, the short history of the town went down in the annals of Myanmar.

It is incumbent upon each and every citizen to reconstruct their country if the motherland has gone to rack and ruin. Only those who are brave and capable of discharging huge tasks with a sense of duty can bring glory to the nation. Thiha Thu mobilized the troops in Myinsai while repulsing the attacks of Mongols. He had to choose a proper place to establish a State. The region he chose was fine, but he could not improve the new town. He failed to tackle and overcome the geographical barriers so he had to found Pinya in hill region.

Pinya is a small town and its period was rather short, but it links the past periods of ancient Myanmar and those of present Myanmar. Some historical researchers billed the city states that came into existence after the fall of Bagan State as alternative and uncivilized feudal nations. Here, I would like to argue that those city states were different but not uncivilized ones. It is because they well preserved and enhanced the dignity of a nation with sovereignty between the past Myanmar and the present Myanmar.

Translation: TMT + MS
Myanma Alin: 25-10-2005

The excavations at old towns — Beikthano, Hanlin, Srikestra and Myanadi — prove that the people of Pyu city states are highly intelligent and civilized. They knew how to construct large religious edifices, city drainage canals, clean water supply works and irrigation facilities.

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe...

(from page 1)

Next, the commander and party inspected production of fish and prawn and measures for manufacturing of sea fish and fresh water prawn in the cold storage. Upon arrival at UPG Paints Factory in Industrial Zone No 1, the commander and party viewed Master oil paints and water colour paints and Unitex, Orient and Arrow brand water colour paints and Unilec brand oil paints. Afterwards, they viewed test of quality

control, research work, spray paint, thinner, oil and water colour paints and parquet glue conducted by member of the board of directors U Aye Han.

After that, the commander and party arrived at shoe factory run by Reva Co Ltd in Industrial Zone No 1 and viewed pressing of shoe shape, cutting of shoe and production process of shoe conducted by Chairman of Company U Maung Maung Thuang.

Next, the com-

mander and party arrived at finished wood factory run by Teak Farm Co Ltd in Industrial Zone No 2 and viewed production of furniture conducted by managing director U Zaw Myo Kyaw.

Afterwards, the commander gave instructions on manufacturing of high quality products, constant test of quality control and measures to be taken for technical co-operation among the entrepreneurs and made arrangements to fulfill the needs. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint view electronic-aided classroom in Ngapayin model village high school. — MNA

Commander, Minister attend opening...

(from page 16)

supervised the construction of the dam and Sagaing Division Irrigation Department that built the dam.

Next, the commander delivered an opening speech. He said Okpo Dam with 3,550

farmers and service personnel of the irrigation department. That's why, he said, he very much thanked the association very much for its active participation. Next, he urged USDA members and local people to maintain the dam for its

durability. Next, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and

given by Physician Dr U Saw Nu and party at Monywa People's Hospital. Afterwards, the commander and party donated spectacles to eye patients and distributed health educative handouts to the locals. In Ngapayin Village, medical specialists

the minister and party inspected the newly-opened hydro electric power station and rural auto-exchange.

Next, they went to Maha Bandoola Statue donated by the Ministry of Culture in Ngapayin Village and attended the opening ceremony of

and Maternal and Child Welfare Association. During the round table discussion, the patron of Sagaing Division Women's Affairs Organization, the chairperson of Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA and the secretary of Division WAO and members of WAO and MCWA held discussions with local women on salient points of WAO and MCWA, human trafficking, prevention of violence against women, health knowledge on women and child, reproductive health, organizing of membership and participation of women in rural development tasks and replied to the queries raised by local women.

Next, the commander, the minister and party went to Ngapayin Monastery and donated alms to Sayadaw of Village/Tract Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee.

Afterwards, they cordially met with locals at the monastery. Located in Budalin Township, Monywa District, Ngapayin Model Village has 1,012 households and a population of 5567. Since 1988, the Tatmadaw Government has implemented the rural development tasks and the Ngapayin Model Village has developed.

With a view to narrowing the development gap between urban and rural areas, the Government has been implementing the five rural development tasks joining hands with the people and social organizations. Okpo-Ngapayin Road has been repaired at a cost of K 600,000 contributed by the Government and the local people. The river crossing bridge (See page 10)



Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye unveils the stone plaque of Maha Bandoola bronze statue in Budalin Township. — MNA



feet in length and 45 feet in height was constructed to dam the Okpo Creek.

It will benefit 360 acres of farmland. The dam could store water while it was being constructed, he said.

Since the day of construction, the USDA members gave a helping hand to coordination work in cooperation with

party viewed the dam they cordially met with the locals. Next, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and party cheered the students who were learning subjects with electronic aids at multimedia classrooms. Next, they encouraged the local patients who were receiving free medical treatment

gave free medical treatment to a total of 269 patients— 70 eye patients, 30 musculoskeletal ones, 23 oral ones and 99 general ones. The commander, the minister and party inspected the build-

Maha Bandoola Library. During the ceremony, chairman of Ngapayin PDC U Kyi Myint, chairman of Library Committee U Myint and townselder U Than Hlaing formally opened

the ceremony, chairman of Ngapayin PDC U Kyi Myint, chairman of Library Committee U Myint and townselder U Than Hlaing formally opened

the ceremony, chairman of Ngapayin PDC U Kyi Myint, chairman of Library Committee U Myint and townselder U Than Hlaing formally opened

Okpo Dam will benefit 360 acres of farmland.



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presents spectacles to an eye patient. — MNA

ing of rural health centre built by wellwishers and viewed health care services performed by three health staff.

After that, they attended the opening ceremony of hydro electric power station and rural auto-exchange. During the ceremony, executive of Sagaing Division Union Solidarity and Development Association U Zaw, townselder U Man Soe and wellwisher U Taik Aung formally opened the hydro electric power station and rural auto-exchange.

Maha Bandoola Statue. Next, the minister and party viewed round the library. Afterwards, CEC Member Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint donated journals, magazines and books for the library through U Myint. The commander, the minister and party went on a pilgrimage to Maha Bandoola Pagoda in Ngapayin Village.

At the same time, they attended to an educative talks organized by Sagaing Division Women's Affairs Organization

Performing arts competitions continue



Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, and Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung watch piano contest at the National Theatre. — MNA

YANGON, 25 Oct — The 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for 12th day at the designated venues, here, today.

