Chinese Theravada Buddhist monk, disciples present K 125 million

Yangon, 28 Sept — Under the patronage of Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Sombita, Chinese Theravada Buddhist Monk Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Subhana (Suhsanli) of North Min Si Missionary Monastery in Maesai, Thailand, and lay persons presented K 125 million religious affairs in Myanmar today. The ceremony held at Five Nikayas Pitaka Thonebon Sarthintaik in Dagon Myothit (South), Yangon East District, was attended by Daw Kyaw Kyaw Kyaw, wife of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Daw Khin Than Nwe, widow of Li-Gen Tin Oo, the wives of members of State Peace and Development Council, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of (See page 8)

Yangon, 28 Sept — Under the patronage of Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaw Kyaw Kyaw, a ceremony to host Shwehtidaw atop the Gandakuti Tazaung housing the Maha Sakkja Muni Buddha Image in Kyaunggyi Taik Monastery in Kyimyindine Township was held at the monastery today. The ceremony was held in conjunction with the sharing of merits for donating a new building for the presiding monk of the monastery. The building was donated by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaw Kyaw Kyaw and family. The Gandakuti Tazaung was built with cash contributed by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and wellwishers.

The ceremony was attended by members of the Sangha led by Vice-Chairmen Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Aungmyaybonsan Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maharatha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Patinda Bhivamsa and Sayadaw of Jotikayon Monastery in Payagaga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Kundala Joti, Daw Kyaw Kyaw Kyaw, wife of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and family, Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Daw Khin Than Nwe, widow of Li-Gen Tin Oo, Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Soe Win, wives of the members of the State Peace and Development Council, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife, the ministers, the Yangon Mayor, wives of senior military officers, the deputy ministers, departmental heads, social organizations, members of religious associations, wellwishers and people.

At the ceremony, Head of Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department U San Thin Hlaing read out the agenda.

Wellwishers donate K 177,192,000 for Maha Sakkja Muni Buddha Image Gandakuti Tazaung of Kyaunggyi Taik Monastery in Kyimyindine Township.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Taninthayi Division to be State’s edible oil bowl

The State Peace and Development Council, in a bid to implement nation-building tasks, has been enlisting the might of the entire people, while fulfilling all their necessary requirements.

In the process, the government is polishing the private sector for proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system at home. Being blessed with natural resources in abundance and with a temperate climate, the Union of Myanmar relies on the agricultural field.

The Division has emphasized development of the agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors, boosting export and raising the State’s economy. Now, the nation has achieved success in growing perennial crops such as tea, coffee, rubber and oil palm.

Oil palm farming is indeed, a prudent investment from which the creators can make an excellent profit and the nation can gain much benefit in the long run. The nation pays a serious attention to boosting production of edible oil crops to cover local consumption and to be able to reduce import of edible oil.

Now, the area of oil palm farms of companies and local people stands at over 100,000 acres in the nation. Taninthayi Division runs oil palm farming and it has been making sustainable efforts to hit the target of 500,000 acres of oil palms in it since 1999 with a view to ensuring local edible oil sufficiency and exporting the surplus. More national oil palm entrepreneurs have been provided with land allotments. Therefore, the Division will definitely be the nation’s edible oil bowl before long.

Moreover, the Division is rich in terrestrial and marine resources and it can make remarkable contributions towards regional progress as well as the State’s economy.

If the Division makes integrated endeavors with added momentum through coordination adhering to laws, rules and regulations adopted by the State in doing business, it will be able to benefit the region and the nation to a greater degree.

Oil palm farming thrives in Kawthoung Region. Hence, the local entrepreneurs are to expand the horizon of the agricultural industry in the interests of their own and the nation. By doing so, it can elevate the State’s economy to an extent and create more job opportunities for locals.

Upholding the motto “Taninthayi Division must be State’s edible oil bowl”, the entrepreneurs and local farmers are to make efforts in concert to achieve greater success in oil palm farming in their interests and their mother land’s.

MPT introduces Security Code Numbering system

YANGON, 28 September—Myanma Posts and Telecommunications has introduced the Code Numbering System for subscribers in order to prevent others from using illicit extensions of the telephones in Yangon City. The caller is to use the code number which will be provided by the Auto Exchange concerned. The new security system will affect the out-going calls when the phone is not in use, but the in-coming calls will not be affected.

The subscribers may contact the Auto Exchange concerned in person or through their representatives producing the Citizenship Scrutiny Cards.

Wellwishers presenting donations to the Shwedagon Pagoda through an official of the pagoda board of trustees. — MNA

Gold plates, Shwethapingan, cash donated to Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 28 Sept—The Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees organized the 444th presenting of gold plates, Shwethapingan (robes) and cash donations to the pagoda at the ancient Buddha image Tazaung (prayer hall) of the pagoda this afternoon.

Member of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Ovadacariya of the pagoda board of trustees Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadaja Bhaddanta Gandhamabhatvama of Phetpin-ai Pariyatti Monastery in Thaginayun Township graced the occasion by his presence. A total of 539 wellwishers presented the donations worth K 14,411,290 to the pagoda through officials. — MNA

Course on money laundering open

YANGON, 28 Sept—Course on money laundering control organized by Settlement and Land Records Department, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was opened at the meeting hall of SLRD (Head Office) this morning, with an address by Director-General U Win Kyi of SLRD. Also present on the occasion were Depute Directors General U Win To Ny and directors, Police Colonel Sit Aye of CCDAC, leader of Investigation Body (International Relations) and officials, trainees and others.

At the training Police Colonel Sit Aye explained measures being taken on the Law. The course will continue tomorrow. — MNA

Han Golf Masters Tour

U Kyaw Min Min Lat presents the trophy for aged 8-10 age group to Zaw Lin New. — MNA

YANGON, 28 Sept—The sixth Han Golf Masters Junior Golf Championship sponsored by Myanmar Golf Federation concluded at Myanmar Golf Club, 9th-mile on Pyay road, here, this afternoon. It was attended by President of MGF Mg-Mg Win Hlaing (Rtd) and guests. After the contest, Manager U Aung Tun Oo of Sriixon Brand presented consolation prize to Phone Pyi Chan Han, Director U Aung Hla Han of Wilson gave away first prize to Swain Thida Aung in Wilson Putting Challenge. General Manager U Thant of Pan-West (Myanmar) presented first, second, third, fourth prizes to winners in under-18 event. U Kyaw Min Min Lat of Thaik Diamond Shop first, second, third and fourth and fifth prizes to winners in Age 11-12 level event. Vice-President of Myanmar Golf Club U Myo Thein first, second, third, fourth and fifth prizes to winners in Age 11-12 level event.

General Secretary U Aung Kyi of MGF presented first, second, third, fourth and fifth prizes to winners in Age 13-14 level event. President of MGF Mg-Mg Gen Win Hlaing (Rtd) gave away first, second, third, fourth and fifth prizes to winners in Age 15-17 level event. The tournament was mainly sponsored by Han Golf Masters Pte Ltd and also co-sponsored by Pan-West (Myanmar) Co Ltd, Thaik Diamond Shop, Wilson, Sriixon, Mya Yek Nyo Golf Driving Range, Alpine Drinking Water, Star Ice-Cream and Myanmar Golf Club. — MNA

Wellwishers presenting donations to the Shwedagon Pagoda through an official of the pagoda board of trustees. — MNA

Winners announced

YANGON, 28 Sept—Winners of the article competition to mark the International Year of Rice 2004 were announced today by the Work Committee for holding of the International Year of Rice 2004. Daw Khin Ohn Myint (Khin Ohn Myint-Taunggyi), U Kyaw Zaw Lin (Kyaw Zaw Lin-Magway) and U Thein Aye (Maung Thein Aye-Guakhabdy) won first, second and third prizes respectively in the competition. Consolation prize winners are Daw Nan Tin Yi (Tektatho Nan Phyu Phyu Tyn), Ma Chaw Ye (MaChaw Yin-Mohnyin) and U Tin Tun Ohn (Mann Chaint Pha Lay). — MNA
1,049 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

Baghdad, 27 Sept—As of Monday, 27 September, 2004, 1,049 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 799 died as a result of hostile action and 250 died of non-hostile causes. The figures include three military civilians.

