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

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

### Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

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**Senior General Than Shwe and wife**

**Daw Kyaing Kyaing**

**donate eight requisites and alms to Sayadaws at 52nd communal Kathina ceremony of Ministry of Defence**

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**YANGON, 30 Oct** — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing made donations of eight requisites and alms at the 52nd communal Kathina ceremony of the Ministry of Defence at Anawrahta Hall at 9.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Magway Maha Wihuddayama Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara and member Sayadaws, members of the Sangha from Alannya Monastery and Sangyoung Monastery, totaling 27, 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 and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Lt-Gen Tin Oh’s wife Daw Khin Than Nwe, Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, members of the State Peace and Development Council and their wives, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and their wives, the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council the Commander of Yangon Command and wife, the ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, and the Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor and their wives, senior military officers and wives, and guests.

*(See page 16)*

**Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.**
Towards IT development

All nations in the world today are trying their best for own national development applying ever advancing science and technology as it is developing rapidly in the international spheres.

In Myanmar also, earnest efforts are being made with the encouragement of the government for development of the information and communication technology sector and thus success is being achieved in the sector.

On 29 October, Prime Minister General Soe Win discussed matters on IT development and requirements in meeting with officials, IT technicians and entrepreneurs at Myanmar Info-Tech on Hlone University Campus.

In his address, the Prime Minister stated that more cooperation should be made among the private enterprises and between the private enterprises and government bodies for ensuring the development of IT and that they should also cooperate for the improvement of the IT and generating more income through penetrating the market.

In Myanmar, officials and IT technicians constantly cooperate and coordinate in the drive for development of the IT sector and the tasks cover the use of Myanmar character system in computer programme.

A group of technicians was formed to introduce the system of Myanmar character in computer and thanks to the efforts of these persons, the Myanmar character system using Unicode system has emerged and Myanmar consonants, vowels, numbers and special symbols can be used in digital form on various computer systems.

Myanmar Info-Tech has uploaded Myanmar Unicode Font Installer Software on the Internet and anyone can use it free of charge. Myanmar IT technicians are making efforts for translation of world languages into Myanmar language on computer and Myanmar Info-Tech is cooperating with foreign IT companies and technicians for development of IT in Myanmar.

With the aim of contributing towards rural development through the IT sector, arrangements are being made to introduce Rural Development Information System.

We firmly believe that the private enterprises and government bodies, with the encouragement of the government, will be able to successfully implement the projects for IT development.

People’s Desire

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

Minister inspects construction of road in Hlegu

YANGON, 30 Oct—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun this morning inspected construction of the road in Hlegu and gave necessary instructions.

At the briefing hall of the construction project, the minister heard a report presented by Deputy Superintending Engineer U Tint Hsan on construction of the new road, progress of work and future task while Deputy Chief Engineer U Kyaw Lwin reported on other salient points.

After hearing the reports, the minister gave instructions on meeting the set standard, timely completion of the work and fulfilled the requirements.

At the work site, the minister heard a report presented by officials on work being carried and earth work and gave instructions on meeting the set standard and systematic use of machinery.

Next, the minister arrived at the project site for extension of runways of Yangon International Airport.

At the project office, Deputy Superintending Engineer U Kyaw Hlaing reported on progress of work and steps to be taken to the minister who gave instructions on timely completion of the work as the open season was on and attended to the needs.

MMU, KMTC sign cooperation agreement

YANGON, 30 Oct.—A reception to mark Dipavali Day (2005) organized by Myanmar-Indian Entrepreneurs Association took place yesterday evening at Sedona Hotel, here, attended by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, and Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin, departmental heads, officials of the Indian Embassy, the chairman and executives of Myanmar-Indian Entrepreneurs Association and members, and guests.

At the ceremony, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Mr Manoj Bharti, Counsellor of the Indian Embassy, and U Shwe, Chairman of Myanmar-Indian Entrepreneurs Association ignited the candles to mark the Dipavali Day.

On behalf of the Association’s Chairman, U Raja Goenka, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko and Indian Counsellor Mr Manoj Bharti extended greetings.

Moreover, Executive of the Association U Kyaw Khin Myint made a speech. Later, those present were served with dinner.

MMU, KMTC sign cooperation agreement

YANGON, 30 Oct.—The signing ceremony on educational cooperation agreement between Myanmar Maritime University under the Ministry of Transport and Korean Marine Transport Co Ltd (KMTC) was held at the meeting hall of MMU in Thilawa region, Thanlyin Township, on 28 October.

At the signing ceremony, MMU Rector U Thein Tun extended the greetings. Executive Managing Director Mr Ki Jin Park briefed those present on scholarship programme and presented scholarship to eight students. Rector U Thein Tun and Mr Ki Jin Park signed an agreement and exchanged the documents. They posed for a group photo with outstanding students.

Water supply to some townships will be cut temporarily

YANGON, 30 Oct.—Measures are being taken to combine Gyo byu Main Pipeline and Nga myo yeik water pipeline near Bochan Road in Shwe Hninsi Ward, Mingaladon Township by Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation) of Yangon City Development Committee to supply water to Yangon City.

Hence, water supply to some wards of Mingaladon, North Okkalapa, South Okkalapa and Thingyangum Townships will be cut temporarily from 12 noon to 5 pm on 31 October.

Dipavali Day 2005 observed

Deputy Minister of Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko extends greetings at Dipavali Day 2005 ceremony.— MNA
Chinese Vice-President meets Vietnamese Defence Minister

BEIJING, 29 Oct — Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong met here Friday with Vietnamese Minister of National Defence Pham Van Tra.

Zeng said the bilateral relations between China and Vietnam have maintained a good development, witnessed by long-term stability, orientation toward future, friendship and holistic cooperation.

He said the two countries also enjoyed good cooperation and exchanges in politics, economy, military, science and technology, furthering strengthening China-Vietnam relations. Zeng quoted China's policy of treating neighbours well and as friends.

Pham Van Tra also congratulated China on its successful launching and return of the Shenzhou-6 spacecraft.

Asia-Pacific countries sign space cooperation convention

BEIJING, 29 Oct — Representatives from eight Asia-Pacific nations signed a convention on space organization cooperation here Friday, marking a milestone for the final establishment of the organization.

The Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO), an international governmental organization with its headquarters in Beijing, aims to promote multilateral cooperation in space technology and its application in the region.

The eight states are Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Iran, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru and Thailand. Representatives from Argentina, Malaysia, the Philippines, Russia, Ukraine also attended the signing ceremony of the APSCO Convention.

The APSCO will be officially set up in Beijing after China receives final approval from at least five participating countries.

While meeting with the representatives, Chinese Vice-Premier Huang Ju said China will work closely with related countries to contribute to the peaceful use of outer space.

