Thanks to irrigation facilities, Sagaing Division has been able to produce 50 million to 60 million baskets of paddy in surplus annually.

Prime Minister General Soe Win tours Sagaing Division

Kale Township, where Tactical Operations Commander of local station Col Yan Naing Oo and officials welcomed him.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo gave an account of the facility. Officials from the Irrigation Department reported on pre-engineering tasks including the volume of water flowing in Manipura River and facts about the project. Director-General U Kyaw San Win gave a supplementary report.

With smooth transport, Gangaw region is enjoying cumulative development year after year. Upon completion of the on-going projects, the region will see more rapid development.

The State's seven-point Road Map is to be implemented stage by stage in compliance with the guidance. Upon completion of the National Convention, the first step as well as the most important one, the national goal will be within the reach.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
PERSPECTIVES
Saturday, 3 December, 2005

Be endowed with patriotism and Union Spirit

As peace and tranquility prevails in the nation, the government has laid down and is implementing development projects to bring about harmonious development the length and breadth of the nation.

Thanks to concerted efforts of departmental officials, local people and members of social organizations under the leadership of the government, development work in various sectors is meeting with success.

In the meantime, cities and towns in Chin State have seen unprecedented development like those of other states and divisions.

Prime Minister General Soe Win on 28 November evening met departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsenders at the town hall in Haka, Chin State and made a speech on the occasion. In his speech, the Prime Minister said that as development is a prerequisite for human life, constant efforts are to be exerted for step by step development.

Systematic measures are being taken for Chin State to become a tea state. Tea cultivation plan was launched in 1999-2000 in Chin State, and now arrangements are being made to grow tea in Tiddim, Tonanzong, Kyikha, Thantlang, Falam, Reedkhodar and Haka region in Falam District, and Kanpetlat, Matupi, Rezor and Mindat region in Mindat District. There are 1,295 acres of tea in Haka and so far, 10,000 acres of tea have been grown in Chin State within six years. Steps are being taken to grow tea on a commercial scale to produce value-added dry tea and establish a tea factory in the region.

As Chin State has favourable conditions not only for growing tea but also for sericulture, efforts are to be made for the success of the sericulture business. With better transport, border trade in Chin State is expected to meet with success.

The already upgraded four major roads—Kal-Falam-Haka, Haka-Gangaw, Haka-Matupi, and Mindat-Matupi—in Chin State have brought about better transport and accelerated development.

The government has laid down and is implementing three major development tasks for equitable development across the nation including Chin State, and all the regions are now witnessing rapid development.

This being so, the entire national people should be endowed with patriotism and Union Spirit in whatever role they may be playing in the government, development work in various sectors is meeting with success.

In the meantime, cities and towns in Chin State have seen unprecedented development like those of other states and divisions.

Prime Minister General Soe Win on 28 November evening met departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsenders at the town hall in Haka, Chin State and made a speech on the occasion. In his speech, the Prime Minister said that as development is a prerequisite for human life, constant efforts are to be exerted for step by step development.

Systematic measures are being taken for Chin State to become a tea state. Tea cultivation plan was launched in 1999-2000 in Chin State, and now arrangements are being made to grow tea in Tiddim, Tonanzong, Kyikha, Thantlang, Falam, Reedkhodar and Haka region in Falam District, and Kanpetlat, Matupi, Rezor and Mindat region in Mindat District. There are 1,295 acres of tea in Haka and so far, 10,000 acres of tea have been grown in Chin State within six years. Steps are being taken to grow tea on a commercial scale to produce value-added dry tea and establish a tea factory in the region.

As Chin State has favourable conditions not only for growing tea but also for sericulture, efforts are to be made for the success of the sericulture business. With better transport, border trade in Chin State is expected to meet with success.

The already upgraded four major roads—Kal-Falam-Haka, Haka-Gangaw, Haka-Matupi, and Mindat-Matupi—in Chin State have brought about better transport and accelerated development.

The government has laid down and is implementing three major development tasks for equitable development across the nation including Chin State, and all the regions are now witnessing rapid development.

This being so, the entire national people should be endowed with patriotism and Union Spirit in whatever role they may be playing in the government, development work in various sectors is meeting with success.

Commander, Minister inspect construction of museum for 3,000-ton jade

YANGON, 2 Dec.—Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint together with Managing Director U Thein Swe of Myanma Gems Enterprise arrived in Myitkyina, Kachin State, on 27 November and called on Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint.

On 28 November, the commander and the minister arrived at Namhmain where a museum for the immense jade of over 3,000 tons is built and heard reports on future tasks for the museum by curator U Than Myint. The minister called on officials for meeting standard, maintenance of its durability and greening tasks in the vicinity of the museum.

The minister met entrepreneurs and workers of Seinlon Taungdan Co. and Myanmar Taunggu Co and stressed the need for safety at the work site, poultry-rearing, regional development and measures to protect the environment. They inspected mining for jade.

Min and Nay La Kyaw met with Myitkyina-Phakant Road being built by the entrepreneurs and oversaw mining for gems of Duwinkskyi Co in Naya Seik region.

In Moguang Township, the minister met officials of Department of Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration and gave necessary instructions. On 30 November, Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint inspected mining office (Myitkyina) and attended to the needs of the staff.

MNA

Myanmar bags 2 more gold, 5 silver, 10 bronze

YANGON, 2 Dec.—Myanmar sports contingent won two more gold, five silver and 10 bronze in the XXIII SEA Games today.

Gold medal winners were Zin Lin Aung in the men’s Judo 90-kilo class, and Aung Myin Thu + Sai Pyae Sone Hein in the men’s double 470 class yachting event.

Silver medal winners were Myanmar women’s team in the traditional regatta 10-oar 10,000-m event, Yan Naing Soe in the men’s Judo 81-kilo class, Min and Nay La Kyaw in the men’s double 420 class yachting event, Su Myat Soe + Nwe Nwe San in the women’s 470 class yachting event.

A total of 10 bronze medals went to Tun Lin in the men’s Pancak Silat 50-55 kilo class, Thura Thu Aung in the women’s Pancak Silat 65-70 kilo class, and Kyaw Min Htaik in the men’s 51-kilo class muay boxing event.

XXIII SEA Games Medal Standing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHILIPPINES</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIETNAM</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THAILAND</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALAYSIA</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDONESIA</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SINGAPORE</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MYANMAR</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAOS</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRUNEI</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMBODIA</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAST TIMOR</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minhnicson Home for the Aged Administrative Committee member Col Tin Thein Lwin (Retd) accepts K 100,000 donated by U Maung Win-Daw Lon and family of 185, Shwebontha Street, Zaygyi Ward in Hlegu Township recently.—MNA
ASEAN, N-E Asia to boost anti-transnational crime cooperation

HANOI, 1 Dec—ASEAN, China, Japan and South Korea will beef up their cooperation in combating transnational crime under the principles of equality, cooperation and mutual benefit. At the 2nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) Plus China, Japan and South Korea here on Wednesday, Chinese delegates gave concrete proposals on fostering cooperation, especially in the legal implementation and human resource training fields, aiming to effectively fight transnational crime.

The biennial meeting adopted an action plan on combating transnational crime in the coming time. In recent years, the cooperation on the issue between ASEAN and the northeastern countries has enhanced. Some 11.5 million staff from them exchanged working visits in the first nine months of this year, up 30 per cent over the same period last year. Meanwhile, they also conducted more criminal investigation cases.

On Wednesday, the 1st Informal AMMTC Plus China Consultation agreed with China’s proposal that the country, in the next three years, will help train 900 legal staff from the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) members, including Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The one-day meeting also reaffirmed the results achieved in the China-ASEAN cooperation in combating transnational crime, especially since they signed the memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the field of non-traditional security issues in 2004.

China and ASEAN have actively cooperated in investigating many criminal cases, including those on woman and child trafficking, kidnapping and drug trafficking. The two sides have also conducted extraditions of 50 fugitive criminals.

Turkey, Iran reiterate joint will to fight terrorism

ANKARA, 1 Dec— Turkish Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul and visiting Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki reiterated on Wednesday their joint will to fight terrorism.

Speaking at a joint Press conference after bilateral talks, Gul said that they discussed cooperation in security matters and reaffirmed the necessity to make joint efforts to combat terrorism.

Both Turkey and Iran attach importance to the issue of counterterrorism and relevant departments of the two countries will maintain necessary contacts on this matter, said Gul.

Gul noted that Iran was among the countries which have outlawed the Kurdish Workers’ Party (PKK) as a terrorist organization.

