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

YANGON, 16 Nov — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye received Air Chief Marshal S Krishnaswamy, COSC, PVSM, AVSM, VM & Bar, ADC Chief of the Air Staff of the Republic of India, and party at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinttha, here at 9 am today.

Also present were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia, Military Attache Col JS Chopra and officials.

MNA

CENT-PERCENT MATERIALIZATION OF HEALTH SECTOR’S LOFTY VISIONS, COMPREHENSIVE POLICIES DEPENDS MAINLY ON HEALTH STAFF’S EFFICIENCY

Secretary-1 visits hospitals in Mandalay Division

YANGON, 16 Nov— Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Thein Sein and party, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint and Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Yan Thein, helicoptered to Mandalay from PyinOoLwin Township this morning.

Chairman of the National Health Committee Secretary-1 Li-Gen Thein Sein and party proceeded to Mandalay General Hospital (800-bed).

They inspected wards and laboratories and comforted outpatients.

Next, the NHC Chairman inspected MRI Room, Colour Doppler Ultrasound Room, CT Scan Room, CT Control Room, and Angiography Room. The Secretary-1 also comforted patients at the rehabilitation ward and inspected Examination Room, Coronary Care Unit, Renal Unit and Haemodialysis Room.

The Secretary-1 asked after the health of Daw Saw Ma Ma, 38, and Ko Win Thura Lat, 27, who have undergone operations recently for renal transplant. The Secretary-1 observed the final year students of Institute of Medicine (Mandalay) and the Institute of Paramedical Science (Mandalay) at studying lessons he Neuro-surgical Unit, and also Cardiac Unit. The Secretary-1 held discussions with the medical superintendent, heads of department, specialists, faculty members and nurses. The Secretary-1 asked after the health of conjoined twin sisters Moe Ma Ma Aung and Moe Pa Pa Aung who had been successfully separated at Mandalay Children’s Hospital and presented gifts to them. Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Win reported on background (See page 16)

The Government’s role is important in the task to promote public health and education. The National Health Committee was founded to fully realize the health policies. The NHC issued the 15-point national health policy to provide close supervision and leadership.

The INSIDE Perspective Towards economic development through effective use of resources (Page-2) Redouble our efforts for national development (Page 11)
Towards economic development through effective use of resources

As the Union of Myanmar has favourable conditions for agriculture, its economy is based on the agriculture sector. This being so, “Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well” is embodied in the four economic objectives and being implemented.

Ayeayawady Division is one of the regions of the nation relies on for its staple food, rice. As more than 3.5 million acres of farmland was put under monsoon paddy up to October this year, it exceeded the target. Continued efforts are being made to be able to put 3.6 million acres of farmland under monsoon paddy in the year 2005-2006.

In his meeting with departmental personnel in Ayeayawady Division on 14 October, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe said that it is necessary to strive for the development of the industrial sector in addition to that of the agriculture and meat and fish sectors and that there is a lot of potential for the development of industries based on agricultural, forest and marine products. The greater the region-wise production of goods, the higher the economic situation of the nation and its people will be.

The Government has been taking systematic measures for parallel development of states and divisions, for higher living standard of the people and for alleviating poverty. As targets have been set for economic development in states and divisions, concerted efforts will have to be made to meet them.

The population of the nation has been increasing year after year and it is expected to reach 100 million in 30 years. Therefore, it is necessary to boost the cultivated acreage as well as the per-acre yield to ensure food sufficient for the increasing population.

In implementing the targets for economic development in the states and divisions, responsible personnel of respective regions should always be thinking of how much vacant and virgin land there is and what kind of enterprises can be expanded.

As parallel development of various regions can lead to that of the entire nation, we would like to call on local people and responsible personnel to strive for the progress of their respective regions through effective use of terrestrial and aquatic resources.

Central Authority on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters meets

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo addresses the Meeting of the Central Authority on the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters. — MNA

YANGON, 16 Nov—The Central Authority on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters held its 1/2004 meeting at the Ministry of Home Affairs this afternoon.

Present were Chairman of the Central Authority Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung and members of the Central Authority and guests.

Chairman of the Central Authority Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo delivered a speech. Those present at the meeting took part in the discussions.—MNA

Myanmar archers back with 16 gold, silver and bronze

YANGON, 16 Nov — Myanmar archery team which secured the first place in the third Asian Archery Championship—2004 returned yesterday.

The archery team has bagged seven gold, six silver and three bronze in the championship held in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 10-14 November. Archers from Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, India, China, Hong Kong, Butan, Cambodia, the Philippines and Vietnam participated in the archery competitions.

President of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Tin Oo and members of the Central Authority and guests welcomed them at Yangon International Airport.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint poses for a documentary photo together with the victorious Myanmar archery team at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

Kanbawzaw Open Golf Championship continues in Taunggyi

YANGON, 16 Nov — The fourth event of Kanbawzaw Open Golf Championship, organized by Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation went on in Ayeyawady Golf Course, Taunggyi, Shan State (South) this morning.

After 18-hole event for the third day in Professional Golfers level, Myint Naing (KM Golf Centre) led the event with 219 strokes, followed by Myint Naing (Srixon) with 221 strokes in the second place and Aye Lwin with 227 strokes in the third place.

In amateur level, Yin Aung Latt moved top in the event with 220 strokes, followed by Htay Hnatt with 225 strokes in the second place and Thein Zaw Myint with 228 strokes in the third place.

Tour Sponsor is Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar and Title Sponsor, Kanbawzaw Bank Ltd. Co-sponsors are Air Mandalay, Tiger Beer, Eden Group Co Ltd, Alpine Purified Drinking Water, KM Golf Centre, Maruman, Tour Stage, Travel & Tours (Hole-in-One Sponsor) and Ayeyahya Golf Resort. — MNA

Third day’s leader Myint Naing (KM Golf Centre) hits the ball into the hole. —NLM
Three Marines killed in booby-trapped building in Fallujah

FALLUJAH, 15 Nov — Three Marines have been killed in an explosion as they entered a booby-trapped building in central Fallujah, while another 13 were wounded in a firefight nearby, a marine officer said. Of the 13, 10 were seriously injured in the gun battle just south of the main road that cuts through the centre of the Sunni Muslim bastion, the officer told AFP on condition of anonymity. On Saturday, Iraq's top security official said the battle for the restive city had been completed and only stubborn pockets of resistance remained. But US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said the comments were premature, while US commanders insisted that the largest military operation in Iraq since last year's US-led invasion was still going on.

Hungary to withdraw troops from Iraq by 2004

BUDAPEST, 15 Nov — Hungary's parliament today voted against a government proposal to extend the mission of its 300-strong military contingent in Iraq, obliging Budapest to withdraw its forces by the end of 2004.

Parliament voted by 191 to 159 to support an extension to the end of March, but the motion required a two-thirds majority to pass.

The opposition centre-right parties vowed against the proposal.

Before the vote, Defence Minister Ferenc Juhasz said failure of the motion would damage Hungary's relations with countries which keep forces in Iraq, where authorities are struggling to dampen insurgency ahead of polls.

"If we don't vote for this... it will have foreign policy consequences for several years to come," he told Parliament. The opposition said the troops could not fulfill their mission. "At one point in time (this year) it became clear that we could not accomplish our objective... we cannot build democracy in Iraq," opposition leader Viktor Orban told news television channel HirTV.

"The current situation will not change... so we should... think about when we should come home. I would say the sooner the better," Orban added.

Legislators rejected a last-second plea from Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsany who said that returning from Iraq before elections was irresponsible and would mean Hungary had abandoned its mission just steps away from the finish line. — Internet

Air Canada’s losses decline

OTTAWA, 15 Nov — Air Canada's third-quarter loss narrowed to 81-million Canadian dollars (about 68 million US dollars) as it filled more seats, according to the company's report published here Saturday.

This is in sharp contrast with 263 million Canadian dollars (about 210 million US dollars) in red ink in the same period last year, when the airline suffered from reduced passenger loads after the war in Iraq and the SARS outbreak.

Robert Milton, Air Canada's chief executive officer, said passenger bookings look strong for the fourth quarter. "Notwithstanding an obvious concern over fuel prices, we continue to expect to achieve significant profitability in 2005 over the full year," he said in a statement.