Present on the occasion were member of the panel of patrons for organizing the competitions member of the panel of patrons Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi

Aung, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Vice-Chairman of the leading committee Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, the committee members, officials of sub-committees, maestros, tourists and the general public.

A singing contest

was held at the multi-functional hall of the National Theatre this morning and a total of 4 contestants from states and divisions took part in the professional level women's classical song contest, and 12 in the basic education level (aged 10-15) boy's classical song contest. Chairperson of the panel of judges Assistant Director (Music)

Daw Tin Tin Mya, Secretary Assistant Engineer Daw May Pyone Khaing and party supervised the singing contest.

Nine contestants participated in the basic education level (aged 5-10) girls' piano contest and seven in the professional level men's piano contest at the National Theatre.

At Kanbawza Theatre, eight contestants competed in the higher education level men's xylophone contest and nine participants took part in higher education level women's xylophone contest. Thirteen contestants competed in the basic education level boys' (aged 5-10) xylophone contest. Chairman of the

panel of judges.

At Padonma Theatre, five contestants took part in the professional level men's harp contest, four in the professional level women's contest, three in the basic education level (aged 15-20) girls' contest and six in the basic education level boys' (aged 10-15) harp contest. — MNA



Ma Ei Thinzar Aung of Ayeyawady Division takes part in basic education level girls' piano contest (aged 5-10) — MNA



Maung Yan Paing Oo of Kayah State takes part in basic education level boys' xylophone contest (aged 5-10) — MNA



Maung Aung Kyaw Myint of Bago Division takes part in basic education level boys' harp contest (aged 5-10) — MNA

Marionette drama contest concludes

YANGON, 25 Oct — The professional level Minkutha marionette drama contest of the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions was held today at the National Theatre here for the last day.

Sagaing Division marionette group took part in the today's contest.

Present on the occasion were Member of the panel of patrons for Organizing the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee for the organizing committee Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, doyen artistes and enthusiasts.

MNA

MCWA members donate cash and kind to patients, children

YANGON, 25 Oct — A medical team performed surgical operations on cleft lip and palate patients at Bago People's Hospital in Bago Township on 23 October under the supervision of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central). Vice-Chairperson of Central Executive Committee of MMCWA Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and CEC members and officials of Bago Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee visited the operations and provided medicines and

medical equipment worth K 1,329,520 for 120 patients through maxillofacial and oral surgery specialist Dr Khin Maung Lwin. They also presented K 3,000 for each patient totalling K 360,000 to Head of Bago Division Health Department Dr Htay Aung.

Next, CEC members of the education group of MMCWA inspected nursery schools of MMCWA in Bago and donated exercise books, stationery and toys. Members of the health group also visited the delivery rooms in Bago,

and Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint presented K 1 million for the delivery rooms to Chairperson of Bago Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Sao Non Khun Sam. Folic acid tablets, iodized salt, tonic and cash and five bikes were also donated.

Later, Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and party made discussions with villagers and members of MCWA in Pagoda Village in Bago Township and attended the ceremony to feed nutritious food to children in Minya Village.

MNA

Two State-owned enterprises to be privatized

YANGON, 25 Oct — The State is making preparations to denationalize a flour mill with the reserve price of K 1055.264 million and a marble tile factory (branch) with K 99.394 million through competitive bidding.

The Flour Mill No 2 under the Myanma Foodstuff Industries is on the 3.44-acre land on Myitta Street in Ward 14, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Division, and the Marble Tile Fac-

tory No 1 under the Myanma Ceramics Industries of the Ministry of Industry-1, on the 2-673-acre land on Thiri Dawna Street in DawU Khu Ward, Loikaw, Kayah State.

Those individuals or organizations interested are to obtain proposal forms from the Privatization Commission (Progress Appraisal and Progress Reporting Department) at No 313 on Bo Aung Kyaw Street in Yangon starting from 27 October and to submit the

proposal forms from 10 am to 4 pm only on 24 November 2005.

Priority is given to nationals and ex-owners if they offer the same amount as those who offer the highest rates for the facilities. But, they are to submit firm evidences or else priority will be given to those nationals who propose the highest offers.

Dial Ph: No 245506, 245516 or 245537 for further details.

MNA

Commander, Minister attend opening...

(from page 8)

on Ngapayin-Sipa Road was upgraded to concrete one and it was opened on 15 February. There was only a motor road in the past. Now, Budalin-YeU-KhinU railroad has been constructed in the region and residents can travel by train.

Thanks to the better transportation, the economy of the region is booming. Now, one auto exchange office has been established.

These are the fruits of the collaboration between the government and the people on rural area development.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye presented 100 dozens of exercise books, 100 dozens of pencils, sports gear to Chairman of the village PDC U Kyi Myint.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented a set of TV and

Video, USDA uniforms, sports gear, exercise books and pencils to the village through officials.

A wellwisher donated K 500,000 for wind-power generator to be used in the village.

There is sufficient rice and oil for everybody in the village. Regarding the livestock breeding, there are 2006 cows, 2671 fowls and 829 goats and pigs. The number of students in the village is 1170 and one basic education high school (branch) has been constructed. The number of graduates students from the village reaches 57 and school enrollment rate of the village up to 96 percent.

One rural health unit has been set up in the village. The average life expectancy of the village is ranging from 70 to 75 for men and from 75 to 80 for women.

MNA

Shan State (South) USDA holds Annual General Meeting

YANGON, 25 Oct—

The Shan State (South) Union Solidarity and Development Association held the Annual General Meeting for 2005 at the City Hall in Taunggyi on 24 October morning.

It was attended by Patron of Shan State (South) USDA Brig-Gen Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, General Secretary of USDA Maj-Gen Htay Oo, CEC member of USDA Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Shan State and district level departmental officials, the Secretary of Shan State (South) USDA, social organizations, well-wishers and outstanding youths.

CEC member of Taunggyi District USDA Daw Khin Htwe Aung acted as master of ceremonies and CEC member of the Township USDA Daw Thi Thi



Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein presents award to a delegate of outstanding township. —MNA

Aung acted as co-master of ceremonies.

Next, Secretary of Shan State (South) USDA U Nyan Lin reported on measures taken in a year by the USDA.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint made a speech on the occasion.

Next, the commander presented prizes to outstanding students

who passed the 2004-2005 matriculation exam with flying colours.

Later, Secretary U Htay Oo presented prizes to outstanding students and youths.

