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Thursday, 24 November, 2005

Utilizing significant region-wise natural conditions important in narrowing development gap, ensuring proportionate progress

YANGON, 23 Nov — Prime Minister General Soe Win, accompanied by Member of the State

Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Chair-

man of Rakhine State PDC Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint,

ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers, heads of the SPDC Office and de-

partments concerned, offered 'soon', flowers and water and paid homage to the Buddha image at Yanaung Zeya or Shitthaung Stupa built by Rakhine King Min Bar Gyi in MraukU on 21 November morning.

Next, they visited the stupa and viewed ancient pagodas and stupas at surrounding areas.

The Prime Minister signed in the visitors' book and made cash donations.

They also paid homage to Koethaung Stupa built by King Min Teikkha, son of King Min Bar Gyi. Director U Kyaw Oo Lwin of Archaeology Department

reported on existence of over 500 ancient pagodas and stupas in MraukU region and renovation religious edifices according to their original style, renovation of 160 ancient pagodas and temples, contributions of wellwishers in the renovation tasks under the leadership of the State with the help of documentary photos on excavation and renovation of the Koethaung Stupa. Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung gave a supplementary report.

The Prime Minister paid homage to the stupa and made cash donations.

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Prime Minister General Soe Win pays homage to the Buddha image at Yanaung Zeya or Shitthaung Stupa in MraukU. —MNA

Prime Minister sends message of congratulations to Chancellor of Federal Republic of Germany

YANGON, 23 Nov—General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to Her Excellency Dr Angela Merkel, who was sworn in on 22 November 2005 as Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany. — MNA

Local people are to make concerted efforts in harmony for the development of their region, state and nation, but should not rely on others. As the strength of a nation lies within, the entire national people are to be one in carrying out tasks.



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects Hinywet Dam in An. —MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 24 November, 2005

Extend cultivation of new crops

The government of Myanmar is making a massive effort to modernize and develop the entire Union, to bridge the development gap between each and every region and to raise the living standard of the people. As a result, even the remote areas of Rakhine State are enjoying the fruits of development in all sectors.

During his tour of Buthidaung, Maungtaw, Rathedaung, Sittway, Ponnagyun, Kyauktaw and MraukU Townships in Rakhine State and Paletwa in Chin State from 19 to 20 November, Prime Minister General Soe Win met with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townselders. At the meetings, the Prime Minister said that departmental personnel and local people had to work in concert to ensure security of life, self-sufficiency and higher standards of health and education as socio-economic development was the fundamental necessity of life and that departmental personnel in various townships in Rakhine State were required to serve the interests of people with genuine goodwill.

Nowadays, responsible officials at different levels of the State is unitedly working day and night. The result is that all the regions of the Union without exception is on the fast track to development. People living in Rakhine State have seen for themselves the development of their own region as well as that of other contiguous state and divisions. It is due to the correct policies of the government and united cooperation of the people under the dynamic leadership of the government.

Only with regional peace and stability and national unity will the strength of national forces become more powerful and only with greater strength of national forces will the development of the nation be realized. For this, all the national people are required always to be patriotic and in oneness.

We would like to call on regional authorities and local people to strive for their socio-economic development by extending the cultivation of a variety of new crops and rubber in addition to the usual crops.

Staff Grade-I Course concludes

YANGON, 23 Nov — The Grade-I Course No 201 for Staff from the departments concluded at the training school of the Auditor-General's Office this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Auditor-General Daw Thin Thin, deputy directors-general, directors, officials of the training school, course instructors and trainees.

A total of 160 trainees from 30 departments under the ministries and 35 enterprises attended a two-month course.

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

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

Commander inspects Ngamoeyeik Bridge (Kamarkyi) construction site



Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects construction of Ngamoeyeik Bridge (Kamarkyi).— MNA

YANGON, 22 Nov—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe today went to the construction site of Ngamoeyeik Bridge (Kamarkyi) in Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, and inspected the project.

The bridge is being constructed across Ngamoeyeik Creek in Yangon East District, and links Thingangyun Township and Thakayta Township.

The commander called on officials concerned for timely completion of the bridge meeting the set standard and fulfilled the requirements. — MNA

PBANRDA Minister receives UNICEF Resident Representative

YANGON, 23 Nov — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt received Resident Representative of UNICEF Ms Carroll C Long and party at his office this afternoon.

Present at the call were Director-General of Department of Development Affairs U Myo Myint, Deputy Director-General U Kyaw, Deputy Director-General of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department U Win Aung,



Deputy Chief Engineer U Soe Ko Ko and Director U Nyi Nyi. — MNA

Minister Col Thein Nyunt receives UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Carroll C Long.

PBANRDA

Myanmar selected track and field team, shooting team leave for Philippines

YANGON, 23 Nov — Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint

saw off Myanmar selected track and field team led by Vice-President U Min Thein of Myanmar Track and Field

Federation, and Myanmar shooting team led by Lt-Col Zaw Lwin Aung, that will participate in the XXIII SEA Games to be

held in Manila, the Philippines, at Yangon International Airport this morning.

They were also seen off by officials concerned from Ministry of Sports, Central Committee Chairperson Daw Aye Aye and members of the panel of patrons of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation, President of MTF U Teza and executives and their family members.

Altogether 29 managers, athletes and referees of the two teams left for Philippines.— MNA



Myanmar track & field team seen with MTF President U Teza at the airport before their departure for SEA Games.

NLM

Badawi urges NAM countries to strengthen cohesion

KUALA LUMPUR, 22 Nov— Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Monday urged the member countries of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to strengthen cohesion and foster a greater sense of community.

The Non-Aligned countries should maintain their unity and enhance their commitment in order to keep revitalizing the movement, which has played an active role in issues of concern and is of vital importance to member countries since its inception, said Badawi. But he admitted that the end of the cold war had exerted a significant effect on the movement and poor level of cohesion became apparent among some member countries.

Badawi, who was chairman of the NAM, made the remarks in his written speech at the opening ceremony of the

Sixth Conference of the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries.

The 13th NAM Summit held in Kuala Lumpur in 2003 saw efforts to revitalize the

movement but the continued relevance of the movement will depend, to a large extent, on the unity and solidarity of its member countries, Badawi said.

It is thus necessary

for NAM countries to “strengthen our common vision and engender a higher degree of communication, understanding and trust among ourselves”, said Badawi.

MNA/Xinhua

US soldier killed north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 22 Nov— A US soldier was killed by small arms fire north of Baghdad on Sunday, the US military said on Monday.

“A Task Force Baghdad soldier was killed by small arms fire while on patrol north of Baghdad on 20 November,” the military said in a statement.

The brief statement gave no further details, but said the incident was under investigation.

The name of the soldier was being withheld pending notification of next of kin, it added.

About 2,090 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March, 2003. — MNA/Xinhua



Sharks are unloaded from a boat at a fishing port in Lampulo, Banda Aceh on the Indonesian island of Sumatra on 20 Nov, 2005. Nearly 11 months have passed since a giant tsunami ravaged Indonesia's Aceh Province, leaving 170,000 people dead or missing. —INTERNET

Delay's ex-aide pleads guilty in US corruption

WASHINGTON, 22 Nov — An ex-aide to former house majority leader Tom Delay and partner to a powerful Republican lobbyist pleaded guilty to conspiracy on Monday under a deal in which he is cooperating with prosecutors probing alleged influence-buying involving the lobbyist and lawmakers.

Michael Scanlon, 35, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy in defrauding Indian tribes of millions of dollars and lavishing gifts upon a member of the US Congress. He was ordered to pay 19.7 million US dollars in restitution to the tribes, could serve up to five years in prison and be fined 250,000 US dollars and must cooperate with prosecutors.

Scanlon left Delay's office and become a partner to wealthy lobbyist Jack Abramoff, who has been indicted for fraud in a separate case in Florida. The plea agreement has been seen as a major advance in

prosecutors' efforts to investigate alleged influence-buying involving Abramoff, members of Congress and government agencies.

Scanlon's lawyer Plato Cacheris said Scanlon has more information to provide to the government, but in an exchange with reporters after the hearing refused to comment on whether more members of Congress might be implicated. “Guilty, your honour,” Scanlon, 35, told federal Judge Ellen Huvelle in formalizing the plea deal.

Abramoff has pleaded not guilty to federal charges in Florida that he defrauded lenders in a

casino cruise line deal.

According to prosecutors, from January 2000 through at least April 2004, Scanlon conspired with a lobbyist, only identified as “Lobbyist

A,” to “corruptly” give gifts to government officials. In return, the officials were to perform acts benefiting Scanlon and “Lobbyist A.”

MNA/Reuters

Canada probes report of CIA detainee plane landing

OTTAWA, 22 Nov — Canada is investigating reports that a plane allegedly used by the US Central Intelligence Agency to transport prisoners for interrogation landed at a Canadian airport last week, the Foreign Ministry said on Monday.