The airline's load factor in the third quarter hit 81 per cent, compared with 77.5 per cent a year earlier. And in a key industry measure of improvement, Air Canada's revenue per available seat mile rose to 12.5 cents from 11.7 cents.

For the first nine months of this year, Air Canada has lost 895 million Canadian dollars (about 740 million US dollars), compared with a loss of 1.1 billion Canadian dollars (about 840 million US dollars) in the same period in 2003.

Indian President urges industries to go to world

NEW DELHI, 15 Nov — Indian President APJ Abdul Kalam on Sunday urged Indian industries to go out to the world, while using technology and competitiveness to drive growth in various sectors at home.

"Indian industries should aim to become multi-nationals" by becoming fiercely competitive in the world market, Kalam said, opening the fortnight-long India International Trade Fair (IITF) at the sprawling Pragati Maidan fairground in New Delhi.

Over 7,000 companies, including 323 from 28 countries, are participating in the 24th fair, whose twin theme for the year is "Agriculture and IT", the two most important sectors of Indian economy. China is the "partner country" for this year's trade fair, and the "focus country" is Brazil — two nations with which India's political and economic ties have been on the upswing.

Stating that rural India, comprising 700 million Indians in 600,000 villages was a big market for industries, the President urged entrepreneurs to identify opportunities in rural areas and convert them into business propositions.

Cultivation of biofuel yielding plants, rural lighting and power generation through municipal wastes were three such areas with potential for revenue and employment generation in rural areas, he said.

In the same breath, Kalam said it was competitiveness that would transform India into a developed nation. "Technology powers competitiveness," Kalam said.

Chinese, Egyptian FMs talk Iraqi issue on phone

BRASILIA, 15 Nov — Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing talked with his Egyptian counterpart, Ahmed Abul Gheit, over the phone Saturday to exchange views on an international conference on Iraq. Li was here accompanying Chinese President Hu Jintao on a state visit to Brazil.

Egypt will be hosting the conference, scheduled for 22-23 November in the Red Sea resort of Sharm El-Sheikh. — MNA/Xinhua

Sarah Nath, 14, stands at the edge of her tent at a Red Crescent relief camp in Baghdad, on 15 Nov, 2004, after her family was forced to flee from fighting in Fallujah. — Internet

1,193 US troops killed since beginning of war

BAGHDAD, 15 Nov — As of Monday, 15 Nov, 2004, at least 1,193 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 928 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said as of Monday. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is one lower than the Defence Department's tally; it's not unusual for the figures to differ slightly from day to day.

The British military has reported 74 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,055 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 816 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

A soldier died Monday in military vehicle accident in Baghdad, Iraq.

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A soldier died Monday in military vehicle accident in Baghdad, Iraq.
Aid convoy barred from ‘starving’ Fallujah

FALLUJAH, 15 Nov.—An aid convoy has been forced to turn back from the beleaguered city of Fallujah as more evidence emerged of a mounting humanitarian crisis on the eighth day of a US offensive to crush resistance forces.

The convoy from Iraq’s Red Crescent withdrew from a hospital on the edge of Fallujah on Monday after failing to get permission to deliver supplies to residents trapped inside the city, a spokeswoman said.

The trucks laden with food, water and medical supplies will travel instead to villages around Fallujah where tens of thousands of people have set up camp after being driven from their villages.

by US marines, said Firdaus al-Ubadi, head of the Fallujah branch of the International Red Crescent.

Relief agencies are trying to get food, water and medicine to hundreds of families they say are trapped inside Fallujah. The military said it was announcing over loudspeakers in the city that civilians needing medical or other help should seek out US forces.

The International Red Cross said it was striving to gain access.—Internet

Fort Lewis major dies in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 15 Nov.—A mortar attack has taken the life of a major assigned to a Fort Lewis Stryker brigade.

Maj Horst Gerhard “Gary” Moore was killed Tuesday during the attack in this living area in Mosul, Iraq, the Defence Department reported on the weekend.

Moore, 38, had been in Iraq since October with the 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division. He leaves a wife and two-year-old daughter, Sophia, in Los Fresnos, Texas, in the Rio Grande Valley. His wife, Raquel, told The Brownsville (Texas) Herald that the attack killed her husband and another soldier and that the attacker was also killed.

Moore was born in Berlin, Germany, and came from a military family, according to the Texas newspaper. He had been in the Army for 17 years and was considering retirement from the service in three years.

Romanian troops might pull out of Iraq

BUCHAREST, 15 Nov.—Romania’s more than 700 soldiers in Iraq could return home in little more than seven months if the situation allows.

Prime Minister Adrian Nastase has been quoted as saying.

“I am sure elections in Iraq will take place in the first part of next year,” Nastase told reporters during a visit to the country’s sole nuclear reactor in the southern town of Cernavoda, the daily newspaper Adevarul said on Monday.

“If gradually the situation in Iraq returns to normal in the first part of next year, the Romanian troops should come back sometime at the end of June,” Nastase added.

Romania has around 700 troops in Iraq and said last week it had agreed to a US request to send in 100 more soldiers to help set up a unit protecting United Nations staff.

A Romanian liaison officer was slightly injured on Saturday in Baghdad in a bomb attack on a US camp. Romania joined NATO this year and was a staunch supporter of the US-led invasion of Iraq.

The United Nations said last month it was discussing with Washington a separate unit of the multinational force dedicated to protecting UN personnel, especially ahead of elections in January.

Pentagon building Internet for future wars

WASHINGTON, 15 Nov.—The Pentagon is building its own Internet, the military’s world wide web, for the years of the future, The New York Times reported Saturday.

The goal of such an Internet, the front-paged report said, is to give all American commanders and troops a moving picture of all foreign enemies and threats—“a God’s-eye view” of battle.

The “Internet in the sky” would allow US soldiers anywhere to “open up their laptops, request imagery” from a spy satellite and “get it downloaded within seconds”, Peter Teets, undersecretary of the Air Force, was quoted as telling the Congress.

The first connections of the secure network, called Global Information Grid (GIG) by the Pentagon, were laid six weeks ago. It may take two decades and hundreds of billions of dollars to build the new war net and its components.

Officials from APEC gather in Chile

SANTIAGO, 15 Nov.—Senior officials from the 21 members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) gathered here Sunday in the first of a series of APEC meetings, lasting until 21 November.

The meetings include the 16th annual ministerial meeting on 17-18 November, a CEO summit on 19-21 November and the 12th Economic Leaders Meeting on 20-21 November.

Since its inception in 1989 in response to the growing interdependence among Asia-Pacific economies, APEC has become a formidable regional forum acting as the primary regional vehicle for promoting open trade and practical economic and technical cooperation among the Asia-Pacific countries. APEC currently has 21 members: Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Taipei, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, South Korea, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam. The chairman pro tempore among members, with Chile holding the chair this year. The organization accounts for more than a third of the world’s GDP with about 2.6 billion people, nearly 60 per cent of the world’s population and about 38 per cent of the world’s trade.

APEC’s stated “Bogor Goals” adopted in 1994 aims at free trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific area by gradually cutting tariffs of the region’s industrialized countries to zero by the Year 2020 and to 5 per cent for APEC’s developing countries by 2020.—INTERNET

Guerillas attack oil pipeline in Iraq

KIRKUK, 15 Nov.—Guerillas blew up an oil pipeline Monday, shutting down Iraqi oil exports from the north, and set fire to a storage and pumping station in northern Iraq, officials said.

The pipeline, which connects the Kirkuk oil field with the Turkish port of Ceyhan, was hit Monday in the Safra area, 37 miles southwest of Kirkuk, said an official in the Northern Oil Company under condition of anonymity.

Oil exports to Turkey, the outlet for Iraq’s northern fields, was halted due to the blast, he said. It will take at least a week to repair the damage, he said.

Later in the day, guerillas attacked a storage and pumping station in Ein al-Jahish area, about 60 miles south of Mosul.

The attackers set fire to the station, where oil is stored and then pumped to Ceyhan port, according to eyewitnesses.—INTERNET

IRKUK

British Army Challenger 2 tank crew watches over the area after deploying to the southern Iraq town of Shekhat, 30 km north of Basra, on 15 November, 2004.—INTERNET

Iraqi ambulances leave the Fallujah Hospital under the watchful eyes of US Marines on 15 Nov, 2004.—INTERNET
Ten NATO members refuse to send soldiers to Iraq

LONDON, 15 Nov — NATO’s top military commander said in an interview on Monday that 10 member countries have refused to send soldiers to Iraq, raising “worrisome” doubts over how the alliance will fight future conflicts.

