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10th Waning of Tazaungmone 1367 ME

Friday, 25 November, 2005

All need to guard nation against neo-colonialists' perpetration with national awareness that originated in patriotism, Union Spirit It is very important for everyone of the nation wherever they live to cultivate and possess Union Spirit Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to always uphold and safeguard

YANGON, 24 Nov — *The following is a translation of the 85th Anniversary National Day Message of Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services:*

Esteemed national people,

Today is the 85th Anniversary of the National Day, the day on which the struggle for independence gained an extra force of unity and harmony of the whole nation, with nationalism as the foundation. The country was able to regain independence thanks to the movement the Myanmar people launched with greater efforts springing from the nationalistic fervour for emergence of a national education system that was in conformity with their socio-economic life. Thus, it is also a day, always to be remembered as a milestone in the history of Myanmar's independence struggle.

Throughout the history, the nation and her people always have safeguarded and enhanced the national prestige and lineage, with unyielding spirit to gallantly drive out any kind of encroachment or intrusion. Although the national races faced the loss of their monarchy and the country for some time, they struggled to regain independence through the national movement deeply rooted in the noble spirit with dear love for the country, race and the Union.

In this age of advancing science and technology, the neo-colonialists instead of using much-obvious colonization and coercion resorting to force, are trying to encroach on and dominate others through the media, with social, economic human rights and narcotic drug excuses. In this regard, we all need to guard the nation against their perpetration with national awareness that originated in patriotism and Union Spirit.

In addition, the launching of the 30-year national education promotion plan beginning 2001-2002 fiscal year is to enable today's youths to face and overcome the socio-economic life created by the ever advancing science and technology of the 21st Century. The plan covers the task of developing the education sector to meet the international standard and producing highly qualified human races for the future.

The plan involves the programmes to enable all school age children to attend classes, and thanks to the cooperation of parents and the people, school enrollment rate of children at elementary classes increased to 97.58 per cent in the present academic year. Up to 5,545 post-primary schools have been opened in the nation to open greater opportunities to pursue middle school education. At present, over 7.79 million students are attending classes at 40,525 basic education schools. Moreover, the government has been launching the project, that covers every nook and cranny of the nation, to ensure equal

learning opportunities for both the rural and urban areas, enhance the teaching qualifications, increase the adult literacy rate and improve the reading power, with the cooperation of local authorities, education staff, people, parents and wellwishers.

In the higher education sector, the government is opening more and more universities and colleges in the 24-special development regions across the nation to promote opportunity for the youths to pursue higher education, new masters degrees courses (research), doctoral courses and region-wise courses on proficiency, and providing educational institutions with electronics on IT. Now, over 797,000 students are pursuing education in 156 universities, degree colleges, and colleges, and 988 students have got doctorates.

The government and the entire national people are to join hands firmly in the drive for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation and building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation, mobilizing the strength of qualified human resources that will develop under the national education promotion plan being implemented for constantly safeguarding and enhancing the national interest.

It is very important for everyone of the nation wherever they live to cultivate and possess Union Spirit. Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to always uphold and safeguard.

In line with the fine traditions of National Day, a significant day, on which a national education system was established to uplift dynamism of nationalistic spirit and fervour that helped the nation regain independence, the entire national people should make collaborative efforts in unison with nationalistic fervour, patriotism and Union Spirit for successful implementation of the State's seven-point Road Map, upholding National Policy — Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity, and Perpetuation of sovereignty.

In conclusion, I would like to exhort the entire national people to make efforts with nationalistic vigour to achieve the objectives of the 85th Anniversary National Day, that falls today:

- (1) To strengthen nationalist spirit and to ensure uplift of national prestige and integrity
- (2) To promote national education
- (3) Perpetuity of independence and sovereignty of the State
- (4) To achieve success in realization of the seven-point Road Map.

Government and people are to carry out development tasks in unity

Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects development tasks in Rakhine State

YANGON, 24 Nov — Prime Minister General Soe Win on 22 November inspected construction of bridges on Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road in Rakhine State.

First, the Prime Minister, accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of the Western Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, the ministers, deputy ministers and departmental officials, arrived at Minkyaung Bridge con-

struction site on Maei-Minkyaung road section of Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road.

Prime Minister General Soe Win also inspected construction of Maei-Minkyaung Road and Wunphike Bridge.

At the briefing hall, senior engineers reported to him on construction of An-Padekyaw-Maei road section, Minkyaung Bridge and Thazintan Pauk Bridge. Prime Minister General Soe Win presented gifts to construction workers through superintending

engineers.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Soe Win and party proceeded to Thamache Bridge construction project and inspected the progress of construction work.

Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road is 400 miles long and Maei-Kyaukpyu road section is 26 miles long.

A total of ten bridges 300 feet and above long have been constructed on Maei-Minkyaung Road and

(See page 16)

HAILING THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY NATIONAL DAY

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 25 November, 2005

Strive for successful realization of National Day Objectives

Today, the 10th waning day of Tazaungmone, 1367 ME, is the 85th anniversary of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar. The National Day is a historic milestone in the annals of our struggle for independence.

Colonialists annexed the entire Myanmar after waging three aggressive wars. The National Day emerged under the colonialists' occupation of the country. Under the colonial rule, all Myanmar national people suffered political oppression, economic monopoly and social restrictions. In spite of all these sufferings, the patriotic spirit and nationalistic fervour of Myanmar national people were never broken down but remained vigorous.

The colonialists enacted the Yangon University Act just to contribute to colonialism and serve the interests of only a handful of people. This act was to deny most of the national youths access to higher education and prolong the colonial rule.

Therefore, Myanmar youths with strong patriotic spirit and nationalistic fervour were totally against the education system of the colonialists that was aimed at enslaving the nation as long as possible. They constantly demanded for a better university education system and this finally led to the national movement. The movement started on the 10th waning day of Tazaungmone, 1282 ME.

The national movement was staged in opposition not only to the colonial education system but also to the oppressive colonial rule. The day the national movement, the first of its kind, was launched was designated as the National Day and it has been observed every year since then.

The objectives of the 2005 National Day are as follows:

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

We would like to call on each and every patriotic citizen of Myanmar to regard these objectives as their national duties and translate them into reality, following the correct leadership of the government, for the emergence of a peaceful, developed and discipline-flourishing democracy.

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှ အပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရန် ဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ နိုဝင်ဘာလအတွက်

နောက်ဆုံးပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)(၂၇-၁၁-၂၀၀၅)ရက်နေ့၊

၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာလအတွက်

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နှင့်

(၂၅-၁၂-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့

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

Surgical operations provided to patients in visual disability in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 23 NOV — A medical team comprising Myanmar and Japanese eye specialists team has given free treatment to a total of 4283 patients in visual disability who received the medical treatment with the assistance and support of the members of USDA, social organizations and health care personnel in Ayeyawady Division.

Yesterday morning Chairman of Ayeyawaddy Division Peace and Development Council South-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung together with Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Directors-General, the resident representatives of UNDP, UNICEF and WHO visited Patheingyi Hospital, outpatients department and USDA building where ophthalmic surgeries were being performed by

the Myanmar-Japan medical team headed by Myanmar eye specialists and Japanese eye specialist Dr Fujita Yoshifumi.



Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint view treatment given by Myanmar-Japan eye specialists team to patients with eye problems at Patheingyi General Hospital.—MNA

They also monitored the surgical operation on TV at CCTV room of the hospital, comforted the patients under health care treatment and attended to the needs.

MYANMAR GAZETTE

YANGON, 24 Nov — The State Peace and Development Council has confirmed appointment of Rector U Saw Win of Maubin University of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) under the Ministry of Education from the expiry of one-year probationary period. —MNA

A total of 195 outpatients received the treatment, and the medical team has performed 60 ophthalmic surgeries this morning at the hospital. The Myanmar-Ja-

pan medical team has given effective health care services to 4,134 outpatients and performed 149 ophthalmic surgeries in Ayeyawady Division.—MNA

More sports teams leave for SEA Games



YANGON, 24 Nov — Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint saw off Myanmar sports teams at Yangon International Airport this morning on their departure for the XXIII SEA Games.

Myanmar Wushu Team led by MWF President U Khin Maung Lay and Myanmar Tennis Team led by Secretary of Myanmar Tennis Federation U Lay Naing left here by air at 10 am today.

At 11.45 am, Sepak Takraw, Boxing, Karate-do and Men's Volleyball Teams led by officials of the respective sports federations also left here by air.

Also present to see off the teams at the airport were officials of the Ministry of Sports, Chairperson of Central Committee for Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw Aye Aye and members of the panel of patrons, President of Myanmar Boxing Federation U Win Myint (President of UMFCCI), executives and relatives. —MNA

Myanmar Wushu Team led by MWF President U Khin Maung Lay seen at the airport before their departure for SEA Games being held in the Philippines.— NLM

Respects to be paid to 105 doyen literati on 9 Nov

YANGON, 24 Nov — To mark the Sarsoday Day, Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association will organize the ceremony to pay respects to 105 doyen literati aged 80 years and above on 9 December 2005.

The cash donation for the ceremony to pay respects to doyen literati will be held at the Ministry of Information on Theinbyu Street on 27 November morning.

Wellwishers are invited to attend the ceremony. —MNA

Indonesia calls for South-South cooperation in science

JAKARTA, 23 Nov — Indonesia hopes to establish science and technology cooperation among the developing countries in Asia and Africa, State Minister for Research and Technology Kusmayanto Kadiman said.

