With encouragement of people, task to win victory is on shoulders of Myanmar sports contingent members

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents State Flag to sports contingent to XXIII SEA Games

YANGON, 14 Nov—A ceremony to present the State Flag to Myanmar sports contingent that will be participating in XXIII South-East Asia Games to be held in the Philippines from 27 November to 5 December was held at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thingangyun Township this evening.

Chairman of Myanmar National Olympic Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented the State Flag to the leader of Myanmar sports contingent.

Also present were the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers, members of Myanmar Olympic Committee, members of committee for ensuring success of Myanmar sports, members of leading patrons of Myanmar Women’s Sports Federation, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, presidents and officials of sports federations, leader of Myanmar sports team, athletes and guests.

Next, the Secretary-1 was presented to members of Myanmar sports team. In his address, the Secretary-1 said the entire people are desirous of expressing dignity of the nation and the people after gaining victories in international sports meets and the people also greatly praised the athletes for their success. He said those representing the nation and the people are proud of participating in the international contests. With the encouragement of the people, the tasks to win victory is now on the shoulders of Myanmar sports contingent members. The government is making all-out efforts with own national strength for the country to uphold the national prestige keeping abreast of the nations in various sectors such as economic, social and cultural sectors.

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To do meritorious deeds on Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone

The whole sky is clear and it is cloudless in Tazaungmone, the eight month of Myanmar lunar calendar. And rivers and seas are calm without huge waves and strong winds. It is the time when paddy is mature.

The word Tazaungmone consists of ‘Tazaung’ and ‘Mone’. The word “Tazaung” means light, and the word “Mone”, convey. So, Tazaungmone means the month in which lights and open oil lamps are lit, and conveying of lights to remove darkness.

Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone falls in Bysikhs (Scorpio), the eighth sign of the zodiac, and Kyattikar, the third lunar mansion. All the stars appear in the sky at the night of Full-Moon Day. So, the full-moon light on Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone is more pleasant and beautiful than that in the full-moon days of the remaining months.

On Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone, King Ajatasat of Rajagaha, under the arrangements of physician Jivaka, paid a courtesy call on the Lord Buddha, who was lodging in the mango grove of the physician, for a sermon.

The Blessed One expounded Samañña Phala (the fruits of the life of a recluse) Sutta.

With reference to the story, Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone was designated as Samañña Phala Day.

Since the time of the Exalted One, Buddhists have held Kathina-robe offering ceremonies on Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone with the aim of enjoying the five kinds of benefit of offering Kathina robes.

By accepting Kathina robes, members of the Buddhist Order can enjoy the five kinds of benefit. In return, the offering of Kathina robes brings five kinds of benefit to the donors — they can travel anywhere they wish without being hindered; they can complete in ease whatever matters they are doing in their lives until they attain Nirvana; they can live in luxury and enjoy their property in peace of mind; they can enjoy a lot of best foods and drinks and they can never suffer from harm or poison due to the foods and drinks they have enjoyed; and their property can be destroyed by no one.

All the Buddhists are therefore urged to continue to perform meritorious deeds such as offering Kathina robes and practising mental cultivation on Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone or Samañña Phala Day, the most significant and pleasant day of a year.

Information Ministry offers Kathina robes

**YANGON, 14 Nov** — Under the auspices of Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win, families of the Office of the Ministry and News and Periodicals Enterprise held a Kathina Robes offering ceremony this morning at Dagon Panjiriati Monastery in the compound of Eindawyar Pagoda on Myoma Kyuang Street.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of members of the Sangha led by Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidaja Maharattaguru Abhidhaja Maha Saddhamajotika Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara, Vice-Chairman Panabhivumsa, Sayadaw Abhidaja Maharattaguru Bhaddanta Osada Bhiwuma of Nyaungdon Ponamaraza Ze Monastery and Presiding of Dagon Township Dagon Panjiriati Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Gyanananda. Also present were the directors-general and managing directors under the ministry, advisers, the deputy directors-general, general, managers, officials of the ministry, those from Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Motion Picture Organization, Myanmar Music Organization, the chief editor of Nangungan Gonyi Magazine, guests and family members.

The ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of Nam Tassa. The Vice-Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee invested the congregation led by Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan with the Five Precepts.

Afterwards, the minister and wife offered Kathina robes and eight requisites to Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidaja Maharattaguru Abhidhaja Maha Saddhamajotika Bhaddanta Panabhivuma, Sayadaw Abhidaja Maharattaguru Bhaddanta Osada Bhiwuma of Nyaungdon Ponamaraza Ze Monastery and Presiding of Dagon Township Dagon Panjiriati Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Gyanananda. Also present were the directors-general and managing directors under the ministry, advisers, the deputy directors-general, general, managers, officials of the ministry, those from Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Motion Picture Organization, Myanmar Music Organization, the chief editor of Nangungan Gonyi Magazine, guests and family members.

Magway Sayadaw delivered a sermon followed by sharing of merits gained. After the ceremony ‘soon’ was offered to the members of the Sangha. — **MNA**

**Depavali festival held**

**YANGON, 14 Nov** — Organized by All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (Central), Depavali festival was held yesterday at Strand Hotel, here, attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung.

**First, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence, the Indian Ambassador and the Nepali Ambassador opened the ceremony. In his address, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung said that in Myanmar, religious festivals are held as every citizen has freedom of faith and it is heartening to see that those from all religious orders take part in the Depavali festival and it shows the harmony among national races of the country.**

**Afterwards dances of Tamil Hindu Indian Tribes were presented to those present.** — **MNA**

**Literati to be honoured**

**YANGON, 14 Nov** — As a gesture of hailing the Literati Day, a ceremony to pay respect to 105 doyen literati organized by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association under the supervision of the Ministry of Information will be held. A ceremony to donate K 100,000 and above will be held at the ministry in the last week of November. Those who wish to attend the ceremony may contact Work Committee for Finance at No 529/531, at the corner of Merchant and 37th streets or phone number 252417. — **MNA**

**Donate blood**
US-backed Middle East meeting ends without final declaration

RIYADH, 13 Nov — The forum for the future, a US-backed meeting aimed at promoting political reform in the Middle East and North Africa, ended on Saturday without a final declaration, according to reports from Bahrain's capital of Manama.

A draft declaration that pledges "to expand democratic practices, to enlarge participation in political and public life and to foster the roles of civil society including the non-governmental organizations", was shelved after Egypt expressed reservations.

Egypt wanted to add that only NGOs which were "legally registered" with a country and followed that nation's laws should be helped, the reports said.