“We have roughly 10 countries that will not participate and not send their forces inside Iraq,” General James Jones, NATO’s supreme allied commander, Europe, was quoted as saying in the Financial Times newspaper.

“It is worrisome for its implications for the future cohesion of the alliance in future missions. I hope this is the only time it happens.”

The paper said Jones would not say which of NATO’s 26 member nations had refused to send troops to join the US-led war in Iraq. NATO members France, Germany and Russia were vocal opponents of the war.

Opponents of NATO training in Iraq say a larger presence would amount to putting the alliance into the Iraqi battlefield through the back door.

The alliance approved plans last month to send around 300 military trainers to Iraq, despite concerns from France and other opponents of the war about whether NATO should have a role in Iraq at all.

It aims to train 1,000 Iraqi officers a year once a planned military academy outside Baghdad opens. The centre will complement a larger US-led training operation, whose goal is to train 150,000 Iraqi security personnel in time for elections planned for January.

MNA/Reuters

UAE to complete building longest tunnel in Middle East

ABU DHABI, 16 Nov — Work on the Middle East’s longest tunnel, which has started being built around the Dubai International Airport in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) since March, 2003, is expected to be complete within the next four months, the official WAM news agency reported here Monday.

The building of a 1.6-kilometre-long tunnel, which is part of the 187-million-US-dollar road network project, is in line with Dubai’s efforts to facilitate smoother traffic flow on the emirate’s roads, according to the Roads Department of Dubai Municipality.

Dubai police arrest organizer of rave

AMSTERDAM, 15 Nov— Dutch police arrested the organizer of an all-night rave in an Amsterdam warehouse where a blaze killed one and injured six on Sunday.

The fire, now under control, broke out between 7 am and 8 am when several hundred party-goers were still inside the building at an industrial estate occupied by squatters. The 30-year-old party organizer was detained and suspected of culpable homicide.

“The firemen found one deceased victim inside. Six have been taken to hospital with severe burns as well as breathing problems,” said Fire Brigade spokesman Kees Jongh. A thick column of smoke could be seen from many parts of Amsterdam. Fire fighters were at the scene with 15 fire engines and other vehicles.

Raves are popular in Netherlands. Often filling an entire stadium with more than 10,000 party-goers.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi families leave the outskirts of Fallujah, Iraq, on 15 Nov, 2004 as US forces resumed heavy airstrikes and artillery in Fallujah and surrounding areas.—INTERNET

US troops, Iraqi forces fighting to retake police station in Mosul

MOSUL, Iraq, 15 Nov — US troops and Iraqi security forces were fighting to retake a police station overrun by guerrillas in the northern city of Mosul, a US military spokeswoman said on Sunday.

Two US soldiers were also wounded in sporadic fighting in the nearby town of Tal Afar, where guerrillas had attacked a police academy with small arms, she said.

Last week, guerrillas stormed and looted at least nine police stations in Mosul, Iraq’s third largest city, stealing weapons, flak jackets and police vehicles. US Brigadier-General Carter Ham, in charge of security in the north, said on Saturday that all the city’s 33 police stations had been secured and the city of two million was returning to calm, although he expected further attacks.

Mosul tipped into chaos on Wednesday and Thursday when groups of up to 50 militants took over some neighbourhoods, paraded through the city centre brandishing their weapons and chased away local police.

Scores of police defected, stripping off their uniforms and joining the guerrillas. The surge in violence coincided with the US military’s full-scale offensive against an estimated 2,000-3,000 guerrillas — foreign fighters, Sunni Muslim nationalists and loyalists to the former regime — holed up in Fallujah, west of Baghdad.

Military officials say many of the militants there fled before the attack, and that there has been an increase in violence across towns and cities throughout the Sunni Muslim belt of the country since.

Bowman said Mosul remained “relatively calm” on Sunday despite the attack on the police station, and said its governor remained confident the city was under his control.

Following the attacks last week, the Iraqi Government fired Mosul’s police chief and sent national guard reinforcements to boost the security force presence on the streets.

A battalion sent to help in Fallujah, was deployed back to Mosul last week to help reestablish control in the city.

MNA/Reuters

Iran agrees to suspend uranium enrichment

TEHERAN, 15 Nov— Iran has agreed to suspend almost all of its activities related to uranium enrichment as a result of prolonged talks with the European Union (EU), a top nuclear official announced here on Sunday.

“We have agreed to suspend almost all activities related to the enrichment,” Hassan Rowhani, secretary of the Supreme National Security Council and chief nuclear negotiator, told reporters.

Rowhani’s announcement came after two days of “intensive” talks that included “open discussions with ambassadors of the European trio of France, Germany and Britain in Tehran.”

He said that Iran had accepted the “fair offer” of the resolution adopted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in September, which urges Iran to suspend uranium enrichment and fully cooperate with the inspectors to clear up all related issues.

“We have accepted in fact runs accordant with the urges of the September resolution of the IAEA,” Rowhani said.

Meanwhile, it is reported that the IAEA has received an official statement of Iran which notified that the Islamic republic has suspended uranium enrichment and the related activities.

MNA/Xinhua

An Iraqi man looks at battle damage in Baiji, Iraq, on 15 Nov, 2004, after a battle erupted Sunday between militants and US troops in the main market in the northern town, killing at least six people and wounding 20 others, according to witnesses.—INTERNET

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MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters
Chinese Vice-Premier meet Mitsubishi President

BEIJING, 16 Nov—Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan met here Monday with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries President Takashi Nishioka and his party, encouraging the heavy-industry manufacturer to increase its cooperation with Chinese enterprises.

Nishioka briefed Zeng on the recent development of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and its up-to-date business presence in China.

He acknowledged that China’s fast economic progress has contributed a lot to the recovery of Japanese economy.

“Mitsubishi Heavy would like to expand its cooperation with Chinese enterprises and actively involve itself in China’s economic development through bidding and fair competition. We are also glad to give our bits in helping improve the Sino-Japanese relations,” he said.

Calling Mitsubishi a “pioneer” of Japan’s heavy industry well equipped with world-leading production technology, Zeng appreciated the company’s efforts in seeking cooperation with Chinese enterprises in sectors such as transportation, energy and heavy industry.

He said China and Japan are close neighbours separated only a strip of water and enjoy a long-standing history of friendly exchanges. Since the normalization of relations between the two countries in 1972, bilateral cooperation has been going on smoothly in various sectors.

The new administration of China, headed by President Hu Jintao has attached great importance to Sino-Japanese relations and would like to deepen bilateral cooperation based on the principle of equality and mutual benefits, he noted.

Nishioka and his party are visiting China at the invitation of the Chinese State Development and Reform Commission.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries President Takashi Nishioka and his party, organized China Chemicals and Petrochemicals Harmeet S Singh as saying.

India’s share in the China’s organic chemical market was expected to go up from the current 0.9 per cent to 2 per cent in two years, she added.

Singh was speaking at the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) - organized China Chemical meet here.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also signed on the occasion between the CII and the Shanghai Chemical Industry Association to promote industry to industry cooperation between the two countries.

According to industry estimates, the trade in chemicals between India and China registered about 50 per cent growth in 2003-04 at 1.5 billion US dollars as against one billion US dollars in the previous year.

“The chemicals trade between the two countries is growing at a high speed and the MoU is certainly going to facilitate it and take the total value of trade to about three billion US dollars by the end of next fiscal,” said S. N. Singh of the Indian Chemical Manufacturers Association.

The three-day ACCF 2004, with the theme of “Creative Asia”, is the second cultural cooperation forum organized by the Home Affairs Bureau of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government.

Speaking at the opening of the Asia Cultural Cooperation Forum (ACCF) Sun said Asian countries and regions had a glorious history of cultural cooperation and they should further enhance exchange and cooperation in this regard.

Enhanced exchange and cooperation would lead to more stability in Asia and contribute to the development of culture internationally, he noted.

MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Xinhua

Indian aims to double chemical trade with China

NEW DELHI, 16 Nov—India aims to double its trade in chemicals with China within a year and to increase its share of Chinese organic chemical market from the current 0.9 per cent to 2 per cent in the next two years, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported Monday.

