Garavo ca, reverence; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects the site of Mya Yamonsanyeikmyaing Housing Estate Project in Dagon Myothit (South) Township. — MNA

Extensive educative programmes on mental health urged

NHC Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects Hepatitis B Vaccine Factory in Hlegu Township. — MNA

YANGON, 3 Oct —
National Health Committee Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspected Hepatitis (B) Vaccines Factory and Mental Health Hospital (Yangon) this morning.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt arrived at Hepatitis (B) Vaccine Factory operated by the Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) of the Ministry of Health in Hlegu Township this morning. On arrival, the Prime Minister was welcomed there by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers, departmental heads, and officials of the MRD (Lower Myanmar).

At the meeting hall of the factory, MRD Director-General Dr Paing Soe reported to the Prime Minister and party on progress in the implementation of the directives given by the NHC chairman during his visits to the factory on 8 June 2003 and 12 February 2004, installation of machinery at the factory, successful quality tests for the vaccines, trial-production of tested vaccines, functions of the factory, and required equipment for the factory.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint then gave additional reports on arrangements to be made for obtaining the WHO’s GMP certificate and further advanced quality tests.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe reported on arrangements to be made for better transport in the vicinity of the factory. Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin also reported on tasks being carried out for greening the surrounding areas of the factory and for proper drainage.

After hearing the reports, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt gave instructions and inspected the functions of the factory.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party proceeded to Mental Health Hospital (Yangon) in Dagon Myothit (East). On arrival, the Prime Minister and party were welcomed there by Medical Superintendent Dr Zaw Sein Lwin, doctors and nurses.

(See page 8)

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

**Monday, 4 October, 2004**

**Build a modern developed nation through education**

The ones who guide the future are teachers. In other words, teachers are those who create a better world. It is incumbent upon pupils of a good teacher to pay serious attention to the teaching and advice of teachers and create a new and better world to enjoy the fruitful results.

The fifth of October is designated as the World Teachers’ Day. Ceremonies to mark the World Teachers’ Day are held all over the world in honour of teachers. Teachers are worthy of honour, for they make sacrifices for the welfare of others, serve the interest of the world’s people and remove anxieties and worries of their students through their kindness and sympathy.

In building the nation into a peaceful, modern and developed one, teachers, who are the education staff, are to strive for creating a new beautiful future by doing their bit. They are to guide the new generation youths who will create better future.

In building a modern and developed nation through education, teachers are vital for successful realization of the national education promotion programmes. With this end in view, they are making strenuous efforts to guide and nurture the pupils to become outstanding and dynamic ones. In addition, they are striving for the pupils, who will shape the future, to be qualified. The ones on teachers to strive for the national education to be on a par with that of the Southeast Asian nations.

Teachers play a crucial role in ensuring the emergence of a constant learning society to be able to face the challenges of the Knowledge Age, the goal of Myanmar Education. The Government is giving priority to promoting the education standard. Thence, marked progress has been made in the education sector.

As efforts are being made for development of the education sector, teachers who nurture and produce the good sons on whom the State can rely, on their part, are discharging their duties straightforwardly, going through the real situations of the national education and progress of the global nations.

At a time when efforts are being made for building a modern, developed nation in conformity with own country, people and history, teachers are to make the pupils clearly see the obstacles and hindrances that are detrimental to own national belief. Therefore, we would like to call on teachers to make concerted efforts for successful realization of the education goals in accord with the motto “Building a modern and developed nation through education” while maintaining the fine traditions of good teachers.

**CEC member attends USDA annual meetings in Myaung, Kyangin townships**

**Yangon, 3 Oct —**

CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay attended the annual meeting 2004 of Myanmar Township USDA at Aungzeya Hall on 1 October morning.

He presented prizes to outstanding students in the matriculation examination for 2003-2004 academic year and donated 577 kinds of books to libraries in the township.

In the afternoon, the deputy minister went to Kyangin and attended the annual meeting of Kyangin Township USDA.

On 30 September, the CEC member met the headmistress, teachers, townswomen and members of the school board of trustees at Tagwa Tegyikon Basic Education High School branch in Myanmar Township. He gave instructions on construction of roads linking villages.

In the evening, he met executives and organizers at different levels at Myanmar Township USDA Office.

**Transport Minister oversees aviation control systems**

**Yangon, Oct 3 —**

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, together with Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung, went to the Central Aviation Control Division of the Department of Civil Aviation yesterday evening, and the minister heard reports on the transmission of aviation data received on radar to respective control towers.

At the radar tower, the minister heard reports on the designation of air routes, airlines using the air space of Myanmar, and computerized control systems. After hearing the reports, the minister attended to the requirements.

Next, the minister and party inspected preventive measures being taken against bank erosion in 12th Nyaungdon Street. They proceeded to the bank of Kyeninp Dam, where the minister heard reports on tasks being undertaken for the durability of Bo Myat Tun Bridge and construction of retaining walls.

**River water pumping and dam projects inspected**

**Yangon, 3 Oct —**

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Huay Oo arrived at the site of Myogwin river water pumping project near Myogwin Village in Hninha Dam Headquarters yesterday. In the briefing hall, Deputy Director-General U Hla Myint Maung of Water Resources Utilization Department reported on river water pumping tasks, water supply, digging of canals and installation of power lines and officials on work being carried out. Afterwards, the minister proceeded to wetland reclamation project site of Kalosein Co in Ingapu Township.

Next, the minister, accompanied by Director-General of the Department of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems U Chit Khin and officials, arrived at Nyaungdon. At Panhaing River Custom Duty Office, DWRIRS Deputy Director U Zaw Aung reported on navigation of watercraft in Panhaing River and monthly earning. Director-General U Chit Khin also gave additional reports.

At the radar tower, the minister heard reports on the designation of air routes, airlines using the air space of Myanmar, and computerized control systems. After hearing the reports, the minister attended to the requirements. This morning, the minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe, accompanied by Deputy Director-General of the Department of Water Resources, inspected the prevention of bank erosion in Nyaungdon.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Huay Oo inspects progress of Kanyin Dam Project in Ingapu Township. —AGRI & IRRI
Spanish Prime Minister Jose Rodriguez Zapatero said that the Iraq war divided the European Union (EU) because most EU countries believed the armed intervention had no positive results. The Portuguese daily Publico on Friday quoted Zapatero as saying that after the Iraq war, Europe “must have notable courage and intelligence to have a more united voice,” and the governments of EU members ought to respect the international law and the United Nations in dealing with the Iraq issue.

He expressed his wish that Spain is considered by the international community as a country that contributes to world peace and the development of poor nations. Considering the aftermath of the Iraq war, the Spanish leader said that democracy should be realized in respect of “the cultural and historical conditions” and in an automatic way. He stressed that the relations between Spain and Latin America, the Arab world and the Mediterranean region have a great potential for further development. He also hoped that his country will establish a relationship of “alliance and friendship” with the United States.

“Older Persons in an Intergenerational Society” — recognizes the importance of the older population, said the Secretary-General in his message marking the International Day of Older Persons, which falls on 1 October each year.

This year’s theme — “Older Persons in an Intergenerational Society” — recognizes the important role that older persons play in their families, communities and societies. “Older persons suffer because of outdated stereotypes that depict them as frail and needing care,” the 66-year-old UN leader said. “What is overlooked is that many older persons, far from receiving care, actually provide care for others — as with grandparents who care for grandchildren while the parents go to work.”

The Second World Assembly on Ageing, held two years ago in Madrid, marked a turning point in the international development agenda.

“Among its many recommendations, the Madrid Plan 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,” Annan said.

“Only in this way can we hope to build a truly intergenerational society,” he concluded.

A woman looks at the damage caused to her home by an US airstrike in Sadr City, Baghdad, Iraq on 1 Oct, 2004. Hospital sources said 12 people died overnight in US airstrikes. — Internet

UNSG urges help for poor countries in managing ageing populations

United Nations, 2 Oct — The global trend towards ageing populations will be felt most acutely in developing countries which have only limited resources to respond to the challenges involved, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Friday.

“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,” Annan said in a message marking the International Day of Older Persons, which falls on 1 October each year.