CEC member U Tin Naing Thein presented prizes to those from Taunggyi District, Pindaya Township, Ywangan Township, Loilem Township,

Monghsu Township, Namsang Township and Mongnai, who successfully carried out organizational and agricultural works.

Next, Secretary of Shan State (South) USDA presented cash assistance to blood donors in Taunggyi.

The meeting successfully concluded in the evening.—MNA

PRC Embassy donates two computers to NPE

YANGON, 25 Oct—A ceremony to present two computers and accessories by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to the News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information was held at the NPE's Head Office on Theinbyu Road here at 11 am today.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Managing Director of NPE U Soe Win, Director (News) U Win Tin, chief editors, Chargé d' Affaires of PRC Embassy Mr Yu Boren, Chief Reporter of Xinhua News Agency Mr Xhang Yunfei



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein accepts two sets of computer donated by Chinese Embassy. —MNA

and officials. Mr Yu Boren explained the purpose of the donation and

handed the two computers to the deputy minister. Next, the deputy min-

ister expressed thanks and the ceremony came to an end.—MNA

UN marks 60th Birthday with pledges to rise to new challenges

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Oct — The United Nations celebrated its 60th birthday on Monday with wreath layings for fallen colleagues, the ringing of the Harmony Bell and appeals to rise to the new challenges that lie ahead.

Sixty years to the day after the UN officially came into existence with the ratification of its Charter, Secretary-General Kofi Annan recalled last month's World Summit where leaders sought to forge a common response to new challenges in a world that is very different from that of the organization's founders. "They have left us a great deal of work to do," he declared in a message, citing their commitment to reduce hunger and poverty by 50 per cent in the next 10 years, their pledge to create new bodies to promote human rights and build lasting peace in war-torn countries, their pledge to fight terrorism and take collective action to save populations from genocide.

At a ceremony in the visitors' lobby at the UN headquarters in New York, he laid a wreath in honour of UN colleagues who fell in the line of duty.

In his message, he noted the World Summit's decisions on important reforms of the UN Secretariat, but regretted too the leaders' weak statements on climate change and Security Council reform and their total lack of agreement on nuclear proliferation and disarmament. Together with General Assembly President Jan Eliasson of Sweden, and the Security Council President for October, Ambassador Mihnea Ioan Motoc of Romania, Annan rang the "Harmony Bell," on loan for the day from the World Harmony Foundation, a global non-profit network of independent service providers.

"The realities of the world are a constant reminder that global action and collective efforts are now needed more than ever," Eliasson stated in his message. — MNA/Xinhua

A point for deliberation in our Myanmar

- * Because one helped when needed
And one thus became convenient
Then, that person is a true friend.
- * If one doesn't help when needed
And even stops a good natured person
From helping, by making that person
change mind
He is exactly, not a friend
Posing hatred to one, and dwindling away
Which is transparent and discernible.
- * Who upholds the norms of friendship?
Who spreads the feeling of hatred?
All Myanmar, please deliberate.

Po Wa (Trs)

Wife of Laotian Deputy Prime Minister visits Myanmar Gems Mart, Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 25 Oct — Mrs Bounkongmany Lengsavat, wife of Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Somsavat Lengsavat and party, on a visit here to attend the Seventh Myanmar-Laos Joint Commission arrived at Myanmar Gem Mart this afternoon. The quests were conducted by adviser U Ohn Myint of Myanmar Gems Enterprise round the mart.

Next, Mrs Bounkongmany Lengsavat and party arrived at Shwedagon Pagoda where they were welcomed by members of board of trustees.

Afterwards, they made cash donations for all-round renovation of the pagoda and paid homage to the pagoda. They were conducted round the pagoda by officials.

After that, they left the pagoda in the evening.—MNA

Where is the Threat to Peace? Nowhere in Myanmar is the Response!

Homely Traveller

What is this 'Threat to the Peace: A call for the UN Security Council to act in Burma?' Nothing but false allegations by Vaclav Havel and Desmond Tutu.

Myanmar is a Golden Land with diverse tourist destinations; having safety and security; hospitality and serenity. In fact a significant growth in international tourist arrivals has been recorded over the past thirteen years which resulted from the Government's new liberalized policies and the public — private partnership for promotion and marketing for systematic tourism development.

This new era for the development of tourism industry in Myanmar was born with the passing of Myanmar Tourism Law in June 1990, which ended almost 30 years of state monopoly of tourism industry in Myanmar. With the formation of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism in 1992, there developed a greater sense of national unity through the redistribution of tourism returns covering border and remote areas; fostering of international understanding and cultural exchange; generation of foreign exchange earnings; creating employment opportunities and building basic infrastructure; promotion and preservation of places of historical and religious importance. All these objectives are to keep the pace of development of infrastructure in

balance with the development of infrastructure and the country's economic and social capability of absorbing tourism growth.

Looking back, we can compare 42,000 tourist arrivals prior to 1988, with the current figures which shows a steady growth. During 2004, there were nearly 900,000 arrivals and during the nine months of 2005, the number has exceeded 400,000 arrivals coming in through the international gateways (Yangon, Mandalay and Bagan) and through the international border checkpoints along Myanmar — China and Myanmar — Thailand. These figures are indications of steady increases in tourist arrivals in Myanmar during 2004-2005. "Seeing is Believing" is evident for tourists and business travellers visiting Myanmar despite the external pressure.

In fact, Myanmar is frequented by source markets from both Eastern and Western Hemispheres throughout the three seasons. The economic downturn, the impacts of natural disasters and diseases within the region and outside; the impact of wars in the Middle East and other global catastrophes have only been mildly felt by tourism to Myanmar.

Full encouragement has always been given by the government to the private sector with the issue of licenses to operate travels and tour companies, hotels, motels, guest houses and inns, tourist transport services and to serve as tour guides.

The number of travel agencies is now recorded at 619 and in addition to the 27 international standard hotels with 100% foreign investment, there are nearly 600 local investment hotels, motels and inns operational in all parts of the country. The Tourism Industry is further supported by the hospitable services of the 6414 Myanmar national tour guides and 434 transportation vehicles and 50 yachts.

The tourism earnings are, nevertheless, benefited as a multiplier effect by the Myanmar populace.

Where is this "Threat to Peace in Myanmar" as wrongly alleged?

Full encouragement has always been given by the government to the private sector with the issue of licenses to operate travels and tour companies, hotels, motels, guest houses and inns, tourist transport services and to serve as tour guides.