"I can not help seeing that Indonesia almost always cooperates with North (developed countries) in science and technology. I rarely see a South-South cooperation, even among ASEAN member countries," the minister said when opening the 11th governing council meeting of the Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries here on Monday. "We need to cooperate and hold dialogues to harmonize a perception on science and technology," Antara news

agency on Tuesday quoted the minister as saying. Indonesia has six priorities in its development, namely food and agriculture, energy, transportation, information technology, health and medicines and defence. "All these sectors need the support of science and technology," he said. He also wished that Indonesia would be eliminated from the "priority watch list", a list of countries which have less-tight policies on intellectual property rights.

MNA/Xinhua

Merkel vows to stay out of Iraq

BRUSSELS/PARIS, 23 Nov — Germany's new chancellor, Angela Merkel, pledged on Wednesday to maintain privileged ties with France and vowed to stay out of Iraq on a lightning tour to reassure EU partners of continuity in Berlin's foreign policy.

Merkel has said she wants better ties with the United States but she sent a clear signal to the European Union by choosing to visit Paris and then Brussels on her first full day as Germany's leader. She plans to visit EU president Britain on Thursday.

The conservative chancellor underscored her commitment to closer European integration and said the EU, after a string of setbacks on its stalled constitution and budget, needed to show it could take decisions and pursue economic reforms.

"We no longer have ideological trench warfare to worry us," the leader of Germany's right-left "grand coalition" said. "So we will be looking for pragmatic solutions.

"We need to focus on economic reform so that in a globalized world, we can be competitive, we can keep up," she said.

In Paris, where President Jacques Chirac greeted her with a kiss on the hand, Merkel told a joint news conference: "I am confident we will manage to develop our cordial relationship."

Chirac underlined the need for France and Germany to remain Europe's engine at a time when it faces major challenges.

"If we do not get on, the system becomes blocked and Europe is a bit like a car with a broken part," he said.

On a visit to NATO headquarters, Merkel said the US-led alliance should be the central forum for transatlantic political and security cooperation, but stuck to her anti-war predecessor Gerhard Schroeder's line on Iraq. —Internet

US soldiers death in Iraq reach 2097

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov — As of Wednesday, 23 Nov, 2005, at least 2,097 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,653 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

The AP count is 11 lower than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EST Wednesday. Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,958 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,544 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Internet



NAM countries pledge more efforts towards NWICO

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 Nov — Information ministers of the Non-Aligned countries endorsed the Kuala Lumpur Declaration here on Tuesday, pledging to continue their efforts to create a New World Information and Communication Order (NWICO).

Despite the long history of struggle, member countries of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) should go ahead in their endeavour to achieve the goal of realizing the NWICO, said the declaration endorsed at the closing of the Sixth Conference of the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries.

Regretting over the fact that imbalances and inequalities in the field of international information and communication still exist, information ministers participating in the conference advocated effective strategies for confronting this challenge.

Developing nations "are still impoverished, not only materially and economically, but in terms of equitable endowments and opportunities in the field of global information and communication", said those delegates.

The ministers "stressed that self-reliance and South-South cooperation should be intensified to attain a higher level of activities to strengthen the

information and communication infrastructure both at national and grouping level".

Meanwhile, delegates agreed to reduce dependence on information from industrialized nations by initiating and supporting cooperative activities that will help establish the new order, through fresh and dynamic approaches to programming, content and networking in the media system of member countries and other developing countries.

About 70 member countries of the NAM sent delegations to attend the conference themed "Advancing Information and Communication Collaboration Towards a more Dynamic NAM".

The two-day conference convened after a lapse of nine years following the fifth meeting of information ministers in Abuja, Nigeria in 1996.

Malaysia is the current chairman of the 114-member NAM.

MNA/Xinhua



Protesters march along the city street calling for the ouster of US troops in the Philippines, on 23 Nov, 2005 in Olongapo City, west of Manila. —INTERNET

UN urges Gulf oil states to help quake survivors

GENEVA, 23 Nov — The United Nations urged wealthy Gulf oil producers on Tuesday to give money desperately needed to save hundreds of thousands of lives as winter closes in on quake-hit northern Pakistan.

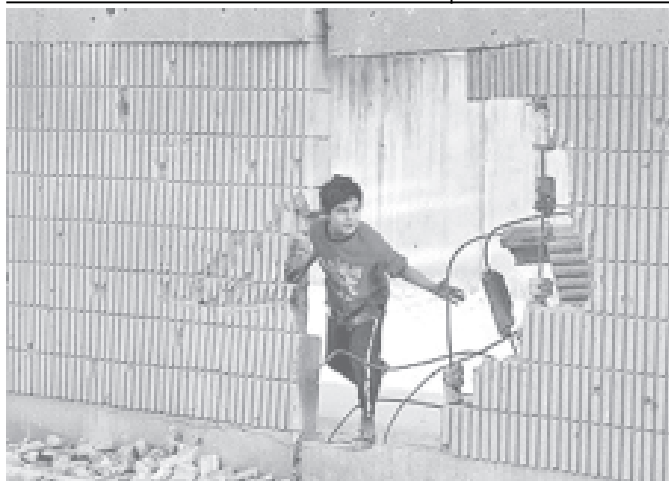
Western donor countries have contributed or pledged 175 million US dollars towards a UN appeal for 550 million US dollars, about one-third, meaning relief operations are financed only for the next few weeks, UN emergency relief coordinator Jan Egeland said. Egeland urged do-

nors to ensure life-saving aid operations continue through the bitter, snowy winter stretching into April in mountainous Kashmir. From 100,000 to 150,000 people remain out of reach above the snowline. Almost six billion US dollars for long-term reconstruction was raised by a major funding

conference organized by Pakistan last weekend, but may never be used if earthquake survivors lacking food and shelter succumb to the Himalayan winter.

"Donors have to understand we need to get things in the right order," Egeland told a news conference in Geneva.

MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi boy looks from an opening in a wall that was caused by mortar shells that slammed into a residential area in central Baghdad recently. —INTERNET



An Iraqi removes rubble from his house after it was damaged by a mortar round explosion in Baghdad on 23 Nov, 2005. —INTERNET

စတီမွန်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Colombia to reject free trade pact with US

BOGOTA, 23 Nov— Colombia's negotiators will reject the free trade pact offered by the United States on account of the sanitary measures the US is demanding for farm products, the country's official news agency reported on Monday.

"As the US offer stands, it is not possible for us to sign," the report quoted Agriculture Minister Andres Felipe Arias as speaking in Washington where the talks are being held. "We made every effort that we could... but today, with things the way they

are, we cannot close a deal."

Jose Felix Lafaurie, head of Colombia's National Farmers Federation said that the US had yet to realize that sanitary requirements for agricultural products were sensitive topics for Colombia, Peru and Ecuador — the three countries whose representatives are in Washington to negotiate a trade pact with the United States.

Lafaurie added that the government was wise to reject the free trade pact with the terms on offer.

The report also quoted Trade Minister Jorge Humber to Botero as saying in Washington that "my understanding is... Ecuador and Peru are equally dissatisfied; the US has to consider the possibility that it will not be able to close a deal with the three Andean nations". — *MNA/Xinhua*

Iranian Supreme Leader says no limit on cooperation with Iraq

TEHERAN, 23 Nov — Iranian Supreme Leader Seyed Ali Khamenei said here on Tuesday that there was no limit for Iran on the development of cooperation with Iraq, the official *IRNA* news agency reported.

"Iran is proud of Iraq's progress, security, independence and national strength and there is no limit on the development of cooperation with Iraq," Khamenei was quoted as saying at a meeting with visiting Iraqi President Jalal Talabani.

Khamenei said Iran and Iraq enjoyed long-standing religious, cultural and historical affinity, stressing that Iran was pleased with the political

process for the establishment of a democratic government in Iraq.

Khamenei called on the Iraqi nation to "leave behind the current ordeal" and foster national solidarity in order to pave the way for setting a timetable for the withdrawal of occupation forces.

"Iraqi people will be exposed to the US pressure if the government and Iraqi people fail to

strengthen their unity," Khamenei said.

For his part, Talabani expressed pleasure with his visit to Iran, terming the bilateral relations as strategic, according to *IRNA*. Earlier in the day, Talabani also met Chairman of the Expediency Council Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. Leading a ranking delegation, Talabani arrived in the Iranian capital Tehran

on Monday afternoon for a three-day official visit. The Iraqi President held close-door official talks with his Iranian counterpart Mahmoud Ahmadinejad soon after arrival.

The downfall of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein paved the way to the normalization of relations between the two once hostile neighbours.

MNA/Xinhua

Anti-Iraq war protester Cindy Sheehan publishes book

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov — Anti-war protester Cindy Sheehan, mother of a US soldier killed in Iraq, released her first book entitled "Not One More Mother's Child" as part of her campaign demanding the withdrawal of US troops from Iraq.

The book is a collection of diary entries, letters and speeches from Sheehan, who gained national attention over the summer when she camped outside of President George W Bush's Texas ranch to demonstrate her opposition to the US-led war.

Sheehan, whose son Casey was killed in Iraq on 4 April, 2004, begins the book with an open letter addressed to Bush two days after his re-election in November 2004. "The 56,000,000-plus citizens who voted against you and your agenda have given me a mandate to move forward with my agenda," Sheehan wrote, saying her goal was the "peaceful occupation" of his vacation ranch in Crawford, Texas.

