### Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Chinese President

**Yangon, 1 Oct** — On the occasion of the Fifty-fifth anniversary of the Founding Day of the People’s Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2004, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Hu Jintao, President of the People’s Republic of China.

**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

**Currency notes of new size of One Thousand Kyats, Five Hundred Kyats and Two Hundred Kyats will be put into circulation**

All legal tender currency notes and coins will continue to be in circulation.

#### One Thousand Kyats Note
- **Dimensions**: 15 x 7 Cm
- **Dominant Colour**: Green

(See page 16)

**New note of K 1000 seen on obverse side.**

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
PERSPECTIVES
Friday, 1 October, 2004

Looking after the aged: an adorable tradition of Myanmar people

Myanmar is a nation with a high cultural standard and Myanmar people pay the highest respect to their elders. It is an adorable tradition of Myanmar society to look after their parents and grandparents with genuine goodwill and loving kindness. Older people, on their part, look after the interests of the family including sons and daughters and grandchildren.

In the world today, the population of older people is on the increase. According to the UN survey, the average life span of people was 46 in 1950 and now 66. In the past, there was an older person in every ten people but now there is one older person in every five people.

Nowadays, the population of the world stands at 6.3 billion and people have a longer life span. As a result, the population of older people has also been increasing. Therefore, it is necessary to take systematic steps for the welfare of the aged. Since 1999, the United Nations has designated October 1 of every year as the International Day for Older Persons, calling for measures to look after the older people and create a peaceful and pleasant environment for them.

Myanmar has a population of more than 53 million and about 4.3 million are sixty years old and above. Older people have wider knowledge and multifarious experiences. We should let such people join social and religious organizations. More homes for the aged should be built and government and other social organizations should look after older people, especially those who, for various reasons, have no one to turn to.

Myanmar has been holding the International Day for Older Persons on 1 October every year since 1999. The holding of the International Day for Older Persons every year reflects the fine tradition of Myanmar people who always look after their elders. In Myanmar, on the eve of the International Day for Older Persons, endowments, food supplies, clothing and medicines are being provided to homes for the aged and the oldest people in each state and division are being honoured.

Looking after the aged is one of the fine traditions of Myanmar people and so we would like to urge wellwishers and social organizations to frequently make donations to the homes for the aged.

Gas supply to power stations resumes

YANGON, 30 Sept — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi yesterday morning inspected progress of the laying of a 10-inch new gas pipeline in Kyimyindine Township. The gas pipeline from Nyaungdon Gas Field to power stations and factories in Kyimyindine Township has been laid an adorable tradition of

People's Desire

- Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends felicitations to Chinese Vice-President

YANGON, 1 Oct — On the occasion of the Fifty-fifth anniversary of the Founding Day of the People’s Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2004, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Zeng Qinghong, Vice-President of the People’s Republic of China.—MNA

F & R Minister leaves for US to attend meetings of WB, IMF

YANGON, 30 Sept — Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun left here by an yesterday evening to at-
tend the annual meetings of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group to be held in Washing-
ton DC of the United States of America.

The Myanmar delegation led by the Minis-
ter for Finance and Revenue was seen off at Yangon International Air-
port by Minister for Na-
tional Planning and Eco-

demic Development U Tha Tha, Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, departmental heads of the min-
istry, officials and fami-
lies of the delegation members.

The Minister was accompanied by Gover-
nor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Director-General Daw Myo Nwe of For-
eign Economic Relations Department, Director of CBM Daw Oo Mya Win of the Ministry of Finance and Re-

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun being seen off at the airport before departure for Washington DC.—MNA

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends felicitations to Nigerian Vice-President

YANGON, 1 Oct — On the occasion of the Fifty-fifth anniversary of the Founding Day of the People’s Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2004, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Alhaji Atiku Abubaker, Vice-
President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which falls on 1 October 2004.—MNA

Pakistani delegation leaves for home

YANGON, 30 Sept — A delegation comprising eight trainees of National Management Course led by Administrative Board member Mr M Khalid Iqbal of Pakistan Admin-
istrative Staff College (PASC) of Pakistan left here by air this morning.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Director-General U Hla Kyi of Civil Service Selection and Training Department and officials, Secretary Mr Habib-ur-Rehman and of-
ficials of the Pakistani Embassy.

CEC Member gives lectures to USDA trainees

YANGON, 30 Sept — The Organizational Course No 17 is being conducted by Mayangon, Hlaine, Kamayut and Bahan Township USDA’s at Kyawkawg Youth Training School in Mayangon Township. Member of Central Ex-
ecutive Committee of USDA Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein this morning gave lectures on noble State policies, success achieved in imple-
menting seven-point future policy programme and all-
round development of the nation to 100 trainees of the course.—MNA
1,053 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

BAGHDAD, 29 Sept — As of Wednesday, 2 September 2004, 1,053 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 800 died as a result of hostile action and 253 died of non-hostile causes. The figures include three military civilians.

The latest identifications reported by the Department of Defence:
— Army Spc Gregory A Cox, 21, Carmichaels, Pa; died Monday when his military vehicle rolled over in Balad, Iraq.
— Marine Pfc Kenneth L Sickels, 20, Apple Valley, Calif; died Monday in a non-hostile incident in Iraq’s Anbar Province. — Internet

Three people accountable for bus accident detained in S-W China

CHONGQING, 29 Sept — Three people who are held accountable for flood-induced bus accident that occurred on Saturday and left seven people dead and 37 others missing in Shizhu Tujia Autonomous County, southwest China’s Chongqing Municipality, have been detained, local police said on Tuesday.

The three detained people are Cheng Dehu, owner of the bus, He Jixun, manager of Shizhu County Bus Transportation Company and Du Dade, head of Shizhu County Chengnan Bus Station.

At 13.20 Saturday, a bus carrying 46 people was crossing a bridge that was already submerged by a flooded river in the county and suddenly flushed into the river by a torrential flow which was two-three metres higher than the bridge surface at that moment.

Rescuers have been dispatched to search for the bodies of the missing along the river bank, Zhang said.

Vietnam to grow rubber trees in Laos

HANOI, 29 Sept — Vietnam will pour 30 million US dollars into growing 10,000 hectares of rubber trees in Laos, the country’s biggest rubber producer, Vietnam Rubber Corporation, said on Wednesday.

The corporation, which has asked for the government’s permission to implement the project with the wholly local-invested mode, is expected to cultivate the first 2,000 hectares in 2005. All of the 10,000 hectares will have been grown by 2010.

Vietnam exported 253,000 tons of rubber worth 293 million dollars in the first 9 months of this year, down 14 per cent in volume but up 22.1 per cent in value against the same period last year.

Prices of local rubber in September 2004 rose by 10-20 dollars per ton against previous months to around 1,230 dollars, partly due to higher demand from the Chinese market.

British captive begs Blair to save his life

LONDON, 30 Sept — British captive Kenneth Bigley has appeared in a videotape broadcast on Aljazeera, pleading with Prime Minister Tony Blair to meet the demands of his captors to release women prisoners in Iraq.

The tape, released on Wednesday, showed Bigley squatting down in an iron cage and dressed in an orange jumpsuit of the sort worn by Muslims detained at Guantanamo Bay.

Bigley was quoted as saying: “Tony Blair is lying, lying when he says he negotiating. My life is cheap. He doesn’t care about me.”

“All these people want is the female Iraqi prisoners free. They don’t want to kill me. They could have killed me a week, two, three weeks ago, whatever.”

“All they want is their sisters out of prison and back with their families where they belong,” he added.

The British engineer, who was seized in Baghdad nearly two weeks ago, was shown with a metal chain wrapped around his neck and binding his hands and feet. He appeared haggard and distraught.

A black banner bearing the name of his captors, the al-Tawhid and al-Jihad Group, was posted above the cage. — Internet

Car bomb hits US convoy in Ramadi, causing some casualties

BAGHDAD, 30 Sept — A car bomb blew up near a US military convoy in the flashpoint Iraqi city of Ramadi on Tuesday, witnesses said.