This year’s theme — “Older Persons in an Intergenerational Society” — recognizes the important role that older persons play in their families, communities and societies. “Older persons suffer because of outdated stereotypes that depict them as frail and needing care,” the 66-year-old UN leader said. “What is overlooked is that many older persons, far from receiving care, actually provide care for others — as with grandparents who care for grandchildren while the parents go to work.”

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MNA/Xinhua

US, France in Iraq debt dispute

Washington, 2 Oct — Differences between France and the United States over how much of Iraq’s debt to cancel hardened Saturday as the two attended a meeting aimed at promoting international harmony.

A day after President Bush took a jab at Paris over its opposition to the Iraq war, France said it had amassed an alliance behind its proposal that leading creditors initially forgive just half of their share of Iraq’s $120 billion debt load, and revisit the issue after three years.

This may leave the United States, which wants a 90-95 percent write-off for the country, isolated.

“It’s up to (the United States) not to block a possible deal,” one French official said ahead of Saturday’s meeting of the International Monetary Fund in Washington.

Russia, Germany and Italy all supported France’s proposal, French Finance Minister Nicolas Sarkozy told reporters.

Other European countries also appeared to back France.

Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker said the euro zone looked to be united in its stance on Iraq debt forgiveness and he expected the matter to be formally discussed soon.

Britain stood between the United States and France.

“The British said ‘we’ll agree to this position if you go up to 80 percent’,” said a French official. France, which opposed the US-led war in Iraq along with Russia and Germany, argues that Iraq has the world’s second-largest oil reserves and should not be treated like impoverished African nations without such natural resources.

Children take a look at a crater in Baghdad, Iraq on 1 Oct, 2004, caused by one of the several car bombs that exploded at al-Amel neighbourhood on 30 Sept, 2004. — Internet

Resistance still strong in Iraqi cities

Samarra, 2 Oct — US and Iraqi forces battled pockets of resistance in Samarra Saturday in the second day of a major operation to regain control of several Iraqi cities.

The US military reported that 125 rebels had been killed and 88 captured since Friday. At least one American soldier was killed as well as a handful of residents.

Some 3,000 US soldiers and 2,000 Iraqi soldiers swept into Samarra on Friday, capturing its city hall, the main mosques and other key sites.

On Saturday, 70 per cent of the city, located 100 km northwest of Baghdad, was under the control of the US and Iraqi command. Water and electricity supplies had reportedly been cut off.

Iraq’s defence minister went on television Saturday to declare the fighting was over in Samarra. But many fearful residents chose to bury the dead in their gardens rather than venture outside where they believed the risk of sniper fire was still high.

Internet

Italy official hints at Iraq troop exit

Cairo, 2 Oct — Italy’s deputy premier suggested Saturday that his country could pull its troops out of Iraq after elections scheduled for January, saying they will no longer be needed when a representative government is in place.

The remarks by Gianfranco Fini, made after a meeting with Arab League Secretary-General Amr Moussa, were the first public indication of when Italy might withdraw its 3,000 troops from Iraq.

“Whenever there is an Iraqi government that represents all Iraqis in a true and solid manner, this country will establish a national government,” Fini said through an interpreter. He didn’t say whether he expected the elections — threatened by violence in several parts of the country — to produce a representative government.

But he said it was necessary “to enable the Iraqi people ... to carry out elections and form an Iraqi government — a free one.”

Premier Silvio Berlusconi’s conservative government, akey US ally
Powell regrets saying Iraq had weapons

BAGHDAD, 2 Oct—Secretary of State Colin Powell said today he regretted the Bush administration claim that Iraq had stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction in its argument for war.

Following a speech to the Atlanta Press Club, Powell defended the bulk of his presentation to the United Nations in February 2003 in which he made the case for war in Iraq.

“The only thing we got it wrong and where our presentation did not hold up was the actual stockpiles,” Powell said.

“We’ve seen nothing to suggest that he had actual stockpiles. That was not right.

“As we’ve gone back and looked through the intelligence, there are indications that we had bad sourcing that we should have caught. For that I am disappointed and regret that that information was not correct.”

A Senate Intelligence Committee’s report on pre-war intelligence about Iraq found that much of the information provided or cleared by the CIA for inclusion in Powell’s speech to the United Nations “was overstated, misleading or incorrect”.

India, Russia to launch 120 new joint projects in S&T

MOSCOW, 2 Oct — India and Russia would launch 120 new joint projects in the advanced fields of Science and Technology within the framework of their Integrated Long-Term Programme (ILTP), which is one of the major components of their strategic partnership.

“India and Russia have been successfully executing for the past 17 years probably one of the largest mutual cooperation programmes in Science and Technology between any two countries of the world”, academican Guri Marchuk of Russia said Friday.

“The dimensions of research cover the widest possible spectrum and now 120 new joint projects are in the pipeline.,” Marchuk said inaugurating the 12th session of the Joint Council of ILTP .

The Indian delegation at the session is led by its co-chairman, eminent scientist Professor CNR Rao. Seven secretaries of the various departments of the government of India, including S and T Secretary VS Ramamurthy are the members of the delegation indicating the level of bilateral Indo-Russian scientific cooperation.

Rao, who along with Marchuk, has been attached with the ILTP since its signing in 1987, proposed to set up fellowships for the young scientists under 45 for visiting each other’s facilities.

“The success of Indo-Russian Gas Hydrate Centre, set up in Chennai earlier this year would be complete solution of India’s energy problems and very great contribution in the world science. I am confident that it will succeed,” he said.

British plane makes emergency landing in Amsterdam

BRUSSELS, 2 Oct — A British Airways plane carrying 118 passengers en route from Berlin to London made an emergency landing at Amsterdam’s Schiphol Airport Thursday after receiving a security warning.

The plane, reportedly escorted by two Dutch F-16 jet fighters while landing, was diverted to Amsterdam as a precaution because of security reasons.

One official working with the Dutch office of the British Airways, who declined to be named, told Xinhua in a telephone interview that there were 118 passengers on the plane.

“The BA is sending another plane here from London and arrangements are being made so that the passengers can get to their destination as soon as possible,” he said.

Arab workers warned not to enter Iraq

LEBANON, 3 Oct — A Jordanian company has ceased its operations in Iraq as a purported Iraqi group warned the Lebanese Government to stop sending nationals to the war-torn country.

The Jordanian haulage firm said it made the decision to pull out after captors paraded an employee in video footage aired on Arab television last Saturday.

The captors said they would kill al-Izza in 72 hours if the company did not cease operations in Iraq.

“I am halting all my business in Iraq to protect the lives of my staff.” Starline director general Muhammad Samah al-Ajuni said.

He rejected accusations that his firm was working for the US military and stressed that its Iraq operations predated last year’s US-led war and stretched back to 1996.

Meanwhile, a statement posted on a website warned that two Lebanese contractors held captive by an Iraqi group would be killed unless Beirut begins to bar its nationals from working for the US-led military in Iraq.

China holds first informal talks with G-7

WASHINGTON, 3 Oct — China’s Finance Minister Jin Renqing and Governor of People’s Bank of China, the central bank, Zhou Xiaochuan, held informal talks here Friday with their counterparts of the Group of Seven industrial countries, the first such talks between China and the G-7.

During the talks, which were initiated by the G-7, the two sides had a frank exchange of views on major issues concerning the global economy, the macroeconomic policies of major developed countries and the economic situation in China.

Both sides expressed belief that regular talks of such kind will help deepen understandings and increase consensus between countries at different development stages.

President Bush administration's claim that Iraq had stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction in its argument for war.

Any int’l conf about Iraq must take place within UN framework

MADRID, 2 Oct — Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, who pulled his troops from Iraq, said on Thursday any international conference about Iraq must take place within the framework of the United Nations.

Iraq’s neighbours and the Group of Eight (G-8) industrialized nations will hold a conference in November to promote stability in the country, Iraq’s Foreign Minister said Tuesday.

France, which opposed the US-led war, has backed the plan. “The idea of an international conference is probably a good idea. But I reiterate, it has to be United Nations which promotes that conference,” Zapatero told a news conference.