The British military has reported 65 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, eight; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; the Netherlands, two; and

Egyptian, Iranian hostages freed in Iraq

Cairo, 27 Sept—An Egyptian engineer working with a telecommunications company who was kidnapped in Iraq last week was freed today, Egypt’s Middle East News Agency reported.

Alaa Muqar was among six Egyptian nationals abducted by gunmen in Iraq on Wednesday and Thursday.

The semiofficial agency said two Iraqis also kidnapped with the Egyptians were freed.

The report said the five remaining Egyptians would be freed. It did not say when.

Meanwhile, a kidnapped Iranian diplomat has been released after more than a month in captivity, the Iranian Embassy said today.

Faridoun Jihani, the Iranian consul in Karbala, was seized while travelling between Baghdad and Karbala in early August. He arrived at the embassy this afternoon, an embassy official said on condition of anonymity. No further details were disclosed.

China for peace in its neighbourhood

Beijing, 27 Sept—China cherishes a good international and surrounding environment for the country’s modernization drive but will not tolerate any subversive activities by foreign forces in Taiwan affairs, said a major policy document of the Communist Party (CPC) released on Sunday.

The party will adhere to the independent foreign policy of peace and constantly improve its ability to handle international affairs so as to create a good international and surrounding environment for China’s modernization drive, the document said quoting a decision adopted at Fourth Plenum of the CPC Central Committee. It also said the CPC would crush any conspiracy aimed at separating Taiwan from China and safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The plenum had appointed Chinese President and CPC general secretary, Hu Jintao to the powerful post of Chairman of the Central Military Commission after Jiang Zemin resigned.

“The party will improve its ability to judge international situation, unsparing and consistently implement the set foreign policy and constantly enhance its capability of carrying out exchanges with the international community, the document said.

Facing the new situation characterized by the interweaving of traditional and non-traditional threat to security, “we should enhance the sense of state security, improve the strategy of state security, and spare no time to establish a scientific, well-coordinated and highly efficient work mechanism to maintain state security,” it said.

US Army soldiers guard a rooftop stronghold in the Sadr City section of Baghdad on 23 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET

Two US soldiers killed in Fallujah

Baghdad, 27 Sept—Two US 1st Infantry Division soldiers were killed in separate incidents today near Baghdad, Iraq, the US military said, and three Iraqi soldiers were killed by a suicide bomber near the guerilla-held city of Fallujah.

Violence also raged around eastern Baghdad’s Sadr City slum, with US air strikes hitting “several enemy positions” in the area, and killing four suspected fighters, the US military said. The area is home to as many as two million people and a stronghold of the anti-US Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr.

US Secretary of State Colin Powell said yesterday that Iraqi elections scheduled for January would go forward even if guerillas prevent some voters from casting ballots. Iraq’s Prime Minister Ayad Allawi told a joint meeting of the US Congress on 23 September that his interim government would hold elections on time and throughout the country.

World leaders including United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan and Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Zapatero Rodriguez have said they doubt a legitimate vote can be taken under the current timetable.

US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has said areas in the so-called Sunni Triangle, such as Fallujah, and Sadr City, must be pacified through negotiation or force before the elections.

One 1st Infantry Division soldier was killed when a US patrol came under small-arms fire this morning in Balad, about 40 miles (64 kilometres) north of the Iraqi capital Baghdad. The patrol returned fire, the statement said, without disclosing additional information.

A second soldier was killed in the same area when a US military patrol vehicle swerved to avoid an Iraqi truck that was being driven erratically. Two soldiers were injured, and one died later from his injuries, the statement said. Outside Fallujah, a suicide car bomber attacked a checkpoint, killing three Iraqi National Guard soldiers, the Associated Press reported.

Internet

Russian PM hails Chinese counterpart’s visit

MOSCOW, 27 Sept—Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov on Saturday hailed Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao’s visit to his country as a great success, saying his meeting with Wen on Friday was “very fruitful”. During a meeting with President of the Xinhuai news agency Tian Congming on Saturday, Fradkov spoke highly of Premier Wen’s official visit to Russia between 23 and 25 September.

Both the Russian and Chinese sides are very satisfied with the visit, Fradkov said, adding that he hoped the IFAR-TASS news agency and Xinhuai will continue to strengthen their friendly and cooperative relations and promote the development of the strategic partnership of cooperation between the two countries.

MNA/Xinhuai

US Marines from the 1st Expeditionary Unit patrol along the Iraqi-Syrian border on 25 Sept. 2004. —INTERNET
Iraq’s gloom overshadows yearly meeting of Blair’s party

BRIGHTON, 27 Sept — The annual conference of the Labour Party of Prime Minister Tony Blair opened here on Monday under the pall of the war in Iraq as the fate of a British hostage, Ken Bigley, remained uncertain, and family members and British Muslims made new appeals for his release.

Mr. Blair had hoped to use the Labour gathering at this seaside resort on Britain’s south coast as the platform from which to lead the party into a record-setting third term when elections are called as early as next May. He had hoped to shift the national debate away from the war and onto domestic goals for education, national health care and jobs.

But 11 days of hostage coverage - now centered on Mr Bigley after the two American colleagues kidnapped with him were killed - has proved politically corrosive for Mr Blair and his party.

Even the Conservative Party opposition leader, Michael Howard, observed in a BBC interview last week, “I feel for Mr Blair.”

Singh allays fears about reforms; encouraged more FDI

NEW YORK, 27 Sept — Setting at rest fears of any derailing of reforms, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Saturday proposed an Indo-American CEO group to raise foreign direct investment (FDI) to 10 billion dollars annually.

“To my mind there should be no doubt at all about the fact that the economic reforms are going to continue and that this is a process which is irreversible,” Singh told a news conference at the conclusion of his week-long visit to London and New York.

Stressing that his discussions with Indo-American CEOs were “very productive, Singh proposed that they should establish a group which could make recommendations on what we should do to achieve “our objective of FDI inflows of 10 billion dollars annually”.

Singh at his meeting with 17 top American CEOs at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on 22 September had said India would be requiring 150 billion dollars in the next 4-5 years for infrastructure development.

Singh’s assertion on economic reforms and raising FDI flows came amidst stiff opposition from left parties to the proposal to raise sectoral caps on FDI in telecom, insurance and civil aviation to attract more foreign investment.

Asserting that there are new opportunities to strengthen Indian-American economic relationship, Singh said he saw his meeting with US CEOs at the NYSE as an opportunity to emphasize India’s credentials as a very attractive investment destination.

“My discussions with Indian-American CEOs yesterday were also very productive in terms of ideas to give a more positive orientation to our plans for reforms and growth,” Singh said.

The Prime Minister said he also had an impressive interactive session with a group of CEOs and economic writers in London in which “we addressed all their concerns about economic reforms”.

Foreigners taken hostage in Iraq tops 140

BAGHDAD, 27 Sept—Guerrillas in Iraq have kidnapped more than 140 foreigners in their campaign to drive out coalition forces and hamper reconstruction:

— Six Egyptians. Two workers for Iraq’s mobile phone company abducted by gunmen 24 September from an office in Baghdad; four other company employees kidnapped outside the capital.

— Ten Turkish employees of the construction company vision. Kidnapping reported in a video broadcast 18 September and attributed to the Salafist Brigades of Abu Bakr al-Saddiq. The Ankara-based company said 21 September that it was freezing operations in hopes of saving the workers.


— British engineer Kenneth Bigley. Kidnapped in Baghdad on 16 September along with two Americans working for Gulf Services Co of the United Arab Emirates.

— Italian aid workers Simona Pari and Simona Torretta, both 29. Abducted in Baghdad on 7 September.

— Christian Chesnot, 37, and George Malbrunot, 41, French journalists. Disappeared 21 August while apparently driving toward Najaf.

— Vlada Abu Ghadi, Lebanese director of Lara construction company. Abducted 31 July in Baghdad.

China emerges as major role in int'l civil aviation

OTTAWA, 27 Sept—China has emerged as one of the major countries of air transportation in the world and its role in international civil aviation is increasing, said Assad Kotaite, President of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

In an interview with Xinhua on Friday, Kotaite said ICAO appreciated the efforts made by China through the year in the development of air transportation. Now China has become a major country in air transport in the world.

He said China has made progress in implementing the standards of ICAO in ensuring safety and security of civil aviation both internationally and domestically through the airlines of China.