“There is tremendous potential for increasing organic chemical exports to China,” PTI quoted director at the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals Harmeet S Singh as saying.

India’s share in the China’s organic chemical market was expected to go up from the current 0.9 per cent to 2 per cent in two years, she added.

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A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also signed on the occasion between the CII and the Shanghai Chemical Industry Association to promote industry to industry cooperation between the two countries.

According to industry estimates, the trade in chemicals between India and China registered about 50 per cent growth in 2003-04 at 1.5 billion US dollars as against one billion US dollars in the previous year.

“The chemicals trade between the two countries is growing at a high speed and the MoU is certainly going to facilitate it and take the total value of trade to about three billion US dollars by the end of next fiscal,” said S. N. Singh of the Indian Chemical Manufacturers Association.

MNA/Xinhua

A clerk displays apples bearing the words “passing the examination” (Chinese characters in R and Korean in L) at a department store in Seoul on 16 Nov, 2004. —INTERNET

Food safety standards remain high in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 16 Nov—Analysis of food samples collected in the first half of the year by Hong Kong Food and Environmental Hygiene Department showed that food safety in Hong Kong remained at a high standard.

The department’s Assistant Director Thomas Chung said Monday that the trend was reassuring, with an overall failure rate at a consistently low level of 0.2 per cent, against 0.3 per cent in the same period of 2003.

Revealing the results of the department’s food surveillance programme for the first half of 2004, Chung said the department had conducted microbiological and chemical testing on about 29,000 food samples during the period, according to a government Press release.

“While microbiological tests target pathogenic bacteria and viruses, chemical tests are for the detection of food additives, chemical contaminants and natural toxins,” he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Two top CIA officials resign

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov—Two top officials at the CIA’s clandestine unit resigned on Monday after clashing with the new management of the agency at a time when it is fighting terrorism and supporting US operations in Iraq.

Stephen Kappes, deputy director for operations, and his deputy Michael Sulick submitted their resignations and a seniorCover officer will take charge of the Directorate of Operations, CIA Director Porter Goss said in a statement.

“There will be no gap in our operations fighting the global war on terror, nor in any of our other vital activities,” Goss said.

MNA/Reuters
Indian Chief of Air Staff and wife visit downtown Yangon

YANGON, 16 Nov—Visiting Indian Air Chief Marshal S Krishnaswamy, COSC, PVSM, VM & Bar, ADC Chief of the Air Staff and wife Mrs Harveen Krishnaswamy and party, together with Indian Military Attaché Colonel JS Chopra and officials, paid tribute to King Zafar Shah’s Tomb on Ziwaka Road in Dagon Township here this morning.

Upon arrival at Mingaladon Air Force Headquarters, the guests were briefed by Commander Brig-Gen Thein Myint and Deputy Commander Col Tin Maung Tun on the air base. Next, the Indian Chief of Air Staff and Brig-Gen Thein Myint exchanged souvenirs.

They later visited the Shwedagon Pagoda. They signed the visitors’ book and donated cash to the pagoda funds.

Wife of Indian Chief of Air Staff tours downtown Yangon

YANGON, 16 Nov—The visiting Indian Air Chief Marshal S Krishnaswamy, COSC, PVSM, AVSM, VM & Bar, ADC, Chief of the Air Staff’s wife Mrs Harveen Krishnaswamy, accompanied by Daw Khin San Kyi, wife of Col U Kyaw of Namhsan Station, Indian Military Attaché’s wife Mrs Jasleen Chopra and officials, toured Kandawgyi Gardens here yesterday afternoon.

Next, Mrs Harveen Krishnaswamy visited Myanma Gems Museum on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road. She also visited the white elephant shed and Lawka Chantha Abbaya Labha Muni Buddha Image and made cash donations to the image funds.

Transport Subcommittee for World Buddhist Summit meets

YANGON, 16 Nov—The Transport Subcommittee for Holding the Fourth World Buddhist Summit met for the third time at the Ministry of Transport on Theinbyu Road here this afternoon.

On the occasion, Member of the Leading Committee for the Summit Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe gave an introductory speech. Chairman of the Subcommittee Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung gave an account of arrangements providing transport services for Sayadaws, state leaders, and distinguished guests to the Summit.

Those present reported on matters related to respective sectors. The Minister delivered concluding remarks.

Minister U Nyan Win presents a completion certificate to a course graduate.

Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills concludes

YANGON, 16 Nov—The graduation ceremony of the Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills (BDS 11/2004) conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at Wunzin Minyazaw Hall of the Ministry today.

Altogether 160 trainees interested in international affairs, businessmen dealing with foreign firms, management officials of companies and service personnel attended the 12-week course.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win delivered a concluding speech and presented certificates to the trainees.

Also present on the occasion were Foreign Affairs Deputy Ministers U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint, directors-general of the departments under the ministry, departmental officials, Myanmar ambassadors, senior diplomats, a rector and professors of universities and institutes concerned and trainees.

Korean dance troupe performs entertainment programmes at the National Theatre.

Korean dance troupe gives performance

YANGON, 16 Nov—Korean dance troupe from Incheon Metropolitan City Dance Theatre this evening entertained the audience with the traditional dances at the National Theatre here.

Under the cultural promotion programme between the Republic of Korea and Myanmar, the dance troupe arrived here recently.

After the second day performance, Director-General of the Fine Arts Department U Kyaw Win and ROK Ambassador Mr Lee Kyung Woo and officials presented a bouquet to the dance troupe.

Economic and Commercial Counsellor calls on Minister

YANGON, 16 Nov—Economic and Commercial Counsellor Mr Tang Hai of the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China called on Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein at his office this afternoon.
Teachers urged to strive for...
(from page 16)

Now there are 156 universities and colleges for 33 subjects including traditional medicine, culture, marine technology and aerospace engineering, he added. He said there are increased opportunities to choose the subjects, upgrading of curriculum and combined subjects. Moreover, master, master research and Ph.D courses are being conducted.

For opportunities to get access to international-level teaching and learning, network systems covering e-learning centres based on electronic data broadcasting, computer training centres, e-education resource centres, multimedia lecture rooms and conference rooms based on ICT, and e-mail, file transfer, video conferencing, Intranet and Internet based on V-SAT, are in progress in all institutions of higher learning.

The nation has been achieving success and advancements in making arrangements for qualitative and quantitative development of its entire education sector. At this time, all the teachers are urged to strive continuously, with high ambition, for emergence of an efficient and far-reaching education force safeguarding and serving the national interest at any time and situation in accord with the vision of the nation.

In addition, the education sector should strive to promote educational standard of the entire people to establish sound foundations and produce good results including stability and prosperity of the State, uplift of national spirit, the spirit of national solidarity, Union Spirit and morale, development of the nation and national economic development.

After the ceremony, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greeted the trainees. A total of 634 faculty members of colleges and universities are attending the course. — MNA

Cent-per-cent materialization of health...
(from page 16)

sector depends mainly on the efficiency of the health staff including the physicians.

In this regard, the Government is of implementing the different stages of the national health promotion project, the four-year national education promotion programme and the 30-year health plan.

The Health Ministry has formed the NHC from the central level to state/division, township and ward/village tract levels that are providing public health care services, gearing up to materialize the visions and policies successfully.

With the participation of the entire public, the ministry is required to launch disease control, diagnosis and treatment, and rehabilitation campaigns, while utilizing the efforts of the upper and lower ranks harmoniously for health and longevity of the entire public.

The Mandalay General Hospital can now perform difficult and advanced operations on patients as in the Yangon General Hospital. It is a success in the field of medicine and also an honour for the nation.

The Secretary-1 urged all the health staff including physicians to raise the national health standard and produce human resources with high efficiency for the health sector.

At the 300-bed Central Women’s Hospital (Mandalay), the Secretary-1 and party heard a report on salient points of the hospital, treatment and wards, strength of staff, health conditions of patients, future programmes and requirements presented by medical superintendent Dr Daw Khin Swe Win. Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint gave a supplementary report.

Chairman of National Health Committee Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said the country needs qualified human resources to build a peaceful, modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

The government laid down plans to promote the education and health standard of the citizens after formation of Myanmar Education Committee and National Health Committee, he said.

He stressed the importance of efficiency of doctors, physicians and health staff who are practically implementing the plans.