"We did not withdraw" from the meeting, said Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit at a closing Press conference.

Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Khaled bin Ahmad al-Khalifa told reporters the declaration will come up again, perhaps at next year's meeting scheduled to be held in Jordan.

Ministers of some 22 Middle East and North African countries and G-8 nations as well as representatives from the World Bank and the European Union attended the meeting.

The two-day forum is seen as one of the concrete steps toward implement- ing Washington's "Greater Middle East Initiative" adopted at the G-8 summit last year.

Three US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 14 Nov — Two US Marines were killed in combat and a soldier died in a vehicle accident in Iraq, the military said in a statement on Sunday.

The marines were assigned to Regimental Combat Team Eight, 2nd Marine Division, and died when their vehicle was attacked with an improvised explosive device in Al Amriyah on Saturday, the statement said.

In a separate incident, the military said that a soldier assigned to Regimental Combat Team Two, 2nd Marine Division, died on Saturday in a traffic accident near Rawah. At least 2,065 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003.

Up to 10,000 looted Iraqi antiquities still unfound

WASHINGTON, 13 Nov — Over two years after Iraq's National Museum was sacked by looters following the US invasion, up to 10,000 Iraqi antiquities are still unrecovered, a US official said.

Colonel Matthew Bogdanos, the US investigator leading the search for looted Iraqi antiquities, said among the 10,000 of 15,000 items that went missing from the National Museum in Baghdad, over 5,000 have been recovered.

The museum, once boasting of largest collections of antiquities in the Middle East, suffered from looting and serious damage by thousands of looters in a state of chaos after the US troops took Baghdad in April, 2003.

Bogdanos said with the cooperation of police, academics and Customs agents from six countries, more than 5,000 items have so far been recovered, including some 2,000 found by the Jordans.

To recover all the rest lost items, more help is needed from Iraq's neighbours, particularly Iran and Turkey, he said.

Bogdanos said his investigation found that three kinds of looters participated in the pillaging.

One group includes thieves who swept up many pieces, including copies and forgeries, into bags.

Finally, there are insiders who took valuable ancient seals and jewellery.

The past two years have seen many of Iraq's antiquities stolen or looted and many of its historical sites destroyed in the ongoing conflicts, and some international archaeologists have blamed the US military for its negligence in protecting the country's historical heritage.
Thaksin dismisses criticism of wildlife deal

NAIROBI, 13 Nov — Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on Thursday dismissed criticism over a wildlife deal signed with the Kenyan Government during his official visit that allows the exportation of wild animals to his country.

Shinawatra said his country has previously imported wild animals from other countries, and has gained the necessary experience to take care of the wildlife from the East African nation.

He spoke as placard waving conservationists demonstrated in Nairobi over the controversial deal to get 175 wild animals from Kenya and his convoy to a local shopping mall had to be diverted by security personnel to elude the protesters.

"For those who criticized without knowing we feel sorry. We did not come to take advantage of Kenya," the Thai Prime Minister said.

He insisted that the deal was signed according to the international laws governing such an exercise.

"Conservationists are furious that Kenya has signed a deal with Thailand to hand over some 175 animals from game parks. However, Kenyan authorities stressed none of the animals, including zebra, hippos and giraffe, would be endangered species. Shinawatra expressed regret at what he termed as a misunderstanding of the facts surrounding the deal saying that Thailand being a fellow developing country could not take advantage of Kenya. But security personnel force the route to the Prime Minister's convoy to the Village Market in northern Nairobi, to evade placard wielding activists who had planned to voice their protest over the deal.

The protesters led by Youth for Conservation director Josphat Ngoyo maintained that it is illegal for the government to sign the deal without wider consultation. "Over 50 per cent of Kenyans said 'no' to the export of wild animals," said Ngoyo.

He called for a clarification of the contents of the deal saying Kenyans have the right to know. "If Thailand wants animals they should get them from other zoos," said Ngoyo.

MNA/Xinhua

US House Committee to investigate story on secret prisons

WASHINGTON, 13 Nov — The US House Intelligence Committee will investigate a story published by The Washington Post last week about a secret global prison system run by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The committee would look into several possible leaks of classified information, including the existence of the CIA's secret prisons overseas and the classified annual budget of 44 billion US dollars for the intelligence community.

"The depth of the leaks that we have seen in the intelligence community over the last 12 to 18 months have been irreplaceable harm to our ability to effectively conduct the war on terror," Representative Peter Hoekstra, chairman of the committee, said on Thursday.

The committee took the action at the request of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and House Speaker Dennis Hastert.

The Washington Post reported said the CIA was operating covert detention centres in eight foreign countries, including some in Eastern Europe, for holding terror suspects.

The existence and locations of these prisons — referred to as "black sites" in classified government documents — are known to only a handful of officials in the United States, according to the newspaper.

MNA/Xinhua

China issues commemorative Olympic stamps

BEIJING, 13 Nov— China issued a series of postage stamps commemorating the 2008 Olympic Games on Saturday, one day after the 1,000-day countdown to the event's opening ceremony.

The stamps, six in a set, feature the 2008 Olympic emblem — "Chinese Seal, Dancing Beijing" and the five doll mascots, which were unveiled on Friday evening at a grand ceremony in the Chinese capital. Each of the stamps has a face value of 0.8 yuan (about 0.1 US dollar).

They are the first commemorative Olympic stamps China issued since Beijing won the right to host the 2008 Games in July 2001.

MNA/Xinhua

Gulf syndrome is real

WALES, 13 Nov—The law lord who headed an independent inquiry into illnesses suffered by 5,000 veterans of the 1991 war with Iraq has urged the Ministry of Defence to accept the term "Gulf War Syndrome". Lord Lloyd of Berwick claimed the MoD was split on the issue, with the Veterans' Agency accepting the validity of the term, while the rest of the Ministry does not.

His intervention followed a Pensions Appeal Tribunal ruling earlier this month that British soldiers who suffered debilitating illnesses after the war were victims of a conflict-related syndrome.

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MNA/Xinhua

An Iraqi child sleeps as US Marines search a civilian Iraqi home recently.—INTERNET
Ugandan, Sudanese armies start joint operations against LRA rebels

KAMPALA, 13 Nov—Ugandan Defence Minister Amama Mbabazi on Friday said Ugandan Army has started joint operations with the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and Sudan Forces to pursue Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels inside Sudan.

Mbabazi said LRA rebel leader Joseph Kony has no more territory protection. He said Ugandan and Sudanese armies had deployed troops to Aba region in DRC to surround and pursue LRA deputy commander Vincent Otti who is hiding around Yei and Meridi.