The French-language *La Presse* newspaper said the plane had taken off from Iceland heading for St John's in Newfoundland, on Canada's east coast. The Canadian Press said the 40-seat turboprop landed in

St John's on Friday before returning to its base in North Carolina. “We are looking into it,” said Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Pamela Greenwell, who declined to give further details. The US Embassy in Ottawa said it had no comment. Last week Spain said it was investigating allegations the CIA used a Spanish airport as a base for transporting Islamic terrorism suspects. *The Washington Post* said this month that the CIA had been interrogating al-Qaeda captives at secret facilities in Eastern Europe as part of a covert prison system.

La Presse said the aircraft heading for Canada bore the registration mark N196D and was operated by North Carolina firm Devon Holding and Leasing. In May, the *New York Times* said the firm was one of seven shell

Police defuse bomb found in central Stockholm building

STOCKHOLM, 22 Nov — Swedish police defused a bomb in a building in central Stockholm on Monday after a witness saw a man drop a bomb-like item in a stairwell and run away, local media reported on Monday.

The building, housing the Slovakian Embassy and other Swedish companies, was briefly sealed off as the police identified the item as a powerful bomb and removed it, the report said.

Police cars, fire-fighting vehicles and ambulances were waiting outside the building during the whole process. The police are now going all out to catch the suspected man, said the report.

The Slovakian Embassy and other offices had not received any threats before, the police said.

MNA/Xinhua

New York airports report poor record in on-time arrivals

NEW YORK, 22 Nov — The three major airports in the New York area have the worst record for on-time arrivals out of the nation's 33 busiest airports, local media reported Monday, citing newly released findings.

The poor record marked for the first time LaGuardia, Kennedy International and Newark International, the three airports are the worst in the country for late arrivals, according to data from the Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

The data show that 33 per cent of flights to LaGuardia between January and September 2005 were late. It earned

the second to last spot, one spot lower than in 2004.

Kennedy saw 30 per cent of flights arrive late, placing it 31st of 33. Newark ranked last with 34 per cent of arrivals late.

Greg Martin, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), said the bureau's data do not tell the complete picture about delays.

MNA/Xinhua



US servicemen secure the site of a roadside car bomb blast on the main road leading south out of Kirkuk to Baghdad, on 22 Nov, 2005. A suicide car bomb blast killed 18 people, including 10 police, and wounded 28 others in an attack in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk on Tuesday, police and doctors at Kirkuk's main hospital said. —INTERNET

Senator Obama calls on Bush to admit Iraq errors

CHICAGO, 22 Nov— Sen Barack Obama said President Bush should admit mistakes in waging the Iraq war and reduce the number of troops stationed there in the next year. But the Illinois Democrat, a longtime opponent of the war, said US forces remain "part of a solution" in the bitterly divided country and should not be withdrawn immediately.

Without citing specific numbers, Obama called for a "limited drawdown" of US troops that would push the fragile Iraqi government to take more responsibility while deploying enough American soldiers to prevent the country from "exploding into civil war or ethnic cleansing or a haven for terrorism."

Obama also faulted the administration for tarring its critics as unpatriotic naysayers and said it launched the war to topple Saddam Hussein in March 2003 without "giving either Congress

or the American people the full story."

"Straight answers to critical questions. That's what we don't have right now," the high-profile freshman senator told the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. "Members of both parties

and the American people have now made clear that it is simply not enough for the president to simply say 'We know best' and 'Stay the course.' "

As other Democrats are finding their voice against Iraq policy, Obama took an approach closer to

Senate Foreign Relations Committee colleague Joseph R Biden Jr (D-Del) than to Rep.

John P Murtha (D-Pa), a former Marine who called last week for an immediate pullout of nearly 160,000 US troops.

Internet

Half of under-11 children bullied at schools in Britain

LONDON, 22 Nov — A government study in Britain revealed on Monday that half of all children under the age of 11 have been bullied at school.

The new research found that bullying is rife and that not enough is being done to stop it, Sky news reported.

Last week, Professor Al Aynsley-Green, children's commissioner for England, said nearly every child is affected by the problem.

On 10 November, 15-year-old Natasha Jackman

was attacked with a pair of scissors during lunch break at Collingwood College in Camberley, Surrey, about one hour's drive from capital London.

She was stabbed in the chest, head and back near the school's science block and needed surgery for a punctured eyelid.

Schools Minister Jacqui Smith is launching Anti-Bullying Week when pupils will be encouraged to lobby their schools to adopt the government's Anti-Bullying Charter for Action.

Under new reforms, parents of pupils who attack or threaten classmates could be fined up to 1,000 pounds (about 1,720 US dollars).

"Bullying should never be tolerated in our schools, no matter what its motivation," said Smith, adding the country's White Paper commitments will strengthen the authority of teachers, giving them the confidence to take firm action on all forms of bad behaviour.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

Environment-friendly passenger buses debut in Central China city

WUHAN, 22 Nov — The first batch of 30 environment-friendly passenger buses, which burn compressed natural gas, were recently seen

running in Wuhan, capital city of central China's Hubei Province.

The Wuhan Morning News said the central city plans to renovate 1,500 such public passenger buses in next two years, as well as about 6,000 taxis in the future.

The move may help reduce 97 per cent of carbon monoxide, 24 per cent of carbon dioxide and 90 per cent of sulfur dioxide in auto emissions and also help lower auto noise, said the newspaper.

According to the newspaper, the Wuhan Public Transport Group has reached an agreement with a local natural gas

company recently, promising to establish two natural gas stations and more than 20 gas branches in Wuhan, at the total cost of 258 million yuan (31.9 million US dollars).

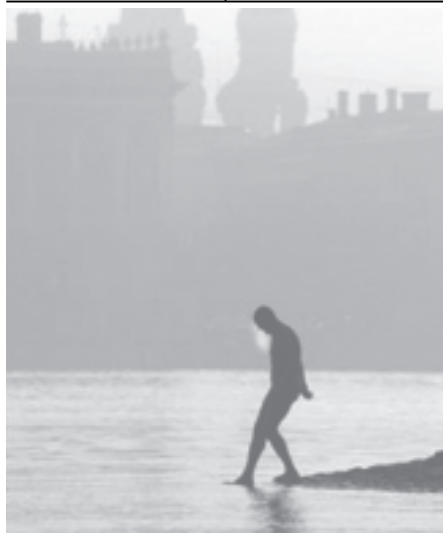
When these natural gas stations are in service, the Group may save fuel costs of about 60 million yuan for public passenger buses and about 73 million yuan for taxis, said the newspaper.

The Chinese Government has intensified the research and development of environment-friendly public transport automobiles and clean energy resources to deal with its severe

pollution problem, much of which is due to motor vehicles.

Many big cities besides Wuhan, including Beijing, Tianjin, Dalian, Shenyang, Changsha, Chengdu, Lanzhou, Xi'an and Xiamen, have all begun popularizing environment-friendly public transport automobiles and clean fuel such as compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, and liquefied petroleum gas.

MNA/Xinhua



A Russian man tries out the temperature of the water in the Neva River before swimming, with the Savior of Spilled Blood Cathedral in the background, in downtown St Petersburg, Russia, on 21 Nov, 2005. The temperature is about 0 degree Celsius.—INTERNET

US Marine dies of wounds in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 22 Nov — A US Marine died of wounds caused by small arms fire during combat operations in a town near the western flashpoint city of Fallujah, the US military said on Monday.

"A Marine assigned to Regimental Combat Team 8, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, died of wounds received from small arms fire while conducting combat operations against the enemy in al-The statement did not reveal further details. — MNA/Xinhua

Landmine explosions kill one, injuring six in central Nepal

KATHMANDU, 22 Nov — At least one security man died and six others were injured in two separate land mine explosions on Sunday in central Nepal, a local police office said on Monday.

"At least one security man died and another was injured when a security patrol overran an anti-government guerillas planted land mine in Dayagaun area of Kavre District, some 50 kilometres east of Kathmandu," the district police office of Kavre said in a Press statement. Meanwhile, five others of the same patrol team were injured in another explosion at Chaukidanda area of the district, the Press statement said.— MNA/Xinhua

Suicide bomber kills 21 in Iraq; 3 GIs die

BAGHDAD, 22 Nov — A suicide car bomber killed 21 people in northern Iraq on Tuesday after guerillas lured police to the scene by shooting an officer, officials said. The US command said three more US soldiers have been killed, pushing the American military death toll for the conflict to 2,100.

Elsewhere, guerillas fired a mortar shell at a US ceremony transferring one of Saddam Hussein's palaces in Tikrit to Iraqi control. The shell failed to explode but sent the US ambassador, the top American commander and robed tribal sheiks scurrying for cover as the round whistled overhead.

The suicide bomber struck on a busy commercial street in Kirkuk, a mixed Arab, Kurdish and Turkoman city in an oil-producing region 180 miles north of Baghdad. About half the dead were police who rushed to the scene after gunmen killed a fellow officer.—Internet

Strong earthquake hits Japan

HONG KONG, 22 Nov — An earthquake measuring 6.1 on the Richter Scale hit the seas southwest of Kyushu, Japan, at 11:40 pm (1540 GMT) on Monday, according to the Hong Kong Observatory.

The epicentre of the quake was initially determined to be 31.0 north Latitude, 130.1 east Longitude, about 80 kilometres southwest of Kagoshima.