Speaking about the China’s role in the ICAO, Kotaite said, China joined the ICAO in 1974, China is also a member of the ICAO council.

China has played very important and cooperative role in the organization.

He said at the forthcoming 35th session of the ICAO assembly, China will become the 11th member of first category in the council which represent great importance in international civil aviation.

He said the cooperation of China is not only within the ICAO council, but also in other areas.

“We have established a number of groups of experts and China is a member of some groups. In these groups China always provides executive ideas,” he added.

Kotaite particularly mentioned China’s cooperation in the establishment of the polar routes which are in good operation and beneficial to airlines of a number of countries.

Delegates from 188 member states and regions will participate in the 35th Session of ICAO Assembly.

US soldiers come out after checking a house near the Italian Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq, after mortars exploded near it, on 24 Sept, 2004.—INTERNET

China’s role in ICAO

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China’s role in ICAO
Bush's assertions about progress in Iraq in dispute

CRAWFORD (Texas), 27 Sept—Many of President George W Bush's assertions about progress in Iraq — from police training and reconstruction to preparations for January elections — are in dispute, according to internal Pentagon documents, lawmakers and key congressional aides on Sunday.

Bush used the visit last week by interim Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi to make the case that "steady progress" is being made in Iraq to counter warnings by his Democratic presidential rival, Senator John Kerry, that the situation in reality is deteriorating.

Bush toutted preparations for national elections in January, saying Iraq's electoral commission is up and running and told Americans on Saturday that "United Nations electoral advisers are on the ground in Iraq".

He said nearly 100,000 "fully trained and equipped" Iraqi soldiers, police officers and other security personnel are already at work, and that would rise to 125,000 by the end of this year.

And he promised more than nine billion US dollars will be spent on reconstruction contracts in Iraq over the next several months.

But many of these assertions have met with skepticism from key lawmakers, congressional aides and experts, and Pentagon documents, given to law-makers and obtained by Reuters, paint a more complicated picture.

The documents show that of the nearly 90,000 currently in the police force, only 8,169 have had the full eight-week academy training. Another 46,176 are listed as "untrained", and it will be July 2006 before the administration reaches its new goal of a 135,000-strong, fully trained police force.

Six Army battalions have had "initial training", while 57 National Guard battalions, 896 soldiers in each, are still being recruited or "awaiting equipment", just eight Guard battalions have reached "initial (operating) capability," and the Pentagon acknowledged the Guard's performance has been "uneven".

Training has yet to begin for the 4,800-man civil intervention force, which will help counter a deadly insurgency. And none of the 18,000 border enforcement guards have received any centralized training to date, despite earlier claims they had, according to Democrats on the US House of Representatives Appropriations Committee.

They estimated that 22,700 Iraqi personnel have received enough basic training to make them "minimally effective at their tasks", in contrast to the 100,000 figure cited by Bush.

"Let me tell you exactly what the story is. They're saying they're trying to train them, yet they have not trained," Senator Joseph Biden, the ranking Democrat on the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said on CNN.

The White House defended its figures, and a senior administration official defined "fully trained" as having gone through "initial basic operations training." General John Abizaid, head of US Central Command that covers Iraq, told NBC's "Meet the Press" that the number of trained Iraqi forces "will continue to grow".

Philippine economic zone and industrial park exports rise

MANILA, 27 Sept—Exports of the Philippine and foreign companies operating in state-owned economic zones and private-owned industrial parks jumped by 22.5 per cent to 21.62 billion US dollars in the first eight months this year, said the Department of Trade and Industry on Sunday.

This figure is much higher than the 16.18 billion US dollars registered in the same period last year.

Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) Director-General Lilia de Lima said the strong shipments of electronics and semi-conductor companies pushed the earnings of companies inside the economic zones and industrial parks during the January-August period.

OPEC official stresses need to set acceptable oil price band

ABU DHABI, 27 Sept—An official from the Organization of the Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) said on Sunday that an acceptable oil price band possibly ranging from 30 to 35 US dollars a barrel could be the solution to the problem of huge speculative hikes in oil prices.

Adnan Shihab Eldin, the director of the OPEC's Research Division, made the remarks in a speech at an energy conference entitled "Gulf Oil and Gas Sector — Potential and Constraints."

He stressed the need to figure out a price band that would be acceptable both to producing and consumer countries, adding that an OPEC technical committee was studying the issue.

Talking of the OPEC's role in a globalized world energy market, Adnan said that the OPEC would be the pivot for stability in the oil market as its members prepare to invest in increasing their spare capacity to meet rising global demand.

The key to securing sufficient investment in creating spare production capacity is to maintain market stability and reasonable prices, he said.

He said that following a period of relatively stable prices between 2000 and 2003, this year has witnessed very high oil prices despite adequate supply. He said he believes that oil prices would come down sooner or later and dismissed fears of further hikes in prices.

High oil prices would be felt most painfully in giant emerging Asian countries like China and India, as well as in Latin America and Africa, where demand for oil and gas is likely to rise substantially in the coming years, he said.

Iraq debt top issue on G-7 meeting agenda

PARIS, 28 Sept—Finance chiefs from leading industrialized countries must bridge a transatlantic rift over how much of Iraq's foreign debt to write-off if they are to make progress towards a deal at a meeting this week.

Iraqi debt is a top issue on the agenda at Friday's meeting in Washington of finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of Seven (G-7) rich nations — the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada.

The finance chiefs have their work cut out.

"To say there is deadlock is to exaggerate a little," said one European official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

There are differences of opinion. But people are working with the intention of doing something before the end of the year."

The International Monetary Fund puts Iraq's total pre-war debt at 120 billion US dollars, some 40 billion US dollars of which is debt and arrears to the Paris Club of 19 industrialised nations, of which all the G-7 countries are members.

The United States and Canada want industrialized countries to agree to a 90-95 per cent write-off of Iraqi debts to them, a G-7 source said. The United States is only the fifth-biggest creditor nation, surpassed by Japan, Russia, France and Germany.

France, which opposed the US-led war in Iraq, together with Russia and Germany, is insisting that a 50-per-cent write-off is the most that should be offered in the first instance.

Norway's shipping status declines

STOCKHOLM, 27 Sept—Norway has fallen from third to fifth place on the Institute of Shipping Economics and Logistics (ISL) ranking list of shipping nations, and it is the only one of the top ten seafaring nations to report a decline in the size of its fleet, a Norwegian web site reported on Saturday.

Bremen-based ISL is considered the final authority in world shipping statistics. Norway's fleet has been reduced by 13.8 measured in tonnage and has been passed by Germany and China. The world shipping leader is Greece, followed by Japan, Germany, China and Norway.

Marianne Lie, president of the Norwegian Shipowners' Association (NSA), said that the uncertain regulatory framework in Norway could mean continuing decline in the industry.

Two US military Humvees burn after a car bomb exploded in al-Mansour neighbourhood of Baghdad, on 22 Sept, 2004. Eyewitnesses said that US soldiers were injured in the attack. — INTERNET

Basra's oil refinery in southern Iraq — INTERNET
Blair admits mistakes in run-up to Iraq war

London, 27 Sept — British Prime Minister on Sunday admitted mistakes in the run-up to the US-led war against Iraq.

“The intelligence that we had that he had actual deployable weapons has turned out to be wrong...Some of the information that we acted upon was wrong.” Blair said in an interview with the BBC.

Blair, the staunchest US ally on Iraq, still insisted that to withdraw troops from Iraq would be to “surrender” to terrorists and denied there had been poor planning for the post-war situation in Iraq.

However, he said the degree to which terrorists from outside the country had moved in had surprised everybody.

Blair’s comments came amid fears for Briton Ken Bigley, held hostage in Iraq by militants who have demanded the release of all women held in the US-run jails in the country.

The abduction of Bigley by militants who have killed Bigley’s two American colleagues, in addition to the ongoing violence in Iraq and the lack of evidence of Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction, has put new pressure on Blair.

Two new polls have suggested public support for Blair’s ruling Labour Party is draining away, with one survey putting the party in third place for the first time in more than 20 years. — MNA/Xinhua

CPC stresses importance of governance capability

Beijing, 27 Sept — The Communist Party of China (CPC) has conceded that it needs to enhance governance capability to consolidate its ruling status and meet domestic and global challenges.