Zeng stressed the importance of the geological survey work, considering it key to easing the impact of resource shortages on economic growth. He noted that major projects in geological surveying should be launched in accordance with the overall layout of national economic and social development. Enterprises are encouraged to take part in mineral prospecting.

He urged to continue the comprehensive survey and assessment of the geological environment in key economic zones and mineral belts. —MNA/Xinhua

Biggest travel agency in M-E plans to operate hotels in China

BEIJING, 13 Nov—Cham Group of Syria, the biggest travel agency in the Middle East, on Friday announced its plan to operate hotels in China, in order to capitalize on the booming Chinese tourism market.

The group is planned to buy local Chinese hotels and expected to achieve substantial results next year. Due to the Olympic Games to be held in Beijing in 2008, the group chose the capital of China first, said Ghassan Ahiid, president of Cham Group. — MNA/Xinhua

China’s west to see more investors from Spain

CHONGQING, 13 Nov—China’s outback west is becoming a hot attraction for Spanish investors.

“The vast market is like our challenging bullring,” said Spanish entrepreneur Jorge Botello, who is going to set up a factory in west China’s Sichuan Province.

Botello is one of the 20 delegates of an inspection tour organized by the Catalunya government. Their businesses cover the manufacturing, processing and distribution of farm products. “It is a long-considered decision to invest in Sichuan. Because we share the same advantages in geographic location, processing industry and agricultural instruments manufacturing,” said Antonihi Sidrana, Agriculture Minister of Catalunya and also the leader of the team, adding that their cooperation will be fruitful. —MNA/Xinhua

Antonmishi Siurana said the Catalunya government had deployed troops to Aba region in DRC to surround and pursue LRA deputy commander Vincent Otti who is hiding around Yei and Meridi.

Third Kashmir crossing opened — but not for people

LIVENG, 13 Nov—India and Pakistan opened a third crossing point on their de facto border dividing the earthquake hit region of Kashmir on Saturday, but with a shorter hallway than the former crossings.

India and Pakistan have agreed to open five crossing points, as a humanitarian response to the 8 October earthquake that killed over 75,000 people, mostly in Pakistani Kashmir.

At Saturday’s opening of a footbridge across the Neelum River between Chiliana in Pakistan and Tithwah in India, bags of relief goods containing sheets, blankets, tools, and warm clothing were given first by one side and then by the other.

Zambia, Angola to reopen railway line

LUSAKA, 13 Nov—Zambia and Angola are working for the reopening of the Benguela railway line linking the two neighbouring countries after it was abandoned in the 1970s due to Angola’s civil war. Zambian President Levy Mwanawasa said he was here on Friday.

He made the remarks upon arriving at the Lusaka International Airport from Luanda, where he attended Angola’s national day celebrations.

Mwanawasa was quoted by the official Zambia News and Information Services as saying that plans for the reopening of the railway has reached an advanced stage. The Angolan Government has started the demining exercise along the railway line from Solwezi in the Northwestern province to Luanda.

The reopening of the Benguela railway will provide landlocked Zambia with a shorter and cheaper export route, he said. —MNA/Xinhua

Weekend gathering banned in Paris for fear of new riots

PARIS, 13 Nov — French authorities will impose a short-term ban on public gatherings in Paris on Saturday, fearing that violence may be brought into the capital after two weeks of riots across the country.

The ban, beginning at 10:00 am (0900 GMT) and expected to last 22 hours, applies to “all meetings likely to start or fuel disorder” in public places.

The measure was decided after police intercepted a number of Internet and mobile phone messages calling on rioters to descend on Paris, although several such messages have turned out to be empty threats.

Police officials said violence went on overnight Friday when 384 cars were burned and 162 people were kept in custody for interrogation across the country, but adding that the situation in Paris was calm “with nothing to report”.

The riots in France started on 27 October as youths in the poor northeastern suburb of Paris went angry over the accidental deaths of two teenagers. They quickly spread nationwide with arson attacks and clashes with police, mainly by Arab and Black youths complaining of economic misery and racial discrimination.

On Tuesday, the French Government decided to invoke the 1955 emergency law to declare a state of emergency in 25 riot-hit departments and to give local officials, or prefects, the power to impose curfew if they think it necessary to do so.

Under the state of emergency, local authorities can put troublemakers under house arrest, ban or limit the movement of people and vehicles, confiscate weapons and ban “meetings likely to provoke or fuel disorder”. —MNA/Xinhua

Wrecked vehicles lie on the Meishin Expressway near Hokone, central Japan, on 13 Nov, 2005. Seven men, reportedly from Brazil, were killed and three others injured in a seven-vehicle pileup on the expressway, connecting western Japanese city of Osaka and Nagoya, in central Japan, according to local media reports. —INTERNET

A camel owner decorates his camel at the Pushkar fair, in India’s desert state of Rajasthan on 13 Nov, 2005. Some 25,000 camels are traded during the annual fair making it world’s largest camel fair. —INTERNET

Japanese city of Osaka and Nagoya, in central Japan, according to local media reports.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 15 November, 2005 5
**Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone, Samāñña Phala Day**

U Kyaw Sein (Mandalay)

To fulfill the request of physician Jivaka from Rajagaha, the Lord Buddha expounded Samāñña Phala (the fruits of the life of a recluse) Sutta at the mango grove of Jivaka on Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone evening. At the time, the Buddha was residing there together with a great company of 1,250 members of the Buddhist Order. So, Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone was designated as Samāñña Phala Day.

After being caught in the trap of deception by Monk Devadatta using mundane supernatural power, King Ajatasat took refuge in the monk. At the instigation of Monk Devadatta, the king committed the heinous deed of killing his father, Bimbisara. Since then, he had suffered from insomnia. So, he had to spend a great number of scared nights by holding assembly of royal audience.

At the assembly in the royal spired palatial building at the night of one Full-Moon Day of Tazaungmone, the king, gave utterance to a hymn of joy, saying, “How pleasant, friends, is the moonlight night! How beautiful, friends, is the moonlight night! How lovely, friends, is the moonlight night! How soothing, friends, is the moonlight night! How grand a sign, friends, is the moonlight night! Who is the recluse or Brahman whom we may call upon tonight, who, when we call upon him, shall be able to satisfy our hearts.”

**Hockey Umpire Seminar opened**

YANGON, 14 Nov—
Hockey Umpire Seminar organized by Myanmar Olympic Committee, International Hockey Federation and Myanmar Hockey Federation, was opened here on 11 November evening.

