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

Myanmar wushu team bags two more silver medals

YANGON, 8 Nov — Myanmar Wushu team bagged two more silver medals in Hsanso competition after the final day match of 7th World Wushu Championship held in Macao today.

In the men’s 48 kilo division of Hsanso competition, Thim Huak Oo (Defence) of Myanmar won silver medal, the Philippines gold and host Macao and Yemen bronze respectively. In the women’s 40 kilo division, Ma Thin Za Soe (VCDC) of Myanmar won silver medal, China gold and Vietnam and the Philippines bronze respectively.

After the final day match, Myanmar Wushu team fetched two gold, four silver and two-grade-4 and one-grade-5 certificates of honour. In the championship, Myanmar stood fifth place among the prize winning countries.

Devotees perform meritorious deeds at famous pagodas, monasteries in Yangon

YANGON, 8 Nov — The famous pagodas, monasteries and religious buildings in Yangon were crowded with devotees performing meritorious deeds today, Full Moon Day of Tazaungmon.

Thet Ma Thein Thingan Weaving Competition, organized by Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees, was held at the Yalu Corner (north-west corner) of the platform of the pagoda this morning. Present on the occasion were members of the pagoda board of trustees, religious and social organizations, wellwishers and pilgrims.

Wellwishers donated K810,000 for presenting cash prizes to the winning teams. (See page 2)
For boosting agricultural production

Being an agric-based nation Myanmar must promote her agriculture sector radically. Only then will the national economic life make progress. With this concept the State is laying emphasis on boosting agricultural production as one of the national duties.

For the economic development of the State, special attention is to be paid to agriculture and meat and fish sectors. Rakhine State is one of the states and divisions that contribute much towards the State’s economy.

On 1 November, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence inspected construction of Nayikan Bridge on Yangon-Sittway road and regional development tasks. During his inspection tour of Rakhine State, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with officials, members of social organizations, townswell and local people and discussed matters relating to peace and tranquility of the State, law enforcement and making efforts for extension of agriculture and livestock breeding sector in Rakhine State thereby contributing to the State’s economy.

Now is the time when efforts are being made by laying down plans systematically for boosting agriculture and livestock breeding tasks. In Rakhine State, people are enjoying surplus rice and there are favourable condition to extend the sown acreage.

At present, it is targeted to put 1.2 million acres under monsoon paddy in Rakhine State. In line with the target, local organizations and farmers are to strive for reclaiming more land to extend paddy sown acreage. Moreover, they are to strive to meet the target that is to put under 30,000 acres of land under summer paddy.

Farmers are to embark on an ambitious programme of growing not only monsoon and summer paddy but also beans and pulses, edible oil crops and new items of crops on a manageable scale together with conducting livestock breeding tasks.

As regards growing beans and pulses, all sorts of the crops that are suitable to the region should be grown.

In Rakhine State, fresh water and sea prawn breeding tasks are being carried out on a wide scale. In the past, there were only about 30,000 acres of land under summer paddy.

Religious verses on Thamanna Phala Sutta were recited, followed by sharing of merits.

The 13th Matho Thingan offering ceremony was held at the Shwephonepawg Pagoda in Pazan township this morning. Present on the occasion were Minister for Information, Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, officials, members of the pagoda board of trustees, wellwishers, Wut associations and lay persons. The minister, Shwekyin Monastery Ovadacariya Pahtama Shwekyin Monastery Sayawd Amin Sumana deivered a sermon on Sila (precepts). Those present shared merits gained. Matho Thingans were offered to the Buddha image at the pagoda. Similarly, such pagodas in Yangon as Kohatgyi, Chaukhtatgyi, Ngahtatgyi, Melamu, Moguang, Yangon Amsra, Okkalapa Myou, Dagon Myou, Kyakkakal and Kyaiakalle were doing meritorious deeds at religious buildings, Yangon Zoological Gardens, Hlawga Wildlife Park, Kandawgyi Gardens, Inya Lake, the People’s Square and People’s Park, amusement parks and playgrounds were bustling with holiday-makers. — MNA

Devotes perform meritorious deeds...

(from page 1)

The pagoda was bustling with devout laity the whole day. Among them, some practiced meditation while some offered flowers, water, lights and cash to the pagoda. In the evening, Sunday Sanitation Team offered 9,000 lights to the pagoda.

The eighth Matho Thingan Weaving Contest took place at Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda this morning. The pagoda board trustees and wellwishers offered the Matho Thingans to 29 Buddha images. They offered “soon” to Sayadaws. They also presented robes and offerings to members of the Sangha. Next, merits gained were shared.

The pagoda board of trustees also organized Thamanna Phala Sutta Day (Day of members of Buddhist Order) observing ceremony at the prayer hall of the pagoda at 7 am today.

The ceremony was held at the pagoda. The pagoda board trustees presented prizes to the winning teams. The 24th Matho Thingan Weaving and Offering Ceremony was held at the Kyaiakalan Pagoda in Thinganpun Township, Yangon. It was attended by the mayor of the town, a member of the pagoda board of trustees, wellwishers, Wut associations and lay persons.

The minister, Shwekyin Monastery Ovadacariya Pahtama Shwekyin Monastery Sayawd Amin Sumana deivered a sermon on Sila (precepts). Those present shared merits gained. Matho Thingans were offered to the Buddha image at the pagoda. Similarly, such pagodas in Yangon as Kohatgyi, Chaukhtatgyi, Ngahtatgyi, Melamu, Moguang, Yangon Arnsra, Okkalapa Myou, Dagon Myou, Kyakkakal and Kyaiakalle were doing meritorious deeds at religious buildings, Yangon Zoological Gardens, Hlawga Wildlife Park, Kandawgyi Gardens, Inya Lake, the People’s Square and People’s Park, amusement parks and playgrounds were bustling with holiday-makers. — MNA

Shwemyaya Invitational Hockey Cup held

YANGON, 8 Nov. — The prize presentation ceremony of Shwemyaya Invitational Hockey Cup (Men/Women) jointly organized by Myanmar Hockey Federation and Ngapali Enterprise was held at Theinbyu hockey pitch this evening. The Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Birgn-Thura Aye Myint presented prizes to winners.

It was attended by President of MHF Commander of No 2 Military Region Commandant of Defence Services Records Office Birgn-Myo Myint and executives, Director-General U Thaung Htaik and officials of the Sports and Physical Education Department, guests and enthusiasts.

Before the ceremony, Defence Services Records Office Team-A and Team-B competed for the championship for the men’s open event. The minister pre- sided the championship for men’s open event to De- fense Services Records Office Team-B.

After the prize presentation, Birgn-Myo Myint presented a commemorative gift to Managing Director U Myint Naing of Ngapali Enterprise.— MNA

Prize-winners in oral examination of Abhidhamma and Buddha Dhamma Teachings

YANGON, 8 Nov. — A ceremony to present prizes and certificates of honour to the students who had won the oral examination of Abhidhamma and Buddha Dhamma Teachings for the year 2002, organized by Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Yangon) of Education and Training Department under the Ministry of National Races and Development Affairs was held at Tiger Parahita School for National Races Development and offered provisions to members of the Sangha. Next, Minister Col Thein Nyunt made a speech on the occasion. The minister and heads of departments presented souvenirs to teach- ers. The directors-general of the departments presented prizes to other winners. — MNA

Minister for Sports Birgn-Thura Aye Myint presents a prize to a winning team. — MNA
**India, Iran agree to work together to fight terrorism**

NEW DELHI, 8 Nov—India and Iran have agreed to pursue joint strategies for peace and international stability and work together to combat global terrorism.

The matter came up during a meeting between an Indian parliamentary delegation led by Lok Sabha Speaker Manohar Joshi and his counterpart in Iran’s Majlis, Mehdi Kharroubi, in Tehran, a Le Monde report said Tuesday.

Both speakers said the two democracies could cooperate in the Inner-Parliamentary Union to work out joint strategies for peace and international stability and eradicate terrorism, as it had no place in a civilized society.

**India emphasizes free flow of N-power technology, equipment**

UNITED NATIONS, 8 Nov—India has asked industrialized nations to “shed the baggage inherited” from the past and allow flow of equipment and technology related to peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the interest of the peoples of developing countries.

Whenever there are no genuine concerns, barriers to deployment of nuclear technologies need to be examined and brought down through pragmatic approach, India’s representative B. Mahtab, told the General Assembly.

Participating in the debate on the report of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), he said growth of nuclear energy in the developing countries, particularly in fast growing economies with large populations, should be a matter of global interest in view of its potential to protect the Earth from irreversible climate changes.

“We must move towards a more peaceful and prosperous world on the basis of plenty of energy available within the reach of all. Mindless controls without addressing the core issue of meeting development aspiration of the needy do not help the situation: rather it makes matters worse,” he told the 191-member Assembly.

