Established 1914

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Saturday, 19 August, 2006

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

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

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

State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Aug—Mr Mark Canning, newly-accredited Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, at 10 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department. —MNA

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of the newly-accredited Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Myanmar Mr Mark Canning. —MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
PERSPECTIVES
Saturday, 19 August, 2006

Enhance abilities of the youth of national races

Today, the government is stepping up the construction of social and economic infrastructures across the nation for the reason that its drive for restoration of peace and stability in border areas has been brought to fruition. As a result, the standard of living of national races is rising remarkably.

Thanks to the emergence of university, degree college, government technological college and government computer college in Kengtung, Shan State (East), local youth have got an easy access to tertiary education in the regions where they live.

It has established 27 nationalities youth development training schools in border areas that are designed to provide free education to the youth, while opening of more and more basic education schools with a view to improving the qualities of national race youth in border areas.

In addition, it has established Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges (Yangon) and (Mandalay) where arts and science degrees and AGTI Diploma courses are conducted.

Similarly, local youth can study at the basic construction course, basic mechanic course, basic electrical course and welding course in the Nationalities Youth Technical School of the Education and Training Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.

The government is putting into action a variety of projects so that local people in border areas can enjoy fruitful results of greater progress in the economic, social, education and health sectors. Due to the effective encouragement of the government to the national race youth, the number of intellectuals and intelligentsia and technicians of national race youth is on the increase.

Cash donated to MWJA

YANGON, 17 Aug — Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association is providing cash assistance for the health of writers, journalists and comedians using the funds.

On behalf of Chairman U Zaw Aye of Pyae Swan Ye Co, U Aye Ko (Zarni Ko) donated K 500,000; U Khaing Htwe (Asia Brave Trading Co Ltd) - Daw Thin Thin Khang and daughters Ma The Yadana Htwe and Ma Su Yanda Htwe K 200,000; Dr Thein Nuniy (Niunt Wai-Katha) K 100,000; Lt-Col Myint Thu (Retd) (Writer Thurein Os) K 10,000; U Ye Lwin (Maw Naing Oo) K 10,000; and U Than Htaik of Bahan Township donated K 1.1 million to the fund for giving treatment to cancer patients.

Mayor inspects sanitation tasks

YANGON, 17 Aug — A ceremony to introduce Bangkok - Yangon - Bangkok flight schedule of Thai Air Asia was held at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Chief Executive Officer of Thai Air Asia Mr Tassapon Bijleveld and members and media persons.

First, CEO of Thai Air Asia Mr Tassapon Bijleveld extended greetings on the occasion and explained facts about Bangkok - Yangon inaugural flight of Thai Air Asia. Next, CEO Mr Tassapon Bijleveld replied to the queries raised by media persons present. In the evening, a dinner was hosted to mark Bangkok-Yangon inaugural flight of Thai Air Asia in progress.

People's Desire

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

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Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspects repair work on Kyaikkasan Road in Tamway Township. — MNA

Commander and wife attend talks on cancer of women’s reproductive organ

YANGON, 17 Aug — Yangon East District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee organized the talks on cancer of women’s reproductive organ, provided medical treatments and donated cash to the medical fund at North Okkalapa General Hospital yesterday afternoon.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win accepted K 2,303,000 from well-wishers. Professor Dr Aung Myint, Specialist Dr Daw Kyi Kyi Nyunt and Professor Dr Daw Aye Aye Myint gave lectures on cancer of women’s reproductive organ.

MCWSC Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai donated K 1.1 million to the fund for giving treatment to cancer patients.

THAI AIR ASIA

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Press Conference of Bangkok-Yangon inaugural flight of Thai Air Asia in progress. — MNA

Air Asia took place at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel.
**ASEAN officials seek to speed up building of AEC**

KUALA LUMPUR, 17 Aug—Senior economic officials from ASEAN countries met here on Wednesday to seek ways to bring the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) into reality earlier.

Advancing the AEC process is one of the major issues discussed at the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials preparatory meeting although there were few specific new initiatives popping up at the gathering, said officials attending the meeting.

The participants actually were following up on instructions that their leaders gave last year to seek ways to push ahead the realization of the AEC, said Ooi Say Chuan, a senior official from the Malaysian International Trade and Industry Ministry.

The AEC was very important for ASEC’s integration efforts and it was among the substantial issues discussed at the meeting, an Indonesian official said.

ASEAN’s progress with its dialogue partners was also among the discussion, the official said.

The AEC is a unified community similar to the European Union that ASEAN hopes to establish by 2015 through various ways, such as the integration of business sectors.

ASEAN countries have worked out roadmaps for the eleven priority sectors toward liberalization, that is, automotive, garment and textile industries, e-commerce, healthcare, airlines, tourism, wood-based products, marine and aquatic products, rubber, agro-based products and electronics.

At the upcoming 38th ASEAN Economic Ministers meeting to be held here later this month, ASEAN countries are expected to add a roadmap for the logistics sector, the 12th priority sector for integration.

The four new members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)—Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV), lagged behind the other six old members due to the limitations of their countries’ economic developments, Vietnamese delegate Bui Huy Son said.

But the CLMV have agreed to advancing the realization of the AEC to 2015 from 2020, Bui said. However, he added, his country did not raise any specific issues at the preparatory meeting.

**US airport in ‘explosives’ alert**

LONDON, 17 Aug—An airport in Huntington, West Virginia has been evacuated after explosives tests on two containers in a female passenger’s luggage came positive.