President of the Myanmar Hockey Federation Brig-Gen Myo Myint delivered an opening address.

International Hockey Federation Umpire Coach Mr Kukoo Wai ta explained the purpose of the seminar.

Then, Gandamar construction and Pedrollo Company provided cash to the seminar.—MNA

**Myanmar badminton team arrives back**

YANGON, 14 Nov—
Myanmar youth badminton team which won bronze in the First U-16 South East Asian Badminton Competitions held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, from 11 to 12 November arrived back here yesterday.

They were welcomed back at the airport by President of Myanmar Badminton Federation U Maung Maung Swe of Great Wall Medicine and Construction Enterprise and Vice-President U Mya Thaung and executives and relatives.

At the competitions Myanmar beat Brunei 3-0 and Vietnam 2-1 and defeated by Malaysia 3-0 but reached semifinal. At the semifinal match, Indone sia beat Myanmar. At the match for third place Myanmar beat Singaporean team 3-0 and bag the bronze medal.

The medal is the first one for Myanmar youth badminton team since 1995.

President of MBF U Maung Maung Swe and officials welcome back third prize winner Myanmar Badminton team.—NLM

**Myanmar Canaan Farmer’s Training Center opened course**

YANGON, 14 Nov—
Course No 4/2005 of the Myanmar Canaan Farm er’s Training Center of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was opened at the training school in PyinOoLwin on 8 November.

The 45-day course attracting 50 trainees will lecture on cultivation of coffee.

Managing Director of Myanmar Farms Enterprise U Myint Swe and the Principal of the training school briefed on the purpose of the course.

MNA
Education sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of science and technology in the time of Tatmadaw Government

Increasing number of teachers in science and technology sector and newly emerged human resource development

In the Union of Myanmar, measures are being taken for development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well. With the combined efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw, infrastructures in farm business have emerged one after another. As a result, the nation is now enjoying food sufficiency.

After ensuring food sufficiency, efforts are being made to build industrialized nation that will help raise the living standard of the entire people. Human resources needed for building industrialized country are being nurtured not only in the education sector but also in science and technology sector.

The 21st century is witnessing rapid development of science and technology which penetrate all sectors. Human resource development programmes are being implemented to produce experts in the science and technology sector. Infrastructures for the science and technology sector have been founded in the 24 development regions for human resource development.

Teachers with high calibre in the science and technology sector are discharging their duties to produce highly qualified technicians. Therefore, it can be witnessed that brilliant technicians have emerged.

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, doctorate courses, masters courses, post-graduate courses, degree courses and under-graduate courses are being conducted to promote the science and technology sector.

The table shows increases in the numbers of teachers and newly emerged human resources in the science and technology sector.

******

Government Technological College (Ayethayar) in Taunggyi, Shan State (South) produces technicians on whom the State can rely.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>University, College, Institute</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Technology University</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>University of Computer Studies</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>26 Government Technological Colleges</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3357</td>
<td>3357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>24 Government Computer Colleges</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>720</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>11 Technical Institutes</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>408</td>
<td>5377</td>
<td>4969</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Human resource development in the science and technology sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Doctorate degree holders</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Masters degree holders</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>3493</td>
<td>3428</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Post-graduates</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>8340</td>
<td>8040</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Degree holders</td>
<td>12957</td>
<td>64723</td>
<td>51766</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Under-graduates</td>
<td>16878</td>
<td>96375</td>
<td>79497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>30200</td>
<td>173331</td>
<td>143131</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
With encouragement of people, tasks...

(from page 1)

nation by winning victories in the international sports meets. In this way, the national prestige and integrity will be enhanced.

The government is taking systematic measures for uplift of sports standard of the country, governmental departments, businessmen, social organizations, wellwishers, literati and artistes of performing arts are rendering encouraging and supportive hands to the athletes. Such supports and encouragement are effective and useful to the athletes to win victories in the international sports competitions, he added.

He said so far success has been achieved to a considerable extent in the sports sector. To win victory, the spirit of athletes is very important. How much support is provided to the athletes, the firm spirit and their aspiration to compete fair and square are essential for athletes to win victory. Firm spirit means not a mere concept but a steadfast dedication based on perfect training, stamina and fitness, skillfulness and making good records.

Today, favourable conditions have been created for the athletes to concentrate on taking perfect training without worry. They are facilitated with sports gear and necessary equipment, he said.

Many athletes have gained experience of international competitions. Some athletes are given training abroad while some are provided with training within the country with foreign coaches.

The athletes on their part are to make their utmost efforts with firm determination to win victories; to dutifully shoulder the national duty of promoting the national prestige and to flutter the State Flag victoriously again and again, he said.

Next, the Secretary-1 presented the State Flag to the leader of Myanmar sports contingent, MOC General Secretary Director General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik. For the Myanmar participants of the SEA Games, YCDC contributed K 50 million; Myanmar Women’s Sports Federation sports gear worth K 830,000.

Chairman of MNOC Lt-Gen Thein Hein hands over the State Flag to the leader of Myanmar sports contingent.—MNA

While the government is taking systematic measures for uplift of sports standard of the country, governmental departments, businessmen, social organizations, wellwishers, literati and artistes of performing arts are rendering encouraging and supportive hands to the athletes. Such supports and encouragement are effective and useful to the athletes to win victories in the international sports competitions.
Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts K 5 million donated by Managing Director U Kyaw Sein of Jewellery Luck Co Ltd. — NLM

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greets managers, coaches and athletes to XXIII SEA Games. — MNA

World Diabetes Day observed

YANGON, 14 Nov — The World Diabetes Day, jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Health and the WHO was observed at the hall of the Institute of Nursing here this morning.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint delivered an address. He said every year the World Diabetes Day is observed with the aim of disseminating knowledge on diabetes among the public and accepting the way to prevent against the disease. It is observed on 14 November, the birthday of Frederick Banting who discovered insulin hormone, the main element for the therapy of diabetes. He said diabetes is an dangerous disease for both individuals and the entire world. According to the WHO, there were 30 million diabetics sufferers in the world in 1985, 135 million in 1995 and 171 million in 2000. Experts estimate that there will be at least 366 million diabetics sufferers in 2030. There are 3.2 million deaths every year due to the complications of the diabetes. In other words, six people die every minute because of the diabetes. He said the slogan for 2005 is “Diabetes and Foot Care: Put feet first, Prevent Amputations”. Myanmar implemented diabetes prevention project under the National Health Plan (1993-1996), he added.

The minister called for public cooperation. He observed medical equipment for diabetes and omni test EZ displayed by foreign pharmaceutical companies.

