Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to Senior General Than Shwe

YANGON, 6 Jan — The following are the messages of felicitations from foreign Heads of State sent to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 56th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

From King Narodom Sihanouk of Cambodia:
The glorious celebration of the 56th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar, give me the opportunity to extend to Your Excellency our warmest congratulations and sincere good wishes for your health, happiness and every success in your high office on behalf of the Cambodian people, the Royal Government of Cambodia and on my own behalf.
We also wish for the continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Myanmar.
We have confidence that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will be strengthened.

Please, accept, Mr President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

From Mr Khamtay Siphandone, President of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic:
The Prime Minister was welcomed there by Mandalay Division Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, ministers, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, deputy ministers, ofﬁcials of the State Peace and Development Council Ofﬁce, departmental heads and ofﬁcials, left here by air and arrived at Mandalay International Airport in Tada-U, Mandalay Division at 8:45 am today.

The Prime Minister was welcomed there by Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein and military and civil ofﬁcers.

The Prime Minister and party, accompanied by the commander, headed for Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division by Tatmadaw helicopter.

The opening of Special Refresher Course No-1 for University and College Teachers was held at the Yadana Hall of the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) this morning with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present were SPDC member Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, ministers, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, deputy ministers, the deputy chief justice, the deputy attorney-general of the Supreme Court (Mandalay), senior military ofﬁcers, ofﬁcials of the SPDC Ofﬁce, departmental heads, the rector, the pro-rector and heads of departments, instructors of CICS (Upper Myanmar) and trainee teachers.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that nurturing the new generation youths who will shape the future of the State to be equipped with academic spiritual and social powers is a prime task for the State and it is a national need to see the Union of Myanmar stand tall in international community. (See page 8)
TOWARDS EMERGENCE OF CITIZENS ABLE TO SERVE THE BEST NATIONAL INTERESTS

Since its assumption of the national responsibility, the State Peace and Development Council has been striving for the Union of Myanmar to be able to stand proudly among other nations of the world.

Realizing that the student youths who will shape the future of the State are required to be all-rounders, it is necessary for the State to nurture them to be highly-educated and strong morally as well as socially.

Needless to say, the teachers in both the basic and the higher education sector play a very important role in training the new generation youths so that they will develop to be able to meet the national requirements. Therefore, special refresher courses for the teachers are being held.

The main purpose of these courses is to enable the teachers to keep abreast with the international situation, the absolute conditions and potentials of the State and our national goals on education.

Three refresher of courses university teachers and 54 for the teachers of the basic education sector have been held up to now. The fourth refresher course for university teachers was opened at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in IlEgo Township on the morning of 5 January. The opening ceremony was attended by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

In his address on the occasion, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that it was necessary for the teachers to watch international developments with constant national vigilance, to protect and promote the long-term interests of the Union and its national people and to try their best to broaden the horizons of their students and train them to become really patriotic citizens.

Nowadays, science and technology has been experiencing such a rapid development that it has come to play a pivotal role in the development of other sectors — political, economic, social and moral. Therefore, the teachers are required not only to be well-versed in their respective specialties but also to be able to keep abreast with the development of science and technology.

We would like to urge all the teachers to learn constantly to train their students to become men of wide knowledge and good moral character who can serve the best interests of the Union and the entire national people.

Appointments of Thai Ambassador to Myanmar agreed

YANGON, 7 Jan — The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Suphot Thong as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to the Union of Myanmar.

Mr Suphot Thong is currently serving as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to the State of Kuwait in 2000. He is currently serving as ambassador to the United Arab Emirates. Mr Suphot Thong has graduated with Bachelor of Arts degree in International Affairs and Law from Thamasak University, Bangkok.

The 57th Anniversary Union Day objectives

— for all national races to safeguard the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty

— to keep the Union spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people

— for all national people to defend and safeguard the Union for its perpetual existence

— to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development, and

— for all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point future policy programme.

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 Yangon can save US$ 5.5 million in a year

* The amount, US $ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

Foreign Heads of Government send felicitations to General Khin Nyunt

YANGON, 6 Jan — The following are messages of felicitations from foreign Heads of Government sent to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on the occasion of the 56th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

From Mr B B Vajpayee, Prime Minister of India:

I extend warm felicitations on the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar.

India attaches great importance to its close and cordial relations with Myanmar.

In recent years, we have worked together bilaterally and regionally to create a mutual beneficial partnership oriented towards economic development and greater commercial cooperation. Recent high-level interac-
tions underlined India’s commitment to this relationship.

Please accept, Excellency, my best wishes for your personal well being and the continued progress and prosperity of the people of Myanmar.

With the assurances of my highest consideration.

Traditional Medicine Magazine comes out

YANGON, 6 Jan — The Traditional Medicine Magazine No 17 published by the Traditional Medicine Department of the Ministry of Health has come out with superb features such as sto-
ries, poems and articles by Paragu, Tet Toe, Nu Yin, Dr Thein Swe, Shwe Oak Aw, Dr Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Theikpan Min Kyi, Win Myint, Mung Lu Mun, Wai Phyo Win, Hia Myint Aung, Maung Nye Thuraung, Khin Maung Myint, U Kyaw Sein, U Hla Myint, U Min Shwe, Kyaw Tint Swe, San Thu Myat and Tin Htet, etc.

The magazine as well as the book on practical medi-
cine are available at the Traditional Medicine Practitioner’s Conference and the book on practical medici-

Shwe Naing-Ngan Journal comes out

YANGON, 6 Jan — The Vol 2 No 19 issue of Shwe NaingNgan Journal, published by the Education Group of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Head Office), came into circulation today.

The journal includes news of State Peace and Develop-
mation Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief Sen-
ter General Than Shwe inspecting the tasks for Yeywa hydel power project and attending the opening of Myanmar Farm Machinery Factory, news of the USDA Secretary-General attending the opening of Myanmar De-
velopment Study Course Council, articles by Nyunt Han (Kydaw), Chi Naing (Psychology), San Nila Win, SayA Aye (Geography), Aung Zeya (Technological Univer-
sity), Hmwe Nantha, Tokkatho Myat Thu, Hnin Thitsa, Kyaw and Dr Hla Maung, poems of Maung Maung Han (Magway), news of activities of state, division, district and township USDA’s, international affairs and by-line articles.
Three US soldiers discharged for abusing Iraq POWs

KUWAIT CITY, 5 Jan—The US Army discharged three soldiers for abusing prisoners at a detention centre in Iraq, a US military spokesman said Monday.

The three soldiers, all from Pennsylvania, were scheduled to face courts-martial this month but opted instead to submit to a non-judicial hearing, in which their conduct was judged by a commander without a jury, Lt Col Vic Harris said. Such hearings are common practice, he said.

Brig General Emnis Whitehead III, the acting commander of the 143rd Transportation Command, found the three soldiers had maltreated prisoners at Camp Bucca, southern Iraq, on 12 May. He demoted two of the soldiers and ordered all three to forfeit their salaries for two months.

The general found that Master Sgt Lisa Marie Girman, 35, of Hazeltown, Pa, knocked a prisoner to the ground, “repeatedly kicking him in the groin, abdomen, and head, and encouraging her subordinate soldiers to do the same,” Harris said.

Girman received an “other-than-honourable conditions” discharge from her immediate commander.

Staff Sgt Scott A McKenzie, 38, of Clearfield, Pa, was found to have drugged a prisoner by his shoulders and then to have held his legs apart “and encouraging others to kick him in the groin while other US soldiers kicked him in the abdomen and head,” Harris said.

McKenzie was also found to have thrown the detainees face-down to the ground and have stepped on “his previously injured arm.” The general also found McKenzie made “a false sworn statement to a special agent of the US Army Criminal Investigation Division.”

McKenzie was demoted to sergeant and later received a “general, under honourable conditions” discharge. Spc Timothy F Canjar, 21, of Moscow, Pa, was found to have made a false statement to the army’s criminal investigators and to have held a detainee’s legs apart “while others kicked him in the groin,” in addition to “violently twisting his previously injured arm and causing him to scream in pain.”

Canjar was demoted to private—a rank two lower than specialist—and received a “general, under honourable conditions” discharge from his commander, Harris said.

The findings were handed down at Camp Arifjan in Kuwait on 29 December. The three soldiers have now returned to the United States.

A fourth soldier was charged in the same case, but Sgt Shawa Edmondson, 24, requested and received an “other-than-honourable” discharge from the military last year rather than face a court-martial.

Thailand targets $7.25b investment for 2004

BANGKOK, 6 Jan — The Board of Investment (BoI) said the Thai Government had set the goal of drawing up to 290 billion baht ($7.25 billion US dollars) in both local and foreign investments this year, the Businessday newspaper reported Monday.

BoI’s secretary-general Sompong Wanapa was quoted as saying that even though the targeting number of 2004 was slightly lower than 2003’s total investment figure of 317 billion baht ($7.93 billion dollars), investments would still increase by 15 per cent when compared with the average annual investment between 1999 to 2003.

The BoI said it planned to draw 40 per cent from domestic direct investment (DDI) and another 60 per cent from foreign direct investment (FDI), while giving support to local investors to expand investments overseas in order to link their markets tighter as well as open new markets for Thai producers.

Thailand has set the goal of being one of Asia Pacific’s top five foreign investment destinations within three years (by 2006).

Four US troops hurt in Iraq blast, ambush

BAGHDAD, 5 Jan—Three US soldiers were wounded when a roadside bomb exploded near a US military convoy west of Baghdad, and guerrillas shot and wounded another soldier in an ambush northwest of the capital, the military said Monday.

In London, Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said British forces would likely remain in the country for years to come. He said he could not give an “exact timescale” for their withdrawal but added “it is not going to be months…”

In northern Iraq, a roadside bomb killed an Iraqi man Monday and wounded three others outside the city of Kirkuk, said Iraqi police Lt Abdal Salam Zangana. Such bombs are a favoured weapon of Iraqi guerrillas, and Zangana said he believed the bomb was intended for US soldiers but detonated early.

The violence underscored remarks by British Prime Minister Tony Blair that the US-led coalition must “get on top of the security situation” in Iraq as the country prepares for self-rule. Blair was in the southern city of Basra on Sunday for an unannounced visit to the 10,000 British troops serving in Iraq, the vast majority stationed in and around Basra in southern Iraq.

Death toll for British troops in Iraq reaches 55

BAGHDAD, 6 Jan—The deaths of two soldiers in a New Year’s Day car crash brings the number of fatalities among British servicemen in Iraq to 55.

