Senior General Than Shwe sends message of condolence to Indian President

YANGON, 11 NOV — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of condolence to His Excellency Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, President of the Republic of India on passing away of the Ex-President His Excellency KR Narayanan on 9 November 2005.—MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win receives Chinese Minister for Water Resource

YANGON, 11 NOV — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win received Minister for Water Resource of the People’s Republic of China Mr Wang Shucherg and party at Zeyarthiri Beikman on Konmyinttha this morning. Also present at the call together with the Prime Minister were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, Director-General of the Prime Minister’s Office Col Thant Shin and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department. The Chinese delegation was accompanied by Ambassador of the PRC to the Union of Myanmar Mr Guan Mu.—MNA

Annual International Religious Freedom Report 2005 does not reflect true situation in Myanmar


It is regrettable to note that Seventh Annual International Religious Freedom Report (2005) released by the US Department of State on 8 November 2005 wrongly designating the Union of Myanmar, along with some other Asian countries, as “a Country of Particular Concern” (CPC).

Such classification by the Annual International Religious Freedom Report 2005 does not in any way reflect the true situation in Myanmar. The allegations contained in the report are baseless and considered as being politically motivated. These reports are all same old tunes based on groundless facts and figures which came from unscrupulous persons with the aim of damaging the image of the country.

The report wrongly criticized that members of minority religious groups, especially Christians and Muslims, face serious abuses of religious freedom and other human rights. The allegations in the report are, therefore, categorically denied. In reality, every citizen of Myanmar has the right to profess and practise one’s belief without government interference. The country is significantly characterized by the fact that all national races have freedom of faith and the equal right to maintain their own culture and traditions. Although Theravada Buddhism is the religion of majority in

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

**Saturday, 12 November, 2005**

For all citizens to actively participate in the national development drive

The State Peace and Development Council is making all-out efforts in accordance with the national policy for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, and developed nation. The nation-building endeavours are a task to be implemented by generation to generation. Since the task needs to be implemented in a constant manner, relentless efforts are to be made for shaping a brighter future.

The Union Solidarity and Development Association was formed with the new generation youths capable of serving the interests of the State and the people as a national force. The second session of the Annual General Meeting (2005) for the Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at Pyidaungsu Hall of the USDA Central Training School in Hmawby Township on 5 November with an address by member of Panel of Patrons of the USDA Prime Minister General Soe Win.

In his address, Prime Minister General Soe Win said that with the correct conception that the national development is the bounden duty of each and every citizen, national forces can be mobilized all the more. As the saying goes “The strength of the nation lies within”, the entire national people are sole national force. Each and every national has therefore to play an active role in the drive for national unity, peace & tranquillity and development.

The USDA has come into existence to serve the interest of the nation. It is now actively participating together with the people in nation building tasks. As a result, good foundations and progresses are being made for shaping a brighter future. The USDA has come into existence to serve the interest of the nation. It is now actively participating together with the people in nation building tasks. As a result, good foundations and progresses are being made for shaping a brighter future.

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**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

The government of the Union of Myanmar, categorically rejects the one-sided assessment of the US on religious freedom of Myanmar since it is based on unfounded facts.

(from page 1)

The country, the Government is assisting the work of other religions and also takes all necessary steps to encourage and maintain the harmony.

Myanmar is one of the very few countries in the world where all the major religions live together harmoniously and peacefully and where freedom of religion is actually practised. There may be isolated cases of minor disagreements as happen sometimes and is happening elsewhere in the world. But prompt action taken by the Government in cooperation with the religious leaders of the respective religions has always managed to prevent any kind of religious incidents from flaring out of control and the occurrence of incidents has also been resolved peacefully.

Religion is a highly sensitive and volatile issue in the world. For that reason, the Myanmar Government believes that it is absolutely improper and insensitive to accuse other nations or governments on the basis of fabricated or unsubstantiated information for whatever purposes it may serve. The government of the Union of Myanmar, therefore, categorically rejects the one-sided assessment of the US on religious freedom of Myanmar since it is based on unfounded facts and is nothing more than a politically motivated document aimed at interfering in the internal affairs of Myanmar.

**Information personnel urged to strive for improvement of libraries and durability on their own initiative**

**Yangon, 10 Nov—**

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met with officials and staff of the Information and Public Relations Departments in Bago and Mandalay Divisions on 8 and 9 November.

In meeting with departmental staff, the minister gave instructions, saying that personnel are to use initiative for improvement of libraries and their durability in line with the seven-point functions adopted by the Ministry of Information. It is necessary to distribute Doh Kyeywa journal published with the aim of serving the interest of the rural people to every village. Furthermore, efforts are to be made for opening self-reliant libraries in all villages.

The minister continued to say that departmental personnel are to participate in the tasks of power supply with the use of windmills, straw and paddy husk-fired power plants. Staff of the Ministry of Information are to cooperate with members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association in undertaking rural power supply programmes.

He added that arrangements are to be made for fulfilling requirements of villages with electronic media such as radio and TV to be able to perform functions of information, education and entertainment. He urged them to cultivate vegetable and seasonal crops plantations as well as to carry out livestock breeding tasks on the plots of respective departments.

At Toungoo District IPRD Office, the minister met with staff of Toungoo, Ottwin, Htantabin and Than-daung Township IPRDs, and gave necessary instructions.

He inspected documentary photos on public welfare tasks and display of the wall magazine. On arrival at Pyinmana Township IPRD office, the minister also called on officials and staff of Yamethin, Pyinmana, Lewe and Tatkon IPRDs, and urged them to discharge duties of the information tasks effectively.

On 9 November, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan proceeded to Kyauktaga Township IPRD and gave instructions to staff of Kyauktaga, Nyaunglebin and Shwewgyin Township IPRDs.

The minister arrived back here on 9 November.
Dubai, 9 Nov— Al-Qaeda in Iraq on Tuesday posted an Internet video apparently showing the bodies of two US Marines killed in a military helicopter crash that was claimed by the group.

Several men were shown gathering around the burning helicopter, pulling out two bodies in military fatigues and collecting communications equipment and other debris strewn around the twisted wreckage.

A statement, posted along with the video on an Islamic Web site, said it showed the Super Cobra helicopter which al-Qaeda said it shot down with a missile in Ramadi on Wednesday. The US military has said it was investigating reports by residents that the helicopter was hit by a missile, causing fire and smoke apart in the air before crashing.

A Reuters photographer in Ramadi last week said the helicopter appeared to have crashed into a house, which suffered some damage.