Zapatero announced the withdrawal of Spanish troops from Iraq a day after taking office following a surprise election victory in March in the wake of attacks in Madrid claimed by a group linked to Al-Qeda.

He has said consensus at the United Nations is at the heart of his foreign policy. “Any initiative that tries to play outside the field of the United Nations is not going to be an initiative which brings positive results,” he added.

The conference, at foreign minister level, will be held in Egypt. Envoy from the United Nations are expected to attend and the conference was a joint idea of the United Nations and Iraq’s interim government, Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari said on Tuesday.

Local residents survey the damage in Fallujah, Iraq on 2 Oct, 2004, after an airstrike by US forces late Friday night. —INTERNET

Local Iraqis look for survivors after a US airstrike in Fallujah, Iraq on 1 Oct, 2004. —INTERNET

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Local residents survey the damage in Fallujah, Iraq on 2 Oct, 2004, after an airstrike by US forces late Friday night. —INTERNET

Local Iraqis look for survivors after a US airstrike in Fallujah, Iraq on 1 Oct, 2004. —INTERNET
Bush, Kerry dispute on combating nuclear proliferation

WASHINGTON, 2 Oct — US President George W Bush and his democratic rival Senator John Kerry agreed on Thursday that nuclear proliferation was the most serious threat facing the United States but disputed sharply over how to combat it.

During a 90-minute nationally televised debate in Florida, Kerry was asked by the moderator what is the single-most serious threat to the national security of the United States.

“Nuclear proliferation. Nuclear proliferation,” Kerry repeated. “There are some 600-plus tons of unsecured material still in the former Soviet Union and Russia. At the rate that the President is currently securing that, it will take 13 years to get it.”

He said, “There are terrorists trying to get their hands on that stuff today, and this President, I regret to say, has secured less nuclear material in the last two years since September 11 than we did in the two years preceding September 11.”

Kerry indicated that Bush cut the money for efforts to combat nuclear proliferation and was sending “mixed messages” by spending hundreds of millions of dollars on research programmes on bunker-busting nuclear weapons.

“I’m going to shut that programme down, and we’re going to make it clear to the world, we’re serious about containing nuclear proliferation,” Kerry said. “And we’re going to get the job of containing all of that nuclear material in Russia done in four years.”

Bush agreed that the biggest threat facing the United States is weapons of mass destruction in the hands of a terrorist network. He contended that his administration actually had boosted funding for dealing with nuclear proliferation by 35 per cent.

Besides building a Proliferation Security Initiative involving more than 60 nations, Bush said an effective way to deal with the threat is missile防御.

“We’ll be implementing a missile defence system relatively quickly,” Bush said. “My opponent is opposed to missile defences.”

The debate, the first of three debates between the two candidates in a two-week period, focused on foreign policy and homeland security. The Iraq war dominated the debate.

Senior French diplomat sent to Jordan for release of hostages

PARIS, 2 Oct — France’s presidency and foreign and defence ministries all cast doubt on Thursday on self-styled French intermediaries who say they are negotiating with Islamist militants holding two French journalists hostage.

At the same time, the Foreign Ministry announced it was sending a senior diplomat to Jordan in the framework of efforts currently underway to obtain the release of our hostages”. The contrast between the claims by the supposed intermediaries and the extreme caution shown by officials left the French baffled about the fate of journalists Christian Chesnot and Georges Malbrunot, who disappeared on 20 August.

“Some people are saying they have been sent on a mission by the president,” said an official for President Jacques Chirac. “This is totally without foundations.”

Defence Ministry spokesman Jean-Francois Picaut said an apparent freelance initiative by Didier Julia, a deputy from Chirac’s UMP Party with close contacts in Iraq, had created “more confusion than certitude”. Julia says he sent to Iraq an emissary named Philippe Brett, from a little-known group which lobbies for French business interests abroad, and that he met the two journalists and secured the promise of their release without offering a ransom.

Another associate, Pierre Girard-Hautbout, told Reuters on Wednesday the men could be released towards the end of the week if the US military could provide a security corridor to ensure their safe passage to Baghdad. The Foreign Ministry has said since Monday that it knows nothing about Brett’s activities.

“We are establishing and following up all useful contacts. We are getting all available information,” said deputy spokesman Cecile Pozzo di Borgo.

Brett’s lobby group, the French Office for the Development of Industry and Culture, was active in campaigning for the lifting of UN sanctions imposed on Iraq after the Gulf War of 1991. — Reuters

Indonesian foreign tourist arrivals rise in August

JAKARTA, 3 Oct — The number of foreign tourists visiting Indonesia reached 424,800 in August, 22.16 per cent higher than the same month last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) announced Friday.

“The increase indicates that the foreign tourist arrival in the country attributed to the security in the first round election on July 5 and before the second round, besides August is the peak season for the foreign tourists coming into Indonesia,” head of the BPS Choirul Mukasim said.

Release of French hostages in Iraq delayed due to US fire

DAMASCUS, 2 Oct — The release of two French journalists kidnapped in Iraq was delayed on Friday because of US firing at Iraqis transporting the hostages, said French lawmaker Didier Julia involved in negotiations to free the hostages.

Julia told a news conference here that his assistant Philippe Brett had persuaded the kidnappers to release the two French journalists, Christian Chesnot, 37, and Georges Malbrunot, 41, and they had left in two separate convoys from their place of detention, both of which had come under US fire.

“They set up 20 roadblocks and ... six members of the team protecting the journalists were killed,” said Julia, adding Brett had learnt of the failure of the mission as soon as he arrived separately at the Syrian border and headed straight back to the journalists’ captors.

Philippe Evanno, an aide to Julia, also confirmed that a convoy bringing the hostages to Syria came under US fire, scuttling their release.

He added that six Iraqi kidnappers were killed during the alleged US attack, but the two hostages were unharmed.

The two French journalists were no longer in the hands of the Islamist militant group that took them hostage on 20 August but with another “Iraq resistance group” that sought to free them, Evanno said.

However, US forces in Iraq said they had no reports to indicate there was any truth to the allegation by the French lawmaker.

The two French journalists disappeared on August 20 with their Syrian driver while apparently driving toward Iraq’s city of Najaf. — MNA/Xinhua

US soldier killed in Samarra clashes

BAGHDAD, 2 Oct — One US soldier was killed and four others wounded during a military operation launched by US and Iraqi forces to regain control of the rebel town of Samarra on Friday, the US military said.

“One soldier of the 1st Infantry Division was killed at about 12.58 pm (0858 GMT) today as Iraqi Security Forces and Multi-National Forces (MNF) security forces throughout the day on October 1,” the military said in a statement.

“Four other soldiers were wounded during operations,” the statement said, adding that they were evacuated to MNF medical facilities for treatment. Over 1,000 US servicemen have been killed in combat and non-combat actions in Iraq since the US invasion of the oil-rich Arab country in March 2003. — MNA/Xinhua

A man cradles his injured son at a hospital in Fallujah, Iraq on early Saturday morning, 2 Oct, 2004, after he was rescued from the rubble of houses soon after an airstrike by US forces late Friday night. — INTERNET

A scandal of a child is seen amidst the wreckage as Iraqis walk past a car bomb blast site in Baghdad’s working class neighbourhood of al-Amel recently. — INTERNET
Irish FM adds voice for release of British hostage in Iraq

LONDON, 2 Oct — Appeals from Ireland and Britain for the release of British hostage Ken Bigley in Iraq could enhance Bigley’s chances of being freed, Irish Foreign Minister Dermot Ahern told BBC Radio Ulster on Friday.

“I think the more people that raise their voices, the better for his awful, awful situation,” said Ahern.

Bigley, whose mother was born near the Irish capital Dublin, was kidnapped on 16 September in Baghdad. 

Apart from voicing concern, Ahern said there was not a great deal the Irish Government could do for the release of Bigley, saying: “I think the difficulty is, as has been stated by (British Foreign Secretary) Jack Straw, that these people have not made contact with anybody.”

First uncensored letter from British detainee at Guantanamo released

LONDON, 2 Oct — The first uncensored letter from a British detainee held at the US Guantanamo Bay base in Cuba has been released by his lawyers, the BBC reported on Friday.