Mottaki said that he came to Ankara to convey the new Iranian government’s message for furthering the development of relations between the two countries.

Mottaki, who arrived here on Wednesday for a two-day working visit, will meet Turkish President Ahmet Necdet Sezer, Prime Minister Reccep Tayyip Erdogan and Parliament Speaker Bulent Arinc on Thursday.

US, British aggression blamed for hostage-taking in Iraq

OTTAWA, 1 Dec—The US and Canada-based Christian Peacemaker Teams said on Tuesday in Toronto that American and British aggression in Iraq is to blame for the hostage-taking of four pacifists, including two of its group members.

The hostage-taking is the result of the US-led “illegal attack on Iraq” and “the continuing occupation and oppression of its people,” said a statement issued by the Christian pacifist group that has opposed the Iraq war.

The four were snatched at gunpoint on Saturday in a dangerous part of Baghdad by a group calling itself the Swords of Righteousness Brigade.

The pacifist group’s spokesman Rob Holmes strenuously rejected the kidnappers’ claim that the hostages were spies and evangelicals.

The four were “absolutely” not in Iraq to spread the Christian faith, he said, adding that his group is now also working on helping release the hostages. The organization identified the Canadians as Jim Loney, 41, a Toronto community worker, and Harmee Singh Sooden, 32, formerly a McGill University student in Montreal who has most recently been studying literature at the University of Auckland in New Zealand.

The other hostages are Briton Norman Kember, 74, of London, and American Tom Fox, 54, of Clearbrook, Virginia.

The group also expressed concern that repeated showing of the hostages through al-Jazeera video footage aired earlier Tuesday may cause grave consequences.

“We were very saddened to see the images of our loved ones on Al-Jazeera television... repeated showing of it will endanger the lives of our friends,” it said.

On the same day, Prime Minister Paul Martin, who has started an election campaign after his Cabinet was toppled Monday by a non-confidence motion, said the government is trying every effort to rescue the hostages and was "reaching out" to their families.

Delta posts $1.1b post-bankruptcy loss

NEW YORK, 2 Dec— Delta Air Lines reported a net loss of 1.14 billion US dollars between 15 September and 31 October, the period since its bankruptcy filing, as it coped with high fuel and restructuring costs.

The No. 3 US airline said in a court filing on Wednesday that its loss before reorganization items was 472 million US dollars. The period partially overlaps with its third quarter, which ended 30 September. It reported a third quarter net loss of 1.11 billion US dollars last month.

Delta, which filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on 14 September, is seeking 3 billion US dollars in cost cuts and revenue increases it says it needs to stem its losses. The airline reported that it spent 642 million US dollars on fuel in the period after filing for bankruptcy, while reorganization-related costs contributed 648 million US dollars to its loss.

A member of the Indian Army's motorcycling stunt team Tornados breaks through a wall of tube lights during an air show by the Indian Army in Bangalore, India, on 1 Dec, 2005. — INTERNET

Guerrillas attack US bases in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 1 Dec— Guerrillas attacked several US bases and government offices with mortars Thursday before dispersing in the capital of western Iraq's Anbar province, residents and police said.

Iraq's interior minister on Thursday also fired his top official for human rights in connection with a torture investigation.

Gunmen, meanwhile, attacked the six-vehicle convoy of a Saad al-Obedi, an adviser to Iraq’s defense minister, seriously wounding him along with two of his bodyguards in the predominantly Sunni Arab Yarmouk neighbourhood of Baghdad, police said.

The attacks in Ramadi occurred as local tribal leaders and US military officials were to hold their second meeting in a week at the governor's office in the city center. The insurgents apparently tried to shell the building, but reporters inside said there was no damage or injuries.

Police Lt Mohammed al-Obedi said at least four mortar rounds fell near the US base on the eastern edge of the city, but that there were no reports of casualties.—INTERNET

Two Iraqi soldiers check a car at an army checkpoint in Basra, Iraq, on 1 Dec, 2005.—INTERNET

Delta posts $1.1b post-bankruptcy loss

NEW YORK, 2 Dec—Delta Air Lines reported a net loss of 1.14 billion US dollars between 15 September and 31 October, the period since its bankruptcy filing, as it coped with high fuel and restructuring costs.

The No. 3 US airline said in a court filing on Wednesday that its loss before reorganization items was 472 million US dollars. The period partially overlaps with its third quarter, which ended 30 September. It reported a third quarter net loss of 1.11 billion US dollars last month.

Delta, which filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on 14 September, is seeking 3 billion US dollars in cost cuts and revenue increases it says it needs to stem its losses. The airline reported that it spent 642 million US dollars on fuel in the period after filing for bankruptcy, while reorganization-related costs contributed 648 million US dollars to its loss. — MNA/Reuters

Contrary, a Tortoises breaks through a wall of tube lights during an air show by the Indian Army in Bangalore, India, on 1 Dec, 2005. — INTERNET

Delta posts $1.1b post-bankruptcy loss
China, Singapore upgrade aviation cooperation

BEIJING, 1 Dec — China and Singapore Wednesday signed a memorandum of understanding on the expansion of aviation transportation between the two countries.

The memorandum was signed in Beijing between Yang Yuanyuan, director general of the General Administration of Civil Aviation of China (CAAC), and Yeo Cheow Tong, Singapore’s Minister for Transport.

The memorandum enables airlines of the two sides to fly freely on any route between the two countries without limits on frequency or capacity.

Yang said the memorandum also freed limits on code-sharing cooperation of airline companies and aircraft leasing, indicating a further liberalized aviation cooperation between the two countries.

China and Singapore started aviation cooperation in 1979. By 2004, airlines of the two countries have transported a total of 1.88 million passengers between the two countries.

Currently Chinese airlines operate 82 passenger and seven freight flights on the China-Singapore air route every week, while Singaporean firms offer 88 passenger and ten freight flights.

MNA/Xinhua

US, Army officer charged in Iraq contract bribe scam

WASHINGTON, 2 Dec — A US Army officer who served with the US government administration in Iraq was arrested on charges involving bribery, money laundering and a fraud scheme, the US Justice Department said Thursday.

Army Reserve Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Wheeler, 47, was arrested on Wednesday and was being held in Wisconsin, the department said in a statement. He is the third person charged in the past month.

The Justice Department said Wheeler was on active duty for the US Army in 2003 and 2004 and was responsible for developing contract solicitation and ordering contracts for reconstruction efforts for the Coalition Provisional Authority — South Central Region.

According to court papers, Wheeler and his co-conspirators accepted money and gifts to rig contract bids. Wheeler is also accused of stealing and laundering funds from the CPA.

An affidavit filed in the US District Court says Wheeler transported 100,000 US dollars back to Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

He spent about 58,000 US dollars of that money for a “variety of high-end tools”. Wheeler also faces numerous firearms charges, including conspiring to embezzle and possess pistols, automatic machine guns and grenade launchers bought with CPA funds.

Wheeler is charged along with his co-conspirators of using the CPA funds to buy dozens of firearms and related military-grade hardware in North Carolina for their own use.

If convicted, Wheeler faces up to 30 years in prison.

MNA/Reuters

Eight killed in road accident in western Nepal

KATHMANDU, 1 Dec — At least eight people were killed and nine others injured in a road accident in western Nepal on Wednesday, according to local police office.

The accident occurred in Palpa District, some 400 kilometres west of Kathmandu. The jeep going to Tansen from Bardewa fell off the road after the driver lost control of the steering wheel on an uphill turn at Bajisopokhari in the district, the police noted.

Six passengers were killed on the spot and two succumbed to injuries at the Mission Hospital in Tansen. The injured are undergoing treatment at the same hospital, and three of them were injured seriously.

MNA/Xinhua

Merkel urges action on terrorism and economy

BERLIN, 1 Dec — Chancellor Angela Merkel vowed on Wednesday not to be blackmailed by kidnappers holding a German in Iraq and said terrorism was a threat to core values of freedom, tolerance and respect.

At the outset of her first major speech to Parliament, Merkel focused on the kidnapping of a German woman who was seized in Iraq on Friday and has been threatened with death.

"One thing is clear. This government, this Parliament will not let itself be pressured," Merkel said, calling international terrorism one of society's biggest challenges.

"It is directed at everything that is important to us, at the core of our civilization. It is directed against our entire value system. Against freedom, tolerance and the respect of human dignity, democracy and the rule of law."

Susanne Osthoft's kidnappers will kill her unless Germany halts cooperation with the US-backed Iraqi Government, according to a tape received by a German television station.