Myanmar delegation leaves for Thailand



Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun being seen off at the airport. —MNA

YANGON, 25 Oct—A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun left here this morning by air for Thailand to study concreting of bridge columns, the use of road recycling machine and con-aid, turning soft earth into hard one, geotextile, construction of airport and highways in Bangkok.

The delegation was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Ministers for Construction U Tin Swe and Brig-Gen Myint Thein, heads of department under the Ministry of Construction and families.

Members of the delegation are Deputy Superintending Engineer (Civil) of Public Works U Kyaw Hlaing, Deputy Director U Kyaw Win, Senior Engineer (Civil) U Ba Saw, Senior Engineer (Architect) U Htay Myint, Senior Engineer (Civil) U Kyaw Lin and Senior Engineer (Civil) U Mya Thet Aung.—MNA

Australia's CSL says dosage key to quick flu vaccine

SYDNEY, 25 Oct — An Australian company said on Monday it was confident the vaccine it was testing in humans could protect against a pandemic form of the H5N1 bird flu virus unless it undergoes major genetic changes.

CSL Ltd, the world's largest maker of blood plasma products, has begun human vaccine trials using different dosages and hopes to know results by next February.

If the trial is successful, the company says it can produce a vaccine against a pandemic form within three months if H5N1 mutates into a form able to be transmitted human-to-human, and in six months if a totally new strain emerges.

The virus has already killed more than 60 people in Asia and spread to Europe. Scientists say it is only a matter of time before it mutates into a form that can cause a pandemic that could kill millions of people.

"The mutation that would make it spread from human to human, which is what we're worried about, is probably not enough to render the vaccine ineffective," said CSL research and development spokeswoman Rachel David.

Other experts, however, have said that the H5N1 strain of bird flu could move too quickly for drugs and vaccines if it begins to easily infect humans. The H5N1 strain, like all viruses, mutates continually but the changes are usually very small. A pandemic form of the virus can occur through steady mutation or through a process called genetic reassortment. This occurs when two different strains, for example a human flu virus and a bird flu virus, infect the same cell and swap pieces of genetic material. — MNA/Reuters

တေရသမအကြိမ် (၁၃ ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို အက၊ အရေး အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

စဉ်	ရက်စွဲ	အဆို	အတီး	အရေး	အတီး	အတီး
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Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Ma Tin
M.A., B.G.P., D.B.L.,
for Aventis Pharma S.A.
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated 26 October, 2005

Road crash kills 15 in Egypt

CAIRO, 24 Oct — A collision between a truck and a taxi on an Egyptian road killed 15 people, Egypt's state MENA news agency reported on Sunday.

The collision, in which two other people were injured, happened overnight on a road between Cairo and Assiut, 190 miles, south of the capital.

MENA said the vehicles smashed into each other after one of the taxi's front tyres exploded.

MNA/Reuters

DONATE BLOOD

PATENT CAUTION

Mr. Amar LULLA and Mr. Geena MALHOTRA are inventors and Cipla Limited of 289 Belasis Road, Mumbai Central, Mumbai 400 008, Maharashtra, India, is the Sole Owner and Proprietor of the following Patent:

MEDICAMENT INHALER DEVICE

Reg. No. IV/7381/2005

(Indian application number: 570/MUM/2004)

The said Inventors and Owner claim all rights in respect of the above Patent and will take all legal steps against any person, firm or corporation infringing their rights to the said Patent in Myanmar.

KHINE KHINE U, Advocate, LL.B., D.B.L., LL.M (UK)
For Cipla Limited and Mr. Amar LULLA & Mr. Geena MALHOTRA

#731, 7th Fl. Traders Hotel, Yangon.
Dated: October 26, 2005

Britain arrests three over international terrorism

LONDON, 23 Oct — Three men have been arrested in Britain as part of an investigation into international terrorism, London's Scotland Yard said on Saturday.

Officers from the Metropolitan Police's Anti-Terrorist Branch arrested two of the men late on Friday at separate addresses in Chatham, Kent, southeastern England and Shepherds Bush, west London.

A third man was arrested on Saturday morning after he voluntarily went to a London police station.

The men, all in their 20s, were detained on suspicion of the

commission, preparation or instigation of terrorism. The investigation is separate from the enquiries into the London bombings in July, police said.

Police were searching the Chatham and Shepherds Bush addresses in addition to a property in the Paddington area in west London.

No hazardous materials have been found, although police said the searches would continue.

MNA/Reuters

Five injured in Naples' anti-terror drill

ROME, 23 Oct — Five people were injured for real on Saturday in Naples when two ambulances crashed into each other during the anti-terror drill, Italian news agency ANSA reported.

According to the report, the two ambulances crashed while speeding to the scene of a simulated terrorist attack at Naples main railway station in Piazza Garibaldi.

The injured were all ambulance crew members, two of whom had to be taken to hospital with suspected broken bones.

Another victim of the drill was a young female volunteer who suffered a panic attack after a fake explosion on an underground railway

train, ANSA said.

The drill, held to test the city's readiness to deal with terrorism, involved four separate "attacks" in different parts of the city which left some 30 "dead" and more than 100 "injured", report said.

Some 750 police, firemen and medical and emergency staff took part in the exercises, which brought traffic in the city centre to a standstill as entire areas were condoned off.

MNA/Xinhua

18 missing, 4 rescued after avalanche in western Nepal

KATHMANDU, 24 Oct — At least 18 climbers have been missing while four porters have been rescued after an avalanche in western Nepal, the Himalayan Rescue Association (HRA) said Sunday.

"Four Nepali porters who were rescued by a helicopter from Narphu Valley of Manang District, some 200 kilometres west of Kathmandu, were brought to western Pokhara city on Sunday morning," said HRA chief Bikram Neupane.

Neupane also added that one of the rescued porters was helping the rescue team to trace the missing climbers including seven French nationals and 11 Nepalis.

The climbers went missing while climbing the 6,120 metre-high

France sees India as dominant naval power

MUMBAI, 24 Oct — France considers India as a dominant naval power in the Indian Ocean region, a senior French Navy official said here.

The visit of French Navy supply and command ship in the Indian Ocean region, *Marne* to Mumbai harbour in the western coast is a part of the on-going close Indo-French naval cooperation, the official told PTI on board *Marne*.