Major James Stenner, 30, of the Welsh Guards and Sgt Norma Patterson, 28, of the Cheshire Regiment, were killed when their vehicle hit a wall in Baghdad, the Ministry of Defence disclosed today.

Their deaths brought the total number of British accident-related fatalities during the conflict to 55—only four less than the number of servicemen killed in combat. Five others have died of natural causes, according to the Ministry.

Two helicopter crashes in March last year accounted for 14 of the 23 accidental deaths. On March 21, eight British servicemen died when their United States Sea Knight helicopter crashed south of the Kuwait border. The next day a further six lost their lives when two Royal Navy Sea King helicopters collided over the northern Arabian Gulf.

The deaths of five soldiers who were killed in so-called friendly fires are among the 27 categorised as being “killed in action” by the MoD—Internet.

Vajpayee suggests SAARC nations to end petty rivalries

Islamabad, 6 Jan—Calling for an end to “mutual suspicions and petty rivalries” that have “haunted” the South Asian region, Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sunday suggested “greater sensitivity” among the SAARC nations to the security concerns of one another as a landmark summit of the seven-nation regional grouping opened here.

Unprecedented security measures were in operation as Vajpayee and the other leaders of South Asian region assembled in the swanky Jinnah Convention Centre to debate over the next three-day issues of economic cooperation, terrorism and other concerns.

Even before the summit opened formally Sunday morning, agreements have already been reached on free trade among them and also additional obligations of each state to tackle terrorism.

Pakistan made a significant break from the past by not raising the Kashmir issue in compliance with its promise, but Prime Minister Zafarullah Khan Jamali, in his inaugural address, emphasized that political disputes needed to be addressed “in a just and realistic manner” failing which issues like a common economic and monetary union would remain a distant dream.

Internet

Blair’s top envoy in Iraq, Sir Jeremy Greenstock, warned Sunday that guerrillas likely will stage bigger and more sophisticated attacks.

Blair, also speaking Sunday, said: “The important thing is to realise we are about to enter into a very critical six months. We have got to get on top of the security situation properly and we have got to manage the transition. Both of those things are going to be difficult.”

On New Year’s Eve, a car bomb killed eight people celebrating in an upscale restaurant in Baghdad.

On 27 December, coordinated strikes including four car bombs struck the southern city of Karbala, killing 19 people, including seven coalition troops, and wounding about 170.

Greenstock said he thought 75-80 percent of attacks were being carried out by loyalists of ousted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and the rest by foreign terrorist groups that were putting in place “cell structure.”

Internet

Syria warns against carving up Iraq to free Kurds

Ankara, 6 Jan—Syria is opposed to any attempt to carve up its neighbour and fellow Arab state Iraq, and in particular to the creation of an independent Kurdish state, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad said in a television interview.

“We are opposed, not only to a Kurdish state but also to any action against the territorial integrity of Iraq,” he told the Turkish-language station of CNN television on the eve of a historic visit to Turkey, the first by a Syrian leader for 58 years.

Turkey is home to about half the Kurds — an ethnically distinct people numbering between 25 and 35 million, living in a mountainous region stretching into Syria, Iraq and Iran.

“It is a wise country,” he said. “It is not for our country to determine this but for all the countries in the region.”

Iraq’s Kurdish minority, estimated to be between four and five million, was brutally repressed by the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein, but its leaders have been brought into the interim governing council established since the US-led invasion of Iraq and some have voiced demands for autonomy.

On Saturday, the current president of the 25-member council, Adnan Pachachi, urged the Kurds to be patient, saying, “We have accepted federalism in principle, but there are different forms of federalism in the world and I cannot tell you for the moment what the final form will be in Iraq.”

Pachachi, a Sunni Muslim Arab, said in a broadcast on Iraqi television that the status of the Kurdish region of northern Iraq would be defined by the constitution which will be drafted by a freely elected body, but noted that such a body was not due to be elected until March 2005.

Asked whether Syria was worried about Kurdish aspirations for autonomy and “a possible independent state,” Assad told CNN-Turk, “obviously yes.”

Between one and one and a half million Kurds live in Syria; another six to eight million live in Iran and between 13 and 19 million in Turkey.

While each host country has traditionally kept its own Kurds down, rivalries involving the two Arab states, the Islamic Republic of Iran and pro-Western Turkey have sometimes led them to exploit each other’s Kurdish minorities as cross-border irritants.

Two British soldiers killed in traffic accident in Iraq

London, 6 Jan—Two British soldiers were killed in a traffic accident in Baghdad on New Year’s Day, the Ministry of Defence announced Monday.

The two soldiers were identified as Major James Steen of the Welsh Guards and Sergeant Norman Patterson of the Cheshire Regiment.

Their vehicle was believed to have struck a concrete barrier forming part of a security chicane, the Defence Ministry said without giving further details.

The accident brought the death toll of British soldiers to 55 since the beginning of the Iraq war last March.

Britain sent about 45,000 troops to Iraq to fight side by side with US soldiers during the war. There are still about 10,000 Britons serving in the country.

Brigantine, NJ, soldier killed in ambush in Iraq

Baghdad, 6 Jan—A soldier from Brigantine, NJ, was identified yesterday as one of two soldiers killed Friday in an ambush in Iraq, according to the Department of Defence.

Marc Seiden, 26, a specialist with the Second Battalion of the 82d Airborne Division’s 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment at Fort Bragg, NC, died while patrolling with a convoy in Baghdad, officials said.

Also killed was Solomon Bangayan, 24, of Lay, Vt., a member of the same battalion, said Lt Col Cynthia Scott Johnson, a Department of Defence Department spokeswoman.

Three others were wounded in the attack, which is under investigation. “The enemy used improvised explosive devices, small-arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades,” Johnson said, “but I don’t have any more details.”

Democrats agree Bush taking wrong economic path

Washington, 6 Jan—The improving economy may undercut the ability of Democrats to take on President George W Bush over a lack of jobs, forcing a crowded field of White House hopefuls to rely more on arguments that growing budget deficits pose a future risk.

“The country is showing signs of vigour. A report on Friday from the Institute for Supply Management showed factory activity expanded at its fastest pace in 20 years last month. Many analysts think the recovery will prove strong enough for the electorate to set aside its pain from the 2001 recession and subsequent slow recovery, steering an issue Democrats had thought would be ripe,” noted the New York Times.

Indian, Pakistani PMs hold one-on-one meeting

Islamabad, 6 Jan — The Prime Ministers of nuclear-armed rivals India and Pakistan on Sunday held their first one-on-one meeting since their countries nearly went to war in 2002, bolstering hopes for peace.

India’s Atal Behari Vajpayee and Pakistan’s Zafarullah Khan Jamali talked briefly along with aides before meeting alone, Jamali’s Press Secretary Raj Rizvi told Reuters.

“It was a good meeting,” Pakistan’s Foreign Minister Khursheed Mehmood Kasuri told reporters.

Vajpayee is also expected to meet Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf at a state dinner later on Sunday evening.

He last met Musharraf at a failed summit in the Indian city of Agra in July 2001, and briefly shook hands with the Pakistani President again at a South Asian summit in Nepal two years ago, but is known to have had no contact since then.

He spoke to Jamali by telephone last year shortly after launching what he called a final bid for peace in his lifetime. India and Pakistan resumed full diplomatic relations and reestablished trans- port links after two.

Donate blood.
Four major hotspots for guerilla attacks on US military convoys in Iraq

Baghdad, 6 Jan—Major Thomas Sirios, chief intelligence officer of the US Army’s 3rd Corps Support Command, identified these four major hotspots for guerilla attacks on US military convoys in Iraq:

1. South of Baghdad: Between the towns of Iskandiriya and Mahawil, and to the north of Mahmoudiyah, along alternate highway 8, which parallels the main highway. Highway 8 travels through both towns, frequent ambush hotspots.

2. Near the main roads through Baghdad: With most north-south and east-west routes passing through the Iraqi capital, it remains a high threat area for US troops and their convoys.

3. In the reconstruction of the ancient citadel of Babylon: In an interview with Al-Arabiya, an Iraqi official said here recently that Babylonia would be reconstructed within three months in lands that were previously under control of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

4. In the recent Bam earthquake, Iran’s top policymakers are considering moving the country’s capital in the late 19th century to another location.

Several explosions shake central Baghdad

Baghdad, 6 Jan—Several loud blasts shook central Baghdad on Monday afternoon, but were not immediately clear if they were caused by US military or Iraqi guerrilla activity.

US forces from the 1st Armoured Division, which is responsible for Baghdad, have shelled and mortared sparsely populated areas to the southwest of the capital in recent days as part of Operation Iron Grip, a move to root out guerrillas.

US military commanders said last week that guerrilla attacks on coalition forces had fallen to an average of around 20 a day, from as many as 50 a day in November, but had grown more sophisticated at the same time. — MNA/Reuters

Iran considers moving capital

The Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) will shortly discuss a plan to move the capital from Teheran.

The SNSC chief Hassan Rohani was quoted as saying by the Hayat-e-Nesvnews paper: ‘Rohani said a plan to move the capital, which lies on a major seismic fault, was proposed by the SNSC in 1991, but due to resistance from certain enti-

ties in the establishment, the plan was halted.’

It is before the December 26 earthquake in Bam, which measured 6.8 on the Richter Scale and in which more than 30,000 seismologists had warned that a strong earthquake in Teheran would have catastrophic conse-
quences for the city of 12 million people.

Babram Akasheh, professor of geophysics at Teheran University, has said a quake measuring 7 on the Richter Scale would destroy 80 per cent of the city’s homes.

Akasheh has written to President Mohammad Khatami to propose moving the capital to the city of Isfahan, which was the country’s capital in the 16th Century and under monarch Shah Abbas the Great.

The capital was moved to Tehe-

ran in 1788.

Teheran was last hit by a major earthquake in 1830, but seismologists say a major fault line is located along the base of the Alborz moun-
tains in the north of the capital.

Numerous small tremors jolt the city each year.

The Afshar-e-Ved’ewspaper on Monday reported Health Ministry estimates that a quake measuring 7 on the Richter Scale would destroy 90 per cent of the city’s hos-
titals. Rohani said the SNSC would update its 1991 proposal on moving the capital and submit it for consideration by the end of the current Iranian calendar year in March 2004.— MNA/Reuters

Iraq police chief says US Army gunned down family

Tikrit, 6 Jan—The police chief investigating the deaths of an Iraqi family gunned down in their car in northern Iraq said on Monday he was convinced US troops were responsible, although the army has denied involvement.

Tensions have been rising in Tikrit, the hometown of Saddam Hussein, since the bodies of the family were found on a nearby highway on Saturday. Coalition forces said the bodies were of a man, a woman and a child.

