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Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmone 1367 ME

Tuesday, 15 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

With encouragement of people, task to win victory is on shoulders of Myanmar sports contingent members

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents State Flag to sports contingent to XXIII SEA Games

YANGON, 14 Nov—A ceremony to present the State Flag to Myanmar sports contingent that will be participating in XXIII South-East Asia Games to

be held in the Philippines from 27 November to 5 December was held at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thingangyun Township this evening.

Chairman of Myanmar National Olympic Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented the State Flag to the leader of Myanmar sports contingent.

Also present were the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers, members of Myanmar Olympic Committee, members of committee for ensuring success of Myanmar sports, members of leading patrons of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, presidents and officials of sports federations, leader of Myanmar sports

team, athletes and guests.

Next, the Secretary-1 was presented to members of Myanmar sports team. In his address, the Secretary-1 said the entire people are desirous of expressing dignity of the nation and the people after gaining victories in international sports meets and the people also greatly praised the athletes for

their success.

He said those representing the nation and the people are proud of participating in the international contests. With the encouragement of the people, the tasks to win victory is now on the shoulders of Myanmar sports contingent members. The government is making all-out efforts

with own national strength for the country to uphold the national prestige keeping abreast of the nations in various sectors such as economic, social and cultural sectors.

He said in the field of sports, the government has been making efforts to promote the sports standard of the (See page 8)



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Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addressing the ceremony to present the State Flag to Myanmar sports contingent that will be participating in XXIII South-East Asia Games.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 15 November, 2005

To do meritorious deeds on Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone

The whole sky is clear and it is cloudless in Tazaungmone, the eight month of Myanmar lunar calendar. And rivers and seas are calm without huge waves and strong winds. It is the time when paddy is mature.

The word Tazaungmone consists of 'Tazaung' and 'Mone'. The word "Tazaung" means light, and the word "Mone", convey. So, Tazaungmone means the month in which lights and open oil lamps are lit, and conveying of lights to remove darkness.

Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone falls in Byeikhsa (Scorpio), the eighth sign of the zodiac, and Kyattikar, the third lunar mansion. All the stars appear in the sky at the night of Full-Moon Day. So, the full-moon light on Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone is more pleasant and beautiful than that in the full-moon days of the remaining months.

On Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone, King Ajatasat of Rajagaha, under the arrangements of physician Jivaka, paid a courtesy call on the Lord Buddha, who was lodging in the mango grove of the physician, for a sermon.

The Blessed One expounded Samaanā Phala (the fruits of the life of a recluse) Sutta. At the end of the discourse, the king became one who fully believed in the Three Gems.

With reference to the story, Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone was designated as Samaanā Phala Day.

Since the time of the Exalted One, Buddhists have held Kathina-robe offering ceremonies on Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone with the aim of enjoying the five kinds of benefit of offering Kathina robes.

By accepting Kathina robes, members of the Buddhist Order can enjoy the five kinds of benefit. In return, the offering of Kathina robes brings five kinds of benefit to the donors — they can travel anywhere they wish without being hindered; they can complete in ease whatever matters they are doing in their lives until they attain Nirvana; they can live in luxury and enjoy their property in peace of mind; they can enjoy a lot of best foods and drinks and they can never suffer from harm or poison due to the foods and drinks they have enjoyed; and their property can be destroyed by no one.

All the Buddhists are therefore urged to continue to perform meritorious deeds such as offering Kathina robes and practising mental cultivation on Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone or Samaanā Phala Day, the most significant and pleasant day of a year.



U Thaug Win-Daw Pyone Pyone Kyi family of No 1 (A), Awaiya Road, Baukhtaw, Yankin township, donate K 100,000 to the Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. — H

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

Information Ministry offers Kathina robes



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and wife and the congregation sharing merits at the Kathina robes offering. — MNA

YANGON, 14 Nov— Under the auspices of Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win, families of the Office of the Ministry and News and Periodicals Enterprise held a Kathina Robes offering ceremony this morning at Dagon Pariyatti Monastery in the compound of Eindawyar Pagoda on Myoma Kyaung Street.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of members of the Sangha led by Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidaja Maharattaguru Abhidhaja Maha Saddhamajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara, Vice-Chairman Presiding Sayadaw of Bahan Township Maha Aungmyebonsan Monastery Abhidaja Maharattaguru Abhidhaja Maha Saddhamajotika Bhaddanta Panabhivumsa, Sayadaw Abhidaja Maharattaguru Bhaddanta Osada Bhivumsa of Nyaungdon Ponamarama Ze Monastery and Presiding of Dagon Township Dagon Pariyatti Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Gunananda. Also present were the directors-general and managing directors under the ministry, advisers, the deputy directors-

general, general managers, officials of the ministry, those from Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Motion Picture Organization, Myanmar Music Organization, the chief editor of Naingngan Gonyi Magazine, guests and family members.

The ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa. The Vice-Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee invested the congregation led by Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan with the Five Precepts.

Afterwards, the minister and wife offered Kathina robes and eight requisites to Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidaja Maharattaguru Abhidhaja Maha Saddhamajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara.

Next, heads of department and officials offered donations to members of the Sangha.

Magway Sayadaw delivered a sermon followed by sharing of merits gained. After the ceremony 'soon' was offered to the members of the Sangha. —MNA

Depavali festival held

YANGON, 14 Nov— Organized by All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (Central), Depavali festival was held yesterday at Strand Hotel, here, attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung.

First, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint

Maung, Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence, the Indian Ambassador and the Nepali Ambassador opened the ceremony.

In his address, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung said that in Myanmar, religious festivals are held as every citizen has freedom of

faith and it is heartening to see that those from all religious orders take part in the Depavali festival and it shows the harmony among national races of the country.

Afterwards dances of Tamil Hindu Indian Tribes were presented to those present.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Maj-Gen Aung Thein and U Zaw Zaw Naing formally open Depavali festival — MNA

Literati to be honoured

YANGON, 14 Nov— As a gesture of hailing the Literati Day, a ceremony to pay respect to 105 doyen literati organized by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association under the supervision of the Ministry of Information will be held. A ceremony to donate K 100,000 and above will be held at the ministry in the last week of November. Those who wish to attend the ceremony may contact Work Committee for Finance at No 529/531, at the corner of Merchant and 37th streets or phone number 252417.

MNA

Donate blood

Venezuela, Russia sign agreement to strengthen relations

CARACAS, 13 Nov — Venezuela and Russia have signed an agreement aimed at strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation in a wide range of fields, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said on Friday.

Venezuelan Vice-President Jose Rangel and visiting Russian Vice-Premier Alexander Zhukov signed the document at the end of the second Russia-Venezuela Intergovernmental Meeting (CIAN) which closed on Thursday.

Zhukov said Russia hoped to expand bilateral trade with Venezuela, which reached 65.5 million US dollars during the first 10 months of this year, compared with 67 million dollars in 2004.

Russia is particularly interested in expanding cooperation with Venezuela on energy exploration, said Zhukov, hailing the successful cooperation in business, infrastructure and finance.

During the high-level meeting, officials examined the progress of the 37 existing agreements between the two countries, mostly on fields of military technology and energy.

Relations between Venezuela and Russia

have been sweetened since Chavez and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin in 2001 sealed a guideline deal — the Joint Declaration — which created the frame-work for exchanging energy products. Both countries are substantial oil producers.

As part of the new deal, Caracas will receive in December 30,000 AK-103 assault rifles and the

first three of 10 helicopters Caracas has purchased from Russia. The remaining helicopters are set to arrive by March next year. Separately, the Venezuelan state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela has signed a deal with Russia's Lukoil Overseas Holdings to survey the crude reserves in the eastern Venezuelan deposit Bloque Junin III.

MNA/Xinhua



Tim Bergman, left, and Dan Bergman, right, look for salvageable items at their destroyed home in Stratford, Iowa, after a tornado struck the town on Saturday, 12 Nov, 2005. —INTERNET

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US-backed Middle East meeting ends without final declaration

RIYADH, 13 Nov — The forum for the future, a US-backed meeting aimed at promoting political reform in the Middle East and North Africa, ended on Saturday without a final declaration, according to reports from Bahrain's capital of Manama.

A draft declaration that pledges "to expand democratic practices, to enlarge participation in political and public life and to foster the roles of civil society including the non-governmental organizations", was shelved after Egypt expressed reservations.

Egypt wanted to add

that only NGOs which were "legally registered" with a country and followed that nation's laws should be helped, the reports said.

"We did not withdraw" from the meeting, said Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit at a closing Press conference.

Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Khaled bin Ahmad al-Khalifa told reporters the declaration will come up again, perhaps at next year's

meeting scheduled to be held in Jordan.

Ministers of some 22 Middle East and North African countries and G-8 nations as well as representatives from the World Bank and the European Union attended the meeting.

The two-day forum is seen as one of the concrete steps toward implementing Washington's "Greater Middle East Initiative" adopted at the G-8 summit last year.

MNA/Xinhua

Three US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 14 Nov — Two US Marines were killed in combat and a soldier died in a vehicle accident in Iraq, the military said in a statement on Sunday.

The marines were assigned to Regimental Combat Team Eight, 2nd Marine Division, and died when their vehicle was attacked with an improvised explosive device in Al Amriyah on Saturday, the statement said.

In a separate incident, the military said that a soldier assigned to Regimental Combat Team Two, 2nd Marine Division, died on Saturday in a traffic accident near Rawah. At least 2,065 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003. —Internet

Up to 10,000 looted Iraqi antiquities still unfound

WASHINGTON, 13 Nov — Over two years after Iraq's National Museum was sacked by looters following the US invasion, up to 10,000 Iraqi antiquities are still unrecovered, a US official said.