They said that some US soldiers were killed, but it was not possible to verify the casualties.

The blast occurred when a car bomb, left by a road leading to the mayor office in central Ramadi, was detonated targeting a passing US military convoy, they said.

The US military said it had no immediate information about any attack near Ramadi, some 100 kilometres west of Baghdad. — MNA/Xinhua

Iraqis check the wreckage of cars that were destroyed at Baghdad’s Muslim Shiite Sabh City neighbourhood recently. — Internet
Protesters twice disrupt Blair’s speech at Labour’s conference

LONDON, 29 Sept—Protesters have twice disrupted British Prime Minister Tony Blair’s speech at his ruling Labour’s annual conference in Brighton, southern England, as thousands of pro-hunt campaigners were holding demonstration outside Tuesday afternoon.

One anti-war protester shouted at Blair within a few seconds of the Prime Minister beginning his speech, according to the Sky News.

About 20 minutes later another group, dressed in suits and wearing what appeared to be official ID, began shouting abuse from a balcony.

Security staff were unable to get them out of the hall as quickly as the protesters, holding on to rails, yelled at Blair.

The Prime Minister kept his cool and fobbed off the demonstration with a series of jokes.

A loud alarm, apparently left behind by the group, then delayed Blair’s speech again as he restarted for a third time.

Outside, thousands of hunt supporters paraded past the conference centre.

Ahead of Blair’s speech, police said they have arrested two pro-hunt campaigners as remains of several dead farm animals were dumped on streets close to the conference. Some female hunt supporters even stripped off and dived into the freezing cold sea opposite the conference centre just before Blair rose to speak. Blair vowed Sunday that he would not buckle to the protests over Iraq and the fox-hunting ban.

— MNA/Xinhua

France says int’l conference on Iraq should be well prepared

PARIS, 29 Sept—France finds “useful” the idea of an international conference on Iraq but believes “several conditions must be met before a date can be fixed,” President Jacques Chirac’s spokesman said Tuesday.

Chirac met with visiting King Abdullah of Jordan for an hour at the Elysee Palace for discussions focused on proposals for an international conference on Iraq, as well as terrorism and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Chirac’s office said.

“They (the two leaders) talked about the project of an international conference in the framework of the Resolution 1546, whose implementation is our common goal,” said Chirac’s spokesman Jerome Bonnafont after the talks between Chirac and Abdullah.

He said the United Nations Resolution 1546 was voted with unanimity on 9 June, setting the democratic transition steps in Iraq and with elections by the end of January 2005.

In the framework of this resolution, “it is useful to bring together the main parties aiming at contributing to the peace and reconstruction of Iraq, where the situation is worrying,” said the spokesman.

“In this situation, the idea of an international conference should start with who will participate (Iraq, countries in the region and major partners of Iraq) and on what subjects (elections, etc.). It is above all these we’ll have the date: when is the best moment in the favour of the process,” he added.

Chirac thanked Abdullah for Jordan’s help in trying to secure the re-release of two French journalists held by Islamic extremists in Iraq, the spokesman said.

— MNA/Xinhua

China’s 1st astronaut to be conferred honorary doctorate

HONG KONG, 29 Sept—Yang Liwei, the first Chinese astronaut to go into space, will be conferred an honorary doctorate by the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the congregation will be held on 9 December, according to a Press release of the university.

Yang Liwei will be conferred the degree of Doctor of Science, honors causa. He received his bachelor’s degree from No 8 Aviation College of the People’s Liberation Army and became a member of the national astronaut team in 1998.

In line with governance efforts under the Seventh Malaysian Plan to address the shortage of skilled workers and engineers, ADB approved a $72-million US-dollar Technical and Vocational Education project in 1995, which was completed successfully in 2002.

Malaysia’s education system has a 6-3-2-2 pattern, consisting of six years of primary, three years of lower secondary, two years of upper secondary, and two years of post secondary education.
Al-Arabiya negotiating release of two French journalists

Dubai, 29 Sept—A man from Al-Arabiya television said was negotiating the release of two French journalists held hostage in Iraq and said on Tuesday he met the two Frenchmen and that an agreement had been reached to free them soon.

“They are in good health, psychologically and emotionally. After meeting them, we reached an agreement to free Christian (Chesnot) and Georges (Malbrunot) and get an audio tape from them announcing they would be freed soon,” Philippe Brett told Al-Arabiya television.

“We were able to reach this agreement without paying any money,” he added.

In Paris a Foreign Ministry spokesman said French authorities had no comment to make on the latest report.

France has been notably circumspect in official comments on the hostages’ status in recent weeks after an early release of the two men failed to materialize.

Didier Pillet, editor of the Quest France regional newspaper that employs Malbrunot, said staff remained materialized.

“We have been in touch with the best possible contact at the Foreign Ministry, and have every reason to believe what he says, that the ministry doesn’t know that mediator,” Pillet said.

Dubai-based satellite channel Al-Arabiya said that according to unidentified sources, Chesnot and Malbrunot could be released within 48 hours.

The two and their driver went missing on August 20 south of Baghdad. A group calling itself the Islamic Army of Iraq claimed responsibility and demanded that France scrap a law barring the wearing of Islamic head scarves in schools.

An Islamist website said on Tuesday it had killed an Iraqi intelligence female officer and abducted three of her colleagues, according to an Internet statement.

“Last night (Monday), the Mujahideen captured Nadia Abdulwahab Mattak, a member of the apostate Iraqi intelligence female officer and abducted three of her colleagues, according to an Internet statement.

An Iraqi girl walks behind two US tanks on patrol in Sadr City district in Baghdad, on 28 Sept. 2004. The sound of heavy bombardments echoed across Baghdad from the poor Shiite district of Sadr City on Tuesday morning, following a night of sustained US aerial attacks, residents said.—INTERNET

China, ASEAN set to enhance cooperation between young people

Beijing, 30 Sept — Officials on youth affairs from China and the 10 member countries of the ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) adopted a Declaration on youth cooperation, on Wednesday.

The document, the Beijing Declaration, pledged to enhance exchanges and cooperation between young people to promote common development in the region. The meeting, called the First China-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth, vowed to establish a regular exchanging mechanism.

The declaration also called for a favourable environment for creating job opportunities and starting businesses for young people in the region.

“Exchanges between young people are conducive to deepening the friendship between China and ASEAN countries and push the economic and cultural cooperation among these countries,” said Zhou Quang, First Secretary of Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China, speaking at the meeting.

While describing Wednesday’s meeting as “historic”, Honourable Paolo Benigno A Aquino IV, chairman and chief executive officer of the National Youth Commission of the Philippines, cited this as the first time for China and ASEAN to meet regarding youth.

“As we plan for the future of the youth, we plan for the future of the region; as we plan for the welfare of the youth, we plan for the welfare of the region,” he said, during co-chairing the meeting with Zhou.

China and ASEAN have kept an increasingly close relationship in bilateral cooperation of trade and business during recent years, with total trade turnover growing 20.86 per cent each year on average.

In 2003, the trade volume between China and ASEAN stood at 78.25 billion US dollars, nearly 150-fold that of 1975.

ASEAN has become China’s fifth largest trade partner, while China is the Sixth largest trade partner of ASEAN.

WHO acts to reduce maternal death toll

Geneva, 30 Sept — The World Health Organization (WHO) said Wednesday that it and its partners are acting to reduce the maternal death toll of half a million women each year.

“Pregnancy is a normal, life-affirming state. Women should not die giving birth,” said Joy Phumaphi, World Health Organization’s Assistant Director-General on Family and Community Health.

“Their deaths are preventable, even in the poorest countries. But it takes local knowledge, strength and partnership to ensure women’s lives are saved,” she said.

WHO estimates that maternal deaths are under-reported by as much as 50 per cent because deaths are not classified correctly, or more often, not counted at all. In 62 countries of the world, there are no maternal mortality data whatsoever.