Emphasizing India’s commitment to work against proliferation of nuclear weapons, Mahtab said looking from the perspective of a large and growing economy like India, with its small hydrocarbon and depleting coals reserves, the development of nuclear energy based on closed cycle approach enabling fuller use of uranium and thorium is the only way to meet the development aspiration of more than a billion people.

India, therefore, is pursuing a comprehensive R and D programme to explore newer technologies to widen the scope of nuclear energy use, he added.

“Today, we are on a fast-track growth, backed by strong research and development programme, industrial and safety infrastructure,” he said.

Detailing India’s plan to increase production of nuclear power, Mahtab said two billion people are projected to be added in the subsequent 20 years.

Virtually all increase would be in the developing countries, particularly in fast growing economies with large populations, he said.

The core challenge for development would thus be to ensure availability of productive work opportunities and access to basic services, he stressed. Referring to steep disparity of incomes between rich and the poor nations, he said availability of energy within the reach of everyone could significantly correct the situation.

**India, Iran agree to work together to fight terrorism**
Malaysian PM urges local governments to cut red tape

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 Nov—Malaysian new Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi Thursday directed local governments at state level to set up task forces to reduce bureaucracy.

The directive was given at a meeting of chief ministers from various states chaired for the first time by Abdullah as Prime Minister at the Prime Minister’s office in Putrajaya, south of Kuala Lumpur.

“The instruction is based on the government’s aspiration to raise the quality of the civil service so that it becomes smoother and more efficient,” said a statement issued by the Prime Minister’s office after the meeting. Abdullah also instructed the chief ministers and state secretaries to make proposals to Chief Secretary to the Government of Malaysia Osman Onn on the revamp of government front-line agencies.

UN to seek $9b to fight “AIDS” in third world

GENEVA, 8 Nov—A major anti-AIDS drive needs up to 9 billion US dollars to ensure that half of the six million people in developing countries needing treatment for HIV can get it by 2005, a senior UN health official said on Thursday.

The World Health Organization (WHO) will be other international agencies and non-governmental organizations and probably major drug manufacturing companies, he said.

“We are already late. We cannot go on waiting for social and economic change in developing countries to tackle this problem,” said Teixeira, hailed as the maestro of Brazil’s campaign against HIV and AIDS.

“Our eventual aim is that some day there will be free and universal access to ARV for everyone suffering from HIV and AIDS,” said Teixeira, who moved to the WHO to spearhead the global fight against the scourge. Also speaking at the two-year programme

Chinese archaeologists will make thorough surveys and the distribution of ancient tombs in the area. Using high-technology means, said Zhu Liang, head of the No. 2 Archaeological Work Team of Luoyang City, which is responsible for the current investigation and exploration.

The forum on desertification control is part of China’s first desert industry expo, which opened Thursday and will last three days. The expo will attract more enterprises to desertification control, Liu Tuo, a sand control official with SFA, said. A total of 142 enterprises involving in forestry, environment, water conservation, agriculture and the petroleum industry, from 22 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions will take part in the expo.

Putin vows to crack down on all illegal activity

The “JC Collection” will make its debut in Guangzhou, the capital of China’s southern province of Guangdong, on 6 Nov, 2003. The “JC Collection” will make its debut in China in 2004.

The date of the tombs ranges from the Eastern Zhou Dynasty (770 BC-256 BC) to the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Owing to wind and rainwater erosion and damage caused by human activities, the number of tombs that have surface signs has declined to less than 400 from the former 600 in the early years following the founding of New China in 1949.

Hundreds demonstrate in Baghdad, demand US leave Iraq

BAGHDAD, 8 Nov—About 500 people demonstrated outside the Baghdad headquarters of the US-led coalition, demanding that American troops leave Iraq and free Sunni Muslims they say have been arrested.

The demonstrators chanted “USA, go away!” before praying Friday outside the coalition compound.

“We want them to release personnel from our mosques and to leave our country,” said Sheikh Abdul Sattar al-Janabi, who wanted to be received by a coalition official.

Religious leaders wanted to present a text demanding “the release of Sunni religious people, the arrest of those who kill Sunni and the end of the harassment of Sunnis by occupation forces.”

Opposition to the US-led occupation comes predominantly from Iraq’s Sunni population, which was in power under deposed president Saddam Hussein, and is concentrated in areas north and west of Baghdad where most anti-coalition attacks have taken place.

The demonstration was called by the Superior Islamic Institute which operates under Saddam’s old party but is believed to be part of the new Iraqi order al-Sumaidy.

Massive project launched for better protection of ancient tombs

ZHUZHOU, 8 Nov—China has launched a mammoth project designed to protect hundreds of ancient tombs in the Mount Mangshan area of Luoyang City in central China’s Henan Province.

Chinese archaeologists will make thorough surveys and the distribution of ancient tombs in the area. Using high-technology means, said Zhu Liang, head of the No. 2 Archaeological Work Team of Luoyang City, which is responsible for the current investigation and exploration.

The forum on desertification control is part of China’s first desert industry expo, which opened Thursday and will last three days.

The expo will attract more enterprises to desertification control, Liu Tuo, a sand control official with SFA, said. A total of 142 enterprises involving in forestry, environment, water conservation, agriculture and the petroleum industry, from 22 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions will take part in the expo.

Putin vows to crack down on all illegal activity

The “JC Collection” will make its debut in Guangzhou, the capital of China’s southern province of Guangdong, on 6 Nov, 2003. The “JC Collection” will make its debut in China in 2004.

The date of the tombs ranges from the Eastern Zhou Dynasty (770 BC-256 BC) to the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Owing to wind and rainwater erosion and damage caused by human activities, the number of tombs that have surface signs has declined to less than 400 from the former 600 in the early years following the founding of New China in 1949.

Putin spoke after EU officials said they wanted reassurances after the arrest of YUKOS <YUKO.RTS> head Mikhail Khodorkovsky two weeks ago and the freezing by prosecutors of a large stake in the oil giant.

Hong Kong actor Jackie Chan displays his T-shirt at a gala to promote his fashion collection, in Guangzhou, the capital of China’s southern province of Guangdong, on 6 Nov, 2003. The “JC Collection” will make its debut in China in 2004.

The date of the tombs ranges from the Eastern Zhou Dynasty (770 BC-256 BC) to the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Owing to wind and rainwater erosion and damage caused by human activities, the number of tombs that have surface signs has declined to less than 400 from the former 600 in the early years following the founding of New China in 1949.

Putin spoke after EU officials said they wanted reassurances after the arrest of YUKOS <YUKO.RTS> head Mikhail Khodorkovsky two weeks ago and the freezing by prosecutors of a large stake in the oil giant.

Hong Kong actor Jackie Chan displays his T-shirt at a gala to promote his fashion collection, in Guangzhou, the capital of China’s southern province of Guangdong, on 6 Nov, 2003. The “JC Collection” will make its debut in China in 2004.
US FACES INTENSIFIED RESISTANCE IN IRAQ

Blackhawk down in Iraq, six US soldiers killed

BAGHDAD, 8 Nov—Six US soldiers were killed when a Blackhawk helicopter was “forced down” in northern Iraq and another died in a separate attack as Turkey announced it was abandoning plans to send troops to help its beleaguered US ally.

The bloodshed that has become the daily norm here also claimed the life of another US soldier in Mosul and an Iraqi woman northeast of the capital as Washington readied plans to trim its troop strength in the strife-torn country.

The six soldiers, all from the 101st Airborne Division, were killed when the Blackhawk came down outside an American base near Saddam Hussein’s hometown of Tikrit, a hotbed of anti-US sentiment.

The downing came less than a week after a Chinook transport helicopter was shot down by a ground-fired missile near the flashpoint western town of Fallujah, killing 16 soldiers and wounding 26.

“The total number of people on board was six. All six have died,” said Major Josselyn Aberle, a spokeswoman for the 4th Infantry Division in Tikrit, 180 kilometers (110 miles) north of Baghdad.

“They were all from the 101st Airborne Division. They were in a Blackhawk helicopter transporting personnel from Mosul to Tikrit on a routine flight. The cause is still being investigated."

Aberle said that officials were looking into reports that loud booms were heard just before the Blackhawk went down.

Witnesses were adamant the aircraft had been knocked out of the sky.

“I saw one of the helicopters shot from the side and I saw smoke and a ball of fire. I felt happy,” said Saqr Ghani, who like many here celebrated the setback for the US-led occupation.

“I then ran to the car and immediately headed to the river bank where I saw the helicopter cut in two pieces .”

A farmer, Abu Ahmad, said he had heard a loud blast and saw smoking rising from where the helicopter crashed.

US army Specialist Bryan Speckler suggested the attack was similar to the downing of a Blackhawk by a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) on October 25 just outside Tikrit.

A US Army Apache helicopter flies over an Abrams tank guarding the entrance to the crash site of a Black Hawk helicopter, in the northern Iraq town of Tikrit, November 7, 2003. The helicopter crashed near Saddam Hussein’s hometown in Iraq on Friday, killing six people on board, and US soldiers said it had been probably been shot down with a rocket-propelled grenade. —INTERNET
Bush uses Saddam to justify Iraq occupation

BEIJING, 8 Nov — Dead or alive, the former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein remains useful to US President George W Bush as a good excuse for continuing the occupation of Iraq by the US-led coalition forces, said an article published by the English-language China Daily on Friday.