Colonel Matthew Bogdanos, the US investigator leading the search for looted Iraqi antiquities, said among the 10,000 to 15,000 items that went missing from the National Museum in Baghdad, over 5,000 have been recovered.

The museum, once boasting of largest collections of antiquities in the Middle East, suffered from looting and serious damage by thousands of looters in a state of chaos after the US troops took Baghdad in April, 2003.

Bogdanos said with the cooperation of police, academics and Customs from six countries, more than 5,000 items have so far been recovered, including some 2,000 found by the Jordanians.

To recover all the rest lost items, more help is needed from Iraq's neighbours, particularly

Iran and Turkey, he said.

Bogdanos said his investigation found that three kinds of looters participated in the pilfering.

One group includes professionals who took some of the greatest rarities, such as the first known realistic sculpture

of a human face.

Secondly, there are thieves who swept up many pieces, including copies and forgeries, into bags.

Finally, there are insiders who took valuable ancient seals and jewellery.

The past over two years have seen many of Iraq's

antiquities stolen or looted and many of its historical sites destroyed in the ongoing conflicts, and some international archaeologists have blamed the US military for its negligence in protecting the country's historical heritage.

MNA/Xinhua

Happiness Programme helps 150,000 poor mothers in 10 years

BEIJING, 13 Nov — Happiness Programme, a major fundraising project under the China Population Welfare Foundation (CPWF), has helped over 150,000 poor mothers in an effort to bring their families out of poverty over the past decade.

As of 31 October, 2005, Happiness Programme has provided financial assistance, worth 310 million yuan (about 38 million US

dollars), for these mothers to start up their own businesses, have vocational trainings and pay their medical checkups or treatment. In a ceremony held by the organization committee of Happiness Programme Saturday at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, a large number of institutions and individuals were awarded for their contribution to the charity project.

In her written message

to the ceremony, He Luli, a vice-chairperson of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, expressed her appreciation of the enormous achievements Happiness Programme has made. Hao Jianxiu, vice-chairperson of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, attended the gathering.

MNA/Xinhua



South Korean protesters stand next to an anti-US banner at a rally in Seoul on 13 Nov, 2005. The slogan in the banners reads: 'No Bush visit (L) and No APEC' —INTERNET



A South Korean artist (R) puts the final touches on a sand sculpture, showing a pair of Korean traditional guardian poles and a kite (L) to promote Korean traditional culture during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum at a beach in Pusan, about 420km (262 miles) southeast of Seoul on 13 Nov, 2005. —INTERNET

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SAARC to fight terrorism collectively

DHAKA, 13 Nov — Nations of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) have moved to create a regional security force to collectively fight terrorism.

As terrorism gradually spreads its wings all over the region almost without exception, disrupting development efforts to a great extent, member countries of the region feel an urgency to establish such a force to combat the menace, the *NewAge Saturday* quoted

diplomatic sources as saying.

The force would be designed following the United Nations Peace Keeping Forces and formed with participation from all members of the seven-nation forum.

Bangladesh took an initiative in this regard and approached the members ahead of the 13th SAARC Summit, which begins in Dhaka on Saturday. A preliminary meeting to this end was held in an SAARC capital last month, the report disclosed.

The banned Islamist outfit the Jamaatul Mujahedin Bangladesh launched a country-wide bomb attack in Bangladesh on 17 August, which left three people killed and over 150 others injured.

The volatile situation in this region arising from growing extremism and terrorism in both religious and ethnic forms prompted Bangladesh to take the initiative.

The menace not only violates peace and stability in the region but also stands against development and harmony.

Research and analyses show that extremist and terrorist groups operating in the region are interlinked and help each other for their existence and to realize their objectives.

The groups have been able to establish huge influence in South Asia and are capable of severe destruction in any part of the region, which would naturally affect stability.

MNA/Xinhua

Thaksin dismisses criticism of wildlife deal

NAIROBI, 13 Nov— Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on Thursday dismissed criticism over a wildlife deal signed with the Kenyan Government during his official visit that allows the exportation of wild animals to his country.

Shinawatra said his country has previously imported wild animals from other countries, and has gained the necessary experience to take care of the wildlife from the East African nation.

He spoke as placard waving conservationists demonstrated in Nairobi over the controversial deal to get 175 wild animals from Kenya and his convoy to a local shopping mall had to be diverted by

security personnel to elude the protesters.

"For those who criticized without knowing we feel sorry. We did not come to take advantage of Kenya," the Thai Prime Minister said.

He insisted that the deal was signed according to the international laws governing such an exercise.

Conservationists are furious that Kenya has signed a deal with Thailand to hand over some 175 animals from game parks.

However, Kenyan authorities stressed none of the animals, including zebra, hippos and giraffe, would be endangered species.

Shinawatra expressed regret at what he termed as a misunderstanding of the facts surrounding the deal saying that Thailand being a fellow developing country could not take advantage of Kenya.

But security personnel were forced to re-route the Prime Minister's convoy to the Village Market in northern Nairobi, to evade placard wielding activists

who had planned to voice their protest over the deal.

The protesters led by Youth for Conservation director Josphat Ngonyo maintained that it is illegal for the government to sign the deal without wider consultation.

"Over 50 per cent of Kenyans said 'no' to the

export of wild animals," said Ngonyo.

He called for a clarification of the contents of the deal saying Kenyans have the right to know.

"If Thailand wants animals they should get them from other zoos," said Ngonyo.

MNA/Xinhua

US House Committee to investigate story on secret prisons

WASHINGTON, 13 Nov— The US House Intelligence Committee will investigate a story published by *The Washington Post* last week about a secret global prison system run by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The committee would look into several possible leaks of classified information, including the existence of the CIA's secret prisons overseas and the classified annual budget of 44 billion US dollars for the intelligence community.

"The depth of the leaks that we have seen in the intelligence community over the last 12 to 18 months have done irreparable harm to our ability to effectively conduct the war on terror," Representative Peter Hoekstra, chairman of the committee, said on Thursday.

The committee took the action at the request of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and House Speaker Dennis Hastert.

The Washington Post report said the CIA was operating covert detention centres in eight foreign countries, including some in Eastern Europe, for holding terror suspects.

The existence and lo-

cations of these prisons — referred to as "black sites" in classified gov-

ernmental documents — are known to only a handful of officials in the

United States, according to the newspaper.

MNA/Xinhua

China issues commemorative Olympic stamps

BEIJING, 13 Nov — China issued a series of postage stamps commemorating the 2008 Olympic Games on Saturday, one day after the 1,000-day countdown to the event's opening ceremony.

The stamps, six in a set, feature the 2008 Olympic emblem — "Chinese Seal, Dancing Beijing" and the five doll mascots, which were unveiled on Friday evening at a grand ceremony in the Chinese capital. Each of the stamps has a face value of 0.8 yuan (about 0.1 US dollar).

They are the first commemorative Olympic stamps China issued since Beijing won the right to host the 2008 Games in July 2001. — MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi child sleeps as US Marines search a civilian Iraqi home recently.—INTERNET

'Gulf syndrome is real'

WALES, 13 Nov—The law lord who headed an independent inquiry into illnesses suffered by 5,000 veterans of the 1991 war with Iraq has urged the Ministry of Defence to accept the term "Gulf War Syndrome". Lord Lloyd of Berwick claimed the MoD was split on the issue, with the Veterans' Agency accepting the validity of the term, while the rest of the Ministry does not.

His intervention followed a Pensions Appeal Tribunal ruling earlier this month that British soldiers who suffered debilitating illnesses after the war were victims of a conflict-related syndrome.

Internet

Chinese V-P encourages oil, gas prospecting

BEIJING, 13 Nov—Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan on Thursday highlighted the prospecting of petroleum and gas as an important task of geological survey work.

Efforts should focus on prospecting of strategic mineral resources, especially oil, natural gas, uranium, iron, copper and aluminium. Zeng said at a conference on geological work held by the State Council in Taiyuan, capital of northwest China's Shanxi Province.

Zeng stressed the importance of the

geological survey work, considering it key to easing the impact of resource shortages on economic growth.

He noted that major projects in geological surveying should be launched in accordance with the overall layout of national economic and social development. Enterprises are encouraged to take part in mineral prospecting.

He urged to continue the comprehensive survey and assessment of the geological environment in key economic zones and mineral belts. — MNA/Xinhua

Ugandan, Sudanese armies start joint operations against LRA rebels

KAMPALA, 13 Nov—Ugandan Defence Minister Amama Mbabazi on Friday said Ugandan Army has started joint operations with the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and Sudan Forces to pursue Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels inside Sudan.

Mbabazi was quoted by Ugandan Government radio as saying that Sudan has permitted Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF) to cross the Red Line and to use limited aerial power inside Sudan.

Mbabazi said LRA rebel leader Joseph Kony is still in Sudan, adding that Kony's efforts to cross over to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) were blocked by SPLA and UPDF forces. He was satisfied with the level of cooperation

between Uganda and Sudan, saying that Joseph Kony has no more territorial protection.

The minister further announced that the United Nations and Kinshasa

government had deployed troops to Aba region in DRC to surround and pursue LRA deputy commander Vincent Otti who is hiding around Yei and Meridi.

MNA/Xinhua

Third Kashmir crossing opened — but not for people

LINE OF CONTROL (India/Pakistan), 14 Nov—India and Pakistan opened a third crossing point on their de facto border dividing the earthquake hit region of Kashmir on Saturday, but as with earlier openings this week both sides exchanged relief supplies without allowing Kashmiris across.