Published by KOA Books, a small publishing house based in the US state of Hawaii, the book includes a foreword by John Conyers, a Michigan Democrat in the House of Representatives. The "peace mom" has been arrested at least twice while demonstrating in front of the White House and has urged opponents of the US presence in Iraq to commit acts of civil disobedience.

Sheehan was expected to return to Texas this week to join anti-war demonstrators outside Bush's ranch where the President was celebrating the annual American holiday of Thanksgiving. — *Internet*

6.1 tons of cocaine seized in Portugal

LISBON, 23 Nov — Portugal's Judicial Police (PJ) announced on Tuesday that they seized 6.1 tons of cocaine and arrested seven suspects during a raid on Monday.

It was the largest ever single drug seizure in Portugal and the most important in Europe since the beginning of this year, said the police.

The drug was found in a warehouse in Loures, a municipality southeast of Lisbon, along with 19 mobile phones, 20,000 euros in cash (around 23,000 US dollars), a truck and four cars.

The cocaine came from Colombia. A Colombian and six Frenchmen were arrested in the raid.

The youngest was 22 years old and the eldest 58. *MNA/Xinhua*

China's second hand car market faces huge potential

BELJING, 23 Nov — China's second hand car market will be in full swing in the next few years, with its annual trade volume to hit 5.3 million units in 2008, according to a recent forecast from the Chinese Ministry of Commerce.

The figure will be close to the new car's trade volume, said Chinese economists. China expects to sell six million units in 2008, the ministry said.

From 1998 when China's first regulation on the methods for the second hand car trading was issued to 2003, China had

experienced rapid growth in second hand car trading, with the annual growth rate exceeding 25 per cent. Currently, China's trade volume of second hand cars is only one-third that of the new cars. As in many developed countries, the trade volume of second

hand cars usually doubles or triples that of the new cars.

Chinese economists forecast that there is a huge potential for the second hand car market in China. — *MNA/Xinhua*

US commander unsure Zarqawi death

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov — A top US commander in Iraq said on Tuesday he was not sure al-Qaeda's top leader in Iraq, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, was killed in a recent raid in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul.

Lieutenant-General John Vines, chief of the Multi-National Corps Iraq and commanding general of the US 18th Airborne Corps, said he had "absolutely no reason" to believe that Zarqawi was one of those killed in the operation over the weekend. "It is possible, but I have no reason to believe it," Vines told a news briefing at the Pentagon from Iraq via video conference.

He confirmed that US officials have the ability to determine if al-Zarqawi was there. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Protester Dede Miller (C), sister of anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan, is arrested by McLennan County sheriff deputies near US President George W Bush's ranch in Crawford, Texas, on 23 Nov, 2005. — *INTERNET*

NAM countries to revitalize broadcasting organization

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 Nov— Information ministers of member countries of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) on Tuesday acknowledged the need to make fresh efforts to revitalize its broadcasting organization.

The Broadcasting Organization of Non-Aligned Countries (BONAC) should be revitalized to play its rightful role in disseminating information via radio and television among member countries as well as the world at large, said the ministers here.

The ministers also reaffirmed their belief that BONAC was an effective medium for transmitting factual news about the developing countries to the world, said the Kuala Lumpur Declaration endorsed at the closing of the Sixth Conference of the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries.

Delegates attending

the conference urged all NAM countries to cooperate in the consolidation of the broadcasting organization, adding that common strategies should be mapped out to create a conducive environment for it to operate in a more effective manner.

Noting the rapid advances in broadcasting technology, information ministers resolved to work together to face all challenges ahead, said the declaration on NAM information and communication collaboration.

Earlier, at the senior officials meetings held last week, Malaysia proposed setting up a Special Working Committee to study

and make recommendations to revitalize the BONAC.

The special committee should convene within the duration of six months and its members should comprise delegates from four regions, namely, Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean as well as Europe, according to a status report on the BONAC prepared by Malaysia.—MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese worker sprays disinfectant at a poultry market in Shanghai on 22 Nov, 2005.—INTERNET

Blair admits failings in Afghan drugs policy

LONDON, 23 Nov— Prime Minister Tony Blair on Tuesday admitted failings in a Britain-led policy to stamp out the opium trade in Afghanistan following the 2001 US-led invasion.

Blair said “not nearly enough” progress had been made in eliminating poppy cultivation.

“I think we were too optimistic about an eradication programme. That has to take place over a

period of time,” he told a parliamentary committee.

“I do accept we’ve not done nearly enough on this.” His comments came after an international think-tank specializing in drugs policy said on Monday that the

West’s approach to the illegal opium trade was deeply misguided. The Senlis Council said Western countries should buy opium from Afghanistan and use it for medicinal purposes instead of soldiering on in a futile and expensive bid to destroy the crop.

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 invasion and last year a United Nations report said if nothing were done, Afghanistan could turn into a lawless “narco-state” run by drug cartels. “I think poppy

cultivation is down — according to the UN, 20 per cent this year — but I wouldn’t read a lot into that either,” Blair said. He said he believed a better process was now in place because Afghanistan’s Government was now focused on wiping out the drugs trade.

Asked about the country’s security, Blair said Britain had yet to decide how many troops it would send to Afghanistan when it takes command of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) peacekeeping operation in May and deploys an Allied Rapid Reaction Corps. London was seeking troops from other countries.—MNA/Reuters

Vegetables, fruits cause more US food illnesses

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov— Contaminated fruits and vegetables are causing more food-borne illness among Americans than raw chicken or eggs, consumer advocates said in report released on Monday.

Common sources of food illnesses include various bacteria such as salmonella and E coli that can infect humans and animals then make their way into manure used to fertilize plants. The practice of using manure fertilizer is more common in Latin America, which has become a growing source of fresh produce for the United States.

“Although poultry has historically been responsible for far more Salmonella infections, in the most recent years... produce seems to be catching up,” the Centre for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) said, calling for tougher federal food safety standards. In fact, vegetables and fruits triggered 31 outbreaks from 2002 to 2003, compared with 29 for chicken and other poultry, according to the report.

Overall, contaminated tomatoes, sprouts and other produce made 28,315 people sick during 554 outbreaks from 1990 to 2003 — 20 per cent of all cases, CSPI analyzed.—MNA/Reuters

Zimbabwe national airline grounded by fuel shortage

HARARE, 23 Nov— Zimbabwe’s state-owned national airline has grounded its entire fleet after running out of fuel as the southern African country’s economy continues to crumble, company officials said on Tuesday.

Critics blame President Robert Mugabe’s controversial policies and government mismanagement for a long-running crisis that has left a once vibrant economy struggling with shortages of food, fuel, foreign currency and a decaying infrastructure.

A senior Air Zimbabwe official said on Tuesday the national passenger carrier was forced to

ground all seven of its planes on Monday, and to cancel all its domestic and international flights “until further notice” due to fuel shortages.

Air Zimbabwe officials say people were caught unaware at Harare Airport on Monday, leaving passengers milling at check-in counters. But on Tuesday the airline ran radio advertisements advising passengers to check for new developments.

Air Zimbabwe’s board of directors has responded to the grounding by suspending the airline’s chief executive officer Tendai Mahachi and two other top managers, with transport officials saying Mugabe’s government felt embarrassed by the halting of flights.

“All planes have been grounded because there is no adequate foreign currency to buy fuel and flights have been suspended until further notice,” said one Air Zimbabwe official.

MNA/Reuters

Angela Merkel elected as Germany’s Chancellor

BERLIN, 23 Nov — Angela Merkel became Germany’s first female chancellor on Tuesday, ending months of political uncertainty and ushering in a fragile new coalition of left and right that must prove it can revive Europe’s biggest economy.

Merkel, the 51-year-old pastor’s daughter who started her political career after the Berlin Wall fell in 1989, was confirmed in Germany’s top post by a parliamentary vote in which 397 of the Bundestag’s 614 members backed her — easily enough for the majority she needed in the Lower House. She became Germany’s eighth postwar chancellor, its youngest and the first to have grown up in the ex-communist east. “Dear Dr Merkel, you are now the first ever elected female head of government in Germany. That is a strong signal for many women, and

certainly for some men too,” joked parliamentary speaker Norbert Lammert, who swore Merkel into office. Her predecessor Gerhard Schroeder, who initially refused to cede his post when her conservatives narrowly beat his Social Democrats in a 18 September election, was the first to congratulate Merkel after the result was read out to a hushed chamber.

Schroeder later handed over the Chancellery keys to Merkel in an emotional ceremony in which he wished her luck and she thanked him for modernizing Germany.

MNA/Reuters



Grass cutters at the airport’s runway push a US Air Force F-16 fighter jet out of the runway on 22 Nov, 2005 at Manila’s international airport. The F-16 fighter jet flying from Singapore to Japan made an emergency landing after encountering problems with its hydraulics system.—INTERNET

Nationalistic spirit which national people should be fully equipped

Myat Min Hlaing

Today is the 10th Waning of Tazaungmone of 1367 Myanmar Era (25-11-2005) on which the entire national people fully imbued with the nationalistic spirit launched a movement in unison for the emergence of a national education system that was in conformity with the way of life of the people. The movement could effectively help accelerate the independence struggles. So, such an auspicious day (National Day) went down in the annals of the nation's history of independence struggles.