That is why, he said, national health plans, four-year education promotion plan and 30-year plan are being undertaken. The Ministry of Health is to carry out the tasks for prevention of diseases, treatment and rehabilitation. He spoke of the need for health staff to organize the people to successfully implement of health promotion tasks in cooperation with social organizations.

(See page 9)
Cent-per-cent materialization of health…

(from page 8)

Next, the Chairman of National Health Committee and party inspected the OPD, blood bank, disease diagnostic centre, X-ray unit, delivery room of the Central Women’s Hospital (Mandalay), construction of paediatric ward and intensive care unit, operation theatre, ward for operated patients, installation of modern operation equipment and gave necessary instructions.

At 1.30 pm, the Chairman of National Health Committee and party arrived at the 50-bed Traditional Medicine Hospital (Mandalay) where they were welcomed by Rector Dr Mya Moe, Medical Superintendent U Win Naing, lecturers, faculty members, trainees and officials. Next, they looked into ward (female) and ward (male) and asked after the warded patients.

At the meeting hall of the hospital, the Chairman of National Health Committee and party heard a report presented by Rector Dr Mya Moe on organisational set-up of staff, administrative and academic matters, establishment of teaching-aid herbal plantations and others.

Next, Medical Superintendent U Win Naing reported on background history of the hospital, medical departments, common medicines one regions of warded patients, number of annual out-patients and kinds of diseases inflicted on the patients.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint gave a supplementary report.

Regarding the reports, NHC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended to the requirements and called on officials concerned to make efforts for development of Myanmar traditional medicines in accord with the guidance of the Head of State.

On arrival at the Institute of Traditional Medicine (Mandalay), they were welcomed by Principal U Aung Htat and faculty members and trainees.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun gave an address on the occasion.

A total of 40 trainees are attending the two-week road quality control course and 23 trainees five-week store keeping course. They next left the airport and arrived here in the evening.—MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents gifts to twin sisters Moe Ma Ma Aung and Moe Pa Pa Aung.— MNA

Efficient use of electricity

- Use daylight as the main source of light
- Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-mega-watt power station can supply.

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun delivers a speech at the opening of road quality control course No 2 and store keeping course No 4. — CONSTRUCTION

National health plans, four-year education promotion plan and 30-year plan are being undertaken. The Ministry of Health is to carry out the tasks for disease control, treatment and rehabilitation.
Pyay-Seiktha new gas pipeline inspected

Yangon, 16 Nov — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi yesterday oversaw the completion of the laying of 10-inch gas pipeline linking Pyay and Seiktha Village in Bago Division (West) at the work site in Seiktha Village in Shwedagon Township.

As it was completed, supply of natural gas was launched yesterday afternoon to Kyangon Cement Factory, Myanaung Power Station and other factories. On 14 November, Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than also arrived at the work site and inspected the laying of the new pipeline from TaYokeHmaw Village to Seiktha Village in Shwedagon Township.

Pyay District. The underground pipeline was laid under Ayeyawady River bed.

At the briefing hall, an official of the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise and Deputy Minister U Pe Than briefed the minister on the condition of the pipeline and tasks being carried out.

Yangon, 16 Nov — Work coordination meeting on organizing the 22nd Conference on ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organization — CAFEO-22 was held this afternoon at MIC Park in Hline Township.

At the meeting, Secretary of the central committee for organizing CAFEO-22 U Than Myint and officials concerned briefed on preparations for the conference.

After the meeting, those present viewed around the souvenirs regarding CAFEO-22 displayed at the meeting hall.

Yangon, 16 Nov — Painting and Sculpture Contests announced

The CAFEO-22 conference, organized by Myanmar Engineering Association, will be held on 18-19 December at Sedona Hotel here.

The delegates from engineering associations of ASEAN countries will submit the papers.

MINA

Rules on Armed Forces Day Commemorative Painting and Sculpture Contests announced

Yangon, 16 Nov — Hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2005, the Painting and Sculpture Contests and Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee under the Poem and Arts Competitions Organizing Work Committee chaired by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung announced rules on the Arts and Sculpture Contests.

Six categories

The Painting Contest will be divided into six categories — the pre-primary level (school children from Pre-Primary School), the primary (junior) level (KG, first and second standards), the primary (senior) level (third and fourth standards), the middle school level (fifth to seventh standards), the high school level (eighth to tenth standards and technical and agricultural schools) and the open level (university, college, institute, State School of Fine Arts, amateur and professional contestants).

Sculpture Contest

Contestants can participate in only the open class of the Sculpture Contest. But, they may take part in the two events — the open class (plaster) and the open class (wood). All the contestants including amateurs, professionals and students may take part in both contests.

In the pre-primary and all basic education levels of the Painting Contest, the size of the entry must be 20” x 15” presented by any colour and system. The entry must be endorsed by respective principals with the name of contestant, standard, school, township, date of birth, father’s name, full address and two passport size photos. The entries are to be sent to the Education Planning and Training Department at 123, Natmauk Street, Bahan Township, not later than 1 March 2005.

The size of entries for the open division painting contest must be 30” x 20” size work presented by any colour and system, Name, Citizenship Scru-

tiny Card Number, date of birth, father’s name, occupation and full address must be written with two passport size photos. The entries must be own creation.

The entry for the wood and plaster events of the Sculpture Contest must not be higher than 56 inches and circumference not larger than 24 inches. The wood must be own creation. The entry is to be attached with the name, Citizenship Scru-

tiny Card number, full address and a brief biography and three passport size colour photos.

Any title can be given to the entry. The entries must be the ones have not entered the contest and exhibition yet. The entries are to be sent to the Secretary of the Painting and Sculpture Contests and Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee, Tatmadaw Convention Hall, U Wisara Road, from 1 to 3 March 2005.

Other entries

Apart from the entries, other paintings and sculptures may be sent to be displayed at the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition. They must also reflect the 12 Objectives of the State, objectives of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day and 12 fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Entries for the open class painting and sculpture contests are to be sent to the Secretary of Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Association (Central) of 187, east wing of Bogyoke Market, Pabdan Township, not later than 1 March 2005 or the Secretary of the Painting and Sculpture Contests and Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee.

In addition, the works may reflect the ancient Myanmar Tatmadaw, historic matters of the Tatmadaw which occurred in the periods of Pre-Independence and State Peace and Development Council, and its endeavours in safeguarding and developing the State. The other paintings and sculptures are to be sent directly to Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road from 1 to 5 March 2005.

MINA

Conference on CAFEO-22 on 18-19 December

Yangon, 16 Nov — Work coordination meeting on organizing the 22nd Conference on ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organization — CAFEO-22 was held this afternoon at MIC Park in Hline Township.

At the meeting, Secretary of the central committee for organizing CAFEO-22 U Than Myint and officials concerned briefed on preparations for the conference.

After the meeting, those present viewed around the souvenirs regarding CAFEO-22 displayed at the meeting hall.

MINA

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi hears reports by Deputy Minister U Pe Than and officials. — ENERGY
With twelve political, economic and social objectives laid down, the State Peace and Development Council is making efforts to realize the national goal: establishment of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

The materialization of this national goal calls for enthusiastic cooperation of all citizens with persistence and diligence.

The growing number of basic infrastructures is a product of the genuine goodwill of the government, the innovation and expertise of the government employees, and public cooperation. They are built for the benefits of all citizens. Progress has been made in every sector across the country.

The Union Solidarity and Development Association is taking part energetically in the tasks for national development and national politics being implemented by the government. The USDA is a national force formed with the offspring of the people to serve the interests of both the country and the national people. The Association was founded on 15 September 1993 with five lofty aims: non-disintegration of the Union, the innovation and expertise of the government, and perpetuation of sovereignty. In truth, it is safe to assume that the seven-point Road Map has opened up opportunities for those eager to put the country on the right track of national cause. Doing their share of responsibilities with national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty, all USDA members are beavering away at implementing the seven-point Road Map phase by phase to shape a brighter future in the interests of their motherland and their own race.

The USDA will thus move into top gear in the drive for national development so that a peaceful, modern and developed nation will take shape.

Translation: KTY

**Redouble our efforts for national development**

Ahtet Minhla Nyunt Aung

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**News from the districts**

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**Measles prevention in Shan State (South)**

TAUNGGYI 3 NOV — In a bid to prevent measles infection in Shan State, Shan State Health Department on 18 October conducted a training course on prevention of measles at the state health department in Taunggyi.

