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Friday, 2 December, 2005

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Laotian President

YANGON, 2 Dec— On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2005, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Khamtay Siphandone, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. — *MNA*

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to United Arab Emirates

YANGON, 2 Dec— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahayan, President of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates, which falls on 2 December, 2005. — *MNA*

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends felicitations to LPDR

YANGON, 2 Dec— On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2005, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Choummaly Sayasone, Vice-President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. — *MNA*

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends felicitations to UAE

YANGON, 2 Dec— Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Maktoum Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates, which falls on 2 December, 2005. — *MNA*

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Organized businesses facilitate capital accumulation, production, market extension more than individual businesses

YANGON 1 Dec — Prime Minister General Soe Win, accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers, Chin State PDC Chairman Col Tin Hla and officials, on 28 November morning arrived at Nurses Training School in Falam, Chin State, and met with department officials, social organizations and trainees.

At the meeting, Prime Minister General Soe Win heard reports on facts about the township and requirements to be fulfilled, health care services being provided at district/ township hospitals and requirements for station hospitals, rice sufficiency, cultivation and raising of domesticated wild ox in Falam District. Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs

(See page 16)



Prime Minister General Soe Win views Tea and Dry Tea Exhibition near City Hall in Haka.— *MNA*

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 2 December, 2005

Work for social security, regional and national development

In its drive for parallel development of all regions, including border areas, the government has given special priority to the construction of roads and bridges as smooth and easy transport is the fundamental requirement for all-round national development. In the regions like Chin State where transport is difficult because of its geographical position, new roads linking towns in the state and the state and the plains are being built and old ones upgraded.

Nowadays, national people living in Chin State are enjoying the fruits of development as the government has worked for its development with genuine goodwill. With improvement in transport structure, health, education, economic and social status of local people have become higher.

Prime Minister General Soe Win, accompanied by responsible officials, visited Kale in Sagaing Division and Tonzang, Kyikha, Reedkhardar and Tiddim in Chin State on 27 and 28 November to inspect agricultural and regional development work and provide assistance in cash and kind to local people. In his meeting with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people in the townships he visited, the Prime Minister said that, in the areas far away from the government headquarters, local people, regional authorities and members of the social organizations are to work in unison and in concert and that their unity was their own strength.

Chin State is developing in every way due to the assistance of the government and student youths can now study computer and engineering sciences in universities and colleges in Kale, the gateway to the northern part of Chin State. Moreover, there are modern hospitals in Haka, Tiddim and Falam and specialists provide health care services to local people on a wider scale.

As Chin State is a hilly region, it is suitable for highland cultivation and it has favourable conditions for growing perennials, especially tea, extensively. Now, tea plantations in some wards and villages and in the plots owned by government departments are flourishing.

We would like to call on regional authorities, local people and members of social organizations in Chin State as well as in other regions to work actively and unitedly for their own social security and the development of their respective regions and that of the entire Union.

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

MYANMAR GAZETTE

YANGON, 1 Dec — The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Officer on Special Duty Brig-Gen Kyaw Thu at the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs as Director-General of No 1 Basic Education Department under the Ministry of Education on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties. — MNA

President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win presents a prize to an award winner at a ceremony in commemoration of the World AIDS Day.

HEALTH



2005 World AIDS Day (central) observed

YANGON, 1 Dec — A ceremony in commemoration of the World AIDS Day with a special theme for this year "Stop AIDS, Keep the Promise" was held at International Business Centre here this morning. The ceremony was jointly organized by FHAM, UNFPA and UNICEF. It was attended by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaug Lwin, Directors-General, Deputy Directors-General, Rectors, Directors of departments concerned under the Ministry of Health, members of AIDS Prevention and Control Committee and Work Committee, President of MAAF Daw Than Than Nwe, President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win and members, Resident Representatives of UNDP, UNICEF, and UNFPA, officials from UN agencies and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Mya Oo said the ceremonies and activities to mark the World AIDS Day have been held in the countries around the world on the first of December every year with the aims of enabling the people to know dreadful disadvantages of AIDS disease and to participate with more efforts in combating AIDS. The infection of the disease spread to many global countries for 20 years. It is estimated that there are over 40 million people who are living with HIV in the world, particularly among young

people and women. About half of the new infection occurred among women in the world. Women living with AIDS are 30 per cent of the population in Asian Continent. Hence, the ceremony to mark the World AIDS Day is held yearly for participation of departments concerned and organizations including the people in prevention against AIDS, and tasks to nurture and rehabilitate the affected persons. Despite organizing the World AIDS Day on 1 December every year, the task to combat the AIDS disease is to be carried out the whole year round. Health education activities are to be geared up through media and nurturing and counseling courses.

Resident Representative of UNDP Mr Charles Petrie read out the message of UN Secretary-General Mr Kofi Annan and UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS Chairperson Mr Jean Luc the message of Executive Director Dr Peter Piot of UNAIDS. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo presented prizes to outstanding students in BEHS level essay contest in commemoration to World AIDS Day. MAAF President Daw Than Than Nwe and MMCWA President Daw Khin Khin Win presented awards to outstanding students in BEMS poster contest and BEPS painting contest. Next, the deputy ministers and guests viewed round the education booth displayed at the ceremony. — MNA



Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo delivers an opening address at the ceremony in commemoration of the World AIDS Day. — HEALTH



International Trade Course opened

YANGON, 1 Dec — An opening ceremony for Course No 4 for International Trade Course (Program-II) organized by Educational Work Committee of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry was held at UMFCCI Training Centre, No 74/86, Bo Sun Pat Street in Pabedan Township, this afternoon.

UMFCCI Advisor Dr Kyaw Htin, Vice-President U Zaw Min Win, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing, CEC members, members of Educational Work Committee, instructors, trainees and guests attended the ceremony. UMFCCI Vice-President U Zaw Min Win and Chairman of Educational Work Committee U Sein Win Hlaing gave addresses at the ceremony. Altogether 40 trainees are attending the course.



Chairman of Educational Affairs Committee U Sein Win Hlaing delivers an address at International Trade Course No 4 (Program-II). — UMFCCI

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**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF
DISABLED PERSONS**

3rd December, 2005

**Rights of Persons with Disabilities:
Action in Development**

“လူ့ဘဝဖွံ့ဖြိုးဖို့ မသန်စွမ်းသူများပိုင်းဝန်းဖို့”

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MNA

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China spreads "AIDS" knowledge to train passengers

BEIJING, 30 Nov — The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) initiated a programme on Tuesday featuring AIDS-related knowledge publicity to train passengers aiming to raise migrant people's awareness of HIV/AIDS.

Peng Peiyun, president of the RCSC said here on Tuesday at the programme's inauguration ceremony that the RCSC staff are going to offer consultation services and hand out AIDS-prevention brochures on trains and at railway stations of the nation's major routes, telling passengers the ABCs of HIV/AIDS prevention.

the programme's inauguration ceremony at the Beijing Railway Station, experts from the Beijing You'an Hospital, a renowned medical institution dedicated to infectious diseases, and staff from China's Railway Epidemic Prevention Centre gave AIDS-related information to passers-by.

At the ceremony student volunteers wearing smart red ribbons hand-knitted by HIV-positives in southwest China's Yunnan

Province disseminated brochures depicting how to prevent HIV in vivid cartoons.

Chinese well-known comedian Hou Yaowen was appointed "Railway AIDS-Prevention Ambassador". Yang Zuyao, a student volunteer majoring in preventive medicine at the Beijing University, felt more than happier.

"What I have learned in school can greatly contribute to my volunteer work in AIDS prevention," she said.—MNA/Xinhua

Tuesday morning at

Norway's Statoil says employee slain in Iran

OSLO, 30 Nov — An Iranian employee of Norwegian energy group Statoil, which is helping to develop Iran's huge South Pars gas field offshore in the Gulf, has been murdered in Teheran, the company said on Tuesday.

The 52-year-old was killed in his home two weeks ago. He worked in the company's purchasing department, said a spokesman for Statoil, Norway's biggest oil and gas producer.

"We have no indications or suspicions that his death had anything to do with his job," Statoil's spokesman Kai Nielsen said.

MNA/Reuters

Asia Media Festival trade events open in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 1 Dec — The Asia Media Festival (AMF) trade events opened in Singapore on Wednesday with participation of 4,500 foreign trade delegates and 200 international sellers from 40 countries.

With the AMF events for the public including film screenings on display for two weeks, half a million participants for both consumer and trade events are expected this year.

MNA/Xinhua



US servicemen inspect the site of a suicide car bomb attack on a US military convoy, north of Najaf, on 30 Nov, 2005. —INTERNET

Nepali version of Microsoft Windows launched

KATHMANDU, 30 Nov — Unlimited NuMedia Private Limited and Microsoft Corporation jointly launched Nepali version of Microsoft Windows XP and Microsoft Office 2003 here on Tuesday.

"Preservation of culture, tradition and language through the use of new technology will be more easier and effective," vice-Chancellor of Royal Nepal Academy Basudev Tripathi said.

He said that Nepali version of Windows will be a window to the world for Nepalese people.

Inaugurating the new version, the chancellor said that it will now be possible to bring the advantages of information technology to the rural masses, where the biggest challenge so far has been the language barriers, as less than 10 per cent of the Nepali people are well versed in English.

"It will also help bridge the gap created by the existing digital divide

in information technology and to extend Nepali language to the national and international level," Tripathi added.