Looking back to the history of Myanmar national races, national education system stood firmly from the periods of Srikestra and Bagan until Konbaung period. Successive periods of Myanmar national races have passed with the national education system.

In the late Konbaung period, outstanding nationals were sent to Western Europe countries for further studies with the aim of building an industrialized nation. Then, steps were launched for establishment of industries and a modern Tatmadaw.

However, the drive for enabling the motherland to stand shoulder to shoulder with international level met its end in 1885 when the nation fell under the subjugation of the colonialists. The wicked intentionally oppressed the national education system, prescribing the studies designed to make the people think highly of and loyal to their empire and to help strengthen their administrative machinery. In fact, the colonial education system was aimed at prolonging its rule and strengthening the colonialist administrative machinery but did not contribute towards the living of national people at all.

The education national races gained from the colonialists did not generate any correct concepts, conviction, attitude and knowledge, and in consequence, the entire nation lagged behind in development in all sectors including political, social and economic aspects. National culture was hovering on the brink of extinction, and so were nationalistic fervour and vigour of national people.

Shouting to expand the scope of modern edu-

cation for national races, the evils opened Yangon University under Calcutta University, in Myanmar with the intention of inspiring educated national youths to their administrative machinery. In 1920, they established a separate university under Yangon University Act.

However, the restrictions of Yangon University Act were too many that the majority of national youths could not pursue education. The number of graduates from the university was very low, but the restrictions were not lifted.

Therefore, the Young Men's Buddhist Association took a leading role in protesting against the Yangon University Act, demanding for disapproval of the act. The people including members of the Buddhist Order strongly opposed the act. Showing a total disregard of the protests, the colonialists did enact Yangon University Act.

Such unfair acts of the colonialists vitalized the nationalistic fervour of the entire national people including the students. With the mottoes such as "Love our nationals, be vigilant", the entire people were fully armed with patriotism and launched national movement demanding for a better system of university education.

The national movement that took place in 1920 was not just a campaign to protest at the colonialists' university act but a drive to escape from the downtrodden life under the colonialists.

National people strove for opening national schools, colleges and universities instead of pursuing education in the educational institutions run with the aegis of the colonialist government, thus making the national education movement effective. Then, there emerged national schools the length and breadth of the nation. The Buddhist schools and the schools of na-

85th Anniversary National Day Objectives

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

tional races were combined into national schools.

The entire mass of the people came out in support of the national college and national schools. The national education movement was, in fact, the spiritual and educational reawakening of the people. In other words, it was the movement that revitalized nationalism dislodging the colonial education system while changing the life of servitude in which the people had to live.

The patriotic youths thus born of the national education movement carried on the independence struggle joining hands with the national races risking their lives. A large number of patriots produced by the national education movement and the mass of the people won back the national independence on 4 January 1948 as they had fought the battles sacrificing their lives and property.

During the independence struggle, it was highly necessary to keep nationalism alive and dynamic among the people. Even today, the neo-colonialists are out to commit acts of aggression and intimidation, but they do not resort to obvious means like the use of force. As there are advances in science and technology, they are committing acts of infiltration, penetration and interferences through mass media against the targeted nations under humanitarian, economic, human rights and narcotic drug pretexts. This being so, one and all need to safeguard the Union based on patriotism and Union Spirit.

It is very important for everyone of the nation wherever he lives to cultivate and possess strong Union Spirit. We need to acknowledge that only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to uphold and safeguard.

Hence, qualified human resources developed under the national education promotion programme are to serve and safeguard the national interests. These human resources, equipped with nationalistic spirit, are to work in concert with the State and the people in discharging duties for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation and building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Translation: MS/AK

The education national races gained from the colonialists did not generate any correct concepts, conviction, attitude and knowledge, and in consequence, the entire nation lagged behind in development in all sectors including political, social and economic aspects. National culture was hovering on the brink of extinction, and so were nationalistic fervour and vigour of national people.

Health sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of health in the time of the Tatmadaw Government

Myanmar wins awards presented by World Health Organization

Myanmar is translating health policies and objectives into action and carrying out tasks which will help uplift the health standard of the entire people.

Under the guidance and support of the government and the National Health Committee, the Ministry of Health, in cooperation with other related departments, social organizations, wellwishers and international organization, is discharging its duties to uplift the health standard and thanks to the concerted efforts made by health staff, achievements in the health sector can be witnessed one after another.

Eradication of polio and elimination of leprosy in the country are the living proof of Myanmar's efforts to uplift health standard. International community has acknowledged Myanmar's efforts and the World Health Organization presented awards to the country.

After regaining independence, Myanmar has been cooperating with WHO in health care services. In acknowledgment of people's participation in providing initial health care services, WHO, for the first time, awarded Sasakawa Health Prize to Ayadaw Township in Sagaing Division.



Health staff joining hands with social organizations providing initial health care services to local people at the rural health branch in Thaleikgyi Village, Pyapon Township.



CEC members of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Mon state Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee performing nutrition development and child health care services at the station hospital in Eindu Village in Hpa-an Township.

Prizes awarded by WHO to Myanmar

	Organization	Prize	Year
1	WHO	First prize for International Technology Development	1991
2	WHO	Tobacco and Health prize	1994
3	WHO in South East Asia Region	In commemoration of 50th anniversary health prize	1998
4	WHO	World No-Tobacco Day Prize	2004

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, Myanmar won prizes awarded by WHO for exerting efforts in nutrition development programmes and child health, providing health care services to the public effectively, conducting courses for nurses and systematic control of tobacco.

The table shows awards presented by WHO to Myanmar in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

* * *



Prime Minister General Soe Win hears report on hydel power projects to be implemented in Thandwe and An Townships by Director-General U Win Kyaw of Hydro-electric Power Department in Thandwe.— MNA

Government, based on the achievements in education, health, economic and transportation sectors, implementing the seven-point Road Map for smooth transition to democracy



Prime Minister General Soe Win presents fruit basket for workers through Deputy Superintending Engineer U Than Nyunt.— MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win oversees medical stores of 16-bed hospital in Yonbye.— MNA

(from page 16)
supply electricity adequately. Therefore, Thahtaychaung and Anchaung projects are in the interests of residents and play an important role in implementing the development tasks in the

southern part of Rakhine State, he said. He also urged officials to make efforts for supply of electricity and irrigation water joining hands with local people. During the tour of inspection, Prime Minister General Soe

Win and party also went to Manaung and Yanbye townships. They inspected hospitals and Basic Education High Schools in the townships and fulfilled the requirements for regional development.

They arrived back here in the afternoon. At the meetings with departmental officials and townsenders at Manaung and Yanbye townships, the prime minister said they toured 17 townships in Rakhine State and wit-

nessed the improvement in education, health and social standards of the region. Yangon-Sittway Road was constructed in Rakhine State (North) and Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road is under construction in the south.

Although Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road has not been officially inaugurated, anyone can travel from Kyaukpyu to Taungup and Yangon, and Kyaukpyu to An by car along the road.
(See page 9)

A total of ten bridges 300 feet and above long have been constructed on Maei-Minkyaung Road and Maei, Kyaukkyipauk, Sanepauk, Londawpauk, Didokpauk and Thanthamagyi bridges were inaugurated on the road. Thazintan, Wunphike and Minkyaung bridges are under construction and Thanthamachay Bridge will be opened in near future.



Prime Minister General Soe Win views the students learning lessons at Manaung BEHS.— MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects progress in building Wunphaik Bridge in Yanbye Township.—MNA

Although Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road has not been officially inaugurated, anyone can travel from Kyaukpyu to Taungup and Yangon, and Kyaukpyu to An by car along the road. It not only links Yangon and Kyaukpyu but also Rakhine State (North) and (South).

Government, based on the achievements...

(from page 8)

It not only links Yangon and Kyaukpyu but also Rakhine State (North) and (South).

Rakhine State was not easily accessible in the past. The government is building the road transportation infrastructure and infrastructures for education and health sectors in Rakhine State simultaneously.



Wunphaik Bridge being built in Yanbye Township. — MNA



Beautiful scene of Ngapali Beach in Thandwe.—MNA

The government is basing on the achievements in education, health, economic and transportation sectors and is implementing the seven-point Road Map for smooth transition to Democracy.

In implementing the development tasks, the government and people are to carry out the tasks in unity and we all are to accept the concept that the development of

the State is the national concern, he urged.

During the tour, Central Executive Committee members of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein on 22 November also met with USDA members at Thandwe District USDA office.

MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win meets with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people in Taungup. — MNA



Commander, Secretariat Member inspect Putao region development

YANGON, 25 Nov — Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Northern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, USDA Secretariat Member Kachin State in-charge Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and members met with officials from District and Township level departments, members of social organizations and townsenders at Phonkanrazi hall in Putao on 18 November.

Putao District USDA Secretary U Phnri Min reported on progress of regional development. Next, Kachin State USDA Secretary U Ra Wan Jon accepted the membership applications of 10 Wards in Putao and Madwe Hiking Group of Myanmar Hiking and Mountaineering Federation. The

Commander and the Minister extended greetings and presented gifts.

Later, Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and USDA Secretariat Member Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected Myoma market of Putao Township Development Affairs Committee and also visited the Museum of Khakaborazi National Park. The Commander, the Minister and party proceeded to Putao BEHS and viewed round the multimedia classroom and inspected progress in education sector.

Kachin State USDA presented K500,000 for the multimedia classroom of the school through Headmaster U Chit Hlaing. The Commander and the Minister presented cash donations for athletes who are participating in inter-school sports festival in Putao Township.