“If dead women are not even counted, then it seems they do not count. We have an invisible epidemic,” said Phumaphi.

WHO has started a new global strategy of “Everyurt, everywhere, every day,” said Phumaphi.

Phumaphi. While the main causes of maternal deaths are haemorrhage, infection, hypertensive disorders, obstructed labour and unsafe abortion, the fundamental reasons for the continuing crisis are unavailable, inaccessible, or poor quality care.

The effects are tragically amplified, as some one million children are left motherless each year. These children are 10 times more likely to die in childhood than children whose mothers have not died, WHO estimates.

Maternal mortality shows a stark divide between rich and poor countries. “One key task of the global health community is to close the gap in services for women in rich areas, and those in poor ones,” said Phumaphi.

Iraqi female officer killed by captors

Dubai, 29 Sept—A group led by al-Qaeda ally Abu Musah al-Zarqawi said on Tuesday it had killed an Iraqi intelligence female officer and abducted three of her colleagues, according to an Internet statement.

“The man says he is with the Tawhid and Jihad Group and dated September 18 it had received a message from the Islamic Army in Iraq as saying Chesnot and Malbrunot had ‘willingly agreed’ to work for it to inform the west about the realities of the US-led war and the ‘truth’ about the Iraq resistance. — MNA/Reuters

Jordan’s King says Iraq too unsafe to hold elections

Paris, 29 Sept— Iraq is far too unsafe to hold elections as scheduled in January and extremists would do well in the poll if Baghdad tried to go ahead as scheduled despite a worsening insurgency there.— MNA/Reuters

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MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Xinhua
Explosions, gunfire rattle central Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 30 Sept— Fierce clashes erupted on Tuesday in central Baghdad’s Halfa Street between US-backed Iraqi forces and guerrillas, witnesses and police said.

Loud explosions and gunfire rattled the area, where there has been the bastion of insurgency against the US-led occupation of Iraq, the witnesses said.

“Fierce clashes erupted in the area, but there is no immediate information about casualties,” Dr. Sabah Kadhum, the head of information department of Iraqi Interior Ministry told Xinhua.

Iraqi forces backed by US troops have repeatedly attacked the area in recent days, detaining dozens of suspects.— MNA/Xinhua.

CNN employee taken hostage in Gaza released

GAZA, 30 Sept— An Arab Israeli CNN employee who was held hostage in Gaza was released on Tuesday, a Palestinian source told Xinhua.

Riyadh Ali, producer of the US news channel, was now under Palestinian police custody, the source said.

On Monday, Palestinian militants blocked a taxi in Gaza City and ordered Ali out of the car.

Such an incident involving journalists has been rare in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank over the past four years of the Palestinian Intifada (uprising).

MNA/Xinhua.

Thai police claim largest heroin seizure this year

BANGKOK, 29 Sept— Thai police on Monday said they recently seized 60 kilos of heroin and arrested two suspects of the large-amount drug trafficking this year, local Press reported on Tuesday.

Two Thai men from northern Thailand were charged with drug offence after delivering more than 60 kilos of heroin to undercover police in a sting operation in downtown Bangkok on Saturday, according to Bangkok Post.

The two men delivered some 117 bars of heroin in front of a department store to the undercover policemen that made up as two Australian-born Vietnamese who had earlier been detained in Australia.

The police then raided the two Thai men’s apartment in northern part of Bangkok and found out 38 more bars of heroin, which made the operation claim the biggest seizure of this year.

The case, believed to succeed due to cooperation between Australian and Thai police, also exposed how a major drug trafficking gang operated their business.

Having found the two Australian-born Vietnamese-ordered 2.5 kilos of heroin from the drug gang based in central Thailand, the Australian police contacted with their Thai colleagues and conveyed to them certain information.

The Thai police, on the other hand, gathered information as how the gangs trafficked drugs through overhearing of Thai drug dealers’ conversation in a prison.

The gang was found to have smuggled heroin in wooden containers in Australia via yacht.

MNA/Xinhua.

UNEP to enhance cooperation with China on environment protection

BEIJING, 29 Sept— The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will enhance its cooperation with China to combat environmental degradation in the world’s most populous country, UNEP Executive Director Klaus Toepfer said here on Tuesday.

“UNEP is going to expand its national office in China and cooperate more with the country in its efforts for sustainable development,” said Toepfer, who is here to attend the 20th anniversary of the prestigious Sasakawa Prize.

UNEP opened an office here last year, its first in a developing country. The move has been welcomed by the Chinese Government.

Toepfer pointed to the fact that China is one of the fastest growing economies in the world and that it is very important to take into account the environment while pursuing the agenda of economic growth.

Over the past 25 years, China’s economy has been growing at an average yearly rate of about 8 per cent. Reckless pursuit of economic growth without considering the environmental costs, however, has resulted in serious environmental degradation in some parts of the country.

Last year, the Chinese Government began to embrace the concept of “scientific development,” the coordinated development among economy, society and environment.

Toepfer said through his talks with senior Chinese Government officials over the past two days, he felt the policy change, as all the officials expressed strong commitment to environmental protection.

On Monday’s ceremony marking the 20th anniversary of the Sasakawa Prize, Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan stressed the importance of resolutely carrying out the basic state policy of protecting the environment during the process of building an all-around well-off society.— MNA/Xinhua.

Iraq arrests spy working for Iran

BAGHDAD, 30 Sept— Iraqi security forces have arrested a spy working for Iranian intelligence, local newspaper Al Furat reported Tuesday.

The arrested Nayesh Abd Ali Al Hussein, accused of spying for Iran, said a top Iraqi intelligence official who declined to give his name.

Al Hussein confessed serious things that would incriminate the Iranian intelligence and its interference in Iraq’s internal affairs, said the source.

The source added that an Iranian intelligence officer called Mohamed Qaribani, titled Abu Mohamed, who is working under diplomatic cover in the Iranian Embassy in Baghdad, has recruited Al Hussein.

Al Hussein revealed in the interrogation that the Iranian Embassy in Baghdad is the headquarters of making sabotage and spying in Iraq, said the source.

Iraqi Government has been accusing Iran of interfering in its internal affairs and had sent an official delegation recently to inform Iran about such affairs, it was reported. Iraqi Defence Minister Hazim Al Shaalan also criticized Iran of standing behind the bombings and acts of sabotage in Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua.

India finances small agriculture projects in Mozambique

MAPUTO, 29 Sept— The Indian Government has opened a line of credit worth 20 million US dollars for small scale projects to assist farmers in Mozambique, local media reported Monday.

According to a Press release from the Mozambican Planning and Finance Ministry, the initiative covers such areas as the processing of coconuts, rural electrification, and the drilling of oil wells and the installation of hand pumps, in the country’s central Zambezia Province.

The memorandum formalizing this initiative was signed in India on September 10 by Mozambican High Commissioner Carlos Agostinho do Rosario, and the Executive Director of the Export-Import Bank of India, R Raman.

MNA/Xinhua.

Three Egyptian hostages released in Iraq

CAIRO, 30 Sept— Three Egyptians kidnapped by Israeli militants in Iraq earlier this month were freed on Tuesday, their company said.

The hostages were freed Tuesday afternoon, Orascom company said in a statement.

“The company has confirmed that the former illegal occupation authorities in Iraq, which have been besieging us, have released, the two remaining hostages,” the statement said.

The three men were among six Egyptians who were abducted along with two Iraqis on Wednesday and Thursday.

Besides Tuesday’s release, one of the six hostages was freed overnight.

Engineer Ala Maqar was released shortly after 24:00 (2000 GMT) and was now in the headquarters of the Egyptian holding telecom company in Iraq.

No group claimed responsibility and it was reported that Orascom offered a ransom.

With the security situation deteriorating in Iraq, at least 26 Egyptian hostages were killed by their kidnappers this year.