Merkel, who became Germany's first woman chancellor last Tuesday, then veered quickly into domestic economic issues which her new government has said are its priority.

She sits at the top of an unwieldy "grand coalition" with traditional rivals, which combines her conservatives with the Social Democrats (SPD) of her predecessor Gerhard Schroeder.

She faces the tough challenge of holding the new government together while cutting high unemployment and restarting growth.

MNA/Reuters

Two US allies pulling out of Iraq

VIENNA, 2 Dec — Two of America's allies in Iraq are withdrawing forces this month and a half-dozen others are debating possible pullouts or reductions, increasing pressure on Washington as calls mount to bring home US troops.

Bulgaria and Ukraine will begin withdrawing their combined 1,250 troops by mid-December. If Australia, Britain, Italy, Japan, Poland and South Korea reduce or recall their personnel, more than half of the non-American forces in Iraq could be gone by next summer. Japan and South Korea help with reconstruction, but Britain and Australia provide substantial support forces and Italy and Poland train Iraqi troops and police. Their exodus would deal a blow to American efforts to prepare Iraqis to take over the most daunting peacekeeping tasks and craft an eventual US exit strategy. "The vibrations of unease from within the United States clearly have an impact on public opinion elsewhere," said Terence Taylor of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in Washington.

INTERNET

A Malaysian taxi driver fills his car with natural gas at a gas station in Kuala Lumpur on 1 Dec, 2005.

INTERNET

Four kidnapped Iranians freed in Iraq

TEHRAN, 1 Dec — Four kidnapped Iranians were freed in Iraq on Wednesday, two days after they were seized by gunmen in northern Baghdad.

The state television reported the four Iranians were sent to the Iranian consulate in Karbala in central Iraq, from where they will return home. The four Iranian men were seized on Monday together with two Iranian women on their way to a Shiite holy shrine in Balad, some 75 kilometres north of the Iraqi capital Baghdad.

MNA/Xinhua

Two US Marines of Union City, New Jersey, provide security at the back of their Amphibious Assault Vehicle in Saadah, Iraq, eight miles from Syria, on 1 Dec, 2005.

INTERNET
Chinese top legislator meets Mongolian President

BEIJING, 30 Nov — Chinese top legislator Wu Bangguo met here Tuesday with visiting Mongolian President Nambaryn Enkhbayar, calling for further parliamentary exchanges.

Wu, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (NPC), said the NPC is ready to enhance friendly relations with the State Great Hural, Parliament of Mongolia.

He also called on leaders, special committees and goodwill groups between the two Parliaments to promote exchanges and cooperation so as to increase mutual understanding between the two peoples and boost bilateral relations. Hailing the long-term development of bilateral relations, Wu said the traditional friendship and reciprocal cooperation not only conform to the fundamental interests of both peoples, but also benefit regional peace, stability and development. Wu said China will work with the Mongolian side to enhance dialogue and cooperation in various fields.

Enkhbayar highlighted the sound development of Mongolia-China good-neighbourly partnership of mutual trust, saying during his visit he exchanged views with Chinese leaders on bilateral relations and regional situation and the two sides signed ten cooperative documents, which are expected to pose a far-reaching influence on bilateral relations.

MNA/Xinhua

Gunmen kidnap Saddam Hussein’s relative

TIKRIT (Iraq), 30 Nov — Unknown gunmen have abducted a former Army officer and relative of the toppled Iraqi president Saddam Hussein in Tikrit, some 170 kilometres north of Baghdad.

“Dhafir Hardan al-Hazzaa was abducted on Monday night after he returned from his house in Tikrit,” a source at the joint US and Iraqi coordination centre in Tikrit told Xinhua on Tuesday. In a separate incident, six Iranian pilgrims and their Iraqi guide were kidnapped by gunmen on Monday night in the town of Balad, some 80 kilometres north of Baghdad, the source said.

The Iraq driver was wounded when gunmen opened fire at their minibus and forced them to stop. Meanwhile, two fuel tankers were ablaze near Balad after two roadside bombs exploded when a convoy of Turkish trucks, escorted by the US troops, passed by, the source added. — MNA/Xinhua

China is Sri Lanka’s 2nd largest tourists-source-market in N-E Asia

SHANGHAI, 30 Nov — A latest official tourism report said China has become Sri Lanka’s second largest tourists-source-market in the Northeast Asia, right after Japan.

The report released here by the Sri Lanka Tourism Bureau said from January to October, Sri Lanka has received over 6,600 Chinese tourists, only next to Japan which had 13,341 tourists in Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka is among the first group of countries which gained the Approved Destination Status (ADS) from the Chinese Government. The two countries have also signed many agreements to expand bilateral tourism cooperation.

Madinabhani Perera, market supervisor of the Sri Lanka Tourism Bureau said in Shanghai that Sri Lanka has mapped out a series of plans to promote its tourism market in China.—MNA/Xinhua

AIDS blamed for 40% child deaths in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 30 Nov — HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death of South African children under the age of five, the Children’s Institute said in Cape Town on Tuesday.

“Forty per cent of deaths of children under the age of five years are directly attributable to AIDS and a further 30 per cent to diseases of poverty,” CI Director Marian Jacobs said.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic is first among a number of factors that are standing in the way of realizing child rights in South Africa, and the country needs a comprehensive response to children infected and affected by the disease.

This is the message from the Children’s Institute, as it launched a publication on the situation of South Africa’s children to coincide with World AIDS Day on 1 December.

This year’s edition, the South African Child Gauge 2005, focuses on the theme of children and HIV/AIDS.

The professor said: “The second major obstacle to the realization of child rights is the ongoing income inequality and widespread poverty that continue in the country.” — MNA/Xinhua

Cambodia holds Second National Film Festival

PYNOM PENH, 30 Nov — Cambodia’s Second National Film Festival kicked off on Monday, aiming to help produce higher quality movies and preserve national custom and tradition.

Twenty-two movies made by 12 domestic movie producers will be screened during the film festival from 28 November to 2 December. They will also compete three best movies awards and nine awards for individual events.

It has been 15 years since the First Film Festival was held in 1990 in the country.

Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Council of Ministers said at the opening of the festival: “In the 1960s and 1970s, Cambodia’s film industry progressed remarkably, created good opportunities for us to exchange experience with other countries in the region.” However, the three decades of war have blocked the development of this sector,” he said.

The underlying causes hindering the progress of the industry are the limited knowledge and experiences of the writers, directors, cameramen, technicians and cinematographers whom never had opportunity to cooperate with international companies in movie productions, he said. Cambodia now has 15 film makers which produced more than 70 movies during the first 10 months this year, but most of them were made by video. — MNA/Xinhua

Pakistanis villagers wait for tents as freeze starts

BHURJ (Pakistan), 1 Dec — With winter starting to set in, some survivors of Pakistan’s earthquake are without shelter, sufficient food or warm clothing nearly eight weeks after the disaster struck, aid officials said on Wednesday.

The first heavy snow fell across the region at the weekend but while there has been no spike in the mortality rate, more deaths were inevitable unless aid reaches victims soon, aid officials said.

The focus of the relief effort was shifting towards food, even though shelters were still needed, said Jean-Philippe Bourgeois, a field coordinator for the International Organization for Migration (IOM). “It’s a combined problem. Not only food, not only shelter, but both.”

The October 8 earthquake killed 73,000 people, most of them in Pakistani Kashmir and North West Frontier Province. Aid officials fear sickness sweeping through a cold and poorly nourished population will cause a second wave of deaths.

But a UN spokesman said there are deaths in the region every winter from cold-related ailments and it would be alarming to talk of a second wave of fatalities from the cold now. — MNA/Reuters

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 3 December, 2005

The October 8 earthquake killed 73,000 people, most of them in Pakistani Kashmir and North West Frontier Province. Aid officials fear sickness sweeping through a cold and poorly nourished population will cause a second wave of deaths. But a UN spokesman said there are deaths in the region every winter from cold-related ailments and it would be alarming to talk of a second wave of fatalities from the cold now. — MNA/Reuters

26th tropical storm “Epsilon” forms in central Atlantic

HAVANA, 1 Dec — Tropical storm Epsilon, the 26th named one of the 2005 hurricane season, has formed in the central Atlantic, Cuba’s Meteorological Institute said on Tuesday.

The institute said that Epsilon formed in the central Atlantic, about 1,340 kilometres east of Bermuda and is moving westward at around 13 kilometres per hour.

