

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIII, Number 204

6th Waxing of Tazaungmone 1367 ME

Sunday, 6 November, 2005

## 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

## All member nations expressed unanimous voice at Bagan Summit Implementation of ongoing work programmes to be speeded up by reviewing work performed in past two years Regional cooperation and national level cooperation effective ways to narrow development gap among nations

YANGON, 4 Nov.—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win delivered an address at the opening of Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit held at the Yellow Room of the Santi Maitri Building in Bangkok, Thailand, on 3 November morning.

Present on the occasion were Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Myanmar Prime

Minister General Soe Win, Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Ye Win, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office Col Thant Shin, heads of department, the ministers, the deputy ministers and high-ranking officials from Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and the Socialist

Republic of Vietnam, foreign ambassadors to Thailand, and guests.

The ministers, deputy ministers and high-ranking officials and guests arrived at Santi Maitri Building starting from 8 am local time.

Prime Minister General Soe Win arrived at the Santi Maitri Building in Bangkok at 8.55 pm. Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra welcomed the prime ministers.

(See page 8)



Prime Minister General Soe Win addressing Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit.—MNA

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

**PERSPECTIVES**

Sunday, 6 November, 2005

**Enhance cooperation for mutual benefit and economic development**

At the invitation of Prime Minister of Thailand Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win paid a visit to Bangkok, Thailand from 1 to 3 November to attend the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit held there.

Prime Minister General Soe Win and heads of government of ACMECS member countries, who attended the ACMECS Summit met with businessmen of the ACMECS Business Council from Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the Yellow Room of the Santi Maitri Building in Bangkok, Thailand on 2 November evening.

At the meeting, representatives of respective Business Councils of the ACMECS member nations discussed participation and cooperation of the private sector for the development of trade and agriculture. The heads of government of the ACMECS countries responded to the discussions.

Prime Minister General Soe Win in his reply said that only when the private sector makes progress, will a nation be able to enjoy development. The State-owned sector and private sector have to jointly encounter the difficulties and enjoy the benefits.

Myanmar has been further cementing its friendly ties with neighbouring countries, countries in the region and friendly nations on the basis of mutual trust and respect.

The State Peace and Development Council has laid down and is implementing the 12 political, economic and social objectives for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Local and foreign investments have grown larger as market-oriented economic system was introduced extensively in the nation. The domestic market gets sound links with ASEAN, Asian and international markets. Remarkable progress has been made in production, trade and services sectors that have reached the international level.

This can be attributed to the fruitful results of cooperation between Myanmar and ASEAN nations as well as nations of the world.

Therefore, we firmly believe that Myanmar will be able to continue cooperating with neighbouring countries and countries in the region based on mutual interests in order to penetrate international markets and bring about economic development.

**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

**Families of Home Affairs Ministry donate Kathina robes**

YANGON, 5 Nov —

The 12th ceremony to offer Kathina robes of the Ministry of Home Affairs took place at the monastery this morning, attended by Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo and wife, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe, directors-general and deputy directors-general of Myanmar Police Force and departments under the ministry and their wives, departmental officials and staff families.



Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo and wife pay homage to Sayadaws at Kathina robes offering ceremony.—MNA

The minister, the deputy minister, departmental heads and their wives donated Kathina robes and provisions to members of Sangha.

The vice-chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee

Thayet Sayadaw delivered a sermon. Next, the congregation shared the merits gained. After the ceremony, Soon was offered to members of Sangha.

MNA

**Kathina robes offered by MRTV, IPRD**

Yangon, 5 Nov — The third ceremony to offer Kathina robes organized by Myanma Radio and Television and the Information and Public Relations Department took place at NanOo Monastery in Mayangon Township this morning, attended by Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay, Director-General of IPRD U Chit Naing, deputy directors-general, directors and staff families.

The directors-general and officials donated Kathina robes and the Sayadaw of the monastery delivered a sermon. Next, the congregation shared the merits gained. — MNA

**Kathina robes offered by Myanmar Motion Picture Organization**

YANGON, 5 Nov —

The fourth ceremony to offer Kathina robes organized by Myanmar Motion Picture Organization took place at Naga Cave Kalay Tawya Monastery in Mayangon Township this morning, attended by Chairman of MMPO U Kyi Soe Tun and executives, officials of movie and video based sections and artists.

Soon was offered to members of Sangha.

MNA



MRTV Director-General U Khin Maung Htay and IPRD Director-General U Chit Naing offer Kathina robes to a Sayadaw.—IPRD

After taking Five Precepts, those present donated Kathina robes and provisions to members of Sangha and shared the merits gained.

After the ceremony,



Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization U Kyi Soe Tun donates Kathina robes to a Sayadaw.—MNA

**Members of Bago Division (West) WAO give talks on health in Thegon Township**

YANGON, 5 Nov — Patron of Bago Division (West) Women's Affairs Organization and Chairperson of Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Naing Naing Maw and members observed medical treatment, provided by a team of specialists, to the people in InnMa Station Hospital in Thegone Township on 25 October. Leader of the team Dr Daw Khin Ohn Tint accepted K 100,000 donated by Patron of Bago Division (West) WAO Daw Naing Maw, for the medical treatment.

Members of Bago Division (West) WAO also made round-table discussions with the people, members of WAO and MCWA on education, health and social matters in InnMa.—MNA

**ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့ ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်စို့။**

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ကျေးလက်နေပြည်သူအများ ပညာဗဟုသုတ တိုးပွားစေရန် ကျေးရွာကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် စာအုပ်များကို ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာနမှ ခရိုင်/မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ကြပါသည်။

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ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

## ACMECS Summit ends with agreements on expanded regional cooperation

**BANGKOK, 4 Nov**— Leaders from five Mekong Delta countries ended a summit meeting Thursday, agreeing on the importance of a joint forward-looking approach in inter-country cooperation to lay a strong foundation for meeting regional needs and achieving regional goals in various areas in the future.

Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra joined the heads of governments of four other member states of the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS), including Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam, in signing the Bangkok Declaration on the agreed cooperation at the end of the Second ACMECS Summit, according to the Thai News Agency.

The agreements include deepening regional cooperation in areas of high priority, collectively addressing regional threats posed by newly-emerging and re-emerging diseases in a timely manner, bringing more advanced technology to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of ACMECS wherever possible and ap-

propriate and taking collective measures to strengthen the five-nation ACMECS grouping.

Areas of high priority include trade, investment,

as well as agricultural, industrial, transport and energy cooperation, in which the five member countries have agreed to reduce tariff barriers, further promote

cross border trade by all means and jointly study on alternative energy programmes and jointly push for regional transport links.

MNA/Xinhua



A parent points out to his daughter a melting life-size ice sculpture of a polar bear placed on the street in the center of a busy commercial area in Beijing, China, on 5 Nov, 2005. —INTERNET



## Azerbaijan not to allow countries meddling in its internal affairs

**Moscow, 4 Nov**— Azerbaijan is not a country where a puppet government can be set up, Azerbaijani President Ilkham Aliyev said on Thursday night in an interview with Russia's television channel One.

"We will determine our own fate. And the circles that think a puppet (government) can be installed in Azerbaijan and controlled have to understand that. This will not work," Aliyev was quoted as saying by the Interfax news agency.

The President noted that Azerbaijan's "independent policy may not suit everyone".

He stated Azerbaijan's policy is not aimed against anyone, but it seeks to maintain good relations with neighbours and partners.

"We have good relations with everyone, both our neighbours and our partners," the President said.

The parliamentary election is scheduled to be held in Azerbaijan on 6 November. — MNA/Xinhua

## Russia views as priority cooperation with Asia-Pacific states

**Moscow, 4 Nov**— The priority of the Russian foreign policy has been given to the development of comprehensive mutually advanta-

geous cooperation with Asia-Pacific states, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Alexeyev said on Thursday in connection with the upcoming summit of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference (APEC).

"Russia's interests in that region of the world are aimed at creating favourable outside conditions at its eastern frontiers and in the Asia-Pacific region as a whole," Alexeyev said in an interview with the magazine Diplomat.

He stressed that for Russia the broadest possible participation "in active integration process, now underway in the Asia-Pacific region, is one of the most important tasks".

MNA/Xinhua

## Britain cracks down on pirate radio after city riots

**LONDON, 4 Nov**— British police and regulators said on Thursday they have shut down dozens of pirate radio stations in London, seizing transmitters as well as drugs and weapons that were found in some studios.

The crackdown on October 29 came exactly two weeks after riots in Birmingham, which according to British newspapers were sparked in part by allegations broadcast on two pirate radio stations that a young girl had been raped.

A spokesman for me-

dia regulator Ofcom said there was no connection between the clashes in Birmingham and the operation to shut down the illegal radio stations.

"It's good timing because the issue is out there, but we have been planning this for some time," he said.

One man was killed and 30 people including a policeman were injured in the riots. Police were looking at whether the radio stations' reports could be considered incitements to racial hatred, according to a report in the *Telegraph* newspaper last week.

