Outstanding new generation youths vital for strong economy

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses prize presentation ceremony for outstanding students in matriculation and Mathematics Olympic Competition

It can be seen in the international arena nowadays that every country, besides employing advanced science and technologies in national interest, is striving to nurture youths with the aid of advanced science and technologies. The Union of Myanmar is also making relentless efforts to keep abreast of the international development. In so doing, the State, trusting the capabilities of the new generation youth, has laid down and is systematically implementing plans for nurturing all-rounders, promotion of education standards to the international level, and nurturing those who are well versed in advanced science and technologies starting from the basic education sector.

As progress of science and technologies of today affects all the development sectors, objectives of the education sector in the world of continuous development are required to be advanced and modern ones to keep pace with times. It is also needed to approach and overcome the new challenges with the aid of advanced science and technologies. Systematic education plans that favour the all-round development are, therefore, being implemented with a view to nurturing outstanding youths. At a time when education becomes the capability of the State, only when outstanding new generation youth can be nurtured through the education sector, will the national economy be strong with the development of the State. Similarly, only when an education system that favours the all-round development can effectively be implemented, will the State and new generation youths be able to stand on the sound foundation for the future.

Therefore, the State has laid down Myanma Education Goal — To create an Education System that can generate a constant learning society capable of facing the challenges of the Knowledge Age — and six objectives for long-term education plan — human resources development, effective utilization of advanced information and communication technologies in teaching and learning activities, conducting researches in the interest of the nation, creating a constant learning society, promotion of education standards to the international level, and preservation of national characteristics — and is implementing them harmoniously in the basic and higher education sectors.

Effectively implementing such programmes as nurturing basic education high school level outstanding students, learning subject combinations in the basic education high school level, effective utilization of advanced information and communication technologies in teaching and learning activities, and the emergence of all-round outstanding schools, the basic education sector is contributing much towards the emergence of highly qualified human resources.

An Auchant a dhamesu, to be diligent in Laws; this is the way to auspiciousness.
For boosting production of oil and natural gas

After laying down the twelve correct political, economic and social objectives, the State Peace and Development Council is making all-out efforts for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

The economic sector plays a key role in striving for all-round development of the political, economic and social sectors of the State.

On the self-reliance basis, the State, enlisting all possible capital and energy, has built development infrastructures to build strong economy.

As a result, sustainable economic growth has been achieved in manufacturing, service and trade sectors of the State.

To raise the development momentum, natural resources that lie abundantly in the nation such as oil and gas must be exploited systematically in the interest of the country.

As regards exploiting oil and gas, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, on 7 November, met with officials of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Energy and discussed matters relating to the functions of the ministry.

In his discussion Lt-Gen Soe Win said that not relying only on the old oil and gas fields, prospective new fields must be explored and oil and gas must be produced in accord with the guidance of the Head of State; and that as the ministry can earn foreign exchange for the country, efforts must be exerted to meet the set targets of the ministry.

In cooperation with foreign companies, the Ministry of Energy is exploiting oil and gas not only in offshore and inland blocks but from new gas fields in inland areas.

Departments and enterprises under the ministry are producing and distributing fertilizer, salt, liquefied gas, candle, gasoline, diesel, stoking oil, and oil for aircraft.

In producing oil and natural gas, appropriate measures must be taken not only for boosting production and minimizing loss and wastage but also for improvement of oil and gas production technologies.

Officials concerned are to make strenuous efforts for exploiting more oil and natural gas in accord with the guidance of the Head of State in order to better serve the national interest.

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 10 November, 2003

Lt-Gen Ye Myint attends communal Kathina robes offering ceremony in Mandalay

YANGON, 9 Nov — The Central Command and the battalions and units in Mandalay Station held the ninth communal Kathina robes offering ceremony at the Dhammayazika of Nannya Htain Yyepyin Myat Nywe and Dhammacheti of the Sangha, Chit San and Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Sathamma Jotikadha Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Visarrindas. Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint who attended also.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Sangha led by Joint Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Mahawizitayon Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Sathamma Jotikadha Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Visarrindas, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint's wife Daw Myat Nwe. Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Nay Win and wife, senior military officers of the command and their wives, Secretary of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo and departmental officials, officers and other ranks of the battalions and units and their families and friends.

The ceremony was opened with the three-time recitation of Namo Tassa. Next, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Joint Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Mahawizitayon Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Sathamma Jotikadha Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Visarrindas. Afterwards, members of the Sangha recited parittas.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented robes and offerings to Sayadaw. Next, wife of the commander and wife of deputy commander offered Kathina robes to members of the Sangha. Next, officials and well-wishers offered Kathina robes and provisions to members of the Sangha and Mahawizitayon Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Sathamma Jotikadha Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Visarrindas. After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and officials offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint together with Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint and officials attended the 12nd Kathina robes offering ceremony of Mandalay Division Myanma Posts and Telecommunications.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Nyaungkyaung Township in Chit San Township and paid homage to President Sayadaw Siripaya Dhammacariya Bhaddanta Sucitta.

Next, they offered Kathina robes to the Sayadaw. Lt-Gen Ye Myint handed over K 500,000 and 100 sets of Kathina robes for Kathina robes offering ceremony of Nyaungkyaung Township to officials.

Industry-2

Minister inspects No 1 Agricultural Machinery Factory

YANGON, 9 Nov—Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin on 7 November arrived at No 1 Agricultural Machinery Factory (Hisinde) of the Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Industries in Padaung Township, Bago Division and inspected production of parts of the machines and water pump and assembling of KND 5 B engines, pumps and power tillers.

Afterwards, the minister urged the officials to make efforts to meet the target and timely production of quality machines.

Next, the minister attended the coordination meeting on production and attended to the need.

At the meeting, officials concerned reported to him on arrangements for production of machinery parts for vehicles and agricultural machines.

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Military in Iraq deepens US resentment

TIKTIR, 9 Nov—Houses shook, walls cracked, chimneys swayed and children woke up screaming for their parents as US planes dropped 500-pound bombs on the outskirts of Saddam Hussein’s hometown.

The show of force late Friday and early Saturday was a warning to the 120,000 people of Tikrit not to support insurgents, suspected of shooting down a Black Hawk helicopter hours earlier, killing six soldiers.

But while it succeeded in scaring residents, the barrage only confirmed for many that the United States is their enemy.

Now that it’s over, I feel we have won a new lease on life,” said a retired police general, wearing a traditional Arab robe and looking fatigued after a sleepless night buffeted by the sounds of American fury. He and other residents across the city described a night of damage and disruption.

“The explosions and my grandchildren were screaming,” said Khalifa Raheem, a 70-year-old Bedouin woman, her face bearing the blue tattoos common in rural Iraqi Local people called the Americans “terrorists,” or “devils”.

Anti-US sentiment runs deep in this city, once a dusty backwater famous as the birthplace of the medieval Muslim general Saladin and the delicious watermelons grown along the banks of the muddy Tigris River.

Since the US 4th Infantry Division moved in last April, an Iraqi father

Musharrat describes visit to China, S Korea as excellent

ISLAMABAD, 9 Nov—Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf Friday described his visit to China and South Korea as excellent, according to independent News Network International.

On his return after a week-long visit to China and South Korea, Musharraf told reporters in Rawalpindi, twin city of Islamabad, that he had broad-based contact and interaction with the new Chinese leadership on economic and defence relationship. He was confident that positive result would emerge in both areas.