The Instmet said the storm is unlikely to threaten Cuba, because it would maintain its course for the next 12 to 24 hours. The storm may well increase its wind speed, Instmet added. The arrival of the storm is expected to extend the current Atlantic hurricane season, which officially ends on November 30 in the previous years. — MNA/Xinhua

AIDS blamed for 40% child deaths in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 30 Nov — HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death of South African children under the age of five, the Children’s Institute said in Cape Town on Tuesday.

“Forty per cent of deaths of children under the age of five years are directly attributable to AIDS and a further 30 per cent to diseases of poverty,” CI Director Marian Jacobs said.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic is first among a number of factors that are standing in the way of realizing child rights in South Africa, and the country needs a comprehensive response to children infected and affected by the disease.

This is the message from the Children’s Institute, as it launched a publication on the situation of South Africa’s children to coincide with World AIDS Day on 1 December.

This year’s edition, the South African Child Gauge 2005, focuses on the theme of children and HIV/AIDS.

The professor said: “The second major obstacle to the realization of child rights is the ongoing income inequality and widespread poverty that continue in the country.” — MNA/Xinhua

Pakistanis villagers wait for tents as freeze starts

BHURJ (Pakistan), 1 Dec — With winter starting to set in, some survivors of Pakistan’s earthquake are without shelter, sufficient food or warm clothing nearly eight weeks after the disaster struck, aid officials said on Wednesday.

The first heavy snow fell across the region at the weekend but while there has been no spike in the mortality rate, more deaths were inevitable unless aid reaches victims soon, aid officials said.

The focus of the relief effort was shifting towards food, even though shelters were still needed, said Jean-Philippe Bourgeois, a field coordinator for the International Organization for Migration (IOM). “It’s a combined problem. Not only food, not only shelter, but both.”

The October 8 earthquake killed 73,000 people, most of them in Pakistani Kashmir and North West Frontier Province. Aid officials fear sickness sweeping through a cold and poorly nourished population will cause a second wave of deaths.

But a UN spokesman said there are deaths in the region every winter from cold-related ailments and it would be alarming to talk of a second wave of fatalities from the cold now. — MNA/Reuters
Myanmar is called a Union, but its union system is much different from that of other nations. Thus, the political infrastructure of Myanmar is required to be strong with national unity. No doubt, a political party or an individual alone cannot shape the future of the nation.

The lofty aim is the concern of entire national people

Chingya (Maubin)

“Our national goal is to build a peaceful, modern and democratic nation with flourishing discipline. It is the lofty aim all the people who love the motherland should accept unanimously, and it is the concern of the entire national people”.

(Head of State Senior General Than Shwe)

The essence of Our Three Main National Cause stated by the Myanmar Tatmadaw upholds non-disintegration of the Union. The common wish of the national races living in Myanmar is perpetuation of the Union. The National Convention is discharging the duties for ensuring an everlasting Union.

Once the territory, which is now called the Union States, was the native land of the people called Red Indians. Christopher Columbus, a native of Genoa, Italy, discovered the continent which we now call America while sailing on the seas to find new territory in the west under the Queen of Spain.

Three sailing boats from England arrived and anchored at the coast of North America continent in April 1607. As the people on board the ships were attracted by the prairies, tall trees, the fertile soil and lush environment of the land they had found, they decided to make it their home. But the area was already inhabited by Red Indians. Three-ship full of English pioneers began to settle on the American soil in May the same year. The population of settlers in Virginia was less than 2,000 in 1619 and because of the increase in the number of people going to find a home in the new world, the shipping companies that were transporting them were making a fortune. Beginning 1642, people who were in not good terms with the British king came in flocks to the new world, joined by other European peoples, including Germans, Scots, Irish, Swiss, Spanish and French.

The English king permitted the establishment of new territories with the royal decree which ensured equal rights for the children born in the new land as those born in England. The king also sent governors to administer the new territories, where the parliament had to consult with the governor for decisions, and only the landowners had the right to vote. In 1750, about 1.5 million settlers were living in the 13 colonies that were formed as 13 states. The settlers accepted themselves as subjects of the English king. The 17th century saw the trading of Negroes living on the western coast of Africa as slaves. Many of the White settlers bought those Black slaves as labourers for their plantations.

The White settlers started to oppose the imposition of taxes on them by the English government soon after accepting themselves as Americans. English settlers bought New Amsterdam from Dutch settlers and renamed it New York. America witnessed the struggle for war between the British and Red Indians in 1675, and Americans started to oppose all the orders and the law and tax imposition of the British government in 1760.

The situation became worse, when riots broke out between the British soldiers and American civilians after ten years on 3 March. Americans convened their first Congress in Boston from 5 September to 26 October 1774, at which they decided to launch an open expression of their discontent over the British policies towards American colonies. Americans launched their war of liberation against the British occupiers in 1775, and proclaimed independence of the US on 4 July 1776 with 13 states.

The history of US and that of Myanmar are totally different from each other in both form and essence. As for Myanmar, she has been the native land for all the national races since time immemorial. Her people are not the settlers trying to find a new land with promising resources. They have been living in weal or woe in the Union since yore.

Hence, Myanmar’s efforts for her perpetuation cannot be the same as America’s. Now I am going to present some points of the US history. The US that was founded as an independent nation with 13 states incorporated Hawaii into it as a new state on 21 August 1959. It bought Alaska at a price of US $ 7.2 million. Some of its states were territories it got through military means. The number of states reached 50 in US. 200 years after the independence was gained. The US ratified its constitution on 17 September 1787. Vermont, the 14th state, signed the ratification on 10 January 1791.

Disunity broke out between the states in 1786, and the State of South Carolina seceded from the US on 20 December 1860.

The Southern States — Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, Virginia, Tennessie, Arkansas and North Carolina — formed the parallel government with Jefferson Davis as the president. The then US government was Abraham Lincoln. The Civil War broke out between the North and the South from 1861 to 1865 in which the Southern troops surrendered. The US introduced the military rule to the South on 2 March 1867 and enacted laws to reestablish its civil administration. In this way the US crushed the parallel government. It had to sacrifice lots of blood, sweat and lives for its existence as the United States of America.

After regaining her independence, Myanmar experienced internal armed conflicts for more than four decades. Despite the capability to eliminate the armed insurgents, the Tatmadaw discharged military duties just in defence of the motherland in grappling with the internal armed insurgency. In reality, the people of the Union are the brethren living in the same land, not the ones who entered the nation from other nations.

Hence, after assuming State duties, the Tatmadaw carried out the tasks for perpetuation of the Union by restoring peace. On 28 April 1992, the Tatmadaw suspended its military operations launched across the nation for ensuring non-disintegration of the Union. Since 1992, it has placed emphasis on the holding of the National Convention that would be able to guarantee the perpetuation of the Union.

On 9 January 1993, the National Convention came into operation. And the NC laid down 104 basic principles to be included in the formulation of the State Constitution. During the period from November 1995 to 30 March 1996, the NC adopted the basic principles on legislation, execution and judiciary for the drawing of a State constitution.

The delegates representing NLD at the National Convention held from 9 January 1993 until March 1996 walked out of the NC at the instigation of the person who was under the thumb of certain big nations.

The chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission in his speech on 30 March 1996 said, “With lessons taken from events of the past, and with vigil kept against the danger from reactionary elements subservient to colonialism and imperialism and subscribing to sectarianism, as being seen and heard today, endeavours must be made to bring about a situation where only the people of Myanmar as a nation can determine the affairs in the future State that is truly free from any dependence and free from any stunting eclipse”.

After the National Convention was temporarily adjourned, the government launched its drive for building infrastructures the length and breadth of the country. The Tatmadaw suspended its military operations launched across the nation for ensuring non-disintegration of the Union. In August 2003, it laid down the State’s seven-point Road Map. The National Convention, the first step of the Road Map, resumed on 17 May 2004. Altogether 1,076 out of 1,088 delegates attended the National Convention.

It can be witnessed that the number of present NC delegates is more than that of previous NC — over 700. And 60 per cent of the delegates are people of national races. More than 100 delegates represented 17 major ethnic national armed groups and small groups. Of them, three or four groups attended the previous NC as observers.

In the first session of the National Convention held in 2004, discussions focused on the division of power between the government and states. Respectively legislative and executive bodies will be established separately in the states to transform from the centralized system into union government system in Myanmar. The first session of the NC was completed successfully even though the discussions were very delicate and broad.

