

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIII, Number 216

3rd Waning of Tazaungmone 1367 ME

Friday, 18 November, 2005

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation wherever he lives to cultivate and possess strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to uphold and safeguard.

44th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament commences

YANGON, 17 Nov — A ceremony to open the 44th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament was held at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna, here, at 3 pm today.

On behalf of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief, Chairman of Defence Services Sports and Physical Education Administrative

Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivered an opening address at the ceremony.

Also present on the occasion were Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Com-

mand Lt-Gen Myint Swe, senior military officers, Military Attachés of foreign missions in Myanmar, officials of the Ministry of Sports, Tatmadawmen and their families, guests and football fans.

The Secretary-1 declared the tournament open.

After the opening ceremony, Central Command team played against Tatmadaw (Navy), and the match ended with a

goalless draw.

In the round robin series, Group A matches will be held in South-East Command Zone (Mawlamyine), Group B in South-West Command Zone (Patheingyi), Group C in North-West Command Zone (Monywa), Group D in Central Command Zone (Mandalay), and Group E in Southern Command Zone (Toungoo) from 21 to 30 November.

MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

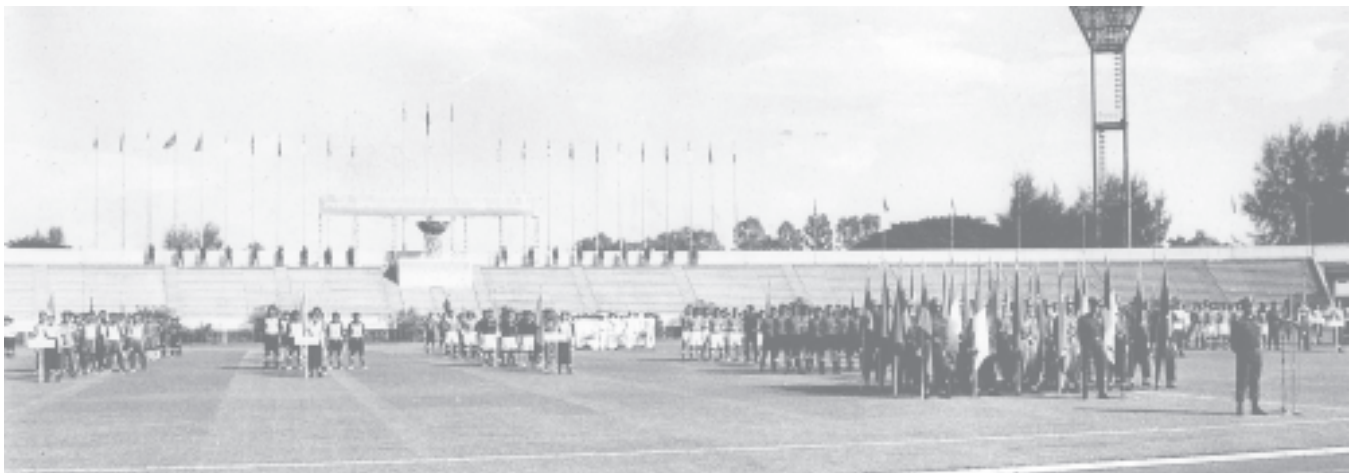
- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country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

Four social objectives

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



Secretary-1 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivers an address at the opening ceremony of 44th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament.— MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 18 November, 2005

Actively take part in rural development tasks

Now is the time when the entire national people, under the correct leadership of the government, are striving for national development based on regional development. In doing so, special priority is being given to construction of new roads and bridges to improve transport infrastructure as development of the transport infrastructure is necessary for regional development. Only with transport infrastructure development will education, health, social and economic status of local people in each and every region be feasible.

The Langkho detour (Dahseik) in Langkho Township in Shan State (South) was inaugurated on 5 November in Dahseik village. The Langkho detour is part of a major road that links Shan State (South) and Shan State (East). It is a macadam road six miles long and constructed at a cost of K 5.8 million. In addition to building the Langkho detour, the government has upgraded the 290-foot-long Dahseik suspension bridge into a reinforced concrete bridge. Therefore, it will facilitate transport and trade in the region.

To contribute to the agricultural work in Langkho Township and its surrounding areas, the Dahseik river water pumping station has also been built. As a result, 136 acres of monsoon paddy were irrigated in the 2005-2006 cultivation season and plans are being made to be able to irrigate 3,400 acres of paddy in the 2006-2007 cultivation season.

Langkho Township can produce rice as well as such edible oil crops as groundnut, sesame and sunflower enough for its local consumption. Moreover, pigeon pea, cotton and sugar cane are thriving in the areas around the river water pumping station of Dahseik Model Village and the Namhting Creek. Langkho Township has favourable conditions for agriculture. And Langkho Township has a self-reliance hydroelectric power station, Dahseik Model Village, Namhtok and Namhtum villages are now electrified.

We would like to call on regional authorities and local people not only of Langkho region as well as others to actively lend themselves to rural development tasks so that rural people can enjoy higher socio-economic status.



Evian Wong & Peter Pan at 120 (B), 2nd Floor (Rt) Seikkantha Street, Kyauktada Tsp, Yangon present US \$ 100 to U Maung Maung Gyi, joint treasurer of Hninzigone Home for the Aged. — 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

Minister U Aung Thaung receives Malaysian, Chinese guests

YANGON, 17 Nov — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung received Senior Vice President Mr Jesper B Madsen and party of Malaysia-based Carlsberg Breweries A/S, and General Manager Mr Li Min and party of China Texwatech Co Ltd at the hall of the ministry at 5 pm and 5.30 pm yesterday separately.

They discussed matters related to the projects for textile mills at Pyawbwe and Myitha in Mandalay Division.

Also present at the calls were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun, directors-general

and managing directors of departments and enterprises.

MNA

MYANMAR GAZETTE

YANGON, 17 Nov — The State Peace and Development Council has confirmed appointment of Managing Director U Han Zaw of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction from the expiry of one-year probationary period.

MNA



Minister U Aung Thaung receives Senior Vice President Mr Jesper B Madsen and party of Malaysia-based Carlsberg Breweries A/S.

INDUSTRY-1

Lecture on AIDS preventive measures given

YANGON, 17 NOV — Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation held the talks on preventive measures against AIDS contagious disease at Thiri Okatha Hall in Bago on 13 November morning with an opening speech by Patron of Bago Division Organization for women's Affairs Daw Sao Nwan Khon Sam.

Afterwards, officials from the health and education departments of Bago Division Organization for women's Affairs gave a lecture on AIDS preventive measures.

Next, those present viewed the documentary photos on activities of division, districts and townships organizations for women's affairs.

The talks continued at No 5 Bago BEHS on 14 November.

MNA

အများပြည်သူသုံးဝါးရန် အသိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

၁။ ဈေးကွက်များတွင် ရောင်းချနေသော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ဆေးဝါးများမှာ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် မှတ်ပုံတင်ထားခြင်း (မရှိ)သော ဆေးဝါးများဖြစ်ပါကြောင်းနှင့် မှတ်ပုံတင်ထားခြင်းမရှိသောဆေးဝါးများမှာ အရည်အသွေးအာမခံချက်မရှိပါကြောင်း အသိပေးအပ်ပါသည်။

စဉ်	ဆေးအမည်	ထုတ်လုပ်သည့်ကုမ္ပဏီအမည်	နိုင်ငံ
၁	Ranidine Tablets [150 mg] (Ranitidine HCl equivalent to Ranitidine 150 mg)	Biolab Co, Ltd	Thailand
၂	ONova Tablet (Diclofenac Sodium B.P 50 mg)	Belco Pharma	India
၃	Metronidazole 250mg BP Tablet	Pharmamed	Malta
၄	Compound Herba Andrographitis Tablet (Herba Andrographitis, Herba Kalimerdis Indicae)	Guanxi Jinye Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.,	China
၅	Dapsone Tablets (Dapsone BP 80 100gm)	ဖော်ပြထားခြင်း မရှိပါ	China

၂။ အများပြည်သူများသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် မှတ်ပုံတင်ထားခြင်းမရှိသော ဆေးဝါးများကို ဝယ်ယူသုံးစွဲခြင်းမပြုကြရန်နှင့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် မှတ်ပုံတင်ထားသော ဆေးဝါးများကိုသာ စူးစမ်းဝယ်ယူသုံးစွဲပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

၃။ ဆေးဝါးတင်သွင်းဖြန့်ဖြူးသည့် ကုမ္ပဏီ၊ ဆေးဝါးရောင်းချသည့် ဆေးဆိုင်များသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် မှတ်ပုံတင်ထားခြင်းမရှိသော ဆေးဝါးများ၊ ဆေးဝါးအတု၊ စံမညီဆေးဝါးများ တင်သွင်းဖြန့်ဖြူးရောင်းချခြင်း လုံးဝမပြုလုပ်ရန်နှင့် လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း မရှိပါက သက်ဆိုင်ရာ အာဏာပိုင်အဖွဲ့အစည်းက တည်ဆဲဥပဒေအရ အရေးယူမည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးအပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

China, Germany vow to enhance judicial cooperation

BEIJING, 16 Nov— Chinese judicial branch will enhance its exchanges and cooperation with German counterparts in an effort to improve efficiency and promote Sino-German relations.

Luo Gan, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, gave this remark in his meeting with Hans-Juergen Papier, president of the German Federal Constitutional Court here on Tuesday. Luo said Sino-German relations witnessed a sound development momentum along with expanding bilateral cooperation in political, economic and culture sectors.