India and Pakistan have agreed to open five crossing points, as a humanitarian response to the 8 October earthquake that killed over 75,000 people, mostly in Pakistani Kashmir.

At Saturday's opening of a footbridge across the Neelum River between Chiliania in Pakistan and Tithwal in India, bags of relief goods containing tents, blankets, tools and warm clothing were given first by one side and then by the other.

MNA/Reuters



A camel owner decorates his camel at the Pushkar fair, in India's desert state of Rajasthan on 13 Nov, 2005. Some 25,000 camels are traded during the annual fair making it world's largest camel fair.—INTERNET

Zambia, Angola to reopen railway line

LUSAKA, 13 Nov—Zambia and Angola are working for the reopening of the Benguela railway line linking the two neighbouring countries after it was abandoned in the 1970s due to Angola's civil war, Zambian President Levy Mwanawasa said here on Friday.

He made the remarks upon arriving at the Lusaka International Airport from Luanda, where he attended Angola's national day celebrations.

Mwanawasa was quoted by the official *Zambia News and Information Services* as

saying that plans for the reopening of the railway has reached an advanced stage. The Angolan Government has started the demining exercise along the railway line from Luanda, he said.

Mwanawasa said his government is trying to find resources for the rehabilitation of the railway line from Solwezi in the Northwestern province to Luanda.

The reopening of the Benguela railway will provide landlocked Zambia with a shorter and cheaper export route, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Biggest travel agency in M-E plans to operate hotels in China

BEIJING, 13 Nov—Cham Group of Syria, the biggest travel agency in the Middle East, on Friday announced its plan to operate hotels in China, in order to capitalize on the booming Chinese tourism market.

The group is planned to buy local Chinese hotels and expected to achieve substantial results next year. Due to the Olympic Games to be held in Beijing in 2008, the group chose the capital of China first, said Ghassan Aidi, president of Cham Group.— MNA/Xinhua

China's west to see more investors from Spain

CHENGDU, 13 Nov—China's outback west is becoming a hot attraction for Spanish investors.

"The vast market is like our challenging bullring," said Spanish entrepreneur Jorge Botello, who is going

to set up a factory in west China's Sichuan Province.

Botello is one of the 20 delegates of an inspection tour organized by the Catalunya government. Their businesses cover the manufacturing, processing and

distribution of farm products.

"It is a long-considered decision to invest in Sichuan. Because we share the same advantages in geographic location, processing industry and agricultural instruments manufacturing," said

Antonihidi Siurana, Agriculture Minister of Catalunya and also the leader of the team, adding that their cooperation will be fruitful.—MNA/Xinhua



Wrecked vehicles lie on the Meishin Expressway near Hikone, central Japan, on 13 Nov, 2005. Seven men, reportedly from Brazil, were killed and three others injured in a seven-vehicle pileup on the expressway, connecting western Japanese city of Osaka and Nagoya, in central Japan, according to local media reports.—INTERNET

Weekend gathering banned in Paris for fear of new riots

PARIS, 13 Nov — French authorities will impose a short-term ban on public gatherings in Paris on Saturday, fearing that violence may be brought into the capital after two weeks of riots across the country.

The ban, beginning at 10:00 am (0900 GMT) and expected to last 22 hours, applies to "all meetings likely to start or fuel disorder" in public places.

The measure was decided after police intercepted a number of Internet and mobile phone messages calling on rioters to descend on Paris, although several such messages have turned out to be empty threats.

Police officials said violence went on overnight Friday when 384 cars were burned and 162 people were

kept in custody for interrogation across the country, but adding that the situation in Paris was calm "with nothing to report".

The riots in France started on 27 October as youths in the poor northeastern suburbs of Paris went angry over the accidental deaths of two teenagers. They quickly spread nationwide with arson attacks and clashes with police, mainly by Arab and Black youths complaining of economic misery and racial discrimination.

On Tuesday, the French

Government decided to invoke the 1955 emergency powers law to declare a state of emergency in 25 riot-hit departments and to give local officials, or prefects, the power to impose curfew if they think it necessary to do so.

Under the state of emergency, local authorities can put troublemakers under house arrest, ban or limit the movement of people and vehicles, confiscate weapons and ban "meetings likely to provoke or fuel disorder".

MNA/Xinhua

Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone, Samañña Phala Day

U Kyaw Sein (Mandalay)

To fulfil the request of physician Jivaka from Rajagaha, the Lord Buddha expounded Samañña Phala (the fruits of the life of a recluse) Sutta at the mango grove of Jivaka on Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone evening. At the time, the Buddha was residing there together with a great company of 1,250 members of the Buddhist Order. So, Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone was designated as Samañña Phala Day.

After being caught in the trap of deception by Monk Devadattha using mundane supernatural power, King Ajatasat took refuge in the monk. At the instigation of Monk Devadattha, the king committed the heinous deed of killing his father, Bimbisara. Since then, he had suffered from insomnia. So, he had to spend a great number of scared nights by holding assembly of royal audience.

At the assembly in the royal spired palatial building at the night of one Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone, the king, gave utterance to a hymn of joy, saying, "How pleasant, friends, is the moonlight night! How beautiful, friends, is the moonlight night! How lovely, friends, is the moonlight night! How soothing, friends, is the moonlight night! How grand a sign, friends, is the moonlight night! Who is the recluse or Brahman whom we may call upon tonight, who, when we call upon him, shall be able to satisfy our hearts".

The six ministers who took refuge in six heretics expressed the qualities of each heretic and suggested the king visit them for his mental comfort. The king had ever visited each of the six heads of six orders, and he felt very disappointed just as he just saw them. So, all the suggestions of the ministers met with silence from him. And he said, "But, you, friend Jivaka, why do you say nothing?" Turning to the direction in which the Buddha resided and paying respects to Him, Jivaka recited the supreme attributes of the Blessed One and kindly exhorted the king to visit Him.

Under the arrangements of the physician, the king paid a courtesy call on the All-Knowing One. Witnessing 1,250 members of the Buddhist Order without making any movements and giving any single sneeze or cough but paying all their attention to the sermon of the All-Awakened One, the king felt very delighted. After paying homage to Him, the king asked for an opportunity to put a question on a certain matter.

He asked if one could enjoy the fruits of attaining monkhood in that very life, like those who were skilled in their professions could enjoy the fruits of economic progress in the very lives due to their skills and hard work. In response to the question of the king, the All-Knower expounded the Samañña Phala Sutta that reflects the 12 kinds of benefit of attaining monkhood.

After hearing the Samañña Phala Sutta, with great delightful satisfaction, the king took refuge in the Three Gems. And he said that he had associated with a foolish man, and due to his ignorance, he happened to commit heinous deed of patricide. Then, he paid reverence and asked for forgiveness from the Buddha. The Buddha forgave his sin and said that paying respects to and owning up to an offence and asking forgiveness promote prosperity of the persons concerned.

After the king had left the garden, the Exalted One said that King Ajatasat would have attained Sotapatti Magga (insight of first stage) at the very end of the sermon of Samañña Phala Sutta unless he had killed his father.

Having heard the sermon, the king admired and appreciated the Buddha Sasana even more than his life. He provided all necessary assistance for the successful completion of the First Buddhist Synod, systematically enshrined the Buddha relics, and designated the Great Era.

Thanks to the hearing of Samañña Phala Sutta, the king fully recuperated from his insomnia. And among the common people, he become the one who admired and convinced of the Three Gems most. He would have to suffer bad results because of his heinous deed of killing his father in the Hell of Loha Kumbhi instead of in the Hell of Maha Avici, the worst hell of its kind. In the future, he will attain the enlightenment of Picceka Bodhi and become Junior Buddha under the name of Vijitavi.

Therefore, I would like to exhort all the Buddhists to perform meritorious deeds as far as they can after hearing the Samañña Phala Sutta on Samañña Phala Day.

Translation: MS

Having heard the sermon, the king admired and appreciated the Buddha Sasana even more than his life. He provided all necessary assistance for the successful completion of the First Buddhist Synod, systematically enshrined the Buddha relics, and designated the Great Era.

Hockey Umpire Seminar opened

YANGON, 14 Nov— Hockey Umpire Seminar organized by Myanmar Olympic Committee, International Hockey Federation and Myanmar Hockey Federation, was opened here on 11 November evening.

President of the Myanmar Hockey Federation Brig-Gen Myo Myint delivered an opening address.

International Hockey Federation Umpire Coach Mr Kukoo Walia explained the purpose of the seminar.

Then, Gandamar construction and Pedrollo Company provided cash to the seminar.—MNA



International Hockey Federation Umpire Coach Mr Kukoo Walia presents cash K 50,000 to Myanmar Hockey Federation Brig-Gen Myo Myint. —MNA

Myanmar Canaan Farmer's Training Center opened course

YANGON, 14 Nov— Course No 4/2005 of the Myanmar Canaan Farmer's Training Center of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was opened at the training

school in PyinOoLwin, on 8 November.

The 45-day course attracting 50 trainees will lecture on cultivation of coffee.

Managing Director of

Myanmar Farms Enterprise U Myint Swe and the Principal of the training school briefed on the purpose of the course.

MNA

Myanmar badminton team arrives back

YANGON, 14 Nov— Myanmar youth badminton team which beg bronze in the First U-16 South East Asian Badminton Competitions held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, from 11 to 12 November arrived back here yesterday.

They were welcomed back at the airport by Presi-

dent of Myanmar Badminton Federation U Maung Maung Swe of Great Wall Medicine and Construction Enterprise and Vice-President U Mya Thaug and executives and relatives.

At the competitions Myanmar beat Brunei 3-0 and Vietnam 2-1 and defeated by Malaysia 3-0 but

reached semifinal. At the semifinal match, Indonesia beat Myanmar. At the match for third place Myanmar beat Singaporean team 3-0 and beg the bronze medal.