The NC continued from 17 February 2005 to 31 March 2005. The delegates approved the section of legislation and laid down the principles on executive and judiciary with one voice.

Now, the National Convention, the first stage of the Road Map, is in progress. Arrangements are being made to resume the convention on 5 December 2005. In the NC, the delegates will have to approve the principles on executive and judiciary and deal with the remaining headings to be discussed.

Myanmar is called a Union, but its union system is much different from that of other nations. Thus, the political infrastructure of Myanmar is required to be strong with national unity. No doubt, a political party or an individual alone cannot shape the future of the nation.

The State’s seven-point Road Map is to be implemented stage by stage in compliance with the guidance. Upon completion of the National Convention, the first step as well as the most important one, the national goal will be within the reach.

All are therefore urged to make their way with decisive determination for ensuring successful completion of the National Convention in a bid to pursue the national goal, the concern of the entire national people.

Translation: TMT + MS
Agriculture sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of agriculture in the time of the Tatmadaw government

Extended growing and production of industrial crops

The Union of Myanmar is striving for her citizens to enjoy higher living standard, and emergence of industrialized country. In building an industrialized nation, emphasis is being placed on development of agro-based industry.

Included in the agro-based industry are rice mill, oil mill, flour mill, sugar mill, textile factory, jute mill, silk industry, rubber industry, etc. Cotton, sugarcane, jute and rubber are important raw materials used in these industries.

With the aim of supplying enough raw materials to State-owned textile industries, providing more cotton for domestic use and exporting surplus cotton, efforts are being made to extend growing of the crop. In the time of the Tatmadaw government, cotton is designated as a major crop and grown as much as possible.

More land are reclaimed to grow sugarcane with the aim of increasing the yield of sugarcane, and to fulfil the needs in domestic consumption of sugar and export the surplus.

To extend production of jute, six zones have been formed in Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions where jute thrives well and necessary raw materials have been provided.

Out of industrial raw material crops, rubber is one of the items which can fulfil the domestic industrial needs. Moreover, the crop has a bright prospect for export and can penetrate the foreign markets. To increase rubber export, new plants are substituted for the old ones and more land has been reclaimed for entrepreneurs who are engaged in growing rubber.

The table shows extended growing and production of industrial crops in the time of the Tatmadaw government which is making all-out efforts for raising the living standard of citizens through industrial development.

<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>Cotton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sown acreage (thousand)</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Yield in viss (1 X 100,000)</td>
<td>1002</td>
<td>1442</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sugarcane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sown acreage (thousand)</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Yield in ton (1 X 100,000)</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sown acreage (thousand)</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Yield in viss (1 X 100,000)</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Rubber</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sown acreage (thousand)</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Yield in pound (1 X 100,000)</td>
<td>597</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fourth annual meeting of MMMEA held

YANGON, 2 Dec — The fourth annual meeting of Myanmar Medicine and Medical Entrepreneurs Association took place at Institute of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogyoke Aung San street this afternoon with an address by National Health Committee Secretary Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo.

First, Chairman of MMMEA Dr Maung Maung Lay extended greetings. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo then made a speech. The deputy minister and guests observed drug stalls of medicine entrepreneurs. The officials replied to the queries raised by members of MMMEA. Next, Dr Maung Maung Lay made concluding remarks. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Director-General U Myo Oo of Directorate of Trade under the Ministry of Commerce, rectors and directors of the departments under the Ministry of Health, President of UMFCCI U Win Myint and social organizations.—MNA

Myanmar to host 45th SEA Amateur Golf Team Championship Putra Cup

YANGON, 2 Dec — The 45th South East Asia Amateur Golf Team Championship Putra Cup 2005 sponsored by Myanmar Golf Federation will be held at Pun Hlaing Golf Club here from 14 to 17 December.

Golfers representing Brunei, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam will participate in it.

The championship was organized by Han Event Management and co-sponsored by Pun Hlaing Golf Club, Dusit Inya Lake Hotel, Grand Royal and Srixon. —MNA
Thanks to irrigation facilities, Sagaing Division has been able to produce...

The commander reported on prospects for supply of water to the farmland and distribution of electricity generated from the project.

The Prime Minister highlighted noticeable facts in implementing the project, and viewed the map of the project.

Manipura Multi-purpose Dam Project will be implemented on Manipura River, downstream Gaharni Bridge on Kale-Gangaw Road in Kale Township.

The project will prevent the flooding of the plains along Myittha River including lower regions of Kalewa. On completion, the facility will be able to benefit 50,000 acres of farmland and generate 300 megawatts.

Chairman of Magway Division PDC Lt-Col Hla Swe reported on the agricultural, education and health sectors of the district, and regional sufficiency of rice and edible oil; and the chairman of Gangaw Township PDC, on facts on the township and requirements.

Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects Manipura Multi-purpose Dam Project in Kale Township, Sagaing Division. — MNA

Chin and Rakhine states, Kale and Gangaw regions in Sagaing Division have seen marked development thanks to the correct leadership of the government, endeavours of the staff, and cooperation of local people and social organizations.

Prime Minister General Soe Win offers alms to Sayadaw Maha Saddhamma Jotikadha Bhaddanta Narada. — MNA

On arrival at Myittha Dam Project being implemented on Myittha River near Pyintha village in Gangaw Township, the Prime Minister heard reports by officials concerned on facts about the project, kinds of machinery to be used in the project.

The chairman of the division PDC reported on the watershed areas of the project, prospects for water supply, and geographical facts. The commander gave a supplementary report.

The Prime Minister gave instructions about the project and inspected the construction of the diversion tunnel of the facility that will be able to irrigate 12,000 acres of farmland and generate 40 megawatts on completion.

The Prime Minister went to Ayadaw (2) River Water Pumping Station Project near Magyeesauk Village in Ayadaw Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division. Director-General of the Water Resources Utilization Department U Win Shwe gave an account of the project; and the commander, on river water pumping station projects under way in Ayadaw Township.

The Prime Minister viewed the pumping of water from Mu River and supply of water through the main canal of the facility that will benefit 20,000 acres. He also inspected the project tasks.

On the way to Monywa, the Prime Minister viewed the thriving plantations and artesian well in Ayadaw.

The Prime Minister dropped in Maha Bodhi Tahtaung Monastery in Khatakkantaung village in Monywa Township and visited Sayadaw Maha Saddhamma Jotikadha Bhaddanta Narada.

He saw over progress of construction of the main building of the Government Technological College (Monywa). The principal of the college and the acting principal of Government Computer College (Monywa) reported on courses being conducted in the facilities, strength of the students and academic matters, and Chief Engineer of Shoe Than Lwin Highway Co Ltd U Tin Win, on work progress.

The Prime Minister instructed officials to ensure completion of the project on schedule, and teachers to nurture the students theoretically and practically and to produce more human resources.

On 30 November morning, the Prime Minister met with members of Sagaing Division PDC, local administrative bodies, departmental personnel, social organizations and town elders at the city hall in Monywa. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye reported on area of the region, sown acreage, cultivation of monsoon and cold season crops in 2005-2006, target to put two million acres under monsoon paddy in the region in 2006-2007, sufficiency of rice and edible oil, extended growing of rubber and garlic, water supply project, development of minerals, industrial, transport and communication sectors, and better per capita income of local people.

(See page 9)
Thanks to irrigation facilities, Sagaing Division has been able to produce...

(From page 8)

The Division education officer reported on education promotion plans, and basic education to be upgraded, and the head of the Division Health Department on community health care services.

The Prime Minister assessed the reports, saying that Chin and Rakhine states, Kale and Gangaw regions in Sagaing Division have been marked development thanks to the correct leadership of the government, endeavours of the staff, and cooperation of local people and social organizations.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, the government has been striking for long-term interests of all national brethren, raising the living standard, and national solidarity to ensure regional and national development.

Moreover, the region has enjoyed progress in all aspects due to prospects for improvement of transport, education, health and industrial sectors.

The magnificent development of the region is a testament to the close supervision of the commander and the hard work of officials at all levels. It is encouraging to witness that the region is making efforts to be able to keep abreast of Yangon and Mandalay divisions in information technology.

Only when emphasis is placed on parallel development of urban and rural areas, will there be sustainable progress of the entire Sagaing Division. The Prime Minister called for speedy implementation of the five rural development tasks alongside extension of power supply. He said the implementation of rural development tasks will pick up momentum only through electricity and IT.

The development of states and divisions including Sagaing Division represents that of the entire Union. So, prospects for development of the nation and the people depend on concerted efforts.