Ramadi, about 110 km (70 miles) west of Baghdad in the Sunni Arab Province of Anbar, has seen some of the worst fighting in the insurgency that erupted after the 2003 US-led invasion toppled Saddam Hussein. MNA/Reuters

Iran protests illegal US flights

United Nations, 10 Nov — Iran has complained to the United Nations over two “illegal” flights by unmanned American aircraft which crashed in its territory.

Iran’s deputy UN Ambassador Mehdi Danesh-Yarad said the UN Security Council to circulate two letters protesting “the violation of the territory and airspace of Iran by two American unmanned aircrafts”. The letters circulated Tuesday warned that “the government of the United States of America will be responsible for the consequences of any recurrence of its unlawful acts.”

According to the letters, during illegal overflights an American Shadow-200 (RQ-7) aircraft crashed 60 kilometres inside Iranian territory in Ilam Province on 4 July, and an American Hermes aircraft crashed 200 kilometres inside Iranian territory in the Kharamah Abad area on 25 August.

Iran Queda puts web video of “downed” US helicopter

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MNA/PTI

Ukraine to withdraw peacekeeping forces from Iraq

Kiev, 10 Nov — Ukraine will pull out all of its peacekeeping forces from Iraq before 30 Dec, Defence Minister Anatoly Hrytsenko said on Thursday.

According to a pullout plan, drawn out jointly by the Defence Ministry and the General Staff of the Ukraine's armed forces, 110 soldiers will withdraw from Iraq from 20 Nov to 30 Dec, and the other troops are expected to return home from 20-30 Dec, Hrytsenko told a news conference.

Ukraine has a 1,650-strong contingent in Iraq, the sixth-largest in the US-led coalition forces. So far, 18 Ukrainian soldiers have been killed in the country and 33 others wounded. In March, the national security and defence committee announced that all Ukrainian troops would withdraw from Iraq by the end of this year.

MNA/Reuters

Annan condemns violence against diplomats in Iraq

Cairo, 9 Nov — UN Secretary General Kofi Annan on Tuesday condemned again what he called “criminal violence” against foreign diplomats in Iraq.

The UN chief made the remarks while delivering a speech at the prestigious American University in Cairo in memory of late Egyptian-born UN staff member in Iraq Nadia Younes who was killed in August 2000 during an attack on the UN representative office in Baghdad.

“The lesson we must learn from her (Nadia Younes’s) tragic death is that we need to work even harder to spread enlightenment and tolerance, and to overcome extremism and intolerance,” Annan told an audience of students, professors and foreign diplomats.

Younes was among the 17 people killed on 19 August, 2003 in the spectacular attack on the UN branch in Baghdad during which the then UN special envoy to Iraq Sergio de Mello, a Brazilian national, also died.

The attack severely hurt UN post-war diplomatic efforts in Iraq and drew condemnation from across the world at that time.

Annan said Iraqi people might have different opinions about the foreign military presence in the country, but that could by no means justify attacks against foreign diplomats or innocent civilians, adding such acts are sheer “murder” and “terrorism”.

MNA/Xinhua

2,056 US soldiers killed in Iraq

Washington, 10 Nov — As of Thursday, 10 Nov, 2005, at least 2,056 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 1,604 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

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, 1,917 US military members have died, according to AP count. That includes at least 1,495 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers. Internet
USDA Annual General Meeting (2005) continues for third day

YANGON, 11 Nov—The Union Solidarity and Development Association continued for the third day of Annual General Meeting 2005 at Pyidaungsu Hall of Central Training School of USDA in Hmawby Township on 6 November morning.

Though some nations and internal and external destruction elements disturb development of Myanmar, progress can be seen in all sectors due to the united strength of the Government, the people and the Tatmadaw.

Mahaungmye Township USDA Executive Daw Aye Aye Aung— MNA

It was attended by USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo, Joint Secretary-General U Zaw Min, secretariat members, CEC members, secretaries of State and Division USDAs and delegates of State/Division/District and Townships USDAs.

Member of Secretariat U Kyaw Hsan presided over the meeting together with members of the panel of patrons CEC member U Thein Sein and U Nyan Tun Aung.

Thabaung Township USDA Executive Daw Mya Su Pwint and Raikhe State USDA served Executive Daw Moe Zan acted as MC and co-MC.

The master of ceremonies announced the start of the ceremony with the presence of 441 delegates at the meeting.

Executive Daw Aye Aye Aung of Mahaungmye Township USDA reported on findings from the discussions in organizational sector. She said that per capita income in March of 2004-2005 is 86.2 times higher than that of 1988-89. Remarkable number of dams, roads and bridges mushroomed in the nation. Though some nations and internal and external destruction elements disturb development of Myanmar, progress can be seen in all sectors due to the united strength of the Government, the people and the Tatmadaw.

In conclusion, USDA at different levels are to accept guidance of the Patron as work guideline and to perform their functions conscientiously with the instructions of the CEC members under the supervision of members of the panel of patrons. To reach the State goal, all the members upholding Our Three Main National Causes are to wipe out obstructionists and their acts that encroach security, stability and sovereignty of the State.

Next, Secretary U Chit Ngwe of Homaung Township USDA submitted his report on findings in the discussions of management sector. He said that as today is IT age, information technology and media are in progress day after day. A plan is being implemented at the USDA Headquarters to enable everybody to easily visit the USDA Website so as to disseminate activities of the association and its performance for serving the people not only to the entire nation but also the global countries.

The nation has also enjoyed fruitful results due to its correct policies and genuine goodwill. He said the National Convention is in progress to draft a State constitution which is of utmost importance for the nation and the people.

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Homalin Township USDA Secretary U Chit Ngwe— MNA

Kyauktan Township USDA Executive Daw Thida Moe Oo— MNA

Kyaungyaw Township USDA Joint-Secretary U Myint Kyaiang— MNA

Agriculture sector, Joint Secretary of Kyauktan Township USDA Daw Thida Moe Oo reported on matters related to the social and cultural sector. She said in an effort to encourage the spiritual and physical development of the youths, USDA is also participating in activities to promote culture and literary.

Kyauktan Township USDA Joint-Secretary U Myint Kyaiang— MNA

Gangaw District USDA Secretary U Aung Myint— MNA

Gangaw Township USDA Joint-Secretary U Myint Kyaiang— MNA

It is an excellent programme. He gave suggestions that significant township activities should be inserted into the programme of the Website. USDA has distribute copies of analysis report books to ILO members and the Myanmar embassies abroad with a view to enabling international community to know acts of some organizations that make misinformations and accusation of Myanmar and those of some countries that impose economic sanctions and put pressure on Myanmar. He supported that it is also the best response of the association.