China has always regarded space development as an important part of national strategy. Earlier this month China successfully launched the Shenzhou-6 spacecraft, which marked major progress in China's space exploration, said Huang.

China attaches great importance to carrying out extensive and close multilateral cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region, and has done a lot to promote the establishment of the APSCO, said Huang.

US sanctions harmful to Cuba, US consumers

HAVANA, 29 Oct — The decades-old US sanctions against Cuba have hurt both Cuba's economy and US citizens who are missing out on much-desired luxury products, such as coffee and tobacco, the government newspaper Granma said on its web site on Friday.

Cuba has lost 82 billion US dollars in trade since the first US sanctions were imposed in 1960, or 1.8 billion dollars each year, the newspaper said. Cuba loses 12 million dollars in tobacco trade annually and has lost 700 million dollars more in coffee trade during the last 30 years, it said.

The blockade also means that Cuba has to export many of its products by indirect routes, the paper added.

US military death toll in Iraq hits 2,015

WASHINGTON, 29 Oct — At least 2,015 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

The AP count is eleven higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EDT on Friday.

The British military has reported 97 deaths; Italy, 27; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,876 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,458 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

FBI fails so far in seeking source of forged uranium documents

WASHINGTON, 29 Oct — The US Federal Bureau of Investigation has failed so far in a two-year inquiry in uncovering the origin of forged documents that purported Iraq was seeking uranium for a nuclear programme.

The New York Times reported Friday, that a leading champion of the American campaign to topple Saddam Hussein, had a hand in the forgery.

The second hypothesis was that the documents were forged at Niger's embassy in Rome, in a moneymaking scheme.

The US Government did not receive the papers until October 2002, eight months after the CIA sent Joseph C. Wilson, a retired diplomat, to Niger on the fact-finding mission that eventually piqued US interest in the forgery. They did not receive the papers until October 2002, eight months after the CIA sent Joseph C. Wilson, a retired diplomat, to Niger on the fact-finding mission that eventually piqued US interest in the forgery.

That early foreign reporting, never endorsed by American intelligence analysts, prompted questions from the office of Vice-President Dick Cheney, which in turn led to Wilson's trip, a chain of events spilled out in the reviews of prewar intelligence issued this year and last.

Guerrillas kill three US soldiers in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 29 Oct — Guerrillas killed three US soldiers and wounded four in Iraq on Saturday, and a bomb hidden in a truck exploded in the centre of a Shiite village north of Baghdad, killing 20 people and wounding 30. Also Saturday, a drive-by shooting killed an oil-well manager in the northern city of Kirkuk, and American ground and air forces attacked two towns near the Syrian border, killing at least 10 militants, the military said. Witnesses said some of the victims were civilians.

Early Saturday, a land mine killed one US soldier and wounded four early Saturday near Beji, 155 miles north of Baghdad. Two other US Army soldiers died in south Baghdad on Saturday when their patrol struck a roadside bomb, the military said. The latest deaths bring to 2,015 the number of US service members who have died since the beginning of the US war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

Wartime meeting in Beijing showed support for Cuba

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Hu Jintao urges police to safeguard people’s legal rights

BEIJING, 29 Oct— Chinese President and General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee Hu Jintao has urged public security departments to set up a long-term, efficient mechanism for dealing with citizen complaints, so as to safeguard the legal rights and interests of the people.

In the meantime, Hu gave a full affirmation of the remarkable achievements the public security departments have had in receiving and handling citizen complaints nationwide.

Other leaders including Wu Bangguo, Wen Jiabao, Zeng Qinghong and Luo Gan have also given similar instructions.

Recently, the Ministry of Public Security held a national teleconference on the study and implementation of the important instructions by these Party and state leaders at the meeting, Minister Zhou Yongkong urged public security departments at all levels to carry out the instructions and further improve the quality of the entire police force.

Public security departments should make substantial efforts to play their role of safeguarding social stability, in full, to make a new contribution to building an overall prosperous, harmonious socialist society, said Zhou, who is member of both the Political Bureau and the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee.

Hurricane Beta strengthens, lashes Nicaragua coast

PUERTO CABEZAS, Nicaragua, 30 Oct—Hurricane Beta strengthened to a dangerous Category 3 early on Sunday as it battered Nicaragua’s Caribbean coast, where troops tried to rush thousands of people into shelters to escape its fierce winds and rains.

Beta carried winds of 115 mph (185 kph), and forecasters said its eye is expected to hit the jungle coast in the next few hours.

With the storm already lashing the normally sleepy fishing town of Puerto Cabezas, officials raced to find solid shelters for its residents and Muskito Indian evacuees from small fishing villages along the coast.

“IT is impossible to think you could evacuate 50,000 people between now and 6 in the morning. We don’t have the means to do it,” President Enrique Bolanos said in a late night television and radio address. “We are doing everything humanly possible.”

Defence Minister Avil Ramirez said the army has food and medicines in place but that it was impossible to evacuate this remote town and he warned many homes might not survive.

“Puerto Cabezas has simple wooden homes and, faced with these winds, unfortunately no one can be prepared.”

Plastic sheets were nailed over windows at one concrete shelter where 53 patients from the town’s only hospital had been moved for their safety.

“Most of the patients are stable,” said Sonia Downs, a 53-year-old nurse in charge at the shelter as she prepared for a sleepless night. “We have basic medicines.”

Beta is the 23rd named storm of this year’s relentless, record-breaking Atlantic-Caribbean season.

Nicaragua and neighbouring Honduras feared the slow-moving storm’s rains would trigger mudslides in mountainous areas further inland.

In 1998, Hurricane Mitch killed an estimated 10,000 people across Central America.

DHAKA plans security blanket for S Asia summit

DHAKA, 29 Oct — Police commandos on helicopters will patrol the skies over the Bangladeshi capital and soldiers will guard hotels during a summit of South Asian leaders next month, officials said.

Bangladesh has been hit by a wave of bombings blamed on Islamist militants over the past two months, sparking fears of an attack during the meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) that has been postponed twice, including once over security concerns.

“We are going to impose such a tight security that it can only be compared with a curfew, especially on the roads the VIPs and other guests will use and the hotels they will reside,” Foreign Minister M.M. Moleshad Khan was quoted as saying by the Jugantar daily.

The leaders of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, which make up the 20-year-old grouping, are due to participate in the Dhaka meeting set for 12-13 November.

“The entire city will be brought under an invincible security network, with Dhaka Airport, roads and meeting venues covered,” said a security officer who declined to be named.

Some 20,000 extra police will be on duty in the city, backed by helicopters for aerial surveillance, he said.

Pakistan Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh are expected to meet on the sidelines of the summit to discuss their slow-moving peace process.