The containers were spotted in the woman’s handbag and subjected to swab tests and sniffer dog examinations, both of which gave positive results. Officials say the woman is of Pakistani origin and was travelling on a one-way ticket to Charlotte, North Carolina.

She has been detained and is now being questioned by FBI officials.

According to the woman’s travel documents she is from Jackson, Michigan and was born in 1978. Chris Yates from Jane’s Aviation told the BBC that both the swab and sniffer dog tests were extremely sensitive.

The likelihood that a container that had not come into contact with explosives would come up positive on both tests was extremely low, he said.

The containers have been moved to a remote area by robot for further tests, airport director Larry Salyers said.

About 100 passengers have been affected by the evacuation, airport officials say.—Internet

**“Saomi” death toll rises to 319, may climb**

BEIJING, 17 Aug—The death toll from the strongest typhoon to hit China in half a century has reached 319 and could rise further, Xinhua news agency said on Wednesday.

Much of southern China has been battered by a series of typhoons and tropical storms this year that have now killed about 1,300 people.

Saomi, graded a “super typhoon” with winds exceeding 216 kilometres (134 miles) per hour, barreled into Guangdong province in the eastern province of Zhejiang on Thursday, flattening tens of thousands of houses, capsizing ships and damaging bridges and buildings.

A total of 202 people were confirmed dead in Fuding City in the southeastern province of Fujian alone, Xinhua said.

**Monsoon rains kill 192, damage 18,000 houses in N-W Pakistan**

ISLAMABAD, 17 Aug—The recent torrential rains and flash floods have totally killed 192 people, damaged 18,027 houses and injured some 198 persons in Pakistan’s North-West Frontier Province, the state-run APP news agency reported on Tuesday.

In the district of Mardan, some 50 kilometres north-east of NWFP provincial capital Peshawar, floods have left 51 people dead, 27 injured and 8,407 houses damaged, APP reported.—MNA/Xinhua

**Children play with coloured foam at Gracia district in Barcelona on 16 Aug, 2006.**—INTERNET

**Thai police arrest six Peruvians for cocaine smuggling**

BANGKOK, 17 Aug—Thai police at Bangkok’s Don Muang International Airport on Wednesday arrested six men from Peru for attempting to smuggle 6.7 kilos of cocaine into the kingdom, the country’s drug suppression police chief said.

Watcharapol Prasarnrachak, chief of the drug suppression police, told a Press conference the men had swallowed the cocaine after it was divided into small portions and wrapped in plastic bags, with each of them swallowing around 100 bags.

Watcharapol was quoted by the official Thai News Agency as saying that the drug carriers were part of an international cocaine trafficking ring and their arrests were made possible by intelligence cooperation between US and Thai police.

The Thai drug suppression chief said the men had said they were hired at 3,000 US dollars each by an American man to deliver the cocaine to a South American recipient in Thailand and that they were made to swallow the drugs to avoid police detection.—MNA/Xinhua

**A frog is about to be skinned before being dropped into a blender to make a juice popular with working-class Peruvians who believe it can cure illnesses ranging from fatigue to sexual impotence, at a market in San Juan de Lurigancho, Lima, on 16 Aug, 2006.**—INTERNET
President says Indonesia sticks to free, active foreign policy

JAKARTA, 17 Aug—The Indonesian Government remains consistent in implementing the foreign policy orientation that is free and active, President Susilo Bambang Yudoyono said in his state address before the plenary session of the House of Representatives (DPR) here Wednesday.

“Every step in our foreign policy is undertaken by advancing — and we dedicate it to — the national interest,” the President said, adding that the strengthening of the regional and global political arena.

He said that the Indonesian Government continued to play an active role in the process of regional integration towards the achievement of the ASEAN Community in 2020, and a closer cooperation between countries in East Asia.

“The (Indonesian) Government was beginning to play a more active role in the establishment of world peace, as mandated by the Preamble to the Constitution, such as in handling the Iranian nuclear case, the effort to reduce the tension on the Korean Peninsula, and proactive measures to support the establishment of peace in the Middle East,” he stressed.

“We remain consistent in supporting the struggle of the Palestinian people to realize a Palestinian State that is independent and sovereign,” the President added.

Indonesia together with Malaysia had proposed the convening of the Emergency Summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in Kuala Lumpur, which had produced a declaration urging the United Nations to immediately end the conflict in Lebanon, he said.—MNA/Xinhua

Looted Peru treasure found in UK

LONDON, 17 Aug—An ancient Peruvian headdress which was looted from an archaeological site almost 20 years ago has been found by police in London.

It is considered a national treasure that disappeared in 1988 after a tomb in northern Peru was raided and its contents sold on the black market.

It was handed to a firm of solicitors in central London by one of its clients who did not know it was stolen. The headdress, depicting a sea god, dates back to 700AD.

It is an example of ancient Peruvian Mochica civilisation art and is regarded by experts as one of the most important artefacts in Peruvian cultural heritage.

Dr Walter Alva, director of the Royal Tombs of Sipan Museum in Peru, described the seizure as “a very important moment in the worldwide war against illicit art and the looting of my country”.

“We are speaking about an archaeological object of the utmost historical and aesthetic importance, which is one of the most important ornaments of the ancient Peruvian cultures,” he added.

It was recovered by officers from Scotland Yard’s Art and Antiquities Squad, who will now send it back to Peru.—Internet

Bird flu kills 1,800 ducks in China, 210,000 culled

BEIJING, 17 Aug—About 1,800 ducks have died from bird flu at a farm in central China and more than 210,000 have been culled, the online edition of Xinhua news agency said on Tuesday.