General Mazhar Taher, the local police chief of Salahaddin province, said four people were killed — two men, a woman and a nine-year-old boy.

A fifth man who survived and was taken to Tikrit hospital has told local soldiers the car was fired on by a US Army convoy. Mazhar said he had interviewed other witnesses and was “100 percent” sure this was true.

“The civilian car tried to by-pass the convoy. Because they tried to by-pass, they (the army) opened fire,” Mazhar said, through an interpreter. The machine gunner on the rear vehicle of the convoy must have suspected the car posed a threat, he said.

The Army’s 4th Infantry Division (4ID) which patrols the area has denied any of its forces were involved in the attack. But a spokeswoman for the 4ID said other troops could have been involved.

The incident has increased tensions in Tikrit, according to a US commander in the town.

“It was definitely more tense yesterday,” Lieutenant Colonel Steve Russell said.

One of his soldiers was shot in the leg on Sunday as he patrolled the town, which may be a sign of increased hostility in a town where anti-US activity has dropped off in the last few weeks, he said. — Internet

Bragg soldiers killed in Iraqi convoy attack

Raleigh, 6 Jan—The Pentagon has identified two more of the soldiers killed in Iraq last week as troops based at Fort Bragg.

Specialists Solomon Bangayan of Vermont and Marc Seiden of New Jersey were killed Friday when their convoy was attacked by insurgents south of Baghdad.

The military has said three others were wounded in the attack that involved a bomb, small arms fire, and a rocket-propelled grenade. Specialist Bangayang and Spec Seiden were assigned to 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division.

The Defense Department also confirmed the name of an 82nd Airborne soldier killed when her Kiewa scout helicoper was shot down and crashed on Friday. Captain Kimberly Hampton was the first woman piloting a US aircraft to be killed in Iraq.

Captain Hampton was assigned to 1st Battalion, 82nd Aviation Battalion at Fort Bragg. — Internet

Iran considers moving capital

800,000-year-old fossil trees found in Thailand

Bangkok, 6 Jan—Thailand Natural Resources and Environment Minister Prapat Adutrakul disclosed Wednesday that fossil Malabar ironwood logs, discovered in the Mae Salong-Paeng Forest Reserve, were the largest and most complete of their kind found in Thailand.

The giant logs have a diameter of around 1.80 me-

Bhoth and are 20 metres long.

They are buried in sediment, believed to be from an an-
cient river which preceded the Ping River, and are thought to date back 800,000 years.

Prapat said that other fos-
silized logs of different sizes had also been discovered in the same area, and that the Department of Mineral Resources and the Botanical Gardens Agency had been asked to carry out a thorough review of the area.

Prapat called on local peo-
ple to protect the fossils as part of the nation’s natural heritage. — MNA/Xinhua

Iraq police chief says US Army gunned down family

Tikrit, 6 Jan—The police chief investigating the deaths of an Iraqi family gunned down in their car in northern Iraq said on Monday he was convinced US troops were responsible, although the army has denied involvement.

Tensions have been rising in Tikrit, the hometown of Saddam Hussein, since the bodies of the family were found on a nearby highway on Saturday. Coalition forces said the bodies were of a man, a woman and a child.

General Mazhar Taher, the local police chief of Salahaddin province, said four people were killed — two men, a woman and a nine-year-old boy.

A fifth man who survived and was taken to Tikrit hospital has told local soldiers the car was fired on by a US Army convoy. Mazhar said he had interviewed other witnesses and was “100 percent” sure this was true.

“The civilian car tried to by-pass the convoy. Because they tried to by-pass, they (the army) opened fire,” Mazhar said, through an interpreter. The machine gunner on the rear vehicle of the convoy must have suspected the car posed a threat, he said.

The Army’s 4th Infantry Division (4ID) which patrols the area has denied any of its forces were involved in the attack. But a spokeswoman for the 4ID said other troops could have been involved.

The incident has increased tensions in Tikrit, according to a US commander in the town.

“It was definitely more tense yesterday,” Lieutenant Colonel Steve Russell said.

One of his soldiers was shot in the leg on Sunday as he patrolled the town, which may be a sign of increased hostility in a town where anti-US activity has dropped off in the last few weeks, he said. — Internet

Bragg soldiers killed in Iraqi convoy attack

Raleigh, 6 Jan—The Pentagon has identified two more of the soldiers killed in Iraq last week as troops based at Fort Bragg.

Specialists Solomon Bangayan of Vermont and Marc Seiden of New Jersey were killed Friday when their convoy was attacked by insurgents south of Baghdad.

The military has said three others were wounded in the attack that involved a bomb, small arms fire, and a rocket-propelled grenade. Specialist Bangayang and Spec Seiden were assigned to 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division.

The Defense Department also confirmed the name of an 82nd Airborne soldier killed when her Kiewa scout helicoper was shot down and crashed on Friday. Captain Kimberly Hampton was the first woman piloting a US aircraft to be killed in Iraq.

Captain Hampton was assigned to 1st Battalion, 82nd Aviation Battalion at Fort Bragg. — Internet

Iran considers moving capital

800,000-year-old fossil trees found in Thailand

Bangkok, 6 Jan—Thailand Natural Resources and En-
vironment Minister Prapat Adutrakul disclosed Wednesday that fossil Malabar ironwood logs, discovered in the Mae Salong-Paeng Forest Reserve, were the largest and most complete of their kind found in Thailand.

The giant logs have a di-

Bhoth and are 20 metres long.

They are buried in sediment, believed to be from an an-
cient river which preceded the Ping River, and are thought to date back 800,000 years.

Prapat said that other fos-
silized logs of different sizes had also been discovered in the same area, and that the Department of Mineral Resources and the Botanical Gardens Agency had been asked to carry out a thorough review of the area.

Prapat called on local peo-
ple to protect the fossils as part of the nation’s natural heritage. — MNA/Xinhua
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U Okkama, Monk, Thadhadhamma Wanthyayon Kyawng</td>
<td>Ngwa Street, Ahlon Township, Yangon Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Tin Hsaung, Tailor, Kha/123, Moithit 4th Street</td>
<td>Ward-1, Mayango Township, Yangon Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Hnin Kyaw, Commercial, Red Cross Society</td>
<td>Block 323, Gawwein, Thanathin Township, Mandalay Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Nandya, Monk, Kaythaya Yama Kyawng</td>
<td>Za Yin, Ward, Thanyinpyi Township, Yangon Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Myat Moe, Grade 2 (Electrical-MEPE)</td>
<td>Chanyahep Township, Mandalay Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thant Shinn Maung, Deputy Head, Information and Public Relations Department</td>
<td>Mokkyango Township, Ministry of Information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Aung San, Student (Second Class)</td>
<td>People’s Hospital, Thanetpin Township, Ministry of Health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Khin Maung Oo, No 1 Saw Mill</td>
<td>Kyimyinda, Ministry of Forestry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Chi Hlaing, No 34, Malar Street, Ward-2, Thamaing</td>
<td>Yangon, Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Maung Maung, Maunyo Petrochemical Enterprise</td>
<td>Ministry of Transport.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Kesaw, Monk, Taung Talu Kyawng</td>
<td>Thayetwai Kyauktat, Lamandaw Township, Yangon Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Kyaw Than, No 4/29, Maha Maw 2, between 35 and 36 Streets, Oo Nyanw, Mahaungaung Township, Mandalay Division</td>
<td>Ministry of Health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Subhoga (a) U Maung Hlaing Maw, Monk, Ketumati Taik 1</td>
<td>Ward-6, Paung Kyaw, Shwehlayyi Village, Hmawr, Township, Yangon Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daw Tin Nyunt, No 18/B, U Lugal Street</td>
<td>Sawyanpaing East Ward, Ahlon Township, Yangon Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Tun Kyi, No 1142, Myinzu 2nd Street, Ta/15, Ward</td>
<td>Shweppytaw Township, Yangon Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Ni Htun, Files Keeper, Accounts Division, Public Works, Ministry of Construction</td>
<td>Ward, Hla Township, Mandalay Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Hla Win, Test 2, Blood Bank, People’s Hospital,</td>
<td>Ward, Mandalay Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Khin Maung Oo, No 1 Saw Mill, Kyimyinda</td>
<td>Ministry of Health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Khin Maung, No 7/650, Shwe Kyaung</td>
<td>Mandalay Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Ni Htun, Files Keeper, Accounts Division, Public Works, Ministry of Construction</td>
<td>Ward, Hla Township, Mandalay Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Hla Win, Test 2, Blood Bank, People’s Hospital,</td>
<td>Ward, Mandalay Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Khin Maung, No 7/650, Shwe Kyaung</td>
<td>Mandalay Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Sein Hla, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daw Yi Yi Aye, 4/370, Thuta 8th street, South Okkalapa</td>
<td>District, Bahan Township, Ministry of Construction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Tin Aung, Construction, No 634 Nwe 13th street,</td>
<td>Ngwa Ward, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Divi-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daw Yi Yi Aye, 4/370, Thuta 8th street, South Okkalapa</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Htin Kyaw, Company Commander</td>
<td>Nga Ward, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Divi-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Khin Maung, No 7/650, Shwe Kyaung</td>
<td>Mandalay Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Tin Aung, Construction, No 634 Nwe 13th street,</td>
<td>Ngwa Ward, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Divi-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Maung Maung, No 2 Saw Mill, Yangon</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Kyaw Kyaw, Myint, Coporal, Fire Brigade, No 6 Saw Mill</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Kyaw Kyaw, Myint, Coporal, Fire Brigade</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Maung Maung, No 2 Saw Mill, Yangon</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Maung Maung, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Sein Hla, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Tin Aung, Construction, No 634 Nwe 13th street,</td>
<td>Ngwa Ward, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Divi-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Kyaw Kyaw, Myint, Coporal, Fire Brigade, No 6 Saw Mill</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Kyaw Kyaw, Myint, Coporal, Fire Brigade</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Maung Maung, No 2 Saw Mill, Yangon Enterprise</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Maung Maung, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daw Yi Yi Aye, 4/370, Thuta 8th street, South Okkalopa</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Thein Hue, Auditor, Township Account Office</td>
<td>Ministry of Rail Transportation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Union of Myanmar
State Peace and Development Council
Notification No 1/2004
13th Week of the Year Pahdu, 1365 ME
(4 January 2004) (from page 6)