The staff of the health department will be trained for the measles vaccine injection.

After the course, the well-trained staff will help to inoculate children in Shan State (South) against measles. A total of 227, 880 infants and children from nine months to 5 five years of age will be vaccinated on 14-20 November.

Measles, an infectious disease, causes fever and small red spots that cover the whole body of an infected child. — MYAN MA ALIN

**Locals in Pathein District get free dental treatment**

KANGYIDAUNT 3 NOV — A group of dentists from the Institute of Dental Medicine (Yangon) gave free dental care service in Pathein District, Ayeyawady Division during October.

On 21-23 October, they gave dental treatment to local people in wards and village-tracts in Kangyidaunt, Pathein District. During this tour, they also collected dental records and gave talks on dental health and dental hygiene.

The voluntary group led by Professor Dr Thein Htin of the Institute of Dental Medicine (Yangon) comprises 36 dentists and 120 final year students of the dental institute. — MYANMA ALIN

**New library for ThanBan Village in Haingbwe Township**

HAINGBWE, 31 Oct — A self-reliance library was opened on 30 October in ThanBan Village in Haingbwe Township in conjunction with a book donation ceremony.

Information and Public Relations Department (Head Office), Haingbwe Township IPRD and local people donated books, magazines, journals, novels and periodicals for the library through an official. ThanBan Village Peace and Development Council Chairman U Saw Kyauk Lone and Head of Haingbwe Township IPRD formally opened the new library.

Photo shows the opening ceremony of the self reliant library in ThanBan village. — KYEMON

Similarly, with the assistance of Kawthoung District IPRD, KaPonMaTan Village in the District opened a self-reliant library on 15 October.

At the opening ceremony, Kawthoung District Transport Department also contributed 60 magazines to the library. — KYEMON

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**All Myanmar Disabled Swimming Contest held**

YANGON, 16 Nov — The 16th All Myanmar Disabled Swimming Contest was held at the National Swimming Pool on U Wisara Road here this morning.

Among the spectators were Acting President of Myanmar Disabled Sports Federation Col Myo Myint, Vice Presidents Lt-Col Aung Gyi of the Ministry of Defence, Major Thein Shwe Myint (Retd), executives and officials.

The State Peace and Development Council has made a vow to continue marching to the national goal in accord with the seven-point Road Map formulated with the immutable national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty.

In truth, it is safe to assume that the seven-point Road Map has opened up opportunities for those eager to put the country on the right track of national cause. Doing their share of responsibilities with national outlook and national aspiration, all USDA members are beavering away at implementing the seven-point Road Map phase by phase to shape a brighter future in the interests of their motherland and their own race.

The USDA will thus move into top gear in the drive for national development so that a peaceful, modern and developed nation will take shape.

Translation: KTY

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**All this needs to be known**

- Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- Do not be softened whenever appealed

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**Total Learning Academy for learners**

YANGON, 16 Nov — The Total Learning Academy was opened at No 95, corner of Anawratha Road and 52nd Street here on 14 November morning, attended by parents of students, guests and others.

English from basic level to advanced level will be taught by well-experienced teachers at the well-facilitated school. There will also be Saturday and Sunday classes for day students. Other foreign language classes will soon be conducted there.—MNA

**Total Learning Academy for learners**

**Opening ceremony of Total Learning Academy in Progress.** — H

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**All Myanmar Disabled Swimming Contest held**

Col Myo Myint presents a prize to a winner. — MNA
Private investment boosts forestry development in China

SHANGHAI, 15 Nov — As China’s market economic system continues to take shape, private investment has increasingly become a driving force in the development of the country’s forestry development, which used to be monopolized by the state.

The forested area created by private investment amounted to 5.31 million hectares last year, accounting for 58 percent of the total forested area created in China, according to the First China International Forestry Industrial Expo going on now in Shanghai.

Private investment accounted for 87 percent of China’s total investment in the forestry sector over the past five years, and the ratio of private forestry industrial output value rose to 49 percent last year compared with 40 percent in 2002, said Li Jiafu, deputy head of the State Forestry Administration.

Currently, China has more than 170,000 private forestry companies, 270 times the number of state-owned ones, and their output value (excluding the output value of paper-making) makes up 94 percent of the national total.

The introduction of private funds into the forestry sector can create job opportunities for more than 45 million farmers, or 37.5 percent of surplus rural labour force, each year, Li said.

Uganda’s revenue from fishery to increase 20% next year

KAMPALA, 15 Nov — Uganda’s revenue from fishery will go up by 20 percent by 2005 if stakeholders collectively diversify production, local Press reported on Saturday.

Uganda Fish Processors and Exporters Association (UFPEA) chairman Yogesh Grover was quoted as saying that through concerted efforts by government, fishermen and exporters, the industry could fetch up to 110 million US dollars next year from the current 90 million dollars.

UFPEA is a body bringing together 12 fish processors and exporters to promote a sustainable, quality-oriented market, focused on traditional and value-added products.

“People need to think beyond natural water bodies and look into caged or pond fish farming,” Yogesh said.

He said, so far, some fish companies have started growing fish especially tilapia and catfish to supplement the lake catches.

Zambia looks to donors over looming hunger

LUSAKA, 15 Nov — The Zambian Government has appealed to the donor community to support over 800,000 vulnerable people who need food assistance next year, local newspaper Times of Zambia reported Saturday.

Vice-President Lungu Mwape was quoted as saying here Friday during the launch of 2005 World Food Programme’s Country Portfolio for Zambia, that without help from WFP and other partners, the government would have a tough time ensuring people have sufficient food.

“Over 800,000 vulnerable people will need food assistance next year,” local newspaper Times of Zambia reported Saturday.

Germany blames strong euro on US policies

BERLIN, 15 Nov — A senior German official has blamed the financial policies of the Bush Administration for the strong euro hurting European economies, according to the German weekly Der Spiegel.

In its latest issue to be published Sunday, the weekly quoted Caio Koch-Weser, a state secretary of the German Finance Ministry, as saying that the double deficits in the US budget and trade had worried the market, leading to the depreciation of the US dollar against euro.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Paul O’Neill had earlier blamed the strong euro for the country’s trade deficit.

U.S. Embassy: EU is playing more critical role in economy than before

HANOVER, 14 Nov — The U.S. Embassy here said the Western European Union was playing a more critical role in the U.S. economy than before.

“While the United States and Brazil considered as ‘inconvenient’ the opening of sectors, like services, investment, governmental procurement and intellectual property, to Brazil, it is playing a more critical role in economy than before.,” U.S. Embassy said.

Mexico’s peso devalues 0.3% against dollar

MEXICO CITY, 15 Nov — The Mexican peso devalued 0.3 percent against the dollar on Friday as President Vicente Fox expressed concern about the falling U.S. currency.

In New York, the peso was quoted at 15.49 per dollar, down 0.3 percent from Thursday’s close.

Mwape said there will be a tough time ensuring people have sufficient food.

China licenses first 700 corporate lawyers

ZHANGJIAE (Hunan Province), 15 Nov — About 700 internal legal advisers of companies have been permitted to get law degrees, which have come to a deadlock over subsidies granted to farmers by the US Government, according to the Ministry of Justice on Saturday.

A trial project to license corporate lawyers has progressed since the Ministry of Justice started it two years ago, said Shi Hahsheng, deputy director of the Department of Lawyers, and Notaries Administration.

The company selects judges, to offer the service and those in law firms and military had two kinds of lawyers:

China’s mountains
China owes growing number of diabetics to obesity

BEIJING, 15 Nov—On World Diabetes Day, a group of people assembled in a Beijing park, trying to stay warm in the chilly, windy November dusk. They were gearing up for a “walk campaign,” launched simultaneously around the globe on Sunday in an effort to fight the deadly disease.

Diabetics from 45 Beijing communities attended the walk — more than organizers had expected.

China now has more than 50 million diabetics and their number is rising by an average of 1.5 million to two million a year, making the country with the largest number of diabetes patients in the world, according to a forum on prevention and treatment of diabetes held last Sunday in Chongqing municipality, southwest China.