Next, a talk on diabetes was held and Deputy Director of Health Department Dr Hla Pe gave a speech. Educative pamphlets and other equipment were distributed to those present.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint delivers an address at the ceremony to mark World Diabetes Day. — MNA

Present were the directors-general, the deputy directors-general, professors, medical superintendents, Resident Representative of WHO Dr Adik Wibowo, Chairman of Myanmar Academy of Medical Science, officials of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, head of township health department, members of social organizations and guests. — MNA

Yenwe Dam Project being implemented in Kyauktada Township, Bago Division. (News on page 16)— MNA
The opening ceremony of multi-media classrooms of No 4 BEHS in Kamayut Township

YANGON, 14 Nov — The opening ceremony of multi-media classrooms of Kamayut Township No 4 Basic Education High School, Yangon Division took place at the school yesterday morning. It was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe.

First, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, headmaster U Pe Lin and Chairman of School Board of Trustees U Naing Ko Ko formally opened the multi media classrooms.

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe then unveiled the signboard of the classrooms.

The commander, the minister, the deputy minister and officials observed the students who were studying the lessons with the help of Language Lab, Computer Application Media, Computer Aided Instruction Media, Electronic Media (Audio System and Reading Corner), Electronic Media (Video System) and painting room and domestic science room.

Next, the commander delivered an address at the kind and cash donation ceremony, saying that the government has implemented 30 years National Education Promotion Project since 2001 and created the opportunities for modern learning by opening the classrooms for the students. As a result, there would be the intellectual and intelligentsia who will be conducive to the modern peaceful nation thanks to opening them and he called the teachers on human resources development through modern learning methods.

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the minister, the deputy ministers and the director-general of Education Planning and Training Department accepted computer sets worth K 577,000 each by family of Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence, Daw Htwe Yi, U Khin Maung Htin and family (Htet Lin Traditional Medicine Production) and U Kyaw Soe Min (General Manager of Kanbawza Bank), K 1.1 million by the wellwishers, K 377,000 by U Zaw Min Zin and family, K 225,000 each by U Myo Aung-Daw Khin Yi Mon (Sun Myanmar International Empex Co Ltd) and U Aung Naing-Daw Ohn Ma (Asia Winner Industrial Co Ltd), K 220,000 by Daw Ni Ni Myint (Myint and Associates Co Ltd), K 120,000 each by U Khin Myint-Daw May Moe Nwe, U Tin Maung Than-Daw Mo Htza Thuon and U Naing Ko Ko-Daw Than Than Nyunt, K 104,000 each by U Ne Win Swe-Daw Sandra and family of Daw Sandra, K 125,000 by U Ko Ko-Daw Mya Kyi and teachers, K 100,000 each by U Shwe Soe-Daw Khin San Mu, U Maung Lwin-Daw Than Than Htay, U Htut Win-Daw Zin Min Htaik, U Than Maung- Daw Ngwe Kyi, Daw Myo Myo Win, U Than Htut-Daw Kethi Aye and Myanmar Oriental Bank and internet journals by U Aung San Myat who received the certificates of honour.

The education minister expressed thanks for the donation and the ceremony ended.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Education Ministers U Myo Nyunt and Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, heads of departments of the Ministry of Education, Secretary of Yangon Division PDC Lt-Col Myint Kyi, Chairman of Yangon West District PDC Lt-Col Kyaw Tin and others. —MNA

Buddha’s Blessing

- Avoid What’s bad, espouse what’s good
  With three mindfulness cleansing
  Lord Buddha preached peace in human world
  And left this good cure.
- Beautifying the entire world
  For happiness of all creatures
  For them to exist happily
  Buddha preached four worldly virtues
  And gave us the essence of His exhortation
- O, Lord, today, as it seems the world village
  Would emerge fast
  The world is filled with greed, anger
  And feeling which you would have tamed.
  However there may be incursions rude
  Entering incessantly which You had tamed through dispensation of Your cure
  The incursions which keep coming from a far
  These venoms countered by Buddha’s Teachings
  Have almost shrunk and disappeared.
- O, Lord, although Buddha has entered Nirvana
  The potent cure He has dispensed Is truly great and is continuing to do good
  To the Myanmar nation.

Nwai Cho (Trs)  
(A tribute to Lord Buddha on the Full Moon of Tazaungmon, 1367 Myanmar Era.)

Family of Lt-Gen Maung Bo offers Kathina robe and provisions to a Sayadaw. —MNA
**PBANRDA Ministry opens courses**

**Minister Col Thein Nyunt delivers an address at the opening of courses conducted by the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs. — PBANRDA**

**YANGON, 14 Nov— Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt this morning attended the opening of Advanced Administrative Course No-12, Tailoring Course No-9, Clerk Course No (38/39) and Sewing Machine Repairing Course No-1 at the Central Training School of Education and Training Department under the ministry.**

**Also present were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Tun, departmental heads, guests and trainees. In his address the minister explained the objectives of the courses and urged the trainees to take part in urban and rural development tasks. Altogether 140 trainees are attending the courses.**

**MNA**

**Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour continues**

**YANGON, 14 Nov— The third leg of Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour organized by Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation and mainly sponsored by Air Bagan Ltd continued this morning at Ayetharyar Golf Resort in Taunggyi. After the third day events, Zaw Zaw Latt of Srixon led the Professional Golfer with 216 strokes. His runner-up was Min Naing with 225 strokes followed by Myint Thaung with 228 strokes. In the Amateur Golfer, Naing Naing Lin led the event with 226 strokes, and Nay Lin Tun with 228 and Nay Bala Win Myint with 235 strokes.**

**The main sponsor of the Golf Tour was Air Bagan Ltd and the official bank was KBZ Bank Ltd. The Co-sponsors were Myanmar Brewery Ltd, Myanmar Treasure Resort, Eden Group Co Ltd, Aureum Palace Hotel Resort, Jade Land Myanmar Co Ltd, Kachin Golfers Group, Srixon, Max Myanmar Co Ltd, London, Imperial Jade Purified Drinking Water, Taunggyi Gem Master Enterprise (Hole-in-One sponsor) and Han Event Management organized the tour. The golf tour continues tomorrow.**

**MNA**

**Independence Day commemorative essay and poem contests to be held**

**YANGON, 14 Nov — The subcommittee for organizing the 58th anniversary Independence Day commemorative essay, poem, TV quiz and computer drawing contests will hold essay and poem contests at higher, high and middle school education levels in accord with the objectives of the 58th anniversary Independence Day.**