"Such cooperation also exists between the judicial branches of the two countries, which has contributed to the growth of bilateral ties," Luo

acknowledged. China attaches importance to the vital role of law played in the economic development and social progress and will further increase the efficiency and fairness of judicial work, he said. Apart from basing

itself on its own specific national conditions and experience, China will also absorb and learn from judicial experience of other countries, including Germany, Luo said. Papier, who had come to visit China as guest of the Chinese Supreme

People's Court, agreed with Luo on his remarks concerning Germany-China relations, saying that the Federal Constitutional Court will further step up its cooperation with Chinese judicial sector.

MNA/Xinhua

Afghan roadside bomb kills US soldier

KABUL, 16 Nov— One American soldier was killed and another wounded on Tuesday when their armoured vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb in southeastern Afghanistan, the US military said in a statement.

Two Afghan security men and a civilian were also wounded in the blast in Paktika Province, near the border with Pakistan, the statement said.

The wounded were in a stable condition, it said.

The explosion occurred while American troops were conducting an offensive operation against the militants, it added. More than 50 US soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan so far in 2005, one of the bloodiest years in an insurgency that has raged since US-led forces overthrew the Taliban government in 2001 for refusing to surrender al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden.

MNA/Reuters



Competitors prepare to take part in gaming tournaments during the World Cyber Games in Singapore on 17 Nov, 2005. The event lasts until 20 November, with gamers competing for prizes totalling more than \$435,000. — INTERNET

US Senate seeks speedier handover in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov — Showing mounting discontent among Republicans over progress in the Iraq war, the US Senate resolved on Tuesday that Iraqis should start taking the lead in their own security next year to allow a phased withdrawal of US troops.

But the Republican-led Senate rejected Democrats' demand for Republican President George W. Bush to submit a plan and an estimated timetable to withdraw US forces, a step Bush has vehemently opposed.

The Senate's vote on the Iraq resolution came days after Bush, facing waning public support for the war and the lowest job approval ratings of his presidency, launched an aggressive counteroffensive against Democratic critics who say the Administration hyped prewar intelligence on Iraq to justify the 2003 US-led

invasion. The Senate demand, and with it the stirrings of Republican revolt, was another blow to Bush, who is reeling over a string of setbacks including his Administration's response

to Hurricane Katrina, controversy over Supreme Court nominees and high gas prices.

The Senate voted 79-19 for a resolution saying 2006 "should be a period of significant transition to full

Iraqi sovereignty, with Iraqi security forces taking the lead for the security of a free and sovereign Iraq, thereby creating the conditions for the phased redeployment of United States forces from Iraq."

Singapore reports 13,425 dengue cases this year

SINGAPORE, 16 Nov — Singapore has witnessed 13,425 dengue cases so far this year, according to Channel News Asia report Monday.

The figure is 42 per cent higher than the 9,459 cases recorded

for the whole of last year.

The weekly number of cases dropped further to 175 in the week ending 12 November, as compared with the 222 cases reported in the previous week.

In September this year, the city state saw a surge in the number of dengue cases and the weekly number reached a record high of 713 from 18 to 24 September.

Nineteen Singaporeans have died of the disease so far this year.

MNA/Xinhua

Suicide bomb attack kills three Iraqi soldiers south of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 16 Nov — A suicide bomber attacked a military checkpoint south of Baghdad on Tuesday, killing at least three National Guards, a police source told Xinhua.

"Three National Guards were killed in the attack in the town of Mahmoudiya, some 30 kilometres south of Baghdad," the source said, adding that seven people, including four National Guards and three civilians were injured. — MNA/Xinhua

Bird flu threat largely "exaggerated"

BUSAN (South Korea), 16 Nov — As countries throughout the world are taking increasing measures to combat avian influenza, some South Korean scientists are arguing that the global leaders are too anxious about the disease, which is largely "exaggerated" by Western medical

scientists. Some pharmacologists in South Korea claim that all the threats of bird flu are "spurious" and that the world leaders' efforts to contain the virus are stemming from lobbies of international drug manufacturers, *The Korea Times* newspaper reported Tuesday.

"Avian flu has developed into a big issue because Western drug makers are blackmailing for their own profits," the newspaper quoted Rym Kyo-hwan, professor of Chungbuk National University's pharmaceutical college, as saying in a telephone interview. He argued that bird flu occurs mostly at breeding farms where chickens and ducks have weak immune systems because they are always confined in a small space.

MNA/Xinhua

US military deaths rise to 2,079

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov — As of Wednesday, 16 Nov, 2005, at least 2,079 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 1,625 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,940 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,516 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers. — Internet



Marines from Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, provide security while other members of the platoon search and clear a building during Operation Steel Curtain near Qusayba in this handout photo released on 16 Nov, 2005. — INTERNET

APEC ministers meet on free trade, human security

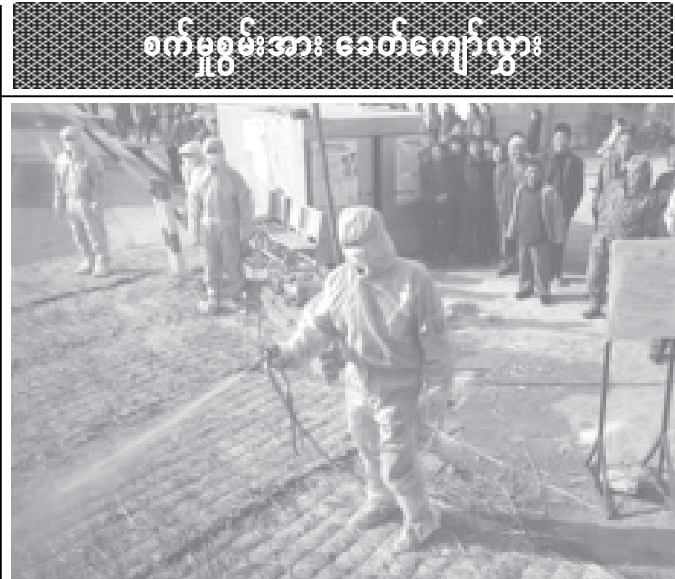
BUSAN (South Korea), 16 Nov— The foreign and trade ministers from the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member economies met in South Korea's southeastern port city of Busan on Tuesday, focusing on issues of pushing forward global free trade talks, anti-terrorism, measures against bird flu pandemic, and high oil prices.

During the two-day gathering, the APEC ministers will finalize the wording of statements to be submitted to APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting scheduled on 18-19 November. The statements were prepared by APEC senior officials at their two-day working-level meeting on 12-13 November.

On trade liberalization, the APEC leaders are expected to announce a statement promoting acceleration of the World Trade Organization's Doha Development Agenda.

The Doha Round of World Trade Organization negotiations, first introduced at the fourth WTO biannual ministerial conference in Doha, Qatar in 2001, have been stalled due to deep differences between the developed and developing members on market access, agriculture subsidies and tariff structures. The push by APEC leaders to keep the momentum going is seen as important because the region represents nearly half of the world trade. A WTO ministerial meeting will be held in Hong Kong next month.—MNA/Xinhua

ference in Doha, Qatar in 2001, have been stalled due to deep differences between the developed and developing members on market access, agriculture subsidies and tariff structures. The push by APEC leaders to keep the momentum going is seen as important because the region represents nearly half of the world trade. A WTO ministerial meeting will be held in Hong Kong next month.—MNA/Xinhua



Chinese villagers watch as health workers spray disinfectant in Heishan County, on 16 Nov, 2005.—INTERNET

UNSG rescinds decision to fire UN official over oil-for-food scandal

UNITED NATIONS, 16 Nov — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Tuesday reversed his earlier decision to fire a UN official over the scandal-hit oil-for-food programme after an internal disciplinary body ruled that the official did nothing wrong.

UN deputy spokesperson Marie Okabe told reporters that a letter for this

effect was sent to Josef Stephanides, who was the only UN employee fired outright for actions linked to the oil-for-food programme.

Okabe said the letter was signed by UN Under-Secretary-General for Management Christopher Burnham in the morning on behalf of Annan, who is presently at a UN information conference in Tunisia.—MNA/Xinhua

US military refuses to probe into lion-cage abuse allegations in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov — The US military said Tuesday that it will not formally probe into the allegations by two former Iraqi detainees that they were once thrust by US soldiers into a cage of lions in Baghdad.

US Army spokesman Paul Boyce said there will be no formal investigation, adding that he has never heard of lions being used in any detainee operations. The two former detain-

ees, Thahe Mohammed Sabbar, 37, and Sherzad Kamal Khalid, 35, are in the United States this week to talk about the lawsuit that the American Civil Liberties Union and Hu-

man Rights First filed on their behalf against Rumsfeld and other military officials. The two described a day in July 2003, when they were arrested by US troops with guns and armoured vehicles. They said they were covered with plastic hoods and repeatedly struck by soldiers using the butt of their guns.

They both described standing in front of a lion cage, and said they could hear other prisoners screaming as the metal cage door creaked open and slammed shut.

"They threatened that if I did not confess they would put me in the cage," said Khalid, adding that US sol-

diers kept asking him where Saddam Hussein was.

Failing to give an answer, he was then pushed into the cage three times, but were pulled out as the lions moved toward him.

Sabbar said he was also pushed into the cage. "The lions came running toward me and they (US soldiers) pulled me out and shut the door. I completely lost consciousness." Both men said they suffer continuing physical and psychological trauma, such as pain, ulcers, nightmares and insomnia. After the incident, Sabbar was held by US forces for six months, while Khalid was held for about two months.