Some Iraqis, such as contractors and engineers, who were considered by guerrillas as US collaborators, were also abduction targets.

MNA/Xinhua.

Iraqi pass the remains of a car after it exploded as a US military convoy was passing by in Mosul on 29 Sept, 2004. —INTERNET
So ridiculous for me recently were the BBC and the VOA, airing news reports randomly, without observing any of ethics the international journalism instead quoting the reporters sans borders as saying that the Kht Hsan journal was banned in Myanmar.

How pitiful they were. The two international media stations were like tarnishing their own image. Instead of studying the true situation of the journal in question in detail, they were airing slanders, with hearsay as the only source.

In the journalism world of Myanmar, a number of private periodicals cease to publish usually for their own problems. Sometimes, a journal meets its end due to the financial losses resulting from the inefficiency of the editorial staff or occurrence of different opinions or disagreements between the publisher and the editors. Sometimes publication stops because frauds surface between the publishers and editors or in other cases, the end of publication is due to violation of rules and directives of the Press Scrutiny and Registration Division for many times.

According to my knowledge, publication of three magazines and six journals stopped during the period from January to September this year. In addition, 12 major journals and 11 other journals were facing difficulties to publish continuously during the same period. So, see for yourselves reporters without borders to know the real situation behind the termination of the Kht Hsan journal.

Something is strange in the incident, as a lot of noises and complaints were coming out concerning the termination of the publication of the Kht Hsan journal, while many other periodicals were disappearing silently as usual for certain problems of their own. Are they trying to publicize the journal for their own reasons? I wish it is not true.

In reality, the Press Scrutiny and Registration Division has nothing to do with the termination of the Kht Hsan journal. The matter concerns only with the publisher himself. The publisher hired the publication permission of the journal to editors on payment. Thus, the editors and the journal should pay the total amount of rental fee regularly. In that case, the publisher stopped hiring the permission to the editors. But whenever they heard a journal stops publishing in Myanmar, the reporters without borders always accuse the Government of banning it for featuring anti-Government reports. However, it is just their traditional practice of reporting news that is against the journalism ethics.

On 23 September at 6 pm, the VOA aired an interview programme under the title — the news report concerning the banning of the Kht Hsan journal presented by the reporters sans borders and the so-called Myanmar News Union. The interviewee of the programme was Maung Maung Myint, a hired propagandist of the Myanmar Press Union formed with Myanmar expatriates and fugitives.

In the interview, Maung Maung Myint added a lot of lies to the original incident to make matters worse, saying that the journal was banned not because of any financial problem; that it was achieving success to a certain degree. That its circulation had increased from 3,000 to 10,000 a week, that the journal had become offensive in the eyes of the military government as it was running only the general information for the public without featuring any commercials.

How shameful it was for him to make such brazen fabrications saying bleak as white with total insincerity in mind. In its last issue (No 160), published on 16 August 2004, the journal stated its circulation at 1,000. It also mentioned its address for public orders for its copies and advertisements. In his letter sent to the Press Scrutiny and Registration Division on 2 September, the publisher said that editors were facing financial problems; and that he was against the continued publishing of the journal. In the letter, he asked permission from the body or cease the publishing of the journal temporarily, with effect from 30 September. The body permitted him to stop the publication for the time being in accord with the letter, and the publisher himself had already acknowledged editor U Shwe Kyaw about the matter in advance.

Why the circulation of a successful journal was only 1,000? But do all the people of Myanmar have to accept it as a very successful journal whose circulation was only 1,000 in the nation of over 53 million population. There were no commercials in the journal because nobody would not want to advertise in it. The contact address stated in the journal for commercials looked so funny and pitiful.

So, does the Government even know about the existence of the journal circulating 1,000 copies per week to open the eyes of over 53 million people of Myanmar, let alone disliking it very much?

At present, the Government has already permitted publishing of 144 different kinds of journals and 234 various types of magazines and 9,758 books of aesthetic works in 2003 and 2004. The censorship of the Government has already open 8,794 rural libraries up to this date. Moreover, plans are under way to open libraries in 13,478 village-tracts all over the nation on self-reliant basis in 2004-2005 and to open new libraries in over 30,000 villages in 2005-2006. The dailies are also running advertisements, with the motto — Let us all lend a helping hand in opening self-reliant rural libraries — inviting more donors to partake in the task.

All in all, the point is that the Kht Hsan journal stopped publishing owing to financial problems; and it was against the continued publishing of the journal. In this regard, I would like to say that the reporters sans borders, the so-called international media persons, who are slandering Myanmar without studying her objective conditions, and who have never observed the journalism ethics, and the propaganda posts of the so-called Myanmar Press Union formed with a handful of expatriates and fugitives are like the persons who daren’t show their face in public.

(Translation: TMT)

Expansion and reform of Security Council must be an integral part of common package
The Council should be expanded in both categories of membership

(from page 1)

to take the occasion to convey my appreciation to His Excellency Mr. Julian Hunte for his able leadership and contributions to the success of the previous session. My delegation also pays tribute to the Secretary-General for his selfless dedication to the cause of the United Nations.

Mr. President,

The world today faces many daunting challenges. Most ominous and threatening among them are issues of peace and security. Under these circumstances it is worth recalling the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence which were enunciated fifty years ago by Myanmar together with China and India to provide the basic principles for inter state relations.

Mr. President,

Myanmar considers that the United Nations, which represents international legitimacy and near universal membership, is the sole multilateral forum for addressing urgent global issues. Recent events remind us of the futility of unilateralism and danger of resort to the use of force without the authorization of the United Nations.

Mr. President,

The United Nations has served its Member States well since its creation. However it must move with the times. Threats to the international system and the rapidly evolving international situation demand a thorough reform of the Organization, its mechanisms, structure and working methods.

The world today faces many daunting challenges. Most ominous and threatening among them are issues of peace and security. Under these circumstances it is worth recalling the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence which were enunciated fifty years ago by Myanmar together with China and India to provide the basic principles for inter state relations.

Mr. President,

In reponse, including South-South cooperation can well complement international cooperation. As member of ASEAN, Myanmar is actively involved in the association’s activities for promoting regional peace, stability and prosperity and enhancing cooperation in the Asia Pacific Region.

Myanmar is also an active player in sub-regional cooperation initiatives such as ACMECS (Ayeyawady-

Myanmar is also an active player in sub-regional cooperation initiatives such as ACMECS (Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy) and BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical Cooperation). These are noteworthy frameworks for closer economic and social cooperation among neighbouring countries. Myanmar also actively participates in the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), a forum aimed at drawing strength from Asian countries for sustainable development.

Illicit trafficking in drugs is another challenge that is closely linked to other transnational crimes. Success in the war against drugs will contribute to a successful outcome in the fight against transnational crime. Myanmar accords topmost priority to the suppression and eradication of narcotic drugs. A 15 year national plan targeted at eradication of narcotic drugs in the country by the year 2014.

Mr. President,

Terrorism is one of the most serious challenges that the world faces today. It threatens national sovereignty and violates human rights, including the right to life. Last year, terrorists carried their war to the doorstep of the United Nations. They cruelly extinguished the lives of 22 innocent persons including that of Special Representative Mr. Sergio Vieira de Mello at the UN headquarters in Baghdad. More recently, we have seen wanton acts of terrorism in diverse parts of the globe, from Beslan to Jakarta to Madrid.

Myanmar unequivocally condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and joins the international community in calling for concerted action to combat the menace in accordance with the UN Charter and international law.

We have never permitted the use of our territory for hostile acts against any State. We have neither provided assistance to those involved in terrorist acts nor safe haven to them. We never will.

Myanmar is doing its utmost to combat this menace at the national, regional and international levels. It was among the first countries to submit a report to the United Nations Counter Terrorism Committee, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and has since submitted its third report. It has signed or acceded to eleven of the twelve international legal instruments related to the suppression of terrorism. It is also actively involved in the Bali Process to combat transnational crime, including international terrorism.