**At the higher education level, undergraduates from any universities and colleges may take part in the contests. At the basic education high school level, essay contest will be held on 3-12-2005 from 9 am to 11 am and poem contest from 12 noon to 2 pm on the same day at respective schools. Participants can write no more than 5000 words in essay contest and no more than 300 lines in poem contest. Those wishing to participate in high and middle school level essay poem contests are to register at respective schools and those in higher education level at respective colleges, degree colleges and universities by 2-12-2005. Students from universities of distance education may enlist at their respective branches. Six students each totalling 18 from the higher education level, basic education high school level and basic education middle school level will be awarded at the 58th anniversary Independence Day ceremony.**

**MNA**

**All this needs to be known**

- Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- Do not be softened whenever appeased
Remains of Chinese victims in Jordan bomb attacks back to Beijing

BEIJING, 13 Nov— The Chinese working team, dispatched to handle the aftermath of the Wednesday's bomb attacks in Jordanian capital Amman, came back to Beijing Saturday morning, with the remains of the three Chinese victims aboard the same plane.

Three Chinese were killed and one wounded Wednesday evening in the bomb attacks against three hotels in Amman. The victims were members of a delegation from China's University of National Defence (CUND), which happened to stay in one of the hotels.

The victims killed was identified as Sun Jingbo, Pan Wei and Zhang Kangping at the age of 41, 44 and 42, respectively. Their remains were escorted to the Babaoshan Funeral Parlour Saturday. The wounded, 42-year-old Yao Liqiang, suffered from a leg fracture. He was immediately sent to hospital after arriving in Beijing.

Led by CUND's Vice-President Zhao Gang, the working team consisted of officials from the Chinese defence and foreign ministries, as well as family members of the victims.

Liang Guanglie, chief of general staff of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army and a member of China’s Central Military Commission, Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo, and Anmar Abdulhaim Namir Hamed, Jordanian Ambassador to China, among the people to meet the working team and express sympathy and solicitude for the family members of the victims and the wounded upon their arrival in the airport.—MNA/Xinhua

Chinese university freshmen receive handbook of psychological health

BEIJING, 13 Nov— More than 100,000 freshmen in 100 Chinese universities and colleges have received a handbook on psychological health to help them adapt to life in university and society.

The 2005 Handbook of Psychological Soundness for University Entrants was provided jointly by the Central Committee of Communist Youth League of China, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and All-China Students Federation.

The handbook gives health instructions on daily life, study, com-munication, mood and mentality. It is expected to help entrants adjust to a new environment, learn more about psychological health and maintain mental health. College and university students have come under mounting pressure from fierce academic and employment competition.

Early last year, a serial murder on campus of Yunnan University aroused nationwide concern about psychological pressure on college students.

The murderer, Ma Jiajue, a former life science major at Yunnan University in Kunming, capital of southwest China’s Yunnan Province, was described by some of his schoolmates as a hardworking, poor student with fragile self-esteem and a warped mentality.

Some analysts say the young generation as a whole is vulnerable to frequent moodiness and “has gotten lost in a lust for material and physical pleasure”. Sociologists said the pressures of students come mainly from job hunting, acute competition for post-graduate education, love affairs and lack of school assistance in shaping a healthy personality.—MNA/Xinhua
Jackie Chan wins “China’s Oscar” for first time

SANYA (Hainan), 13 Nov — Hong Kong Kungfu movie superstar Jackie Chan pocketed the Best Leading Actor Award of the 25th Golden Rooster film awards, dubbed “China’s Oscar”, organizers announced on Saturday evening.

Jackie Chan was nominated for his role in the “New Police Story”. It was the first time that film artists from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan competed for personal prizes at the Golden Rooster and Full Blossom Film Festival, which gives out the top honours in China’s film industry.

Chan expressed his gratefulness to the jury with three “thanks” in his speech at the awarding-ceremony on Saturday evening.

“Two years ago, I wanted to make a breakthrough of my performance career. Chan is well known for his Kungfu films such as ‘Drunken Master’, ‘Police Story’ and ‘Rumble in the Bronx’, ‘Thunderbolt’, also starring Chan, was the first Hong Kong film to be screened at more than 1,000 US cinemas.

The US film “Rush Hour” featuring Chan was among the top 10 movies in the United States in 1998 in terms of box office revenue. ‘Jackie Chan has won the Chinese film an international honour by representing the righteousness and dignity of the Chinhu, with his constant efforts,’ the jury said.

Japanese princess bids parents farewell before wedding

TOKYO, 13 Nov — Japan’s Princess Sayako, the only daughter of Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, paid respects to her imperial ancestors and bade farewell to her parents in rituals on Saturday ahead of her wedding to a commoner next week.

Clad in a 12-layered traditional kimono, Princess Sayako visited three shrines in the Imperial Palace grounds that are dedicated to legendary Japanese gods and emperors of the past.

NHK television showed her walking slowly along a wooden balcony wearing a flowing, multi-layered kimono with robes featuring a palette of colours from purple and red to yellow and green.

Sayako, 36, later met the Emperor and Empress to bid them farewell ahead of Tuesday’s wedding to 40-year-old Yoshiki Kuroda, a Tokyo town planner, at the Imperial Household Agency official said.

The farewell ritual is likely to have been an emotional one for another and daughter who are known to be close. Empress Michiko said last month that she would miss support from Princess Sayako, nicknamed “Our Miss Never Mind”, when she leaves the imperial household.

Sleep pills may do more harm than good in elderly

NEW YORK, 13 Nov — While sedative drugs, such as Restoril and Ambien, may improve sleep in older people with insomnia, the risks of such therapy may outweigh the benefits, according to investigators in Canada.

The findings are based on a review of 24 trials that included 2,417 subjects aged 60 or older who were treated with so-called sedative hypnotic pills or inactive placebo pills for insomnia. The subjects received the assigned pills for at least five consecutive nights.

Compared with placebo, sedative use was associated with statistically significant improvements in sleep quality, total sleep time and the number of nighttime awakenings, Dr. Usoa Busto, from the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto, and colleagues note. However, the actual improvements were modest in scope. Several adverse effects were more common with sedative hypnotics than with placebo, Busto’s group reports in the British Medical Journal. Sedative use greatly increased the odds of thinking difficulties and daytime fatigue. The likelihood of an untoward event was even greater in subjects who were at high risk for falls or mental impairments, the report indicates.

“Although the improvements in sleep variables obtained from prescription hypnotics are statistically significant … the clinical benefits may be modest at best,” the authors conclude.

Behavioural therapies may be a better option for older people with insomnia, they add.