In respect of international relations, Myanmar is enhancing friendship and cooperation with international community including UN, regional organizations, and neighbouring and ASEAN countries.

Omn is put on the entire people to make efforts in unison in line with the plans laid down for transforming the nation into a peaceful, modern and developed nation with flourishing genuine democracy.

The strength of a nation lies within, so the entire national people are urged to cooperate with the government in carrying out development tasks with the effective use of technologies and natural resources.

Then, the Prime Minister arrived back in Yangon.
Collective participation …

(from page 16)

Addressing the closing ceremony, the Secretary-1 said now is the time when the State is striving its utmost with the strength of national forces by laying down political, economic and social objectives to enable the country to stand tall among the international community with her own dignity and sovereignty. In doing so, it is important for the citizens to be equipped with knowledge of good education and Union Spirit in order to produce human resources and ensure a strong economy. Only then can the nation protect and strengthen its national interest.

From the international perspective, global nations are contending one another to safeguard their own national interests and develop their economies for the well-being of their peoples.

In this context, the Secretary-1 said, most of the developing countries like Myanmar have to try their best with their own national forces and are working together with their neighboring countries for reaping mutual benefits. Notwithstanding the fact, some developed nations practising protectionism are attempting to influence the developing ones, ignoring international ethics such as parity between nations.

Such big nations are deliberately inventing accusations and fabrications to cause instability of the developing countries including Myanmar. The government is implementing national education promotion programmes step by step for the emergence of a constant learning society and educational infrastructures and to enable its citizens to cope with global challenges. With the concept that education can only develop the nation and produce strong national forces, the government is trying its utmost to improve the entire national education level.

For educational opportunities, universities and colleges are being opened in every region; curriculum of international standards being developed; master’s degree courses and doctorate courses being conducted; and laboratories, workshops, libraries and research centres being established in the country in cooperation with the international educational organizations for the improvement of Myanmar’s education level.

Education promotion plan has been implemented with the aim of the developing of the State and the people.

Taking advantage of a good education, faculty members are to carry out research on respective fields; to innovate to ensure success in agriculture, livestock breeding and environmental conservation sectors and to make efforts for progress of society.

The future of the State is in the hands of youths and their future depends on education. Only when they become intelligentia, will the State make progress in the future.

It is necessary to endow the students with patriotic spirit that encourages the people to strive for the prosperity of the State and the people with Union Spirit without relying on other countries.

A handful of destructionists are trying to jeopardize the stability of the State and to disintegrate the Union with the assistance of some developed countries. Therefore, we must guard against the danger posed by the destructive elements with Union Spirit.

Only Union Spirit could prevent the interference of some super powers. The colonial era had left Myanmar a good legacy of dynamism of patriotic spirit and anti-colonialism.

The government was able to nearly eliminate ill-legacies of colonialists such as internal armed insurgencies and drug problems in the nation. And the people are to keep the spirit of national unity, anti-colonialism alive for ever.

Nowadays, thanks to concerted efforts of the entire national people including teachers, national economy is making progress on a yearly basis. With this achievement, education, health and social infrastructures have emerged in mass. In the political sector also, there emerged national unity, stability of the State and prevalence of law and order.

Based on development in political, economic and social sectors, the government has laid down and is implementing the seven-point Road Map for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

The National Convention will soon be reconvened, and discussions are to be held at the meeting to lay down detailed basic principles for the emergence of the State constitution, the most basic requirement for a future nation.

A State constitution that can guarantee development infrastructures including national unity, peace and stability is imperative for Myanmar where various national races reside.

State, disintegration of national solidarity and domestic conflicts in the small nations. As a result, civil wars, anarchy, terrorism, racial clashes and disintegration of unions are rife in many parts of the world today, he added.

In such a time like this, Myanmar as a developing country is required to build strong national forces so as to protect its national interest and stand tall as an independent sovereign nation. So, paying emphasis on the development of the nation and the people is as important as the existence of the nation standing tall with dignity. With the very advancing science and technology today, every nation needs to strive for the development of their countries through the education sector.

The Secretary-1 continued that the government is implementing national education promotion programmes step by step for the emergence of a constant learning society and educational infrastructures and to enable its citizens to cope with global challenges. With the concept that education can only develop the nation and produce strong national forces, the government is trying its utmost to improve the entire national education level.

For educational opportunities, universities and colleges are being opened in every region; curriculum of international standards being developed; master’s degree courses and doctorate courses being conducted; and laboratories, workshops, libraries and research centres being established in the country in cooperation with the international educational organizations for the improvement of Myanmar’s education level.

Education promotion plan has been implemented with the aim of the developing of the State and the people.

Taking advantage of a good education, faculty members are to carry out research on respective fields; to innovate to ensure success in agriculture, livestock breeding and environmental conservation sectors and to make efforts for progress of society.

The future of the State is in the hands of youths and their future depends on education. Only when they become intelligentia, will the State make progress in the future.

It is necessary to endow the students with patriotic spirit that encourages the people to strive for the prosperity of the State and the people with Union Spirit without relying on other countries.

A handful of destructionists are trying to jeopardize the stability of the State and to disintegrate the Union with the assistance of some developed countries. Therefore, we must guard against the danger posed by the destructive elements with Union Spirit.
Collective participation …

(from page 10)

Only when there is peace and stability in the nation will a discipline-flourishing democratic nation emerge. Only then will stability of the State and national development be perpetual. The three basic requirements are indispensable for the emergence of a democratic nation.

Therefore, collective participation in the successful realization of the seven-point Road Map, a crucial stage for the emergence of discipline-flourishing nation in conformity with the prevailing situations of Myanmar, is a correct endeavour for serving national interest. This being the case, the entire national people including teachers are to make concerted efforts for the success of the National Convention for the emergence of an endurable State constitution capable of ensuring perpetuation of the Union and the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 called for active and enthusiastic participation in the successful realization of the seven-point Road Map for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation so that the nation will be able to keep abreast of the international community. Later, the prize presenting ceremony continued and Myanmar Education Committee Chairman State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein awarded the outstanding prizes to the trainees Demonstrator U Tin Aung Khine of the University of Culture (Mandalay) and Assistant Lecturer Daw Than Than Sint of the University of Veterinary Science, and the consolida tion prizes to the winners. Afterwards, the Secretary-1 presented the prizes for hostels and completion certificate to the trainees through leaders and second leaders.

Next, the trainees donated cash totalling K 50,000 for Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image, Thow Thelci Pagoda (Mandalay), the renovation and maintenance of the ancient pagodas in Bagan, the Union Solidarity and Development Association and honouring the National Convention. The Secretary-1 accepted the donation and presented the certificate of honour. Afterwards, Myanmar Education Committee Chairman SPDC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the opening ceremony of 500-trainee Padamya Hall in the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar).

Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Tha Than Nyan and Member U Hla Myint Oo formally opened the 500-capacity-trainee Padamya Hall. Next, the Secretary-1 pressed the button to unveil the stone plaque of the hall and viewed around the hall.

Information Minister receives guest

Minister Brig-Gen Kyan Hsan meets with Mr Yogesh M Kharbanda and party. — MNA

YANGON, 2 Dec — General Manager Mr Yogesh M Kharbanda and party of the Printers House (P) Ltd of India called on Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan at the ministry this evening.

Also present at the call were departmental heads and officials of the Ministry of Information. — MNA

Notice to Mariners announced

YANGON, 2 Dec — Daewoo E&P Myanmar that is undertaking joint venture tasks with Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, will perform geophysical site survey at block A-1 offshore Rakhine coastal area from December 2005 to October 2006.

Geophysical site survey will be conducted at Shwe Phyu-3 test well of north latitude 19° 48’ 6.04” and east longitude 92° 23’ 57.65”, Shwe Phyu-4 test well of north latitude 19° 51’ 30.47” and east longitude 92° 24’ 33.30”, Shwe Phyu-5 test well of north latitude 19° 42’ 57.96” and east longitude 92° 28’ 22.48” and Ngwe North-1 test well of north latitude 19° 42’ 44.30” and east longitude 92° 22’ 28.80”, Nilar Wah-1 test well of north latitude 19° 44’ 44.05” and east longitude 92° 34’ 58.08”, Nilar Wah-2 test well of north latitude 19° 39’ 06.66” and east longitude 92° 37’ 03.51” and Mya-1 test well of north latitude 19° 35’ 34.6” and east longitude 92° 33’ 36.61”.