155. U Minida, member of the Sangha, Dekkhamin Paya, Saye Kaung, Hpa-an, Mossorl. Eindawya monastery, Myomakyaung Street, Dagon Township, Yangon Division.
156. U Khin Aung, retired officer,  No 222, Yaray 9th street, ward 3, Thaketa Township, Yangon Division.
157. U Aung Pho, pilgrimage officer,  No 222, Yaray 9th street, ward 3, Thaketa Township, Yangon Division.
158. U Sein Win, merchant,  No 6702, Khaungbaung 16th street, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Division.
159. U Tin Ohn, member of the Sangha, Maha Maha, Vijaya Garden, Letpadan Township, Bago (West) Division.
162. Daw Kyaw Kyaw Swe, trade with medical practitioners, No 3, 28th street (between 28th and 29th streets), Chanayetan Township, Mandalay Division.
163. Daw Kyi Kyi Wai, JAT, Aungmyetnha YEBS-25, No 2 Basic Education Department, Ministry of Education.
164. U Than Win, No 313, Mahathar ward, Thanlwin Khin Zaw 1st lane, Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon Division.
165. Thiri Htoo, tin industry, No 337, Seika Thutchka Street, Kyauk, Yangon Division.
166. U Tin Ngwe, lower divisional clerk, Minkin Township, Information and Public Relations Department, Ministry of Home Affairs.
167. U Aung Myint, private teacher, No 80, Old Yedashe Street, Ward 1, Thaketa, Yangon Division.
168. Daw Yin May, retired service personal, No 1391, Khayy Street, Htaloo Ward, Myitkyina, Mandalay Division.
169. U Khin Maung Than, deputy assistant supervisor, Myanmar Timber Enterprise, Ministry of Forestry.
170. U Aung Min Oo, 4th grade, Myanmar Timber Enterprise, Kawlin Timber Extraction Area, Ministry of Forestry.
171. U Bo Bo Than, plumber (grade-4), Yangon Institute of Education, Ministry of Education.
172. Daw Nii Ni Than, merchant, No 370, Theinphyi fourth street, Ward 24, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Division.
173. U Khin Oo, seller, No 6858, Byamyoe Street, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Division.
175. U Tin Kyi, sale clerk, Setmye Trading Cooperatives, No 608, Road, Bayintnyu Ward, Dala, Yangon Division.
176. U Thaung Nyunt, clerk, Section 7/2 (Health), Auditor-General’s Office.
177. U Naing Aye, military service personal (retired), No 1140, Khayy Street, 38 Ward, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Division.
178. U Myint Aye, machine operator, engineering section, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, Ministry of Energy.
179. U Jotika, member of the Sangha, Thiriminma Monastery, Thitikhama street, Sangyoung Township, Mandalay Division.
180. U Aung Than Oo, technician,  No 3426, 2nd Street, Ward 32, Dagon Myothit (North), Yangon Division.
181. U Hla Aye, video service, No 574, 35th Street, Ward 27, Dagon Myothit (South), Yangon Division.
182. U Aung Than, security guard, (Retd), Hinsaung Baptist Church, No 1453/4/Nagy, 1st Kathuk Street, Ward 14, Shwegyin Township, Yangon Division.
183. U Mya Thaung, security guard (Retd), Hinsaung Baptist Church, No 1453/4/Nagy, 1st Kathuk Street, Ward 14, Shwegyin Township, Yangon Division.
184. U Thaing Min, Head of Office, Sanitation Services, Pabedan Township, Yangon-City Development Committee.
186. U Soe Than, businessman, 150/25/2, 1st Kathuk Ward, Street 11, Thongwa Township, Yangon Division.
187. U Aye Tin, Head of Office, Section-3 (Health), Auditor-General’s Office.
188. U Mo Moe Lwin, Mechanic Grade-4, Coach and Wagon Shed (Myintyi), the Ministry of Rail Transportation.
189. U Aung Naing, Merchant of the Sangha, 1st Kathuk Ward, Street 11, Thongwa Township, Yangon Division.
190. U South Win, Manager Grade-4, Passenger Transport Branch-8, Road Transport, the Ministry of Rail Transportation.
191. U Aung Than Oh, Mechanic Grade-4, Coach and Wagon Shed (Myintyi), the Ministry of Rail Transportation.
192. U San Win, Mason Grade-5, Civil Engineering Department, Myanmar Railways, the Ministry of Rail Transportation.
193. BC/22362 Maj Bo Lay, No 3 Military Hospital (100-bed), Indaing, Hlegu Township, the Ministry of Defence.
194. U Thein Myint, Technician Grade-5, Myanmar Paper and Chemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Industry-1.
195. U Soe Thein, Technician Grade-5, No 1 Gas Factory, the Ministry of Industry-1.
196. U Sein Win, Technician Grade-3, Hmawby Asebos Enterprises, Myanmar Ceramics Industries, the Ministry of Industry-1.
197. U Thein Wai, Head of Section, No 2 Soap Factory, the Ministry of Industry-1.
198. Daw Khin Ottma, Head of Division (Finance), No 19 Garment Factory, Thanlwin, the Ministry of Industry-1.
199. U Aung Thein Htu, Auditor General’s, Myanmar Agriculture Service, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.
200. U Saw Oo, shopkeeper,  No 302, 1st Minkhaung Street, Ward 5, Latha Township, Yangon Division.
201. Myint Thein, head of division, No 32 BEPS, Chanaye Thazan Township, Mandalay Division.
202. U Indaka, member of the Sangha, Zambyuyadana Pali University, Alon Township, Yangon Division.
203. U Thein Hu, businessman, No 62, Settwinn Street, Hsinwun Ward, Alan Township, Yangon Division.
204. U Aye Win, seller, No 16/4, No 2 Saw Mill Compound, West Sawpyaung Ward, Alan Township, Yangon Division.
205. U Nyunt Htoo, electrician, No 7/1/80, 7th Street, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Division.
206. U Ko Ko Gyi, retired supervisor at Myanma Port Enterprise, Administration Section, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.
207. U Myint Sein, video service, No 27, Thirimyaing Street, Ward 5, Latha Township, Yangon Division.
208. U Myint Aye, mechanic,  No 359, Thayar San Street, Ward 1, Thaketa, Yangon Division.
209. U Tin Hlaing, head of division,  No 1753, 2nd Street, Ward 67, Dagon Myothit (South), Yangon Division.
210. U San Mya, Department of Urban Transportation, the Ministry of Planning.
211. U Aung Myint, Sale Grade-4, Passenger Transport Branch-8, Road Transport, the Ministry of Rail Transportation.
213. U Hla Myat, head of division, Myanmar Farms Enterprise, Administration Section, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.
215. U Aung Myint, private teacher, 80, Old Yedashe Road, Bahan Township, Ministry of Education.
216. U Nyei Oo, Printing Works, No 217, 32nd Street, Pabedan Township, Yangon Division.
217. U Tin Win, merchant, No 109, Thanlwin Road, Ward 10, Hlaing Township, Yangon Division.
218. U Aung Min Oo, welder (grade-4), Myanma Timber Enterprise, Ministry of Mines.
220. U Aung Nyunt,popup (Chinga Myanmar Co Ltd), Gayo/097 (Mayansu), Sabai Street, Ward-3, Bagon Phaya PYO, Mayangon Township, Yangon Division.
221. U Thein Ohn, electrician, No 924, U Kyin Oo Street, Ward 32, Dagon Myothit (North), Yangon Division.
222. U Han Soe, merchant, No 1 Seikkantha Road, Ward 11, Thongwa Township, Yangon Division.
223. U Mya Naing, security guard, (Retd), Hinsaung Baptist Church, No 1453/4/Nagy, 1st Kathuk Street, Ward 14, Shwegyin Township, Yangon Division.
224. U Thaing Min, Head of Office, Sanitation Services, Pabedan Township, Yangon-City Development Committee.
225. U Soe Than, driver, 24/18/B, 4th Thaungukhein Street, Ward-8, Shwegyin Township, Yangon Division.
226. U Aung Soe Myo, teacher, 199/128 Street, Ward 18, Dagon Myothit (South), Yangon Division.
227. U Aung Hsu, shopkeeper, 6/335, 1st Minkhaung Street, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Division.
228. U Thaing Min, employer (Chinga Myanmar Co Ltd), Gayo/097 (Mayansu), Sabai Street, Ward-3, Bagon Phaya PYO, Mayangon Township, Yangon Division.
229. U Aung Min Oo, welder (grade-4), Myanma Timber Enterprise, Ministry of Mines.
Present day youths need... (from page 1)
To fulfill the need, the role of basic education teachers and university and college teachers who have been nurturing the students from primary level to graduate level is very important, he said.

The teachers who are nurturing the students in accord with the needs of the State must fully digest the objective conditions of the State, prospects of the State, and educational goal of the State, and in this way, they will be able to perform their national duties in the education sector energetically, he noted.

Therefore, the government has opened refresher courses, three times for university and college teachers and 54 times for basic education teachers.

With the concept that human resource with high calibre and human resource that is needed in the respective regions must be nurtured in various regions of the Union, 154 universities and colleges have been opened the length and breadth of the nation.

As there are new university and college teachers and those who have been promoted to higher ranks, refresher courses for university and college teachers have been opened again.

With the aim of promoting science and technology in such development sectors as economic, social and defense, and the need for raising the educational level of the entire nation and emerging good foundations for education that emphasizes on constant learning, the government is implementing national education promotion plans, he elaborated.

As regards national plan in the higher education sector, he said, the National Education Promotion Special 4-year Plan (2000-2001 to 2003-2004) is being implemented in the higher education sector by linking the basic education sector with the higher education sector.

The plan has been implemented in the third phase of education promotion programme which has been accelerated year by year in the basic education sector.

Under the National Education Promotion Special 4-year Plan, modern teaching facilities based on computer science and electronic technology have been installed, laboratories, research departments and e-libraries established in universities and colleges for the students to reach the international standard.

Especially, e-learning centres and resource centres that used satellite communication system based on modern information and communication technology were systematically established. E-Education system was first launched on 1 January 2001.

In 2001-2002 fiscal year, the Head of State gave guidance on implementation of the 30-year-long-term plan on education and scientific advancement and national campaigns for future national interest in line with economic plans on agricultural, industrial, mineral and energy sectors.

Therefore, the 30-year education plan linking the activities of the second year of special four-year national education promotion project was undertaken, he said.

Better foundations on education that can realize Myanma Education Vision "to create an education system that can generate a learning society capable of facing the challenges of the Knowledge Age" have emerged in the whole education sector, he said.

He said Myanmar ICT Park and Mandalay ICT Park, infrastructures for information and communication technology were established in Lower and Upper Myanmar.

Various information and communication technologies can widely be used in learning of higher education and education management system.

This is the huge basic foundation for realization of the Myanma Education Vision, he added.