MNA/Xinhua



US servicemen secure the area around a roadside bomb in the town of Kan'aa east of Baquba, 40 miles northeast of Baghdad, on 21 Nov, 2005.—INTERNET

Russian FM pledges support for stabilizing Iraq

Moscow, 22 Nov—Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Monday pledged Russian support in global efforts to stabilize Iraq and more Russian engineers to help the country boost power supply.

Speaking after talks with his Iraqi counterpart, Hoshiyar Zebari, Lavrov said the talks centred on "what support could be given to the world community's efforts to restore stability in Iraq and on regional issues including Iraq's relations with its neighbours," according to the Interfax news agency.

ethnic groups in the country's parliamentary election, saying it would mark a major step toward building a democratic and united Iraq.

He announced that Russia is to increase the number of experts working in Iraq. "Some 200 Russian experts are currently working in Iraq restoring energy supply

facilities. This number will increase," as security in the country improves, Lavrov said.

Russian Security Council Secretary Igor Ivanov travelled to Baghdad earlier this month, telling the Iraqi leadership that Russia supported Iraq's efforts to restore stability.

MNA/Xinhua



Thousands of Thais warm up during a government sponsored mass exercise at Sanam Luang Park in central Bangkok recently. Some 60,000 Thais joined a mass exercise in a government campaign against smoking.—INTERNET

Zebari said Iraq expects to expand ties with Russia in various areas and believes the two countries can cooperate in such areas as energy and personnel training. "We asked Russia to use its influence to help us reach deals with some of our neighbours on security issues," Zebari said through an interpreter.

Lavrov urged Iraq to involve all political and

Romania denies hosting CIA jails, allows two probes

PARIS, 22 Nov — Romania is prepared to allow investigations at two military bases to show they were not used by the CIA as secret detention centres, President Traian Basescu said in an interview published on Monday.

Basescu denied the US intelligence agency had used any Romanian facilities in what the Washington Post said was

a secret operation to hide al-Qaeda captives in central and eastern Europe.

"I am categorical —

there are no such prisons in Romania," Basescu, who is visiting Paris for talks with President Jacques Chirac, told the French newspaper Le Figaro.

"We are open to an investigation on the bases of Timisoara and Kogalniceanu which are suspected of housing such prisons," he added, but gave no further details.

The US Army used the airbase near Mihail Kogalniceanu Village in southeastern Romania as a hub to send equipment and troops into Iraq during

the early stages of the 2003 invasion, and temporarily kept up to 3,500 American troops there.

The Romanian and French air forces have conducted joint training exercises at the base at Timisoara in western Romania.

US-based organization Human Rights Watch has identified Romania and Poland as countries that may have been used by the CIA in a secret operation which is alleged by the Washington Post to have been hiding al-Qaeda captives.—MNA/Reuters

China close nearly 2,000 coal mines since August

BEIJING, 22 Nov—China has closed nearly 2,000 coal mines across the country since August in a substantial effort to better protect miners' lives, the latest figures from the state work safety watchdog showed.

The operation of approximately 13,000 collieries have been suspended during this period, according to the National Bureau of Production Safety Supervision and Administration here Monday. China launched a massive crackdown on substandard coal mines in August, following the deadly coal mine flooding of Daxing Colliery in southern China, which claimed a total of 123 victims.—MNA/Xinhua

Poll shows more Americans than ever are pessimistic about Iraq's future

WASHINGTON, 22 Nov — A majority of Americans do not think Iraq will be successful in establishing a stable democratic government and would like US troops to come home next year, according to a poll.

Of the 1,011 adults surveyed by telephone November 8-13, 61 percent answered "no" when asked if they were confident democracy and stability could come to Iraq, up four percent from August, the Harris Poll said.

Only a third, or 32 percent, thought Iraq would be successful in its quest for peace and fair government, up eight percent from August, the survey found.

Sixty three percent of those surveyed were in favor of bringing US troops home from Iraq in the next year, up two percent from August, while 35 percent thought they should be kept in large numbers until a democracy is established, down one point from August.

With regards to the strength of insurgents US troops are facing in Iraq, 44 percent thought they were getting the upper hand (down four percent from August), against 41 percent who believed they were being contained by security forces (up two percent since August).—Internet

US pull out of Uzbekistan base after eviction

WASHINGTON, 22, Nov— The final 90 US troops flew out of an air base in Uzbekistan on Monday, the Pentagon said, ending four years at the facility after being evicted by the Central Asian nation in a human rights dispute.

The former Soviet republic had permitted US forces to use the Karshi-Khanabad Air Base, called K-2, to support operations in neighbouring Afghanistan since shortly after the 11 September, 2001, attacks on America.

But Uzbekistan, ruled since Soviet times by President Islam Karimov, in July gave the United States six months to leave the base following US criticism of the Uzbek government's suppression of demonstrators in the town of

Andizhan in May. The US pullout came about two months early.

Navy Lieutenant Commodore Joe Carpenter, a Pentagon spokesman, said US personnel held a flag-lowering ceremony at the base and formally returned control to the Uzbek government.

"At 3:40 pm this afternoon (local time), a C-17 (aircraft) with 90 US personnel departed. Those were the last US personnel at the K-2 air base," Carpenter said.

The US military

presence at the Soviet-era base had been as high as 1,500. The United States had used cargo, refueling and other types of aircraft at K-2, most of which have been moved to locations inside Afghanistan, Carpenter said. The departure came one week after the Pentagon, despite objections in the US Congress, made a payment of 22.9 million US dollars to Uzbekistan covering use of the base for the period from January 2003 through March 2005.

MNA/Reuters



A hooded Iraqi policeman secures the area in front of a burned truck, in Baghdad, Iraq, on 21 Nov, 2005.—INTERNET

HR violations of the nation which compiled HR report

Aung Moe San

Today, some western masters and their cohorts are lashing out at Myanmar through various means. They are trying to have the UN Security Council take action against Myanmar. If Myanmar yields to their demands and adopt the western democracy, they will certainly stop all their slanderous accusations against her, and she may even receive some assistance from them.

However, the Myanmar government and people will never accept the western democracy model, that is not suitable to the nation's way of life, and will never yield to the West. In no way, the government and the people will tolerate any type of encroachment on the values and norms of the sovereignty and independence. Because Myanmar regained her independence and sovereignty after risking lots of lives and blood of the national races. On 28 February 2005, the US State Department issued a human rights report on 196 nations of the world. But the US was not included in the list. It seems that the US presumes itself a perfect nation free from pitfalls.

Concerning the matter, the spokesman of China's Foreign Ministry at a press conference held in Beijing on 3 March this year said that the persons that had the right to criticize China's human rights issue were no other than the Chinese People themselves; that the Chinese government which always gave priority to her people's interest was working with might and main to build a democratic state where the rule of law was ensured; that the Chinese people were enjoying the fruits of improved human rights; and that the US should make greater efforts and pay more attention to solving its own human rights problems.

The Cuban Foreign Minister demanded the US government to produce proof concerning the accusations against his country. At a press conference held in Havana, the foreign minister warned the US to put its own house in order and stay away from other nations' affairs. Similarly, other global nations including Myanmar rejected and refuted the US human rights report.

Now I will present an excerpt from the Human Rights Record of the United States in 2004 issued by the Information Department of the State Council of the People's Republic of China in March 2005.

"The situation of American women and children was disturbing. The rates of women and children physically or sexually victimized were high. According to FBI Crime Statistics, in 2003 the United States witnessed 93,233 cases of rape. Virtually 63.2 in every 100,000 women fell victims. The statistics also showed that every two minutes one woman was sexually assaulted and every six minutes one woman was raped. The number of women abused and treated at First Aid Centers exceeded one million every year. Women's labor and social rights were violated. According to The Sun newspaper (Jul. 16, 2004), the charges handled by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission on sexual discrimination against women grew by 12 percent in the past decade.

"Statistics released by the US Labor Department in Jan. 2004 showed a woman who worked full time had the median earning of 81.1 percent of that for a man. The Chicago Tribune said on Aug. 27, 2004 that the rate of women in poverty went up fast, to 12.4 percent of the entire female population. A study of 168 countries conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health indicated that US workers have fewer rights to time off for family matters than workers in most other countries, and rank at the bottom in maternity and sick leave. Child poverty was a serious problem. The Chicago Tribune reported on Aug. 27, 2004 said that the number of children in poverty climbed from 12.1 million in 2002 to 12.9 million in 2003, a year-on-year increase of 0.9 percent. About 20 million children lived in "low-income working families" — with barely enough money to cover basic needs (AP Washington, Oct. 12, 2004).

The Record also said, "Children were victims of sex crimes. Every year about 400,000 children in the US were forced to engage in prostitution or other sexual dealings on the streets. Reports on children sexually exploited, which were received by the Na-

tional Center for Missing & Exploited Children, soared from 4,573 cases in 1998 to 81,987 cases in 2003. Violent crimes occurred frequently. Studies show nearly 20 percent of US juveniles lived in families that possessed guns. A report released by the US Justice Department on November 29, 2004 said about 9 percent of school kids aged 9 to 12 admitted being threatened or having suffered an injury from a weapon while at school in 2003. More and more schoolers were reluctant to go to school because of security concerns. The Sun newspaper reported on May 18, 2004 that in 2002, a total of 900,000 children in the United States were abused, nearly 1,400 of whom died. Every year, 1.98 out of every 100,000 American children were killed by their parents or guardians."