MNA/Reuters

## US detainee policy criticized after revelation of secret prisons

**WASHINGTON, 4 Nov**— The Bush Administration's policy for detaining terror suspects came under sharp criticism after the revelation of a secret prison system ran by the CIA in foreign countries, US media reported Thursday.

United Nations officials said they will seek more information about the covert prisons, referred to as "black sites" in classified US documents.

"Every secret place of detention is usually a higher risk for ill treatment, that the danger of secrecy," said Manfred Nowak, the UN's special rapporteur on torture, add-

ing that he wants to pursue access to all US detention facilities outside its territory. US Congressional Democrats and hu-

man rights groups also warned that the secret system would damage the US image overseas

MNA/Xinhua

## Foreign missions under Iraq threat

**BAGHDAD, 4 Nov**— Iraq's most feared terror group warned foreign diplomats Friday to flee Iraq after announcing it will put to death two Moroccan Embassy employees who were kidnapped last month. Insurgents killed 11 Iraqi security troops in separate attacks north of Baghdad.

The warning was contained in a statement posted on an Islamist Web site in the name of al-Qaida in Iraq, which also claimed responsibility for the July kidnap-slaying of two envoys from Algeria and one from Egypt as well as the abduction and beheading of numerous foreign hostages. —Internet

## Oil prices surge above 60 US dollars in New York

**NEW YORK, 4 Nov**— World crude oil prices surged above 60 dollars a barrel Thursday on worries to a colder winter in US and Europe.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for delivery in December, which kept below 60 dollars a barrel for the first time in three months since Monday due to relatively mild temperatures in the US, jumped 2.03 dollars to close at 61.78 dollars a barrel.

In London, the price of Brent North Sea crude for December delivery surged 2.14 dollars to 60.52 dollars a barrel.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange, Heating oil futures gained more than 5 cents to close at 1.8336 dollars a gallon, while gasoline rose 5.77 cents to settle at 1.6268 dollars a gallon. Natural gas futures rose 8.5 cents to settle at 11.689 dollars per 1,000 cubic feet.

The market is still supported by concerns that we may see a very cold winter in the United States and Europe, said the analysts. — MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier climbs up a staircase during a patrol of western Baghdad recently. —INTERNET



At least 60 people are feared drowned after an overloaded boat taking villagers to a funeral capsized in the Arabian sea off southern Pakistan. —INTERNET

## Iraq war has exposed us to terror at home, says Meyer

LONDON, 5 Nov—Britain's former ambassador to Washington, Sir Christopher Meyer, delivers a damaging critique of Tony Blair's approach to the war in Iraq in an interview in the Guardian today.

Sir Christopher, who had a ringside seat in the decision-making that led to the war, unfavourably contrasts Mr Blair with the boldness and attention to detail of Margaret Thatcher. He says Lady Thatcher took pride in knowing more detail than her officials. "That is why it was terrifying to be summoned into her presence because if you did not know your stuff, she would expose you. There was never that danger with

Tony Blair."

He takes issue with the prime minister's claim that the war has not exposed Britain to terrorist attacks: "There is plenty of evidence around at the moment that home-grown terrorism was partly radicalised and fuelled by what is going on in Iraq. There is no way we can credibly get up and say it has nothing to do with it. Don't tell me that being in Iraq has got nothing to do with it. Of course it does."

Sir Christopher gave the interview to mark the publication of DC Confidential, the first account by an insider of the decision-making that led to war, to be serialised in the Guardian from Monday.

Internet

## India to probe UN report on Iraq

NEW DELHI, 4 Nov — India said on Thursday it was deeply concerned by "unverified references" made in a UN report which said the ruling Congress party and the country's foreign minister received favours from Saddam Hussein. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's Congress-led coalition government has been strongly attacked by opposition parties after the report was published last week.

The report by the UN-established Independent Inquiry Committee, led by former US Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker, said politicians in several countries were given oil vouchers that could be sold for a commission to help the Iraqi leader in his quest to get UN sanctions lifted.

Congress and Foreign Minister Natwar Singh were among those on the list. Both have denied any wrongdoing. Natwar Singh has said it was an attempt to target those opposed to the US-led war on Iraq.

"The government is deeply concerned about the unverified references made in the Volcker Committee report to the Congress party and ... Natwar Singh," Prime Minister Singh's office said in a statement.

"The Volcker Committee report, as it stands today, is insufficient to arrive at any adverse or definitive conclusion.

"Therefore the government is determined to go to the root of the matter and establish the truth or otherwise of these references. The matter is under serious consideration ... and a decision will be announced shortly." — MNA/Reuters

ဝက်မွန်အား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

## Chinese, Russian PMs meet, setting future cooperation goals

BEIJING, 4 Nov — Chinese and Russian prime ministers drew up a blueprint of goals for future bilateral cooperation here Thursday, highlighting the results already achieved.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and visiting Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Yefimovich Fradkov held the 10th regular prime ministers' meeting amidst Fradkov's on-going China visit.

Wen described the bilateral ties as in "the best development period in history".

"The formation of the Sino-Russian strategic and cooperative partnership and the signing of the Good-neighbourly Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation demonstrate the aspiration of the two sides to hold bilateral ties with strategic and long-term viewpoints," he said.

He particularly mentioned the lay-out for implementing the Sino-Rus-

sian Good-Neighbourly Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, approved by the heads of state of the two countries last year.

The document planned the direction for future development of bilateral ties, he stressed, adding that the two governments were satisfied with the implementation of the lay-out.

The expansion of economic cooperation was high on the agenda of the meeting. According to Wen, the two sides have already inked 79 agreements. Dual-track trade soared from 5.46 billion US dollars in the first regular meeting to 21.2 billion US dollars last year. "The figure is ex-

pected to hit 28 billion dollars this year," Wen said.

To boost the cooperation, Wen proposed improving commodity structure and regular trade order; signing the agreement for the construction of the oil pipeline at an early date while enhancing power and nuclear power cooperation; signing a pact to protect and expand mutual investment; strengthening exchanges of scientific personnel and the transfer of scientific results; supporting cooperation along border regions; advancing educational, cultural, health, sports and tourist communication between the two countries; and holding China Year in Russia and Russia Year in China

MNA/Xinhua

## Uganda faces fuel shortages

KAMPALA, 4 Nov — Several fuel stations around Kampala ran out of supplies on Wednesday evening as oil imports continue to be hampered by the new tax measures in Kenya.

Some motorists have reported they could not refuel at some fuel stations around the capital city over the last few days.

"There is still a problem with fuel slow from

Kenya arising from processing of documentation for the export system. This is the major problem," Shell Uganda country manager Ivan Kyayonka was quoted as

saying by a report here on Thursday.

"But we are trying to get enough to keep the economic development," Kyayonka said.

Uganda is non-oil producer and its fuel consumption imports from outside via Kenya's Mombasa Port.

Kyayonka warned that in the next few days, the country might experience rationing if the situation

does not improve.

Kenya Revenue Authority, in trying to beat tax evasion by some oil marketers, now insists that oil companies drawing stocks from the Mombasa refinery meet their tax obligations within two months and not after they have sold the fuel as was the case before. This has caused shortages as a result of the new strenuous documentation to process supplies.

MNA/Xinhua



A member of the medical staff treats an Iraqi policeman, who was wounded in an attack on a police checkpoint, at a hospital in Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) north of Baghdad, on 4 Nov, 2005. Gunmen killed at least six Iraqi policemen and wounded 10 when they attacked their checkpoint north of Baghdad on Friday, a police official said. —INTERNET

## Six Iraqi policemen killed

BAGHDAD, 4 Nov — Fighters firing mortars and guns have attacked a checkpoint in northern Iraq, killing six policemen and wounding 10, an official says.

The Friday attack on an Iraqi police checkpoint occurred in Buhriz, a town 55km (35 miles) north of Baghdad.

The fighters first fired mortar rounds and then arrived at the scene in eight cars to open gunfire on the policemen, a police officer said, speaking on condition of anonymity out of concern for his safety.

The violence came as Shias began the three-day religious holiday of Eid al-Fitr which ends a month of fasting during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

Internet

## Russia in talks with Iran on nuclear fuel venture

Moscow, 4 Nov— Russia is in talks with Iran to set up a nuclear fuel joint venture over the next few years, a plan seen as a possible face-saving solution to a deadlock over Teheran's nuclear programme, officials said on Thursday.

An official at the Russian Atomic Energy Agency, who asked to remain unnamed, said that under the plan Russia and Iran would jointly make enriched uranium and sell it around the world through a 50-50 commercial joint venture.

"It's a very, very

tentative plan. It was first raised this summer, and we've been discussing it," the official said.