Iraqi police officers inspect a car used by Ghalib Abdul Madhi, an advisor to the Iraqi Cabinet, in Baghdad on 30 Oct, 2005. Madhi escaped death when gunmen attacked him in Baghdad, police said. He was wounded and his driver was killed. — INTERNET

At least 18 feared dead in gold mine blast in southern Philippines

MANILA, 28 Oct— At least 18 people were feared dead and 50 others were trapped under rubble in a gold mine blast in Compostella Valley in southern Philippines caved in Wednesday evening, authorities said Thursday.

Initial reports reaching the Compostella Valley regional police said an explosion, possibly that of dynamites, was heard at the gold mine site in Monkay Town before the tunnel collapsed. But investigators could not immediately determine the cause of the blast.

Local officials said five bodies have been recovered from the tunnel and help from a regional disaster coordinating council is not expected to arrive until Friday.

The gold mine was operated by the family of the late Monkay Town mayor Joel Brillauntes, who was killed in 2003 amid incessant violence in a gold rush which has killed thousands of people since the 1980s.

The government has occasionally stopped mining firms from operating there due to violence and environmental destruction.
India, China trying to implement consensus on border issue

BEIJING, 29 Oct—India and China are trying to implement the "common consensus" reached by them on the vexed border issue, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao has said, pointing out that the current good momentum in Sino-Indian relations was "hard-earned," he said. Wen said. India has the "observer" status at SCO, a Beijing-based regional security organization, which comprises of Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Meanwhile, a senior Chinese Communist party leader today left for India, as part of the efforts of the two governments to increase mutual understanding and cooperation between the two neighbours. The high-level delegation from the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) left here for India, Thailand and Cambodia.

Price of production materials likely to fall in China

BEIJING, 29 Oct—China's production material market will see steady growth and the price is likely to fall this year as a result of decreasing domestic demand caused by the state's macro-control policies, the Ministry of Commerce said on Friday.

According to the ministry's forecast on the development of the production material market, released here on Friday, China's sales volume of production materials will hit 14 trillion yuan (1.73 trillion US dollars) this year, up about 15 per cent from last year.

The ministry said that the shortage in coal supply, which posed a problem for the country last year, will still be tight in the coming months and the price will likely rise in the fourth quarter as the demand for coal increases in the winter. Meanwhile, the price of rolled steel is expected to rise slightly in the October-December period due to the fast growth of China's investment in fixed assets and industrial production.

Second dispatch of Chinese relief team arrives in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD, 29 Oct—The second dispatch of the China International Search and Rescue (CISAR) members arrived on Friday in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad. The 41-member Chinese relief team will go to the earthquake-affected areas around Balakot, which is about 200 kilometres north of Islamabad. The team, consisting of mainly surgeons and nurses, shall set up field hospitals in those areas after arrival.

38 injured in bus-truck collision in central Nepal

KATHMANDU, 29 Oct—About 38 people have been wounded in a bus-truck collision in central Nepal, Radio Nepal reported on Friday.

The bus coming to Kathmandu from Dolakha District, some 200 kilometres east of Kathmandu, collided with a truck going to Dolakha at Ghyapang of Dolakha District Thursday, the state-owned radio said. All 31 passengers of the bus and seven on the truck were wounded, four of whom seriously.

The four seriously wounded have been brought to Kathmandu for treatment and the others are being treated at a local clinic, the radio added.

Large heroin haul seized off Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 29 Oct—The Sri Lankan Navy said Friday that a large haul of heroin was found off the island's northeastern coast.

The Navy arrested a boat off the coast of Mannar, 312 kilometres north of the capital Colombo and found 11 packets of heroin each with 750 grammes of Brown Sugar variety of heroin. The haul is worth 450,000 US dollars approximately, the naval officials said. It was believed to be part of a drug ring as the boat was reaching Sri Lanka from neighbouring India.

Over 800,000 Mozambicans face food shortage

MAPUTO, 29 Oct—The Mozambican Government's Food and Nutritional Security Technical Secretariat (SETSAN) on Friday announced that the number of people facing food shortage in the country has risen to over 800,000. This is the result of a survey by the organization undertaken in the first half of October. The people at risk are in 56 of the country's 128 districts, and the food shortages essentially result from prolonged drought.

Pluto rocket in Florida damaged by Hurricane “Wilma”

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 29 Oct—A Lockheed Martin Atlas 5 rocket being prepared to launch NASA's first probe to Pluto was slightly damaged when Hurricane Wilma cut a swath through Florida but should still be able to launch as planned, officials said on Friday.

The 200-foot (61-metre) tall rocket was standing vertically inside its assembly hangar at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station when Wilma blasted through on Monday, bringing wind gusts up to 76 mph (122 kph) to the spacport on Florida's Atlantic coast. The hangar's rolling door, which is made of a cloth material designed to withstand winds of 145 mph (233 kph), failed, causing what appears to be minor damage to the rocket and ground support equipment, said Lockheed Martin Corp. spokeswoman Julie Andrews.

"We're pretty confident this isn't going to be a reason to hold up the launch," she added. Inspection teams were assessing the damage on Friday.

The New Horizons spacecraft, set to launch on January 11 on a decade-long voyage to Pluto, was encased in its shipping container at a processing facility during the storm. The probe contains 24 pounds of plutonium pellets, which will provide power through radioactive decay. As Pluto is 50 times farther from the sun than Earth, solar power is not a viable option for the spacecraft. New Horizons was scheduled to be taken to the Atlas 5 launch pad at Cape Canaveral in December, said the project's principal investigator, Alan Stern, of the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/APTI

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters

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MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua
Safeguard national interest, prestige and integrity

Yee Yee San

Monk U Jotika resides at Kabin Monastery in Twantay Township. He is knowledgeable about literature of religious affairs and good at English. Our family members are friendly with him so whenever he is in Yangon, he drops in our home. Sometimes, he has alms food in our home.

Recently, he visited our home with a copy of newspaper in his hand. No sooner had he got in our home than he started to discuss the report “Threat to the Peace: A Call for UN Security Council to Act in Burma” of Vaclav Havel and Desmond Tutu calling on UN Security Council to take action against Myanmar.

He said, “As you know, loving-kindness flourishes and peace and stability prevail in our country. We people are used to leading a peaceful life with loving-kindness and practising four cardinal virtues. In the time of the Tatmadaw Government, peace and stability prevails across the nation. The number of violent crimes is on the decrease. Seventeen national race armed groups have returned to the legal fold. Now we people can travel to anywhere in the nation even to the border areas in peace. All the regions have enjoyed unprecedented progress. The Sasana flourishes more than ever. Now, there are only a handful of remnant armed insurgents to return to the legal fold. Our nation has made a good headway in drugs elimination tasks. Overall, the government has done a good job for national development.