The bilateral cooperation between India and France was initiated a decade ago and since then French naval ships have been regularly visiting India and also participating in the joint-naval exercise 'Varuna', he said.

A joint-naval exercise between the two navies is scheduled next year, the official said. He, however, declined to divulge details. Asked if the aircraft carriers of the two nations would be participating in that exercise, he said "most likely".

"France feels that the Indian Ocean zone plays a key role in international

affairs", the official said. "It is situated at the junction of the main commercial and strategic maritime routes. It is an important zone for international exchanges which has witnessed many political and military crises in the past ten years," he added.

"It is in this framework that supply and command ship *Marne*, which is also the flagship of the Admiral has been deployed in the Indian Ocean area", he said.

The 158-metre long *Marne* is an oil tanker of the French Navy which supports the French fleet in the Indian Ocean. It is the flagship of the Admiral commanding the French Naval forces in the Indian Ocean (Alindien) who is himself the direct representative of the Chief of French Defence staff, he said.

MNA/PTI

India says space is an instrument of development

UNITED NATIONS, 24 Oct — Asserting that space is an instrument of development, India has said developing nations should be allowed to benefit from Space Application Programmes through international cooperation.

It also suggested development of an integrated global disaster management system with utmost urgency.

"We earnestly believe that the space is an instrument of development. We encourage capacity building through international cooperation enabling the developing countries to benefit from Space Application Programmes," Indian delegate Pramod Mahajan told a UN committee.

Referring to the recent disasters from tsunami in the Indian Ocean to the earthquake in south Asia, Mahajan said there was an urgent need for development of an integrated global disaster management system.

Supporting the recommendations of the action team on "Integrated Global Disaster Management System" led by

Canada, China and France to establish a "Disaster Management International Space Coordination Organization," he said, India prefers the alignment to have informational, coordination and operational functions under the UN umbrella to ensure universal access.

Innovative financial models must be explored to make this initiative effective and useful to one and all, he added.

It has always been India's endeavour, he said, to serve the poor, illiterate and deprived masses, using the latest space technology.

To achieve this objective, a large number of satellite-based educational networks are being commissioned and telemedicine projects being further expanded.

MNA/PTI

Ethiopian police seize illegal arms

ADDIS ABABA, 24 Oct — Ethiopian police said Sunday they have seized arms which they said are supposed to be used for "terrorist" activities and violence in the country's northern Amhara State.

Zewdu Zele ke, a police officer, told journalists that 26 Kalashnikovs and other

various rifles with over 200 ammunitions were intercepted in the state's Denbia Town in a search

out made by the police following a tip from the public. He said the police also put under custody 26 individuals who possessed the illegal arms.

The police also intercepted fliers bent on instigating violence, Zewdu said, adding the individuals are found to be members of "opposition parties", he said. The police are under preparation to investigate the case and bring the individuals before the court of justice, Zewdu said.

MNA/Xinhua

DON'T SMOKE

Mt Kanguru on 19 October. "We cannot say anything about the condition of the climbers missing in the avalanche. We are waiting for details," said Neupane. Rescue efforts could not go in full swing due to

the bad weather in the region for the past several days, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

ဗဟိုဘဏ္ဍာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဒ်များတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဆုံး

India's President wants scientists to study earthquake precursors

NEW DELHI, 24 Oct — To combat earthquakes, Indian President A P J Abdul Kalam on Saturday said radio science specialists should initiate a comprehensive project on the possible co-relation of seismic activities and electromagnetic activity to help in disaster mitigation.

"Recently in our state of Jammu and Kashmir and the neighbouring country, there was an earthquake. US, Japan, Turkey, Iran and many other countries also suffer due to earthquakes," he said inaugurating the 28th General Assembly of the International Union of Radio Science (URSI).

There are possibilities of co-relation between seismic activities and electromagnetic activity in the particular region, he said adding "there is a need for a comprehensive study on

the subject". "This study should also be linked with the study of other geophysical parameters relevant to an earthquake.

This will be a great contribution of the radio

science community to mankind towards disaster mitigation."

Kalam said an earthquake phenomenon in broader sense starts to produce some precursors

before the final rupture, although this precursor generating prerupture stage is not usually regarded as an earthquake.

MNA/PTI

Police make large heroin haul in Istanbul

ANKARA, 24 Oct — Turkish police have seized over one ton of heroin in Istanbul, the largest city in Turkey, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported on Sunday.

Istanbul Security Chief Celatettin Cerrah was quoted as saying that 1 ton and 51 kilos of heroin was seized last week in an operation in Florya and Silyvri districts of the city and nine persons were arrested in connection with the haul.

Hailing the operation as "dealing a heavy blow" to drug dealers, Cerrah said the heroin was brought from an Asian country en route to Europe.— MNA/Xinhua



Chinese sculptor Cao Chongen works on a statue of Hong Kong kung fu superstar Bruce Lee at a workshop in China's southern city of Guangzhou on 23 Oct, 2005. —INTERNET

Northeast US coast hit by heavy rains, winds

BOSTON, 25 Oct — Howling winds and driving rain lashed the northeastern US coast on Tuesday, causing power outages in Massachusetts and forcing authorities to issue warnings for floods and high winds.

Fueled by moisture from Hurricane Wilma that pounded Florida on Monday, the "nor'easter" was forecast to soak New England with 2 to 4 inches of rain and bring snow to northern New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine.

About 4,000 homes in Massachusetts lost power overnight and early on Tuesday after the storm knocked down power lines, said Peter Judge, spokesman for the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.

Judge said wind gusts of up to 65 mph (105 kph) forecast for Tuesday could uproot trees in earth softened by a week of heavy rain earlier this month.

The National Weather Service issued high wind warnings for the Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut coasts, forecasting sustained winds of up to 40 mph (65 kph) with gusts reaching 65 miles (105 kph).

"Energy and moisture from Hurricane Wilma was fed into the nor'easter helping to intensify it," said Tracy McCormick, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service.

The incessant rain has given central Massachusetts, Rhode Island and most of Connecticut their wettest October on record, the National Weather Service said. — MNA/Reuters

Italian police capture Sicily Mafia boss Di Fazio

PALERMO (Italy), 24 Oct— Italian carabinieri military police on Sunday arrested a major Sicilian Mafia boss who had been on the run for five years, police said.