MNA/Xinhua

Los Angeles once again dirty air capital in US

LOS ANGELES, 16 Nov— Los Angeles is once again the dirty air capital in the United States, a report said.

The second biggest US city actually has had fewer smoggy days this year than last, continuing a relatively steady three-decade trend toward cleaner air, the *Los Ange-*

les Times reported.

But Houston and the San Joaquin Valley of California, which in recent years rivaled and even surpassed Los Angeles as the smoggiest areas in the country, experienced exceptionally clean air this year.

As a result, the Greater Los Angeles re-

gion is again home to the worst smog in the United States, according to the federal Environmental Protection Agency's latest barometer for measuring air quality.

Air quality in Los Angeles and nearby counties has exceeded the federal health standard for more than two and a half

months this year, according to the *Times* report.

"It's a tough job cleaning up the ozone at this point because there are not a lot of easy emissions to target," Joe Cassmassi, an official of the region's smog-fighting agency, was quoted as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi woman and a girl look out from a damaged house which was hit by an improvised explosive device (IED) explosion in Baquba on 16 Nov, 2005.

INTERNET

Six more US service members die in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 17 Nov— Five US Marines were killed in fighting with al-Qaida-led insurgents near the Syrian border and an Army soldier died of wounds suffered in Baghdad, making Wednesday the second deadliest day for American forces in Iraq this month.

Eleven other Marines were wounded Wednesday in Obeidi, 185 miles northwest of Baghdad, according to a *New York Times* reporter travelling with US forces.

A US Marine statement confirmed the five deaths but made no mention of wounded. The statement also said 16 insurgents were confirmed killed

in the fighting. Elsewhere, a soldier from the Army's Task Force Baghdad died Wednesday of wounds suffered the day before when a roadside bomb exploded northwest of the capital on the previous day, the US command said. Three other soldiers were killed Tuesday in a roadside bombing in the same area. But it was unclear if the soldier who died Wednesday was injured in the same attack.

The six deaths made Wednesday the deadliest day for American forces in Iraq since 2 Nov, when seven service members died in four separate attacks. At least 51 US service members have already died in Iraq this month.—Internet

Bill Clinton calls Iraq 'big mistake'

DUBAI, (United Arab Emirates) 16 Nov — Former President Clinton told Arab students Wednesday the United States made a "big mistake" when it invaded Iraq, stoking the partisan debate back home over the war.

Clinton cited the lack of planning for what would happen after Saddam Hussein was overthrown.

"Saddam is gone. It's a good thing, but I don't agree with what was done," Clinton told students at a forum at the American University of Dubai.

"It was a big mistake. The American government made several errors ... one of which is how easy it would be to get rid of Saddam and how hard it would be to unite the country." Clinton's remarks came when he was taking questions about the

US invasion, which began in 2003. His response drew cheers and a standing ovation at the end of the hour-long session.

Clinton said the United States had done some good things in Iraq: the removal of Saddam, the ratification of a new constitution and

the holding of parliamentary elections.

"The mistake that they made is that when they kicked out Saddam, they decided to dismantle the whole authority structure of Iraq. ... We never sent enough troops and didn't have enough troops to control or seal the borders," Clinton said.

As the borders were unsealed, "the terrorists came in," he said. Clinton said it would have been better if the United States had left Iraq's "fundamental military and social and police structure intact."

Democrats are accusing President Bush of having misled the American public about the urgency of the Iraqi threat before his order to invade. —Internet

China, Spain agree to build comprehensive strategic partnership

MADRID, 16 Nov — China and Spain have agreed to build a comprehensive strategic partnership to benefit the two nations and promote peace and development in the world, said a joint communique issued on Tuesday.

During his state visit to Spain on 13-15 November, Chinese President Hu Jintao held talks with King Juan Carlos I and Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero on bilateral relations and international issues, reaching broad consensus.

Hu also met Spain's Parliament leaders and, along with the King, attended the first industrial and business summit between the two countries.

China and Spain agreed that they should further strengthen ties of mutual trust, promote understanding and boost

cooperation as international relations face profound changes and new challenges.

The bilateral ties have witnessed positive progress with broad prospects for cooperation in various fields since the two countries established diplomatic relations 32 years ago, said the communique.

Both sides hold that the international community should respond to threats and challenges within the framework of the United Nations and seek political solution to international disputes through negotiations and consultations.

A closer Sino-Spanish relationship should promote multilateralism to make it play an effective role in preserving world peace, security and stability, and ensuring a more just international order. Handling global issues including the fight against terrorism bilaterally and within the framework of the United Nations should also be promoted by the relationship.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua



This photo taken recently shows B-2 Stealth Bomber in flight. Australian authorities are investigating reports linking an Australian defence official with a US spy scandal involving the alleged sale of top-secret US stealth bomber technology to foreign powers.—INTERNET

Three US Marines killed in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Nov — Three US Marines were killed in separate attacks during combat actions of the ongoing Operation Steel Curtain in western Iraq near the Syrian border, the US military said on Tuesday.

Two US soldiers assigned to 2nd Marine Division were killed separately on Monday in action from an improvised explosive devices while conducting combat operations against guerillas in Ubaydi, the military said in a statement. Another Marine from the same division died of wounds sustained from small arms fire during combat operations against guerillas also on Monday, the military said in another statement.

some 20 kilometres from the Syrian border on the banks of Euphrates River.

"Approximately 50 terrorists are estimated to have been killed in sporadic but heavy fighting," the statement said.

The statement said that the troops have cleared the nearby towns of Husaybah and Karabilah in earlier

phases of the operation and permanent Iraqi-US presence has been established.

About 3,500 US and Iraqi soldiers participated in the Operation Steel Curtain, which began on 5 November, in the western al-Anbar Province, according to the US military. —MNA/Xinhua

Eight die in Nigeria's stampede caused by fire

LAGOS, 16 Nov — Eight were killed and many others injured in a school stampede caused by a nearby carpenter workshop fire in the northern city of Kaduna, a government official told Xinhua on Tuesday.

The stampede occurred on Monday morning in the All Saints International College of the city while the school was in session, said the official from the State Information Ministry who requested anonymity.

"There is a carpenter workshop very close to the school. Its wood was on

fire. Unfortunately, the smoke (by the fire) got into the school," the official said. "The students panicked and rushed out of the classrooms, some of them coming down using the stairs, some of them jumping out of the window," he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Earthquake hits Japan

HONG KONG, 16 Nov — An earthquake measuring 6.1 on the Richter Scale rocked east coast of Honshu of Japan at 3:26 am local time Wednesday, according to the Hong Kong Observatory.

The epicentre was initially determined to be 33.4 north Latitude, 141.3 east Longitude, about 300 kilometres south-southeast of Tokyo. — MNA/Xinhua

Typhoon "Pepeng" to enter Philippines

MANILA, 16 Nov — The Philippine state weather bureau PAGASA on Tuesday said Typhoon Pepeng has entered the Philippine area and is threatening to bring rains over Surigao del Norte in Mindanao.

At 2:00 am local time on Tuesday, the typhoon was located by surface and satellite data at 330 kilometres east and northeast of Surigao City in Surigao del Norte Province with maximum sustained winds of 55 kilometres per hour near the centre. It is forecast to move north at 15 kilometres per hour. Pepeng is the 16th typhoon to hit the country this year. Typhoons gather strength from warm sea water and tend to dissipate after making landfall. PAGASA said the central and southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao regions will experience cloudy skies with scattered showers and thunderstorms becoming widespread over the eastern part of the country. The rest of Luzon will have mostly cloudy skies with showers and thunderstorms. —MNA/Xinhua



A German soldier from the NATO-led international peacekeepers keeps watch, along the road where two suicide attacks took place on Monday, in Kabul on 17 Nov, 2005. — INTERNET

Goodwill that helps the blind recover sight

Dr Nilar Thein (Lin Yaung Thit)

As a gesture of hailing the World Sight Day, a team from Yangon Eye Hospital, under the arrangement

eliminate avoidable blindness by 2020. The Ministry of Health has been making all-out efforts to provide health care for the

persons who look after the patients, and absence of persons on whom patients can rely. In order to solve all those problems at one stroke, ophthalmologists equipped with loving-kindness and compassion went to the places of eye patients, and collected the patients. And with the assistance and services contributed by wellwishers, the team members could do the job successfully.

The team arrived in Kawkaeik, Kayin State, at about 4 pm on 10 October 2005. We members have made trips to many regions such as Rakhine and Mon States, Ayeyawady and Magway Divisions. The Union of Myanmar is a diverse nation that has a fine tradition that all the national races have been living

woe. So, it is the duty of our team members to give health care to local people.

With sufficient number of specialists, Kawkaeik Hospital (100-bed) can provide health care for local people well. Thanks to necessary assistance provided by local authorities and Medical Superintendent Dr Win Zaw, we could start our operation early. We gave medical check-ups to 504 people, and performed free operations on 80 — 69 for cataract and 11 for minor operations. Among 504 people, 400 needed to wear eyeglasses.

Despite the announcement offering free treatments, only about 100 people came for treatments the first day.

However, the fol-

Township but also from nearby villages came to the camp to have their eyes checked. We were very happy to give medical treatments to local people. Some volunteers interpreted for us and local Kayin nationals. Our target was to perform operations on 100 people with cataract. Dr U Nyunt Maung of the trachoma and blindness control project and Medical Superintendent of Yangon Eye Hospital M Gya Naw contributed medical equipment.

On 12 October, we cleaned the eyes of 80 operated patients, conducted eye tests, and provided them with sunglasses and eyedrop tubes. And we gave educative talks on Dos and Don'ts to them. They were very happy because they regained their sight.