With his fate still unknown six months after the war, the former Iraqi president “has proven to be the United States’ largest excuse for military operations against Iraq”, said the article written by Wu Yixue. The Bush Administration is under tremendous pressure both at home and abroad “for its lack of an obvious intention to immediately end its military presence in Iraq and return the sovereignty of Iraq to the Iraqi people.” On Monday, Bush said that Saddam is still alive and is trying to make troubles for the coalition forces.

Approval of Saddam’s being behind the recent series of bomb attacks that inflicted heavy loss of lives on the US side, the article written by Wu Yixue. The Bush Administration has failed so far to present any hard evidence on Saddam’s alleged programme of weapons of mass destruction, the US President once again provided no exact evidence for Saddam’s direct connection with the recent serious bomb attacks in Iraq.

“Bush’s words are nothing but an excuse aimed at exculpating himself from responsibilities for the mounting casualties of US soldiers in Iraq and continuously keeping a US military presence in the country,” said the article.

Nepal’s garment export to US drops in October

KATHMANDU, 8 Nov — Nepal’s steady garment export to the United States dropped by 60 per cent in October over the same period last year, according to figures released by the Garment Association of Nepal on Friday.

Garment export volume stood at 3.81 million US dollars in October, while it was 9.56 million dollars in October 2002, said the industry association.

This is the third straight month that Nepal’s garment exports to the United States experienced a downfall. The export dipped by one per cent and 18 per cent in August and September, respectively, prior to which it had been growing for 12 consecutive months.

The United States is the largest market of Nepal’s garment items exported abroad, consuming some 85 per cent of its total.

MNA/Xinhua

Virus-hit ship arrives back in Britain

LONDON, 8 Nov — The virus-hit British cruise ship, Aurora, which has prompted a diplomatic row when Spain closed its border with British colony Gibraltar, arrived back in Southampton, England Thursday.

The Aurora, with about 1,900 passengers and more than 800 crew on board, left on October 20 for a 17-day European voyage. More than 500 of its passengers suffered from a highly infectious stomach bug, which causes diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting.

Ahead of the ship’s arrival, the P&O Cruises, which run the vessel, said just one passenger was still displaying symptoms of the bug.

Spain sealed its border with Gibraltar Monday for fear of infection from the Aurora, which docked at Gibraltar after the Greek Government denied the ship entry to the Greek port of Piraeus outside Athens last Friday.

Spain reopened its border with Gibraltar two hours after the Aurora sailed for Southampton Monday.

Britain regretted the Spanish closure of its border with Gibraltar, saying the action of the Spanish Government was “unnecessary and disproportionate.”

Gibraltar ceased being Spanish in 1704 when a British-led naval force conquered the ‘Rock’, which Spain formally ceded in the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht. Britain and Spain agreed last year to share sovereignty over Gibraltar, whose 30,000 inhabitants want to remain linked to Britain and would next year celebrate the 300th anniversary of Gibraltar as a British territory.

Talks between Britain and Spain over the enclave were stalled after Gibraltarians voted overwhelmingly in a referendum last year that they should stay British.

MNA/Xinhua

China presents donation for Indonesian flood victims

JAKARTA, 8 Nov — The Chinese Red Cross Society on Friday presented a donation of 20,000 US dollars to help the flood-afflicted areas in Indonesia’s North Sumatra Province, where at least 113 people have been confirmed dead so far.

“Although the donation is not huge in amount, it expresses the sincerity of the Chinese Government and the Chinese people to help the Indonesian Government and people overcome difficulties,” Chinese Ambassador to Indonesia Lu Shumin said when handing the donation to Mari’e Muhammad, director of the Indonesian Red Cross Society.

“I’m confident that with the guidance and leadership of the Indonesian Government and the joint efforts of the Indonesian people, and also with the care and help from the international community, the people in the afflicted areas will win the fight against the catastrophe and then rebuild their hope,” the ambassador said.

Besides human casualties, the flash flood that occurred at the Langkat tourist resort on Sunday destroyed more than 400 homes, cottages and other buildings, while more than one hundred people are still missing.

MNA/Xinhua

China has 293 sister cities with Japan, S Korea

WUXI (Jiangsu), 8 Nov — Besides actively promoting state-to-state friendship, China also is also establishing friendly ties at the local level. “Promoting friendly relations with foreign cities is an important policy of China’s diplomacy,” Chen Haous, president of the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries said here Thursday at the meeting held to promote communication among local governments of China, Japan and South Korea.

Chen said China has established friendly ties with 220 Japanese cities and 73 South Korean cities.

MNA/Xinhua

S Korean, Pakistani presidents meet

SEOUL, 8 Nov — Visiting Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, at a meeting with South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun Thursday and expressed his hope for enhanced bilateral relations between the two countries.

The two leaders noted the steady expansion of economic cooperation and personnel exchanges between the two countries since the normalization of diplomatic ties in 1993 and agreed to nurture the ties to maximize future potential growth.

President Roh asked Musharraf to foster an improved atmosphere for South Korean firms to invest in Pakistan and also to participate more actively in the information-technology (IT) and construction markets.

Musharraf asked South Korea to assist Pakistan’s IT, science-technology, and energy-mineral industries, the Presidential Office said.

The two leaders agreed to widen personnel exchanges to include the cultural, arts and sports fields in a bid to promote civilian cooperation.

They signed two cooperation agreements after the meeting, one relating to the IT industry and the other on energy and mineral development.

Musharraf arrived here on Wednesday for a three-day visit to South Korea after winding up his trip to China.
Border area development

Myint Soe (Na-ta-la)

Childhood friends

I think that my father was among the persons who hardly shed tears. Throughout my life, I had almost never heard father grumbling, and never seen him felt sad and depressed. I had seen him shedding tears only once, when the abbot monk of Wyalu Monastery of my village passed away. I was a third-grader then. The whole village revered the monk so much, and relied on him to solve their many troublesome problems.

As the late abbot monk was the patron of Maha Dwara order of Laymyethna Township, a large number of his disciples, lay persons and monks, from far and near attended the funeral rites. While the adults were grieving so much for the death of the monk, we, the children, were very happy at the final rites ceremony. We were running in the crowd, enjoying the food that was served at the ceremony, and watching plays in the late evenings.

The ethnic races including the Shan, the Pa-O, and the Kayah, who came to the rites together with the Sayawde of the Laymyethna Parahita School, also enjoyed the pereformance. The children of the ethnic races of my aged were neatly dressed with their traditional costumes. But I did not understand the words of their songs.

When I passed the eighth standard at the village monastic education school, father asked me whether I would like to continue my studies in Yangon or letpadan or Laymyethna. I chose Laymyethna as it was the nearest to my village. So, I continued to attend classes at the Laymyethna Parahita School, and met with the ethnic children, who performed dances and songs at the final rites in my village, again at the school. I never forget my childhood days at Laymyethna Parahita School together with my ethnic friends. I was very happy at the school then and when I arrived at their native region on military operation duties, we were still friends, and we all had our respective responsibilities.

Military operations started in Hsihseng

Three of our childhood friends, were discharging duties together at the same battalion. Later, I was assigned duties at the commando company. My friend, Kaung San Oo, was sent to join the battalion launching military operations in Monai region as a reinforcement. But another friend of mine, Tin Oo, was left behind at the battalion, downhearted.

First, the headquarters of our Light Infantry Division was stationed at Leikha, and six months later, it moved its HQ to Hsihseng. Our LID was launching military operations in all the directions. The insurgents of the Pa-O region where gentle and religious ethnic races lived, as the insurgents in the area were following the armed struggle line. But now the Inlay is the pride of Shan State where tourists are taking a peaceful vacation, while staying at the floating hotels. The Lake region is also the showcase of the traditions and cultures of the ethnic races, and it is an area where handicrafts are produced.

I had been to Kayah and Monpyin/Leithet regions north of Hsihseng. The regions are home to the ethnic Pa-O people. These regions were free from Red Pa-Os and White Pa-Os. We encountered only the insurgents of the central bureau of the BCP in the regions.

It was so strange to launch military operations in the Pa-O region where gentle and religious ethnic races lived, as the insurgents in the area were following the armed struggle line. But now the situation of the whole Pa-O region is totally different from that of the past.

( To be continued) (Translation: TMT) 

---

Minister inspects bridges being constructed in Mandalay Division

Yangon, 8 Nov — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun attended the cornerstone laying ceremony for construction of City Hall in Kyaukse, Mandalay Division, on 7 November morning.

The minister then inspected the completion of construction of the two-storey building of Kyaukse Basic Education High School No 2 donated by Moe Hein Co. Officials conducted the minister round the school building.