“The Tatmadaw has protected and safeguarded independence and sovereignty regarding them as the most fundamental heritage of our ancestors. One generation of Tatmadaw hands down such a fine heritage to another.

“Today, the Tatmadaw Government has adopted firm strategies and tactics such as national policy, work programmes and political plans. It upholds Our Three Main National Causes and is implementing the 12 objectives and the State’s seven-point Road Map. It has shown its capability for the Sasana to flourish more than in the past. The Third Buddha Synod took place in the time of King Asoke. At that time, Venerable Monk Maha Moggaliputtatissa was kindly requested to play a leading role in carrying out religious tasks to purify the Doctrines of the Lord Buddha. At that Synod, more than 1,000 monks recited the Doctrines of the Lord Buddha for nine months. The Venerable Monk compiled the treatise Kathavattha.

“The World Buddhist Summit was held with five noble objectives at Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Ayey Hill in Yangon, Myanmar, from 9 to 11 December. And, the attendees issued a nine-point declaration with one voice. That was a great meritorious deed of the Government and Myanmar people to propagate the Buddhist Sasana to the world. It is a landmark in the Buddhist history of both Myanmar and the world. Over 2,000 persons from 38 nations including about 600 foreign monks, over 600 Myanmar monks and nuns and observers attended the summit.

“Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe sent a massage to the Summit. In the message he says, “Lord Buddha’s message of the four noble conducts — loving-kindness (metta), compassion (Karuna), appreciative joy (mudita) and equanimity (upekkha) — is the best path that will lead humanity to peace and harmony. Those teachings are valid not only for Buddhists, but for all humankind, regardless of race or creed. This universal message of the Compassionate Teacher undoubtedly can save humanity from the brink of despair, and lead humanity to a peaceful and prosperous world in which everybody can live in happiness”.

“Indeed, calling on the UN Security Council to act in Myanmar showed their Abhijjha that means covetousness. Their act was like a saying that goes “One ask for the bone as he wants the meat attached to it”. I would say it is unjustifiable that the nations, which invade weaker nations, are attempting to take action through the Security Council against Myanmar where peace and stability prevails. But, I have learnt some internal groups are expressing their voices in support of the report instead of being united with other national people in time of emergency. Their acts are, in fact, harmful to the interests and dignity of the entire national people.

“Internal affairs of a nation are just the concerns of that nation. Any other nation should not interfere in the internal affairs of that nation. If small cases are submitted to the UN Security Council, the world nations will lose their independence and sovereignty. As far as I know section (7), article (2) of UN Charter says UN Charter does not permit any UN interference in the affairs which are within the local jurisdiction. It means any nation shall not harm independence and sovereignty of other nations. So, internal affairs of our nation must be solved through nationalistic fervour, the spirit of national solidarity, Union Spirit, patience and lessons from historic events.

“Today, over 1,000 delegates of the National Convention are serving the interests of the nation through such fine qualities, aren’t they? How heartening it is. Certain groups that have voiced their support to the report should take a lot of painful lessons from historic events of our nation. In the past, we Myanmar people lost sovereignty because some royal family members were in disregard of the royal rules and regulations.

Some national leaders were assassinated by those who relied on external elements and betrayed the nation. I would like to urge all the national people to crush the alien instigation through patriotic fervour and the spirit of national solidarity, and to be loyal to the motherland”.

I got a chance to offer soft drink to him when he completed his lengthy explanation. It was already 3 pm so he returned to his monastery. I have realized that the report of the two men is just a bitter pill for the entire national people to swallow.

Therefore I write the expressions of the monk U Jotika into this article for enabling the national people to further realize the importance of safeguarding the mother country in order that any destructive elements cannot harm national interests and prestige and integrity.

Translation: MS

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education sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of basic education in the time of Tatmadaw Government

School enrollment rate of primary level in States and Divisions

Essential for human resource development is the fact that all children of school-going age attend classes. As combined efforts are being made to ensure every child has access to formal education, reduce the drop-out rate and enable over school-age and disabled children to go to school, success has been achieved in education promotion programmes.

School enrollment activities are launched in entire townships during the last week of May every year. In 1999-2000 academic year, the school enrollment rate stood at 91 per cent but in 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 academic years it reached 96.56 per cent and 97.58 per cent respectively. These are the initial achievements in the education sector. For the coming years also, efforts are to be made as a national task to get cent per cent school enrollment rate.

Every citizen of Myanmar cherishes knowledge. They want their children to become educated persons. With the desire of parents, endeavours made by school children under the teachings of their teachers and support of the government, the nation now is able to quench its thirst for knowledge.

In Myanmar, every person, rich or poor or male or female, has the right to go to school. As a result, the school enrollment rate has increased year after year. The school enrollment rate in kindergarten throughout the country has increased significantly compared with that of the past. The table shows progress in kindergarten school enrollment rate in states and divisions in the 17-year period of the Tatmadaw government.

In Myanmar, every person, rich or poor or male or female, has the right to go to school. As a result, the school enrollment rate has increased year after year. The school enrollment rate in kindergarten throughout the country has increased significantly compared with that of the past. The table shows progress in kindergarten school enrollment rate in states and divisions in the 17-year period of the Tatmadaw government.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>State and Division</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>62.13</td>
<td>95.99</td>
<td>33.86</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kayah</td>
<td>53.26</td>
<td>95.50</td>
<td>42.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kayin</td>
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<td>96.91</td>
<td>30.63</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Chin</td>
<td>67.97</td>
<td>95.13</td>
<td>27.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sagaing</td>
<td>67.97</td>
<td>97.08</td>
<td>29.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Taninthayi</td>
<td>67.97</td>
<td>96.21</td>
<td>28.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Bago (East)</td>
<td>69.42</td>
<td>98.66</td>
<td>29.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Bago (West)</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Shan (South)</td>
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<td>96.69</td>
<td>30.08</td>
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<td>98.07</td>
<td>27.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>67.13</td>
<td>97.58</td>
<td>30.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing...

(from page 16)

Secretary Sayadaw Nyaungdon Ponnamayama Zay Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa delivered a sermon. The congregation led by the Senior General and wife shared merits gained and recited Buddha Sasanam Çiram Titthatu three times.

After the ceremony, the Senior General and wife and party offered 'soon' to the Sayadaws. Respectively, departments and families of the Ministry of Defence participated in the donations of the 52nd communal Kathina ceremony. — MNA

USDA Secretary-General tours Loilem Township

YANGON, 30 Oct — Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, met with executives and members of District and Township USDAs in Loilem on 24 October.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that the Government, the people and the Tatmadaw are building a new peaceful, modern and developed nation with their united strength. He continued to say that USDA is a national strength out of the people, and he stressed the need for the association members to cooperate with the local people for carrying out the tasks of peace and stability of the State, booming of the State and citizens' economy and ensuring national education promotion.