Vigorously enhancing the Party’s governing capabilities is “a major strategic subject with a bearing on the success of China’s socialist cause, the future and destiny of the Chinese nation, the life and death of the Party, as well as the lasting stability and prosperity of the country,” says a party document published here on Sunday. The 36-page CPC Central Committee Decision on the Enhancement of the Party’s Governance Capability was adopted at the Fourth Plenum of the 16th CPC Central Committee, held in Beijing from 16 to 19 September.

“It was history and the people that chose our Party as the ruling party,” says the document. “And it was to meet the requirements of the times and the people that the Party should enhance its governance capability.”

The party’s governance capability refers to its ability to “put forth correct theories, guidelines, principles, policies and tactics, lead in the formulation and enforcement of the Constitution and laws, adopt a scientific system and mode of leadership, mobilize and organize the people to manage state and social affairs, economic and cultural undertakings according to law, effectively run the Party, the state and the military, and build a modernized socialist country,” the document elaborates. — MNA/Xinhua

Media reports two Italian hostages in good health

Rome, 27 Sept — A Kuwaiti paper said that the two kidnapped Italian aid workers in Iraq were in good health and being treated well by their kidnappers, Italian news agency ANSA reported on Sunday.

The Al Ray Al-Aam, Kuwait’s top newspaper, said the kidnappers would not release the women Simona Pari and Simona Torretta, until Italian troops were withdrawn from Iraq.

The daily said it had been told by its sources that “all mediation attempts will be rejected unless Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi’s government respects the kidnappers’ request for the complete withdrawal of Italian forces from Iraqi territory.”

“They are determined not to free them until their demand has been met,” it said.

It also said two Iraqi aid workers kidnapped along with the Italians were being used as interpreters.

The paper denied recent claims that the two had been or were about to be killed.

It said its sources had confirmed that the two women had been kidnapped in order to “send a clear message to the Italian people and the Silvio Berlusconi government: that the Iraqi people denounces the sending of Italian troops to Iraq and calls for the courageous decision to withdraw them, like the Spanish Government which pulled its troops out in order to retain its friendly ties with the Iraqi people.”

Italy has some 3,000 troops serving in Iraq and Berlusconi has repeatedly said that they will remain there as long as the government considers necessary.—MNA/Xinhua

British police arrest suspect over letter bombs

London, 26 Sept — A man who has been hunted over a series of letter bombs posted to homes across England was arrested Saturday morning and is being questioned.

A total of 33 improvised explosive devices have been posted since 3 and 4 September to addresses in a number of locations across England including Blackpool in northwestern England and Luton nearby London. A nationwide alert was then issued.

Police then soon named Justin McAuliffe, aged 32 and unemployed, as the suspected letter bomber. But McAuliffe went missing from his flat in Bedford, central England on 4 September.

— MNA/Xinhua

Schroeder to cancel visit to Libya

Berlin, 27 Sept — German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder will cancel a visit to Libya next month if Tripoli fails to honour a deal to pay compensation to the victims of a 1986 disco bombing, a government spokesman said on Saturday.

Schroeder will meet Libyan leader Moammar Kadaffi as scheduled on October 15 only if a first tranche of compensation is paid by then, the spokesman said. He added that Berlin was confident it would be paid.

The one-day visit was announced after Libya agreed in August to pay $35 million US dollars to more than 160 victims of the bombing of the La Belle nightclub in Berlin. Under the agreement, a first payment of 15 million US dollars had been due by 8 September.

— MNA/Reuters

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— MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan media welcomes Singh-Musharraf talks

Islamabad, 27 Sept — Observing that the talks between Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf in New York had “gone off well”, Pakistani media on Sunday welcomed the absence of “barbs and rancour” in the meeting and said it should provide a fillip to the composite dialogue.

“The two leaders met in an atmosphere of goodwill and cordiality which speaks volumes about their commitment to a political settlement of their disputes. Missing were the barbs and the rancour that normally characterise such encounters between the two countries. Equally significant were the gestures and the body language of the two leaders,” local daily Dawn said.

Acknowledging that the meeting had “gone off well,” The Nation said in its editorial that “the pre-talks signals emanating from both sides had indicated they were determined to make the parleys successful. While leaving for New York, both the leaders had promised to give impetus to the peace process.”

It said the joint statement revealed that “both sides have withdrawn, at least for the time being, from their stated stands on some of the issues. In its editorial The News cautioned about entertaining undue hopes due to ‘complicated nature’ of the issues between India and Pakistan. Dawn said Pakistan “has stopped demanding a settlement on the basis of the UN resolutions which are now outdated and cannot be implemented to the advantage of Pakistan.” — MNA/PTI

An Iraqi woman leaves a damaged house, following fresh clashes between the US Army and the militia of radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in the mostly Shiite populated district of Sadr City in Baghdad, on 27 Sept, 2004. — Internet
The extension of another one year to the economic sanctions on Myanmar by the Bush’s administration was only for the benefit of their American voters, not for the human rights and democratic process in Myanmar. In particular, it was just an attempt designed for the US government to obtain political gain, to hold sway over Myanmar, and to win the support of American voters for the US president and congressmen. There is nothing to be gained from such a one-sided economic sanction, which ASEAN countries and almost every Asian nation find unacceptable.

In the Cold War period during which there existed only the East Bloc and the West Bloc in the world, the successive US governments followed the policies that condemned communist countries of the East Bloc. On the other hand, they exported millions of tons of grain to those countries annually. There also thrived a practice of the transfer and sale of technologies that could not be used for military purpose.

Beginning the 1970s, the socialist countries in the Europe and the Asia had been faced with the economic and political downturn, becoming no match for capitalist countries. Upon realizing the situation with their own sense, they tried to reform at the close of the 1970s and in the 1980s. It is obvious that these changes had nothing to do with the frequent economic sanctions imposed by the US and the West bloc. These changes occurred on account of the domestic need of the countries involved. Naturally, the peaceful coexistence between the capitalist group and the socialistic group gave rise to these reforms.

At a time when the world’s developing countries turn to the market economy and democracy, the foreign policy most suitable for the US to adopt should be something similar to the Marshal Plan that helped countries rise from the ashes in the post-WWII period. With the resurgent economy, war-ravaged countries of the west Europe at that time could establish and develop the market economy of the capitalist system and democracy. Later on, the US however lost its ability to win the victory over the world war and to help war-torn countries. After waging a regional war like the one in Vietnam, successive of US governments have become ones that have to tackle annual budget deficits. For this reason, the US governments have come to exercise the foreign policy that focuses on human rights and democratic reforms1, which does not cost as much as the Marshal Plan. This policy is in fact an impetus to the superficial political reform that lacks the potential for developing the basic economic production forces. It is just an ultra democratic reform that is totally against the Marshal Plan.

This US foreign policy is capable of making American voters and the international community to be under the illusion that the US government is the saviour or the champion of democracy. In reality, it is just an attempt made by the US to seek their vested interests with a coating of human rights and democratic reform.

When compared with the People’s Republic of China, the countries of the East bloc that are in support of the US foreign policy, have not seen economic upswing and higher living standard so far to this day. Although the mainland China that is in the process of establishing a socialist market economy under the auspices of the Communist Party is against the US policy, the US government is taking measures for the promotion of cooperation in economy and trade with China, which still benefits them. A close examination will paint a picture that the US prioritizes only their interests.

Today’s history bears no resemblance to the 19th century when England alone took the lead in the world’s capitalist system nor to the 20th century when the US alone held the lead in the world’s capitalist system. There in the capitalist world’s market today has surfaced a tripartite competition. They are:

(1) US-led Latin American countries,
(2) European Union, and
(3) Japan-led new industrial nations (South Korea), ASEAN and Chinese bloc.

Unlike in the past, neither England nor the US can monopolize the world’s market.

For instance, there arose a great disagreement between the US and the EU as to the sanctions over Cuba. In like manner, the third world’s countries like Japan, South Korea, China and ASEAN countries were not at one with the US in respect of the sanctions on Myanmar. Moreover, the matter of the lopsided economic sanction is not in unanimity even in the United States. A 50-strong consortium said that during the 1990-1996, the export of US products to ASEAN increased by 104 percent; that ASEAN was where the US exported their products on a most extensive scale; that US top entrepreneurs came to the region of their own volition; that unilateral lopsided pressure on Myanmar was wrong; that only the constructive relations could bring about changes; and that reforms would occur only through a process of investment and bilateral relations.