The people with computer access will be increased to 55 per cent from the present 2 per cent and the sale of personal computers will be multiplied by many folds with the introduction of the new Nepali version of Windows, according to Allen Tuladhar, CEO of Unlimited NuMedia.

The record shows that there were 500,000 computer sales in the past 15 years but the same amount will be sold in a year now, Tuladhar said.

Microsoft has decided not to charge any licence fees for the use of the localized editions of the new product, which has

Bombs in two Bangladesh cities kill nine

DHAKA, 30 Nov — Nine people were killed and 65 wounded by suspected suicide bombings in two Bangladesh cities on Tuesday, apparently the latest in a wave of attacks by militants fighting to turn the country into a sharia-based Islamic state.

Police said three people, including two officers were killed and 15 wounded by blasts at a police checkpoint outside a court building in the port city of Chittagong. They said the third person who died was believed to be the bomber.

Another blast, in a court complex in Gazipur — 20 miles north of the capital, Dhaka — killed six people and wounded nearly 50, police said.

Local hospital sources said the wounded included lawyers. "The bombers apparently turned more than a violent as we set up checkposts trying to reinforce security at court premises," said Majedul Huq, police commissioner in Chittagong.

He said the blasts were probably the work of suicide bombers, who had explosives strapped to their bodies or hidden in bags.

The Islamists killed two judges in the coastal town of Jhalakathi on 18 November and threatened to kill more including Jagrata Muslim Janata Supreme Court judges.

Bombs exploded in

three district courts outside Dhaka last month, killing two people and wounding more than a dozen, while 500 small bombs went off across the country on 17 August, killing two people and wounding about 100.

Bangladeshi police have acknowledged since those attacks the presence of home-grown potential suicide bombers.

They say a 2,000-strong "suicide squad" has been formed from members of Jamaat-ul-Mujahedin and two other banned groups, Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh and Harkatul Jihad. — MNA/Reuters

WTO gives poorest countries more time to apply property rules

GENEVA, 30 Nov — Members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) decided on Tuesday to give least-developed countries an extension until 1 July, 2013 to provide protection for trademarks, copyright, patents and other intellectual property under the WTO's agreement.

The decision extends the transition period by seven and a half years for least-developed countries to apply Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), and includes commitments on technical assistance to help them prepare.

The transition period was due to expire on 1 January, 2006, 11 years after the TRIPS Agreement came into force. The decision does not affect the transition period for patents for pharmaceutical products, which was agreed in 2002. Least-developed countries will not have to protect these patents until 2016.

At present, 32 WTO members are least-developed.

MNA/Xinhua



Youths dressed as skeletons wearing posters symbolically representing, from left to right, Unprotected sexual relationship, AIDS, Drugs and Contaminated Syringe participate, in an AIDS awareness rally in Agartala, capital of India's northeastern state of Tripura, on 1 Dec, 2005, to mark World AIDS Day.

INTERNET



Myanmar's Kay Khine Lwin (R) celebrates after crossing the finish line ahead of Vietnam's Le Ngoc Phuong during the women's 200-metre final at the 23rd Southeast Asian (SEA) Games in Manila on 30 Nov, 2005. Kay Khine Lwin won gold in the event —INTERNET

ဝက်ကုဗ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်ဖွား

68 tons of narcotics seized in Venezuela during 2005

CARACAS, 30 Nov—The Venezuelan Government has seized 68 tons of narcotics in 2005, up 58 per cent on a year-on-year basis, Interior and Justice Minister Jesse Chacon announced here on Monday. Addressing the opening ceremony of an international anti-drug conference, Chacon said 62 per cent of the seized drugs were cocaine while the rest were heroin and marijuana.

He said the three-day conference, which was attended by nearly 40 experts from the European Union (EU), Venezuela and Caribbean states, could serve as a stage for the related parties to exchange experience in fighting international drug-trafficking.

He said the conference was aimed at strengthening the efforts by the EU, Venezuela and Caribbean states to probe the destinations and routes of drug trafficking, as well as the consumption of drugs and their profitability in the region.

MNA/Xinhua

War on terror finance hurt by US infighting

WASHINGTON, 30 Nov—US programmes to help countries choke off terrorist funds are hamstrung by turf battles, leadership squabbles and confusion over available funding, the investigative arm of Congress said on Tuesday.

For example, the study by the Government Accountability Office said the US Treasury and State Departments could not even agree on who was in charge of training and assistance abroad.

Several government departments disagreed strongly with the report, saying it overstated discord and failed to portray the overall effectiveness of counterterrorism efforts. Letters from the departments were included in the report. The GAO study focused on US steps to help other countries curb the flow of illicit funds and protect their financial sectors from abuse, an important part of the US Government's broader war against terrorism. More than 200 million US dollars in suspected terrorist funds have been seized.

"The US Government lacks an integrated strategy to coordinate the delivery of counter-terrorism financing training and technical assistance to countries vulnerable to terrorist financing," the GAO report said.

Justice Department officials cited in the report

said "roles and procedures were a matter of disagreement". The study also said that "due to disagreements over leadership and procedures, some energy and talent of staff are wasted trying to resolve interagency disputes". It also said various officials said funding for such training and assistance was inadequate, although a lack of clarity made it hard to determine the actual amount allocated to these efforts.

Republican Senator Charles Grassley, an Iowa Republican and one of the lawmakers who commissioned the study, told Reuters he was very concerned by the GAO's findings and "stunned" that four years after the 11 September, 2001 attacks "turf battles" were undermining the financial fight against terror.

"There is a ship afloat without a captain," said Grassley, who chairs the Senate finance committee.

MNA/Reuters

Vietnam receives more foreign visitors in first 11 months

HANOI, 30 Nov—Vietnam is estimated to welcome nearly 3.2 million international arrivals in the first 11 months of this year, posting a year-on-year rise of 19.5 per cent. The hike is partly attributed to Vietnam's permission of foreign visitors from northern Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore coming into by automobiles, and the opening of more direct flight routes between the country and the United States, Japan and Russia, according to the Vietnam National Administration of Tourism (VNAT) on Monday.

Vietnam's biggest tourism markets included China, the United States, South Korea, and members of the Associations of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), said VNAT.

In 2005, Vietnam is expected to host 3.4 million international arrivals and 16 million local visitors, up 17.2 per cent and 17.6 per cent, respectively, the VNAT said, adding that the country is likely to earn around 33 trillion Vietnamese dong (nearly 2.1 billion US dollars) from tourism services in the year.

MNA/Xinhua

WHO experts investigate China's first human bird flu case

HEFEI, 30 Nov—A team of experts from the World Health Organization (WHO) investigated on Tuesday China's first human case of bird flu in Zongyang County of eastern Anhui Province, visiting local disease-prevention departments and the hospitals where the case has been treated.

Accompanied by their Chinese counterparts, WHO experts arrived at the disease control and prevention centre of Zongyang County at 8:30 am.

"You tell us the situation frankly, and we hope we can give you some help with your work," said Xu Xiyan, a WHO expert from the United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

Head of Zongyang County Wang Changgen briefed WHO experts on the county's measures of preventing bird flu, related medical facilities and other measures that have been taken.

A 24-year-old woman farmer surnamed Zhou, was confirmed dead of H5N1 bird flu virus on 16 November by the Chinese Ministry of Health.

WHO experts interviewed persons in charge of health, agriculture, disease control and animal husbandry departments of Zongyang and Anqing City, where the county is located.

MNA/Xinhua

Comoros volcano eruption pollutes water

NAIROBI, 30 Nov—Water supplies to more than 100,000 people in the Indian Ocean Comoros Islands have been contaminated by the eruption of one of the world's largest active volcanoes, the United Nations said on Tuesday.

Mount Karthala sent clouds of ash and sparks flying late on Thursday, leaving the capital Moroni and other villages on the main island of Grande Comore covered in grey.

"Concerns exist regarding the availability of potable water in the areas exposed to smoke and ashes," said a report from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). "Preliminary results from the assessment indicate that as many as 118,000 persons living in 75 villages may be affected by the contamination of water tanks," the report said.

tion of water tanks," the report said.

OCHA said they were also concerned about the impact of the pollution from volcanic debris on agriculture and livestock.—MNA/Reuters

Death toll rises to 138 in N-E China coal mine blast

QITAIHE (Heilongjiang), 30 Nov—Rescuers found four more remains of miners killed in Sunday's blast at Dongfeng Coal Mine run by the Qitaihe branch of the Longmei Mining (Group) Co, Ltd in Heilongjiang Province.

That brings the death toll of the coal mine explosion to 138, sources from the National Bureau of Production Safety Supervision and Administration said on Tuesday morning.— MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi man and his family wait while a US Marine searches their truck at a checkpoint in Saadah, Iraq, eight miles from Syria, on 29 Nov, 2005.

INTERNET

ASEAN to strengthen anti-transnational crime cooperation

HANOI, 30 Nov—Over 200 delegates from 13 countries attended an international meeting opened here on Tuesday, discussing measures to boost their cooperation in preventing and combating transnational crime.

At the 5th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) with the theme “For an ASEAN of Security, Solidarity and Development”, they will review their activities in combating transnational crime since the previous meeting, touch upon cooperation measures and mechanisms in carrying out laws on the issue, and build an ASEAN agreement on anti-terrorism.