The Record said that the US which was said to be the world's richest country was facing the rising problem of poverty, hunger and homelessness.

At the 61st meeting of UN Human Rights Commission held in Geneva on 16 March, the Foreign Minister of Cuba also revealed the human rights violations of the US and its allies, saying that they were openly and systematically violating human rights at Guantanamo prison of the US Navy and Abu Gharib prison outside Baghdad.

The Cuban FM also accused the US and allies of using the UN as their own property, and turning the global body into their tribunal to condemn the peoples in the developing countries that are actively opposing neo-colonialism. He said it was unbelievable that fairness had already been gone at the Human Rights Commission; and that the Commission always failed to take action against the big nation that bullied others.

Certain countries and persons are blindly ignoring the human rights violations of the US, while opposing Myanmar that is building a democratic state in accord with her social conditions; Myanmar people are against those countries. We, Myanmar people, also understand why those nations and persons are supporting a handful of their minions while imposing economic sanctions against the nation and her population of over 54 million and cutting off all humanitarian aid.

Myanmar is now in the process of holding the National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map, to build a democratic state, actively taking part in the ASEAN and further improving cordial relations with her neighbours, regional countries, Asian countries and global nations. In this regard, the perpetration of the US, allies and their minions to tarnish the image of Myanmar to the worst degree is no other than to press her to yield to their domination and democracy model.

(Translation: TMT)

Certain countries and persons are blindly ignoring the human rights violations of the US, while opposing Myanmar that is building a democratic state in accord with her social conditions; Myanmar people are against those countries. We, Myanmar people, also understand why those nations and persons are supporting a handful of their minions while imposing economic sanctions on the nation and her population of over 54 million and cutting off all humanitarian aid.

Health sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of health in the time of the Tatmadaw Government

Indicators on health development

The government is implementing the tasks for uplift of health and fitness of the people after laying down the national objectives on health. It is also constantly undertaking the tasks for enhancement of health, prevention of diseases, treatment and rehabilitation in order to raise

environmental conditions play an important role in implementation of the health projects.

Life expectancy which indicates health development has improved. Mortality rate has also fallen not because health care services improve but because individual lifestyle and social and

Indicators on health development

Sr No	Subject	1988	2005
1.	decline of crude death rate		
	rural areas	9.9/1000	7.1/1000
	urban areas	8.9/1000	6.2/1000
2.	increase of life expectancy		
	rural areas		
	men	56.2 years	60.8 years
	women	60.4 years	63.3 years
	urban areas		
	men	59.0 years	61.5 years
	women	63.2 years	65.6 years
3.	mortality rate under one	98/1000	49.7/1000
4.	mortality rate under five	130/1000	66.6/1000



The medical team comprising specialists and physicians giving treatment to local people at the rural health care branch in Mongli Model Village in Hsenwi Township, Shan State (North).

the health standard of the people.

In promotion of the health sector, the government has drawn the plans on improvement of the way of eating and lifestyle and is carrying them out for eradication of malnutrition and prevention of obesity, diabetes, hypertension and heart diseases.

Other economic, social and

environmental conditions become better than ever. For instance, there is food sufficiency in Myanmar because of the increased production of agricultural produce. As a result, nutrition is better and the outbreak of infectious diseases has decreased. The people live in clean houses with good ventilation and they

dispose of rubbish properly. The outbreak of disease has thus become less and less. These are the practical developments in the health sector.

The health standard of the people has improved and they can live longer. Considerable achievements have been made due to the efforts and cooperation of individuals, every household,

social organizations and departments concerned in the respective sectors. It is vividly seen in the table shown.

A paediatrician of a physician team providing treatment to a child from a village nearby Kwammoedein Village of Kayan Township, Yangon South District.





Prime Minister General Soe Win hears reports on Kyaukpyu Education College by Principal Daw Sao Than Kyi.— MNA

Utilizing significant region-wise...

(from page 16)
Rakhine State has put 8,265 acres of land under rubber against the target of 30,000 acres within three years.

heard reports on matters related to the township and its progress by Chairman of Township PDC U Tint Naing Oo and requirements of the town-

They flew to Minbya. And, they inspected Township Hospital (25-bed) and Minbya BEHS.

At Ramong Hall in Minbya, the Prime Minister called on departmental personnel, social organizations and local

ment. The Township Engineer and the Rakhine State Superintending Engineer briefed them on tasks to prepare Minbya-Pauktaw Road and Minbya-Myebon Road.

Officials of township and state Development

Affairs Committees reported on sites to be chosen for water supply, and laying of pipelines; and Director-General of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department U Than Swe and Director-General of the Irrigation Department U Kyaw San Win, on work programmes for water supply. The commander gave a supplementary report.

Departmental officials reported on measures being taken for promotion of health care services, upgrading of communication systems, and generation of electric power through paddy husk.

The Prime Minister provided assistance for the requirements and presented stationery to the township education officer.

U Maung Maung Tun (MMT Group Fish and Prawn Trading) presented K 600,000 for edu-

cation and health sectors and regional development tasks; member of Minbya BEHS board of trustees U Tun Maung, K 400,000; U Soe Min (Sanchein Co Ltd), K 150,000; U Myint Oo (proprietor of communication and lodging enterprises), U Aung Kyaw Thein (KTT Co Ltd), U Thein Naing (Phyo Kyaw Co Ltd), U San Myint (rice miller), U Kyaw Zaw (owner of agricultural farms), U Maung Tun Mya (owner of ship), U Maung Tha Nu (Myoma Market), U Kyaw Myint (timber trader), and U Maung Tun Mya (goldsmith), K 100,000 each.

The Prime Minister cordially greeted those present.

On arrival at Pauktaw, the Prime Minister inspected multimedia classrooms of Pauktaw BEHS, and township people's hospital (25-bed).

(See page 9)



Prime Minister General Soe Win presents exercise books and stationery to Kyaukpyu Township Education Officer Daw Tin Tin Ohn.— MNA

MraukU Township has also grown 589 acres of rubber against the target of 910 acres.

In the morning, the Prime Minister met with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people at the office of MraukU Township PDC.

The Prime Minister

ship by the commander, Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung of Sittway Station and departmental officials.

The Prime Minister explained preservation of ancient cultural heritage, development of the township and national unity, and attended to the needs. He also presented stationery to the TEO.

people. Chairman of Township PDC U Zaw Myint Thein reported on power supply tasks being carried out with the use of paddy husk-fired power generators, water supply tasks, upgrading of telecommunication functions and road transport, requirements, and participation of local people in regional develop-

All should effectively make use of the land, water and weather conditions of Rakhine State to produce surplus rice. Cash crops such as pepper and onion and perennial crops including rubber should be grown in the state.



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects nurturing of rubber saplings in the compound of MraukU Township Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise.—MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win delivers an address at the meeting with departmental officials at MraukU Township PDC office. —MNA

Utilizing significant region-wise...

(from page 8)

At the meeting with local authorities, departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsenders, the Prime Minister dealt with

sonnel presented reports sector-wise. Heads of department and deputy ministers gave supplementary reports.

The Prime Minister said that the State and

presented exercise books and stationery to the township education officer. Next, he inspected Myebon Township people's hospital.

Yesterday morning, the Prime Minister inspected the two-storey building under construction in the compound of

No 2 BEHS in An. Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Tin Hlaing and Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint gave supplementary reports.

The Prime Minister viewed progress in constructing the school building and multimedia teaching aids.

He also inspected Hinywet Dam in An. Deputy Superintending Engineer U Tin Maung Myint reported on supply of water for the town, and arrangements for extended water supply; Major Khin Zaw Win of An Station, on work done for supply of water to local regiments and units; and Director of Rakhine State Irrigation Department U Myo Myint, on water storage capacity of the dam, and sufficient water supply for the town. The commander gave a supplementary report.

In response, the Prime Minister instructed the officials to implement water supply tasks as scheduled.

General Soe Win visited the students learning lessons with the help of advanced teaching aids in language lab and computer room. During inspection of the 100-bed An hospital, he heard a report on provision of beds, installation of surgical

equipment and progress in building the staff quarters.

At An Region Development Office, he met with departmental personnel, social organizations and local people. Officials reported to the Prime Minister on accomplishments and requirements in the regional development undertakings, An Creek Hydel Power Project that is located 3.5 miles north-east of An. Ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads presented supplementary reports. The Prime Minister made arrangements for work facilitation. He said Head of State Senior General Than Shwe himself has given guidance for An region development during his visit to the town. People can see the town's development with their own eyes. Efforts should be made for the region to achieve greater progress depending on its significant natural conditions.

(See page 10)



Prime Minister General Soe Win cordially talks with students in the multi-media classroom of Minbya BEHS. — MNA

endeavours for the development of Pauktaw Township, fruitful results of development achieved thanks to the assistance rendered by the State, and participation of local people.

The Prime Minister presented exercise books and stationery to the township through officials, and had a cordial conversation with those present.