"If it happens, it would take years to set it up. Russia believes it could be quite promising ... But all sides have to be convinced — Iran, the European Union and

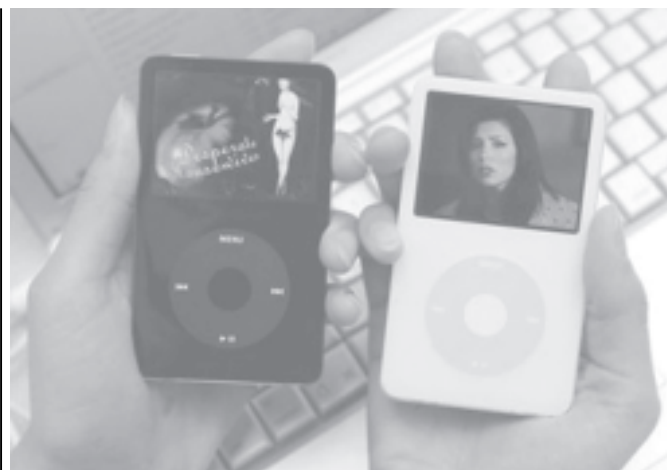
others."

Russia, which has built a nuclear reactor for Iran, has positioned itself as a link between Teheran and the West, and has offered a number of proposals to help break the deadlock.

The Russian official said that under the latest plan Iran would be in charge of an initial step of making uranium hexafluoride (UF6) gas in Isfahan, which would then be shipped to Russia for enrichment.

Uranium needs to be enriched to create either atomic fuel for power plants or for weapons, but the 2004 Paris Agreement would have to be amended to permit Iran to produce UF6.

MNA/Reuters



In a file photo Jacqueline Huynh holds a new Apple iPod with a video playing of the television show, 'Desperate Housewives' with actress Eva Longoria, at an Apple store in Palo Alto, Calif, recently.—INTERNET

## US factory orders fell 1.7% in September

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov— New orders for US manufactured goods fell by 1.7 per cent in September, led by a drop in orders for capital goods, the Commerce Department reported Thursday.

The drop followed an increase of 2.9 per cent in August and was sharper than a decline of around 1 per cent that analysts had been expecting for September.

Data released by the department showed that orders for durable goods, items expected to last at least three years, decreased by 2.4 per cent in September. This followed a rise of 3.9 per cent in August.

Orders for nondurable goods, including gasoline and other energy products, declined 0.9 per cent in September.

In September, orders for capital goods, which

includes defence and non-defence products, plunged by 7.8 per cent. Orders for computers and transportation fell by 3.9 per cent and 5.5 per cent respectively.

MNA/Xinhua

## Bangladesh seizes explosives, detain suspects

DHAKA, 4 Nov— Security forces seized explosives from a truck carrying wheat in northwestern Bangladesh on Thursday and said they believed they were destined for Islamist militant groups.

"The explosives, weighing nearly eight kilos (15 pounds) were seized at a check point early today," an official of Bangladesh Rifles border force said at Chapainawabganj, 350 kilometres (219 miles) from Dhaka.

MNA/Reuters

## Italian DM opposes economic embargo against Iran

ROME, 4 Nov — Italian Defence Minister Antonio Martino said on Thursday that an economic embargo against Iran would be ineffective in changing Teheran's recent aggressive stance towards Israel.

"We can't remain passive but I don't think an embargo on Iran is the right solution. Usually the effects of an embargo are the opposite of what was intended," Martino said.

The minister's statement was in part a response to calls from part of the centre-left opposition for international sanctions against Iran after its President said Israel should be "wiped off the map".

Martino was speaking just hours before a march in Rome to protest against the Iranian President's recent remarks.

Politicians from both the Italian ruling centre-right coalition and the Union, the centre-left opposition, have said they will attend the march.—MNA/Xinhua

## CIA holds captives in secret prisons abroad

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov— The CIA has been hiding and interrogating al-Qaeda captives at a secret facility in Eastern Europe, part of a covert global prison system that has included sites in eight countries and was set up after the 11 September, 2001, attacks, The Washington Post reported on Wednesday.

The secret network included "several democracies in Eastern Europe" as well as Thailand and Afghanistan,

the newspaper reported, but it did not publish the names of the European countries at the request of senior US

officials. US Government officials declined comment on the report, which was likely to stir up fresh criticism of the

Bush Administration's treatment of prisoners in its declared war on terrorism since the 11 September attacks.

Russia and Bulgaria immediately denied any facility was there. Thailand also denied it was host to such a facility. The newspaper, which said its report was based on information from US and foreign officials familiar with the arrangement, said the existence and locations of the facilities were known only to a handful of American officials and, usually, only to the president and a few top intelligence officers in each host country.

The CIA has not acknowledged the existence of a secret prison network, the newspaper said.

According to the Washington Post, the prisons are referred to as "black sites" in classified US documents and virtually nothing is known about who the detainees are, how they are interrogated or how long they will be held.

## Musharraf accuses west of double standards in providing aid

ISLAMABAD, 5 Nov— Accusing the West of double standards in providing aid to victims

of natural disasters, President Pervez Musharraf has said post-earthquake Pakistan has not received the level of assistance given after Hurricane Katrina in the US or tsunami in Asia.

"I would say the damage here is much more (than the tsunami), the magnitude of the calamity here is much more," Musharraf told BBC.

He also suggested that donations from the West were low because few Western nationals were caught up in the 8 October earthquake that left over 74,000 people dead. "(The tsunami) affected many people from many countries of the world, especially the west, who were tourists in various areas. Here, unfortunately, it is a

remote area, poor people affected."

Musharraf urged the world to be as generous with long-term help for quake victims as it was with tsunami last December and the US' Hurricane Katrina disaster in August.

"I would appeal to the world to see reality that it is these people who need aid much more because they are poor and are facing much harsher conditions than the tsunami," he said and called on the international community, the Muslim world and ordinary Pakistanis to give generously.

The December 2004 tsunami killed more than 215,000 people and around 1,200 died when Katrina struck in August.

MNA/PTI



An Iraqi Army soldier walks along a high leading to the Airport Road in Baghdad, Iraq, on Sunday, 30 Oct, 2005. Ever since the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, one of the most dangerous stretches of highway in all of Iraq, if not the world, was the four-lane, six-mile (four-kilometer) stretch of road leading from central Baghdad to the country's main airport.—INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

# The most reliable national force of the State

*Gyobingauk Tin Maung Oo*

The genuine wish of the entire nation is emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed Union. But normal efforts are not enough to achieve this goal. Such a huge task needs extraordinary efforts that must be made with greater momentum. The present government is in the process of building the nation and enhancing the national economy, with the consolidated and concerted endeavours of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw.

The nation-building undertaking is a generation-to-generation task that must be implemented continuously throughout the successive eras. It concerns the past, the present and the future of the nation. We in Myanmar are also striving with greater momentum for shaping a better future for all of us. A generation should have the ability to inherit and safeguard the nation's fine historical traditions and hand it down to the next generation. Moreover, it must have the capacity to further improve the living standard of Myanmar society.

On 15 September 1993, the nation witnessed the formation of an organization mostly with youths who were going to preserve the fine traditions. The organization was established because of the historical requirement. It has been more than a decade since

the organization, named "the Union Solidarity and Development Association (USDA)" has been founded; it has been flourishing in accordance with its firm resolve and aims. The main reason for the establishment of the Association is to build and safeguard Myanmar and ensure her perpetuation.

The USDA is an institution for all the new generation national races to form a united force for national progress. It is also an institution that is training the new generation national races to enhance their qualifications and skills, and to ever vitalize their Union Spirit and patriotism.

The Association prescribes its oaths, aims, basic principles, codes of conduct and duties and responsibilities. The prescriptions have initiated and served as guidelines for the lofty national programmes of the Association. The USDA is also the sole organization formed with the aim of setting up a national force keeping in the fore the national task. Nowadays, the new generation youths are joining the USDA and taking part in its endeavours to help safeguard the Union of Myanmar on all fronts, while playing their own part in the tasks of developing and modernizing the entire nation.

We actually need a patriotic force capable of

safeguarding our independence and sovereignty and protecting the Union from falling apart, with full Union Spirit. At the same time we need to upgrade our new generation to become qualified human resources that possess the ability to add value to the natural resources of the nation. The duty of the Association is to mobilize and strengthen the national force essential for building and developing Myanmar.

Now the Association has over 21.6 million members actively upholding Our Three Main National Causes with relentless zeal and perseverance and strong and firm patriotism, and the majority of the members are youths.

Youths have the sacrificing spirit. They cherish and value the truth. Because of their natural born character they have clear mind and sincere heart. The majority of the nation's youths are playing a meaningful role in developing the country and serving her interest in accord with their inborn character.

All the USDA members are determined to protect the nation and the race from all sorts of dangers. The Union of Myanmar has over 100 national races and a population of over 54 million, over 24 million of which are youths. They are serving as the engine for the growth of the nation, and most of them are USDA members.

The USDA members at different levels are taking part in all the nation-building endeavours covering all-round development undertakings and agricultural projects, with heart and soul. In addition, the Association in cooperating with the people is narrowing the gap between the rural and the urban areas.

Hence, we firmly believe that the Union Solidarity and Development Association, a national force of the country, will last forever together with the Union of Myanmar.