Addressing at the meeting taking place from November 27 to December 3, Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Vu Khoan said, “As far as we see,

such measures should include increased intelligence exchange, scenario forecasts, cooperation in crime prevention and tracing, judicial cooperation, criminal extradition, human resource training, and experience exchange.”

ASEAN members, including Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, are striving to form a security, economic and cultural community by 2020, he said, adding that they will not be able to achieve the goal unless they join hands in preventing and combat-

ing transnational crime.

“Alongside internal ASEAN cooperation, we are of the view that global cooperation, especially with dialogue countries (China, Japan and South Korea) is of great importance... The ASEAN’s dialogue countries have many experiences to share with, and many resources to assist the ASEAN members,” Khoan said.

MNA/Xinhua



Priestesses dance during the flame-lighting ceremony for the Turin 2006 Winter Games at the Pierre de Coubertin Grove in Ancient Olympia, Greece, on 27 Nov, 2005. —INTERNET

Russia accuses NATO, US of fueling tension in central Asia

Moscow, 30 Nov—A high-ranking Russian official criticized NATO and the United States on Tuesday for pressuring Central Asian nations and attempting to meddle in their political affairs.

“Afghanistan and Iraq lack stability. The situation in the South Caucasus is also complex. The pressure that NATO and US political and military structures are exerting on Central Asia is heightening tension in the region.”

Russian Security Council Secretary Igor Ivanov said at a session of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) in Moscow, Russian news agencies reported.

The CSTO links Russia with Armenia, Belarus,

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. He also accused NATO and the United States of attempting to interfere in the political life of newly independent countries under the pretext of promoting democratic values and

freedom. Military cooperation within the CSTO will focus on creating mechanisms to effectively tackle the security threats and challenges the organization faces, Ivanov said.

But the Russian top security official ruled out any plans to establishing new Russian military bases in Central Asia.

US forces are using a base in Kyrgyzstan to support military operations in nearby Afghanistan, but the United States was recently evicted from another base in Uzbekistan.

MNA/Xinhua

Some 25,000 Germans endure fifth day without power

FRANKFURT, 30 Nov—Some 25,000 Germans were without electricity on Tuesday after a fifth night of power cuts brought about by snow, ice and wind hitting transmission lines in the country’s west.

Utility RWE said electricity for around 40,000 people in a rural district near the Dutch border had been cut for several hours overnight when cables laden with snow had to be switched off to avoid accidents. “Those were precautions which are no longer necessary,” said a spokesman for the company, which supplies power to Germany’s most populous state of North-Rhine Westphalia.

“As for the rest, our technicians are working flat out and we hope to have connected as many

customers as possible by tonight. The restoration of supplies comes before any other questions about money,” he said.

The crisis has embarrassed German power companies which boast about having one of the world’s most reliable power networks, with a large proportion of cables underground.

But unusually heavy snow and gusty winds overstretched power lines and damaged 50 pylons. Up to 250,000 people were without power at the weekend.—MNA/Reuters

US Army aims to coax former troops back to service

WASHINGTON, 30 Nov—The US Army, fresh off missing its latest annual recruiting goal, has launched an unprecedented effort to coax former troops to sign up again for active-duty military service, officials said on Tuesday.

The Army this month began contacting 78,000 people who previously served in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps to pitch them on the idea of leaving behind their civilian lives and returning for another stint in uniform, said Lieutenant-Colonel Bryan Hilferty, an Army spokesman at the Pentagon.

Unlike in the past, they now can return to the Army without giving up their previous rank or undergo the rigors of basic training, said Hilferty, who described it as the first programme of its kind for the Army.

The Army fell about 7,000 short of its goal of sending 80,000 recruits into basic training in fiscal 2005, which ended September 30. Officials attributed the shortfall to the Iraq war and other factors. The fiscal 2006 recruiting goal again is set at 80,000.

Hilferty said the new programme, which targets people who left the military within the past five

years and particularly those who were in branches other than the Army, is not a sign of recruiting desperation.

“I think it’s just common sense,” Hilferty said. “These are people with a propensity for service who previously served honourably and who are trained. If they want to serve, why shouldn’t we offer them that opportunity? And why should we put up barriers?”

About 7,000 former officers were among the 78,000 receiving recruiting letters that stated, “There is no higher calling than service in our

armed forces, and this is your opportunity to answer the call to duty again.”—MNA/Reuters

UN envoy raises issue of abuse of detainees with Iraqi officials

UNITED NATIONS, 1 Dec — Ashraf Qazi, UN Special Representative in Iraq, has raised the issue of human rights violations with Iraqi officials, including the need for “ structural changes” in the security system, UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said on Tuesday.

Answering questions on the UN position on reports of abuses in Iraq, Dujarric told reporters that the UN team led by Qazi has brought up on a number of times directly to Iraqi officials, including the Defence Minister, the Interior Minister, the issues of human rights violations that have been reported to take place in some of the detention centres.

MNA/Xinhua

Third Briton dies from attack in Iraq

LONDON, 30 Nov— A third Briton has died from his injuries in Iraq after the bus in which he was travelling was ambushed by gunmen, Sky news reported on Tuesday.

The man, from Greenford, west London, was a Muslim pilgrim on a religious visit, said the report. On Monday, two Britons, Saifuddin Makai, 39, from Streatham, south London, and Husain Mohammedali, 50, from

Harrow, northwest London, were killed when gunmen ambushed the bus in Baghdad, according to the report. Three other people were injured in the attack.

The incident occurred when the bus was drawing up to a checkpoint in the

southern Baghdad neighbourhood of Dora. The Britons were on a pilgrimage to holy shrines at Kerbala, Najaf and Kufa when they came under fire. No confirmation has been issued by British Foreign Office.—MNA/Xinhua



A woman and children look at the wreckage of a car bomb, targeting a US and Iraqi army patrol, in Baghdad’s Azimya neighbourhood, Iraq, on 29 Nov, 2005. —INTERNET

Myanmar, where all citizens enjoy freedom of worship

Tekkatho Myat Thu

For a believer, religion is the faith he understands well in his mind and keeps in his heart. It is the concept of any person of every faith.

Now I am going to present some facts about the world religions. Hermits first discoursed the Hinduism according to Veda and Vedanta treatises in India in about 1500 BC. It later spread to other countries. It now has about one billion believers worldwide. Its God is the Great Brahma in the Heaven.

The Buddha delivered His first discourse, "the Dhamma Cakka" in Mijjhima, India, in 600 BC. The Three Pitakas are the foundation of Buddhism that has spread to Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Mongolia, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, China, Japan, Britain, Europe, North America, Russia, Republic of Korea, Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan, Brazil, Indonesia, Australia and Hawaii from India. Gottama Buddha is the Teacher of one billion believers.

Moses founded the Judaism in Palestine in about 1400 BC. The Old Testament is the religion's Bible. The people of Judaism Faith can be found in Israel and American continents, Europe and Asia. There are about 15 million people of the faith. Jehovah is the God in the Heavens.

Christianity founded by Jesus emerged in Palestine in 29 AD. The Old Testament and the New Testament are the two main Bibles of Christianity. It is flourishing in North and South America, Europe, Russia, Australia, Asia, and Africa. There are over two billion followers around the world. They worship God in the Heavens.

Zoroastrianism is a religion originated in ancient Persia started by Zoroaster (628-551 BC). The religion has over 200,000 followers in Persia and India. Mohammed (AD 571-632) founded Islam in Arabia. Allah is the God of the religion. It spread to Turkey, Africa, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Egypt, Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Arab Emirates, China, Myanmar, Malaysia, Indonesia, Europe, America and the Middle East. The religion has a population of about 1300 million.

Shinto is an ancient religion in Japan. Its followers are in Japan and some Asian nations. Over 60 million people in Japan believe in this religion.

Taoism was founded in 570 BC in China, and it has over 30 million followers. Confucianism has over 200 million followers in China. Faith will be a lifeblood for a believer. There may be differences among the religions, but the most important thing is to follow one's own religion in a peaceful way. Only then, will the whole world be a peaceful and secure place. Some of the religions have different denominations, but the goal is the same.

About two centuries ago several big western capitalist nations colonized others to get cheap labour and industrial raw materials and energy at extremely low prices. First, merchants from western countries came to oriental and African na-

tions to buy raw materials and agricultural produce. Missionaries followed later to organize the locals. Then came the military force to invade, occupy and exploit those nations.

Myanmar is a nation where Theravada Buddhism flourishes. Ninety per cent of Myanmar's population are Buddhists, the people who are brought up under the teachings of Buddha. Thus, they are gentle people living in the land where loving-kindness and sympathy flourishes. They always try to suppress their greed. They fear to commit sins. Myanmar will have been a peaceful and prosperous nation if she has been free from intrusion, encroachments and interferences.

Buddhism arrived in Myanmar since the time of Buddha. The religious edifices of Tagaung, Srikestra, Bagan, Sagaing, Pinya, Inwa, Nyaungyan, Toungoo, and Konbaung eras bear witness to the fact that Buddhism flourished in Myanmar in the past. Myanmar organized the Fifth Synod and the Sixth Synod. Today, Buddhism is flourishing in the nation at an unprecedented degree.

Myanmar has been a union for all national races since yore. Christianity arrived in Myanmar in the 16th century together with the western merchants. About 5.6 per cent of the population in Myanmar are Christians. According to 1997 record, Myanmar had 5,200 churches. Roman Catholic and Protestant are the two leading Christian denominations in Myanmar. There are also 32 separate Christian communions.