The letter, dated 12 July, 2004, was an “oddity” that may have reached the lawyers unclassified and uncensored by mistake, the lawyers were quoted as saying. Moazzam Begg, 36, one of four Britons being held at Guantanamo, has been detained at the US military base without trial for two-and-a-half years.

Begg said in his letter that he had been tortured, threatened with death and kept in solitary confinement since early 2003.

Begg asked for answers over the “violations and abuses” he has suffered, demanding his rights under US and International Law. All charges against him should be presented “unambiguously”, said Begg in the letter, claiming that he is an innocent, law-abiding, citizen of Britain. — MNA/Xinhua

Irish guerrillas attack US vehicles west of Fallujah

BAGHDAD, 2 Oct — Guerillas attacked a US military convoy travelling west of the flashpoint city of Fallujah, leaving two US Humvees ablaze, a witness told Xinhua.

The attack occurred on a small bridge west of the city Friday morning, when guerrillas fired rocket-propelled grenades on a convoy of three tanks and two Humvees. US forces and Iraqi national guards sealed off the area, as helicopters overflew after the attack, according to the witness. Fallujah, some 50 kilometres west of Baghdad, has been a bastion of guerrillas who fight US forces since the occupation of Iraq last year. — MNA/Xinhua

Putin congratulates China on founding anniversary

MOSCOW, 2 Oct— Russian President Vladimir Putin sent a letter to his Chinese counterpart Hu Jintao congratulating him on the 55th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) on Friday.

Russia and China have every chance to bring their strategic partnership, “which is one of the most crucial factors of preserving peace not only in the region, but also on a global scale,” to a new level, Putin said in the message of greeting to China’s 55th National Day, the Interfax news agency reported. This year is also the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two neighbours. — MNA/Xinhua

Four killed in new round of US air raid on Fallujah

FALLJAH, 2 Oct — US forces launched a new round of fierce air raids on Iraq’s restive city of Fallujah late Friday, killing at least four people and injuring a dozen others.

Four houses in al-Jugafiyi in east Fallujah were badly damaged and people dragged four bodies out of the debris, a Xinhua correspondent reported on the scene.

Abdullah Sagar, an official of the Fallujah Hospital said the four dead were two children, one woman and one man. Among the 12 other injured people, eight were children, he added.

There was no word from the US military in Baghdad on the strike, apparently targeting an area near a mosque, which was heard calling for prayers after the bombardments.

The US-led forces had intensified airstrikes in the city, 50 kilometres west of Baghdad, targeting suspect sites used by purported militants loyal to terror mastermind Abu Musab al-Zarawzi.

Earlier in the day, US and Iraqi forces killed more than 100 militants and captured 37 others in a major offensive in Samarra, 100 kilometres north of Baghdad. — MNA/Xinhua

80 Iraqis killed in fierce clashes north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 2 Oct — A total of 80 Iraqis were killed in latest major offensive early Friday as US and Iraqi forces entered the rebel city of Samarra, the US military said.

It said that only two US soldiers were wounded in the attack, which destroyed many mortar sites, rocket-propelled grenade teams and vehicles used to carry guerillas.

Troops of the 1st Infantry Division, the Iraqi National Guard and Iraqi Army stormed the city, some 110 kilometres north of Baghdad, securing government and police buildings, before dawn.

A US statement said earlier that the attack came in response to “repeated and unprovoked” attacks by anti-Iraqi forces against Iraqi and Multinational forces in the country. — MNA/Xinhua

Telecom industry benefits from Chinese tourists during holiday

BEIJING, 3 Oct — Besides hotels and restaurants, the telecommunication industry also benefits from the surge of Chinese tourists during the seven-day National Day holiday.

As outbound tourism has gained popularity, so has international telecommunications service. Half a month before the holiday, users lined up to register for the service, which allows messages to travel around the world.

“My daughter just graduated from university and is now travelling with a group of people to Italy. I hope to receive her messages whenever she goes,” said Zhang Xin, who helped her daughter open the service in Beijing.

China Mobile has launched international service with 240 companies in 172 nations and areas, ranking first in coverage and enabling its users to enjoy international communication in 90 per cent of the world’s nations. “Even German telecommunication companies have benefited from Chinese travellers,” said He Wei, a guide with German Kaiser Travel Agency. China’s mobile users will be charged an additional 15 per cent fee when using a phone outside its registered country, part of which will be returned to local telecommunication providers. China’s increasing business and tourist travellers will therefore provide a huge market for other nations. — MNA/Xinhua

A burning US military vehicle is pulled back to a base after a roadside bomb explosion in Baghdad. Iraq on Saturday, 2 Oct, 2004. No reports of casualties were available. — INTERNET
It is heartening to note that busy as they may be in their private lives, once they get to school all their actions are cetana-motivated and push the pupils toward showing their paces to the best of their ability.

Myanmar is catching up with developments in the e-world, if I may chum the jargon, to the extent that just as many of our neighbours are doing. We have launched e-government, which is an indispensable element in moves toward globalization.

Whenever a new development is added to the school curriculum, whenever the necessary equipment is in place and the pupils are chafing to catch on, teachers have to do what is necessary to catch up.

Not a single day passes without the media showing white-bossed and green-geared teachers showing officials around classrooms filled with e-teaching equipment.

It has not been too long since we made available various kinds of computers to schools. With the government spending as much as possible and well-wishers and private entrepreneurs pitching in, it has been possible to increase the number of computer classrooms.

Under the logo of this year’s World Teachers Day, there is a motto that roughly translates — He who beautifies the world with education, he who seeks to diminish anxiety with compassion, he who works for public interest over self-interest — He is the Teacher.

By using He instead of She, I may have sounded a bit gender discriminative, but rest assured it is only a generalization.

Teachers today are to be regarded as more selfless in their work for there are reports from all over the world that more graduates are less inclined to seek teaching because there is, specially on the urban and suburban scenes, a somewhat visible disparity in the teacher-pupil ratio and the subjects taught require teachers to do more ‘homework’, which is learning how to teach.

Today, teachers have to devote more time to teaching because there is, specially on the urban and suburban scenes, a somewhat visible disparity in the teacher-pupil ratio and the subjects taught require teachers to do more ‘homework’, which is learning how to teach.
It is necessary for officials concerned to take care of the different nature between the Mental Health and other hospitals. Organizational and educational campaigns should be launched as not every mental patient comes to the hospital for treatment although ordinary patients do.

NHC Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets officials at Hepatitis B Vaccine Factory in Hlegu Township. — MNA

Extensive educative programmes...

(from page 1)
At the parlour of the hospital, the medical superintendent reported to the Prime Minister and party on the background history of the hospital, the number of patients undergoing medical treatment, the number of outpatients, types of medical care services, and the progress in undertaking mental health care tasks. Afterwards, the Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party viewed paintings and posters created by mental patients having their breakfast at the mess of the hospital.

The Prime Minister and party later inspected construction progress of factories and workshops in Dagon East Industrial Town by car. Next, they visited Pyigyi-chantha Maha Pagoda near the junction of Dagon Myothit (North) Township and Dagon Myothit (South) Township and offered flowers and incensed sticks to Buddha images. Members of MyoUPagoda construction committee and officials reported on offering of gold foils and construction of shops and all-round construction of the pagoda to the Prime Minister, who then gave necessary instructions to them. The Prime Minister paid homage to the Buddha images at the Tazaung of the pagoda and looked into all-round construction tasks. On arrival at the overpass construction project site on Bayintnaung Road linking Dagon Myothit (North) Township and Dagon Myothit (South) Township, the Prime Minister heard reports by Shwekyarpyan Construction Managing Director Dr Zaw Tun on facts about Shwepinlon housing project and construction of the overpass which is 656 feet long, 60 feet wide and 18 feet high. At the briefing hall of Shwepinlon housing project, Director General Col Aung Win of the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development presented reports to the Prime Minister on construction of the overpass of Shwepinlon housing, 17 duplex buildings on Rose park plots, 29 two-storey buildings, houses, schools, market, Pinlon Hospital, shopping mall and other construction works. Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said the projects are being implemented to build houses and bridges along the way from the edge of Dagon Myothit (North) and Dagon Myothit (South) to Parami Junction. And as a result, Shwepinlon housing project emerged, he said.