(Translation: TMT)

**The Association prescribes its oaths, aims, basic principles, codes of conduct and duties and responsibilities. The prescriptions have initiated and served as guidelines for the lofty national programmes of the Association. The USDA is also the sole organization formed with the aim of setting up a national force keeping in the fore the national task. Nowadays, the new generation youths are joining the USDA and taking part in its endeavours to help safeguard the Union of Myanmar on all fronts, while playing their own part in the tasks of developing and modernizing the entire nation.**



*Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu poses for documentary photo together with First Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mr Valery V Loshchinan in Moscow.*

MNA

## Deputy Foreign Minister arrives back from Russia

YANGON, 5 Nov — The Myanmar Delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu arrived back here by air this evening from Moscow after attending the Second regular consultations between the Foreign Ministries of Myanmar and Russia.

The Myanmar Delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Russian Ambassador Mr Oleg V Kabanov.

While in Moscow, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, accompanied by Myanmar Ambassador U Tin Soe, Minister Counsellor U L Zau Goone, Counsellor Daw Sein Nwe Aye and Assistant Director U Kyaw Soe Lwin of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, called on

the First Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mr Valery V Loshchinan at Russian Foreign Ministry on 1 November morning. After that, the Second regular consultations meeting was held at the guest house of the Russian Foreign Ministry at noon on the same day. The two delegations discussed matters on bilateral relations and mutual cooperation between the two countries, and cordially exchanged views on matters related to regional and international issues.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu and party also went sightseeings in Moscow and paid a visit to St. Petersburg, historic and former capital of Russia.

Assistant Director U Kyaw Soe Lwin also arrived back on the same flight. —MNA

# Education sector witnesses sustained progress



**Development of higher education in the time of Tatmadaw Government**

**Four-storey building of Pakokku University**

*Photo shows the completion in building of Pakokku University.*

## Development in the higher education sector

Latest developments have a great impact on economic, social, health and education sectors of the nations around the world. At such a time, the Union of Myanmar is making arrangements to keep abreast of developed nations and emphasis is being placed on applying know-how and technologies.

In this regard, a constant learning society has been established in Myanmar to be able to pursue the ever advancing technologies. Starting from 2001-2002 academic year, Myanmar Education Objective was set to promote the education sector.

According to the education objective, special four-year plans have been implemented since 2002-2003 academic year with the slogan "Build a modern and developed nation through Education". This is aimed at building a modern and developed nation through the might of developed human resources.

In the higher education sector, altogether 21 work programmes have been laid down to implement the national education promotion four-year plan.

Universities and colleges have been opened, infrastructures for development of the ICT sector established, teachers trained, arrangements made to confer degree and diploma certificates through teaching programmes as well as through human resources development sector and learning opportunities created for students to promote the higher education sector.

The table provides the readers with the facts and figures on achievements made in the higher education sector in the time of the Tatmadaw government.



*National race new generation youths pursuing their education applying modern teaching aids in Panglong University.*

## Development of the higher education sector

Subject	Count	1988	2005	Progress
<b>University and college</b>				
- Vocational education Institute	institute	6	5	*
- Arts and Science University	university	3	30	27
- Degree college	college	6	9	3
- College	college	11	20	9
- Science	science	1	0	**
Total		27	64	37
e-Education Learning Centre	centre		71	71
<b>Wide Area Network</b>				
- No of WAN sites	network site		1	1
- No of WAN sites	site		95	95
Number of teacher	teacher	5638	10254	4616
<b>Teaching programmes</b>				
- Degree	degree	25	54	29
- Diploma	diploma	11	22	11
- Honours Class	class	20	30	10
- Masters Class	class	23	41	18
- Masters Research	class		24	24
- Doctorate Course	course		21	21
Total		79	192	113
Number of students	student	134325	705784	571459
Department for Human Resource Development	department		44	44
<b>Teaching programmes conducted at Department for Human Resource Development</b>				
- Masters course	person		176	176
- Degree course	person		2647	2647
- Diploma course	person		26819	26819
- Certificate course	person		108505	108505
Total			138147	138147

**Remarks**

- \* The decrease in number is due to emergence of Sagaing Institute of Education, Monywa Institute of Economics and Meiktila Institute of Economics and transferring of Yangon Institute of Technology, Computer University, Institute of Agriculture and Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science to the respective ministries.
- \*\* The Institute of Foreign Languages was upgraded into the University of Foreign Languages.

# Member countries are to make efforts both national level and regional level to be able to accomplish the work programmes

(from page 1)

The opening ceremony of the Summit was held at Santi Maitri Building. The State Flag of Vietnam was hoisted in honour of its membership of ACMECS.

Prime Minister General Soe Win posed for documentary photos together with Cambodian, Laotian, Thai and Vietnamese prime ministers.

The video tape featuring the establishment of the ACMECS and efforts of the member countries for economic development was screened to the attendees.

The Thai prime minister gave an introductory speech.

Next, Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen and Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith delivered addresses.

Prime Minister General Soe Win in his speech said that he was pleased with the 2nd Summit held with the aim to effectively implement the work programmes of ACMECS.



Prime Minister General Soe Win poses for documentary photo together with Prime Ministers from ACMECS member countries at Santi Maitri Building in Bangkok.—MNA

programmes at both national level and regional level.

Thailand's offer to host the 2nd ACMECS

tasks should be launched through cooperation and effective use of particular qualities and natural resources of each mem-

ber. Myanmar welcomed an energy sufficiency plan to be laid down

successfully held in Myanmar last year.

cooperate with ACMECS member nations for sufficiency of energy in the sub-region. New diseases such as Avian flu, SARS, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria are greatly threatening the lives of mankind and economic development. As preventive measures are undertaken nationwide, there are no avian influenza and SARS cases in Myanmar.

If ACMECS lays down the tasks to fight against these diseases, Myanmar is also ready to participate in those tasks, he added. Efforts are to be made for transformation of border trade to normal trade among the ACMECS member nations. It is necessary to lay

down a plan to use contract system in agriculture in both border areas and inner parts of the country in accord with the law and rules, he said.

Myanmar is ready to accept airlines of ACMECS members to fly to the country for extension of aviation.

Cooperative efforts are to be made for tourism development and human resource development. He said he believed all the nations would be prosperous by working together. After, Prime Minister of SRV Mr Phan Van Khai delivered a speech, the opening of Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit ended. —MNA

## As preventive measures are undertaken nationwide, there are no avian influenza and SARS cases in Myanmar.

Myanmar was proud to successfully host the ACMECS Summit in Bagan, Myanmar, in November 2003.

The laying down of Bagan declaration and future tasks represented the major achievement of the Bagan Summit. All the member nations expressed unanimous voice at Bagan Summit to take measures for regional cooperation in the region extensively and effectively.

The implementation of ongoing work programmes is to be speeded up by reviewing the work performed in the past two years, at this meeting. Member countries are to make efforts to be able to accomplish the work

Summit depicted its enthusiasm to achieve the objectives of the ACMECS. He expressed his belief that the Summit will be able to formulate the work programmes that can yield fruitful results for raising the standard of living of the peoples of the five member nations.

The members had been able to join hands in the previous two years for speedy implementation of ACMECS work programmes. However, success was not achieved as much as expected. It is therefore required to lay down proper methods through which work programmes can be carried out pragmatically.

In the process, the

ber. He said encouragement is to be given to government organizations and private sector to participate in the tasks for successful implementation of the objectives. Partner countries are to be invited to take part in the tasks, he said.

Regional cooperation and national level cooperation are effective ways to narrow the development gap among the nations. Myanmar takes responsibility for successful implementation of agriculture and industrial cooperation as a leading coordinator.

The first meeting of the working committee formed for agriculture and industrial sectors was

among the ACMECS member nations. Priority is given to generating of hydel electric power for the supply of sufficient energy first. In order to reduce dependence on the energy obtained from outside alternative sources are to be sought, he added.

Myanmar is ready to

**Myanmar welcomes an energy sufficiency plan to be laid down among the ACMECS member nations. Priority is given to generating hydel electric power for the supply of sufficient energy first.**



## Prime Minister General Soe Win...

(from page 16)

issuing the declaration of the Second ACMECS Summit.

The summit went to recess at 12 noon. They had lunch at Purple Room.

The summit resumed at 1.30 pm. They attended the ceremony to sign the declaration of the summit, and cooperation in combating avian influenza, at Santi Maitri Building.

Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Prime Minister of Myanmar General Soe Win, Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, and Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai signed the Declaration of Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit, and Declaration on Partnership in Combating Avian Influenza and Other Infectious Diseases.

The Thai Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Hor Namhong inked an agreement on visa between the Thai Government and the Cambodian Government.

The summit came to an end successfully at 2 pm.