The Bush administration invaded Iraq, the world’s second most oil-rich country, with the use of force, on the pretext that there existed a stockpile of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and that the US security was not safe. Now, it is clear that their excuse is totally false. In fact, they waged an unjust war with the use of force for their own benefits by making such excuses as human rights, democratic reforms and the elimination of despotism. These days, Iraqi people are suffering extremely as if they were locked in hell. How sympathetic?

Therefore, if analysed, the US foreign policy will show:

(1) that the sanction policy is a wrong foreign policy, is an obstacle to the full-fledged emergence of the 21st century’s world market system, and a poison for human society;
(2) that the present Bush administration prefers their vested interests to the human rights and the spread of democratic system; and
(3) the US will avoid any great disagreement with its allies in Asia, just considering their vested interests.

Undaunted efforts are to be made to bring about solidarity among Myanmar nationals, to develop modern human society, and to shape democracy by taking into consideration deeply these matters. A modern and developed democratic country must be established with the might of the entire citizenship in consistency with the seven-point future policy programme. Otherwise, the preference of the imagined democracy that is imported will meet its end like the Burma Communist Party (BCP) did. All in all, the extension of the economic sanctions imposed by the US on Myanmar is not for the benefits of Myanmar people, but in their own vested interests.

Translation: KTY
Myanmar Alin: 22-7-2004

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Efficient use of electricity

* Use daylight as the main source of light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
* Preventing waste of electricity benefit the user and others. The average price per 100,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-mega watt power station can supply.
Shwehtidaw hoisted atop Maha Sakkja…

The first session of the ceremony was held at the new building of the Presiding Sayadaw. The ceremony was opened with the three-time recitation of Namo Tassa. Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Kondala Joti invested the congregation with the Nine-Precepts.

Next, members of the Sangha recited the parittas. Afterwards, Daw Kyang Kyang presented Seinbudaw (Diamond Orb) to be fixed atop Gandakuti Tazaung, religious treatises, documents relating to the new building for the Presiding Sayadaw and offerings to Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maharatha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Pañinda Bhivamsa.

Daw Khin Than Nwe, Daw Khin Lay Thet, Daw Than Than Nwe and wives of the members of the State Peace and Development Council and senior military officers also presented alms to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maharatha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Pañinda Bhivamsa administered the sermon and the congregation led by Daw Kyang Kyang shared the merits gained.

Chairman of the Work Committee for Gandakuti Tazaung Construction No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint Hsan supplicated the construction work of the Gandakuti Tazaung.

First, Presiding Sayadaw Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovidha Bhaddanta Silakhandha Bhivamsa administered the sermon and the congregation led by Daw Kyang Kyang shared the merits gained. Shwehtidaw hoisting ceremony followed. Daw Kyang Kyang and Daw Mya Mya San conveyed the Seinbudaw and Hengetmyanadaw to decorated carriage. Daw Khin Than Nwe, Daw Khin Lay Thet, Daw Than Than Nwe and wives of the members of the State Peace and Development Council, wives of the senior military officers also conveyed parts of the Shwehtidaw to the decorated carriage. Next, they sprinkled scented water on them.

At the auspicious time, Daw Kyang Kyang, Daw Mya Mya San and party hoisted the religious objects atop the Gandakuti Tazaung.

On behalf of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyang Kyang, the ceremony was closed.

Daw Mya Mya San presented Hngetmyanadaw (Vane) and alms to Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maharatha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Pañinda Bhivamsa.

Chinese Theravada Buddhist …

Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife, the deputy minister for Religious Affairs, Commander of Yangon Station and departmental heads, the chairman of Yangon East District Peace and Development Council and members, officials of departments, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, members of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and Myanmar Material and Child Welfare Association, members of social organizations, lay persons of Theravada Chinese Monk Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Subhana (Subsanas) and guests. Also present on the occasion were Presiding Sayadaw Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovidha Bhaddanta Silakhandha Bhivamsa and Principal Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kalyana of Five Nikayas Pitaka Thonebon Sarthintaik and Sayadaws.

First, Presiding Sayadaw Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovidha Bhaddanta Silakhandha Bhivamsa administered the Nine Precepts. Afterwards, Sayadaws recited Parittas. Next, Daw Kyang Kyang, wife of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe presented alms to President Sayadaw of Five Nikayas Pitakad Thonebone Sarthintaik and Donor Sayadaw Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Subhana (Subsanas). Afterwards, Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Armed Forces) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, and Daw Khin Than Nwe, widow of Lt-Gen Tin Oo donated alms to the Sayadaws.

Soon Offering Association, K 5 million for construction of Namo Tassa.

On behalf of donors, Managing Director of Myanmar Leecco Co Ltd U Han Lin supplicated away K 100 million for Ponnya Thahaya Daily Soon Offering Association, K 10 million for Pittakataya Nikayi, Missionary Upatamaka Organization and Pokokku Township Maha Withuta Aletai Monastery and Nun Sukozhaing donated K 5 million for construction of Yatawgyi Monastery in Yatawgyi Village to Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

On behalf of donors, Managing Director of Myanmar Leecco Co Ltd U Han Lin supplicated on the purpose of donation.

Next, Five Nikayas Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.
Respective ministries to lay down master plans...

In the drive for local institutions to be able to stand shoulder to shoulder with those of the world nations, officials concerned are to upgrade educational facilities to better ones through exchange of syllabuses, cooperation, study tours and students with universities in international community.

In the drive for local institutions to be able to stand shoulder to shoulder with those of the world nations, officials concerned are to upgrade educational facilities to better ones through exchange of syllabuses, cooperation, study tours and students with universities in international community.

Leading Committee for organizing 26th meeting of ASEAN ministers and senior officials meeting held

YANGON, 28 Sept —

The second meeting of the leading committee for organizing the 26th meeting of ASEAN agriculture and forestry ministers and senior officials and the 4th meeting of ASEAN+3 East Asian dialogue partners was held at the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation at 10 am today.

It was attended by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Hayo Oo, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thaung Aung, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, the deputy ministers for Agriculture and Irrigation, for Home Affairs, for Transport, for Health and for Information, directors-general and managing directors.

After the discussions, the meeting ended with concluding remarks by Minister Maj-Gen Hayo Oo.

Ministers inspect Yangon Airport

YANGON, 28 Sept —

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Sway and Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected Yangon International Airport yesterday evening.

The two ministers were welcomed by Officer on Special Duty Brig-Gen Mio Tint of the Transport Ministry, the directors-general and officers of the ministry concerned and inspected the restoration task to maintain arts and handicrafts from airport restaurant, arrival and departure of the tourists in the airport and running of duty free shops. Officials concerned reported on the tasks and the ministers gave necessary instructions. — MNA

All this needs to be known

Do not be frightened whenever intimidated

Do not be bolstered whenever flattered

Do not be softened whenever appeased

With respect to the national education promotion plans, the Ministry of Education holds conferences annually with those responsible, scholars and teachers from the education field and makes reviews of previous tasks, coordinates future plans and adopts policies systematically.

Among the students also, the rate of female students is 50.54 percent. The rates of women teachers account for 79.02 % in basic education sector, 81.30 % in higher education and 82.55 % in higher education. Next, educational tasks carried out by University Education Boards Council and University Central Council (1/2004) were reported.

Minister U Than Aung reported that although the rate of women’s educational rights and participation in the world is decreasing, Myanmar women’s participation in the education sector is very encouraging. Women’s participation in the Ministry of Education accounts for 51.93 percent.

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New Nyaungdon oil well produces 5.016 million cu-ft of natural gas, 48 barrels of condensate per day

YANGON, 28 Sept — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Tha, accompanied by officials inspected Nyaungdon oil and natural gas field in Nyaungdon region, Ayeyawady Division this morning. According to the briefing, the field, U Ye Gaung, Chief Engineer (Exploration) of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, reported on successful drilling of Nyaungdon new oil well No 23 and production of oil, and Managing Director U San Win and officials gave supplementary reports. The minister laid down the plans to drill more new oil wells in the region and other regions that are connected with feasible geological conditions. He next awarded cash to the staff who drilled the well.