The Fisheries Department issued a notice to mariners that vessels and boats, trawlers, and water craft are not to ply and anchor in 2km perimeter of the area of the test wells and not to carry out fisheries works during the survey conducting period. — MNA

Notice to Mariners announced

YANGON, 2 Dec — PTTEP International Ltd, a joint venture of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, will perform geophysical site survey at block M-9 offshore Mottama coastal area in Ayeyawady Division from 15 December 2005 to 15 March 2006.

Geophysical site survey will be conducted at Point 1 of north latitude 14° 42’ 51.4” and east longitude 95° 41’ 56.7”, Point 2 of north latitude 14° 42’ 51.4” and east longitude 96° 15’ 02.6”, Point-3 of north latitude 14° 09’ 10.3” and east longitude 96° 15’ 02.6” and Point-4 of north latitude 14° 09’ 10.3” and east longitude 95° 41’ 56.7”.

The Fisheries Department issued a notice to mariners that vessels and boats, trawlers, and water craft are not to ply and anchor in the area and not to carry out fisheries works during the survey conducting period. — MNA
Cambodia takes action against traffic violations in capital

PHNOM PENH, 1 Dec—Phnom Penh Municipal police have taken actions to stop road racing and other traffic violations.

In a three-day operation against traffic violations in the capital, the municipal police seized 69 motorbikes and four cars, the Cambodia Daily reported on Wednesday.

Deputy Municipal Police Chief Vann Nary said police reports have not yet come in from all districts on the operation, which started on Sunday, but added that while most of the motorbikes were being used for racing, the cars were generally confiscated for using illegal sirens.

Speaking at the National Committee for Education, Prime Minister Hun Sen on Tuesday warned that high ranking officials who protect their road-racing children from punishment would not find themselves protected from his wrath.

“I would denote fathers’ ranks to become [ordinary] people if they defend their sons,” the Premier said.

According to the figures of the NGO Handicap International, the number of traffic accidents related to speeding in Cambodia is higher than in most countries. In the first nine months of 2006, 20% of all road accident casualties were resulted from speeding.

—MNA/Xinhua

UNESCO sets up “Confucius Literacy Prize” to boost education for all

BEIJING, 1 Dec—The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) announced here Wednesday it is setting up the “Confucius Literacy Prize”, aimed at honouring individuals and institutions that have made a significant contribution to education development.

This is the first time an international prize has been named after a Chinese figure. Starting in 2006, a panel of experts will select two prizewinners from government organizations, non-governmental organizations and individuals worldwide who have made a special contribution in the education sector.

The panel will be looking for achievements that focus on education in rural areas, education for women and girls and the advancement of literacy.

The prize will be funded by eastern China’s Shandong Province and Confucius’ hometown, Jining City. The prizes, worth a total of 150,000 US dollars, will be announced at the International Literacy Day which falls on September 8. The UNESCO director general will grant the prize to the two winners with certificates and medals, as well as a chance to visit Jining City.

A great thinker, philosopher and educator in ancient China, Confucius (551 BC-479 BC) is known as one of the most famous historical and cultural figures in the world. The time-honoured Confucius theory is an important part of the mainstream Chinese culture and still has influence on educators in China and around the world.

In 2003, the government of Shaanxi Province and Jining City applied for the establishment of the prize with the Chinese National Commission for the UNESCO. Their request was approved by the UNESCO on September 29 this year.

—MNA/Xinhua

Ten die in German homeless shelter fire

BERLIN, 2 Dec—Ten people died in a fire at a homeless shelter in the central German town of Halberstadt, local police said on Friday.

Five others at the shelter were treated for injuries in hospital, a police spokesman said.

Police said it was unclear what started the blaze, but that it may have been due to negligence or a technical problem. There was no indication of arson. The fire reported in the early hours of the morning, was now under control.

Police said nine of the dead lived at the shelter, while the identity of the tenth victim was unclear.

—MNA/Reuters

China issues coins marking its film industry centennial

BEIJING, 1 Dec—The People’s Bank of China (PBOC), China’s central bank, will release on Thursday a set of gold and silver coins in commemoration of the centenary of the Chinese film industry.

The set of coins, including a gold coin and a silver one, was issued by the country’s central bank to celebrate the centenary of the Chinese film industry.

“A Century of Chinese Film Industry” and the par value imprinted.

The reverse side of the silver coin exhibits the designs of the camera and the film box and the words of “A Century of Chinese Film Industry” and the par value imprinted.

The gold coin, 20,000 of which to be issued for circulation, will be made of 1/3 ounce of pure gold, 23 millimetres in diameter, and 150 yuan in value.

—MNA/Xinhua

Truck, motorcycle collision kills 4 in Vietnam

HANOI, 2 Dec—A truck crashed into two motorbikes in Vietnam’s central Ha Tinh province Friday morning, killing four local people.

Two men and two women in the age bracket of 19 and 28 died after the truck collided with their motorbikes in Huong Giang district, the Vietnam News Agency reported.

According to initial investigation, the accident happened partly because the truck driver lost control.

Vietnam experienced 12,115 traffic accidents with 9,472 fatalities and 10,192 injuries in the first 10 months of this year, posting respective year-one-year decreases of 17.9 percent, 6.3 percent and 22.8 percent.

—MNA/Xinhua
Alzheimer’s patients get less breast cancer therapy

NEW YORK (Reuters Health), 1 Dec — Women with Alzheimer’s disease receive less treatment for breast cancer than do comparable female Medicare beneficiaries, the results of a new study indicate. However, this pattern is not necessarily inappropriate, the authors note in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.

Dr Sherri Sheinfeld Gorin and colleagues from Columbia University, New York, examined the use of breast cancer treatment in patients with Alzheimer’s disease based on data from the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results cancer registry and Medicare billing records.

A total of 50,460 breast cancer patients were included in the study population. Of these, 3.8 per cent had a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease before or up to 6 months after cancer diagnosis.

Women with Alzheimer’s disease were more likely to be diagnosed with later-stage breast cancer than other female Medicare patients and to have larger tumors. Women with Alzheimer’s disease also had a higher probability of lymph node involvement.

The Alzheimer’s group was less likely to undergo surgery, radiation or chemotherapy than other patients.

The team reports that the greatest differences in treatment occurred between the ages of 80 and 89 years. There are insufficient data to make chemotherapy recommendations for patients aged 70 and older, so treatment may be individualized depending on the presence of other diseases, Gorin’s team explains.

“Even in the face of accepted clinical guidelines, healthcare providers may appropriately offer less-aggressive care to their patients with Alzheimer’s disease,” they note.

Factors that influence these decisions may include life expectancy, quality of life, and the risks of treatment or treatment-related side effects, they add.

Astronomers in Chile discover new planet

SANTIAGO (Chile), 1 Dec — A team of French and Swiss astronomers working at the La Silla observatory in Chile discovered a planet about the size of Neptune located some 20.5 light years from our solar system, the European Southern Observatory said on Wednesday.

The still unnamed planet is located in the Libra constellation and has about 17 times the mass of the Earth. It takes only five days to complete its orbit around a star that has about a third the mass of the Earth’s sun, the Press release said.

The star G1 581 is a red dwarf, a small, cool, faint star that is the most common type in our galaxy. Since 80 of the 100 stars closest to the sun are red dwarfs, astronomers are interested in discovering if they have planets orbiting them.

“Our discovery could mean that planets orbiting small stars are common,” said Xavier Delfosse, a member of France’s Grenoble Astrophysics Laboratory, said in a statement. “This tells us that red dwarfs are key in the search for exoplanets.”

India successfully tests “BrahMos" cruise missile

NEW DELHI, 1 Dec—India on Wednesday successfully tested the land version of the BrahMos cruise missile from a test range in Orissa’s Balasore District in east India, Indian defence sources said.

According to Indo-Asian News Service, the missile, which is jointly developed by India and Russia and takes its name from the Brahmaputra and Moskvarivers, has a range of nearly 300 kilometres and carries a conventional warhead of 300 kilos.

It can achieve speeds of up to 2.8 Mach or nearly three times the speed of sound. It was tested at 11.02 a.m. from a mobile launcher from the integrated test range (ITR) at Chandipur, 230 kilometres from the state capital Bhubaneswar.

The test was successful and fulfilled all the mission objectives, the sources said.

Astronomers claim spotting birth of tiniest solar system

LOS ANGELES, 1 Dec— Using a combination of ground-based and orbiting telescopes, astronomers reported on Tuesday that they have discovered the possible birth of a tiny solar system around a failed star.