A total of 1,805 ducks have died at the farm in Changsha, capital of Hunan Province, since the first poultry death was reported on 4 August Xinhuanet quoted the Agriculture Ministry as saying.

About 217,000 ducks at the farm have been culled, Xinhuanet said. A national laboratory confirmed on Monday the ducks had died from the H5N1 bird flu virus, it said. — MNA/Reuters
Flash floods kill five in C Vietnam

HANOI, 17 Aug—Flash floods sparked by torrential rain in Vietnam’s central Binh Thuan Province have claimed five lives since the weekend, local newspaper Youth reported Wednesday.

Besides Binh Thuan, the flooding has hit some other Vietnam’s central and southern provinces, including Thua Thien Hue, Quang Binh, Lam Dong, Duc Lac, Duc Nong, and Dong Nai, damaging tens of thousands of hectares of paddy rice and aquaculture ponds, many houses, schools, irrigation works and road sections.

Late last month, flooding and landslides caused by torrential rain killed or left missing at least 15 people in Vietnam’s northern region. — MNA/Xinhua

Lebanese troops move south as Israel moves out

BEIRUT, 17 Aug—About 6,000 Lebanese troops moved south across the Litani River on Thursday, reclaiming territory taken earlier by the Israeli army.

The Israeli army is methodically turning the territory south of the Litani River over to the UN Interim Force in Lebanon and the Lebanese army, Israeli Defense Forces said.

Between 1,800 and 2,000 more Lebanese troops were expected to arrive in the southern port city of Tyre by midday Thursday.

Lebanon’s government Wednesday authorized the deployment of 15,000 troops to the south, moving to take control of a region Hizbollah militants have effectively controlled since 2000. The army hopes to have all 15,000 troops deployed by Friday morning, an army official said. Beirut’s airport also reopened Thursday.

A flight from Amman, Jordan, was the first to arrive since Israeli warplanes and gunboats destroyed the airport’s three runways early in the 34-day conflict.

Two more flights, from Amman and London, are scheduled to land later Thursday carrying passengers, members of the press and humanitarian aid, an airport official said.

Zeng made the remark in a meeting with Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Millennium Development Goals Jeffrey D Sachs.

Zeng said China is ready to work with the international community, especially the United Nations, to keep close contacts and strengthen cooperation, in a bid to jointly implement the Millennium Development Goals.

He said that in order to realize the Millennium Development Goals, the international community has done a lot and made some achievements.

The Chinese Government has actively carried out the five measures proposed by Chinese President Hu Jintao at the summit last year marking the 60th anniversary of the United Nations, he said, adding China also hopes the international community will in earnest implement the achievements made during the summit.

Zeng said China wishes international community will establish an equal, reasonable and effective evaluation framework for the Millennium Development Goals and supervise and promote the implementation of international cooperation and development aid commitments.

The two sides also exchanged views on other issues of common concern, such as the current macro-economic situation, work of the aid-the-poor programme and renewable energy.

A visitor touches a huge pumpkin during the 6th International Agricultural Food Fair in Changchun, capital of northeast China’s Jilin Province, on 17 Aug, 2006. The fair opened to the public on Tuesday.

Chinese artist to sculpt statue of Martin Luther King

CHANGSHA, 17 Aug—A Chinese sculptor from central China’s Hunan Province has been chosen to sculpt a stone statue of Martin Luther King, which will be unveiled in the Martin Luther King Square in Washington in 2008.

Lei Yixin, the 53-year-old director of the Hunan Sculpture Institute, received the contract from the Sculpture Committee of the Martin Luther Square (SCMLS) on Sunday, as well as video, photographs and reading materials of the American hero.

“Tis a recognition of Chinese sculptors,” said the excited Lei, who has worked in sculpting for over 20 years.

A woman walks past a prayer wall where visitors write inspirational messages inside World Vision African AIDS exhibit near the site of the Sixteenth International AIDS conference in Toronto, on 16 August, 2006. — INTERNET

Philippines struggles to contain big oil spill in sea

MANILA, 17 Aug—The Philippines tried to contain a massive oil spill in the central region caused by a sunken tanker last week, waiting for foreign experts to help conduct salvage operations in the sea, local media reported on Wednesday.

Estimated 200,000 litres of industrial fuel from the tanker have spilled into the sea so far, a report by ANC TV quoted the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) Commander Arthur Go-singan as saying.

The oil slick, which is around 460 kilometers south of Manila, was covering nearly 25 square kilometers of sea off the coast of Guimaras Province, local officials told reporters.

The magnitude of pollution this time would easily surpass the worst history record in December last year, when 364,000 litres of oil from a barge spilled into waters of the very same Visayas Region, they added.

The sunken MT Solar I, owned by Sunshine Marine Development Corporation and chartered by oil company Petron, both Philippine entities, went down last Friday in huge waves and rested on the seabed under 900 metres of water with two million litres of oil, according to the Coast Guard.—MNA/Xinhua

China ready to implement UN millennium development goals

BEIJING, 17 Aug—China is ready to work with the international community to strive for the implementing of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, said Chinese Vice Premier Zeng Peiyan here on Tuesday.

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Niger Delta hostages safely released

SAN FRANCISCO, 17 Aug— Trico Marine Services Inc said on Wednesday that four of its employees had been safely released after being abducted from its supply vessel off the Niger Delta and held hostage for a week.

The two Norwegians and two Ukrainians were released on Tuesday, 15 August, the Houston-based oil field support services company said in a statement.