Now, many wellwishers and companies are donating cash and kind to the trips for free medical treatments. We thank all who have contributed towards our trip especially Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and officials who made arrangements for the trip.

We team members pledge to step up our efforts to provide health care for the people in accordance with the three objectives of the World Sight Day.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
21-10-2005



The photo shows eye patients in Kawkaeik.

of the Ministry of Health, made a three-day trip to Kawkaeik in Kayin State from 10 to 12 October to give free treatments to local people with eye problems. The team comprised Dr Aye Aye Khaing, Dr Nilar Thein, Dr Hla Kathy, Dr Kathy Myint, Dr Saw Thwin Mon Thein, nurses and opticians led by Deputy Director (Treatment) Dr Kyee Myint of the Health Department and Professor Dr Kan Nyunt.

Everybody wants to have good sight. According to the experts, all over the world there are about 45 million blind people, and about 180 million people with poor eyesight. The number of the blind in the world is increasing by two million annually. So, the number of the blind will double by 2020. The World Sight Day is observed in world nations every year to

sight of the people.

Major causes that lead to blindness are cataract, glaucoma, trachoma, injuries to eyes, diabetes, and damage to eye lens due to old age. In the past, 43 per cent of the population suffered trachoma. But, now it has fallen drastically to one per cent. And thanks to the trachoma and blindness control project, the disease of trachoma will be eradicated nearly cent per cent soon.

About 80 per cent of the diseases that can lead to blindness are preventable and curable. Loss of sight is followed by physical, social and financial problems. In addition, the State loses invaluable labour of the blind. According to the data collected under the project for prevention and control of trachoma and blindness, the outbreak rate of blindness is 0.58 per cent, accounting for about 750,000 blind people out of the nation's population 55 million. Of the 750,000 blind per-

ceive treatments.

Therefore, the Ministry of Health has been arranging trips of eye health care teams to



The talks being given to eye patients in Kawkaeik.

far-flung areas to give free medical treatments to local people with eye problems.

Among the many difficulties that patients cannot go see the eye specialists are poverty, social problems, absence of

throughout the history keeping eggs and nest intact sharing weal and

lowing day, 12 October, people not only from wards in Kawkaeik

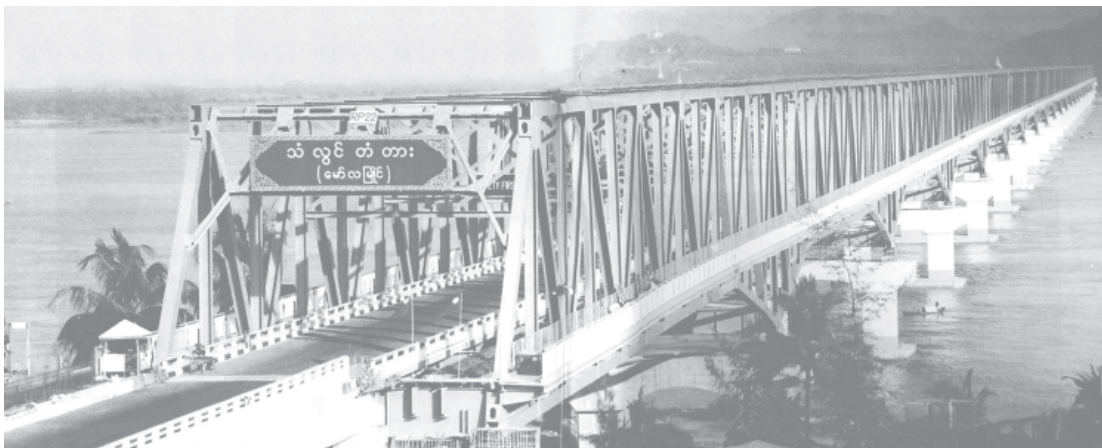


An eye specialist performs medical check-up on a patient.

Now, many wellwishers and companies are donating cash and kind to the trips for free medical treatments. We thank all who have contributed towards our trip especially Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and officials who made arrangements for the trip.

Education sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of science and technology in the time of the Tatmadaw Government



Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), the longest and largest of its kind in Myanmar. It is a rail-cum-road facility and a testament to the ability and capability of the Myanmar engineers.

Qualified human resources and national development

Efforts of intellectuals and intelligentsia among fellow citizens play an important role in the drives for the Union of Myanmar to keep abreast of nations of the world. With this end in view, the government is trying to produce highly qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia.

The constant emergence of intellectuals and intelligentsia produced from the respective universities throughout the nation is a proof that there are newly emerged national strength which will serve the interests of the nation.

Nowadays, intellectuals and intelligentsia produced by over 150 under-graduate, post-graduate diploma, bachelor degree, masters degree and doctorate courses in the higher education, health and science and technology sectors are actively taking part in nation-building tasks.

Thanks to the endeavours made by these persons, 179 dams, 208 bridges with the length of 180 feet and above, 17 airports, over 1100 miles of railroad and over 45,000 factories have emerged.

Moreover, infrastructures in other sectors have also been built. These are the results achieved in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

Awards presented by ASEAN Federation

Sr No	Award	Year	Sector
1	Engineering	2002	Bridge
2	Engineering	2002	Irrigation
3	Engineering	2003	Energy
4	Engineering	2003	Architecture
5	Individual/Organization	2004	
6	Engineering	2005	Environment
7	Individual/Organization	2005	Information Technology
8	Engineering	2005	Energy
9	Engineering	2005	Hydro power

As a gesture of honouring the endeavours made by Myanmar engineers who have been engaged in the national development tasks, the Conference of ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organizations presented outstanding awards to Myanmar.

The Conference of ASEAN Federation also presented awards to Myanmar for building dams and bridges magnificently, architectural triumph, excellence performance in the energy sector, implementing hydro power projects and preserving natural resources. Moreover, ASOCIO summit presented awards and certificates of honour to individuals and organizations who dedicated themselves to development of ICT.

The table shows outstanding Myanmar engineers, awards presented by ASEAN Federation and participation of Myanmar intellectuals and intelligentsia in nation-building tasks in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

Infrastructures built by Myanmar Engineers

Sr No	Subject	Quantity
1	Dams	179
2	Dams for villages	771
3	River water pumping station	293
4	Power supply	30
5	Factory	16027
6	Railways	1159
7	180-feet-above bridge	208
8	Airport	17
9	Upgraded airport	25
10	Basic education school	6778
11	University, college	124
12	Hospital	189
13	Upgraded hospital	149



Awards and certificates of honour presented by ASOCIO Summit.



Secretary-1 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein enjoys football match between Central Command team and Tatmadaw (Navy) in the opener.— MNA

85th Anniversary National Day Objectives

- * To flourish and strengthen nationalist spirit and to ensure uplift of national prestige and integrity
- * To promote national education
- * Perpetuity of independence and sovereignty of the State
- * To achieve success in realization of the seven-point Road Map



Sports Minister sees off Myanmar Football Team

YANGON, 17 Nov — Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint saw off the Myanmar Football Team led by Deputy Leader of Myanmar Sports Contingent Deputy Director-General U Thein Aung of Sports and Physical Education Department and Manager of the football team U Khin Maung Kyaing, who will participate in the XXIII SEA Games to be held in the Philippines, at the Yangon International Airport this morning.

The Myanmar Football Team comprises seven members of the management committee, 20 footballers, three observers, two media persons from sports journals and one medical officer from Myanmar Boxing Federation. — MNA

Education Minister receives Indian, Israeli Ambassadors

YANGON, 17 Nov — Indian Ambassador Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra and Israeli Ambassador Mrs Ruth Schatz called on Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein at the Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road, here, at 9 am and 9. 30 am separately today.

Also present at the calls were Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt and Directors-General of departments under the ministry. — MNA

Chinese goodwill delegation returns home

YANGON, 17 Nov — The Visiting Chinese goodwill delegation led by Member of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and Vice-Chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee of the People's Republic of China Mr Wang Zhaoguo, at the invitation of Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo, left here by air this morning.

They were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo, Joint Secretary-General U Zaw Min, CEC member Thura U Aung Ko, officials of USDA Headquarters, Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan Mu and officials concerned.

MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo sees off Member of Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and Vice-Chairman of NPC Standing Committee of China Mr Wang Zhaoguo and party.— MNA

Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals Meeting held

YANGON, 17 Nov — The First Sub-group Meeting on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals commenced at Sedona Hotel, here, this morning.

Deputy Director-General of Myanmar Po-

lice Force Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win presided over the meeting.

Participants took part in the discussions on cooperation in taking preventive measures of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals among BIMSTEC mem-

ber countries.

Present at the meeting were 12 representatives from BIMSTEC member countries—Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The meeting continues tomorrow.

MNA

Donate blood

Commander attends coord meeting for holding 59th Anniversary Union Day

YANGON, 17 Nov — The coordination meeting on holding the 59th Anniversary Union Day took place at Pyithu Hluttaw Building on Pyay Road here this evening, with an address by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were the deputy ministers, senior military officers, heads of department, and officials.

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe made a speech, saying that the State Peace and Development Council has set up the Central Committee and the Management Committee for holding the 59th Anniversary Union Day



Lt-Gen Myint Swe delivers an address at the coordination meeting for holding the 59th Anniversary Union Day. — MNA

with political essence with a view to strengthening national consolidation. Arrangements should be made for holding the State flag hoisting ceremony, hosting the dinner, and presenting traditional dance. He stressed the

needs for practising thrifty methods to minimize loss and wastage. In conclusion, the commander invited suggestions and discussions for organizing the 59th Anniversary Union Day.

Next, the deputy

ministers, senior military officials and heads of department joined in the discussions.