The failed star, called brown dwarf by astronomers, is less than one-hundredth the mass of the Sun. It is the smallest known star-like object to harbor what appears to be a planet-forming disk of rocky and gaseous debris.

The brown dwarf, Cha 110913-773444, is located 500 light years away in the constellation Chamaeleon. One day the debris around it could evolve into tiny planets and create a solar system in miniature, said a research team led by Kevin Luhman, an assistant professor at the Pennsylvania State University. The finding will appear in the December 10 issue of Astrophysical Journal Letters.

“The similarity in the disk fractions of stars and brown dwarfs is consistent with a common formation mechanism and indicates that the raw materials for planet formation are available around brown dwarfs as often as around stars,” the researchers said in the paper. The fact that a brown dwarf this small could be in the midst of creating a solar system challenges the very definition of star, planet, moon and solar system.

“Our goal is to determine the smallest ‘sun’ with evidence for planet formation,” said Luhman. “Here we have a sun that is so small it is the size of a planet. The question then becomes, what do we call any little bodies that might be born from this disk: planets or moons?”

Ancient limestone cave suffers damage in Inner Mongolia

HOHhot, 1 Dec — An ancient limestone cave took shape about 10,000 years ago in the Helan Mountain of north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has suffered devastation due to illegal excavation and robbery, the local mountain administration said Monday.

The cave, containing innumerable stalactites of various shapes, is located in the Helan Mountain, Alashan League, northwest of Inner Mongolia. It was discovered by forest rangers in July this year.

Unfortunately, the potential tourist site has become a victim of robbers, who risk harsh punishment by stealing those stalactites.
Levski Sofia to extend their hope Dutch side last 32. next week to qualify for the final round of matches results going their way in four games, must rely on their Group F fixtures and ons, who have completed through to the last 32 on Stuttgart, Zenit St Petersburg, Hristo Jovov goal, the former European champi- garian side overcame the crossbar. from Iannis Zicu had struck reacting first after a shot minute winner for Dinamo, Munteanu netted a 72nd-90 Spurs win. in Dallas. Parker had a game-high 30 points in the quis Daniels, left, look on, on Thursday, 1 Dec, 2005, Tim Duncan, second from left, and Mavericks' Mar- up for a shot-attempt against Dallas Mavericks' Dirk San Antonio Spurs' Tony Parker (9), of France, goes up for a shot-attempt against Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki, centre, of Germany, in the first half as Spurs' Tim Duncan, second from left, and Mavericks' Mar- quis Daniels, left, look on, on Thursday, 1 Dec, 2005, in Dallas. Parker had a game-high 30 in the 92-90 Spurs win. —INTERNET

Juventus salvage 2-2 draw with Fiorentina

ROME, 2 Dec — Juventus came back from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 with Fiorentina in an Italian Cup tie interrupted when tear gas drifted over the pitch following violent clashes between fans and police outside the ground on Thursday.

The fourth-round first-leg game was held up for 20 minutes at the start of the second half after tear gas was fired by police outside the Stadio Franchi in Flor- ence. The incident will inflict more dam- age on the tarnished image of Italian soccer which already this week has struggled to come to grips with the racist abuse suffered by a Messina player dur- ing last weekend's Serie A game against Intern Milan.

Neither side were at full strength. Fiorentina coach Cesare Prandelli left Serie A top scorer Luca Toni on the bench while Juventus coach Fabio Capello opted to rest his first-choice strike partnership of David Trezeguet and Zlatan Ibrahimovic.

Even so it proved an exciting match, with Fiorentina striker Giampaolo Pazzini heading narrowly wide and Juve's Marcelo Zalayeta hitting the bar in the opening half hour.

Pazzini's strike partner Valeri Bojinov broke the deadlock in the 35th minute, bringing down Tomas Ufjalski's cross and volleying crisply past keeper Gianluigi Buffon, playing his first game after a three-month injury layoff.

Bojinov almost grabbed a second before halftime when he curled a free kick on to the bar. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.

Play resumed 20 minutes later and it was Fiorentina who looked the more alert. When the tear gas incident began two minutes into the second half, spectators left the stands and referee Luca Palanca stopped the game and sent the players back to the dressing rooms.
Long-term hormone therapy best for prostate cancer

New York, 2 Dec—Men with high-risk prostate cancer fare better when they are treated with at least 12 months of hormone reduction therapy rather than with a shorter duration of treatment, new research suggests. This holds true regardless of how fast growing or advanced the cancer is.

Androgen deprivation therapy involves lowering levels of male hormones, such as testosterone, in the body in an effort to block or slow the growth of prostate cancer. Androgen deprivation therapy is most commonly achieved with medications, but it can also be produced by removing the testes.

Previous reports have suggested a survival benefit with long-term androgen deprivation therapy, but it was unclear if this applied to all patients or only those with fast-growing cancers, lead author Dr. Eric Berthelet, from the British Columbia Cancer Agency (BCCA) in Victoria, Canada, and colleagues note in the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics.

The study involved 307 patients who were treated with radiation therapy and entered in the Prostate Cancer Outcomes Initiative database of the BCCA.

Roughly half of the patients received short-term androgen deprivation therapy, defined as less than 12 months, and half received therapy for longer durations. The groups were comparable in terms of tumour aggressiveness and disease stage, the authors note.

Brian Tong uses special remote control on an Apple Computer iMac G5 using Apple’s Front Row at an Apple store in Palo Alto, Calif. on 29 Nov, 2005. Apple Computer Inc’s latest iMac G5 is thinner, faster and slightly less expensive than previous models. But the most dramatic difference is in the included software that the company hopes will make the computer not only a desktop tool, but the focal point of a household’s entertainment centre. —INTERNET

WEATHER

Friday, 2 December, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunderstorms has been isolated in Taninthayi Division and weather has been fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin, Chin States and upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) above normal in Eastern Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was Haka (2°C).

Maximum temperature on 1-12-2005 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 2-12-2005 was 65°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 2-12-2005 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 1-12-2005 was (8.2) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 2-12-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 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 North at (12:40) hours MST on 1-12-2005.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (09:30) hours MST today, yesterday’s tropical storm ‘Baaiz’ over Southwest Bay had moved west-northwest slowly and weakened into a depression. It is centred at about (150) miles East-South of Chennai (India) and forecast to move west or northwest direction. Weather is cloudy in South and West Central Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 3-12-2005: Except for isolated rain or thunderstorms are likely in Taninthayi Division, weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of rain or thunderstorms in the extreme southern Myanmar area.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 3-12-2005: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 3-12-2005: Fair weather.

Weather outlook for first weekend of December 2005: During the coming weekend, weather will be fair in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.

Storm News

(Issued at 11:00 hrs MST on 2-12-2005)

According to the observations at (09:30) hours MST today, yesterday’s tropical storm ‘Baaiz’ over Southwest Bay had moved west - northwest slowly and weakened into a depression. It is centred at about (150) miles East-South of Chennai (India) and forecast to move west (or) northwest direction.
Collective participation in successful realization of seven-point Road Map is correct endeavour for serving national interest

YANGON, 2 Dec — Special refresher course No 5 for faculty members concluded at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in Pyin Oo Lwin township, Mandalay Division, this morning. Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein addressed the occasion and awarded the outstanding trainees.

It was also attended by SPDC member Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, ministers, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, deputy ministers, the Mandalay mayor, the deputy chief justice of the Supreme Court (Upper Myanmar), the deputy attorney-general, members of the CSSTB, officials of the SPDC office, departmental heads, CICS (Upper Myanmar) Rector U Aung San Win, pro-rectors and faculty members.

Some developed nations practising protectionism are attempting to influence the developing ones, ignoring international ethics such as equality among nations.

(See page 10)

Convening of National Convention clarified to resident representatives of UN agencies, military attachés

YANGON, 2 Dec — The National Convention Convening Commission met with resident representatives of UN agencies here at 10 am today and military attachés of foreign missions at 2 pm today at the hall of the commission in Kyakkkasan Grounds, here, and clarified matters related to reconvening of the National Convention.

Present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Commission Secretary Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Commission members Attorney-General U Aye Maung, U Thaung Nyunt and Joint Secretary-1 Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, resident representatives of UN agencies here, military attachés led by Dean of the Military Attaché Col Ngi Vanndim of Cambodia, departmental heads of the Ministry of Information and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials.

NCCC Vice-Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe extended greetings to all. Afterwards, he clarified facts about the organizing of the coordination meeting on the National Convention prior to the 1993 National Convention, the six objectives of the National Convention, discussions at the

(See page 11)