New gas reserve discovered in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 9 Nov—Indonesia Development Company Energy (KODECO Energy) and partner China Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) have discovered a significant natural gas reserve west of Madura Island, which could help ease the gas shortage in Indonesia’s East Java.

KODECO Energy chairman Choi Gye Wol said that the gas reserve, which is estimated to hold 15 million barrels of oil equivalent worth approximately 300 million US dollars at current prices, was found early this month at the KE-32 well in the West Madura offshore block.

“It was a surprise find,” Choi was quoted Saturday by the Jakarta Post as saying.

KODECO has been operating in Indonesia since 1963, but only started gas exploration in the late 1970s.

The company initially started in the timber business in South Kalimantan, and the exploration company KODECO was set up in 1982. However, the company could not make a single discovery and it was only confirmed for many that the United States is their enemy.

The two sides held similar opinions on a number of important international and regional issues, said Wu, adding that China and Bangladesh have passed the test of the volatile international situation, with mutual support and close cooperation between the two countries in international affairs.

Wu noted the party-to-party relations played an important role in the national relations, and the two sides could learn from each other and conduct wide exchanges, so as to enrich the bilateral ties.

The visit was believed to be a British passport holder of Iranian descent, the report quoted Scotland Yard as saying.

The lootied artifacts had made their way to Britain followed an operation by the specialist artists and antiques squad, said Scotland Yard, warning that their investigation are continuing.

It is estimated that thousand of antiquities have been looted from museums and archaeological sites across Iraq during the US-British coalition war on Iraq earlier this year. Some objects have already turned up for sale on the international arts market.

Iraq is historically known as Mesopotamia and seen as a birthplace of modern civilization.

CPC to promote relations with Bangladesh

BEIJING, 9 Nov—The Communist Party of China (CPC) attaches importance to relations with Bangladesh and all Bangladeshi political parties, said China’s top legislator Wu Bangguo here Friday.

In a meeting with Sheikh Hasina, chairwoman of the Bangladesh Awami League, Wu, chairman of the Standing Committee of China’s National People’s Congress (NPC) and a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, said the CPC is willing to move forward its friendly exchanges with all Bangladesh parties including the Awami League into a new high.

Wu said China and Bangladesh, as neighbours, had enjoyed friendly relations for more than 1,000 years, with frequent high-level exchanges and constant cooperation in such fields as politics, economy, culture and military.

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Aspirated the tremendous achievements China has made in its socialist construction.

US military chief warns of rogue missile attacks

ORLANDO (Florida), 9 Nov—General Richard Meyers, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, warned NATO allies on Saturday that terrorist forces were vulnerable to cruise missile attacks from rogue, non-state militants, saying “it won’t be long before that threat is upon us”.

Meyers spoke behind closed doors to the Defense and Security Committee of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, meeting in Florida.

The media was barred from the speech but in a recording obtained by Reuters, Meyers presented the threat from cruise missiles and short-range ballistic missiles as a hole in US and allied defences that could be exploited by “non-state actors”, which he did not further identify.

Romano Prodi’s representative Achilles Mitos delivers his lecture in Budapest, during the opening session of the World Science Forum.—Bavarian

Swiss unemployment climbs to five-year high

GENEVA, 9 Nov—The number of people out of work in Switzerland has passed the important psychological barrier of 150,000 for the first time in more than five years, an official report said Friday.

The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (Seco) announced that the number of registered unemployed in October had risen by 4,571 to 151,259, the highest since 1998.

“The increase is not as big as we’ve anticipated,” said Jean-Luc Nordmann, head of labour affairs at the Seco.

The latest data means that job fears will continue to drag down Switzerland’s sluggish domestic economy, but analysts are confident the situation will improve by mid2004.

Swiss Radio International reported that October’s better-than-expected figures have enabled the Economics Ministry to revise the average unemployment rate for the year down from 3.9 to 3.7 per cent.

October’s increase had been widely expected and the Seco predicted the situation will continue to worsen, peaking at around 160,000 in January 2004.

Police say some lootied Iraqi artifacts recovered in London

LONDON, 9 Nov—British police confirmed for the first time on Friday that some artifacts lootied from Baghdad Museum following the fall of Saddam Hussein’s regime have been found in London.

A number of men involved were arrested, including one at a central London gallery, according to a BBC report.

“The men were arrested in connection with allegations of handling stolen goods, one of them was said to be a 76-year-old man. He is believed to be a British passport holder of Iranian descent,” the report quoted Scotland Yard as saying.

The lootied artifacts had made their way to Britain followed an operation by the specialist artists and antiques squad, said Scotland Yard, warning that their investigations are continuing.

It is estimated that thousand of antiquities have been looted from museums and archaeological sites across Iraq during the US-British coalition war on Iraq earlier this year. Some objects have already turned up for sale on the international arts market.

Iraq is historically known as Mesopotamia and seen as a birthplace of modern civilization.

Internet
Clark steps up criticism of Bush on Iraq

ATLANTA, 9 Nov—Retired Gen. Wesley Clark stepped up his criticism of President Bush’s Iraq policies, telling college students that if elected next November, “I won’t get us into a mess like this again.”

Amid reports of a crash of a Black Hawk helicopter claiming six US soldiers in Iraq, the Democratic presidential hopeful used a speech Friday to assail the command in chief and argue that the United States shouldn’t have gone to war with Iraq.

“I think before you go to war, you’ve got to have exhausted all the diplomatic possibilities,” he said. “Clark told a Georgia Tech audience: “... I think you have to have a realistic plan for what happens after you turn loose the bombers and send the armed columns in. He didn’t.”

Repeating the points of the Iraq strategy he laid out Thursday, Clark said the country can succeed in Iraq by enlisting foreign help and turning the nation back to Iraq control soon. American troops should be reduced to a smaller, more agile strike force while the Iraqis guard the installations, help secure the borders and handle other security matters, he said.

“As president of the United States, I will never commit our forces unless we’ve got a real plan and the forces to execute it, and I will never commit our forces unless there is absolutely, absolutely, absolutely no other way,” he said.

Bush spokeswoman Lindsay Taylor called the criticism “appalling because he has previously been out there praising the President with regard to the war on terror.”

But since launching his campaign, she said, Clark “has thrown all conviction out the window and he is all over the map with regard to the war.”

During a short question-and-answer period with the audience and in a brief news conference later, Clark also criticized Bush for his education policies and handling of the economy.

With the Labour Department reporting Friday that payrolls grew by 126,000 last month, Clark said, “What you’ve got to remember is, 125,000 new jobs — that’s almost enough to keep up with new entrants into the labour force. What we’ve had is 3.3 million jobs lost.”

Clark spoke after a morning fund-raiser that local campaign worker, Gary Horlacher, said raised about $90,000 for the late-starting campaign. — Internet

US pounds Saddam hometown; Red Cross shuts offices

TURK (Iraq), 9 Nov—US warplanes and armoured vehicles pounded suspected guerrilla hideouts in former Iraqi president Saddams Hussein’s hometown on Saturday after six soldiers died in the shooting down of a Black Hawk helicopter.

The US Army said the offensive in Tikrit — which included the first use of warplanes dropping bombs since major combat was declared over May 1 — was a “show of force” designed to destroy possible hiding places for insurgents.

US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage told a news conference in Baghdad that Iraq was still a “war zone.”

“We are involved in an insurgency, and that’s pretty close to war,” Armitage said.

The International Committee of the Red Cross, fearful for the safety of its staff operating in Iraq, announced it was temporarily shutting its offices in the Iraqi capital Baghdad and the southern city of Basra.