The declaration warmly welcomed Vietnam's first participation in the functions of ACMECS Summit. "We agreed on the importance of taking a forward-



Prime Minister General Soe Win and Heads of Government of ACMECS member countries signing Declaration of ACMECS Summit and Declaration on Partnership in Combating Avian Influenza and Other Infectious Diseases. — MNA

looking approach in our cooperation in order to lay a strong foundation for meeting the future needs of our region," the declaration said. Areas of high priority include trade, investment, as well as agricultural, in-

dustrial, transport, tourism industry, human resources development, public health, information and communication technology and energy cooperation. Ways and means are to be sought for undertaking these tasks conveniently. Leaders of the five countries also welcomed Vietnam's offer to host the next ACMECS summit and unanimously agreed that the third ACMECS summit would take place in Vietnam in 2007.

In the Declaration on Partnership in Combating Avian Influenza and Other Infectious Diseases, a concerted and closely co-ordinated regional effort are to be made at all levels to prevent and stem the spread of newly emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, in particular avian influenza, as well as HIV/AIDS, and other diseases. — MNA

**Areas of high priority include trade, investment, as well as agricultural, industrial, transport, tourism industry, human resources development, public health, information and communication technology and energy cooperation.**



Prime Minister General Soe Win and Prime Ministers from Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam seen at a lunch. — MNA

## Prime Minister General Soe Win leaves Bangkok after attending ACMECS Summit

YANGON, 5 Nov — A Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Soe Win arrived at Dunmang International Airport in Bangkok at 7 pm on 3 November to leave for Yangon of Myanmar after attending the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit held in Bangkok.

The Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Soe Win was seen off at the airport by Thai Minister for Defence General Thammarak Isarangura Na Ayutthaya, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal and senior officers, Myanmar Ambassador U Ye Win, Military Attaché Col Tin Soe and staff. The Myanmar delegation left Thailand by special flight at 8 pm local time, and arrived back here at 9.05 pm.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, who accompanied the Myanmar delegation to the ACMECS Summit, attended the Foreign Ministers Meeting at Vithes Samosorn of the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bangkok at 10.30 am on 2 November. Also present at the meeting were Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Hor Namhong, Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Somsavat Lengsavad, the Thai Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Vietnamese Minister for Foreign Affairs, and senior officers.

MNA



Minister for Defence of Thailand General Thammarak Isarangura Na Ayutthaya bids farewell to Prime Minister General Soe Win at Dunmang International Airport in Bangkok. — MNA

# Prime Minister General Soe Win leaves Bangkok after attending ACMECS Summit



Prime Minister General Soe Win being seen off at Dunmong International Airport by families of Myanmar Embassy. — MNA



Foreign Minister U Nyan Win poses for a photo together with his counterparts at the ACMECS Ministerial Preparatory Summit. — MNA



Thai Foreign Minister greets Myanmar Foreign Minister U Nyan Win prior to the ACMECS Ministerial Preparatory Summit.—MNA

## Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour on third round



being jointly organized by Myanmar PGA and MGF and mainly sponsored by Air Bagan Ltd.

The fourth and final round of the tour will continue tomorrow. —MNA

YANGON, 5 Nov — Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) enlarged his leading role by firing 214 strokes in the professional division after the third round in the Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour at Yedaguntaung Golf Resort in Mandalay today.

Hla Myo (Srixon) put his position behind the leader with scoring of 216 strokes, and Soe Myint Lay (Srixon) stood third with 218 strokes.

Zaw Zin Win still leads the amateur division by scoring 215 strokes in a three-day total, followed by Thein Zaw Myint with 216. Naing Naing Lin and Aung Win (Monywa) tied at 223 strokes each in the third place.

The golf tour is



Zaw Zin Win taking part in the Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour. — MGF

### All this needs to be known

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

## Entries invited to Military and Marching Song Contests to mark 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day

YANGON, 5 Nov — The Military and Marching Song Organizing Subcommittee under the Poem and Arts Competition Organizing Committee chaired by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung has announced that Military and Marching Song Contest to mark the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2006 will be held.

There will be only one category, professional level, for the marching song competition while the military song contest is divided into two categories, level-1 and level-2. First, second, and third prizes as well as consolation prizes will be awarded in every level. Rules and regulations of the competition are as follows:-

In the marching song contest, songs must be composed based on the twelve objectives of the State, the objectives of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day and the twelve fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Composers and vocalists of level 1 are not permitted to compete at level 2 of the military song contest nor are those who stood first, second and third at level 2 of the last year's military song contest. They are to enter the level-1. Only one song is allowed for individuals or groups. Entry songs must be in accord with military songs competition methods.

Military songs must be in melody and modes as well as in own tune. The time designated for the song must be between four and six minutes. The entry songs are to be with strong vocal and suitable music.

Only a song must be recorded on the entry cassette or reel. A suitable title may be given. Words of the entry song together with its typed copies and an original of its music notes must be attached to the cassette or reel.

The brief biography of the entrant and the singers together with three passport size colour photos must be sent. Those tentatively selected will be informed.

The tentatively selected songs must be re-recorded and are to compete for the final. Entry songs should be sent to U Ko Ko Htwe, Secretary, Subcommittee for the military and marching song contests, Myanmar Radio and Television, Pyay Road, Yangon, not later than 31 December 2005.—MNA

## China, Russia issue joint communique

**BELING, 5 Nov—** China and Russia issued a joint communique here Friday, pledging to further deepen cooperation of mutual benefit in various fields.

The communique was signed at the 10th regular meeting between Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Yefimovich Fradkov amid Fradkov's official visit to China from 2 to 4 November.

During Fradkov's stay in China, Wen held talks with him, and Chinese President Hu Jintao and top legislator Wu Bangguo met with him separately.

During the meeting between Hu and Fradkov, both sides had an in-depth exchange of views on deepening of Sino-Russian strategic cooperation, strengthening of cooperation in politics, economy, trade, energy, science, technology and culture, bilateral relations and other international and regional issues of common concern, according to the communique.

The two prime minis-

ters spoke highly of the significant role the mechanism of regular meetings has been playing in promoting "practical" bilateral cooperation in various fields over the past decade. They also carefully reviewed the implementation of the Sino-Russian Good-Neighbourly Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, approved by the heads of state of the two countries last year, and expressed satisfaction with

the progress scored in the fields of economy, trade and culture ever since the ninth regular meeting between the two prime ministers on 24 September, 2004.

The two sides are pleased to see that the Sino-Russian strategic partnership has been forging healthily ahead with content being enriched gradually. Political mutual trust has been strengthening steadily, and cooperation in various fields has expanded and deepened steadily. All this has produced fruitful results and brought significant benefits to the two peoples and also made great contributions to world peace and stability, the communique says. The two prime ministers signed 11 documents at the 10th regular meeting, including the communique itself, the Summary of Minutes for the Ninth Meeting of the Commission for Chinese and Russian prime ministers and other memorandums and agreements.

MNA/Xinhua



Halliburton Company's building in Houston. A UN auditing board has recommended the United States pay as much as 208 million dollars to Iraq for overbilling or shoddy work performed by a subsidiary of the US oil services firm Halliburton, *The New York Times* reports.—INTERNET

## Building collapse in Egypt kills seven

**CAIRO, 5 Nov —** A four-storey building collapsed in the Egyptian Mediterranean port city of Alexandria on Friday, killing at least seven people and injuring six others, the official MENA news agency reported.

The tragedy occurred when the back of the building caved in, MENA said, quoting security sources.

At least nine people were pulled out alive from the rubble and all the injured were rushed to the hospital for treatment, it added.

Building collapses were frequently reported in Egypt. Another building collapsed in Alexandria, Egypt's second largest city, in June and 19 people were killed in the incident.—MNA/Xinhua

## Int'l programme on AIDS prevention launched in Xinjiang

**URUMQI, 5 Nov—** A 9.8-million-US-dollar project co-sponsored by the British Department for International Development (BDID) and the Norwegian Government has been launched in Xinjiang to help the northwestern Uygur autonomous region prevent HIV/AIDS.

The policy support project for HIV/AIDS is aimed at helping China enhance the ability to develop health policies and build an efficient and equitable system to prevent HIV infection, said a project manager of BDID, an agency of the British Government responsible for helping developing countries eliminate extreme poverty.

Designed by the Chinese Government, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and BDID, the three-year project has received five million British pounds from BDID, six million Swiss francs from the Norwegian Government and three million Australian dollars from the Australian Government.

MNA/Xinhua

## Anti-Bush protests continue in Argentina

**MAR DEL PLATA (Argentina), 5 Nov—** Anti-US demonstrations at the Americas Summit turned violent on Friday as protesters set fire to a bank, looted stores, and battled riot police blocks away from a luxury hotel where US President George W Bush met with regional leaders.

The violence came hours after tens of thousands of demonstrators took to the streets, shouting "Get out Bush!" in a peaceful protest against the US leader, who is unpopular among many Latin Americans for the Iraq war and his push for a regional free trade deal.

But in a later march, several hundred protesters

shattered storefronts and fought pitched street battles with riot police, who responded by firing tear gas and rubber bullets.

Chavez, the leftist leader who opposes Bush's economic model, vowed to bury the stalled Free Trade Area of the Americas, or FTAA during a speech to protesters earlier in the day.