The men were abducted on 8 August from a ship servicing an offshore oil rig operated by Peak Petroleum in partnership with equator Exploration.

Peak is in dispute with a local community over jobs and other benefits. The four men were released after Peak struck an agreement to include the community in their benefits package, with the blessing of the local government, authorities said on Tuesday. Trico said that all four employees would undergo medical examinations and that they would be debriefed before returning to home. The men worked on a vessel owned by a Norwegian unit of Trico that services an offshore drilling rig.

Eight foreigners were kidnapped from the same rig for two days in June. About 16 foreign oil workers have been kidnapped in five separate abductions in the past two weeks in the oil-producing Niger Delta. Nine have been released. A series of attacks and kidnappings at the beginning of the year by a new militant group demanding more local control over the delta's oil wealth prompted President Olusegun Obasanjo to set up a committee to inject new investment into the neglected region.

Those attacks forced Royal Dutch Shell to shut about 500,000 barrels per day of oil production; almost a quarter of the capacity of the OPEC member nation.

Iran says can discuss atomic work suspension in talks

TEHERAN, 17 Aug— The Iranian Foreign Minister said on Wednesday Iran was ready to discuss the issue of suspending uranium enrichment in talks with the West but would seek to explain that Teheran believes any halt was "illogical".

A package of incentives backed by six world powers demanded Iran suspend enrichment before starting negotiations. Iran has said it would respond to the proposal by 22 August but Iranian officials have so far given no indication they will accept.

"We are ready to discuss all the issues including the suspension. There is no logic behind the suspension of Iran's activities. We are ready to explain this to them," Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki told reporters.

The package of economic and other incentives was offered to Iran in June but Teheran's self-imposed deadline of 22 Aug to respond was deemed too long.

Iran's case was then sent back to the UN Security Council, which passed a resolution demanding Teheran halt the sensitive atomic work by 31 Aug or face possible sanctions.

"The resolution is illegal and politically motivated and has no value for us," Mottaki said. Iran says it wants to enrich uranium to make fuel for nuclear power plants. The West accuses Iran of using its civilian nuclear programme as a smokescreen to build atomic bombs.

Ammunition explosion kills four Vietnamese teenagers

HANOI, 17 Aug— An ammunition shell left by the Vietnam War exploded in Vietnam’s central Binh Dinh Province, killing four grade students, a local official told Xinhua on Wednesday.

The explosion happened on 13 August, when the four teenagers in the age bracket of 12-15 from An My commune, Hoai An District were trying to break the shell found in a mountain, said Le Van Binh, chairman of the communal People's Committee.

"Three boys died on the spot, and a 13-year-old boy named Le Ngoc Quang died on the way to hospital. The unlucky grade students must have found the shell when they were looking after their bulls in the mountain," Binh said.

A piece of metal found at the incident site has "MI18" written on it, so the ammunition must have been used by US aircraft, he noted.

According to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund of the United States, during the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1975, the US Armed Forces deployed more than 15 million tons of bombs, mines, artillery shells and other ordnance in the country, in which 10 per cent did not detonate as designed.

Vietnamese scrap collectors often saw unexploded ordnance (UXO) for metal and explosive, while small children play ammunitions by breaking them, resulting in hundreds of deaths and injuries annually.

Heavy rains destroy temple, flood homes in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 17 Aug— Torrential rains in Cambodia have destroyed an ancient Hindu temple, forced thousands of people from their homes and left major highways impassable, government officials said on Wednesday.

The 6th Century pre-Angkorian brick shrine at Sambor Prey kuk in the northern province of Kampong Thom was battered by storms and collapsed on Tuesday, said the Deputy Minister of Culture.

"The temple had been there for more than a thousand years before it was destroyed by the heavy rains and strong winds this week," Chuch Phoeurn told Reuters. In the southern coastal province of Kampot, a fisherman was killed when his boat capsized and an estimated 10,000 houses have been flooded.

"Several thousand people have been displaced to schools and high land," said the governor of Kampot, Thach Khorn.

At least five of Cambodia’s 24 provinces have been hit by unusually heavy rains this week in what is normally the wet season.

Prime Minister Hun Sen on Wednesday visited Kampot, hardest hit by the rains which have shut the main road from the capital Phnom Penh to Cambodia's only deep seaport. Several thousand hectares of rice fields have been damaged.

A woman has her hair done in a flooded beauty salon in the town of Kamport west of Phnom Penh on 16 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

A Jordanian vendor arranges headscarves for sale, a week before the opening of school, in downtown Amman on 16 August, 2006. —INTERNET

SOURCE: MNA/Reuters

SOURCE: MNA/Xinhua
MWAF raises awareness of HIV/AIDS, human trafficking

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Aug — Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation organized talks on awareness of HIV and AIDS and human trafficking this morning at Basic Education Middle School in Magyipin Model Village in Tatkon Township.

It was attended by heads of working sub-committees under MWAF, wife of Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, members of Tatkon township’s and Magyipin village’s Women’s Affairs Organizations, Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Union Solidarity and Development Association totaling 300. Dr Daw Khin Than Oo of Ministry of Health gave talks on fighting and prevention of the infectious disease. Deputy Police Captain Ohnma Yin Mi of the central committee for prevention of transnational human trafficking gave talks on awareness of human trafficking.

Afterwards, those present were divided into seven groups and discussed matters relating to awareness of HIV/AIDS and human trafficking.

After the talks, responsible persons of MWAF handed over uniforms of the federation, 500 journals and magazines, and HIV/AIDS pamphlets donated by MWAF.