In a new attack by insurgents in the volatile town of Fallujah, west of Baghdad, two US soldiers were killed and one wounded when a roadside bomb was detonated near their convoy.

Meanwhile, the US military said it had captured one of Saddam’s former bodyguards near Kirkuk and troops captured 12 people suspected of involvement in a deadly attack on a Baghdad hotel where US Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz was staying.

Brigadier-General Martin Dempsey, commander of the US Army’s 1st Armoured Division, said the suspects appeared to have links to the former regime of ousted president Saddam Hussein. — MNA/Reuters

China vows to deepen fiscal reform

China will deepen fiscal and accelerate the improvement of the public finance system, said Lou Jiwei, Chinese Vice-Minister of Finance, here on Friday.

Addressing the Forum of the World Economic Development and China on Thursday, on 6 November, 2003, in the Stanislaus National Forest near Upland, Calif., Timothy Evans, a soil scientist with the National Forest Service, gathers dirt samples at the site of the Grand Prix Fire.

India will allocate more tax to rural development and China on Thursday, 6 November, 2003, in the Stanislaus National Forest near Upland, Calif., Timothy Evans, a soil scientist with the National Forest Service, gathers dirt samples at the site of the Grand Prix Fire.

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US FACES INTENSIFIED RESISTANCE IN IRAQ

Bomb blast rips heavily armoured personnel carrier killing two US soldiers in Iraq

FALUJAH, 9 NOV—Two US soldiers died in Iraq when a bomb ripped their heavily armoured Bradley personnel carrier, as insurgents escalated their attacks on the Americans.

As the latest deaths were announced, visiting US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage said the US administration was “sobered” by attacks against coalition troops in flashpoint areas of Iraq, a country he called “a war zone”.

ICRC closes offices

At the same time, the International Committee of the Red Cross announced it was temporarily closing its offices in Baghdad and the southern city of Basra. The powerful bomb blast just outside the powderkeg town of Fallujah came only a day after a Blackhawk military helicopter crashed, as alarm grew that anti-US combatants were developing weaponry that could take down the US tanks and choppers.

The Bradley had a gaping hole in its rear. The vehicle was still ablaze and spewing black smoke hours after the attack.

Ripped apart

The heavily armored personnel carrier differs only slightly from a tank. It would mark the second time since US troops invaded Iraq in March that insurgents have ripped apart US armor with their explosives.

The first incident was on October 29 when an M1 Abrams tank was hit by a bomb, killing two crew members near the northeastern town of Balad.

Enemy fire

Saturday’s blast came as the US military was probing the crash Friday of a Blackhawk helicopter near Tikrit, which killed six US soldiers. The US military said neither enemy fire nor a mechanical failure could be ruled out.

However, US soldiers have speculated that the chopper was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, as was the case on October 25 when a Blackhawk crashed near the town, leaving one soldier wounded. — Internet

US officer confirms helicopter in Iraq shot down

TIKRIT, 9 NOV—A US helicopter which crashed in Iraq Friday killing all six people aboard was shot down, a US officer said Saturday.

Brought down by ground fire

“We do believe it was brought down by ground fire,” said Lt Col Steve Russell of the 4th Infantry Division based in Saddam Hussein’s hometown of Tikrit where the helicopter was brought down. — Internet

A US soldier, his pants covered with blood, takes position in front of a burning Bradley fighting vehicle following an attack outside Fallujah. The US military confirmed that two US soldiers were killed when their vehicle struck an improvised explosive device. — Internet

A man looks at the ruins on the destroyed headquarters of the Red Cross in Baghdad, Saturday 8 November, 2003. The International Red Cross, already planning to reduce staff in Iraq following an attack on its Baghdad headquarters, said Saturday it is temporarily closing much of its operation in the country because of general dangers. — Internet

A US soldier covers the body of a comrade who was killed following an explosion in Iraq. Two US soldiers were killed and one wounded when their military vehicle struck an improvised explosive device in the flashpoint Iraqi town of Fallujah. — Internet

US Army soldiers are alerted by the sound of gunshots while searching for attackers after central Baghdad was rocked by explosions on Tuesday. Insurgents have fired at least three mortars or rockets at the heart of the US-led administration in the Iraqi capital Baghdad, wounding four people in the second brazen attack on the compound in as many nights. — Internet

Internet
Prime Minister Khin Nyunt inspects Water Treatment Plant Construction Projects and upgrading tasks along Yangon port area

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt this afternoon inspected Water Treatment Plant Construction Project being implemented by Yangon City Development Committee in Thanlyin-soon, Botataung Township, and upgrading tasks along Yangon port area carried out by Myanmar Port Authority and the Ministry of Transport.

Accompanied by officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the Prime Minister arrived at the water treatment plant construction project in Thanlyinsoon at 3 pm. He was welcomed there by Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Myint Hla Myint Swe, Deputy Minister U Pe Than, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials.

First, Head of Department U Tun Than of YCDC reported to the Prime Minister on progress of work in building the water treatment plant, collection of machinery and civil, mechanical and electrical tasks.

Joint-Secretary U Kyi Win of YCDC reported on collection of machinery needed for building the plant and technology applied in cities of the world in building water treatment plant. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe gave a supplementary report.

The Prime Minister gave necessary instructions. Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspected the construction task and gave instructions to officials.

The Prime Minister and party next arrived at the briefing hall of project for upgrading roads on river bank in Botataung Township.

Deputy Minister U Pe Than reported to the Prime Minister on work being carried out in accord with the instructions given by the Prime Minister for upgrading of roads on river bank in Botataung Township, building of new embankment along the port from Botataung Market Road to Botataung Pagoda Road, erecting lamps posts and building of pavements and car parks.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe reported on matters relating to assistance given for timely completion of the project.

The Prime Minister gave instruction saying that as measures are being taken phase by phase for Yangon capital to be on a par with cities of the world, officials concerned are to strive for ensuring completion of the work neat and tidy and its durability.

Next, the Prime Minister inspected progress of work in upgrading Botataung port area.

The Prime Minister inspected upgrading tasks in Lanmadaw and Kyimyindaing Township port areas.

The Prime Minister and party proceeded to the briefing hall of Kyimyindaing Township Vakara jetty Development Project implemented by Asia World Company.

After hearing report presented by Managing Director U Tun Myint Naing of the company on concrete road to be constructed at Vakara jetty and arrangements being made for building embankment and pavements, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions.

Upgrading tasks are being carried out from Botataung Township to Kyimyindaing Township. The project covers six-lane road construction, renovating the pavements and growing shady trees and flowers. Moreover, measures are being taken for upgrading port areas. The tasks include building motorway and car parks in port areas, growing shady trees and flowers, erecting high mast lamps, renovating jetties, goods shed and recreation centres, building pavements, benches and embankments.

On the occasion, the Secretary-1 and the Secretary-2 said Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye visited Taninthayi Division last October and met with oil-palm growing entrepreneurs. Therefore, they had a chance to learn targeted areas of oil-palm, cultivated acreage, arrangements for cultivation of oil-palm, and requirements for building crude palm-oil mills. They continued. As oil-palms were now beginning to bear bunches of nuts, necessary measures must be taken to build crude palm-oil mills and palm-oil refineries and extend the cultivation of oil-palm.

They were meeting with the entrepreneurs to immediately fulfil the requirements and pecuniary and machinery difficulties of entrepreneurs submitted during the visit of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye to Taninthayi Division. The Secretary-1 and the Secretary-2 said that the Head of State had given guidance to fulfill the essential needs of oil-palm entrepreneurs with a view to meeting the success in oil-palm cultivation as targeted, and invited the entrepreneurs to submit their practical and essential requirements at the meeting.