Christians in Myanmar are allowed to freely hold church services and religious courses, examinations and conferences and publish brochures and books on the religion. Christian leaders can travel by boat and by train free of charge for doing religious matters. Religious Affairs Ministry has already made arrangements for religious leaders to attend meetings and conferences abroad. The Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers have been providing financial assistance to Christian homes for the aged and Christian schools for the disabled. The government has facilitated the links and connection of local Christian organizations and their sister organizations abroad. Ministers and high level officials always attend the Christian religious ceremonies and the government is providing financial and other assistance to the Christian Faith.

The Islam believers who entered Myanmar from far or near countries introduced Islam in the nation. In the time of Myanmar kings, Muslims were allowed to construct mosques. Muslims of Myanmar were allowed to make a Haj (pilgrimage) to Mecca; as they had to stay there for one and a half months King Mindon (1854-78) donated a community hall in Mecca.

Today, Muslims make up 3.78 per cent of the population of Myanmar and there are 3,215 mosques in the nation. In the past, the Ministry of Religious Affairs cooperated with four Islam religious organizations, and now it is dealing with five Islam religious organizations. The government provides yearly cash assistance for those religious organizations and free travel by boat and by train for

Muslim religious leaders. It made arrangements for Muslim religious leaders to enable them to attend religious celebrations in foreign countries. Representatives from Myanmar attended Koran Treatise reciting contests held in ASEAN nations such as Thailand, Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia, as well as Southeast Asia Islam Summit.

The Minister, deputy ministers and heads of department attended Islam religious ceremonies and the government sent messages to the ceremonies. Islam religious schools are allowed to open and courses conducted in the nation. The Department of Religious Affairs has provided help for Muslim religious organizations to receive publications and hospital equipment sent from foreign nations. Now, Islam welfare associations have come into existence. Yearly, families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air Force) donate provisions such as rice, edible oil, salt and medicines for Islam homes for the aged.

With 1,010 Hindu temples, the total number of Hindus stands at 0.51 per cent of the population in Myanmar. Since yore, Hindus from India have entered Myanmar. The government has offered free travels by train and by boat to Hindu religious leaders. It also provides cash assistance to those leaders every year. The Religious Affairs Department yearly helps Hindus attend religious rituals in foreign countries. Tatmadaw families donate provisions to Thanantana Dhamma Palaka Hindu religious association ever year. State level dignitaries grace the occasions of Hindu religious rituals and festivals.

About 1.21 per cent of the nation's population are animists, and 0.06 per cent are other faiths. Around 7,000 people in the nation follow other faiths. The State annually provides cash assistance for the animists in Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin and Shan states.

According to the data collected in the year 2000, there were 51,814 monasteries and 2,699 nunneries, 170,165 monks, 244,412 novices, and 26,232 nuns in Myanmar. All the religions coexist in Myanmar. So, unlike in some countries, there have occurred no conflicts nor riots based on religious or racial disputes in Myanmar. Whenever there was a racial tension due to an instigation or a wedge driven among religions, the government always settled the disputes in coordination with respective racial or religious leaders. Such incidents rarely occur in the nation.

Throughout the period of servitude, Myanmar suffered religious oppression. Since 1854 when the second Anglo-Myanmar War was just over, religious objects enshrined in pagodas and stupas had been robbed. Getting involved in the fight against the religious oppression of the colonialists, Sayadaws U Vicara and U Ottama were put behind bars. Sayadaw U Vicara met his end in jail after staging a hunger strike for 168 days.

In the post-independence period, religious impostors of the West bloc incited religious disputes and conflicts in the nation.

Myanmar is an independent nation. The 1947 Constitution, 1974 State Constitution, and the 104 basic principles laid down by the ongoing National Convention vividly prescribed religious freedom. In Myanmar, various religions coexist in harmony. Myanmar people are enjoying religious freedom fully and do not need to worry about religious disputes and conflicts in the nation.

Translation: TMT + MS
Myanma Alin 1-12-2005

Myanmar is a nation where Theravada Buddhism flourishes. Ninety per cent of Myanmar's population are Buddhists, the people who are brought up under the teachings of Buddha. Thus, they are gentle people living in the land where loving-kindness and sympathy flourishes.

Agriculture sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of agriculture in the time of the Tatmadaw government

Growing of edible oil crops for ensuring edible oil sufficiency

With the effective use of natural resources, the Union of Myanmar, blessed with land and water resources, will surely raise her agricultural produce and forestry products.

Myanmar's agricultural capacity has increased as she has been able to use the natural resources effectively. Edible oil crops are important items out of the crops thriving in the country.

Extended growing of edible oil crops

Sr	Subject	1988	2005	Progress
1	Groundnut sown acreage (thousand)	1111	1617	506
2	Sesame sown acreage(thousand)	2557	3620	1063
3	Mustard sown acreage (thousand)	5	159	154
4	Sunflower sown acreage (thousand)	296	1262	968
5.	Niger sown acreage (thousand)	122	258	136

Extended production of edible oil

Sr	Subject	1988	2005	Progress
1	Groundnut oil (metric ton in thousand)	207	249	42
2	Sesame oil (metric ton in thousand)	168	197	29
3	Mustard oil (metric ton in thousand)	9	12	3
4	Sunflower oil (metric ton in thousand)	74	94	20
5	Niger oil (metric ton in thousand)	12	17	5



The thriving hybrid sunflower plantation, one of quality strain edible oil crops being seen.



A thriving large sunflower being seen in hybrid sunflower plantation.

The major edible oil crops grown in the country are groundnut, sesame, mustard, sunflower and niger. At present, measures are being taken to extend growing of oil palm and other crops to produce more edible oil. As not much water is needed in growing edible oil crops, the crops are growing well in arid zones of the central part of the country. But now, with advanced technology, edible oil crops are grown in various regions of the country including the delta.

To meet the demand of domestic edible oil consumption, efforts are being made to extend growing of edible oil crops in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions. In growing edible oil crops, sesame is grown through irrigation, sunflower is grown as a double cropping and wheat and gram as mixed crops.

Under the leadership of the State, new quality strain groundnut and sesame are grown in suitable regions. Moreover, new hybrid produced by Agricultural Research Department are also used in growing sunflower. Starting from this year, emphasis is being placed on growing quality strain edible oil crops.

The table shows concerted efforts made by the Tatmadaw government for ensuring edible oil sufficiency in the country.

Growing of quality strain edible oil crops

Sr	Subject	1988	2005
1	Groundnut sown acreage (thousand)	-	1566
2	Sesame sown acreage (thousand)	-	3774
3	Sunflower sown acreage (thousand)	-	1657

Organized businesses facilitate capital...

(from page 16)

In the afternoon, the prime minister and party flew to Thantlang by helicopter. In Thantlang, they went to Basic Education High School and viewed the students learning at multi-media rooms of the school and school buildings.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Soe Win met with departmental officials and local people at the town hall and heard reports on accomplishments of the state and requirements to be fulfilled.

Before they left for Haka, the prime minister and party also inspected the wild ox farm of a local where 100 domesticated wild oxen are being raised and the 16-bed hospital in Falam Township.

During the inspection tour of Haka, Prime Minister General Soe Win inspected tea plantation on either side of Haka-Falam Road.

Tea cultivation plan was launched in 1999-2000 in Chin State, and now arrangements are being made to grow tea in Tiddim, Tonzang, Kyikha, Thantlang, Falam, Reedkhardar, Haka in Falam District and Kanpetlat, Matupi, Rezor, Mindat in Mindat District.

There are 1,295 acres of tea in Haka and so far, 10,000 acres of land have been put under tea in Chin State within six years.

At the meeting with departmental officials and townselders at the town hall in Haka, the prime



Prime Minister General Soe Win offers alms to a Saydaw at Myoma Missionary Monastery in Haka.— MNA

development of the regions in the Union.

Thanks to the cooperation of government employees, local people and social organizations, development work in various sectors is meeting with success, he added.

He continued to say that during the inspection tour of Chin State, he urged officials and local people to make efforts for food sufficiency and made

tea acres reaches 10,000 acres.

It is necessary to grow tea on a commercial scale in the hope of producing value-added dry tea leaves and establishing tea mill in the region.

Chin State is endowed with suitable soil and climatic conditions to promote the private sericulture business.

In Chin State, border trade will flourish in



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects Haka General Hospital.— MNA

minister heard reports on economic, education, health, transportation, tea plantation and farming sectors in the state.

After hearing reports, Prime Minister General Soe Win said the Government has been implementing the development projects and plans for equitable

arrangements for extended cultivation of tea in the region.

With the aim of turning Chin State into a tea state, the Government has been providing assistance to local authorities and residents and the number of

parallel with better transportation in the region.

Border trade should be developed into normal trade. The government has been upgrading the four major roads — Kale-Falam-Haka, Haka-Gangaw,

(See page 9)

Tea cultivation plan was launched in 1999-2000 in Chin State, and now arrangements are being made to grow tea in Tiddim, Tonzang, Kyikha, Thantlang, Falam, Reedkhardar, Haka in Falam District and Kanpatlat, Matupi, Rezor, Mindat in Mindat District. There are 1,295 acres of tea in Haka and so far, 10,000 acres of land have been put under tea in Chin State within six years.



Prime Minister General Soe Win visits Women's Vocational Training School in Falam.— MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win meets local people and social organizations in Falam.—MNA

Organized businesses facilitate capital...