The meeting ended with the closing remarks by Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe.

MNA



Myanmar U-17 Football Team qualified for AFC Youth U-17 C'ship

YANGON, 17 Nov — The second match in the Group J of the AFC Youth U-17 Championship Qualification Competition continued in Bangkok, Thailand, at 4 pm local time today.

Myanmar U-17 Football Team and host Thai U-17 Football Team played a 1-1 draw. In the 34th minute, Aung Kyaw Myo (8) scored the opening goal for Myanmar.

On 15 November, Myanmar youth team played against Maldives youth team in the first qualifier match. The former defeated the latter 12-0.

After the competition, Myanmar and Thai youth teams tied at equal points. Myanmar team could score 13 goals in two matches but Thai team netted 11 goals only. Due to difference in scoring the goals, Myanmar U-17 Team from the Group J was qualified for the championship.

The qualified Myanmar U-17 Team will arrive back here by air from Thailand at 9.15 pm tomorrow.

MNA

Waterway transport facilities inspected

YANGON, 17 Nov — Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than inspected the repair to Min Ye Kyaw Thu Jetty yesterday morning. The deputy minister gave instructions on future plans.

Next, he viewed the construction of a roll-on roll-off bridge at the jetty

in Seikkyi Khanaungto. The managing director of the Myanma Port Authority and the chief engineer (Civil) gave an account of work progress; and Deputy Director-General of the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems U Ohn Han,

condition of water flow and preventive measures against bank erosion.

In response, the deputy minister gave instructions on ensuring opening of the bridge in the early December, installation of vertical fenders and horizontal fenders, and preventive

measures against bank erosion near the facility. He inspected the construction site.

Afterwards, he inspected the preparations for maintenance of retaining wall along Hline River and left instructions on the tasks.

MNA

Independence Day Commemorative TV Quiz on 28 & 29 December

YANGON, 17 Nov — A TV quiz will be held to commemorate the 58th Independence Day in conformity with the objectives of the 58th Independence Day on 28 and 29 December.

According to the sub-committee for organizing the 58th Independence

Day Commemorative essay, poem, TV Quiz and Computer Arts contests, the quiz is divided into two categories — the basic education level and higher education level, it is learnt.

The former level TV quiz will be held on 28 December and the latter

level TV quiz on 29 December.

The winners will be awarded at the prize presentation ceremony to be held on 4 January, 2006.

Reference books for both levels are "Our heroic ancestors" (Volume I, II) by Eimme

Daungpya, "History of Burma Revolution" by Maj Ba Thauang (Maung Thuta) and "National development record during the Tatmadaw Government" (From 1988 to 12-2-2005) published by the Ministry of Information.

MNA

Talks on Cardiac disease given

YANGON, 17 Nov — The opening of Myanmar branch of National Healthcare Group (Singapore) and Information Center in conjunction with the seminar on health took place at Sedona Hotel on 13 November, attended by Specialists, doctors and guests.

Professor Dr Saw Naing of Institute of Medicine-1 (Yangon) presided over the seminar, and Dr Robert Lim of National University Hospital (NUH) Singapore and Dr Chia Kok Hoong of Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) Singapore gave talks on latest therapy.

General Manager Mr Kamalijeet Singh Gill of National Healthcare Group (Singapore) and Managing Director Dr Kyaw Win of Mascots Healthcare Co explained services for patients wishing to receive medical treatment in Singapore and replied queries raised by those present.

Ton Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH), a second largest hospital in Singapore and National University Hospital (NUH) that links with medical institute are under the management of National Healthcare Group (Singapore).

Those wishing to receive medical treatment in these hospitals may contact Information Center No 33 B on Pyidaung Su Yeiktha Street in Dagon Township (Tel 09 99 70333).—H



Talks on medical treatment in progress at Sedona hotel.

H

Music industry launches new Internet piracy crackdown

STOCKHOLM, 17 Nov — The music industry's top lobby group said on Tuesday it was launching new legal action against the sharing of files over the Internet, which it blames for hitting sales.

The International Federation for the Phonographic Industry (IFPI) said it was launching 2,100 legal cases and extending the action to five new countries in Europe, Asia and, for the first time, South America.

It said file-sharers in Sweden, Switzerland, Argentina, Hong Kong and Singapore faced prosecution for the first time.

It's the thinking of dinosaurs for anyone to believe that they can steal music after all the education and campaigns that we have had," IFPI head John Kennedy told *Reuters*. The group said it was taking further action against people who put music out on the Internet, uploading, via peer-to-peer software, which allows others to download the files.

The group said actions, which are either civil

complaints or criminal prosecutions, launched on Tuesday or brought recently took the total number of legal cases against uploaders to more than 3,800 in 16 nations outside the United States.

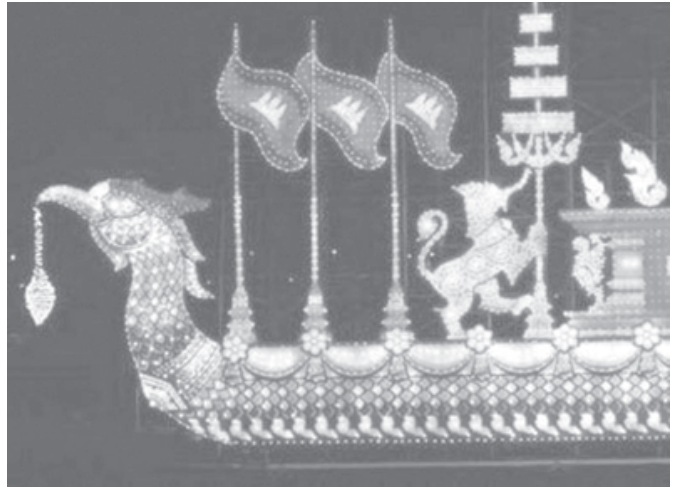
The legal action is part of a carrot-and-stick approach in the industry, which is promoting digital music services such as iTunes and Napster while prosecuting illegal file sharers. Sales of digital music tripled in the first half of 2005, representing 6 per cent of the market, or about 790 million US dollars.

IFPI said actions so far had led to mostly young men between the ages of 20 and 30 paying fines of 3,000 US dollars or more.

The cases being launched in Sweden, Argentina, Switzerland, Hong Kong and Singapore

joined Austria, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Britain and the United States, it said.

IFPI said that in Argentina four out of 10 Internet users had unauthorized p2p services. In Singapore, the recording industry has filed 33 criminal complaints involving users of networks FastTrack and Gnutella, it said.—MNA/Reuters



Boats decorated with electric lights float on Tonle Sap River in Phnom Penh at the annual Water Festival on 15 November, 2005. Cambodia celebrates the annual Water Festival and boat racing for three days from 15 to 17 November. Some 396 boats including boats from China, Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar and Laos are taking part in the festival to strengthen ties between countries along Mekong River, officials said.—INTERNET

Witness to be summoned to testify on US rape in Philippines

MANILA, 17 Nov — A key witness, the driver of the van where the alleged rape of a Filipina by six US Marines took place is set to be summoned on Thursday by Philippine authority to shed light on the incident in Subic Bay, a former US naval base.

The driver named Timoteo Sariano, who has reportedly gone hiding after receiving threats to his life, will be sum-

moned by the Legislative Oversight Committee on the Visiting Forces Agreement, *Xinhua* learned from the senate on Wednesday.

In the hearing, the committee will review the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA), particularly the criminal provisions on custody, preliminary investigation, bail and trial.

However, details about the testimony were

not available immediately.

The committee was co-chaired by senator Miriam Defensor-Santiago and representative Antonio Cuenco, specialized to monitor activities and legal affairs in the framework of VFA between the US and Philippine governments.

The alleged rape happened on 1 November has aroused anti-American sentiments in the

Philippines and brought the VFA under fire for giving privileges to the US military conducting exercises in the country.

Sariano had modified his earlier statement that the victim was gang raped, denying that he never witnessed the supposed rape. Meanwhile, he said that he was forced by police investigators to sign the modified affidavit.

MNA/Xinhua



A juvenile Serval, a cat native to South East Africa, cranes its neck back as it wakes from an afternoon snooze at the Staten Island Zoo, on 16 Nov, 2005 in New York. — INTERNET

Anti-tank mine blast kills 14 Cambodians

PHNOM PENH, 17 Nov — At least 14 Cambodian villagers were killed when the truck in which they were travelling hit an anti-tank mine left over from Cambodia's civil war, police said on Wednesday.

The vehicle, which was ferrying villagers back from rice fields, hit the mine in the northern province of Oddar Meanchey — a former stronghold of Pol Pot's ultra-Communist Khmer Rouge guerrillas.

Thirteen of the villagers died instantly in the accident, which happened on Sunday. Another victim died later of his wounds.

"If they had gone home the same way, they would have been fine," Oddar Meanchey deputy police chief Chhim Sothy told *Reuters* by telephone. "But they didn't. They came home a different way." Cambodia's northern border regions are littered with millions of landmines, the legacy of nearly 30 years of fighting, which only came to an end with the final surrender of the remnants of Pol Pot's forces in December 1998. —MNA/Reuters

Boy dies on school caving trip in Yorkshire

LONDON, 17 Nov — A 14-year-old boy died on a school caving trip in North Yorkshire, a council spokesman said.

The boy, from Tadcaster Grammar School, was pronounced dead in Harrogate Hospital on Monday night after a rescue team had recovered him from a cave.

He had been with around 100 other pupils on the first day of a week-long stay at a council-run outdoor centre at Bewerley Park in the Yorkshire Dales.