He heard reports on social and economic tasks of the association presented by Joint Secretary of the Township Association U Yi Hla.

The Secretary-General donated books for the library. While in Mongpun of Loilem Township, he instructed officials to produce Jatropha oil (caster oil) to be substituted as diesel and fulfilled the requirements of regional development. — MNA

Industrial Zone Upgrading Project in Pyigyidagon Township

YANGON, 30 Oct — Chairman of Myanma Industrial Development Committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung on 29 October inspected smelting, moulding and hardness testing at the forging section of the Industrial Zone Upgrading Project in Pyigyidagon Township, Mandalay.

Next, the minister inspected sport welding and moulding of iron with the rattan hammers.

At the foundry shop, the minister looked into construction of the laboratory and other tasks.

Afterwards, the minister inspected spare parts for farm equipment, dynamo boxes, compressor pullers, pipes, brake drums and fly wheels and gave necessary instructions.

Next, the minister proceeded to the machine shop where he inspected production of fly wheels, diec stud bolt, Nissan brake and pipe and tube heads.

The minister called on private entrepreneurs to make more investment for industrial development and assured that the Ministry of Industry-1 will provide necessary requirements to them. — MNA

Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, offers provisions to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win offer provisions to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Minister U Aung Thaung inspects moulding tasks by the use of Heating Furnace Machine. — MNA
Greek letter not supported
Opening of self-reliance rural libraries national task

Functions of IPRD play a pivotal role in national political trend that government is heading for

Yangon, 30 Oct — The objectives of the Information and Public Relations Department have been laid down for 2005-2006. Among them, the important task is to open self-reliance libraries in all the villages throughout the country in 2005-2006. Altogether 35,678 self-reliance rural libraries have been opened nationwide up to 18 October”, said Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan at the conclusion of the work efficiency course No 3/2005 for officers of Information and Public Relations Department held at the hall of News and Periodicals Enterprise (Head Office) on Pansodan Street on 28 October.

The minister said concerted efforts are to be made for opening of libraries in the remaining villages. In doing so, three strengths are to be utilized—the strength of the government, the strength of the wellwishers and the strength of local people. He stressed the use of these strengths for realization of the objectives laid down.

The Head of State has given guidance on five rural development tasks for national development. Recently, he had also given guidance on ensuring power supply in rural areas and opening of self-reliance rural libraries, the minister quoted. This is why the opening of self-reliance rural libraries is the national task, he said. He spoke of the need to undertake the tasks for durability and development of libraries.

The functions of IPRD play a pivotal role in national political trend that the government is heading for. Based on activities and development of the people and new generation youths according to the age group, the IPRD must hand down knowledge on national politics. Therefore, the functions of IPRD are the constant tasks of the national trend, he said.

The course was conducted with three aims—promotion of work efficiency of the service personnel and preparation for the better future, enhancing spiritual values, thoughts and skills and effective implementation of the objectives of the Ministry of Information and the IPRD.

He said the trainees had learnt national policies and objectives theoretically and practically at the course. They also practiced giving talks on organizational matters, writing papers and pamphlets and compiling wall magazines. The minister urged them to put the experiences, knowledge and spiritual values into practice.

He spoke of the need for cultivation of reading habit for rural people, systematic keeping of books, formation of a committee for rural library, establishment of the fund for the library, collecting fees for renting of books and furniture and building of the library and training of librarians. These are seven essential tasks to be carried out for durability and development of self-reliance rural libraries. He urged the trainees and district and township IPRDs to implement the tasks in all seriousness.

He said the National Convention will resume before the end of 2005 and discussions will be made for drafting of the State Constitution. All-out efforts are to be made for the success of the national convention and the seven-point Road Map, he added. He thanked the course instructors for their contributions and urged the trainees to strive for more success in the respective regions.

Next, the minister presented certificates to leader of the trainees Deputy Head of Shwedagon Township IPRD and prizes to outstanding trainees.

The minister also presented a gift to U Myat Thu (Tekkatho Myat Thu). The course was conducted from 3 to 28 October and it was attended by 55 trainees from states and divisions.

Present were Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein and Brig-Gen Aung Thein, the directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises and officials.

Foreign Affairs Deputy Minister leaves for Russia

Yangon, 30 Oct — A Myanmar delegation led by U Kyaw Thu, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, left here by air this evening for Moscow, Russian Federation, to attend the second regular consultations between the Foreign Ministries of Myanmar and Russia.

The Myanmar delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by directors-general from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr Oleg V Kananov, Ambassador of the Russian Federation.

The deputy minister is accompanied by Assistant Director U Kyaw Soe Lwin of Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA
commander, Mayor oversees measures for beautifying and upgrading of roads

Yangon, 30 Oct —
Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Yangon Command Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Yangon City Development Committee Member Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected beautifying and sanitation tasks, proper flow of water at drains and construction of roads for keeping Yangon City clean and pleasant yesterday morning and attended to the needs.

First, the Commander and the Mayor inspected the expansion of Pinlon street and laying of gravel, the upgrading of No 2 Highway in Dagon Myothit (North) Township and Pyidaungsu Highway in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, the sanitation and dredging of the drains being carried out by social organization members and township dwellers. They also looked into the repaving of the road in Tamway Township, the cleaning of both sides of the roads and the dredging of the drains at the corner of Kabay Aye Pa-goda Road and Thitayar street and the upgrading of Thanthuma Road in South Okkalapa Township, Tamdaw-men and family members of Yangon Command participated in sanitation tasks at Myawady and Nawarat housing complexes.— MNA

Prizes for outstanding students and teaching aids presented at Kyauk Myaung (YeU) model village in Shan State (South)

Yangon, 30 Oct —
Regional development tasks have been carried out with momentum in Shan State (South) and so, the gap between urban and rural regions decreases now. The encouragement and assistance are also being provided to enhance the educational, health and social standard of the local people.

Similarly, Kyauk Myaung (YeU) model village in Kyaukmyaung village tract, Ywangan Township, Shan State (South) has also developed further. On 23 October morning, the Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects upgrading of the road between No 2 Highway and Yangon Institute of Economics in Dagon Myothit (North) Township.— MNA

At the pre-primary school of Village WAO, nutrition was fed to the school children and five well-donors distributed K 190,000 for building pre-primary school.

In 2004, the rural health care branch in the village could be upgraded into the rural health care unit. Besides, the additional health care branches were opened and health care is being provided to the local people with 13 health staff. Later, in Kyauk Myaung (YeU) village, the committees of opening Panyagonyaung Self-reliant library and donating books for the library continued and Shan State WAO, district MCWA and township USDA donated 100 books each for the library.