Regarding the agricultural sector, Joint Secretary of Kyauktaw Township USDA Daw Thida Moe Oo said USDA grows perennial, export farm products. Executive of Kyauktan Township USDA Daw Thida Moe Oo reported on matters related to the social and cultural sector. She said in an effort to encourage the spiritual and physical development of the youths, USDA is also participating in activities to promote culture and literacy. She also suggested that USDA (Central) should organize the traditional fashion show and traditional dance every two years in states and divisions.

USDA is also providing assistance for the establishment of libraries, libraries and holding extempore talks. These measures would make valuable contributions towards the future of Myanmar’s education system.

In discussing matters related to the education sector, Gangaw District USDA Daw Thida Moe Oo said common knowledge that the State is peaceful and stable and on the way to progress as all the national people are participating in the development drive under the correct leadership of the Tatmadaw government.

The nation has also enjoyed fruitful results due to its correct policies and genuine goodwill. He said the National Convention is in progress to draft a State constitution which is of utmost importance for the nation and the people.

USDA Secretariat Member U Kyaw Hsuan presides over the meeting together with members of panel of patrons CEC members U Thein Sein and U Nyan Tun Aung— MNA
Buddha Pujaniya of Pyay
Shwe Hsan Daw commences

YANGON, 11 Nov—The Buddha Pujaniya of the Shwe Hsan Daw Pagoda in Pyay, Bago Division (West), took place in the precinct of the pagoda on 8 November morning. Chairman of Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Hla Min supervised on religious affairs to Ovadacarya Chairman of Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Revata.

Brig-Gen Hla Min and officials offered alms to members of the Sangha.

Next, alms food was offered to the Sayadaws. The division chairman attended the ceremony to mark the completion of the establishment of rural libraries across Pyay District held at Zeeoak Village post-primary school in Pyay Township.

Chairperson of Bago Division (West) Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Naing Naing Maw donated publications to libraries. Brig-Gen Hla Min inspected the library of the village. — MNA

USDA Annual General Meeting (2005) continues for third day...

(from page 4)

At the same time, titanic efforts are being exerted to develop the country. The transition of one system to another cannot be carried out overnight. It is not easy to copy either. It must be compatible with the nation’s own races and culture.

He said to achieve the progress and prosperity of the nation is based on its prevailing conditions. So are the other nations. All the people are required to consider this factor.

Now is the time when three forces — the government, the people and the Tatmadaw — are working hard to develop the country. A peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation is that the desire of the people cannot be built in a very short time.

It has to be shaped in conformity with Myanmar’s own culture and customs. Despite the State’s efforts, internal and external saboteurs are resorting to various wicked ways to jeopardize the country. One of their destructive acts was that a series of bomb blasts occurred at the Trade Centre in Mingala Taung Nyunt Township, Junction 8 in Mayangon Township and Dagon Centre in Sanyoung Township on 7 May this year.

As a result, some innocent people were killed and wounded. It was a spine-chilling incident indeed. All members of the association are to guard against the dangers like those in cooperation with the entire national people.

Next, the meeting went into recess. When it resumed, NEC members explained findings from discussions. Secretariat member U Thaung explained findings from the sector of organizational measures, Joint-Secretary U Zaw Min from management sector, Secretariat member U Aung Thaung from economic sector, Secretariat member U Tin Htut from social and cultural sector and Secretariat member U Kyaw Hsan from education sector.

Then the third day session of the meeting ended at 11.15 am. — MNA

20th Gems and Jade Sales (2006) on 16-19 Jan

YANGON, 11 Nov — The 20th Gems and Jade Sales (2006) of the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited are going to take place at Myanmar Gems Emporium on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here from 16 to 19 January 2006. Gem stones can be inspected from 16 to 18 January and the sales will be held through bargain and auction system on 19 January.

Those wishing to purchase gems and jade will have to register with fee K4,000 for citizen and 20 euros for foreigners as from 13 January 2006. Private gem and jade merchants wishing to sell their gems, jade and ornamental jewellery may put them at the Myanmar Gems Emporium from 19 December 2005 to 6 January 2006. UMEHL have to make a charge for the gems and jade of the private merchants in conformity with the rules and regulations of Myanmar Gems.

For further information, one can dial the following numbers 371053, 370561 of Myanmar Ruby Enterprise Co Ltd, 371027, 370564 of Myanmar Imperial Jade Co Ltd within office hours.

Best Exhibition Award won by Myanmar handed over

YANGON, 11 Nov—The Best Exhibition Award won by Myanmar at the 2nd China-ASEAN Expo held in Nanning, the capital of GuangxiZhuang Autonomous Region, the People’s Republic of China from 19 to 22 October, was handed over to the Chairman of Panel of Patrons of UMFCCI Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thaing. Afterwards, Chairman of Panel of Patrons of UMFCCI Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thaing touched on functions and progress of the UMFCCI.

Next, those present on the occasion made suggestions, and the ceremony ended with the concluding remark by the President.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Panel of Patrons of UMFCCI Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thaing, officials from government departments, advisers, President of UMFCCI U Win Myint, the vice-presidents, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and CEC members, executives, member entrepreneurs and guests. — MNA

Foreign Minister U Nyun Win signs in the book of confluence for later Indian President Mr K R Narayanan at Indian Embassy on Merchant Street in Yangon on Friday. — MNA

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 12 November, 2005 5
Training Schools for Development of National Youths in Border Areas

Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe in his inspection tour of Shan State in April 2002 said that all the national races living in the 14 states and divisions are brethren. So, the government is taking all possible measures for equitable development of all national races.

The government has been fulfilling the requirements of the national races in various sectors for their brighter future and greater prospects for development.

All the people living in the Union are Myanmar nationals. So, the government has no will to discriminate against or in favour of any national races and wants to lead them towards prosperity equally, he said.

I have a great wish to see the good news that I have heard since 2002 come true.

Now, my wish has been thoroughly fulfilled. Something that has fulfilled my wish is the emergence of the Training School for Development of National Youths in Border Areas.

It is located near the road to Panglong Township, Loilem District. That place was used to be an uneven area completely covered with wild plants and bushes. It is an educational facility that rises the image of Panglong Township.

Under the instructions of Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Director of the Education and Training Department Major Aung Kyaw (Retd) frequently made inspection tour of Loilem-Panglong to closely supervise the tasks for the construction of the training school. During the period, every time he was in Panglong, he dropped in Yadanasi Monastery and supplied.