MNA

Information Department of MWAFF makes learning aids donation



Head of the Information Department Daw Kyi Kyi Win presents learning aids to a schoolboy. — MNA

YANGON, 24 Nov — The learning aids donation ceremony of the Information Department of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was held at Hlinethaya Basic Education Primary School No 44 in Hlinethaya Township, this morning.

It was attended by Head of Information Department Daw Kyi Kyi Win, Deputy Head of Department Daw Mya Mya and members, members of social organizations,

officials concerned, Headmistress Daw Than Than Hla and teachers and guests.

First, Head of Department Daw Kyi Kyi Win explained the purpose of the donations. Daw Kyi Kyi Win donated cash and teaching aids for the school through Daw Than Than Hla. Daw Kyi Kyi Win also awarded cash prize to outstanding student Maung Zin Myo Lin. Head of Department and members presented learning aids to the students. — MNA

New computer accessories introduced

YANGON, 24 Nov — A ceremony to launch ASUS Road Show 2005 of ASUS took place at the Traders Hotel here on 22 November.

Present on the occasion were officials of the Myanmar Computer Federation, sale agents and guests.

Mr Leroy of ASUS and General Manager U Tun Tun Aung of the Golden Power Technology extended greetings.

Next, Mr Leroy introduced MotherBoard, Graphic Card, Optical Drive, Laptop and other computer accessories developed by ASUS to the

guests. Afterwards, they replied to the queries raised by those present.

The company made items are being distributed by the Golden Power Technology, the sole sale agent of ASUS.

MNA

ASUS Road Show 2005 of ASUS

in progress. — H

Commander, Health Minister inspect mass activities on prevention against dengue haemorrhagic fever



Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin cordially meet local people in Saya San Ward (South). — MNA

YANGON, 24 Nov — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials inspected mass activities on prevention against dengue haemorrhagic fever at South Saya San Ward in Bahan Township this morning.

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party arrived at Township

Development Affairs Committee office and heard reports on prevention against dengue haemorrhagic fever being carried out in the township by the officials and the commander fulfilled the requirements.

Next, the commander and party oversaw mass activities on prevention against dengue haemorrhagic fever being undertaken by health staff, social organizations and the people in South Saya San Ward in Bahan Township. They also observed talks on dengue haemorrhagic fever at Shae Saung Dhammayon at the corner of Min street and Dhammapala street.

MNA

Women's Soccer of XXIII SEA Games:

Myanmar women crush Indonesian women 5-0

YANGON, 24 Nov — The women's football tournament of the XXIII SEA Games continued at Marikina of the Philippines at 4 pm local time today.

In the second group match, Myanmar women's national team trounced Indonesian women's team 5-0.

In the 30th minute of the first half, Nwe Nwe Toe scored an opening goal for Myanmar. The first half ended with a 1-0 win of Myanmar women's team.

In the 1st minute of the second half, Zin Mar Wan scored a second for her team. After that, Aye Nanda Hlaing shot a third in the 38 minute. Two minutes later, Zin Mar Wan netted one more as her second goal. In the dying moment at 45th minute, Than Than Htwe kicked a fifth for her team.

Myanmar women's national team is standing in the top position of the table with six points in two wins.

At 4 pm local time on 28 November, Myanmar women's team will meet with Thai women's team.

MNA



Information Sub-committee, Exhibition Sub-committee hold coord meeting

YANGON, 24 Nov — The 58th Anniversary Independence Day Information Sub-committee and the Exhibition Sub-committee held a coordination meeting at the Ministry of Information on Theinbyu Street, here, this afternoon.

It was attended by Chairman of the two sub-committees Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein, the secretary and members of the sub-committees and guests.

First, Deputy Minister U Thein Sein delivered an opening address.

Secretary of the Sub-committees Director-General U Khin Maung Htay of Myanmar Radio and Television reported on arrangements made for organizing the 58th Anniversary Independence Day Commemorative Exhibition on a grand scale.

Joint-Secretary Director of MRTV U Ko Ko Htwe briefed them on organizational set-up of the sub-committee and assignment of duties and functions.

Director-General U Myint Thein Swe of Department of Cultural Institute and Director of the National Museum Daw Nu Mra Zan, Managing Director U Soe Win of News and

Periodicals Enterprise, Managing Director U Aung Nyein of Printing and Publishing Enterprise, and Deputy Director U Than Tun of Information and Public Relations Department discussed display of booths.

Member of the Information Sub-committee and the participants of the meeting submitted reports on preparations for display of booths of the respective ministries.

After giving necessary instructions, the deputy minister gave the concluding remarks.

The Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, Ministry of Industry-1, the Ministry of Industry-2, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Electric Power, the Ministry of Energy, and the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs will put their booths on display at the 58th Anniversary Independence Day Commemorative Exhibition. — MNA



Deputy Information Minister U Thein Sein addresses coordination meeting of Information Sub-committee and Exhibition Sub-committee. — MNA

FAO says better nutrition education helps reduce malnutrition

ROME, 24 Nov — Poverty and a lack of nutritional education are to blame for the unhealthy diets of millions of people across the world, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) declared on Tuesday.

"To be food secure, families need sufficient resources to produce or purchase adequate food," said FAO Nutrition Officer Peter Glasauer, "but people also need an understanding of what constitutes an appropriate diet for good health, and they must have the skills and motivation to make the best food choice available to them."

He stressed that nutritional education was key to developing the skills and motivation needed to eat well, adding that it was especially important in situations where families had limited resources. He also said that it was in those same low-income situations that the challenge of providing nutritional education was often the greatest.

A lack of trained personnel, coupled with a shortage of libraries, books, guidelines, Internet connections and other sources of information, made edu-

cating people about nutrition a formidable challenge. But meeting this challenge was essential if progress was to be made on the global commitment to reach the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the FAO official indicated.

Fundamentally, the MDGs were about improving the health and welfare of the poor, and in most instances this could not occur without improvements in nutrition, Glasauer said. As part of its global efforts to strengthen nutritional education activities, the FAO has distributed a large amount of educational material around countries across the world.

The Family Nutrition Guide published by the FAO helps governments and non-governmental organizations to inform and motivate people to adopt healthy diets and lifestyles throughout their lives, the official said.

MNA/Xinhua

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing attends merits sharing ceremony in Mawlamyine

YANGON, 24 Nov — A ceremony to share merits for hoisting Shwehtidaw, Seinbudaw and Hngetmyatnadaw to Lawka Okshaung Pagoda in Mawlamyine was held at Taungpaukyaung Dhammayon on 22 November.

It was attended by Member of Mawlamyine Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Wepyan Mosastery Presiding Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Vijayabhivamsa and members of Sangha, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, senior military officers, Secretary of Mon State PDC Lt-Col Soe Myint Aung and heads of department, members of social organizations, members of pagoda board of trustees, donors and guests.

First, the ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa*. The congregation received *Nine Precepts* from Sayadaw and members of Sangha. The Sayadaw and members of Sangha recited Parita on the occasion.

Next, the commander supplicated on religious affairs and he together with officials concerned offered Seinbudaw, Hngetmyatnadaw, Htidaw and alms to the Sayadaw and members of Sangha. Afterwards, the congregation shared merits gained. After that, the commander and officials raised Shwehtidaw, Seinbudaw and Hngetmyatnadaw loaded into a carriage to reach atop the pagoda after they were sprinkled with scented water.

Next, the commander and party offered a day Soon to members of Sangha.

MNA

Angela Merkel elected as Germany's Chancellor

BERLIN, 23 Nov — Angela Merkel became Germany's first female chancellor on Tuesday, ending months of political uncertainty and ushering in a fragile new coalition of left and right that must prove it can revive Europe's biggest economy.

Merkel, the 51-year-old pastor's daughter who started her political career after the Berlin Wall fell in 1989, was confirmed in Germany's top post by a parliamentary vote in which 397 of the Bundestag's 614 members backed her — easily enough for the majority she needed in the Lower House.

She became Germany's eighth postwar chancellor, its youngest and the first to have grown up in the ex-communist east.

"Dear Dr Merkel, you are now the first ever elected female head of government in Germany. That is a strong signal for many women, and

certainly for some men too," joked parliamentary speaker Norbert Lammert, who swore Merkel into office.

Her predecessor Gerhard Schroeder, who initially refused to cede his post when her conservatives narrowly beat his Social Democrats in a September 18 election, was the first to congratulate Merkel after the result was read out to a hushed chamber.

Schroeder later handed over the Chancellery keys to Merkel in an emotional ceremony in which he wished her luck and she thanked him for modernizing Germany.

MNA/Reuters

UMFCCI President meets Russian Ambassador

YANGON, 23 Nov — President U Win Myint and General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry received Russian Ambassador Mr Oleg V Kabanov at the of-

fice of UMFCCI this morning. They held comprehensive discussion to sign MoU, to promote trade and to make economic cooperation between the two federations of Myanmar and Russia.

MNA



UMFCCI President U Win Myint and General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing receive Russian Ambassador Mr Oleg V Kabanov. — MNA

ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV YANGON STAR VOYNO (392)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (392) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.11.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ZHE HAI 315 VOYNO (037)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZHE HAI 315 VOY NO (037) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.11.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES**

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APR, Europe forces gather to promote anti-terror cooperation

SINGAPORE, 23 Nov—Some 90 participants from various Armed Forces and anti-terror agencies in the Asia-Pacific Region and Europe have come to Singapore to attend the second Regional Special Forces Countre-Terrorism Conference.