Afterwards, Shan State WAO, Village WAO and MCWA members and local women held round-table discussions and educational talks on health in the village. Dr Nan Hsaing Sin gave a lecture on TB and U Khin Maung Zaw-Daw Hla Hla Lwin (Shwe Honey Orange Trading), 20 head phones worth K 680,000, U Kyaw Tin-Daw Khin Nyo, K 100,000 for language lab, U Mya Than-Daw Thet-Tin-Chanmyay Aung Honey Orange Trading) K 250,000, U Zaw Lwin-Daw Win family K 400,000 for health progress has been made in Kyauk Myaung (YeU) Model Village. Being a fertile area, the region has good conditions for ensuring local food sufficiency and economic development. Due to providing necessary assistance to agricultural sector, thriving seasonal and perennial crop plantations are witnessed in the region.

Orange grafting task is one of the businesses in Kyauk Myaung (YeU) Model Village. The orange produced from the village is popular in the market. Hence, the village distributes its products to Yangon, Mandalay and other major cities. In the livestock breeding task, local people are breeding 1,412 cows, 267 buffaloes, 182 pigs and 1,300 chickens in the village. At present, one 5-kva and 3-kva turbines and 10 generators are being run to supply power to the village.

In an effort to carry out rural development tasks, Kataz Creek was blocked to build the rural development dam in 2004 for agricultural and drinking purpose. Furthermore, water from Tuyitaung, Wapyukyan, Mineyagan and Naga springs added into the works to be supplied to the local people through pipelines.

For development of the region, one Development Market was built in the village. In addition, four village-to-village gravel roads have been constructed.

Dau national race is one of the businesses the villagers do. Dau traditional cultural dance troupes participated in the religious festivals of the villages. Music of Dau traditional long drum (Byaw) is similar to Myanmar traditional Makhaung Byaw and Moezar Byaw. Dau national race plays Minagar Byawsi at the religious and some social occasions.

Not only endeavours of departmental personnel, social organizations and local people but also necessary assistance provided by the Government reflect improvement of education, health, social and economic sectors of Kyauk Myaung (YeU) Model Village in Ywangan Township, Shan State (South).— MNA

Toawgpit District MCWSC Chairperson Dau San Yu and party view health care service provided to an expectant mother in Kyauk Myaung (YeU) Village.— MNA
Swiss railways to cut 650 jobs

Geneva, 29 Oct—Swiss Federal Railways announced on Friday that it will cut 650 jobs between now and June 2006 as part of a cost-cutting programme, with 590 jobs to go in the freight division and 60 jobs in the infrastructure sector.

The railways, which doubled its first-half loss mainly because of problems in the freight division, said in a statement that it expected this and other measures to result in savings of 85 million Swiss francs (67 million US dollars) a year, and the cargo sector breaking even in 2007.

Railway unions condemned the “unprecedented wholesale cuts” to freight transport, and called for a public debate on the issue.

For its part, the Transport Ministry said it believed the cuts were justifiable and it would not provide a subsidy to maintain the cargo operation at its present level. However, it insisted that redundancies should be handled in a socially responsible way.

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Cambodian Siem Reap Airways launches flights to Hong Kong

Pinsom Pheun, 29 Oct—Cambodian Siem Reap Airways, a subsidiary of Bangkok Airways, on Friday launched its latest flight service from Siem Reap to Hong Kong.

The airline makes four flights per week on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from Siem Reap to Hong Kong via Phnom Penh.

The route is operated by the airline’s latest 162-seat Airbus A320 aircraft, according to a statement of the carrier.

Besides Siem Reap Airways, Dragonair of Hong Kong Dragon Airlines Limited also serves the four flights per week from Hong Kong to Phnom Penh on every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

The new service is to meet the need of the country’s rising tourists.

According to the figures from the Tourism Ministry, tourist arrivals in Cambodia jumped 38.4 per cent to more than 600,000 in the first half of 2005 compared to the same period last year. While arrivals via direct flights to Siem Reap, the northwestern gateway town to Cambodia’s top tourism attraction Angkor Wat temples, made up 29.0 per cent of the total.

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Italian researcher succeeds in cloning pigs

Rome, 29 Oct—Italy has cloned a group of pigs that could help research into transplants from pigs to humans, Italian news agency ANSA said on Friday.

The successful experiment was announced by the “father” of the world’s first cloned bull and horse, Cesare Galli. Galli said he had cloned 14 pigs using the same technique with which he produced the world’s first cloned horse two years ago.

The pigs were cloned as part of a European programme of research into embryonic stem cells in animals.

Pigs were chosen, Galli said, because their “anatomical and physiological characteristics” are the closest in the animal world to those of humans. He said the new clones were an indirect contribution to research into cloning pigs from specially engineered cells to obtain organs compatible with humans.

Galli has won world fame with his animal cloning and earlier this year he cloned a tough-bred race horse. Galli gave the world its first cloned horse, Prometea, in May 2003.

Galli said on
**Mammograms key in breast cancer fight**

**NEW YORK, 29 Oct** — Both screening mammography and new drug therapies have played a role in the decline in breast cancer deaths that has occurred over the last three decades, according to a new study, but the relative contributions of each still remain unclear.

The findings, which appear in The New England Journal of Medicine, stem from seven research groups that developed their own statistical models of breast cancer incidence and mortality and then applied the models to the same set of data. The goal was to determine how much screening mammography and therapies have contributed to the drop in breast cancer mortality in the United States from 1975 to 2000.

Lead author Dr Donald A Berry, from M D Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston, told Reuters Health that one of the main reasons for doing the study was to verify or refute the benefits of screening mammography. "The trials conducted to evaluate the effect of screening mammography on breast cancer mortality have been controversial. So, the question was do the findings from these studies translate into clinical practice."

Although the results varied among the research groups, each of them identified a survival benefit for both screening mammography and drug therapies, including tamoxifen and chemotherapy.

During the study period, breast cancer mortality fell by 21.3 per cent, the report indicates. Depending on the statistical model used, screening mammography accounted for 28 per cent to 65 per cent of this reduction with new drug therapies accounting for the remainder.

"The results showed quantitative differences, but were qualitatively the same," Berry pointed out. **INTERNET**

**Russia’s “Mozhaysets” satellite lost communication to earth**

**MOSCOW, 29 Oct** — The Russian satellite Mozhaysets-5 launched on Thursday from the Plesetsk spacecraft failed to detach from the third stage of the carrier rocket and has not sent signal back to earth, the ITAR-TASS news agency reported on Friday.

"According to the latest telemetric data, the Mozhaysets has not detached from the third stage of the Kosmos-3M carrier rocket and is currently rotating with it on a near-earth orbit," an official of the northern cosmodrome of Russia was quoted as saying.