During the afternoon the boy had gone with 10 others to a nearby cave known as Manchester Hole, which the spokesman said was used as an introduction to caving. "There was an incident in the cave", he said, after which a local search and rescue team was alerted.

Harry Long of Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue said he was called at around 4:15 pm "I was told that one of the party had gone down this cave and failed to reappear and that floodwater had entered a part of the cave that they had been in," he told BBC television. "It was a case of locating this unfortunate lad and making certain we could do all we could for him before bringing him back to the surface."—MNA/Reuters

Survey shows Dutch healthcare skilled but impersonal

BRUSSELS, 17 Nov — Most Dutch people believe the country's healthcare is professional but also expensive and impersonal, showed a survey published recently.

The 1,300 people who took part in the Healthcare Monitor 2005, conducted by Newcom Research & Consultancy, gave Dutch healthcare system an average score of 6.5 out of 10.

A slight majority, 52 per cent, expressed a lot or high confidence in the healthcare system, while 21 per cent had little or no faith in it.

Yet 91 per cent of the total said medical services in the Netherlands was reliable and 76 per cent felt the care afforded is of a high quality.

Only one third of the respondents said healthcare was affordable. Other negative aspects include impersonal service, 60 per cent, and lack of customer service, 57 per cent. — MNA/Xinhua

S Korean, Russian FMs discuss Putin's upcoming visit to S Korea

BUSAN (South Korea), 17 Nov— South Korean Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon and his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov discussed here late Tuesday night preparations for Russian President Vladimir V Putin's upcoming visit to South Korea on the occasion of the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, according to a Press release obtained Wednesday.

Ban and Lavrov are here attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting.

Both ministers were of the view that Putin's visit to South Korea will contribute to deepening the mutually trustful and comprehensive partnership agreed between the two countries during South Korean President Roh Moo Hyun's official visit to Russia last September. Both ministers also agreed to continue to closely cooperate

particularly in such economic fields as natural resources and energy, and space technology.

In connection with this, Ban asked for the soonest issue of fishing licence from the Russian authorities to the South Korean fishing ships for the 6,000 tons of pollack fish which were agreed between the two sides, and the Russian side promised the earliest and positive results from the authorities concerned.

MNA/Xinhua



Fire engines spray water on the Airbus A380 for official welcoming after making its maiden landing at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) in Sepang, on Thursday, 17 Nov, 2005. The Airbus A380, the world's largest passenger jet, arrived in Malaysia on Wednesday night. The aircraft is on the final leg of its Asia Pacific tour covering Singapore, Australia and Malaysia, which marks the first time seen outside Europe.—INTERNET

Two rockets hit Kabul

KABUL, 17 Nov— Two rockets exploded Tuesday night in the Afghan capital Kabul, but left no casualties, a local official said Wednesday.

"Two rockets exploded in area last night at about 9 pm but fortunately left no casualties," Interior Ministry spokesman Yusuf Stanikzai told Xinhua.

The first rocket slammed into a food selling shop at District 1 while the second rocket landed on Shashdarak area damaging slightly a mosque, he said. The strategically important Shashdarak, which houses several departments of National Security Directorate, is close to the Headquarters of NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and the fortified US Embassy as well as Presidential Palace. Both the rockets, the spokesman said, were fired from Sahak area southeast of the city. — MNA/Xinhua

Closer Sino-S Korean ties make important contribution to region

SEOUL, 17 Nov— Chinese President Hu Jintao said here Wednesday that the fast growth in cooperation between China and South Korea has made an important contribution to regional peace and development.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries 13 years ago, bilateral cooperation in all fields has grown rapidly and their all-round partnership has increasingly enriched, Hu said in a written statement upon his arrival here for a state visit to South Korea.

This has brought

tangible benefits to the peoples of both countries and made an important contribution to regional peace and development, Hu said.

During his visit, Hu will meet South Korean leaders and representatives from a broad range of social sectors for in-depth exchanges of views

on bilateral relations and international and regional issues of common concern.

The Chinese President will also attend the Economic Leaders' Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum slated for 18-19 November in Busan, South Korea.

South Korea is the last leg of Hu's four-nation European-Asian trip, which has already taken him to Britain, Germany and Spain.—MNA/Xinhua

One killed in southern France flood

PARIS, 17 Nov— One woman died and more than 1,000 people were forced to leave their homes as flood attacked southern France, police said Tuesday. The woman, 75, died of a heart attack when falling into the water from a rescue boat overturned by flood.

Flood from the rivers Augly and Verdoube had made roads in the region of Perpignan paralyzed.

Meteorologists said the heavy downpours that caused the flooding were not to stop until about Tuesday noon.

MNA/Xinhua

China donates agricultural machinery to Tanzania

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 17 Nov— The Chinese Government on Tuesday donated 141 million Tanzanian shillings (123,615 US dollars) worth of agricultural machinery to its Tanzanian counterpart.

The agricultural machinery included three heavy-duty tractors with their implements, seven power tillers with their implements, two milling machines and two water pumping systems. Wilfred Ngirwa, permanent secretary of the Tanzania Agriculture Ministry, told Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania Yu Qingtai that the agricultural machinery had come at the right time when the Tanzanian people are highly in need of modern technology for agricultural production and processing.— MNA/Xinhua

Four killed, four injured in suicide attack in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 17 Nov — Four persons including the suicide attacker were killed, four persons were injured in the suicide explosion Wednesday morning in Afghan southern province of Kandahar, a local official said.

"A suicide attacker driving a Corolla car crashed against the convoy of US and Afghan National Army (ANA) and detonated the bomb

in the car just now in Dorahi area of the city. The Corolla and one of the US land-cruiser were totally damaged," Asadullah Khalid, the provincial governor told Xinhua.

"The attacker and three construction workers nearby were killed, four other local persons were injured. Fortunately the land-cruiser was bullet-proof, so the US soldiers in the car were unhurt," Mohammad Nasim, the spokesperson of the governor of Kandahar told Xinhua.

At the same time, the spokesperson of US military also confirmed the suicide attack and said no report of any casualties involved US soldiers has been received till now.

MNA/Xinhua

Earthquake jolts Taiwan, no reports of damage

TAIBEI, 17 Nov — An earthquake measuring 5.8 on the Richter Scale rocked eastern Taiwan on Wednesday, but there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage, officials said. The epicentre of the quake, which struck at 5.14 pm (0914 GMT), was about 26 kilometres (16 miles) east of Taitung County on the eastern coast at a depth of 125 kilometres, the Central Weather Bureau said in a statement.

Earthquakes occur frequently in Taiwan, which lies on a seismically active stretch of the Pacific Basin.

One of Taiwan's worst quakes occurred in September 1999. It measured 7.6 on the Richter Scale and killed more than 2,400 people. — MNA/Reuters

Two killed, 12 injured in Nepal's road accident

KATHMANDU, 17 Nov — At least two people were killed and 12 others were injured on Wednesday morning when a jeep met with an accident at Nepal's Salyana Ghumti, a bordering area between western Palpa and Arghakhanchi districts, a local police officer said in a statement. Driver of the jeep and a passenger of the jeep were killed in the accident, the statement said. The jeep which was carrying passengers more than its capacity, was on its way to Tansen of Palpa District, from Pokharathok of Arghakhanchi District, when the incident occurred — MNA/Xinhua



Afghan police guide traffic as they stand guard along the road where two suicide attacks took place a day earlier in Kabul, Afghanistan on 17 Nov, 2005. Afghanistan's Taliban fighters have taken a deadly page from the handbook of Iraq's bloody insurgency, embarking for the first time on a concerted campaign of suicide bombings aimed at driving US-led forces out of the country.

INTERNET

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Sewage pollutants cause male fishes to bear eggs

LOS ANGELES, 16 Nov—Male fish with ovary tissue and eggs have been found in the ocean water near Los Angeles, and scientists said on Monday that sewage released offshore with hormone-disrupting compounds are deforming the sex organs of marine life.

Eleven male bottom-dwelling fish out of 64 caught near Los Angeles County had ovary tissue in their testis. Two-thirds of male turbot and sole caught near Orange County's sewage outfall had egg-producing proteins, according to three studies.

Other studies found more signs of feminized fish in the same ocean areas, scientists said. And when males were exposed in a laboratory to collected ocean sediment, all of them developed female egg proteins. Dan Schlenk, an aquatic ecotoxicologist at the University of California, Riverside, said it is clear that the ocean floor at the sewage outfalls is contaminated with estrogenic compounds that are feminizing fish. But effects on the overall health and abundance of fish populations and the rest of the marine ecosystem are unknown.

Schlenk, co-author of two studies, told the *Los Angeles Times* whether the estrogenic activity affects populations of the animals is "still a question to answer".

Every day nearly 3.8 billion litres of treated wastewater from an area that includes about nine million people are discharged into deep waters off southern Californian coast via three long undersea pipelines. Sewage effluent contains dozens of natural and man-made chemicals that can alter animal hormones, scientists said.

The wastewater is filtered and processed, but many contaminants remain and settle into ocean sediment, where they are consumed by bottom-feeding organisms. Excessive amounts of estrogens or estrogen mimics can create so-called intersex animals with both male and female genitals. Previously, scientists have shown that some fish with the altered organs were infertile.

The effect on humans is largely unknown and unproven, though some studies have linked hormone-mimicking chemicals to reduced sperm counts, altered genitalia in baby boys and premature puberty in girls.

MNA/Xinhua

Birthplace of Chinese film seeks place in "Guinness Book"

BEIJING, 16 Nov—A century-old movie house in Beijing has filed documents to apply for listing in the Guinness Book of World Records for its pioneering film screening business.