In Myanmar there are 455 e-learning centres using electronic data broadcasting system, 44 centres using V-SAT system, 11 centres using fibre optic network, 20 centres using IPSTAR broadband system, 630 centres consisting of 100 basic education schools linking the Internet and seven centres where video conferencing can be held make use of wireless communication system.

At a time when the better foundations for gaining science and technologies of international standard and highly-qualified human resource, faculty members of universities and colleges are to train their pupils to raise their educational standard and teach them morals, social ethics and responsibilities in accord with the State’s education objectives.

In making efforts to bring more dignity to the nation and national people in international community, it is needed to train today’s youth to possess modern technical knowledge and have national spirit and patriotism.

It is a must to nurture them to become intellectuals and intelligentsia who will serve the nation’s interest with their knowledge and wisdom.

Nowadays, the government has already laid down the foundations of human resource and is implementing the seven-point future political programme to strengthen the long-existing firm national reconsolidation, to preserve the independence and sovereignty and to build good infrastructures for stability of the nation.

To successfully implement the seven-point future political programme that will shape the future of the nation, people’s active participation and support with full national spirit are needed.

Teachers together with students and the people, realizing the international affairs and prevailing situations of the nation, historic trend, culture, future prospects of the nation and the seven-point future political programme as the correct national path, are to organize all to actively take part in successful realization of the seven-point roadmap of the State.

Especially, all teachers, viewing the international incidents with national awareness, are to lead students and the public to have a wide range of knowledge to be able to safeguard the national interests and avoid the instigations.

In conclusion, he urged all,
— to participate in the tasks with firm national spirit for successful implementation of the seven-point future political programme for emergence of modern, discipline-flourishing democratic nation;
— to strive for producing the outstanding intellectuals and intelligentsia continuously who will safeguard the modern and developed nation with national spirit and Union Spirit;
— to unitedly strive for successful implementation of national education programmes in accord with the Myanma education motto “building the modern and developed nation through education”, and
— to earnestly study, discuss and keep in mind the nation’s situation, the international affairs and other political, economic and social affairs to be conducted at this course.

After the opening ceremony, MEC Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greeted trainee university/college teachers and left there at 10.15 am. Altogether 993 teachers from universities and colleges are attending the one-month course.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt having a cordial conversation with the trainees at the opening of Special Refresher Course No 1 for University, College Teachers at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar). — MNA

Independence Day Exhibition continues
YANGON, 6 Jan — The 56th Anniversary of Independence Day Commemorative Exhibition continued today for the fourth day at the Tatmadaw Hall on U Wisara Road here from 9 am to 5 pm.

Deputy Ministers for Information U Thein Sein and Brig-Gen Aung Thein visited the exhibition today.

A raft of visitors came to the exhibition and viewed round the booths with great interest. Moreover, students took part in the computer quiz at the computer booth.

Book shops of the News and Periodicals Enterprise and Sarpyaw Beikman under the Ministry of Information are also kept open for bookworms.

A total of 7,511 monks and people visited the exhibition today.

The exhibition will be kept open daily till 11 January from 9 am to 5 pm. Admission is free.

Visitors at the 56th Anniversary Independence Day Commemorative Exhibition. — MNA

Heroin seized in Muse
YANGON, 6 Jan — A 45-year-old Myan Yi Pyin, son of U Ma Kan of Ward 3, Ponpaw village, Muse, and Aik Yi, son of U Mai Kham of Svansaw village, Muse who were at the house.

Action is being taken after the house of Tan Li Yok, son of U Mai Kham of Svansaw village, Muse, and Aik Yi, son of U Mai Kham of Svansaw ward, Muse who were at the house.

A combined team comprising members of the local intelligence unit and Special Anti-drug Squad, acting on information, searched the house of Tan Li Yok in Manwun Ward, Muse, on 30 December.

The authorities did not find Tan Li Yok in the house but seized 7.6 kilos of heroin from Khaung Shin (a) Hon Yi Myint and Aik Yi with seized heroin. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt having a cordial conversation with the trainees at the opening of Special Refresher Course No 1 for University, College Teachers at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar). — MNA

Heroin seized in Muse
YANGON, 6 Jan — A 45-year-old Myan Yi Pyin, son of U Ma Kan of Ward 3, Ponpaw village, Muse, and Aik Yi, son of U Mai Kham of Svansaw village, Muse who were at the house.

Action is being taken after the house of Tan Li Yok, son of U Mai Kham of Svansaw village, Muse, and Aik Yi, son of U Mai Kham of Svansaw ward, Muse who were at the house.

A combined team comprising members of the local intelligence unit and Special Anti-drug Squad, acting on information, searched the house of Tan Li Yok in Manwun Ward, Muse, on 30 December.

The authorities did not find Tan Li Yok in the house but seized 7.6 kilos of heroin from Khaung Shin (a) Hon Yi Myint and Aik Yi with seized heroin. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt having a cordial conversation with the trainees at the opening of Special Refresher Course No 1 for University, College Teachers at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar). — MNA
Systematic efforts required...

(from page 16)

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said the Yangon City Development Committee and the Mandalay City Development Committee have been formed for Yangon, the capital of Myanmar, and Mandalay, the second capital, to have the characteristics of a modern city of the world.

Systematic efforts are required for Mandalay, the second largest city in Myanmar, to become a clean and pleasant city having the required characteristics. The multi-sectors including sanitation, water supply, sewage disposal system, health and transport sectors of the Mandalay city must be improved and developed.

Arrangements will have to be made for ensuring benefits for both the investors for city development infrastructure projects and the people who use them. The sanitation system, water supply system, garbage collection system, and sewage disposal systems must be extended to meet the needs of the growing population of the city.

The MCDC should extend its fish and livestock breeding and agricultural projects to distribute food to the city dwellers at reasonable prices.

The Prime Minister and party inspected the scale model of the condominium.

At the Traditional Medical University Project, the Prime Minister heard reports on progress in construction of the four-storey main building, the four-storey No 1 Hall, the three-storey No 2 Hall, and the two-storey No 3 Hall.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint reported to him on academic and management affairs of the university.

The Prime Minister spoke of the need to upgrade the herbal garden of the university and to grow various species of herbal plants and trees.

During inspection of the Government Technological College Project, the Prime Minister heard reports on completion of the buildings up to 80 per cent at the project presented by Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung and Managing Director of MICS U Ye Tun. He then inspected the three-storey main building.

The Prime Minister and party arrived back here by air in the evening from Mandalay International Airport.

Independence Day reception hosted in Kunming

YANGON, 6 Jan — To mark the 56th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar, the Myanmar Consul-General hosted a reception in Kunming, Yunnan Province, the People’s Republic of China, on 4 January evening.

Deputy Governor of Yunnan Province Mr Shao Qiwei and officials, departmental personnel, those of various companies, diplomats from China, and families of Yangon Command held sport competitions on a grand scale at Aung San Stadium on 4 January morning to mark the 56th Anniversary Independence Day.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Huye attended the ceremony and presented prizes to winners.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Commander Col Wai Lwin and wife, Commander of No 1 Military Region Col Tun Kyi, senior military officers of Yangon Command and their wives, officers and other ranks and their wives and members of the families.

Among the sport competitions were track and field, greased pole climbing competition, volleyball, table tennis, and snack eating competition for children.

Yangon Command holds sport competitions

YANGON, 6 Jan — Families of Yangon Command held sport competitions on a grand scale at Aung San Stadium on 4 January morning to mark the 56th Anniversary Independence Day.

Minister for Border Areas and National Races Department, Director-General Col Myo Myint of Development Affairs Department and officials.

YANGON, 6 Jan — Hail ing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day, the hand-pump with a diameter of one and a half inch, dug by Hmawby Township Development Affairs Department for supplying clean drinking water, was opened at Nyaunghnabin Village in Hmawby Township on 1 January morning.

Rural hand-pump opened

Yangon Command holds sport competitions

YANGON, 6 Jan — Families of Yangon Command held sport competitions on a grand scale at Aung San Stadium on 4 January morning to mark the 56th Anniversary Independence Day.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Huye attended the ceremony and presented prizes to winners.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Commander Col Wai Lwin and wife, Commander of No 1 Military Region Col Tun Kyi, senior military officers of Yangon Command and their wives, officers and other ranks and their wives and members of the families.

Among the sport competitions were track and field, greased pole climbing competition, volleyball, table tennis, and snack eating competition for children.

Yangon Command holds sport competitions

YANGON, 6 Jan — Families of Yangon Command held sport competitions on a grand scale at Aung San Stadium on 4 January morning to mark the 56th Anniversary Independence Day.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Huye attended the ceremony and presented prizes to winners.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Commander Col Wai Lwin and wife, Commander of No 1 Military Region Col Tun Kyi, senior military officers of Yangon Command and their wives, officers and other ranks and their wives and members of the families.

Among the sport competitions were track and field, greased pole climbing competition, volleyball, table tennis, and snack eating competition for children.

Yangon Command holds sport competitions

YANGON, 6 Jan — Families of Yangon Command held sport competitions on a grand scale at Aung San Stadium on 4 January morning to mark the 56th Anniversary Independence Day.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Huye attended the ceremony and presented prizes to winners.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Commander Col Wai Lwin and wife, Commander of No 1 Military Region Col Tun Kyi, senior military officers of Yangon Command and their wives, officers and other ranks and their wives and members of the families.

Among the sport competitions were track and field, greased pole climbing competition, volleyball, table tennis, and snack eating competition for children.
Myanmar wushu in the golden age

Min Oo

Myanmar sports contingent took part in 32 events of the XXII Southeast Asian Games in Hanoi, Vietnam, and won 16 gold, 43 silver and 50 bronze totalling 109 medals. The SEA Games is the biggest sports event in the Southeast Asia region. The sports contingent won the gold medals in five events. The wushu team of the sports contingent won five gold, six silver and six bronze totalling 17 at the Games. In the recent years, the Myanmar wushu is winning even in the world level competitions in addition to the regional contests. It can be said that the sporting event is helping realize the motto — Myanmar sports: the world to conquer.

The Myanmar Wushu Federation was founded in 1993. The Myanmar wushu athletes started to take part in the international sports events in 1995. Up to now, they have won 28 gold, 33 silver and 36 bronze totalling 97 in the 12 international competitions. The Myanmar wushu has won the national support and acknowledgment after it bagged three gold, one silver and two bronze at the Sixth World Wushu Championships held in Armenia in 2001. The Myanmar wushu also won two gold and four silver in the Seventh World Wushu Championships in Macao in 2003. It has been taking part in the SEA Games since 1997, and winning more and more medals since then. Thus, the Myanmar wushu has become the most successful sporting event within a short span of time.