They said Umberto Di Fazio, 42, considered to be the leader of the Cosa Nostra's notorious Santapaola clan, was captured near Enna, a mountain top town in the centre of the island.

Di Fazio, whose "family" dominated Catania, the main city on Sicily's east coast, was wanted for extortion and murder and international warrants had been issued for his arrest. He took over leadership of the clan after the 1993 arrest of Nitto Santapaolo, known as "The Hunter", and once the undisputed Mafia boss in Catania. Di Fazio's arrest came two days after Italy's new national anti-Mafia prosecutor, Pietro Grasso,

caused a storm by saying Bernardo Provenzano, the top Mafia chief who has been a fugitive for four decades, had been protected by politicians and policemen.

Until his appointment

earlier this month, Grasso was for years the chief anti-Mafia investigator in the Sicilian capital Palermo, and often expressed frustration over the failure to capture Provenzano.

Provenzano, 71, once nicknamed "Binu the tractor" because of the way he would mow down his opponents, has managed to run the crime group like a phantom.

MNA/Reuters

British multi-millionaire dies in plane crash in Tanzania

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 24 Oct— A British multi-millionaire and his family have been confirmed dead in a plane crash in western Tanzania, according to police sources.

Kigoma Regional Police Commander Boniface Mgongolwa told the *Daily News* on Saturday that the millionaire, Alan Williams, his wife Sue, sister-in-law Jill Williams and family friend Debbie Winn had died when their five-seater plane crashed on Sunday near the Mahale National Park by the side of Lake Tanganyika.

A Canadian pilot flying the fateful *Cessna* plane also died in the incident. It took rescuers two days to reach the crash site located among dense forests near the national park. — MNA/Xinhua

Frenchman held on suspicion of killing his children

PARIS, 24 Oct — A Frenchman was remanded in custody overnight on suspicion of killing his three children, a judicial source said on Sunday.

The man, unemployed Jean-Paul Steijns, 36, was detained with his wife on Thursday after police accompanying a bailiff on a visit to the couple's home found the body of their third child, a new-born baby, decomposed in a sports bag.

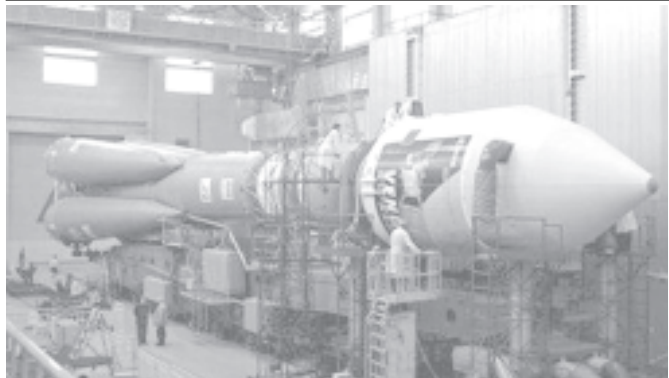
The bodies of the two older children, a boy and a girl aged 7 and 8, were found on Friday in the boot of a car in the southern city of Marseille, close to the couple's home.

The Marseille public prosecutor, Jacques Beaume, told reporters

on Saturday Steijns had said during questioning that he had given the two older children cocktails of medicines to take, though he had also given other versions of events. No further details about the other versions was available.

A judge remanded Steijns in custody after he was placed under official investigation — one step short of pressing charges under French law — on Saturday for "premeditated poisoning of minors" and murder.

MNA/Reuters



Technicians inspect the Venus Express interplanetary spacecraft inside the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan in this picture released by European Space Agency on 21 Oct. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Corinthians pick up another point in replayed game

RIO DE JANEIRO, 25 Oct— Brazilian championship leaders Corinthians battled to a 1-1 draw with Sao Paulo on Monday, in a game they originally lost 3-2 but was declared void because of a match-fixing scandal.

The original match was one of 11 refereed by Edilson Pereira de Carvalho, who has been banned for life after being found guilty by a sporting tribunal of taking bribes from a gambling ring to influence games he officiated.

All are being replayed, even though public prosecutors say that Carvalho did not attempt to manipulate every match he refereed.

Monday's draw allowed Corinthians to increase their lead over Goias to seven points with nine matches remaining. Former Porto midfielder Carlos Alberto headed Corinthians ahead before halftime before Amoroso equalised with a penalty shortly after the break.

Porto beat Nacional Madeira to go second

LISBON, 24 Oct— Nacional Madeira lost their unbeaten record on Sunday when they were beaten 1-0 by Porto in the Portuguese Premier League.

Porto moved into second place, three points behind leaders Braga who enjoyed a 1-0 victory over Boavista on Saturday.

Champions Benfica, who beat promoted Estrela Amadora 2-0 on Saturday, are third with Nacional Madeira, the surprise team of the season, fourth on 15 points.

Porto's Ricardo Quaresma set up the winning goal with a neat cross which was met with a powerful header from striker Hugo Almeida three minutes before the break.

Sporting marked their first league game under Paulo Bento with a 2-2 draw at Gil Vicente, their first point in three matches.

MNA/Reuters



Lucas Glover holds the Funai Classic trophy after winning the Golf Tournament at the Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Florida on 23 October, 2005. Glover shot 23-under-par 265 to win by one stroke as rain and thunder storms from the outer bands of Hurricane Wilma were forecast for the final round.—INTERNET

Corinthians lost two matches refereed by Carvalho but have picked up four points from the replays.

In the first, they beat Santos 3-2 with a controversial late penalty two weeks ago, having lost the original game 4-2.

The result sparked a riot by Santos fans, who invaded the pitch and forced the game to be abandoned. The result stood. In another replayed game on Monday, Fluminense were held 1-1 by bottom club Brasiliense, who had lost the original 3-0.

Ten games have so far been replayed and nine have produced different results to the originals.

The only match to produced the same outcome was the Ponte Preta-Sao Paulo fixture, which Ponte Preta won 1-0 the first time and 2-0 the second.

Internacional, who led at the time the scandal broke, are at home to Coritiba in the final replay on Friday.

MNA/Reuters

Flamengo name Santana as their fifth coach this year

RIO DE JANEIRO, 25 Oct— Relegation-threatened Flamengo named Joel Santana as their fifth coach of the year on Monday and dropped error-prone former Brazil defender Junior Baiano for the rest of the season.