Delivering a keynote speech on Tuesday, Singapore Defence Minister Teo Chee Hean said that the danger of terrorism is extreme and immediate with Southeast Asia being a key battleground.

"Our fight against the terrorists will be a long haul, for this is a global ideological war waged by fanatics who have perverted Islam and claim to act in its name," Teo said.

"A mutual understanding of the threat and the political will to actively do something to deal with it can bring about concrete achievements in multilateral cooperation," he stressed.

Teo urged countries in the region to exchange intelligence and share experiences among police forces, armed forces and

other relevant agencies, so that "the capabilities that reside in various countries can respond more quickly and effectively and in a more coordinated way" in the fight against terrorism.

Citing the example of the collaboration among Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore on safeguarding the Malacca Straits, Teo suggested that the ASEAN (the Association of South-East Asian Nations) Regional Forum member countries conduct joint exercises, including counter-terrorism exercises.

Opened on 21 November, the five-day conference aims to develop closer understanding and professional cooperation while strengthening working-level friendships among the Special Forces in the region.

MNA/Xinhua

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kalin.chia.yip@mpatmal.com
Dated 25 November 2005

China develops new oilfield in Bohai Sea

BEIJING, 23 Nov—China National Off-shore Oil Company (CNOOC Ltd) announced Tuesday that a new oilfield in East China's Bohai Bay has started commercial production.

The Luda (LD) 5-2 is producing at a volume of more than 2,200 barrels of oil per day from four wells, said CNOOC Ltd.

LD 5-2, with a water depth of about 30 metres, is located in the Liaodong Bay of Bohai Bay. It is adjacent to the producing field Suizhong 36-1.

The peak gross production capacity is 9,600 barrels of oil per day with 22 producing wells on line.

To date, LD fields, consisting of three fields, LD 4-2, LD10-1, LD5-2, have come on stream successfully. Owing to the joint development and sharing with Suizhong 36-1 of its producing facilities, the fields are expected to deliver better economic returns.

Liu Jian, Executive Vice-President of the Company, said that CNOOC limited discovered and developed the three LD fields independently and it takes only three years to bring them on line.

CNOOC Ltd holds 100 per cent interest of the field and acts as the operator.—MNA/Xinhua

US "dirty bomb" suspect indicted

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov—A federal grand jury has indicted Jose

Padilla, a US citizen suspected of plotting a "dirty bomb" attack in the

United States, for conspiring to "murder, kidnap and maim" people overseas and providing material support to terrorists abroad.

Upon a directive of the President, Padilla was "no longer being detained by the Department of Defence as an enemy combatant," Attorney General Alberto Gonzales said at a news conference on Tuesday.

The Pentagon would transfer the custody of Padilla to the Justice Department, he said.

The 11-count indictment was handed up last Thursday by a federal grand jury in the US District Court in Miami, Florida, and was unsealed Tuesday.—MNA/Xinhua

Thousands still missing after Hurricane "Katrina"

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov—The whereabouts of 6,644 people, reported missing after Hurricane Katrina hit the US Gulf Coast in late August, have not been determined, raising the prospect that the death toll from the disaster could be higher than the 1,306 recorded so far in Louisiana and Mississippi, the USA Today newspaper reported Tuesday.

Workers counting the victims were particularly concerned about an estimated 1,300 unaccounted-for people who lived in areas that were heavily damaged by Katrina, or who were disabled at the time the storm hit, the report said, quoting Kym Pasqualini, chief executive officer of the National Centre for Missing Adults, a group working with the federal government to account for victims.

Some of those on the list of people still missing were likely to be among the 301 unidentified victims whose bodies were at a Louisiana State morgue. These victims were already included in the death total, the report said.

Most of those who remained listed as unaccounted-for 12 weeks after the storm, however, probably were alive and well, said Pasqualini.

These people were listed as missing because

government record-keeping efforts had not caught up with them in their new locations, he said.

Nearly 1,000 of the 6,644 unaccounted-for people were children. "A small number" of the missing children eventually would be listed as dead, but most of them

probably were reunited with relatives after the children were reported missing during evacuations in New Orleans of Louisiana and Mississippi, according to Ernie Allen, president of the National Centre for Missing & Exploited Children.

MNA/Xinhua



Polluted water in Songhua River reaches Harbin, the capital of northeastern Heilongjiang Province on 24 Nov, 2005. —INTERNET

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဆက်ရေးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခုံ

Bangkok to host WTEF in 2006

BANGKOK, 23 Nov— Bangkok was chosen to host the 2nd World Toilet Expo and Forum (WTEF) on November 16-18 next year, the official Thai News Agency said Tuesday.

Organized by the World Toilet Organization (WTO) with support of the Thai Ministry of Public Health (MPH), the 2006 global hygiene showcase will be held at the IMPACT Exhibition and Convention Centre in Bangkok.

WTO founder Jack Sim was quoted as saying that the meeting will be a platform for the international and local communities to explore ways to improve the living environment, exchange ideas and innovate products and services in the hygiene and toilet-related industries.

Sim said the staging of

the event in Bangkok is in line with the Thai Government's 'Healthy Thailand' campaign, as the MPH earlier announced its 'development strategy for Thai public toilets' based on the three principles of health, accessibility and safety to fulfil its vision to make available clean public toilets and to educate and encourage users to exercise good toilet hygiene practices.

The Expo will feature a display on the development of toilets in Thailand, showcase the latest toilet-related trends, technologies, products and services from leading industry names. Some 500

delegates from 47 WTO member associations in 35 countries are expected to attend the event.

The World Toilet Expo & Forum was launched in Shanghai in May 2005.

The first three-day event with the theme 'Gracious Living for a Model City' attracted over 205 participants from 20 countries.

MNA/Xinhua

NZ police seize large drugs factory

WELLINGTON, 23 Nov — A large and sophisticated drugs factory has been found by New Zealand Police who raided a South Auckland warehouse, said the police on Tuesday.

Up to 1,000 cannabis plants, tens of thousands of dollars worth of cannabis "heads", a crossbow and a quantity of what police believe is methamphetamine or "ice" was discovered in a warehouse in Selwyn St, Onehunga, by police executing a search warrant there on Monday.

MNA/Xinhua



A model poses with a bejeweled teddy bear worth HK\$318,000 from Germany at a shopping mall in Hong Kong on 24 Nov, 2005. To celebrate the 125th year of the company, German Teddy bear maker Steiff presents a valuable anniversary limited edition of 125 sets of 'Bejeweled 125 Karat Teddy bear' worldwide. —INTERNET

Greece seeks return of antiquities from US museum

ATHENS, 23 Nov— Greece will request the return of four allegedly stolen Greek antiquities from the J Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, the Culture Ministry said on Monday.

"Instructions have been given for an immediate launch of the legal process to reclaim the four ancient artifacts," a ministry statement said.

Greek authorities say the Getty paid 5.2 million US dollars in 1993 for the pieces, which include a gold funerary wreath dated from the 4th Century BC.

US museums' policies for acquiring ancient artifacts have come under scrutiny, after Italian authorities accused the Getty's former curator of antiquities, Marion True, of receiving

stolen antiquities from Italy.

True is on trial in Rome on charges that she conspired with dealers to traffic in looted antiquities.

True resigned last month after museum officials determined she had violated rules by failing to provide details of her purchase of a vacation home on a Greek island.

The J Paul Getty Museum has returned to Italy an Etruscan candelabrum, a 2,300-year-old jar and an funerary stone dated from the 6th Century BC early this month.

MNA/Xinhua

HK Customs crack two drug cases

HONG KONG, 23 Nov— Hong Kong Customs officers of the Airport Command have cracked two cases of drug trafficking by means of express air parcels at the Hong Kong International Airport, the Customs said on Monday.

They seized 0.5 kilos of ketamine in a hollowed-out book on 16 November, and one kilo of cocaine in 10 pairs of hollowed-out slippers sent by express parcels on 17 November, altogether with a retail value of about 880,000 HK dollars.

Investigation is under way and no one has been arrested so far. A spokesman from the Customs said the officers at control points would remain vigilant at all times to clamp down on drug trafficking activities.

Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, the maximum penalty for the offense of trafficking in dangerous drugs is life imprisonment and a fine of five million HK dollars. — MNA/Xinhua

Romania confirms H5N1 virus in Danube delta poultry

BUCHAREST, 23 Nov— Romania's Agriculture Ministry said on Monday that laboratory tests in Britain had confirmed the deadly H5N1 virus in poultry found dead last week in a Danube delta village.

"Regarding the samples on its website. Romania said on 14 November that four new cases of avian flu in domestic birds had been discovered in Caraorman.

It said the village, which has no road access, would be quarantined and 2,000 domestic birds would be slaughtered.

The Balkan state last month became the first country in mainland Europe to detect the deadly H5N1 virus in poultry in two villages in the Danube delta, Europe's largest wetlands near the Black Sea.

The H5N1 strain has killed more than 60 people in Asia since 2003 and led to the slaughter of millions of domestic birds.

Scientists fear the virus might mutate into a form that could be easily transmitted between humans. — MNA/Reuters

Nestle recalls over 2 million litres of baby milk

GENEVA, 23 Nov— Swiss food maker Nestle said on Tuesday that it had recalled more than two million litres of baby milk reportedly found to be contaminated with ink from four European markets.