Oil-palm enterprises of Taninthayi Division such as Taitay Co, SI Co, Shwekhandaw Co, Asia World Co, Pokaung Co, Kanbawza Co, Steel Stone Co, Dagon Timber Co, South Dagon Co, Yuzana and Annawa Tun Co, Shwe Padonna Co, Myan Naing Myint Co and Vintage Co reported on completion of oil-palm cultivation tasks and requirements for building crude palm-oil mills. Next, Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin and Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone reported on assistance rendered to the oil-palm cultivation enterprises by the respective ministries and future tasks.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and the Secretary-2 fulfilled the requirements. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects development tasks of Bago ya jetty in Kyimyindaing Township. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win gives instructions at the meeting with oil-palm entrepreneurs. — MNA

Secretary-1 and Secretary-2 meet oil-palm entrepreneurs

YANGON, 9 Nov — Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein of the State Peace and Development Council met with oil-palm entrepreneurs at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Maung Aye to Taninthayi Division, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and the Ministry of Commerce, and national entrepreneurs who grow oil-palm in Taninthayi Division.

On the occasion, the Secretary-1 and the Secretary-2 said Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye visited Taninthayi Division last October and met with oil-palm growing entrepreneurs. Therefore, they had a chance to learn targeted areas of oil-palm, cultivated acreage, arrangements for cultivation of oil-palm, and requirements for building crude palm-oil mills. They continued. As oil-palms were now beginning to bear batches of nuts, necessary measures must be taken to build crude palm-oil mills and palm-oil refineries and extend the cultivation of oil-palm.
Lao PDR Premier Mr Boungnang Vorachith and party arrive to attend Four-Country Business Forum

YANGON, 9 Nov — Prime Minister of Lao People’s Democratic Republic Mr Boungnang Vorachith and party arrived here by Special Aircraft this morning to attend the Four-Country (CLMT) Business Forum to be hosted in Myanmar. The Laoستان Prime Minister and party were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung and Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win and officials and embassy staff of Laos to Myanmar. Next, they arrived at Sedona Hotel where they are going to put up. The Laoستان Prime Minister was accompanied by the Deputy Prime Minister, Ministers, Deputy Ministers and high-ranking officials. — MNA

Border area development

Myint Soe (Na-ta-la)

(Continued from yesterday)

I had been to Pachakalo, Kyauktalon and Kyauktan villages in the 1980s on military duties. Those villages now have station hospitals. Even a small village like Naung-yin-don has a dispensary. Naung-yin-don was the place where one of my soldiers, Naung Ma, sacrificed his life for the national cause. Naungdaw, a hamlet, with only 20 or 25 huts in the past, has become a crowded village where a middle school and a dispensary are located. Haikhaung, Loput and Htwepu villages will be accessible by rail soon. The sweet pineapples of Loi-hsan-sit can be easily transported by rail to Taunggyi. The development of Kyauktalon region is significant. Tikyit and Nongtaya have been more than villages since in the past. Those villages are now having unprecedented development as a coal-fired power station is under construction in the region. A small village called Pangan lying west of Haikhaung now has a middle school and is fully enjoying peace and stability. My column built trenches and bunkers at the village during its short stay there.

Regional development

The regional development is not created by any divinity or achieved without any efforts of man either. It is the result of the collective endeavours of the State and the peace groups that have come back to the legal fold. The PNO led by U Aung Kham Htun has returned to the legal fold on 18 February 1991, and the Ya-la-pha under the command of U Ta Kale, on 9 October 1994. We have witnessed unity and the noble conviction of the Pa-O national people.

Due to the instigation of the BCP, some of the Pa-O were divided into the PNO (White Pa-O) and the Ya-la-pha (Red Pa-O) both of which put up armed opposition against the State. But they are now united in launching regional development undertakings, and without making any discrimination, they are carrying out regional development tasks with same conviction and belief. Both peace groups said that the State could set up a certain fund of K 5 million for regional development as they would be fulfilled by the regional people. Accordingly, many self-reliant projects have emerged in the Pa-O region. When the Government set up a fund of K 5 million for regional development, the regional people were ready to make it a 100 million project. The national races of Shan State including the Shan and the Pa-O are always generous to contribute cash or kind for regional development, social affairs and religious matters.

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

President of Myanmar Hockey Federation Brig-Gen Myo Myint presents a gift to Managing Director U Myint Naing of Nagapali General Enterprises that donated K 1 million for Shwemwaya Invitational Hockey Cup at the prize presentation held at Theinbyu hockey pitch on 8 November. — (a)

(The Continued)

(Translation: TMT)


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
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses...

(from page 1)

As the education system that encourages the individual student to study a subject which promises success for him or her according to his or her talents, personality, skills and interests has been introduced since 2000-2001 academic year, increasing number of favourable conditions for the nurturing of outstanding youths have emerged. These are the conspicuous progress of the education sector.

The significant point of this year’s prize presentation is prizes will be presented to the students who were outstanding in the 2003 matriculation exam as well as those who were outstanding in Mathematics Olympic Competition.

In addition, Mathematics Olympic Competition for tenth standard students was launched in 2002 with the aim of producing those who are outstanding in Mathematics in basic education level, of training the students who were outstanding in the higher mathematics and matriculation exam as well as in enhancing the education standard.

At present, the basic education is being pursued in 40121 basic education schools with over 223 million teachers and 7.64 million students. It amounts to one-third of the whole population, has increased. Therefore, prizes were presented to ten students who are outstanding in Mathematics who stood first in the whole nation with the highest marks in 2002-2003 academic year matriculation examination.

The third prize went to six-distinction winner Min Cho of BEHS-2 Kamayut and five-distinction winner Maung Kyaw Min Oo of BEHS-1 Dagon Township, Yangon Division.

The fourth prize went to six-distinction winner Maung Kyaw Htet Aung of Yangon Institute of Education Practising School, five-distinction winner Ma Thiri Wai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung Township, Yangon Division and six-distinction winner Ma Hsu Mon Thwai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung.

The fifth prize was awarded to six-distinction winner Maung Sai Kamsoe of BEHS-1 Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay and six-distinction winner Ma Hsai Saw Hnun of BEHS-2 Kamayut.

The sixth prize went to six-distinction winner Maung Kyaw Min Oo of BEHS-1 Dagon Township, Yangon Division.

The seventh prize went to five-distinction winner Maung Kyaw Aung of Yangon Institute of Education Practising School, five-distinction winner Ma Thiri Wai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung Township, Yangon Division and six-distinction winner Ma Hsu Mon Thwai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung.

The eighth prize went to five-distinction winner Maung Kyaw Htet Aung of Yangon Institute of Education Practising School, five-distinction winner Ma Thiri Wai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung Township, Yangon Division and six-distinction winner Ma Hsu Mon Thwai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung.

The ninth prize went to six-distinction winner Maung Kyaw Htet Aung of Yangon Institute of Education Practising School, five-distinction winner Ma Thiri Wai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung Township, Yangon Division and six-distinction winner Ma Hsu Mon Thwai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung.

The tenth prize was awarded to six-distinction winner Maung Kyaw Htet Aung of Yangon Institute of Education Practising School, five-distinction winner Ma Thiri Wai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung Township, Yangon Division and six-distinction winner Ma Hsu Mon Thwai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung.