“The soaring economy has raised people’s quality of life in China since the early 1990s, with more high-calorie food on people’s dining tables,” said Wang He, deputy head of the Guangdong Second Provincial Traditional Chinese Medicine Hospital and a diabetes specialist, “which has triggered a rapid growth of diabetes cases.” The Ministry of Public Health has said that about 200 million Chinese are overweight, more than 160 million have high blood pressure and some 20 million suffer from diabetes. Those rates and other obesity-related illnesses are rising.

Normal blood lipid levels.

“Compared with the nutrition survey results of 1992, the prevalence of being overweight has risen by 39 per cent and the prevalence of obesity increased 97 per cent,” Wang Longde, Chinese Vice-Minister of Health said, warning that the problem will get worse.

Compared with the information collected in a 1996 survey, the prevalence of diabetes among adults over age 20 in big cities has increased from 4.6 per cent to 6.4 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

Solar energy changes life of Tibetans

LHASA, 15 Nov—Inspired by science and technology, Tibetans, who have long adored the sun as a god, are now putting their deity to work.

Granny Zhoi’ma, who lives in Dongjiao Village of Gyange County in southern Tibet autonomous region, was given a solar cooker by her daughter five years ago. But worried that using it would tire out the sun, she asked her daughter to return the gift.

Today, Granny Zhoi’ma uses solar energy in cooking, heating and growing vegetables in her greenhouse.

“It (solar energy) will be lost if we don’t use it,” said Zhoi’ma.

Danzin Wanggya, village head, said, “Local people had refused to accept free solar cookers presented by the government in the past since they took sun for a god, who should not serve human beings.”

Training in science and technology knowledge in recent years has made locals more knowledgeable about the sun and solar energy. At present, all of the village’s 247 households have installed solar cookers and vegetable-growing shelters that run on solar energy.

MNA/Xinhua

Lost civilization of Atlantis found off Cyprus

LIMASSOL (Cyprus), 15 Nov — A US researcher on Sunday claimed he had found the lost civilization of Atlantis in the watery deep off Cyprus — adding his theory to a mystery which has baffled explorers for centuries.

Robert Sarmast says a Mediterranean basin was flooded in a deluge around 9,000 BC which submerged a rectangular land mass he believes was Atlantis, lying 1.5 kilometres beneath sea level between Cyprus and Syria.

“We have definitely found it,” said Sarmast, who led a team of explorers 50 miles off the south-east coast of Cyprus earlier this month. Deep water sonar scanning had indicated man-made structures on a submerged hill, including a 3-kilometre-long wall, a walled hill summit and deep trenches, he said. But further explorations were needed, he added.

“We cannot yet provide tangible proof in the form of bricks and mortar as the artefacts are still buried under several metres of sediment, but the circumstantial and other evidence is irrefutable,” he claimed.

At a news conference in the port city of Limassol, Sarmast provided only animated simulations of the “hill.”

Whether and where Atlantis existed has captured imaginations for centuries. According to ancient Greek philosopher Plato, Atlantis was an island nation where an advanced civilization developed some 11,500 years ago.

MNA/Reuters

Hainan ready for large scale development and construction

HONG KONG, 15 Nov—Hainan has the conditions and is ready for development and construction in large scale.

Wang Longde, Chinese Vice-Minister of Health said, warning that the problem will get worse.

Hainan, the southernmost province of China, will hold a trade & investment cooperation conference from Monday to Tuesday to share its plenty business opportunities with Hong Kong enterprises.

MNA/Xinhua

Huge shipment of ecstasy seized in Sydney

CANBERRA, 15 Nov—Australian police have seized a shipment of ecstasy worth 200 million dollars (150 million US dollars) probably from Poland and arrested two people allegedly involved in smuggling the drug.

Australian Federal Police Commissioner Mick Keelty said on Sunday that the 820 kilos of ecstasy, known as MDMA, was found in a bakery oven on 13 October.

Two men, one aged 54 years and another 32 years, were arrested after they allegedly took delivery of the oven. They face with charges of conspiring to import prohibited goods and attempting to possess prohibited imports.

MNA/Xinhua
Barcelona suffer first Primera Liga defeat

**Madrid, 15 Nov**— Barcelona suffered their first Primera Liga defeat of the season when they lost 2-1 at Real Betis on Sunday. Barcelona created plenty of opportunities throughout a dramatic match in Seville but were unable to recover after their hosts pulled 2-0 ahead in the second half, despite a late goal from Gerard. The results sharply narrowed the gap between Real Madrid and Barcelona before next weekend's showdown between the two teams at the Nou Camp.

After 11 games Barcelona lead the standings with 26 points, four ahead of Real Madrid. Espanyol, who beat Racing Santander 2-1 on Saturday, are third on 20.

Barcelona had the better of the first half against Betis and Ronaldinho came close to scoring with two headers. But Betis started the second period with more purpose. Edu powered home their opener in the 49th-minute and Ricardo Oliveira made it 2-0 20 minutes later after more hesitance Barcelona defending. —**MNA/Reuters**

Real return to top form with rousing 6-1 victory over Albacete

**Madrid, 15 Nov**— Real Madrid made a sparkling return to their top form on Sunday with a rousing 6-1 Primera Liga victory over an out-classed Albacete.

Ronaldinho, Zidane and Raul found the net in a dramatic, fast-paced first half with Walter Samuel and substitute Michael Owen scoring after the break before Ronaldo rounded off the demolition with a sixth in injury time. Victory lifted Real into second place behind arch-rivals and leaders Barcelona, who were playing away to Real Betis in a late game on Sunday.

The visitors were powerless to stop a devastating early onslaught from Real, Raul flicking a Zidane corner on to the far post for Ronaldo to head home unopposed in the third minute.

Disheartened and under strong midfield pressure, Albacete could barely get near the ball at first but gradually the net from 25 metres. Atletico stepped up the pace in the second half, however, and nearly equalized when a pass from Marcelo Sosa reached Fernando Torres in front of the goal, but Sander Westerveld kept it out.

The visitors finally levelled in the 84th minute when a header from Gonzalo Colsa found the net. —**MNA/Reuters**

Sharapova sinks Serena in thrilling final

**Los Angeles, 16 Nov**—Teen-ager Maria Sharapova capped her stunning year by overcoming an injured Serena Williams, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4, in the final of the season-ending WTA Tour Championships on Monday.

"I'm still in shock. I can't believe the way I pulled it out," said the 17-year-old Russian, who fell to the ground and screamed in joy at the end of a contest lasting one hour 46 minutes.

"It's very unreal the way I stuck in there. It's been an amazing year."

After falling behind 4-0 in the third set, the Wimbledon champion reeled off six games in a row to overpower a hobbling Williams.

The American took a medical timeout for treatment on an abdominal strain after the seventh game of the second set.

After returning to the court 5-2 down, Williams lost about 40 mph from her service and had trouble moving to her right. Sharapova easily closed out the second set but, in the third, Williams began to go for broke off the ground and cracked winners to all angles of the court to storm into a 4-0 lead.

The young Russian eventually took a foothold in the final set when she held serve at 4-0, and with Williams wilting, she hit back to seal a victory which earned her $1 million.

Sharapova, who now moves to a career-high number four in the world rankings, also became the first champion from Russia and only the second player to win the title on her debut in the event. Serena lifted the trophy on her first appearance in 2001. —**Internet**

**Series A match reports**

**Milan, 15 Nov**— Reports of Serie A matches played on Sunday.

Atalanta 0 Brescia 0

A tough derby battle left Atalanta bottom of the table and still without a win.

Brescia came closest to a breakthrough with a claim for a penalty when Andrea Caracciolo was brought down inside the area and later Caracciolo, from a great position, shot straight at Atalanta goalkeeper Massimo Taibi.

Cagliari 3 Inter Milan 3

Inter's 10th draw in 12 games but this time coach Roberto Mancini was pleased with the point after two goals from Obafemi Martins produced a comeback from 3-1 down.

Cagliari went ahead in the sixth minute through a Gianfranco Zola penalty before Antonio Langella fired under the body of Inter keeper Francesco Toldo, after a solo run, in the 33rd to make it 2-0 to the Sardinians.

Dejan Stankovic pulled one back for Inter before the break but Cagliari restored their two-goal cushion in the 61st minute when Mauro Esposito headed in a cross from the pacy Langella.

Martins single-handedly saved Inter from defeat, though, with a superb 20-metre drive and then a powerful shot on the turn from a corner in the 90th minute.