The projects include construction of single posh houses, two-storey

Conducting field trips down to townships in outskirts to provide medical treatment to mental patients is an encouraging measure. Therefore, such measures should be taken as extensively as possible.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt views paintings of mental patients at the Mental Health Hospital (Yangon). — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects Shwepinlon Housing Estate. — MNA
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt enjoys demonstration of Wushu athletes at Padonma Gymnasium in Sangyoung Township.— MNA

USDA General-Secretary meets departmental heads, members of social organizations

YANGON, 3 Oct — General Secretary of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Huay Oo met with secretaries of Hinthada District/Township USDA, executives, departmental officials, members of social organizations and townelders yesterday evening and discussed development tasks with them.

General Secretary of USDA Maj-Gen Huay Oo made a speech on the occasion. In his address he said measures are to be taken for fundamental factors such as peace and tranquility, strengthening of economy, promotion of education for the development of the State. Development of the State is the duty of all citizens residing in the country. He urged those present to preserve and safeguard the State through Union Sprit. The government is making strenuous efforts for equitable development the State with goodwill. It has laid down ongoing seven-point policy of the State for building a new democratic nation. Next, the minister and party presented stationery to members of school board of trustees and teachers of No 4 Basic Education Primary School, Nyaungbin Ward, Hinthada and they proceeded to No 3 BEPS, Hinthada and presented computer and accessories. And the minister explained the purpose of the ceremony went into recess. — MNA

Extensive educative programmes...

(from page 8) General Khin Nyunt inspected progress in construction of three-storey market, two-storey single houses and others. Shwepinlon Housing Project site is situated in the north of Ngaomyoek Creek, west of Yangon-Mandalay railroad in Dagon Myothit (North) Region.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to Myayamon Sanyeik. Myaing housing project site being undertaken by TMW Construction Group on east of Yangon-Mandalay railroad between Bayintnaung Road in Dagon Myothit (South) and Ngaomyoek Creek. At the briefing hall, project director U Banya Lwin reported to the Prime Minister on facts about the project, construction of retaining walls on the banks of the creek and other construction tasks of the project.

The Prime Minister gave necessary instructions and inspected construction works. Later, the Prime Minister and party left the project site.

The photo shows Mental Health Hospital (Yangon) in Dagon Myothit (East) Township. (News on page 1)— MNA

Olympic Council Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspected training of selected Wushu athletes and youth athletes of Myanmar Wushu Federation at Padonma gymnasium in Sangyoung Township this evening.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council, the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers and departmental officials, arrived at the gymnasium where they were welcomed by Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, President of Myanmar Wushu Federation U Khin Maung Lay (Gandama Co Ltd) and officials. The Prime Minister and party inspected bedrooms of Wushu athletes, food and the mess and gave instructions. Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint said the membership of Asia Wushu Federation in May 1994 and South East Asia Wushu Federation in June the same year. It also became a member of World Wushu Federation in October 1994. He said arrangements are being made for hosting the 6th Asian Wushu Championship in Myanmar. Myanmar Wushu athletes won two silver and four bronze at the South East Asian Wushu Championship in 1995 and 11 gold, 8 silver and 10 bronze in 1994. They won six silver and 1 bronze in the 5th Asian Wushu Championship in 2000 and one gold and one bronze in XIV Asian Games in 2002. The players won three gold, one silver and two bronze in the 6th World Wushu Championship in 2001 and two gold, four silver in 7th World Wushu Championship in 2003.

Over 400 players from 59 nations took part in the competition and Myanmar stood fifth. The federation is making arrangements for hosting of the 6th Asian Wushu Championship in 2004 and the government is also providing necessary assistance.

Next, President of MWU U Khin Maung Lay reported on winning of medals from Asian level to world level since 1995, training of the players under the supervision of foreign coach in Myanmar and sending them to foreign countries, camping of the players and efforts for gaining victory in the 6th Asian Wushu Championship. Next, the Prime Minister and party watched performance of Wushu players who won gold, silver and bronze medals in the international competitions. The Prime Minister then greeted the players. — MNA

Prime Minister inspects training of selected Wushu athletes and youth athletes of Myanmar Wushu Federation

YANGON, 3 Oct — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspected training of selected Wushu athletes and youth athletes of Myanmar Wushu Federation at Padonma gymnasium in Sangyoung Township this evening. The Prime Minister and party presented stationery to members of school board of trustees and teachers of No 4 Basic Education Primary School, Nyaungbin Ward, Hinthada and presented computer and accessories. And the minister explained the purpose of the ceremony went into recess. — MNA

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The photo shows Mental Health Hospital (Yangon) in Dagon Myothit (East) Township. (News on page 1)— MNA

USDA Secretary-General Maj-Gen Huay Oo meets secretaries and members of Hinthada District and Township USDA's on 2-10-2004.— AGRI & IRRI

Constitution of Shwe Pinlon Housing Estates in progress in Dagon Myothit (North) Township. (News on page 1)— MNA
Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein…

(from page 16)
Sangha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Bhaddanta Uggamsa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

Today’s donations in Kyimyindine Township were 178 bags of rice, 65 viss of oil, 93 viss of gram, 758 viss of iodized salt, 92 tubes of tooth paste, 3,218 bottles and 3,980 viss of dried fish, 916 cakes of soap, 70 viss of dried fish and K 4,807,090.

Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers provisions to a Sayadaw at the donation ceremony for monasteries in Kyimyindine Township. — MNA

A similar ceremony was held at Ywama Pariyatti Monastery in Insein Township to donate provisions to 16 monasteries and one nunnery, this afternoon.

Member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Insein Ywama Pariyatti Monastery Administrator Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tilokabhivamsa administered the Eight Precepts.

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Myint Maung, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Deputy Sayadaw Bhaddanta and senior military officers presented offertories to the Sayadaws.

Maj-Gen Aung Thein of Ministry of Defence, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun and Lt-Col Than Hlaing of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) donated rice, oil and gram of Tatmadaw families to members of the Sayadha and a nun.

The minister, the deputy commander of Yangon Command, the vice-mayor, departmental officials and wellwishers offered alms and provisions of departmental personnel and people to the Sayadaws.

Next, wellwishers presented offertories to the Sayadaws.

Afterwards, the minister, the Chief of Staff (Navy), the deputy minister, the vice-mayor and senior military officers accepted donations and K 3,180,090 from wellwishers.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tilokabhivamsa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

Today’s donations in Insein Township were 572 bags of rice, 202 viss of oil, 2,271 viss of iodized salt, 404 tubes of tooth paste, 6,172 bottles of traditional medicines, 404 viss of gram and K 3,180,090. — MNA

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspects…

(from page 16)
Naungtaya Township to fulfil requirements and inspect its development. Now, the government is implementing plans for equal development of the entire nation. As Tikyit coal-fired power plant is being built to supply power needs of the country, it will contribute towards more progress of local products. He called on departmental personnel and local people to make harmonious efforts for achieving success in agriculture, education, health and transport of the region.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and the commander presented K 200,000 to the funds of the township.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party went to Tikyit coal-fired power plant project site. Project Engineer U Thein Zaw and Shan State Superintending Engineer U Kyaw Zaw reported on construction of the plant, installation of machines and others.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attended to the needs and inspected the project site.

A total of 1,600 workers are carrying out tasks for timely completion of Tikyit coal-fired power plant day and night so as to supply power in time. Two generators of the plant will supply 60 megawatt.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, the commander and party inspected 13 acres of Shweyinaye paddy strains plantation collectively grown by 14 farmers of Tikyit Village and attended to the needs. — MNA

Myanmar women soccer team defeat Thailand 1-0

YANGON, 3 Oct — Myanmar women’s football team played against Thailand’s in the group-A of the First ASEAN Women’s Football Tournament 2004 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam this evening and the former defeated the latter 1-0.

Right wing Than Than Htwe passed the ball to Striker Zin Mar Wan of Myanmar who scored the first goal at fourth minute in first half.