The Prime Minister also presented awards to three-distinction winner Maung Kyaw Htet Aung of Yangon Institute of Education Practising School, five-distinction winner Ma Thiri Wai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung Township, Yangon Division and six-distinction winner Ma Hsu Mon Thwai of BEHS-2 Syangyoung.

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses three-distinction winner Sa Ai Hwe of BEHS Kuypaw, Ayeyawady Division.

Afterswards, Minister for Education U Than Aung presented awards to the winners of Myanmar Mathematics Olympiad Competitions. The first prize went to Ma May Nwe Lwin of BEHS-4, Taunggyi, Shan State; the second prize to Ma Thein Oo of BEHS-2 Lahta Township; and the third prize to Maung Lwin Hoo Naung of BEHS-1, Monywa, Sagaing Division. (There were no first and fifth prize winners in Arts Combination.)

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses the Work Coordination Meeting on Upgrading of Surroundings of Kandawgyi Garden and Yangon Zoological Gardens.

Press conference on 13th Asian Archery Championship and Athens Olympic Qualifier for 2004 held

YANGON, 9 NOV — A press conference on 13th Asian Archery Championship and Athens Olympic Qualifier for 2004 hosted by Myanmar Archery Federation Dr Khin Shwe explained about Archer Thin Thin Khine of Myanmar who is qualified for World Olympic Archery Contest, performance of Myanmar Archery Team in 13th Asian Archery Championships and Athens Olympic Qualifier for 2004 and arrangements being made for Myanmar Archery Team to participate in Southeast Asian Archery Competition.

YANGON, 9 NOV — The events of the 13th Asian Archery Championships and Athens Olympic Qualifier for the 2004 held in the Union of Myanmar successfully concluded at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) on Waizayanta Street, Thingangyun Township today.

13th Asian Archery Championships and Athens Olympic Qualifier for 2004 concludes successfully

Chairman of Leading Committee for Holding the Archery Competitions Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, oversailed the惬意 unanimous sentiments of students.

Minister General Khin Nyunt had a documentary photo taken together with the prize-winning students. The Prime Minister, next, cordially greeted the outstanding students.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win presents a prize and diploma to a winners in men’s event of 13th Asian Archery Championship and Athens Olympic Archery Qualifier for 2004. (News on page 16) — MNA.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sen presents a prize and diploma to a winners in women’s event of 13th Asian Archery Championship and Athens Olympic Archery Qualifier for 2004. (News on page 16) — MNA.

The seventh prize went to three-distinction winner Maung Aung Thura of BEHS-2, Hinthada, Ayeyawady Division.

The eighth prize went to two-distinction winner Ma Thin Thin Myat of BEHS- 6, Myaungmya, Ayeyawady Division.

The ninth prize went to three-distinction winner Sa Ai Hwe of BEHS Kuypaw, Ayeyawady Division.

The tenth prize went to two-distinction winner Ma Nyin Nyin Aye of BEHS- 1, Nyaungdon, Ayeyawady Division.

The title page of a magazine titled "The New Light of Myanmar."
MAF secures second grade in the qualifier for World Olympics
Myanmar selected archer Thin Thin Khine on her way to Athens Olympics

In line with the directive given by Prime Minister of the State General Khin Nyunt to Dr Khin Shwe to form Myanmar Archery Federation, the federation came into existence in 1995, and now it has entered its eighth year and taken part in the competitions in over 30 countries.

The 13th Asian Archery Championship and archery qualifiers for Athens Olympics, both of which have been hosted in Myanmar, may be seen as the honour the Asian Archery Federation has granted to Myanmar in recognition of the MAF’s skillfulness in spite of its young existence. It is an encouraging sign that Thin Thin Khine of MAF rated second in the archery qualifier for the World Olympics to be held in Athens although her Indonesian rival beat her 106-99.

The Indonesian team is over 50 years old and its experience is far greater when compared with that of the 8-year MAF. It is four years that Thin Thin Khine has joined the MAF. She became a selected archer of Myanmar in less than one year and won gold in the Asian Archery Round 2000 held in Thailand.

For the success of the MAF, Dr Khin Shwe spent over K 200 million on purchase of archery gear, salaries for athletes, the hiring of a Korean trainer, all the expenses of athletes for over 30 foreign archeries, and suchlike. Asian countries like Korea, Japan, China and India hold first, second, third and fourth positions in the World Archery Championships, and Korea has been the champion for over 20 years. According to Dr Khin Shwe, aims have been set on securing a world-level position for the MAF and at the same time concentrated measures will be taken to host the World Archery Championship in ten years.

A total of 22 teams from 20 countries took part in the 13th Asian Archery Championship, which is therefore now regarded as a competition with highest number of participating countries and teams in 20 years. What’s more, it is also a milestone for Myanmar. In particular, athletes from various countries witnessed the stability and tranquillity prevailing in Myanmar.

The archers from participating countries took great delight at the bow loading senses of Yama Lakhsana and Dathagiri, which was presented by the Ministry of Culture at the opening ceremony of the 13th Asian Archery Championship held on 3 November. Dr Ugor Edener, Vice-Chairman of the World Archery Federation, spoke words of praise, noting the ceremony as the grandest one.

He also eulogised Dr Khin Shwe and athletes for their endeavours to write success stories in such short a time as Thin Thin Khine was qualified for the World Olympics to be held in Athens, and promised technological assistance.

With the assistance of Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee and Chairman for Sports, the MAF is recruiting youths of the new generation from Chin, Shan, Kayin and Mon States and providing training to them to be in high calibre.

All in all, Myanmar archers are trying their utmost to be able to penetrate into the world archery in the near future in accord with the motto “Not quantity but quality that matters”.

Translation: KTY

First Anti-AIDS Exhibition continues

YANGON, 9 Nov — The First Anti-AIDS Exhibition, organized by the Ministry of Health continued as the seventh day at the Tamadaw Convention Centre on U Wisara Road, Dagon Township from 9 am to 6 pm today. The exhibition was crowded with the visitors.

Booths of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Rail Transportation, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, UN Agencies, International Social Organizations, Social Organizations in Myanmar and Pharmaceutical Companies are on display.

The exhibition provided educative programmes on prevention and combating the HIV/AIDS with the use of VCD and Video Tapes and there is a computer quiz on HIV/AIDS. The exhibition continues tomorrow.

Drug dealers sentenced

YANGON, 9 Nov — A combined team comprising members of Local Intelligence Unit and Mogok Police Station, acting on information, seized Aik Aye who was inside the hut near 1.75 acres of opium plantation on Lwe Mon ridge, about 5 miles east of Paloung Kyaungkhan village, Mogok Township on 9 March, 2003.

In connection with the case, action was taken against Aik Aye, son of U Naw Win of Paloung Kyaungkhan village, Mogok Township under Section 15(16a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Mogok Police Station.

Mogok Township Court, on 1st September, handed down on Aik Aye to five years’ imprisonment under Section 15 and seven years’ imprisonment under Section 16(a).

Similarly, a combined team comprising members of Local Intelligence Unit, Monywa Special Anti-Drugs Squad and Monywa Police Station, acting on information, searched Maung Ta Lun Aung who was putting up in Hlaingpya Guest House, and seized him with 11 packets of heroin weighing 0.2183 kilos inside the plastic ice box.

In connection with the case, action was taken against Maung Ta Lun Aung, son of U Sarti Yong of Zayhoung, Haka under Section 15(19a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Monywa No 1 Police Station.