Santana, who has had unsuccessful stints at Fluminense, Guarani, Internacional, Vasco da Gama and Brasiliense in the past two years, took over less than 48 hours after being sacked by Brasiliense who are also in the relegation zone.

He began his fourth stint at the club by taking charge of training on Monday morning.

MNA/Reuters



Ai Miyazato of Japan smiles along the third fairway during the final round of the 12th Women Golf Masters in Evian, France, on 23 July, 2005. Miyazato is set to follow in the footsteps of American teenager Michelle Wie and play on the men's Japanese tour, officials said on Monday. The 20-year-old Miyazato will become the first Japanese woman to play against men on Japan's JGTO Tour when she tees off in the 15-18 December Asia Japan Okinawa Open in Naha.

INTERNET

Getafe top after Valencia topple nine-man Real

MADRID, 24 Oct— Getafe crushed Real Zaragoza 5-2 to go top of the Primera Liga on Sunday, leapfrogging Real Madrid who had David Beckham and Thomas Gravesen sent off in a dramatic 2-1 home defeat by Valencia.

Zinedine Zidane missed an early penalty in the Bernabeu and that miss proved costly when Valencia's Ruben Baraja scored from a free kick in the 22nd minute. Raul levelled for Real in the 36th minute, but David Villa restored the lead from the penalty spot almost immediately.

Real finished the game with nine men after England midfielder Beckham and Denmark midfielder Gravesen were sent off near the end.—MNA/Reuters

Real appeal against Beckham red card

MADRID, 25 Oct— Real Madrid have appealed against the red card given to David Beckham during Sunday's 2-1 defeat by Valencia in an attempt to ensure the England captain can play for them in Wednesday's league match at Deportivo Coruna.

Beckham was sent off three minutes from time by referee Arturo Dauden Ibanez after receiving two yellow cards in quick succession, the first for dissent and the second for applauding the decision "in a sarcastic manner".

Real say they will present video evidence and photographs to the Spanish Football Federation's Appeals Committee to show that Beckham's clapping was "neither scornful nor sarcastic."

The club said that Beckham, who has been one of the team's most influential players this season, would travel with the rest of the team to La Coruna on Tuesday in the hope that the sending off would be overturned.

Beckham became the first England player to be

sent off twice when he was dismissed in a World Cup qualifier against Austria. He has been sent off three times since joining Real in 2003 and once while at his previous club Manchester United.

Real's Danish midfielder Thomas

Gravesen was given a straight red card six minutes before Beckham's dismissal for a reckless challenge on Valencia winger Vicente, but the club are not launching an appeal against that decision.

MNA/Reuters



Real Madrid's David Beckham (C) screams at referee Dauden Ibanez (L) after being expelled during a Spanish League football match between Real Madrid and Valencia at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium in Madrid. Valencia won 2-1

INTERNET

Primera Liga match reports

MADRID, 24 Oct— Brief reports of Primera Liga matches played on Sunday:

Cadiz 1 — Athletic Bilbao 0

Cadiz won their first home game of the season and piled the pressure on Bilbao, who took their winless run to seven.

Midfielder Enrique scored the only goal in the 13th minute, making the most of a loose ball after Bilbao keeper Daniel Aranzubia flapped at Jonathan Sesma's cross.

Celta Vigo 1 — Espanyol 0

Celta earned their fifth win of the season but were made to work hard for it by 10-man Espanyol who had Argentine defender Mauricio Pochettino sent off just before the break.

Midfielder David Silva scored seven minutes from time after Espanyol keeper Carlos Kameni could only parry Javi Guerrero's shot.

Malaga 5 — Real Betis 0

Betis suffered their second mauling in a week after Chelsea put four past them in the Champions League on Wednesday.

Malaga striker Salva Ballesta scored the first as Betis failed to clear a corner early on, and headed a second at the back post in the 30th minute.

Another corner allowed Fernando Sanz to head home in the 51st minute and Pablo Counago profited from a defensive mix-up to claim the fourth. Counago headed the fifth from Nacho's deep cross.

Racing Santander 0 — Atletico Madrid 1

Atletico bounced back from last weekend's 3-0 derby defeat by Real to earn their second away win of the season but it was not pretty against the league's tightest defence.

Argentine forward Maxi Rodriguez scored the only goal of the game with a low shot from outside the area just before the break.

Real Sociedad 2 — Deportivo Coruna 0

Real Sociedad reacted well to their exit from the King's Cup to third division Zamora with a gritty display against a toothless Deportivo.

Striker Darko Kovacevic scored a trademark header after 50 minutes, and defender Igor Jauregui added the second with a header from Nihat Kahveci's corner in the 68th minute.

MNA/Reuters

Design flaws may have caused New Orleans levee failures

Washington, 25 Oct— Eight weeks after Hurricane Katrina hit the US Gulf Coast region, investigators said breaches in the levees protecting New Orleans were more like failures of engineering that could have been anticipated and very likely prevented.

The investigators have assembled evidence implicating design flaws in the failure of two floodwalls near Lake Pontchartrain that collapsed when weakened soils beneath them became saturated and began to slide, The Washington Post reported Monday.

They have also confirmed that a little-used navigation canal helped amplify and intensify Katrina's initial surge, contributing to a third floodwall collapse on the east side of the town, the report said.

The preliminary findings, based on physical evidence, documents of the US Army Corps of Engineers which built the

walls and navigation canal and were responsible for defending the city against hurricane-related flooding, and hydrodynamic models, were the work of three teams of engineers and forensic experts conducting separate probes.

The investigators rejected the initial explanation offered by Corps officials in the hurricane's aftermath that massive storm surges had overtopped and overwhelmed floodwalls on the 17th Street and London Avenue canals on the north of town.

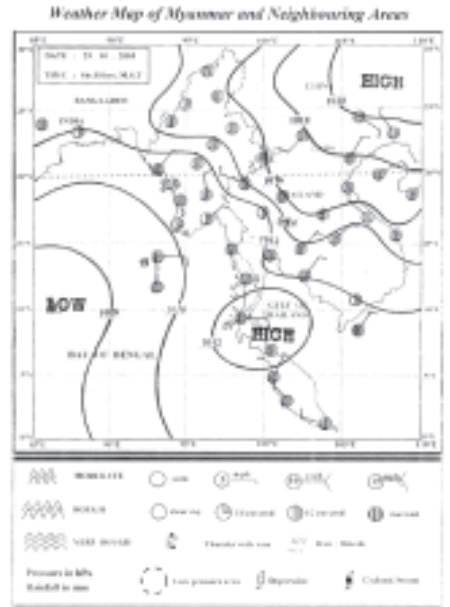
The new findings for the first time pointed to a human role in all three of the major floodwall failures that left about 100,000 homes underwater and caused most of Louisiana's about 1,000 hurricane-related deaths.