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Myanmar is a nation at peace. Children are not permitted to be recruited into the Armed Services in Myanmar by law or in practice.

(from page 8)

Myanmar is determined in its fight against drugs. It has established bilateral, trilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation to rid the world of this scourge.

Mr President,

Some western countries allege that Myanmar is not adequately addressing the issue of trafficking in persons. Nothing can be further from the truth. In fact, Myanmar views trafficking in persons as an evil that must be suppressed through concerted action. We have been seriously tackling the problem through a comprehensive framework comprising national legislation, a plan of action, high level commitment as well as through bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including the Bali Process.

In this connection, Myanmar acceded to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime on 30 March of this year. A national law on anti-human trafficking is being drafted in accord with that Convention. Myanmar will host the meeting of the six-nation Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT) next month.

Mr President,

Allegations of human rights violations in Myanmar are aimed at discrediting the Government for political purposes. Myanmar believes that the question of human rights is an important issue. It should be addressed with objectivity, impartiality and non-selectivity. Above all, the historical background and social, religious and cultural characteristics of countries must be accorded the consideration they deserve.

Myanmar has consistently cooperated with the United Nations on human rights issues. It is promoting and protecting the fundamental rights of its citizens, including the right to food, clothing and shelter and the right to development. In this context, a national Human Rights Committee has already been established and human rights awareness is being introduced in school curricula nationwide as well as through workshops.

Mr President,

An interview by a politically motivated NGO with 25 or so insurgents inside a neighbouring country became the basis of a report that there are 70,000 child soldiers in the Myanmar national armed forces. This is a fabricated claim. The falsehood found its way into the Secretary-General’s report on Children and Armed Conflict in 2002. The report subsequently became the resource document in the thematic debate on children and armed conflict that ensued in the Security Council.

I wish to firmly reiterate that, first Myanmar is not a nation in armed conflict. It is a nation at peace. Second, I wish to clearly state that children are not permitted to be recruited into the Armed Services in Myanmar by law or in practice.

A preventative programme has been in place in the country even before the Security Council thematic resolution was adopted. In this regard, the Chairman of the Committee on the Prevention of the Recruitment of Child Soldiers recently received the UNICEF representative in Myanmar to explore ways and means to enhance cooperation. The representative was afforded the opportunity to visit the army recruitment centre near Yangon, and subsequently the army recruitment centre in Mandalay together with the UN Resident Coordinator.

Mr President,

Allow me to turn to developments in my country. Peace and stability has been restored. We are taking steps to ensure a smooth transition to a peaceful, democratic modern state.

Myanmar places the highest priority on national reconciliation to achieve unity among the 135 national races. In order to strengthen ties and promote economic and social development of the national races inhabiting the border areas the Government has expended 58 billion Kyats and over 550 million US dollars in infrastructure development that includes communication networks and education and health facilities promoting the quality of life of those citizens.

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Notwithstanding the unilateral sanctions of some western countries, Myanmar has been able to develop the economy and promote the well-being of its people. We have achieved this, relying mainly on our own resources and with the assistance and cooperation of our neighbours.

Noteworthy advances have been made in the health and education sectors. The country now has 757 hospitals, an increase of 140 hospitals over a span of 15 years. In the past year alone, 22 new hospitals were commissioned. Over the same period the number of colleges and universities in the country has increased from 32 to 154. In these institutes enrolment has risen dramatically from 120,000 to 890,000.

Mr President,

Allow me now to turn to recent political developments in my country. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt announced a seven step road map for transition to democracy in August 2003. The road map has been well received in the country as well as by our neighbours. The ASEAN Summit last November welcomed the commitment of the Myanmar Government to affect a transition to democracy.

The first and most crucial step of the road map, the reconvening of the National Convention, was taken on 17 May of this year.

The current Convention is attended by 1088 delegates from eight strata representing all walks of life. It is more inclusive that the previous Convention which was attended by only about 700 delegates.

Moreover sixty percent of the delegates in the current Convention are from the national races. Over one hundred delegates are representatives of 17 major armed groups and 17 smaller armed groups who have returned to the legal fold. In the previous Convention, representatives of three or four armed groups which had just returned to the legal fold were present as observers.

During the first session, the sensitive issue of power sharing between the central government and the States and Regions was the main focus of discussion. Indeed power sharing is a vital and delicate issue as the country is now evolving from a unitary government structure to a Union structure where States and Regions will have their own executive and legislative bodies. The delegates held extensive discussions on this issue. In view of the complex and sensitive nature of the deliberations, discussions were time consuming and sometimes intense. After a successful first session, the Convention adjourned on 9 July.

Myanmar is a Union of 135 national races and unity is key to achieving our vision of a prosperous democratic state.

We are greatly encouraged by the results of the first session. The common desire to ensure the success of the seven-step Road Map was evident. Preparations are underway for the second session which is to be resumed in the forthcoming open season.

Once agreement is reached upon the fundamental principles in the National Convention, a new constitution will be drafted. The draft will be put to a referendum for the people of Myanmar to decide. After the adoption of the new Constitution, there will be free and fair elections where the people will elect leaders of their choice.

Mr President,

The new political structure needs to be strong and resilient, and the country united. The future of the nation cannot be determined by one individual or one party acting alone.

There is no alternative to the National Convention. It is the sole process through which the aspirations of the people of Myanmar for establishing a modern and democratic nation will be fulfilled. We cannot allow the National Convention to be derailed under any circumstances. Failure would plunge the nation into the abyss of anarchy. This is the reason why we place such store on the successful outcome of the National Convention.

We are determined that this vital national endeavour is crowned with success.—MNA
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt sends felicitations to Chinese Premier

**YANGON, 1 Oct —** On the occasion of the Fifty-fifth anniversary of the Founding Day of the People’s Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2004, General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Wen Jiabao, Premier of the State Council of the People’s Republic of China.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife being welcomed by Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun at the reception to mark National Day of the People’s Republic of China on 30 September. — *MNA*

C-in-C (Navy) inspects regional development in Ngapudaw

**YANGON, 30 Sept —** Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein and Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence met officials of Myanmar Agriculture Service, Public Works and Development Affairs Department at state, district and township levels at the meeting hall of Kayah State Peace and Development Council Office in Loikaw on 27 September morning.

Kayah State Manager of MAS U Khin Maung Latt reported on land utilization of 163,957 town acres out of 2,898,921 acres of Kayah State, rainfall in 2004-2005, extension of cultivation, land reclamation for growing 100,000 acres of monsoon paddy, cultivation of monsoon paddy, pulses and beans and edible oil crops in townships of the state, preparation for the expanding cultivation of season crops and arrangements for local food sufficiency.

Superintending Engineer U Zaw Win of Public Works submitted reports on efforts made for better transportation in the state, management of bridges and roads, construction of 131 miles long Hopong-Loikaw-Demawson-Yado-Leiktho-Toungoo Road and requirements of heavy machinery.

Director of Development Affairs Department U Tin Aung presented reports on strength of staff at DAD in Kayah State, districts and townships, progress of development and water supply for rural and urban areas, construction of rural housing estates and beautifying of towns.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe delivered an address, saying that agricultural supervisory committee members and officials should go field trips to grassroots level to organize local farmers in order to reclaim vacant and virgin lands for meeting the target of 100,000 acres of monsoon paddy in Kayah State. He stressed the need to extend cultivation of quality strains crops for ensuring food sufficiency of the state. And then, surplus of domestic products are to be sent to other divisions and states. Organizational tasks are to be carried out for systematic use of quality seeds, agricultural technology and inputs.

He noted that concerted efforts are to be made for supplying water from the canal of Moeybe Dam to cold season and summer crops, demonstrating systematic use of machinery to local farmers so as to change manual to mechanized farming and boosting production of monsoon paddy and other crops.

With regard to construction of roads and bridges, machinery are to be used in the tasks for better transportation. It is necessary to strive for completion of Loikaw-Yado-Leiktho-Toungoo Road on time, he said.