Monywa District Court on 3 October, 2003, handed down on Maung Ta Lun Aung to life sentence under Section 19(a).

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
Second best time is now.
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

Chin State, located in the far corners of the nation, is now witnessing progress in all sectors including the health, communication, livestock breeding and social sectors. The photo shows the Microwave Station in Falam, Chin State.

PHOTO: MNA

The Var bridge was built on Kale-Haka road in Falam Township, Chin State in March 1998. The bridge is 150 feet long.— PHOTO: SHWEINNTHA KHIN MAUNG WIN (KVEMON)

Kattel suspension bridge across Manipur river in Tiddim Township, Chin State. It is 480 feet long and 10 feet 9 inches wide. The bridge is located on Tiddim-Kattel-Rei Lake motor road. The clearance under the bridge is 350 feet wide and 20 feet high. It can bear 10 tons of loads. The Kattel bridge was opened on 25-4-2002.

MNA
China to expand trade with Serbia, Montenegro

BEIJING, 9 Nov — China would take further measures to expand the scale of its trade and economic cooperation with Serbia and Montenegro, said Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao here on Friday.

During his meeting with visiting Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Zivkovic in Beijing, Wen said the Chinese Government treasured its traditional friendship with Serbia and Montenegro. He said China was ready to push forward the mutually beneficial cooperation between the two sides.

Wen said the two countries should take measures to deepen mutual understanding, explore new areas of cooperation, enrich methods of cooperation and expand the scale of trade and economic cooperation. Zivkovic said the Serbian side highly praised the important role that China played in international and regional affairs. He said the Chinese premier's visit to Serbia and Montenegro marked a new era of bilateral relations.

Chinese surgeons replace thigh for 99-year-old

Hefei, 9 Nov — A Chinese hospital in east China's Anhui Province has succeeded in surgically replacing the thigh of a 99-year-old woman.

Such an operation on a senior citizen of that age was very rare, according to doctors of the Shushan Hospital, a branch of the First People's Hospital of the provincial capital of Hefei on Friday.

Liang Chunzhen, the old woman patient, is a local of Changfeng County in Hefei, who fell over and broke her right thigh in June 2002.

The hospital decided to replace the broken bone with an artificial one. The surgeons noted that Liang was "at ease" and looked "composed" during the operation, and chatted casually with nurses. — MNA/Xinhua
India improves ties with Myanmar

NEW DELHI, 9 Nov — India’s Vice-President Bhairon Singh Shekhwat ended his five-day official visit to Myanmar on Thursday, during which a number of important agreements were signed.

Shekhwat is the first Indian leader to visit Myanmar in 16 years. Rajiv Gandhi visited the country in 1987 as prime minister.

Shekhwat’s visit to Myanmar shows India attaches high priority to its relations with Myanmar, its neighbouring country. During the visit, the two sides held discussions on economic and trade issues and on checking insurgent activity in the border areas with satisfied results.

Foreign Secretary Kanwal Sibal told reporters that the two sides had established a mechanism to cooperate, assuring that peace and stability would be maintained on the border.

The discussions on strengthening bilateral relations between Indian and Myanmar leaders were cordial and fruitful, according to Sibal. During the talks, Shekhwat also pledged to continue to support Myanmar in economic activities as well as human resource development.

In this context, during the current year, India and Myanmar have signed five agreements. India has also extended a credit line of $25 million dollars to the government of Myanmar.

During Shekhwat’s stay in Myanmar, there were extended discussions between the two sides on the development projects in which India is involved. The trilateral highway project between India, Myanmar and Thailand, to which all the three countries are committed, was also included in the talks.

Shekhwat said that a number of cross-border projects would help enhance trade and increase economic opportunities for people in the border areas.

“India attaches high priority to relations with Myanmar and its people. We wish to have a stable, peaceful and prosperous Myanmar and a vibrant relationship between our two countries,” he said.

Observing that cooperation between India and Myanmar has acquired a truly multidimensional character, the vice-president said the two sides are today cooperating in diverse fields, ranging from culture and science to science and technology. — MNA/Reuters

Chinese, Nepali universities agree on collaboration in education

KATHMANDU, 9 Nov — Henan University of China and Tribhuvan University of Nepal signed here Friday a memorandum of understanding on student exchange and overall collaboration in education, The Rising Nepal newspaper reported Saturday.

“This is the first time a Chinese university signed such a memorandum of understanding with a country of South Asia,” the state-run English daily quoted Mahendra Prasad Singh, rector of Tribhuvan University, as saying.

“The system is coming up and it’s taken two big shots at us,‛ John Kohl of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Massachusetts, thêm hơn.

This image photographed at about midnight Alaska Standard time, on 30 Oct. 2003 shows aurora over the Matanuska glacier and the Chugach mountains in the southeast sky. The Matanuska glacier is about 100 miles northeast of Anchorage. Without any moon, the glacier doesn’t show very well. A second huge magnetic solar storm hit Earth Thursday, just a day after an earlier one hurtled into the planet in what one astronomer called an unprecedented one-two punch. ‘It’s like the Earth is looking right down the barrel of a giant gun pointed at us by the sun ... and it’s taken two big shots at us,’ said John Kohl of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Massachusetts. — Reuters

Power blackout hits most of Chile

SANTIAGO, 9 Nov — Most of Chile lost power in a major blackout on Friday evening, snarling rush hour traffic in the capital.

The blackout began at about 7:20 pm (2220 GMT), and power was back in about a third of the affected areas at 9:00 pm (2300 GMT), National Electricity Superintendent Sergio Espejo told Televisión Nacional television network.

He said the country’s energy grid was down for an unknown reason and gave no other explanation for the blackout, which was total in a large part of central and southern Chile.

He said all power sources were back up by about 10:00 pm.

“The system is coming up bit by bit and once everything is normalized we’ll begin investigations,” he said.

MNA/Reuters

Malaysian coalition supports Govt efforts to curb corruption

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 Nov — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Friday that the ruling Barisan Nasional (BN) component party leaders will stand behind the government’s efforts to curb corruption.

Speaking to reporters after chairing the BN Supreme Council meeting which unanimously endorsed him as BN coalition’s candidate, Abdullah said he had explained to the BN component party leaders the measures initiated by the government to eradicate corrupt practices.

BN, the ruling coalition now groups 14 political parties in the country, was set up in 1973.

“It is essential that we rid our government of corruption...and I have been assured of the support of all those present,” he said.

Abdullah said that corruption was a disease to be rid of seriously and effectively.

On Wednesday, Abdullah told reporters after chairing his first Cabinet meeting that he had demanded each ministry to take a task force to reduce bureaucracy because inefficiency could lead to corruption.

In this context, Abdullah, who is also Home Minister, said that measures taken to curb corruption must be implemented speedily and effectively.

Abdullah said that the BN leaders had renewed their undertaking at the meeting to prove the government’s integrity and capability to work for the people.

“...And to project a positive image so that the people are confident of our ability and capability to continue to administer and pursue the agenda of national development,” he said.

MNA/Xinhua

China to improve public sanitation utilities

ZHENGZHOU, 9 Nov— Chinese Minister of Construction Wang Guangtuo said here Friday that China will further increase investment in public sanitation and infrastructure construction so as to ensure better service in urban and rural areas.

Wang told a forum of the World Economic Development Declaration Conference being held in this coastal city of southern China’s Guangdong Province that China had made “great achievements” in its public facilities construction as water supply has increased by 8.5 per cent of its urban areas while the urban sewage treatment water management rate hit 39.97 per cent by 2002.