(from page 8)

Haka-Matupi and Mindat-Matupi roads — in Chin State. It is also building and upgrading the roads linking the four main roads. The roads have helped facilitate transport and accelerated development of the state. All the regions of the nation are gaining rapid progress due to the government's national development projects. In harmoniously building a modern state, the ultimate goal of the nation, all the

SPDC Office explained arrangements for ensuring regional food sufficiency, development of tea cultivation, participation of the entrepreneurs in the farming business, and transport, education health, trade and communication development.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint discussed matters relating

USDA Secretary General Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Joint Secretary General Minister Col Zaw Min and Central Executive Committee member Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko met with USDA members in the town.

MNA

Border trade should be developed into normal trade. The government has been upgrading the four major roads — Kale-Falam-Haka, Haka-Gangaw, Haka-Matupi and Mindat-Matupi roads — in Chin State. It is also building and upgrading the roads linking the four main roads. The roads have helped facilitate transport and accelerated development of the state.

national people should have the unity and Union Spirit whatever role they may be playing.

The prime minister observed Tea and Dry Tea Exhibition, that will also be held in other townships of Chin State. He then inspected the progress in constructing a three storey ward, other patients wards and operation theatre at Haka hospital.

At the meeting to discuss means to further develop Chin State, the deputy director-general of



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects multimedia classroom in Thantlang BEHS.—MNA

to successful implementing the national projects, tea and animal farming, and data collection.

Prime Minister General Soe Win said that northern Chin State is achieving sustainable development because of the ardent and united efforts of all persons concerned. Up to now, about 10,000 acres of land has been put under tea, and plans are under way to cultivate another 10,000 acres of tea. Chin State is seeing transport progress at present, and traders should do business in accord with the law.

Organized businesses will facilitate the work of capital accumulation, production and market extension more than individual businesses.

At a domesticated wild ox farm, he heard reports on development of the business in Chin State that raises 43,546 head of the ox species.

During the inspection tour, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with Tatmadaw members and families in Haka,

All the regions of the nation are gaining rapid progress due to the government's national development projects. In harmoniously building a modern state, the ultimate goal of the nation, all the national people should have the unity and Union Spirit whatever role they may be playing.



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects domesticated wild ox in Thantlang.—MNA

Ayadaw Dam put into commission

YANGON, 1 Dec—The inauguration of Ayadaw Dam in Ayadaw Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division, undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and Division Irrigation Department, took place at the pavilion on 30 November.

Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye in his speech said that in the time of the Tatmadaw government, so far 20 irrigation facilities have been constructed in Sagaing Division.

In pursuing the guidance of the Head of State on Sagaing Division to become the granary of Upper Myanmar, the government has built dams and reservoirs and the division is constructing or renovating small scale dams for exceeding the paddy output target. Now, several multi-



Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo view Ayadaw Dam.

MNA

purpose dam projects are being implemented in the region. Among them, Htamanthi Multi-purpose Dam will be the largest of its kind upon completion and will be able to generate 1,200 megawatts.

Thirteen dams and reservoirs will be built in the region. Local farmers, on their part, are to maintain the irrigation facilities for their durability.

Providing sufficient

water for local people and animals, Ayadaw Dam will make significant contribution towards raising of social and economic standards of local people and greening of the region.

The commander called for maintenance of the facility for its durability, ensuring irrigation and clean water, and greening of the region.

The minister also delivered a speech on the

occasion.

A local expressed thanks to the government for the construction of the dam.

The commander unveiled the stone plaque of the facility. The commander and the minister sprinkled scented water on it. They inspected conduit, control tower, main embankment, water storage capacity, spillway, canal, and releasing of 30,000

fingerlings into the dam.

Officials reported on facts about the dam, and the project for cultivation of crops with the use of water from the facility. The minister gave instructions on supply of water for respective areas in irrigation system, growing of crops and phisic nut plants around the dam, efficient use of water and minimizing loss and wastage.

Ayadaw Dam is built

across Ayadaw Creek, two miles west of Ayadaw, with a 4,600 feet long and 50 feet high earthen embankment. It can store 6,840 acre feet. It has a 154 feet long and three feet diameter concrete conduit, and 1,385 feet long and 40 feet wide spillway. It can irrigate 1,000 acres of farmland. The project began in March 2005 and completed in November 2005.

MNA



Ayadaw Dam built in Ayadaw Township, Sagaing Division. — MNA

Myanmar athletes win one gold, three silver, five bronze in XXIII SEA Games

YANGON, 1 Dec — Myanmar athletes claimed one gold medal, three silver and five bronze in XXIII



Kyaw Oo and Aung Hsan Oo seal one gold medal in men's double event of Billiards.

MNA

SEA Games being held in the Philippines today.

Myanmar duo Kyaw Oo and Aung Hsan Oo sealed one gold medal in men's double event of Billiards.

Kyaw Oo secured one silver medal in men's single event of Billiards, Kyi Kyi Than, one silver in women's 48-kilo event of Weightlifting and Moe Thu Aung, one silver in women's 100-metre butterfly of Swimming.

Myint Myint Htwe carried off one bronze medal in women's Canoe event, Thaug Win, Than Aung, Zaw Min and Shwe La Win, one bronze in four men Canoe event, Shwe Zin Win, one bronze in women's 58-kilo of Weightlifting, Nwe Nwe Than, one bronze in women's 45-kilo of Judo and Nyan Soe, one bronze in men's 100-kilo of Judo.

MNA

Korean Ambassador donates blankets to fire victims

YANGON, 1 Dec — Ambassador Mr Lee Ju-heum of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea handed over 2,625 blankets worth K 5.8 million to officials for fire victims of Ward 13, Hline Township, at fire relief camp of No 1 Transit Centre (Bayintnaung) in Hline Township today. — MNA

15824 lottery prizes opened

YANGON, 1 Dec — A ceremony to open a total of 15824 lottery prizes for 203th time, organized by Internal Revenue Department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue was held at Aungbarlay Lottery Department (Branch) at the corner of No 384 Mahabandoola Street and 37th Street this morning.

MNA

Health care and cash assistance provided for older persons

YANGON, 1 Dec — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay attended the ceremony to provide health care services and assistance for older persons of Yangon Command Maternal and Child Welfare Association at its headquarters this afternoon.



Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe provides cash and kind assistance for an older person.—MNA

First, Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Head of Administration Department of MWAFC Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe and officials presented traditional medicines,

clothes and cash assistance to older persons and provided medical treatment for them. The Chairperson of

Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee presented certificates of honour to

the wellwishers. On behalf of the older persons, U Win Maung spoke words of thanks.—MNA



Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nobutake Odano and wife welcome Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife at the reception to mark the birthday of the Japanese King on 1 December 2005.

MNA

Matters related to National Convention...

(from page 16)

NCCC Vice-Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Secretary Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Commission members Attorney-General U Aye Maung and U Thaug Nyunt answered

the queries raised by the Ambassadors and Charges d'Affaires of the foreign missions. The meeting ended at 11.20 am.

After the ceremony, U Aung Toe and Commission members cordially greeted those present. — MNA

Talks on human trafficking given at Drug Elimination Museum



Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo, wife of the Home Affairs Minister, gives educative talks.—MNA

YANGON 1 Dec—Educative talks on prevention against human trafficking were held this afternoon at the Drug Elimination Museum in Kamayut Township.

At the talks organized by the Organization Department of the Myanmar Women's

Affairs Federation, Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo, Head of the Organization Department of MWAFC, gave talks on women's affairs and Daw Khin May Soe of MWAFC on prevention against human trafficking.

The talks attracted over 150 people.

It was also attended by Daw San San Wai, wife of Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, wives of the director-general of Myanmar Police Force and officials of the departments under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

MNA



Foreign Minister felicitates Laotian counterpart

YANGON, 2 Dec— On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2005, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Somsavat Lengsavad, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. — MNA

Myanmar delegation back from PRC

YANGON, 1 Dec — Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut who attended the ceremony to sign MoU of the Hydro Electric Power Department and Yunnan Machinery & Equipment Import & Export Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China held at the PRC, arrived back here this afternoon.

They were welcomed at the airport by Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Guan Mu, Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint, the Chinese Commercial Attaché and departmental heads and officials of the Ministry of Electric Power.

The minister was also accompanied by Director-General of Department of Electric Power Dr Thein Tun and Director-General of Hydro Electric Power Department U Wun Kyaw. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut and party being welcomed back at the airport. — ELECTRIC POWER

National Convention delegates arrive

YANGON, 1 Dec— National Convention delegates from states and divisions arrived here by air, today. The delegates arriving here were from Rakhine State and Shan State (East) and Chin State.

They were welcomed at Yangon International

Airport by Chairman Col Htein Lin of the Invitation and Accommodation Subcommittee, member Col Soe Myint and officials and transported by car at Nyaungnabin Camp, Hmawby Township, where the National Convention will resume.

MNA

National Convention delegates from Shan State (East) are welcomed by officials concerned at Yangon International Airport.

NLM

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Infr Class 12: "Engines and motors for land vehicles; vehicles and parts and fittings therefor; tractors and parts and fittings therefor; self-propelled conveyors and parts and fittings therefor; electrically-operated motorbikes and parts and fittings therefor; construction vehicles and parts and fittings therefor; wheel loaders and parts and fittings therefor".