The contaminated milk had been recalled from Italy, Spain, France and Portugal, said a Nestle spokesman. Most of the milk is in Italy, where about 30 million litres were seized after tests showed some of it had been contaminated, but the spokesman said the traces found posed no risk to health.

In June, Nestle made an apology to Chinese consumers after one of its baby milk powder formulas was found to contain iodine higher than China's national standard. — MNA/Xinhua



A trainer makes a Spanish purebred jump during the first day of the International Horse Show in Seville, Spain, on 23 Nov, 2005. The show, which runs until 27 Nov, is dedicated exclusively to Spanish thoroughbreds. —INTERNET

SPORTS



Real Madrid's French player Zinedine Zidane falls during his Champions League Group F soccer match against Lyon in Madrid, Spain, on 23 Nov, 2005. —INTERNET

Shevchenko hits four to sink Fenerbahce

ISTANBUL, 24 Nov — Andriy Shevchenko scored four goals to lead AC Milan to a crushing 4-0 win over Fenerbahce in their Group E match on Wednesday, putting the Italian side's Champions League campaign firmly back on course.

The win took Milan top of the group level on eight points with their final opponents Schalke 04, who beat PSV Eindhoven 3-0. The Turkish club's hopes of advancing in the competition were ended as they remain bottom of the group with four points.

Shevchenko is only the fifth player in Champions League history to score four goals in a single match. His first-half strike was his 50th goal in UEFA competition.

Sprinting from the halfway line, he picked up a pass from Clarence Seedorf and raced into the area to slot the ball beyond Fenerbahce keeper Volkan Demirel.

The Ukrainian doubled Milan's lead early in the second half. Receiving a pass from Alberto Gilardino, he beat one player and scored with a powerful drive from out-

side the area.

The European Player of the Year made it a hat-trick on 70 minutes with an easy side-foot after a cross from Serginho. His fourth was a similar tap-in off a cross from Christian Vieri.

The German rued the absence of a trio of Brazilian players, with playmaker Alex sidelined

with a hamstring injury while defender Fabio Luciano and midfielder Marco Aurelio were both suspended.

Shevchenko's third goal drew applause from the Turkish crowd and Milan had a series of other chances to score after the home side's resolve collapsed.

MNA/Reuters



Schalke player Dario Rodriguez right, battles for the ball with PSV player Robert, during their Champions League group E match between Schalke 04 and PSV Eindhoven at the Veltins-Arena Stadium in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, on 23 Nov, 2005.

INTERNET

Ajax beat Sparta Prague 2-1 to reach knockout phase

AMSTERDAM, 23 Nov — Ajax Amsterdam reached the Champions League knockout phase after two second-half goals by substitute Nigel de Jong gave them a 2-1 win over Sparta Prague in Group B on Tuesday.

The Dutch international broke the deadlock after 68 minutes with a header and made it 2-0 a minute before time.

In the final minute captain Martin Petras pulled

one back from close range for Sparta.

Ajax secured second spot in the group with 10 points after five matches, five behind leaders and already qualified Arsenal, who beat FC Thun 1-0 with a late Robert Pires penalty.

After a dull opening phase, Ajax had their first chance on 12 minutes when central defender Thomas Vermaelen, unmarked at the far post,

headed Wesley Sneijder's cross wide.

Despite the intentions of Sparta coach Stanislav Griga, the Czechs pulled back in defence and failed to support their isolated striker Libor Dosek in their few moments of possession.

Midway through the second half De Jong, who replaced the disappointing Olaf Lindenbergh, struck for Ajax.

MNA/Reuters

Adriano hat-trick fires Inter through to last 16

MILAN, 24 Nov — Brazilian Adriano struck a hat-trick as Inter Milan assured their place in the knockout stage of the Champions League with a 4-0 win over Slovaks Artmedia Bratislava in Group H on Wednesday.

Adriano's treble, after Luis Figo's opener, made sure Inter moved on to an insurmountable 12 points at the top of the group with one game remaining.

The game was played behind closed-doors at a freezing San Siro Stadium as Inter served the final of a four-match ban imposed after crowd trouble at last season's quarterfinal tie with city rivals AC Milan.

Adding to the unusual

nature of the match, Inter's starting line-up featured no Italians and just one European born player -- the Portuguese Figo.

Along with the former Real Madrid winger, Roberto Mancini's team was made up of Cameroon defender Pierre Wome and nine players hailing from South America.

Inter knew a draw would be enough to secure passage from the group but

set out with the clear intention of winning the game and Argentine Juan Sebastian Veron went close early on with a volley from a corner.

Brazilian Adriano then burst into the box from the right and curled a shot towards the far corner but his effort was cleared off the line by Balazs Borbely.

The breakthrough for Inter came in the 27th minute when Veron and Figo exchanged passes with the latter confidently slotting home.

Three minutes later Artmedia had their first and only effort on goal — a well-struck shot from Jan Kozak bringing Inter's Brazilian keeper Julio Cesar into action.

Four minutes before the break Figo turned provider with a ball over the top to Adriano which the Brazilian took in his stride before racing goalwards and beating Juraj Cobej with a low shot.

The goal was Adriano's first since his double against AS Roma on 26th October.

MNA/Reuters



Michelle Wie (C) of US poses with Japan's Taichi Teshima (L) and Shinichi Yokota on the 10th hole during the Casio World Open golf tournament on the Japanese men's tour at Kuroshio Country Club in Kochi, southwest of Japan, on 24 Nov, 2005.

INTERNET

Draw with Betis puts holders Liverpool through

LIVERPOOL (England), 24 Nov — Holders Liverpool booked their place in the knockout stage of the Champions League despite being held 0-0 at home by Real Betis on Wednesday.

The draw ensured unbeaten Liverpool took the point they needed to qualify along with Chelsea from Group G while Real Betis had to settle for a UEFA Cup place.

With one game to go Liverpool are top on 11 points, one clear of Chelsea. Betis have three points less than Chelsea but the Spaniards cannot qualify as they have an inferior head-to-head record with the English champions.

Liverpool should have won convincingly on Wednesday, with striker Peter Crouch again failing to convert a series of chances. He has now failed to score in any of his 16 matches for the European champions.

Crouch had 10 attempts on goal to break his duck since signing for 7.0 million pounds (12.04 million US dollars) from Southampton in July but was unable to find the back of the net.

The 2.0m-tall England international missed two easy headers in the space of four first half minutes.

Captain Steven Gerrard was also guilty of a poor miss in the final moments when he shot straight at keeper Antonio Doblas after being putting clean through by substitute Harry Kewell's penetrating pass.

Spanish striker Fernando Morientes had a good chance blocked by David

Rivas and also hooked a shot wide from Crouch's cushioned header.

Liverpool have conceded just one goal in nearly nine hours of European football dating back to May's Champions League final and Real Betis never looked like doubling that total.

Xisco managed Real Betis' only shot on target with a long range effort that was easily saved by Jose Reina in the first half. — MNA/Reuters

Chelsea cruise past Anderlecht into last 16

BRUSSELS, 24 Nov — English champions Chelsea qualified for the Champions League knockout phase after a convincing 2-0 victory at Anderlecht in Group G on Wednesday.

The win puts the London side on 10 points and out of reach of third-placed Real Betis.

Argentine forward Hernan Crespo put Chelsea ahead in the eighth minute with a close-range sidefooted volley after Frank Lampard, who later hit the post, delivered a precise cross.

Portugal defender Ricardo Carvalho added a second after 15 minutes with a right-foot strike into the top corner from five metres following Crespo's flicked header from a corner.

MNA/Reuters

Russia acts to curb foreign rights bodies, charities

Moscow, 24 Nov — Russia took a step towards curbing the activities of foreign human rights bodies and charities on Wednesday when Parliament backed a draft law that will assert tight state supervision over non-governmental organizations.

The State Duma (Lower House) voted by 370 for, with 18 deputies against, in the first reading of a bill that would make NGOs — from human rights and green groups to medical charities and sports clubs — re-register, while increasing state supervision of them.

Some observers say the move reflects the Kremlin's deep suspicion of such bodies following the "Orange Revolution" in Ukraine in December 2004 that overthrew a pro-Moscow candidate for the

presidency. NGO leaders had appealed to Parliament, which is packed with President Vladimir Putin's loyalists, to reject the bill, saying the law will allow the Kremlin to seize control of the last area of public life outside its reach.

Putin, whose five years in power have been marked by greater centralization of power and tight control of mass media, last July attacked the political activities of foreign-funded NGOs,

saying: "He who pays the piper pays the tune."