About 54.24 per cent of garbage has been treated to eliminate poison, and China’s urban gardening rate has neared 30 per cent.

But there is still imbalances in China’s regional development, said the minister, noting that China’s central and western parts are still weak in infrastructure construction, especially in the rural areas. — MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

Thai PM announces sweeping Cabinet reshuffle

BANGKOK, 9 Nov — The Thai Government officially announced the Cabinet reshuffle list here Saturday evening.

According to the list, three current Cabinet members from Chart Party — Prime Minister Khorn Dabbaranon, Labour Minister Suwat Liptapanlop, and Deputy Health Minister Prapanpong — all have been dumped, scaling the exclusion of the party from the Thai Rak Thai Party (TRT)-led ruling coalition.

Khorn lost his position, while Suwat and Prapanpong were replaced by the former culture minister Urawan Suwitpong and TRT’s new face Chamlong Srimuang respectively.

Urawan, who is the wife of Sanoh Thintong, a fac- tion leader in TRT, was ap- pointed as Labour Minister. Anurak Jureemas, former minister of social development and human security, re- placed Urawan as Cultural Minister and former minis- ter of agriculture Sora-at Kintpratthum was removed to succeed Anurak’s former position.

Former commerce minister Adisai Bodharamik was appointed as Education Minister. Thaksin announced the merger of another coalition partner, the New Attraction Party, within the TRT ranks.

Thaksin has reshuffled the Cabinet for seven times since he won the position of Prime Minister in the general elec- tion in 2001. — MNA/Xinhua

The New Light of Myanmar Monday, 10 November, 2003 13
Dimba equals Brazilian scoring record

Re de Janeiro, 9 Nov.—Goias striker Dimba equaled the Brazilian championship scoring record with two goals in a 4-1 win over Atletico Paranaense.

He took his tally to 29, one ahead of Sao Paulo striker Henrique Fabiano and level with Edmundo’s total for Vasco da Gama in 1997. Dimba has a maximum of five more matches to break the record.

He struck in a three-minute spell before half-time, set up by striker partner Grafite in the 41st minute and then finishing off a counter-attack by neatly slipping the ball under Atletico goalkeeper Diego.

Grafite had scored the first goal while Araujo completed the rout with a 90th-minute left. Goias defender Fabao put through his own goal for Atletico’s consolation.

Dimba’s exploits have helped take Goias from bottom of the table earlier in the championship to eighth and given them an outside chance of qualifying for next year’s South American Liberadores Cup. Bahia moved out of the relegation zone with a 1-0 win over Ponte Preta. Didi scoring in the second half. Bahia climbed to 21st in the 24-team table and left Fortaleza alongside Gremio at the bottom. — MNA/Reuters

Late Cassano strikes saves Roma against Hajduk

Rome, 9 Nov.—A last-minute goal by striker Antonio Cassano earned AS Roma a precious but laboured 1-0 victory against Hajduk Split in a UEFA Cup second round, first-leg match on Thursday.

The home side dominated throughout, but could not find the knockout blow against their unfancied Croatian opponents until the 90th minute, when striker John Carew nodded home a goal by Cannavaro.

“People can talk as much as they like, but I’d just like to let people to know that my wife is very happy here,” Beckham told reporters in Madrid. “But the thing is, she’s always going to be here and going to the Champions League and America and that is the reason why she is not here every day.” — MNA/Reuters

Cassano earned AS Roma a precious but laboured 1-0 first-leg match on Thursday.

Beckham moves to quash rumours over marriage

Madrid, 9 Nov.—Real Madrid midfielder David Beckham moved on Thursday to quash rumours that his marriage is in difficulties because wife Victoria has spent so little time with him in the Spanish capital.

The England captain insisted that he is happier than ever following his 35-million-euro (40.04-million-US-dollar) move from Manchester United to Real in the summer.

“People can talk as much as they like, but I’d just like to let people to know that my wife is very happy here,” Beckham told reporters in Madrid. “But the thing is, she’s always going to be here and going to the Champions League and America and that is the reason why she is not here every day.” — MNA/Reuters

Mihajlovic gives eight-match ban for kicking, spitting

Nyon (Switzerland), 9 Nov.—Sisina Mihajlovic of Laos was suspended for eight matches by UEFA’s Disciplinary Committee on Friday after being sent off against Chelsea in Tuesday’s Champions League match in Rome. He was also fined 20,000 Swiss francs (14,560 dollars) for what UEFA described as his “particularly unsporting behaviour” and also because of his poor previous disciplinary record.

The severe punishment was imposed after he spat at and kicked Chelsea players during his side’s 4-0 home defeat and for “improper conduct” towards a UEFA official after being sent off for two bookable offences.

The decision means he is unlikely to play again for Laos in any more European matches this season. The club have until midnight on Monday to appeal the decision. — MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle

Justine Henin-Hardenne of Belgium eyes a backhand against US player Jennifer Capriati during round robin play with a win here on Thursday.

Clippers advances to WTA C’ship semifinals

Los Angeles, 9 Nov.—Defending champion Kim Clijsters advanced to the semifinals of the WTA Championship while Justine Henin-Hardenne opened her world number one challenge with a win here on Thursday.

Clijsters thrashed American Chanda Rubin 6-4, 6-2 after her Red Group round robin match and Henin saw off Russian Anastasia Myskina 7-5, 5-7, 7-5 in two hours and 32 minutes in Black Group.

Henin took an injury time out and was treated by a WTA trainer for a sinus infection. After having her blood pressure and heart rate measured, Henin quickly regained her composure and claimed five straight games.

Myskina took the second set and was two points from winning the match at 5-4 but failed to capitalize on the opportunity. Henin, the French and US Open champion, then broke the Russian to 6-5 when Myskina sent a forehand into the net.

Henin, who must reach the semifinals to take the number one ranking from her compatriot Clijsters, faces Jennifer Capriati on Friday in a rematch of their spectacular US Open semifinal.

French fourth seed Amelie Mauresmo, who went down 6-4, 4-6, 2-6 to Rubin on Wednesday, defeated Russian Elena Dementieva 6-3, 6-2 to win her first singles in the Red Group. Mauresmo must defeat Clijsters on Friday to qualify for the semifinals.

Rubin also has a chance of making the semifinals if she beats Dementieva. — MNA/Reuters

Blackburn, Wolves allowed keepers on loan

London, 9 Nov.—Blackburn Rovers have signed Aston Villa goalkeeper Peter Enckelman on a month’s loan, following given permission by the Premier League, the club said on Friday.

Rivals Wolverhampton Wanderers have also been granted permission to sign a goal-keeper on loan for a similar period as cover for Matt Murray, who is out for six weeks with a fractured cheekbone. — MNA/Reuters

Transfers are not normally allowed out-
side the two official windows — end of the season to August 31 and during January — but special dispensation is given for goalkeepers in an injury crisis such as Blackburn’s, a Premier League spokesman said.

Wolves manager David Jones is expected to sign a keeper next week. With Murray out for at least six weeks he may have to seek permission again from the Premier League for an extension to the loan signing.

Reserve Michael Oakes’ understudy is inexperienced trainee Carl Ikeme.

Rovers were left with only one fit goalkeeper, top choice American Brad Friedel, following injuries to Alan Kelly and David Yeildell, they said on their official website.

Finn Enckelman, who has been Dane Thomas Sorensen’s reserve at Villarreal sea-
son, is expected to be on the Rovers bench when Blackburn entertain Everton on Mon-
day.