The medal is the first one for Myanmar youth badminton team since 1995.

NLM

President of MBF U Maung Maung Swe and officials welcome back third prize winner Myanmar Batminton team.—NLM



Education sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of science and technology in the time of Tatmadaw Government

Increasing number of teachers in science and technology sector and newly emerged human resource development

In the Union of Myanmar, measures are being taken for development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well. With the combined efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw, infrastructures in farm business have emerged one after another. As a result, the nation is now enjoying food sufficiency.

After ensuring food sufficiency, efforts are being made to build industrialized nation that will help raise the living standard of the entire people. Human resources needed for building industrialized country are being nurtured not only in the education sector but also in science and technology sector.

The 21st century is witnessing rapid development of science and technology which penetrate all sectors. Human resource development programmes are being implemented to produce experts in the science and technology sector. Infrastructures for the science and technology sector have been

founded in the 24 development regions for human resource development. Teachers with high calibre in the science and technology sector are discharging their duties to produce highly qualified technicians. Therefore, it can be witnessed that brilliant technicians have emerged.

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, doctorate courses, masters courses, post-graduate courses, degree courses and under-graduate courses are being conducted to promote the science and technology sector.

The table shows increases in the numbers of teachers and newly emerged human resources in the science and technology sector.



Government Technological College (Ayethayar) in Taunggyi, Shan State (South) produces technicians on whom the State can rely.

Increasing strength of teachers in the science and technology sector

Sr	University, College, Institute	1988	2005	Progress
1	Technology University	229	422	193
2	University of Computer Studies	40	248	208
3	26 Government Technological Colleges	-	3357	3357
4	24 Government Computer Colleges	-	720	720
5	11 Technical Institutes	139	630	491
	Total	408	5377	4969

Human resource development in the science and technology sector

Sr	Subject	1988	2005	Progress
1	Doctorate degree holders	-	400	400
2	Masters degree holders	65	3493	3428
3	Post-graduates	300	8340	8040
4	Degree holders	12957	64723	51766
5	Under-graduates	16878	96375	79497
	Total	30200	173331	143131

With encouragement of people, tasks...

(from page 1)
nation by winning victories in the international sports meets. In this way, the national prestige and integrity will be enhanced

spirit and their aspiration to compete fair and square are essential for athletes to win victory. Firm spirit means not a mere concept but a steadfast dedication based on perfect training, stamina and fitness, skillfulness and making good records.

Today, favourable

nation, he said.

While in abroad the athletes are to avoid behaviours and manners which will be harmful to the national prestige. And they are to provide help one another. Especially, the athletes are to observe the supervision and guidance of team leaders, man-

Htaik. Next, U Thaug Htaik pledged to try their utmost to succeed in the SEA Games.

For the Myanmar participants of the SEA Games, YCDC contributed K 50 million; Myanmar Women's Sports Federation sports gear worth K 830,000;



Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts sports uniforms worth US \$ 8,470 donated by Football Thai Factory Goods Co Ltd (FBT). — MNA

and promoted. While the government is taking systematic measures for uplift of sports standard of the country, governmental departments, businessmen, social organizations, wellwishers, literati and artistes of performing arts are rendering encouraging and supportive hands to the athletes. Such supports and encouragement are effective and useful to the athletes to win victories in the international sports competitions, he added.

He said so far success has been achieved to a considerable extent in the sports sector. To win victory, the spirit of athletes is very important. How much support is provided to the athletes, the firm

conditions have been created for the athletes to concentrate on taking perfect training without worry. They are facilitated with sports gear and necessary equipment, he said.

Many athletes have gained experience of international competitions. Some athletes are given training abroad while some are provided with training within the country with foreign coaches.

The athletes on their part are to make their utmost to win victories with zeal, perseverance, strong determination and ardent patriotism.

By winning medals in the international sports meets the athletes are to enhance the prestige of the

agers and coaches. In this way, the athletes are to make zealous efforts to win victory by participating in the sports meets fairly and cleanly.

In conclusion, the athletes, managers and team leaders are urged to make utmost efforts with firm determination to win victories; to dutifully shoulder the national duty of promoting the national prestige; and to flutter the State Flag victoriously again and again, he said.

Next, the Secretary-1 presented the Stage Flag to the leader of Myanmar sports contingent, MOC General Secretary Director General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaug

Managing Director Dr Daw Khin Khin Yi of Shine Hope Co Ltd K 30.3 million; Football Thai



Chairman of MNOC Lt-Gen Thein Sein hands over the State Flag to the leader of Myanmar sports contingent.—MNA

Mosogoku Initiative USD 2,000; U Kyaw Win of Shwe Thanlwin Co 3 million; Dr Ko Ko Gyi of

Chairman U Tint San of Myanmar Construction Co K 1.5 million each. The Secretary-1 accepted



Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects sports gears and uniforms for Myanmar sports teams. — NLM

Factory Sporting Goods Co Ltd sports equipment worth USD 8,470 for eight sports events; U Kyaw Sein of Olympic Hotel and Jewellery Luck Co Ltd K 5 million; Mr Iwasaki & Mrs Iwasaki of Iwasaki

DiamondStarCo 100 bags of flour worth 1.65 million; and Managing Director U Aung Moe Kyaw of International Beverages Trading Co, U Maung Maung of Golden Globe Construction and Vice-

the donations and presented certificate of honour to the donors.

Other wellwishers also made cash donations for the contestants.

(See page 9)



Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts K 1.5 million donated by Chairman of Myanmar Archery Federation U Tint Hsan (ACE Construction) for Myanmar sports teams. — NLM

While the government is taking systematic measures for uplift of sports standard of the country, governmental departments, businessmen, social organizations, wellwishers, literati and artistes of performing arts are rendering encouraging and supportive hands to the athletes. Such supports and encouragement are effective and useful to the athletes to win victories in the international sports competitions.



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greets managers, coaches and athletes to XXIII SEA Games. — MNA

With encouragement of people, tasks...

(from page 8)

Today's donations amounted to over K 99 million, USD 2,000 and sports gear worth K 3 million and USD 8,470.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted the guests and coaches, referees, managers and contestants. Next, he inspected skill demonstration of the contestants and display of sports gear. The XXIII SEA Games includes 41 sports events and Myanmar will take part in 28 events such as swimming, diving, archery, track and field, bass ball, billiards and snooker, body building, boxing, acrobatics, chess, football (men's and women's), golf, judo, karataedo, traditional boat race, martial arts, shooting, table tennis, weight-lifting, Taekwundo, volleyball and Wushu.

MNA

World Diabetes Day observed

YANGON, 14 Nov — The World Diabetes Day jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Health and the WHO was observed at the hall of the Institute of Nursing here this morning.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint delivered an address. He said every year the World Diabetes Day is observed with the aim of disseminating knowledge on diabetes among the public and accepting the way to pre-

dangerous disease for both individuals and the entire world. According to the WHO, there were 30 millions diabetes sufferers in the world in 1985, 135 million in 1995 and 171 million in 2000. Experts estimate that there will be at least 366 million diabetes sufferers in 2030. There are 3.2 million deaths every year due to the complications of the diabetes. In other words, six people die every minute because of the dia-

Health Plan (1993-1996), he added.

The minister called for public cooperation. He observed medical equipment for diabetes and omni test EZ displayed by foreign pharmaceutical companies.

Next, a talk on diabetes was held and Deputy Director of Health Department Dr Hla Pe gave a speech. Educative pamphlets and other equipment were distributed to those present.



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts K 5 million donated by Managing Director U Kyaw Sein of Jewellery Luck Co Ltd. — NLM



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint delivers an address at the ceremony to mark World Diabetes Day.

MNA

vent against the disease. It is observed on 14 November, the birthday of Frederick Banting who discovered insulin hormone, the main element for the therapy of diabetes. He said diabetes is an

betes, he said.

He said the slogan for 2005 is "Diabetes and Foot Care: Put feet first, Prevent Amputations". Myanmar implemented diabetes prevention project under the National

Present were the directors-general, the deputy directors-general, professors, medical superintendents, Resident Representative of WHO Dr Adik Wibowo, Chairman of Myanmar Academy of

Medical Science, officials of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, head of township health department, members of social organizations and guests.

MNA

Coord meeting held for study tour of UDNR trainees

YANGON, 14 Nov — A coordination meeting on study tour management of BEd Course No 37 of University for Development of National Races was held at Pyithuhlutaw Hall this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of Management Work Committee for Trainees' Study Tour from UDNR Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were the secretary of the study tour management work committee director-general Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Hla Kyi, joint-secretaries of work committee and members and guests. First, Lt-Gen Myint Swe delivered an address on the occasion. He stressed for the need to take systematic cooperative measures to ensure smooth and convenient for the trainees on their study tour as well as in accommodation, transport, food, security, entertainment and health. Next, Director-General U Hla Kyi briefed on study tour programme. At the meeting time, members and those present gave suggestion on sector-wise.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe made concluding remark and the meeting came to a close. — MNA



Yenwe Dam Project being implemented in Kyauktaga Township, Bago Division. (News on page 16) — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo continues...

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party paid obeisance to Paingkyon Monastery Sayadaw Bhanddanta Kovida and offered provisions to the Sayadaw.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected 80 KVA power station of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise and gave instructions to officials on supplying electricity.