Myanmar also whitewashed a 17-0 win over Maldives two days ago. In the match, Mar La Win scored six goals, Zin Mar Wan, three. Aye Nanda Hlaing, Than Than Htwe and Khin Kywe Htwe, two each and Thet Thet Win and Thida Oo, one goal each.

The Myanmar team advanced semi-final with 6 points. — MNA
**Indian Foreign Secretary arrives**

**Yangon, 3 Oct** — At the invitation of U Kyaw Thu, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Indian delegation led by Mr Shyam Saran, Foreign Secretary of the Republic of India arrived here by air this morning to attend the Foreign Office Consultations to be held in Yangon. The delegation was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by U Kyaw Thu, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Indian ambassador to Myanmar. The Foreign Secretary of India was accompanied by Mrs Mitra Vasisht, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs.  

**Indian delegation tours Yangon**

**Yangon, 3 Oct** — At the invitation of U Kyaw Thu, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Indian delegation led by Mr Shyam Saran, visiting Foreign Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India Mr Shyam Saran and party, accompanied by Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr R.K Bhatia and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, visited Shwedagon Pagoda this morning. Next, Foreign Secretary Mr Shyam Saran signed in visitors’ book of the pagoda and donated cash for the pagoda. U Saw Pe and responsible persons of the Board of Trustees accepted the donation. Afterwards, Foreign Secretary Mr Shyam Saran and party proceeded to King Zafar Shah’s Tomb.

**Yangon North District, Yangon West District**

**USDAs hold annual meetings**

**Yangon, 3 Oct** — Annual Meeting for 2004 of Yangon North District Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at 8.30 am today at Institute of Paramedical Sciences (Yangon) in Insein Township. Central Executive Committee Members of USDA Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing and Vice Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Deputy Mayor Col Maung Pa attended the meeting.

First, CEC Member Minister Col Tin Hlaing delivered an address. Next, Col Maung Pa and officials presented prizes to the USDA member outstanding students and blood donors. The meeting passed the two resolutions and it ended with concluding remarks by the meeting chairman.

Similarly, Annual Meeting for 2004 of the Yangon West District Union Solidarity and Development Association was held in conjunction with the concluding ceremony of the Course on Myanmar Development Studies at No 2 Basic Education High School in Latha Township at 10.30 am today. USDA CEC Member (Yangon Division In-charge) Home Affairs Minister Col Tin Hlaing delivered an address at the meeting and presented prizes to USDA member outstanding students.

At the first session of the meeting, USDA members and students of Latha Township No 2 BEHS entertained with songs and dances. Wellwishers donated cash for the association through Minister Col Tin Hlaing and Col Maung Pa. Next, Col Tin Hlaing presented prizes to the USDA member outstanding students and blood donors. Next, officials presented conclusion certificates to the trainees of the Course on Myanmar Development Studies. Second session of the meeting followed and Executive of Yangon Division USDA U Min Thein acted as master of ceremonies.

**Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win being welcomed back.**  

**Foreign Minister arrives from New York**

**Yangon, 3 Oct** — After attending the 59th Session of the United Nations General Assembly at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, Alternate Chairman of the Myanmar Delegation and Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win arrived back here this evening. The minister was welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsian, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, UN resident coordinator Mr Charles James Petrie, and officials. Officer on Special Duty U Min Thein also arrived back on the same flight.

**Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu welcomes Indian Foreign Secretary of Ministry of External Affairs Mr Shyam Saran.**

**Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing addresses ceremonies to honour those who participated in the video play titled “Those with Integrity” on 2-10-2004 at Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon. (News reported)**

**Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon Chairman U Sein Tin presents cash and gifts to actress Eindra Kyaw Zin. (News reported)**
China to regulate fireworks industry for safety control

CHANGSHA, 2 Oct—The Chinese Government is planning to strengthen safety supervision over its scattered fireworks manufacturers to reduce the rising cases of accidental fireworks explosions.

Sun Huashan, deputy director of the State Administration for the Supervision of Production Safety, told a national fire-works safety conference in Liuyang in Hunan Province that the incomplete safety supervision system in China’s fireworks industry is the main reason for explosions. From 1985 to 2003, a total of 8,448 explosions caused by fireworks took place across China, an average of 445 cases per year. Though the number of cases declines each year, the annual casualty rate is climbing, said Sun.

Sun urged local authorities to pay attention to major fireworks-related accidents that kill three or more people. In 2003, though there were only 22 cases of major accidents, 2,492 people were killed and 404 injured.

WORKSHOPS TO GARNER VIEWS ON HK’S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

HONG KONG, 2 Oct—A series of 11 workshops will be held starting on 2 October in Hong Kong for the discussion of various issues related to the local community, announced the Council for Sustainable Development of Hong Kong.

The workshops will enable stakeholders from different sectors and people from local communi- ties to join the discussion on issues raised in the Invitation and Response (IR) document. They form part of the engagement process being launched by the Council for Sustainable Development aiming at involving the community in building a sustainable development strategy for Hong Kong.

This strategy initially will focus on three Pilot Areas, namely, Solid Waste Management, Renewable Energy and Urban Living Space. The issues involved are contained in the IR document.

Zimbabwe urges schools to promote development of sport

HARARE, 2 Oct—Zimbabwe’s Education, Sport and Culture Minister Annex Chigwedere here said on Friday schools in Zimbabwe should step up the promotion and development of sport as it contributes to the physical well being of students as well as provide a source of employment.

Chigwedere said this in a speech read on his behalf at a prize giving ceremony at Hatcliffe High School in Hatcliffe.

Permanent secretary, Stephen Mahere, read the speech on his behalf.

“...the importance of sport and culture cannot be over emphasized, more espe- cially in the physical development of the child, as a unifying force and as a source of employment,” he said.

He said sport and culture had become huge industries employing thousands of people throughout the world, either di-rectly or indirectly through sport related industries.

Zimbabwe has many examples of indi- viduals who are earning a living through sport and culture-related activities.

Some familiar names include Sandra Ndebele, Plaxedes Wenyika on the cul- tural front and Tatenda Taibu, Peter Ndlovu and Tendai Chimusa on the sports front.

G-7 finance ministers call for more oil output

WASHINGTON, 3 Oct—The Group of Seven finance ministers on Fri- day called on oil-producing nations to increase output and important oil consumer nations to in- crease energy efficiency to prevent the soaring oil prices from threatening global economic growth.

“Global economic growth is strong and the outlook for 2005 remains favourable. Inflation and inflation expectations re- main low in our econo- mies. However, this is not the time for complacency. Growth is higher in some regions than in oth- ers; imbal- anced growth in oil prices remain high and are a risk,” the G-7 finance ministers said in a closing communiqué after hours of talks in Washington.

Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on Friday that he was ready to cooperate with the new Parliament members when he be- comes the nation’s President.

“...I am ready at the time (when he becomes Presi- dent) to be in partnership (with the members of Par- liament),” Yudhoyono told reporters after dinner with his family at a restaur- ant near his house in southern Jakarta.

The Parliament’s members inaugurated Fri- day came from 16 parties and most of them are from the Golkar Party and the Democratic Party of Struggle’s (PDI-P), which would form the new government together with other parties includ- ing the United Develop- ment Party and Peace and Prosperous Party.

Yudhoyono ex- pressed his welcome to the inaugu- ration of the Par- liament members and re- minded them to prioritize public interests.

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Tibet’s trade with South Asian countries develops

LEH, 2 Oct — Tibet Autonomous Region has witnessed its trade with South Asian nations expand as its regional economy develops and areas’ infrastructure improves.

“The autonomous region has long kept good trade relations with its neighbouring countries and new development has been achieved,” said Dr. Li Qing, a research fellow with the Economic and Technological Research Institute under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Tibet, bordering India, Nepal and Myanmar, has a boundary line of more than 4,000 kilometres. It also has five treaty ports and 28 border trade markets.

Border trade has played a crucial part in Tibet’s trade volume. According to statistics, Tibet’s aggregate trade volume reached 164 million US dollars, up 23.6 per cent from the previous year. Border trade accounted for 48 per cent of the total.

Tibet’s major exports include cloth, pottery, animals, wool and daily-use industrial goods. Its products imported are mainly rice, cooking oil, jewellery, wrist watches and daily necessities.