Rovers, one from bottom of the Premier League, have lost seven of their last eight matches in all competitions.

They last won at home when they beat Wolves 5-1 in their opening match of the season on August 16. Wolves are fourth from bottom one point above Rovers. — MNA/Reuters

A last-minute goal by striker Antonio Cassano earned AS Roma a precious but laboured 1-0 victory against Hajduk Split in a UEFA Cup second round, first-leg match on Thursday.

The home side dominated throughout, but could not find the knockout blow against their unfancied Croatian opponents until the 90th minute, when striker John Carew nodded home a goal by Cannavaro.

“People can talk as much as they like, but I’d just like to let people to know that my wife is very happy here,” Beckham told reporters in Madrid. “But the thing is, she’ll always work and always go to London and America and that is the reason why she is not here every day.” — MNA/Reuters

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Rubin also has a chance of making the semifinals if she beats Dementieva. — MNA/Reuters
Gold plates to be offered to Shwedagon pagoda

YANGON, 9 Nov — The 62nd gold plates offering ceremony of Padanian Aryondaw Wut Association to Shwedagon pagoda will be held on 17 November.

The gold plates offering ceremony included a total of 22 gold plates weighing 66 ticals worth of K9 million.

The vehicles carrying the gold plates will go round Kyimyinda Township on 17 November and Sanyoung Township on 18 November.

There will be sermons to be delivered by ten Padanian Aryondaw Wut Association members from 20 to 29 November.

Soon will be offered to members of the Sangha on 2nd December.

MNA

High ranking officials arrive to attend Four-Country Business Forum

YANGON, 9 Nov — High ranking officials of Cambodian arrived by air this evening to attend the Four-Country (CLMFT) Business Forum.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Air-Port by Director-General of Political Affairs Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Thaung Tun and officials and staff of Cambodian embassy to Myanmar.

MNA

The Comparable Myanmar Orchestra

* In the Performing Arts competitions Myanmar Orchestra has come forward There is keen competition by all teams And there’s tumult of symphony With careful harmonizing all round There’s been unqualified encouragement.
* First there’s the big and small drums The boom of song, clashing of cymbals included Timers, bamboo clappers, oboe all combined Carefully organized, the Myanmar Orchestra Included are Kachin, Kayah Kin Kayins, enjoyed in harmony Chin and Bamar, joined by Rakhine

With equal standing, Mon and Shan of one mind Hands enjoined, carefully formed Great nation Myanmar shows example In the Union to be envisioned All those come to my mind.

* Masters of orchestra, eight in all With guits play together In lifiting fashion, in their activities We see them, in no end to envy All smiling, they join the fest That is all comparable It appear in mind’s eye

* Our national brethren all They want to be seen different Purposely wedging, getting divisive If that’s absent, our citizens Our citizens will be helpful Like in an orchestra, joining together In good tempo, harmoniously We’d be able to enjoy surely We keep thinking, as it sinks in And we take it to heart that way.

Byan Hlwaw (Trs)

WEATHER

Sunday, 9 November, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were 5°C below normal in Kayin State, Magway, Bago and Yangon Divisions, 4°C below normal in Kayah State and about normal in the remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 8-11-2003 was 35.0°C (95°F). Minimum temperature on 9-11-2003 was 17.0°C (63°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 9-11-2003 was 63%.

Total sunshine hours on 8-11-2003 was (9.0) hours approx.

Rainfall on 9-11-2003 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kabay 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 Kaba-Aye and 2314 mm (94.25 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from Northeast at (18:30) hours MST on 8-11-2003.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 10-11-2003: Weather will be generally fair in the whole country.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-11-2003: Generally fair weather.


R-489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon, Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 296115, Manager 296864, Circulation 297093, Advertisement 296843, Accounts 296545, Administration 296161, Production 297032 (Office)/297028 (Press).
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets LPDR PM and party

YANGON, 9 NOV — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt met with Mr Boungnang Vorachith, Prime Minister of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, and party at Sedona Hotel here at 11 am today.

Also present were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to LPDR U Tin Oo, Director-General of the Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet and Ambassador of LPDR to Myanmar Mr Chanthavy Bodhisane.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greets Prime Minister of LPDR Mr Boungnang Vorachith at the Sedona Hotel. — MNA

Prime Minister attends coord meeting on upgrading of the environs of the Kandawgyi, Yangon Zoological Gardens

YANGON, 9 NOV — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended the work coordination meeting on upgrading of the environs of the Kandawgyi Gardens and Yangon Zoological Gardens this morning held at the briefing hall in Kandawgyi Gardens and fulfilled the requirements.

At the meeting, Chairman of the committee for upgrading of the environs of the Kandawgyi Gardens and Yangon Zoological Gardens Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe reported to the prime minister on upgrading tasks of the Kandawgyi Gardens by dividing four zones, tasks being carried out sectorwise and progress of work.

Next, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung also reported on progress of work in growing plants, earth work, conserving of 1366 trees in the garden, and tasks being carried out by the ministry.

Likewise, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Col Maung Pa reported on construction tasks for the Fresh Water Fish Garden in Education Zone and progress of the construction of fence of the garden respectively.

Similarly, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint reported on tasks being carried out by the ministry in coordination with YCDC for cleaning water of Kandawgyi Lake.

Associated Professor U San Kyu of the Civil Engineering Department of the Yangon Technological University reported on establishment of quality control team for construction tasks and designs.

Chairman of the Hotelier Association U Khin Shwe reported on plans including construction of car park and restaurants in modern designs in the recreation zone and tasks being undertaken.

Managing Director U Win Aung of the Wood Land Co Ltd and officials reported on arrangements on construction work in modern designs including Fresh Water Fish Garden in Education Zone and earth work being carried out in Recreation Zone.

After hearing reports, the Prime Minister attended to the needs and urged the officials to construct the buildings which do not damage natural beauty of the lake. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party inspect upgrading of Yangon Kandawgyi Garden. — MNA

Dinner hosted to mark successful holding of 13th AAC and Athens Olympic Archery Qualifier 2004

YANGON, 9 NOV — Chairman of the Leading Committee for Holding the Archery Competitions Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint hosted a dinner to archers to mark the successful holding of the 13th Asian Archery Championships and Athens Olympic Archery Qualifier 2004 at Karaweik Palace this evening.

It was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win and Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Ministers, Deputy Ministers, members of the Leading Committee for the Holding of the Competition, members of panel of leading patrons of Myanmar Women Sports Federation, President of Asian Archery Federation Mr Hong Jong Yu and officials, President of Myanmar Archery Federation Dr Khin Shwe and executives, heads of departments, managers, leaders and athletes of archery teams of various countries and guests.

First, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint extended greetings and so did President of AAF Mr Hong Jong Yu on the occasion.

Next, in the men’s event, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win presented the gold medal to China, the silver medal to Kazakhstan and the bronze to Indonesia; awards and diplomas to archers from Indonesia, Qatar, Bhutan, Kazakhstan and Malaysia. In the women’s event, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented the gold medal to Indonesia, the silver to Myanmar and the bronze to Malaysia; diplomas to archers from Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Bhutan and the Philippines.

Afterwards, the ministers presented souvenirs to juries and judges and a dinner was hosted to archers from various team nations. The Chairman of the AAF presented the flag of the AAF to India, host country for Asian Archery Competition for 2005. — MNA

Chairman of MOC Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint extends greetings at the dinner hosted in honour of contestants of 13th Asian Archery Championship and Continental Qualification for 2004 Athens Olympic. — MNA