The Training School for Development of National Youths in Border Areas are divided into two categories — basic education level and university level. Steps are being taken on a broader scale for establishment of training schools at basic education level in states and border areas to provide higher education for the youths. At the university level, the Nationalities Youths Resources Development Degree College (Yangon) was established on 15 June 2000, and the Nationalities Youths Resources Development Degree College (Mandalay) on 17 July 2000 to conduct B.A and B.Sc courses and B-Tech course.

The Training School for Development of National Youths in Border Areas each has been opened in Myitkyina, Bhamo, Putao, Kunlon, Tangyan, Kengtung, Lwemwe, Loikaw, Haka, Tiddim, Mindat (1), Mindat (2), Hkamti, Lahe, Leshi, Sittway, Panglong, Matupi, Kaphnetlet, Hpa-an, Pakokku, and Lasho. And Parahta (Tiger) school in Yangon has been upgraded.

The Training School for Development of National Youths in Border Areas in Loilem was built on the 11.44-acre land commencing 30 January 2003. In the school compound are two two-storey 100’ x 30’ hostels, one office, lecture rooms, a mess, and two six-unit toilets including bathrooms.

Nine teachers including a principal, three office staff, and cooks have been installed in the school that was launched in 2005-2006 academic year for resident students.

The priority is given in status to local national race orphans who can speak respective mother tongues, then to youths without mothers, youths without fathers, and then to needy youths. They are provided with all necessary assistance from primary education to high school education. It receives 50 to 70 youths an academic year.

Such training schools serve as stepping stones for even needy national race youths who do not have an access to education owing to various reasons.

In other words, the training schools in border areas are bringing progress and prospects to even national races youths who are leading a miserable life.

Translation: MS

(Myanmar Alin: 11-11-2005)
Education sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of higher education in the time of Tatmadaw Government

Increasing number of doctorate courses and cooperation with international community in the higher education sector

Myanmar scholars are the ones with many experiences in their respective fields and they can keep abreast of the scholars from international community. They are also the intelligent ones with high carlibre.

In the past, Myanmar scholars had to attend doctorate courses abroad. In the time of the Tatmadaw government, plans have been made to confer doctorate degrees at home and as a result, doctorate degree holders have emerged.

Doctorate courses have been conducted for teachers from universities and degree colleges in the country and, for scholars from outside, regular courses have been conducted in various ways. Nowadays, 2633 persons are attending regular doctorate courses and 309 the advanced doctorate courses.

Myanmar education system has constantly turned out scholars with high efficiency and in order to promote their efficiency, programmes for cooperation with international community have been implemented.

After being a member of ASEAN on 23 July 1997, Myanmar has been taking part in regional educational network. She hosted workshops, meetings and seminars and sent scholars abroad to attend international meetings to exchange experience.

Myanmar signed 19 MoUs with 12 countries and 9 MoAs and one charter with 6 countries. Moreover, 26 international meetings and 45 meetings on subjects were held.

Thanks to the cooperation with international community, the standard of Myanmar education sector has become high.

The table shows increasing number of doctorate courses in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Sr</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Regular Doctorate Course</th>
<th>Advanced Doctorate Course</th>
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<td>Mandalay University</td>
<td>608</td>
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<td>Yangon Institute of Economics</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>2633</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>2942</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sixth Asia-Pacific Symposium on Information and Telecommunication Technologies jointly organized by University of Computer Studies and Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) in progress on 11-11-2005.

Increasing number of doctorate courses

(World Diabetes Day)

"Diabetes and Foot Care: Put Feet First Prevent Amputations"
Lt-Gen Ye Myint on inspection tour of Mandalay Division
(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Thin Pan village and oversaw putting of Shwe Myanmar and Mahnaw Thukha paddy strains under cultivation on 78.45 sown acreage.

They then inspected earth work of Myitnge-Htonbo road being under taken by Mandalay City Development Committee and gave necessary instructions to the officials. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party also looked into the extension of 62nd street.

The 62nd street measuring 9,942 feet by 48 feet is under construction. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects development tasks in Kyaikto, Thaton...
(from page 16)

aids in the education field. The Ministry of Education also set up the e-Education Learning Centres and Mon State PDC contributed over K 100 million to be able to equip electronic device at classrooms in the schools of BEHSs of Myanmar.

In other words, as soon as Head of the State Senior General Than Shwe began to declare the implementation of e-electronic education on 1 January, local authorities and wellwishers participated in it. Lt-Gen Maung Bo stressed the perseverance and participation of the entire people actively through cooperation. The education plays an important role in striving for the development of a nation. At such a time of implementing the 30-year plan to develop education sector up to the international standard, all are necessary to take part in it in striving day in day out, continued Lt-Gen Maung Bo.

In 21 century, being the education age, education is the only key to the challenges and problems of quick developing IT technologies at the time of globalization. As a result, the life long learning societies have been establishing in every nation, said Lt-Gen Maung Bo.

In conclusion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo urged to participate at most for the uplift of the State’s education standard through the collective efforts.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party posed for a documentary photo together with teachers, students and school board of trustees. — MNA

Accomplishments in education sector clarified

YANGON, 11 Nov — Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein met with Resident Representative Mr Daniel B Baker, UNAIDS Resident Representative Mr Brian J Williams and in-charge of UNHCR Office Mr Nana Kwakye at the meeting hall of Universities Central Council on Thaton Road in Kamayut Township this morning.

The minister clarified matters related to the education sector of Myanmar.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers for Education U Myo Nyunt and Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, departmental heads under the Ministry of Education, rectors and representatives of universities and colleges under ministries concerned.

Minister Dr Chan Nyein clarified opening of universities and colleges and appointment of faculty members after 1988, turning out of students, accomplishments in basic and higher education sectors, teaching programmes at universities and colleges in higher education sector, opening of post graduate courses, the increase of graduates, training courses for development of human resources, programmes of Myanmar education institutions in collaboration with international universities, extension of research works, and progress in education sector at border areas.

Next, documentary video showed on opening of universities, degree colleges, colleges and basic education schools in the entire nation including the remote areas, and enhancement of education sector. The minister and the deputy ministers answered the queries raised by resident representatives.

Similarly, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein at 3 pm met with ambassadors to Myanmar at the meeting hall of Universities Central Council on Thaton Road.