The minister inspected oil well No 23 which produces 5.016 million cubic feet of natural gas and 48 barrels of condensate per day. Now, a total of 17 wells of Nyaungdon oil and natural gas field produces 102.5 million cubic feet of natural gas and 1138 barrels of gas, it is learnt. — MNA

Thaphanseik Dam ... (from page 16) health, education, economic and social sectors. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo gave a supplementary report. Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended to the requirements, speaking of the need to grow crops as targeted, to supply adequate amount of water for drinking, and to conserve the watershed areas of the dam. He cordially greeted the local people.

The North Yama Dam is 65 feet high and 10,400 feet long. The earth dam was built in fiscal 1995-96 by the Irrigation Department to irrigate 18,000 acres of crops in Pale and Yimmabin townships, and to supply drinking water for the region. In 2004-2005 cultivation season, the dam irrigated 10,620 acres of crops.

After having an aerial view of the support dam project in Pale Township and the site to build Hlme Creek Dam, the Secretary-2 and party arrived at Thaphanseik Multipurpose Dam Project and were welcomed by Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut and officials. Officials briefed them on the aims of the dam, its location and salient points, annual rainfall in the watershed area, annual crop cultivation, tree growing project in the watershed area, and generating of electricity in Sagain Division.

Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut briefed them on the power generation to put records on the daily, monthly and yearly inflow of water into the dam systematically and to make cooperative efforts with the departments concerned for the durability of the facility and generation of power as targeted. He inspected the power house and power generation of three 10-megawatt turbines, the control room, supplying of water to Kindat diversion dam through its 437-foot spillway, and thriving forests in the watershed area. Thaphanseik Dam is 108 feet high and 22,587 feet long. Built on Mu River near Thaphanseik village, Kyunhla Township, Shwebo District, in the division, the aim of Thaphanseik Dam is to supply water to Kindat diversion dam to irrigate 150,000 acres of crops, to conduct multiple-cropping in 350,000 acres of crop fields located in irrigated area of the Kabo Dam and to generate 117.2 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually.

Thaphanseik Dam is to supply water to Kindat diversion dam to irrigate 150,000 acres of crops, to conduct multiple-cropping in 350,000 acres of crop fields located in irrigated area of the Kabo Dam and to generate 117.2 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually.

The dam is irrigating the crops in the Mu river valley round the year. As it is also producing electricity, the facility is helping develop the economy and social standard of the region. In the afternoon, the Secretary-2 and party met with officials and members of social organizations in Kanbaliu. Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein urged departments and social organizations to make cooperative efforts for progress of their region and all to take part harmoniously in the task to implement the seven-point future policy programme of the State to build a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and deputy ministers looked into the requirements presented by local authorities.

At Sekipnu-Myaung Model Village in Kanbaliu Township, the Secretary-2 and party visited the rural health centre and provided cash for the aged persons and foodstuff for children of a day care centre. Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein also presented exercise books for the village post-primary school. In Myonya, the Secretary-2 and party paid respects to Shwesigang Pagoda and offered flowers and lights to the Buddha images. The Secretary-2 inspected the renovation of religious buildings and construction of a new one on the pagoda platform. — MNA
Shwe tidaw hoisted atop Maha Thakya...

Light to Maha Thagayumuni image. The cash donation ceremony continued at Maha Ponyopakara Damayon and Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Pyay Jotikayon Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Thudhamma Jotikadazainvested the congregation with the Nine Precepts.

On behalf of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaw Kyaw Kyiing and family, K 330,000 by wife of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Daw Mya Mya San, and wives of members of the State Peace and Development Council, K 2850,000 by Commanders of the Ministry of Defence, K one million by YCDC, K 15 million by Agga Maha Thiri Thuddamana Manjotadhara. Thiri Thuddamana Manjotadhara

— MNA

Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sprinkles water on Hegetmyatnayadaw (Vane). — MNA

Daw Kyaw Kyaw Kyiing, wife of Senior General Than Shwe, and family present related documents to the Vice-Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee. — MNA

K 3332,621 by charity collecting Pavilions in Kyimyindaing Township, K 5 million each by family of U Ko Ko Hwee in tribute to his 50th anniversary and family of U Maung Maung (Construction Iron Trading, Industrial Zone-3, South Dagon), K 2.5 million each by U Maung Maung (Asia Express), Daw Mya Yin (Mya Theingi Medicine Shop), U Aik Tun (Shwe Taung Co), Maung Weik Co Ltd, Construction Entrepreneurs Association, Golden Flower Co Ltd, Dr Sai San Tun (Los Hein Co Ltd) and SMI Co, K 2 million by management and staff of Krislite (Myanmar) Ltd, K 1890,000 by U Thura Aung and U Aung Lwin Aung (KM aluminium), K 1,890,000 by U Thura (Tenitra Volunteer Hutdaw Housing Group), K 1750,000 by U Soe Tint (Soe Electric Transformers), K 1.5 million by U Aik Lin (Great 9 Co), K 1.2 million each by U Tin Thaw (Thakata Township) and U Thein Han (To-kyo Pipe), K 1130,000 by U Tin Oo-Daw Hla Myint (Shwe Zin Goldsmith), K 1.1 million by Chairman U Win Myint of UMFCCL K 1 million each by U Sai Aik Pao-Daw Nan Sein (Sein Myittamon Salt Mill), Dr Tin Soe Lin (Shwe Parson Cake), U Khin Zaw (Nine Tigers Vehicles Manufacturing), U Aung Myat (Mother Trading Co Ltd), U Pe Hlaing Daw Hla Kyin (Silver Shine Medical Products), U Zaw Zaw Naing, DrZaw Tin-Daw Hla Huy Kyi family (East Dagon Industrial Zone), U Kyaw Min from Pyay Road, San Chaung, U Win Myint from Thambwin Road, Kamayut, Thiri Thudhamana Manjotadhara U Sein Hla Win (Sein and San Co), Dr Moo Tin from U Tin Myint street, Yarraw, Dr Win Zaw from Damayon street, Yankin, Daw Aye Myat Nwe (Bagan Hotel, Sayasan Road), U Win Win, U Sai Than Aung-Daw Nan Win Win, U Sai Myo Win, U Khin Maung San and All Private Bus Lines Control Committee; K 900,000 by U Nyunt Htaw and Daw Nila Shwe (Kyamgakhine Robe House), Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Daw Mya Mya, Ma Tun Naing Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaw Kyaw Kyiing and family, K 330,000 by wife of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Daw Mya Mya San, and wives of members of the State Peace and Development Council, K 2850,000 by Commanders of the Ministry of Defence, K one million by YCDC, K 15 million by Agga Maha Thiri Thuddamana Manjotadhara. Thiri Thuddamana Manjotadhara

— MNA

Win Myint of UMFCCL K 1 million each by U Sai Aik Pao-Daw Nan Sein (Sein Myittamon Salt Mill), Dr Tin Soe Lin (Shwe Parson Cake), U Khin Zaw (Nine Tigers Vehicles Manufacturing), U Aung Myat (Mother Trading Co Ltd), U Pe Hlaing Daw Hla Kyin (Silver Shine Medical Products), U Zaw Zaw Naing, DrZaw Tin-Daw Hla Huy Kyi family (East Dagon Industrial Zone), U Kyaw Min from Pyay Road, San Chaung, U Win Myint from Thambwin Road, Kamayut, Thiri Thudhamana Manjotadhara U Sein Hla Win (Sein and San Co), Dr Moo Tin from U Tin Myint street, Yarraw, Dr Win Zaw from Damayon street, Yankin, Daw Aye Myat Nwe (Bagan Hotel, Sayasan Road), U Win Win, U Sai Than Aung-Daw Nan Win Win, U Sai Myo Win, U Khin Maung San and All Private Bus Lines Control Committee; K 900,000 by U Nyunt Htaw and Daw Nila Shwe (Kyamgakhine Robe House), Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Daw Mya Mya, Ma Tun Naing Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaw Kyaw Kyiing and family, K 330,000 by wife of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Daw Mya Mya San, and wives of members of the State Peace and Development Council, K 2850,000 by Commanders of the Ministry of Defence, K one million by YCDC, K 15 million by Agga Maha Thiri Thuddamana Manjotadhara. Thiri Thuddamana Manjotadhara

— MNA

Daw Kyaw Kyaw Kyiing and party host Seinbudaw (Diamond Orb), Hegetmyatnayadaw (Vane) and Shwe tidaw (Tired and Ornamented Finial) atop Maha Sakji Muni Buddha Image Gandakuti Taazung. — MNA

The Htidaw hoisting ceremony in progress. — MNA
INFORMATION TO TENDER
(TENDER NO. 10/T/MPE/HSD/9/2004-2005)
1. Sealed Tenders are invited by the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the Supply of (55,000 ± 10%) Metric Tons HSD (Gas Oil) Regular 0.5%.
2. Tender Closing Date: 12-10-2004 at 12.00 noon.
3. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, No. (3), Min Ye Kyaw Zwa Road, Yangon, during office hours commencing 29-9-2004 on payment of one hundred (100) FEd per set.
4. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.
Managing Director
Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

TRADE MARK CAUTION
Johnson & Johnson, a corporation incorporated in the United States of America of One Johnson & Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick, New Jersey, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

Reg. No. 1183/2004
in respect of “Pharmaceuticals, namely, a neurological preparation”.