Physiotherapy good for spinal arthritis

NEW YORK, 13 Nov — Exercise programmes were beneficial for people with a type of arthritis affecting the spine — ankylosing spondylitis (AS) — Norwegian researchers report, although it is not clear which type of protocol is best. Dr. Hanne Dagliind of the University of Oslo and colleagues reviewed 43 studies involving exercise and AS and eventually scrutinized data on a total of 561 patients in six trials.

The results are published in the Journal of Rheumatology.

In the appraisal, two of the reviewed trials compared individualized home exercise versus no intervention.

The results of these two trials provided low-quality evidence in favour of exercise. No effect on pain intensity was seen. Three trials compared supervised group physiotherapy with an individualized home exercise programme. The reviewers found moderate-quality evidence for the superiority of the supervised programmes in the patients’ assessment of how much they were helped, and in spinal mobility. Again, no differences in pain intensity were noted.

Two US Air Force Thunderbirds perform a mirror formation during Aviation Nation Air Show at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas on 12 Nov, 2005. INTERNET

Japanese princess bids parents farewell before wedding

MNA/Reuters

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MNA/ Reuters
**SPORTS**

Japan’s Takafumi Nishitani (L) leads South Korea’s Ahn Hyun-soo during the preliminaries of the men’s 50m Short Track World Cup and Olympic Qualifying Competition in Bormio, northern Italy, on 12 November, 2005. Ahn won ahead of Canada’s Eric Bedard and Apolo Anton Ohno of the US.—INTERNET

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**Scotland fight back to hold United States**

**Glasgow, 14 Nov**— The United States were held to a 1-1 draw by Scotland in a friendly at Hampden Park on Saturday after taking an early lead through a Josh Wolff penalty. The Americans, who have qualified for the World Cup for the fifth successive tournament, were pegged back by an Andy Webster equalizer after 37 minutes.

Wolff put his side ahead in the ninth minute after Scotland captain Christian Dailly pulled down striker DaMarcus Beasley and the American placed a low shot into the corner of the net having sent Scotland keeper Craig Gordon the wrong way. Scotland, who failed to qualify for the World Cup, levelled eight minutes before halftime with their first attempt on target as Southampton’s Neil McCann picked out Andy Dailly and the defender headed home.

The Hearts defender guided a header from 12 metres beyond keeper Kasey Keller, of Borussia Moenchengladbach, into the right side of the net for his first goal for his country.

US coach Bruce Arena said he was pleased with his team’s performance considering it was a make-shift side. “This was a good game where we were only able to field four of our first team players and, therefore, you always have a concern about continuity and how the players would play over ninety minutes,” he said.

**Portugal beat Croatia 2-0 in World Cup warm-up**

**Lisbon, 14 Nov**— Goals from Armando Petit and Pedro Pauleta steered Portugal to a 2-0 victory over Croatia in their World Cup warm-up on Saturday, taking his goal tally to 43. But Portugal’s team doctor said Ronaldo would be fit to play in Tuesday’s friendly against Northern Ireland in Belfast.

Portugal are on a 10-game unbeaten streak under Scolari. Croatian coach Zlatko Kranjcar said the wide-open game was typical of teams that prepare for the World Cup but there had been few chances to score.

“I am not worried in the least with the result since it is one more game of preparation. I played most of the team even without the usual top players,” he said. MNA/Reuters

**Bulgaria crush Georgia 6-2**

**Sofia, 14 Nov**— Bulgaria stormed to a 6-2 victory over Georgia in a friendly on Saturday. The hosts went ahead in the second minute when Chavdar Yankov beat Georgia goalkeeper Nakri Revishvili with a shot from the edge of the penalty area. The Hanover 96 midfielder doubled the lead in the 28th minute before Dimitar Berbatov made it 3-0 seven minutes later.

Berbatov also headed the fourth goal following a cross by Martin Petrov. Hristo Stoichkov’s side went further ahead in the 63rd minute when Svetoslav Todorov netted from close range.

Georgia pulled two goals back through Lasha Yakobia and Gogita Gogua but Todorov converted a late penalty after substitute Cvetan Genkov was brought down.

Neither side qualified for next year’s World Cup finals in Germany.

Bulgaria face Mexico in Houston in another friendly on Wednesday.—MNA/Reuters

**Estonia salvage 2-2 draw with Finland**

**Helsinki, 14 Nov**— Estonia scored twice in the last half-hour to salvage a 2-2 draw away to Finland in a friendly on Saturday.

Trailing 2-0 after 59 minutes, Estonia pulled one back two minutes later when Lokomotiv Moscow’s Dmitri Kruglov scored from the penalty spot. Flora Tallinn midfielder Joel Lindpere sealed the draw five minutes from time when he burst through the Finland defence and fired the ball past keeper Mikko Kaven from just inside the penalty area.

Although Finland caretaker coach Jyrki Helikoski had named an inexperienced squad for the match, the home side opening the scoring in the seventh minute when midfielder Daniel Sjodlund curled in a free kick from 20 metres.

Finland maintained their 1-0 lead for the rest of the half and uncapped Lahti midfielder Kari Arkivuo doubled the advantage just before the hour. Both countries failed to qualify for next year’s World Cup.— MNA/Reuters

**Smicer leads Czechs to World Cup win in Norway**

**Oslo, 14 Nov**— A first-half goal by Vladimir Smicer led the Czech Republic to a 1-0 win over Norway in their World Cup qualifying play-off first leg on Saturday.

Girondins Bordeaux midfielder Smicer rounded off a sweeping move by firmly heading a right-wing cross from Karel Poborsky into the back of the net after 32 minutes. “We have to be happy, we are now a bit closer to our goal of qualifying,” said 32-year-old Smicer. The second leg is in Prague on Wednesday.

Heavy rain and two cup finals the previous weekend reduced the national stadium pitch in Norway to a bog and the teams struggled to create scoring chances as the ball bobbled and players slipped and slid.

The Czechs kept Norway’s player of the year and top goalscorer John Carew quiet and limited the home team to a handful of long-range shots.

Only John Arne Riise forced a save from Czech goalkeeper Petr Cech in the opening half. Former European player of the year Pavel Nedved came out of international retirement to add a touch of class to the Czech midfield that no one in the Norway team could match.

Norway coach Age Hareide, who said before the game that it was important for his team to win at home, criticized his players after their defeat.

“They were poorer than normal and every player has to perform at a higher level than that on Wednesday,” he said.

“But we have to keep faith.” Hareide will have to do without midfielder Daniel Braathen in the second leg after he received his second yellow card of the competition.