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ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံ စီးပွားရေး ဦးစီးဌာနမှ ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော အကြိမ် (၂၀) မြောက် ကျောက်မျက်နှာနှင့် ကျောက်စိမ်း ရောင်းချပွဲ (၂၀၀၆) TWENTIETH GEMS & JADE SALES OF

THE UNION OF MYANMAR ECONOMIC HOLDINGS LIMITED

၁။ ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံ စီးပွားရေး ဦးစီးဌာနမှ ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော အကြိမ် (၂၀) မြောက် ကျောက်မျက်နှာနှင့် ကျောက်စိမ်း ရောင်းချပွဲ (၂၀၀၆) မှ (၁၉-၁-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့အထိ အမှတ် (၆၆) ကမ္ဘာ့အေးဇော်လမ်းရှိ မြန်မာ ကျောက်မျက်နှာရောင်းချရေး အဖွဲ့အစည်း၏ အဖွဲ့ဝင်များသည် - (က) (၁၆-၁-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့မှ (၁၈-၁-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့ထိ ကျောက်မျက်နှာကို ကြည့်ရှုနိုင်ဆဲဖြစ်ပြီး - (ခ) (၁၉-၁-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့တွင် Bargain and Auction ဝန်ဆောင်မှုဖြင့် ရောင်းချခြင်း။

၂။ ဝယ်လိုသူများသည် (၁၃-၁-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့မှစ၍ မှတ်ပုံတင်ကြေး နိုင်ငံသား ကျပ် (၂၀၀၀)၊ နိုင်ငံခြားသား ယူရို (၂၀) နှင့်အတူ မှတ်ပုံတင်စာရင်း ပေးသွင်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

၃။ ပုဂ္ဂလိက ကျောက်မျက်နှာ၊ ကျောက်စိမ်း လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များမှလည်း မိမိရောင်းချလိုသည့် ကျောက်မျက်နှာ၊ ကျောက်စိမ်းနှင့် အခြားထည့် လက်ဝတ် ရတနာများကို (၁၉-၁-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့မှ (၆-၁-၂၀၀၆) ရက်နေ့အတွင်း လာရောက်အပ်နှံနိုင်ပါသည်။

၅။ ရောင်းချရန်တင်သည့် ရတနာပစ္စည်း၏ တန်ဖိုးပေါ်တွင် (၀.၄) ရာခိုင်နှုန်းကို ဝန်ဆောင်ခအဖြစ်လည်းကောင်း၊ ရောင်းချရမည့် ရောင်းချခြင်းကြားတွင် ဖြစ်ပါက (၁) ရာခိုင်နှုန်း၊ မြန်မာ့ကျပ်ငွေဖြစ်ပါက (၃) ရာခိုင်နှုန်း ကို ကော်မရှင်ခအဖြစ်လည်းကောင်း၊ မြန်မာစီးပွားရေး ဦးစီးဌာနမှ ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော ရတနာစွန့်ခွဲရေး အစည်းအရုံး၏ သတ္တိတွင်းဝန်ကြီးဌာနမှ ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော မြန်မာ့ကျောက်မျက်နှာ ရတနာဥပဒေ/နည်းဥပဒေများအတိုင်း ဆောင်ရွက်သွားမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

၆။ အဆေးစိတ် မေးမြန်းစုံစမ်းလိုသူများသည် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါလိပ်စာအမှတ်တွင် ရှိရှိအောင် လာရောက်ဆက်သွယ်စုံစမ်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာ့စွန့်ခွဲရေးအဖွဲ့အစည်း (ကျောက်မျက်နှာရောင်းချရေး) ကုမ္ပဏီလီမိတက် အမှတ် (၂၄/၂၆) (ယခင် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်ဗဟိုဘဏ် အဆောက်အအုံ) ဆူးလေဘုရားလမ်း၊ ကျောက်တံတားမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့။ ဖုန်း-၃၇၁၀၅၃၊ ၃၇၁၀၆၁

မြန်မာအင်္ဂါစီမံကိန်း (လီ) ဂျိတ် (ကျောက်မျက်နှာရောင်းချရေး) ကုမ္ပဏီလီမိတက် အမှတ် (၂၄/၂၆) (ယခင် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်ဗဟိုဘဏ် အဆောက်အအုံ) ဆူးလေဘုရားလမ်း၊ ကျောက်တံတားမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့။ ဖုန်း-၃၇၁၀၅၃၊ ၃၇၁၀၆၄

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Ecuador to boost private investment in electricity sector

QUITO, 30 Nov—Ecuador seeks to boost private investment and create strategic alliances in the electricity sector through legislation, Ecuadoran Energy and Mines Minister Ivan Rodriguez said on Monday.

The country, which imports electricity from Colombia due to the scarcity of its domestic production, intends to adopt a new law to allocate more resources to the sector, reduce the losses that electricity suppliers suffer, and increase the current generation capacity, said Veronica Lojan, an adviser to the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

The law will base electricity tariffs on real prices. It was sent to the National Congress for deliberation and approval on 22 November.

The reform the government is envisaging would allow the Ministry of Economy and Finance to find new funding sources and set up a mechanism and a timetable for paying off tariff arrears.

Regional leader the Andean Development Corporation has offered Ecuador 250 million US dollars and 165 million dollars in separate credits so far, according to Donald Castillo, president of the National Energy Control Centre.

Castillo urged the National Congress to pass the law, saying it would save the electricity sector.

MNA/Xinhua

Telecom Egypt offers 20% of stake for sale

CAIRO, 30 Nov—Egypt's oldest fixed-line operator Telecom Egypt (TE) on Tuesday offered 20 per cent of its total shares for sale to public and private subscriptions, the Egyptian Gazette reported.

The 20 per cent of its total stake, about 341 million shares, will be sold in equal portions to public and private investors. The public offer will be sold in the Cairo and Alexandria Stock Exchange (CASE), while the private offer will be sold through both CASE and the London Stock Exchange.

TE Chairman Okel Bashir said the public subscriptions are allowed to purchase 10,000 shares in maximum and 100 shares in minimum with book value of a maximum 14.8 Egyptian pounds (2.6 US dollars) for each share. The maximum for private subscription is 17 million shares while the

minimum is no less than one million. The government aims to raise money by selling part of shares to improve TE governance, expand CASE operations and pump more fund for the state budget, Minister of Communications and Information Technology

Tarek Kamel was quoted as saying. TE has 10.3 million subscribers, the biggest client base in the Middle East and Africa, covering 95 per cent of Egypt, while the remaining 5 per cent will be covered by a wireless network.—MNA/Xinhua

Boat, ship collision in Vietnam kills 4

HANOI, 1 Dec — A cargo ship and a passenger boat crashed into each other in Vietnam's northern Nam Dinh province, killing four local people and left two others missing, the Vietnam News Agency reported Thursday.

Four women in the aged bracket of 35-53 died after the boat with 19 people on board was capsized in Dao River, in Truc Nam district. By Thursday morning, the four bodies had been found. Rescuers are searching for two other women aged 28 and 46 missing.

All of the victims were from the overloaded boat. Local police are probing into the accident's cause. Vietnam experienced 12,115 traffic accidents with 9,472 fatalities and 10,192 injuries in the first 10 months of this year, posting respective year-on-year decreases of 17.9 percent, 6.3 percent and 22.8 percent.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia searches investment opportunities in palm oil overseas

KUALA LUMPUR, 30 Nov— Malaysia will send fact-finding teams to explore investment opportunities in palm oil-related activities overseas, especially in those countries that have the similar climate, a senior official said here on Tuesday.

The teams would facilitate Malaysia's Government linked-corporations and plantation companies to invest overseas, including engaging in negotiations with potential investors abroad, Malaysian Plantation Industries and Commodities Minister Peter Chin Fah Kui said.

tries, including creating joint ventures overseas, he said during a tour to Klang, a port west of Kuala Lumpur.

Malaysia is one of the biggest palm oil producers in the world and it is keen to send its teams to friendly countries, he added.

It was reported that some countries, such as Colombia, Bolivia and Sierre Leone, had asked Malaysia to help them develop their palm oil industries.—MNA/Xinhua

DRIVE WITH CARE

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲ ပြုတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Vietnam considers \$40,000 bail for rocker Glitter

HO CHI MINH CITY (Vietnam), 30 Nov— Vietnam is considering releasing British rocker Gary Glitter, who has been charged with child molestation, on bail but he will not be allowed to leave the country, a state official said on Tuesday.

"It is likely we will let him have bail and he can stay anywhere in Vietnam pending his trial," the official from the southern province of Ba Ria Vung Tau told Reuters.

The official, who declined to be identified, said 40,000 US dollars was the maximum bail stipulated under Vietnamese law. But Le Thanh Kinh, Glitter's lawyer, said that the 1970s rock icon would be held for at least one more month in a detention centre in Vung Tau for questioning before any bail was granted.

Last week, Vietnamese police charged 61-year-old Glitter, whose real name is Paul Francis Gadd, with "engaging in perverse activities with children" and had ordered him to remain in custody pending a three-

month investigation. Glitter has denied allegations he molested girls as young as 12 and insists he was just helping them with their English.

The age of consent in the communist southeast Asian nation is 16 and sex with minors is punishable by up to 12 years in jail.

Authorities have not given details of their investigations, but state-run newspapers said last week police had identified 10 girls who admitted to having had sex with Glitter.

One of the girls was 12 years old. Glitter was sentenced to four months in jail in Britain in 1999 after being found guilty of storing more than 4,000 images of child pornography on the hard drive of his computer.