Head of Organization Department of MWAF Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo accepted 1,200 membership applications presented by Chairperson of Tatkon township WAO Daw Khin Myo Kyaw.

Members of MWAF take part in the round-table discussions held in Magyipin Model Village in Tatkon Township.—MNA

UMFCCI General Secretary meets Chinese guests

YANGON, 17 Aug — A three-member delegation led by Director Mr Hu Fuzhang of China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit Secretariat of Guangxi Province, People’s Republic of China, called on General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at the new office of UMFCCI on 14 August.

At the meeting, they made discussions on holding of China-ASEAN Business Summit to take place from 31 October to 3 November in Nanning, Guangxi Province.

UMFCCI General Secretary meets Chinese guests.—UMFCCI

AIDS အိုက် တော်လှန်ရေးအား ပြုပြင်ခြင်း (၂)

AIDS အိုက် ဖျင်ခြင်း HIV ဖျင်ခြင်း ကိုလှန်ရေးအား ပြုပြင်ခြင်း ဖျင်ခြင်း HIV ဖျင်ခြင်း အိုက် ဖျင်ခြင်း ဖျင်ခြင်း HIV ဖျင်ခြင်း အိုက် ဖျင်ခြင်း HIV ဖျင်ခြင်း အိုက် ဖျင်ခြင်း HIV ဖျင်ခြင်း အိုက် ဖျင်ခြင်း HIV ဖျင်ခြင်း အိုက် ဖျင်ခြင်း HIV ဖျင်ခြင်း

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.

The second best time is now.
Each special development region ...

(from page 16)

The Secretary-1 urged the trainees to provide health care and disseminate health knowledge to the people with goodwill when they discharge the duties.

On arrival at Kengtung General Hospital (200-bed), the Secretary-1 and party were welcomed by Medical Superintendent Dr Huy Kywe, doctors and health staff.

The Secretary-1 heard reports on treatment and management matters of the hospital and urged officials to make field trips to rural area for providing health care to the people, to strive for improvement of medical treatment while pursuing advanced therapies, and to take preventive measures against common diseases in the region and give health educative talks.

The Secretary-1 and party asked after Sayadaw Bhaddanta Thitapañño, aged 81 and 61 vasa, of Kengngam Monastery of Kengtung receiving medical treatment at the hospital. Next, the Secretary-1 and party comforted the patients and inspected the hospital.

Afterwards, they inspected Shan State (East) Sports Ground.

On arrival at the construction site of the two-storey lecture hall of Kengtung Degree College, Chair of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Mr Turki Bin Naji Abdul Kadir Al Ali at Nay Pyi Taw. (News on page 16) — MNA

Hwekha-Wampaung village tarred road, measuring 3,320 feet by 12 feet, was built with the contributions — K 5.25 million by Shan State (East) PDC and K 10 million by Kengtung Township Development Affairs Committee.

At Kengtung Nurses Training School, the Secretary-1 heard reports on academic and management matters presented by officials. After attending to the needs, care to the people, to strive for improvement of medical treatment while pursuing advanced therapies, and to take preventive measures against common diseases in the region and give health educative talks.

At Kengtung Degree College, Chair of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Mr Turki Bin Naji Abdul Kadir Al Ali at Nay Pyi Taw. (News on page 16) — MNA

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Nyunt formally opened the new road. The Secretary-1 and party inspected the new road.

The road, measuring 3,320 feet by 12 feet, was built with the contributions — K 5.25 million by Shan State (East) PDC and K 10 million by Kengtung Township Development Affairs Committee.

The Secretary-1 and party comforted the patients and inspected the hospital.

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At Kengtung

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Nyunt formally opened the new road. The Secretary-1 and party in-

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects construction of Kengtung Degree College. — MNA

(See page 9)

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party stroll along Hwekha-Wampaung Road. — MNA

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Mr Turki Bin Naji Abdul Kadir Al Ali at Nay Pyi Taw. (News on page 16) — MNA
Each special development region has been facilitated with one 200-bed ...
The problem of narcotic drugs facing the country today does not come only now but it was left by colonialists as evil legacy.
State developing politically and economically...

(from page 10)

Next, the Secretary-1 said they were there to inspect the development of Shan State (East) and fulfill the requirements. He said they attended a ceremony to destroy seized narcotic drugs held in Kengtung on 14 August and visited Mongla Special Region (North) on 15 August to give necessary assistance in the drive for elimination of narcotic drugs and regional development.

The problem of narcotic drugs facing the country today does not come only now but it was left by colonialists as evil legacy. It is the national people who also returned to the legal fold and are participating in their regional development work. As a result Pangsan and Mongla can be found developing with characteristics of a town. Similarly, the Secretary-1 noted, due to the efforts of other national people who also returned to the legal fold and worked in cooperation with the government, their respective regions have seen peace and stability and progress.

Giving priority to ensuring peace and stability of the State and rule of law, the government first built national consolidation for the perpetuation of the Union. In consequence, the entire country has seen peace and tranquility and significant development. Besides, the seven-step Road Map of the State is being implemented to shape a democratic nation in accord with the wishes of the people. The National Convention with the delegates from all walks of life is also in progress to adopt basic principles that will include in the constitution. Now is the time when the State is developing politically as well as economically as there has been a network of facilities such as roads, bridges and dams across the nation. As Myanmar is an agricultural country, it is striving for the development of its economy based on agriculture. As Shan State (East) has favourable geographical conditions, it is required to grow more paddy and other crops in order to earn surplus income. Moreover, the local people are urged to grow rubber and tea in cooperation with service personnel, said the Secretary-1.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted those present. — MNA

Progress of Takaw-Mongping-Kengtung Union Highway inspected

NAT PYI TAW, 18 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (East) PDC Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and departmental officials met with officers, other ranks and their family members at Thanlwin Station of Eastern Command, on 16 August.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win urged them to actively participate in regional development tasks joining hands with the local people and fulfilled the requirements. Next, they looked into Takaw-Mongping-Kengtung Union Highway in a motorcade, and arrived at Thanlwin Bridge (Takaw) at mile post No 283/4.