"No signals are received from the satellite," he said. All the other seven foreign satellites (originally reported eight) launched together with the Mozhaysets "have been successfully placed in the preset orbits and their control transferred to the customers", the spacecraft sources said. "The separation of the other satellites from the carrier rockets took place on Thursday. The first telemetric information from the satellites came to the Earth an hour after launch," the sources said.

**Thais to view planet Mars at its closest Friday and Saturday**

**BANGKOK, 29 Oct** — Telescopes have been installed in Bangkok to enable the public to view the planet Mars coming closest to the Earth on Friday and Saturday, Thai News Agency reported Friday.

The Astronomical Association of Thailand has installed telescopes at the Sanam Luang ceremonial ground to enable the public to witness the Mars at its closest to the Earth.

Mars, sometimes called the Red Planet, is named after the Roman God of War.

It is approaching the Earth's orbit—at its closest ever at 59.4 million kilometres on 28-29 October, according to the association.

**Self-designed lightweight howitzer unveiled in Singapore**

**SINGAPORE, 29 Oct** — Singapore on Friday launched a self-propelled lightweight howitzer which can be transported easily by helicopter.

Called the Pegase, the new 155-millimetre Singapore Light Weight Howitzer (SLWH) weighs just 5.4 tons, and it will replace the smaller but heavier 105-millimetre light gun as it offers better range and firepower. The howitzer, which can manoeuvre over terrain at a speed of 12 kilometres per hour, can be deployed for action within two-and-a-half minutes by the eight-man crew.

The howitzer, jointly developed by the Singapore Armed Forces, the Defence Science and Technology Agency, and Singapore Technologies Kinetics, can also be easily transported by Chinook helicopters to any part of the battlefield, making it the world's first heli-portable howitzer with a self-propelling capability. **MNA/Reuters**

**Satellite to observe Beijing sent into orbit**

**BEIJING, 29 Oct** — A high-performance earth observation satellite used to observe Beijing was successfully sent into its preset orbit on Thursday afternoon, an official with the Beijing Municipal Science and Technology Committee has announced.

The Beijing-1 satellite blasted off at the Plesetsk satellite launching centre of Russia at 2:52 pm (Beijing Time) Thursday, the official said.

The satellite is expected to send back remote sensing pictures of Beijing about 20 days later.

The pictures of Beijing will serve Beijing’s urban planning, ecological environment monitoring, key projects monitoring and land utilization purposes.

The satellite is also entitled to monitor the environment during the 2008 Summer Olympics Games, the official said.

**Harry Potter’s “flying” car is stolen**

**LONDON, 29 Oct** — The "flying" Ford Anglia used in the "Harry Potter" films has been stolen from a film studio lot, police said on Friday.

"For those who have not seen the Harry Potter films, this is the car that flies in the movies and is very well known," a police spokesman said.

The blue Anglia went missing from South West Film Studios at St Agnes in the southwestern English county of Cornwall.

"The film prop was being stored under a tarpaulin. It was not in good condition and could not have been driven away under its own steam," the police spokesman said.

**Honda Motor Co, humanoid robot ASIMO, dances with school children during ASIMO’s birthday party at Honda headquarters in Tokyo, on Sunday, 30 Oct. 2005. ASIMO is the first robot in the world to be able to smoothly change direction while walking and go up and down stairs.** **INTERNET**

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR** Monday, 31 October, 2005
Two Koreas agree on joint march at East Asian Games

MACAO, 29 Oct — Two Koreas agreed on a joint march at the 4th East Asian Games opening ceremony following an one-hour meeting here on Friday, South Korean officials said.

The delegations of South Korea and North Korea would follow a common flag featuring blue Korean Peninsula against a white background, to march into Saturday’s ceremony, said a South Korean official.

South Korean men’s basketballer Yang Hee-jong, 21, and North Korean women’s cager Ryu Hyong-sun, 23, will jointly hold the flag, he said.

Lee Soong-ik, chief de mission of the South Korean sports delegation, told a Press conference earlier that “We would like to show the unity between the two Koreas by holding a joint march, and we hope this can lead to improved relations with the North Side. It will show the world we are trying for the reunification of the Korean Peninsula.”

Saturday’s joint march will be the sixth time in this kind of activities of the two Koreas joined hands at the 2008 Olympic opening ceremony.

In Friday afternoon, representatives of (South Korean) Olympic Council (KOC) discussed details of Saturday’s joint march with their North Korean counterparts. Lee told the Press. The two sides would also negotiate on forming a unified team to the 2006 Asian Games in Doha, Qatar, and the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing on the sideline of the East Asian Games, he said.

The KOC said in a news release in Seoul on Monday that North Korea had offered to hold working-level discussions with South Korea during the East Asian Games on grouping a unified team to the Doha Asian and the Beijing Olympics. — MNA/Xinhua

Benitez says no crisis at Liverpool

LIVERPOOL (England), 29 Oct — Coach Rafael Benitez has dismissed talk of a crisis at European champions Liverpool and says his detractors should wait until the end of the season before passing judgment.

Liverpool languish in 13th place in the Premier League, 18 points behind champions Chelsea, and were sent packing from the League Cup in midweek by Second Division Crystal Palace.

“A lot of people talked about Liverpool last season and said we were the worst Liverpool team for 40 years,” Benitez told reporters on Friday.

“Then we won the Champions League and now the Super Cup and that proves you can not talk about a team after two and a half months of the season.

“You must wait until the end, and at the end of the season you can say it was a good or a bad season.”

Despite scoring just five goals in eight league games, the Spaniard believes his team are better than last season. “We are more consistent. We are drawing against good teams, okay we would like to win, but to me it means we are better than last season.” — MNA/Reuters

FIFA ask French to drop video-assisted refereeing tests

PARIS, 29 Oct — FIFA have asked the French football federation and the French professional football league to call off plans to test video-assisted refereeing.

“Even though it (the video assistance) would be in a non-official matches, the FIFA stick to their clear position about this matter,” FIFA president Sepp Blatter said in a letter to the presidents of the FFF and LFP.

Blatter was quoted by the sports daily L’Equipe web site on Friday as saying: “Such a test can’t be carried out without the agreement of the International Football Association Board (IFAB), IFAB’s next meeting is scheduled from March 3 in Switzerland when the matter will be reviewed.

“We are asking you to stop in and rule out such an initiative which goes against the rules and policy of FIFA.” LFP president Frederic Thiriez said last week the league intended to test next month video-assisted refereeing at matches played behind closed doors.

— MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle

1. Bred
2. Liver
3. Enigma
4. Long leg
5. Usabek
6. Nail
7. Precise
8. Expires
9. Audience
10. Chance
11. Root
12. Owned
13. Outlook
14. Encore
15. Float

Portland Trail Blazers’ Viktor Khryapa (38), of Russia, ducks under Seattle SuperSonics’ Robert Swift (31) during the first quarter of a preseason game in Spokane, Wash, on Friday, 28 Oct, 2005. — Internet

English Premier League reports

LONDON, 30 Oct — Brief match reports of Saturday’s Premier League finishes:

But Craig Bellamy scored twice before the break, the first a penalty he, stood with his head, before Lampard found the back of the net again with cross shot and Joe Cole benefitted from a huge deflection to seal the victory in the second half.

Sunderland 1 Portsmouth 4
Defender Matthew Taylor scored twice, the second a spectacular long-range effort, to help Portsmouth come from behind and take all three points at the Stadium of Light.

Dejan Stefanovic’s handball allowed Dean Whitehead to put Sunderland ahead from the penalty spot in the fourth minute and they kept the lead until three minutes into the second half.

Taylor headed the ball to Zvonimir Vukic for the Serb to equalize then put his side ahead 10 minutes later. Taylor lobbed in his second from just inside the Sunderland half and Darío Silva completed the rout after 74 minutes.

— MNA/Reuters

LONDON, 30 Oct — David Moyes will be the happier of two managers under pressure after Everton got their second win of the season to move off the bottom of the table.

The goal came just before halftime when midfielder Simon Davies drilled the ball home after latching on to Andy van der Meyde’s pass from the left wing.

James Beattie and Duncan Ferguson (twice) had opportunities to put the game beyond the home side’s reach but spurned them and Everton had to survive a late onslaught as Steve Bruce’s side looked for an equalizer.

Charlton Athletic 0 Bolton Wanderers 1
Bolton executed their gameplan to perfection to win the battle of the Premier League overachievers and go above their rivals in the table.

Charlton, without ailing striker Darren Bent, dominated possession but were unable to break down a resolute Bolton, who made them pay for their profligacy in the 72nd minute.

Japanese midfielder Hidetoshi Nakata latched on to the ball in the box and his cross left Kevin Nolan with the simplest of finishes.

Chelsea 4 Blackburn Rovers 2
A 10th league win of the season for champions Chelsea looked a foregone conclusion after two goals in the first quarter of an hour but Blackburn were back on level terms by halftime.

Didier Drogba opened the scoring by heading home his sixth goal of the season before Frank Lampard converted a penalty to double the lead in the 14th minute.
Departmental and Tatmadaw vehicles checked on dry day

YANGON, 30 Oct — Chairman of the Dry Day Supervisory Committee Chairman for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and party supervise functions of an inspection team. — mna

Four British peacekeepers hurt in Afghan attack

MAZAR-I-SHARIF (Afghanistan), 30 Oct — Four British soldiers from the NATO-led peacekeeping mission in Afghanistan were wounded in an attack on Saturday in the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif, a spokesman for the mission said.

The soldiers were shot by four men armed with assault rifles in the middle of the city, said Imamuddin, a senior police official in the city. Three of the attackers had been arrested, he said.

Spokesmen for the ousted Taleban spokesmen said their guerrillas were behind the attack but Imamuddin said he suspected the attackers were members of a pro-government Shia faction. NATO’s International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) troops have been attacked several times in northern Afghanistan, but Saturday’s shooting was the first against ISAF soldiers in Mazar-i-Sharif, which is relatively secure.

Some 10,000 ISAF soldiers are stationed in Afghanistan, charged with keeping the peace after US-led troops overthrew the Taleban government in 2001. Some 20,000 US-led soldiers hunt Taleban and their allies, such as al-Qaeda. US and Afghan forces had killed 14 Taleban militants in separate attacks in Afghanistan this week, the US military said in a statement. One Afghan soldier was killed and a US soldier was among four injured, the US military said.

More than 1,100 people have been killed in clashes this year. Most were militants but the death toll includes more than 50 US soldiers.

MNA/Reuters

Sunday, 30 October, 2005
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Kayin States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Division, rain or thunder-showers have been scattered in Rakhine State and Mandalay Division, widespread in Shan and Chin States and isolated in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Sittway (1.61) inches, Tounggyi (0.87) inch, Meikhtila (0.78) inch and Yamethin (0.71) inch.

Maximum temperature on 29-10-2005 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 30-10-2005 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 30-10-2005 was 89%. Total sunshine hours on 29-10-2005 was (6.5) hours approx. Rainfalls on 30-10-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (100.12) inches at Mingaladon, (100.00) inches at Kaba-Aye and (104.80) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest (15:30) hours MST on 29-10-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 31-10-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kachin, Kayah, Eastern and Northern Shan States, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Chin State. Sagoing and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Rain or thunder-showers will be in the lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 31-10-2005: Isolated rain or thunder-showers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 31-10-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thunder-showers. Degree of certainty is 60%.
Senior General Than Shwe and wife
Daw Kyaing Kyaing
donate eight requisites and
alms to Sayadaws at 52nd
communal Kathina
ceremony of Ministry of Defence

The ceremony was
opened with three-time
recitation of Namo Tassa.
Senior General Than Shwe and wife
Daw Kyaing Kyaing and
party took the Five Pre-
cepts from Chairman
Sayadaw Bhaddanta
Kumara. Next, members
of the Sangha recited
parittas.
Senior General Than Shwe and wife
Daw Kyaing Kyaing of-
fered eight requisites and
alms to Chairman
Sayadaw Bhaddanta
Kumara.
Vice-Senior Gen-
eral Maung Aye and wife
Daw Mya Mya San, Lt-
Gen Tin Oo’s wife Daw
Khin Than Nwe, Prime
Minister General Soe
Win and wife Daw Than
Than Nwe, Secretary-I
Lt-Gen Thein Sein and
wife Daw Khin Khin
Win, members of the
State Peace and Develop-
ment Council, the Com-
mander-in-Chief (Navy)
and the Commander-in-
Chief (Air), and senior
military officers of the
Ministry of Defence do-
ated eight requisites and
provisions to members of
the Sangha.
(See page 8)

Prime Minister
General Soe Win and
wife Daw Than Than
Nwe donate eight
requisites and provi-
sions to a
Sayadaw.— MNA

Therefore I write the expressions of the monk
U Jotika into this article for enabling the national
people to further realize the importance of safe-
guarding the mother country in order that any de-
structive elements cannot harm national interests
and prestige and integrity.

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Yee Yee San

Senior General Than Shwe and wife
and party share merits gained at 52nd communal Kathina
ceremony of Ministry of Defence.— MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife
Daw Mya Mya San present eight requisites
and alms to a Sayadaw.— MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife
Daw Mya Mya San donate eight requisites
and alms to a Sayadaw.— MNA