Fiorentina 1 Livorno 0

A disappointing result for Fiorentina who were left bitterly disputing a late disallowed goal.

Cristian Rigano, one of the few survivors from the Fiorentina side that played in Serie C2, put the home team ahead with a diving header in the 71st minute but six minutes later Cristiano Lucarelli equalized with a free-kick that thundered in off the underside of the crossbar.

Rigano then had a goal disallowed for offside leaving the two Tuscan teams to share the points. —**MNA/Reuters**

**Atletico salvage 1-1 draw at Mallorca**

**Madrid, 15 Nov**— Atletico Madrid salvaged a 1-1 draw at Real Mallorca on Sunday, leaving their hosts languishing at the bottom of the Primera Liga table.

Mallorca, under new coach Hector Cuper, organized a tight defence to hold off a stronger Atletico for much of the match, but their attacking lacked conviction.

The hosts made the most of a dubious free kick after half an hour to take the lead when Juan Arango powered the ball cleanly into the top right corner of the net from 25 metres. Atletico equalized in the 35th minute when a pass from Marcelo Sosa reached Fernando Torres in front of the goal, but Sander Westerveld kept it out.

The visitors finally levelled in the 84th minute when a header from Gonzalo Colsa found the net. —**MNA/Reuters**

**Juventus beat Lecce 1-0, maintain lead in Serie A**

**Milan, 15 Nov**— Alessandro Del Piero's goal gave Juventus a 1-0 win at Lecce as the Serie A leaders maintained their six-point advantage over second-placed AC Milan on Sunday.

Ukrainian striker Andriy Shevchenko opened Milan's two-goal lead as the visitors secured a 3-1 win over Lecce to maintain their 10th win of the season after defeating Serena Williams, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4, in the final of the WTA Tour Championships at Staples Center in Los Angeles, on 15 Nov, 2004. —**Internet**

**Real Madrid Brazilian striker Ronaldo, 3rd left celebrates with teammates Luis Figo of Portugal, left, Raul Gonzalez, 2nd left and David Beckham of England after Ronaldo scored against Albacete during a Spanish league soccer match at the Bernabeu stadium in Madrid Sunday Nov 14, 2004.** —**INTERNET**
Vietnam’s footwear export to surge this year

HANOI, 16 Nov — Vietnam is estimated to export at least 2.6 billion US dollars worth of footwear this year, up 18.2 percent against last year, the Vietnam Leather and Footwear Association (Lefaso) said on Monday.

Demand for local footwear is increasing in both Vietnam’s key markets such as the European Union (EU), Japan and the United States, and its new ones, including Thailand, South Korea and Taiwan, Lefaso said, noting that the country can achieve footwear export turnovers of around 260 million dollars next month.

Vietnam exported more than 2.3 billion dollars worth of footwear, mainly sports shoes, between January and mid-November, 80 percent of which went to the EU. It is expected to produce 430 million pairs of shoes and slippers in 2004, posting year-on-year rise of 10.3 percent, the association said.

The country plans to record footwear export turnovers of 3.1 billion dollars in 2005 and 6.2 billion dollars in 2006.

MNA/Xinhua

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China seeking greater scientific cooperation with India

BEIJING, 16 Nov — China has identified India as a country with which to step up cooperation in scientific field, including health, biotechnology and information technology to widen bilateral exchanges, an official source said here on Sunday.

The other country Beijing has shown interest in similar cooperation is South Korea, he said.

Chinese State Councillor Chen Zhili, who is overseeing China’s science and technology sectors, will be in India on an official two-day goodwill visit (November 14-18) at the invitation of the Indian Government and will meet officials to promote technology cooperation between the two countries.

She will meet senior information technology executives and will tour Infosys as part of her trip to Bangalore, India’s ‘Silicon Valley’. Infosys is in the process of establishing its full-fledged software development facility in China.

During her stay in New Delhi, Chen will hold talks with Minister of Science and Technoloy and Ocean Development, Kapil Sibal during which both sides are expected to identify new areas of cooperation in the scientific field, he said.

The new areas of cooperation between India and China may include health, biotechnology apart from the information technology sector where a number of Indian IT companies are already in China, he said.

Chen is also expected to call on External Affairs Minister K Natwar Singh, sources said.

Also, the senior Chinese leader would visit Ranbaxy, the leading pharmaceutical company, which also has major operations in China.

Chen’s visit to India follows that of Tang Huaxian, another state councillor, who oversees Chinese foreign policy matters. Tang visited India in late October.

MNA/PTI

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HK air cargo throughput hits record high in October

HONG KONG, 16 Nov — For two months in a row, air cargo throughput at Hong Kong International Airport set new records, Hong Kong Airport Authority said recently.

October figure grew by 14.6 per cent over last year to 299,000 tons, posting a 7-per-cent increase over the previous record of 280,000 tons achieved in September.

A busy cargo growth was driven by continued strong demand for goods from North America, Europe and the Chinese Mainland.

Exports (loaded cargo) rose to 195,000 tons, a gain of 16.1 per cent over last year, while imports (unloaded cargo) grew by 11.8 per cent to 104,000 tons. Both are all-time-high monthly records.

Riding on the strong demand for air cargo, total aircraft movements rose by 12.2 per cent to 21,035, marking October the busiest month ever for aircraft movements at Hong Kong International Airport.

— MNA/Xinhua

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WEATHER

Tuesday, 16 November, 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, light rain or thunder showers have been isolated in Thanlwin Division and weather has been fair in the remaining states and divisions. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was 2.5mm at Kayin (0.19 inch). Night temperatures were (3°C) above normal in Thanlwin Division, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Kayah and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (8°C) below normal in Chin State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was (-2°C) in Haka.

Maximum temperature on 15-11-2004 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 16-11-2004 was 65°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 16-11-2004 was 68%. Total sunshine hours on 15-11-2004 was (8.1) hours approx. Rainfall on 16-11-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was (112.24 inches) at Yangon Airport, (106.77 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (109.64 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 5 mph from Northwest at (13:10 hrs) MST on 15-11-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 17-11-2004: Except for possibility of isolated light rain in Thanlwin Division, weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (40%). State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

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

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-11-2004: Generally fair weather.
Teachers urged to strive for emergence of efficient, far-reaching education force safeguarding serving national interest
Special Refresher Course No 3 for Faculty members opens

YANGON, 16 Nov — The Special Refresher Course No 3 for faculty members of universities and colleges was opened this morning at the Yadana Hall of the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar), with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Present at the opening ceremony were SPDC member Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, the ministers, the Chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Mandalay Mayor, the deputy ministers, CSSTB member U Hla Myint Oo, the deputy chief justice of the Supreme Court (Mandalay), the deputy attorney general, senior military officers, officials of the SPDC Office, heads of departments, the rector and pro-rector of the CICS (Upper Myanmar) and instructors.

Next, the Secretary-1 delivered a speech. He said education sector effectively contributes towards the building of a peaceful, modern developed nation. With the lofty aim of participating in the efforts to build a modern developed nation, the government is upgrading its national education standard in every sector, he said. He said faculty members who play a key role in different levels of the national education promotion programmes have opportunity to take the refresher course.

The course will refresh the teachers to possess knowledge and outlook, qualification and spirit that can serve the national interest through the education sector, he added. In the higher education sector, universities, colleges, technological colleges and computer colleges have been opened in 24 major development regions located in 14 states and divisions.

In the past, only 32 universities and colleges were opened for nine subjects. (See page 8)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein gives a speech at the opening of Special Refresher Course No 3 for Faculty members. — MNA

The Institute of Traditional Medicine in Mandalay. — MNA

(history of the hospital, also using the hospital as teaching hospital, strength, organizational set-up of the hospital, installation of modern medical equipment provided by the State, and giving medical treatments to in-patients, out-patients, emergency patients.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that the government has been laying down and materializing objectives in its drive to build a developed and modern nation. As fit and healthy persons equipped with advanced knowledge are required for the drive, it is thus laying down and implementing health and education plans.

The government’s role is important in the task to promote public health and education. The National Health Committee was formed to implement the health policies effectively. The NHC issued the 15-point national health policy to provide close supervision and leadership.

The cent-per-cent materialization of the lofty visions and comprehensive policies of the health

(See page 8)