Next, they looked into Takaw-Minebyin-Kengtung Union Highway in a motorcade and arrived at Thanlwin Bridge (Takaw) at milepost No 283/4.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party inspected maintenance of the bridge, and gave necessary instructions to the officials. They also inspected extension of the road, dredging of drains between mile post No 292/4 and No 302/4 at the road section of Takaw-Mongping and building of the retaining walls between mile post No 315/1 and No 326/43 being carried out by Public Works and maintenance of roads and bridges along the Union Highway.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win heard reports by an official. Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing reported on progress of Takaw-Mongping-Kengtung Union Highway. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win fulfilled the requirements. — MNA

33 members of Mawlamyinegyun Township NLD quit due to ignorance of NLD to serve interests of the State and the people

YANGON, 18 Aug — A total of 33 members of Mawlamyinegyun Township National League for Democracy of Ayeyawady Division including Vice-Chairman U Aung Kyi of Hsinseik Phayaus Village, executive U Tun Kywe, U Sein Aye, U Sein Win and U Myint Swe, Daw Than Tha Aye and U Khin Maung Thein of Mababy Village, Secretary U Myint Soe, U Khin Maung Myint and U San Lwin of Moy Ouhthinsu Village and U Khin Maung Soe, U Myo Myint and U Than Hwe of Thabyecharung Village resigned from the NLD of their own accord on 26 July.

They sent letters of resignation to the NLD Headquarters and local authorities. In their letters sent to Mawlamyinegyun Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commitment they said that they had lost interest and trust in the NLD and its functions due to the ignorance of the NLD to serve the interests of the State and the people. That was why they resigned from the NLD of their own accord, they said. — MNA

Palm oil-loaded vessels arrives

YANGON, 18 Aug — A sea-going vessel loaded with 2750-ton palm oil arrived at Hitdan Wharf, here, this afternoon. The officials inspected the vessel.

Similarly, two palm oil-loaded vessels will arrive on 20 and 23 August respectively. — MNA

Floods force families to evacuate, cause no casualty

YANGON, 18 Aug — The incessant rains caused flooding in some areas of Taninhtayi Division on 16 August.

The road section near Kywe Ku bridge in Myek was destroyed by the flooding.

The water level of Taninhtayi river is at above 35 inches. So the families of Chaunggyi and Chaungngie wards in Taninhtayi were evacuated from the flooded areas, and floods forced the schools to temporarily close. Similarly, floods also forced the families of Lenya and Mandaing villages to evacuate due to the swelled water of Lenya river. However, the floods cause no casualty, and safe and rescue measures have been taken by officials. — MNA

Japan hopes to conclude FTA with ASEAN next year

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 Aug — Japan hopes to conclude a free trade agreement (FTA) with ASEAN by March next year, a senior Japanese official said here on Thursday.

Japan was continuing to discuss the modalities of the ASEAN-Japan economic partnership pact, including the government procurement, from the Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry.

Negotiations on FTAs with dialogue partners were among major discussions during the ongoing ASEAN Senior Economic Officials Meeting here in preparations for the 38th ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) meeting, due to be held later this month. ASEAN is currently negotiating such an agreement with several countries, like Japan, China, South Korea in a bid to strengthen its economic ties with the countries outside of the region. — MNA/Xinhua

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*THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR* Saturday, 19 August, 2006 11

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Chinese medical research team will be making the first ever measurements of oxygen in arterial blood up to 10 members of the team will summit Mt Everest, one of the world's highest laboratories.

According to a local website report, the medical research team of Xtreme Everest will make the first ever measurements of blood oxygen in the "death zone", at altitudes above 8,000 metres where the human body has struggled and frequently failed to survive, to find out effects on the human body in high altitude.

The team plans to take measurements of oxygen in arterial blood at extreme high altitude above 8,000 metres for the first time.

It is anticipated that up to 10 members of the team will summit Mt Everest, one of the organizers Amanda Parkinson told nepalnews.com website.

The Centre for Aviation, Space and Extreme Environment Medicine team of the University College London will lead the expedition scheduled for May 2007, the website said.

The experts will measure the amount of oxygen in their own blood along with running tests to see how well their brains, lungs and metabolism are working at such extreme altitude.

They have asked for 208 volunteers having good level of fitness for the 23-day expedition, Parkinson said.
Third of world faces water shortages, crisis looms

CANBERRA, 17 Aug—A third of the world is facing water shortages because of poor management of water resources and soaring water usage, driven mainly by agriculture, the International Water Management Institute said on Wednesday.

Water scarcity around the world was increasing faster than expected, with agriculture accounting for 80 per cent of global water consumption, the world authority on fresh water management told a development conference in Canberra.

Globaly, water usage had increased by six times in the past 100 years and would double again by 2050, driven mainly by irrigation and demands by agriculture, said Frank Rijsberman, the institute’s director-general.

Billions of people in Asia and Africa already faced water shortages because of poor water management, he said.

“We will not run out of bottled water any time soon but some countries have already run out of water to produce their own food,” he said.