Substitute Braathen came on after 46 minutes and injected zest and creativity to Norway’s attack, once jinking past two Czech players and almost winning a penalty.

The World Cup begins in Munich on 9 June and features 32 teams playing a total of 64 matches at 12 venues across Germany, culminating in the final at the Olympic Stadium in Berlin on 9 July.

The draw will be held on 9 December in Lisbon. — MNA/Reuters

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**Uruguay’s Dario Silva (L) and team mate Carlos Diogo practice half drills during training at Aussie Stadium in Sydney on 14 November, 2005. Uruguay play Australia on Wednesday in the second leg of their World Cup playoff. Uruguay won the first leg 1-0. —INTERNET**
Japanese probing robot may have failed to land on asteroid

TTOKYO, 13 Nov — A small probing robot released by a Japanese space probe toward an asteroid orbiting the sun between Earth and Mars may have failed to land and has likely drifted away from the asteroid, Yomiuri Shimbun reported on Sunday.

The probe, named Hayabusa, released the robot called Minerva toward the asteroid Itokawa at 3:24 pm (0624 GMT) Saturday as part of a rehearsal for its own planned descents later this month, the major Japanese daily said.

It was the first attempt by Japan to send equipment to an asteroid. The agency will go ahead with its first touchdown on Itokawa as scheduled for Nov. 19 to collect rock samples in the world’s first attempt to gather samples from the surface of an asteroid, the newspaper said.

The can-shaped Minerva, with a diameter of about 12 centimetres and a height of 10 centimetres, weighing less than 0.6 grams and equipped with three small cameras, was expected to hop around the asteroid and send data, such as surface temperatures and images, back to Earth via Hayabusa.

Hayabusa, launched in May 2003 to travel to Itokawa, was deployed on Nov. 6. Itokawa — a potato-shaped asteroid — is about 5090 metres long, 312 metres wide and 276 metres high — is now about 290 million kilometres away from Earth, with the sun situated in between them.

The asteroid was discovered in 1998 by scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States. It was named after the late Hideo Itokawa, Japan’s pioneer rocket scientist.

**WEATHER**

**Tuesday, 15 November**

**Tune in today**

**8.30 am** Brief news
**8.40 am** Music: -Wanna be where you are
**8.50 am** Music: -About me
**9.00 am** Music: -Take a chance on me
**9.10 am** Music: -I see your smile
**9.30 am** News & Slogan
**10.00 am** Lunch time
**11.00 am** Music: -For you I will
**11.30 am** News & Slogan
**12.00 pm** Lunch time
**2.00 pm** News & Slogan
**3.00 pm** News & Slogan
**5.40 pm** News & Slogan
**5.50 pm** Music: -Will be yours
**6.00 pm** News & Slogan
**6.30 pm** News & Slogan
**7.00 pm** News & Slogan
**8.00 pm** News & Slogan

**Monday, 14 November, 2005**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, except for the isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin State and Mandalay Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in upper Sagaina and Magway Divisions, (7°C) below normal in Chin State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was (1°C) in Hakha. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Dawei (0.47) inch. Maximum temperature on 13-11-2005 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 14-11-2005 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 14-11-2005 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 13-11-2005 was (6.8) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 14-11-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls 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 Northeast at (15:00) hours MST on 13-11-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 15-11-2005: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the Eastern Myanmar areas.


Yangon-Mandalay Highway upgraded, Yenwe Dam to benefit 118,500 acres

YANGON, 14 NOV—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence and Chairman of Bago Division Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence and Development Council accompanied the Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko on 12 November morning inspected extended construction and maintenance work of Bago-Toungoo section of Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway. During his tour of inspection, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also inspected Zayawady-Yeadase road section, Nyaunglebin-Zayawady road section, Bago-Nyaunglebin road section on Yangon-Mandalay Highway.

In order to improve the condition of the highway, the road sections are being upgraded and extended. In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to Yenwe multipurpose Dam Project in Kyauktaga Township in Bago Division.

At the briefing hall of the project, officials of the Irrigation Department and Hydro-electric Power Department reported on construction work of the dam and arrangements for irrigation and power supply tasks. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than called for timely completion of the dam. The dam is being constructed on Yenwe Creek and on completion, it will benefit 118,500 acres of land. Besides, the dam will help the hydel power plant to generate 25 MW.

The multi-purpose dam is expected to be completed by March, 2006. In the evening, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than went to Indagaw Research and Horticulture Farm of Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise in Indagaw Village, Bago Township, and heard report on cultivation of rubber including Myanmar-China friendship rubber cultivation, collection of rubber saplings and completion of rubber cultivation in Bago Division in 2005-2006.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urged officials concerned to make efforts to meet the division’s target of cultivation of 100,000 acres of rubber in three years and to produce rubber quality strains and to sell them at reasonable prices.

A total of 300,000 rubber plants have been cultivated. Bago Division sets its target of 100,000 acres of rubber plantation. Of 5,000 acres of rubber to be grown in 2005-2006, 2,000 acres have been put under the rubber. Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise has cultivated 5 million of rubber saplings, and arrangements are being made to sell the saplings to farmers at a reasonable price.

(See page 10)

Lt-Gen Maung Bo continues inspection tour of Kayin State

YANGON, 14 NOV—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Chairman of Kayin State PDC Col Khin Kyu and departmental officials, inspected strains of beans and cultivation of oil crops at the plantation of farmer U Ke Htin near Kawhlaik village in Kayin State.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo urged farmers to grow quality paddy strains to earn foreign currency. He also urged officials to disseminate knowledge on agriculture for farmers.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo attended the 16th Kathina robes offering ceremony organized by officers and other ranks of Hpa-an and Myainggale Stations held under the aegis of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing at Nyaungbintha Monastery in Myainggale village.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kavindha and members of the Sangha. Also present were the commander and wife and others. First, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party took the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kavindha. Members of the Sangha recited parittas.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party offered Kathina robes and provisions to the Sayadaws. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kavindha delivered a sermon followed by sharing of merits gained.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded to Paingkyon along Hpa-an-Hlaingbwe-Paingkyon road and inspected the site chosen for construction of Station hospital in No-3 Ward in Paingkyon.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party also inspected construction of a new two-storey building of St. Paul’s School and inspected the new two-storey building of the school and its environs.

INSIDE
Thanks to the hearing of Samañña Phala Sutta, the king fully recuperated from his insomnia. And among the common people, he become the one who admired and convinced of the Three Gems most.

U KYAW SHIN (MANDALAY)