Present were Ambassador of the Philippines Mme Phoebe A Gomez, Ambassador of the United Kingdom Ms Victoria Jane Bowman, Latolian Ambassador Mr Chanthavy Bodhisare, Cambodian Ambassador Mr Hul Phany, Indonesian Ambassador Mr Wyoso Pradjowarsito, Thailand Ambassador Mr Suphong Dhirakaosal, Pakistanian Ambassador Mr Muhammad Nawaz Chaudhury, Israeli Ambassador Mrs Ruth Schaltz, Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Tran Van Tung, Ambassador of Australia Mr Robert Joseph Davis, Nepalese Ambassador Lt-Gen (Retd) Victory SJB Rana, Ambassador of Germany Mr Dietrich Andreas and officials of the Embassy of Serbia and Montenegro, Embassy of Brunei, Embassy of Malaysia, Embassy of Italy, Embassy of Bangladesh, Embassy of Japan, Embassy of France, Embassy of India, Embassy of Sri Lanka and Embassy of Russia Federation.

At the meeting, the minister briefed on development of Myanmar’s education sector. The minister, deputy ministers and rectors answered the queries raised by those present. — MNA
Economic development achieved remarkably due to systematic plans

Our country is now on the right track of development
Destructive elements opposed to National Convention including NLD are disrupting democracy transition

Our country is now on the... (from page 9)

As regards better transportation, Yangon-Sittaungway highway was built. The Yangon-Kyaikkyio highway is under construction with the use of geo-textile technology. It is near completion. In Rakhine State, Shwe-1 and Shwe-2 natural gas exploration projects are being implemented to earn more and more foreign exchange and create job opportunities for local populace.

Our country is now on the right track of development. Myanmar has possessed good foundations and favourable infrastructures for further strengthening national unity; accelerating economic development pace; ensuring socio-economic development; and improving technological advancement. To transform Myanmar into a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, the National Convention which is the first and crucial stage of the seven-step Road Map is being held. Altogether 1085 NC delegates of eight categories representing various walks of life are attending the National Convention.

The entire national people are to do their bit for the success of the National Convention. The fabricated accusations are made nowadays by destructive elements with pessimistic attitude to jeopardize the National Convention and the national progress. We the entire national people thus denounce the destructionists. A peaceful, modern and discipline-flourishing democratic nation cannot be built overnight. Likewise, democratic systems of other nations cannot be copied or imported.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has pointed out that human rights & democracy norms of Asian people are different from those of westerners. Thus we are to choose the correct democratic & human rights norms suitable to the nation and the people. The Government therefore is now shaping the nation’s destiny into an enduring democratic nation in conformity with our own background history. Internal & external axe-handles are however danc- ing to the tune of their western masters in collaboration with foreign broadcasting media. The entire national people are to keep alive and dynamic Union Spirit which is the true patriot- ism, the spirit of sharing noble & woe and the spirit of safeguarding national sovereignty for ensuring perpetuation of the Union.

MNA

Shan State (South) USDA members participating in all development sectors

The USDA developed a system of one-sided decisions and fabrication of accusations are made nowadays by destructive elements with the pretext of democracy movements. When the global funds left Myanmar, the group that incited 1998 unrest declared that education and health sectors were terribly poor in Myanmar, calling for international community to provide humanitarian aid for the people. In fact, Myanmar is enjoying better education and health standards. The USDA Division USDAs so far has renovated 26 primary school buildings, and provided assistance for ensuring enrolment of 7,560 school-age children, and is running six free courses for over 600 matriculation students.

It has carried out disease control measure- s for 1247 times in the region this year. Besides, it has been tak- ing part in public health care services enthusiastically.

It is also lending themselves to the five rural development tasks for the public well-be-

MNA
Teachers urged to make efforts with Union Spirit to ensure sustainable improvement of national education

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyne delivers an address at the opening ceremony of Special Refresher Course No 5 for Faculty Members at Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar). — MNA

YANGON, 10 Nov — Special Refresher Course No 5 for faculty members was opened at Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division yesterday.

On behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyne addressed the opening ceremony.

Also present were Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyin, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Development Affairs Brig-Gen Than Tun, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Tha, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, Deputy Chief Justice of Upper Myanmar U Khin Maung Latt, Deputy Attorney-General U Han Shein, Member of CSSTB U Hla Myint Oo, departmental heads, local authorities, Rector of CICS (Upper Myanmar) U Aung Hsan Win, pro-rectors, heads of department, faculty members and trainees.

In his address on behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyne said that nowadays, the national education promotion drive covering the task of producing intellectuals and intelligentsia has become a national strength safeguarding independence and sovereignty for their perpetuity in addition to raising the national prestige.

The Head of State in his guidance urged the education sector to raise teachers’ qualifications to meet the standard, draw international level curricula, to nurture students to be actually skilled in the field, provide adequate number of teaching facilities, to train youths to have good morale including the love for the country, patriotism and Union Spirit, and to train youths to observe discipline including school discipline, civil rules, and the law.

The implementation of the national education promotion projects involves the integrated task of getting access to and utilizing the ever advancing science and technologies and strengthening Union Spirit, and safeguarding the national values and norms from deteriorating or vanishing in the face of globalization.

Universities and colleges were established in the respective regions for opening up learning opportunities. There are altogether 156 institutions under the various ministries including 35 universities and 29 colleges under the Ministry of Education, 14 institutes under the Ministry of Health, 6 universities, 26 technical colleges and 24 computer colleges under the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Modern information and communication technology has been introduced and laboratories of international standard, e-libraries, resources centres and networks and research centres of international standard have also been established for raising the standard of education of universities and colleges, he said.

He said masters courses and workshops for under-graduate courses are conducted and educational seminars are held continuously. Moreover, arrangements were made for conducting post-graduate courses and new branches of studies.

The government is making efforts for emergence of advanced learning centres where education activities can be exchanged in international education fields in cooperation with educational organizations such as ASEAN University Network (AUN) and SEAMEO, international universities, government, ministry and universities.

Generally speaking, he said the objectives of higher education sector have been realized with the active participation of international education community. One of the significant characteristics in development of education sector in Myanmar is that the entire Myanmar women are participating in this field with greater numbers. Therefore, better opportunities to enhance efficiency of the women and brighter future are increasing, he added.

In fact, like men, Myanmar women have had equal rights on learning since under the reign of their own monarch. Educated women emerged throughout the history of Myanmar. It is obvious that gender discrimination was introduced in the education system of the colonial period.

It is found that participation ratio of women in education and health sectors, the most basic sector for social development, is significantly high comparing with that of men. The number of women is high in learning, teaching and educational management, he pointed out.

Destructive elements from home and abroad and some big western nations accused Myanmar of violating women’s rights. According to the correct data and prevailing situation, Myanmar women are making efforts for prosperity of the nation and its people hand in hand with men, enjoying equal opportunities, he said.