Afterwards, they proceeded to the site for building Paingkyon Creek crossing bridge. An official reported to Lt-Gen Maung Bo on progress of work. Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions to officials on completion of the construction tasks in time. The 1200 feet long bridge is a Bailey type.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party, next, inspected



Family of Lt-Gen Maung Bo offers Kathina robe and provisions to a Sayadaw.—MNA

Paingkyon Township Police Station and gave instructions on paying attention to the rule of law.

In meeting with service personnel, members of social organizations and townsenders of

Paingkyon at the hall of the township, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that as the government has designated Paingkyon as a town, service personnel are to make efforts for the town to possess charac-

ters of a town and urged locals to take part in regional development drives hand in hand with service personnel. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived back in Mawlamyine via Hpa-an.—MNA

Commander attends opening ceremony of multi-media classrooms of No 4 BEHS in Kamayut Township

YANGON, 14 Nov — The opening ceremony of multi-media classrooms of Kamayut Township No 4 Basic Education High School, Yangon Division took place at the school yesterday morning. It was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe.

First, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, headmaster U Pe Lin and Chairman of School Board of Trustees U Naing Ko Ko formally opened the multi media classrooms.

Commander Lt-Gen-

eral Myint Swe then unveiled the signboard of the classrooms.

The commander, the minister, the deputy minister and officials observed the students who were studying the lessons with the help of Language Lab, Computer Application Media, Computer Aided Instruction Media, Electronic Media (Audio System and Reading Corner), Electronic Media (Video System) and painting room and domestic science room.

Next, the commander delivered an address at the kind and cash donation ceremony, saying that the government has imple-



Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe unveils the signboard of multi-media classrooms of Kamayut Township No 4 BEHS.—MNA

mented 30 years National Education Promotion Project since 2001 and created the opportunities for modern learning by opening the classrooms

for the students. As a result, there would be the intellectual and intelligentsia who will be conducive to the modern peaceful nation thanks to opening them and he called the teachers on human resources development through modern learning methods.

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the minister, the deputy ministers and the director-general of Education Planning and Training Department accepted computer sets worth K 577,000 each by family of Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence-Daw Htwe Yi, U Khin Maung Htun and family (Htet Lin Traditional Medicine Production) and U Kyaw Soe Min (General Manager of

Kanbawza Bank), K 1.1 million by the wellwishers, K 377,000 by U Zaw Min Zin and family, K 225,000 each by U Myo Aung-Daw Khin Yi Mon (Sun Myanmar International Empex Co Ltd) and U Aung Naing-Daw Ohn Ma (Asia Winner Industrial Co Ltd), K 220,000 by Daw Ni Ni Myint (Myint and Associates Co Ltd), K 120,000 each by U Khin Myint-Daw May Moe Nwe, U Tin Maung Than-Daw Moe Thuza Thon and U Naing Ko Ko-Daw Than Than Nyunt, K 104,000 each by U Ne Win Swe-Daw Sanda and family of Daw Sanda, K 125,000 by U Ko Ko-Daw Mya Kyi and teachers, K 100,000 each by U Shwe Soe-Daw Khin San Mu, U Maung

Lwin-Daw Than Than Htay, U Htut Win-Daw Zin Min Htaik, U Than Maung-Daw Ngwe Kyi, Daw Myo Myo Win, U Than Htut-Daw Kethi Aye and Myanmar Oriental Bank and internet journals by U Aung San Myat who received the certificates of honour.

The education minister expressed thanks for the donation and the ceremony ended.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Education Ministers U Myo Nyunt and Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, heads of departments of the Ministry of Education, Secretary of Yangon Division PDC Lt-Col Myint Kyi, Chairman of Yangon West District PDC Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and others.—MNA

Minister receives guest

YANGON, 14 Nov — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan this afternoon received re-

porter Ms Amy Kazmin of London Financial Times based in Bangkok, Thailand. Present at the

call were directors-general, managing directors and officials of the ministry.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meets reporter Ms Amy Kazmin of London Financial Times.—MNA

Buddha's Blessing

- * Avoid What's bad, espouse what's good
With three mindfulness cleansed
Lord Buddha preached peace in human world
And left this good cure.
- * Beautifying the entire world
For happiness of all creatures
For them to exist happily
Buddha preached four worldly virtues
And gave us the essence of His exhortation
- * O, Lord, today, as it seems the world village
Would emerge fast
The world is filled with greed, anger
And feeling which you would have tamed.
However there may be incursions rude
Entering incessantly which You
Had tamed through dispensation of
Your cure
The incursions which keep coming from a far
These venoms countered by Buddha's Teachings
Have almost shrunk and disappeared.
- * O, Lord, although Buddha has entered Nirvana
The potent cure He has dispensed
Is truly great and is continuing to do good
To the Myanmar nation.

Nwai Cho (Trs)

(A tribute to Lord Buddha on the Full Moon of Tazaungmon, 1367 Myanmar Era.)

Robes weaving competitions held at Tooth Relic Pagoda, KabaAye Pagoda

YANGON, 14 Nov — The 10th Matho Robes weaving competition was held this evening at Tooth Relic Pagoda here.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and Chairman of the pagoda board of trustees formally opened the competition.

A total of nine weaving teams participated in the competition.

Similarly, the 9th Matho robes weaving competition was opened



Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe views Matho Robes Weaving Competition.

MNA

at Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda here this evening.

A total of five teams

took part in the competition organized by the pagoda board of trustees.

Prize presentation ceremonies of the competitions will be held at 4 am tomorrow.—MNA

PBANRDA Ministry opens courses



Minister Col Thein Nyunt delivers an address at the opening of courses conducted by the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs. — PBANRDA

YANGON, 14 Nov— Minster for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt this morning attended the opening of Advanced Administrative Course No-12, Tailoring Course No-9, Clerk Course No (38/39) and Sewing Machine Repairing Course No-1 at the Central Training School of Education and Training Department under the ministry.

Also present were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Tun, departmental heads, guests and trainees.

In his address the minister explained the objectives of the courses and urged the trainees to take part in urban and rural development tasks.

Altogether 140 trainees are attending the courses.

MNA

Independence Day commemorative essay and poem contests to be held

YANGON, 14 Nov — The subcommittee for organizing the 58th anniversary Independence Day commemorative essay, poem, TV quiz and computer drawing contests will hold essay and poem contests at higher, high and middle school education levels in accord with the objectives of the 58th anniversary Independence Day.

At the higher education level, undergraduates from any universities and colleges may take part in the contests. At the basic education high school level, essay contest will be held on 3-12-2005 from 9 am to 11 am and poem contest from 12 noon to 2 pm on the same day at respective schools. At the basic education middle school level, essay contest will be held on 4-12-2005 from 9 am to 11 am and poem contest from 12 noon to 2 pm on the same

day at respective schools.

Participants can write no more than 5000 words in essay contest and no more than 300 lines in poem contest.

Those wishing to participate in high and middle school level essay poem contests are to register at respective schools and those in higher education level at respective colleges, degree colleges and universities by 2-12-2005. Students from universities of distance education may enlist at their respective branches. Six students each totalling 18 from the higher education level, basic education high school level and basic education middle school level will be awarded at the 58th anniversary Independence Day ceremony.

MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan observes 15th Matho robes weaving competition 2005 of Shwe Phone Pwint Pagoda

YANGON, 14 Nov — The opening ceremony of the 15th Matho robes weaving competition 2005 of Shwe Phone Pwint Pagoda took place at the precinct of the pagoda in Puzundaung Township, Yangon East District this evening, attended by Chairman of All-round Renovation Tasks Committee of the pagoda Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Daw Kyi Kyi Win, wife of Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, committee members, Heads of Departments and officials of the Ministry of Information, local authorities, social organisations and wellwishers are also present at the ceremony.

First, the ceremony was opened with the three-time recitations of Namottasa.

U Tint Lwin, chairman of Pagoda Board of Trustees explained the competition.

The competition was formally opened by Chairman of Puzundaung Township Peace and Development Council U Htay Win and U Tint Lwin.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win and party then observed the competition.

There were 10 weaving teams in the competitions. After paying homage to the pagoda, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan gave necessary instructions on all-round renovation tasks of it to the officials. — MNA

Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour continues



YANGON, 14 Nov— The third leg of Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour organized by Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation and mainly sponsored by Air Bagan Ltd continued this morning at Ayetharyar Golf Resort in Taunggyi.

After the third day events, Zaw Zaw Latt of Srixon led the Professional Golfer with 216 strokes. His runner-up was Min Naing with 225 strokes followed by Myint Thaug with 228 strokes.

In the Amateur Golfer, Naing Naing Lin led the event with 226 strokes, and Nay Lin Tun with 228 and Nay Bala

Win Myint with 235 strokes.

The main sponsor of the Golf Tour was Air Bagan Ltd and the official bank was KBZ Bank Ltd. The Co-sponsors were Myanmar Brewery Ltd, Myanmar Treasure Resort, Eden Group Co.Ltd, Aureum Palace Hotel Resort, Jade Land Myanmar Co.Ltd, Kachin Golfers Group, Srixon, Max Myanmar Co.Ltd, London, Imperial Jade Purified Drinking Water, Taunggyi Gem Master Enterprise (Hole-in-One sponsor) and Han Event Management organized the tour. The golf tour continues tomorrow.