"Every one of us has

brought a shovel, an undertaker's shovel, because here in Mar del Plata is the tomb of FTAA," Chavez told a full stadium hosting an alternative Peoples' Summit organized by anti-free trade activists.

By his side was Argentine soccer legend Diego Maradona, who carried the flag of Communist Cuba and wore a T-shirt saying "War Criminal". They were joined by Bolivian indigenous leader Evo Morales, front-runner for the December 18 presidential election.

A large Cuban delegation of athletes sent by President Fidel Castro, who was not invited to the summit, was also popular with the crowd, estimated at 25,000.

Marchers urged the region's leaders to pursue alternatives to the US-backed free-market recipes, which dominated in the region in the 1990s but failed to reduce poverty and inequality.

"We are here to show our proposals and alternatives to build a new dawn in Latin America," said Ar-

gentine Nobel Peace Prize winner and author Adolfo Perez Esquivel.

Schools and most businesses were closed. Shop windows were boarded up against possible violence and looting, while US interests such as Citibank branches and Blockbuster video stores were armoured with corrugated metal.

MNA/Reuters

## US soldier dies north of Baghdad

**BAGHDAD, 5 Nov—** One US soldier died north of Baghdad, the US military said in a statement on Friday. "One 1st Corps Support Command soldier died as a result of non-battle related causes Thursday at about 11:15 pm (2015 GMT) near Tallil, Iraq," the statement said.

The soldier was evacuated to a coalition medical treatment facility,

it said, adding the name of the victim is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Tallil area is located near the US military base of Anaconda near the town of Balad, some 80 kilometres north of Baghdad.

About 2,030 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003. — MNA/Xinhua

## 36 Serbia-Montenegro soldiers hospitalized for unknown illness

**BELGRADE (Serbia-Montenegro), 5 Nov—** A total of 36 soldiers of Serbia-Montenegro were hospitalized in the south city of Nis on Thursday for unknown illness, the Defence Ministry said.

Of the 71 soldiers who complained of stomach disorders and nausea on Thursday morning, 35 were hospitalized and one was transferred to the infectious diseases ward, the ministry said in a statement.

The 71 soldiers from three barracks have been taken to the Nis military hospital where they received treatment, and their lives were not in danger, the statement said.

The causes of health complaints were being investigated by the Nis preventive health care institute, medical hospital and land forces' command, the ministry said, adding that results would be made public in time. — MNA/Xinhua



A protester hops over fire during clashes in Mar del Plata as the leaders of the western hemisphere meet at the 4th Summit of the Americas on 4 November, 2005. Tens of thousands of marchers protested on Friday against US President George W Bush and his free-trade push, as leaders from the Americas gathered in the Argentine resort for a contentious debate on improving Latin America's economy.—INTERNET

**TRADE MARK CAUTION**  
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M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.  
for Sumitomo Rubber  
Industries Ltd.  
P.O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 6 November 2005

## EU to back renewables boots in developing world

**BRUSSELS, 4 Nov—** The European Union (EU) is to support better international cooperation and technology transfer to developing countries on renewable energy, the European Commission (EC) said here on Thursday.

The EU will convey this message at an International Ministerial Conference on Renewable Energy in Beijing of China on 7-8 November and EU Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas will attend the meeting.

Meanwhile Dimas is also expected to meet high level officials from the Chinese Government to discuss the cooperation

between the EU and China on energy and climate change issues.

The conference in Beijing, which is organized by the Chinese and supported by the German Government, will serve as a forum for representatives of 80 countries and the EU, including numerous ministers.

"I very much welcome the Chinese Government's initiative in organizing this

conference. It sends a clear message that emerging economies want to play a leading role in creating the conditions for renewables to thrive," Dimas was quoted as saying by an EC Press release.

"The EU stands ready to contribute its know-how to developing innovative policies, instruments and public-private partnerships for accelerating renewable energy markets worldwide," he added.

The Beijing conference is a follow-up event to the World Sustainable Development Summit in Johannesburg in 2002 and the International Conference on Renewable Energy in June 2004.

Participants will also discuss ways in which international cooperation on renewables and technology transfer to developing countries can be strengthened.

MNA/Xinhua

## China's car exports up 174% in 1st three quarters

**BELJING, 4 Nov—** China's car exports soared dramatically this year, with the exports totalling 18,988 units in the first three quarters, up 174 per cent year-on-year, latest statistics from the General Administration of Customs showed.

The cars exported valued at 152.3 million US dollars, the Customs said.

During the January-September period, China exported a total of 650,000 units of vehicles valued at 1.33 billion dollars, including 1,282 units of cross-country vehicles and 368,000 units of small

passenger cars, which accounted for 70.1 per cent of the total.

The exports of large and medium-sized passenger cars and trucks came to 4,546 units and 73,569 units, a year-on-year increase of 41 per cent and 128 per cent respectively.

MNA/Xinhua

## British "Sun" editor held for alleged assault on husband

**LONDON, 4 Nov—** The editor of Britain's biggest-selling daily newspaper, *The Sun*, was arrested on Thursday for allegedly assaulting her husband, a star of one of the country's most popular TV soaps, police sources said.

Rebekah Wade, 37, who was appointed *Sun* editor in 2003, was held after a suspected attack on EastEnders actor Ross Kemp, 41.

After questioning at a police station, she was released from custody and will face no further action.

A police spokeswoman said officers had been called to an address in south London at 4 am (0400 GMT) on Thursday

following reports of an incident. "A woman was arrested for alleged assault on a man," the spokeswoman said.

Wade, who has used *The Sun* to launch a high-profile campaign against domestic violence, was

previously editor of its Sunday sister paper, the *News of the World*, where she had been the youngest editor of a major national newspaper. Both papers are part of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp group.—MNA/Reuters

## Zambian police nab three for stealing fossilized wood

**LUSAKA, 4 Nov—** Zambian police have arrested three businessmen in connection with the stealing of six pieces of fossilized wood from a fossil forest in the border town of Chirundu, 130 kilometres southeast of capital Lusaka.

The trio have been charged with theft in accordance with laws that prohibit removal of objects from the heritage site as souvenirs or any other purposes.

Chirundu Fossil Forest has been listed as Zambia's national heritage site where petrified trees with a history of 150 million years sprinkle the landscape. However, the natural wonder has recently been damaged mostly because of neglect and ravaging tourists as well as theft.

An official with the National Heritage Conservation

Commission, Simon Musonda, was cited Wednesday by the local Press as saying that the stealing of fossils at the site had been going on for a long time but no arrest had been made before.

Musonda said it was suspected that the people arrested were selling the fossil wood to neighbouring Zimbabwe, which can fetch a handsome amount on black market.

MNA/Xinhua

## Turkey calls for global condemnation on terrorism

**ANKARA, 4 Nov—** Turkish President Ahmet Necdet Sezer said on Wednesday that terrorism should be condemned by the international community.

Sezer made the call in a statement to mark the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

"Terrorism, terrorists and those who back terrorism should be condemned and reacted by the international community. This is obligatory to succeed in fight against terrorism," said Sezer.

He noted that Turkey, which has suffered from terrorism for a long time and has not forgotten the agonies of losing thousands of its citizens due to terrorist attacks, strongly condemns all terrorist acts, regardless of its aim, reason, origin or source.—MNA/Xinhua

## US files WTO case against Turkey over rice sales restrictions

**WASHINGTON, 4 Nov—** The United States has filed a trade case with the World Trade Organization (WTO) accusing Turkey of imposing unfair restrictions on US rice exports, US Trade Representative Rob Portman announced on Wednesday.

"Right now American rice exporters are being unfairly restricted. That's wrong," Portman said in a statement. The decision to file a case with the WTO came after discussions with Turkey had failed to resolve the dispute, he said.

The trade case contends that Turkey's import licensing system violates global trading rules by imposing significant barriers to the sale of US rice in the country, according to the

statement.

The United States said that its rice sales to Turkey had declined by two-thirds since 2003 due to the restrictions with sales of US milled and semi-milled rice falling by 91 per cent over this period. As the first step after a case is filed, consultations are required under WTO rules. If those discussions do not resolve the issue, the dispute can proceed to a hearing before a WTO panel.

MNA/Xinhua

## N Ireland police arrest two more over bank heist

**BELFAST, 4 Nov—** Police in Northern Ireland said on Thursday they had arrested another two men over the robbery of 26.5 million pounds (47 million US dollars) from a Belfast bank last December, bringing the total number held in the past two days to five.

The Northern Bank raid, one of the biggest carried out in Britain, was widely blamed on the Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerilla group, which waged a bloody 30-year

campaign against British rule in the province.

"Two men have been arrested early this morning under the terrorism act in connection with the investigation into the Northern Bank robbery," a police spokeswoman said.