It is a good factor that women play an important role in education sector which shape the new generation youths for the future of the State.

Students will grow up under the care of teachers with maternal spirit and they will also become polite and good sons and daughters who serve the interest of the nation.

All the teachers are to be convinced that only when the nation is able to produce brighter generation of intellectuals and intelligentsia than previous generation in greater number, and to equip the people with maternal spirit and patriotism, and Union Spirit, will the nation have a brighter future, he said.

He called on the trainees to make efforts with Union Spirit to ensure sustainable improvement of national education, an essential factor for national development.

After the ceremony, the Minister cordially greeted the trainees. Altogether 631 faculty members of universities and colleges from Upper Myanmar are attending the four-week course. — MNA

Bangladeshi delegation meets UMFCCI officials

YANGON, 11 Nov — President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint received a Bangladeshi delegation led by Chairman Mr Sadique Ahsan of Bangladesh-Myanmar Chambers of Commerce and Industry (BMCCI) on 8 November. The delegation also called on UMFCCI officials led by Vice-President U Aung Lwin. They discussed matters on promoting trade between the two countries, exporting onion and its prospects and cooperation in tourism industry. — MNA

Officials of UMFCCI and BMCCI seen in discussion. — UMFCCI

The implemen-

China to send 7,000 state-funded students abroad next year

BEIJING, 10 Nov—China will send 7,000 people to study in overseas educational institutes in 2006, the largest number ever sent by the State since the opening-up and reform drive was launched in 1978. The China Scholarship Council (CSC) announced that it will select and send around 7,000 students to study in the top-notch universities worldwide, an increase of 7.5 percent over the previous year. CSC will select applicants from 35 central government departments, dollars (about 11,764 US dollars) or both if they are found guilty.

Five HIV-positive blood donors charged in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 10 Nov—Five blood donors, who had tested positive for the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) when donating blood last year, were charged in court on Wednesday.

According to Channel NewsAsia report, they were charged under the Infectious Diseases Act with making false declarations in the Donor Health Assessment Questionnaire. Penalties include imprisonment for up to two years or a maximum fine of 20,000 Singapore dollars (about 11,764 US dollars) or both if they are found guilty.

The report added that the five people’s blood was not used in any transfusion, which is one of the ways to transmit the deadly disease of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). The Health Ministry was quoted as saying that it has been taking stringent measures to screen blood donors and test donated blood. There are about 2,500 Singaporeans infected with HIV/AIDS.

MNA/Xinhua

Kansas state board adopts pro-creationism science standards

LOS ANGELES, 10 Nov—The Education Board of US state Kansas on Tuesday adopted new science-curricula standards for the state’s 445,000 public-school students that openly question the Evolution Theory of Charles Darwin.

The new standards, passed in a 6-4 vote after hours of sometimes hostile debate, are seen by most scientists and educators as a victory for creationism even though the regulations do not require that Bible teachings be presented, according to the CBS.

The newly approved regulations not only question the theory that all life has a common origin, they also rewrite the definition of science, holding that it is no longer limited to searching for natural explanations for natural phenomena.

Supporters of the new standards insist that their effort has nothing to do with religion and everything to do with Darwin, saying that science classes present Darwin’s theories as fact when plenty of questions exist about his findings.

Those opposing the new standards, though, cast them as a backdoor effort by creationists to introduce religious expression into the public classroom, especially the doctrine of intelligent design.

This intelligent design doctrine maintains that those facets of natural science that remain unexplained by Darwin should be attributed to an anonymous intelligent agent.

Advocates of this “theory” argued that Darwin’s theory on natural selection and the formation of new species is pockmarked with logical holes. They advanced an alternative premise that the world is owed to “a profoundly formative intervention.” The concept of intelligent design has gained popularity among those questioning Darwin’s validity.

According to the Discovery Institute, a Seattle-based think tank promoting the concept of intelligent design, four US states — Ohio, Pennsylvania, Minnesota and New Hampshire — have preceded Kansas in requiring schools to present a critical analysis of evolution. Kansas has over the years emerged as a key battleground in the debate. In 1999, a conservative faction on the State Board of Education managed to institute science standards that removed almost all references to evolution in the curriculum.

New standards, restoring evolution to its previous status, were adopted in 2001 when voters ousted the creationist bloc. But three years later an election gave conservatives the edge again. — MNA/Xinhua

Kenya, Thailand to swap wildlife despite protests

NAIROBI, 10 Nov—Kenya signed an agreement with Thailand on Wednesday under which the East African nation would deliver animals to the Asian country despite protests from conservationists.

Visiting Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra sealed the deal during a meeting with Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki at State House Nairobi, according to a joint communiqué issued here after the talks.

“The two sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Park and Wildlife Management,” said the joint communiqué.

The MoU will enable Kenya to deliver wild animals for Thailand’s Chiang Mai Night Safari Park, a pet project of the Thai Prime Minister aimed at boosting tourism in his home province of Chiang Mai in northern Thailand.

Kenya’s agreement to export animals to Thailand in exchange for Asian animals has been criticized by animal protection groups for failing to state which animals will be involved in the swap.

Conservationists have also called on the government to drop the controversial plan to send exotic and endangered animals to Thailand, warning such a plan would harm the animals and the efforts to protect them, and damage Kenya’s tourism sector which relies heavily on wildlife safaris.

The swap was arranged late last year during a visit to Thailand by Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki but had attracted little notice until animal welfare campaigners got wind of the arrangement and protested earlier this year. Kenyan Government officials have defended the deal, citing overpopulation of the species involved, but the state-run Kenya Tourism Board has also questioned the trade, noting that it would likely generate negative attention.

Since the matter came in public, it has elicited emotional reactions from those opposing the move, with Kenya’s Tourism Ministry confirming that it has received “tons of letters” from all over the country to oppose the plan.

MNA/Xinhua
Japanese Princess to wear mother’s kimono at wedding

TOKYO, 10 Nov — Japan’s Princess Sayako, the only daughter of Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, will wear one of her mother’s kimonos at the reception for her wedding next week to commoner Yoshiki Kuroda, a newspaper reported on Tuesday.

In a reversal of usual practice, Sayako, 36, will wear a Western-style, long, white wedding dress for the Shinto ceremony and then change into the traditional garb for the reception at the classy Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, the Mainichi Shimbun said in its online English-language version.

The couple — longtime friends whose romance was kindled when they met at a party held by Sayako’s older brother two years ago — will also forgo the custom of having a formal “go-between” at the ceremonies and will not cut a wedding cake before their assembled guests, the newspaper said.