At present, all the countries of the world acknowledge the success in sports as the pride of the nation and the people. Thus, they are making all-round efforts for the development of the sports. At the recent ceremony to honour the gold medalists of the XXII SEA Games, Chairman of Myanmar National Olympic Council Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the all-round assistance rendered by the national entrepreneurs, playing a key role in developing the respective sports events, was most satisfactory.

Thanks to the efforts of U Khin Maung Lay, who has been looking into the requirements of the Myanmar wushu, the sporting event is winning great victories at present. He has been the President of the MWF since it was founded in 1993.

The Myanmar wushu team has been participating in all the wushu competitions of the international tournaments — the Asia Junior Wushu Championships; the SEA Wushu Championships; the Asia Wushu Championships; the World Wushu Championships; the SEA Games and the Asian Games — and has been winning medals.

In wushu, there are two main events — daoshu and sanshou. Myanmar athletes won gold mostly in daoshu. But Ha Hone won gold in 56-kilo event after beating the world champion from the Philippines in the semifinal and defeated the host Vietnamese in the final. Thus, Myanmar will win victories in both the daoshu and the sanshou in the future. As the athletes have won gold medals, the Myanmar Wushu Federation is standing tall among the world nations.

MWF President U Khin Maung Lay is a member of the Asia Wushu Federation. He is trying to host the international wushu competitions in Myanmar to help promote the sporting event.

Myanmar hosted the 1999 SEA Wushu Championships, and is preparing to host the Asia Wushu Championships in November 2004. Thus, the MWF has won the respect and acknowledgment of the world nations.

The Federation has sent the Myanmar athletes to China, the native of wushu, for long-term training programmes. Even the world’s wushu powers — China and Vietnam — have acknowledged Myanmar as the most successful country in the sporting event within a short period. Wushu has become a popular sport among the people of Myanmar. Youngsters are especially interested in the daoshu.

The winning of 10 gold medals by women out of the total of 16 gold the Myanmar contingent had bagged at the XXII SEA Games has proved their growing role in the Myanmar society. In his address, the Prime Minister said, “In the weightlifting and the wushu, the Myanmar women are winning medals one after another not only in Southeast Asia and Asia levels, but also in the world level competitions. They are indeed honourable, and the success is a pride for all the womenfolk.” In Myanmar, women are standing shoulder to shoulder with their male counterparts, and are playing a greater role in the national development undertakings. They have formed associations to actively take part in the social activities. In addition, women athletes are bringing honour to the nation. The players of Myanmar women soccer team won the hearts of the Myanmar people for their excellent performances at the XXII SEA Games.

As the Myanmar wushu is winning victories one after another, the Federation is striving to win more medals in the 29th World Olympic Games in China in 2008. Myanmar has not won a medal yet in the World Olympic Games, the highest sporting competition in the world. Thus, all will have to render assistance to the efforts of the MWF to win medals at the World Olympic Games.

With this article, I honour the Myanmar wushu athletes who have helped the Myanmar sports to reach the golden age. MWF President U Khin Maung Lay, Vice-President Daw Kyu Kyu and members, and urge everyone in Myanmar to render assistance to the propagation and progress of the wushu in Myanmar.

(Translation: TMT)

Water storage project benefits China’s western provinces

HONGRÉ, 6 Jan — Villagers in Qingshuihe County, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, can now wash and bathe in comfort after a national charity project helped build water storage tanks serving 776,000 people.

Launched by the All-China Women’s Federation and the China Women Development Fund in August 2004, the project aims to build water cellsars for women and their families in China’s 15 western provinces. To date, the project has built 90,000 water cellars and 1,070 small water supply facilities serving over 900,000 people, says the fund. Meanwhile, it also helped many poor children back to school with its education aid fund. China’s west is the poorest and least developed part of the country and is one of the most drought-hit regions in the world. The annual precipitation is less than 300 millimetres, but the evaporation is about 2,000 millimetres in most western areas. The lack of water with which to make a living has forced most men to leave their families to look for work. Moreover, those remaining spend a third of each day buying and carrying water to their homes, says the fund.

The government has been fighting water shortages since 1949. About 250 million people in dry areas have adequate drinking water supplies. However, due to natural and economic conditions, at least 20 million people still lack drinking water in the central and western regions and over 300 million farmers drink untreated water nationwide, says the fund.
Union of Myanmar
State Peace and Development Council
Notification No 1/2004
13 waxing day of Pyatho, 1365 ME
(4 January 2004)

(from page 7)

261. U Aung Hsan Win, trader, No 1/68, Ward 1, Mayangon Township, Yangon Division
262. U Than, electrician-4, No 4 Saw Mill, Engineer Dept, Ministry of Forestry
263. Daw Yi Yi Shwe, tutor, History Department, Yangon Eastern University, Ministry of Education
264. Daw Nu Nu Lwin, PAT, No 44 BEPS, Hlinethaya, Ministry of Education
265. Daw Yi Yi Tun, JAT, Kyetthongon BEPS, Kyaikmaung Division, Ministry of Home Affairs
266. La 128469 Inspector Myo Nyunt, Lashio Special Anti-drug squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
267. U Khin Maung Yi (Ma 4409), Staff Officer, Fire Services Department, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
268. U Myo Myint, company staff, 294 (Ka) Shwedagon Road, Ward 10, Shwepyitha, Yangon Division

Ye Thu Hla Medal
1. Lt 199314 Inspector Soe Win, Moe Special Anti-drug squad
2. Lt 58256 Police Captain Khin Maung Lwin, Taunggyi Special Anti-drug squad
3. Lt 132761 Inspector Nyunt Hsu, Taunggyi Anti-drug squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
4. Lt 125914 Inspector Myo Nyunt Than, Tachilek Special Anti-drug squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
5. Lt 156125 Sub-Inspector Kyee Myint, Hpa-an Special Anti-drug squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
7. Lt 119043 Sub-Inspector Kyaw Naing, Tachilek Special Anti-drug squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
8. Lt 135245 Sub-Inspector Khin Ko Ko, Tachilek Special Anti-drug squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
9. Lt 129926 WO Thein, Lashio Anti-Drug Squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
10. Lt 131451 Sgt Naing Soe, Mandalay Anti-Drug Squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
11. Lt 118643 Sgt Win Myint Naing, Kale Anti-Drug Squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
12. Lt 103394 Sub-Inspector Than Shwe, Lashio Special Anti-drug squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
13. Lt 128839 Police Captain Myint Aung, Mandalay Police Department, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
14. Lt 114926 Inspector Thi Ko Ko, Tachilek Special Anti-drug squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
15. Lt 114926 Inspector Tin Aye, Tachilek Special Anti-drug squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
16. Lt 119043 Sub-Inspector Khin Maung Lwin, Lashio Special Anti-drug squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
17. Lt 128839 Police Captain Myint Aung, Mandalay Police Department, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
18. Lt 129926 WO Thein Zaw, Lashio Anti-Drug Squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
19. Lt 84322 Sgt Tin Myint, Lashio Anti-Drug Squad, Ministry of Home Affairs
20. Lt 118643 Sgt Win Myint Naing, Kale Anti-Drug Squad, Ministry of Home Affairs

Nepal’s garment export to US slips in December
KATHMANDU, 6 Jan —Nepal’s ready-made garment export to the United States decreased by 18 per cent in December 2003 against the same period in 2002, according to the last figures released by the Garment Association of Nepal on Monday.

Garments valued at 10.19 million US dollars were exported to the United States in December 2003, while the figure was 12.35 million dollars in December 2002, the data revealed.

This is the fifth straight month that the country’s garments exports to the United States experienced a downfall. The United States is the largest overseas market of Nepal’s garment items, consuming some 85 per cent of its total garment export.

During 2003, a total of Nepali ready-made garments worth 123.12 million dollars were exported to the United States, an increment from 105.91 million dollars recorded in the year 2002.

However, the Nepali export figures stated that the increment for the year does not reflect the real picture of the industry, as in the base-year of 2002 itself, the exports had declined by over 22 per cent, and in 2001, it had slipped by 17 per cent.

Nepal’s garments industry is entirely export-oriented and accounts for 40 per cent of the country’s foreign exchange earnings. It employs over 100,000 workers and sustains the livelihood of over 350,000 people.

Ye Kyaw Naing

A new strength for tourism industry

The Eden BBB Restaurant with traditional architectural design.

In trying to achieve success in tourism industry, attractive and scenic spots as well as hotels and restaurants are essential. Indeed, tasty food and regional cuisines and good accommodations are truly required for drawing more and more visitors.

Nowadays, new hotels and restaurants run by Myanmar entrepreneurs are mushrooming in response to the encouragement of the Government for promoting the tourism industry. Eden BBB Restaurant is one of them which was opened recently.

Eden BBB, the cozy and modern restaurant opened on 25 December 2003 in Bagan, is one of the posh restaurants. With superb architectural design and smooth service, the restaurant at Watgyi-in on Bagan-Nyaung-U motor road is ready to serve the visitors with delicious European and Myanmar dishes prepared by experienced chefs.

(MNA/Xinhua) Visitors enjoying delicious food at Eden BBB Restaurant.
Pakistan’s PIA resumes flights to Nepal

KATHMANDU, 6 Jan — The Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has restarted its flights from Karachi to Kathmandu from Sunday after an interval of three years.

“The Pakistani national flag carrier will operate its flights twice a week, every Wednesday and Saturday, between Kathmandu and Pakistan city of Karachi at present, and additional flights will be added after three months,” said G N Lashari, manager of the PIA Kathmandu Office.

Nepal Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Surendra Nath Shukla said that with the resumption of the PIA flights, a new ray of hope has been sparked not only to meet the increasing demand to cater the tourists but also to further enhance the healthy growth of the tourism industry in Nepal.

“We are looking forward to see the resumption of the Singapore Airlines, Lufthansa and Aeroflot to Nepal in the near future,” he added.

MNA/Xinhua

New Zealand uses speed cameras as road safety tool

WELLINGTON, 6 Jan — New Zealand has used speed cameras as an efficient road safety tool and a decade of the tool used has netted the government about 195 million US dollars from 44 cameras deployed around the nation, according to Sunday Star Times here Sunday.

The roadside devices were introduced in late 1993 and a year later police officers were operating 31 mobile cameras and starting rolling out 13 fixed cameras over a six-month period.

The same number are in use today and each camera has raked in an average of about 4,800,000 US dollars in fines every year since 1999.

Despite the low number of cameras, New Zealand police are efficient in enforcing speed laws.