One hundred years ago, Ren Jingfeng, owner of a photo shop shot and screened China's first film, featuring performances of the Beijing Opera in the Daganlou Theatre. In the last century, the movie house witnessed the earliest staging of Chinese silent films in 1905 and sound films in 1927. In 1960, Daganlou was renovated into the first cinema in Beijing for wide-screen three-D films.

Wang Zhanyou, general manager of the cinema, said that Daganlou

sustaining business for a century was one of the world's oldest cinemas, which has experienced different stages of development of the Chinese film industry.

"The cinema has huge historical and commercial value," he said.

Daganlou is undergoing a thorough renovation to fully restore its original appearance featuring the architecture of Qing Dynasty (1368-1644), with interior decoration being modern, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



A 1925 Chevrolet is shown at a square of the Havana, Cuba, on Wednesday, 16 Nov, 2005. These cars are being maintained by Cuban mechanics that since 1960 Cuba has not imported automobiles or car parts from the United States.

INTERNET



Southern Methodist University paleontologist Michael Polcyn, right, talks about *Dallasaurus turneri*, left front, at the Dallas Museum of Natural History, on 15 Nov, 2005, in Dallas. The prehistoric lizard in front is being described as an important link in the evolution of mosasaurs, background, what some call the 'T Rex of the ocean'. — INTERNET

NASA digging out from shuttle woes

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 16 Nov—NASA's quest to resume space shuttle flights has slowed to a crawl at the Kennedy Space Center, where technicians were meticulously testing the fragile cloth strips that forced an unprecedented and risky spacewalk during the last shuttle mission.

The tests on the cloth strips were in addition to extensive changes to the insulation on the shuttle's external fuel tank and

other changes designed to make the spacecraft safer. NASA hopes to launch the spaceship in May for its second mission since the 2003 *Columbia* accident.

Workers have removed more than 2,300 strips, known as gap fillers, from between the ceramic tiles that form shuttle *Discovery's* heat shield.

About 65 per cent cannot be tested and are immediately removed. For the remaining 35 per cent, NASA technicians test

how well the cloth strips are bonded to the ship by tugging on them for three seconds with five pounds (2.25 kilos) of force. About half fail the test and are removed.

A protruding gap filler, which is about the width of a business card, could interfere with air flow around the shuttle during its supersonic descent through the atmosphere for landing and cause the ship to overheat.

MNA/Reuters

China renovates world's oldest irrigation project

CHENGDU, 16 Nov—China began renovating its 2,261-year-old irrigation system in Duijiangyan City in southwest China's Sichuan Province on Tuesday, at a cost of 120 million yuan (14.8 million US dollars).

About 1,120 specific projects around the irrigation system will be finished during the renovation, the most in history, said Zhang Kaiyong, an official with the Duijiangyan Administration Bureau.

Built on the upper reaches of the Minjiang River, a major tributary of China's longest river, the Yangtze, the Duijiangyan irrigation system is said to be the world's oldest irrigation project still in operation.

Built in 256 BC, the irrigation system has undergone annual dredging and maintenance, a rule established by its builder Li Bing, an official of the Qin Kingdom during the Warring States period (475 B.C.-221 BC).

At present, the system still irrigates 672,600 hectares of farmland and provides water for daily use and industrial purposes for people and enterprises in 50 large and medium-sized cities in Sichuan Province.

Officials from the local water resources bureau said annual renovation to the irrigation system has efficiently prolonged the life of the ancient system and also helped clean up the riverbed's silt.

Duijiangyan was included on the World Heritage List of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in 2000.

MNA/Xinhua

Japanese princess weds govt employee

TOYKO, 16 Nov—After a year of traditional preparations and rites, Japanese Princess Sayako and Tokyo metropolitan government employee Yoshiki Kuroda married on Tuesday.

Through the wedding with Kuroda, 40, a commoner, the 36-year-old princess has to relinquish her royal title as stipulated by the Imperial House Law. It is the first wedding in 45 years for a reigning emperor's daughter.

About 30 people from the both families attended the Shinto-style wedding ceremony at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, which has no relation to the imperial family. The princess, also a former part-time bird researcher, is the last of the emperor's three children to marry.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS



Australian soccer fans show their support for the Socceroos during a lunchtime event in the Sydney Domain on 17 Nov, 2005. The event enabled the Socceroos to thank supporters before returning overseas for club duties after Australia beat Uruguay 4-2 in a penalty shoot-out to qualify for next year's World Cup in Germany. —INTERNET

Baxter quits as S African coach

JOHANNESBURG, 17 Nov — Briton Stuart Baxter has quit as coach of the South African national team on Tuesday after failing to steer his squad to the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

Raymond Hack, chief executive of the South African Football Association (SAFA), confirmed Baxter's resignation on Tuesday, the *SAPA* news agency reported.

The Englishman, whose contract had eight months to go, quit two months before South Africa are due to go to the African Nations Cup finals in Egypt.

Hack said Baxter had handed in his letter of resignation while saying he was not happy with the environment in which he was working in.

"I can confirm that Stuart has resigned as the national team coach and will not be taking the squad to the African Cup of Nations next year."

Under Baxter, South Africa was winless in nine matches, and squandered a three-point lead with three matches to play to finish third in the group.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan edge Angola 1-0 in friendly

TOKYO, 17 Nov — Japan just managed to end their year on a winning note with a 1-0 victory over fellow World Cup qualifiers Angola at Tokyo's National Stadium on Wednesday.

Substitute midfielder Daisuke Matsui helped coach Zico live up to his "lucky" tag with a headed goal in the 90th minute.

Japan got off to the brighter start with striker Naohiro Takahara going close with a smart chest down and snap volley in the sixth minute before hitting the bar twice.

In the 11th minute, Takahara rose well at the far post to head firmly against the woodwork and 16 minutes later some fine work by left wing back Alessandro Santos set up the striker for a sharp left-foot volley that also crashed against the bar.

The Angolans gained in confidence as the game wore on with Figueiredo pulling the strings alongside his Varzim club teammate Mendonca, but they struggled to find the target.

Angola's best chance came in the second minute of the second half when captain Akwa unleashed a powerful 25-metre shot that Japan goalkeeper Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi did well to turn away for a corner.

They could not match the Japanese for control of the ball and this greater possession paid off in the 90th minute.

MNA/Reuters

Riquelme leads Argentina to 3-0 win over Qatar

DOHA, 17 Nov — Argentina scored three goals in four minutes midway through the second half to beat Qatar 3-0 in a friendly international on Wednesday.

The former world champions dominated possession but it took until the 70th minute for midfielder Juan Roman Riquelme to put them ahead. Substitute Julio Cruz doubled the lead a minute later and Roberto Ayala added a third.

For Argentina coach Jose Pekerman it was the ideal response to the 3-2 defeat by England in Geneva on Saturday, although he said he was impressed with the Qatari players.

Pekerman brought in

Daniel Bilos and Barcelona's Lionel Messi to the starting line-up, and both posed a constant threat in the first half as Qatar's defence, marshalled by centrebacks Bilal Mohammed and Abdulla Kooni, held firm.

However, it was the introduction of Inter Milan striker Cruz, Real Zaragoza defender Gabriel Milito and Carlos Tevez in the second half that

proved decisive.

Riquelme, who impressed against England, fired the first salvo before Cruz and Ayala knocked the stuffing out of the side who were eliminated in the first round of the Asian World Cup Qualifying campaign.

Qatar's Bosnian coach Djemaluddin Musovic said he was happy with his team's performance.

MNA/Reuters

Late Piechna strike earns Poland 3-1 win over Estonia

WARSAW, 17 Nov — A debut goal from striker Grzegorz Piechna three minutes from time earned a second-string Poland side a 3-1 win over Estonia in a friendly on Wednesday.

The 29-year-old Piechna, leading scorer in this season's Polish championship, unleashed a powerful shot into the top corner to seal victory after earlier goals from freekicks by Mariusz Lewandowski and Sebastian Mila.

A defensive error by Arkadiusz Glowacki in the 68th minute allowed Estonia to reduce the deficit but Poland were always in control as they continued preparations for next year's World Cup finals. With most of his first-choice squad returning to their clubs after Sunday's 3-0 win over Ecuador in Barcelona, coach Pawel Janas took the opportunity to try out players based in Poland and Russia. — MNA/Reuters



Fernando Gonzalez of Chile hits a shot to Mariano Puerta of Argentina in the Tennis Masters Cup in Shanghai, China on 16 Nov, 2005. Gonzalez defeated Puerta 6-3 4-6 6-0. —INTERNET

Greece edge Hungary 2-1 in lacklustre friendly

ATHENS, 17 Nov — Greece beat Hungary 2-1 in a low-key friendly on Wednesday when most of the cheers were reserved for coach Otto Rehhagel who renewed his contract with the European champions earlier in the week.

Stelios Giannakopoulos put the Greeks ahead in the 31st minute, tapping in a perfect cross from Dimitris Salpingidis after a surging run down the left wing.

Hungary equalized through a Krisztian Kenesei penalty in the 77th minute after Tamas Hajnal was felled by Sotiris Kyrgiakos but Pantelis Kafes sealed the win for the hosts with a low drive shortly before the final whistle. — MNA/Reuters



Denmark's Jonas Kamper (L) and Alexander Sheshukov of Russia battle for the ball during the second play-off match for the U-21 European Championships in Copenhagen on 16 Nov, 2005. Denmark won the first match 1-0. —INTERNET

Venables interested in Irish coaching post

LONDON, 17 Nov — Terry Venables admitted on Tuesday he would be interested in taking over as manager of the Republic of Ireland.