First, the minister arrived at Myitnge Bridge construction project. At the briefing hall, Senior Engineer Min Won reported on completion of construction work and future plans. The minister gave necessary instructions and fulfilled the requirements.

The 840 feet long and 72 feet wide Myitnge Bridge is being constructed at the bridge No 1/422 on Yangon-Mandalay Highway. It is a four-lane reinforced concrete bridge with 4-foot wide walkways on both sides and can withstand 75 tons of load.

Afterwards, the minister inspected the work done of Paunglu Bridge being constructed on Palake-Tadul Road. At the briefing hall on Mandalay Bank of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) construction project site, officials reported on completion of approach structures and future plans. The minister gave instructions on systematic use of construction materials.

The Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) is being constructed at 2,000 feet upstream of present Inwa Bridge. The bridge is 5.614 feet long and 49 feet wide with 5-foot-wide walkways on both sides. The approach structures and the main bridge will be constructed with reinforced iron concrete beams and the main bridge with steel beams. It can withstand 60 tons of load.

Kamayut BEPS No 2 holds Kathina robe-offering ceremony

Yangon, 8 Nov — Under the patronage of Minister for Education U Than Aung and wife, Kamayut Township Basic Education Primary School No 2 held its third Kathina robe-offering ceremony at the school yesterday.

It was attended by Minister U Than Aung, Deputy Minister Brig.-Gen Soe Win Maung and U Myo Nyunt, officials, guests, principals, teachers and students.

The minister and the deputy ministers offered Kathina robes to the Sayawde. It was followed by sharing of merits gained.

---

People’s Desire

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize the 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

Efficient use of electricity

* Use daylight as the main source of light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
* Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp every day by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

---

Efficient use of fuel

* Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
* Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US$ 5.5 million in a year
* The amount, US $ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased
Senior General Than Shwe offers provisions to members of the Sangha at the consecration and Shwekyathingan and rice offering ceremony at the 8th Buddha Pajaniya Festival of Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon). — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyawng Kyaing present officiates to a Sayadaw at the consecration and Shwekyathingan and rice offering ceremony at the 8th Buddha Pajaniya Festival of Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon). — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe offers provisions to members of the Sangha at the consecration and Shwekyathingan and rice offering ceremony at the 8th Buddha Pajaniya Festival of Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon). — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyawng Kyaing and party offer soon to members of the Sangha at the consecration and Shwekyathingan and rice offering ceremony at the 8th Buddha Pajaniya Festival of Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon). — MNA

**Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyawng Kyaing offer Shwekyathingan to …**

(from page 1)

Command and the ministers presented “soon” to the members of the Sangha.

Next, the consecration ceremony was held at 6:00 am. Members of the Sangha consecrated Buddha images and the Tooth Relic Pagoda. Next, merits-sharing and Shwekyathingan offering ceremonies were held.

The congregation received the Nine Precepts from Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Aungnye-bonzar Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pahindabhisamana. Members of the Sangha recited Metta Sutta.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyawng Kyaing, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Lt-Gen Tin Oo’s wife Daw Khin Than Nwe, General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Than Nwe, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Win, members of the State Peace and Development Council and their wives, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and their wives, the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and wife Daw Malar Tint presented Shwekyathingan to Woodya Mudra Buddha image.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and wife Daw Khin Hnin Wai presented Shwekyathingan to Sandhita Mudra Buddha image. Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and wife Daw Malar Tint presented Shwekyathingan to Paliharrya Mudra Buddha image. After the ceremony, rice offering was held. Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyawng Kyaing, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Lt-Gen Tin Oo’s wife Daw Khin Than Nwe, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Win, members of the State Peace and Development Council and their wives, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and their wives, the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief Peace and Development Council and their wives, the deputy ministers, heads of departments, members of District and Township Peace and Development Councils, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and social organizations and wellwishers offered provisions to members of the Sangha at the respective designated places.

Today’s donations were worth K 16.8 million. MNA
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khan Win Shwe offer Shoeukyathingan to a Buddha Image at the 8th Buddha Pujaniya Festival of Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon). — MNA

State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and Ovadacarunya Sayadaws. Thus, it is believed that the Summit would be held on a grand scale. Therefore, the work committee and the respective sub-committees are to present their reports on work being carried out for successful holding of the Summit.

Afterwards, Secretary of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Summit Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung reported on work being carried out for the successful holding of the Summit and future tasks.

Next, Secretary of the Work Committee for Organizing the Summit Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko reported on measures being taken after holding the work committee meeting.

Next, the chairman and officials of the sub-committees reported on work being carried out for holding the ceremony, green of invita-

accepation, accommodation, transport, informa-

tion, documentation, finance and health.

This was followed by a general round of discussion. In response to the reports, the Prime Minister gave instructions. The meeting ended with the three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Ciram Tittathu.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung sends felicitations to Kingdom of Cambodia

YANGON, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which falls on 9 November 2003, U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr HOR Nambong, Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia. — MNA

YANGON, 7 Nov — The events of Women’s Recurve and Men’s Recurve and Compound Team for the 13th Asian Archery Championships and Athens Olympic Qualifier for the 2004 being hosted in the Union of Myanmar continued at Youth Training Centre (Thuwuma) on Waizayanta Street, Thimgangyun Township starting from this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Leading Committee for Holding the Competition Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Leader of panel of patrons of Myanmar Women Sports Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Member of panel of patrons Daw Khin Than Nwe and members, President of Asian Archery Federation Mr Hong-Jong Yu, Vice-President of Asian Archery Federation Mr San Guan Kosavinta and President of Myanmar Archery Federation Dr Khin Shwe. General Secretary of AAF Mr Sung-Ho-Um, General Secretary of the MAF U Kyaw Oo and executives, departmental heads, managers, leaders of archery teams of respective nations, athletes, teachers and students, trainees of the Sports and Physical Education Institute and Sports Plus Education Training School and enthusiasts.

The archers from host Myanmar, Korea, Kazakhstan, Japan, China (Taipei), Indonesia and Malaysia presented a gold medal to Chinese team, a silver medal to Korean team, a bronze medal to Vietnamese team and a silver medal to Chinese team.

In the event of Women’s Recurve, Leader of panel of patrons of Myanmar Women Sports Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe presented a gold medal to Korean team, a silver medal to Chinese team and a bronze medal to Chinese team (Taipei). Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Leader of panel of patrons of Myanmar Women Sports Federation Dr Daw Khan Thwin Shwe and Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung reported on work being carried out for the successful holding of the Summit and future tasks.

Secretary of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Summit Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko reported on measures being taken after holding the work committee meeting.

Next, the chairman and officials of the sub-committees reported on work being carried out for holding the ceremony, green of invita-

accepation, accommodation, transport, informa-

tion, documentation, finance and health.

This was followed by a general round of discussion. In response to the reports, the Prime Minister gave instructions. The meeting ended with the three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Ciram Tittathu.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung sends felicitations to Kingdom of Cambodia

YANGON, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which falls on 9 November 2003, U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr HOR Nambong, Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia. — MNA

YANGON, 8 Nov — A total of over 500 trainees of basic Buddhist culture course No 21 of the Ministry of Culture led by course instructor Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panha Sami (Magadi-Tchaz) observed Samanña Phala Day at Maha Theindawgyi on Kaba Aye Hill here this morning. They offered water, flowers and lights to the Lord Buddha and recited religious verses. Next, they prayed for the well-being of all creatures, and shared the merits gained. — MNA

13th Asian Archery Championships and Athens Olympic Qualifier for 2004 continue

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Leader of panel of patrons of Myanmar Women Sports Federation Dr Daw Khan Thwin Shwe and Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung reported on work being carried out for the successful holding of the Summit and future tasks.

Secretary of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Summit Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko reported on measures being taken after holding the work committee meeting.

Next, the chairman and officials of the sub-committees reported on work being carried out for holding the ceremony, green of invitation, accommodation, transport, information, documentation, finance and health.