He also held a similar meeting in Myebon Township. Officials reported on geographical features of the region, agriculture, livestock breeding, education, health and transport sectors. Departmental per-

sonnel are to coordinate for upgrading of Myebon-Minbya Road, supply of equipment for the township hospital, appointment of more health staff, renovation of high and middle schools, and betterment of telephone lines. He pledged the government will make efforts on its part in that regard.

Local people are to make concerted efforts in harmony for the development of their region, state and nation, but should not rely on others. As the strength of a nation lies within, the entire national people are to be one in carrying out tasks.

The Prime Minister



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects An Township 100-bed hospital. — MNA

Utilizing significant region-wise...

(from page 9)

In Kyaukpyu, the Prime Minister heard a report on progress in building Yangon-Kyaukpyu road and inspected building of two hostels of Kyaukpyu College. Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein and officials explained salient points of the college.

After looking into the requirements, the Prime Minister presented cash assistance for trainees through their principal. He viewed the town by car and visited the 100-bed Kyaukpyu District People's Hospital. He cordially greeted the hospital staff.

The Prime Minister met with departmental personnel, social organizations and townsenders at Yamawady Hall. Officials presented requirements. The Prime Minister made arrangements for upgrading schools, extending telephone lines, improving Thitpokaung-

Thaingchaung road and providing necessary assistance to hospitals and dispensaries and the town.

At his meeting with departmental personnel, social organizations, local authorities and local people in MraukU, Minbya, Pauktaw, Myebon, An and Kyaukpyu, the Prime Minister said the important thing for narrowing the development divide and to ensure a proportionate development in the whole nation is to correctly utilize the sig-

nificant natural conditions of the respective regions. All should effectively make use of the land, water and weather conditions of Rakhine State to produce surplus rice. Cash crops such as pepper and onion and perennial crops including rubber should be grown in the state.

The government has been building infrastructures for progress of Rakhine State. The Sittway-An section of Yangon-Sittway Union Highway stands witness to the fact that the government has optimized the use of technology, experiences and innovations in addition to financial

power in building roads and bridges. It is also the result of the Head of State's goodwill towards Rakhine State. The government is facing much hardships in surveying the rough terrain to build dams.

The local people on their part should nurture the spirit of staying in unity with the government and should lend a helping hand in regional development undertakings. Service personnel of the state should ensure progress and peace by finding means to serve the locals' interest and helping and protecting the people. In doing so,

Foreign Minister sends message of congratulations to Federal Minister of Federal Republic of Germany

YANGON, 23 Nov—U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Frank Walter Steinmeier, who was appointed as Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Federal Republic of Germany on 22 November 2005.

MNA

they should make energetic efforts for development of both the urban and rural areas as it is important for them to narrow the rural-urban gap and ensure a proportionate progress in the

whole state.

USDA Central Executive Committee members Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein met with USDA members in An on 21 July. — MNA



CEC members of USDA Ministers Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein meeting with USDA members at An Township USDA office. — MNA

Extension of Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao Road inspected

YANGON, 23 Nov — Kachin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Northern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, and Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected extension of Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao Road on 20 November.

The commander and the minister heard reports on construction of Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao Road.

The commander, the minister and party inspected Injanyan road section, met with departmental staff, townsenders and local people in Injanyan township and presented gifts. After hearing reports by townsenders, the commander and the minister attended to the needs and gave instructions on regional development.

At Myitkyina, Union Solidarity and Development Association office

Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and party attended the ceremony to present USDA membership applications held at Khemathi Ward in Myitkyina and the secretariat member made a speech. Afterwards, Brig-Gen Thein Zaw donated the bags of dry fish to the four monasteries in the ward and Kachin State USDA Secretary U Ra Wan Jon presented the uniforms of the association.

The secretariat member and party also attended the ceremony to present USDA membership applications held at Mansein Ward BEHS, heard the reports on activities of the association and attended to the needs. Later, District USDA Secretary U Nyein Thein accepted the USDA membership applications of Mansein Ward.

Next, the secretariat member donated the bags of rice and dried fishes, and oil containers to Christian religious associations. — MNA

Bilin sugar mill opened for sugarcane season

YANGON, 23 Nov — Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and Thaton District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Thaw Zin together with officials attended the opening ceremony of Bilin sugar mill for sugarcane season 2005-2006 on 20 November.

First, the commander made a speech. Next, the

commander cordially greeted the staff of the mill and sugarcane farmers and inspected the mill.

On arrival at the spirit factory in Bilin, the commander heard reports on procedure of the factory and gave necessary instructions.

At Bilin Township PDC Office, the commander met with departmental officials and heard reports by the township PDC chairman

and Managing Director of Myanma Foodstuff Industries U Soe Hlaing. Next, those present took part in the discussions and the commander gave necessary instructions.

Later, the commander and the managing director of MFI donated cash for Sasana Beikman in the township, and U Aung Myo of Progressive Engineering donated cash for extension of Kazine BEHS.

MNA

50-bed hospital opens in Mongla

YANGON, 23 Nov —As a gesture of hailing the National Convention, a 50-bed hospital was inaugurated in Mongla on 11 November.

Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and a townselder formally opened the hospital.

After the opening ceremony, the commander and officials inspected the hospital and provided assistance to patients receiving treatment at the hospital.

In meeting with departmental officials at the hall of the hospital, the commander urged them to strive for the regional development and fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



Secretariat member of USDA Brig-Gen Thein Zaw donates dry fish and edible oil to Christian religious associations in Myitkyina. — MNA

CEC member gives lecture

YANGON, 23 Nov — Union Solidarity and Development Association CEC member Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein gave a lecture on national policy and all-round development of the State at Basic Organizational Course No 20 conducted by Dagon Myothit (South) Township USDA this afternoon.

MNA

Non-Aligned Countries to set up NAM News Network (NNN) to counter western media and to strive for establishment of New World Information and Communication Order

YANGON, 23 Nov — Information Ministers and delegates of the Non-Aligned Countries (NAC) and officials unanimously agreed to establish NAM News Network (NNN) on the final day of the Sixth Conference of the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries (Cominac VI).

Information Ministers and delegates of the 114-member Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) gathered at (Cominac VI) held from 21 to 22 November at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. During the two-day conference, they seek ways to establish an information unit of NAM in order to prevent unfair

reports and fabricated news created by some western countries.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan participated in the two-day ministerial level meeting opened by Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak on 21 November at the Palace of the Golden Horses Hotel in KL.

At the second day session of the meeting, the ministers and officials of NAC unanimously approved the draft of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration.

The declaration opposed unfair reports and fabricated news created by some western countries, agreed to the

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan being welcomed back at the airport.
MNA



setting up of NAM News Network (NNN) to counter the western media and to strive for establishment of New World Information and Communication Order, NWICO, among the developing countries. NNN is an Internet-based

Kuala Lumpur Declaration opposed to unfair reports and fabricated news created by some western countries.

news exchange and it is expected to launch its services in mid-2006, and Malaysian Government will underwrite its start-up cost NNN.

Myanmar delegation led by Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan

arrived back here today. The delegation also includes Managing Director of Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Aung Nyein, Deputy Director-General of the Information and Public Relations Department U

Ye Htut and Deputy Director of Myanmar Radio and Television U Myint Htwe. They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Soe Win and officials. — MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attending 6th Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.—MNA

Rules on Essay and Poem Contests to mark 58th Anniversary Independence Day announced

YANGON, 23 Nov — The Sub-committee for Organizing the Essay, Poem, TV Quiz and Computer Art Competitions in commemoration of the 58th Anniversary Independence Day for 2006 will hold school-wise essay and poem contests at the university/college/institute level, the basic education school (8th, 9th, and 10th standards) and the basic education school level (5th, 6th, and 7th standards) in line with the Objectives of the 58th Anniversary Independence Day.

The essay contest at the university/college/institute level will be held from 9 am to 11 am on 3 December, and the poem contest at 12 noon to 2 pm.

Students from Defence Services Academy, Defence Services Medical Academy, Defence Services Technological Academy, Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Sciences, Institutes of Medicine and Medical related Institutes under the Ministry of Health, universities and degree colleges under the Ministry of Education, universities, colleges and institutes under the Ministry of Science and Technology, education colleges under the Education Planning and Training Department, University of Forest, Yezin University of Agriculture, University of Veterinary Science, Universities of Culture, Myanmar Maritime

University, Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University, University for Development of National Races, Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College, Cooperative Degree College and Cooperative Colleges may participate in the contest at the university/college/institute level.

The school-wise essay contest at the basic education high level will be held from 9 am to 11 am on 3 December, and the school-wise poem contest at 12 noon to 2 pm.

The school-wise essay contest at the basic education middle level will be held from 9 am to 11 am on 4 December, and the school-wise poem contest at 12 noon to 2 pm.

The entries to the essay contests must be under 5,000 words and the works at the poem contest under 300 stanzas.