Scientists say Vitamins do not protect against cancers

LONDON, 2 Oct — Millions of people take them to stay healthy but scientists said on Friday that vitamin supplements do not protect against stomach and other cancers and may even make them worse.

An analysis of 14 trials of vitamins, or antioxidant, supplements involving more than 170,000 people showed no benefit against cancer of the stomach, oesophagus, large bowel and pancreas.

“Antioxidant supplements do not have any influence on the incidence of gastro-intestinal cancers. On the contrary, they seem to increase overall mortality,” Dr Goran Bjelakovic, of the University of Niss in Serbia and Montenegro, said in a telephone interview.

In a few trials included in the analysis published in The Lancet medical journal, Selenium seemed to have a protective, effect against liver cancer.

But Bjelakovic said the quality of the data was poor and more trials were needed to test the mineral’s potential as a cancer preventive.

“The overall effect of all antioxidant supplements was not beneficial,” Bjelakovic added.

Antioxidants are molecules that work to reduce the damage done to cells and DNA by free radicals — charged chemical particles found in the environment and produced by processes in the body.

Vitamins A, E, C and beta-carotene, a precursor to vitamin A, and the trace mineral Selenium are antioxidants. Fruits and vegetables are good sources of antioxidants. The highest concentrations are found in spinach, carrots, red bell peppers and tomatoes.

Some observational studies have suggested that antioxidant supplements could protect against some cancers, heart disease, stroke and ageing. But randomised control trials comparing the supplements to a placebo have not backed them up. “Antioxidant supplements are not having a good press,” David Forman and Douglas Altman, of the University of Leeds in England, said in a commentary on the research in the journal.

FM says Egypt qualified to get permanent seat on UNSC

CAIRO, 2 Oct — Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit has said in a TV interview that the country is qualified to get a permanent seat on the UN Security Council, the official MENA news agency reported on Friday.

Egypt not only has the most powerful Armed Forces in Africa but also acts as a major diplomatic power in the region, Abul Gheit noted in an interview with the Egyptian TV Channel Two to be aired on Saturday.

It also has a political weight on the international arena, the Foreign Minister added. Abul Gheit also pressed for an Arab and Islamic presence when talking of expanding the membership of the UN Security Council. The UN Security Council currently consists of five permanent members, namely, the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France, and 10 elected non-permanent members. Only the permanent members have the veto-wielding power.

India rejects US charge against scientists

NEW DELHI, 2 Oct — India Friday rejected US charge against two Indian scientists of selling weapons and providing sensitive technology to Iran and asked it to withdraw sanctions imposed on them.

“No sale of materi- als, equipment and tech- nologies was involved. No transfer of sensitive technology has taken place”, External Affairs Ministry spokesman Navtej Sarna told reporters here.

“There is no scientific evidence that we’ve seen happen to the cells in our lab,” Saunders said. MNA/Reuters

The Lancet has been requested to review the issue and to with- draw the sanctions im- posed” on Surendar and Prasad, said Surendar and Prasad are former MDs and Chair- men of Nuclear Power Corporation of India Lim- ited. MNA/APTI

Indians recovering from three other hurricanes. At least six people were killed and more than a million left without power. — INTERNET

A bus battles a flooded road in Haiti days after Tropical Storm Jeanne killed at least 1,550 people with more than 900 still missing. INTERNET

 Bombay, 2 Oct — Just one puff of a cigarette could damage a smoker’s DNA, the first step to cancer and heart disease, researchers said on Friday.

It obviously takes more than that to cause disease, but the team at the University of Pittsburgh were surprised at how little smoke it took to do the initial damage.

William Saunders and colleagues studied the effects of real cigarette smoke on human fibroblasts, common cells found in the connective tissue that holds much of the body together. They exposed batches of growing cells to liquefied cigarette smoke and saw the chromosomes that carry the DNA were pulled apart from both ends.

“Double-stranded breaks are considered the most mutagenic type of DNA damage because the broken ends can fuse to other chromosomes in the cell,” Saunders said in a statement.

This happened with very small amounts of smoke, Saunders said in a statement prepared ahead of a week- end meeting of the Envi- ronmental Mutagen Soci- ety in Pittsburgh. Ciga- rette smoking is known to cause lung cancer and is
**S P O R T S**

**Woods stays in hunt for third successive crown**

TOMRASTOWN (Ireland), 2 Oct—Three-times winner Tiger Woods stayed in the hunt for a third successive WGC-Americas Express Championship crown after Friday's second round, but was frustrated his putting let him down.

The world number two, much happier with his problem shoulder, carded a two-under-par 70 to end a day of fluctuating weather at Mount Juliet five strokes adrift of leader Ernie Els.

He hit his shoulder last week after sleeping awkwardly on a flight to Orlando and decided to play in the tournament only after a warm-up session before the first round.

Woods had to battle pain in the opening round, frequently wincing after hitting drives and occasionally bending over in agony. He described it "the most hurt I've ever played".

By MNA/Reuters

**Mourinho believes Arsenal will find life tougher**

HARLINGTON (England), 2 Oct—Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho believes Arsenal, unbeaten for 47 league matches over 16 months, will find life tougher as the season progresses.

With seven matches played the two teams are the last remaining unbeaten sides in the Premier League with Arsenal top on 19 points followed by Chelsea who have 17.

Arsenal are at home to Charlton Athletic on Saturday while Liverpool visit Stamford Bridge on Sunday.

Mourinho, though, implied on Friday that Arsenal had enjoyed a relatively easy start, adding: "Soon, they will be coming up against teams like Manchester United and Leeds United with more possibilities."

He said that when Arsenal lose their unbeaten record they will find even the exalted teams harder to beat.

"When they lose a game other teams will be encouraged. At the moment, English teams have a bit of a blockage about Arsenal. They think beating them is not possible."

Mourinho was in an ebullient mood after Chelsea's 3-1 win over European champions Porto, his former club, in the Champions League on Wednesday. However, he played down the ramifications of the fight between Arsenal skipper Patrick Vieira and team mate Lauren which wasn't about football, but about the other thing where players hide and say things behind people's backs.

"Sometimes it goes a bit further but those players want to win every game."

Wenger ruled out any action against either player and applauded their attitude.

"We all had a joke about it this morning, we said we'd get the boxing gloves out," Wenger said at the club's training ground on Friday.

"We were all surprised that such a small incident could provoke such an interest."

"There was a professional disagreement on the bus, which wasn't about the goal, but it shows that their players care about what matters to them, which is winning games."

Wenger ruled out any action against either player and applauded their attitude.

"We all had a joke about it this morning, we said we'd get the boxing gloves out," Wenger said at the club's training ground on Friday.

"We were all surprised that such a small incident could provoke such an interest."

The police over-reacted.

Wenger went down reported bust-up on Arsenal team bus

LONDON CORNELY (England), 2 Oct—Arsene Wenger said Wednesday's bust-up between club captain Patrick Vieira and team mate Lauren proves his Premier League champions still burn with desire to reach new heights.

Media reports said Vieira and the Cameroon defender were separated by Norwegian police after a furious argument almost came to blows on the team bus following a 1-1 Champions League draw with Rosenborg in Trondheim.

But as Arsenal prepare to extend their record-breaking unbeaten league run to 48 against London rivals Charlton Athletic at Highbury on Saturday, Wenger said the team "will have let me know on Monday if he will join my squad to play in the tournament only after a warm-up session before the first round." It's a derby and I'm sure they will play with live in midfield and make plenty of tackles."

"The statistics show that we have not been having as many shots as we were at the start of the season, but we're still winning so I'm happy."

"We're top of the league with 19 points, we're top of our Champions League group, it's a crisis!"

Non-flying Dutchman Dennis Bergkamp will return to the line-up after not travelling to Norway, while 17-year-old midfielder Cesc Fabregas and left back Gaël Clichy will miss out, along with Sol Campbell who will be starting his third game in a week.

By MNA/Reuters

**Rooney on all headlines with dream debut**

LONDON, 2 Oct—While Wayne Rooney stole all the headlines this week with his dream debut for Manchester United in the Champions League, two other England internationals were nowhere to be seen.