MNA

All this needs to be known

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

ADVERTISEMENT

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Reg. No. 7586/2002
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in respect of "Leather and imitations of leather; goods made of these materials (not included in other classes), namely luggage, trunks and travelling bags, sport bags, vanity-cases, travelling sets, handbags, beach bags, rucksacks, briefcases, card cases, key cases, pocket wallets, purses, school bags, purses, belts' pockets, hand pockets; animal skins (excepted crocodile skin); trunks et valises; umbrellas, umbrella-covers, parasols and walking sticks; whips, harness and saddlery; textile fabrics; household linen and bed linen, namely flat sheets, fitted sheets, pillows, pillow cases, bolster cases, bed blankets, bed covers, duvets, duvet covers, eiderdowns, eiderdowns covers and coordinated bed accessories and any sheet sets; curtains made from textile, covers for cushions; table linen, namely table covers of textile, table napkins of textile, table mats of textile; bath linen, namely gloves, face towels of textile, bath towels of textile, beach towels of textile; clothing, footwear, headgear".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Ma Tin
MA, HGP, DBL
for LACOSTE
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 15 November 2005.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (251)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (251) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.11.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

National nature reserve in N-E China closes for bird flu prevention

CHANGCHUNG, 13 Nov—Xianghai National Nature Reserve, a major habitat of migratory birds in northeast China's Jilin Province, has closed off all of its scenic spots to prevent tourists from avian-borne diseases.

"It's necessary to close the nature reserve in order to reduce contact between human and birds," Bao Jun, deputy director of Xianghai National Nature Reserve Administration, told *Xinhua* in a telephone interview on Saturday.

Jilin adjacent to bird flu-hit Liaoning Province and Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has strengthened inspection and quarantine to keep the disease out of the province.

The wetland reserve of Xianghai, the Momoge Nature Reserve in the province and Zhalong

Nature Reserve in Jilin's neighbouring Heilongjiang Province are the three major protection bases for cranes. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Chinese residents watch smoke rising into the sky after explosions at a chemical plant belonging to the Jilin Petrochemical Company in Jilin City in northeast China's Jilin Province on 13 November, 2005. — INTERNET

Remains of Chinese victims in Jordan bomb attacks back to Beijing

BELJING, 13 Nov— The Chinese working team, dispatched to handle the aftermath of the Wednesday's bomb attacks in Jordanian capital Amman, came back to Beijing Saturday morning, with the remains of the three Chinese victims aboard the same plane.

Three Chinese were killed and one wounded Wednesday evening in the bomb attacks against three hotels in Amman. The victims were members of a delegation from China's University of National Defence (CUND), which happened to stay in one of the hotels.

The victims killed was identified as Sun Jingbo, Pan Wei and Zhang Kangping at the age of 41, 44 and 42, respectively. Their remains were escorted to the Babaoshan

Funeral Parlour Saturday. The wounded, 42-year-old Yao Liqiang, suffered from a leg fracture. He was immediately sent to hospital after arriving in Beijing.

Led by CUND's Vice-President Zhao Gang, the working team consisted of officials from the Chinese defence and foreign ministries, as well as family members of the victims.

Liang Guanglie, chief of general staff of the

Chinese People's Liberation Army and a member of China's Central Military Commission, Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo, and Anmar Abdulhalim Namir Harmud, Jordanian Ambassador to China, among the people to meet the working team and express sympathy and solicitude for the family members of the victims and the wounded upon their arrival in the airport.—*MNA/Xinhua*

The Union of Myanmar Forest Products Joint Venture Corporation Limited Sealed Tender No. (03/2005-2006)

F.P.J.V.C Ltd Sealed Tender Sale will be held as follows.

Commodity	Quantity (about Tons)	Location
(a) Teak Logs	300	- South Dagon Depot. - Monywa Depot

Closing Date : (29-11-2005) Tuesday (12:00) Noon.

Please Contact F.P.J.V.C Ltd. No. 422-426, Corner of Botataung Pagoda Road and Strand Road for further details.

Tel: 202060, 202101 (ext)-127

Tender Committee

EU eyes joint force to fight illegal immigration

MADRID, 13 Nov— The European Commission plans to create a joint Mediterranean security force to clamp down on illegal immigration from North Africa, Justice and Security Commissioner Franco Frattini was quoted as saying on Saturday.

Dangerous boat journeys organized by smugglers to cross the Mediterranean from Morocco to Spain and Tunisia to Italy are one of the main ways clandestine migrants enter Europe.

Thousands have died in the attempt, non-governmental organizations say.

Frattini was quoted in newspaper *El Mundo* as saying he had already told Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero

about his plan for the new maritime police force.

"In the spring of 2006 we will be in a position to think about a Mediterranean guard, a force in which different European countries will participate with their ships and technology and police officers and border officials," Frattini was quoted as saying. "The main thing is to avoid the trafficking of human beings," Frattini said.

He said a joint force would be more effective than current bilateral police coordination, such as the joint operations carried out by Spanish and Moroccan forces. Italy, Frattini's home country, saw a 50-per-cent rise in the number of African migrants crossing to its shores by boat this year, the government has said. In Spain, lifeboats have rescued 5,700 migrants at sea this year and in the first half alone police arrested more than 400 people for aiding illegal immigration. *MNA/Reuters*

Chinese university freshmen receive handbook of psychological health

BELJING, 13 Nov— More than 100,000 freshmen in 100 Chinese universities and colleges have received a handbook on psychological health to help them adapt to life in university and society.

The 2005 *Handbook of Psychological Soundness for University Entrants* was provided jointly by the Central Committee of Communist Youth League of China, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and All-China Students' Federation.

The handbook gives entrants health instructions on daily life, study, communication, mood and mentality. It is expected to help entrants adjust to a new environment, learn more about psychological health and maintain

mental health. College and university students have come under mounting pressure from fierce academic and employment competition.

Early last year, a serial murder on campus of Yunnan University aroused nationwide concern about psychological pressure on college students.

The murderer, Ma Jiajue, a former life science major at Yunnan University in Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province, was described by some of his schoolmates

as a hardworking, poor student with fragile self-esteem and a warped mentality.

Some analysts say the young generation as a whole is vulnerable to frequent moodiness and "has gotten lost in a lust for material and physical pleasure". Sociologists said the pressures of students come mainly from job hunting, acute competition for post-graduate education, love affairs and lack of school assistance in shaping a healthy personality.

MNA/Xinhua

မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့



Two US Air Force Thunderbirds perform a mirror formation during Aviation Nation Air Show at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas on 12 Nov, 2005.

INTERNET

Sleep pills may do more harm than good in elderly

NEW YORK, 13 Nov — While sedative drugs, such as Restoril and Ambien, may improve sleep in older people with insomnia, the risks of such therapy may outweigh the benefits, according to investigators in Canada.

The findings are based on a review of 24 trials that included 2,417 subjects aged 60 or older who were treated with so-called sedative hypnotic pills or inactive placebo pills for insomnia. The subjects received the assigned pills for at least five consecutive nights

Compared with placebo, sedative use was associated with statistically significant improvements in sleep quality, total sleep time, and the number of nighttime awakenings. Dr Usao Busto, from the

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto, and colleagues note. However, the actual improvements were modest in scope.

Several adverse effects were more common with sedative

hypnotics than with placebo. Busto's group reports in the British Medical Journal. Sedative use greatly increased the odds of thinking difficulties and daytime fatigue. The likelihood of an untoward event was even greater in subjects who were at high risk for falls or mental impairments, the report indicates.

"Although the improvements in sleep variables obtained from prescription hypnotics are statistically significant ... the clinical benefits may be modest at best," the authors conclude. Behavioural therapies may be a better option for older people with insomnia, they add.

MNA/Reuters

Jackie Chan wins "China's Oscar" for first time

SANYA (Hainan), 13 Nov — Hong Kong Kungfu movie superstar Jackie Chan pocketed the Best Leading Actor Award of the 25th Golden Rooster film awards, dubbed "China's Oscar", organizers announced on Saturday evening.

Jackie Chan was nominated for his role in the "New Police Story".

It was the first time that film artists from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan competed for personal prizes at the Golden Rooster and Full Blossom Film Festival, which gives out the top honours in China's film industry.

Chan expressed his gratefulness to the jury with three "thanks" in his speech at the awarding-ceremony on Saturday evening.

"Two years ago, I wanted to make a breakthrough of my performance by acting a different role.

I didn't expect to win such an important award by the film," he said. In the "New Police Story", Chan played a tragic hero, something he had never tried before in his

performance career.

Chan is well known for his Kungfu films such as "Drunken Master", "Police Story" and "Rumble in the Bronx". "Thunderbolt", also starring Chan, was the first Hong Kong film to be screened at more than 1,000 US cinemas.

The US film "Rush Hour" featuring Chan was

among the top 10 movies in the United States in 1998 in terms of box office revenue. Jackie Chan has won the Chinese film an international honour by representing the righteousness and dignity of the Chinghua, with his constant efforts," the jury said.

MNA/Xinhua

Physiotherapy good for spinal arthritis

NEW YORK, 13 Nov — Exercise programmes are beneficial for people with a type of arthritis affecting the spine — ankylosing spondylitis (AS) — Norwegian researchers report, although it is not clear which type of protocol is best. Dr Hanne Dagfinrud of the University of Oslo and

colleagues reviewed of 43 studies involving exercise and AS and eventually scrutinized data on a total of 561 patients in six trials. The results are published in the Journal of Rheumatology.

In the appraisal, two of the reviewed trials compared individualized home exercise versus no intervention.

The results of these two trials provided low-quality evidence in favour of exercise. No effect on pain intensity was seen. Three trials compared supervised group physiotherapy with an individualized home exercise programme. The reviewers found moderate-quality evidence for the superiority of the supervised programmes in the patients' assessment of how much they were helped, and in spinal mobility. Again, no differences in pain intensity were noted.

MNA/Reuters

Zhang Ziyi elected among 100 outstanding Chinese movie stars

SANYA (Hainan), 13 Nov — Chinese starlet Zhang Ziyi has been elected as one of the 100 most outstanding film actors at the centennial anniversary of the Chinese movie. The result was announced by the China Film Performance Art Institute on Saturday morning during the ongoing 14th China Golden Rooster and Full Blossom Film Festival held in China's southernmost coastal city of Sanya.