Those wishing to take part in the essay and poem contests at basic education high and middle levels may enlist at the schools concerned not later than 2 December, and those at the university/college/institute level on 2 December. Students of University of Distance Education are to enlist at the respective branches. First, second and third winners in the central level essay and poem contests at three levels will be awarded handsome prizes on 4 January 2006, the Independence Day. — MNA

The boastful airs of Westerners

- * If others own more of powerful arms
More capable than we do
Such possession, we do not desire
If we hear others try to possess
While we continue to hold such arms
We shall continue to stop others from doing
We shall stop others.
- * Moreover, at all times
We shall continue to constantly work
Toward others practising our norms
And if all nations don't adhere to them
We shall push toward that end.
- * Well, if they don't stop as we say
And won't do as we push them
We shall work toward that village, that nation
Getting brothers split up
Brew a fight, with roosters of the same flock
Painted up in disguise so they fight
And when they gasp tired and
Can't fight any more
We shall catch them, tie them up
And do what we like to them.
- * Well, is it clear enough
The democracy we're heading for
Your life as long as the world lasts
Shall be in our hands
- * With Westerners putting on airs
In that pattern as we happen to hear
Taking due care, let us march
On our journey in
Our ways and means.

Po Wa (Trs)

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 M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
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 Dated 24 November 2005

One child dies, 200 others sick of food poisoning in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 22 Nov— One minor child has died and 200 others have fallen sick due to food poisoning in northern Gaibandha

District, 276 kilometres from the capital Dhaka, a private channel ATN Bangladesh reported Monday.

The television said 200 people from three villages in the district fell sick after eating food at a religious function on Sunday.

Many of the sick people have been admitted to local hospital and the rest are getting treatment at their homes.

The hospital authority said they have no manpower and sufficient medicine to manage such a large number of patients at a time.

Many serious patients are being sent to the neighbouring Rangpur Medical college hospital. The patients are suffering severe pain in their stomach, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

A Chinese medical worker takes the temperature of a man during a health drill at Huashan Hospital in Shanghai on 21 Nov, 2005. China plans to set up a string of new monitoring stations in rural areas to help fight bird flu.—INTERNET

Sri Lanka's new Prime Minister sworn in

COLOMBO, 22 Nov— Senior politician Ratnasiri Wickramanayake was sworn in as Sri Lanka's 14th Prime Minister by President Mahinda Rajapakse here on Monday.

Wickramanayake, 72, thus became the Prime Minister for the second time in his career. He first held the position from October 2000 to December 2001.

He fills up the position left vacant by Rajapakse,

who was elected as the country's fifth executive President at the election held last week. Wickramanayake was the Minister of Agriculture, Law and Order, Public Security since April 2004. He entered politics in

1960 from the ruling Sri Lanka Freedom Party and had held several key ministerial portfolios during his long political career.

Meanwhile the Sri Lankan Parliament's current session was

declared closed by Rajapakse on Monday.

It will be reconvened for its new session on November 29, enabling the new President to make his policy address in the assembly, a official said.

MNA/Xinhua

Somali pirates free ship, crew after a month of captivity

NAIROBI, 22 Nov— Kenya's maritime officials confirmed Sunday that Somali pirates have freed a ship and its crew after holding them hostage for almost one month off Somalia's north-east coast.

Andrew Mwangura, coordinator of Kenyan

Seafarers' Association Programme said the Maltese-flagged *San Carlos* and its 24-member crew which was seized on October 20 as it made its way to South Africa was released on Saturday and resumed its course to its destination.

"Information we have received indicates that the *San Carlos* was released on Saturday that it is making its way to its original destination, which is South Africa," Mwangura said by telephone.

However, the official could not disclose under what circumstances the vessel was freed, saying ransom may have been paid to secure its freedom.

"I don't know whether any ransom was paid, but I am sure that some compensation would have been given to the gunmen for them to release the ship," he said.

Piracy has increased in the unprotected waters off the Somalis with the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) warning ships to stay 200 nautical

miles off the Somali coast.

According to the IMB, there have been more than 25 hijackings and attempted seizures of vessels by Somali pirates since March. Sporadic piracy has been taking place off the coast of Somalia for at least a decade, with several incidents reported each year.

But it is unclear why there has been such a dramatic increase since the beginning of the year.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippines to push US Embassy to turn over custody of six soldiers

MANILA, 22 Nov— The Philippine Government has formally asked the US Embassy to turn over the custody of six US Marines who were accused of raping a Filipino woman, Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo said here Monday.

Romulo told a Press briefing that the custody of the six US soldiers stationed at Subic Bay should be turned over to the Philippines, citing the extraordinary nature of the case pursuant to the provisions of the Visiting Forces Agreement.

He said that ensuring that justice

prevails and that the rights and welfare of the victim are secured tops Philippine Government's interests.

"The United States Government has been made fully aware of the importance that the Philippine Government and the Filipino people are giving to this case as well as our sentiments

and position that the Philippines has primary jurisdiction and that the Philippine laws shall govern," he added.

On 1 November, a 22-year-old Filipino woman was allegedly raped by the six American soldiers in Subic bay, about three-hour driving away from Manila.

MNA/Xinhua

Sri Lanka floods kill 6, tsunami displaced hit again

COLOMBO, 23 Nov— Floods triggered by heavy rains in Sri Lanka have killed six people and damaged thousands of homes, affecting many still in shelters after last year's tsunami, the government said on Wednesday.

Some 2,000 homes were destroyed and at least 63,000 people affected, a broad term covering those who had suffered damage to their homes, businesses or any other property.

Water levels fell in most of the country after rains eased, but officials were still assessing flood damage. Around 1,200 families were in temporary shelters.

"As well as the flooding, there has been a lot of subsidence," said GM Gunawardena, assistant director of the National Disaster

Management Centre.

Three of the dead were killed in the capital Colombo, two when a rain-weakened wall collapsed, while most of the other dead appeared to have drowned trying to swim to safety, he said.

In the north-eastern town of Trincomalee, aid workers said victims of the 26 Dec tsunami still living in wooden and corrugated iron temporary shelters had been forced to leave what few possessions they had left.

MNA/Reuters

Don't smoke



ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဆွယ်ရေးစနစ်များ တိုးတက်စေရန် နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခဲ့

Four new satellites to improve China's weather forecasting

BELING, 22 Nov—China will send a weather satellite into orbit next year, the first of four such satellites to serve in space before 2013, *China Daily* reported on Monday, citing a weather official.

Belonging to the Fengyun-2 (FY-2) series of weather satellites, they will form an observation system over the skies of China to watch any possible weather changes that may affect the country, according to Zhang Wenjian, director of the department of observation and telecommunications under China Meteorological Administration (CMA).

improve weather forecasting throughout China and related meteorological services to many key sectors of the national economy," Zhang was quoted by the *China Daily* as saying.

The system, he says, will give weather watchers a wider view, sending data every 15 minutes.

The new satellites will improve CMA's short and medium-term forecasting times from zero to six hours and from three to seven days

respectively, Zhang said.

"The satellites will also watch for weather changes at all the venues for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games," he added.

His remarks were made on Sunday here at an appraisal of the ground receiving and application system of the FY-2C meteorological satellite.

MNA/Xinhua



He Lin of China, right, winner in the Best Actress category for her role in 'Slave Mother' and Thierry Fremont of France, winner in the Best Actor category for his role in 'Dans la Tete du Tueur' hold their Emmy Awards at the International Academy of Television Arts and Sciences 2005 International Emmy Awards, on 21 Nov, 2005, in New York. —INTERNET

Singapore hosts AdAsia conference, exhibition

SINGAPORE, 22 Nov—AdAsia, a conference and exhibition on the advertising industry in Asia, opened Monday at Singapore's Suntec City to explore new strategies for this changing region.

Themed "Winning in Asia", the three-day event gathered some 500 delegates from the region and the world to address topics like marketing lessons from the world to Asia and new communications business model from Asia to the world.

Some of the most successful Asian brands such as South Korea's Samsung and China's Sina.com will share their marketing strategies and experiences with the participants. "Design in Asia is growing rapidly. There is a burgeoning interest in how design can elevate, differentiate and empower economies. This has led to amazing amounts of investment in design," Singapore Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts Lee Boon Yang said at the opening ceremony.

This is the second time for Singapore to host the AdAsia conference and exhibition, a biennial event of a history of almost half a century, in 25 years.

MNA/Xinhua

Service sector development accelerates on Yangtze River Delta

NANJING, 22 Nov—The service industry is gaining steam on the Yangtze River Delta, an area in east China that serves as one of the country's economic powerhouses, and is ready to become a major driving force for the local economy.

In the first three quarters of this year, the service sectors in 16 major cities in the area amounted to 947.4 billion yuan (116.8 billion US dollars) in value added output, or 39.2 per cent of the

combined gross domestic product (GDP) of the cities. Five out of the 16 cities each had its service industry record more than 80 billion yuan (14.4 billion US dollars) in value-added output for the

three-month period.

Hong Yinxing, an economist at Nanjing University in this capital city of Jiangsu Province, said that against the backdrop of economic globalization, the service industry leading traditional manufacturing is becoming a trend in modern economies. The service sector has evolved into a new economic pillar in advanced industrial nations.

Hong noted that development of the service sector mainly hinges upon information, science and technology and human resources, which is the most suitable combination of features for sustainable economic growth on the Yangtze River Delta, which is relatively short of land resources and energy.