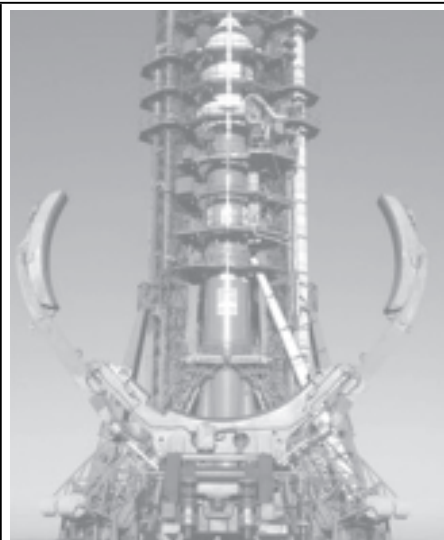
None of the five arrested has yet been charged.

The December 20 robbery at the Northern Bank's headquarters in central Belfast and a highly publicized murder in the city a month later heaped pressure on the IRA to sever criminal links and ultimately spurred its July pledge to down arms for good.—MNA/Reuters

## Philippine presidential guards arrest man with gun

**MANILA, 4 Nov—** Philippine presidential security guards Thursday arrested a man bearing a pistol in a provincial city. President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was due to visit, reported the local radio DZMM.

The security guards caught a village watchman who had a pistol on him at the entrance of a gymnasium in San Juan, Batangas some 200 kilometres south of Manila before Arroyo arrived for a scheduled visit to the site, said the report.—MNA/Xinhua



Soyuz-Fregat rocket with the Venus Express probe installed on a launching site at the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, on 5 Nov, 2005. A blastoff for the European Space Agency's Venus Express probe to explore Venus was set for 9 Nov after its earlier launch was postponed because of a booster rocket problem.—INTERNET

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World's first cloned Boer goat born in Tianjin

TIANJIN, 4 Nov— The world's first Boer goat cloned from embryonic cells was born Wednesday in north China's port city of Tianjin, said Chinese scientists engaged in the cloning programme.

The cloned lamb was born at 9:05 am Wednesday at the Tianjin veterinary research institute, a research body that has been engaged in the embryo cloning project since 2002.

"The birth of the cloned lamb has laid a solid basis for us to further exploit the cloning technology to boost the animal husbandry, biomedicine and pharmaceutical industries," said Ding Boliang, head of the institute.

His organization introduced more than 300 purebred Boer goats for the

cloning programme in 2002 and has since built a genetic database of the goats. Boer goat, a species originating in South Africa, grows extremely fast and yields more mutton than ordinary goats or sheep. An adult Boer goat weighs about 100 kilograms and can provide more than 40 kilograms of mutton.

Experts say the goat brings more than delicious dishes to the Chinese dinner table — it may also help millions of redundant rural labourers make a living. —MNA/Xinhua

China plans to put three men in space by 2007

BEIJING, 4 Nov— China plans to put three men into space within the next two years as it looks ahead to an orbiting space station and a mission to the moon, state media said on Thursday.

China last month successfully completed its second manned space mission aboard the *Shenzhou VI*, and is now developing a series of new craft up to the *Shenzhou X*, two Beijing newspapers said.

The *Shenzhou VII* would carry three people and be launched within the next two years, the *Beijing Morning Post*

said. But the *Shenzhou VIII* and *IX* would only carry equipment for the planned orbiting space station, the newspaper said, quoting chief rocket designer Liu Zhusheng.

*Shenzhou X* would carry the people who will work in the space station, Liu told the newspaper, without giving a timeframe for its launch.

But he said once the space station project got under way, *Shenzhou VIII*, *VI* and *X* could be launched within a month of each other.

"Once one part has gone up, we need to immediately send up the next bit to connect it, so we'll carry out a series of quick launches in succession," Zhu said.

China is also design-

ing a rocket that can carry a payload of 25 tons into space, up from a present limit of eight tons, the *Beijing News* said, though it would unlikely be ready for another six-and-a-half years.

Another objective is to put a man on the moon, but that plan could be complicated due to China's current inability to land and then recover a craft from the surface, the report said.

"Though we have already achieved a high level of successful technology, success does not necessarily mean the technology is mature," the newspaper quoted another rocket designer, Yang Hong, as saying.

China put its first man in space aboard *Shenzhou V* in October 2003, giving China membership in the exclusive club of countries that have put a man into space.

The former Soviet Union and the United States first sent men into orbit in 1961.

MNA/Reuters



The new Nokia N92, a mobile TV with 2.8 inch screen, able to use Digital Video Broadcasting-Handheld technology to pick up broadcasts direct from TV masts, not through mobile operators, during a Nokia conference in Barcelona's Palau de Congressos on 2 November, 2005.—INTERNET

US couple's contemporary Chinese artwork collection to be shown

BEIJING, 4 Nov— An exhibition on photos, videos and installations made by Chinese artists and collected by a US couple will open for display at the China Art Gallery (CAG) in Beijing.

More than 50 pieces of photographs, videos and installations by 14 Chinese contemporary artists are expected to be shown at the retrospective, titled "Focus: China Contemporary Art", from 5 to 20 November, according to Feng Yuan, CAG's curator. Most of the items are collection of the Haudenschild couple from San Diego, who are among the most prestigious collectors of contemporary Chinese artworks.

"The exhibition items epitomize the lives of contemporary Chinese people, and the changing so-

ciety and value system from new perspectives," Feng said.

Although influenced by Western artistic concepts, the works still have Chinese styles and characters, he said. The works were shown at various international exhibitions, including the Venice Biennale, the Shanghai Biennale, the Kassell Documenta, the Yokohama Triennial of Contemporary Art, those at the New York-based Museum of Modern Art and Tokyo Mori Art Museum, according to Feng.

MNA/Xinhua

US astronomers say traces of earliest stars detected

LOS ANGELES, 4 Nov — The fluctuations in infrared cosmic light may be traces of the earliest stars born more than 13 billion years ago, US astronomers said on Wednesday.

According to the Big Bang Theory, these stars started forming almost immediately after the Big Bang, the great explosion that created the universe about 13.7 billion years ago.

These earliest stars, called "Population III" by the astronomers, are believed to be composed of burning hydrogen, while most other stars are built by heavier elements, called "metal" in cosmology, as a result of nucleosynthesis in them.

Astronomers said the deepest space and ground based observatories, such as the *Hubble* space telescope, can only spot metal-enriched stars at cosmic times when the universe was less than 10 billion years old. The signs of "Population III" stars were never detected.

But three researchers from the Goddard Space Flight Centre of US space agency NASA said they have captured traces of radiation from the "Population III" stars. Their paper was published in the latest issue of the journal *Nature*.

"Although such sources will not be individually detectable by existing or planned telescopes, they would have produced significant cosmic infrared background radiation in the near-infrared, whose fluctuations reflect the conditions in the primordial density field," their paper said.

The researchers said they used an indirect method. First, they recorded the infrared cosmic radiation, which is invisible to human eyes but detectable to NASA's *Spitzer* infrared space telescope.

Then the team subtracted the infrared radiation levels of all known galaxies and instrument disturbance. The leftover measurements are radiation given off by those earliest stars, according to the researchers.

MNA/Xinhua



Visitors look at a hybrid car by China's SAIC Motor at Shanghai International Industry Fair on 4 Nov, 2005 in Shanghai, China. The exhibition is showcasing the industrial achievements that have helped power China's breakneck economic growth, which has ropped 9 percent for more than two years running.—INTERNET

Indian Herbal beauty tycoon to enter China

NEW DELHI, 4 Nov — Shahnaz Herbals, India's leading beauty brand, is planning to enter Chinese cosmetics market by setting up spas and working with local salons.

Shahnaz Herbals, which has sold its products in Japan and several South-East Asian countries, has plans to open several spas, applying traditional Indian herbal therapy, the company said in a Press release here on Thursday.

Shahnaz has tied up with 180 local salons in China. The company also plans to launch its products in the Chinese market. It has had its products tested by the government and found potential distributors in China.

MNA/Xinhua

# SPORTS

## Defending Champion Goosen, Bryant lead Tour Championship

WASHINGTON, 5 Nov—Retief Goosen rallied and Bart Bryant survived a mid-day wobble to share the second round lead at the Tour Championship in Atlanta on Friday, with Tiger Woods leading a chasing group three shots back.

Bryant followed up with nervy two-under 68, just enough to stay top of the leaderboard at 10-under 130 with a charging Goosen, reports said.

The South African defending champion opened his round with a bogey at the first but that was the only blemish on the world number four's card as he played error-free golf with five birdies for a four-under 66.

It was another adventurous afternoon for Woods, who mixed six birdies with three bogeys for a three-under 67 leaving the world number one tied for third with Scott Verplank (66) and Ben Crane (65) at seven-under 133. —MNA/Xinhua

## HK Open Badminton C'ships

HONG KONG, 5 Nov—World number one Lin Dan and Olympic champion Zhang Ning cruised into the semifinals of men's and women's singles at the Hong Kong Open Badminton Championships 2005 Friday afternoon.

The game between Lin Dan and 28-year-old veteran Gade Peter from Denmark, which lasted around two and half hour, was widely regarded as the early men's singles final.