Zhang, who failed to show up in the film festival, is the youngest star in the list at the age of 26. As the most influential film festival in China, Golden Rooster and Full Blossom refused Zhang's earlier request to show up in videotape instead of presence. —MNA/Xinhua

Japanese princess bids parents farewell before wedding

TOKYO, 13 Nov — Japan's Princess Sayako, the only daughter of Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, paid respects to her imperial ancestors and bade farewell to her parents in rituals on Saturday ahead of her wedding to a commoner next week.

Clad in a 12-layered traditional kimono, Princess Sayako visited three shrines in the Imperial Palace grounds that are dedicated to legendary Japanese gods and emperors of the past.

NHK television showed her walking slowly along a wooden balcony wearing a flowing, multi-layered kimono with robes featuring

a palette of colours from purple and red to yellow and green.

Sayako, 36, later met the Emperor and Empress to bid them farewell ahead of Tuesday's wedding to 40-year-old Yoshiki Kuroda, a Tokyo town planner, an Imperial Household Agency official said.

The farewell ritual is

likely to have been an emotional one for a mother and daughter who are known to be close. Empress Michiko said last month that she would miss support from Princess Sayako, nicknamed "Our Miss Never Mind", when she leaves the imperial household.

MNA/Reuters

Computer festival opens in S-W China municipality

CHONGQING, 13 Nov — The first China Chongqing Computer Festival opened in Chongqing, a municipality in southwest China, on Saturday. The festival has attracted about 1,500 IT companies from home and abroad.

With the theme of "New Chongqing, New IT, New Life," the festival will feature more than 100 activities like IT products exhibitions, lectures, computer games and robot contests. The festival aims to help create a better

environment for the IT development in Chongqing and western China as a whole, according to the organization committee.

The four-day festival is sponsored by Chongqing municipal government, China Computer Federation and Hong Kong Computer Society. Many international IT giants have participated in the festival, including Intel, IBM, HP, Toshiba, Epson, Haier and Huawei.

MNA/Xinhua



A TV grab shows International Space Station (ISS) crew members, flight engineer Valery Tokarev (L) and ISS Expedition 12 commander, Bill McArthur, as they wave while listening to former Beatle Paul McCartney during a live concert broadcast to the orbital laboratory, on 13 November, 2005. —INTERNET

SPORTS



Japan's Takafumi Nishitani (L) leads South Korea's Ahn Hyun-soo during the preliminaries of the men's 500m Short Track World Cup and Olympic Qualifying Competition in Bormio, northern Italy, on 12 November, 2005. Ahn won ahead of Canada's Eric Bedard and Apolo Anton Ohno of the US.—INTERNET

Scotland fight back to hold United States

GLASGOW, 14 Nov—The United States were held to a 1-1 draw by Scotland in a friendly at Hampden Park on Saturday after taking an early lead through a Josh Wolff penalty.

The Americans, who have qualified for the World Cup for the fifth successive tournament, were pegged back by an Andy Webster equalizer after 37 minutes.

Wolff put his side ahead in the ninth minute after Scotland captain Christian Dailly pulled down striker DaMarcus Beasley and the American placed a low shot into the corner of the net having sent Scotland keeper Craig Gordon the wrong way.

Scotland, who failed to qualify for the World Cup, levelled eight minutes before halftime with their first attempt on target as Southampton's Neil McCann picked out Andy Webster with a cross.

The Hearts defender guided a header from 12 metres beyond keeper Kasey Keller, of Borussia Moenchengladbach, into the right side of the net for his first goal for his country.

US coach Bruce Arena

said he was pleased with his team's performance considering it was a make-shift side.

"This was a good game where we were only able to field four of our first team players and, therefore, you always have a concern about continuity and how the players would play over 90 minutes," he

told reporters.

"But I thought our second 45 minutes were pretty solid from start to finish and I was pleased with that and the fact we had the opportunity to look at a lot of new faces, so it's very positive for us.

"Anywhere you go in the world and play on the road, it is difficult to get a

result so at the end of the day it was certainly not the worst scoreline for us."

The US dominated the first 45 minutes and Wolff went close again two minutes from the break with a low shot from seven metres following a Brian Ching cut-back which grazed the left post.

MNA/Reuters

Smicer leads Czechs to World Cup win in Norway

OSLO, 14 Nov—A first-half goal by Vladimir Smicer led the Czech Republic to a 1-0 win over Norway in their World Cup qualifying play-off first leg on Saturday.

Girondins Bordeaux midfielder Smicer rounded off a sweeping move by firmly heading a right-wing cross from Karel Poborsky into the back of the net after 32 minutes.

"We have to be happy, we are now a bit closer to our goal of qualifying," said 32-year-old Smicer. The second leg is in Prague on Wednesday.

Heavy rain and two cup finals the previous weekend reduced the national stadium pitch in Norway to a bog and the teams struggled to create scoring chances as the ball bobbed and players slipped and slid.

The Czechs kept Norway's player of the year and top goalscorer John Carew quiet and limited the home team to a handful of long-range shots.

Only John Arne Riise forced a save from Czech goalkeeper Petr Cech in the opening half. Former European player of the year Pavel Nedved came out of international retirement to add a touch of class to the Czech midfield that no one in the Norway team could match.

Norway coach Age Hareide, who said before the game that it was important for his team to win at home, criticized his players after their defeat.

"They were poorer than normal and every player has to perform at a higher level than that on Wednesday," he said. "But we have to keep faith."

Hareide will have to do without midfielder Daniel Braathen in the second leg after he received his second yellow card of the competition.

Substitute Braathen came on after 46 minutes and injected zest and creativity to Norway's attack, once jinking past two Czech players and almost winning a penalty.

The World Cup begins in Munich on 9 June and features 32 teams playing a total of 64 matches at 12 venues across Germany, culminating in the final at the Olympic Stadium in Berlin on 9 July.

The draw will be held on 9 December in Leipzig. — MNA/Reuters

Portugal beat Croatia 2-0 in World Cup warm-up

LISBON, 14 Nov—Goals from Armando Petit and Pedro Pauleta steered Portugal to a 2-0 victory over Croatia in their World Cup warm-up on Saturday.

Both teams have qualified for the finals in Germany next year but each were missing several first-team regulars through injury or because they were being rested.

Portugal took the lead after 33 minutes when Petit struck a superb 20-metre freekick into the right-hand corner past goalkeeper Tomislav Butina.

Pauleta, Portugal's record goalscorer, put the result beyond doubt in the 65th minute with an acute-angled shot after a pass from Cristiano Ronaldo,

taking his goal tally to 43.

Croatia's best chance fell to midfielder Bosko Balaban whose shot from the edge of the box after 36 minutes hit the bar.

In the second half Portugal substituted several players, giving Croatia a chance to trim the deficit but their efforts all went wide. Before the game in Coimbra, Portugal coach Luiz Felipe Scolari told his side to do their best to avoid injuries but Cristiano Ronaldo hurt his left knee in the 76th minute when he collided with a Croatian defender.

He was substituted by the uncapped Joao Alves

but Portugal's team doctor said Ronaldo would be fit to play in Tuesday's friendly against Northern Ireland in Belfast.

Portugal are on a 10-game unbeaten streak under Scolari.

Croatia coach Zlatko Kranjcar said the wide-open game was typical of teams that preparing for the World Cup but there had been few chances to score.

"I am not worried in the least with the result since it is one more game of preparation. I played most of the team even without the usual top players," he said.

MNA/Reuters

Bulgaria crush Georgia 6-2

SOFIA, 14 Nov—Bulgaria stormed to a 6-2 victory over Georgia in a friendly on Saturday.

The hosts went ahead in the second minute when Chavdar Yankov beat Georgia goalkeeper Nukri Revishvili with a shot from the edge of the penalty area. The Hanover 96 midfielder doubled the lead in the 28th minute before Dimitar Berbatov made it 3-0 seven minutes later.

Berbatov also headed the fourth goal following a cross by Martin Petrov. Hristo Stoichkov's side went further ahead in the 63rd minute when Svetoslav Todorov netted from close range.

Georgia pulled two goals back through Lasha Yakobia and Gogita Gogua before Todorov converted a late penalty after substitute Cvetan Genkov was brought down.

Neither side qualified for next year's World Cup finals in Germany.

Bulgaria face Mexico in Houston in another friendly on Wednesday.—MNA/Reuters



Uruguay's Dario Silva (L) and team mate Carlos Diogo practise ball skills during training at Aussie Stadium in Sydney on 14 November, 2005. Uruguay play Australia on Wednesday in the second leg of their World Cup playoff. Uruguay won the first leg 1-0.—INTERNET

Estonia salvage 2-2 draw with Finland

HELSINKI, 14 Nov—Estonia scored twice in the last half-hour to salvage a 2-2 draw away to Finland in a friendly on Saturday.

Trailing 2-0 after 59 minutes, Estonia pulled one back two minutes later when Lokomotiv Moscow's Dmitri Kruglov scored from the penalty spot. Flora Tallinn midfielder Joel Lindpere sealed the draw five minutes from time when he burst through the Finland defence and fired the ball past keeper Mikko Kaven from just inside the penalty area.

Although Finland caretaker coach Jyrki Heliskoski had named an inexperienced squad for the match, the home side opening the scoring in the seventh minute when midfielder Daniel Sjolund curled in a free kick from 20 metres.