Over the past few years, the service sector has advanced rapidly on the Delta. —MNA/Xinhua

NZ's greenhouse gas emissions increase

WELLINGTON, 22—New Zealand is among the countries bucking an international trend of declining greenhouse gas levels. Local media said Sunday that a report from the United Nations Climate Centre shows New Zealand's emissions have increased 22.5 per cent

since 1990. Worldwide there has been a 5.9-per cent drop over the same period. New Zealand has the eighth highest percentage greenhouse gas increase among the nations listed in the report.

MNA/Xinhua

Floods claim three in central Vietnam

HANOI, 22 Nov — Floods caused by torrential rain have killed three people from Vietnam's central region since last weekend, local newspaper *Young People* reported on Monday.

Of the victims, a 45-year-old man was from Quang Ngai Province and two others aged 28 and 18 from Binh Dinh Province. The floods, which lasted between November 18-20, also inundated tens of thousands of houses and many road sections in the two provinces.

MNA/Xinhua

HIV infects 200,000 more in Latin America, Caribbean

BRASILIA, 22 Nov—Human Immunodeficiency Virus, the infection that causes Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) has infected 200,000 new victims across Latin America and the Caribbean, bringing the total number of infections to 2.1 million, the United Nations said in a report published on Monday.

UNAIDS, the UN organ charged with tackling the disease, said that AIDS had killed 66,000 people in Latin America and 24,000 in the Caribbean, and that only Haiti was showing signs of slowing the epidemic. Tests administered to pregnant Haitians during 2003 and 2004 showed HIV infection had fallen to 3.1 per cent, half of 1993's rate.

In the wider Caribbean, the UN reported increased use of condoms among sex workers and an expansion in testing and counselling provision. UNAIDS lauded Brazil for plan to provide AIDS treatment to 17,000 people free of charge by the end of this year. The UNAIDS said Brazil had set an example for the region. —MNA/Xinhua



A member of the South Durham Hunt holds up a Turkmenian Eagle Owl in Sedgefield in northeast England on 5 Nov, 2005. Britain has put forward a plan for international action to protect such rare birds of prey as eagles, vultures and owls from extinction. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Makaay double sends Bayern through in style

MUNICH, 23 Nov— Roy Makaay scored twice to help send Bayern Munich through to the last 16 of the Champions League with a 4-0 win at home to Rapid Vienna in Group A on Tuesday.



Bayern Munich's Iranian midfielder Ali Karimi (L) celebrates with French teammate Valerien Ismael after he scored against Vienna, at Munich's Allianz-Arena Stadium, during their Champions League group A football match. Bayern won 4-0.—INTERNET

Bayern, making light of the absence of the injured Michael Ballack, took the lead in the 21st minute when Sebastian Deisler drilled a shot past Helge Payer.

Iranian international Ali Karimi made it 2-0 nine minutes after the break, hooking in from a corner.

Makaay took over, finishing off a swift counter-attack in the 72nd minute and adding his second four minutes later.

Bayern's victory, coupled with FC Bruges's 1-0 defeat by Juventus, sealed at least a top-two finish for the German champions. Rapid went into the match still pointless and with no chance of making the knock-out phase but they were obviously relishing the chance to put one over on the German side.

Steffen Hofmann's fierce shot was just wide in the sixth minute and they continued to throw players forward, although Oliver Kahn was not called into action until the 35th minute by a glancing header from Jozef Valachovic.

By that time, the home side had established control. Bayern may soon have to get used to life without Ballack, who wants to listen to offers from abroad before deciding whether to extend his stay beyond the end of the season. Coach Felix Magath must have been pleased to see Karimi making the most of a chance in the starting line-up.

Makaay scooted a free kick wide from a good position in the 11th minute after Ze Roberto had been pulled down and the chances came regularly for Bayern thereafter.

Makaay volleyed over from a narrow angle on the left when he might have pulled the ball back but the Dutchman atoned five minutes later with his astute pass setting up Deisler's emphatic opener from outside the box.

Ze Roberto, who went into the game nursing an injury, was replaced by Bastian Schweinsteiger at halftime and the German international created the first good chance of the second half, wriggling clear on the left and seeing a shot deflected wide. From the resulting corner, Karimi rocked back and fired the ball past Payer.

Schweinsteiger launched a swift break from inside his own half and his weighted through ball picked out Makaay for the third. —MNA/Reuters

Del Piero heads Juventus through to last 16

TURIN (Italy), 23 Nov— Alessandro Del Piero's 80th-minute header gave Juventus a 1-0 victory over Belgian side Club Brugge in Champions League Group A on Tuesday to clinch a place in the knockout stage.

The result allowed Italian champions

Juve to qualify along with Bayern Munich who beat Rapid Vienna 4-0 in the group's other match and leaves Bruges assured of third place and a spot in the UEFA Cup.

Del Piero, in for the suspended Swedish striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic, failed to convert three good chances for Juve before he finally broke the deadlock with a close-range header from a Pavel Nedved cross.

Juve's best effort prior to the goal, in a game played in front of just 9,623 at a freezing Delle Alpi stadium, was a David Trezeguet header against the post just before the break.

The pattern of the game was in place from the outset — Juventus looking to score but without ever taking excessive risks and Bruges solid at the back but lacking initiative and ambition going

forward.

Nedved had an early chance for Juventus, firing wide from the edge of the area and then Del Piero headed wide from a good position in the 14th minute.

Bruges were busy in midfield but created little for their forwards who were well watched by Juve defenders Fabio Cannavaro and Lilian Thuram.

The nearest Juve came to breaking through before the interval was in the 38th minute when French forward Trezeguet headed a Giorgio Chiellini cross against the post and the ball almost squeezed over the line.

Del Piero wasted another decent opportunity just before the break when Trezeguet put him through with a hooked ball forward but the Italy international blasted his shot high and wide.

MNA/Reuters

Arsenal launch youth soccer schools in Israel

TEL AVIV, 22 Nov— Arsenal launched five youth soccer schools in Israel on Monday in the club's latest attempt to spread its net around the globe.

The official launch took place in Kiryat Ono, a middle class suburb of Tel Aviv, but the four other schools are all in less wealthy areas in Israel with predominantly Arab populations.

"Football can be used as a small part in conflict resolution and this is why we are so pleased to be here," Alan Sefton, who heads the Arsenal programme, told Reuters.

The schools, which opened earlier this year, are situated in the Arab towns of Tira and Umm el-Fahm in central Israel, Rahat, an impoverished Bedouin town in Negev Desert and in the mixed Jewish-Arab region of Misgav in the hills of Galilee.

MNA/Reuters



Barcelona's Brazilian Ronaldinho (L) kicks the ball by Werder Bremen's Frank Baumann during their Champions League group C football match at the Nou Camp Stadium in Barcelona. Barcelona won 3-1.—INTERNET

Lille held to goalless draw by Benfica

PARIS, 23 Nov— Lille's hopes of qualifying for the Champions League's knockout phase were put on hold when they were held to a goalless draw by Benfica at the Stade de France on Tuesday.

The Ligue 1 side, who have only scored once in their Champions League campaign this season, once more proved too goal-shy to break down their rivals' defence. However, Claude Puel's team remain second in Group D on six points, one behind leaders Villarreal, whose game at Old Trafford against Manchester United also ended in a 0-0 stalemate.

United are third level on points with Lille, with Benfica fourth with five points.

Lille will book a place in the last 16 should they beat Villarreal in two weeks time.

"We played a very solid game," Puel said.

"They almost had no chances. As far as we're concerned, we created several good chances but failed to convert them," he added.

Midfielder Geoffrey Dernis said: "A victory would have put us in a very good position but as we've always said, we'll have to snatch our qualification in Spain."

A French European crowd record was broken as some 76,079 fans saw a disappointing game at the Stade de France. The previous record was set on November 2 in the same stadium when the northerners beat Manchester United 1-0 in front of a 66,740 crowd, also in this season's Champions League campaign.

MNA/Reuters

Arsenal win group while Man Utd draw with Villarreal

LONDON, 23 Nov— Arsenal sealed top spot in Group B with a 1-0 win over FC Thun while Manchester United must wait until their last game to try and book their passage through to knockout stage of the UEFA Champions League after they were held to a goalless draw by visiting Villarreal on Tuesday.

Manchester United now know that victory in the Estadio da Luz against Benfica will give them a place in the next phase — although a draw may suffice.

Both games in Group D ended in 0-0 draws as Lille were held by Benfica — which means all is to play for in two weeks time, as all four teams can still qualify — although victory for United would guarantee their progression.

No such worries for Arsenal as they confirmed number one billing in Group B thanks to a 1-0 victory over ten-man Thun in Switzerland.

Robert Pires's late penalty enough for Arsene Wenger's side, who were bolstered in the first half when Armand Deumi was dismissed for Thun.

Ajax also confirmed second spot thanks to their 2-1 win over Sparta Prague in Amsterdam.

Nigel De Jong's fired home twice in the second period to inspire Danny Blind's side to victory — with Martin Petras grabbing a late consolation for the Czechs.

Barcelona also their place in the next round with a 3-1 success over Werder Bremen at the Camp Nou.

Gabri hammered home the opener after 14 minutes, only for Tim Borowski to level from the penalty spot for the visitors.

Barcelona's lead was restored just before the half mark when Ronaldinho fired home a trademark free kick and the win was sealed late in the second half through Henrik Larsson.