Employees of Development Affairs Department are to harmoniously participate in rural and urban development tasks and sanitation works. Departmental personnel are to join hands with local people to achieve success in carrying out regional development tasks and requirements are to be submitted in time.

Later, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe fulfilled the requirements. — *MNA*

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Later, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe fulfilled the requirements. — *MNA*

Myanmar gets gold, silver medals in Mekong Sports Meets

**YANGON, 30 Sept —** The Friendly Sports Meets of Mekong region countries was held from 23 to 25 September in Mukdahan, Thailand. A total of 202 athletes from Mekong region countries — China, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam — participated in the sports meets.

Myanmar football team (U-17) won the silver medal and Aung Thaiba and Phyu Wai Thet won a gold medal each in 5km City Cross Run. In Sepak Takraw events, Myanmar (women) team won a gold medal and (Man) team won a silver medal. In rowing singles and doubles events, Myanmar athletes—Yan Paing, Thant Sin and Aung Lwin Soe, Naw Ar Le She, and Myint Myint Than and Thin Thin Kyu won gold medals. — *MNA*

Myanmar Tourism Service arranges local trips

**YANGON, 30 Sept —** Myanmar Tourism Service is making arrangements for local trips of both tourists and local people with a view to enhancing local travel services and enabling the visitors to enjoy convenient travelling experience.

In so doing, daily trips Yangon-Thanlyin-Kyaiktiyo-Kyaung Magyay-Mwe Myint and Yangon-Danubyu-Zalan are being operated on weekend days; Yangon-Kyaikhtio trip on every Saturday; Yangon-Letkohkokin trip on every Friday.


For these trips, visitors will be provided with transport, hotel and food together with the tour guides on board. Detailed information may be inquired at 77/91, Sule Pagoda Road, News and Information Division of Myanmar Tourism Service, Tel-252859, *MNA*

Use Natural Gas Vehicles and save fuel oil

- In automobiles, natural gas can be used in place of petrol and diesel.
- The use of natural gas can not only save fuel oil but also extend engine life.
- Natural gas exploited at home can be used effectively and safely.
- Natural gas burns cent per cent and is environment-friendly.
- Adequate supply of natural gas helps facilitate passenger and cargo transport.
Workshop on UN Millennium Development Goals

**Yangon, 30 Sept**—The National Consultative Workshop on UN Millennium Development Goals, organized by the Health Planning Department of the Ministry of Health and the WHO commenced at the International Business Centre on Pyay Road here this afternoon.

It was attended by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, President of the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, departmental heads, Resident Representative of WHO to Myanmar Dr Agostino Borra, officials, social organizations and guests.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint and WHO Resident Representative Dr Agostino Borra delivered speeches on the occasion. The Deputy Minister presided over the workshop and addressed it.

Director-General of the Health Planning Department Dr Kyi Soe presented on current situation of millennium development goals; and Director Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint, baseline data of MDG, past and present situations, and future plan for MDG. Those present made all-round discussions.

The workshop continues tomorrow. — **MNA**

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16th Ophthalmic Surgeons’ Conference 11-12 Nov

**Yangon, 30 Sept** — The Eye Surgeons’ Society will hold the 16th Ophthalmic Surgeons’ Conference at Auditorium of Myanmar Medical Association on Thanbyu Road, here, on 11 and 12 November 2004.

Those wishing to present papers are to contact the secretary, Ophthalmic Surgeons’ Conference Organizing Committee, Yangon Eye Hospital on Natmauk Road, here. There will be a special workshop for phacoemulsification on Cataract Surgery on 10 November before the conference. Those who what to attend the workshop are invited to contact Yangon Eye Hospital earlier than the conference day. — **MNA**

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**Yangon, 1 Oct** — The following is the message to mark the International Day of Older Persons sent by the Secretary-General of the United Nations today.

Elderly persons—“Older Persons in an Intergenerational Society” —recognizes the important role that older persons play in their families, communities and societies. On this 10th anniversary of the International Year of the Family, the theme also recognizes that the youth of today, who constitute the largest group of young people ever, will be the older persons of the year 2050. They will make up the largest group of older persons ever.

Yet in many places, both young and old remain excluded from meaningful participation in their societies, and the tremendous contribution they could make towards society’s development is often ignored.

Population in developing countries will age rapidly in the coming century. Yet those countries have only limited economic resources with which to respond to the ageing of their societies. The challenge will be to ensure that those countries do not experience the ageing of their societies as a burden, but derive from it added value and opportunities for development through an actively engaged older population. In other words, the challenge will be helping those countries build an intergenerational society.

The Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid two years ago, marked a turning point in our understanding. The Assembly recognized ageing as a global phenomenon and supported its inclusion in the international development agenda. Among its many recommendations, the Madrid Plan of Action encouraged Governments to review policies to ensure generational equity, and to promote the idea of mutual support and solidarity between generations as key elements of social development. Only in this way can we hope to build a truly intergenerational society. On this International Day, let us re dedicate ourselves to that mission. — **MNA**

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Message on the International Day of Older Persons

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**Yangon, 1 October** — On the occasion of the Fifty-fifth anniversary of the Founding Day of the People’s Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2004, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Li Zhaoxing, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China. — **MNA**

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Workshop on UN Millennium Development Goals

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The workshop continues tomorrow. — **MNA**

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Educational Free Seminar on 9th October

**Yangon, 30 Sept** — Progressive Engineering & Language Training Centre will organize the Free Seminar on Study Option Available in France, which is presented by Eucadasia International Language School (France), at Grand Plaza Park Hotel at 3 pm on 9th October, 2004.

The seminar passes can be available from Progressive Engineering & Language Training Centre, Room 304, MGW Centre (above Alladinn Recreation Centre), Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Tel: 01-245886, 09-500-8775. — **H**
Thailand seized 600 smuggled pangolins

BANGKOK, 29 Sept — Thailand’s highway police on Tuesday seized about 600 Malaysian and Indonesian pangolins, an endangered species of anteater, in a truck to Bangkok, local Press reports.

Tipped-off police stopped a truck on the highway in the central province of Prachup Khiri Khan, lying some 280 kilometres south of Bangkok.

They found about 600 pangolins in small plastic boxes on the truck and the 33-year-old truck driver admitted he had been hired to transport the pangolins from the southernmost border province Songkla to Bangkok.

The truckload of anteaters was valued at about 1.5 million baht (about $47,000 US dollars). The pangolins were from Malaysia and Indonesia as their scales were different to those commonly found in Thailand, Somchai Pilestriong, director-general of the Department of Natural Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, was quoted by Bangkok Post as saying.

Edwin Wiek of the Wildlife Friend Rescue Center said several wild life trafficking gangs hired local drivers to transport endangered animals.

MNA/Xinhua

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV “MANDALAY” VOY NO 136/N

Consignees of cargo carried on MV “MANDALAY” VOY No 136/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon port on 30-9-2004 and will be berthing on about 1-10-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanmar 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 between 8 am and 11:30 and 12 noon to 4 pm into 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.

CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE

MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

Phone : 293147, 296507, 295754

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GEE HONG VOY NO (419)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEE HONG VOY NO (419) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1-10-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T. 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 EAGLE CORPORATION

Phone No: 256909/378316/376797

China becomes Vietnam’s third biggest steel exporter

HANOI, 29 Sept.—China’s steel now accounts for 14 per cent of Vietnam’s total steel imports, which secures China’s position as the third largest steel exporter to the country after Japan and Russia.

The imported steel from China made up only 5.7 per cent of Vietnam’s total steel imports in the first quarter of 2004.

Vietnam spent 160 million US dollars importing China steel in the first eight months of this year, according to the Vietnam News reported on Tuesday.

Now, Chinese enterprises sell rolled steel to Vietnam for 480-500 dollars per ton, which is higher than European companies. Their billet prices are also 20 dollars lower per ton than those offered by Russian and Ukrainian firms.