After his release, he left Britain for Cuba and then later turned up in Phnom Penh. Child rights activists hounded him out of Cambodia twice and had his name put on an entry blacklist, although Glitter filed lawsuits last year fighting the deportation orders. Glitter had been in Vietnam for about a year, according to newspapers.

MNA/Reuters



Actor Tom Cruise poses for the press at the end of a news conference promoting his new film in Shanghai on 30 Nov, 2005. Cruise filmed part of his movie 'Mission Impossible III' in Xitang, a town near Shanghai in China's Zhejiang Province. INTERNET

Ugandan President calls on West to open markets

KAMPALA, 30 Nov— Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has called upon the developed countries to open up their markets for African products.

The President was on Monday opening the 7th East African Jua Kali exhibition that brought together over 500 artisans at the Uganda Manufac-

tures Association show ground at Lugogo in Kampala.

Museveni said that while in Malta for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, he met British Prime Minister Tony Blair and they discussed trade issues.

"I have talked to some of the leaders from the West to stop being hypocrites and fully open their markets for the African products.

I told them even when we met in Malta for the Commonwealth meeting," Museveni was quoted as saying by the state-owned newspaper,

the *New Vision* on Tuesday. Museveni called on the business community to stop demanding for what does not benefit them like politics.

"The problem with Africans is that we do not see things properly. We are disoriented. People are demanding for ministerial positions for their regions.

They should ask for peace because they will be able to operate well. It is during this peaceful time that there would be an effective judicial system so that matters are settled in time and at a low cost," said Museveni.

He urged them to

demand for market within the country, continent and globally.

African business community to inform their governments about trade barriers that include high power tariffs, high interest rates and transport costs. He called for reduction of Custom procedure at the borders.

The exhibition is an annual event started in 1999 in Arusha, Tanzania to mark the East African Community treaty and has since rotated around its three East African member countries, namely Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya.

MNA/Xinhua

AMED Working Group meeting held in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 30 Nov— The Asia-Middle East Dialogue (AMED) Working Group on the Social, Educational, Scientific, Cultural, Environmental and Media Issues is holding its first meeting in Singapore from Sunday to Tuesday.

Co-chaired by Jordan and Singapore, the meeting brought together 112 participants from 31 countries, according to a statement by the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Issues addressed in the meeting include human resource development and media,

promoting cooperation in science, technology and research, as well as tradition and modernity.

The working group aims to foster closer government-to-government and people-to-people cooperation in the above-mentioned fields and to produce

collaborative initiatives to benefit both regions, the statement said.

The inaugural AMED meeting, held in Singapore in June this year, was attended by over 200 delegates from about 40 countries and regions in both Asia and the Middle East.— MNA/Xinhua



Earthquake survivors cross a damaged bridge over Neelum River in the village of Phutticka, about 15 km (9.3 miles) northeast of Muzaffarabad, capital of Pakistan-administered Kashmir on 30 Nov, 2005.—INTERNET

Thailand soon to become bird flu free zone

BANGKOK, 1 Dec— The Thai Government will soon declare Thailand as a bird flu free zone with no more poultry in the kingdom infected with H5N1 avian flu virus.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives reported the latest bird flu situation to the Cabinet at its weekly meeting here on Tuesday, saying that there is now only one area in the kingdom which is under a close surveillance on an avian flu outbreak, reported the *Thai News Agency* on Wednesday.

The only area under the state close observation is Wat Chalok Sub-district in Bang Kruey District of Nonthaburi Province on the outskirts of Bangkok, Thai Government spokesman Surapong Suebwonglee was quoted by the agency as saying.

"If there is no more H5N1 virus found among poultry flocks in the sole observation area after November 29, all parts of Thailand will be free from bird flu outbreaks and the country can be declared a bird flu free zone," Dr. Surapong said with Thailand's success in containing three avian flu outbreaks so far.— MNA/Xinhua

S Korea boat sinks after collision; 13 missing

SEOUL, 1 Dec — Thirteen South Korean fishermen are missing after their vessel collided with a Malaysian cargo ship just off the southwestern coast of the Korean peninsula and sank, a rescue official said on Thursday.

One person was plucked from the sea by a passing fishing boat, but the others were missing

three hours after the collision, a coast guard officer said by telephone.

"We'll have to see, but the situation is not good," he said.

South Korea's *Yonhap* news agency said the other ship involved was the Malaysia-registered Bung Mas Lapan.

MNA/Reuters

Don't smoke

SPORTS

Sociedad survival hangs on successful share issue

MADRID, 1 Dec — Primera Liga side Real Sociedad say that unless they can raise additional capital through the successful issue of new shares the club will disappear.

"If this plan is not approved, we will be obliged by law to dissolve the club," Sociedad president Miguel Fuentes was quoted as saying on the club's website on Wednesday.

"We believe that a share issue is the best way

to ensure the future of the institution."

The club announced at the start of last month that the board of directors had inherited a debt of close to 31 million euros (36.5 million US dollars) when they took charge in the close season.

Fuentes said the board hoped to raise 6.7 million euros (7.8 million US dollars) through the share issue which would take place over the course of the next year.

According to the proposals no one individual will be allowed to control more than two percent of the capital of the club.

Fuentes also announced that the price of season tickets would be increased by an average of 25 per cent in order to help cover costs for next season.

Sociedad, who are based in the Basque city of San Sebastian, are one of Spain's most historic clubs.

Founded in 1909, they won back-to-back league championships in 1981 and 1982 and were pipped to the title by Real Madrid on the final day of the season in 2003. They are now in 10th place in the league standings.

MNA/Reuters

Dudek may leave Liverpool to secure World Cup spot

WARSAW, 1 Dec — Poland goalkeeper Jerzy Dudek may leave Liverpool in January in search of first team football to help him win back his international place before next year's World Cup finals.

The 32-year-old, whose heroics in a penalty shoot-out against AC Milan won last year's Champions League final for Liverpool, has spent the last four months playing number two to Spain's Jose Reina on Merseyside.

According to the *Gazeta Wyborcza* newspaper, Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez told Dudek on Tuesday that he wanted the Pole to stay with the European champions but would not play him unless Reina was ruled out by injury or a loss of form.

"I told him that solution does not interest me," the paper quoted Dudek as saying in an interview due to be published in full on Thursday. "I don't want to be counting on an injury to a colleague and that he places me in a tough situation.

"I played most of Poland's matches in qualifying for the World Cup but if I don't play for my club I could wind up not going to the finals. For me this would be a disaster."

Artur Boruc drew wide praise when filling in for the injured Dudek in Poland's last World Cup qualifiers in September and October. Most commentators think the Celtic goalkeeper is likely to be coach Pawel Janas's first choice for Germany.

Dudek joined Liverpool from Dutch side Feyenoord in 2001. — MNA/Reuters



Myanmar's Myint Myint Aye, second from right, takes the hand-off from team mate Yin Yin Khine during the women's 4 x 400-metre relay final at the 23rd Southeast Asian (SEA) Games in Manila, on Wednesday, 30 Nov, 2005. Myanmar took the gold in the event. — INTERNET

German coach hit by bobsleigh, fractures legs

CESANA (Italy), 1 Dec — Germany's head bobsleigh coach suffered multiple fractures after he was hit at high speed during a practice session for the Winter Olympics on Wednesday.

Raimund Bethge, Germany's most successful bob coach, was standing on the track in the Alpine village of Cesana when an Australian two-man bob ran over him on curve nine.

Bethge was flown to San Giovanni Bosco hospital in Turin which said he had suffered injuries to the head and both legs. Media reported Bethge had been operated on.

Games organisers TOROC said Bethge was on the ice 30 minutes after it should have been cleared for the first practice run of the day.

The accident had echoes of Germany's preparation for the 1994 Winter Games in Lillehammer when the then-head luge coach Sepp Lenz was hit in Winterberg. He lost his left leg below the knee.

"For the German team this is a catastrophe. It's a real blow because Raimund was in charge of everything and he's led the team to victory for 15 years," former German bob champion and television commentator Christoph Langen said.

The bob and luge events are traditionally one of Germany's strengths at Winter Games. At Salt Lake City in 2002, they won the men's four- and two-man bob gold medals, plus gold, silver and bronze in the women's individual luge. Hopes were high for similar success at the Turin Olympics, which run from February 10 to 26.

Bethge, who had to give up his own career in 1979 after a serious bus crash, has run the team since 1990.

The women's team stopped training after the accident but planned to hit the ice in the afternoon. "The boss is missing and it's a terrible shock," said team physiotherapist Bernd Fischer.

At test events earlier this year at the Cesana track, several teams crashed and injured themselves, including Brazilian Renato Mizoguchi who suffered serious head injuries and was in hospital for more than a month. — MNA/Reuters



Golden State Warriors' Mike Dunleavy is fouled by Sacramento Kings' Brad Miller while attempting a shot during the first quarter in Oakland, Calif, on Wednesday, 30 Nov, 2005. The Warriors won 113-106. — INTERNET

O'Leary says Villa did not deserve cup progress

LONDON, 1 Dec — Premier League Aston Villa, humiliated 3-0 at third division Doncaster Rovers in the League Cup on Tuesday, did not deserve to progress to the quarter-finals, according to manager David O'Leary.

The Irishman complained about a couple of penalty decisions but otherwise conceded his team had not merited a place in the last eight of one of two competitions which offer the club a realistic path to European football for next season.