This was followed by a general round of discussion. In response to the reports, the Prime Minister gave instructions. The meeting ended with the three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Ciram Tittathu.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung sends felicitations to Kingdom of Cambodia

YANGON, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which falls on 9 November 2003, U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr HOR Nambong, Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia. — MNA

Head of the Panel of Leading Patrons of Myanmar Women Sports Federation Dr Daw Khan Win Shwe watches the performance of a contestant at 13th Asian Archery Championship and Athens Olympic Archery Qualifier for 2004. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khan Win Shwe offer Shoeukyathingan to a Buddha Image at the 8th Buddha Pujaniya Festival of Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon). — MNA

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung sends felicitations to Kingdom of Cambodia

YANGON, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which falls on 9 November 2003, U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr HOR Nambong, Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia. — MNA

YANGON, 8 Nov — A total of over 500 trainees of basic Buddhist culture course No 21 of the Ministry of Culture led by course instructor Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panha Sami (Magadi-Tchaz) observed Samanña Phala Day at Maha Theindawgyi on Kaba Aye Hill here this morning. They offered water, flowers and lights to the Lord Buddha and recited religious verses. Next, they prayed for the well-being of all creatures, and shared the merits gained. — MNA

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung sends felicitations to Kingdom of Cambodia

YANGON, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which falls on 9 November 2003, U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr HOR Nambong, Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia. — MNA

YANGON, 7 Nov — The events of Women’s Recurve and Men’s Recurve and Compound Team for the 13th Asian Archery Championships and Athens Olympic Qualifier for the 2004 being hosted in the Union of Myanmar continued at Youth Training Centre (Thuwuma) on Waizayanta Street, Thimgangyun Township starting from this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Leading Committee for Holding the Competition Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Leader of panel of patrons of Myanmar Women Sports Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Member of panel of patrons Daw Khin Than Nwe and members, President of Asian Archery Federation Mr Hong-Jong Yu, Vice-President of Asian Archery Federation Mr San Guan Kosavinta and President of Myanmar Archery Federation Dr Khin Shwe. General Secretary of AAF Mr Sung-Ho-Um, General Secretary of the MAF U Kyaw Oo and executives, departmental heads, managers, leaders of archery teams of respective nations, athletes, teachers and students, trainees of the Sports and Physical Education Institute and Sports Plus Education Training School and enthusiasts.

The archers from host Myanmar, Korea, Kazakhstan, Japan, China (Taipei), Indonesia and Malaysia presented a gold medal to Chinese team, a silver medal to Korean team, a bronze medal to Vietnamese team and a silver medal to Chinese team.

In the event of Women’s Recurve, Leader of panel of patrons of Myanmar Women Sports Federation Dr Daw Khan Thwin Shwe presented a gold medal to Korean team, a silver medal to Indian team and a bronze medal to Chinese team. Next, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Leader of panel of patrons of Myanmar Women Sports Federation Dr Daw Khan Thwin Shwe and Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung reported on work being carried out for the successful holding of the Summit and future tasks.

Secretary of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Summit Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko reported on measures being taken after holding the work committee meeting.

Next, the chairman and officials of the sub-committees reported on work being carried out for holding the ceremony, green of invitation, accommodation, transport, information, documentation, finance and health.

This was followed by a general round of discussion. In response to the reports, the Prime Minister gave instructions. The meeting ended with the three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Ciram Tittathu.
Lt-Gen Ye Myint offers Kathina robes to members of the Sangha in Indrayama Monastery

YANGON, 8 Nov — Kathina robes offering ceremony of Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, wife Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and family was held at Indrayama Kyauttai in Amarapura Township on 6 November morning.

It was attended by members of the Sangha led by Sayawad of the monastery Sasanadha Dhammacariya Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Ottara, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and wife, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint and wife, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Deputy Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (Upper Myanmar) U Khin Maung Latt, Deputy Attorney-General U Han Shewn, officers of the Central Command, local authorities, members of social organizations and guests. First, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint and Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung offered soon to 79 members of the Sangha.

The congregation received the Five Precepts from the Sayawad of the monastery Bhaddanta Ottana.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the commander and Tactical Operations Commander Col Win Swe offered robes to the Sayawads of Paypin Massoein Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Pyigyidaung Township, Mandalay. First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from the Sayawad of the monastery Bhaddanta Ottana. Second, Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended the Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony of the Central Command held at Paypin Massoein Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Pyigyidaung Township, Mandalay. First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from the Sayawad of the monastery Bhaddanta Ottana. Third, Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended the Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony held at Paypin Massoein Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Pyigyidaung Township, Mandalay. First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from the Sayawad of the monastery Bhaddanta Ottana.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and family offered Kathina robes to the Sayawads. The commander, the minister and officials presented Kathina robes and offertories to members of the Sangha. The Sayawad of the monastery delivered a sermon, followed by sharing the merits gained.

First, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the commander and Tactical Operations Commander Col Win Swe offered robes to the Sayawads of Paypin Massoein Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Pyigyidaung Township, Mandalay. First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from the Sayawad of the monastery Bhaddanta Ottana. Second, Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended the Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony of the Central Command held at Paypin Massoein Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Pyigyidaung Township, Mandalay. First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from the Sayawad of the monastery Bhaddanta Ottana. Third, Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended the Kathina Robes Offering Ceremony held at Paypin Massoein Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Pyigyidaung Township, Mandalay. First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from the Sayawad of the monastery Bhaddanta Ottana.

Kathina robes offering ceremony of families of Office of Chief of Armed Forces Training held

YANGON, 8 Nov — Under the patronage of Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife Daw San San Yi, the Kathina robes offering ceremony of families of the Office of Chief of Armed Forces Training was held at Pathadikayon Kyauttai in Hlin Township this morning.

The ceremony was attended by Sasana Dhammicariya Pali Pahtamakayaw Setpyarai Sayawad Ashin Sirinda and members of the Sangha. Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife, Vice-Chiefs of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Win Myint and Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, senior military officials and their wives, families of other ranks and guests.

Also present were the director-general and officials of the MPP and departments under the ministry, advisers, and staff families of GAD.

The minister spoke on the occasion and presented prizes to 8 winners of outstanding performance.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win offers Kathina robes to a Sayawad.

GAD holds family day

YANGON, 8 Nov — The Family Day ceremony of the General Administration Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs was held at the assembly hall of the ministry yesterday morning, attended by Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing.

Also present were the director-general and officials of the MPP and departments under the ministry, advisers, and staff families of GAD.

The minister spoke on the occasion and presented prizes to 8 winners of outstanding performance.

Home Affairs Ministry offers Kathina robes

YANGON, 8 Nov — The tenth communal Kathina robe offering of the Ministry of Home Affairs was held at the ministry this morning.

Present were Sayawads led by Joint Secretary Sayawad of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Nyanondon Sayawad Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Oswadhabhivamsa and members of the Sangha.

It was also attended by Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing and wife, wife of Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe, the director-general of Myanmar Police Force, officials and families.

The congregation received the Nine Precepts from Sayawad Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Oswadhabhivamsa.

The minister and wife and officials presented Kathina robes and offertories to the members of the Sangha, followed by sharing of merits. "Soon" was offered to the members of the Sangha.

Earthquake Report

YANGON, 8 Nov — An earthquake of moderate intensity (4.0) Richter Scale with its epicentre about (179) miles Northeast of Manda- lay seismological observa- tion was recorded at 12 hours 29 minutes 34 seconds Myanmar Standard Time on 8th November 2003.
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

Thanlwin river crossing bridge (Hpa-an) was opened on 5 August 1997. The bridge is linking Myainggalay with Hpa-an in Kayin State.

PHOTO: MYANMA ALIN

Development of a region depends much on easy access to it. With this end in view, the State has been building a network of roads and bridges the length and breadth of the nation.

As a result, new roads and bridges have emerged one after another throughout the country. The Government is continuing its efforts to build new roads and bridges.

The photo shows Gyaing Bridge (Zathabyin) that links Kayin and Mon States across the Gyaing River.

PHOTO: MNA

Transportation plays a vital role in regional development. The photo shows the Gyaing (Kawkareik) Bridge that serves the interests of the people in Kayin State.

PHOTO: MNA
China likely among world’s top ten insurance markets by 2010

Beijing, 8 Nov—China’s insurance market is likely to become one of the world’s top ten by 2010, according to a veteran insurance dealer of China.

In China, only 3 per cent of the population have health or medical insurance, a sign that there remains a huge space for commercial health insurance to develop.

The Chinese Government has been pushing social medical insurance as a basic medical safeguard for years. As a result, commercial medical insurers across the country covered 116.0 million people and earned 32.1 billion yuan (3.8 billion US dollars) in 2002.

A decision published by the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee said that all commercial banks and securities, insurance and trust investment companies in the country must undergo further reforms to become modern financial enterprises with ample capital, tight internal management, safe operation, excellent service and good economic returns.

“We should promote the shareholding reforms in some qualified state-owned commercial banks, which will step up efforts in handling bad assets and increasing capital funds to create conditions for being listed on the stock market,” it said, encouraging investors to participate in the restructuring of small and medium-sized financial institutions.

China’s insurance market has been enjoying a flourishing period and the whole industry, including China’s reinsurance companies, is undertaking a profound shareholder-oriented reorganization to shape sound modern finance enterprises, it said.

Statistics from the industry indicate that China had collected 296.8 billion yuan (35.9 billion US dollars) of premiums in the first nine months of 2003, equal to the total of 2002.

By last September, the country’s insurance industry boasted 383.2 billion yuan (46.4 billion US dollars) of bank deposits, of which 354.7 billion yuan (43 billion US dollars) was taken for investment, up 42.8 per cent and 53.6 per cent respectively from 2002.

“With this amazing speed, China will become one of the world’s 10 biggest insurance markets no later than 2010,” said Dai Tianpei, the calligrapher, who was born in 1930 and lived in October 2003, spent five years finishing the lengthy calligraphic work, are applying to list the work in the Guinness Book of Records.

Dai Tianpei, the calligrapher, who was born in 1930 and died in October 2003, spent five years finishing the lengthy calligraphic work, with seven million Chinese characters in total, was featured by the Qiqihar municipal government.