Nor will they remain in stately isolation sitting before an ornate folding screen at the reception, another departure from the last marriage between a Princess and a commoner in 1960.

Princess Sayako, known informally as Nori, will leave the imperial family upon her marriage to urban planner Kuroda, 39, and their children will not be eligible to inherit the throne. — MNA/Reuters

Malaysian researcher develops rubber tile

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 Nov — A Malaysian university researcher has developed a rubber tile that does not require ironing and is not easy to be stained, local media said here Sunday. The tile made from rubber looks like a conventional fabric tile and is smart, elegant and of quality, said Professor Nairi Zainal Arif, head of the Material Lab of the Industrial University of Selangor who developed the product.

He said that the tile is washable and fashionable with various colours, and does not crumple. It is made with only 100 and 150 grammes of synthetic rubber.

It is “safe”, compared with the conventional tile, because the wearer will not choke when he pulls it hard, he added. The lab currently can make about 100 pieces of man-made ties of this kind, but can produce about 300 pieces if a machine is used. — MNA/Xinhua

Singapore takes biomedical science as growth engine

SINGAPORE, 8 Nov — Singapore takes biomedical science as one of the country’s growth engines, Minister for Community, Development, Youth and Sports Vivian Balakrishnan said on Sunday night at an event on science.

“As a small country, we will have to focus our resources on niche areas of economic importance where we can be internationally competitive. The biomedical science or life sciences is one such niche area,” the minister said.

Noting challenges posed by countries like India, Thailand and the United States in terms of healthcare services and professional achievements, Balakrishnan pointed out that Singapore must pursue excellence in medical research.

He added that high-end manufacturing operations and entrepreneurial activities would also be attracted to locations of research excellence and innovation so as to form a cycle between healthcare, manufacturing and services.

The minister urged clinicians in Singapore to participate in clinical trials and collaborate with scientists in research institutes, which will help convert the potential of upstream research into clinical applications and keep health care practices up-to-date. — MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to produce bird flu vaccines for humans

HANOI, 10 Nov — Vietnam will start producing vaccines to be used among people against bird flu virus strain H5N1 on Thursday.

The country’s National Institute of Hygiene, which has researched into the vaccines since 2004, has proposed the Health Ministry use them on trial basis in early 2006, local newspaper Young People on Wednesday quoted the institute in Hanoi as saying.

The institute has made full reports to the ministry and the World Health Organization (WHO) about relevant professional aspects of the production of H5N1 vaccines, the first line of defence for reducing the excess morbidity and mortality which invariably accompany pandemics as stated by the organization.

“Around 10 countries have domestic vaccine producers, and several of these are presently working on the development of a pandemic vaccine. Some of these development projects have reached the stage of clinical trials... One company has indicated that it will be presenting the results of its clinical trials to WHO by early December 2005. However, if a pandemic were to begin within the next few months, no company would be ready to move immediately into commercial production,” the organization said in an early November statement. — MNA/Xinhua

2,000-year-old periwig unearthed in S-W China

CHENGDU, 10 Nov — The Chinese might have learned to adorn themselves with periwigs more than 2,000 years ago, said archaeologists who unearthed a skeleton wearing a hairpiece from an ancient tombs in southwest China’s Sichuan Province. The wig, found on the lower part of the skull, was made of hemp rope, says Zhang Rong, a heritage repairs technician with a local museum in Liangshan Prefecture, where the finding was reported.

Zhang said she had consulted several seasoned hemp knitters in the prefecture before she came to the conclusion.

The wig dates back to years between the Western States Period (475–221 BC) and the Western Han Dynasty (206 BC-24 AD), said Liu Hong, curator of the museum in Liangshan, a community of the Yi ethnic group. He said a joint archaeological team sent by the museum and Sichuan University excavated 11 tombs in Siki District, Zhaojue County in the Daliangshan Mountain in the past two weeks. — MNA/Xinhua
Owen says England ready to face Brazil

LONDON, 11 Nov — Striker Michael Owen says England would have nothing to fear from Brazil if they had to face the holders at next year's World Cup.

Brazil, who beat England 2-1 in the 2002 quarter-finals, are even bigger favourites for 2006 since the emergence of forwards Adriano and Robinho in a side that already has the likes of Ronaldo and Ronaldinho up front.

"I certainly don't see them as unbeatable," Owen, who scored England's goal against Brazil in 2002, told reporters during preparations for Saturday's friendly against Argentina. "I've no fear of playing any top teams. They've got some cracking players and if you asked the world who were going to win it, they'd come top."

"But if we played against them we wouldn't fear them at all. We'd respect them and they've got some of the best attacking players in the world. But we've got some of the best centre halves in defence in the world."

"And if we can nullify their attacking players, I'd always fancy us scoring a goal against them."

England's strength in central defence, where John Terry, Rio Ferdinand, Sol Campbell and Jonathan Woodgate are competing for places, is balanced by an attacking threat led by Wayne Rooney and Owen. Fuelling hopes of World Cup glory in Germany, 40 years after their only previous triumph, Owen rates England's 2006 side as better than those of 2002 and 1998. "They're such good players," he said. "The standard in training is unbelievable. Owen would have none of the hand-wringing and questioning of mental strength that has accompanied England's recent tournament exits — at the 1998 World Cup and Euro 2004 on penalties."

Reyes confident of Spanish goals against Slovakia

MADRID, 11 Nov — Arsenal forward Jose Antonio Reyes is confident Spain's strikers are in form for the World Cup playoff against Slovakia on Saturday.

"We are the better team and we are going to prove it," Reyes told a news conference on Wednesday. "I am convinced we are going to score goals, and a 2-0 victory would be ideal to take to Slovakia."

"With the forwards we have we are bound to score. Fernando Torres and Raul are both in form, as are Fernando Morientes and David Villa if they play."

Reyes, Torres and Raul are likely to be coach Luis Aragones' choice to lead the lane in an attack-minded formation.

Atletico Madrid striker Torres has been in great form for his country scoring five goals in his last two games, against Belgium and San Marino. Spain are in the playoffs for next year's World Cup finals in Germany after finishing second in European zone Group Seven behind Serbia & Montenegro. Slovakia were runners-up in Group Three behind Portugal.

Reyes also had words of support for Real Betis winger Joaquin, who was the surprise omission from the squad for the playoffs' final squad.

Campbell looks to future after injury woes

MANCHESTER (England), 10 Nov — England defender Sol Campbell believes a year of injury woes are finally behind him as he prepares for Saturday's friendly against Argentina.