China’s many advantages, including low labour cost, abundant resources and advanced technologies, have enabled it to turn out steel of equal quality at a lower price than other countries.

Vietnam imported three million tons of steel last year and billets worth more than 1.4 billion dollars, mostly from China, Russia, Ukraine and Malaysia in the first eight months of this year, down 34 per cent in volume.

China is expected to be the third largest country in the world in 2004, behind the United States and China.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing to attract Japanese investment in Olympic projects

TOKYO, 29 Sept.—The Chinese capital of Beijing is seeking investment from Japanese enterprises in a wide range of fields including infrastructure construction and projects for the 2008 Olympic Games.

Zhang Jifu, deputy director of the Beijing Municipal Investment Promotion Bureau, said at a Press conference on Monday in Tokyo that an investment fair for Japanese enterprises, slated for October 20 to 21 in Beijing, will trigger a new round of investment surges between the two sides.

The “Japanese Enterprises’ Beijing Investment Fair”, the first of its kind, will be sponsored by commercial, industrial and investment bureaus under the Beijing municipal government, and some Sino-Japanese economic and trade promotion organizations.

The fair will provide a platform for Japanese enterprises to enter the Beijing market, which is large in both investment and return, said Zhang, who is heading a delegation of the fair organizers on a visit to Japan.

“Beijing is the first two-way investment fair between Beijing and a foreign country,” Zhang said, adding that from next year on, the Beijing municipal government will make plans on more of such fairs with a dozen of countries and regions such as Germany, the United States and South Korea. According to the official, Japanese investment in Beijing totalled three billion US dollars in 2003, ranking second among the city’s foreign investment.

MNA/Xinhua

Thai woman confirmed to have died of bird flu virus

BANGKOK, 29 Sept — Thailand on Tuesday morning confirmed infection of bird flu virus was the cause of a woman’s death, the 10th death of the disease in the kingdom.

The 26-year-old woman identified as Pranne is confirmed to have contracted the deadly H5N1 virus, Charat Thawwisuppong, director-general of the Disease Control Department of the Public Health Ministry, told reporters.

Pranne died on September 20 after briefly taking care of her deceased daughter, who was also on the list of suspected bird flu infection cases.

The cause of her 11-year-old daughter’s death has yet to be confirmed.

Pranne’s sister Pranom was confirmed on Monday as suffering from bird flu. She is now recovering, according to the Thai Public Health Minister Sudarat Keyuratan.

MNA/Xinhua
Researchers report on gun deaths in US

WASHINGTON, 29 Sept — Small-town residents are as likely to die of gunshot wounds as people in big US cities, but the rural residents are killing themselves while urban dwellers are being murdered, researchers reported on Monday.

An analysis of gun deaths shows the rates are similar in both areas, and suicides committed using guns now make up half of all firearm deaths in the United States, the researchers said.

“A major take-home message from these findings is that although prevention efforts must be continued in big cities, dispelling the urban myth that gun death does not touch areas outside of big cities should be a high priority,” said Charles Branas of the University of Pennsylvania, who led the study.

Branas and colleagues analyzed 580,000 death certificates from 1989 to 1999 in all counties in the United States. “The most rural counties experienced 1.54 times the adjusted firearm suicide rate of the most urban,” the researchers wrote in their report, published in the American Journal of Public Health.

“The most urban counties experienced 1.90 times the adjusted firearm homicide rate of the most rural.”

Similar rates were not seen for murders and suicides committed with anything other than a gun, the researchers said.

Scientists test soybeans to combat breast cancer

LONDON, 29 Sept — British scientists on Tuesday said they are looking at new ways of using soybeans as the key weapon to combat breast cancer.

Recent studies have shown that women who eat soy-rich foods have a lower chance of developing breast cancer, but scientists have found it hard to harness the parts of the soybean thought to be most useful, Isoflavones.

“There are few drugs based on Isoflavones available for clinical use and there are good reasons for this,” Dr Karen James of the University of Portsmouth in England said.

“Isoflavones are not very potent and they are rapidly metabolized in the body. While a lifetime of low doses in the diet might be beneficial, developing a drug therapy requires a new approach,” she added.

But James said her department was now looking at ways of making Isoflavones stay longer in the body.

The scientist said they had already tested the effect of soy-based compounds on the growth of breast cancer cells and found they reduced cell growth at higher doses.

A study published last week by scientists at the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland suggested breast cancer could be reduced by eating more soy-rich food.

WHO calls on African govts to fight maternal deaths

NAIROBI, 29 Sept — The World Health Organization (WHO) called on here Tuesday African governments to provide more resources and show political commitment in the fight against maternal and neonatal mortality.

“Pregnancy is a normal, life-affirming state. Women should not die giving birth. Their deaths are preventable, even in the poorest countries. But it takes local knowledge, strength and partnerships to ensure women’s lives are saved,” said Phumaphi.

The WHO will on Wednesday launch a new manual for health planners and providers, Beyond the Numbers, a book which reviews maternal deaths and complications to make pregnancy safer.

“Countries around the world have pledged to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, which include reducing maternal mortality by three quarters by 2015. One key task of the global health community is to close the gap in services for women in rich areas, and those in poor ones,” she added.

British billionaire unveils plan for commercial space flight

LONDON, 29 Sept — British billionaire Richard Branson announced Monday that his company Virgin Atlantic will launch the world’s first commercial space flight in near future.

Virgin Atlantic airline has signed a 14 million pounds (25 million US dollars) deal with the US company Mojave Aerospace Ventures which owns the technology behind SpaceShipOne, the first private manned craft to travel to space. Branson told a news conference at the Royal Aeronautical Society in London.

SpaceShipOne, which flew up to 98,547 metres above Earth in its first trial last June, was among the 23 craft vying for the X-Prize of 10 million US dollars, a reward for the first team that can send a non-governmental, three-person craft over 100 kilo- meters into the space and repeat the feat in two weeks.

“Soyuz” blast-off delayed due to tech-problems

MOSCOW, 29 Sept— Technical problems have prompted a further delay to the blast-off of a Russian spacecraft to the International Space Station, space officials said on Tuesday.

The Soyuz, carrying a new crew to man the multinational station, had been scheduled to lift off from Russia’s Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on October 11, after an initial postponement because of problems with the docking system. “The launch has been delayed again. This is for technical reasons,” a Russian space agency spokesman said. He added the new launch date had not yet been set and did not elaborate on the technical hitch.

The spokesman said the delay posed no threat to the safety of Russian cosmonaut Gennady Padalka and NASA’s Michael Fincke, stationed on the orbital platform since April and scheduled to return to Earth once the new crew arrives.
Bayern defeats Ajax 4-0

MUNICH, 29 Sept — Bayern Munich's Dutch striker Roy Makaay hit a hat-trick as they romped to a 4-0 victory over Ajax Amsterdam in Champions League Group C on Tuesday.

Makaay fired Bayern into the lead after 28 minutes, running on to a long pass over the top from England midfielder Owen Hargreaves before controlling sublimey and blasting the ball past Ajax goalkeeper Bogdan Lobont from 25 metres. The Dutchman doubled their lead in the 44th, glancing in a header from a curled Ze Roberto free kick on the right.

He completed his hat-trick early in the second half, slotting home from the penalty spot after Lobont clumsily brought down Perù international Claudio Pizarro.

Makaay turned pro with Ajax in the 55th minute, laying a first time ball into the path of Ze Roberto for the Brazilian to slide a left foot shot past the helpless Lobont from close range.

The Dutch striker, whose penalty secured Bayern's 1-0 win at Maccabi Tel-Aviv two weeks ago, has now scored nine of his club's last 10 goals in the Champions League and has netted in their last seven matches in any competition.

Bayern coach Felix Magath heaped praise on the prolific Netherlands forward, who was playing his first match against Dutch opponents in European club competition.

"What Roy Makaay did was sensational," Magath told reporters. "Not only his goals but also the play leading up to them were superb and alone worth tonight's entrance fee."