According to Dai’s family, the calligrapher worked more than 12 hours a day to finish the work, and he fell sick a few times during his five-year marathon.

The 3,900-metre piece and others of Dai’s works were expected to be exhibited to the public next year, according to his family. — MNA/Xinhua

Delegation of China’s Manned Space Mission ends Macao visit

Macao, 8 Nov—The delegation of China’s First Manned Space Mission, including China’s first astronaut Yang Liwei, ended its visit to Hong Kong and Macao Thursday afternoon, and left here for Beijing.

Chief Executive of the Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) government Edmund Ho Hau Wah held a farewell ceremony for the delegation, during which the delegation presented a map of Macao drawn by China’s self-launched satellite in space to the SAR government as a gift.

On behalf of the delegation, Hu Shixiang, vice-director-general of China’s manned space flight programme and head of the delegation, said that although they had a short stay in Macao, they were greatly moved by Macao compatriots’ ardent affection.

The delegation began the visit to Hong Kong on October 31, and continued the trip to Macao on Wednesday. It had a tight schedule, meeting people of all walks of life in Macao and giving speeches on China’s first manned space mission. Yang was admired and treated as a star hero wherever he went.

The Exhibition of China’s First Manned Space Mission, where he entrapped Shenzhou V capsule, the astronaut’s space suit and food, and the parachute was put on show, began here Wednesday afternoon and will continue till Friday noon. On the opening day of the exhibition, over 20,000 people visited the show, which was unprecedented for such events in Macao. — MNA/Xinhua

China, Japan destroy wartime chemical weapons in N-E China

HARBIN, 8 Nov—A special group of Chinese and Japanese experts arrived Thursday morning in Qiqihar City in China’s northern Heilongjiang Province to destroy chemical weapons stored in the city.

When they surrendered and returned home at the end of World War II, Japanese intruding troops left countless chemical weapons they had developed during the war in northeast China.

Some of the abandoned chemical weapons were found recently in the city and other places in northeast China and caused injuries, or even death.

A fatal toxic gas leakage from abandoned Japanese chemical weapons killed one person and injured 42 others after barrels of mustard gas were dug up at a construction site in Qiqihar in early August.

Nearly 100 Chinese and Japanese experts will participate, and Japanese chemical weapons and medical experts will arrive in several groups, according to Gao Haishou, an official of the Qiqihar municipal government. — MNA/Xinhua

Beijing will build 15 sewage treatment facilities before 2008

Beijing will invest 3.2 billion yuan (438 million US dollars) to update its sewage treatment facilities before 2008.

The investment will be used to construct three sewage burying fields, seven sewage treatment factories, three sewage transferring stations, and the parachute was put on show, began here Wednesday afternoon and will continue till Friday noon. On the opening day of the exhibition, over 20,000 people visited the show, which was unprecedented for such events in Macao. — MNA/Xinhua

Beijing will build 15 sewage treatment facilities before 2008

Beijing will invest 3.2 billion yuan (438 million US dollars) to update its sewage treatment facilities before 2008.

The investment will be used to construct three sewage burying fields, seven sewage treatment factories, three sewage transferring stations, and the parachute was put on show, began here Wednesday afternoon and will continue till Friday noon. On the opening day of the exhibition, over 20,000 people visited the show, which was unprecedented for such events in Macao. — MNA/Xinhua
India plans to expand Air Force strength to 60 squadrons

NEW DELHI, 8 Nov — The Indian Air Force (IAF) is planning to expand its strength from the present 39 squadrons to 60 squadrons over the next 10 years, Indian Air Chief S Krishnaswamy said Thursday, according to the Press Trust of India (PTI).

Disclosing that IAF was in the process of phasing out aging MiG-21, MiG-23 and MiG-27 fleet, the Air Chief said that the plan was being finalized. Briefing reporters on the deliberations of the Western Air Command Commanders Conference held in New Delhi, the Air Chief said that IAF would be spending 2,000 crore, which was the highest in the country’s entire history.

He said the IAF’s efforts would be to ensure timely replenishments so as not to affect the battle preparedness of the force.

Speaking at the first series of Israeli PHALCON Air early warning and control system would be inducted by 2006, Krishnaswamy said that the complete in-

uction of up to five AWACS mounted on the Russian IL-76 platform would be completed by 2008.

“Two should by for the first time that airborne radars would be mounted on the IL-
76 frame and we are confident that the system would be a success,” Krishnaswamy said. He disclosed that the IAF would hold its first joint fighter exercises with the US Air Force at Gwalior with the Americans sending a batch of F-15 fighters.

“This will be the first time for large-scale produc-
tion of photo-voltaic cells to be carried out in Southeast Asia,” said he.

Photo-voltaic cells are the key components of solar energy systems, converting sunlight into electricity. They are vital in providing power in remote areas isolated from larger power grids as well as in reducing dependence on non-renewable energy sources like oil, officials said. Go said that most of the output would be exported with about 20 per cent sold locally, adding that their photo-voltaic cells were among the most efficient in the world.

S-E Asia’s first solar cell plant to be set up in Philippines

MANILA, 8 Nov — Southeast Asia (SEA)’s first wafer fabrication plant for solar cells will be set up in the Philippines by American technology firm Cypress, the Philippine Star daily on-line news reported Friday.

Cypress Semiconduc-
tor’s majority-owned subsiary Sunpower Corp. will begin setting up the facility next month for production of solar cells from wafers that are to be fabricated in the Philippines, said Theresa Go, director of the subsidi-
ary’s local operations.

“Such exercises give our pilots the much needed exposure to flying systems and patterns prevalent outside,” he said.

MNA/Xinhua

China to work with int’l community for peaceful use of outer space

BEIJING, 8 Nov — China will work with the international community for the peaceful use of outer space, said Chinese President Hu Jintao here Friday when addressing a rally celebrating the country’s first manned spaceflight, which made it the third spacefaring country after Russia and the United States.

The achievements made in China’s manned space project marks the in-
creasing consolidation of China’s comprehensive strength as well as the con-
tinued promotion of China’s science and technology level over 20 years of reform and opening up, said a General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee.

Assessing that China’s manned space flight programme will help, he said as long as we stick to the CPC’s basic theories, guide-
lines, creed, experience, the road of centering economic construction and adhering to reform and opening-up, and the balanced economic and social development, we can constantly make greater achievements in socialist modernization construc-
tion,” he said.

Hu praised Yang Liwei, China’s first astronaut, and others who contributed to the country’s manned space pro-
gramme. China’s first manned space flight sol-
edly declared to the world that China has become the world’s third country inde-
dependently grasping the manned space technology, he said.

The Chinese people are of remarkable wisdom and great creativity, and are in-
dustrious, brave and persistent, he said, noting that they have shown the courage, confidence and capability to make China a strong member of the world community and contribute to peace and development of humankind.

China will better imple-
ment the strategy of revitaliz-
ing the national through science, education and talented peo-
ple, he said — MNA/Xinhua

Chinese enterprises urged to establish new concepts of competition

BEIJING, 8 Nov — Chinese Vice-Premier Huang Ju has urged enterprises at home and abroad to establish new concepts of competition and development, so as to seize the opportunity of the change and further contribute to the development of human society.

Huang, also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, made the remark at an inter-
national financial forum here Friday afternoon.

He said enterprises should shoulder broader and more concrete responsibil-
ity for the society and be more committed to system-
atic, technological and man-
agement innovations so as to give full play to the com-
parative advantage and boost the enterprise’s core com-
petitiveness.

The enterprises should also strictly comply with the principle of honesty, regard-

Two contestants who advanced to the Miss Shanghai’ Competition finals greet the audience on Friday. Thirteen girls will compete in the finals and the winners will be crowned on November 21. — Xinhua

S Africa alarmed by outbreak of malaria

JOHANNESBURG, 8 Nov — South African travellers to Egypt and India were warned Tuesday to take precautions against malaria, after an outbreak of the disease in those countries.

Andrew Jamieson, a spokesman for the medical information service Medinfo, said on Thursday that two members of the Egyptian soccer squad died and 11 others were hospital-
ized after contracting the disease while attend-
ing the recent 8th African Games in Abuja, Nigeria. “Egypt’s Health Ministry has or-
dered all 600 members of the squad — com-
prising athletes, administrators and journalists — to undergo medical tests. About 94 cases of malaria were reported in central Kolkuwa, the support city of India, and adjoining areas in the past week, including two deaths, Jamieson said. “(South African) Health authorities are alarmed by the sudden increase in malaria incidence, especially as the geographic spread of the disease has been particularly rapid in the heart of the city,” he said — MNA/Xinhua

China’s space exhibition closes in Macao

Macao, 8 Nov — The Exhibition of China’s First Manned Space Mission, started first in Hong Kong on October 31. In both cities, the exhibition was opened round-the-clock and completely for free in order to satisfy the maximum number of eager visitors. — MNA/Xinhua

Half of Chinese drivers admit falling asleep at the wheel

BEIJING, 8 Nov — Half of Chinese drivers have once catnapped behind the wheel, according to China’s first ever survey on drivers’ vigilance issues, said Sunpower, the S16 drivers surveyed, nearly a quarter reported fatigue driving, half said they have sleeping prob-
lems, and 10 per cent admit-
ed they had dozed off be-
fore being stopped for the survey on the same day, the survey says.