The win secures top spot in Group C for Barcelona, while second place could still go to one of two teams — Udinese or Werder.

Firm favourites are Udinese after they came from behind to beat Panathinaikos 2-1 in Athens — a result which means the Greeks cannot now progress.

Pana looked as they were heading for victory Constantinos Charalambidis scored but late goals from Vincenzo Iaquinta and Vincent Candela means that the Italians only need a point in their last game to book their place in the next phase.—MNA/Xinhua



Manchester United's John O'Shea, right, holds back from Villarreal's Hector Font during their Champions League soccer match at Old Trafford, Manchester, England, on Tuesday. The game ended in a 0-0 tie.—INTERNET

West urged to buy Afghan opium, not destroy it

LONDON, 23 Nov— Western countries should buy opium from Afghanistan and use it for medicinal purposes rather than soldiering on in a futile bid to destroy the poppy crop, a think-tank specializing in drugs policy said on Monday.

Western powers are wasting millions of dollars trying to stamp out the illegal opium trade, international think-tank The Senlis Council said. Instead, they should develop a licensing system to allow Afghans to sell opium legally for use in painkillers like morphine and codeine.

"It is a pipe dream to believe that the goal of the reconstruction of Afghanistan will be achieved by using force against Afghan poppy farmers," Senlis execu-

tive director Emmanuel Reinherth said.

"It is totally unrealistic to even attempt to eliminate the crop which accounts for as much as 60 per cent of the country's economy."

Afghanistan is by far the world's biggest source of illicit opium and its refined product heroin, accounting for about 87 per cent of global supply.

Production has risen to record levels since the 2001 US-led invasion. Last year, a United Nations report said if

nothing was done, Afghanistan could turn into a lawless "narco-state" run by drug cartels.

President Hamid Karzai has vowed to wipe out poppy production but has admitted it could take up to 10 years.

In the meantime, Western countries are ploughing millions of dollars into anti-drugs projects, many designed to persuade local farmers to swap lucrative poppies for other crops.

Senlis, unveiling findings from the first

stage of its feasibility study into opium licensing, said there was a ready market for at least part of Afghanistan's huge opium crop, which climbed to around 4,100 tons last year.

It could help make morphine, codeine and thebaine, all used in painkillers.

At the moment, opium is produced legally in several countries — including India, Turkey, Australia and France — for use in medicine.

However, Senlis says more is needed.

Three-quarters of the world's morphine is used in just seven developing countries. If more were available, the price of painkillers would fall, the think-tank says.

MNA/Reuters



A Pakistani family search belongings in the rubble of their house, collapsed by the 8th Oct huge tremor, on 21 Nov, 2005 in Balakot, Pakistan. —INTERNET

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

WEATHER

Wednesday, 23 November, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States, Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan State, Mandalay and Bago Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Chin and Kayin States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions (6°C) below normal in Yangon Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was Hakha (2°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Thandwe (1.14) inches.

Maximum temperature on 22-11-2005 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 23-11-2005 was 60°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 23-11-2005 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 22-11-2005 was (8.0) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 23-11-2005 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 (5) mph from Southeast at (12:15) hours MST on 22-11-2005.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, a depression over north Sri Lanka has weakened into a low pressure area over the Gulf of Myanmar. It is likely to move slowly in a westerly direction. Weather is cloudy in Southwest and West Central Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 24-11-2005: Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, eastern Shan, Mon, Kayin States and Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine State, Ayeyarwady, Bago and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi coasts. Surface winds speed in squalls may reach (30) to (35) mph. Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Decrease of night temperatures are likely in the northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 24-11-2005: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 24-11-2005: Partly cloudy.

Storm News

(Issued at 09:00 hrs MST on 23-11-2005)
According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, a depression over north Sri Lanka has weakened into a low pressure area over the Gulf of Myanmar. It is likely to move slowly westerly directions.



Thursday, 24 November
Tune in today

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music:
-When I'm with you
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music:
-Sunshine
- 8.50 am National news / Slogan
- 9.00 am Music:
-Show me love
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music:
-Love sensation
- 1.30 pm News / Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch time music
-Where did the loving go
-Lady
-All I have to give
-Vincent
-Do you still need me
- 9.00pm Aspects of Myanmar
- 9.10 pm Article
- 9.20 pm Pourri
- 9.30 pm Favourite songs chosen by music lovers
-Always on my mind (Elvis Presley)
-Complicated heart (MLTR)
-When I look into your eyes (Samira)
- 9.45 pm News / Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL

Thursday, 24 November
View on today

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:50 am</p> <p>5. Dance of national races</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:05 am</p> <p>7. Dance variety</p>	<p>8:15 am</p> <p>8. သင်ပုန်းရေးလှောင်တစ်</p> <p>8:25 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 am</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. အစားသင့်စာအဖွဲ့အစည်းများ ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမအပိုင်း (ရုပ်ပေးစာ၊ စာတုပေးစာ၊ သင်္ချာအလှူပြုများ) (ရုပ်ပေးစာ)</p> <p>4:40 pm</p> <p>4. Musical programme</p> <p>4:50 pm</p> <p>5. (၂၃)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရှေ့တောင် အာရှအားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲ(အမျိုးသား) တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ် (မြန်မာနှင့်ဗီယက်နမ်)</p>	<p>6:45 pm</p> <p>6. Weather report</p> <p>6:55 pm</p> <p>7. နိုင်ငံအဝန်း သစ်တောစွမ်းမြင်စီမံလန်းရေးစဉ်</p> <p>7:05 pm</p> <p>8. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ဝက်ဝါ" (အပိုင်း-၃၆) (ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း)</p> <p>7:35 pm</p> <p>9. အတူပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>7:40 pm</p> <p>10. Musical programme</p> <p>7:50 pm</p> <p>11. အိန္ဒိယ ဓေတီပြိုင် ပန်းချီပြပွဲ (အမျိုးသားပြိုင်ပွဲ)</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>12. News</p> <p>13. International news</p> <p>14. Weather report</p> <p>15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မနွဲအတူ" (အပိုင်း-၃၁)</p> <p>16. The next day's programme</p>
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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



Prime Minister General Soe Win views progress in renovating Koethaug Stupa in MraukU.—MNA

Utilizing significant region-wise...

(from page 1)

At Archaeological Museum in MraukU, Deputy Director U Myat Swe of Rakhine Archaeological Branch briefed them on Byal statue placed at the entrance of the museum. Officials reported on duplicate of Armandaçandra stone post, translation of stone

inscription into Myanmar and English versions, works of stone sculpture, glaze ware and personal goods.

They also conducted them round Buddha image booth and MraukU ancient city booth. Afterwards, they inspected the place of ancient wall of the palace.

On arrival at MraukU BEHS, Township Education Officer U Tin Win submitted reports on present school buildings and requirements. The commander gave a supplementary report. The Prime Minister

and party oversaw the school buildings and classrooms.

At MraukU Township Hospital (25-bed), Dr Ohnma Aye explained matters related to the hospital. Similarly, the Prime Minister proceeded to the office of Township Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise. Township Manager U Soe Naing reported on establishment of rubber nurseries and cultivation of rubber in the state and the township.

(See page 8)

Prizes presented to outstanding farmers in Shan State (East) for monsoon paddy production

YANGON, 23 Nov — Competitive cultivation of high yield paddy undertaken by departments concerned and local farmers not only contributes much to implementation of the plan of local food sufficiency but also the increased earning of the income of departmental personnel, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Member of the State Peace and Development Council, said on 20 November in meeting with local authorities, departmental personnel, social organizations and local people in Kengtung.

At the monsoon paddy harvesting ceremony for 2005-06 in conjunction with the prize presentation for production of monsoon paddy, he said that the paddy field of Shan State Police Force is to be designated as test plantation due to yielding of 70 baskets of paddy per acre. Efforts are to be made for meeting the target pro-

duction of 100 baskets per acre, he added.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented first, second and third prizes to outstanding farmers for their performance in production of paddy. The first prize winner farmer produced 154.48 baskets of paddy per acre. Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of Triangle Region Command and Brig-Gen Win Aung

of Mongphyat Station gave away consolation prizes to other outstanding farmers.

Triangle Region Command will organize to present prizes to outstanding local farmers who can produce above 120 baskets of summer paddy per acre.

They viewed participation of service personnel and local people in harvesting monsoon

paddy in the field of Shan State (East) Police Force. Next, they visited Kengtung Myoma Development Market.

In meeting with merchants and entrepreneurs from Kengtung at the development hall in Kengtung, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win urged them to grow industrial crop rubber for serving the interest of the State and region.

Afterwards, they

oversaw development of Kengtung urban area and agricultural tasks of Kengtung Station.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win paid homage to Maha

Muni Buddha Image in Kengtung and made cash donation. Later, they proceeded to Golden Triangle Yeiktha.

MNA

INSIDE

We, Myanmar People, also understand why those nations and persons are ignoring a handful of their minions while imposing economic sanctions on Myanmar and her population of over 54 million and cutting off all humanitarian aids.

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AUNG MOE SAN



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win holds a meeting with members of Shan State (East) Traders Association and entrepreneurs.—MNA