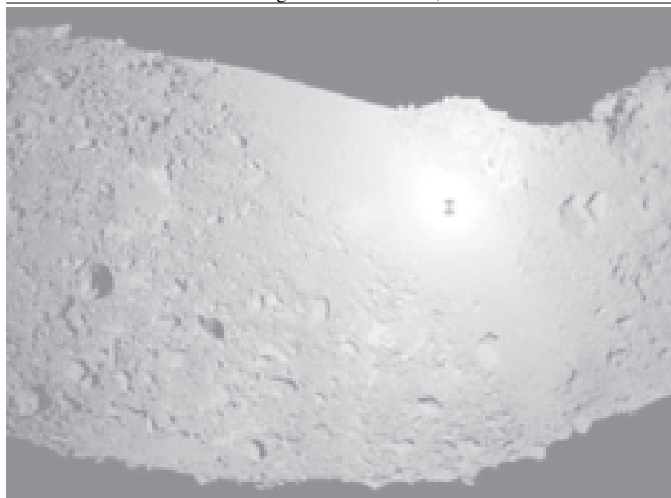
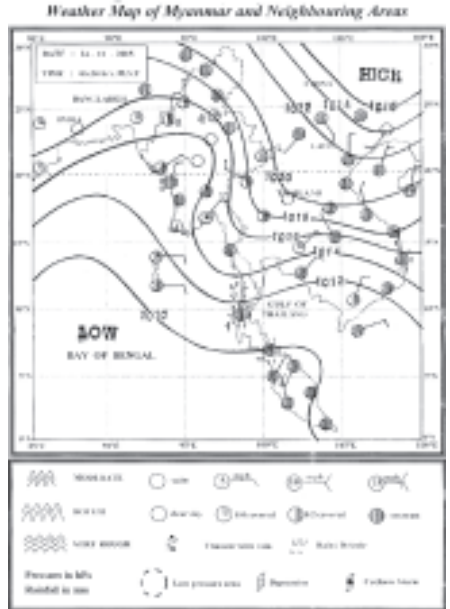
The bill would also bar foreign NGOs from working in Russia directly — representative offices would be banned — and restrict Russian organizations' ability to accept foreign cash or employ non-Russian workers.

"We have seen what happened in Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova and how these local branches of foreign NGOs that are funded by the CIA functioned.... We want to

defend our citizens from the chaos which our country can be dragged into by these foreign NGOs," Alexei Ostrovsky, a deputy of the nationalist LDPR party, said in support of the bill.

But opposition Communist deputy Viktor Ilyukhin said: "These are very tough measures. They could throw the baby out with the bathwater... We believe these are directed against opposition groups and so we are not voting in favour of this."

MNA/Reuters



The 548-metre long asteroid, '25143 Itokawa', is seen nearly 186 million miles from Earth in this handout picture taken on 20 Nov, 2005 by the Japanese unmanned Hayabusa probe. — INTERNET

TV Myanmar

Friday, 25 November
View on today

<p>7:00 am 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p>7:25 am 2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am 3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am 4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:50 am 5. လှုပ်ရှားပုံပြင် စိတ်ပျော်ရွှင်</p> <p>8:00 am 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:05 am 7. The mirror images of the musical oldies</p> <p>8:15 am 8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p>	<p>8:20 am 9. ဘိုင်းဒါးရေလှောင်တစ်</p> <p>8:30 am 10. International news</p> <p>8:45 am 11. English for Everyday Use</p> <p>4:00 am 1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm 2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm 3. Practice in Reading</p> <p>4:40 pm 4. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>4:45 pm 5. Musical programme</p> <p>5:00 pm 6. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လိုပညာရေး ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးအတွက် သင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (တော့ဇောအထူးပြု) (တော့ဇော)</p> <p>5:15 pm 7. Song of national races</p> <p>5:30 pm 8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p>	<p>5:40 pm 9. အမျိုးသားနေ့တေးများ</p> <p>5:55 pm 10. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>6:00 pm 11. သုတေသနနှင့် ရွှေညွှတ်ပွဲ</p> <p>6:30 pm 12. Evening news</p> <p>7:00 pm 13. Weather report</p> <p>7:05 pm 14. Musical programme</p> <p>7:20 pm 15. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>7:25 pm 16. Song of yesteryears</p> <p>7:40 pm 17. ဝင်းဌေးတို့၏ ဒေသဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးဆိုင်ဆိုင် (အပိုင်း-၄)</p> <p>8:00 pm 18. News</p> <p>8:05 pm 19. International news</p> <p>8:10 pm 20. Weather report</p> <p>8:15 pm 21. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းတွဲ "မေ့အတူ" (အပိုင်း-၃)</p> <p>8:20 pm 22. The next day's programme</p>
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Radio Myanmar

Friday, 25 November
Tune in today

<p>8.30 am Brief news</p> <p>8.35 am Music: -I keep it to myself (Monica) -Mysterious time (Kash)</p> <p>8.40 am Perspectives</p> <p>8.45 am Girls & boys (Blur)</p> <p>8.50 am National news / Slogan</p> <p>9:00 am Music: -This time is forever (Errol Brown) -All that she wants (Ace of Base)</p> <p>9:05 am International news</p> <p>9:10 am Music: -Too late for goodbye (Julion Lennan)</p> <p>1:30 pm News/Slogan</p> <p>1:40 pm Lunch time music -Heaven knows (Rick Price) -When you love someone (Bryan Adams) -Give me peace on earth (Modern Talking) -You're all that I need (Angelina)</p> <p>9.00pm World of music songs from - Portugal, Algeria, Hungary, Israel, Africa</p> <p>9.15 pm Article</p> <p>9.25 pm Music at your request -So much in love (All 4 one) -Pa-Pa he love MaMa (Donald Peer & Jane Osbon) -Nothing compare to you (Sined O'Conner)</p> <p>9.45 pm News/Slogan</p> <p>10.00 pm PEL</p>	<p>Friday, 25 November Tune in today</p> <p>8.30 am Brief news</p> <p>8.35 am Music: -I keep it to myself (Monica) -Mysterious time (Kash)</p> <p>8.40 am Perspectives</p> <p>8.45 am Girls & boys (Blur)</p> <p>8.50 am National news / Slogan</p> <p>9:00 am Music: -This time is forever (Errol Brown) -All that she wants (Ace of Base)</p> <p>9:05 am International news</p> <p>9:10 am Music: -Too late for goodbye (Julion Lennan)</p> <p>1:30 pm News/Slogan</p> <p>1:40 pm Lunch time music -Heaven knows (Rick Price) -When you love someone (Bryan Adams) -Give me peace on earth (Modern Talking) -You're all that I need (Angelina)</p> <p>9.00pm World of music songs from - Portugal, Algeria, Hungary, Israel, Africa</p> <p>9.15 pm Article</p> <p>9.25 pm Music at your request -So much in love (All 4 one) -Pa-Pa he love MaMa (Donald Peer & Jane Osbon) -Nothing compare to you (Sined O'Conner)</p> <p>9.45 pm News/Slogan</p> <p>10.00 pm PEL</p>
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WEATHER

Thursday, 24 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 State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (5°C) below normal in Chin State, Bago and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) below normal in Kayin, Mon States and Magway Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was Hakha (1°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Bhamo (0.14) inch.

Maximum temperature on 23-11-2005 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 24-11-2005 was 60°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 24-11-2005 was 80%. Total sunshine hours on 23-11-2005 was (8.1) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 24-11-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (102.60) inches at Mingaladon, (101.77) inches at Kaba-Aye and (106.46) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from East at (11:20) hours MST on 23-11-2005.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, yesterday's low pressure area over Southern Coast of Tamilnadu and adjoining Gulf of Mannar still persists. Weather is cloudy in Southwest and Andaman Sea and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 25-11-2005: Except for widespread rain or thundershowers are likely in Taninthayi Division and weather will be generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface winds speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-11-2005: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-11-2005: Fine weather.

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 inspects construction of Minkyaung Creek Bridge in Yanbye Township. — MNA

Officials urged to make efforts for supply of electricity and irrigation water joining hands with local people

(from page 1)
Maei, Kyaukkyipauk, Sanepauk, Londawpauk, Didokpauk and Thanthamagyi bridges had

been inaugurated along the road. Thazintanpauk, Wunphaik and Minkyaung Creek bridges are under construction and

Thanthamachay Bridge will be opened in the near future.

As temporary bridges were constructed

on An-Kyaukpyu Road, it has become an all-weather road since 1st January, 2005.

In the evening, the Prime Minister and party arrived at the 50-bed hospital in Taungpy Township and inspected X-ray room, operation theatre, medical stores and construction of the extended building of the hospital.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Soe Win met with departmen-

tal officials, members of social organizations and townsenders at the town hall in Taungpy. At the meeting, he handed over exercise books and stationery to the Officer of Taungpy Township Education Department.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister and party flew to Thandwe and also met with departmental officials and townsenders at Dwarawady Hall in Thandwe. At the meeting, he fulfilled requirements for development of the township.

Yesterday morning, Prime Minister General Soe Win heard report on hydel power projects to be implemented in Thandwe and An townships presented by Director-General U Win Kyaw of the Hydro-

electric Power Department at Annawa Yeiktha in Thandwe.

Thahtay Creek Hydel Power Plant will be built on Thahtay Creek, 12 miles north-east of Thandwe. The power plant will be equipped with four 25-magawatts generators, and on completion, the plant will generate 100 magawatts.

In An, Hydro-electric Power Department will also implement An Creek Hydel Power Plant Project. After hearing the reports, Prime Minister General Soe Win said as part of an effort for the development of the State, the Government is implementing hydel-power projects and irrigation projects. Upon completion, all projects will (See page 8)

Thahtay Creek Hydel Power Plant will be built on Thahtay Creek, 12 miles north-east of Thandwe. The power plant will be equipped with four 25-magawatt generators, and on completion, the plant will generate 100 magawatts.



Thanthamachay Bridge on Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road in progress. — MNA

INSIDE

The patriotic youths thus born of the national education movement carried on the independence struggle joining hands with the national races risking their lives. A large number of patriots produced by the national education movement and the mass of the people won back the national independence on 4 January 1948 as they had fought the battles sacrificing their lives and property.