Bayern, European champions in 2001, have had a mixed start to the season but came into Tuesday's match on the back of a 3-1 win against SC Freiburg in the Bundesliga at the weekend.

Dynamo Kiev fight ACK to beat Leverkusen 4-2

KIEV, 29 Sept — Dynamo Kiev stormed back from a goal down to beat 10-man Bayer Leverkusen 4-2 and go top of Group B in a pulsating Champions League match on Tuesday.

The Ukrainian champions dominated much of the first half and took a 30th minute lead when Brazilian midfielder Diogo Rincon curled a shot past Bayer keeper Hans-Joerg Butt.

Kiev failed to build on their lead and soon paid the price as the Germans, who began their Champions League campaign with a sparkling 3-0 win over Real Madrid two weeks ago, took complete control at the start of the second half.

Ukraine substitute Andriy Voronin equalized with a rebound from close range just minutes after coming on for Brazilian forward Franca and Leverkusen captain Jens Nowotny put the Germans 2-1 up with a low shot in the 68th minute.

However, Rincon levelled just a minute later and substitute Florin Cernat restored Dynamo's lead in the 73rd minute to the delight of an 83,000-strong home crowd at the Olympic Stadium. Voronin's stay on the pitch did not last as the Leverkusen striker was dismissed after a second tackle in the 83rd minute.

Cernat missed an open goal from 10 metres after rounding Butt, but the Romanian made amends in the last minute of stoppage time with Dynamo's fourth.

Dynamo coach Josef Sabo paid tribute to his team for their fighting spirit.

"Obviously I enjoyed the match just as much as all our fans in the stadium," said Sabo, who guided Dynamo to their ninth consecutive win in domestic and European competition since taking over from Alexei Mikhailichenko six weeks ago. — MNA/Reuters

AC Milan, Barcelona score big wins in Champions League

ROME, 30 Sept — Striker Filippo Inzaghi shrugged off six months of injury to net in the decisive second goal as Italian champion AC Milan defeated Celtic 3-1 in the Group F Champions League match on Wednesday.

In the group's other match of the day, Barcelona of Spain defeated Shakhtar Donetsk of Ukraine 3-0. Milan was being held 1-1 at home to the Scottish side until Inzaghi tapped home a cross from Andriy Shevchenko in the 89th minute. A deflected free kick in injury time from Andrea Pirlo secured the win for Milan who accumulated six points from two games.

Inzaghi who missed both Milan's Serie A title win and the Euro 2004 finals due to an ankle injury last season, said: "It has been six months that I have been dreaming of that moment. I felt that there was a lot of confidence in me and I always want to give my best but after all this time it was hard."

The 31-year-old Inzaghi, a 77th minute substitute, underwent surgery to remove a fragment of bone in May.

"Tonight was something extraordinary for me even if I have to say that to see the best of Inzaghi we will need a little more time," said Inzaghi.

Coach Carlo Ancelotti was full of praise, saying: "He was very important for us tonight and really gave a boost to the side."

For Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard, a 3-0 victory over a determined Shakhtar Donetsk side was also a great boost, considering "this team only lost 1-0 to AC Milan with 10 men in their first match."

While praising his opponents as "a very well-organized side, very dangerous on the break," Rijkaard said that "we kept faith with our style, created lots of chances and scored three goals against them. I'm delighted with the result and with the work of the players."

After taking the lead in the 15th minute through Portugal midfielder Deco, Barcelona players were unable to break down the Ukrainian resistance until midway through the second half when Ronaldinho converted from the spot after he was brought down by keeper Jan Lustruva.

AC Milan's Andry Shevchenko (L) fights for the ball against Neil Lennon of Celtic during their Champions League Group F soccer match at the San Siro Stadium in Milan, on 29 Sept, 2004. — INTERNET

Rangnick signs with Schalke as coach

BERLIN, 30 Sept — Former Stuttgart and Hannover coach Ralf Rangnick has signed with Schalke 04 on Tuesday to take the coach job of the Bundesliga club in succession to Jupp Heynckes.

The 46-year-old Rangnick, who signed a contract with Schalke until June 2006, was sacked by Hanover in March after taking the team into the Bundesliga in 2002. "There won't be any big upheaval here," Rangnick told a media conference after his appointment on Tuesday.

"There are 20 outfield players and two goalies here and that's exactly right. A bigger squad would only damage the club."

"The job is a big challenge but I'm full of pride to be coaching Schalke," he added.

His first match will be an away match against Latvian side Liepajas Metalurgs on Thursday following Schalke's qualification for this year's UEFA Cup tournament via the Intertoto Cup.

The Germans have a 5-1 lead after their first round home-leg win under interim coach Eddy Achterberg, who will stay on at the club as Rangnick's assistant.

As they mark the club's 100th year, the seven-times German champions and 1997 UEFA Cup winners are the only two places above the Bundesliga's relegation zone, having lost four of their opening six games.

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WEATHER

Thursday, 30 October, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine State and Magway Division, rain or thunder showers have been scattered in Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Homalin (1.65) inches.

Maximum temperature on 29-9-2004 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 30-9-2004 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 9.30 hrs MST on 30-9-2004 was 75%. Total sunshine hours on 29-9-2004 was (3.7) hours approx. Rainfall on 30-9-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, 0.35 inch at Kabar-Aye and 0.23 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 110.32 inches at Yangon Airport, 104.84 inches at Kabar-Aye and 107.20 inches at central Yangon.

Bay influence: Weather is partly cloudy in the North Bay and cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 1-10-2004: Rain or thunder showers will be scattered in Mon, Kayin States, Yangon, Ayeawady and Tanintharyi Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thunder showers are likely in Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-10-2004: Isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-10-2004: Partly cloudy.

Rainfall on 30-9-2004
- nil at Yangon Airport,
- 0.35 inch at Kabar-Aye and
- 0.23 inch at central Yangon.

Friday, October 1, 2004

Tune in today:
- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: Love you more

Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: Nothing stop the rain

National news/ Slogan
- 9.00 am Music: Dreams

International news
- 9.05 am Music: Giddy up

News/ Slogan
- 10.30 am "Luch time music: Girls & boys"

Music at your request
- 10.45 pm "All that she want"

World of music
- 11.00 pm "Songs from China, France, Germany"

Article/ Music
- 11.15 pm "Music at your request"

- 9.30 pm "I really miss you"

"Cinderella"

Endless love

10.00 pm "Music at your request"

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 1 October, 2004 15
2. FIVE HUNDRED KYATS NOTE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>15 x 7 Cm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dominant Colour</td>
<td>Brown</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Obverse side: On the top, the inscription “CENTRAL BANK OF MYANMAR” is printed. In the middle portion, the Note carries the depiction of a majestic King Lion in Myanmar artistic style and the Myanmar inscription “သူမှာသောင်” mentioning the value of the Note. On the left hand side and at the bottom, floral designs in Myanmar artistic style are printed. On the three corners, the value of the Note is printed in numeral figures. Bank Note numbers are printed in Myanmar and English. On the left hand side, the Note bears the watermark image of the lion head. A security thread is embedded upright in the Note.

Reverse side: On the top, the inscription “CENTRAL BANK OF MYANMAR” is printed. At the bottom, the inscription “FIVE HUNDRED KYATS” is printed. In the middle portion, the Note bears the illustration of Myanmar traditional bronze casting, working on the Maha Bandoola statue with Myanmar traditional floral designs on each side of the illustration. On the three corners and in the middle portion, the value of the Note is printed in numeral figures.

3. TWO HUNDRED KYATS NOTE

<table>
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Reverse side: On the top, the inscription “CENTRAL BANK OF MYANMAR” is printed. At the bottom, the inscription “TWO HUNDRED KYATS” is printed. In the middle portion, the Note bears the picture of an elephant tugging the log at work and a star is also printed on the left side of the illustration. On the three corners, the value of the Note is printed in numeral figures.