The 62-year-old has emerged as the favourite to succeed Brian Kerr but has yet to hold talks with the Football Association of Ireland.

He said: "I've been offered quite a lot of positions. But if something came up that was special, like Ireland which is international, it may be interesting."

A number of other high-profile names have been linked with the vacancy.

The FAI has been on the lookout for a new manager since deciding not to renew Kerr's contract four weeks ago. Venables has the experience the FAI are looking for, having managed Spurs and Barcelona among others, although in the last four years his only time in football has been an ill-fated nine months with Leeds. — MNA/Xinhua

Diana salvages draw for Italy against Ivory Coast

ROME, 17 Nov — A late goal by Aimone Diana salvaged a 1-1 draw for Italy in their friendly against the Ivory Coast in an international friendly in Geneva on Wednesday.

Italy looked on the verge of their first defeat in 15 matches after Chelsea striker Didier Drogba put the African side ahead in the 69th minute, bringing down a low ball before lashing it into the roof of the net.

With four minutes remaining a Gianluca Zambrotta cross bounced through the defence for Sampdoria midfielder Diana to poke in the equalizer at the far post.

Diana almost gave the Azzurri a dramatic late winner when he forced Ivory Coast keeper Barry Boubacar to scoop a shot off the line in stoppage time.

MNA/Reuters

UNSC calls for strong global response to intolerance

UNITED NATIONS, 17 Nov — The growing scourge of intolerance demands a global response based on mutual understanding and respect, United Nations officials said on Wednesday in commemoration of the International Day of Tolerance.

"In a world of intense economic competition, shifting populations and shrinking distances, the pressures of living together with people of different cultures and different beliefs from one's own are very real," UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said in his commemorating message.

The resultant backlash is evident in the rise of xenophobia and extremism across the globe and demands our strongest response, Annan stated, asserting that the need for tolerance is greater today than at any time in the UN's past.

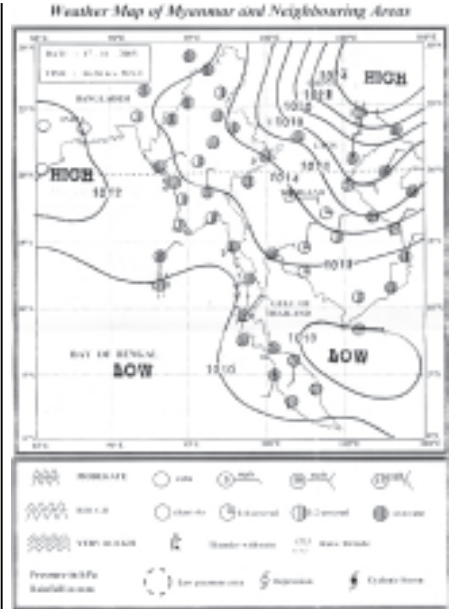
He stressed the importance of individual

initiative in building a culture of tolerance in addition to increase legal protection and education, and noted that tolerance cannot simply mean "passive acceptance of other peoples' perceived peculiarities".

Instead it must involve "an active effort by all of us to learn more about each other,

to understand the wellsprings of each other's differences, to discover what is best in each other's beliefs and traditions. Only through such a process of discovery can we come to realize that what binds us as human beings is far stronger than what divides us men", he said.

The director-general of the UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO), Koichiro Matsuura, also issued a statement to mark the day. — MNA/Xinhua



Chief Executive Rupert Murdoch helps his mother, Dame Elisabeth Murdoch, at the opening of a new newspaper office building, named after Murdoch's father, Keith Murdoch, in Adelaide, Australia, on 16 Nov, 2005. — INTERNET

WEATHER

Thursday, 17 November, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Division, scattered in Kayin State, isolated in Kachin and Shan States and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (6°C) below normal in Chin State, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Shan State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Divisions and (3°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division, (5°C) above normal in Mon State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (5°C) and Mindat (6°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Hpa-an (0.67) inch.

Maximum temperature on 16-11-2005 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 17-11-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 17-11-2005 was 77%. Total sunshine hours on 16-11-2005 was (7.8) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 17-11-2005 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 North at (13:15) hours MST on 16-11-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 18-11-2005: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Shan, Rakhine States, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of light rain in the extreme southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18-11-2005: Partly cloudy.


Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 18-11-2005: Partly cloudy.



Friday, 18 November

Tune in today

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: -Keep on growing (Sheryl Crow)
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: -Lady Marmalade (All Saints)
- 8.50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Saying I love you (The Moffatts)
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: - Sweet kisses (Combagah)
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music -I think about you (Collin Raye)
- To be loved (Westlife)
- Still (98°)
- 9:00pm World of music songs from Japan, Germany, Latin, France, Brazil
- 9:15 pm Article
- 9:25 pm Music at your request -Nothing but love (Mr Big)
- Always you (Jennifer Paige)
- I will be waiting there for you (Tik & Tak friends)
- 9:45 pm News & Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL



Friday, 18 November
View on today

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p>7:15 am</p> <p>2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဋိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသီရိန္ဒာ သီဝံသ(ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတ သန္တီပါဠိတော်</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. ရိုးရာကျေးလက်ကဏ္ဍကဏ္ဍကဏ္ဍ</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>7. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:05 am</p> <p>8. The mirror images of musical oldies</p>	<p>8:15 am</p> <p>9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>10. ဆပ်သွားတံတား</p> <p>8:25 am</p> <p>11. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>12. International news</p> <p>8:45 am</p> <p>13. English for Everyday Use</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. Practice in Reading (Lesson-25)</p> <p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. Musical programme</p> <p>5:00 pm</p> <p>5. အဝေးသင်တန်းအဖွဲ့အစည်းများ ဖွဲ့စည်းသင်ကြားသင်ရန်အတွက် ပထမနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)</p> <p>5:15 pm</p> <p>6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>5:20 pm</p> <p>7. Song of national races</p> <p>5:35 pm</p> <p>8. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p>	<p>5:45 pm</p> <p>9. Musical programme</p> <p>5:55 pm</p> <p>10. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>6:05 pm</p> <p>11. သုတေသနစာအုပ်ရှင်း</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. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းခွဲ "ရုတ်တံတား" (အပိုင်း-၃၇)</p> <p>7:30 pm</p> <p>15. Musical programme</p> <p>7:35 pm</p> <p>16. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>7:45 pm</p> <p>17. ကြည့်ရှုချမ်းမြေ့ ဖျော်ဖျော်စွာ အမျိုးသားကန်တော်ကြီးဥယျာဉ် (ပြင်ဦးလွင်) (အပိုင်း-၅)</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>18. News</p> <p>8:05 pm</p> <p>19. International news.</p> <p>8:10 pm</p> <p>20. Weather report.</p> <p>8:15 pm</p> <p>21. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းခွဲ "ဓမ္မအတွဲ" (အပိုင်း-၃၀၀)</p> <p>8:20 pm</p> <p>22. The next day's programme</p>
--	---	--

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe opens Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Shield Track & Field Competitions



Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe addresses opening ceremony of Defence Services C-in-C's Shield Track & Field Competitions.
MNA

YANGON, 17 Nov —The Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Shield Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Track and Field Competitions was opened today at Aung San Stadium here.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe delivered an opening address.

In his address, he called on athletes to compete in the Track and Field Competitions with patriotic spirit to be able to raise standards of sports.

A high standard of sports is a national pride, he added. Therefore, in an effort to raise the standard of sports, the Government set up Ministry of

Sports in 1996, Myanmar National Olympic Council in 1997 and Myanmar National Olympic Committee in 1999 and have been providing necessary assistance.

The outstanding athletes have been honoured with valuable prizes for their achievements in international competitions, and people have encouraged sportsmen.

The commander opened the competitions.

After the opening ceremony, the commander and guests enjoy competitions of athletes in the women's 10,000-metre race event, the men's pole-vault jumping event, the women's long jump event, and the men's 10,000-metre race event took place today.

MNA



Steel beam installed at Pyapon Bridge at final stage

South-West Command Commander, Construction Minister fix nuts

YANGON, 17 Nov — Pyapon Bridge under construction of Bridge Construction Special Group-7 of Public Works is situated, crossing Pyapon River, on Dedaye-Pyapon Road, Pyapon District, Ayeyawady Division.

Yesterday, an auspicious ceremony to install the steel beam was held at the bridge on the bank in Pyapon.

Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division

Peace and Development Council and Commander of South-West Command, and Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Construction installed the beam at the bridge at the final stage.

They also sprinkled scented water on it. The ceremony was attended by departmental officials, members of social organizations, teachers and students among the local people.

The lower structure of Pyapon Bridge is of reinforced concrete bored pile.

The main section of the bridge will be of steel frame. The bridge in total

The lower structure of Pyapon Bridge is of reinforced concrete bored pile. The main section of the bridge will be of steel frame. The bridge in total length will be 3,932 feet and 7 inches. The motor road will be 28 feet wide and the pedestrian ways, six feet wide on either side. The bridge can withstand 60-ton load.

Weather forecast for 18-11-2005

Isolated light rain or thundershowers in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Shan and Rakhine States, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

INSIDE

The Ministry of Health has been arranging trips of eye health care teams to far-flung areas to give free medical treatments to local people with eye problems.

Warning

Except from the cylinders that are issued and installed officially, the CNG-run vehicles should not fix any other type of cylinders or extra cylinders as they tend to cause explosions.

Ministry of Energy

length will be 3,932 feet and 7 inches long. The motor road will be 28 feet wide and the pedestrian ways, six feet wide on either side. The bridge can withstand 60-ton load.

MNA