"I did have words with one or two individuals," the Villa manager told the club's website. "But what I had to say will stay in the dressing room. What matters now is how we react to this.

"Make no mistake, we wanted to do well in this competition. We went to Doncaster looking to win and progress through to the quarter-finals.

"But we didn't deserve to and, as I said immediately after the game, one or two key decisions went against us on the night."

Victories over Sunderland and Charlton in their last two Premier League matches have caused optimism that the club can dig themselves out of the doldrums.

The club are 15th but travel to 12th-placed Newcastle United this weekend, sixth-placed Bolton Wanderers the week after before hosting second-placed Manchester United on 17 December.

"We've picked up in the league in the last few weeks and we have to maintain that now. We've got two very difficult away games at Newcastle and Bolton, before Manchester United come to our place," O'Leary added.

"So we don't really have time to feel sorry for ourselves. We have to focus on a very difficult game at Newcastle this weekend." — MNA/Reuters

Helguera extends deal with Real until 2009

MADRID, 1 Dec — Defender Ivan Helguera has extended his contract with Real Madrid until 2009, the Primera Liga side said on Wednesday.

The 30-year-old centre-back, whose original deal was due to expire in June 2006, followed in the footsteps of goalkeeper Iker Casillas who committed himself to the club until 2011 just a few hours earlier.

Helguera, who can also play in midfield, has been a fixture in the first team since joining Real Madrid from Espanyol in 1999, winning two league titles and two European Cups.

The Cantabrian first caught the eye while playing for second division Albacete in the 1996-97 campaign and made a surprise move to AS Roma the following season.

However, he failed to make his mark in Italy and returned to Spain to sign for Espanyol a year later having made just nine appearances in the Serie A.

Helguera quickly recaptured his form for the Barcelona-based side and made the move to Real Madrid in 1999 where he quickly became a regular in the first team, first as a midfielder and then as a centre-back.

Renowned for speaking his mind, Helguera has voiced his criticisms of the club's big-name recruitment policy but has become a favourite at the Bernabeu for his committed, never-say-die performances in the Real back four.

He has won 47 caps for Spain, but was dropped by coach Luis Aragones for the World Cup qualifier against Belgium in October 2004 and has faded out of the reckoning for a place in the national squad for Germany 2006.

MNA/Reuters

Iran terms nuclear talks under threat as meaningless

TEHERAN, 1 Dec— A top Iranian negotiator has said nuclear negotiations with the European Union (EU) will be meaningless as long as the EU threatens to refer Iran's case to the UN Security Council, the English-language daily *Teheran Times* reported on Wednesday.

"It would be ridiculous for Iran to engage in the next round of nuclear talks with the European trio (of Britain, France and Germany) under the threat of referral to the United Nations Security Council," Javad

Vaeedi, deputy secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, was quoted as saying.

"As long as the Europeans keep bringing up the 24 September International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) resolution, the process of negotiations is unnatural and continuing the talks would be pointless," Vaeedi added.

The IAEA resolution urges Iran to re-suspend all activities related to uranium enrichment, warning a rejection could mean a referral of its case to the

UN Security Council.

Vaeedi indicated that providing an objective guarantee for the production of nuclear fuel in Iran would be "the main and only subject of the nuclear negotiations" with the EU.

The European trio on Sunday officially informed Iran that they had agreed to resume nuclear talks in December, which have been stranded since Iran in early August resumed uranium conversion activities, a precursor to uranium enrichment.

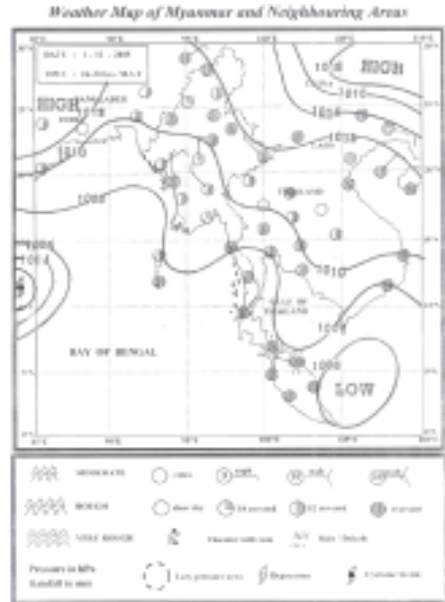
Vaeedi confirmed that the next round of

negotiations would be held in December but said the exact time and location of the talks had not been decided.

The IAEA's board of governors decided to postpone the referral of Iran's case last Thursday in order to offer more time for Teheran and the EU to discuss a Russian proposal, which allows Iran to conduct uranium conversion activities on condition that the enrichment stage be moved to Russia.

Iran has categorically rejected the suggestion of enrichment abroad.

MNA/Xinhua



Afghan men work in a brick kiln in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 27 Nov, 2005. The workers make a thousand bricks during their work day and earn about four dollars per day. —INTERNET



Friday, 2 December
View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာဟာရဋ္ဌဂုဏ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိတ၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဂါရိတ၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. အတီးဖြည့်ပွဲ

8:00 am

6. The mirror images of musical oldies

8:10 am

7. အကဖြည့်ပွဲ

8:15 am

8. သံလွင်မြစ်နဒီကန်စုပေါင်းပေးစီ

8:25 am

9. အတီးဖြည့်ပွဲ

8:30 am

10. International news

8:45 am

11. English for Everyday Use

2:20 pm

1. (၂၃)ကြိမ်မြောက်အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ အားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲအားလုံး ဖြည့်ပွဲ(အမျိုးသား) တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ် (ပထမအကြိမ်လဲလှယ်) (ထိုင်း၊ နှင့် အင်ဒိုနီးရှား)

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. အကဖြည့်ပွဲ

4:40 pm

4. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေဘူမိရှင်

5:20 pm

5. (၂၃)ကြိမ်မြောက်အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ အားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲအားလုံး ဖြည့်ပွဲ(အမျိုးသား) တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ် (ဒုတိယအကြိမ်လဲလှယ်) (ဇီကာကန်၊ နှင့် မလေးရှား)

7:15 pm

6. အဆိုဖြည့်ပွဲ

7:25 pm

7. Song of yesteryears

7:40 pm

8. အတီးဖြည့်ပွဲ

8:00 pm

9. News

10. International news.

11. Weather report.

12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းလွှဲ

"မမေ့အဖွဲ့" (အပိုင်း-၃၄)

13. The next day's programme



Friday, 2 December
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music:
-Super natural - Solitude

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music:
You'll be in my heart
- Phil Collin

8:50 am National news / Slogan

9:00 am Music:
Rymes with
-Lila Mccann

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music
Boombastic love
-Britney Spears

1:30 pm News / Slogan

1:40 pm Lunch time music
One love
-Blur

Give it all up
-The Corrs

9:00 pm World of Music songs from
-Brunei, Com-bodia, Loas, China, Vietnam

9:10 pm Article

9:30 pm Music at your request
Sweet dreams
-Alex Butcher

It's your love
-Natural

9:45 pm News / Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Prime Minister sends felicitations to LPDR

YANGON, 2 Dec— On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2005, General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Bounnhang Vorachit, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. — MNA

Prime Minister sends felicitations to UAE

YANGON, 2 Dec— General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Maktoum Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates, which falls on 2 December 2005.

MNA

Organized businesses facilitate capital...

(from page 16)

Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Chin State PDC Chairman Col Tin Hla also gave supplementary reports.

After hearing reports, the Prime Minister discussed the state's accomplishments and prospects for the development of the state.

Next, the Prime Minister and party inspected the 150-bed district hospital.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Soe Win went to the tea plantation in Falam and inspected the mixed cropping plantation. A total of 1,577 acres were put under tea in Falam Township.

During the inspection tour, the Prime Minister went to vocational training school of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs in Falam and viewed works of the trainees.

(See page 8)



Prime Minister General Soe Win oversees tea plantations of Chin State USDA and departments concerned near Haka-Falam Road.— MNA



INSIDE

Ninety per cent of Myanmar's population is Buddhists, the people who are brought up under the teachings of Buddha. Thus, they are gentle people living in the land where loving kindness and sympathy flourishes.

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TEKKATHO MYAT THU

Matters related to National Convention clarified

YANGON, 1 Dec — The National Convention Convening Commission met with Ambassadors and Charges d'Affaires of foreign missions in Yangon and clarified matters related to reconvening the National Convention, at the hall of the commission in Kyaikkasan Grounds, here, at 10 am today.

It was attended by Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Secretary Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Commission members Attorney-General U Aye Maung, U Thauang Nyunt and Joint-

Secretary-1 Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Ambassadors and Charges d'Affaires of foreign missions in Yangon, departmental heads of the Ministry of Information and the Ministry of For-

eign Affairs, and officials.

After extending greetings, NCCC Vice-Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe clarified the organizing of the coordination meeting on the

National Convention prior to the 1993 National Convention, the six objectives of the National Convention, discussions at the National Conventions from 1993 to 1996, adjourn-

ing of the National Convention, the National Convention held from 17 May to 9 July 2004 and points of discussions, delegates who attended the National Convention in 2004, the National

Convention held from 17 February to 31 March 2005 and point of discussions, and the National Convention to be reconvened on 5 December 2005 and future tasks.

(See page 11)



NCCC Vice-Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe clarifies matters concerning convening of the National Convention.— MNA