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L. for Johnson & Johnson P.O. Box 60, Yangon Dated: 29 September 2004

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SEA BRIGHT VOY NO (655)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA BRIGHT VOY NO (655) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.9.2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expense 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: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES (PTE) LTD.

Flood damage in Bangladesh stands at billions

Dhaka, 27 Sept — The joint assessment mission of the World Bank (WB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Sunday presented its initial findings on flood-damage to assets and output in Bangladesh, which stood at 2.2 billion US dollars.

The initial assessment did not include losses incurred from the third phase of flood in September, which would be worked out and added to the main report over the next few weeks, the official Bangladesh News Agency reported.

The two banks will also figure out the need requirement for flood rehabilitation in October.

Zimbabwe faces problem of access to HIV/AIDS drugs

Harare, 27 Sept — Zimbabwe faces the challenge of ensuring that people infected with HIV/AIDS get access to anti-retroviral drugs, Health and Child Welfare Minister David Parirenyatwa has said.

“Anti-retroviral drugs with greater potencies, improved resistance profiles, better safety indices and more convenient dosing regimens are now available in Zimbabwe,” the minister said in Friday in a speech read on his behalf at a Barclays Bank health and safety week staff conference.

“The main challenge now is accessibility to these drugs,” he added.

Parirenyatwa said the current fiscal may be larger than the original one in the backdrop of the huge expenditure for flood rehabilitation.

Zimbabwe further pointed out that the country’s gross domestic product (GDP) growth of this fiscal may be slowing down to 5 per cent compared to last year’s 5.5 per cent, while the ADB earlier in its economic outlook report projected the country’s GDP growth at 4.8 per cent.

The joint assessment mission has proposed a three-pronged response to the flood damage and about how it is to be handled in short, medium and long-term perspectives.

Uganda’s floriculture export earnings
earn to double in 2010

KAMPALA, 27 Sept — Uganda’s floriculture export earnings are expected to increase from the current 30 million US dollars to 80 million dollars in 2010. Flower volumes will also increase from 6,000 tons to 20,000 tons in the same period, according to the plan for 2009 to 2010 presented to the government.

Ugandan Flowers Exporters Association Executive Director Ken Henderson was quoted Saturday by local press as saying the plan’s success hinges on private and public sector partnership.

Over 15,000 direct jobs will be generated in the sector, which will support the livelihoods of 75,000 people.

— MNA/Xinhua

Mozambique celebrates 40th anniversary of liberation war

MAPUTO, 27 Sept — Mozambique celebrated the 40th anniversary of the country’s liberation war on Saturday, with military parade before thousands of spectators in the capital’s main sports stadium.

The former Zambian president Kenneth Kaunda, and the former deputy president of Tanzania, Rashid Karawwa, were present at the celebration ceremony.

Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano highly praised them for their support to Mozambique’s independence struggle.

Chissano said when landlocked Zambia became a member of independent Mozambique in 1966, it was to the country, but also knowledge.” A handful of guerrillas of the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) launched the armed struggle for independence on 25 September, 1964, attacking the Portuguese administration at the small town of Chai, in the northern Mozambican province of Cabo Delgado.

— MNA/Xinhua

Brazilian plane departs for Haiti with humanitarian aid

REDE JANEIRO, 27 Sept — A Brazilian Air Force plane with a cargo of food and medical equipment took off Saturday from Rio de Janeiro for Haiti.

The food and medicine, donated by three Brazilian medical institutions, will help people suffering from hunger and thirst as a consequence of tropical storm Jeanne, which hit the island last Sunday.

The lack of water and food has led to a humanitarian crisis in the Caribbean country.

— MNA/Xinhua

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 29 September, 2004
Environmentalists warn against reopening legal ivory trade

BANGKOK, 28 Sept — The number of African elephants will fall down dramatically if a world conference on wildlife trafficking adopts a proposal to reopen the legal ivory trade, an international animal rights group warned on Monday evening.

“Studies showed that any legalized trading of ivory increases poaching and enables laundering of contraband ivory,” said a statement released here by the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW).

The debate over resumption of a legal ivory trade has gained heat with the 13th Conference of the Parties of the UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to be held from October 2 to 16 in Bangkok.

At the conference, the CITES Standing Committee will decide whether Botswana, Namibia and South Africa can sell off their registered stocks as agreed at the previous conference and Namibia will propose an annual quota for ivory trade.

Pros to the proposal of enlarged legal ivory trade said the resumption of the trade will provide much-needed cash to many African countries that lack financial support for economic and social development. Cons, such as the IFAW, noted poaching of wild elephants will deteriorate with the resumption of legal ivory trade for it’s difficult to track the origin of ivory for lack of efficient trade controls.

MNA/Xinhua

“Jeanne” kills four in Florida

FORT PIERCE (Florida), 28 Sept — Hurricane Jeanne killed four people, filled oceanfront condos with sand and left large swaths of coastline knee-deep in water on Sunday as it plowed through parts of Florida scarred by Hurricane Frances three weeks ago.

Tree limbs and debris, including mattresses torn out of mobile homes, were washed down flooded streets along the Atlantic shore and about four million people were without electricity as Jeanne — a record fourth hurricane to strike Florida this season — ripped across the state.

Four people were reported dead in Florida, including a man who apparently tried to move a fallen power line. The storm triggered floods in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico last week in which as many as 2,000 people died.

An insurance industry group, Risk Management Solutions, estimated insured losses from Jeanne at four billion US dollars to eight billion US dollars.

Hurricanes Charley, Frances and Ivan caused up to 18 billion US dollars in additional losses in Florida since mid-August.

“Just about everybody’s been impacted by the storm in one way or the other,” said Governor Jeb Bush. “We’re kind of getting used to this.”

MNA/Reuters

Four terror suspects arrested in London

LONDON, 27 Sept — British police said Saturday they have arrested four terror suspects in London who were reportedly on suspicion of plotting to explode a dirty bomb on the streets of Britain.

Three men were held in a hotel in Brent Cross, west London on Friday while the fourth man was arrested later on the day at his home address in north London.

Scotland Yard said the four were detained under Section 41 of the Terrorism Act: “on suspicion of commissioning, preparing or instigating acts of terrorism”.

“Several addresses have been searched. Some searches continue,” a Metropolitan Police spokesman said in a statement Saturday, with no further details given.

The raids reportedly followed a tip-off from the News of the World, a Sunday tabloid, which had received an anonymous call about the alleged terror plot. All four have been taken into custody at central London police station for questioning, he added.

MNA/Xinhua
Rangers move into second place

GLASGOW, 27 Sept—Rangers striker Nacho Novo scored twice against his former club Dundee on Sunday in a 2-0 victory that keeps the Glasgow side within five points of Scottish Premier League leaders Celtic.

Rangers had won an away league match before their visit to Dens Park and seemed certain to drop more points until substitute Novo struck after 77 and 80 minutes.

Champions Celtic are top with 19 points from seven games after a 3-0 win over Dunfermline Athletic on Saturday while Rangers moved into second place on 14, one ahead of Motherwell.

"You're worried the longer the game goes at 0-0 because anything can happen but we kept strong and when we got the chances we took them," said Rangers manager Alex McLeish.

Rangers goalkeeper Stefan Klos was lucky to escape a caution on his right hand, and Stefan Koubek moved from 17th to 14th place with nine points, eight behind leaders Monaco.