In the first set, Lin got a streak of three points when trailing 14-16 and finally took the set 17-16. In the second set, Gade pulled off an amazing performance and won 15-13.

In the decisive third set, Lin won with impressive

fightback after lagging behind and ousted the only one European player who advanced to the last eight in the men's singles 15-12.

In the women's singles, Athens Olympic champion Zhang Ning defeated Xu Huaiwen, former Chinese national squad member now representing Germany, 2-0.

Pi Hongyan, another former Chinese national squad member now representing France, advanced to the top four by upsetting world number seven Hallam Tracey from England. Zhang will meet Pi in the semifinals Saturday.

In the women's doubles, world number one Yang Wei/Zhang Jiewen upset another pair of Chinese

players Wei Yili/Zhao Tingting 2-0.

In the mixed doubles, Athens Olympic champion Zhang Jun/Gao Ling defeated their rivals from Thailand with an easy 2-0 victory. —MNA/Xinhua

## United seek repeat of Arsenal derailment

MANCHESTER (England), 5 Nov—Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson is looking to derail Chelsea's title bid and blow the storm clouds away from Old Trafford by ending the champions' long unbeaten run on Sunday.

United go into the game 13 points adrift of Chelsea at the top of the table and Ferguson knows victory is the best way to lift his players and deflect a mounting storm of criticism.

"The criticism is not a problem for me from the media, because we expect that," he told a news conference on Friday.

"What I have to look at is how the players have been affected by it. When you lose a game, particularly for young players, there can be a dip in confidence.

"I think that's natural and we are not different from anyone else in that respect. The best way without question is to win a match. And on Sunday we have an opportunity, because we have the ability to win this match, no matter how difficult the task is against a very good team.

"Maybe that's what we need, to play against a very good team when we know that mistakes can be costly.

"All these (other) things are peripheral to the real thing. We know we have the ability. Can we usurp Chelsea and make them think for a bit because I know we have the ability and probably everybody else does to." United ended Arsenal's 49-match unbeaten Premier League run last season with a 2-0 win in October which completely disrupted the momentum of Arsene Wenger's side. —MNA/Reuters

## European Conf of sports Museums begins in Thessaloniki

ATHENS, 5 Nov—The European Conference of Sports Museums began in the northern Greek city of Thessaloniki on Friday with the aim of creating a network for cooperation and the exchange of information on sports heritage.

It was attended by representatives of sports museums in Finland, France, Estonia and Germany, as well as the trophy rooms of the England's Liverpool and Greece's Olympiacos clubs, Athens News Agency reported.

Thessaloniki Mayor Vassilis Papageorgopoulos warmly praised the Thessaloniki Sports Museum, saying it was a wonderful idea that enriched the city.

MNA/Xinhua

## Sevilla, Hamburg win in UEFA Cup

LONDON, 5 Nov—Javier Saviola's goal and a brace from Frederic Kanoute helped former champions Sevilla sink Besikas 3-0 in the UEFA Cup on Thursday while Hamburg beat Viking 2-0 thanks to goals from Rafael van der Vaart and Benjamin Lauth.

Saviola broke the deadlock in the 64th minute and put Sevilla 1-0 ahead. One minute later, Kanoute made it 2-0, and he wrapped up the win with a last-minute goal.

Hamburg leads Group A after the second rotation of the group stage of Europe's second tier club competition, which involved 16 matches. CSKA Sofia plays Slavia Prague in a late match in that group. Van der Vaart put Hamburg ahead in the 21st minute with a left-footed shot after playing a one-two with Piotr Trochowski that eluded the Norwegians' defence.

Lauth snapped a three-month scoring drought with a perfectly timed header off a cross from Mehdi Mahdavia in the 65th minute. Hamburg had 24 shots on goal to Viking's three.

Basel won in Belgrade with an 88th-minute goal from Julio Rossi.

Milan Purovic had given the 1991 European champion the lead, but Matias

Delgado equalized with a penalty.

Basel earned its first points in Group E of this year's competition. Later, Strasbourg hosts Tromso.

The match was played in an empty stadium as punishment for violent incidents that marred Red Star's qualifying match against NK Inter Zapresic.

In Group D, Litex Lovech of Bulgaria beat Grasshoppers of Switzerland 2-1, with Middlesbrough set to play Dnipro of Ukraine.

In Group F, defending champion CKSA Moscow, the only previous winner of the 40 teams still alive in the competition, plays at Dutch club Heerenveen. Levski Sofia beat Dinamo Bucharest 1-0 in the other group match.

The top three teams from each of the eight five-team groups advance to the knockout round of 32. Each club plays four times, twice at home and twice away, with the schedule decided randomly. —MNA/Xinhua

## AFA says Maradona could coach national team

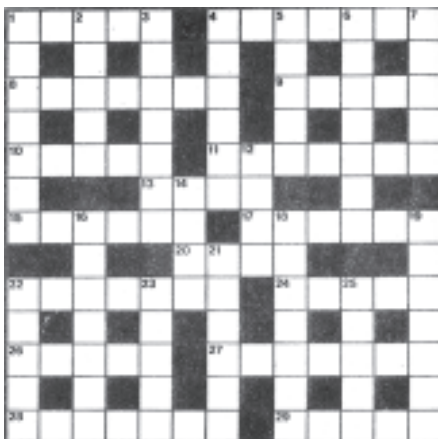
BUENOS AIRES, 5 Nov—Diego Maradona will be given a role with Argentina's national team and could take over as coach following the 2006 World Cup, Argentina Football Association (AFA) president Julio Grondona said Friday.

"Diego has been incorporated into the national team staff," Grondona told Radio La Red in an interview, one day after meeting Maradona to discuss his future with the national team.

Grondona said it was too early to say exactly what sort of role Maradona would perform but he dismissed rumours that coach Jose Pekerman would resign if he was given a powerful role. "There's not much to say in terms of what he will or will not do," said Grondona.

"He will do whatever is necessary. After (the friendlies against) England and Qatar, we will clear up the uneasiness and anxiety of certain media to see what one will do and what the other will do," he added. —MNA/Reuters

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

- 1 Tiny spot
- 4 Titillates
- 8 Sunshade
- 9 Black and white beast
- 10 Sequence
- 11 Serious
- 13 British nobleman
- 15 Commotion
- 17 Teaching session
- 20 Kind of chalcedony
- 22 Garb
- 24 Barrels
- 26 Throw out
- 27 Rushing
- 28 Go before
- 29 Procrastination

### DOWN

- 1 Prevent from falling
- 2 Went astray
- 3 Small falcon
- 4 Rudder bar
- 5 Frolic
- 6 Square dance
- 7 Clever
- 12 Friend in need
- 14 Smallest particle
- 16 Official letter
- 18 Pardoned
- 19 Small bouquet
- 21 Sewing implement
- 22 Low-priced
- 23 Release knot
- 25 Yet



Claude Makelele, pictured April 2005, admitted Chelsea must repeat last season's title success on a regular basis before they can replace United as the dominant force in English football. —INTERNET



**Prime Minister General Soe Win,  
Heads of Government of ACMECS  
member countries pay courtesy call on  
King Bhumibol Adulyadej**

YANGON, 5 Nov — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win who attended the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit in Bangkok, Thailand, together with Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, and Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai left Bangkok on 3 November evening for Hua Hin.

The Prime Ministers paid a courtesy call on His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej at Klai Kangwol Palace in Hua Hin.

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*Prime Minister General Soe Win being welcomed by Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra at ACMECS Summit. (News on page 1)—MNA*

**Prime Minister General Soe Win joins  
Second Informal ACMECS Summit  
Declaration of the summit, and cooperation in  
combating avian influenza signed  
Third ACMECS summit will take place in Vietnam in 2007**

YANGON, 5 Nov — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win attended the Second Informal Summit of the heads of government of four other member states of the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit at Ivory Room of Thai Koo Fah Building in Bangkok, Thailand at 10 am on 3 November.

It was attended by Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Na-

tional Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, ministers concerned and senior officers of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

They discussed promotion of trade and investment, cooperation in agriculture and industrial sectors, extension of transport services among member countries, enhancement of tourism industry, energy sufficiency, extended production of bio-fuel, development of human resources, cooperation in measures to be taken against bird flu and other diseases, exchange of views on organizing the Third ACMECS Summit, and preparations for

(See page 9)

**The declaration warmly welcomed Vietnam's first participation in the functions of ACMECS Summit. "We agreed on the importance of taking a forward-looking approach in our cooperation in order to lay a strong foundation for meeting the future needs of our region," the declaration said.**



*Prime Minister General Soe Win attending Second Informal ACMECS Summit at Thai Koo Fah Building in Bangkok.—MNA*

**INSIDE**

*The Union of Myanmar has over 100 national races and a population of over 54 million, of which over 24 million are youths. They are serving as the engine of growth for the nation, and most of them are USDA members.*

GYOBINGAUK TIN MAUNG OO  
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