Kiwi drivers are more than five times as likely to be fined than motorists in Britain, where an estimated 5,000 speed cameras are used.

About 11 per cent of New Zealand’s four million population receives speed camera tickets every year in contrast to just 0.2 per cent of the 60 million people in Britain.

The network of speed cameras in New Zealand snapped 400,232 motorists breaking the speed limit during their first full year of operation in 1995 and this year more than 461,000 vehicles have been snapped.

The last five financial years have seen officials net more than about 106 million US dollars in fines, with the money going into a consolidated fund to address transport matters.

Acting national road policing manager Inspector John Kelly was quoted as saying that the devices had proven to be very effective.

He did not envisage the number of cameras would increase but said they could be replaced with more high-tech models.

“We might soon have digital cameras rather than film cameras and the images will then be sharper, easy to identify and get identification much sooner than currently is the case,” Kelly said — MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SENTOSA VOY NO (19)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SENTOSA Voy No (19) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-1-04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA LTD JAPAN
Phone: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MAS SUTRA VOY NO (050)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAS SUTRA Voy No (050) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-1-04 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM
Phone: 256908/378316/376797

Police says illegal migration ring smashed in Cyprus

Nicosia, 6 Jan — Cypriot authorities said on Sunday they had smashed a crime ring suspected of smuggling at least 500 people illegally to the island from neighbouring countries.

Four people were arrested on Sunday in connection with the case, in which illegal mi-
**Bacterial protein has potential for cancer treatment**

**Chandigarh, 6 Jan—** Scientists in US have isolated an anti-cancer protein from a bacteria and showed that it enters only cancer cells, thus providing hope for its use in cancer therapy in the future.

It has long been known that when tumours get infected by bacteria, "they regress," Professor A M Chakrabarti from the University of Illinois at Chicago, US, told a plenary on the New Frontiers in Biotechnology at the 91st Indian Science Congress here. Few years ago it was realized that micro-organisms did something active by secreting anti-cancer agents, which possibly could be isolated and used for treating cancer, Chakrabarti said.

"Now our team has isolated a protein from a specific kind of bacteria, "Pseudomonas," and found that when tumour cells are incubated with this protein, most of them, except some brain tumour cells, get killed," he said.

The experiment was repeated to see its implications on human cancers. Mice were transplanted with human cancer cells, which led to development of tumours in them. The mice with tumours were then injected with this protein and it was found that tumour size regressed, he said.

**Malaysian state bans mini-skirts for working women**

**Kuala Lumpur, 6 Jan—** Authorities in Malaysia’s conservative Terengganu state plan to ban Muslim women wearing mini-skirts or figure-hugging dresses to work as part of a drive against indecency, state officials said on Monday.

Muslim women will have to wear headscarves and loose dresses to office, they said, adding employers risking losing their business licences and face fines if the staff flouted the rules.

**Indian scientists develop experimental malarial vaccine**

**New Delhi, 6 Jan—** Indian scientists have developed an experimental vaccine against malaria which is likely to undergo clinical trials early next year, according to the Press Trust of India (PTI).

It would probably be for the first time that a vaccine would go from the lab to trial site in a developing nation. V S Chauhan, Director of International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Delhi, was quoted as saying.

Chauhan was cited as saying that this is the first cocktail malarial vaccine as it has two antigens (proteins) of the parasite and it has been found to be effective against Plasmodium falciparum-causing organism. This strain affects brain of the malaria patients.

Chauhan said that the proteins they have chosen are common to both the strains of the parasite. However, this vaccine was being tested against the vivax strain. The malaria parasite has three stages which make it difficult for a vaccine to succeed, he said, adding that this experimental vaccine targets the blood stage of the parasite.

Chauhan added that the vaccine had undergone tests in mice and monkeys in terms of generating an immune response. But it needed to be tested in human beings to see its safety.

**Hollywood ticket sales down since 1991**

**Los Angeles, 6 Jan—** Ticket sales at the North American box office last year fell for the first time since 1991, despite higher ticket prices and aggressive marketing that ensured strong opening weekends for Hollywood movies.

It was announced on Sunday by tracking firm Exhibitor Relations, sales in 2003 fell 0.5 per cent to $9.27 billion US dollars, from $9.317 billion US dollars in 2002. Those were the only two years where sales exceeded nine billion US dollars, Exhibitor Relations President Paul Dergarabedian said.

Attendance — or the number of tickets sold — slid by 4.5 per cent to 1.53 billion from 1.6 billion in 2002. A drop is not uncommon, but Dergarabedian said the slide was unusually steep. It now costs about 6.03 US dollars to attend a movie, up from 5.83 US dollars in 2002, and the 10 US dollars threshold has been broken in major markets.

**Chinese anti-malaria vaccine wins WHO licence**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. Thebtnin and the vivax strain. The malaria parasite has three stages which make it difficult for a vaccine to succeed, he said, adding that this experimental vaccine targets the blood stage of the parasite.

Chauhan added that the vaccine had undergone tests in mice and monkeys in terms of generating an immune response. But it needed to be tested in human beings to see its safety.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malaria parasite has three stages which make it difficult for a vaccine to succeed, he said, adding that this experimental vaccine targets the blood stage of the parasite.**

Chauhan said that the vaccine had undergone tests in mice and monkeys in terms of generating an immune response. But it needed to be tested in human beings to see its safety.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.

**Modi to attend election meeting on Monday**

**Ahmedabad, 6 Jan—** Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi will address an election meeting on Monday in Ahmedabad, the home town of his boss Dr. Raman Singh, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh.

**Malarial vaccine wins global approval**

China has licensed a malaria vaccine developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, marking the first time that a vaccine against malaria has won international acceptance, according to WHO.

The vivax strain of the parasite can cause recurrent attacks, while the falciparum strain is responsible for malaria deaths. The vaccine works by triggering the body’s immune system to fight the parasite, instead of directly killing it.
Celta coach apologizes for 5-0 home defeat

MEXICO City, 6 Jan — Celta Vigo coach Miguel Angel Lotina has apologized to fans for his side’s humiliating 5-0 defeat at home to local rivals Deportivo Coruna on Saturday and left his future in the hands of the club president Horacio Gomez.

"All I can do is ask forgiveness from the supporters," Lotina told reporters after the defeat. "We didn’t play at the level required in this division."

Celta self-destructed to their fellow Galicians, trailing 2-0 at the break and then conceding three goals late in the game as they slumped to their worst defeat of the season.

Lotina’s side have now won just three of their 18 league matches this season and disgruntled fans were left calling for the coach’s dismissal following Saturday’s rout.

"The president has to do what he believes is best for Celta," Lotina replied when asked about his future at the club which are 17th of 20 in the standings.

"If he thinks it is best to change the coach then he has to do it. I’m not going to make any excuses and I am prepared to take my part of the blame for what has happened." — MNA/Reuters

Wenger hails Arsenal response in Cup comeback

LONDON, 6 Jan — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger praised his team’s response after the holders recovered from a goalkeeping error which left them 1-0 down to thrash Leeds United 4-1 in the third round of the FA Cup on Sunday.

Mark Viduka put Leeds 1-0 ahead just 58 seconds into the game but Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger fielded a weakened side, missing key players including striker Thierry Henry, due to injuries.

Leeds were humiliated as Arsenal came back on for 70 minutes before being sunk by a goal from Emile Heskey and a penalty by Danny Murphy.

But Houllier said: "I can understand why Yeovil are renowned giantskillers and I can see why teams can lose here if they don’t prepare properly." — MNA/Reuters

Cruzeiro bring Rivaldo home to Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 6 Jan — World Cup winner Rivaldo has ended speculation about his future by joining Brazilian champions Cruzeiro.

Cruzeiro said on their official website on Monday that the former Deportivo Coruna, Barcelona and AC Milan striker had signed a one-year contract which brings him home after seven years in Europe’s top clubs.

The Foxes, who are based in Brazil’s third-largest city of Belo Horizonte, said a local pharmaceutical company was helping to sponsor the signing of the 31-year-old who spent most of the last 18 months warming the substitutes’ bench at AC Milan.

Rivaldo’s signing is a tremendous boost for Brazilian domestic football which has become used to seeing nearly all of its top players depart for wealthier European clubs.

Brazilian media said the deal was settled at a meeting on Sunday involving Cruzeiro coach Vanderlei Luxemburgo, president Alvimar Perrella and Rivaldo’s agent Carlos Ariu. The former World Player of the Year, who at the weekend was linked with a move to Saudi Arabian club Al Ittihad, had been a free agent since being released by AC Milan last month.

He joined the Italian Serie A club after helping Brazil to win their fifth World Cup title in Japan and South Korea in 2002 but was relegated to the reserves by coach Carlo Ancelotti and sat out last year’s Champions League final win over Juventus.

Despite this, Rivaldo kept his place in the Brazil team and scored in the 1-1 draw away to Peru in November’s World Cup qualifier. Rivaldo has played in Europe since 1996 when he joined Spain’s Deportivo Coruna. He then spent five seasons with Barcelona before trying his luck in Italy.

Arsenal’s coach Arsene Wenger waves to the fans. Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger believes that England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson will ultimately have his way and England football will have a winter break by next year.—INTERNET

Paris St Germain edge through after late fight-back

PARIS, 6 Jan — Last season’s runners-up Paris St Germain survived a nightmare start to come back from 2-0 down a minute from time and edge out Second Division Troyes 3-2 after extra time in the French Cup first round on Sunday.

Benjamin Nivet scored Troyes first goal in the 21st minute after a swift counter-attack and striker Helder Estevé made it two from the spot after he was brought down in the penalty area three minutes later.

PSG, who ended 2003 third in the Ligue 1 standings after a six-match unbeaten run, stepped up a gear in the second half and managed to force extra time in a desperate last rush. Gabiel Henrie blasted a free kick under the crossbar in the 89th minute and Bartholomew Ogbeche equalized two minutes into injury time.

Troyes suddenly lost their composure and Portugal striker Pedro Pauleta sealed the PSG victory in the 95th minute, heading home a perfect cross from Fabio Fiorese.

"The fans scored the winning goal because they supported us until the end," said Pauleta.—MNA/Reuters

United overcome Villa, Liverpool save blushes

LONDON, 6 Jan — Manchester United recovered from a rocky start to beat Aston Villa 2-1 and Liverpool avoided an embarrassing early exit when they scraped a late 2-0 win at lowly Yeovil in the FA Cup third round on Sunday.