The match resumed with Austria leading 2-1 at halftime. Pujol missed a good chance in the first half when he blasted the ball wide after Leno goalkeeper Charles Randje parried a fierce effort from Florin Bratu into his path.

But the 24-year-old striker redeemed himself on the hour with a superb finish to put Nantes ahead.

The third and Balaban struck three more times to seal an emphatic victory.

Anderlecht, who host Inter Milan in the Champions League on Wednesdays, lost 2-1 at Charleroi who climbed to fourth in the standings. Anderlecht dominated the first half, with Sweden midfielder Christian Wilhelmsson in fine form, but defensive errors cost them dear.

Charleroi scored two minutes after halftime when the unmarked Abdelamjid Oulmers headed home a corner.

Anderlecht full back Olivier Deschacht equalized after a neat dribble but Charleroi midfielder Laurent Macquet struck the winner from a free kick when Anderlecht goalkeeper Tristan Peersman allowed the ball to squirm through his legs. —MNA/Reuters

Club Bruges crush FC Brussels 6-1

BRUSSELS, 27 Sept—Club Bruges crushed FC Brussels 6-1 to move four points clear at the top of the Belgian first division as Anderlecht and La Louviere both lost.

Club Bruges have 19 points from seven matches, four ahead of champions Anderlecht and six clear of La Louviere.

FC Brussels took a shock lead against visiting Club Bruges through Chris Bruno but goals by Croatian striker Bosko Balaban and Gerti Verheyen put the leaders 2-1 ahead at halftime.

Club Bruges' Ljubomir Fejsa headed home a second on the hour to put the visitors ahead.

AC Milan beat Lazio 2-0

MILAN, 28 Sept—Italian champions AC Milan came from behind with 10 men to beat Lazio 2-0 in Serie A on Sunday.

Milan's victory at the Olympic Stadium moved them up to fourth place, three points behind early leaders Juventus.

Lecce and Messina share second place on eight points behind Jove, who have 10 points from the opening four games following a 1-1 home draw with Palermo on Saturday.

AC Milan's Andrea Shevchenko celebrates after scoring his second goal against Lazio during their Serie A Match at the Olympic Stadium in Rome on 26 September, 2004. AC Milan won the match 2-1. —INTERNET

Pujol half-volley gives Nantes 1-0 win over Racing Lens

PARIS, 28 Sept—A Gregory Pujol half-volley gave Nantes a 1-0 win over Racing Lens in Ligue 1 on Sunday as they continue to recover from a slow start to the season.

The 2001 French champions, who started with two draws and two defeats, moved from 17th to 14th place with nine points, eight behind leaders Monaco.

The world number four had played opening four games of the campaign.

"The main thing was to win. It was our third game in a week and we were a bit tired but we played a solid game and we took our chance," said Nantes coach Luc Amine.

On Saturday, a goalless draw at Olympique Lyon helped 10-man Monaco stay one point clear at the top. Monaco are on 17 points with Lille moving above Lyon into second place on goal difference thanks to a 4-0 win over Metz.

Monaco will host Deportivo La Coruna in their second Champions League group phase match on Tuesday while Lyon will play away at Sparta Prague. —MNA/Reuters

Rafael Nadal sends Spain through to Davis Cup final

ALEJANTE (Spain), 27 Sept—Teenager Rafael Nadal sent Spain through to the Davis Cup final against the United States with a scintillating 6-4, 6-1, 6-2 victory over France's Arnaud Clement on Sunday.

Nadal, drafted in to replace Carlos Moya, skipped, jumped and punched the air after winning all the big points in a heroic victory that gave Spain an unbeatable 3-1 lead over the French.

It will be a third final appearance in five years for Spain, who beat Australia to win the Davis Cup for the first time in 2000 in Barcelona and lost to away the same side last year.

This time they will have the advantage of hosting December's final against the Americans, who beat Belarus in the other semifinal.

Nadal had carried Tommy Robredo to victory in Saturday's doubles against Clement and Michael Llodra to put Spain 2-1 ahead and on the strength of that

The main thing was to win. It was a heroic victory that gave Spain an unbeatable 3-1 lead over the French.

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Lecce and Messina share second place on eight points behind Jove, who have 10 points from the opening four games following a 1-1 home draw with Palermo on Saturday.

Milan, smarting from their shock home defeat by Messina in midweek, fell behind to a Fernando Couto header

The Milan defence left the Portuguese defender unmarked at the back post and Couto confidently headed home an Antonio Filippini cross.

The task for Carlo Ancelotti's men became tougher when eight minutes after the break midfielder Massimo Ambrosini was sent off after an elbow on Filippini.

But two goals inside four minutes from Shevchenko turned the game around. From a 70th-minute corner Shevchenko showed great agility to turn and hook the ball past Angelo Peruzzi and four minutes later he beat two Lazio defenders before driving in a shot from a narrow angle.

Lazio piled forward in the latter stages and almost grabbed an equalizer when Simone Inzaghi headed against the bar from close range.

Parma restored their lead just two minutes later through Marco Marchionni, only for Martins to strike again with a fine left-footed shot to give Pato Mancini's side their third draw in the opening four games of the campaign.

"We are scoring goals but we have to start conceding fewer," said Mancini.

"We can't continue to concede goals in this manner, something has to change," said the Inter coach whose team picked up their only win of the season in midweek with a 3-2 victory over Atalanta. —MNA/Reuters
New building for the presiding monk of the monastery.

**WEATHER**

Tuesday, 28 September 2004

Summary of observations recorded on 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Chin State, lower Sagaing and Tanintharyi Divisions, scattered in Shan and Mon States, upper Sagan and Manda- lay Divisions, isolated in Kachin and Kayah States, Bago and Yangon Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining states and divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kalaewe (2.48) inches and Patoa (1.57) inches.

Maximum temperature on 27-9-2004 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 28-9-2004 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 28-9-2004 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 28-9-2004 was 8.8 hours. Total rainfall on 28-9-2004 was 0.52 inch at Yangon Airport, 0.16 inch at Kaba-Aye and 0.16 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 110.32 inches at Yangon Airport, 104.49 inches at Kaba-Aye and 106.97 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 6 mph from West at 17:50 hours MST on 27-9-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Central Bay and cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 29-9-2004: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kachin, Chin, Shan and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Manda- lay Divisions, isolated in Kachin and Kayah States, Bago and Yangon Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining states and divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Rainfall on 28-9-2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Rainfall</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yangon Airport</td>
<td>0.52 inch</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kaba-Aye</td>
<td>0.16 inch</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Yangon</td>
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<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total rainfall since 1-1-2004</td>
<td>—</td>
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**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

Wednesday, 29 September, 2004

R 489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newslight, PO Box No 43, Telephone: Editors 296115, Manager 296664, Circulation 297093, Advertisement 296643, Accounts 296545, Administration 296161, Production 297032 (Office) 297028 (Press).
**Four political objectives**
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

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

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

Respective ministries to lay down master plans for enabling their institutions to be on a par with other ASEAN members

Ministry of Education holds conferences annually with scholars and teachers, makes reviews of previous tasks, coordinates future plans

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**YANGON, 28 Sept —** Myanmar Education Committee held its meeting No 3/2004 at the meeting hall of Universities Central Council in Kamayut Township this evening, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present were the ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, Vice-Inspector-General of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Win Myint, the deputy ministers, members of MEC, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments and officials.

In his address, Chairman of MEC Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said the meeting was to discuss the acceleration of efforts by the respective ministries in connection with education sector for uplift of Myanmar education sector.

He said in the Union of Myanmar, not only the Ministry of Education but also the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Forestry, the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries, the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, the Ministry

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**YANGON, 28 Sept —** Chairman of the Agricultural Development Committee Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspected North Yama Dam Project on Yama Creek near Chinmyit village, Pale Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division, on 26 September.

Accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, the ministers, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, the Secretary-2 arrived at the project and was welcomed by officials, local authorities and local elders and people. He heard a report on salient points of the project, annual rainfall of the region, annual water inflow and use of water, annual crop cultivation and building of a support dam 12 miles southwest of the facility, presented by officials. Local authorities also explained the developments in

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**INSIDE**

For whom does the US extend its economic sanctions on Myanmar?

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