The survey also showed that 82 per cent of drivers have less than eight sleep hours a day and 47.7 per cent have less than seven hours, while 90 per cent take no measures to treat their sleep-

problems, and 10 per cent admit-
ed they have sleeping prob-
lems, and 10 per cent admit-
ed they have sleeping prob-

Two contestants who advanced to the Miss Shanghai’ Competition finals greet the audience on Friday. Thirteen girls will compete in the finals and the winners will be crowned on November 21. — Xinhua

S Africa alarmed by outbreak of malaria

JOHANNESBURG, 8 Nov — South African travellers to Egypt and India were warned Tuesday to take precautions against malaria, after an outbreak of the disease in those countries.

Andrew Jamieson, a spokesman for the medical information service Medinfo, said on Thursday that two members of the Egyptian soccer squad died and 11 others were hospital-
ized after contracting the disease while attend-
ing the recent 8th African Games in Abuja, Nigeria. “Egypt’s Health Ministry has or-
dered all 600 members of the squad — com-
prising athletes, administrators and journalists — to undergo medical tests. About 94 cases of malaria were reported in central Kolkuwa, the support city of India, and adjoining areas in the past week, including two deaths, Jamieson said. “(South African) Health authorities are alarmed by the sudden increase in malaria incidence, especially as the geographic spread of the disease has been particularly rapid in the heart of the city,” he said — MNA/Xinhua

China’s space exhibition closes in Macao

Macao, 8 Nov — The Exhibition of China’s First Manned Space Mission, started first in Hong Kong on October 31. In both cities, the exhibition was opened round-the-clock and completely for free in order to satisfy the maximum number of eager visitors. — MNA/Xinhua

Two contestants who advanced to the Miss Shanghai’ Competition finals greet the audience on Friday. Thirteen girls will compete in the finals and the winners will be crowned on November 21. — Xinhua

S Africa alarmed by outbreak of malaria

JOHANNESBURG, 8 Nov — South African travellers to Egypt and India were warned Tuesday to take precautions against malaria, after an outbreak of the disease in those countries.

Andrew Jamieson, a spokesman for the medical information service Medinfo, said on Thursday that two members of the Egyptian soccer squad died and 11 others were hospital-
ized after contracting the disease while attend-
ing the recent 8th African Games in Abuja, Nigeria. “Egypt’s Health Ministry has or-
dered all 600 members of the squad — com-
prising athletes, administrators and journalists — to undergo medical tests. About 94 cases of malaria were reported in central Kolkuwa, the support city of India, and adjoining areas in the past week, including two deaths, Jamieson said. “(South African) Health authorities are alarmed by the sudden increase in malaria incidence, especially as the geographic spread of the disease has been particularly rapid in the heart of the city,” he said — MNA/Xinhua

China’s space exhibition closes in Macao

Macao, 8 Nov — The Exhibition of China’s First Manned Space Mission, started first in Hong Kong on October 31. In both cities, the exhibition was opened round-the-clock and completely for free in order to satisfy the maximum number of eager visitors. — MNA/Xinhua

Two contestants who advanced to the Miss Shanghai’ Competition finals greet the audience on Friday. Thirteen girls will compete in the finals and the winners will be crowned on November 21. — Xinhua
France celebrates Champions League “night of madness”

Lyon returned from Munich with a 2-1 win in the Champions League. Striker Dudu Pro scored four goals — a feat achieved previously only by Marco van Basten and Simone Inzaghi — as Monaco shredded a Deportivo Deportivo and Lisbon in their second round first leg of their group level on points are separated by just over a month to sort out their financial crisis or else be expelled from the English League. The Second Division club, formed in 1862 and founder members of the English League in 1888, believe they will meet the December 9 deadline to resolve their financial problems and exit administration. The optimism is prompted by a helping hand from mega-rich Premier League club Chelsea who themselves were millions of in debt until Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich bought them in July. Notts County have collected 300,000 pounds (502,500 US dollars) in gate receipts from their League Cup tie at Stamford Bridge last week. In addition, Chelsea shirts signed by the London club’s players are to be auctioned to raise more much-needed funds.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Glory
2 Mob
3 Wall painting
4 Concord
5 Unit of length
6 Give out
7 11 Paris river
 Female
18 Hint
22 Discovered
23 Team’s batting period
24 Breathe out
25 Emphasis

DOWN

1 Helicopter (sl)
2 Receive under a will
3 Black and white
4 Concord
5 City
6 Precious stone
9 An end rail (anag.)
14 Venetian boat
15 Bed covering
16 Keep at it
19 Bid
20 Duke’s territory
21 Join

UEFA announce big increase in Euro 2004 prize money

Nyon (Switzerland), 8 Nov.— The winners of next year’s European Championship in Portugal could bank as much as 20 million Swiss francs (14.63 million US dollars) after UEFA announced an increase in the tournament’s prize fund on Thursday.

In all, a record amount of prize money is on offer, up 66 per cent on Euro 2000 from 120 million to 200 million Swiss francs. Each country that qualifies for Euro 2004 will be paid 7.5 million Swiss francs, with one million Swiss francs awarded for a first round victory. That money is halved for a draw.

The eight quarterfinalists will each receive a further three million Swiss francs, with another four million being paid for reaching the last four.

The winners get a further 10 million, while the runners-up will be awarded six million.

The maximum prize money a team could pocket from the tournament is 27.5 million Swiss francs — 7.5 million for getting to the tournament and a further 20 million for winning it having won all three group matches.

The decisions were taken by UEFA’s Executive Committee and announced after their two-day meeting in Kiev. — MNA/Reuters

Arsenal live to fight another day

LONDON, 8 Nov — Arsenal have won themselves a stay of execution in the Champions League by beating Dynamo Kiev 1-0, but the prospects remain bleak for Arsene Wenger’s side.

Fireworks exploded over north London on Wednesday as Arsenal secured their first win in Europe for a year, and their first at Highbury since last season’s opener against Bournemouth.

However, the revelers were celebrating the annual Bonfire Night festival rather than alaboured success of the Premier League leaders, who are still battling for survival.

Inter Milan, who trounced the hosts 3-0 at Highbury in September, are top of a tight group on seven points, followed by Dynamo (six), Lokomotiv Moscow (five) and Arsenal (four).

The arithmetic shows that even a creditable draw at Inter’s San Siro on November 25 would spell doom for Wenger’s side if Dynamo win in Moscow. Teams which finish their group on points are separated by head-to-head results.

Along with the rivalry between the two former Soviet republics, Dynamo will also be spurred on by a desire to avoid needing victory in their last game in Milan to be sure of reaching the last 16.

Yet beating Inter away is precisely the challenge now facing Arsenal and, on current form, it is hard to see them rising to it.

In Europe, Arsenal clearly struggle to find the fluid, attacking football and precise finishing which has brought them two domestic league and FA Cup doubles since 1998.

The fact that Ashley Cole’s winner came in the very last minutes on Wednesday underlined just how difficult Arsenal had found it to break down a well-organized Ukrainian side.

They are clearly missing the authority in midfield of injured skipper Patrick Vieira, while main striker Thierry Henry struggles to deliver when denied the room to run at defences — as he was on Wednesday.

MNA/Reuters

Notts County hope to survive with Chelsea help

LONDON, 8 Nov.— Notts County, the world’s oldest league club, have been given just over a month to sort out their financial crisis or else be expelled from the English League. But the Second Division club, formed in 1862 and founder members of the English League in 1888, believe they will meet the December 9 deadline to resolve their financial problems and exit administration. The optimism is prompted by a helping hand from mega-rich Premier League club Chelsea who themselves were millions of pounds in debt until Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich bought them in July. Notts County have collected 300,000 pounds (502,500 US dollars) in gate receipts from their League Cup tie at Stamford Bridge last week. In addition, Chelsea shirts signed by the London club’s players are to be auctioned to raise more much-needed funds.

MNA/Reuters

Early Seve Trophy advantage for Britain, Ireland

VALLANCE (Spain), 8 Nov— Holders Britain and Ireland, inspired by Lee Westwood and David Howell, led Continental Europe by 3-1/2 points to 1-1/2 after the opening day foursballs in the Seve Trophy on Thursday.

Britain and Ireland won three of the five fourball matches played at Campo de Golf Parador in El Saler to take the early initiative in the Ryder Cup-style team competition.

“We would definitely have taken that if you had offered us a two-point lead at the start of play, so it has been a pretty good first day for us,” said Britain and Ireland’s captain Colin Montgomerie.