Experts now believe that Katrina was no stronger than a Category storm, and the Congress had directed the Corps to protect the

city from just such a hurricane.

Katrina would have caused some modest flooding and wind damage regardless, but that human errors turned "a problem into a catastrophe," Hassan Mashriqui, a storm expert at the Louisiana State University, was quoted as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Tuesday, 25 October, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah and Kayin States, Ayeyawady Division, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Chin State, scattered in Shan State and Taninthayi Division and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthong (1.02) inches, Coco Island (0.75) inch, Ann (0.67) inch, Magway (0.28) inch and Yamethin (0.12) inch.

Maximum temperature on 24-10-2005 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 25-10-2005 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 25-10-2005 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 24-10-2005 was (4.3) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 25-10-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (97.40) inches at Mingaladon, (97.44) inches at Kaba-Aye and (101.85) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (7) mph from Southeast at (12:00) hours MST on 24-10-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 26-10-2005: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, Ayeyawady Division, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kachin and Shan States, Sagaing, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers are likely in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 26-10-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-10-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.


Special weather report

YANGON, 25 Oct — According to the observation at 15:30 hrs MST today, the low pressure area over South-west Bay of Bengal has developed into a depression. It is likely to be strong further to become a storm.

MNA



In memory of late professor Dr U Aung Kyi, wife Daw Khin Khin Aye and family of Room-E (1), Building 5, Ayeyekmon Street-3, Ward-3, Hline Township, donate K 100,000 for Hninzigon Home for the Aged to administrative officer U Khin Soe.— H



Wednesday, 26 October

View on today

7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. မြို့မြားကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:00 am

5. အစိုးရသံ

8:10 am

6. ခေမီရှောင်တံတား

8:20 am

7. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Let's Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Musical programme

4:45 pm

4. အစားသစ်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ်(စာတုဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (စာတုဗေဒ)

5:00 pm

5. Song of yesteryears

5:15 pm

6. Classical song

5:20 pm

7. "လက်တွေ့ပြုချင်လို့" (ပြီးစေခိုးမြတ်ကောင်းအောင်) (ခါရိုက်တာ-ကြည့်နိုး)

5:30 pm

8. ရွယ်လုံလင် အာဆီယံအစဉ်

5:40 pm

9. မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာလက်ဝှေ့ပွဲ

6:00 pm

10. သုတေသန ရွေးညွှတ်ချက်

6:30 pm

11. Evening news

7:00 pm

12. Weather report

7:05 pm

13. Variety spectacular

7:35 pm

14. ကြားမြင်သုတ ပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ

7:45 pm

15. ကြည့်နိုးချမ်းမြေ့ ဖျော်ဖြေမှုနှင့် အမျိုးသားကန်တော်ကြီးဥယျာဉ် (ပြင်ဦးလွင်) (အပိုင်း-၂)

8:00 pm

16. News

8:00 pm

17. International news

8:00 pm

18. Weather report

9:00 pm

19. ၂၀၀၅ခုနှစ်၊ တေရဝါအကြိမ် (၁၃ ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

9:00 pm

20. "မေတ္တာရွှေစောင်" အမွေကောင်း (ပြဇာတ်) (သုတေသန၊ ဇိုးသောကြာ၊ ဧရာဝတီ၊ ဝိုးရိုးကြည့်) ယဉ်ကျေးမှုဝန်ကြီးဌာနက စီစဉ်တင်ဆက်သည်။

9:00 pm

21. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Wednesday, 26 October

Tune in today

8.30 am Brief news

8.35 am Music:
-Boogie Oogie ... Taste of Honey

8.40 am Perspectives

8.45 am Music:
-Good times

8.50 am National news/Slogan

9:00 am Music:
-Best of love...Emotions

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:
Let's go childish...Cartoon

1:30 pm News/Slogan

1:40 pm Lunch time music
--A place called home... Alan Menken and Lori Beecham
-Rainy Day Woman ... Waylon Jeanning.
-The sound of goodbye...Crystal Gayle

9.00 pm Variations on a tune
-The end of the World

9.15 pm Article/Music

9.25 pm Music at your request
- Forever... West life
-When you believe Love on the way...Celine Dion

9.45 pm News/Slogan

10.00 pm PEL

Prime Minister sends felicitations to Austria

YANGON, 26 Oct— General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Wolfgang Schussel, Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Austria, which falls on 26 October 2005.—MNA

At Ngapayin Village, medical specialists gave free medical treatment to a total of 269 patients— 70 eye patients, 30 musculoskeletal ones, 23 oral ones and 99 general ones.

Commander, Minister attend opening of Okpo Dam in Budalin township

USDA members give helping hand to construct the dam together with farmers and service personnel



Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and guests view the Okpo Dam.— MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint visit Tailoring Course in Ngapayin model village. MNA

of Sagaing Division Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, CEC member of the USDA Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and members arrived at the villages on 23 October. First, they attended a ceremony to unveil the Maha Bandoola Bronze Statue at the junction of Monywa-YeU road and Budalin-Kadon road in Budalin. Monywa Dis-

trict PDC Chairman Lt-Col Kyi Sein and officials formally unveiled the statue. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye pressed the button to unveil the stone plaque.

After inspecting the statue, the commander, the minister and party cordially greeted local people.

After visiting Thiri Yadana Store of the Cooperative Society, the commander and party attended the opening of Okpo Dam in Budalin Township. First, a local of Okpo spoke words of thanks to the USDA which (See page 8)

YANGON, 25 Oct — The government is striving to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation, and as a result, progress has been made with momentum. Among the developing regions were Ngapayin and Maungthaung model

villages in Budalin Township Sagaing Division.

To study the development and inspect rural development tasks, Patron

The number of students in Ngapayin village is 1170 and one basic education high school (branch) has been constructed. The number of graduates from the village reaches 57 and school enrollment rate of the village up to 96 per cent.



Local women taking part in round table talks organized by Sagaing Division Women's Affairs Organization in Ngapayin village, Budalin Township.—MNA