“Without improvements in water productivity ... the consequences of this will be even more widespread water scarcity and rapidly increasing water prices.”

The Sri Lanka-based institute, funded by international agricultural research organizations, is due to formally release its findings at a conference in Sweden later this month.

Rijsberman said water scarcity in Asia and Australia affected about 1.5 billion people and was caused by over-allocating water from rivers, while scarcity in Africa was caused by a lack of infrastructure to get the water to the people who need it.

“The water is there, the rainfall is there, but the infrastructure isn’t there,” Rijsberman told reporters.

He said more needed to be done to promote rain-fed agriculture and to increase water storage in Africa, where many people live with water scarcity.

MNA/Reuters

A newly-born giant panda is fed in an incubator at a giant panda breeding centre in Chengdu, capital of southwest China’s Sichuan Province, on 16 Aug, 2006. Weighing only 51 grams on birth, the baby giant panda, the world lightest in record, is deserted by its mother Qizhen and has to be manually fed.—INTERNET

German population shrinks, births lowest since WWII

BERLIN, 17 Aug—Germany, which has one of the lowest birth rates in Europe, saw its population shrink last year as deaths outpaced births and the number of immigrants declined, the Federal Statistics Office said on Tuesday.

The office confirmed that the number of births in 2005 had fallen to 686,000, its lowest level since it began measuring in 1946.

More than 830,000 people died in Germany last year, it said, causing a net population decline of more than 144,000 — a drop exceeded only once in the last quarter-century.

For the third straight year, immigration failed to make up the difference. The office released figures earlier in the summer showing that net immigration — the number of people moving to Germany minus those leaving — fell to 78,953 last year, the lowest level since 1998.

Economists have warned that unless Germany’s demographic trend is reversed, Europe’s largest economy will go into terminal decline, with pensions and healthcare costs spiralling as the average age gets higher and higher.

MNA/Reuters

Philippine volcano’s high alert to last weeks

LEGAZPI CITY (Philippines), 17 Aug—Seismic activity at the Philippines’ most active volcano calmed overnight but it could be weeks before 40,000 people evacuated from the shadow of the shuddering mountain can return home.

Villagers, sheltering in schools, have been waiting for Mount Mayon to explode after experts warned last week it could erupt at any time. The warning triggered mass evacuations from an eight-kilometre (five-mile) danger zone on the mountain’s southeast flank.

“If the decline in volcanic activity will be sustained for two weeks then the alert level could be possibly be downgraded,” July Sabit, acting head of monitoring at the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, told Reuters on Wednesday.

“We are looking at two scenarios right now. One is that activity may be sustained and eventually decline. The other is the possibility that the volcanic activity will pick up and result in a more explosive type of eruption.”

Sabit said if Mayon did erupt it could take up to a month before residents, many of them rice and coconut farmers, could return to their homes.

MNA/Reuters

Panel formed in Nepal to save rhinos

KATHMANDU, 17 Aug—A Rhino Conservation Coordination Committee has been formed in Chitwan in central Nepal, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Nepal said in a Press release issued here Wednesday.

The committee was formed following the conclusion of a two-day programme on the condition of rhino conservation.

The committee comprises representatives of political parties, partner organizations, media, Hotel Association of Nepal, among others.

“The committee will review policies, coordinate among partners, monitor rhino conservation activities, and organize meetings on rhino conservation,” the WWF Nepal said in the release.

Panel formed in Nepal to save rhinos

A once rare drug-resistant germ that were rare a decade ago is now the leading cause of all skin infections treated in US emergency rooms (ER), according to a new study, published on 17 Aug, 2006. Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus under microscope.—INTERNET
Brazil’s Internacionais win Libertadores final

BRASILIA, 18 Aug — Brazil’s Internacional won the Libertadores Cup for the first time on Wednesday, clinching on for a 2-2 draw at home to Sao Paulo in the final’s second leg to win 4-3 on aggregate.

Internacional, 2-1 ahead from the first leg, twice led in the all-Brazilian tie but suffered a nail-bitting finale with ten men as Sao Paulo levelled with five minutes to play and nearly snatched a third. Striker Tinga gave Internacional a 2-1 lead in the 66th minute but was immediately sent off as he was shown a second yellow card for his goal celebration.

Lenison levelled in the 85th minute and Internacional goalkeeper Clemer made two outstanding saves to stop the game going to extra-time as his side won their first Libertadores title.

Striker Fernández had opened the scoring in the first half and Fabao levelled early in the second.

Dunga selects Ronaldinho, Kaka for friendly against Argentina

RIO DE JANEIRO, 18 Aug — The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) released on Thursday the list of players who will participate in two friendly matches against Wales.

Brazil’s Cruzeiro; Brazil’s Vasco da Gama midfielder Sobis.

Players who will participate in two friendly matches against Wales.

Kanu signs for Portsmouth

LONDON, 18 Aug — Portsmouth have signed Nigerian striker Nwankwo Kanu on a one-year contract, the Premier League club said on their website on Thursday.

The 31-year-old left West Bromwich Albion when they were relegated to the Second Division at the end of last season.

Kanu, who has scored six goals in 39 appearances for his country, is in line to make his debut for Portsmouth in their first game of the season at home to Blackburn Rovers on Saturday.

The Nigerian previously had spells with Arsenal, Inter Milan and Ajax Amsterdam.

Turkey’s Besiktas signs contract with Ricardo

ANKARA, 18 Aug — Besiktas soccer club of Turkey on Thursday signed a three-year contract with Brazilian football player Ricardo Luiz Pozzi Rodrigues, publicly known as “Ricardinho”.