Finland maintained their 1-0 lead for the rest of the half and uncapped Lahti midfielder Kari Arkivuo doubled the advantage just before the hour. Both countries failed to qualify for next year's World Cup.—MNA/Reuters

Japanese probing robot may have failed to land on asteroid

TOKYO, 13 Nov — A small probing robot released by a Japanese space probe toward an asteroid orbiting the sun between Earth and Mars may have failed to land and has likely drifted away from the asteroid, *Yomiuri Shimbun* reported on Sunday.

The probe, named *Hayabusa*, released the robot called *Minerva* toward the asteroid Itokawa at 3:24 pm (0624 GMT) Saturday as part of a rehearsal for its own planned descents later this month, the major Japanese daily

said. It was the first attempt by Japan to send equipment to an astronomic object outside Earth. A rehearsal initially held on 4 November before deploying *Minerva* was

aborted due to technical problems. If there are no problems with *Hayabusa*, the agency will go ahead with its first touchdown on Itokawa as scheduled for 19 November to collect rock samples in the world's first attempt to gather samples from the surface of an asteroid, the newspaper said.

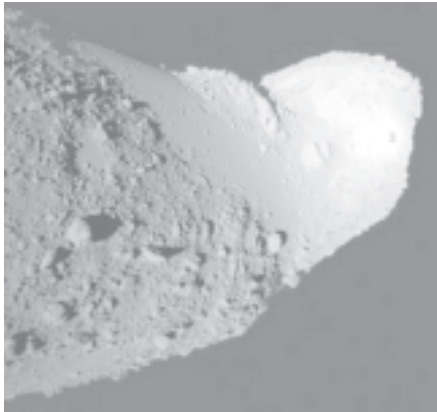
The can-shaped *Minerva* — with a diameter of about 12 centimetres and a height of 10 centimetres, weighing less than 600 grammes and equipped with three small cameras — was expected to hop around the asteroid and send data, such as surface temperatures and images, back to Earth via *Hayabusa*.

Hayabusa, launched in May 2003 to travel to Itokawa to collect surface samples, is scheduled to conduct two touchdowns on the

asteroid on 19 and 25 November to take rock samples before heading back to Earth. It is to arrive back on Earth in June 2007. The potato-shaped Itokawa — 548 metres long, 312 metres wide and 276 metres high — is now about 290 million kilometres away from Earth, with the sun situated in between them.

The asteroid was discovered in 1998 by scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States. It was named after the late Hideo Itokawa, Japan's pioneer rocket scientist.

MNA/Xinhua



In this photo released by Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), the part of asteroid Itokawa is seen with the shadow of probe Hayabusa on top right on Saturday, 12 Nov, 2005.

INTERNET



WEATHER

Monday, 14 November, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30

hours MST: During the past 24 hours, except for the isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin State and Mandalay Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions, (7°C) below normal in Chin State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was (1°C) in Hakha. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Dawei (0.47) inch.

Maximum temperature on 13-11-2005 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 14-11-2005 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 14-11-2005 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 13-11-2005 was (6.8) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 14-11-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (102.60) inches at Mingaladon, (101.77) inches at Kaba-Aye and (106.46) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northeast at (15:00) hours MST on 13-11-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 15-11-2005: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 15-11-2005: Partly cloudy

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-11-2005: Fair weather.



Tuesday, 15 November Tune in today

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: -Wanna be where you are
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: -What about me
- 8.50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Take a chance on me
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -I see your smile
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music -For you I will -Will be yours -Because of you -To love you more
- 9.00 pm "Full moon Day of Tazaungmone"
- 9.15 pm Article
- 9.25 pm Weekly sport reel
- 9.35 pm English Speaking Course, Level III Unit (18)
- 9.45 pm News & Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL

Tuesday, 15 November
View on today

ဘုရားရှင်တို့အား (အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ)ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော "သာမညဗေဒအစီအစဉ်တော်" တော်

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ် အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဓမ္မာနာ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဓမ္မာတိတ၊ တိပိဋကဓရ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိတ၊ ဆရာတော်ဘုရားရှင်တော်မူအပ်သော ဝိသုဒ္ဓိပဋိတော်</p> <p>7:15 am</p> <p>2. တိပိဋကဓရ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိတ၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘုရားရှင်တော်မူအပ်သော ဝိသုဒ္ဓိပဋိတော်</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>3. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>4. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>5. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:50 am</p> <p>6. နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့ (အဖွဲ့ဝင်)မန္တလေးတိုင်း၊ မဟာအောင်မြေမြို့နယ်၊ မဟာဝိသုဒ္ဓိရုံတိုက်သစ်၊ ဓမ္မရာသုဋ္ဌေးတန်းကျောင်းဆရာတော်</p>	<p>8:10 am</p> <p>7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:15 am</p> <p>8. ကဗျာပန်းပွဲယျာဉ်</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>9. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>10. International news</p> <p>8:45 am</p> <p>11. Let's Go.</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>4:40 pm</p> <p>4. တန်ဆောင်တိုင်တေးများ</p> <p>4:55 pm</p> <p>5. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လီပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနှစ် (အထူးပြုအားလုံး) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)</p> <p>5:10 pm</p> <p>6. Dance of national races</p> <p>5:20 pm</p> <p>7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>5:25 pm</p> <p>8. ထူးမြတ်တင့်ဆန်းကြာသလံနံ့</p>	<p>5:40 pm</p> <p>9. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>5:45 pm</p> <p>10. Sing and Enjoy</p> <p>6:15 pm</p> <p>11. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရယ်လွန်းဆော့ပြောလွန်းဆိတ်လေး" (အပိုင်း-၃၉)</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>12. Evening news</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>13. Weather report.</p> <p>7:05 pm</p> <p>14. ရို င် င် ခြား ဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်တွေကားထစ်လေးများ" (အပိုင်း-၁၃)</p> <p>7:35 pm</p> <p>15. သီတဂူ ဆရာတော် အရှင်ဉာဏိသရဏိ "သာမညဗေဒသုတ္တန်တရားတော်"</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>16. News</p> <p>17. International news.</p> <p>18. Weather report.</p> <p>19. ရို င် င် ခြား ဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ် သူ လ က် ခေ ဝ င်" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)</p> <p>20. မင်းကုန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဘုရားရှင်တော်မူအပ်သော ဝိသုဒ္ဓိပဋိတော်</p> <p>21. The next day's programme</p>
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Yangon-Mandalay Highway upgraded, Yenwe Dam to benefit 118,500 acres

YANGON, 14 Nov— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence and Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of the Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko on 12 November morning inspected extended construction and maintenance work of

Bago-Toungoo section of Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway.

During his tour of inspection, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also inspected Zayyawady-Yedashe road section, Nyaunglebin-Zayyawady road section, Bago-Nyaunglebin road section on Yangon-Mandalay Highway.

In order to improve the condition of the high-

way, the road sections are being upgraded and extended.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to Yenwe multipurpose Dam Project in Kyauktaga Township in Bago Division.

At the briefing hall of the project, officials of the Irrigation Department and Hydro-electric Power Department reported on

construction work of the dam and arrangements for irrigation and power supply tasks.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than called for timely completion of the dam.

The dam is being constructed on Yenwe Creek and on completion, it will benefit 118,500 acres of land. Besides, the dam will help the hydel power plant to generate 25 MW.

The multi-purpose dam is expected to be completed by March, 2006.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than went to Indagaw Research and Horticulture Farm of Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise in Indagaw Village, Bago Township, and heard report on cultivation of rubber including Myanmar-China friendship rubber

cultivation, collection of rubber saplings and completion of rubber cultivation in Bago Division in 2005-2006.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urged officials concerned to make efforts to meet the division's target of cultivation of 100,000 acres of rubber in three years and to produce rubber quality strains and to sell them at reasonable prices.

A total of 300,000 rubber plants have been cultivated. Bago Division sets its target of 100,000 acres of rubber plantation. Of 5,000 acres of rubber to be grown in 2005-2006, 2,000 acres have been put under the rubber. Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise has cultivated 5 million of rubber saplings, and arrangements are being made to sell the saplings to farmers at a reasonable price.

MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspect progress in building of Yenwe Dam in Kyauktaga Township in Bago Division. —MNA



Lt-Gen Maung Bo continues inspection tour of Kayin State

YANGON, 14 Nov— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Chairman of Kayin State PDC Col Khin Kyu and departmental officials, inspected strains of beans and cultivation of oil crops at the plantation of farmer U Ke Htin near Kawhlaik village in Hpa-an Township.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo urged farmers to grow quality paddy strains to earn foreign currency. He also urged officials to disseminate knowledge on agriculture for farmers.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo attended the 16th Kathina robes offering ceremony organized by officers and other ranks of Hpa-an and Myaingale Stations held under the aegis of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing at Nyaungbintha Monastery in Myaingale village.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kavidhaja and members of the

Sangha. Also present were the commander and wife and others. First, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party took the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kavidhaja.

Members of the Sangha recited parittas.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party offered Kathina robes and provisions to the Sayadaws.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kavidhaja delivered a sermon followed by sharing of merits gained.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded to Paingkyon along Hpa-an-Hlaingbwe-Paingkyon road

and inspected the site chosen for construction of Station hospital in No-3 Ward in Paingkyon.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party also inspected construction of departmental offices and gave instructions on making finishing touches to the building.

At Paingkyon Basic Education High School, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party observed academic matters and inspected the new two-storey building of the school and its environs.

(See page 10)



Lt-Gen Maung Bo of Ministry of Defence cheers the students learning at Paingkyon Township BEHS. —MNA

INSIDE

Thanks to the hearing of Samañña Phala Sutta, the king fully recuperated from his insomnia. And among the common people, he become the one who admired and convinced of the Three Gems most.