Campbell, who missed much of Arsenal's 2004-05 campaign with ankle, calf and Achilles injuries and was also sidelined at the start of this season, is back after a stop-start run with England.

Pumas stun Corinthians to end losing run

RIO DE JANEIRO, 11 Nov — Mexico's UNAM, whose coach Hugo Sanchez quit last week, ended a run of six defeats by beating Brazilian championship leaders Corinthians 3-0 to reach the Copa Sudamericana semi-finals.

The Pumas went through 4-2 on aggregate after scoring three times in the second half in Wednesday's quarter-final second leg in Mexico City, two of the goals coming from Argentine striker Bruno Marioni. Former Real Madrid and Mexico striker Sanchez quit last week after a four-year reign during which he won two Mexican titles and was an outspoken critic of national team coach Ricardo La Volpe.

"I was waited for by youth team assistant Miguel España, whose first match in charge ended in a 3-2 home defeat by Atlante on Sunday." A derby game appeared to be heading for a 0-0 draw for the first hour but came to life when Marioni replaced Gerardo Galindo in the 65th minute.

Metzelder out of Germany's clash with France

FRANKFURT, 11 Nov — Borussia Dortmund centre-back Christoph Metzelder will miss Germany's friendly international against France on Saturday because of a back problem.

Metzelder, now recoved from career-threatening Achilles injuries, made his first appearance for Germany in 32 months in the recent 1-0 win over China. The 2006 World Cup hosts had not managed to keep a clean sheet since a 3-0 win over Tunisia in the Confederations Cup in June and Metzelder immediately went to the front of the queue for places in Juergen Klinsmann's final squad.

Arsenal set to sign 16-year-old Mexican Vela

MEXICO CITY, 10 Nov — Sixteen-year-old Mexican Carlos Vela is set to join English Premier League club Arsenal, his present team Guadalajara said on Wednesday.

Guadalajara director Nestor de la Torre told reporters the club had agreed terms with an Arsenal representative.

Vela scored five goals to finish as top scorer in the World Under-17 Championship in Peru in October, which Mexico won.

"Given our expectations and what we are looking for in a sporting sense and in terms of economic structure, the club is satisfied," said de la Torre, who had not reveal the amount involved. — MNA/Reuters
China to provide free compulsory education in 2015

BEIJING, 11 Nov — China aims to provide free nine-year compulsory education in the rural areas in 2010 and for all the students across the country in 2015.

Han Jin, director of the development and planning department of the Ministry of Education, said Chinese Government will increase investment in education to realize the goal.

At a Press conference here on Thursday, Han said China will provide all students from poor families in acute poverty-stricken rural areas with free textbooks and exempt them from paying miscellaneous fees in 2007. Among them, the boarding students will receive living allowances.

“By enjoying the policy, all students from poor families are able to finish the compulsory education,” said Han.

So far, the policy has been applied to 36 million students in the rural areas, Han added. According to a national report on China’s education for all released at the Press conference, government investment accounted for 82.7 per cent and 76.6 per cent of the total costs of primary and junior middle school education in rural areas in 2004, up 16 per cent and 14 per cent over 2000 respectively — MNA/Xinhua

ASLEEP IN JESUS

Saw Gibson Shaw
Age (64) years

Eldiest son of the late (Saw Baw Shaw-Naw Jessie), of No (484) Lower Kyimyindaing Road, Kayin National Quarter, Kyimyindaing Township, beloved husband of Saw Seldah Maung (PAPRD-Retired), loving father of Naw Pa Saw Hse and Naw Pa Saw Wai, elder brother of (Saw Nelson Shaw)-Naw Alvina, Saw Tennyson Shaw-Naw Jewel, was called to his Heavly Home in Ghana (Africa) on 4th November, 2005 at 9:00 pm (Ghana Time).

Funeral Service will be held at Judson Church on Pyay Road, at 1:00 pm, 13th November, 2005 (Sunday), and thence the cortege will leave for Yayaw Christian Cemetery for entombment.

Bereaved family

WEATHER

Friday, 11 November, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thun-dershower have been widespread in Taninthayi Division, scattered in Mon State, isolated in Shan, Kayin, Rakhine States, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (7°C) below normal in Magway Division, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing, Bago and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kayah and Mon States and Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (1.81) inches, Thandwe (0.71) inch and Myeik (0.55) inch.

Maximum temperature on 10-11-2005 was 87°F. Minimum temperature on 11-11-2005 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 09-30 hrs MST on 11-11-2005 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 10-11-2005 was (5.3) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 11-11-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-11-2005 were (102.60) inches at Mingaladon, (101.77) inches at Kaba-Aye and (106.46) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northwest at (15:30) hours MST on 10-11-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 12-11-2005: Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Rakhine State, Ayeyawady, Bago and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Mon, Kayin States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Light rain or thundershowers are likely in lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 12-11-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 12-11-2005: Rainfall.

Weather outlook for third weekend of November 2005: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Yangon Division and weather will be generally fair in Mandalay Division.
Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence addresses at an opening ceremony of multi-media classrooms of Zinkyek BEHS in Paung Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo heard a report on progress of construction of roads in the villages of Thaton, Bilin and Kyakhto Townships and the commander gave a supplementary report. Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected the worksite of the project, and gave instructions on meeting the set standard and timely completion, followed attending to the needs. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party attended the opening ceremony of multimedia classrooms at Zingyaik BEHS and viewed the learning of the students. At the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo donated teaching aids, Mon State PDC K 300,000, local people in Paung Township K 2 million and people and school board of trustees in Zinkyek Village K 1.3 million. The commander, officials and the headmistress accepted the donations.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the site to construct computer college in Paung Township and gave necessary instructions.

On arrival at Kadaik Dam Project being implemented by the Irrigation Department-6 near Kadaik village, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected the worksite of the project, and gave instructions on meeting the set standard and timely completion, followed attending to the needs.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint presents offerings to a sayadaw of Masoeyin Monastery in Mandalay. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party offered robes and provisions to Chief Presiding Sayadaw of Maha Gandayon Monastery Agga Maha Pandita Ashin Aindalabhivamsa.

On arrival at Thungedaw lake in TadaU Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard a report on irrigation and agricultural tasks in the environs of the lake by Mandalay Division Irrigation Department Director U Aye Thein and reports on cultivation of castor and jatropha in the surrounding villages of the lake by the manager of the Division Myanma Agriculture Service. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint also inspected growing of monsoon paddy around the lake.

(See page 8)