“The competition is intense, as one would expect, but the standard of play has been excellent.”

Englishmen Westwood and Howell set the tone, picking up eight birdies between them on their way to a two-hole victory over Ryder Cup veterans Seve Ballesteros and Jose Maria Olazabal in the first match.

Fellow Britons Brian Davis and Paul Casey maintained the momentum, beating Spaniards Ignacio Garrido and Miguel Angel Jimenez 2 and 1, before German’s Alex Cejka and Frenchman Raphael Jacquelin earned Continental Europe’s first points.

Cejka and Jacquelin, seven clear after just nine holes, held off a brave fightback by good friends Justin Rose and Ian Poulter before triumphing 4 and 3.

Swedish duo Fredrik Jacobson and Niclas Fasth squared their contest with the Scottish combination of Montgomerie and Paul Lawrie but Irishman Padraig Harrington and Briton Phillip Price completed a successful day for the visitors in the final match.

In-form Harrington and fellow Ryder Cup player Price beat Denmark’s Thomas Bjorn and Spaniard Sergio Garcia by two holes to give Britain and Ireland a two-point lead going into Friday’s fourball matches.

Padraig played unbelievably well,” said Garcia, after the Irishman had covered the four holes between the fourth and the seventh in five under par.

“We did well turning for the home, but he had left us just too much to do.”

Four foursomes are scheduled for Saturday morning with four foursome matches to follow in the afternoon. — MNA/Reuters

Russian tennis player Anna Kournikova practices in Pattaya, 150 km (90 miles) east of Bangkok, November 7, 2003. Kournikova is here on a three-day visit to promote Thailand tourism. — Reuters
let us preserve the
Water Sheds Areas
16:40 Merveillance
"Noodle with Coco-
ni-soup"
16:45 National News
16:50 National News
16:55 Loy Yang Festival
17:00 National News
17:05 Macanu (Poreman
Cash Crop)
17:10 Song of "Needs Mas-
dal Golden City"
17:15 National News
17:20 Promoting Tourism
17:25 Song of Myanmar
17:30 Beauty & Scenic
Sights “Come and See
Myanmar”
18:00 Evening Transmission
(19:30 - 23:30)
19:30 Signature Greet-
ing
19:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights “Myanmar Pana-
rama & Myanmar Sen-
timent”
19:36 Full Moon Day of
Tazawung
19:40 Headline News
19:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes (Pick Curry mixed
with Vegetable Soup)
19:45 National News
19:50 Taunggyi Taizawung
Day Liftman Festival
(Communal Kaliten
Khein Offering)
19:55 Meditation Centre
20:00 National News
20:10 Song “Dear Myanmar”
20:12 A Hidden Treasure
(Kekka)
20:15 Art Show & Tour-
ning (Tourist Flower)
20:30 National News
20:35 Vegetable and Fruit
Research Develop-
ment Centre
20:40 Myanmar Co-
mercial Fish “Fish Soup”
20:45 National News
20:50 Glimpses at Myanmar
Movies
21:00 National News
21:05 Travelogue (Vac-
cation)
21:10 Myanmar Modern
Song “Paya wat Phaya”
21:15 National News
21:20 Myanmar Restaurant
for the connois-
seurs
21:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights “Mingalabar”
21:35 Ancient-Architectural
heritage of Taungtha-
man Kyaut Hla Nyo
Pagoda
21:40 Headline News
21:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes (Fried Aquaria-
gus with Fish Flake)
21:45 National News
21:50 Offshore Fishing
Boat Construction
22:00 National News
22:05 Merveillance
"Noodle with Un-
countable Buddha
Imagines"
22:10 Song “Blue Moon”
22:15 National News
22:20 Central Agriculture
Research Institute
22:25 Song on Screen “Cre-
ing Like Sweet-Sour
Soup”
22:30 National News
22:35 Let us preserve the
Water Sheds Areas
22:40 Merveillance
"Noodle with Coco-
ni-soup"
22:45 National News
22:50 Satires in style
22:55 Loy Yang Festival
Dance
23:00 National News
23:05 Macanu (Poreman
Cash Crop)
23:10 Towards Mandalay
Golden City
23:15 Weekly News
23:20 Promoting Tourism
23:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights “Come and See
Myanmar”

**WEATHER**

Saturday, November 8, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

- The past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were 3°C below normal in Kayin State, Mawlaya Division 3°C to 4°C below normal in Shan, Kayah, Rakhine States, Bago and Yangon Divisions, 3°C above normal in Mandalay Division and about normal in the remaining areas.

- Maximum temperature on 7-11-2003 was 35.0°C (95°F). Minimum temperature on 8-11-2003 was 18.9°C (66°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 8-11-2003 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 7-11-2003 was (8.3) hours approx. Rainfall

- In Yangon airport, 8-11-2003 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kabu-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 2211 mm (87.05 inches) at Yangon Airport, 2315 mm (91.14 inches) at Kabu-Aye and 2394 mm (94.25 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kabu-Aye) was 10 mph from Northwest (12.00 hours MST on 7-11-2003).

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

- Forecast valid until evening of 9-11-2003: Except for the possibility of isolated rain in Tainthu Division, weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

- Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of night temperatures in the eastern part of Myanmar areas.


**Earthquake Report**

(issued at 14:00 hours MST on today)

An earthquake of moderate intensity (4.0) Richter Scale with its epicenter about (179) miles Northeast of Mandalay seismo-
logical observatory was recorded at (12) hrs (29 min) (34) sec
MST on 8th November 2003.

**Daw Shwe Hwe**

Age 76 years

Wife of (U) Bain Gay, Room 3/17, Maung Myint Mon Emon Htaung Estate, Hlang Township, Yangon, mother of Daw Swet Lay (U Kyaw Sein), Daw Swet Chu+U Soe Win, Daw Swet Wah+U Maung Maung, (Maung Kyin Take), Daw Kyi Yoe+U Hwe Bein (A) Victor Bein (Maaco), Daw Win Win+U Aye Than (USA), Daw Soe Soe+U Aung Naing (USA), Wong Chi Kit (Hong Kong), grand mother of 19 grandchildren, great grandmother of 4 grandchildren, passed away at 5.50 am, on 8-11-2003. Funeral Service will be held at Yayway Cemetery at 11 am, 10-11-2003. (Sunday).

(Buses will leave the above-mentioned residence at 10 am.)
State Peace and Development Council Chairman
Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to
Kingdom of Cambodia

YANGON, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which falls on 9 November 2003, 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 Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, King of Cambodia. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt sends felicitations to Kingdom of Cambodia

YANGON, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which falls on 9 November 2003, General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia. — MNA

Prime Minister attends work coordination meeting for Holding of Fourth World Buddhist Summit

YANGON, 8 Oct—The work coordination meeting for Holding of the Fourth World Buddhist Summit was held at the meeting hall of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University in Mayangon Township at noon today, with an address by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, the Pro-Rector of the ITBMU and officials and members of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Summit, the Work Committee and Sub-Committees.

The ceremony was opened with the three-time recitation of Namo Tassa. Next, Prime Minister made a speech. He said that Myanmar has decided to host the Fourth World Buddhist Summit as a host nation, adding that measures are being taken for successful holding of the Summit.

It is incumbent upon the officials concerned to hold the Summit successfully and systematically as Buddhist organizations and those from 15 member nations are to attend the Summit.

Pure Theravada Buddhism flourishes in Myanmar. Therefore, holding of the Summit in Myanmar as a host nation amounts to bringing honour to the nation.

Myanmar is a land where international meetings and conferences have been held as a host. It is also a place where pure Theravada Buddhism flourishes. The whole nation and the international community has to be paid respect.

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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

PM General Khin Nyunt attends Kathina robes offering ceremony of MMPA

YANGON, 8 Nov—The second Kathina robes offering ceremony of families of Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon was held at Aungmyay Bodi Dhamma Yeikha Aloodawpyi Kyangtaikon Pinshwenyang Street, Tamwaylay Ward, Tamway Township this morning. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the ceremony and offered provisions to members of the Sangha.

Present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Ablinhuja Maha Rathu Gami Dawei Sayadaw, Bhaddanta Arinchnabivamsa, Joint-Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Nana Hlaingyu Kalewatyaya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Jaggayabivamsa and Sayadawes, Aloodawpyi Kyangtaik Pre-siding Nayaka Maha Gantha Vacakapandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Alodawpyi Sayadaw Bhaddanta Arinchnabivamsa and members of the Sangha. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt’s wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, families of the MMPA and guests.

First, the ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa. The congregation received the Five Precepts from Dawei Sayadaw. Next, members of the Sangha recited parittas. Chairman of the MMPA U Sein Tin offered Kathina robes to Dawei Sayadaw Bhaddanta Arinchnabivamsa.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party offered provisions to members of the Sangha.

Aloodawpyi Sayadaw Bhaddanta Arinchnabivamsa

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt gives instructions at the work coordination meeting on holding of the Fourth World Buddhist Summit. — MNA