A statement aired on Besiktas’ web-page said that Ricardinho is expected to be in Istanbul, the largest city of Turkey, on Saturday.

Thirty-year-old Ricardinho is a member of the Brazilian national football team and he also played in Corinthians, one of the teams in the Brazilian League.

Italian tribunal says Reggina to stay in Serie A

Rome, 18 Aug — Italy’s soccer tribunal ruled on Thursday that Reggina would remain in the top division but will start the season with a 15-point deduction for attempted match-fixing.

Football federation prosecutor Stefano Palazzi had requested that Reggina, which is based in Reggio Calabria in the southern tip of Italy, be relegated to Serie B and docked 15 points. The tribunal also ruled that Serie B side Arezzo would be docked nine points at the start of the season.

The 31-year-old Beckham signed the captancy of England after the World Cup and was dropped by new coach Fabio Capello on their website on Thursday.

British sprinter Tetyzhna Nainova first crossed the finish line to claim the women’s 100m gold on the second day of the IAAF World Junior Championships here on 17 Aug, 2006. — INTERNET

Jockey of Selva Parish, Alberto Riccierti, leads the pack of horses to win the Palio horse race in central Italy’s city of Siena on 16 Aug, 2006. Each 2 July and 16 August, almost without fail since the mid-1600s, 10 riders have hurled bareback around Siena’s shell-shaped central square in a desperate bid to win the Palio, a silk banner depicting the Madonna and child. — INTERNET
Accidents kill over 60,000 in China in first 7 months

BEIJING, 18 Aug — The number of people killed by accidents in China dropped 11 per cent year on year in the first seven months, but it has been climbing again since May, China’s state work safety watchdog said on Tuesday.

About 61,100 persons have died in colliery, fire, road and other accidents since the beginning of the year, said Wang Xianzheng, deputy director of the State Administration of Work Safety (SAWS).

Wang Xianzheng, deputy director of SAWS, since the beginning of the year, said that 61,100 died in the first seven months, but it has been climbing again since May, China’s state work safety watchdog said on Tuesday.

About 61,100 persons have died in colliery, fire, road and other accidents since the beginning of the year, said Wang. Xianzheng, deputy director of the State Administration of Work Safety (SAWS). In the first seven months, death tolls in coal mines went down 23.5 per cent year on year, said Wang.

But the official warned that the situation in Chinese collieries is still grave.

Illegal activity and over-production are major reasons for the growing number of deaths in the May-July period, said Wang. There are still a large number of small collieries operating without licences, according to the agency. — MNA/Xinhua

Four villages buried by mud in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 18 Aug — Mud flows have buried more than 1,600 houses and other buildings in four villages in Indonesia’s East Java Province as authorities have so far failed to control the mud flow resulting from a drilling project, a report said Wednesday.

The government has been struggling for a solution to overcome the mud flow crisis beginning more than two months ago, apart from building temporary dams surrounding the areas.

The hot, toxic mud has now breached the dam and displaced more than 10,000 people in the town of Sidoarjo, some 750 kilometres east of Jakarta.

The unstoppable flow has created a large pool of mud. What left from the villages were the roofs of tall buildings like schools, factories and mosques, reported the Detikcom news website.

MNA/Xinhua

WEATHER

Friday, 18 August, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain have been isolated in Shan State, lower Sagarang and Magway Divisions, scattered in upper Sagarang and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Bago and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfalls in Shan State and Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Taunggyi (3.11) inches, Bhamo (2.99) inches, Kyaukpataung (2.17) inches, Hinthada (2.01) inches, Thandwe (1.50) inches and An (1.22) inches.

Maximum temperature on 17-8-2006 was 82°F. Minimum temperature on 18-8-2006 was 76°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 18-8-2006 was (92%). Total sunshine hours on 17-8-2006 was nil. Rainfalls on 18-8-2006 were (0.91) inch at Mingaladon, (0.67) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.15) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (68.74) inches at Mingaladon, (80.24) inches at Kaba-Aye and (84.13) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 17-8-2006.

Bay inference: Monsoon is generally moderate in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 19-8-2006: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagarang and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kachin, Shan States, Mandalay and upper Sagarang Divisions, fairly widespread in Chin State, Yangon and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 19-8-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 19-8-2006: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 19-8-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Weather outlook for last weekend of August 2006: During the coming weekend, isolated rain are likely in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Divisions, rain will be fairly widespread in Yangon Division.
State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Aug — Mr Turki Bin Naji Abdul Kadir Al Ali, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, at 10.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department. — MNA

Each special development region facilitated with one 200-bed specialist hospital, one university/college, one GTC and one GCC

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects progress of regional development tasks in Shan State (East)

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Aug — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspected development tasks in Kengtung on 14 August after attending the ceremony to commission Hwekha-Wampaung village tarred road constructed by Kengtung Township Development Affairs Committee.

A ceremony to inaugurate Hwekha-Wampaung village tarred road was held at the road in the morning, attended by Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Military Affairs Security Chief Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Shan State (East) PDC Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, the ministers, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental officials and local people.

Executive Officer of Township Development Affairs Committee U Khin Kyaw reported on construction of the road. U Kya Khu, on behalf of the locals, spoke words of thanks.

(See page 8)

The government is putting into action a variety of projects so that local people in border areas can enjoy fruitful results of greater progress in the economic, social, education and health sectors. Due to the effective encouragement of the government to the national race youth, the number of intellectuals and intelligentsia and technicians of national race youth is on the increase.