Well, of course they were to be seen somewhere, but not where they wanted to be on a football pitch playing in the Champions League for their clubs.

Michael Owen, who moved from Liverpool to Real Madrid for 8.0 million pounds (14.37 million US dollars) two months ago, was left kicking his heels on the bench as his new Spanish club came from behind to beat AS Roma 4-2 after a dramatic fightback at the Bernabeu Stadium.

Scott Parker, who cost Chelsea 10.0 million pounds (18 million US dollars) when he moved from Charlton to Chelsea in January, was not even on the bench as his club stormed to a 3-1 victory over fading European champions Porto.

Owen, of course, is England's established leading striker — but has started just one match since he moved to Real in August and has not yet featured in either of Rea's Champions League matches.

He might stay at the Bernabeu and fight for his place — or he could come back to England in the winter transfer window and virtually pick who he would like to play for.

By MNA/Reuters

**Answers for yesterday's crossword puzzle**

O 11. Sparrow (6)
S 12. Priddy (7)
T 13. Ridders (7)
R 14. Rooster's squat (7)
I 15. Greasy, oily, pny (5, 7)
L 16. Cull (5)
I 17. Amsler (9)
T 18. He (5)
S 19. Sontour (5)
O 20. Solar (6)
A 21. Aupert (7)
L 22. Tine (5)
U 23. Ault (7)
M 24. Elderly (7)
A 25. Summit (8)
H 26. Allerby (7)
E 27. Chuter (6)
T 28. Terry (8)

By MNA/Reuters

**Players recalled to Dutch squad for World Cup qualifiers**

ZEST (Netherlands), 2 Oct—Ruud van Nistelrooy, Philip Cocu and Arjen Robben have been recalled to the Dutch squad for this month's World Cup qualifiers against Macedonia and Finland.

The three players missed the Netherlands' 2-0 win over the Czech Republic in their opening Group One match.

Chelsea winger Robben has yet to decide if he will join up with the squad next week after suffering another foot injury. "I spoke with Robben and he will let me know on Monday if he will join my squad when we gather in Nyon," said Netherlands coach Marco van Basten.

"He described it "the most hurt I've ever played".

The Manchester United striker is available, however, for the home match against Finland on October 13. PSV Eindhoven midfielder Coquelin replaces team mate Andre Ooijer, who is sidelined with a hamstring injury.

**Two Arsenal players involved in scuffle**

OLIO, 2 Oct—Two Arsenal players were involved in a scuffle on the team bus after drawing 1-1 against Rosenborg Trondheim in the Champions League, Norwegian police said on Friday.

The pair, captain Patrick Vieira and defender Lauren, had to be separated by teammates outside the Lerkendal Stadium in Trondheim on Wednesday's Group E match.

"There was scuffling and loud shouting. A security guard went on to the bus to calm things down," Hallgeir Stokken, the stadium police commander, told Reuters.

"Two other Arsenal players separated them. They were quite aggressive."

He said that by the time police entered the bus a few minutes later the situation had been defused, with the two players told to sit apart.

By MNA/Reuters
Myanmar Women’s Traditional Costume Show held

Yangon, 3 Oct — Yangon Division Organization for Women’s Affairs held the Myanmar Women’s Traditional Costume Show at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, here, yesterday evening.

At the show, MWAF members from Yangon and students from University of Culture posted their styles wearing local-made traditional costumes, domestic handbags and slippers at reasonable prices.

Actresses Khine Thin Kyi, Academy Cho Pyone, Hsu Pan Htwa, Academy Myat Kaythi Aung, Eindra Kyaw Zin, Academy May Thinzar Oo, Pwint, Kyi Lè Lè, Mrs Myo Thanar Tun, Academy Soe Myat Nandar, Academy Kawni sang, in traditional costumes, the songs that highlight tribal and natural beauty and MWAF members and University of Culture students entertained with performance. President of MWAF Dr Daw Khin Min Shwe presented a flower basket to leaders of working groups on behalf of those who contributed to holding the show and cordially greeted them.

Among the fans were President of MWAF Dr Daw Khin Min Shwe, Advisor Daw Khin Than Nwe, Vice Presidents Prof Dr Daw May May Yi, Daw Khin Lay Thet, Daw Than Than Nwe and Daw Khin Khin Win and CEC members, advisors, leaders of working groups, patron of Yangon Division Organization Daw Khin Htay and members of Yangon Division, District and Township Organizations for Women’s Affairs. — MNA

Construction of Overpass through Yangon-Mandalay railway on Bayintnaung Road linking Dagon Myothit (North) Township. (News on page 1) — MNA

Hepatitis B Vaccine Factory seen in Hlegu Township. (News on page 1) — MNA

WEATHER

Sunday, 3 October, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan, Chin States and Mandalay Division, scattered in Kachin, Kayin and Rakhae State, Bago and Ayeyawady divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthoung (2.56) inches and Kalaywa (1.57) inches.

Maximum temperature on 2-10-2004 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 3-10-2004 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 3-10-2004 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 2-10-2004 was (4.3) hours approx. Rainfall on 3-10-2004 was 0.43 inch at Yangon Airport, 1.14 inches at Kaba-Aye and 0.94 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 110.94 inches at Yangon Airport, 106.06 inches at Kaba-Aye and 108.58 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from South at (01:30) hours MST on 3-10-2004.

Bay inference: According to the observation at (12:30) hrs MST today, the depression over Central Bay has remained practically stationary centered about (400) miles Southwest of Kolkata, India. It has not intensified and maximum wind speed is 40 mph near the center.

Forecast valid until evening of 4-10-2004: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered to widespread in Kachin, Rakhae, Mon and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%). State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers in lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-10-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Special weather news

(issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 3-10-2004)

According to the observation at 12:30 hrs MST today, the depression over Central Bay has remained practically stationary centered about (400) miles Southwest of Kolkata, India. It has not intensified and move some Northerly direction. The maximum wind speed is 40 mph near the center.
Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts K 500,000 donated to the funds of monasteries in Kyimyindine Township by a wellwisher. — MNA

Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers provisions to four monasteries

Over K 7,987 million donated to monasteries, nunnery in Kyimyindine, Insein Townships

Yangon, 3 Oct — Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the ceremony to donate provisions of families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers to four monasteries in Kyimyindine Township, at Thadu Pariyatti Monastery in Kyimyindine Township this afternoon.

Present were Presiding Nayaka of Thadu Pariyatti Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññavamsa and members of the Sangha, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, senior military officers, local authorities, social organizations and wellwishers.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party took the Eight Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññavamsa. Next, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party offered alms to the Sayadaws.

On behalf of Tatmadaw families, Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Staff (Air) Lt-Col Nay Win donated rice, oil, salt and gram to the Sayadaws.

Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and senior military officers accepted K 4,807,090 from wellwishers.

Next, Chairman of Kyimyindine Township (See page 10)

Navy Captain Nyan Tun and Colonel General Staff (Air) Lt-Col Nay Win donated rice, oil, salt and gram to the Sayadaws.

Yangon, 3 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and departmental officials, inspected the combined office of Naungtaya and Pinlaung Townships, on 30 September morning.

At the hall, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe met departmental personnel, social organization members and local people.

The commander reported on agricultural tasks, land utilization and extended cultivation of the 10 main crops.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe said that they arrived

(See page 10)

Director, representatives of ASEAN Secretariat arrive

Yangon, 3 Oct — Director Dr Azmimal A Khir and representatives of ASEAN Secretariat arrived here by air this morning to attend the Senior Officials Meeting of the 26th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Senior Officials Meeting of the 4th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Plus Three to be hosted in Myanmar.

Representatives of Thailand arrived at 9 am, Director Dr Azmimal A Khir and officials of ASEAN Secretariat and representatives of Brunei and Singapore at 12 noon, representatives of Vietnam at 5.30 pm, representatives of Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Japan, Cambodia and Laos in the evening. They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Sub-committee for Organizing and Accommodation of the Meeting Director-General of Water Resources Utilization Department U Win Shwe and members, staff of the embassies concerned.

MNA

Representatives of ASEAN Secretariat arrive at the airport. — MNA