Rouwenberg giantskillers Yeovil looked set for a replay at Anfield after holding out for 70 minutes against the Premier League side but Emile Heskey preserved Liverpool’s dignity when he scored with a right-footed shot from the edge of the area after Danny Murphy made it two seven minutes later when he coolly converted from the penalty spot after striker Harry Kewell had been brought down inside the box by the Third Division side’s defender Hugo Rodrigues.

Two late goals from Paul Scholes secured United’s passage to the fourth round after Gary Barry had given Villa a first-half lead in a similar comeback to their tie at the same stage two years ago.

Barry scored after 19 minutes when his right-footed shot deflected off United defender Wes Brown and wrong-footed goalkeeper Tim Howard.

United, record 10 times winners of the competition, started with a weakened side but manager Alex Ferguson brought on top scorer Ruud van Nistelrooy and captain Roy Keane early in the second half to turn the game around.

The visitors levelled on 64 minutes when Scholes tapped in a cross from Ryan Giggs and the England midfielder doubled his tally four minutes later, again blasting in from a Giggs cross.

In Sunday’s other FA Cup matches, Fulham were hosting Third Division Chesterham, while holders Arsenal travel to struggling Premier League rivals Leeds United in the day’s last tie.—MNA/Reuters

Quick-fire Valencia keep pressure on Real

MADRID, 6 Jan — Valencia staged an impressive second-half fightback to secure a 4-2 win over local rivals Villarreal on Sunday, keeping the pressure on leaders Real Madrid at the top of the table.

A first-half Villarreal appearance appeared to be on course for a rare victory at the Mestalla after Argentine playmaker Juan Roman Riquelme put them ahead with a sweetly footed shot from the edge of the area.

The win leaves Rafa Benitez’ side just two points down on Real, who scraped a 1-0 victory over lowly Murcia at the Bernabeu on Saturday, and four ahead of Deportivo Coruna, who handed Galician rivals Celta Vigo a humiliating 5-0 defeat.

Osasuna lead the chase for the final Champions League berth with 19 points and are five clear of arch-rivals Barcelona, who failed to respond to the game’s early goal.

Osasuna levelled on 64 minutes when Sergio Ballesteros was sent off soon after for a foul on Carlos Marchena. Baraja took full advantage of his weakened defence to grab his second goal of the season, finishing with a clever angled finish in the 73rd minutes. Villarreal refused to fold, however, and hit back with a well-crafted effort from defender Juliano Belletti before Valencia added their fourth, striker Mista guiding home a Ricardo Oliveira pass for his 10th goal of the season.

The two goals from the penalty spot after striker Harry Kewell had been brought down inside the box by the Third Division side’s defender Hugo Rodrigues.

Two late goals from Paul Scholes secured United’s passage to the fourth round after Gary Barry had given Villa a first-half lead in a similar comeback to their tie at the same stage two years ago.

Barry scored after 19 minutes when his right-footed shot deflected off United defender Wes Brown and wrong-footed goalkeeper Tim Howard.

United, record 10 times winners of the competition, started with a weakened side but manager Alex Ferguson brought on top scorer Ruud van Nistelrooy and captain Roy Keane early in the second half to turn the game around.

The visitors levelled on 64 minutes when Scholes tapped in a cross from Ryan Giggs and the England midfielder doubled his tally four minutes later, again blasting in from a Giggs cross.

In Sunday’s other FA Cup matches, Fulham were hosting Third Division Chesterham, while holders Arsenal travel to struggling Premier League rivals Leeds United in the day’s last tie.—MNA/Reuters
16:20 Nipa Palm Forest
16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights/'Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Senti-
tment'

16:30 National News
16:35 Electronic Library (Sagang)
16:40 Myanmar Cuisine
"Moungba"

16:45 National News
16:50 The Zaygye Waterfall
16:55 Kayan Dance

17:00 National News
17:05 Preservation of Myanmar Star Tortoise
17:10 Song ‘Lovey Dovey’
17:12 Fisheries work in Pyapon

17:15 National News
17:20 Fabulous Bagan (III)
17:28 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights/"Come and See Myanmar"

17:45 National News
17:50 Around Bagan by Pontoon
Cut (Ananda Temple)
17:55 Khantite Traditional Cultural Dance

18:00 National News
18:05 Paralitha Tiger School
18:10 Song ‘Miss you so much’

18:10 National News
18:20 Traditional Food of the Region Myikyikt
25 Song of Myanmar
"Mawlamyaying The Jewel of the Crown"

19:30 Signature Tune
19:30 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights/"Pathein"

19:55 Dance of the Royal Page
20:45 National News

---

**Wednesday, January 7**

**View today:**

**7:00 am**
1. Reception of Parittan by Missionary Sayyad U Omamartha

**7:15 am**
2. အုပ်ရောင် (ဗိုလ်ချီး)
3. ဗိုလ်ချီးနှင့် ပူးပေါင်းစေခွင်မှ ကြေညာချက်လေးများ
4. ကိုလိုစွာ မိုးနေသည်
5. ဗိုလ်ချီးစားခြင်း

**7:25 am**
3. To be healthy exercise

**7:30 am**
4. Morning news

**7:40 am**
5. Nice and sweet song

**7:55 am**
6. International news

**8:20 am**
7. အောက်ပါးကြေညာချက်များ

**8:30 am**
8. အောက်ပါးချက်များ

**8:45 am**
9. Learning English the easy and happy way for children and beginners

**9:00 am**
1. Singature Tune

**9:30 am**
1. ဗိုလ်ချီးစားခြင်း
2. ပြုပြင်ရောင်မှ ကြည့်ရှုချက်များ

**10:00 am**
2. ကြေညာချက်များ

---

**WEATHER**

**Tuesday, 6 January, 2004**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, weather has generally been fairly in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) below normal in Chin State, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (0°C) to (4°C) above normal in Ayyawady Division, Northern Shan and Mon States, (5°C) above normal in Taninthary Division and above normal in the remaining areas. Maximum temperature at 11-00 am on 2004 was 34.0 (97°F). Minimum temperature on 6-01 am was 14.0 (57°F). Relative humidity at 9.30 hm MST on 6-01 was 73%. Total sunshine on 6-04 was 167 hours. Rainfall on 6-01 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 m/s from Northeast at (12:40) hours MST on 6-1-2004.

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


---

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**, Wednesday, 7 January, 2004
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects Traditional Medicine University Project in Mandalay. — MNA

Systematic efforts required for Mandalay to become clean and pleasant
having the required characteristics
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects city development in Mandalay

YANGON, 6 Jan — After attending the opening ceremony of the Special Refresher Course No 1 for University and College teachers at Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, this morning, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party flew to Mandalay by helicopter.

Accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, the Prime Minister and party inspected Central Women’s Hospital, where they welcomed by Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Win and specialists.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint reported to them on renovation project of the hospital.

Managing Director of Myanmar Industrial Construction Services U Ye Tun explained the architectural design of the hospital, emergency and outpatient wards, diagnosis midwifery training school, nurses hall, conference hall, other wards, administrative office, doctor’s common room, delivery room, progress in implementing the major renovation project, surgical theatre and infant ward. The Prime Minister spoke of the need to ensure satisfaction of the patients and greening of the hospital environment.

The Prime Minister and party visited maternity ward, emergency and outpatient wards, blood bank, laboratory, x-ray room, gynaecological ward, infant ward, delivery room and operation theatre.

On arrival at the city hospital project site of the MCDC, the Prime Minister and party were welcomed by Mandalay City Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein and officials.

Next, the Prime Minister met Chairman, Secretary, Joint-Secretary and members of Mandalay City Development Committee and heads of departments at the meeting hall of MCDC.

Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein reported on organizational set-up of MCDC, strength of staff appointed, financial matters, instructions on renovation of city hospital by the Prime Minister and implementation of directives given by the Prime Minister during his inspection tour on 7 July, 2003, measures taken for cleaning of Shweta Creek and Thingaha Creek, dumping of waste from industrial zone into six waste stabilization ponds, sewerage system, construction of water treatment plant, 24 million gallons of daily water supply, arrangements for construction of 500,000 gallons capacity reservoir and water-pumping station, supply of water in some townships, extended projects for water supply in Mandalay city, dumping of garbage, planting of trees during the monsoon and greening tasks.

He also reported on upgrading of roads in Mandalay, paving of 52.4 miles ring road, construction of No 1 and 2 Shwe Kyin Creek Bridges and Aungchantha Bridge, construction of Kandawgyi ring road, turning Kandawgyi region into a recreation centre, vegetable patch and livestock breeding, construction of 25-storey Zegyo Plaza condominium. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt took part in the discussions.

(See page 9)

Win Thuzar Shop (Thakayta) opened

YANGON, 6 Jan — The opening of Win Thuzar Shop (Thakayta) under the Ministry of Industry-1 took place at No 2 North Ward in Thakayta Township, Yangon East District, yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun, local authorities, departmental heads, officials and members of social organizations.

Directors-General of the Regional Industrial Coordination and Inspection Department U San Kyi and Yangon East District Chairman Lt-Col Aung Pyi formally opened the shop. The minister then unveiled the signboard of the shop.

Next, the minister and guests viewed the goods on sale. — MNA

English proficiency course opened

YANGON, 6 Jan — The opening of the English proficiency course No 1/2004 organized by the Ministry of Industry-1 was held at the training hall of the ministry yesterday morning, with an address by Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung.

Also present were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun, departmental heads, course instructors and trainees. A total of 31 trainees are attending the eight-week course. — MNA

Training course for planning technician (level-2) opened

YANGON, 6 Jan — The opening of on-job training course No 1/2003-2004 for planning technician level-2 of the Planning Department was held at the ministry on Thwinbyu Road here this morning.

On the occasion, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha delivered a speech. Altogether 46 trainees are attending the course. — MNA

Rural roads, tube-wells opened to hall Independence Day

YANGON, 6 Jan — Hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day, newly-constructed Anawrahta gravel road undertaken by Magway Division Development Affairs Committee was opened in Soekawmwin Ward in Magway on 4 January. Chairman of Magway Township Peace and Development Council U Myo Nyunt and EO of Township DAC U Kyi Thein formally opened the road with 995 feet in length and 16 feet in width. Also present were departmental heads, students, ward dwellers and members of social organizations totalling 3,000.

Similarly, hailing the 56th Anniversary Independence Day, under the drinking water supply project for rural areas, a tube-well sunk by Minbu Township DAC with cash donations of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd was opened at Aukkyawng Village on 9 January morning. The 2-inch diameter tube-well can pump 1,500 gallons an hour. Likewise, a 580 feet long and 18 feet wide gravel road in Paukkon Village, Minbu Township, and a 1,730 feet long and 12 feet wide tar road in Yenangyaung Township were opened in the same morning. — MNA